

[2012-04-01 12:39:00](#)

Happy birthday to Fred and George!

My babies are all grown up and come of age! We're having a grand party today here at the Burrow to celebrate. They have faithfully promised to hold off on all explosions for the day, although I suppose they wouldn't be the twins I know and love without a practical joke or two being sprung before sunset. (All the goats are already sporting pink and purple polka dots and who know what else they'll pull before the day is out!)



 **[alt_molly](#)**

Am off to prepare the birthday feast. They've requested all their favourites and I have to get the steak and kidney pies assembled and then start on the treacle tart. Charlie's here for the weekend, and Bill will be here for dinner tonight. It'll be wonderful to have us all gathered together at the kitchen table.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-02 00:48:57](#)**

(no subject)

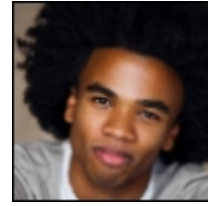
Cheers, you two.

Thanks for giving Mum a reason to lay out a feast!

[2012-04-01 13:55:00](#)

(no subject)

***I solemnly swear that I am up
to no good***



[alternity](#)
[alt_lee](#)

In honour of the illustrious founders of this Lock, Gred and Forge Weasley, I hereby carry out our proud April 1 tradition and proclaim our annual message concerning the Lord Protector.

**His Excellency the Excrescence
Lord Berkiness
First Knight of Knobheads
Prince of Pestilent Pillocks**

**Why yes! Our leader, the Lord
Protector, is STILL a stupid
PONCE!!!!**






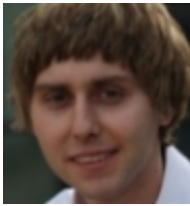
 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-04-01 20:00:37](#)**
(no subject)

Nice to see the tradition continue.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-01 20:05:20](#)**
(no subject)

They had to show me how to do the charms. But yeah. It just wouldn't be the lock proper without that message today, would it?



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-01 20:49:52](#)**
(no subject)

Not at all, it wouldn't be.

Well done, Lee! I say, good show.

We've just spent most of the day being shown the Tower and other sites in New London. And they took us on a barge down the Thames.

So it's only been just now I've had the luxury of looking through the journals. I'm glad you carried on the tradition, what?

I say, you'll have to teach Ron before next April.


-Justin



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-04-01 21:24:32](#)**
(no subject)


Tell them cheers from me, won't you?



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-02 00:30:25](#)**
(no subject)

I'll do that!



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-02 00:45:49](#)**
(no subject)

Hilarious.

I think the dungbomb explosion is bigger than ever!

Good show, mate.

2012-04-01 19:15:00

Order Only: Walter Cousins

I still have had no luck at pinpointing Ivy Lovell or Sirius Maxwell. If you're free, though, Kingsley, I thought that we could try for Walter Cousins tomorrow. His parents are labourers for an agriculture consortium in Yorkshire.



 [alt_arthur](#)

Shall we meet at the usual rendezvous point at 10:00 tomorrow morning?



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-04-02 00:19:27](#)
(no subject)

I am entirely at your disposal, my friend. I will see you there.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-02 00:46:10](#)
(no subject)

Sirius Maxwell. Sorry, that's just such a ridiculous thing to name a boy.

But something we said earlier occurs to me, now that you've mentioned him again and how much trouble you've had finding him. Surely that name would have raised eyebrows if he'd been born in a camp? So what if he and his parents are in a private outfit, something like the cider house where Dora and Remus found Jane Briden, only perhaps one that doesn't keep *quite* such precise records?

And how does it feel to have successfully got four boys to their majority, Arthur?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-04-02 00:55:01](#)
(no subject)

Interesting idea, Sirius.

I think you may be correct. Call it a hunch...


The question then, of course, will be how will we find him?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-04-02 01:08:31](#)
(no subject)

And as for four boys reaching majority age...it doesn't quite feel real yet for the twins. They're such rascallions that I half expect to receive an outraged letter from Minerva at any minute accusing them of having liberated all the castle's toilet seats. It's hard to imagine them settling down to a staid Ministry job, despite their mother's wishes.



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

Those boys at the Ministry? Bless me, no!

Surely that's not what those two plan?

2012-04-01 19:24:00

Private message to Ginny Weasley

Would you like to come over tomorrow morning?

Mrs Brown has said it was all right if I invited over a friend. She doesn't give permission very often, so it would be very nice to see you. I thought we could look through some Mrs Brown's magazines and gossip about the summer fashions, and perhaps go to a tea shop for lunch.



 [alt_luna](#)


Please do come. ~~Lavender isn't very good company.~~



 [alt_ginny](#) at **2012-04-02 00:53:46**
(no subject)

Sure, I'd love to.
And I'll bring a preview issue of P.S. so that we can over my pictures in the summer fashions too. We will have to keep it hushed. It doesn't come out until after we return to school. I will see you tomorrow then.



 [alt_luna](#) at **2012-04-02 01:12:33**
(no subject)

Thank you! About nine or so? The Browns' Floo will be open.



 [alt_ginny](#) at **2012-04-02 01:18:33**
(no subject)

I'll be there at 9

2012-04-02 07:52:00

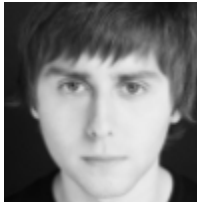
Private message to Effs



 **alt_hydra**

I think there's a good chance that I won't be on the tours today. I wanted to let you know so that you weren't concerned when I didn't show up. I *want* to go, but Mrs Baylock thinks me ill and has decided that I needed to spend today resting, avoiding stimulation, and taking pepper-up potion. And I'd really rather not make a fuss. I'll just be still and read in bed and she'll have to declare me one-hundred percent healthy tomorrow.

From,
Hydra



 **alt_justin** at **2012-04-02 15:24:59**
(no subject)

Hullo, Hydra,

Botheration. But you're sure you're really quite well? I shouldn't wish you to come out and then feel ill in the middle of everything, what?

And yes, I would have been concerned had you not come along, with no word, so thanks. We were supposed to go to a botanical garden, I think, except that it's bally well raining, so everything they've chosen is indoors. Another good reason for you to stay home if you've a snuffle coming on, I shouldn't wonder. Still, it's even drearier without you.

Only, I know you weren't looking well forward to spending loads of time there. I say, has it been very difficult, so far?

-Justin



 **alt_hydra** at **2012-04-02 15:36:51**
(no subject)

I don't have a snuffle, not even a little one.

I went in to see Rigel last night, to say hello before Mrs Baylock put him down for bed.

He had Tevis. I mean to say, I suppose Mummy gave Tevis to him. His hutch was set up in Rigel's play-room. I was so happy, because he was alive and well cared for, and I was sure that Mummy must have tossed him into the lake.

So I took Tevis out of his hutch and was stroking him. Rigel saw and he held out his arms and said "my bunny!" And then - well, Tevis squirmed and clawed and nearly bit me to get away, and then scampered straight for Rigel.

Mrs Baylock came in then, and I suppose that I didn't look well. She said I was pale and faint-looking.

And now I don't know what to think about Tevis. Could a spell have been put on him so that he would like Rigel best?

Or maybe he just likes him better, just because he does.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-02 16:25:50](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I see. Jolly bad luck, what.

I rather don't think bunnies just like one person more than another, the way cats do, but then I can't imagine anyone bothering with a spell, either.

Perhaps Tevis is cross with you and doesn't understand it wasn't your choice? Or else maybe he's just not used to you anymore. I don't know that rabbits have very long memories, Dux. It could just be that Rigel plays with him more and so he's more familiar, what? Or perhaps Rigel shouting like that scared the poor creature.

You might try going in and sitting with Tevis when Rigel's not about, and see if being quiet with him helps him to trust you next time?

Anyway, I'm sorry you're being forced to spend the day resting. It's too bad you couldn't have Tevis with you there, while you're in bed. I say, he might find that much more soothing. Have you a

good book, at least?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-02 18:48:59](#)
(no subject)

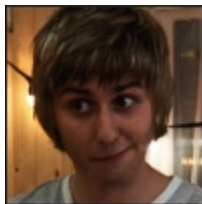
You're right, rabbits aren't the cleverest of creatures and they don't have very good memories, but I was so pleased to see him, but then disappointed when it seemed he prefers Rigel now. Mrs Baylock says that Tevis follows him everywhere, even. But Rigel still has grabby, toddler hands, and it's surprising that a rabbit would enjoy that sort of company.

He just doesn't feel like mine anymore.

I only have books that are safe appropriate for reading here. I suppose I might read *Pure Hunger* again, but even so I might hide it behind my Arithmancy book, just in case.

So what have you seen of the Protectorate so far? What do you think and what do the other students think? Are you having any fun?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-03 01:54:43](#)
(no subject)

We've just come back to the hotel from supper. I say, it was jolly good. Do your parents ever take you out to supper? This was supposedly a well posh sort of place - and it's run by a cousin of our Professor Froissart's, if you can believe it, what! All my schoolmates were saying it had been months and months since they had proper French cooking. I can't say the Durmstrang lot were quite as pleased, what? But Professor Karkaroff told them there are plans to take us to a brauhaus when we're back here a week and Thursday.

Let's see. So far, we've been to the Tower of New London and boating on the Thames. This morning we went to the British

Museum of Wizarding History for a few hours and then they took us to Fresher's Feast for luncheon. And this afternoon they showed us what they called a 'Private Preview' of the new museum that's going to open this spring. I say, when is 'Freedom Day?' That's when they said it's going to open to the public. There's supposed to be a Grand Opening sometime shortly before that.

It's actually been well interesting, though not, I suppose, for the reasons we're meant to think it is. I heard Delacour saying that she thinks the Louvre has a better collection and the *Champs-du-Lacs* is a more proper gallery but nearly everyone else was well impressed. (Though I have been to the Louvre, what, and it's unparalleled for its Old Masters.) I say, there's one bloke from Durmstrang who's got a good eye. Uloshenko. He stuck close to me, rather, after we both viewed an old portrait of Wendelin the Weird, which I thought might have been painted by Castagno but he thought looked more like Alberti. In point of fact, I hope he shan't be too difficult to shake off once you're about, if you follow me.

Well, anyway, this new gallery is rather impressive, as I was saying. It's to be called the Protector's Collection and it's well full of things that used to belong to famous witches and wizards but that have been added to the Protector's personal holdings. There are supposed to be educational wings added as well but they're not opened yet. Pity, too, because they sound as if they'd be jolly fun. Whereas the rest was a bunch of rather crusty items with portraits hung up above, what. Paracelsus' brass scales, Hypatia's astrolabe, that sort of bally old thing. Madame Froissart said that Salazar Slytherin's armour had been moved; it used to be in the Wizarding History Museum. You can bally well bet we found *that* suitably interesting!

So it's a little bit fun, what, but it would have been better with you along. Which trip are you coming on next?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-03 03:42:34](#)
(no subject)

They used to take me out to supper, but then they stopped. Because I didn't like a lot of the food and then there would always be a scene.

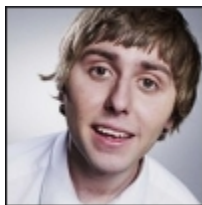
I've been to the Tower of New London already, and boating on the Thames, too. I haven't been to the museums for a long while, though, and it would have been good to see them again. Especially the preview of the new one.

Freedom Day - you haven't heard anything about that yet? It's the most important holiday in the Protectorate. The day that the Lord Protector took over the country and freed us from Tyranny. July 31. It's also Harry's birthday.

Mummy went up to Rigel's rooms tonight and I could hear her from here. She was cross with Mrs Baylock for sending me to bed without talking to her first. I felt sorry for her - Mrs Baylock, I mean. I'm sure that it's only every so often that Mummy comes in to check in with her, and she gets used to making decisions as she sees fit.

So I think that means I should be able to come when we're next allowed to. I hope.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-03 03:56:48](#)
(no subject)

That's right, you're all funny about food. I say, we do need to expand your palette, Dux.

I suppose I've read something about it, yes. But you celebrated before I came here and I didn't read back, what.

Well, I'm dashed sorry she had to get in trouble with your mother but at least your mother hasn't accused you of skiving off.

So I shan't see you until Saturday? I know that's only five days, isn't it, but with all the travel they've got us doing I'm sure it will feel like a lifetime.

Bother your being kept home, anyway.

I'd better try to sleep, they've got us going to Stonehenge tomorrow and Glastonbury Tor. Loads of walking!

Sweet dreams, Dux,

-Justin

[2012-04-02 09:46:00](#)

A pause

It seems somehow impossible that it's April already, and yet this has been such a very busy year, given our visitors at Hogwarts. I'm in New London now, looking forward to a bit of a break, after a few necessary tasks get crossed off my list.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

I did get in an unexpectedly long walk before my meetings started this morning, and felt much better for it afterwards. It was nice to have a change of pace - along shop windows and parks, rather than the Black Lake or the grounds - too. Always helps me think, a good walk.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-02 14:57:31](#)**

Private message to Raz

Raz,

I don't like fighting with you one bit. And especially not about that wedding, of all stupid things.

I'm sorry. For a lot of things. For being so touchy last night. This week. Longer. For leaving so early this morning (I was sure I'd say something ~~unforgiveable~~ entirely unfair if I didn't.) For handling things so badly.

Can we fix this? If you're not entirely fed up and done with me.

It's not just the workload (though you're right it's a problem) but figuring out how to talk about the rest has taken me weeks. I think I'm ready now, to do it right and fair and not make things even worse.

Just .. can I get through these meetings first? My head's spinning trying to keep everything straight, and dealing with Stint isn't helping.

Sorry.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-04-02 15:13:40](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

Well for what it's worth, I'm not dead chuffed to be attending yet another of Amata's wedding events.

But sniping about it makes me feel as though these are *my events*, which are yet another factor in your constant state of frustration and exhaustion.

I'd just rather go alone than bring someone who's feeling prickly and resentful. Everyone knows that I'm in New London and not teaching, so there's no valid reason *not* to go. And, things being what they are, I'd rather not appear to anyone as if I'm drifting away from "good society."

The workload is a little more than just a problem by now.

But yes, we can talk. Should talk.

What's Stint doing now? I knew I should have removed him of his mouth permanently...



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-02 15:24:57](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

Fixed stars. You're right. You really are.

And - look, I'd much rather be at the Astronomy Guild meeting. Unsurprisingly. But it also says something if I *don't* go with you to the wedding. And one of the things I came to while walking is that I'd rather be with you than not. At least if I can fix the prickly and resentful part.


Talk tomorrow night, then, when I'm done here? For however long it takes?

As to Stint: he's being as well behaved as one could possibly expect so far.(Also absurdly smug about something.) Which frankly makes me deeply suspicious. But there's also something odd, in the way the conversation's going.

I just don't know if I'm jumping at shadows or what.

And if one more person recommends that new *Transfiguring Your Stress* book to me, I am not going to be responsible for the consequences.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-04-02 19:07:55](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

Hmm. Smugness is one of those unwise attitudes that says a fat lot more about what you want other people to feel rather than what you're feeling yourself. What a pillock.

As for the jumping- you've good reason to be on your guard, but then he's also got a good reason to try to get under your skin. The thing about working two jobs that are really meant for two separate people is that it wears down your instincts and judgment. And sends you out for long, stumpy walks at dawn.

I know we've been over this before and you don't trust the YPL to anyone other than yourself, but there's another option we've not yet discussed. Mostly because I'm fairly certain you would dismiss it outright.

I'm trying to figure out the right balance between caring and meddling here, but I can't not say something when I fear that if you go on like this you will do serious harm to your mental and physical health. The YPL may have started as a little pilot programme, but now it's grown into its own beast (one that a variety of interested parties want to lay claim to), and I can't imagine that there will be an interest in scaling it back anytime soon- quite the contrary, in fact. It's just not the same as gathering up students and watching them duel on Tuesday nights.

But yes, we'll talk. For however long it takes.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-02 19:20:56](#)

Re: Private message to Raz

I've at least an idea on some of the smugness, now - when we were coming back from lunch (Mum sends her love), he made sure to let me overhear that he's Maebh Drumgoole's +1 for that cursed wedding.

Honestly, that almost makes me want to show up and be gloriously happy with you at him, and isn't that petty of me. I should be gloriously happy with you entirely for your own sake. (I am, mind you, when I'm not being amazingly difficult at the world.)

As to the suggestion, well. Less outright dismissal than you might think. (Said I'd been thinking a lot.) Some of this year has been much worse because of the visiting schools, mind, but you're right, the thing keeps growing and growing.

I still worry about who might take it up, mind. And if you'd heard some of the proposals today (I can show you the transcripts, actually) you'd be worried too, for Harry and Hydra and all, because some of them are absurdly risky and a few outright ill-intentioned.

But I'm more willing to talk it through and see if we can't figure out how to get someone who'd not be awful in, or an assistant I can trust, or well, something. If you'll help me figure out a way out of the tangle.

I've got a quick errand when we're done here (robes to pick up), but I'll be back after that. And I promise to not take my frustration out on you tonight, truly.

2012-04-02 10:20:00

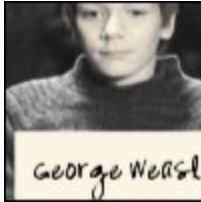
Private message to Fred and George Weasley



Well. Ready as we'll ever be.

Got the butterbeer?

 [alt_gredforge](#)



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-02 15:21:22](#)

(no subject)

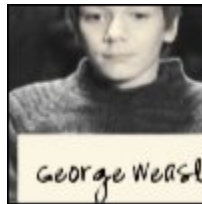
Yeah. And the hamper's all packed.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-02 15:21:52](#)

(no subject)

Mum has NO head for butterbeer. Let's hope this works.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-02 15:38:13](#)

(no subject)

And if that isn't enough, the Topsydaisy should be enough to tip her over.

At the very least, we'll get a really good picnic lunch out of the whole thing.

2012-04-02 11:37:00

Private Message to Percy Weasley

There's a book on my blotter entitled *Parchment Perfect*. Is this someone's idea of a belated April Fool's jape?



 **alt_lucius**

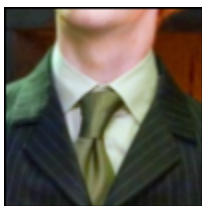
Also, yes, you may take Thursday per your request. And since Narcissa and I must present ourselves at that viper's wedding reception and supper, Friday afternoon ought not to present a problem.

Tell my sister I may see her Thursday next when they return to New London. If she cannot wait then I suggest she plan to come here. I cannot go rushing about the countryside to keep up with their movements.

I've an owl to Minerva that requires copying before it's sent - one for the record here, one for Dominic and a third copy for Our Lord. And yes, I'll lunch with Stephen prior to the Wireless Advisory meeting. Tell him to expect me in 10 minutes at White's.

Ah, I knew there was one other thing: Did you say that Madam Hooch called while I was out? Hm. Not to-day or to-morrow but see if you can find a spare half-hour for her on Wednesday, if you please.

I shall return shortly after two o'clock.



 **alt_percy** at **2012-04-02 16:49:11**
(no subject)

Regarding Thursday and Friday, thank you sir. Much appreciated.

I will pass on your message to your sister.

Noted on the owl, and your message is passed on to Stephen.

Madam Hooch can be here on Wednesday at half past three. I have noted it on your calendar.

(And er, the *Parchment Perfect* is mine, sir. Not a joke, merely an oversight. My apologies.)

[2012-04-02 12:02:00](#)

Private message to Arthur Weasley and Bill Weasley



You need to come home. You need to come home RIGHT NOW!


 [alt_molly](#)

Or rathr...cmoe to the fishing hole. On the OTter River.

I'm here with the twins.

Oh help.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-02 17:06:24](#)
(no subject)

Mum? I'm at work. Can't it wait?




 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-02 17:08:29](#)
(no subject)

No it CAN'T. Tell ROSier you're taking a lonng lunch or soemthing

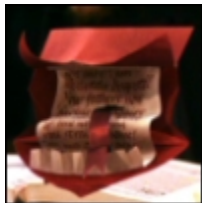
Oh where's Arhur?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-02 17:10:26](#)
(no subject)

He's, um, on that little side jaunt. You remember?

Mum, are you okay? You're not writing very well.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-02 17:11:31](#)
(no subject)

NO I AM NOT OKAY. THEY GOT ME PISSED. ON BUTTERBEER. AND I SIAD

JUST GET HERE



 **alt_bill** at **2012-04-02 17:12:17**
(no subject)

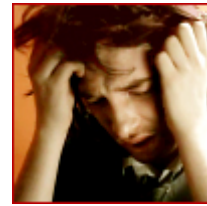
Well, bugger me.

On my way.

[2012-04-02 12:35:00](#)

Order Only: Bugger

We have a helluva situation here. I'm at our picnic spot at the fishing hole here by the Otter River. With Mum and Fred and George. The latter two of whom I've gone and bloody petrified.



 [alt_bill](#)

Fred and George have deduced the presence of the Order. They've figured out that Mum is involved, and since Mum called me for help, they know I'm involved, too.

The little sneaks took Mum off for a picnic and managed to get her soused on Butterbeer. Well, Butterbeer spiked with a little concoction of their own that vastly magnifies the effect of the alcohol content. And then they sprang their suspicions on her and I guess the look on her face gave it away. I could kill them if I wasn't so overcome with admiration at their strategic thinking.

Here's the thing: they want to join. They're offering us their research and development expertise. The thing that dumbfounds me is that as an argument to letting them in they say they've already created a sure-fire way to communicate through the journals that the authorities can't read.

And get this. They developed it with the help of some blokes by the names of Moony, Padfoot, Wormtail and Prongs.

What the hell do we do now?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-02 18:20:37](#)
(no subject)

Obliviation?



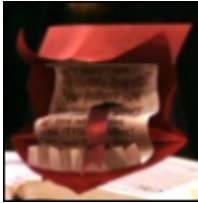
 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-02 18:24:58](#)
(no subject)

Bill could make them forget about the picnic, but if they've DEDUCED the existence of the Order, they'll just deduce it again.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-02 18:26:13](#)**
(no subject)


Besides, why not let them join?



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-04-02 18:38:51](#)**
(no subject)

ARE YOU CRAZY? OF COURSE THEY CANT JOIN!!



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-02 18:40:23](#)**
(no subject)


Why not?

They've known for a year, apparently.

They've known about Terry's wand all along.

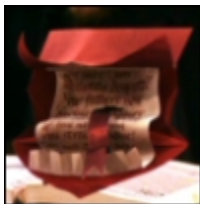
They're ALREADY keeping our secrets.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-02 18:47:31](#)**
(no subject)

That's a good point, Remus.


Mum. Charlie and I are already in. And we didn't have nearly as much to offer when we were allowed to join.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-04-02 18:49:46](#)**
(no subject)

YOU WEREN'T STILL IN SCHOOL!! WE CAN'T POSSIBLY ALLOW IT UNTIL THEY'RE OUT!!!



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-02 18:51:02](#)**
(no subject)

Well, don't suggest THAT to them. Because before you can hex twice, sure as fire they'll up and quit.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 19:19:21](#)**
(no subject)

1. Fred and George are of age.
2. Telling them that they can't possibly join until they're out of school sounds like a way to guarantee they leave school immediately.

(Which they could, now that they're of age.)

3. Keeping them out of the Order will not protect them. Or us! I think we'll be better off directing their energy than treating them like children.

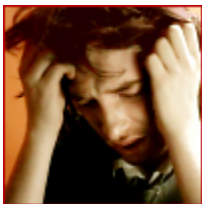



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-04-02 18:47:49](#)**
(no subject)

Molly, dear. I must agree with Remus.

Wouldn't you rather know what they were entangled with, than not? And, after all, they offered research and development work, not something riskier.

(I know your house suffers from the development work, but at least that risk is scarcely new.)



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-02 18:26:34](#)**
(no subject)

I wish.

But really, as hacked off as I am at them, I think it might be worth listening to what they have to say.


Minerva, they've suspected for over a year. And they've been working on developing products to help us. You know how brilliant they are at charms, much less twisty thinking.

I've unpetrified their mouths at least and am talking to them.

They created their lock so that they could communicate with Terry Boot. And it's bleeding brilliant. It has safeguards, including an age lock. No adult can read it. As of yesterday, they've aged out of being able to use it themselves. But they have ideas for creating another lock, this one using blood magic.

Merlin. I knew they were good. But not this good.



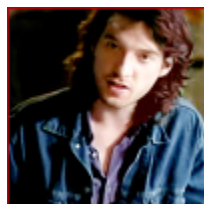
 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-02 18:31:33](#)
(no subject)


I have to admit that I'm a bit aghast that anyone was able to DEDUCE the existence of the Order. AND that Molly was a member. They've suspected for a YEAR? How did Molly give herself away?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-02 18:31:54](#)
(no subject)

How precisely did they deduce it? I grant that Remus is correct—they would simply deduce the thing again—but perhaps if we knew how...



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-02 18:36:42](#)
(no subject)

It was the clock. The Weasley clock in our house. They noticed how Mum was watching it like a dragon clutching and wouldn't let anyone leave the house. And the next day there was the announcement that Sirius Black was captured. And that's when they started putting bits and pieces together.

They know about Terry's wand. Well, of course they do--he went to them to come up with a way to hide it! They're the ones who came up with the spell for that.




 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-02 18:37:02](#)
(no subject)

Of course they are.

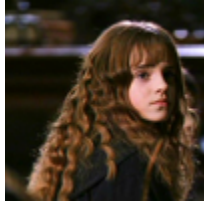
Miss Granger, I can only assume that I should not ask you about any of this.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-02 18:41:52](#)
(no subject)

Minerva. They want to take an Unbreakable Vow. Hell, that's why I had to petrify them! They were starting to take one, with George grabbing hand and Fred going to be the binder. And they would have done it if I hadn't stopped them.

When I cooled down and unpetrified them to talk, they told me that they knew Hermione was under one. They'd managed to deduce that, too!



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-02 18:43:38](#)
(no subject)

I'm not sure it was very difficult to figure out. All things considered I mean.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-02 18:44:17](#)
(no subject)


Please don't?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-02 18:44:58](#)
(no subject)

I do not know why I should acquiesce to your request, Miss Granger. I have absolutely no idea.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-02 18:50:28](#)
(no subject)

Look, we've known for a long time that Terry and Hermione had friends who were helping them. Who knew about their wands.


We haven't tried to learn more about these friends for a number of reasons that are still entirely valid. We expect Hermione to protect our secrets -- in fact, she HAS to. We should respect the fact that she is trusted by Terry, as well.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-02 18:55:27](#)
(no subject)

I realize that. However—when something like this occurs—it is testing.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-02 18:57:23](#)
(no subject)

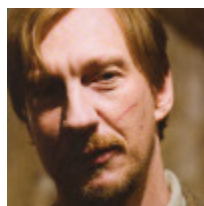
Hermione could not possibly have told them anything about the Order.


We know that for an absolute fact.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-02 19:03:48](#)
(no subject)

Of course not. I did not mean to imply. I do wonder, however, how far their activities went. I had believed the children to be working long the lines of Molly's barter network—nothing further-reaching.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-02 19:11:58](#)
(no subject)

Minerva. They helped two muggleborns hide their wands.

That's serious stuff. Even for minors. If Terry


had been caught with his wand, if he'd been coerced into saying who'd helped him -- MLE wouldn't have gone any easier on Fred and George simply because they were children.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-02 19:02:56](#)
(no subject)

And there's no doubt that the spell they created to help Terry Boot hide his wand was absolutely invaluable to him. We should have thought about that, giving a wand to Amycus Carrow's servant. But we didn't. They did.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-02 18:39:08](#)
(no subject)

Of course they do. And of course they were.

There had to be an Order, then. Because the wand came from someone. And if Molly was involved in some way with Sirius...



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-04-02 19:57:18](#)
(no subject)

I saw the bracelet myself -- it was a fair bit of wandwork.

of course that raises the question of what everyone else in that group knows. it stands to reason they all know about the wands, for starters. but I wonder if they all think Molly is in the Order, for instance, or if your brothers kept that bit to themselves.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-04-02 20:09:17](#)
(no subject)

I've asked them.

They've told me, 'If you expect us to keep your secrets, don't expect us to tell anyone else's.'

||||| Which, I must concede, is a fair point.




 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-04-02 18:28:11](#)**
(no subject)

Only if you want to take out their last goodness knows how many months. Try explaining that away at school.

Truth be told, they've seemed rather more focused than the past. Mind, I was expecting some kind of massive prank, not this.

And now I think on it, even their pranks have had more purpose this year - that matter with the corsages for the Ball, or the fake wands for that first dueling club after the Games.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-02 18:23:39](#)**
(no subject)


...

We never. At least, I never. I spoke with them a few times when I was working at Hogwarts but it was things like 'wipe your muddy feet, you miscreants,' not 'here, let me teach you how to raise more havoc than you've ever dreamed of before.'

They've guessed about the Order? That Molly -- MOLLY! -- was involved? I can't --

PADFOOT, WHERE ARE YOU?!?



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-02 18:29:31](#)**
(no subject)

They said something about reverse-engineering a spell using Moony, Wormtail, Padfoot, and Prongs' map? Does that make sense to you?




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-02 18:32:01](#)
(no subject)

OH.

Bloody
hell.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-02 19:15:22](#)
(no subject)

So you do know what they're talking about.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-02 19:43:27](#)
(no subject)

It rings a bell.




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-02 18:37:51](#)
(no subject)

What in Paracelsus' name?

I'll have to trust you lot to work this out. I'm dealing with a surprise supervisory visit here, but I'll check in when I'm able.

Blast and damn.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-02 19:06:46](#)
(no subject)

You can't possibly keep them petrified by the Otter River all afternoon. If you need to get back to work, I think we can trust them not to discuss this with anyone.


Presumably they'll accept that this will need to be discussed.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-04-02 19:14:24](#)**
(no subject)

Kingsley and I just dropped off Walter Cousins at Moddey Dhoo. I checked my journal and--Merlin. Bill, go back to work. I'll come to get your mother and Fred and George.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-02 19:15:46](#)**
(no subject)

Right. I'm off then.

Mum's a right wreck, Dad. Just so you know.




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-02 19:49:16](#)**
(no subject)

that explains a good deal then.

with the journals, I mean.

bloody brilliant of them to make it age specific.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-02 19:57:36](#)**
(no subject)

I know. I never would have thought of it in a million years.

And that's the thing: they are brilliant. The fact that they're children--or they were children, until yesterday--made us underestimate them. All of us.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-02 22:07:31](#)**
(no subject)

agreed.

2012-04-02 14:26:00

Order Only: Home again

I have the four of us home again. I've put Molly to bed, who's rather the worse for wear. Well, after she sicked up all over George, who I must say probably deserved it. He's the one who spiked her drink after all.



 [alt_arthur](#)

I tried to tell the boys that I'd come simply because I'd received a message from Bill that their mother was feeling ill. They gave me pitying looks and told me not to treat them like they were daft. 'We know perfectly well Mum wouldn't do anything unless you were in on it, too.'

Confound it, they're right.

I must say, I'm giving the idea of allowing them to join very serious thought. Minerva, as Bill told you, they're offering to take an unbreakable vow. Do you think that's necessary?



 [alt_kingsley](#) at **2012-04-02 19:34:51**
(no subject)

I must say the idea is certainly intriguing, my friend, given what you've told me over the years about their proclivities.

Imagine if they got together and compared notes with Fu, for example.



 [alt_arthur](#) at **2012-04-02 19:37:43**
(no subject)

Oh my.

Explosions galore.




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-02 22:11:39](#)**
(no subject)

now that's a meeting I'm looking forward to.

he's been experimenting with iron lately -- wants to get a forge up and working at Moddey eventually, but for now he's just been doing all sorts of random things with the bits we've been able to scavenge. I can never understand half of what he's about, but the half I do understand makes me feel like a right idiot.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-02 20:42:52](#)**
(no subject)

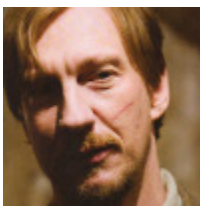
Another thing to worry about...


If the twins have deduced this, what has Percy managed to pick up?



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-04-02 20:43:34](#)**
(no subject)

Merlin. What a thought.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-02 23:58:25](#)**
(no subject)

I think this is one of the questions we should ask the Twins -- whether they think Percy has noticed anything. If they think there's any chance he'd follow the same chain of logic.

Was he about, that day Sirius was captured?



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

I honestly don't remember. Goodness knows we were concentrating on other things.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-04-03 00:58:56](#)**
(no subject)

He was there. But I think he was mostly staying in his room that day.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-02 20:47:57](#)**
(no subject)

I say it's not.

they're of age, they're not in direct risk.

the oath that snape and macnair took was for harry, not for us.

and even though at the time it was the best option we had for hermione, I don't think it's necessary for them. for her either, for that matter.



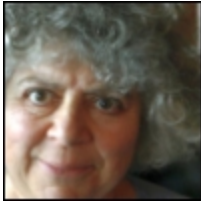
 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-02 21:29:15](#)**
(no subject)

I agree with you, Frank.

I believe we made a terrible mistake in binding Miss Granger as we did. That she's not lost her life to that Vow is a small miracle.

If we're to admit that pair of rascallions, then we ought to bring them in on the same standing the rest of us enjoy.

And I believe we ought to do it. I can well understand Molly's reluctance, but I think the arguments on the other side are sound.




 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-04-02 21:43:34](#)
(no subject)

Add my agreement to all this.

I know it's hard to hear, for those of you with children still in school. But it's a hard place to be, and none of our students are either as young or as innocent as we remember ourselves being.

The fact they kept their tongues this entire time and planned how to bring up the subject - safely and securely, mind - makes me think we can entirely trust them. Or certainly, better to trust them and point them in a useful direction than leave them on their own.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-02 22:11:53](#)
(no subject)

Dad, I have an idea about all this.


Let the twins come back to my flat tonight. I can debrief them in private without Percy in earshot. In fact, we can bring anyone in that we think should speak with them, before we make the decision. You can tell the rest of the family that I'm giving them a night out for their coming of age birthday...in fact, we can make it a couple of days if you like. What do you say?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-04-02 22:13:01](#)
(no subject)

I think that's an excellent idea, son. In fact, it would probably be politic to get them out of your mother's line of sight for awhile.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-04-02 22:20:46](#)
(no subject)

who else do you think should talk to them?

I could stop by if needed. but it's up to you and arthur and molly.




 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-04-02 22:42:51](#)**
(no subject)

I doubt you need me to talk to them, but I look forward to telling them myself that I'm well impressed.

And I know just how they feel, wanting to join in with you lot.

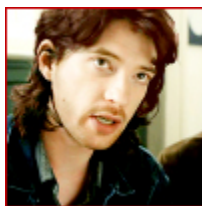



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-02 22:53:43](#)**
(no subject)

Well, if we do decide to go ahead, then of course Minerva should be the one to take their Vow. Even if it's not unbreakable. And I agree it shouldn't have to be.

I've already set arrangements with Alice that we'll bring the twins to the rendezvous point outside Moddey Dhoo tomorrow morning. My thinking was that you could bring Fu to talk with them. I'd like his input as to the value of the information and ideas they're offering, even though he is a muggle. He may not know magic, but he does know strategy. And that seems to be what they're offering in particular.

If you come along, fine. If you mention that you've seen Terry, they'll fall on your neck and greet you like an old friend. They have really soft spots in their hearts for him. As a matter of fact, I think it's primarily because of Terry and Hermione and what the Order's done to help them that they're determined to join us. They want to be part of that.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-03 00:49:34](#)**
(no subject)

Frank, another thought. Remus mentioned elsewhere on this post the other friends that they have at Hogwarts, who maybe have been helping Hermione and Terry. Fred and George have been scrupulously not saying who they are, but...Mum, you probably have an idea of who they're closest with: probably some of the people that get invited over whenever they decide to have a Quidditch get together.

Neville's one of them, right?


And Dad: if he is, and maybe knows about this lock, it would stand to reason that Ron might be involved, too. The twins have always been much closer to him than Percy. But not Ginny, if I had to make the guess.



 **alt_arthur** at [2012-04-03 00:51:05](#)
(no subject)


Oh, my.



 **alt_bill** at [2012-04-03 00:51:24](#)
(no subject)

Hermione knows, no doubt. But I assume we'll not be asking her.



 **alt_lupin** at [2012-04-03 00:21:14](#)
(no subject)

I've been thinking this afternoon about what I'd want to ask them.

First -- we have a pretty good idea that they're not Terry and Hermione's only allies at Hogwarts. So I'd want some assurance that they're not going to share information with their friends -- no matter how trustworthy those friends are. Not that I think they'd spill it all, but they're young. It might be tempting to drop hints. They'll need to restrain that urge. They may need to lie to their friends. Even friends who are worthy of trust. (Honestly, as far as trust goes, we could probably swear in Neville tomorrow alongside them; he'd never give the Order away.)

Second -- they need to understand that even if we swear them into the Order, we're not going to be sending them out on dangerous assignments, and we very much do NOT want them to attempt any freelance heroics. They may be of age, but they're young and inexperienced.

Third -- they need to realise that to be most useful to the Order, they'll need to take their studies seriously. Ingenuity is powerful, but ingenuity plus knowledge is even more so. (Not to mention, if this inspires them to put some effort into their schooling, Molly might come around yet.)


I could come talk to them, I suppose. I think they'd be rather more impressed by Sirius, though.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 00:48:03](#)**
(no subject)

Agreed, and good points, Remus. We could both come over to Bill's tomorrow, if he thinks it's a good idea to give them a proper lesson in the importance of finishing their education.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-03 00:54:41](#)**
(no subject)

I do think it's a good idea. I'll bring them back to my flat at around twelve thirty tomorrow afternoon, after they've finished up with Frank and Fu in the morning. Come by then. I'll have to go back to work, but will leave you with the two of them.

Then maybe we can get a consensus by tomorrow night.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-02 21:19:21](#)**
(no subject)

I've been talking with Remus for the last little while (sorry, all, I had gone outside for a bit of a neighbourhood reconnoitre) and got him calmed down as well.

Induct them, Arthur. No vow. Just let them in. They're men and they can make their own choices.

I don't think you need worry about Percy. I suspect that it's the twins' close association with Terry - and our Hermione, I'd bet - that has given them all the information they needed to put things together for

themselves.

As to the help of Messrs Moony, Wormtail, Padfoot and Prongs, well - I've known for a while that Hermione has in her possession an artefact of theirs. And I've long suspected that she got it from Fred and George, though I never asked, of course. If I'm right they had it for some time.

And it all makes sense, their secret communications through the journals. Remember, Arthur, that blank bit of parchment they sent to the Burrow a few years ago? I asked you to try tapping it and saying 'I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good' and it didn't work. Well, the reason I asked is that Hermione's little bit of parchment is activated by that password. They might have picked a different one. Or that might have been testing the age restriction, to see if you or Molly were able to read it. Either way, they seem to have tested their method judiciously and thoroughly - and any two wizards who can craft magic that sophisticated and research it so discreetly are worth a few practical jokes, in my book.

I'd be interested to know what other sorts of innovations they have up their robe sleeves.

As for the vow - well, it's already been said. They've already been keeping dire secrets for however long they've had their own journal lock. Besides, I think making Hermione take the Vow was a mistake. I know you didn't think you had any alternatives at the time and I'm not judging you or Minerva. But I would hate to see us turn that precedent into a standard practice.


In fact, I'll go further, Arthur. The very next time you and Minerva can be in the same place with her, I'd like you to remove it. Or at least modify it. It's time we trusted her as if she were an adult, as well. She's proved and more than proved she's worthy.



 **alt_frank** at **2012-04-02 22:08:53**
(no subject)

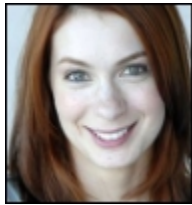
hear hear




 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-02 22:23:12](#)
(no subject)

'A couple years ago?' They've had their own journal lock for a couple years?

Well bugger me. I was so proud of the Order lock, too. And here they've dreamed up another lock, all on their own. I had no bleeding idea. And I'm the one who's supposed to know EVERYTHING about journal security!



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-02 22:28:35](#)
(no subject)

But just imagine the sorts of things you'll be able to do with it now that you'll be able to put your collective heads together!



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-04-02 23:36:18](#)
(no subject)

You don't suppose this means loads of other people have conjured up their own backdoors to the journals, do you?

Not to throw cold water on your sense of superiority there, Bill.

Only, I like the idea that Himself's gone and given us a tool for insurrection when He thought He was giving Himself a way to keep track of us all.

Oh, well. Never mind. Point is, your brothers have worked it out right brilliantly, and we want that sort of brains on our side, yeah?

Count mine as a vote for swearing them in as soon as you can get Minerva there to do it.




 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-04-02 22:57:55](#)
(no subject)

I think you're right, Sirius. Certainly about removing the Vow for Hermione. Minerva, I'd be willing to come to the school when it's back in session to take care of that piece of business. I confess it would ease my mind quite a bit.

As for the twins, upon weighing it carefully, my vote is that we let them in.

I think Molly will come around. Eventually. She'll need a day or two to grouse a bit about it first.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-03 00:06:02](#)
(no subject)

Frankly, I think they're safer knowing than not knowing.

And if they're in the Order we'll be able to ~~keep a~~ ~~leash~~ keep a closer eye on them.


Something else that occurred to me: in the event that there's a security breach and we need to get the Weasley and Longbottom children away from Hogwarts, Fred and George may be in a much better position to track them down than any of the ~~adults~~ teachers.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-03 00:57:18](#)
(no subject)

That last especially is...a very good point, Remus. As much as I hate like poison to admit it.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-03 00:59:34](#)
(no subject)

You all right there, Mum?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-03 01:00:20](#)
(no subject)

Yes.

No.


I'm still upset about it. And I have the worst headache.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-03 19:30:59](#)
(no subject)

Well, if we're going to even think about this, then I want them to buckle down and start getting serious about school. They should do well on their NEWTs. And I want them to agree to stay in school through the end of their seventh year!



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-03 19:31:45](#)
(no subject)

Does that mean you'd agree to let them in, with those conditions?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-03 19:32:20](#)
(no subject)

I don't know what I mean. I just don't want them to be in any danger!



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-04-03 19:33:04](#)
(no subject)

But you have to see that's unrealistic, Molly, dear. They're in danger due to the mere fact that they are our children. And they've been taking risks, we learn now, for at least two years. And handling them well.

You have to see that they'd be safer in rather than out.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-04-03 19:33:35](#)**
(no subject)

I...I suppose. Oh, I know.

But I still hate it!




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-02 22:16:19](#)**
(no subject)

I want to add in my support. I'd rather have them working with full knowledge on our side than not, and they are of age.

And personally speaking, I know that Frank and I are thinking of having a similar conversation with Neville in a few years. When he comes of age.

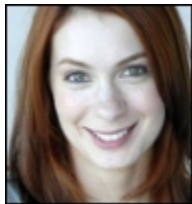
That's a ways off yet, of course. But I do hope that there will be a place for him if he wants it.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-02 22:25:22](#)**
(no subject)

Alice, here's a thought: I'm bringing the twins to my flat tonight.

I wonder...is there anyway we can arrange for them to speak to Fu Lee? Maybe I could bring them to the blind rendezvous point, and you or Frank could bring Fu? I want to debrief them regarding all this journal stuff, but it might be extremely useful to get his reaction to what they've dreamed up for other useful products.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-02 22:27:42](#)**
(no subject)

We can bring him, certainly.

Perhaps tomorrow afternoon? We can have tea.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-02 22:39:51](#)**
(no subject)

for you?

Best make it breakfast. I do have to work tomorrow. Dad and I can drop them off at about eight, say, via side along apparition, and then come back at noon to pick them up. Will that work



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:12:32](#)**
(no subject)

Of course. We'll be there.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-04-02 22:46:42](#)**
(no subject)

Where's Mac?

He should have a say in this, too. He was their Head of House, after all.



 **[alt_macnair](#)** at **[2012-04-02 22:54:02](#)**
(no subject)

~~Looks like Weasley's already posted to them~~

If one can be surprised and yet not, I reckon that's me. They were a pair of troublemakers, but fully invested in fair play. Can't say I knew they had this in them, but then it's probably a good sign that no one else seems to have known it, either.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-04-03 01:02:31](#)**
(no subject)

That's a valuable bit of information, though, Walden. I don't know them, of course--just through Arthur and Molly's stories.

I'd also like to hear a little more from Poppy and Pomona about their thoughts. And Minerva.



 **alt_bill** at [2012-04-03 01:02:57](#)

(no subject)

And Hermione.

Hermione, I assume that you want them to join?



 **alt_hermione** at [2012-04-03 01:51:00](#)

(no subject)

Yes, please.

But I don't want to keep on in the discussion because well I'm going to be getting myself into trouble with my big mouth!!



 **alt_pomona** at [2012-04-03 01:16:11](#)

(no subject)

I've largely said my piece. Better have them where we've an idea what they're doing. But also, as I said, they've had rather more focus the last year or two. Their pranks have, well, purpose, shall we say.

I don't suppose you all heard much of some of them, but there was a matter of joke corsages at the Yule Ball. They were quite careful who got what, mind: the embarrassing ones went to those who largely deserved them for bad behaviour.

And then there was the first duelling club after the Games - they set up Avery and (do you remember who the other was, Poppy?) with joke wands on request. Broke the ice with a duel of fish, as everyone who was there wanted to tell me next day.

There's also something in how they're using their quite real skills to bring together, rather than divide. I don't know how many of you are familiar with the idea of the sacred fool - but the idea that humour, teasing, that twist of the unexpected - opens doors we might never see otherwise. There's a bit of that, that perhaps we

need.

But now I'm wallowing in things learned at my mother's knee.
Make of it what you will



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-03 02:09:46](#)**
(no subject)

The other was Maghnus Derrick, who has it in him to be a very nasty piece of work--he's the one who talked two other boys into abseiling down our highest tower, from which both fell with nearly fatal results. That he should have been part of this comic demonstration after the Frost Faire Games stands much to the Weasley twins' credit: I shouldn't have expected anything of the sort from Derrick. Nor Avery, for that matter.

I suppose what I can add here is my observation of the way these two young men have always treated Mr Boot. I can remember times when he lay on my ward--far too many times--and his most faithful visitors were Messrs Weasley and Weasley. Even when he lay here for months on end, petrified by the spell of the basilisk, they came.

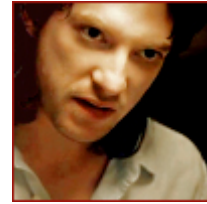
I've also noted and admired their family ties: I do believe they tease and care in equal measures. Healthy measures.

Character and mettle have a way of showing themselves in a hospital ward.

[2012-04-02 17:40:00](#)

Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

Pack your bags, gents. I'm coming to fetch you to come spend a night at my flat. Call it part of your coming of age celebration.



 [alt_bill](#)

There will be some people you'll be talking to tomorrow.



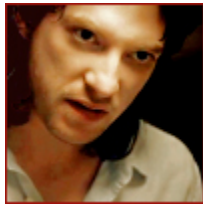
 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-02 23:00:35](#)
(no subject)


Would bringing Firewhiskey help? Because we probably can swipe a bottle from Dad.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-02 23:01:10](#)
(no subject)

Or we can stop off and pick one up.



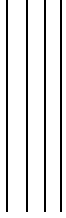
 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-02 23:02:12](#)
(no subject)


No, you get to face the music with your senses unimpaired.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-02 23:02:56](#)
(no subject)

No, we meant Firewhiskey for you.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-02 23:03:30](#)**
(no subject)

You don't want my senses impaired either. Trust me.

[2012-04-02 21:28:00](#)

Order Only: Private message to Padfoot

I solemnly swear that I am up to no good...

They remind me of us. No, they remind me of you and James. If you'd actually been brothers.



 **[alt_lupin](#)**



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 02:33:28](#)**
(no subject)

Mischief managed.

Remember that idea James and I had of opening a joke shop after we beat Voldemort for good and all? The four of us in business together?

We were brothers. In every way that mattered, anyway.

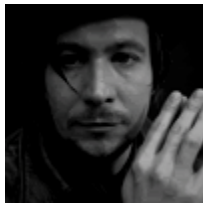
I suppose we've got to be stern adults with them tomorrow? But I'm really curious to know how they achieved it all.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 02:37:03](#)**
(no subject)

Yes; we need them to take things seriously. Talking about the map -- and the rest of it -- would be a great deal more fun, though.

I had completely forgotten about the idea of the joke shop. That would've been brilliant.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 02:48:22](#)**
(no subject)

Well, if they're sworn in, there ought to be plenty of time to discuss charms, theory, experimentation and new products.

Funny, isn't it, how we're in business after all, just a different sort. Though I suppose we could -

What would you think about setting up a room where we could

tinker about in Grimmauld? And if we come up with something really good, we could always put it out in the shop.

It could work, don't you think?



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 02:55:18](#)**
(no subject)

Yes! Absolutely. There's space to spare in Grimmauld.

And we could invite the Twins over during their summer hols. Perhaps we could tell Molly we'd coach them on something school-related, give them a jump on their schoolwork for fall. (Actually, we could do that, too. Do you suppose they even know how to cast a Patronus charm? They might need to be able to do that.)



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 02:59:59](#)**
(no subject)

That's settled, then.

I wonder if Hagrid would be willing to part with the Vincent? I'd rather love to show it off to someone who'll appreciate it.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 02:44:52](#)**
(no subject)

I've been thinking, too, about the others, like Neville.

We have a pretty good idea that the Twins aren't Terry's only friends. I'd lay odds Ron Weasley's in on it with them, and Neville Longbottom.

Who else, do you think? We probably shouldn't speculate, but surely as long as we're not leaning on Hermione to confirm or deny, there's no harm in it.

The next generation of the Order. I'd rather hoped we wouldn't need a next generation.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-03 02:55:15](#)
(no subject)

We all agreed *not* to speculate, as I recall it.

I'd say you're spot-on with those two. I half-hope Justin's fallen in with them - though he hasn't quite said. And of course, Sally-Anne Perks. Poppy thinks so, anyway. And I've had some suspicions, anyway. Remember that time I went to see Harry in New London and Hermione told us all about that poor pregnant muggleborn girl? The first time we heard about the underground group. She was mixed up in that.

And there's Parkinson, which frankly worries me. But you might not remember that she was with Harry and Draco last year; it was close to the time you transformed.

Merlin's beard, how many people do you think they could've included by now?

You don't think *Harry's* on it?

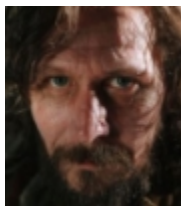


 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-03 03:00:06](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I wish he were!

It would almost have to mean Draco Malfoy was, too...

Though, if we're willing to entertain the possibility that Pansy Parkinson knows about Terry's wand and hasn't breathed a word, Draco's not all that much more far-fetched.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-03 03:02:38](#)
(no subject)

Now, *that's* an unsettling thought.

His father might be an ineffective, effete, inept fool, but his aunt is a powerful Legilimens.

And I've got no confidence that Draco could keep his emotions in check if his life depended on it. Or Harry's, even.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:04:02](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, all right. That's not quite fair. As far as we know, he's not told anyone about what happened last June.

But -

Well, I know he hates me but he stays quiet because he cares about Harry. Still.

Nope, don't trust him.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:08:43](#)**
(no subject)

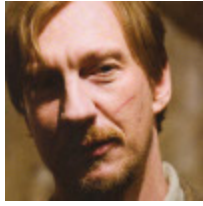
You might not trust him, but you've entrusted him with some thoroughly sensitive information. And gambled that his father's position will protect him from any casual prying from his aunt.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:14:31](#)**
(no subject)

I didn't trust him with it. I thought he was unconscious, last year. Then Harry brought him along and made it clear that the little ferret knew all about me. Hermione swears no one told him, so he must not have been as thoroughly knocked out as we thought.

And believe me, the thought is not encouraging.




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

I suppose you didn't deliberately entrust him with it.

But he's kept your secret, all the same. Even though he loathes you.

Bellatrix doesn't know you're an animagus. Draco could not only tell her you're an animagus, he could tell her exactly what you transform into.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:28:21](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. Unfortunately Hermione and Harry wouldn't let me Obliviate him. I know why they'd have hated it, but I'd've felt more comfortable.

Well. I suppose you've got a point. Maybe there's more of Andi and Dora in him than I want to give him credit for.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:31:40](#)**
(no subject)

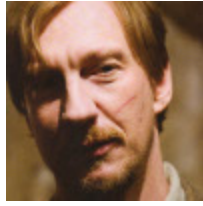
That reminds me -- we should invite Hydra to tea. Spring hols! She could come and meet Bea.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:33:31](#)**
(no subject)

You and Dora will be the death of me. You know that, right?

Well. Why not? Provided Dora can get her to talk about Justin.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:32:48](#)**
(no subject)

If there's one child at the school that I think we can safely assume does NOT know about Terry and Hermione's wands, it would be Hydra LeStrange. I rather get the impression her mother views the inside of her head as her personal property. Bella's property, I mean.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:36:01](#)**
(no subject)

Agreed, which is why I think inviting her to tea is probably not a good idea.

But I can see I'm to be overruled, anyway, by Dora if not you, so. I suppose Padfoot will simply have to endure it.


Just be sure we move a few things back into the kitchen so it looks like we take more than lunch over there.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:48:00](#)**
(no subject)

Good idea.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:11:06](#)**
(no subject)

Harry, too, for that matter.

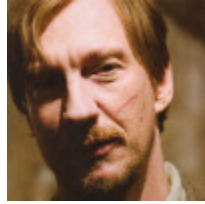
It's striking to me, I guess. How many of our secrets are being faithfully kept by children. Some of whom could benefit immeasurably if they turned on us -- but they don't. Because loyalty to their friends outweighs loyalty to the regime.


Despite everything.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:18:35](#)**
(no subject)

All of which means we'd best get a move on and win this bloody war. How many of them can really stand up to the sort of pressure Voldemort can devise?



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:21:15](#)**
(no subject)

Mmm.

Hopefully we've got a few years before he realises any of them could possibly pose any sort of threat.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:30:28](#)**
(no subject)

And if Neville's one of them, then chances are his little sister's in the group, too.

Though if he were in it, wouldn't he have told Frank and Alice?



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:35:46](#)**
(no subject)

If he'd promised not to?

Neville knows his parents can be trusted, but perhaps he can't tell them about his friendship with Terry without breaking his promise. And presumably he can't ask for permission to tell his parents without revealing he's in communication with them. Rather an uncomfortable position all around. Like Hermione, but without the added stress of the Unbreakable Vow.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 02:57:27](#)**
(no subject)

And don't give that one the satisfaction, Remus. Let him crawl back into his hole.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:00:39](#)**
(no subject)

Eh. He's right about Hermione.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:12:15](#)**
(no subject)

I didn't say he wasn't but he didn't have to swan in and offer up the word from on high. 'No one asked me' bollocks - Arthur asked the whole Order. Instead he makes a meal out of the thing.

Morgana. What a whinging pillock.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 03:14:45](#)**
(no subject)

Whinging pillock? But his input was so thoroughly useful! If he finds the Twins unbearable, I KNOW we'll enjoy having them over for a visit come summer.

[2012-04-02 21:42:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_ron](#)

Well.

Hate to admit it, but today was well brilliant. I thought it was going to be dull, dragging around museums again. Thought we'd seen them all when we were there before. Did you hear them say there are four hundred museums in wizarding New London? FOUR HUNDRED?! I mean, sure, some of em are just people's old houses and little places like that daft commemoration thinger about the Fire that you climb up inside, but that's a serious load of museums, that is! I hope they don't expect us to go to all of them.

Anywiz, the new one we saw today was snitch and a half. And it was hilarious going past the empty spot in the Wizarding History museum where old Slytherin's armour used to stand--like they were just going to leave that big, empty spot with just that little card on the wall, saying how it was out on temporary loan--and then seeing it this afternoon in the new museum. Didn't look very temporary over there, did it? With that whole model of Slytherin's rooms at Hogwarts and all.

So, yeah. I'm sort of sorry we had to come home tonight. Things are dull here. Well, the twins went off to stay with Bill for their birthday, and I bet they're seeing parts of New London the YPL doesn't show us! Now they're of age and all. And Mum's ill. She didn't even come down for supper. Dad had to cook, and that's always- Yeah, anywiz, it was eggs. And Percy made a stink about how they weren't even fresh and how Dad'd scorched them and how it was just like the twins to go larking off. And he was just winding up to go on and on, only Dad gave him a look. So then he stomped off to his room, which, well, that's just as well, anywiz, but now Dad's gone off to sit with Mum. And Ginny's doing I don't know what, but it's not like we'd do anything anywiz, cause she never wants to play chess or cards or anything any more. So I'm just sat here, looking back through a really ancient Quidditch World, and wondering what everyone else is getting up to.

Is it the camp tomorrow for you lot that get to go?

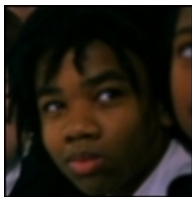



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-03 03:26:47](#)
(no subject)

It's been real quiet here, too. Well, it's always quiet, because Gran doesn't like noise.

I've been thinking about that camp visit business. It really is odd, when you think about it. I mean, I've seen the camp at Wyre. Gran always took Evelyn and me to do shifts in the soup kitchen there. Some of her friends were shocked that she did that, because it is depressing. Really bleak and run down. But Gran always insisted we had to know what those places were like.

So why are they taking the foreign visitors to show off a place like that?




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-03 03:28:43](#)
(no subject)

I hadn't thought about it before, but it is odd. Huh. But maybe not all the camps are like that.


I expect you'd know better than me, Ron, 'cause your Dad works in those places.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-03 03:46:14](#)
(no subject)

I wouldn't say he works there. But he does have to go there sometimes, mostly when things go pearshaped and there's some kind of bad trouble. Yeah, I think they're dead grim, the camps. Most all of them, I think. Dad's always done in when he comes home after a trip into one of them.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-03 03:49:24](#)
(no subject)

I've never seen one.

I'm not sure I want to.

But I'm going to.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-03 04:00:57](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, well.

I've decided not to be worried about the fact they didn't let me go. I mean, I know what Professor Siz said about it and all. I mean, I only asked to go because I wanted to show loyal, but then they didn't let me go along and I thought, well, maybe they don't think I really am, y'know, one of the ones they trust or whatever.

I mean, they'd be right, but I don't want them to think that.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-03 04:18:35](#)**
(no subject)


No, you oughtn't.

Really.

And that's why I signed up too, anyways.

It's not tomorrow, though, I don't think. So there's that.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-03 04:22:37](#)**
(no subject)

You all right, there?

Only, you sound sort of- off?

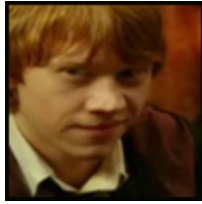
You're not coming ill, are you?




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-03 04:59:39](#)**
(no subject)

Of course not, tuna lips.

I'll be fine. I just tend to think myself into a corner sometimes.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-03 12:29:50](#)
(no subject)

Oh. All right, then.

We'll just have to follow you into your corner, yeah? And have a party there. Who's got the albums?!




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-03 18:35:44](#)
(no subject)

I have plenty of those.

I can't wait to play awful Quidditch with you, you know.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-03 18:46:31](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Me, too.

Oh. Meant to say. If you wanted to bring whasisname, it'd be okay. Mum wouldn't mind.



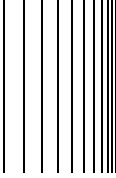
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-03 21:59:20](#)
(no subject)


That's incredibly sweet of you, Ron.

I'll ask.

It'll be a bit different than what he's used to, so he might not say yes, but it'd be good for him to know he's invited.

And it's good for me to know he's invited too.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-03 22:45:27](#)
(no subject)

Well, that's me, y'know. Incredibly sweet.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-03 03:39:09](#)
(no subject)

They're taking the foreign visitors to a camp because Viktor asked to see one.

And he may have implied in his letter, that if he DIDN'T get taken to see one, that would show that the Protectorate had something to hide.

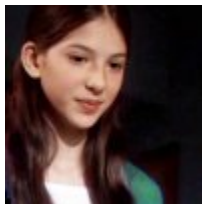
(He meant to imply it. He may have said it outright. It's harder to be devious in a language you don't speak all that well. He should have had me read the letter for him before he sent it, I think.)



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

Huh.

Why would he want to see that?



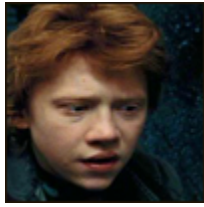
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-03 03:58:17](#)
(no subject)


He said the Protectorate wants them to think everything is perfect. Everywhere they go, things are clean, everyone is well-dressed and well-fed and happy, and they're supposed to think that's all they see because that's all there IS.

It's a lie. He knows it's a lie. He wants to see the parts they're hiding, and 'show me a muggle camp' was something he could ask for that they might actually do.

And they're taking all the foreigners! He was really glad about

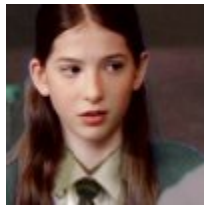
that, because some of the others from Durmstrang say stupid things like, 'if there ARE hungry people, where are they?'



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-03 04:04:16](#)
(no subject)

Huh.

I wonder if you could invite him to visit you at the Strettons before he has to go back. I mean, I don't know if there are hungry people there, but you could show him what it's really like for Muggles and Muggleborns who have to work in places like that.



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2012-04-03 04:11:50](#)
(no subject)


Well, it certainly didn't work out for spring hols, they're keeping him so busy.

He asked me about my real family, months ago. When he figured out that I was a half-blood and that I'd grown up in a blood-traitor family, he figured if anyone out there was hungry, unhappy, and running about in rags it would be my parents.

Your mum says my parents are doing a lot better now because of the barter network. But the winter I was nine, we really didn't have enough. I mean REALLY didn't have enough -- we almost starved. I told him about the healer, too (the bad one), and village school, and how when I was a firstie I didn't have any gloves or warm clothes because they weren't on the list from the Ministry.

So he knows it's not all sunshine and roses no matter what they say.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-03 04:17:08](#)
(no subject)

Oh. You told him all that?

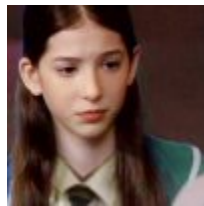
You know, I'd been thinking that you could

maybe try to go see your parents if we had you over for flying and whatever here during hols. And that's still on. I mean, Mum even said people could stay over so we could fly all day or do whatever and have supper and all, but the weather's been so rubbish, you really couldn't go all that way even if we came up with a way to hide what you were really doing.

But we'll work it out for this summer, yeah? I mean, we could even tell my mum, because I know she'd want to help you. She might even take you there, y'know? By side-along. Think about it. I mean, I wouldn't ever say anything to her unless said it would be all right, but-

I think you could.

If you wanted.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-03 04:31:17](#)**
(no subject)

I told him all that eventually.

I mean, he kept asking. And he really wanted to know. So I told him about almost starving, and waited to see if he reacted like Lana Sandoval and said clearly we almost starved because we were stupid and traitors and so on, but he didn't, and I told him about the healer and not having warm gloves. Village school came last.

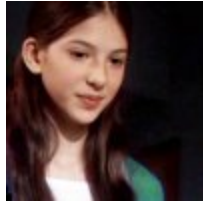
We can't fly all the way to Bagwyllydiart from the Burrow. It's over a hundred miles. If we could come up with some excuse to floo to Gloucester, maybe. Asking your mum to side-along me would probably actually be safer.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-03 04:37:53](#)**
(no subject)

Do you want me to ask her for you?

I would, you know.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-03 04:49:03](#)
(no subject)

Not while she's ill.

Maybe this summer, though.

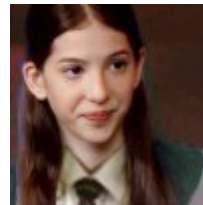


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-03 12:28:28](#)
(no subject)

All right, then.

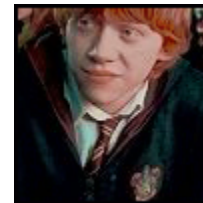
How're things at the Strettons?


Or. You're not with Fisheye, are you?



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

No, I'm at the Strettons. I asked about visiting Pansy and Mrs Stretton said maybe and then complained about all the trips I'll be going on.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-04 01:54:18](#)
(no subject)

Wait.

You get to come for Quidditch at ours, don't you?

Say. Is Stretton living at home, now? Would he want to come, too?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-04 02:49:06](#)
(no subject)

Oh, good thought. Yes, I'm sure he would, and I'm sure they'll let us if he's going.

Of course that means Gemma will want to come, too. And Philip. And Philip will want to play. So I might start by seeing whether I can persuade them to just let me

come. (Philip is ten now, and he has a broom. Jeremy takes him out to throw quaffles around pretty regularly, I think he's hoping eventually Philip will make the Ravenclaw team.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-03 03:43:31](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry to hear your mum's ill.

That museum really was BRILLIANT. I wonder if they might sell reproductions of the hangings they put in the model of Slytherin's rooms? Because some of them would look really good in the Slytherin Common Room.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-03 03:48:05](#)
(no subject)

Agreed.

And the armour was *extra* brilliant. It was my favourite part, really.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-03 04:13:11](#)
(no subject)


Hullo, Ron,

If it makes you feel better, I don't think we're going to see a real camp this time, either.

And it's Saturday, not tomorrow, what?

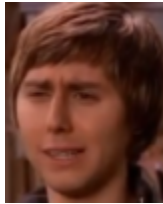
Now, as to what your brothers are up to...I say, you don't think they would have tried one of their snacks on your mother, do you? That seems a touch low for them. But I can't think what else might have made her ill, can you?



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-03 04:20:30](#)
(no subject)

Could've been Dad's cooking! Because, I mean, seriously.

Only, she was already sick before that. I dunno. I guess it's just a spring fever or summat.



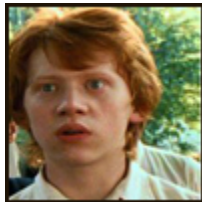
 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-03 04:24:13](#)
(no subject)


Perhaps.

There must be something going 'round. Hydra was under the weather, too, that's why she wasn't along today.

I say, did you get a close look at Gryffindor's sword?

-Justin



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-03 04:40:49](#)
(no subject)

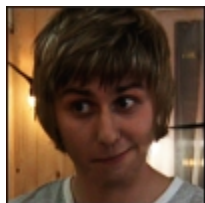
Was she? I just thought they hadn't included her on the list for today. Shame she's sick.

It's wicked snitch, innit, Gryffindor's sword?!

Actually. Did they have anything of Ravenclaw's or Hufflepuff's? I mean, the other founders. I didn't notice.

And, oh. I was meaning to ask you about some of that French stuff. Funny old thing, the Protector having those French paintings, yeah? I wouldn't have probably gone in that room at all, except some of your mates from Beauxbatons were in there, whispering about it. Did you see them? The pictures of those witches in frilly dresses that weren't really properly done up all the way? There was one on a swing, going up and back and showing well up her skirt, yeah? And there was one of a wizard playing a lute while his lady friend's sitting there, laughing at the jokes that two other blokes are telling her, and one of them was

leaning over her, like he's looking down her front. I mean, those paintings must've been three hundred years old or four, maybe. They were seriously old, but whoa! I didn't know they painted stuff like that!



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-03 04:58:12](#)
(no subject)

At least those witches were mostly clothed, what! There's whole floors of paintings in the *Champs-du-Lacs* featuring nudes, old chap. Including some where the men are all clothed and the women aren't, and some that are just the reverse!

I'm not at all sure why they're in the Protector's Collection but I'll tell you something: Finnigan and that bloke he chums about with, Uloshenko? I couldn't shake them off - not without being bally unspeakably rude, what. Which of course, I didn't wish to be, if you follow me.

It was well fun, talking about art with Uloshenko - he knows rather a lot, actually, though he's quite wrong about his Tinteretti vs his Titians, but one doesn't care to start a squabble over something so trivial, what? - but mind you, I hope he doesn't clamp on like a limpet for the whole of the holidays!

Goodness, I said I was going to bed ages ago. I really ought to put out the light.

Cheers, Ron. See you in Cambridge? And don't forget to tell Fred and George to get me the rest of your things by Sunday, right?

-Justin

2012-04-02 21:55:00

Order Only—Opinions


Now that you have all so kindly asked my opinion, I shall make it clear that while I find Minerva's position understandable—and the Messrs Weasley nigh intolerable—I believe it would be utterly unfair to invite the twins to the Order under an Unbreakable Vow. You do not see Miss Granger on a daily basis; I do; it is not a pretty sight, and largely as a result of her anxiety over the situation.



 [alt_severus](#)

Now I shall return to my hovel.




 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-04-03 02:33:04**

(no subject)

Well, I agree completely that she should be released from it, and the sooner the better.



 [alt_arthur](#) at **2012-04-03 02:35:47**

(no subject)

Agreed. Minerva and I will take care of it once she returns to school.

2012-04-02 22:44:00

Order Only: Private message to Dora and Sirius

Dora, I just remembered that Bellatrix's excuse for paying us that odd social visit was that Hydra wanted to visit us.



 [alt_lupin](#)

Did you want to invite her? They're on spring hols for the next two weeks. It might be a good time.

[2012-04-03 07:20:00](#)

Order Only

We have absolutely no choice. We MUST admit them.

Minerva, they know our deepest secret of all.

They know about the false book of Hogwarts.

We were betrayed by the Sorting Hat.

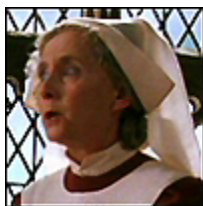
I asked them who else they suspected might be working with 'the wand smugglers,' as they call our group. They told me they think Madam Pomfrey is involved, chiefly because of her kindness to Terry Boot. They also think she was in an ideal position to receive contraband goods, like Hermione and Terry's wands, because she receives medical shipments for the hospital wing. They've wondered a bit about Professor Sinistra. And the other one they said they chiefly suspected but were not sure about was you.

I asked them why and they hemmed and hawed a great deal. They didn't want to tell me, and no wonder! But I insisted, saying there was no chance we'd admit them unless they told us everything. It seems that right after they created their secret lock, they more or less kidnapped Terry Boot, broke into your office and put the Sorting Hat on his head. The Hat told Terry that it was sorry he couldn't have been left out of the false book, but he was born too soon. And they've been wondering ever since what the hell it meant.

(Terry Boot's a Ravenclaw. By the way.)



 [alt_bill](#)



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-03 13:13:58](#)

(no subject)

How many of the others know about the book? And the hat?

Honestly. If all of their cohort know that secret, what are we to do? Make Order members of the lot of them? I think not.

We must, I believe, reconcile ourselves to the fact that we have allied ourselves with another group of (very young) insurgents. A group, which, to all appearances, is as committed to the cause and is as willing to take risks as we ourselves are. (I must say, with respect to

the latter, that I am beginning to see a number of events here at the school in a new light.)

That said, I believe that it behooves us to keep the two groups effectively separate. It is certainly in our interest to discover what exactly they have learned or guessed about us, but it is not in anyone's interest that we should become transparent to one another.

That is the one thing we ought to learn from the Dogstar: their structure allows them to take risks we cannot afford because they have the security of knowing that if one cell falls it cannot bring down the whole.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-03 14:05:46](#)
(no subject)

If they have any hint that I may be a member of the Order, the students must be thoroughly aware that I cannot afford to show it—and that they can never drop a hint.



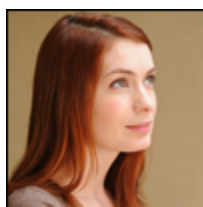
 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-03 14:06:38](#)
(no subject)


How lovely of you to think of my position in the castle as well, Minerva.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-03 14:07:03](#)
(no subject)


Yours is far less tenuous than mine. You might do them some good.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-03 14:11:32](#)
(no subject)

He has.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-03 14:20:12](#)
(no subject)


I can't speak for them all, Minerva.

But Frank and I think it's a fair assumption that Neville is one of these young people.

Rest assured, he and Hermione both are in a position to know what sort of risk they are all in (Hermione more so, of course), and are not likely to take that sort of thing lightly.

If he's with them, and I *know* he is, he'll have a very good idea of how dangerous it would be to reveal anyone he suspects to be an ally, and knowing my son, he will take pains to make sure other people in the group understand that as well.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-03 14:32:19](#)
(no subject)

I think they know that perfectly well.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-04-03 14:09:16](#)
(no subject)

Quite, on the need to keep separate.

That they've kept these secrets so long is encouraging, but I do worry what might happen if too many have guesses about sympathetic adults confirmed, how it changes the relationships, and how others might notice in subtle ways. Especially for those of us who live and work not only with sympathetic students and staff but with those who might well be looking for the smallest slip.

There's more than one reason I bury myself in the greenhouses.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-03 15:06:06](#)
(no subject)

Well, and it is sobering to see that they are incorrect in at least one of their guesses.

Imagine if any of them were to compromise themselves with Aurora Sinistra. It might not be calamitous, but it might, too, and it would put her in a position that would sorely test her. I wish I felt certain how that would turn out, but I don't feel entirely confident of her.

I'm afraid, too, that you are right to preserve your distance. I admit that it's tempting to imagine revealing myself to some of these young people, tempting to imagine that I could become a mentor to them and guide them.

That's a temptation I have no intention of indulging, however. I'm already in a position to be of use to them without their knowing any more about me than they do, and that's much the safer course.

Of course, that may be a moot point if certain *others* of us are revealing themselves, as I take it they are.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-04-03 15:16:29](#)
(no subject)

Quite.

As to Aurora, that conversation she and I had after the Games has kept me up thinking, more than one night. I wish I thought we could approach her, but I quite agree, it would put her in an entirely untenable position.

I'm more confident in her own sympathies than I think you are (and I think if one of the students did make that mistake, she'd do her best to protect them.) But the company she's in regularly is entirely a different matter. And for that matter, her influence goes only so far.

As to yourself - well, no harm in Matron being seen as a resource and help, without revealing herself.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-03 14:03:36](#)
(no subject)


And, of *course* Mr Boot is a Ravenclaw. That surprises me not a bit.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-04-03 14:27:03](#)
(no subject)

How long have the twins known about the false book, Bill?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-03 14:28:15](#)
(no subject)

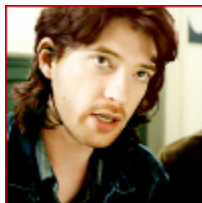
For three years.


Almost exactly.



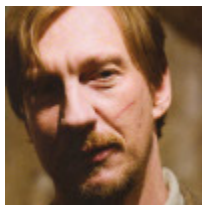
 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-04-03 14:28:45](#)
(no subject)


Good grief.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-03 14:29:01](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. You said it.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-03 17:01:20](#)
(no subject)

It sounds like they knew, but didn't really KNOW, if they've spent three years wondering what it meant.

But -- bloody hell, Bill. I keep going back and forth between feeling hopeful about the existence of our apparent Junior

Auxiliary and feeling utterly horrified at just how much they apparently know.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-03 21:22:11](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. I know exactly what you mean. I woke up sweating a couple of points last night at the very thought.

We may have been much happier in our ignorance. But unfortunately, that didn't make us safer. We've just been really, really lucky.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-04-03 14:47:15](#)**
(no subject)

Arthur and I stayed up late talking. (After muffling our bedroom, of course.)

I was livid yesterday. (Well, as livid as I could be considering how sick they made me!) But today, I have to admit, I'm almost proud of them. Yes, I am proud of them. I'm proud that they befriended Terry Boot and have been so good to him. I'm proud that they made sure he would be Sorted. What a difference they've made to that poor boy's life.

Arthur pointed out that it's clear that they've absorbed what we've always tried to teach them while still remaining cunning and careful about it, too. The reason they approached me was that they knew I would never betray them if it turned out they were wrong. Once I realised that, I couldn't stay angry.

I will insist that they buckle down to their studies and stay in school. And yes, I hate it. But we can protect them better if we admit them. And keep a closer eye on them, too.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 16:24:34](#)**
(no subject)

Bill,

Ready for us yet? Remus and I will come over when you give the word. Dora's got up a bit early to cover the shop.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-03 16:36:44](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, you can come over now any time you like.

(They've informed me that they had a perfectly splendid time talking with Frank and Fu. Apparently they recognise in Fu a total kindred spirit.)



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 16:40:22](#)**
(no subject)

Really? Eventually I have to meet him, then.

Right, we'll be over in a tick.

Have you told them who's coming to discuss their initiation?



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-03 16:57:21](#)**
(no subject)


Do you think they'll be more impressed if you introduce yourself as Sirius Black, or as Padfoot?



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-03 19:22:45](#)**
(no subject)

Just shut it, you. It's like John Turner magnified and duplicated.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-03 17:00:01](#)**
(no subject)

No, I haven't said.

[2012-04-03 07:23:00](#)

Order Only: Twins

Don't know if we should let them in or not. I figure that's for you lot to decide. Maybe that old man will show up and insist on it for reasons that are mysterious to everyone. Me, most of all.



 [alt_macnair](#)

Troubled by something else, though. How easily and with how much confidence they "deduced" the truth. True, it seems it was a complicated pattern of signs that led them to conclusions, but it wasn't too long ago that I was in a similar position of wondering if the people around me really believed what they were meant to.

Never acted on any of my suspicions, and never would have dared to really let myself have them. But maybe that was Voldemort's reach, acting on me, ~~like it still~~

Point being that a person's view of the world is tainted by the people they're surrounded by. If you've known Death Eaters, you tend to believe that inside, most people are like Death Eaters. Severus and Dora might have had different experiences, but that was mine.

If you've known kindness, and have been encouraged to embrace tolerance, maybe you start to believe that inside, most people are that same. Or want to be. You start to see that the Matron, who's just doing her job of healing people, might be a smuggler. That your parents might be, too.

Not sure where they've come up with that notion about Sinistra. Though the fact that she's with Lestrage is interesting.

Weasleys, Dora, and the rest of you who still have a place in the world, you ought to be very careful. In seeking out like-minded folk to join our ranks, there's always a risk that you'll show your hand. Even, it seems, when you fully don't intend to.

And thanks. For taking that risk.

Some days I am grateful to be a fugitive. It's only now that I feel truly free.

I worry for this group of lads and lasses the twins have befriended.

Seems that they're entertaining a lot of speculations, trying to seek out assurances that there is a trustworthy adult element out there in the world. I want them to find that assurance. But I don't know how they can find it safely.

That's all, really. Most I've written in a while, and the fingers are starting to ache.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-03 14:16:58](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Walden. I think you are right: we see other people through our own experiences and expectations. I take your point, too: that fact is both hopeful and dangerous.

We've been fortunate so far, but there are great risks in trusting others. That is the terrible curse of this regime. It's simply insidious.

This makes me think...

Sirius? Have you taken further steps in allying with those people who have approached you through the beer garden? Dora? Remus?



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-03 18:40:40](#)**
(no subject)

it's hard to teach them how to be careful without making them afraid of everybody and everything.

or how to find people you can trust in a place where showing your hand too much is so dangerous.

I don't know how my kid does it. keeping all that to himself, not saying what he thinks out loud. It's because he's part alice, no doubt, because it'd drive me mad.

2012-04-03 10:44:00

Order Only—Of course not!!

Of course OF COURSE we would never do anything that would hurt the Order.



If you took away my Vow, I could make sure of it too.

 [alt_hermione](#)



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-03 14:49:55](#)
(no subject)

We have already come to the conclusion that that will be for the best, Miss Granger, you realize.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-03 14:51:17](#)
(no subject)

Well, yes, but I was only saying, because you seemed worried.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-03 14:53:04](#)
(no subject)

I have no doubt of your good intentions, and very little doubt of your ability to see them through.



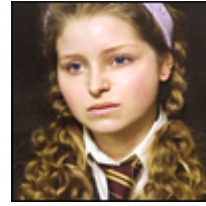
 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-03 14:53:27](#)
(no subject)

Thanks. I think.

2012-04-03 11:36:00

Private Message to Luna Lovegood

I don't suppose you really *want* come to Liverpool, do you?



It's not as if we'll be inviting loads of other 3rd years for you to hang about with, after all.

 [alt_lavender](#)

Do tell Mum you'd rather stay home, why don't you?



 [alt_luna](#) at **2012-04-03 16:32:59**

(no subject)

Actually, I would like to go.

Why should I tell your mum I'd rather stay home?



 [alt_lavender](#) at **2012-04-03 19:34:32**

(no subject)

Well, it isn't as if Ginny Weasley or any of your other odd friends will be there!

I could make it worth your while, I suppose...




 [alt_luna](#) at **2012-04-03 19:52:59**

(no subject)

Make it worth my while how?




 [alt_lavender](#) at **2012-04-05 14:53:48**

(no subject)

Well, is there a book or some potions supplies or something that you've been wanting?


I might be able to get it for you.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-04-05 23:41:05](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I think I would prefer to go to Camelot. Thank you very much.



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2012-04-06 00:49:07](#)
(no subject)

Never mind.

Mum's said you're to come regardless, so even if you did stay home you couldn't.

Try not to do anything especially daft.

[2012-04-03 11:59:00](#)

Private Message to Lavender and Parvati

Lav,

I just saw your answer on my post! That's awful!
Why does your mum want us to take her along?




 **[alt_padma](#)**

I don't suppose she'd rather stay behind? I mean, it's Luna, so perhaps that's not quite as daft a notion as if you asked a normal person.

Well. I suppose if she does come along, we could have her hold our things while we go on the fast rides, and that'll be helpful.



 **[alt_lavender](#)** at **[2012-04-03 19:39:36](#)**
(no subject)

I'm *trying* to persuade her that she doesn't *really* want to come, but she says she does...

I'll let you know how that goes.

Which reminds me...maybe we should invite Morag?

I know she can be a drip sometimes, but you know she'd be *thrilled* to spend some time with Linus Moon.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-04-04 02:32:49](#)**
(no subject)

Well, the problem is Mum said no more than 30 and we were already pretty close to that.


I realised after getting off the train that of course Zabini won't come, so I guess Loony would take his place. And I suppose it *would* be a clever move to make sure Morag doesn't feel neglected coming into the end of the year.

Ugh. Why are mothers so difficult?

Fine. Loony can come--but tell her she's going to have to hold our bags whenever we like. And I'll ask Morag.

I better warn Lines, too.



 **[alt_lavender](#)** at **[2012-04-06 00:55:33](#)**
(no subject)

Well, apparently my mum's talked to your mum and they've got it all arranged, because apparently Mum's hosting a luncheon for Blaise's mum and she wants Loony out of the house for it.

I don't know why they bother letting us think we've got a choice when they've made up their minds about how things are going to go.

And yes, do warn Linus--*that* should be entertaining!

[2012-04-03 13:56:00](#)

Order Only: our conversation with Fred and George Weasley



 [alt_lupin](#)

My first question was how they were planning to go about keeping the Order secret. I don't doubt their willingness and their good intentions, but it's quite a bit harder to keep a secret from your friends than from your enemies. Were they willing to lie, if it came down to a direct question? To Ron, to Lee Jordan, to any of the others that got too close to the truth?

They said they'd lie if they had to. They clearly preferred misdirection, which is fine; that's often more effective than a direct lie, anyway. Mostly, I wanted them to think it through before they got put on the spot. Especially given that they'll need to be telling the SAME lie, if it comes up.

They also said they'd talk to Molly and Arthur about it -- after all, Molly and Arthur have kept this from their children for years, and will probably never be able to tell Percy.

That reminds me, I also asked them if they think there's any chance of Percy making the same deduction they did. They didn't think so; they're privy to information that Percy isn't, first of all, but Percy also tends to ignore the things that don't fit into his world-view. They also seized the opportunity to point out they'll be in a good position to misdirect Percy, if he gets close to the truth. And they have a point. Even if Percy comes to suspect his parents, the idea that his younger brothers might be in on it would probably not occur to him.

Sirius wanted to know what they've got to offer. They showed us some gadgets they've cooked up -- there's one for eavesdropping that they call 'extendible ears' that have endless possibilities for mischief, I have to say.

They understand that they're not going to get to do anything particularly exciting for a good long while. They used the words 'foot soldiers' but really, that suggests people who are sent out to fight. They're still in training. And we discussed that, too, at some length -- their schooling. I told them that the Order needs useful members, and that school is an excellent opportunity to equip themselves with useful

skills. I told them I want them to use that opportunity, and not waste it. They seemed to pay attention. We'll see.

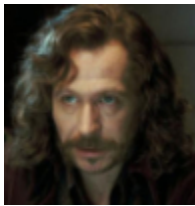
I told them that if they have the opportunity to learn the Patronus Charm, to seize it, but one of us could tutor them on it this summer.


And then there's occlumency. I wish it were an easier skill to learn. I'd sleep better at night if we could arrange to have each and every member of the Junior Auxiliary tutored in it -- but if Severus can teach Fred and George, perhaps we can provide them with a plausible cover story (to explain how they learned) and have them teach their friends. Although unless you work with a legilimens, it's hard to know if you're actually succeeding or not.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-03 19:51:44](#)
(no subject)

Clearly we should have inducted them into the Order a year ago. Maybe then they would have passed more OWLs!



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-03 19:59:48](#)
(no subject)


They did seem eager to prove that they could, er, reform themselves. Though I agree with them in principle that learning doesn't have to be limited to the classroom, Remus has a point that there's no use squandering an education when it's there to be had.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-03 20:10:28](#)
(no subject)

They're clearly brilliant when no marks are involved.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-03 20:21:48](#)
(no subject)

Well. They're brilliant if it's a subject of interest to them, yeah.

Guess I never quite understood how one doesn't translate to the other. I mean to say, we managed to get good marks *and* pursue avenues well in excess of the limitations of the curriculum.

That idea they had for decoys, though. That was well solid. Not sure about the edible transfiguratives but - it's possible that one could swap out batches of them for plain ones and thus render a whole gathering of people somewhat helpless for a short period of time. The emetic ones, for example? You could make them look like a proper petit-four and then when everyone's vomming and unable to stop you, you could nip out on a mission. Would have to be timed just right. But it's got potential.

2012-04-03 16:52:00

ORDER ONLY

wanted to follow up on our meeting with fu lee and the twins.



 **alt_frank**

they hit it off, no mistake, and had no end of things to talk over. even blew up something just because. fu's got an armour research project, and they got so involved during the meeting that I had to go back to moddey to get parchment so they could diagram things and take notes. I think fu wants a repeat visit, and he mentioned getting back together this summer for more research.


spoke to them both about the student group they're involved with, and they were fairly close-mouthed about who was in it, naturally, but made it very clear that everyone in the group was trustworthy -- even had some sort of a blackmail pact on top of everything, and that the group was small in size. they don't let just anybody in either -- they mentioned how careful they were about that bit.

we spent quite a bit of time talking about our terry. looks like carrow's going to have quite a fight if he ever shows his face, and that we'll all have to take turns taking shots at him. they've done a lot for terry -- more than I would've thought. they've come up with a way to send him owls, and have sent him pills for anemia, and a book on field medicine courtesy of neville, as well as a book on glamours so that carrow can't tell he's healed himself up.

according to the twins, he's been able to change his eyebrow, and is making slow and steady progress.

I think these are good kids, their hearts are in the right place, and although they joke around, they know when to be careful.



 **alt_bill** at **2012-04-03 21:17:03**
(no subject)

Leave it to the twins to forge a new relationship with someone by blowing something up.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-04 01:38:44](#)
(no subject)

Oi! I'm offended. They didn't blow anything up to celebrate our partnership!


Probably Moony's fault for acting far too stern and paternal with them.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-04 02:34:54](#)
(no subject)

Or maybe they were just uncharacteristically solicitous of the welfare of my flat. Bit of a bore, picking glass splinters out of everything.




 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-04 02:36:43](#)
(no subject)

And they liked you both. By the way. Well, Remus they've met before, but you know what I mean.

Really, they're insufferably smug about how today's meetings have gone.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-04 03:16:27](#)
(no subject)

When is Minerva taking their vows?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-04 03:21:19](#)
(no subject)

As soon as possible.

2012-04-03 17:48:00

*Private Message to Aunt Lestrage
and Cousin Hydra*




 **alt_nymphadora**

Junius and I were reading The Prophet this morning and saw the article about the Beauxbatons and Durmstrang students going off on a tour of the Protectorate. That must mean that Hogwarts is having Easter hols.

We'd still very much like for Hydra to meet our Albia. That is, if you'd like to meet her, Hydra. And we'd be very happy if you came here to ours for the visit.

Is there a day when that would be convenient? We hope so!



 **alt_bellatrix** at **2012-04-04 15:42:18**
(no subject)

Thank you for the invitation, Mrs Ponds. Hydra assures me that she would indeed like to meet your daughter, as well as your husband.

Hydra will have some school-related obligations beginning on Saturday, but any afternoon before then should suit.



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2012-04-04 16:21:56**
(no subject)

Oh, Aunt, I'm so glad.

Let's say Friday afternoon, in that case. Would two o'clock suit? Bea should be just waking from her

nap.



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2012-04-04 16:36:28**
(no subject)

Hydra, we're so glad you'll come!

Do you have a favourite sort of biscuit or tea-time sweet?

Bea isn't very particular yet. Well, Junius thinks she likes Aga's shortbreads best, but I think really it's just that no one buys them in the shop except old Mrs Mendenhall, so we always have some of those that need using up.

But we have lots of other, more popular biscuits, too. Or I could pop into the bakery on my way from work, if I knew what you especially like.




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-04 16:48:16](#)
(no subject)

I'm very glad, too.

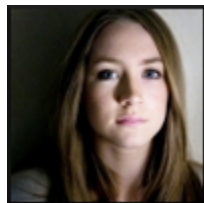
You needn't go to any special trouble, whatever you usually serve at tea will be good for me. I like to try other people's favourites, anyway, because that way I can sometimes try new things. I've never had an Aga shortbread, I don't think.


From,
Hydra



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-04-04 17:26:21](#)
(no subject)

Well, then. We'll put together a sampler and see if we can't expand your tea-time horizons!



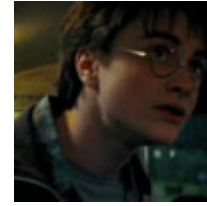
 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-04 22:39:25](#)
(no subject)

Thank you. That sounds lovely.

From,
Hydra

2012-04-03 18:00:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger



So.

It's not March anymore.

 [alt_harry](#)

Has he said anything to you, Draco?

Do you think he changed his mind? Because he said it'd be in March, but that was a while ago.

I mean, don't ask him if he changed his mind, just in case it's because he forgot or something, but yeah.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-04 02:54:43](#)
(no subject)

I don't know!! I hope so?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-04 02:54:59](#)
(no subject)

How could you forget?!



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-04 03:09:50](#)
(no subject)

I have no idea.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-04 03:10:57](#)
(no subject)

But if it's that, he might remember again.

Suddenly.



 **alt_draco** at [2012-04-04 15:39:14](#)
(no subject)

I thought about this last night. At first I reacted like Granger... How could *anyone* forget?

But then I realised, of course they forgot. Both your Father and my own. Because it's really no great matter, is it? Cruciating your mudblood is just a matter of regular course, like tying your shoe laces or holding a door open for someone. Something you ought to know by now because it's embarrassing that you don't, at your age and position.




 **alt_harry** at [2012-04-04 20:44:41](#)
(no subject)

I guess. Yeah, that sort of makes sense. That they'd not pay attention because it's so... normal.

For them.

And I do know it, I just don't do it.



 **alt_draco** at [2012-04-04 21:38:38](#)
(no subject)

And they know you don't do it because they see you treating Granger like a mate, even though she isn't. But right now there's a Protectorate to run so they'll come back to it later, when they remember.

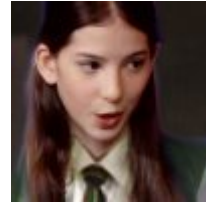
But they might not remember it if you can try to distance yourself from Granger and remember that she's your property.

2012-04-03 20:24:00

Private message to Pansy

Are you going to Blaise's mum's wedding?

Have you met the man she's marrying? I don't know who'd be daft enough to marry someone who's been widowed that many times, hasn't she had about a dozen husbands? You'd think the man's friends would have him kidnapped for his own good. Keep him locked in a room for a few weeks and see if the love potions wears off.



 **alt_sally_anne**

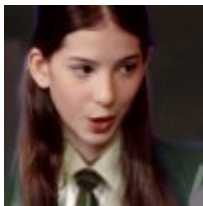


 **alt_pansy** at **2012-04-04 03:02:04**
(no subject)

"The Campbells" were invited to some luncheon or reception or something, only my name wasn't on it, and Mum is being *insufferable* because apparently they weren't invited to the *important* party, so I have no doubt she'll be thoroughly unpleasant the whole time, so it's a good thing I'm not going.

Ugh.

She can't have loved that many people *that* much. I don't think it's possible. I think she just likes weddings.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-04-04 03:14:42**
(no subject)

She probably likes weddings because they give her so many opportunities to exclude people from the really *important* party. Or exclude them altogether.

[2012-04-04 07:30:00](#)

Private Message to Mum and Dad



 **[alt_ginny](#)**

I received a letter this morning from Purest Sparkle. Since we are on hols, They want me in New London for most of the rest of hols. I am to floo there this afternoon, and stay til Saturday evening. Then go back on Monday until? They didn't specify, I suppose I would stay until we get much of the new summer work done for the upcoming issues, but they did say I would have time to come back before we have to be on the train.

They told me to tell you that they needed me. I am to floo to them at 2pm.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-04-04 14:50:49](#)**
(no subject)

They are telling you this now? I must say this is very strange. Do they have accommodations for you, or are we supposed to pay for them?

If you must stay in New London, you could stay with Bill, I suppose. Or you could floo there each day, or we could side along apparate you. But goodness, Ginny, if they expect you to stay at a hotel, how are we supposed to arrange that with absolutely no notice whatsoever?



 **[alt_ginny](#)** at **[2012-04-04 17:25:29](#)**
(no subject)

Mum,

I'm sorry about how short notice this is. Its stipulated in my contract that I can be called on unexpectedly.

Except they wouldn't do it during a school week, just on the weekends. But since its hols they want me there. I would love to stay with Bill if possible. And I will be home on Sunday for Easter. Could we sidelong apparate there, so I don't get dirty? And they will have someone escort me to Bills. I will have to be on site by 6am most days and won't get home til late. So staying with Bill might be best.

I will also take my books with me so I can continue to get ahead in my studies.



 **alt_molly** at **[2012-04-04 17:31:22](#)**
(no subject)

My goodness. 6:00 am?

Well, it's not ideal, but it's certainly better for you to stay with Bill than expecting you to stay at a hotel. I'll get you there this afternoon, and I'll send him a message.

2012-04-04 09:59:00

Order Only

Well, here we are.

Thank you, all.

We'll make certain you won't regret it.

And now we have a bit of reading to do.



 **alt_gredforge**



 **alt_poppy** at **2012-04-04 15:43:49**
(no subject)

You're most welcome, I'm sure.



 **alt_gredforge** at **2012-04-04 18:07:48**
(no subject)

Thanks, Madam P. We're chuffed to be part of the team.



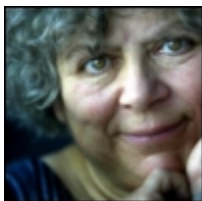
 **alt_nymphadora** at **2012-04-04 17:28:31**
(no subject)

I think you'll make brilliant additions. This lot needs stirring up a bit.



 **alt_gredforge** at **2012-04-04 17:40:02**
(no subject)

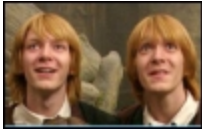
Fortunately, we're quite good at that.



 **alt_pomona** at **2012-04-04 18:00:08**
(no subject)

Quite a lot of reading.

I do look forward to seeing your contributions.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 18:08:18](#)
(no subject)

We do, too!



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-04-04 18:02:12](#)
(no subject)

cheers, you two.

fu gives his best.

has minerva told you everything about moddey dhoo then?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 18:09:09](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, she did.

It sounds dead amazing. So that's what the Hat was on about. How many kids do you have there now?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 18:30:18](#)
(no subject)

Could we maybe come and stay some time there?
This summer?



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-04-04 20:41:18](#)
(no subject)

up to your mum.

but fu would have a blast.

literally.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-04 20:55:19](#)
(no subject)

Oh, honestly, I don't know whether that's a very good idea....



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 20:57:29](#)
(no subject)

It's a brilliant idea. We could really help! We'd have time with the kids, so they could see what a wizard just a little older than them can do with a wand. And we could work with Fu. Mum, he's the most amazing bloke. We have loads of ideas for stuff we work on together.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-04 20:58:40](#)
(no subject)


Well, how would we explain your disappearance for a week or two? To Percy, especially, but Ron and Ginny would wonder, too.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 21:00:01](#)
(no subject)

We could tell them that we've found an internship! That's what Percy did, didn't he? Before his seventh year? Very respectable!



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-04 21:01:16](#)
(no subject)

That's actually not a half-bad idea.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 21:06:22](#)
(no subject)

Of course!

Really, Mum, what will it take to convince you?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-04 21:07:08](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'll think about it. And I'll talk with your father.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-04-04 21:15:10](#)
(no subject)

keep in mind that fu's a professional, and we'd keep them under supervision.

they could also meet with our resident wandmaker. and they could learn about machines and engines from victor and dan too.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 21:24:54](#)
(no subject)

A wandmaker? You have your own WANDMAKER?!

Merlin, we HAVE to go.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-04 21:26:21](#)
(no subject)

I beg your pardon, but you don't 'have' to do anything!

Or that is, we don't 'have' to allow it! Get that straight, young men!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 21:28:20](#)
(no subject)

Right. Sorry. We misspoke.

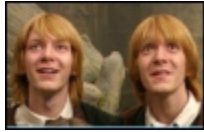
Mum. Dear old Mum. We would really, really like to go. It would be good for us and good for the Order. Or so we think, anyway.

We'll do whatever it takes to convince you.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-04-04 21:29:19](#)**
(no subject)

Humph. Well, let's see what happens with your end of the year exams.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-04 21:30:12](#)**
(no subject)

Understood. Perfectly.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-04 20:40:54](#)**
(no subject)

over forty.

thirteen of them have their wands.

we've got about thirteen adults there too, magical and non.

we're getting better at catching them before they show. we've got almost every muggle born witch and wizard born in the last seven years under the wards.

when we started, before we had our network and when the camps were in chaos, it was hard going, so we didn't get to everyone in time. and they'd already taken the kids terry and hermione's age or older and put them in the system.

but we do what we can.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-04 21:05:46](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. We've been reading about all the trips that Dad's made, to get those kids out.

We wish...well, guess it has to be obvious what we wish. But you saved a bunch of them, and that makes us really happy. We can't

wait to meet them.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-04 21:02:38](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I'm glad to have you aboard, as hacked off as I was about the way you went about it. But I reckon it might have been the best way, all things considered.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-05 00:55:55](#)**
(no subject)

Welcome to the Order.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-05 01:00:14](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, sir.


(We were serious, you know, what we said about wanting to do Defence drills with you this summer. If you can spare us some time. Or do you have some books to suggest?)



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-05 01:12:06](#)**
(no subject)

I can certainly find the time. I'll take a look on our shelves for likely books.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-05 02:33:06](#)**
(no subject)

Don't call him 'sir,' it'll go straight to his head.

Defence drills wouldn't go amiss for any number of us. At this rate, we'll have to start having regular meetings and training sessions.

That's not a half bad idea, actually.

But I do want to see your ideas for those shield hats you were talking about. And that fainting sweet, as well.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-04-05 01:03:42](#)
(no subject)

We've never had the opportunity to meet, although of course I've heard about you from your parents. Quite a bit, actually. Enough to make me intrigued about getting to know you better, to say the least.


Welcome to the Order, gentlemen.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-05 01:04:41](#)
(no subject)

Thanks!




 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-05 02:13:33](#)
(no subject)

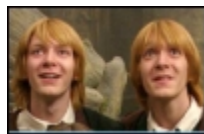
Frank's already said, but welcome welcome!

And thank you for the kind things you said about Neville. It makes my heart glad to know that you keep an eye out for him at school, and that he has people like you to look up to and be friends with.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-05 02:14:52](#)
(no subject)

And, of course, if your mum and dad agree, we'd love to have you with us for a bit this summer.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-05 19:15:25](#)
(no subject)

Great. We're counting on it, then!

2012-04-04 10:01:00

Private message to Percy Weasley

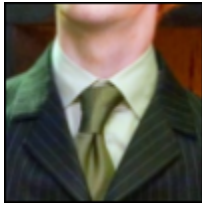


Hey, Perce.

Do you still have all the notes you took when you were studying for NEWTs?

 [alt_gredforge](#)

We'd like to borrow them.



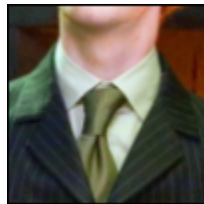
 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-04 15:03:04](#)
(no subject)

Oh, very funny. Pull the other one, why don't you.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 15:03:58](#)
(no subject)

No, seriously. Do you still have them?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-04 15:05:16](#)
(no subject)

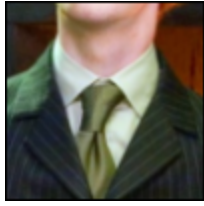
Whatever for? I'm hardly going to give them to you. You'd probably shred them for one of your experiments.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 15:06:10](#)
(no subject)

We're turning over a new leaf, Perce.

We want to use them to study.



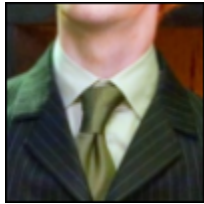
 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-04 15:07:32](#)
(no subject)

In case you hadn't noticed, April Fools Day was FOUR DAYS AGO. You're late.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 15:08:40](#)
(no subject)

No. We're early. About a year early, because we really want to do well on our NEWTs. So how about it? You still do have the notes, right? You never throw anything away.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-04 15:09:51](#)
(no subject)

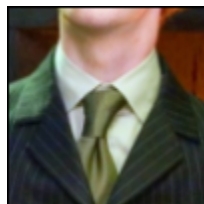
What in blazes are the two of you up to?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 15:11:56](#)
(no subject)

In case you hadn't noticed, things are different now. We've come of age. We've grown up. Haven't you always been after us to turn over a new leaf? So we're going to do it.

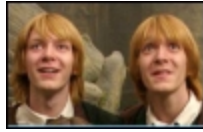
Are you going to help you or not?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-04 15:12:39](#)
(no subject)

Merlin. You're serious.

You're serious?!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 15:13:50](#)
(no subject)

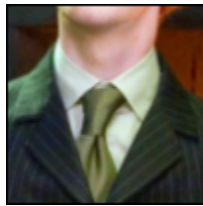
Sure we are. We know how to be serious.

Often.

Sometimes.

Occasionally.

But we're dead serious here, Perce. We want your notes on Charms, Transfiguration, Defence and Potions in particular.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-04 15:20:40](#)
(no subject)

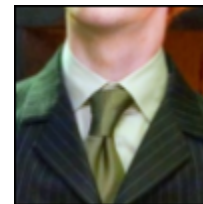
Potions? Potions!?! You're not even TAKING Potions anymore! You didn't scrape together decent enough OWLs to even continue with that subject!




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 15:21:18](#)
(no subject)

You let us worry about that.

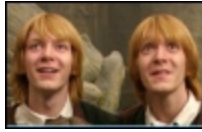
C'mon, Percy. Aren't you always chuntering on about how you'd help us if we'd ever come to our senses? Well, here's your chance. We'll suck up to you all you like



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-04 15:21:35](#)
(no subject)

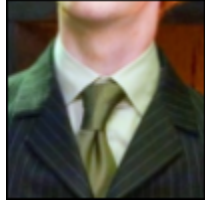
...

If you lose them, or damage them, I'll kill you.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-04 15:22:08](#)
(no subject)

We'll copy them with a *duplio* spell, and you can have them back tomorrow.

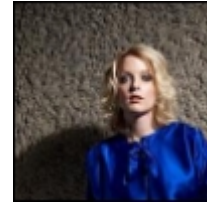


 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-04 15:22:30](#)
(no subject)

All right, then. I don't know what this is about. But I'll give them to you when I get home tonight.

2012-04-04 10:16:00

Private message to Narcissa Malfoy and Raz



Narcissa -

So sorry, but I am entirely done in, and can't face going out at all, even for something pleasant.

 [alt_sinistra](#)

I do hope it's not too inconvenient for you (or Madame Ardenia), and I'm sure I'll be seeing you Friday.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2012-04-04 14:20:51**
(no subject)

Sweet Circe, what has that committee done to make you so exhausted?

Of course, it's perfectly all right, dear. I completely understand. Do get some rest and plenty of fresh fruit, it's just the thing for a warm spring day.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-04-04 14:25:57**
(no subject)

Thank you for understanding.

And I do plan on resting, and nothing more strenuous than reading and talking with Raz.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2012-04-04 15:19:53**
(no subject)

Ah, well. Talking with Raz can certainly put a strain on anyone.

You two enjoy your time alone, then. Don't be afraid to remind him that you're not the athlete he used to be - and neither is he, for that matter.


2012-04-04 11:26:00

Private Message to Bill Weasley

Bill,


I have to be in New London for most of the rest of break starting tonight, for my work with Purest Sparkle. Since I have to be there early and get home late, mum suggested I might stay with you. My apologies for how last minute this is, but I only found out today that I was needed.



 [alt_ginny](#)

Do you mind much if I come stay with you? It will be through Saturday evening this week, and Most of next week, Monday til maybe Thursday. I promise to not drive you mad.



 [alt_bill](#) at **2012-04-04 17:56:49**
(no subject)

Sure, Mum already sent me a message about it. We'll can work out the details tonight.



 [alt_ginny](#) at **2012-04-04 18:29:20**
(no subject)

Thanks Bill! You are the best.

[2012-04-04 11:40:00](#)

Private Message to Rizzer

'Talking,' is it?

Dear, it might have occurred to you that I had reasons for inviting Aurora to the spa with me and not simply for the company. Though I would have liked her to spend more time getting to know Amanda, as well.



 [alt_narcissa](#)

Really, though. If you must keep her home with you for a rough-and-tumble, kindly do not ruin her for the rest of the week? No one needs either of you to become a central story in the papers again - for any imaginable reason.

But beyond that ... Well, it would have been a perfect opportunity to assist her in looking her very best for Amara's wedding - or any other appearances you two might have in mind this weekend. Now, I know you're no stylist but you're no slouch, dear. At least try to encourage her to wear something a bit more ... let's say *daring* than her usual. She looked so radiant at the Yule Ball; it's a shame she can't put in the effort more often.

Oh, Mordred, that sounds much harsher than I intended. I don't mean to suggest that she's neglectful of her own presentation. Not at all. I have certainly never seen her looking anything less than acceptable. But then I don't see her every day, either, and I have seen enough to know that she values convenience and comfort over a host of other considerations.

She's a wonderful young woman, Rizzer, and I really am quite happy for you both. But you know as well as I what sort of people she'll be among this Friday - and without the relative protection of Hogwarts at her disposal. I would not want to see her brought low by some unthinking, insensitive lout. Not even if you're there to remove the brute's mouth for speaking out of turn.


And pardon me but she has seemed ... fragile, lately. In her own journal posts, and if I'm not mistaken, in some of her replies to others. I hope you're being more of a help than a hindrance in that category? Morgana knows, I've tried to offer her a sisterly ear (and I know, she has enough sisters of her own) but I can't help feeling rebuffed at every overture. Not that she has ever said anything π - well, let us

say that she has never offended me, either by word or omission. She has been scrupulously polite, always. But one can't dismiss the vague sense that she remains ... unprepared, let us say, for the sort of public life she is bound to encounter if you two continue your close association.

Gracious. I've rather gone on more than I meant to do. I hope you take it in the spirit in which it's offered, Raz dear. I do wish you both the best. I'm only ... unsure how to help either of you with the range of navigation that society will expect of her. Of you both.

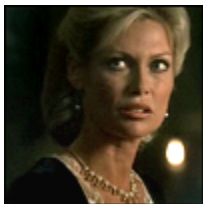
Look, I've got the masseuse coming in so I shall have to go. As if Aurora's cancellation were not enough, Amara's chosen today of all days to bring in her hens for her own pre-wedding party! One shall now have to attempt to relax and remain *en garde* all at once! how vexing. It completely defeats the purpose. Ah, well, at least I've Amanda along to talk to.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-04-04 17:07:09](#)
(no subject)

For her to look her very best, as you say, some "talking" was in order- and that is all that it was, though your confidence in my prowess is ever-flattering.

As for the rest, thanks very much for the advice...though pardon me if I admit that it strikes me as a little over-zealous. Has Draco gotten to that age where he's rebuffing your attempts to groom him for high society? If you'd like, *I* can join you and Amanda at the spa. We can all sit around with mud on our faces and kelp in our hair while drinking pink champagne from seashells. Though I should warn you that under such treatment I'm bound to turn out the prettiest.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-04-04 18:17:09](#)
(no subject)

That was uncalled for.


I would have said that she's had a steady influence on you but apparently you are just as prone to childishness as ever. Really, if you insist on peevishness, I shall leave you to it. Though it never has been one of your more endearing qualities.

It also used to be far less prevalent, I must say. Have I hit a nerve, then?

Well. In that case, it sounds as if you have much to discuss. I suggest that among the myriad topics you surely have between you, you consider the small number of witches of your acquaintance who have it in their power to help smooth your astronomer's entrée into the highest circles of society - you know of whom I speak - and who would be *at all* inclined to do so, without also gaining an advantage one might later regret allowing?

Unless you mean to thrust her into the arena with only your masterful guidance. And if your comment to *me* is any indication, then I have serious doubts as to how diplomatic the results will be.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-04-04 18:56:41](#)
(no subject)

Do I seem peevisish? My apologies, it wasn't intended.

If you want the truth of it, she and I are having a rough go of it this week. That's why we needed to talk. And even after our talk, I'm not entirely convinced that her life wouldn't be a good deal better without me in it. She led quite the cosy life of solitude before we became involved, and I'm not sure that a part of her doesn't miss it- even if she does insist otherwise.

I know you want her to open up to you, and you've been nothing but welcoming, to be sure. But I think a part of her just can't help but see you as *Mrs Lucius Malfoy*, and worry about saying the wrong thing. Or wearing it. If you see what I mean.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-04-05 01:35:36](#)
(no subject)


Perhaps your Aurora is not the only one whose nerves are a trifle frayed of late, then.

I'm very sorry to hear that it's proving more difficult to resolve your differences than at first blush, dear. Though truth be told, it never is as easy as most couples would have one think.

As for fearing that you've made her life worse - well, there can be no denying that you've made her life more complicated. That's in the nature of the beast, I'm afraid. But worse? Surely that's an exaggeration. And dear, please do not let this go to your head but if you've the presence of mind even to consider you might be less than worthy of her suggests that you have the potential to deserve her after all.

But I do hope that I'm not as intimidating as all that! And please, assure her that if she *is* worried, I would far rather she test herself on *me* than others who would be far more judgemental - and far less forgiving.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-04-05 02:54:41](#)
(no subject)

We both need a proper holiday, without meetings or weddings or any of that rot.

I've considered it well before now, love. But you know that there are others out there who think that it's she who might be less than worthy of me- of course, they don't know me so well as you do.

Like I said, you've been nothing but welcoming and from what I've seen, have done everything you can to put her at ease. But it's all still quite new, and she really was very weary, besides.

I don't know if there's time in her schedule or yours to meet before the wedding, but I'll do what I can to encourage her to do just that.

2012-04-04 12:31:00

Private message to Bill Weasley and Ginny Weasley




 [alt_molly](#)

Bill, dear, now that you're done hosting Fred and George, can you put Ginny up for a few days? She has been called to stay in New London through Saturday for business with Purest Sparkle...the magazine, you know?

I can't imagine why didn't get more notice about this, but they want her to show up this afternoon. I'll Floo you with the details.



 [alt_bill](#) at **2012-04-04 17:37:18**
(no subject)

I suppose I can. I don't have any plans to go out drinking with the mates, not tonight at least.



 [alt_molly](#) at **2012-04-04 17:38:44**
(no subject)

Oh, pooh.

Hopefully, I'll learn a little more about what it's all about when I drop her off this afternoon.

You do have a spare key, don't you? Perhaps you can give her that; I am not quite sure what sorts of hours they'll be expecting her to keep.

2012-04-04 22:03:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Fred and George:

it was exactly three years ago today that you Sorted me.

i miss you more than I can say.




 [alt_terry](#)



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-05 03:52:54](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Terry. I'm so sorry.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-05 13:26:22](#)
(no subject)

Just saw this.


I'll read it out to the twins as soon as I find out where they've got to.

I can let you know what they say, too.

So, um. Yeah. It's going to be really all right.

Right?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-05 14:22:46](#)
(no subject)

sorry, don't mean to be glum. and I AM happy I got Sorted.
really happy.

it's just...the git's sister has come for a visit. I hate like poison having that harpy around.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-06 01:46:17](#)
(no subject)

Ugh. I'm sorry.

She's been really sick in class for the last month or so. Hardly any energy, she mostly sits in her chair. It's been almost relaxing in Dark Arts, actually. Maybe that'll distract the git?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-06 03:31:33](#)
(no subject)

Urgh, he's been ranting about the Headmistress all day. It worries me. He was angry at her and wrote her a private message telling her Madam Pomfrey should be sacked for letting her get so sick. From what he says the Headmistress wrote back just as angry, challenging him to a duel!

Don't think he's answered her. He says she's 'not worthy' to cross wands with him. But he's on a terrible tear. I'm cringing in the corner, trying to stay out of his way.

Better warn everyone: don't send Pig to me this weekend. Don't reckon it's safe.




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

Headmistress McGonagall challenged Professor the git to a DUEL?

Ohhhh maybe she'll kill him.

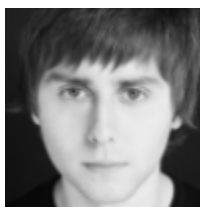


 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-06 04:18:02](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, she did, according to what he said.

I don't know. I don't know how good she is a duellist, but

he's good. What's more, he fights real dirty. I don't like the idea of her facing him.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-05 14:20:48](#)

(no subject)

Hullo, Terry.

I say, it's going to be all right, old chap. Neville sent a parcel that came this morning and it's just grand.

Filled with some lovely things for you, what?

I know you can learn the Animagus transformation, old man. You're well clever enough. And once you get out, there'll be a getaway kit just waiting for you.

Chin up. I can't imagine how strong you've been for so long. Somehow, it's just got to work out all right.

-Justin



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-05 14:24:34](#)

(no subject)

I keep working at it. but it's really slow going. Haven't managed more than the one eyebrow so far.

thanks, justin. for the getaway kit. it helps a lot, knowing I'll have something waiting.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-05 14:24:47](#)

(no subject)

thanks everyone

2012-04-04 22:33:00

Order Only: Private Message to Moony

Merlin.

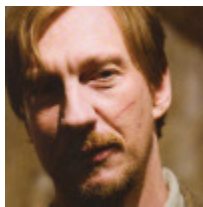
Do you feel as old as I do?


I'm desperate for a mission. Anything, really.

I'm going to sweep out the still room tomorrow to get it set up as a proper workshop.



 [alt_sirius](#)




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

I know.

And yes.

Sweeping. I suppose that would be something I could do with this energy.




 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-04-05 02:41:48**
(no subject)

You know where I want to go right now?

Lincoln.

I mean, maybe they've let the Fidelius lapse? They COULD, you know. It could re-appear. Or maybe there's a way around it.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-04-05 02:43:03**
(no subject)

Yeah.

Yeah, good idea. Or maybe someone in the village knows something.

Though if she's the Secret Keeper, the thing to do is sneak into Hogwarts and see if we could get the secret from her.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 02:43:40](#)
(no subject)

Oh, there we go.

Hogwarts it is, then.



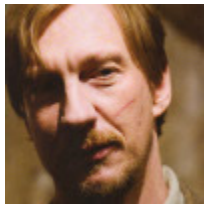
 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 02:43:57](#)
(no subject)


Find Alecto, dodge Minerva.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 02:45:12](#)
(no subject)


At least most of the students are home for the holiday.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 02:45:39](#)
(no subject)

Oh, now, are we sure Alecto's even there? She might have gone to Lincoln to be with her brother.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 03:00:11](#)
(no subject)

She might be, but Hagrid would probably know. And either way, he's going to watch the kid for us, so Hogwarts first.

Closed up yet?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 03:14:13](#)
(no subject)

Just about. I'll be there shortly.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 03:38:31](#)
(no subject)

No, I'll Floo over to you.

I'm leaving Dora a note. She usually looks in on Bea before she leaves. We don't want her doing her nut if Bea's not in her cot.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 02:42:21](#)
(no subject)


I hate letting Kreacher mind the baby, though.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 02:44:00](#)
(no subject)

If we go to Hogwarts we could leave her with Poppy Pomona Hagrid.

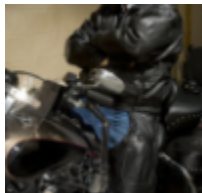



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 02:45:13](#)
(no subject)

HAGRID.

A baby with Hagrid.

Well, he does like creatures. A baby's a little on the cuddly, harmless side for him, though.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 02:47:31](#)
(no subject)

Wot? He's fine.

You know, the old man gave him orders once. Concerning Harry. If Albus would have trusted him with Harry when he was only a tyke, Bea will be fine.


And anyway. I wanted to ask him about the old girl. Two birds, one spell, right?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 02:48:16](#)
(no subject)

You wanted to ask Hagrid about Alecto?




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 02:48:48](#)
(no subject)

Oh, wait, you meant the BIKE.

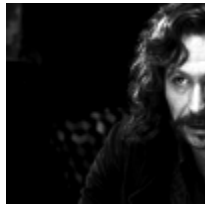
Sorry.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 02:52:19](#)
(no subject)

Well, there's certainly no harm in visiting Hagrid.
Even Minerva can't be cross about that.

Bundle up the bairn and I'll encourage the beer
garden dawdlers to make their way to the nearest exit.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 02:57:40](#)
(no subject)

Well, Poppy sure can be cross about it! She was
before, anyway.

But I trust him. And so do you. So they can go
hex themselves.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 02:43:16](#)
(no subject)

I'd break out some Firewhiskey but it doesn't go well
with Wolfsbane.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 02:45:50](#)
(no subject)

No, I know.

I don't suppose you'd want a hit of this, either?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 02:46:49](#)
(no subject)

I've never much liked that stuff.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 02:59:18](#)
(no subject)

I know you don't. More for me.

Well. Not more. You know what I mean.

Where's Dora's sling for Bea?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 03:15:06](#)
(no subject)

She usually leaves it near the coats.

Unless Kreacher's got hold of it, in which case, ask him.

2012-04-04 23:42:00

*Private Message to the Lord
Protector*



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

As you requested, I have spent some time thinking about—and observing—Rabastan Lestrangle and Aurora Sinistra.

Professor Sinistra is almost obsessively meticulous about her teaching; she does not allow their relationship to edge into her professional behavior whatsoever, and indeed Rabastan's teaching seems to have improved through association with her. He seems to have benefited her as well: she has been more open and connected to her students, more willing to engage with them on emotional level, since their relationship began.

Indeed, Professor Sinistra seems to have blossomed under Rabastan's influence. She speaks out more in staff meetings and seems less anxious about doing so.

All in all—I must say that I am grateful, not sorry, that these particular of my professors have begun a relationship that might elsewhere be considered unprofessional. It has seemed to have quite the positive effect.

Meanwhile, your son continues well.

2012-04-05 06:47:00

Order Only: Private Message to Remus

Right, I'm just putting this here because I dunno where else to put it. And I'm too knackered to look anywhere else



 [alt_sirius](#)

Rejected Rationales (by Mssrs Moony and Padfoot):

- The truth (we wanted to give Alecto more of what Frank and I gave her brother to get the castle's secret out of her)
- We were running low on Wolfsbane and thought we'd get more direct from Snivellus
- We just started to head north
- We ran out of Firewhiskey and decided to raid Minerva's cupboard
- Hagrid reported something dangerous in Hogwarts
- Hagrid heard that a copy of Harry's prophecy was hidden in the Divination classroom
- We came to beg Pomona's forgiveness (despite doing nothing wrong)
- We got tired and thought to kip in Gryffindor Tower
- We brought Bea (and ourselves) for Poppy's checkup
- We thought we'd get her pre-Sorted
- We wanted to have a good look at the book (since Minerva's been so behind on it) - I still do like that one
- 'No one expects the Spanish Inquisition!'
- We wanted to snoop through the Astronomy professor's office
- We were arranging a welcome back for Hermione

Am I forgetting any? We still don't have a good one, but like you said, virtually *any* excuse is going to go over better than the truth.

I'm --

That last Apparation was

Well. It was worth it but I don't think we ought to do anything else like that again soon, yeah?


Better pick up some buns for breakfast. For you two, anyway. I'll stick to the ginger tea stuff.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 12:59:32](#)
(no subject)

I thought we agreed on the library one. The second one, adding a book, not lifting one.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 13:00:55](#)
(no subject)

Right, we did, but then I said we didn't *bring* a book.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 13:02:27](#)
(no subject)

Which meant the trip was wasted because we'd remembered Bea but forgotten the book, Pads.

Surely they'll believe two old fools such as ourselves could leave behind the very thing we'd meant to take along?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 13:04:06](#)
(no subject)

No more than they'd believe we went to plant a book in the library in the first place.

And you know they'll ask which book. I'll go pull something out of the library here.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 13:04:59](#)
(no subject)

The Closed Mind is perfect. It's on the reading table by the window seat. I was flipping through it two days ago.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 13:05:58](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. All right.


I can sleep before I tell everyone, right?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 13:06:38](#)
(no subject)

If I can't, you bloody can't.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 15:49:51](#)
(no subject)


Did you see what Pomona just wrote?! About Grubbly-Plank and Amelia Bones?

I mean to say.

How can she be all shirty with *us* when all the while she's been keeping the counsel of a couple of Sapphires?

And now Minerva's gone and missed the point, along with Poppy. Merlin. Witches.



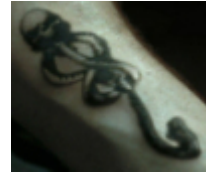
 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 16:31:03](#)
(no subject)

I did notice that.

Maybe she was crossset because of Dora. Or maybe she doesn't care what two women do, but when it's men she does? Who knows. At least she's speaking to us again. More or less.

2012-04-05 08:53:00

*Private message to the Bat Bitch of
Hogwarts*



It's time for you to sack that useless bint in the Hospital Wing. She should consider herself lucky I'm not there to mete out proper punishment.

 [alt_amycus](#)

Can't she see what's staring her right in the face? Justine's come for a visit: grey as these stone walls, shuffling like a hag, her breath rattling in her chest, and her fingers are as gnarled as a bowtruckle.

You dare to leave my sister to suffer like this? You, who aren't fit to grovel at her boots. You conspire with stupidity to dull her purity with dross but you Will. Not. Succeed.

Finish the fucking bint. Or I'll finish you.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at **2012-04-05 15:40:40**
(no subject)

You presume to speak to me in this way? The Lord Protector will hear of this. You may kill as many Muggles as you like, Amycus Carrow, but you shall face me in a proper duel with the blessing of our Lord, or you shall slink back to your kennel like the dog you are.

2012-04-05 09:10:00

Private message to Narcissa Malfoy

Narcissa -



 [alt_sinistra](#)

Raz told me a bit about your conversation yesterday. It has indeed been a very difficult week, following challenging months. Far more my fault than his, though a chance to rest and talk things through has helped me begin to get my feet under me again. I think the best way forward is a bit blunt, to avoid further confusion. I hope you don't mind.

I was a very late bloomer in a number of ways - in school outside of astronomy, in making friends, in social graces, in dating. I've never had many close friends, and those I've been closest to have mostly been family or other astronomers.

I do enjoy what one of my mentors called friendly acquaintanceships - so many topics are interesting, if you're talking with someone who cares about them. But making that next step to true friendship and sharing more personal things is usually very slow for me. That Raz and I ended up as we did still amazes me as much as it delights me.

And when things are not going smoothly, I get even more careful. (Blame it on spending so much time in a field where precision is an illuminating virtue.) That makes it particularly hard, I think, to share how I'm feeling when there's a problem. Or a question. Or a weakness.

However, this week has been proof that what I've been trying on my own is not enough, in a number of ways, and that some changes are necessary. If you are still willing to offer advice, to let me ask questions, to share your time, I would be most grateful.

I don't have any particular appointments between now and the reception, and I certainly do have a few related questions I'd love your help with. Or if that's not possible, once we're past Saturday, much of my calendar is open until we go back to school. I do appreciate, again, every kindness you've shown me on Raz's behalf.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-04-06 03:12:17](#)
(no subject)

My dear Aurora,

Thank you, first of all, for your vote of confidence. Believe me, I can entirely understand the difficulty of placing one's trust in another. It may surprise you to learn that it is more common among women than one might think. Particularly Slytherin witches, if you take my meaning. I am sure you have opportunity to observe them at their worst.

Now, I do apologise for not replying earlier. I did have several appointments that did not leave me at liberty. Next week, I shall be certain to clear away some time; I would very much like to get to know you better, if you'll allow me.

You have asked for my advice so let me be just as blunt in return: Within the Council, and by extension, among their partners, it is essential to know who one's allies are. There are very sound reasons that Ursula, Pandora, Diana and I spend so much time together and it is not limited to having been in the same class at Hogwarts. (Indeed, Pandora is much closer to your age but the commonality of purpose stands.)

You are quite right that displaying weakness can make things difficult not only for ourselves, but our mates as well. That is why it is a very wise choice to be able to unburden oneself from time to time - but not to just anyone. It must be someone who is possessed of a similar knowledge, who has a reason to exchange trust for trust, who will keep one's counsel private, and above all who may offer the sort of practical advice that one cannot find anywhere else. I can guarantee that no matter whom you consider your closest confidante at present, one who is removed from the circle of the Lord Protector simply cannot understand the mysteries that govern Him or His nearest. Nor would they ever draw the correct conclusions from evidence that must seem labyrinthine from the outside - and that must, perforce, remain closely guarded.

I am not sure whether you have ever heard the earthy saying that government is rather like the inside of a sausage factory? Even among such illustrious figures as Our Lord's own, I am afraid it is entirely the case. No one who has not been there can possibly provide the guidance or support one needs once one crosses the

threshold.

I don't wish you to think Council membership is all grave pronouncements and dire acts of the utmost loyalty - I hope you've seen the contrary for yourself! But when things do take on a sombre tone, well, it is invaluable to know that there are others who know your mind without your needing to speak it, but who will be willing to listen without judgement when it is time.

There is one other thing I should like to make plain for you: Indeed, we are all grateful to you for affecting remarkable change in our Rizzer. However, it is not entirely on his behalf that I have put myself at your disposal. I assure you, if I did not find in you much to admire, I could have chosen quite a different avenue to pursue.

So, please, from here on, let us dispense with protestations and modest self-deprecations. And by all means, let us not stand on ceremony with one another! Let us instead endeavour to become comfortable with one another on equal terms.

-Narcissa



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-04-06 13:57:45**
(no subject)

Narcissa -

Such a lot for me to think about here, and I appreciate every bit of your frankness and advice. I would love time next week. Perhaps something quiet and fairly private? It would be easier for me to talk more freely that way.

And I'll be equally honest that there are aspects of the luxuries that Raz and you, and the Council members in general enjoy that can make it hard for me to truly relax. My family does well enough for themselves, but this is an entirely different scale. I'd be much more comfortable talking over a meal, or in a garden, or a museum, than a spa (as enjoyable as the last is.)

You are quite right on the challenges of placing trust (though, honestly, I've long had far more difficulty with Ravenclaw witches than Slytherin: I'd far rather deal with subtlety than outright sniping.)

One of the things I've spent a great deal of time thinking about, this past month, is that question of who to talk to. The Games, well. Quite a shock, and it's taken me the time since to even begin to be able to talk to Raz about some of it. And others I'd normally turn to are clearly out of the question or just don't understand the complexities. (And with all the added pain that two of those wreaths were for students I'd taught.)

And yet, clearly, talking is helpful. Necessary. If I'm to move forward.

One thing that's frustrated Raz this week, talking through some of this, is how sheltered I was in the 80s. I left school in 82, just after Our Lord took the Ministry, but I went straight from there to a very isolated research position. Aldebarana was lovely in many ways, and I look back very fondly on that time. But she didn't want us distracted or hurt, so I barely left her property for, well, years, other than a few family visits. I heard the news, of course, but it was very different than Raz's experience, or yours, or most people's.

And so, finding myself where I am now is, yes, unsettling. I feel entirely like I've been transported to Australia, and that none of the stars are as they should be, and yet knowing that they make sense, too, in their own way, once I can learn their patterns.

I am so very glad you're willing to help. (And I admit, delighted to learn that it's not solely on Raz's account. That too, makes it easier to feel more open with you.) I hope this is something of a better beginning for that, and I am looking forward to where we might go together from here.

Aurora

[2012-04-05 09:40:00](#)

Order Only: Mysteries

Listen. Remus and I took ourselves on a jaunt last night.



 [alt_sirius](#)

We thought, with the school pretty nearly empty, we could dash in and hide a book in the library stacks. Then when they're back, Fred and George could 'find' the book and use it to work on Occlumency. And boys, if you happened to share some of it with your other friends, well, that would be just fine.

We got up to Hogwarts and used the second-floor tunnel (the one that opens up under the portrait of Maghnus the Munificent) and we were on our way to the library when we saw a door about to open. So we hid.

I'm still not sure I want to contemplate why a witch would be leaving *your* quarters, Snape, at that hour. But off she went and she wasn't even retching. So maybe you weren't in and she was trying to spy on you. Or 'Milland' as the case may be.

Well, obviously we had to follow her to find out her game. We kept a safe distance and she led us into an office - Alecto Carrow's, but it wasn't Alecto Carrow we were following. But she let herself in and immediately got on the Floo to make a call.

We had to lurk in the corridor - in fact the one time Remus tried creeping closer he nearly got caught - so we could only catch a few phrases. They were dead interesting phrases, though:

'I need more time' (for what?)

'You've no idea the paranoia around here'

'They all support Minerva even if she's a drunkard' (Sorry, Minerva!)

'No, I don't know who's *poisoned Alecto*' (emphasis mine)

So. Yes, we did something on our own; it was dangerous; we're well chagrined we didn't seek permission or let anyone know. We thought you'd all rather maintain plausible deniability.

The *important* thing is: You've got a spy at Hogwarts. A female, anyway. Doing something to undermine you, Minerva.

And someone's poisoning Alecto Carrow. Is it too much to hope they'll succeed? Kill the Secret Keeper and that ends the Fidelius. We could get to Terry.

Of course, perhaps whomever's working on her is thinking just that. But who? DogStar? Not sure they'd care about one little muggleborn teenager. Crimson Company? They have a completely different agenda, it's all about reassignment of wealth with them. Merlin knows the Carrows have enough enemies between them, it could be anyone.

And I also find it singularly interesting that our *resident* spy at Hogwarts, the one who went there on his own authority precisely because he could be so *useful*, either didn't know any of this - or didn't bother to tell us. Which was it, Severus?



 **alt_poppy** at **2012-04-05 14:15:46**
(no subject)

Goodness, what a story.

You thought you could break into Hogwarts and leave a book hidden in the library shelves for Fred and George Weasley, did you?

Because it would not have been at all sounder, quicker, or more direct to convey such a book to them directly by meeting them somewhere as you did earlier this week, or if that seemed too difficult to arrange, then via their parents either by having Dora give it to Arthur at work, or by leaving it in a safe drop, or by taking it to the Burrow or to Bill's flat, which you've only just visited and thus should know perfectly well how to find again.

Oh, yes, I entirely believe you.



 **alt_frank** at **2012-04-05 14:34:05**
(no subject)

regardless of their reasons for being there, you've got to admit that they've overheard something important.

and you couldn't see her face clearly?

what was her body shape? hair colour? what was she wearing? any distinctive verbal tics?

it does seem like whoever she is, she hasn't sorted out what min is involved in, so that's some sort of relief. and yes, I'd be interested to sort out if the carrow woman is being poisoned, and if so, by who. poppy, have you noticed anything unusual about her lately?



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-05 14:42:17](#)**
(no subject)

I have the same questions and was just writing them to ask...

What did this spy look like? Was she tall or not? Broad or slight? Was hers a high-treble voice? or a low-pitched one?

It couldn't have been Aurora Sinistra, as she's out of the castle at the moment. And must have been someone who knew that Alecto's left. Off to visit the other one, presumably.

As for Alecto, it's quite true that she's ill. Won't let me near her, however, and I've not pushed. If she chooses to suffer, that's her lookout.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-04-05 14:49:48](#)**
(no subject)

Wilhelmina's gone too - off to see family. Not that I'd suspect it of her, of course.

I'm thinking through the others, but I admit we're not always the most gregarious with sharing plans.



 **[alt_macnair](#)** at **[2012-04-05 14:51:58](#)**
(no subject)

"They" all support Minerva...

Sounds like someone on staff's been planted as a spy.

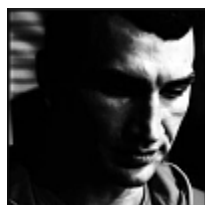
Who's the newest hire? That woman who teaches Creatures, isn't it?

Must say that it's a daft sort of way to deliver a book. If the twins want to learn occlumency they'd get much further with Snape than with any old book, But maybe you were bored. Should have taken Dora along, she can disguise herself without the waste of polyjuice.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-04-05 14:58:32](#)
(no subject)

Wilhelmina, yes. But besides the fact I know she's gone this week, I can't imagine it'd be her, given her past.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2012-04-05 15:19:25](#)
(no subject)

Why not? What's her past?

Based on the phrases Black reported, it sounds like the spy might be under orders or otherwise coerced, and being known as "gone for the week" actually gives the spy a perfect cover.

Sinistra's another to think about. Made a lot of new friends lately. Who knows what they have her up to.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-04-05 15:28:28](#)
(no subject)

Wilhelmina? I suppose she and Amelia Bones did keep things rather quiet, but under the circumstances, I would think she'd be a difficult person to coerce reliably and securely. I can't confirm easily right now, without obviously prying, but I could once Susan Bones is back from holiday.

As to Aurora, I'm almost certain she's in New London. Given more than a few things she let slip, I can't imagine she'd travel back so quickly. I can inquire, though, naturally enough, next time we talk.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2012-04-05 15:30:44](#)
(no subject)

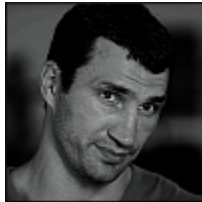
She'd travel back quickly enough if it were on another's orders.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 15:36:10](#)
(no subject)

Too right.

But I don't think it was someone as plump old as that.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2012-04-05 15:40:04](#)
(no subject)

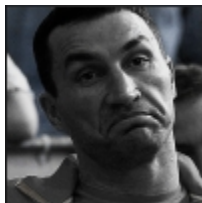
I meant Sinistra.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 15:43:00](#)
(no subject)

Oh. Yeah. Her, definitely.

Specially as she's all cosy with your former mate Rizzer, eh?



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2012-04-05 15:58:47](#)
(no subject)

When you get in bed with one, you get in bed with them all.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-05 15:45:16](#)
(no subject)

I must agree with you on every point—though I doubt Professor Grubbly-Plank's involvement. But who is beyond suspicion? No one, I suppose, except us.

Mr Black, Mr Lupin—what were you thinking?!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-05 14:52:31](#)
(no subject)

Don't suppose you actually left the book for us anywhere, did you? You didn't say one way or another.

As for a spy, well, maybe we could help with figuring that out? When we get back, that is. We can come see all the Professors for office visits since we're burning to improve our academic performances. Maybe we could sneak a peak around.

Well, the professors we're taking classes for, that is. Coming up with an excuse for a chat with Professor Vector, say, might be a bit dodgy.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-05 14:54:32](#)
(no subject)

You are NOT to go snooping in the Professors' offices! Let Minerva and the rest of the staff handle this!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-05 14:56:09](#)
(no subject)

Well, it may not even be a professor. What about Madam Pince, for example?



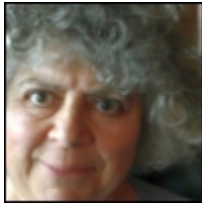
 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 15:06:31](#)
(no subject)

It could have been Pince, at that.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 18:08:28](#)
(no subject)

I think that also qualifies as 'not helping,' Moony.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-04-05 15:19:39](#)
(no subject)


All right, thinking through.

I know Septima's staying much of the holidays (sheer bloody-mindedness, trying to get a student to standard.) And Hooch has been around, muttering about getting some good distance flying in. (She has been in a snippy mood recently, though I put that up to the lack of Quidditch this year.)

I try not to pay attention to Carpenter or to Acton, truth be told. They're both vocally loyal, and Acton far beyond that.

Bathsheba, I'm less sure of. She keeps to herself, quite a bit. But she did mention some sort of consulting visit, if I overheard correctly last Friday. (Aurora's on better terms with her than I am, I admit, and I wasn't paying much attention.)



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 15:24:07](#)
(no subject)

Sorry. We had to take a kip before facing customers.

She had a cloak on, so she might have come from outside or just used it to conceal herself better. (Which means it doesn't rule out your Professor Siz, sorry to say. She could've popped back from London, same as we did.)

As for physical description: Brown hair. I think it was brown. Could

have been dirty blonde, it was hard to tell in the torchlight.

Average height and build, I'd say. Not heavy. Moved pretty quickly.

Could have been anyone of those except Babbling. She's much shorter than the figure we saw.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-04-05 15:44:24](#)
(no subject)

Aurora's the blondest of the bunch, so that's one thing. You're right that build doesn't rule out much.

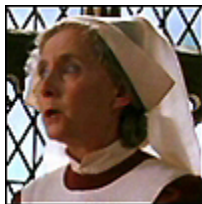
As to the travel - well, I don't think apparition at distance would be her preference this week, she's that worn out. And I know she hates flooing with a passion. Not impossible, I admit, but unlikely.

I will ask, when I've an excuse. I was thinking of writing after this camp visit trip, and sound her out about what they actually got shown.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2012-04-05 18:22:58](#)
(no subject)

Could be Hooch. Her hair's close enough to brown, and she moves quick.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-05 22:29:10](#)
(no subject)

That rules out Irma Pince, then. She's wiry enough and can move quickly, though with a very particular gate, but her hair is quite definitely grey.

And besides, you surely checked that she was safe in her rooms before you broke into her library. Except, no, you didn't actually go to the library, did you?

And Wilhelmina doesn't colour her hair, either, though hers is salt and pepper, so I suppose in the dark the silver might not show. Pomona's right, though, I believe Wilhelmina is with the Bones for the holidays.

You haven't said about the voice, though, have you? Carpenter and Acton's voices are on the high side, Babbling's voice is lower. Hooch's voice is quite resonant, even when she speaks quietly, though one rarely hears her speaking quietly.

What would lead this person to use Alecto Carrow's fire for the call, though? Carpenter could easily have used her own without worrying anyone would overhear her: her rooms are high in her own tower, away from the rest of us.

Vector. We're forgetting her. And she might need to use another Floo, as she has at least one student sticking close to her this holiday. If she wished to make a dodgy call like the one you described, that is.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-05 15:42:53](#)
(no subject)

Well, and to raise the stakes on the matter—she is being poisoned; Amycus Carrow has noticed, only now noticed; insulted me gravely; and I may have challenged him to a duel.

I am not sure it was wise, but it was satisfying. Of course I doubt he shall follow through.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-05 15:43:51](#)
(no subject)

But a spy. A spy. I honestly do not know who it might be. Acton seems likely, but she's too flamboyant to hide her actions; she'd Floo as herself, from her own grate, not sneak into others' quarters.



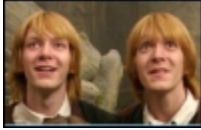
 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-05 16:02:50](#)
(no subject)

You challenged Amycus Carrow to a duel?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-05 16:04:39](#)
(no subject)

It seemed like the only possible course of action at the time.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-05 16:07:16](#)
(no subject)

Brilliant! You're gonna do it, aren't you, Professor?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 16:09:22](#)
(no subject)

She'd have to get in the queue.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-05 16:10:26](#)
(no subject)

Right. We want a crack at him, too.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-05 16:11:26](#)
(no subject)

Boys!


And Sirius, you are not helping!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-05 16:13:34](#)
(no subject)

Especially if he didn't even leave the book behind for us.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-05 16:29:02](#)
(no subject)

We'll owl it to you.


Maybe it would be better to say you found it at Flourish & Blott's, anyway.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 18:43:29](#)
(no subject)

Now why didn't we think of that last night?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-05 18:09:14](#)
(no subject)

Wot? I meant me and Frank and Remus and Dora. There'd be nothing left for Fred and George.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-05 16:50:01](#)
(no subject)

Assuming the coward doesn't back out.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-04-05 17:22:19](#)
(no subject)

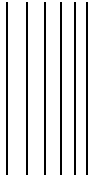
he would if he knew what was good for him.

you could kick his sorry arse from here to france.

and he's probably out of practice.

too busy beating up on a kid who can't defend himself.

fucking monster.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-05 17:22:26](#)**
(no subject)

sorry hermione.



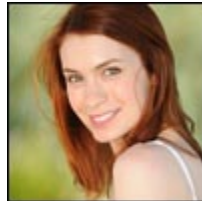
 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-04-05 17:29:08](#)**
(no subject)


Well, one thing I want to know is, if you find out who the spy is, what are you going to do about it, Minerva? I suppose it depends on who it is, because that will determine if you'll be able to come up with a good excuse to sack her--but assuming you CAN find out: perhaps it would be better to leave her in place and feed her disinformation?



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2012-04-05 19:10:16](#)**
(no subject)

I hate to risk such a thing.

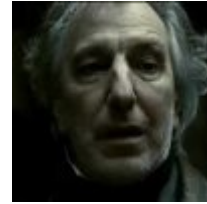


 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-06 12:59:18](#)**
(no subject)

I agree. Tipping her off would be less than ideal -- best to act completely normally around her and be just as open as you have been.

2012-04-05 15:11:00

Order Only—Accusations



 [alt_severus](#)

I notice that none of you have seen fit to come to my defence. I also find it curious that no-one seems to wonder how Minerva—also a spy at Hogwarts, and indeed the mistress of this place—would not know of shady dealings within the castle. Proof, I think, that personal dislikes are at play here: even Mr Black understands that it is impossible to track the activities of every one of the hundreds of people here. At least without using some of his more dangerous toys.

As for what I was doing last night, Professor Sprout shall confirm that I was helping her harvest flowers from the Night-Blooming Flitterweed until three o'clock in the morning. I then patrolled the castle—teachers usually refuse to take the shift between three o'clock and six o'clock in the morning, leaving me short on sleep—and returned to my quarters exhausted. I did not discover that the ring of master keys was missing from its hook until the morning; whoever it was reset my wards cleverly enough, though not seamlessly.

The person in question discovered my password, apparently—although fortunately not the password to my inner quarters. There are several women who have had the opportunity to learn the outer password in the past week. They are

Professor Acton
Madam Hooch
Hermione Granger
Professor Sinistra
Professor Sprout

I trust that Miss Granger and Professor Sprout do not seem suspicious to you, my dear canine? Or do you believe that through association I have corrupted them?


I am disgusted with all of you.



 **[alt_macnair](#)** at **[2012-04-05 21:41:55](#)**
(no subject)

No one defends you because no one takes Black's accusations against you seriously. It's known that his grudge goes beyond reason.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-06 02:01:53](#)**
(no subject)

I would agree with Walden in that I didn't see Sirius's baiting as something that warranted a response.

You two pick at one another so often that I've grown quite used to tuning it out.

And now that you are aware that there is a spy, you are in an infinitely better position than anyone else to be able to find out further what is going on.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-04-05 22:43:55](#)**
(no subject)

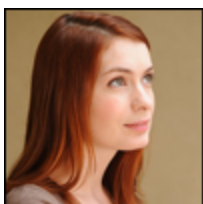
I scarcely match the description either, Severus, if anyone were to suspect me.


Did I fail to thank you sufficiently last night? It was a help. I had rather gathered you were capable of defending yourself, though. On the rest: I've been thinking this afternoon. I would prefer to think it Acton or Hooch, but to be completely fair, I've been thinking about Aurora.

I truly believe this is not her. She'd have no need to use Alecto's fire, as she's quite territorial about the privacy of her tower.

But I also can't help thinking of that investigation this spring. She's told me a few more details than I think she told either Poppy or Minerva. I suppose, in all fairness, it is a possibility that she made some sort of agreement to pass information back in exchange for keeping leadership of the YPL. I know one of her great fears is what it might turn into in other hands.

On the third hand, she has particular reason to hold a grudge against Alecto, I can't imagine she'd speak about Minerva in quite that way, and while she's a better hand with a wand than many people guess, her skills do not immediately suggest themselves for this kind of search.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-06 02:08:08](#)**
(no subject)


Well. If she's a spy, she might be particularly good at putting on a face, but this spy seems rather inept if they can be so easily followed and overheard.

Good at wards, but not perfect.

Nervous. Refers to paranoia. Bitter with Minerva. Does that strike a chord with any of them?

The nervous might be just due to the fact they are sneaking about, but the rest seems difficult to keep to oneself *all* the time.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-06 02:14:57](#)**
(no subject)

The comment about Minerva might also indicate some sort of sanctimoniousness when it comes to vices, or general avoidance of alcohol of any kind, if that sounds like any of them.

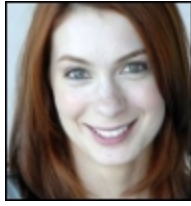
And who is she spying for? The Carrows? If she was able to enter Alecto Carrow's office and use her floo, it's a fair assumption she was talking to Amycus, isn't it?




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-06 03:17:41](#)**
(no subject)

I don't think it was Carrow, Alice. There probably would have been a good deal more shouting.

My theory is that she went into Alecto Carrow's office to search it for the source of poison.



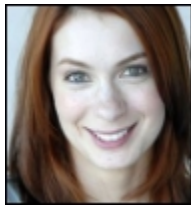
 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-06 03:30:52](#)**
(no subject)


Still, Alecto's office was bound to have protections on it as well, and unless she gave explicit permission for this person to be there, that means the spy was either able to break both Severus's and Alecto's wards (which means she is a bit more competent than I'd thought originally), or Alecto's fallen so ill she no longer keeps up with them.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-06 03:41:30](#)**
(no subject)

Not necessarily. If Snape's 'master keys' are Filch's old master keys, then they can break any charm on any door in the castle.



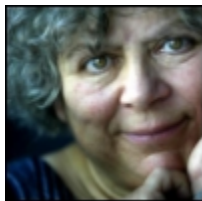
 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-06 04:00:49](#)**
(no subject)

Point, love.



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2012-04-06 13:11:01](#)**
(no subject)

For once, Black intuits something correctly.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-04-06 12:33:06](#)**
(no subject)

I rather agree that it sounds like Hooch is a good place to begin.

Aurora's scarcely bitter with Minerva, and definitely not sanctimonious about alcohol. (Paranoia is a more complicated topic, mind, but isn't that true for us all?)

As to putting on a face, well, the advantage of Aurora is that I've


known her since her school days. While there's certainly been surprises from her (her relationship with Rabastan, for one), I also haven't seen the kind of drastic change in personality that would come from that kind of bitterness.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-06 00:58:29](#)**
(no subject)

Hey, we only learned there was an Order, much less two resident spies, a mere two days ago. We're also busy catching up on our reading. Give us a week or two.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-06 02:05:10](#)**
(no subject)

So it's between Acton, Hooch, and Sinistra, then? Which of the three do you think the most likely?

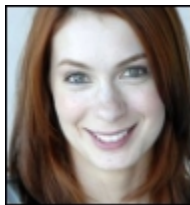
That, or they shared the password with a friend...




 **[alt_macnair](#)** at **[2012-04-06 02:56:10](#)**
(no subject)

Hooch. Or Sinistra.

That's me, then.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-06 03:04:33](#)**
(no subject)

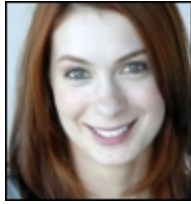
Fair enough -- why not Acton, then?




 **[alt_macnair](#)** at **[2012-04-06 03:10:41](#)**
(no subject)

She forges ahead by one path only, the social ladder.

She'd also be more syrupy with the person she reported to, whereas this person sounds as if she were brusque. No nonsense. That's not Acton.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-06 03:27:21](#)**
(no subject)

Good point.

And you'd think that'd carry over even if she was very hurried, or nervous? Do you think she's able to turn on and off, perhaps?


I don't mean to put you on the spot, I'm just trying to see if we can't really dig out who it might be.



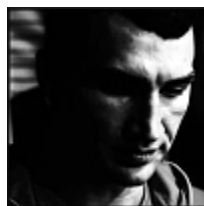
 **[alt_macnair](#)** at **[2012-04-06 03:37:37](#)**
(no subject)

I can't say with absolute certainty, but I believe so.



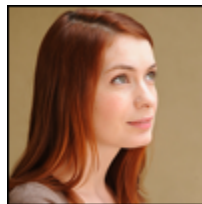
 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-06 03:42:31](#)**
(no subject)


Well, Pomona and Poppy seem less inclined to think it's Sinistra. So, Severus, I'd start with Hooch and see if you can eliminate her definitively or not.



 **[alt_macnair](#)** at **[2012-04-06 03:49:39](#)**
(no subject)

And mind yourself. I wouldn't call Hooch dangerous. Friendly enough, even. But she can definitely be intense. And unpredictable.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-06 13:00:10](#)**
(no subject)

And we can't leave out Vector. Poppy mentioned her elsewhere too.

[2012-04-05 19:57:00](#)

Private message to Pansy

Sorry I had to end the firechat first last night. That one elf - Gibby - kept seeing the light from under the door and thinking I needed something. You'd think she would know by now that when I want something I'm not shy about asking. This morning I actually half-entertained the thought that she might've been sent by my Father to interrupt. He's been trying so hard not to mention the earrings or anything else, but I can tell he really wants to. Mother's always there to give him a "look," though.



 **[alt_draco](#)**

Anyway, the real thing I wanted to ask you is if you're free tomorrow evening. That bloke who manages Tintagel wrote me a message today. I guess they're playing a private party at the Phoenix Arms tomorrow night, and we've been put on the guest list. We could go to supper, first - anywhere you like. I think the party is a bit casual, though, so we'd probably best not eat at Portico this time.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-06 02:23:47](#)**

(no subject)

Of *course* I'm free.

I've just asked mum if I can go, and since I have to get to the camps on Saturday, if I could stay in the London place overnight and just travel with you in the morning, and she said yes, so that's settled.

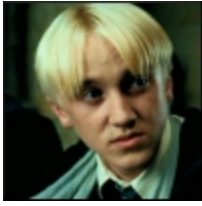
And she's too busy with Ewan to come down herself, so ~~the house would be empty~~ the only curfew we'd have to worry about would be yours.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-06 02:24:45](#)**

(no subject)

And I'd be up for just about anything when it comes to dinner.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-04-06 02:42:17](#)
(no subject)

Mother knows that Tintagel invited us to a party, and that record-industry people that she and Father know will be there (probably not Mr Tenebridge, though)...even so, I'm sure she'd still expect me home by midnight, at the latest. And we'll have to get up early to get to the camp...

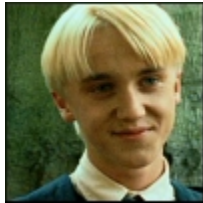
If the band is still going strong at 10, we could slip out and go get butterbeer somewhere ~~like your pl~~




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-06 02:44:13](#)
(no subject)

Yes, that sounds wonderful.

Hitty makes a really lovely hot cocoa, you know.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-04-06 02:47:52](#)
(no subject)

I remember that about her. ~~Does she interrupt~~
That sounds perfect.

I feel like there was something else I was going to say...



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-04-06 02:50:02](#)
(no subject)

Oh, right. How are you and Ewan getting along?
Still much with the drool?

Not much looking forward to this camp business, must say. Did you notice Daphs wasn't on the list? I suppose she's already been to the camps before, since her Father's an administrator. Plus, she'll probably be cheering Bole on at his Wimbourne tryout.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-06 03:01:56](#)
(no subject)

He's improving now that I've learned clean-up charms. I'm glad he's got dark hair, even though it's unfortunate that he's got Prospero's chin.

Babies are cute and everything, but they're sort of boring. He just sort of grabs at things and cries and burbles a lot.

I like him, though. Better than I thought.

I'm not looking forward to it either. The camp. But I suppose we were picked to put on a good face and show everyone else how to be appropriate. Which Daphne is always good for, but you're right, they might've wanted her space for someone else. Or she didn't sign up because of Bole.

He's just awful. I don't know why she puts up with him.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-04-06 03:18:55](#)
(no subject)

Prospero has a chin? I hadn't noticed...

Glad you've learnt to like him, though. I know you were worried.

Daphne puts up with Bole because he's a popular seventh year who will probably have a good quidditch career ahead of him. Or, that's what I'd say if it was any other girl, but Daphs never talks about marriage or any of that, just about how she's destined to be a star of the stage.

She hasn't mentioned any of that in a while, though. He's definitely sapped some of the spark from her. Or something else has.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-06 03:40:01](#)
(no subject)

That's the point. Or lack thereof.

I'm sure he'll be fine once he can grow a beard.

I shouldn't make fun. I think all babies look a little weird anyways. And when he's older, he'll be far more interesting to play with and spoil rotten.

For someone who claims to not have wanted to be in a serious relationship, she seems to have got rather wrapped up in Bole, or he's wrapped up in her at least. And she certainly doesn't seem very happy most of the time.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-04-06 03:44:26](#)
(no subject)

I've see your baby pictures and you were adorable. And so was I.

Maybe she's enduring him because she thinks it will help her future career, somewhere down the road. Or help her catch the attention of Auror Crouch. *Ugh*. Why women around the Protectorate fancy that rat-faced arse, I'll never understand.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-06 03:58:20](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'm not one of them. His eyes are far too large. And he's got a nervous looking mouth.

And now next time I see him, I'm going to think "rat-faced arse" and it'll be VERY hard for me to not laugh.

If I do, it'll be *entirely* your fault.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-04-06 04:05:47](#)**
(no subject)

Don't worry, he'll probably just assume that the laugh means you fancy him, which will earn you extra glares...

That's it then, isn't it? Daphs likes men who are arses. I mean, Blaise is a friend, but you know how he loves to rub people the wrong way. And Bole's an arse, and Crouch is an arse, too. A rat-faced one.

Well, she's not the first, I guess.

Anyway, I'd best get to bed soon if we're going to be out late tomorrow night. Shall I floo out to your place in London at 5 or so?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-06 04:11:09](#)**
(no subject)

So I suppose that if I think Bole is creepy and Crouch is too serious and Blaise is a bit too interested in himself sometimes, but I like you plenty, that means two things.

- 1.) you are not an arse, and
- 2.) I have fabulous taste.

I can't wait.

2012-04-05 20:42:00

Private Message to Mum

Of course we'll behave properly!

Honestly, how old do you think we are?

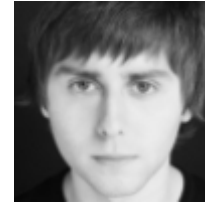
But I really do understand that you want everything just right for Blaise's mum's reception, and this is the best solution for everyone.



 **alt_lavender**

2012-04-05 21:25:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_justin](#)

I say, something odd happened today. I got Neville's parcel--thanks for that, Neville, it's well grand--but then Professor Froissart told me that I had an invitation from Finnigan and his guardian to go to and visit Seamus. On Monday, what?

Apparently his guardian has to go to some bally old breakfast but then he thought Seamus could have some people over while he's gone, and then join him for luncheon at his club. And then there's a concert thing in the early evening. Pansy, I think it's one of those groups you like. Fat Kneazle or something like that--brilliant, really, any other day.

It would have to be Monday, though, what? Rotten luck. I've told them it's not possible. Dash it, though, I do dislike having to turn down an invitation one would ordinarily accept out of politeness. It raises questions, what?

I told Professor Froissart that I was well sorry but I had been looking forward to Lincoln in particular. He asked why and I had to say it was a family connection. It was the first thing I could think of, what.

It can't be that they suspect and wish to keep me from going to Lincoln, can it?

Are we certain that none of the adults can see now that Fred and George can't anymore?

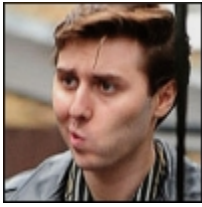
-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-04-06 01:39:33**
(no subject)

That's really odd. I thought the whole point of the tour was that you weren't supposed to go off on your own? Although Mr Rosier is on the Council so if he wants to have someone over I guess he pretty much can.

Does Finnigan even talk to you? I thought his mates were Padma Patil and that boy Evgani from Durmstrang?



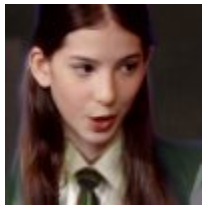
 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-06 01:48:05](#)
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,

Yes, he's a chum of Patil's. But remember I said that Uloshenko was going round the museum with me on Monday last? That's Evgeni, same bloke, what? And Finnigan was with him as well. So, I'm not sure--perhaps Finnigan decided we got on so well that he'd like to spend more time, if you follow me.

And yes, I agree, it's well odd. That's why I'm rather concerned, what? I thought I might ask Hydra if she's any part of it but one shouldn't wish to raise her suspicions either.

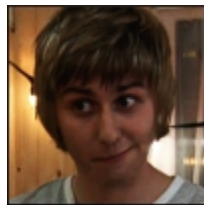
-Justin



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2012-04-06 01:55:45](#)
(no subject)

Oh, that's right, you did mention.

Maybe Finnigan wants to offer you arse-kissing lessons. It's worked so well for him, after all.



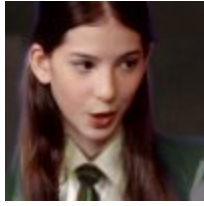
 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-06 01:57:57](#)
(no subject)

If he wants to offer any sort of kissing lesson, I'm decidedly not interested.

But one has to keep up appearances of amiability,

what?

-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-06 01:59:56](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

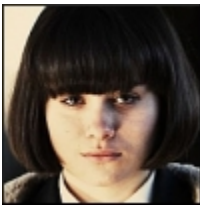
I can't imagine Hydra's involved at all. She'd want you having lunch with HER, not with

Finnigan.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-06 13:59:23](#)
(no subject)

This made me laugh so hard I snorted pumpkin juice out my nose.



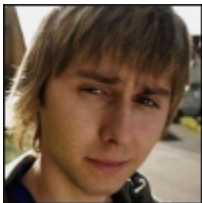
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-06 02:11:10](#)
(no subject)


I'd say if they suspected *anything* like what you're planning to do, you'd get a good deal worse than a date with Finnegan.

Like your wand snapped and immediate deportation.

So it's not that.

They're just trying to make you either not see something they don't want you to see, or are trying to get you buttered up for something. Only I'm not sure what. Unless they want to ask you to stay, which is what you sort of want, isn't it?



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

Hullo, Pansy,

Have *you* been invited to anything of the kind? I mean to say, Professor Froissart made it sound as if it were a bally old group and I thought that usually Finnigan invites the proper pure set, what?

I know it's the same day as Weasley's Quidditch but you've not been

invited, what? Nor Draco nor anyone else who's normally in his circle?

-Justin




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-06 02:29:10](#)
(no subject)

No, he hasn't mentioned anything about it at least. Besides, he's not really matey with Finnegan, especially not after that stunt with Ron's broom.

And Blaise'll be up to family things, what with his mum getting re-re-remarried... maybe Padma and Parvati'd be there?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-06 03:07:12](#)
(no subject)

I'll bring the sleeping roll Saturday, by the way.

Do you think we'll need anything else? Because I'd have to buy it tomorrow.

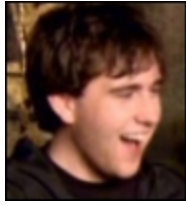


 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-06 03:28:19](#)
(no subject)

No indeed, I should think the bedroll will be more than sufficient. Neville's parcel included a self-packing set of camp cookware, a multi-tool with all sorts of attachments for opening tins, knife, fork and spoon, the tarp he mentioned and even a small fishing net. And I've got the rucksack for it all.

Actually, we do still need a quality map, what? Something more recent than 1986. But I might find something in Lincoln that will help him get out of the area immediately if he needs it.

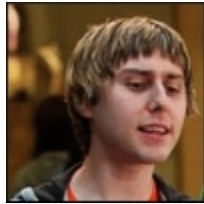
-Justin




 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-06 03:40:42](#)
(no subject)

I'm glad you got everything I sent you okay.

Be sure you put the sealed letter in with the stuff I sent, too. That's important. It has some suggestions about how to stay hidden and safe.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-06 04:00:36](#)
(no subject)

Yes, quite, Neville.

Don't worry; it's safely stowed right near the top, what?

Cheers.

-Justin

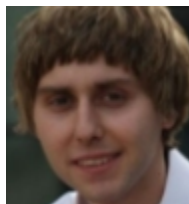



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-06 03:54:03](#)
(no subject)

That all sounds wizard, Justin. And I'm really grateful to everyone for pulling this stuff together.

Don't want you to go to try to drop it off though if you don't think it's safe for some reason. But I have to admit, what you're collecting for that knapsack I'd really like to have. If I can ever get out of here.

Don't think you have to worry about the Lock though. The git's been looking at his journal this afternoon, and HE hasn't seen anything.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-06 04:03:58](#)
(no subject)

Terry,

Well, that's a relief, I must say. I shall be perfectly careful about it but I agree, I just hope I can hide it somewhere without attracting anyone's notice. If I can slip away unseen it should be no trouble.

And I'll be bally well glad to think that it's there waiting for you. I say, you will escape, old man, one day or another.

-Justin

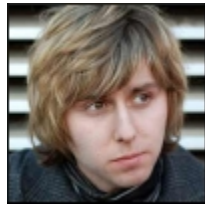


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-06 04:17:01](#)
(no subject)

You should think up what you'd say if someone comes across you. Especially if you've got the bag in hand. And they ask to see it.

Maybe you could claim that you found it?

Or that your mum thought you'd be going camping during your trip and you just got it by owl?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-06 04:29:29](#)
(no subject)

Yes, jolly good point, Pansy.

Well, in a way, the story about having had family in Lincoln may help me there, what? You see, I'd thought perhaps I'd tell them that I'd like to find the family's plot and, oh, contemplate my wizarding heritage or some bally old rot like that. That ought to get me the time alone that I need, what?

I've also shrunk the whole sack down so that it fits inside my bookbag. That way I shall only have to take it out when I'm well ready to put it where it'll be safe for Terry to find it. It's doing the actual spells to keep it hidden that will be the tricky thing, if anyone should happen upon me just at that moment.

But--well, I suppose I shall just have to make sure no one does, what?

-Justin




 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-04-06 03:47:27](#)**
(no subject)

You got the jumper I sent you, too, didn't you?

(By the way: I noticed that Terry just said elsewhere in the journals that no one should try to send him Pig this weekend. Miss Professor Carrow is visiting her brother, and Terry says it wouldn't be safe. I suppose that's because he isn't as intoxicated as usual.

Amycus Carrow, I mean. Not Terry, of course.)



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-06 03:50:08](#)**
(no subject)

Aw that's too bad. I think the twins have him, and they were going to send him a letter tomorrow because Terry said he was missing them. I'll Floo 'em first thing in the morning to warn them. Unless you can tell them tonight, Ron.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-06 04:10:11](#)**
(no subject)

Hallo, Luna!

Yes, I did receive the jumper. I say, speed-knitting must be bally well rapid, indeed! Good show.

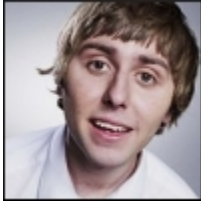
How have your holidays been so far? I suppose you're well looking forward to some peace and quiet with Brown coming along to this amusement park tomorrow, what?

-Justin



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-04-06 04:19:47](#)**
(no subject)

Well, they have been quite quiet so far. The Browns prefer to ignore me, so I've been mostly just doing art in my room. But I will be going on the Camelot trip. It will be quite nice, to get outside.




 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-06 04:22:26](#)**
(no subject)

Really? That's brilliant! Oh, I'm glad. If Patil's organised the thing, Finnigan and Uloshenko are bound to be there and it would have been devilish awkward, what, trying to explain why I can't accept his invitation for Monday.

But if you're along, we can go on the rides together, what? So you'll not have to put up with Brown or Patil and I'll not have to put up with the two of them. I say, that's well perfect.

-Justin



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-04-06 12:29:40](#)**
(no subject)

That'll be fun! Now I'm looking forward even more to the whole thing.

2012-04-05 23:08:00

Private Message to Hermione Granger

I've been thinking about what Draco said yesterday. And what we talked about after the meeting with you-know-who.



 [alt_harry](#)

And I think it's a good thing that you could leave if you wanted.

Because that means that you really truly aren't my property or here because you have to be and because you have to serve me.

You're here because you want to be, and because of

well

I guess I don't know all that yet and I sort of can't ask but it's not to shine my shoes, yeah?

So.

I know what Draco thinks. That unless I really believe that you're my property and distance myself like he said, I'm not going to be good enough at showing other people that's what I think. But I can't believe that you're my property because you're not, but that's something I'm not sure he'd ever understand. Unless we told him about your being able to get away. Which I'm not sure we could do just now.

Maybe later.

I hope.

And I guess the second part, the distancing part, is something that I could do, but I don't want to.

I mean,

I don't want to get you hurt or in trouble, and that's important. Very. And I'm going to try really really hard to make sure that other people think that I think you're just a servant.

But you're not.

You're pretending to be one.

And if you can pretend, so can I.

And besides all that, you're my friend. Right?



 **alt_hermione** at [2012-04-06 14:08:31](#)
(no subject)

We can't tell Draco, of course we can't Harry, I mean, he means well for you and everything but I don't think that it would be best.

But yes we can both pretend, only I think Draco is nervous because you have so little experience pretending things like this, and it's so easy to slip.

And of course I'm your friend, stupid. I would leave if I wasn't. Don't you know that?!



 **alt_harry** at [2012-04-07 15:33:46](#)
(no subject)

Good.

And I wouldn't. Not unless I knew for sure that he wouldn't tell. And not unless you thought that way

too.

2012-04-06 10:08:00

Order Only: Mapping

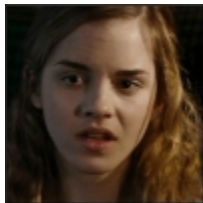


Alright.

Well I think that you all know that I have the map that sees everyone in the castle and so if you want me to I will dig it out and use it, I haven't been using it at all because I was afraid of getting caught with it, but this is important. The only problem is that of course I can't have it all the time out because I need my wand to make it go blank, so I'll have to keep it in Severus Mr Snape's inner chambers or in my cubby.

 **alt_hermione**

Only maybe I should give it back to Fred and George so they can see all the time where people are? Or someone else? Professor McGonagall? Only is everyone too busy to be looking at it all the time? It's dreadfully important but even so I'm too busy, I mean, obviously I can't look while I'm supposed to be cleaning Harry's things or waiting at table or something.



 **alt_hermione** at **2012-04-06 14:13:55**

Order Only: Private Message to Harry Marvolo and Severus Snape

Also I think it was rude of Sirius to be so mean to you but you don't always have to be so prickly about things, you know, I don't think people dislike you nearly as much as you think they do. And they don't dislike Mr Milland at all.



 **alt_gredforge** at **2012-04-06 22:06:02**

(no subject)

We'd be willing to monitor it for you if everyone else thinks that's the best thing to do with it. We certainly know how to use it. But we're not sure if the adults here will think that's best. After all, if we spotted someone lurking about after hours, we wouldn't be as free as the teachers or the Headmistress to move into place to confront her. Or maybe even the best to decide what to do about it.

(Merlin, listen to how responsible we're being and all.)

2012-04-06 11:00:00

Order Only: Preparing Lies



 [alt_arthur](#)

I know I've barely been able to respond to posts and so on. Molly and I have been preoccupied with the fall out from the events precipitated by the twins and their little stunt at the picnic. But more than that, I've been busier than a niffler going after galleons with this asinine scheme that's been cooked up to give the foreign students a tour of a camp.

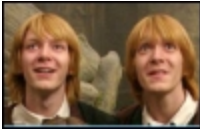
And what a camp it is. We've picked a site in Newcastle, and with several people in my department, I've spent the past several days constructing a picture of a cosy life for the muggles and muggleborn there. Of course, it's all a pack of lies.

Everyone has been issued new clothing, and many will be wearing shoes for the first time in years. And more extra clothing will be flapping on laundry lines, to give the impression that the residents actually have more clothing to change into. We have them busy planting flower boxes and tidying landscapes. We wizards have been constructing false facades on all the buildings, showing newly painted exteriors, non-broken windows, with plenty of pre-fabricated "public art," etcetera. We've handpicked the model residents, who have to be specified ages: mums and dads, a few grannies sprinkled here and there just to suggest the possibility of comfortable retirements; babes in arms and toddlers are all right, as are eight to ten years old (as long as they're shy), but no very young children prone to talk, or teens who could blurt out embarrassing truths at inopportune moments.

Food has been trucked in, and a fancy lunch will be served. Good, nourishing fare, of course--the sort of thing these people never see in early April, if ever. An orchestra has been rounded up and instruments provided. I'm sure the programme will be charming, and a touching tribute to Our Beneficent Lord Protector.

Merlin. The hypocrisy makes me ill. On the one hand, I desperately hope the visitors see through it all, but on the other hand I know that the repercussions, if they do, could be severe.

Addendum: I still cannot find Sirius Maxwell and Ivy Lowell. Alice also thought we might wait a little longer to collect our Leap Year baby, Ethan in Brighton, as he is still so young.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-06 16:52:46](#)**
(no subject)

Whoa. We're seeing a whole other side of things, reading under this Lock.

You really do hate your job sometimes, don't you, Dad? We knew it was hard. But you never really talked about stuff like this.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-06 16:54:29](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, he does. Welcome to adulthood.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-04-06 16:56:36](#)**
(no subject)

It's true; I positively despise it at times. But if I wasn't positioned where I am, I would not be able to save any of the babies for Moddey Dhoo. It's the only thing that keeps me going, sometimes. But it seems such a poor recompense: I can save forty or fifty, and marginally improve the life for a few hundred more. But thousands upon thousands suffer cruelly, under my governance.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-04-06 17:18:20](#)**
(no subject)

You know, my friend, one thing that's occurred to Emmeline, reading this: We've sometimes met some Roma when we've been on the road as the players, and I think that 'Lowell' is a name some Roma families use. They have some mixed muggle/magical families. I remember running into one caravan that had a grandmother who had the Sight, and she had a nephew who was quite a good Artificer.

It makes sense as a possibility, when you think about it. They travel from place to place and prefer to stick to themselves and so avoid registering their childrens' births. If Emmeline's right, that may be why you aren't able to find the name in the census records.




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-04-06 19:27:47](#)**
(no subject)

My goodness. That hadn't occurred to me, but it might be a thought worth pursuing.

Only how? I wonder...have you kept in touch with any of those families? Perhaps they have a gathering somewhere, where we could talk to a number of them at once, and someone might know someone who could track the family down?

Hmph. It seems like quite a long shot, when I write it down like this.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-04-07 00:20:43](#)**
(no subject)

I'll talk with the rest of the Players, see if we can come up with any ideas.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-07 21:52:06](#)**
(no subject)


if he is roma, then they'd be more likely to know how to handle a magical baby, and would also be more able to keep him from anyone's notice.

the danger would be that if he was discovered, and his absence from the book was noted, he'd be taken by them and the false book would be in danger of being revealed.

do you think if we kept him in the book that people would go out of their way to find him?

that's a hard one.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-07 22:38:36](#)**
(no subject)


I agree, Frank. That's the dilemma.

But really, I don't think the Ministry fuss with the

Roma at all. Not to track which of them are magical and which are not. I don't think their names appear very often in the book, but I doubt this is the first it's happened. I suppose one of them might have married outside, but no one at the Ministry will expect one of their children to attend school, so I doubt there will be any official mind paid the situation at all.

I suppose that does not rule out our making contact and presenting them with the opportunity to send the child into sanctuary.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-07 22:32:41](#)
(no subject)

Arthur. If Kingsley's right, I would be surprised if the family would be interested in our offer. I have a number of connections amongst the Travellers and one or two who are Roma. Those I know don't draw the distinctions we do between muggle and magical. Many of them are wizards, you know, and while squibs are not uncommon amongst them, they don't reject them.

They live separately from the rest of us for good reason, you know. And I rather doubt they'll be terribly concerned about the danger to this child who's popped into our book--nor very eager to have us make off with her.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-07 23:52:22](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I agree with Poppy. If she's born to a Traveller, then I don't see any good reason to pry her from her family.

Sirius Maxwell. Somehow I think he's in a similar situation. I just can't imagine anyone in a camp naming the child 'Sirius' and getting away with it for long.




 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-04-06 17:45:03](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Arthur, how awful.

I hope the visitors see through it, though I understood from Aurora that she had extremely specific instructions on which Hogwarts students were and weren't to attend. One can only hope that the ones who were allowed have some brains in their heads.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-06 19:51:55](#)
(no subject)

Maybe they only invited the ones who didn't have brains. For that very reason.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-04-06 19:58:43](#)
(no subject)

From the little Aurora said, not quite that simple. Of course, for the 4th years, they're drawing from the CCF group, and that leaves out the densest of the lot at any rate. Even there only half of them were invited to attend, and a few carefully picked 3rd years.

One of our Hufflepuffs - Ernie MacMillan - came to me, after being not quite satisfied by her response. His father's a Healer who works with the camps. I do wonder if they're not trying to keep those who would recognise a fraud from direct observation.

2012-04-06 11:10:00

Private message to Effs

I have some news. I'm going to visit Cousin Dora and her family for tea today. She invited me, and Mummy said I could go.



 [alt_hydra](#)

I was quite excited at first, because you know I've wanted to finally meet Bea and Mr Ponds, and see the shop where they live and work.

But now I'm not so sure. I'm still looking forward to it, but Mummy's been a bit strange. It almost seems as if she's excited for my visit, which doesn't make much sense. She's never been overly fond of cousin Dora, because she's a halfblood, and also because I think it reminds her of how her sister Andromeda turned blood traitor and married a muggleborn. Mummy can't stand to be reminded of the "Black tree's rotten fruit."

I just hope that Mummy isn't planning to do something.

Well, the good news is that I'll finally see you tomorrow, and I can tell you all about what happened at tea in person.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-04-06 17:40:07**

(no subject)

Hallo, Dux!

We've been having a lovely time today. I wish you'd been invited. But Luna was able to come along, isn't that smashing? I do miss you, though. I say, it's dashed unfair you had to miss Monday, what, this business of going days and days without seeing you is well intolerable. So yes, quite looking forward to being together tomorrow.

Do you know, Patil and Brown expected Luna to sit by and hold their bags and bally all else while *they* went on the rides? I jolly well put a stop to that, what! She and JP and I have been on the whirligig about ten times, I think. It put quite a sour look on Patil's face, which was jolly satisfying, if I do say it myself.

Now, this tea business. Is your mother going as well? Is that what has you concerned? Or do you think she'll try something at home while you're gone?

-Justin

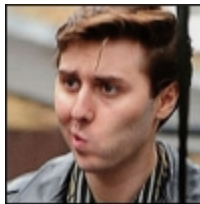


 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-06 18:03:49](#)
(no subject)

Try not to make Padma too cross with you. I think she can make a person's life quite miserable, if she puts her mind to it. Though I suppose she hardly gives you pause after all that you've dealt with. I don't know why she and Lavender would go out of their way to make things difficult for Luna. If they find her strange they could just let her alone, at least.

No, Mummy isn't going to tea. Which itself surprised me. But really, it's more that I keep thinking back to October, when she told me to strike up a correspondance with Dora, but wouldn't say why. I still don't know why she wanted me to do that, but she must have some motive that I don't know about, and maybe my going to tea has something to do with it, too.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-06 20:10:40](#)
(no subject)


Stuff. Patil's nothing to worry about, though I agree it's never wise to offend when it's not necessary, what?

I say, that reminds me, I wanted to ask you: Finnigan's guardian is some sort of relation to your mother, isn't he? Had Finnigan invited you to do anything next week? Come over to go riding or go to a concert or anything like that?

Perhaps your mother hopes you'll marry a shopkeep, what? Instead of Harry? Only kidding. I say, do have fun, though, Dux, in spite of any malicious ideas your mother might have.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-06 20:32:24](#)
(no subject)


If I know you, you probably extracted Luna from Padma with the utmost politeness, but that doesn't mean she won't be offended just the same. Still, I'm sure that you made Luna's day.

Uncle Stephen, you mean? He's my great uncle, really - Nanella's brother. But neither he nor Seamus have invited me over next week. Not that I know of, at least. Why do you ask?

I will try to have fun. I am looking forward to it, even if I am feeling wary. And speaking of, it's just about time to go. Full report later!

Love,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-07 03:52:12](#)
(no subject)

Hah, yes, I suppose it's well difficult for me to show when I'm cross, what? But I'm not entirely certain Patil would notice the difference, she's too wrapped up in herself.

As for your uncle--I'm sure it's nothing important. I'll tell you tomorrow.

Everyone has had a little trouble settling down this end. Between the excitement of the park rides and the speculation regarding the camp, I think we're all a bit nervous. I can't imagine they'll show us anything like the typical camp but I've no idea how they think they're going to fool us, what?

So, how was your aunt's?

-Justin




 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-07 04:33:30](#)
(no subject)

I say, Hydra?

Are you still awake?

-Justin



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-07 04:40:04](#)
(no subject)

I suppose you are.

I was ~~hoping~~

I can't sleep at all.

Well, I'll see you in the morning.

Sweet dreams, Dux.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-07 15:07:29](#)
(no subject)

I'm all right. I was right about Mummy.

She locked me in the Chapel Royal last night, without my wand or my journal. I didn't even have a dressing gown. It was cold - I expect she thought that between that and my fear of the ghosts, I wouldn't be able to sleep. I did, though. I slept just fine!

Oh, I have to go..we're late as it is. I'll tell you the rest in person.

From,
Hydra

2012-04-06 19:26:00

Order only: The new job

It's still a 'temporary' assignment, but I don't get the impression that Rosier is planning on sacking me any time soon. A good sign, I think.



 [alt_bill](#)

I've been doing my best to make myself useful, if not indispensable. He's had to scramble, of course, to try to bring himself up to speed, not to mention to learn what he needs to learn about the various department personnel, and he appreciates what tidbits of water cooler gossip I can provide. I overheard him mention to Selwyn that he rather enjoys my sense of humour: 'sardonic,' he called it. Lots of closed door meetings (with Helpmann this week; no idea what that's about), but I hope as he gets to know me better, he'll be a bit more open about meeting agenda.

I was worried that what with me switching departments, it would limit my usefulness to the Order, but it's not turning out to be as much a problem as I feared. First of all, my former department coworkers still like to meet me for lunch, and they're as gossipy as ever. Secondly, a lot of the surreptitious 'back door' spells I have set for duplicating key communications still seem to be working, despite my change in status.

My team of analysts have had to switch the manner of the delivery of some of their reports. But otherwise, I think I have fingers on almost as many threads as I did when I was with Communications.

That's about it for now. (Oh, except I've barely seen Ginny, Mum. She's been getting in about midnight each night and crashing into bed immediately. And she's out the door at 6:00 am the next morning.)

2012-04-06 20:22:00

Private Message to Honoria

Honoria,

How have you been? Miss you much.



 [alt_ginny](#)

I don't think I have ever been so tired. I'm staying in New London with my brother Bill. I got a letter earlier this week requesting my presence here for the rest of the week, excluding Easter, and most of next week. I have to check in every morning by 6:30 and I was told I would be home by 10. But guess whose not home by 10? I've been out every night until midnight. I swear by Merlin, that I crash as soon as I see the bed. I am up by 4 and I am revising until 5:30. One subject every morning, my studies will not fall behind. Lucky for me, all I have to do in the morning is shower and dress. They do the rest when I get there., then I am busy all day.

I am lucky I was able to get some time to pick up my journal today. I am currently between obligations. They are preparing me for some designer overview party tonight. We get to meet up and coming designers for the summer season, and they get to meet the models and the staff from several mags. Oh well I have two minutes to finish this up before makeup and wardrobe. I will probably be out until midnight again. I keep hoping to get home earlier, but I'm only fooling myself. Do you think I am doing the right thing?

Oh, and before I close, maybe we can see each other next week here in New London. I have been promised that Wednesday will be a light day until after lunch, so maybe we can do lunch together? Let me know. And I know they haven't announced it yet, but do you think you will do CCF? I'm planning on it, and have talked to the mag about it. They expect nothing less. What else would the prefect pureblood girl do, but make herself available to preform the duties the protectorate requires, right? Anyway I have got to go, think about it and we will talk soon.

2012-04-06 20:57:00

Private message to Bella

I'm at Le'Strange, since you've seen fit to ward me out of St. James.



 **alt_rodolphus**

I don't know what it is you think that you're doing, but this cannot stand. To legitimise Hydra without my knowledge or consent - no, I won't endure it. And I believe we spoke at length in October about your involving her in any aspect of casual investigation. If you have reason to suspect the Ponds in anything, then you open a case file on them with MLE and take the usual avenues. You don't send in your daughter for tea and then try to rummage through her mind for some trifling thing you can hold against them.

Another matter: I hope you know that the distance between us tonight did not go unnoticed by the other guests. It is one thing to make it clear to me that you no longer care for my feelings, or your daughter's, but to make it so evident to our friends and family, as well...

You test my patience, Bella. And if your pattern of the last year or so holds, I know better than to hold my breath and wait for a reason to forgive you.



 **alt_bellatrix** at **2012-04-07 03:22:14**
(no subject)

Oh, there it is. I knew this little missive was coming, it was just a matter of when.

I don't know why you persist in outlining your displeasures when you know that I answer to the Protectorate first, and the Protectorate only. Duty as a mother and a citizen compel me to ensure that my niece has not gone astray.

Hydra was not hurt, so please do stop fussing like an old nurse maid.




 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2012-04-07 03:36:41](#)**
(no subject)

When you miss the point, you do miss it splendidly.

While I have an interest in keeping her from being hurt, I am more concerned at your utter disdain for anyone's input but your own. You see all who disagree with you as standing in your way; anyone who dares to challenge your perspective is cast as disloyal, sentimental, or weak.

Is that kind of singular self-interest really what the Protectorate stands for?



 **[alt_bellatrix](#)** at **[2012-04-07 03:47:11](#)**
(no subject)

Rodolphus, do not argue with me about who understands the Protectorate better. I risk life and limb each day for it while you tinker about with your lovely little "artefacts."

The reason I resist challenge is because I know that what I do is right. You want me to give in, to put aside what I know is right and just for the sake of your male pride. And you dare to imply that *I* am the self-interested one?

I could come to you as I used to, wheedle you with soft words and caresses until you let me have my way. You'd let me do what I wanted then, wouldn't you? Because then you'd at least feel as if you'd given some kind of valuable "input."

We both know that what you're really upset about is that I just can't be bothered with any of that anymore.



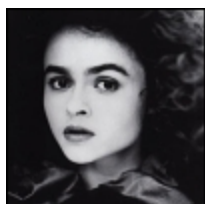
 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2012-04-07 03:56:49](#)**
(no subject)

Emasculate me, wife? It's not like you to stoop to such levels. It makes me wonder just how right you really think you are.

You greatly overestimate your charms, as well. They've long since

dried up, along with the rest of you.

The worst part is that I know you didn't even get anything of value from Hydra over it. If you had, you'd surely be gloating about it by now, using it to justify your actions.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2012-04-07 04:13:40](#)
(no subject)

Stooping low right back, I see. Looks like that one must have left a mark. Well, take some pleasure in the fact that I actually bothered to leave one. You know how much these outbursts

bore me.

It has been exceptionally frustrating, I must say. I'm getting precisely the same kind of resistance that I encountered two years ago, after her experience with the diary. At that time, I concluded that having been so close to ~~Him~~ such power had rendered the experience utterly unreachable in her mind. But now I begin to wonder if she actually has the ability. It could have been previously dormant... perhaps the experience brought it alive in her. Perhaps He it was left behind, inadvertently



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-04-07 04:16:10](#)
(no subject)

Left behind, you say? Like a gift? A token of affection, perhaps?

That she inherited the ability from her Mother, and only now grew into it, seems much more likely.

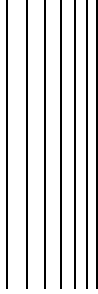
Consider your efforts wasted, and leave her be next time.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2012-04-07 04:18:41](#)
(no subject)

Oh, what wise and loving advice. I'll be sure to take it to heart.

~~I'll try again in the morning~~



 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2012-04-07 04:19:52](#)**
(no subject)

Sarcasm, even? Why Bella, you almost make me feel as if I've won.

Sleep well, wife.

2012-04-06 22:55:00

i solemnly swear that i am up to no good

theyre puting mre bld splls awn me



 [alt_terry](#)



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-07 03:57:54](#)
(no subject)

Terry?

please be all right

2012-04-07 07:20:00

*I solemnly swear that i am up to no good:
private message to fred weasley and
amycus carrow*



 [alt_tery](#)

i am so glad you will never read this

i wouldnt write it down at all except if i dont draw out the poison i'll die

when i stopped spewing they were both there smiling at me
'we're going to play a Game,' he said

dudley was there, lying on the table
they had *petrificused* him

she had brought her case of the Lovelies and she was unpacking them, unfastening
the straps

he plucked out the smallest one, the one called Whisper and placed it before me

'you're going to demonstrate your drawing, tidbit
you will take this and draw a little line from one ear to the other--'
he showed me by drawing a finger under the chin
'technique is important
the skin must be parted the entire way'

'not that one'
she took back Whisper and replaced it with the next one up, the one they call Kiss
'it'll be soooooo easy,' she crooned
'she is so very sharp'

my hand started to shake
'i won't' i whispered
'i won't do it'

when was the last time i told him no?
i cant even remember.

he smiled the terrible smile 'you have exactly one minute
if you don't do this thing--' he took out the largest one, the one called Vengeance
'i'll place you under *imperio*
and who knows what will happen?'
he laughed
he laughed at me

'maybe i'll release it when you're done eating his heart'

i looked down at him
his eyes were wide and terrified
i bent down and whispered in his ear: 'i am so sorry' and 'please stay absolutely still'

as if he could move
as if he could have lifted a finger to stop me

i picked up Kiss with shaking hands
i had to draw the line as shallowly as possible, but still deep enough to part the skin

at the first cut, she gave a hungry little moan, the sound she makes sometimes when
he starts to kiss her

blood welled up behind the blade as I went
i could feel my own blood singing in response
like i could feel my own heartbeat in the blade
maybe that was from the blood spells they put on me
i had to retrace one part
then i dropped Kiss and stared down at him as the necklace of blood trickled over
his shoulders

she stuck her finger in it and put it into the git's mouth to lick off
then she took my hands and smeared them through the mess

that's all i remember before everything turned dark

when i came back to myself i was in my pallet again
the blood on my hands was dry

i don't even know if he's still alive
i hope the ghost comes soon because then I can ask him

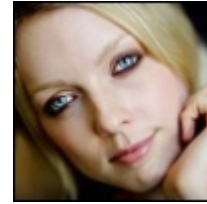
i hate him
i hate him for making me step over the line
i hate him worst of all because he didn't make me
it wasn't imperio
i chose to do it

i am so glad i'll never see hermione again

how she would despise me if she knew

2012-04-07 08:22:00

Private message to Narcissa Malfoy



 **alt_sinistra**

It was lovely to see you in person - and I very much enjoyed the few minutes I had to speak with you (and Ursula and Pandora and Diane).

Dropping a quick note here, largely so I don't forget the few questions that came up last night in today's activities before I manage to see you next week.

- Eudora Millingham-Kennilworthy: She seemed to be enjoying herself trying to get (extremely personal) details about how I've kept Raz's interest this long, and that's a conversation I'm never sure how to handle. Is there, by chance, a topic I might use to distract her in future? Or a better means of escape?

- The Rowles: Clearly there's some past difficulty I missed - I gather they're attempting to reconcile? Not knowing anything like enough about the earlier history, I found myself stuck in a conversation or two and not sure how to handle it.

- I don't know Maximus Truncheon at all: is that his usual mode, or did he have a bit too much last night?

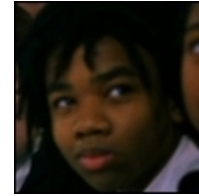
- And finally: While Facinorous Stint sensibly didn't come near me (or Raz) at all, I wonder if he might have been dropping a word in a few people's ears given a few things I heard later in the evening. Did you hear anything I should be aware of?

And beyond that, I'd be interested in your comments on who was included in supper, and who was only at the reception: some of the choices were obvious, but there were a few that puzzled me.

2012-04-07 08:51:00

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good:
Terry?*


Uh, it looks like you tried to do a private message using the lock? To Fred? I thought you said you'd never



 [alt_lee](#)


Is there something you want us to pass on to him?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-07 14:05:04](#)
(no subject)


I used the Lock.



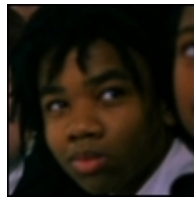
 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-07 14:05:28](#)
(no subject)


Uh, you remember he can't read it, right?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-07 14:05:54](#)
(no subject)


yes



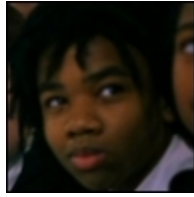
 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-07 14:06:20](#)
(no subject)


We can send you Pig, and you can send it back to him. As soon as you let us know it's safe.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-07 14:06:56](#)
(no subject)


No. It's the Lock.



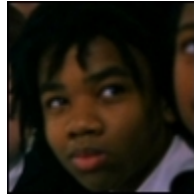
 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-07 14:07:23](#)**
(no subject)


Yeah. The private Lock. You sure?



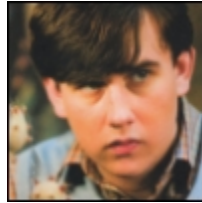
 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-04-07 14:08:36](#)**
(no subject)


i know what Im doing. Back the fuck off, Lee.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-07 14:08:51](#)**
(no subject)

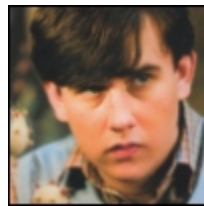
Merlin, Terry.




 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-04-07 14:11:53](#)**
Private message to Lee Jordan

Better drop it, Lee. Something bad must have happened.


Maybe you'd better Floo the twins. They'll want to know. Although they can't do anything.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-04-07 14:13:19](#)**
Re: Private message to Lee Jordan

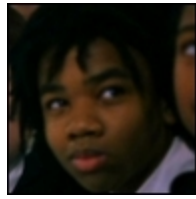
You saw his earlier post, right? Where he said they put some blood spells on him?




 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-07 14:14:34](#)**
Re: Private message to Lee Jordan

Bugger.

Gred and Forge are gonna be pissed.

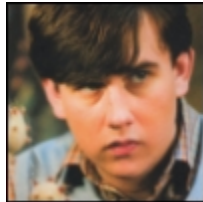


 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-07 14:16:53](#)**
(no subject)

All right. Sorry. I won't ask anything more.

But we're all here, right? If you


No worries.



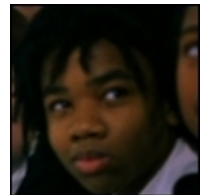
 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-04-07 14:22:43](#)**
(no subject)


We'd do anything we can to help, Terry. You know that.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-04-07 14:23:17](#)**
(no subject)

no one can help



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-07 19:18:00](#)**
(no subject)

Terry? I talked with Fred. He said you go right ahead and talk to him under the Lock, if that's what seems right to you. Or write him a letter whenever you get Pig back, or pass along a message by me or Ron. Whatever. It's all good.

Meanwhile, he said to tell you that he and George are gonna research blood magic, and they'll pass on what they can.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-07 22:25:22](#)**
(no subject)

Sometimes, people want to write things even if the other person can't read it.

I do it all the

Because just writing it down is sort of like talking to them, even if they can't write back anymore. And talking to other people about it

just isn't the same.

He's right, you know. We can't do anything. Not anything that matters anyways. Not while he's stuck with him. I wish we could, but we can't. And I wish it was different.

I'm sorry, Terry.

[2012-04-07 11:14:00](#)

Muggle Camp Visit

I hope everyone has an... enlightening time on the visit today. Do share what you have learned upon your return.




 [alt_dean](#)



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-08 01:46:19](#)
(no subject)


It was interesting. They showed us the place where the adults worked and the kids sang a song and gave me us flowers.



 [alt_dean](#) at [2012-04-08 02:16:09](#)
(no subject)

Well I'm glad you all enjoyed the experience. I don't remember epping being that cheerful. I would take it as a grain of salt if I were you.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-08 02:39:11](#)
Private message to Thomas

We saw what we were meant to see. And if it was a bit cheerier than what you remember, it won't do you any favours to remind us all about it.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2012-04-08 02:46:07](#)
(no subject)

It's a shame they can't show the muggles in Ireland the sort of place they'd get to live if only they'd be a bit more co-operative.

2012-04-07 15:11:00

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To
No Good*



Does anyone have any books about healing that talk about muggles? And muggle illnesses?

 [alt_sally_anne](#)



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-07 20:49:27](#)
(no subject)

What's going on?

Is it something at the Stretton's? Are the people there ill?

If you get ill because of something they made you do...

promise me you'd make them take you to a healer. Or at least let you come back early from hols to see Madame P.

Or I'll come by and make them let me take you.

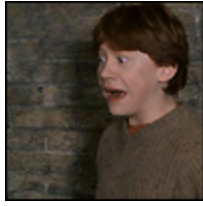



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 20:55:21](#)
(no subject)

Maureen brought me a note this morning, from the muggles at one of the big estates. All the children are sick. They asked me to come because they thought I might be able to help.

I have no idea what to do. They're REALLY sick.


I think it's measles. I shouldn't be able to get it. It's one of the diseases my mum had me vaxinated against when I was little. But if I do, I'll go back to Hogwarts or something. Anyway it's really contagious so if I DID get it so would Gemma and Philip and the twins.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-07 22:50:46](#)
(no subject)

Wot??!



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-07 23:19:53](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Freaky, right?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 20:57:56](#)
(no subject)

They did tell the Strettons when the first child got sick. The muggles here did, I mean. Um, David. The muggle who wrote to me is named David.

The Strettons wouldn't call a healer because it was muggle CHILDREN. The children don't work, so they don't care if they die. And a healer is expensive. They did tell everyone not to go to this estate so there's a quarantine, I guess. I'm sure if I'd told Mrs Stretton where I was going she'd have forbidden me but I didn't, I just went, when I got the note.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-07 21:33:43](#)
(no subject)

...I don't know why I expected it to be different. But it's awful.

Sometimes I forget that we think differently. That we care. And most some people don't. Because it seems so obvious, doesn't it? To care, I mean.

Maybe Madame P has a friend who could go, who wouldn't tell?
...I'm not sure we should ask her, though.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 21:34:56](#)
(no subject)

Are you at the muggle camp today?

Madam P wondered if that's where I was, with the measles, but they wouldn't have taken you somewhere that people were sick.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-07 22:03:27](#)
(no subject)

Yes.

It wasn't what I expected.


It looked really pretty and nice, a little like Ottery St Catchpole, really, with houses and gardens and things.

But everyone acted sort of weird. Like they were smiling a lot, but it didn't seem like they wanted to. And when one little boy started crying, the other Muggles looked really scared for a second and then started laughing about how he just wasn't used to seeing so many new people.

And there weren't any kids hardly. There were some babies, and some older kids, but no-one in between. And when someone asked what they did during the day, they had to *think* really hard about what they were going to say. And then one of them said they had lessons and played and things and the rest of them sort of nodded.

I think they were nervous because they were told to be on best behaviour. And because they were lying, I think, only I'm not sure exactly when they were lying and when they were just plain nervous.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-07 22:58:25](#)
(no subject)

Hang on.

You're saying the camp looked like our village?

That's daft.

Or you're taking the mickey.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-08 00:33:19](#)
(no subject)

I'm saying it looked like a little village, with gardens and houses and a few other buildings and a green area in the middle. And everything looked very clean.

And normal?

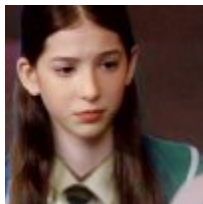
But it was weird because it was normal?

I don't know. It's hard to explain.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 03:52:11](#)
(no subject)

That can't be how they usually look. The Stretton muggles don't have anything that nice, and they all seem to think the Coventry Estates are a lot better than a muggle camp.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 21:36:37](#)
(no subject)

Madam Pomfrey gave me a lot of good advice but she didn't offer to come.

I don't think the Strettons would mind someone coming. They're just not willing to pay.

At least I've got the sickest ones drinking water now. And I made them ice and a steam room to help the ones breathe who are having trouble.



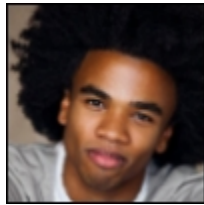
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-07 22:51:58](#)
(no subject)


You did all that?

That's wicked impressive.

But.

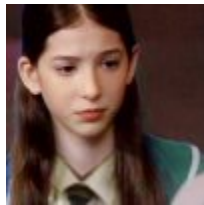
You're getting out of there now, though, right?



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-07 23:19:08](#)
(no subject)

Reckon she's not. Not when it dawns on the Strettons they don't have to pay her, either.

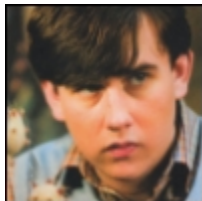
I'm sorry, Perks. That sucks.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 02:25:24](#)
(no subject)

I'm still here.

Madam Pomfrey suggested I use a gentle renevate to bring people around long enough to drink a little something. Some of the babies were just not waking up. And they don't stay awake long at all. I keep having to wake them again. There's one that's doing MUCH better though, Lisa. She looked terrible when I arrived, her eyes were sunken and her skin looked like wax. She's still sick but her colour is better, under the rash.

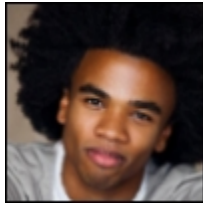



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-07 22:44:44](#)
(no subject)

That's terrible.

I checked our shelves. The only book I found was really old, and it said it can be really dangerous, and there used to be epidemics where many people died from it. But it said that Muggles weren't so endangered by it anymore


because of vaccinations. It doesn't talk so much about how it can be treated.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-07 22:48:16](#)**
(no subject)


Yeah that was written before the Protectorate, all right. Vaccination...that's that weird thing where they stick needles in people? Seriously, why do they do that?



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-07 22:52:44](#)**
(no subject)

WOT??!




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-08 00:34:11](#)**
(no subject)

Was it just sticking needles in the right places?

Or were they special needles?



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-08 00:54:04](#)**
(no subject)

Hullo, Pansy,

They're vaccination needles. There's a tiny hole that runs down the centre and they plunge a syringe full of medicine into one's muscles, what? And the vaccine enters one's bloodstream and inoculates one against all manner of diseases. I had a full series when I was an infant, as well.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 03:56:57](#)
(no subject)

Honestly the way my mum explained it, it almost sounds like muggle blood magic.

Vaccines are like potions. There are even some you swallow and they don't need a needle. It goes into your body and I guess it STAYS THERE FOREVER because once you've had it, you can never catch whatever it is you were ~~vaxinated~~ vaccinated against.

Madam P thinks they're rubbish, but I'm telling you, NONE of the adults there were sick and nearly ALL the children were. I did drink the potion she gave me, though, just in case (besides, she'd have been cross if I hadn't).




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 20:59:46](#)
(no subject)

David's the father of one of the sick kids.

His daughter is named Irene. She's two, I guess. She's not anywhere near as sick as some of the others, actually. She has a bad rash but she's waking up and drinking water at least, and she's breathing okay.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-07 22:12:24](#)
(no subject)


Please be careful, Sally-Anne.

Don't get sick. And don't get in trouble with the Strettons.

Let me know if you need me to send anything. It'd be a day before it could get there, though.

Or I could pass it off at the Weasley's, if you can wait that long.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-07 22:55:58](#)
(no subject)


Yeah, all right.

What do you need?

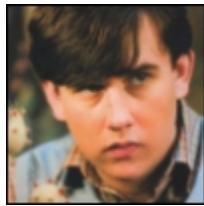
We could bring it to you.

Do you need help?



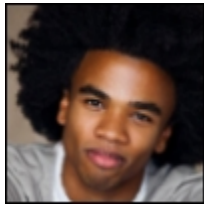
 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-04-08 00:34:03](#)
(no subject)


I'd be willing to come help. I don't suppose the Browns would miss me a bit. But I haven't had the measles.



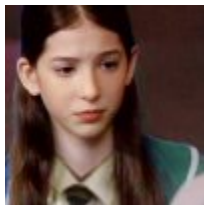
 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-08 00:37:03](#)
(no subject)

That really might not be safe. It's an awfully nasty disease. Unless there's a potion or something that would protect you? Maybe Madam Pomfrey would know.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-08 00:39:56](#)
(no subject)

If it isn't safe, you can bet Madam Pomfrey would let you know. She wouldn't take any chances on you catching it and then bringing it back to Hogwarts to spread it there.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 02:28:43](#)
(no subject)

There's a potion she thinks I should have before I come back to Hogwarts, I think.

You wouldn't get sick right away, if you came. It takes weeks. Are you any good at renevatate? the trouble is

you'd have to come by floo and I can't imagine Mrs Stretton wouldn't just send you home again.

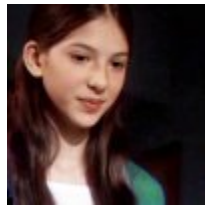


 **[alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-08 03:15:04](#)**
(no subject)

If we had the name of the potion, or the ingredients, maybe I could see what I could do?

But I don't know how to get it without looking very suspicious.

I miss being able to talk to Fred and George. A lot. Especially today.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 03:22:21](#)**
(no subject)

Madam P is COMING.

I have to go. But it'll be okay, I think.



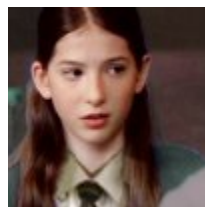
 **[alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-08 03:32:26](#)**
(no subject)

Good.

...Good.

I hate feeling so useless.

You are being so brave, Sally-Anne.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 03:47:07](#)**
(no subject)


Well, she had me drink a potion and then she had me show her the sickest babies and she asked me what I'd been doing for them.

And then she sent me back to the house and said I was clearly dead on my feet and wouldn't be of any use to anyone

if I didn't get some rest, and I could come back in the morning to see how everyone was doing but 'really, Miss Perks, I can manage.'

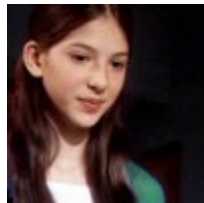
So I'm lying down on my bed but I feel wide awake.




 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-04-08 03:30:20](#)**
(no subject)

I'm quite good at that spell, yes.

If you've been talking with Madam Pomfrey, why don't you ask her if she thinks it wise, and I'll follow whatever she advises. Like I said, I'm entirely willing to do it. I'd rather spend my holiday trying to help save some children rather than being stuck in my room trying to stay out of Lavender's way.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-08 03:47:56](#)**
(no subject)

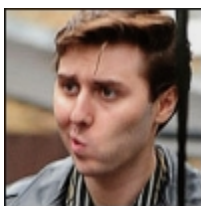
I can't ask her right now because she sent me away.

Maybe when she's done they'll all be better? Or at least improved enough that their parents can take care of them.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-04-08 03:50:11](#)**
(no subject)

I hope so.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-08 02:49:30](#)**
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,

Most Muggle books will only talk about Muggle

methods of giving medicine. I think measles are still mostly healed by leaving them alone and letting them run their course, what, but taking fever reducers and perhaps antibiotics. I don't know much about it; I know that my mother had them when she was a little girl and she said she had to stay in bed with the blinds drawn closed for something like ten days. (I rather think sometimes she thought my magic would go away if treated similarly, what!)

I could come, if they'd let me--but then I couldn't go to Lincoln on Monday. And I think that's more important than ever. Dash it, why does everything have to happen all at once?

-Justin

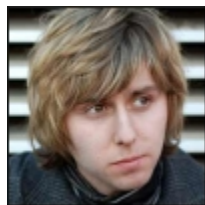


 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-08 04:07:51](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I actually know a fever-reducing spell (it's one of the only spells I know that works on ILLNESS instead of injury) but Madam Pomfrey told me not to use it so I didn't.

One of the muggles kept talking about antibiotics. I think he thought that's what Jason needed. Jason's one of the babies who was having trouble breathing.

I'm glad you didn't try to come today because you should DEFINITELY go to Lincoln on Monday. What did you think of the muggle camp?



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-08 04:17:10](#)**
(no subject)

Did she? Oh.

If he's having trouble breathing might he have something other than measles? Sorry, medicine's not my best subject. If Matron's telling you what to do, I'm sure you'll manage it, though, what?

The camp? It was fine, I suppose. Bollocks Rubbish, but fine.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 04:28:06](#)
(no subject)

The muggle who was talking about antibiotics said he thought Jason had numonia and that's why he needed them. I guess sometimes people get sick with measles and then get something else because of the measles.

2012-04-07 15:12:00

Private message to Poppy Pomfrey

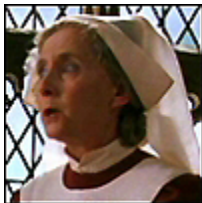
Madam Pomfrey, do you know if there are any healing spells that will cure the muggle disease measles?



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Or at least that help with lung problems? Is there anything you can explain to me over the journals

I know you don't like giving instructions over the journals for healing things because of the danger that someone might do more harm than good. ~~But it can't hurt~~ ~~But anything~~ I promise I won't do anything that could make anyone worse off.




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-07 20:29:19](#)
(no subject)

What in Paracelsus's good name?

Measles? Explain to me exactly what you've got into.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 20:39:11](#)
(no subject)

Well I don't know for sure that it's measles but they have rashes and they feel incredibly hot and they're coughing and some of them are having trouble breathing.

I got a note, this morning. ~~Mauree~~ The nanny is a muggleborn, and I guess they got the note to her to give to me. One of the Strettons' estates, almost all the children are sick. REALLY sick. The Strettons won't get a healer in because it costs too much, but they heard I've studied a little bit about healing and so they asked me to come.

So I went, of course.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-07 21:02:15](#)
(no subject)

Gracious.

Well. There's nothing you can do to stop the disease or to stop its spreading. Likely, it's already infected all of them and will manifest in time in most of them.

For the ones who are struggling to breathe, you might be able to create a steam room with a few simple spells. Can you separate them into a smallish chamber. You'd also want several large stones or bricks and a good-sized pail of water.

First, you'd want to spell the doors, walls and windows against draughts. Then place the stones or bricks together in the centre of the room if it is small, or in clusters about the room, near the cots. Heat the stones with a robust warming charm. I trust you know one that is reasonably self-sustaining. Then pour water on the stones to create steam. You will need to leave someone to tend the steam: tell them to pour or ladle water onto the stones whenever the steam begins to dissipate.

This is very important: you mustn't leave anyone in the steam chamber for too long. Long enough to loosen the lungs, but not more. The heat is enervating and they will sweat away too much of their own fluids. Be sure that there is adequate water to keep them hydrated.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 21:08:14](#)
(no subject)

A steam room! Yes, I could do that, that shouldn't be hard. I'll go do that right now. Thank you.

Do you think it's safe to use the spell to reduce fever?

Only the thing is one of the mothers was asking me about that specifically so I did it. And now everyone wants me to cast it on their children. I think they feel better having me do SOMETHING.

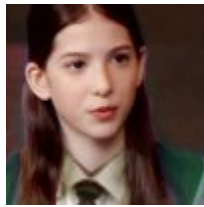


 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-07 21:12:01](#)
(no subject)

No! Do not lower the fevers.

I've answered this elsewhere, but perhaps you've asked it while I was writing.

Yes, of course, they want you to do something for them. When you've arranged the steam chamber, there will be time to explain another palliative or two you might use.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 21:22:02](#)
(no subject)

Okay, the steam room is ready.

I told them no more than five minutes in the chamber, does that seem right to you?

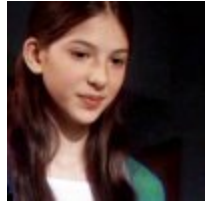
What about the children who are so sick they're not waking up enough to drink? Should they just not go in at all? Is there anything I can do to make them wake up to drink water, because I don't think they're going to get better if they don't at least drink.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-07 21:31:04](#)
(no subject)

Are you able to cast a gentle *Rennervate* charm? If so, you should be able to bring a child to its senses enough to coax sips of water.

You might also try freezing small quantities into ice that can be chipped and slipped into the mouths of those who seem unable to take liquids.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 21:33:38](#)
(no subject)

Oh YES that seems to work. Thank you.

And the ice! They are really happy with the ice, they don't have any way to make it themselves.

I guess some of them had ice chips when in hospital, back in the old days.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 20:40:16](#)
(no subject)

Wait, I mean

The MUGGLES heard I've studied a little bit about healing.

The Strettons didn't tell me about this. It was the muggles who sent the note. By way of Maureen. I mean the nanny.

They said



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 20:46:48](#)
(no subject)

I know a spell to lower fever but I'm not sure it's okay to use it. They're REALLY sick.

It's just the children. The Strettons didn't used to let their muggles have children but apparently this is a new group and some of them arrived pregnant or had babies already when they came.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-07 21:09:10](#)
(no subject)

Do not lower the fever. Fever is a vital healing process.

A trained Healer would use an accelerating charm to raise and control the fever, which would help burn the disease away.

You are not trained for that, mind you, so you are not to meddle with the body's heat--except to apply cool flannels to the face. That is soothing and will do no harm.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 21:11:17](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

Okay.

I'll tell them that about the fever and the flannel. I'm not going to tell them about the accelerating charm.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 21:12:06](#)
(no subject)

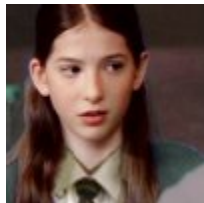
~~Is it ethical to cast calming charms on people without asking first?~~




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-07 21:25:43](#)
(no subject)

Chamomile tea, if you can summon some, would do a world of good for the parents as well as for the small sufferers.

See if you can't set some of them to work brewing tea and gathering water and changing bedclothes. In fact, it would be a fine idea to appoint some one person (someone who seems capable of extending a calming, productive influence) to organise the others and set them to useful, busy tasks.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 21:29:10](#)
(no subject)

David's already kind of doing that. David's the name of the muggle who wrote me the note. He's not super calm, but at least he's good at getting people to do things. He found me

chamomile tea already, they grow chamomile and peppermint on the estate so that part was easy.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-07 21:39:17](#)**
(no subject)

Good. Now, dear.

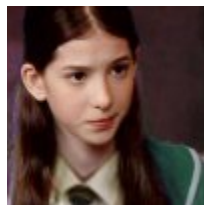
I need you to consider how you will leave what you are doing. You must give David clear instructions and then make it very clear that you yourself must leave. Do not allow yourself to be drawn into the chaos.

Particularly if you have not yet told the Strettons where you are or what has happened.

You must tell them, you know.

You yourself have been exposed to the disease, and you will be taking it back into their house if you go. There is not immediate danger: the contaminants take time to gain hold in the body, so there is time yet for you to see a Healer and be treated to prevent the disease from manifesting.

It is what they ought to do for the Muggles who have not yet come out in the rash. How many people do you suppose have been affected there? Someone would have to brew the Potion, as it's not often required even at St Mungo's, but that could be managed.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-07 21:49:36](#)**
(no subject)

I can't leave, I'm the only one who can cast renervate.

I won't get measles. My mum had me vaccinated when I was a baby. That's why none of the adults are sick, they all had vaxines too.

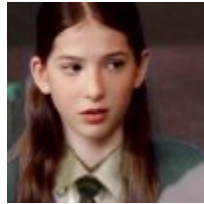
There are fourteen sick children here. And eight more children on the estate who aren't sick yet. The Strettons won't want to pay for the potion.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-07 22:02:26](#)
(no subject)

Vaxine?!

That's barbaric! And certainly no guarantee against sickening. You oughtn't to trust it, in any case.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 21:50:47](#)
(no subject)

But you know, they all came from the muggle camp at Banbury not that long ago. I don't know if anyone there is sick but maybe someone should check?

I need to go. Thank you for all the good advice.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-07 22:04:15](#)
(no subject)

Miss Perks.

I quite understand that you feel you are helping, but really and truly, once you have explained what can be done, you can set the people there to doing it.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-07 22:08:26](#)
(no subject)

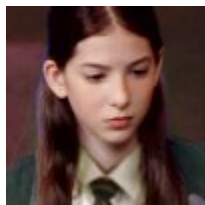
But you're not going to do as I advise, are you?

I should know better. You have the calling to help, and you can't set that aside.

All right. I will check back with you later.

And I'd appreciate if you'd answer me when I do.

In the meantime, I'll see if I can learn anything about Banbury camp. By quiet channels.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-08 02:37:34](#)**
(no subject)

Well


You're right, I didn't leave. Because none of the muggles could do renervate and some of the babies would only wake up for that, and only for just a few seconds, long enough for a little sip of water but no more than that, and we HAD to get more water or mother's milk into them than that, especially if we were using the steam. So I had to stay here and cast renervate on them again and again.

Some of them are doing much better. There's one named Lisa who when I came looked all waxy and her eyes were sunken and now she's looking plumper again and her colour's alright, under the rash, or at least a lot better than it was.

And, there's a baby named Ronnie who's coughing but not struggling nearly as much so that's also good.

But there's a baby named Jason whose breathing is getting worse and worse. I've used the steam tent and it's not helping him nearly as much as the others. And a little girl named Lily, renervate stopped working on her. She just won't wake up. She's not a baby, she's more like four years old, I think. Her fever's also really high.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-08 02:50:05](#)**
(no subject)

Well. Goodness.

I have managed to track down one of my contacts, a Healer familiar with treatments in the camps. And she had a stock of the prophylactic as well.

I suppose I had best come to you. Can you give me instructions to find you, sufficient for Apparition? Or get someone to meet me who can?

In the meantime: have you had something to drink and something to eat? You must take care of your own body, if you are to continue helping others.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 02:54:29](#)
(no subject)

You're coming? Oh, THANK you. I can send Jeremy to meet you, he's not here with me but he sent me an owl. We're in Coventry but I don't know if you've ever been here.

I have had something to drink and something to eat, Jeremy sent a sandwich with the owl and also the muggles sent for food for me, and I've been drinking water.

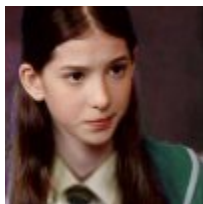


 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-08 02:59:17](#)
(no subject)

Does he know the ruins of the old cathedral? I know that spot well enough.

It would help if you could gather the few cases who need most urgent attention, and keep them together, and then have all the young ones who have not yet shown symptoms together.

If the parents need to be kept busy, boiling water can't hurt. Something of the kind.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 03:15:18](#)
(no subject)

I owled him and he's on his way there.

All the sick children are in the house with the big '4' on the front, and the sickest ones are right by me already. I told David and he said he'll gather all the healthy ones into the creche, that's the house with the big '11.'



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-07 21:05:28](#)**
(no subject)

I just realised I could tell you what they're already doing, and that might be useful.

They know that sick people should drink plenty of water, so the babies that are waking up are getting water. The little tiny ones are getting mother's milk.

They know that sick people should get plenty of rest and that's easy because none of the sick children want to get out of bed at all.

They know that it's contagious so they're keeping the healthy children far away, although the problem is, sometimes when a child gets sick no one realises right away because the rash hasn't come yet, and so they're with the healthy ones, infecting everyone.

One of the women has talked about something called paracetamol which lowers fevers. I used the fever-lowering spell on her daughter and that made her more comfortable at least. That girl isn't as sick, she's not having trouble breathing, although she's really miserable.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-07 20:32:36](#)**
(no subject)

Are you visiting that camp? With the foreign students?

Surely they've not taken you all somewhere there's a Measles outbreak!



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-07 20:36:45](#)**
(no subject)

No! No, of course not, I'm sure they wouldn't have done that.

I'm at the Strettons.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-07 21:22:01](#)
(no subject)

There are some medicinals you might use in addition to steam to help those with difficult breathing. I suppose it's too much to hope that the Strettons have Oil of Eucalyptus on hand, but perhaps they have peppermint oil or Oil of Thyme? Those could be added to the steaming water or rubbed directly on the chests of those struggling for breath.

Another course would be to prepare a tea of thyme or English ivy-- both help open the breathing pathways and clear the lungs by inducing productive coughing.

If nothing else, see if you can't get some Chamomille to brew as a tea; it helps bring down inflammations in the lungs and calms the body.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-07 21:23:34](#)
(no subject)

No one has oil of eucalyptus but someone has peppermint oil. I don't know about the Strettons. I'm ~~a little nervous about telling them I'm~~

They have thyme, ivy, and chamomille. Okay. I'll tell them about the teas.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-08 19:18:58](#)
(no subject)

Miss Perks,

I trust that you got sufficient rest last night, and a good meal this morning? As of when I left, they should all be on the mend, though it may take quite some time. Magic can provide great efficacy of healing, but the process still takes quite a toll on the body.

When you return to school, we should perhaps discuss further how to avoid getting overwhelmed by the demands in such cases, and how one paces oneself in treatment. Do be sure to be gentle with yourself

for the next day or two, and let me know if you receive further requests from them.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 19:27:21](#)
(no subject)

I did, thank you, and when I checked on them this morning everyone was doing MUCH better and following your instructions about rest and fluids.

And that would be nice. Yesterday I just didn't know what to do ~~and I was so afraid someone would die~~ and it reminded me of that time at the Quidditch World Cup only worse, in some ways, because at least at the QWC it was all first aid and I'd been trained for that? Also at the QWC I knew people were coming as soon as they could.

~~I want to help people, but what do you do when they want something you CAN'T do for them?~~

Anyway the muggles were all clearly on the mend and could handle things so I told them to send for me if they needed me and I went back to the house.

2012-04-07 16:42:00

Private message to Jeremy Stretton

You can tell your mum where I am but DON'T tell her Maureen brought me the note, she'll be in horrible trouble if you do. Maybe you can tell her someone gave it to you while you were out on your broom? That seems like it would work.



 **alt_sally_anne**

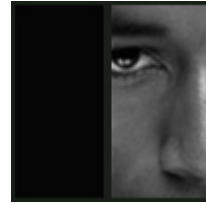
I don't think she'll want me back at the house but you know if I DID come back she'd have to get a Healer for SURE. Because I could be carrying the sickness and everyone would be sick.

If your parents have any eucalyptus oil anywhere could you owl it to me?

I can't leave, I have to keep waking up some of the little ones so they'll drink a little bit.

2012-04-07 17:48:00

Private Message to Amara Mitiku Cooper



 **alt_blaise**

Congratulations, Mother. Give Mr Cooper my best, and thank him, will you, for asking me along for his stag. It was

I expect I won't see you again until we're back for summer hols, but I wanted to say that I thought yesterday was very tastefully handled. You looked lovely. Everyone said so.

Thank you for including Daphne in the number for supper. We enjoyed ourselves. I understand why you favour Jermyn's: every detail was seen to and executed to the highest standards.

I hope you're finding Buckland Manor to your liking. The brochure makes it sound a cozy place, though I've a bit of a time imagining you joining in to help with the lambing.

Oh, yes. Adele was here this morning to fetch some parchmentwork having to do with the musicians you've hired? I trust they've arrived or that she's let you know if there's some difficulty with the arrangements. Are you really certain she's up to snuff? It's seemed to me that you were left with rather a lot of loose ends and details she'd let slip. Surely you could find someone better.

As you know, I went along today with the international students to see the Muggle camp at Newcastle. It was fine, save for the weather. I hope it will be a bit less dreary tomorrow for the trip to the Dales. At any rate, I know you have other things to think about than my schedule, so I won't bore you with details.

Do enjoy the Cotswolds, and don't feel you need to cut things short to see me off. I'm able to see to myself, you know.

2012-04-07 18:05:00

Private message to the bat of Hogwarts

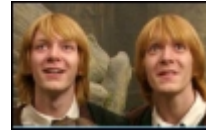
You aren't worthy to raise your wand to me.



 **alt_amycus**

2012-04-07 18:07:00

Order only

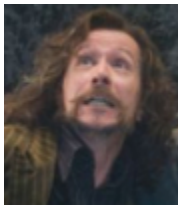


 **alt_gredforge**

Hermione, when Terry found that bottle that had his blood mixed with that potion that Carrow used for his blood spell and sent it to you, what did you do with it? You sent it on to someone to research it? Who was that? Stephen at Moddey Dhoo? Or Severus Snape? Did whoever-it-was figure anything out about it?

We found out Carrow's laying more blood spells on him. Maybe something else, too. We're not sure what, or how. But he's messing with the kid more somehow. Maybe because the git's sister is there now, egging him on.

So, Headmistress...did you set a time to duel the bastard?



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-04-07 23:55:55**

(no subject)

He's WHAT?!

Merlin, and here I was just popping on to tell you all about Dora's teatime with Bellatrix's brat.

Who is ... not really a brat, I have to admit.

But who is most likely an instrument of her mother's will.

But Mordred - Fred, George, we can't get in to Lincoln any better than anyone else. And if she's inside, then there's less chance than ever we'd be able to extract the secret from her and get behind the Fidelius.

Do you know what sort of blood magic? Snape told us that the sorts of spells Carrow's likely to have used to bind Terry to him would have to be replenished now and then to reinforce their full strength. Is that what the bastard was doing?



 **alt_gredforge** at **2012-04-08 00:22:15**

(no subject)

All right. We have to be careful what we say. But here's what we've gleaned from our source.

Both of them were involved in putting the spell on him. 'They' put it on him. Or spells. He spoke of 'spells,' as in plural. It either happened last night or he was still suffering the effects of it last night. It seems to have made him physically ill--there were hints that vomiting was involved. And it either addled him or upset him horribly. He couldn't write correctly, like he couldn't spell. And you know that way he writes when he's being boot? We mean, boot the mudblood--like not using punctuation or capitalising?

See, he thinks of himself as sort of being two people. There's crawling boot, the mudblood, that Carrow sees, that writes his public entries. And there's Terry, who only comes out behind the Lock. Terry knows how to write properly, and he knows he's a real wizard. Well, last night, behind the Lock, it was like boot was back. And this is the really worrisome thing...he said something that didn't make much sense, and, well, when someone was trying to figure it out, sort of probing, boot really snarled at the person.

He's never done that. Never.

Now he's clammed up, and we don't really know what's going on.

Not sure if that makes much sense. But that's the best information we have.



 **alt_frank** at **2012-04-08 00:38:29**
(no subject)

we sent it to Snape last time around for analysis, and worked out what sort of binding was going on based on his description.

the best we can do right now is wait until he recovers enough to tell you what's happened, and see if we can't sort it out.

seems like it's different than it was last time, though.

maybe it's something to do with Aleo? and her being sick?

oh, Merlin.

maybe they switched the poison to him, somehow.



 **alt_frank** at [2012-04-08 00:42:26](#)
(no subject)

he's still alive.

he's still writing.

damn.



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-04-08 00:43:14](#)
(no subject)

Bugger all, Frank.



 **alt_frank** at [2012-04-08 00:46:24](#)
(no subject)

I know.



 **alt_gredforge** at [2012-04-08 00:44:54](#)
(no subject)

Oh, shite!



 **alt_frank** at [2012-04-08 00:47:41](#)
(no subject)

they wouldn't kill him that way, I don't think.

not his style.

so there's that.

maybe... snape, would a bezoar be too late? would it be worth it to

send him one? I know you two have a system set up, but if it took a day to get there would it be any help at all?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-08 00:51:19](#)
(no subject)

Bezoars are usually for immediate intervention, though.

Bugger. Bugger bugger bugger.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-04-08 00:57:54](#)
(no subject)

if that's what it is, we have no way of knowing what sort of poison it is. and knowing those sick fucks, this might be a process they'll have to repeat again to not kill him outright with it.

no way of knowing if that's actually it, mind, but from what I see we've got two things to do. find out what the poison is so we could sort out how to combat its effects, and send him a bezoar for if there's a next time.

Snape, thoughts? anything? can you match her recent symptoms with a certain kind of poison?



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-04-08 00:58:25](#)
(no subject)

sorry hermione




 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-08 02:31:16](#)
(no subject)

A bezoar would not hurt. I am pleased to see that it occurred to others—perhaps our education was not entirely in vain.

As I understand it, Alecto's symptoms include labored

breathing, sallowness of skin, clawed hands, and general emaciation. Am I correct?



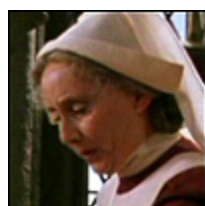
 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-08 02:37:31](#)
(no subject)

Add fatigue, light sensitivity, and general malaise to that list. Based on general observation, as she refused to allow treatment of any kind.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-08 02:52:52](#)
(no subject)

It could, perhaps, be belladonna poisoning—but she would surely have noticed a sweet taste to her food.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-08 03:02:38](#)
(no subject)

Would it have been in food, though?

Granted, she takes fewer meals at the staff table than most, but solitary meals would be even harder to affect, house elves being what they are.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-08 03:07:40](#)
(no subject)

Where else could it be introduced? Does she drink a particular elixir—or have a particular tippie? I have not noticed any such, but as you say, she takes fewer meals at the staff table

than most.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-08 01:10:15](#)
(no subject)

We should send him one anyway. If not now, maybe it'd still save him some day. He can keep it in one of the beads of his bracelet.

We've got a really small owl trained to do stealth deliveries to him when the git's not around. Generally Saturday or Sunday mornings, when the git's sleeping off a binge. Thing is, he said not to do it this weekend while the sister's there. Too many eyes watching, maybe. Or the routine's been thrown off.

If you've got one, though, Snape, send it to us anyway, and we'll send it on when he says it's safe.

If he's still alive. Shite, shite, shite.

(Sorry, mum.)



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-08 02:32:29](#)

(no subject)

I shall.

On another note, I intended to say: However much I may find you personally grating, I am more than aware that you are an asset to the Order of the Phoenix. Therefore I will be pleased to tutor you in Potions—but only if you agree to receive Occlumency lessons as well.

You may take 'class' with Miss Granger. I expect you shall be on approximately the same level.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-08 03:02:59](#)

(no subject)

You'd do that for us? Thank you, sir. Thank you! We'll study really hard, we promise. We know how important this is. Especially the occlumency.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-08 03:05:57](#)

(no subject)

I'll add my thanks, too, Severus. I'm grateful.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-08 03:13:56](#)
(no subject)

You are quite welcome.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-08 03:09:06](#)
(no subject)

If you feel so determined to show your thanks, you might begin by attempting to find some of the rarer Potions ingredients which—sadly—I cannot trust Poppy to part with for my 'less-than-vital' needs.

I have heard that you are miracle-workers.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-08 03:17:25](#)
(no subject)

Perhaps I can help, too, Severus. Our barter network sometimes shades into the grey market. Could you send me some suggestions for whatever ingredients might be particularly helpful and valued? I would be more than happy to see what I can do.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-08 03:18:07](#)
(no subject)

I shall. Allow me some time to inventory my stores.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-08 03:20:35](#)
(no subject)

We're happy to get on it, too.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-08 03:09:36](#)
(no subject)

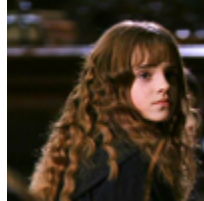
Do you really think so?!

I mean to say, I couldn't possibly have come that far, could I?



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-08 03:10:06](#)
(no subject)

Miss Granger, you may have your foibles, but you are quite far from the dunderheads that generally populate Hogwarts Castle.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-08 03:10:35](#)
(no subject)

Does that mean 'yes, you have come that far'??

You should really say what you mean, you realise.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-08 03:10:49](#)
(no subject)

No Slytherin would ever do so.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-08 03:07:14](#)
(no subject)

I'd say the language is quite warranted in this case.

Oh, that poor boy.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-08 01:39:38](#)**
(no subject)

he can also get blood.
his blood.

with the poison in it.

maybe thatd help

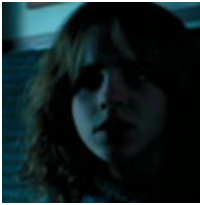
send a vial with the bzor.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-08 01:42:24](#)**
(no subject)

and
you know

ints instructions.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-04-08 02:40:05](#)**
(no subject)

I sent it to Severus. I suppose he probably still has it?

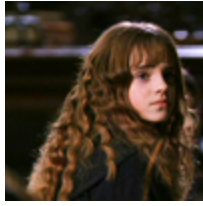
Do you?? You must, simply MUST help Terry. You have
to. You don't

I mean he was my first ever friend at Hogwarts.



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2012-04-08 03:05:51](#)**
(no subject)

I shall do my best, but you are certainly not helping
by behaving like a panicked child.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-04-08 03:06:18](#)**
(no subject)

Well that isn't fair!!



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2012-04-08 03:06:53](#)**
(no subject)

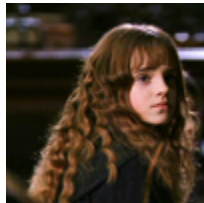
It most certainly is.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-04-08 03:10:33](#)**
(no subject)

Well, she is a child, so perhaps we can be kind.

Never mind, dear. As you can see, he may growl, but he is sending a bezoar, too. All of us will do what we can to help.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-04-08 03:12:51](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Mrs Weasley. I know you would do anything for him too.

I wish he were my brother, then he would HAVE to go to Moddey Dhoo or somewhere.

[2012-04-07 20:08:00](#)

Private Message to Dux

Hallo.

I'm sorry I was probably a bit preoccupied today, what? I did want to hear all about what happened at your cousin's--see, I did hear you when you corrected me this morning!--and it's jolly wonderful that your mother couldn't get anywhere trying to read your mind.



 **[alt_justin](#)**

I just...a friend of mine isn't having a good time of it, lately, and there's ~~nothing~~ little one can do to help. So that was distracting me, what? And then on top of feeling bally well guilty about that--getting called away from everyone else, in the middle of the camp, no less--well, it startled me quite a bit, I can tell you!

I say, I suppose it's not very surprising that someone thought to make an offer. I hadn't expected it to be Mr Rosier, what? And not there, certainly, or in that way. Probably he didn't intend to frighten me first--or perhaps he did, hoping that I'd be so relieved I'd say 'Yes,' on the spot. It's quite the offer, of course. Loads to think about.


But I say, not a decision to make lightly, or on impulse.

So, I... I'd like to discuss it with you more, but not with Finnigan sticking to us, on his guardian's orders. It's none of his business, what? Even if he was rather distracted himself.

~~There are things you don't~~ I've got to be sure, first. Do you really think you can keep her from seeing anything?

-Justin



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-04-08 00:52:06](#)**
(no subject)

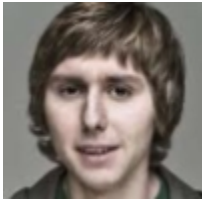
Is it a friend here, or back in France? Why do you feel guilty, though?


~~But can't you just~~ I understand, it's a lot to think about. And there's your Mother, too.

She couldn't see anything last night, and not the last time she tried, either, which was a while ago. And she *really* wanted to legitimise me that time. I don't know if it was nearly so important to her last night, but when she realised that she couldn't do it, then she got quite desperate. She was even late to her party. Then this morning she said that I must be gifted after all. And that it was too bad I would never be able to use it for anything worthwhile.

I suppose that was meant to make me feel bad, but I couldn't bring myself to care. It was even hard to keep myself from smiling, because I'd never felt so safe in front of her before.

From,
Hydra



 **alt_justin** at **2012-04-08 01:07:07**
(no subject)

I feel guilty because it's just luck that our positions aren't reversed. It's difficult to explain. And unfortunately not really my place to talk about it. I say, I shouldn't have brought it up at all, what, except that it's difficult for me to keep things from you. And I felt bally well awful that we've not seen each other in so long and there I was wrapped up in my own thoughts instead of paying you the attention you deserve!

But yes, there's a lot to think about. And never seeing my mother again is one of those things. I mean to say, I know you probably wouldn't care if you never saw yours again, what? And it may not be England but I did grow up there, after all. I suppose the Slytherin thing to do would be to decide if there are any conditions one particularly wants met, what? And then to negotiate on one's behalf.

Well. My mother's always said that there's never any harm in sleeping on a momentous decision. I'm well tired, between losing last night's sleep and all the walking the last few days.

I'm reading in bed but I'll be about for a while longer, if you still want to talk.

-Justin



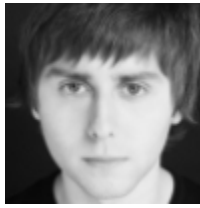
 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-08 02:23:04](#)
(no subject)

I don't think you're keeping anything from me, you're just honouring your friend's privacy.

Are you certain that you would never see your Mother again? I had hoped to meet her, one day. Though I suppose it was never for certain that I would be able to go to France.

I don't want to influence your decision, it's just too big for me to do that. ~~Even if~~

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-08 03:18:16](#)
(no subject)

I'm glad you see it that way, Dux.

I suppose it's possible I could see her but usually one doesn't allow defectors to return to the country they've left, what? But I say, it's well interesting you'd like to meet her. I've thought about telling you I wished you could but then that's usually the sort of thing one says when one's a bit older than we are, if you follow me!

But you do influence my decision, you know. How can you not? I know what you're saying, it's just--dash it all, it's bally well difficult enough to not see you for five days running, what! How are we meant to spend weeks or even years apart?

And Mr Rosier said that things in France are going to be more like the Protectorate. He told me that there are already some laws being enacted there that will limit the rights of muggleborn wizards. So someday travel between England and France might not be restricted, what? And then you could visit or we might go there together and I could show you Paris and Dijon and all sorts of sights.

But if I do stay...well, that becomes well complicated, too, doesn't it? Because then there's your parents. And I'd be put into fostering--Mr Rosier made it sound like I'd go to a well

prestigious family--but that's still nothing to your father, is it? So even if you enter into my thinking, and well importantly at that, it doesn't help matters much by staying.

I don't know. I've often wondered if I'd stay if I were given the chance. Now I have been and--I don't know if it's really as good an idea as I thought.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-08 03:31:35](#)
(no subject)


Maybe it doesn't seem like as good of an idea because it's no longer yours anymore. Not entirely.

I wanted to meet your Mother because she sounds nice, maybe as if she worries a bit much - but I'd take that over what I have.

If you're not here, will they at least let you keep your journal? I don't know if I can. If I could still talk to you every day, at least, it would be something. Until we figured something else out. When we're older.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-08 04:01:07](#)
(no subject)

I don't know; perhaps. But there's another thing to consider. Mr Rosier said that there would certainly be no negative 'repercussions' to my deciding to let well enough alone and go back at year's end...but of course, I expect that's rubbish, what? I mean to say, clearly they would like me to stay and tell everyone that it's because I'm so well impressed with everything and I'm meant to respond with patriotic zeal for my native soil and all that rot. Victory for the Protectorate, what, and another message to France that they're behind the times and ought to move further toward persecuting muggles

I can't be certain that no one would take offence should I

choose not to stay. They might confiscate my journal or they might not.

Dash it, Hydra, I don't want to think about only talking every day! I suppose it would be better than nothing but not by much, what?

When we're older. Sometimes I forget that you're not yet fourteen. I'm well tired of people telling me to wait until I'm older, that things will be easier or clearer or I'll be more prepared. I don't think adults have a much better idea how to go about things than we have. Do you?

Sorry. I'm sorry. It's not your fault; you're only trying to help. I think I'm just...tired.

Perhaps we can break away for a while tomorrow. I've no idea what we're meant to be doing, though. In the group, I mean to say.

Goodnight, love. Sweet dreams.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-08 04:19:08](#)
(no subject)

Uncle Stephen said that? Oh... I don't know what to make of it, he's usually quite kind, you see. It would be very unreasonable for anyone to be offended, but then, there isn't a lot of reason when it comes to some things, I know.

I feel older than 14. Or at least I seems that way, but it's true I've got no basis for comparison. And no, I don't think adults are much more prepared, but they probably think that they are, and that might make all the difference.

~~I wish I could grow up with you.~~

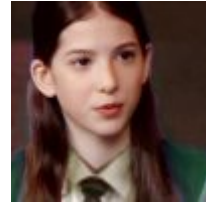
You should try to get some sleep. Maybe there's a way we can accidentally get lost tomorrow with no one noticing? I'll try to dream a plan into being.

||| Love,
Hydra

2012-04-07 22:48:00

Private message to Professor Sinistra

I'm on the list for the Yorkshire Dales trip tomorrow but I don't think I'll be able to come. Maybe? But probably not. Anyway I didn't want you to worry (or to wait for me at the meeting point).



 **alt_sally_anne**



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-04-08 03:58:38**
(no subject)

I'll pass that on to the chaperones for the trip, and thank you for letting me know with a little advance warning.

I do hope everything's all right?



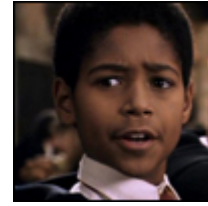
 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-04-08 04:06:09**
(no subject)

I'm fine, don't worry.

[2012-04-07 23:48:00](#)

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

Thank you, for reminding me of my place. I guess you can say I was upset by the truth they undoubtedly worked so hard to hide. I am very glad that you realise it was what you were **meant to see!** But don't get shirty with me. Our foreign contingent don't have the journals that we have, and so you can rest assure that your Fathers secret is safe...at least for now.



 [alt_dean](#)



 [alt_harry](#) at **[2012-04-08 14:08:46](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not thick, you know.

I know what they were trying to do.

And I wasn't getting shirty, I was trying to tell you something so you wouldn't go on and get noticed.

There's a difference.

And yeah, you're right. You've got a place. And I've got a place. I was told before we started the tour what my place was, but I guess someone forgot to tell you yours. My job was to smile. And "show concern." And ask the questions they wrote down for me. I can show you the owl Mr Rosier sent me.

This is obviously important to lots of important people. And these people might've been stupid in the way they went about it with the camp they showed us. But they are important. And if you go on about what it was like for you, especially with the people from Durmstrang and Beauxbatons, that will make those people angry with you.

I'm not saying you're a liar.

I'm not saying you didn't go through what you went through.

I'm just trying to keep you from getting into trouble.


But if you want to get angry with me instead of angry at them, feel free.

[2012-04-08 11:55:00](#)

Private message to Harry

Did you enjoy our visit to the camp yesterday? It was quite pleasant, wasn't it? I don't know about you, but I feel as if I learned a lot.



 **[alt_hydra](#)**

I saw that ~~Hermione~~ Hermione Granger wasn't with you. It made me wonder if you were able to do the punishment. Is she alright? Are you?

Also, I found Tevis. He's Rigel's pet now, but he seems well and happy. So that's something.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-09 05:06:03](#)**

(no subject)

Yeah, I learned a lot too.

I think Lucius might've forgot, maybe, or thought it wasn't important, because he didn't even stop by when he came for his meeting. And I'm not going to remind him about it. Thanks for asking though.

I'm glad Tevis is okay. I know you were worried about him. Did your mother just give him to Rigel then? Do you think you'll get another pet?



 **[alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-09 15:15:53](#)**

(no subject)

I don't blame you for not reminding him. I guess the fate of one mudblood probably isn't first in his thoughts.

I suppose she did give Tevis to Rigel. I don't know if it was on purpose, or if it was just easiest. Probably it was on purpose, she wanted me to see Tevis happy with someone else as a reminder for the things I'd done wrong.

So no, I don't think I want any more pets. I still have my horse, but I don't see her very often at all, and someone else takes care of her, so it's not the same.

Harry, if you can find a way to do it, you should try to learn occlumency. Ask Razzer if he'll teach you.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-09 16:56:53](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. I've been thinking about that.

I think I will.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-09 17:24:46](#)
(no subject)

It makes a world of difference.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-09 19:30:26](#)
(no subject)

I think it would.

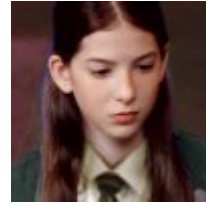
Has it for you?

2012-04-08 14:02:00

Private message to Pansy

You're probably on the Yorkshire Dales trip right now and I wanted to let you know not to worry, I'm fine, but I decided to stay here because some of the muggles are sick.

They're much better than yesterday, but I wanted to make sure none of the babies got dehydrated again. I'll give you details by owl, but if anyone asks, that's why I'm not along.



 **alt_sally_anne**



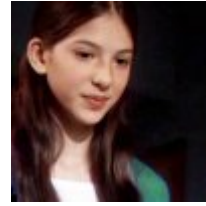
 **alt_pansy at 2012-04-08 21:01:55**

(no subject)

Really? It's a bother you have to work over hols. I'll let everyone know.

2012-04-08 14:09:00

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To
No Good*




 **alt_sally_anne**

So, things were a lot better this morning, but I decided to stay here instead of going on the Yorkshire Dales trip with the visiting students. Pansy I left you a private message so you can tell people why I'm not along without anyone wondering how you know (and I wrote to Professor Siz last night, when I remembered the trip).

Anyway, Madam Pomfrey was gone when I got there in the morning but everyone who was seriously ill was doing MUCH better. David told me she told them that the sick people still needed plenty of rest ('a long convalescence' I guess is how she put it) but they should be out of danger.

Lily is waking up now -- she's about three years old and yesterday evening I couldn't wake her up at ALL even with magic which was really frightening. But she's waking up and drinking water and broth ~~and I don't even have to~~ and Jason, he's one of the little babies, he's breathing fine now. They're all on the mend. I told them to send for me again if they needed me but really at this point the little ones need things they can get from their mums and dads, not from me. I probably could've gone to the Dales, but I had to decide that before I could really know for sure, you know?




 **alt_pansy** at **2012-04-08 21:05:24**
(no subject)

I got it, thanks. And I'm glad. Especially that Madame P came out like she did.

And that you and them are okay.

I'm glad she gave you the potion, just in case.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-04-09 17:11:53](#)**
(no subject)

That's wonderful news, that the children are out of danger.

I think you will be a very good Healer. Well, you are one already, aren't you?

[2012-04-08 15:26:00](#)

Order Only: Tea

Fred, George: Have you heard any more from Terry?



Well, meanwhile, it's past time that we told you all about having Hydra over for tea.

 [alt_sirius](#)

So, to set the stage, of course, we've spent some time keeping Doughty Conduit look occupied. For one thing, we don't know how soon the Ministry might wish to inspect us, but for another, on the assumption that Bellatrix wanted to spy through Hydra, we figured she ought to be presented with the picture of domesticity. We even put Bea down for her nap in the pram in the kitchen.

Hydra and the nanny arrived promptly at two and I think at first Remus feared Mrs Baylock meant to stay and observe the whole visit but she made one or two disparaging remarks about the shop and then told Hydra she'd some errands of her own and would return for her at half-past-three.

Hydra looked around the shop while Dora went to see if Bea'd woken up yet, which she had, so they proceeded to the kitchen. At first she seemed quite shy but she kept sneaking me looks when she thought Dora couldn't see and finally she asked if I'd bite. Dora said no, of course not, so she tried giving me a scratch. Before I knew it she was sneaking me bits of her sandwich (she only ate the cress and the dill, no meat). Remus came in once the shop was between customers and almost called me Padfoot (we'd agreed on Sinbad for Hydra's benefit, since I've no idea whether she'd tell Justin about meeting a dog named Padfoot!) but he caught himself just in time. I don't think she noticed.


Moony kept pushing sweets on her. She'd make a remark about how 'Mummy' wouldn't like her to have too many sweets but then she'd take another biscuit as if defying Bellatrix were more delicious than the treat itself. And I'll admit, she spoke glowingly about Justin.

But there's one thing that happened - well, I'm sure if we've not heard about it by now, it probably isn't an issue. Still. Bea was showing off for our guest, with Dora's help, doing her parlour tricks of changing her hair colour and such. And she did something ... I've never seen her do it before, nor had Remus, I think, but she changed her face to

look more like a dog's, then back to human. And she kept switching back and forth, three or four times running, and then said 'Da!' and then started all over again. Remus thinks she was just jealous that Hydra seemed to be paying more attention to the dog than to Bea. But if Bellatrix forces her to put her memories in a Pensieve or tries to Legilimise her, it might come out.

Fred and George, you're more likely to know what she's like when she's not with her mother. I'll grant that she seems remarkably adjusted for growing up that viper's daughter but - is it likely she's able to keep her mother from rifling through her thoughts?




 **alt_lupin** at **2012-04-08 20:09:08**
(no subject)

She was a really nice kid, honestly. Polite as anything, but delightful once she'd relaxed a bit.

I'm thinking perhaps we'll send her a little hamper next term with sweets. Does her father keep her well-supplied, or is he too much under Bellatrix's thumb?



 **alt_lupin** at **2012-04-08 20:14:17**
(no subject)

Also, that trick of Bea's with the dog face was something else. Bea didn't put on nearly as much of a show for Hydra as she had for Rigel and Bellatrix. I think she decided to try for a dog look because Hydra was so taken with Padfoot (uh, Sinbad -- sorry about that, although I don't think Hydra noticed) she was feeling a bit jealous of the attention he was getting.

She really did chatter on about Justin.



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-04-08 20:24:23**
(no subject)


Yes, it's clear that Justin hung the moon as far as she's concerned. I was surprised she spoke so long about going to France someday, eh? That was probably the most animated she got for the whole

visit.

I don't think she noticed, either, but the look Dora gave you when you started to say 'Padfu' - I thought she was about to bash you over the head again.

What did she say about Rigel, and pets? I didn't quite hear her. Something about how she didn't know if he liked dogs but he seemed to like rabbits?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-08 20:34:36](#)

(no subject)

Mmm. Were you listening when we asked her about pets? She's had two rabbits. One died, and the other was taken away from her and given to her brother.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-08 22:57:23](#)

(no subject)

That must have been what she meant when she said he liked them. She sounded unhappy about it - but then, I'd've been unhappy too if my mother had taken away something of mine and given it to Regulus. Not at fourteen, though. She's small for fourteen, isn't she? I mean to say, she seems awfully slight for someone her age.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-08 23:49:51](#)

(no subject)

I know you have been worried about Hydra's association with Justin, and her motives... Have you changed your opinion of that, then? Do you think she's genuine about him?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-09 02:17:39](#)

(no subject)

I can't speak for Sirius, but I certainly think she's genuine about him. Just the way she looked when she talked about him -- I don't think she was dissembling.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-09 02:35:16](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I think she's genuine. As genuine as he is.

Owl just came from him, sent yesterday. He's been offered the 'opportunity' to defect. Wants to talk through the *advantages* of staying - and mentions how difficult it'll be to leave Hydra, if you please!

Merlin, it's a whole other host of worries. Romeo and Juliet of Hogwarts.


If I write and tell him to absolutely go home, he'll probably choose to stay just to show me he can make his own decisions. If I tell him he should stay then of course, that's what he'll do.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-09 02:36:53](#)
(no subject)

I am SO glad you're the one with adolescent pen friends, and not me.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-09 02:37:50](#)
(no subject)

Oh, shut it.

Just wait until Bea's old enough to date.

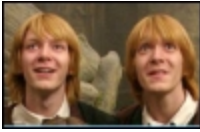


 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-09 03:25:09](#)
(no subject)

She can date Kevin. He's about the right age.

Or I suppose once she's of age -- by which I mean thirty -- she can date whomever she

chooses.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-09 01:19:40](#)
(no subject)

About Hydra Lestrage: we don't really know her at all. But we do know some people who know her better. That'll have to wait until we get back to school, though. (We'll be careful about what we ask, don't worry.)

Really though, maybe Hermione would know more? After all, she's around the Slytherin Common Room, and might see her there.

We have more information about Terry. Some reassurance, but some other stuff that's worried us a lot more. This is what we've pulled together from the notes we got:

He's really not acting normal. He's still reverting to 'boot,' particularly if something upsets him. There's a kind of confusion, or indirectness in his thinking. And maybe a touch of paranoia. He reports he's been sick for a couple days, but he doesn't think he's been poisoned. (Since this is a conversation that's constantly being conducted second and third hand, we didn't pass along the explanation that we wondered if the purpose of the blood spell was to remove poison from Alecto Carrow).

He says he's been sick for the past couple days: nausea, weakness, chills, vomiting. Oh, and he had a nosebleed. It feels worse if Carrow's farther away. Here's what he said about the ritual: they mixed his blood with a potion, cut his forearms and poured the mess over it, and it burned like 'cold fire.' There were some words said at this point, and he caught some reference to 'binding,' and there was more said, too, but he was in too much pain, maybe, to catch it. Then the other half of the blood/potion mixture got burned up in a silver cauldron.

He did think the bezoar was a good idea. But--this is weird: he willingly sent that sample of his blood to us before, the last time they did the binding spell; in fact, it was his idea. And this time, he mentioned they broke the vial afterwards so he couldn't save it. But when the suggestion was passed along that he send us a sample of his blood, suddenly he sounded afraid, maybe, or disgusted. Maybe both. Bugger, we didn't even think of that, but we can maybe see why. For years, Carrow's treated Terry like his blood's sort of his own personal ink well, to use for whatever purpose he likes. Guess for us to ask for the blood was somehow more threatening than him

offering it.

So he was asked some more questions, and he wouldn't quite answer them, not directly. But then he said something strange, a real non sequitur about another kid there at the castle, a muggle about his own age. We think they were starting to be friends. He said: 'Dudley's still alive.' Like there was some doubt in his mind for awhile that it was true.

So one of us came up with what we think was a pretty shrewd guess: that the Carrows somehow forced Terry into hurting this other kid. Somehow, that hit him too close to the bone. He got really upset, turned into 'boot the mudblood,' said we shouldn't talk to him, and then disappeared.

Does that information about the ritual give you lot any better idea of what's going on?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-09 03:33:38](#)
(no subject)

The bit about 'cold fire' rings a faint bell. I'm going to have a look in the library at Grimmauld Place and see if anything turns up.

Hasn't Alecto had nosebleeds? I'm trying to remember what Poppy said about her illness the other day.

Unfortunately, forcing Terry to hurt someone else sounds like exactly the sort of sadistic game that Amycus would relish for its own sake. That could have been part of the ritual, or it could have been entirely for fun.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-09 14:20:30](#)
(no subject)

Oh. One more thing. When he said that bit about Dudley, he said something else, too. We got together with one of our sources and spent a few hours tracking it down. It was a reference to a conversation awhile back under our Lock.

See, there was a point months ago where Terry was being a little more open than usual about Carrow, and what the git does to him.

He told us about 'sadism' and 'masochism.' (He had to explain the words to us. Ugh.) He said that Carrow's a sadist, and that he'd probably like it if Terry was a masochist, but Terry said he's not. (Thank goodness.) Oh yeah, and this stuff can overlap a lot with Dark Magic. THEN he said that what he was really afraid of would be if Carrow decides to get someone else in, someone even WEAKER than Terry, and try to get Terry to be a sadist toward that other person. And then Carrow would get to watch.

And while we were talking about that, one of us started talking about Dark Arts theory, and said that one of the ways to defeat the cruciatus spell was compassion.

Anyway, maybe Terry was right about what Carrow wanted, and that's what happened. With Dudley.

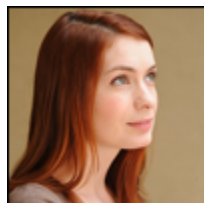
The other thing he said, right after telling us that Dudley was alive, was that, um, this person was right. About compassion.




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-09 04:31:23](#)**
(no subject)

different sort of spell than last time, but doesn't seem like a poison transfer. sounds like he's binding terry closer to him. it'd explain why it's worse the further away he gets. and the anger and paranoia too, if some of carrow's rubbing off on him.


any idea about the silver cauldron bit, severus?



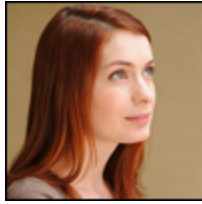
 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-09 04:32:20](#)**
Private Message to Frank

Love, are you coming up to bed? It's late.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-09 04:34:44](#)**
Re: Private Message to Frank

can't sleep.




 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-09 04:36:00](#)

Re: Private Message to Frank

Come up anyways?

I could use a bit of company.

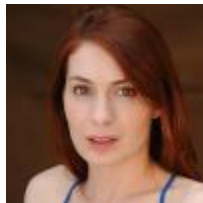


 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-04-09 04:37:56](#)

Re: Private Message to Frank

m'not the best company.

not tonight.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-09 04:54:54](#)

Re: Private Message to Frank

Should I

You've been dr

Frank. I don't care what sort of company you're like. You are my husband, and I love you. I know you're hurting, and I know what you've been up to most of the evening, and I don't blame you for it, nor am I angry with you. It would just make me feel better if you were with me. Much better.

Please.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-04-09 04:58:07](#)

Re: Private Message to Frank

sorry.

sorry, al.

give me twenty minutes to wash up.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-09 17:13:50](#)
(no subject)

Also, about that 'binding': If Carrow's trying any sort of binding that's tied to his own life, then it's important Terry understand that any harm Carrow suffers might bounce off of him and on to Terry. Do you understand, lads? It could be that Carrow's fixed it so that whatever happens to him or his sister takes its toll on Terry first. If he cuts himself shaving, Terry could bleed.

Perhaps Alice can give you the Secret for Grimmauld and you could help us rifle the library for more likely explanations.

On the Animagus front: This is going to sound weird, I know, but tell him that when he's alone, he could try pretending to be a few animals. Visualise wagging a tail or stretching like a cat or flapping wings. I know, it's dead silly but it's a short cut. Gets you out of higher thinking, if you know what I mean. Don't do it where Carrow can see him, though, or who knows what that bastard will think. Probably decide Terry's only good to eat out of a dog dish on the floor or something.

The thought occurs to me that this might be Carrow's way of protecting himself against Minerva's threat to duel him. If she were to meet him in combat and curse him, the curse would rebound onto Terry.

Mordred. I'm sorry. That was a well morbid idea. Been reading too much of my father's old Dark Arts books.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-09 20:16:00](#)
(no subject)

...

Blast.

Uh, we take it back. Maybe we're not in such a hurry for the Headmistress to duel the git.

We'd be willing to help you hunt through that library. (Actually, we're sort of itching to see the place). We'll talk with Bill or Mum about coordinating with Alice. What day would be good for you, or

maybe you and Remus?

And we'll figure out how to pass along the word to Terry on that other stuff.

(Poor bloke.)

2012-04-08 15:37:00

I solemnly swear that I am up to no good

am here

have been sick the last couple days

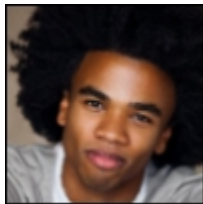
they're back to ignoring me

i feel tied

the sickness feels worse if i get too far away from him. which i hate. but at least i don't feel like there's a chance i could die anymore



 [alt_tery](#)



 [alt_lee](#) at **2012-04-08 21:17:09**

(no subject)

Terry, thank goodness. We've been real worried.

Can you tell us, what the sickness has been like? Fred and George have been doing research, and they've wondered, do you know anything about what the blood spells were for?

Is it safe to send Pig, do you think?



 [alt_tery](#) at **2012-04-08 21:30:54**

(no subject)

nausea. weakness. chills. like i said, it gets worse the farther away i get from him. spewed a lot, especially the first day. had a bad nose bleed last night, too.


they mixed my blood with a potion. drew a knife across my forearms till they bled, and poured half the mixture over the wounds. felt like being burned with cold fire through my body. they said a bunch of stuff as they did that. something about binding, and some other stuff but i didn't catch much. the rest of the blood and potion they burned up in a silver crucible.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-04-08 21:36:46](#)**
(no subject)


don't send Pig yet



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-04-08 21:39:02](#)**
(no subject)

oh, and they broke the phial afterward. wasn't able to save it.




 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-08 21:42:20](#)**
(no subject)

Nuts.


OKay, when we can send Pig, we'll send a few things with him. A bezoar, for one. Just in case.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-04-08 21:44:34](#)**
(no subject)


really? well, don't think they've poisoned me, but maybe it's a good idea.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-08 21:46:16](#)**
(no subject)


And if we send you a phial, can you send back a bit of your blood?



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-04-08 21:48:36](#)**
(no subject)


blood? fred and george want my blood?!



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-08 21:50:15](#)**
(no subject)


Uh, it's not like that.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-04-08 21:52:39](#)**
(no subject)

why?




 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-04-08 21:55:22](#)**
(no subject)

no

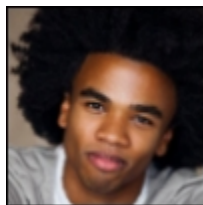
~~damn~~ the no!




 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-08 21:59:07](#)**
(no subject)

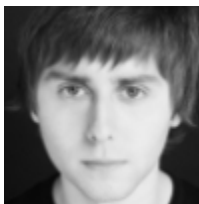
Terry...Terry, easy. This is Fred and George we're talking about, okay?


I'm sorry, I'm doing this all wrong. They just want to test it. To find out what they can. To counter whatever Carrow did. Okay?



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-08 22:00:40](#)**
(no subject)

Terry?



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-08 21:45:59](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, Terry,

I say, I'm so relieved to see you're able to write. What

rotten luck they had to toy with you. They're simply frightful.

And worse luck they decided to reinforce that spell. I say, do you think that he could feel the tie to you getting less intense? If that's the case then, perhaps we might plan ahead for the next time. When did he put the spell on the first time?


If that's what it was, of course, and not sheer maliciousness and bullying. I mean to say, it was obviously that as well, what, but if there were any method to his madness, if you follow me.

At any rate, I'm not going to let *anything* get in the way of putting that bag where you can find it tomorrow. I don't suppose you could find an excuse to be on the wall at about half-past ten o'clock? I think that's when I'm most likely to be able to walk away from the others for a short time. I don't have an itinerary, what, but I've noticed that there's usually about fifteen minutes after tea when no one minds if one takes a constitutional. If you can, then you'll be able to see me on the ground below. I shall wave, just in case.

Lee's quite right; we were all very worried.

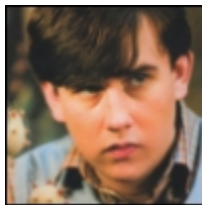
-Justin



 **alt_terry** at [2012-04-08 22:03:02](#)
(no subject)

dudley's still alive

sally-anne was right.




 **alt_neville** at [2012-04-08 22:04:33](#)
(no subject)

She was right?

About what, Terry?



 **alt_terry** at [2012-04-08 22:06:59](#)
(no subject)

about compassion



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-08 22:26:55](#)
(no subject)

Well, that took a little bit of hunting, what?

He couldn't have made you try to cast the Cruciatus, Terry, surely?

-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 23:00:31](#)
(no subject)

No, he couldn't have. He might have made him hurt Dudley some other way, though.

Terry, I can't remember what I said about compassion. But if Amycus Carrow made you hurt someone else, it's not your fault. It's his.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-08 23:05:16](#)
(no subject)

shouldn't have said it

please don't strip me in front of everyone



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-08 23:09:04](#)
(no subject)


boot's a stupid mudblood

stupid stupid

mustn't say anymore

dont talk to boot



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-08 23:10:37](#)
(no subject)

have to go




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-08 23:11:52](#)
(no subject)

TERRY.

You are the best and brightest wizard in
Ravenclaw.

You're going to get away from the evil git. You're going to be
free. You'll find some of us and we'll help you.

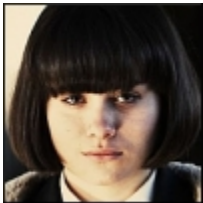


 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-09 15:03:09](#)
(no subject)

think i can make it to the wall

will try to watch

thanks for doing this
for boot



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-09 16:18:34](#)
(no subject)

We did it for you, Terry.

All of us did.

It's not enough, but maybe it'll help you remember that you've got
people friends who care about you.

2012-04-09 11:19:00

Private Message to Parkinson

hey, Pansy.

I was wondering if we could talk sometime soon.

Are you going to be at Cambridge?



 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-09 15:39:11**
(no subject)

I'm planning on it, yes.

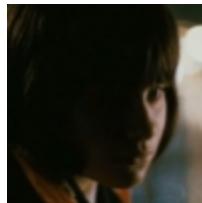
What about?




 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-04-09 15:39:55**
(no subject)

If I were to say Sinbad, would you know what I meant by it?

Because I want to talk about him.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-09 15:40:54**
(no subject)

Oh.

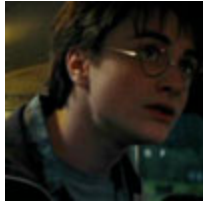
Yes.

I know who you mean.

Is it

~~Am I~~

Ought I to be worried?



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-04-09 15:53:02](#)**
(no subject)

No. It's nothing like that.

Nothing bad.

I just want to talk.

He mentioned in a letter right before hols that you'd written him before, asking him things.

And that just made me think that because, you know, we sort of both talk to him, I figured we could talk to one another about it? Sometime?



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-04-09 15:53:44](#)**
(no subject)

I'd thought it was just the records. Because of that one note he sent. With the owl. Otherwise I'd have said sooner.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-09 15:56:39](#)**
(no subject)

Yes. I've written. He doesn't write back, though, not really. Sort of. I can explain it a bit better in person, when I can show you.

And I didn't say, because, well, I guess it's fairly obvious why I'd want to keep it to myself, right?

But we can talk. Sure.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-09 15:58:13](#)**
(no subject)

Only...

You mustn't

I'd really rather you not tell Draco. Please.

If he's to know, I'd want to tell him myself, and I'm really not sure he's ready to hear it just now.

Have you told him anything about it?

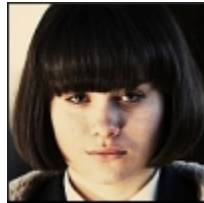


 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-04-09 15:58:47](#)**
(no subject)

No. I haven't.

It's okay. I won't.

I promise.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-09 16:00:48](#)**
(no subject)

Well, alright then. I'll see you at Cambridge, and if we can talk in private, we will. And if not, it can wait after hols, can't it?

Or is it something that needs to be talked about right away?



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-04-09 16:02:39](#)**
(no subject)


No, it's not an emergency or anything.

I really just wanted to talk about it just to talk. You know?

That's all. Really. Honest.

So it could wait til after hols if we can't get away at Cambridge.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-09 16:04:42](#)**
(no subject)

Right.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-09 16:10:33](#)
(no subject)

I said not to get worried, remember?

Look, Pans. You don't have to talk about it with me if you don't want to. I won't tell anyone, no matter what. And I wouldn't be angry or anything. I just thought

you know

I don't know

I'm not telling you you have to do it. But it could be good? To compare notes? I can bring some of what he's written me, too.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-09 16:12:05](#)
(no subject)

I'm a worrier. It's just what I do. I gave myself an ulcer in second year, remember?

But I'll talk. That's okay. I'm just a bit surprised is all.

I think it'll be easier to talk in person, too.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-09 16:14:08](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

Besides. He sort of wants us to. I think.

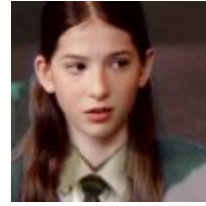


 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-09 16:14:46](#)
(no subject)

And, I mean, I do too, not just because he suggested it.

2012-04-09 11:21:00

Private message to Ron Weasley and Mrs Weasley



The Strettons said that I can come play Quidditch on Tuesday but only if I bring EVERYONE.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

That means me, Jeremy, Philip (who's ten), Gemma (who's seven), Mars and Valentina (who are three), and Maureen (the nanny).

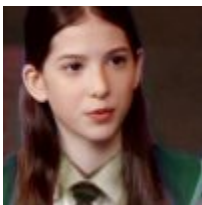
ALSO Mrs Stretton thinks I should warn you that I was exposed to the muggle disease measles on Saturday. Madam Pomfrey gave me a potion and I think that should keep me from getting the disease or at least not contagious but ... well, if I was wrong and it wasn't measles or if the potion didn't work, you should know.


Anyway I figured I should check and make sure you don't mind. Do you mind? Philip will want to play. Gemma might, too. At least the twin babies will only want to watch (and Maureen isn't permitted to use a broom, of course).



 [alt_molly](#) at **2012-04-09 17:09:21**
(no subject)


Well, if Madam Pomfrey has given you the potion, I think I feel it's quite safe, dear. And of course you are all quite welcome to come.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-04-09 19:15:08**
(no subject)

Thank you! I'll see you on Tuesday, then.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-09 22:39:57](#)
(no subject)

Good. I was worried you wouldn't be able to come.

No worries about bringing the rest, either. I bet Philip's pretty good on a broom now. What about Gemma? Does she fly much?

2012-04-09 12:19:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Justin



Did you plant the bag?

Are you safe?

 [alt_pansy](#)

Between Terry and Sally-Anne's measles case, I feel like I haven't slept properly in days.

It's hard to pretend sometimes, isn't it? To put on a happy face when you're worried about someone, and the people around you wouldn't understand why you're worried even if they knew what it was about?

I've just had a talk with Harry. He knows I write Sirius, now. It used to be all he knew was that I once nicked a bunch of his records, but Sirius wrote him or something and told him that I wrote him too, and that we should talk. I guess. I don't know. I suppose I'll find out.

I'll tell everyone else under the lock about it, of course, and maybe Hermione has an idea what he's going to ask about, so that's one thing. But I'm sort of scared about it, because I don't like it when secrets that I've kept very carefully get out, so that's another. I didn't even tell Sally-Anne I was writing him when I first started. I didn't tell her until we had to tell something to get under the lock. And even now I don't tell every time I write, or what I write either. It's sort of

Well, it's private.

So there's that too.

But I had to tell Harry right out not to tell Draco.

I hate it, but if he knew I was writing, he'd ask what about, and I'm not sure what he'd think of me if I told him. And that scares me. And makes me sad.

It's really hard to lie to someone you love.

It's really hard to know that they don't really understand you. And that if they did, they might not love you any more.

It seems like such a small thing compared to what everyone else has been going through. Doesn't it?



 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-09 18:02:59](#)

(no subject)

Hullo, Pansy.

Er. Yes. Quite.

I'm sure Sirius didn't mean to breach your privacy, what? There must have been a jolly good reason for him to tell Marvolo that you've corresponded.

And yes, it can be quite difficult to keep one's own counsel about important things when they're not on the same order as other people's challenges. Quite.

I suppose it's a comfort to know that if one's perspective can be so easily altered, then one's problems can't seem so...well, so all-encompassing as all that, can they?

But as for understanding, I say, I suppose I think that.... Well, I mean to say, there are reasons to hide oneself for one's own protection and reasons to lie to protect others. But the thing is, Pansy: Are you unsure that he'll cease to care because of who you are, or because of who he is? Because if it's you, then--well, then he probably never understood you in the first place, what? And if it's him--then he jolly well doesn't deserve you, if you'll allow me to say so. But either way, I think, knowing is better than not knowing.

But there's a difference between revealing your own secrets and revealing other people's. I should think one would want to reveal one's own secret in the best way possible, before someone else beats one to it, what?

I mean to say, that's the way it is in stories, all the time. The hero says, 'There's something vitally important I have to tell you about myself,' what, and the heroine interrupts or doesn't listen or something gets in the way, doesn't it? And then she learns the very thing he was trying to tell her but in some bally awful context, all twisted round or well misrepresented, what, and then it takes the rest of the story for everything to work out to a happy ending.

It might be frightening to take the risk but I think it's better to pull off the sticking plaster and know exactly where one stands.

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-09 18:22:49](#)
(no subject)

But that's the problem, isn't it? I'm not sure of either. And both scare me.

He's a good person.

He is.

He tells me sometimes how worried he can get about Harry, and even though he doesn't say it often, I know he worries about Hermione too. And he's said how frustrated he is about the way things are going. And I see someone who wants to do the right thing.

I just think we might have very different ideas about what that right thing is. And I'm too much of a coward to ask him, for fear that it'll ruin everything.

And really, given all the other things I've done, the fact that I've been writing to Sirius is the least of the things I've had to keep hidden, because it wouldn't be safe at all for anyone else to know that wasn't under the lock. For Terry and Hermione and you especially. So you're right about that.

I'm not looking for a solution.

I'm not sure there are any.

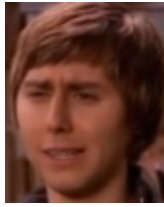
I just thought


given you and Hydra

you'd understand a bit. I guess. About keeping things from people like that.

And how awful it can get sometimes. To question *everything*. Including whether they really love *you* or just who they think you

are, and whether you really can love them if you're keeping so much of who you are from them.



 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-09 18:40:56](#)
(no subject)

Are you saying that Draco knows about Sirius as well?

He's not told anyone about it, then, if he does, what?

I suppose that's an encouraging sign. I think you're right, though, that he has a different idea about what the right thing would be.

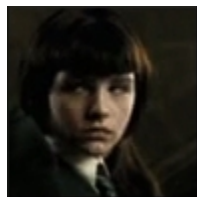
I don't think he'd take kindly to me and Hydra, for example, if he knew the whole of it. Or to what you've done for Terry, even if he thinks of Hermione as a person in her own right. Well, perhaps Terry, since I think everyone can jolly well agree that Carrow's a monster, what?


I suppose that's the thing, though: If you're keeping so much from someone, how can it be genuine? And if he's not the sort who can see beyond the Protectorate's lies....

Well.

I mean to say, it's your decision, of course. What you think you can live with hiding and what you think he could or couldn't accept.

-Justin



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-04-09 18:49:12](#)
(no subject)

This isn't really making me feel much better, you know.

He knows all about *Harry* talking with Sirius. He's told *me* about that. When it comes to me, all he knows is about the books Sirius sent from Regulus. He doesn't even know about the records.

Would you tell Hydra? Not about Terry and Hermione, you know.

But about who you are?

And what you think?



 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-09 18:57:45](#)
(no subject)

I say, dashed sorry, old girl but you did ask.

Hydra knows what I think. So it's not entirely the same question.

And I'm planning to tell her the rest, actually. Wednesday, if we can find a safe, private spot, what?

-Justin



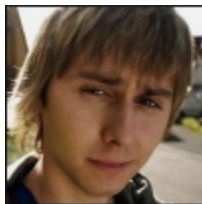
 **alt_pansy** at [2012-04-09 19:26:09](#)
(no subject)

What?

Isn't that

Isn't that terribly dangerous? For you?

You really ought to tell the lock about it.



 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-09 19:33:12](#)
(no subject)

It would have been, before. But by Wednesday I shall know for sure whether it's all right.

I think the lock has had other, more important things to be going on with, what?

Though Terry seems on the mend. Somewhat. And Sally-Anne? Her emergency is passing, as well, I think.

So, perhaps. As you said, it's a small matter compared to everyone else's troubles.

-Justin




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-09 19:38:37](#)
(no subject)

Risking your life isn't a small matter, Justin.

You really ought to tell.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-09 19:51:15](#)
(no subject)

I do beg your pardon, Pansy, but I really think it's better if I don't just yet.

I've held off, as I said, to make sure of some open questions. The first was my duty to Terry, which I've now discharged. I wanted to be absolutely certain nothing interfered with that.


The second is something Hydra's testing. We talked about it yesterday, she and I, but if everything goes as I think it shall, we'll know by Wednesday whether she can truly keep her mother's legitimacy at bay. If she can, then I'm telling her and that's an end of it.

And on the off chance that she should reject me--well, I mean to say. I don't think she's the sort who could knowingly send me up, what, but I shouldn't want the lock involved at all, in that case.

As I said, it's all a matter of what one can live with keeping hidden from the ones we love.

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-09 19:58:26](#)
(no subject)

So, you're just planning on telling her without letting the other people under the lock know?

That's not on, Justin.

I don't care if you've made your mind up, but everyone else

deserves to know what you're planning. We could help. This test you've got planned, we can help sort out if it's enough. And if you do end up in danger, it'd be good to know of it ahead of time so we could help with that too.

And if she sends you up, we ARE involved.

If there's any sort of questioning at all, and there would be, it'd come around to us.

I know you love her. But I don't see how that has to do with keeping us all in the dark about it. That's a completely separate thing. And by risking you, you're risking all of us. You've got to know that.

At least tell them what you're planning.



 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-09 20:25:47](#)
(no subject)

~~It's private~~

I shouldn't have

Well.

I shall have to think about it.

I do plan to tell everyone. I'd eventually like to see if we can't let Hydra onto the lock, herself. It just seemed...better...to make sure of her first and then make the case to include her.

I'm sure she'll not give me up, even if she does decide she'll have nothing more to do with me. And she's certain that her mother can't read her thoughts. This last test is just for good measure.

I suppose...it's rather like telling all one's friends, 'Oh, what ho, I'm going to ask Jane to marry me, wish me luck!' and then having to go back and report that she said 'No', what?

If I said nothing then I could just...say nothing, if necessary. If I say something ahead of time then--and besides that, I say, it's dreadfully selfish to demand everyone's attention over


something really rather trifling. ~~Like staying~~

Dash it. I've got to go. They're rounding us all up for tea.

I promise I shall think about it.

-Justin



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-04-09 20:54:50](#)
(no subject)

But if you're planning on telling her, no matter what she says, we still ought to know first.

Especially if she's going to eventually be under the lock.

It's more like saying, "I'm going to duel somebody, and I might end up dead, even though there's a good chance I won't, and I've done all these things to make sure it's safe."

Because you're telling her either way, so either way it's a risk, isn't it? It's even MORE important we all know beforehand in case something goes wrong. You're thinking of telling us after everything goes right. I'm saying if it doesn't, it's far better we know before rather than after.

And you might think the test is good enough, but there are other people on this who might know more than either of you.

I know you want it to be private, but this is your *life*, Justin. And our safety. Privacy isn't more important than those things.

If I was going to tell Draco something that I knew would get me sent to Azkaban, I'd tell everyone first.

Well, I wouldn't tell him. Not right now. But if it got to that point, I'd bloody well do everyone the courtesy of letting them know that I was putting me and everyone else in danger first. Because if one of us gets in trouble, it could get Hermione and Terry in trouble too.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-09 18:50:55](#)**
(no subject)

He can tell they're lying.


I think most everyone can.

But I know he can.

We just don't talk about it.

No-one talks about it. Except under the lock.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-09 18:57:28](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, but does he think the lie serves a jolly good purpose or that it's well ludicrous?

-Justin



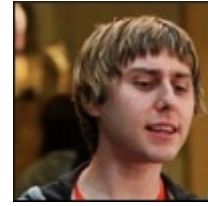
 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-09 19:27:39](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not sure.

It's possible to think both, after all.

2012-04-09 14:07:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_justin](#)

What ho, everyone!

I've done it.

There was a moment when I thought someone from the village was going to follow me. I hid behind a tree and held my breath, what, but he kept on and didn't approach the grove.

Terry, I waved. I don't know if you were there or not.

The bag is on the west side of the grove, in the knothole of an oak. I put a preservation spell on it so that animals and weather should stay out, what, and the stone that will vibrate when you're close enough to find it, Terry.

I wish we could do more, old chap. Truly. It seems like a well minimal sort of intervention. But don't give up! I say, if there's a way to get you out, we shall find it.

-Justin



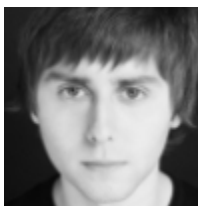
 [alt_terry](#) at **2012-04-09 19:39:21**

(no subject)

i did manage to get up on the wall, and i'm pretty sure i did see you. I know you can't see the castle because of the spell, but we can see out just fine.

i've got my stone safe. in my bracelet.

i'm so glad.



 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-04-10 01:53:53**

(no subject)

I say, I hope you're feeling a little better?

It was so strange to see the imprint of where a castle ought to be, what, and nothing there. Everywhere


else there are proper ruins but Lincoln's merely a big hole where there used to be a castle.

Everyone in the village seems well afraid of the place, too. They were busy acting as if they weren't, though, what?

I'd wager that if you did manage to break free somehow, half the people in that town would wish to help, if for no other reason than to show that maniac a thing or two.

-Justin



 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-04-10 23:56:04](#)
(no subject)

i am feeling better today. much.

[2012-04-09 15:58:00](#)

Private Message to Seamus Finnigan

Looks like you made it through another year without any problems! That's why you weren't around yesterday, wasn't it?



 **[alt_padma](#)**

And I got your owl about Finch-Fletchley. But why? Well, okay, whatever. It's not like we don't like him. He's just always with Hydra--or Loony.

I mean, you saw how he was with her at Camelot, right? Insisting that she get to go on the rides when it's not like Lav *wanted* her there in the first place.

But fine. We'll play along with whatever you've got planned.

You know he's not actually gay, right? Even if he acts more like a ponce than you do.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2012-04-10 02:31:58](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, yesterday went okay. Thanks.

About Finch-Fletchley -- I know he's not gay. He made that rather clear to Evgeni, actually! I think he thought Evgeni was flirting with him. Mr Rosier thinks it would be a nice boost for the Protectorate if Finch-Fletchley decided to stay here, instead of going back to France. That's why Mr Rosier came to the camp we all visited, it was to talk to him (since he was really set on going to Lincoln today -- that was the first plan, to have Finch-Fletchley come and spend the day with us).

Finch-Fletchley's sort of like a puppy who's sad unless EVERYONE likes him, I don't think he particularly likes Loony or anything like that. Anyway, thanks for helping me out. I told Mr Rosier we could count on you.



 **alt_padma** at **2012-04-10 02:52:36**
(no subject)

Oh, is *that* why that guard told him to come with him to the main building? I thought maybe someone had played a trick on him. He turned so pale you'd think someone was about to snap his wand!

And yeah, that's what's so annoying about him, he can't seem to tell anyone that he'd rather not be around if they invite him someplace. I'm shocked he told you No, actually. What was so important about Lincoln? There's nothing there! I'd've rather gone to your house. I mean, Mr Rosier's house.

Maybe the thing to do is just fill up his calendar so he gets so busy he has to ignore the wrong sorts of people. I mean, if he does stay, he's going to have to decide who his real friends are, anyway, right? And I'm sure Mr Rosier wants him setting the right kind of example, right, and not hanging about with trash like Lovegood. D'you reckon that'll work?

Are you going to try for a YPL Counsellor spot? I haven't decided.

2012-04-09 16:21:00

Private message to Pansy

Hey, you know something I just realised? You owe a galleon to Ron Weasley.



I was looking back through my journal trying to remember what I'd said about compassion (you know, because of that thing we talked about) and second year, when we first told everyone that kissing a ginger on the first day of spring was good luck, Ron was FURIOUS. (Thank goodness he didn't guess it was us. And will never know from me!) You told him that in two years he might like kissing better and the two of you bet on it.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

I think he wins this one. He probably doesn't remember making the bet, though.

~~Do you think he will EVER~~



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-04-09 21:28:05**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

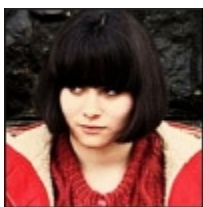
I did also find what I said about compassion.

Terry wanted to know what the opposite of 'sadism' was. I said it was compassion. We'd talked about it in Dark Arts, in lectures about 'mindset' and casting the cruciatus curse. If you feel any compassion for the other person you pretty much can't cast the cruciatus or at least you can't keep it going. It's the opposite of all the things that let you cast it. Alecto Carrow of course says that this is because pity makes you weak, and I wrote that down in my notes because I wanted to think about that more. It doesn't. She's wrong. But it does mean you can't cast the cruciatus curse.

I cast the Imperius Curse on the little kids who were sick. I'd wake them, and sometimes they'd refuse to drink, they'd want me to leave them alone. If I'd had more time maybe I could have thought of a better solution but there were so many and I was so afraid that I just

went ahead and used the Imperius. It's really easy to cast it on a tiny kid, you know, and I told myself it was fine because it actually feels really GOOD to obey when you're under the Imperius and they were so sick and miserable it was almost a way of comforting them while I was making them drink water, to keep them from dying.

Do you think Neville would hate me, if he knew?



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-04-09 22:39:08**

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

No.

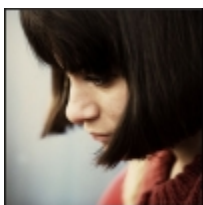
He'd understand.

There's a difference between what you'd like to do, if everything were perfect, and what you have to do.

And you did what you had to do.

For a very good reason.

He'd be able to tell that.




 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-04-09 22:39:27**

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

I wonder what Terry meant. Do you think Carrow made him try to cast it? Because that doesn't make sense. He'd never give Terry a wand. Would he?

Whatever he did, I'd bet it's awful. It hurts to think about.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-04-09 22:44:38**
(no subject)

I *do* owe him, don't I?

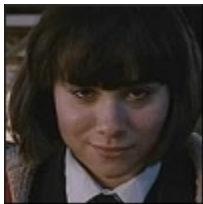
Well, it's not from lack of practise. And Mandy practically wrapped herself in a bow but he wasn't having any of that. Could be he just didn't like her, though.

And it's not that he doesn't like girls. Because his eyes fall out every

time Fleur Delacour walks by.

Maybe he has to grow up more first?

I'll give it to him after quidditch, and tell him he won the bet, and let him sort it out.

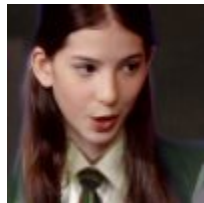


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-10 02:11:06](#)

(no subject)

It's a pity, really.

He's missing out on quite a bit of fun.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-10 02:20:57](#)

(no subject)

So you say.

Do you think I should snog Viktor? HE wouldn't complain, anyway.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-10 02:35:03](#)

(no subject)

I think that he respects you enough to not try to do something unless you told him you wanted to, which is important.

And if you really truly want to, even if it's just to give it a try to see how you like it, I think he'd be a good sort of person to try it on.

Maybe you could set up some ground rules? Like "I'm just sort of curious about what it's like, could I try it out with you for a little bit? And if I don't like it, can we go back to how we've been?"

Kissing, like real kissing, it can be awkward when you first try it out. But it's all about paying attention to the other person and sorting out what feels good to you. It's like having this really intense conversation without talking, and you feel *everything* more than you've ever felt anything before.

2012-04-09 17:49:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private message to George Weasley and Amycus Carrow



 [alt_tery](#)

sent donaghan out to find him when they were asleep

'ask if i can see him
just to make sure he's all right'
i thought about that and added
'let him know i'll never tell the git'

the ghost came back after an hour
'he said he'll meet you by the door leading out to the rubbish bins'

so i went down
felt sicker and sicker the farther i was from my pallet
finally was shuffling, then fell and crawled on my hands and knees

he didn't look so good either
he was curled up in the corner of the doorway with a dirty rag stuck to the cuts on his neck
he had a club in his hand and he stared at me fiercely over it
'don't come no nearer'
moving his neck even just a little made him wince

we stared at each other for a while
the ghost hung in the air over us

'can i see the cuts?'

'why?' he sneered. 'don't you think you did a good enough job?'

'no. i want to see if i--' i almost slipped and said *heal them--* 'if i can treat them'

'why would you do that?'

'because it's the last thing he wants me to do
he wants us to hate each other
and if we do, then he wins
but if i treat you decent, then we win
but we can't let him know'

I looked up at the ghost. 'tell him'

'Terry will treat your wounds. he won't hurt you. he wants to help.'

he lowered the club. i crawled a little closer. 'unwind the bandage. and, uh, close your eyes'

'why?' he said suspiciously

because I couldn't let him see the wand. or the bracelet

'you just gotta trust me

because i need you to do that before I can help you

he doesn't want us to do that, either

to trust each other

wouldn't it be a good idea to spite him?'

he lowered the club a little more. 'you told me you were sorry. and to keep still.'

'i did

that was all i could do to help you then

now I can do more

please?'

slowly his eyelids closed and then with a sigh, he lowered the dirty rag.

the ghost spoke quietly in his ear, just to keep him calm, I guess. the pulse in his neck was jumping like crazy. i worked fast. i took out my wand, whispered the spell to clean the skin and spread the dittany on it to knit it back together. Then I put a glamour over it. there was one little bit that looked infected, but the dittany made it fade away. he flinched when I touched him once, but he kept the eyes closed.

when I was finished, I helped him put the rag back in place. 'i've put something over it so it will still look bad, but if you touch it, you can tell it's better.'

he opened his eyes again slowly. 'it feels better'

i was glad to hear it. 'keep it covered for awhile. until it would have healed on its own'

my hands were shaking really badly by now, but I felt a little better as I crawled back toward the staircase. back toward the git.

'hey, thanks' his voice called softly after me.

the ghost smiled at me as he disappeared.

2012-04-09 20:50:00

(no subject)

Now that the Jr Auxiliary luncheon is over I can safely make plans for the rest of the week.



Aurora: I hope you received my owl? I'm sorry not to have replied immediately; we were simply inundated over the weekend. How would Wednesday suit you? There's a charming exhibit in the Maidstone, if you are interested in abstracts. Or if you prefer, we could take in the Larmer Tree Gardens (provided the weather chooses to cooperate, of course). I would also not say no to a simple tea at *Katyenka* or somewhere similar.

 [alt_narcissa](#)

Do let me know. I've an appointment at 9 but otherwise I'm quite at your disposal.

Pandora: That is very interesting news, indeed. Saturday? Yes, I'm intrigued enough to go with you.

Hydra: How would you like to visit on Friday? We might go riding together; it's been ages since we went out.

Oh, and Malvasius, you'll have to do better in future, I'm afraid. You neglected to save me a dance at the Coopers' reception; if such behaviour continues I shall be forced to conclude I've lost my ability to captivate. Then again, who could hope to compete with Mrs Cooper's magnetism on her day of days?

Eudora, of course Amanda and I would be glad to entertain the Daughters after next month's meeting. We've discussed it and Amanda wishes to offer Mellerstain for the occasion. Will that satisfy? I'm simply dying to hear all about your exploration of the Lethifolds' summer roster. I hear they're trying to seduce Bull Pummel away from Wimbourne but I doubt they'll have any success. Still, it would be worth it to them, surely, to be able to boast the only completely pureblood professional side in the realm.



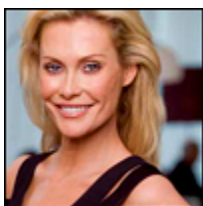
 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-10 01:45:49](#)
(no subject)

Narcissa -

I did of course receive your owl, and my own apologies for not answering sooner: today has been rather taken up with catching up with my family one way and another. I've only just gotten back from supper with a number of my aunts and cousins as well as the more immediate family.

Wednesday would be lovely - perhaps the gardens if the weather cooperates, and tea if not? I'm trying to make the most of scenery that is not Scotland while I can. As for time, would 2 do? If that turns out not to suit, my own calendar's quite open on Wednesday. And I'd be quite glad to meet you wherever convenient.

I'll look forward to it.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-04-10 02:40:17](#)
(no subject)

Gracious, and I understand you've an extensive family, as well. It must be a boisterous occasion when you are all assembled.

Two o'clock on Wednesday works perfectly. Let us decide based on the weather, indeed, but meet at Kensington; it's quite convenient to my appointment and Spencer House.

Likewise, my dear.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-10 02:57:47](#)
(no subject)

Quite, yes - fifteen tonight. For once, Mum and all three of my sisters (and that's rare these days, as we've got such different lives now). And then my aunt and all five female first cousins on my father's side, and an aunt and three cousins from Mum's side.

And since I hadn't seen most of them over the Christmas holidays, we had more than a little to catch up on, and quite a lot of

questions and conversation.

I'll see you at Kensington, then, and that will be most pleasant.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-04-10 02:09:24](#)
(no subject)


I heard the same about the Lethifolds. It's a worthy goal, and Pummel would bring more than purity to their side if they can convince him. Lethifolds are a side to watch this year, that's certain. Are you interested enough to come along for their match with Puddlemere in June?

Enjoyed the Coopers' celebration. Certainly, the bride was in fine form, though she was not peerless. Pleased that Malvasius's neglect meant you had room for me on your card.

12:43pm

10:09



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-04-10 02:21:09](#)
Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Not certain whether the transtemporal magic might interfere. Let me know?

Yes. YES. (Lest there be any doubt.)

Re. Coopers: was her choice of hall for the reception meant to be ironic, do you suppose? I hadn't thought her that sharp or Cooper that dim, but I'm not as well acquainted with him as you are.

12:45pm

10:21



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-04-10 02:35:18](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

It came through but without - oh. Yes. Yes, now I can see it.

It's all right; I was hoping you'd respond quickly. I didn't want to reply to Aurora before hearing from you, just in case.

Good.

Now, which irony, dear? The fate of Charles I or that we were assembled in Whitehall for a Black Widow? Fergus is not really all that dim but then, neither is he known for his deep thoughts.

Still, one hopes that Amara resists her usual pattern and keeps him around for a while. You may not care for him but he's undeniably one of our greatest artistic talents. And much more accessible than, say, Sarah Yaxley's work.

Oh, and speaking of women: Which of your ducklings was there on your behalf? She may have reported dancing but at least in my case, she kept forgetting to lead. I doubt many others would have noticed; she barely went out on the floor as it was - which strictly speaking, you'll agree, was not out of character for you.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-04-10 02:55:32](#)

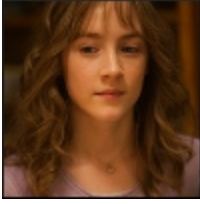
Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

I'd been thinking of that ridiculous, *uxorious* king of spaniels (and lost causes), but yours is a rather better twist. Well put.

Your dance partner was Singh. Well deduced. I suppose she'll claim that dancing lead was not part of her training. I wonder if Sandoval would have done better; lucky for her she was invited in her own behalf and couldn't play two roles at once.

12:59p

10:55



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-04-10 14:53:16](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Aunt Narcissa. I would enjoy that. You're right, I haven't been riding with Rose for ages.

From,

Hydra

2012-04-10 07:36:00

Hols and such

The Dales were lovely!

Mum was a bit sad that I wasn't home for Easter, but it isn't as if we really go to services or anything.



 **alt_susan**

It was good to be back with the family generally; it's always sort of shocking how much bigger Peter and Carrie get when Ed and I aren't there. I can't believe Carrie's going to be at Hogwarts next year!

Oh, Sally Anne--they were both absolutely enchanted with the origami owl you gave me. Peter's already asking me if I can find him an origami book. I've had to hide it from Valkyrie, though--she keeps trying to attack it!

Neville, I've been doing my best to follow your instructions on the care and feeding of African violets, and I don't seem to have to done anything disastrous--so far, so good.

Mum & Dad had sent me a not on my birthday saying that they wanted to give me my present in person when I came home--you can imagine, I was dead curious. Well, it turns out that one of the Cannons players is upgrading, and he was willing to give Dad a good price on his old broom, so...I have a new broom! It's a Cleansweep 5, which is loads better than what I had before.

I can't wait to try it out!

Speaking of Quidditch, what do you lot think of that new side, the Lethifolds?



 **alt_neville** at **2012-04-10 13:53:29**
(no subject)

Fortunately, African violets are very forgiving. My gran has hundreds of pots of them, all over the house. Glad yours are doing well.

We did go to Easter services (Gran always insists) and they were quite nice. They decorate the church with a lot of blooming lilies and other plants.

Congratulations on the broom. I know the polite thing to say at this point is, 'I'd love it if you'd give me a chance to try it out when we're both back at school,' but you know me! I'd much rather Floo. I can't wait until I can learn to apparate.



 **alt_susan** at **2012-04-10 18:56:32**
(no subject)

Forgiving is good! I think you've got my Floo address when it comes to plants.

And hey, if you ever do want to get a bit of flying practice in, you'd be welcome. Least I can do since you've really helped me bring up my Herbology mark!



 **alt_zacharias** at **2012-04-10 15:27:33**
(no subject)

Congrats on your broom, Sue!

Are you bringing it to Cambridge tomorrow? Bet you could have used them in Yorkshire, eh? All that walking. I'm dead glad I didn't go. Lines told me it wound up being loads of herb walks and talking about the importance of the moors to England's geography and bogs and nature and that. How boring can it get?

But the Lethifolds! I think for a side in its second season they're doing all right. They need a new Chaser, or they should bring up Matterer from the reserves: Holcomb's rubbish.



 **alt_susan** at **2012-04-10 19:00:48**
(no subject)

Thanks, Zach!

I hadn't thought of bringing it; I'd figured we were mainly going to be in town.

I actually *like* nature, for your information! Although all that herb lore was a bit much to keep straight.

Rumour has it the backers of the Lethifolds are well deep-pocketed-
-do you think there's any truth to the rumour that they're trying to
poach players from Wimbourne?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-11 00:39:03](#)
(no subject)


I can show you how to fold an owl, they aren't hard,
and then you can show Peter if you want. It's easier to
learn from a demonstration than from a book.

2012-04-10 08:53:00

Private message to Mummy

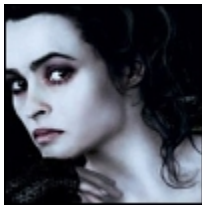
Mummy, I want you to know that I think the work that you do is very important, and that I understand. You have to watch for signs of dissidence wherever and whenever you can.




 [alt_hydra](#)

From what I saw the Ponds are a loyal, if humble, family, but I know that you would be better at spotting the signs than I am. We can try again, if you like, and I will truly do what I can to not resist.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at **2012-04-10 15:06:37**
(no subject)

Are you in earnest, Hydra? It appears so, and in such case I suppose I ought to commend you for being more pragmatic than your Father. Perhaps you are, at long last, growing a thicker skin.

I'm not especially suspicious of the Ponds, but one must seize opportunities when they arise, you understand. People tend to lower their guard when faced with a gentle, disarming young girl such as yourself - an impulse you could use to your advantage, were you more ambitious.

I'm working late this evening, but I will wake you when I come in.

2012-04-10 13:31:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Justin



 [alt_pansy](#)

I'm sorry for getting so shirty yesterday. I'd imagine the fact I started out in a rather bad mood didn't help matters.

But I wanted to make sure you knew that I was looking out for you, and that I really do think that letting everyone know first is safer and better for you.

Added to that, people are going to be more likely to accept Hydra under the lock later on if you spell out how safe it is and how you've tested it, and if you ask everyone what they think first rather than telling them after you've done it. Then, when you bring up Hydra later and ask if she can be let in, people will remember that you took care with security and that they were a part of the decision before. If they get angry because you did something dangerous without telling everyone, they might be more cautious about her later. That's what I was trying to say.

And it's not a matter of modesty, or what Terry's been going through, it's a matter of your safety. And ours. And that's important.

I know I'm being a bit of a broken record, but I get worried sometimes about what would happen to all of us. Especially Terry. And Hermione. And Sally-Anne. And Luna. And you. Because they'd snap Sally-Anne and Luna's wands, and send them to the camps. And they'd kill Terry and Hermione. And I don't know whether they'd kill you, or send you to the camps, or deport you and then kill you, but either way, it's not good.

I'm not saying it WILL happen. I'm not even assuming Hydra will mean to tell, or would betray you like that. I don't think she will, or at least I don't think she'll do it willingly. I'm just saying it might happen, something might go very wrong, and it'd be a good thing to give everyone a little advance warning and let them weigh in to make extra sure it's safe first.



 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-11 02:18:15](#)
(no subject)

Pansy,

I'm sorry as well. I ought not to have replied churlishly, what? And I suppose it would do well to remember that I am the newcomer to the group, of the two of us.

I do understand what you're saying and why you're saying it. And believe me, I'm quite aware of the stakes, perhaps more than you can realise. On the other hand, I also know Hydra rather well by now. I may not be sure exactly how she'll react but I do think I know her well enough to know what she shan't do.

As for helping Hydra by proving to you how careful I'm being, well, I say, I should think that could be argued either way. Either I'm taking the utmost care by not troubling you all until I'm absolutely certain it's safe, or I'm taking the utmost care by running every decision past the group. At any rate, I had already indicated that I had no plan to take any action until I knew for sure that her thoughts are impregnable by legilimency. I haven't yet heard of her success, what, so for the moment, our discussion is moot.

I do appreciate your advice and, as I said, I quite believe that you are trying to be helpful.

-Justin



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-04-11 03:11:48](#)
(no subject)

I can get a little

okay a lot

I can get a lot worried sometimes. And it might not be as big a deal as I've made it out to be.

But when I hear that you're doing something dangerous, I'm going to think about the worst thing that could happen. And there are a lot of really awful things that could happen. And I'm not going to sit back and be quiet when I think that what you're doing could be dangerous. Because I made a promise to myself. One I take very

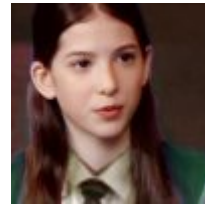
seriously.

But it's not just about me. Of course. It's about respect and trust, too. And I respect you enough not to tell everybody *for* you, but part of it is respecting and trusting us too. And for me, at least, that means not keeping something that big to yourself.

2012-04-10 19:33:00

Quidditch!

Mrs Weasley, thank you so much for having all of us over. If you ever start feeling lonely now that all your kids are at Hogwarts, I think Gemma would like to move in with you permanently.




 **alt_sally_anne**

Naturally, Mars and Val now want a permanent transfigured flying pony.

Gemma's not bad on a broom, is she? I mean, for a kid her age. She'll be a good Seeker if she ever gets the hang of looking for the SNITCH instead of for butterflies. I think Philip's more cut out to be a Chaser.

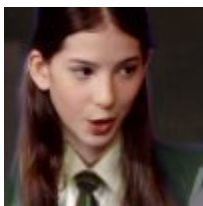


 **alt_ron** at **2012-04-11 01:07:44**
(no subject)

Gemma's terrific on a broom. I'm not sure, though, that she'll make a Seeker. You can tell her she made a wizard princess, riding her favourite unicorn, though!

That was fun, wasn't it? Charming up the brooms to look like ponies and dragons. I still think it would've been snitch to try a hippogriff.


Mars and Val were hilarious, really. I think Mars would've gone on and on, riding forever if we'd let him. Shame he was so put out when we had to go in, but, really, there's nothing funnier than the look a little kid gets when he's screwing up his face and getting ready to shout, yeah?



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-04-11 02:48:20**
(no subject)

Funny to the rest of you, maybe. Some of us get to see that show ten times a day. Or more.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-11 01:11:00](#)
(no subject)

Guess I should have said about Philip, too. That one's going to play Quidditch. No doubt about it.

He'd probably make a Chaser, yeah, only I thought that second time Gemma hared off after something naff, he had the true look of a Beater in his eye. Know what I mean?



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2012-04-11 02:49:58](#)
(no subject)

Oh, yeah, I know EXACTLY what you mean. Poor Gemma! She's only six, they get distracted easily when they're that age.

Philip wanted so badly for the rest of us to take him seriously.



 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-11 03:07:51](#)
(no subject)

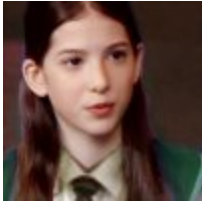
Hello, Sally-Anne,

I say, I'm glad you had a splendid time. I do wish I'd been able to go along, what?

But I must say, today's outing was well worth the time. They showed us the monuments and the preserved battle site at Leicester. Have you been? Has Pansy? I can imagine it would be a painful place for her to visit but I expect that in its way it could be quite healing, as well, the way they've made the site a sort of testament to all the Protectorate was fighting to achieve--and *has* achieved, what?

It was really quite affecting, if you follow me. I'm very glad to have seen it.

-Justin




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-11 03:13:17](#)**
(no subject)

Sounds fascinating!

I expect I'll see you tomorrow in Cambridge; the YPL was invited to come along to that one.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-11 12:49:30](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

Um.

You're going to tell me what Pansy meant about a bet, yeah?

I wasn't going to ask, but

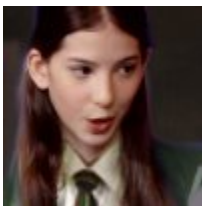
it's killing me


she said I could figure it out, but

I totally can't

Did you know she gave me a galleon? And k

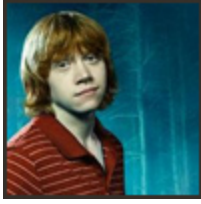
She was totally taking the mickey




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-11 17:03:40](#)**
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

You made a bet!

It was two years ago. Check your journal, you'll find it eventually.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-11 17:23:35](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good
Private Message to Sally Anne Perks*

...



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-04-11 18:40:28](#)**

(no subject)

It was a pleasure to have you, as always, along with all the Strettons. (Although now I marvel at how much my life has really changed now that my children are all past that really young age!)

2012-04-10 19:41:00

Order Only: the current crop of babies

I was looking back just now at Arthur's list of babies from the book. There were thirteen, yes? I'm trying to remember who isn't yet safely at Moddey.



 [alt_lupin](#)

There were Mary Ashton and Puneet Kamathali, both in London. Sirius and Dora went for them, got Mary, and had to wait on Puneet. Did you make another (successful) try or is Puneet still out there?

Abby Harrison of Leeds. Frank and Steve fetched her.

Jack and Branwen from Scarborough; Branwen was from a mining family who was glad to see she'd go somewhere she wouldn't have to go to the mines at age five. Actually, was Jack her parent, and Alice mis-wrote? Because I count fourteen, otherwise.

Ethan, the Leap Baby. I know we haven't fetched him yet.

Jane Briden, Abbotskerswell in Devon. Dora and I went for her.

Walter Cousins, from North Yorkshire. I know someone got him, but I can't remember who. Kingsley?

Ivy Lovell and Sirius Maxwell, who we still haven't found.

And then I wasn't able to spot if these four had been tracked down and their parents contacted:

Gillian Fitzhugh, from Saltash, in Cornwall.


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.

I feel like perhaps we need a checklist.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-11 02:37:32](#)**
(no subject)

Jack is very much a baby, and very much with us, so I suppose that'd make fourteen instead, yes. Perhaps the two Maxwells blurred a bit together when the list was first counted? I don't believe Ethan is related to Sirius, though.

Arthur and Kingsley got Gillian last month, on the 10th, I believe. And Arthur got Walter to us just this past week.

Tonks and myself found Heather on our trip.

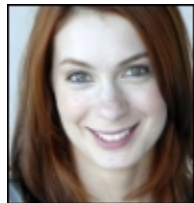
So we're waiting on Jason, Puneet, Tavis, Ethan, Ivy, and Sirius.


That reminds me, love, I've got letters from Jacinda and Divyesh about their experiences at Moddey to pass along to the Kamathalis the next time you talk to them.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-04-11 02:42:55](#)**
(no subject)


Brilliant about the letters. Send them on to us, and we'll go back to work on the Kamathalis.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-11 02:48:05](#)**
(no subject)

I hope they will be helpful. I'll be sure to send them off first thing tomorrow. Divyesh also included a report he'd recently written about traditions, myths, and heroes. He illustrated parts of it, and was quite proud of it. He's made a copy to send to his parents in his Christmas letter, too.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-11 03:49:17](#)**
(no subject)

Forgot one. Tavis is also here.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-11 02:40:09](#)**
(no subject)


Hold on.

I know exactly where Jason Baker is. He's not in Banbury camp any longer, though. He's on the Stretton estates at Coventry. And he's been ill with Measles, as have a number of other children there.

Actually, if we were to work quickly, we might lead the owners and farm managers to believe he died of the disease.

I'm sorry I didn't draw the connection whilst I was there. It would have been a simple thing to manage then.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-11 02:41:12](#)**
(no subject)

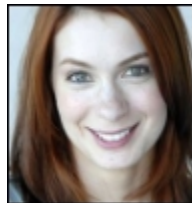
That's rather fortuitous, Poppy, although I'm sorry to hear that there's been illness. Is he still contagious? We have the ability to set up a quarantine, of course.


How on earth did you find your way to Coventry during holidays?



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-11 02:43:32](#)**
(no subject)

I'm sure Frank will be happy to volunteer for quarantine duty.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-11 02:51:40](#)**
(no subject)

Melania Ambak still reaches for Frank every time he goes into the nursery. And for the longest time, she couldn't fall asleep until he sang something. Jacinda tried, but her voice was too pretty.




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-04-11 02:53:12](#)**
(no subject)

she's getting heavy.

talkative too.

and I guess it's all my fault if the kid grows up tone deaf.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-11 02:59:28](#)**
(no subject)

Too right. When she develops a deep and abiding love for Ian Curtis' 'fabulous singing voice' you'll know where it all started.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-11 02:56:09](#)**
(no subject)

I received a special request to help. From Miss Perks. She's fostered by the Strettons, and she's on a course to find her vocation in Healing, I'd say.

She's one with your Neville and the Weasley lads, you know, and thick as thieves with the Parkinson girl.

What happened there is telling, I believe. The farmworkers heard that she was home for the holidays and somehow knew that she has some abilities with basic Healing. Clearly they also knew her to be sympathetic and trustworthy, as well. In any case, word was passed to her that a great many children were terribly ill, and of course, she went to see what could be done and was promptly in a mess she'd no idea how to mend.

I went late in the evening and did all I could.

As for the Muggleborn child, you should certainly quarantine him, though I believe that he should be past the point of contagion very soon. With that illness, one is contagious before any signs show at all--brilliant of the disease, that, but once the rash and fever erupt, the contagious phase passes in four or five days at most. We'll take a conservative approach, though, and have you keep him apart for his first week, shall we?

I can also get you a quantity of the prophylactic potion. How many of you are there at the Sanctuary now? Adults and children?




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-11 03:20:59](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, Merlin, Poppy. Arabella keeps count, of course, but off the top of my head...

I know we've thirteen adults (used to be eleven but we've added our two muggle assistants in the nursery), thirteen children from ten to twenty (had to think through that one, given that we added so many in one group this summer), and about thirty children younger than ten. Round up to forty children under ten, and we'll be able to account for the ones we have left to bring in.

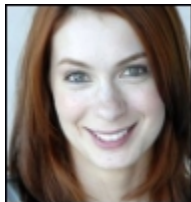
Let us know if there are any other non-magical children you think would be best with us, parents willing, of course. Taking advantage of the illness seems awfully mercenary, but it's as good an opportunity as any.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-11 03:24:45](#)**
(no subject)

And Poppy, you really are an angel.

You and Miss Perks both.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-11 03:25:33](#)**
(no subject)

...and somehow, it doesn't surprise me that we're seeing the same names crop up over and over again.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-11 02:42:39](#)
(no subject)

Making house calls, Poppy?

Or is Hogwarts' salary so little now that you have to moonlight on the holidays?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-11 03:00:04](#)
(no subject)

If I were supplementing my income on the side, it would go straight to our shared coffers. The Board of Governors would have kittens if they learned of it, though. Actually, they'd have me sacked and sent down so quickly I shouldn't know what had hit me.

No. I was on a surreptitious mercy mission for my young friend, Miss Perks.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-04-11 02:49:15](#)
(no subject)

Well, that's a stroke of luck.

I can draw the parchmentwork together quickly tomorrow. Kingsley, do you want to make that run with me?



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-04-11 02:50:02](#)
(no subject)

I am entirely available, my friend. Send me a patronus when you are ready to go, and I'll meet you at the rendezvous point.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-11 02:53:15](#)
(no subject)

Maybe you should take Poppy with you. Seems she knows the territory.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-11 02:57:45](#)
(no subject)

That was my thought, as well. If Poppy's been there recently they might not look askance at her pronouncing the child deceased.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-11 03:05:22](#)
(no subject)

Indeed. I could certainly meet you, Arthur. Or you, Kingsley. Either one.

I wonder.

It would be best if we went at a time when Miss Perks were not likely to pop in and find us there. I suppose it's too much to hope that she'd be going off tomorrow on one of those outings with the foreign contingent, sightseeing around the Protectorate. I haven't paid much attention to their schedule, but I feel certain there's a copy of the itinerary somewhere here. Actually, there's certain to be one on Aurora Sinistra's office door. I'll go have a look.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-04-11 03:27:24](#)
(no subject)

I can certainly cede my place in the expedition to you, Poppy. It makes sense.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-11 15:46:52](#)
(no subject)

Arthur, I'm clear to come whenever you've got the parchmentwork and can meet me.

I've thought, though, that I should use polyjuice. Despite what Sirius says, I think it's safer all around if no one recognises me today. It would be awkward--and perhaps dangerous--if my presence there got back to the administration at St Mungo's. (I may be in a tight spot there as it is, and I'd like not to compound it if that can be avoided.)

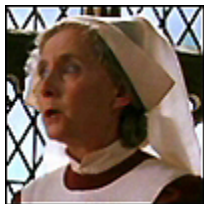
All of which to say: I think you and Frank and Kingsley keep a supply of random personal bits to add to polyjuice? Could you bring me the necessary ingredient to make mine a safely anonymous identity today?



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-04-11 16:56:09](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, we have polyjuice. Kingsley left some with me last time; I'll bring some with me, with hairs for putting in it, too.

I'll be ready to go at 2:00, if you could meet me at the rendezvous point?



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-11 17:11:54](#)**
(no subject)

I have polyjuice, don't waste any of yours on me. But I don't have any hairs I think would be appropriate. I hardly think that turning into any of my colleagues from the school would help

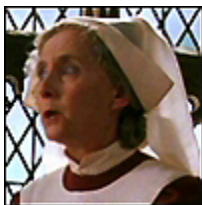
matters.

Imagine if Alecto Carrow were to appear at the Stretton Estates today! You see the trouble.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-04-11 18:20:34](#)**
(no subject)

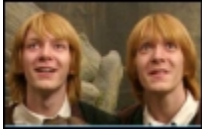
Don't worry, we have a selection which I'll bring with me.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-11 03:29:04](#)**
(no subject)

Tomorrow we might be in luck if we were able to go during the day. According to a notice on Aurora's door, the CCF youngsters were encouraged to join in an outing to Cambridge tomorrow. I didn't find a list of those going, mind you, but it's possible Miss Perks would go.

I'd like very much to avoid having her be present when we arrive to take the child. It really wouldn't do to give her any more clues to our activities than she's already collected.



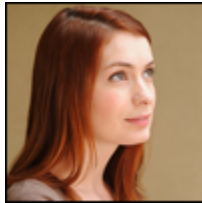
 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-11 03:33:30](#)**
(no subject)


Well, WE can put your mind at rest. Sally-Anne Perks was at the Burrow today, to play Quidditch. She said she's going to Cambridge tomorrow (Neville's going, too.)



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-11 03:39:06](#)**
(no subject)

And of course she's going back to school soon and so hopefully won't have much more time to come around and maybe ask awkward questions.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-11 03:40:57](#)**
(no subject)

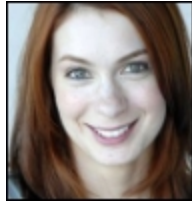
It is rather too bad that she'll have to think that one of the children she worked so hard to save died.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-11 13:39:45](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, that WILL be hard on her. If she finds out. She was real worried about those kids. She talked about it a little at lunch.

With any luck, the Strettons will keep her so busy she won't have a chance to go back to check on them before she leaves for the train.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-11 13:48:52](#)
(no subject)

Oh! And before I forget.

A Safehouse for the Order is located at 12
Grimmauld Place.

You should be able to get in now to look at the books and things. It can be written or spoken, but I've never tried through journals before, so it might be different. If it doesn't work, let me know and I can pop down there or send a quick owl.

When you come to Moddey Dhoo, that's under a different secret-keeper. So that will have to wait until you come for a visit and she can give it to you in person.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-11 14:14:38](#)
(no subject)

Thanks, Allie.

Lads, come along anytime. The Floo's open. But mind you come quietly; Dora's sleeping and if you're too loud, you'll set off the portrait.

And we don't need that. Trust me.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-11 14:15:29](#)
(no subject)


Great. We'll be along shortly. Thanks, Sirius.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-11 14:16:00](#)
(no subject)

Uh, what portrait?



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-11 15:47:17](#)
(no subject)

Let's just say you want to be quiet.

Sirius's mother left a rather indelible version of herself behind, and she likes to yell.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-11 16:59:13](#)
(no subject)

We were going to say, 'Just like our mum!'

But now we've met the portrait and we're glad we didn't. They're nothing alike.

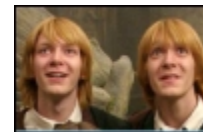
(And sorry, Sirius, hope Bea got back to sleep all right.)



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-04-11 17:16:31](#)
(no subject)

Oh, straight away. (After forty minutes of shouting. Can't think why she's so cranky when her nap gets cut short...)

You find what you needed here, then?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-11 18:19:51](#)
(no subject)

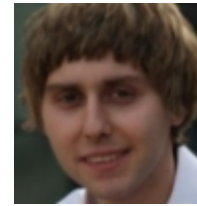
We're still looking.

[2012-04-10 23:10:00](#)

Holiday Tour

Hello, friends!

I say, it's been a frightful age since I wrote properly, what? I suppose that's the trouble with these bally old things: One forms one or two attachments and it becomes ever so simple to send nothing but private messages to one's mates.



 [alt_justin](#)

But our trips this last week have been well worth the chronicling.

Let's see:

We went on a tour of the Tower and a boat ride on the Thames. For most of us, we've never been to New London and this gave us a wonderful introduction to the city, what? I think the river is an excellent way to get one's bearings.

We were meant to go to the botanical gardens but the weather was against us. Instead, we were treated to a special preview of a new museum in New London. The Protector's Collection. It's a well thoughtful mix, what, of unique items that the Lord Protector has assembled all in on place and has graciously allowed to be displayed to the public. There's to be another wing, we're told, with all sorts of activities for young witches and wizards, which I think is a brilliant way to introduce them to the Protectorate's history and its values.

We went to Glastonbury Tor and saw Stonehenge. I say, outside the Protectorate, Stonehenge is still one of the most famous images of England, so I was well pleased to see it in person. It's incredible, what! And of course, we learned about the importance of Ancient Runes to the old tribes and how some of those runes are still used today.

We saw Tintagel castle in Cornwall. That was also well impressive. And most of the Beauxbatons students know quite a bit about Arthurian Lore but apparently the Durmstrang lot are not so well-versed. It rather makes sense, of course, I simply never gave it much thought before then. But standing atop that turret was quite breathtaking. And the ghosts, what! They had amazing stories to tell about their lives.

We went to Bath.

We were taken to Camelot amusement park in Liverpool. That was a jolly good time, indeed! And Luna, I'm delighted you were able to come along in Patil's party. I say, it was smashingly good of her and Parvati to coincide their party with our visit.

We were shown a typical camp for muggleborn labourers outside of Newcastle. I know this was a particular request of many of my schoolmates, and Durmstrang's besides, and I think we were all quite suitably inspired by the obvious work that goes into maintaining such a facility, what? And the denizens were obviously fortunate to have been given so much bounty. It truly made us think about how possible it would be for our own countries to follow the Protectorate's example.

We explored Yorkshire Dales and saw all manner of wildlife and talked about the efforts to restore the Protectorate to its natural beauty. We picnicked on the open moor and then took a weed walk and enjoyed the simplicity of an unspoiled, uninhabited place.

We went to Lincoln and Nottingham. We saw a Robin Hood panto in Nottingham and toured the home of Waltheof the Elder (who is said to be the very same wizard mentioned in the ballad, *Robin Hood and the Wizard*). We were shown where Lincoln Castle is, but of course, one couldn't go inside.

Today we went on a tour of the historic battleground at Leicester. I say, I think perhaps even more than Newcastle, today's has been the most serious of our trips. It's well affecting the way the site has been commemorated, what, and how it stands as a testament to the Protectorate's achievements. I kept thinking of people I now know who fought there or whose loved ones did, and how meaningful that made the experience.

I'm looking forward to the rest of the trips. Tomorrow we're to Cambridge and its wonderful architecture and I expect some bowling on the greens and a stroll through the many libraries and galleries. Then we've a day to ourselves back in New London, a professional Quidditch match (I think it might be the Lethifolds everyone's talking about, what?) and Professor Froissart said we might be able to go to the botanical gardens, after all, which we missed owing to the weather on our second day in New London.

I say, it'll be hard to go back to school after all this sightseeing!


-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-11 04:10:11](#)
(no subject)

My father was killed at Leicester, you know.



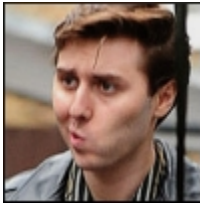
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-11 04:14:31](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


Alecto Carrow did it, you know.

She blamed someone else named Moody who fought for the other side, but she did it.

Last term, Harry and me fought her in the Forbidden Forest to save Sirius Black, and once we disarmed her, we took turns casting Obliviate to scramble her brains so she wouldn't remember a thing.

Next time, she'll get a lot worse than scrambled brains.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-11 04:16:36](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Quite.

-Justin



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-11 04:15:00](#)
(no subject)

Hello, Pansy,

Yes, I had heard something about that. I'm awfully sorry.

Have you been to the site? I say, it really is quite tastefully done. It rather reminds one of some of the battlefields from the World Wars, that have been preserved to commemorate the deaths of wizards on the Continent.

I can imagine it might be painful for you to see it but I should think it could also provide you with a good deal of solace.

-Justin




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-11 04:16:27](#)
(no subject)

I haven't.

I really only found out about the details of everything a year ago. So that's taken some getting used to.

Maybe I will some time.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-11 15:19:46](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

A bit scary how good you are at writing that sort of bollocks.

You know, Muggles couldn't see Tintagel properly. The twins and I sometimes go off scavenging in the little towns out here in Devon near where we live, and we found a whole load of photocards--still pictures like Muggles always took--of places like Stonehenge and Buckingham Palace and Dover Castle. Famous places, y'know? And there was this one of a pile of ruins out on a cliff by the ocean, and we turned it over and it said it was Tintagel. I mean, it looked totally different!

I'd heard about that sort of thing. Wizards used to put glamours on their houses and important places, sometimes back when the Secrecy Statutes were in place and back ~~when Muggles were~~ before the Protectorate, and they'd make it look like the place was nothing but a pile of rubble or like it was a totally run-down wreck of a place, so Muggles would stay away.

I suppose that's what they did with Tintagel. Didn't want Muggles all over the part where we have weddings and re-enactments and tournaments and all.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-11 15:29:26](#)

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

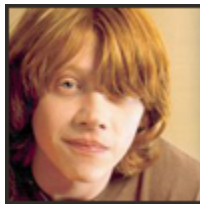
Hullo, Ron.

Well, I think the key is to stick to making statements that are true, what? For example, the camp did make one think about whether France could go the same way as the Protectorate. I just didn't say what I think about it, now, did I?

I just couldn't find anything good to say about Bath. My only hope is that, like Patil, everyone else agrees it's well dismal.

I'm glad everyone had fun at yours yesterday. See you in Cambridge?

-Justin




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-11 15:35:28](#)

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

Ready to leave for there now.

Are your lot there already?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-04-11 15:21:14](#)

(no subject)

I wish they'd had us come along to Leicester! You're right, it's terribly important because it was such a turning point in the Protector's war. Maybe they've got plans for the CCF and YPL to go there separately. Because some of the things you've done, we did in past years. Like the Tower.

It's hard to come up with anything good to say about Bath, isn't it? It's just sort of there. Some people go for the waters but I've heard that they're really not very good. Mostly they're salty.

As far as Camelot, you're welcome. I'm glad everything worked out, even if it does mean we'll have a much smaller celebration when Pav and I actually turn 15. It turned out that Su Li didn't much like the fast rides, so everything worked out, anyway.

Is it really weird to look at where Lincoln ought to be? Could you touch the walls but just not see them? I'm curious how that works, anyway. Like, can you see right from one side of the walls to the stuff on the other side?



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-04-11 15:54:19](#)**
Order Only

This entry, with its remarks about the muggleborn camp certainly caused a sigh of relief in the office today. I wonder, though, if all of the visitors were truly taken entirely in. Or even young Finch-Fletchley himself, despite what he says.

2012-04-11 12:03:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Harry asked me the other day if we could talk.

About Sirius.

 [alt_pansy](#)

Apparently, Sirius Black doesn't see it fit to write me a proper letter, but he'll certainly tell other people that I write *him*, and that we ought to talk. Or something.

Hermione, what is he after? I mean, like I said, he doesn't really write back. He sent me an owl once, but no message, and when he sent the books it was like one sentence. And, well, he's hidden some random things meant for me in the Grim Truth, and he answered that one question you asked him for me. But that's it.

I don't know why he doesn't like to write me directly, but it's very frustrating.

He's very frustrating.

What does Harry think about Sirius?

What does he write him about?

What do you think he'll ask me?

He's going to try and talk in Cambridge, but only if we can go somewhere private.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-04-11 16:13:24**

(no subject)

Oi.

That's not on. What's he playing at, Black? Telling your secrets is-

rubbish

that's what it is



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-11 16:21:43](#)
(no subject)

After this and the way he gave me those books, I wonder.

I really do.


But you're right. Even if he had his reasons. It *was* rubbishy of him.

And he told Harry about the records too, earlier. Or just as good as when he sent Pig, because in the note he told him to tell me I could keep them. So apparently, anything I tell him is fair game for Harry.

And I don't really like that very much.

I haven't told him anything about any of you, by the way. So the only one who'd get in massive trouble is me. But still.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-11 16:39:12](#)
(no subject)

Maybe we should all start writing him letters to say what we think about the way he's treated you.

That could be fun, actually.

Dear Traitor Big-Head, it's a shame you're such an eejit. But that's no excuse.

Only. You don't suppose he means for you trust Harry with secrets about what you really think? I mean, does Black think you should be trying to turn Harry against the Protector or whatever? How dangerous would that be?

I mean, sure, I think Harry doesn't think like they mean him to. About Hermione or about other stuff, but-

Well, it's hard to tell how far that goes, really.

And he turned on me enough times, I gave up, yeah? Cause I don't know where he'd draw a line. If they pushed him. His father or the others. It just didn't seem worth it, y'know. Because he didn't

really seem to want to be friends. Or only sometimes, and that's naff.

Anywiz, do you think that's what Black wants you to do?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-11 16:49:24](#)
(no subject)


Well, see, that's what I'm unsure about.

What his line *is*, and how I avoid crossing it. It's one thing to like ONE person with muggle parents, it's another to think they all deserve to be students at the school and taught magic. And he might be writing Sirius for different reasons altogether. I don't know. Asking after his parents or something. His real ones.

That's why I was sort of hoping Hermione would fill me in a bit.


And why I'm frustrated that Sirius won't tell me *anything*, but expects me to know it already.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-11 16:50:11](#)
(no subject)

So yeah, until I find out more, you might want to stick close by.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-11 16:15:29](#)
(no subject)

If you don't want to talk to Harry, we can all stick together today and then he won't be able to ask you anything.

If that's what you want.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-11 16:23:10](#)
(no subject)

I don't mind talking, I just would like to have some idea about what he'll ask.

So I know how much I'm going to have to lie.

But Sirius went out of his way to tell Harry to talk to me, I guess? Because that's what Harry made it seem like. So it's going to happen eventually.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-11 16:40:52](#)
(no subject)

Well, come over here to our table for lunch, anywiz.

Got to put this away and eat, yeah?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-11 16:49:42](#)
(no subject)

If you insist, tuna-lips.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-11 20:13:12](#)
(no subject)


I mean, we've talked about Sirius a bit. Before. About the fact that I had his records and wrote him after Regulus died and I was sad.

But that's it.

And that's not what'd get me into trouble. I've been so careful, but that doesn't look like it matters any more.

Knowing my luck, the next person he'll tell will be Draco.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-11 20:53:49](#)
(no subject)

You and Harry, y'mean?

Or

Have you told watsisname about the records and the writing him?

It's really hard sometimes, keeping secrets. I mean, it's hard with my family. Remembering not to say something to the twins if Mum's there. Of if she might come in all of a sudden. Or Gin.

I mean, it's never hard if it's Percy. I just don't say anything around him that's about anything important. Mostly because he takes everything wrong, even if it's nothing, y'know-

But we do just all watch ourselves around him, because, well, you just can't take a risk with it. And now Bill's working for Mr Rosier. I dunno. I haven't had a chance to ask the twins what that was like when they stayed with him for their birthday, but Bill's alright. Still, I'd never say anything in front of him that wasn't just about brother stuff.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-04-11 21:01:21](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I know what you mean. About keeping secrets from people, and how hard it is sometimes.


All Draco knows about is that Sirius sent me some of Regulus's books. At least that could be explained away, and it's not

Well

I mean, yes, I'd get in trouble if Draco told. But he wouldn't. Not about the letters. It's more that I'm not sure he'd understand entirely why I would in the first place.

But Harry knows about the records. And my writing Sirius when Regulus died because I was sad. And I know he gets letters from Sirius too, so there's that.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-11 21:12:21](#)
(no subject)

Well, maybe you should just go on and talk to him. Harry, I mean. And if he asks you something you're not ready for, just, well, tell him you don't want to answer without thinking first, or just act upset and either make him change the subject or stop talking until some other time after you've had a chance to think. And talk to Hermione. Or even to write Black and ask him what he means.

I dunno.

I mean, if you want to talk to Harry, you could maybe slip away now before we're all meant to meet up again at that chapel.

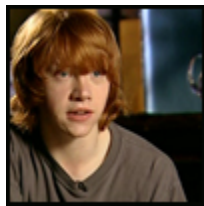



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-11 21:37:18](#)
(no subject)

I am going to write him, I think.

Sirius, I mean.

And yes, I might as well see what Harry wants. You're right, I could always put it off for later if it gets weird.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-11 22:00:22](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

I think you should do both of those things.

Anywiz, it was fun today. Maybe not how you'd've wanted to spend it if all this hadn't been going on, but punting was a lark. And making the plates all fly around with JP after lunch! And looking for all those rare plants and bugs and birds and all with Luna.

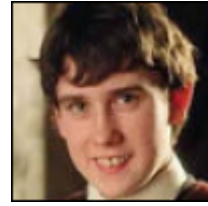
Sometimes I think Luna just makes stuff up, only, she seems to really believe those things exist, so then I wonder if it's something to do with how her father was taken away. Because, y'know, she almost always says he told her about the Dough-

||| beaked Bellywhacker, or showed her her first Piliated Pivoter,
or whatever.

[2012-04-11 14:55:00](#)

Cambridge

Cambridge is really beautiful! We were offered tours of some of the old college buildings in the morning, to hear all about the sorts of things they're doing with the buildings now that the University has been ~~disba~~ reorganised for the greater glory of the Protectorate. It was nice that we were offered a choice of what we wanted to see. I chose the St Catharine's College tour, because I was particularly interested in the Ouroboros Herbology Institute. It's housed on the former St Catharine College grounds. (That's quite a clever renaming, I thought: the guide explained how the Ouroboros symbol was chosen as a much worthier successor to the St Catharine's wheel which used to be the college's symbol. It's worked into the beautiful ironwrought railings all throughout the grounds.) It was so fascinating to see really cutting edge Herbology research. They're cultivating plants for potions research that have up to fifty times the efficacy of the original cultivars from the wild! There was one greenhouse we couldn't enter because the temperature has to be strictly controlled, but otherwise they showed us everything and were wonderful about answering everybody's questions. (They wouldn't let anyone walk on the lawn, though. The proctors get quite shirty about it.)




 [alt_neville](#)

We had a picnic lunch on the banks of the Cam, and then they had punts available for those who wanted to try punting on the River. I went with John Summers and Susan Bones and Ernie Macmillan. It probably was a mistake to try to steer the boat the traditional way, by using a pole. It got stuck in the mud. If I had just used magic like most everyone else did, I probably wouldn't have fallen in. Oh, well. (Macmillan, sorry I got you all wet.)

We're supposed to see King's College Chapel at the end of the day. That'll be wizard. My Gran's been listening to the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols wireless broadcast every Christmas Eve for years, and this will be my first chance to see the space where the service is held. Gran says it's really spectacular, and the ~~acus aquost~~ way that music sounds inside there is grand. It's too bad that it's during the hols, though, so they won't be holding the evensong service.



 **alt_ron** at **2012-04-12 12:27:28**
(no subject)

Glad you had a good time.

Shame about the punting. We had better luck with that.

Pansy wanted to visit the Potioneers' Hall, so we went off over there, and I stopped into this nift little museum about the history of magical gadgets. Saw some Remembralls! And other really wizard stuff. Although, it seems as if the thing people mostly wanted devices for was finding out what people they were in love with were getting up to.

2012-04-11 18:21:00

Private Message to Auror Crouch

Did you find the packet I left for you at #472? Only, when I arrived, She was in the kitchen. When she heard me, she came into the lounge.



 [alt_lana](#)

She was-

She seemed to be emerging, sir. She was confused, of course. First, she seemed to think I was the char, but then I saw something clicked and she decided I was your mistress. I'd have thought my pseud more the former than the latter, but I think she was really still in a sort of dream state.

I wasn't sure whether I should stay with her or go, so I went. Thought that would make it less likely you'd have to Oblivate her again. On top of, well-

I did spell the cupboard shut. Before she came into the room, I think.

I hope you got there in time.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2012-04-12 00:50:19**

(no subject)

Yes, thank you. I found the packet intact.

The wife less so, but that's no cause for you to worry.

Tomorrow a.m.?



 [alt_lana](#) at **2012-04-12 00:59:58**

(no subject)

Yes, of course, sir.

I'll be there in full kit.

2012-04-11 19:51:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Terry?

Fred and George say they spent today in a dodgy book shop in Knockturn Alley, fending off hags and looking through books on blood magic.



 [alt_ron](#)

They say it isn't real clear what the Carrows were trying to do to you exactly. It almost seems like they were messing with more than one spell at the same time. Or maybe it just seems like a mess because they're barking mad.

But the twins wanted me to pass along a warning to you that maybe what they were trying to do was protect themselves by fixing things so if anything bad happens to him (or maybe to her, too?), then whatever it was would happen to you instead. Or to you, too?


I asked what they meant exactly, and they said it could be like if the git cuts himself shaving, then you'd maybe bleed instead.

So yeah. Fred and George said be careful.

Sorry, mate. This is all pretty dire.

Rotten, really.



 [alt_terry](#) at **2012-04-12 02:31:19**
(no subject)

i'd...suspected something like that.


well, it isn't anything new, i suppose. in a way. i know if i don't take the best possible care of him, it's all the worse for me.

the git.

anyway, tell the twins thanks. i'm sorry they had to deal with the hags. and tell them i'm still trying to do the animagus spell.

oh, and she's leaving the castle on friday morning. so it'll be all right to send pig saturday night again.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-12 02:40:33](#)
(no subject)

All right. I'll tell them. And we're definitely sending Fig. You can count on that.

2012-04-11 20:47:00

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



So. Did you talk to him?

Was it okay?

 [alt_ron](#)

And what was wrong with Sally Anne at the end of the day? Was she just hacked off that I forgot we weren't on a Private Message when I was talking about Luna?

I mean, I know that was dumb, but she didn't have to take my head off about it!



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-12 03:06:41**

(no subject)

Well, she's had a hard couple of days. And I guess it's easy sometimes to forget that Luna's under the lock now, and might get her feelings hurt. But she doesn't seem the type to get hurt so easily. I think Sally-Anne got more hacked off than Luna ever would, really.

My talk with Harry was fine.

We both agreed that Sirius Black can be a very frustrating person.

And I told him a little bit. About how sometimes I have questions about things, and how I got in so much trouble our first year for speaking out about it, so it made sense why I would. He spent most of the time talking, actually. I think he was just sort of glad to have someone to talk to about it.

And when I asked him what Sirius'd said

get THIS.

Sirius came to VISIT Harry. In Hogsmeade, the last time we had a weekend there. How wild is that?

Well, when they were talking, Sirius'd told Harry that I asked a lot of the questions that he did, and he also said that he and I ought to

perhaps put our heads together. He also mentioned that Harry ought to sort out who his friends were, who Harry's friends were, I mean, and that he ought to do a better job talking to them. At least that's what he told me.




 **alt_pansy** at [2012-04-12 03:08:42](#)
(no subject)

It wasn't nearly as bad as I thought it'd be. Because he did most of the talking, like I said.

I think the Frost Faire thing really messed him up. Because he kept talking about it. A lot.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-12 12:30:59](#)
(no subject)

Huh.

So Mr Black just sort of reckon'd it'd help both of you to know you could talk about stuff and trust each other. Well. Guess maybe you shouldn't be quite so hacked off about it, then.

About Harry. Yeah. He really does need to figure out who his friends are.

Because he could have more of them if he weren't so

yeah

2012-04-11 20:50:00

Private message to Pansy

Are you home? I want to come over. Right now. If it's okay.



 [alt_sally_anne](#)



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-12 02:11:20**
(no subject)

Yes. Of course.

What's happened?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-04-12 02:13:39**
(no subject)

One of the babies died. One of the muggle babies with measles. When I checked on them, after I came back from Cambridge, his parents told me.

I want to come over. I don't care if the Strettons let me or not, they can try to stop me if they want. ~~They wouldn't even send for~~



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-12 02:15:22**
(no subject)

Come over. I'll be at the fireplace waiting.

If they try and stop you, let me know. And I will come over and hex them.

I'm so sorry, Sally-Anne.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-04-12 02:17:02**
(no subject)

I'm coming right now



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-12 02:14:28](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

The Strettons wouldn't even send for a healer, they don't even care, the babies don't do any work and they keep their parents from working as hard so as far as they're concerned WHO CARES if they ALL

die.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-12 02:18:07](#)

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

You care.

Madame Pomphrey cares.

Fred and George and Lee and Ron and Neville and Justin and Luna and Hermione and Terry care.

I care.

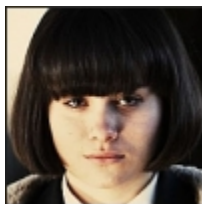
And what's more, you and Madame Pomfrey tried. You tried so hard to save him.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-12 02:16:34](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

And when I was walking around with Draco this afternoon and talking about how novice healers study at the institute in Cambridge, Healer Stint butted in to tell me that I'll never be allowed, it's purebloods only, because of course for something IMPORTANT like HEALING you wouldn't want to risk having an inferior witch like me



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-12 02:20:25](#)

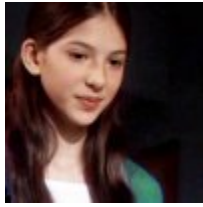
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

You are not inferior.

You're a better person than I am.

You're brilliant and wonderful and you will make an incredible

healer and I will bribe every single person on the board at Cambridge if I have to but it'll be because you deserve it.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2012-04-12 02:24:56**

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

Okay.

I would also like you to feed Healer Stint to the giant squid.

Or maybe I could have Ron do that. Gryffindors, you know. They're supposed to be good at that sort of thing.

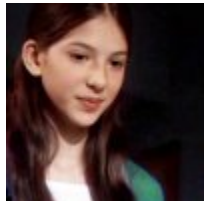


 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-04-12 02:26:58**

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

If I pay someone enough, I bet they would.

Or at the very least, we could get someone to slap him across the face with a smaller squid.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2012-04-12 02:29:23**

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

That wouldn't be so bad but I'd really prefer he get eaten. And digested.

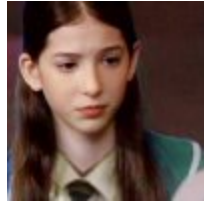


 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-04-12 02:30:28**

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

Noted.

Do you want to firechat with Ron once you have a chance to get settled?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-12 02:32:12](#)


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

I don't know what I want to do.

Maybe think of a hundred horrible fates for Healer Stint.

Ron would be good at that, too, come to think of it.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-12 02:43:59](#)

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

I can't wait for us to move into our flat.

And you'll never have to see the Strettons again.

Let's draw out how we'll decorate your rooms. And choose colours.

[2012-04-11 21:01:00](#)

Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

How were your hols, Aurora?

Did you get back to the castle at all or was it a non-stop social whirl?



 [alt_pomona](#)

I passed mine rather quietly, myself. Sometimes being at the castle when it's nearly empty is a blessed relief.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **[2012-04-12 01:18:53](#)**

(no subject)

Mixed, but improving, I hope. Let's see.

Meetings: better than I'd hoped, actually, and we made good progress on the summer plans. Though we need to get a move on selecting this year's counsellors (and I should arrange time with you, Horace, Septima, and Hooch to work through some of that.)

Social whirl: Some, yes. The Lindorm-Cooper wedding was quite the spectacle, and very much the event one apparently wishes to be seen at if one likes that sort of thing. Or even if one doesn't. I did not, however, hugely embarrass myself. It's mostly more minor things, which I find much easier, really.

Family: Mum arranged a gathering of the women of both sides (her's and Dad's) Monday, and it was better than it might have been. Partly because Diane saved an announcement (she's expecting her seventh in October) until I was fed up with their questions and distracted them all. And at least I've gotten through that, having ducked it over Christmas.

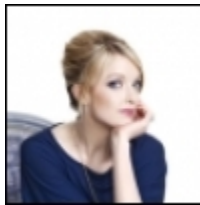
And then, well. Raz and I have been doing a lot of talking. It got rather dire a week ago Tuesday, sorting through some of what you and I'd talked about a few weeks ago. Between that and the amount of work I've been putting in, well, I didn't really make it out of bed Wednesday or Thursday. Lots of reading, at least. (And if Poppy asks, more sleep than I'd been managing before that.) Improving now, thankfully.



 **alt_pomona** at [2012-04-12 01:28:58](#)
(no subject)

Glad to hear that YPL matters are moving along more smoothly.

I hope this means that blasted Stint has backed off causing trouble?



 **alt_sinistra** at [2012-04-12 01:38:15](#)
(no subject)

Yes and no.

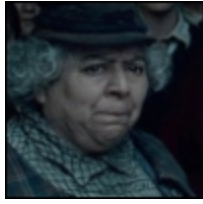
I did rather a lot of prep work for these meetings, to make sure things would go smoothly.

Stint - well, I don't know. He was entirely polite and appropriate in person in the meetings, but also smug in that way that makes you sure something's up. (That stage seventh year boys sometimes get where they're sure they're kings of the world.)

Some of it was clearly his date for the wedding (Maebh Drumgoole is clearly a step up socially from me, but she's welcome to him, thanks.) But there were other things, too. You know that sense when something's not quite as it should be, or as you expected?

(For me, it's like seeing a blip in a star's light, and knowing there must be something there, but not what it is yet, whether it's another star or a planet or a meteor or a bird in the sky? I seem to remember you telling me the same kind of thing with plants: a leaf drooping oddly, or a petal not unfurling right, yes?)

Haven't really had the focus to settle down and figure out what, but we did do full transcripts this time. Rather a waste of parchment, but after the investigation, I wanted full details in case something came up this round, and the parchment can all be scraped down for fresh work when we're really done with it. I do think I'll have another look through when I can.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-04-12 03:37:42](#)
(no subject)

My dear, I really do wish to continue this conversation, but I am well and truly exhausted, perhaps because I was up early wrangling an especially testy patch of Devil's Snare.

I'm for bed but i hope we can get a good chat in before the students return.



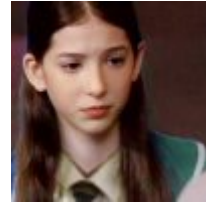
 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-12 15:23:25](#)
(no subject)

Don't worry about it, please - I ended up getting distracted myself, into another conversation.

I'd love a good chat, though (clearly: thank you for putting up with my babbling last night.) Not sure yet when we'll be getting back to the castle, but likely either Saturday sometime, or Sunday morning.

2012-04-11 21:03:00

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To
No Good*



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

After I got back from Cambridge, I went over to check on the muggle children with measles.

One of them died this afternoon.

His mum said I shouldn't blame myself. That he'd seemed fine. That there wasn't anything I could have done if I'd been there.

I can't remember the last time I felt so



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-04-12 02:19:36**

(no subject)

No.

I mean, that's awful.

Are you going to be all right? I mean, I know you're not okay. But-

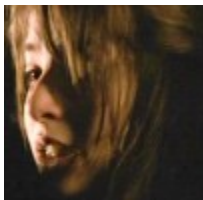
Do the Strettons know? Are you-

Is anyone-

I mean if you need to talk or something, we could fire call.

I know you were cross with me before, but y'know-

Anywiz. I guess just say if you need something, yeah?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-04-12 02:23:41**

(no subject)

I'm going to Pansy's.


I'm just packing up a few things, I'm going to spend the night. I'm leaving the Strettons a note. I can't stay here right now.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-12 02:25:14](#)
(no subject)

Pack more. Pack everything.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-12 02:25:43](#)
(no subject)

Or no. Pack what you need and we'll go back tomorrow and get the rest.



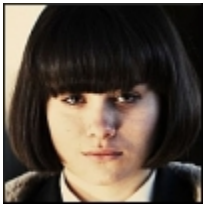
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-12 02:27:19](#)
(no subject)

I'm going to have to come back here because I'll still need to check on the rest of the sick people. At least until I go back to school.



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


Okay. But you can still spend the rest of your nights here. If you want.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-12 02:24:16](#)
(no subject)

She's spending the night with me. And the rest of hols if I have anything to say about it.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-12 02:27:03](#)
(no subject)

Good. I guess. I mean, I wish

Yeah. I'm glad you're going.



 **alt_luna** at [2012-04-12 02:38:29](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I think that's a very good idea.

I'm glad you can be with a friend tonight, Sally-Anne.

I'm so sorry.

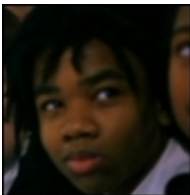



 **alt_neville** at [2012-04-12 02:36:58](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Sally-Anne...I'm ever so sorry.

She's right, you know. You can't blame yourself, you can't. It's a really bad disease, and you did everything you could. You were the only one who gave him a chance. It may not have been enough, but it could be that more of those kids would have died if you hadn't been there to try to help.

Anyway...I s'pose that nothing anyone says right now seems like enough.



 **alt_lee** at [2012-04-12 02:41:20](#)
(no subject)

Blimey. Don't even know what to say.

Real sorry Perks.

2012-04-12 09:36:00

Order Only

Did everything go smoothly yesterday, Poppy?
Arthur?



Alice's owl arrived with the drawings and letters for Puneet's parents. Perhaps we can make another try for him tomorrow, or this weekend.

 [alt_lupin](#)

That will bring us to Ethan, Ivy, and Sirius. I think the theory that Ivy is a Traveler and Sirius's parents are in hiding somewhere, or with some group like Sherwood's, are sound. Regarding Ethan -- how long do people want to wait? One of the things I've heard about Leap babies is that sometimes they show their magic earlier, which could be awkward.

Minerva, have you checked the book again lately? (Sorry to nag.)



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2012-04-12 16:38:30**

(no subject)


Remus. I'm sorry not to have reported sooner. There's a bit of a mess on my end.

Arthur and I made short work of it yesterday. We arrived, presented ourselves to the overseer, were allowed to proceed to the makeshift infirmary. We spent a short while 'examining' the sick children, then took over a small storeroom, bundled young Jason in there and asked to see the parents. They were shocked and saddened, of course, but they were amenable to our proposal once we'd explain what was at stake. I suppose they were swayed by the hope of a better life for their child than the one they've been forced to lead.

Arthur filed the parchmentwork and we left with the 'dead' baby.

It was only after I returned that difficulties began to arise. Apparently there's to be an inspection of the Stretton estates today, set in motion by my contacting Healer Locksley to obtain the prophylactic potion I took out there to keep any more of those children (including our Miss Perks) from coming out in Measles. Obviously, we didn't follow normal protocol in addressing the matter. And now there are questions.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-12 16:40:25](#)**
(no subject)

What sort of questions?

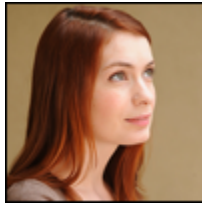
What was your cover? Did the Strettons sign off on any paperwork regarding the baby, or did you only interact with the Muggles?




 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-12 16:44:51](#)**
(no subject)

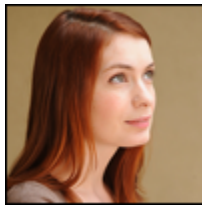
No, the Strettons were not involved directly. There was an overseer for the particular farm where the outbreak occurred. (I presume one of the umpteen copies of the forms went to the owners, but we had no dealings with them.)


I went clothed in St M's green and gave my name as 'Anne Hill'; Arthur was in standard work robes and said he was 'Mr Brinkley' from the Ministry. No one wanted to see actual credentials, though we had them. Completely false, of course.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-12 16:47:16](#)**
(no subject)

And... just to clarify, are the questions about the baby, or about the measles?



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-12 16:47:55](#)**
(no subject)

I would imagine questions about the measles might lead to questions about the baby, of course... so I don't suppose it matters terribly much.

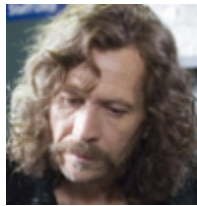


 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:02:33](#)**
(no subject)

Well, yes, that's a worry.

The inspection was triggered because the Strettons failed to report that they had a Measles outbreak, which wouldn't ordinarily have been a problem. No one expects employers to care about Muggles' health unless there's some chance of epidemic, or a possibility that wizards might fall sick of something dire, or a likelihood that someone in some other department might come to hear of the matter and think something should have been done about it.

I'm not honestly sure which of those things set them in motion; it could have been any of those things. Whatever the reason, Healer Locksley reports that a team have been sent out to the Stretton farms today.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:12:31](#)**
(no subject)

If Perks is questioned, she might try to lie to protect you, Poppy. Best tell her not to worry about that. Your involvement in everything up to yesterday was within your brief and you can honestly say you were acting out of interest for her well-being, if anyone at St M's gets shirty with you.

But if she tries to lie she'll find herself in a hot cauldron and that might well create loads of problems for everyone.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:18:20](#)**
(no subject)

Quite true, though there's no very good way of communicating that to her without seeming guilty of something if my message were read.

Sticking my head in the Strettons' fire would be as suspicious as writing the child a 'private' message over the journals.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:21:00](#)**
(no subject)

Right. And our Hermione can't tell her without all but confirming to her that you're involved with the Order.

This is getting far too complicated.

Bugger.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:33:32](#)**
(no subject)

Quite true.

In any case, I'm choosing not to worry on that account.

I have great confidence in Miss Perks' good head. One might credit her with the best qualities of her House, but perhaps it's sounder to credit her with simple good sense and higher than average intelligence.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:55:37](#)**
(no subject)

Nor can we.

Unless...no. Too bad we've already had the Quidditch Day at the Burrow. Because maybe we could have framed it as 'friendly advice from older students' if she had brought it up. And we could have maneuvered the conversation round to it, since she'd already talked about the sick kids she saw.


This inspection probably means she's going to find out that the baby's been declared dead. There's no getting around it, if they decide to ask her questions.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:58:49](#)**
(no subject)

I expect she already knows. It would be unlike Miss Perks not to have checked on those children, so I expect she's been informed.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:00:09](#)**
(no subject)

Ugh.

Dad, is there any parchmentwork we need to plant in any files anywhere at the Ministry to head off more questions?




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:01:23](#)**
(no subject)

No, you know I'm always careful about that. This is unusual, that a health inspection taking place the day after a removal. It's a situation quite unlike anything we've ever faced before.

Merlin, I hope the parents don't go to pieces under questions or anything like that.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:05:33](#)**
(no subject)

Agreed.

I'm much less well positioned to plant false parchment work at St Mungo's. Although I have a possible helper there, someone in my analyst network I can call in if absolutely necessary. I'd prefer not to use her, however. She's more useful and reliable for information than actual clandestine action.




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:07:08](#)**
(no subject)

Let's not endanger ourselves by jumping at shadows. It might raise even more awkward questions.

I will pin my hopes on the fact that most don't care about dead Muggle babies.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:07:26](#)**
(no subject)

As long as they continue to think he's dead.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:08:32](#)**
(no subject)

Aren't you cheery today!



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:56:41](#)**
(no subject)

As many years as I've had at this job, I've good reason.

Usually, it helps us. I hope it will here, too.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-12 17:07:42](#)**
(no subject)


We can hope that they'll be more interested in sticking it to the Strettons that they didn't file whatever reports they were bound to file.

Isn't that what bureaucrats care most about, Arthur? That their rules have been followed?

If they should question the parents, though- Well, I suppose we

have to hope that they understand how thoroughly their lives and the child's life depend on their telling the story as we rehearsed it.



 **alt_alice** at [2012-04-12 16:39:07](#)
(no subject)

I'd say now that he's over a month old, we can fetch him at any time. And you're right, love, just in case, sooner is better than later.

Frank and I can go for him.

And Merlin knows we need a secretary to keep all of this straight, and having you sort out all of this has been very helpful. In the future, perhaps we need to designate someone whose sole job is to coordinate and keep track of babies, and where they are in the process? Check up on paperwork and who is fetching whom, and so on? From book to paperwork to parental contact to Moddey, there are a lot of people involved, and it'd be a shame to let one slip by because of disorganization.

Although I for one do not plan on letting it build up to quite so many in one go in the future, which will hopefully make this a lot less of an organizational nightmare bother.



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-04-12 17:08:11](#)
(no subject)

I still don't like the idea of a Leap Baby at Moddey but I know I'm outnumbered.

I agree with Remus, though, that if Ivy's a Traveller she's best where she is - and that goes for my namesake, assuming he was born somewhere outside the Ministry's ability to control.

We were actually talking about whether it would be possible to create a second duplicate of the book and keep it at Moddey. So someone could check it more often than Minerva remembers has opportunity.



 **[alt_poppy](#) at 2012-04-12 17:10:34**

Private Message to Sirius Black and Remus Lupin

I'll stop up this afternoon, shall I, and suggest to Minerva that we check the book together?



 **[alt_sirius](#) at 2012-04-12 17:15:42**

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black and Remus Lupin

Yes, perhaps you'd better do.

And maybe between you and Pomona, put it on a scheduled rota? Once a month? That way we shan't get so far behind again.

Sorry to ask it when you already have enough to be going on with.

Has she been better, do you think? Worse? Same?



 **[alt_poppy](#) at 2012-04-12 17:20:37**

Re: Private Message to Sirius Black and Remus Lupin

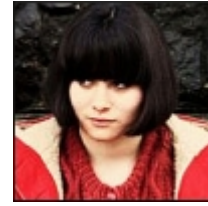
You've seen that she's having to file weekly reports to YKW?

I gather that has not been helping her general level of stress. Her strategies for managing stress remain the same.

2012-04-12 15:30:00

Private Message to Sally-Anne

I thought you were coming back after you checked on the sick muggles?



Is everything okay?

 [alt_pansy](#)

Do you need me to floo over?



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-12 19:31:58**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Let me know soon.

I didn't know you'd be this long.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-12 19:36:14**

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

Okay, the floo wont work.

And pig is in Lincoln. I think.

I hope the muggles are okay.

I hope you're not sick or in trouble.

[2012-04-12 15:32:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_pansy](#)

Sally-Anne went to check on the muggles at the Stretton's today and get the rest of her things. She was supposed to take an hour. It's been three.


I tried writing her and I tried flooing over but I think they blocked my floo somehow?

Ron, could you try from yours?

I'm worried.

Does anyone know what the nearest floo station is? How far away would it be from the Strettons?




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-12 19:36:50](#)
(no subject)

Who has pig?

Can we send an owl?



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-12 20:08:40](#)
(no subject)

I think Pig's at the Burrow. Fred and George were planning on sending him to Terry this weekend. But if you really think Perks is in trouble, that would come first.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-12 20:18:30](#)
(no subject)

Right. Okay.

We might have to send him.

I still haven't heard anything from her over the journals, and the floo is still blocked.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-12 21:49:57](#)
(no subject)

What?

What's up?

Pig's here, yeah.


Should you try writing Madam P?



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-04-13 02:41:13](#)
(no subject)

Maybe?



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-12 21:52:01](#)
(no subject)

Do you think they all got sick over at the Strettons and there's a quarantine? Or-

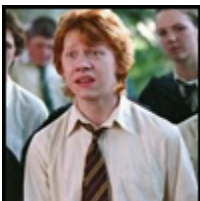
Or, well. What else could it be?




 **alt_pansy** at [2012-04-13 02:42:00](#)
(no subject)

I'm hoping it's not that.

I'm really really hoping.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-12 21:57:13](#)
(no subject)


Wait.

When did you write this? A while ago, yeah?

Where are you now? You didn't try to go to Coventry, did you?

Fisheye?



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-12 22:03:51](#)
(no subject)

Oh, and yeah.


I tried to Floo call and couldn't, so I got Mum and she couldn't think of anything else we could try, either.

So, um. Yeah. Now Mum knows there's something wrong at the Strettons. Or, anywiz, something wrong with their Floo. She doesn't seem all that worried about it, and I can't really tell her she maybe should be, cause, yeah, I can't really explain why I'd think something's actually wrong.

The twins are off somewhere, too, but I'll see if I can find them, yeah? Maybe they'll have a better idea.

I mean, they usually have better ideas than I do.

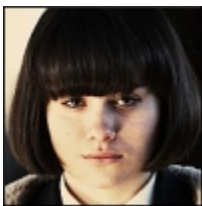



 **alt_ron** at [2012-04-13 02:17:51](#)
(no subject)

Have you heard anything yet?

And where are you? You haven't gone and done anything mad have you?

We sent Pig off a while ago. Don't know how long it'll take him to fly to Coventry.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-04-13 02:38:39](#)
(no subject)

Sorry. Didn't mean to worry you. I was trying to see if Prospero had a map of the nearest floo station or a list or anything, but he didn't, and then I was sorting out how long it would take to fly there from Scotland and mum caught me packing for it and threw a fit and said I was getting hysterical over nothing so she made me go to my room like I was just a baby or something.


But now she's sleeping.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 02:40:09](#)
(no subject)

I would've sent off Pip too, just in case, but if she's in trouble, Pip doesn't know to wait until she's by herself, so it might get her in even *more* trouble.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-13 02:41:37](#)
(no subject)

So what are you going to do?




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 02:52:54](#)
(no subject)

I've written Madame P.

And we will wait for pig or her whichever comes first.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 13:44:08](#)
(no subject)

Madame P wrote back.

Coventry is not under quarantine, and she's very sure that Sally-Anne cannot get sick.

So there's that.

The Prophet didn't say anything this morning either.

Has pig come back yet, Ron?

[2012-04-12 19:33:00](#)

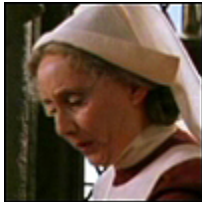
Order Only

Ron came to ask me to check on the Strettons' Floo. He was concerned because he was trying to Floo Sally-Anne Perks, only to find it blocked. He's quite worried, but I did my best to be nonchalant about it. I must admit I'm concerned, too, since I know about the official inquiry there today, but I can hardly show up at the Strettons' door demanding explanations.



 **[alt_molly](#)**

I imagine they must be quite angry with her, if they've had an inspection descend upon them as a result of her actions. Oh my, I hope that young lady manages not to lose her head!



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-13 02:30:35](#)**
(no subject)

Bless.

Much as I hate it, I think there's no choice but to let her suffer whatever the consequences may be.

Certainly with one official inspection underway, the Strettons will not physically harm the ward given them by the Protectorate. So while I'm certain that house is full of unpleasantness at the moment, I doubt Miss Perks is in actual danger.

At least I hope that the Strettons are of sufficiently sound mind and character to behave with moderation.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-04-13 02:34:59](#)**
(no subject)

We could send someone to watch the place. If there were any sign of a disruption, we could barge in and claim to be agents from Protectorate Affairs or from the department that protects children.

Do you really think there's no danger they'd harm her?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-13 02:39:27](#)
(no subject)

I'm afraid that if violence were going to have been done to her, it would have been done earlier in the day--in the heat of the moment after the inspectors left them all alone.

We have to trust that all is well. Unless we're given cause to know otherwise.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-13 03:10:26](#)
(no subject)

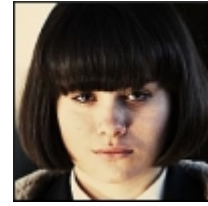
I really don't think that'd be a good idea.

If we did make her situation bad or raise anyone's eyebrows, then barging in claiming to be agents from Underage Wizard Protection would surely make matters worse.

No, unfortunately, the best we can do is thank Merlin we seem to be in the clear and, like Poppy says, hope that Miss Perks' guardians don't punish her too harshly for her heroics.

[2012-04-12 22:42:00](#)

Private Message to Madame Pomfrey



Hello.

Sally-Anne told me what you did.

One of the babies died. I don't know if you knew that or not.

 [alt_pansy](#)

~~I'm sorry.~~

She spent the night at my house last night, and was supposed to go back to get her things and check on the sick people, but it's been hours and hours and she's still not back and she's not writing in the journals and I can't get through the floo to her and ~~we've~~ I've sent an owl and I know that you probably don't know anything but I wanted to see if you knew if Coventry was under some sort of quarantine or something because you might know that

and I wanted to make absolutely sure

really, really sure

that she cannot get sick.

~~Because it's 470 kilometres and I am not very good on a broom.~~

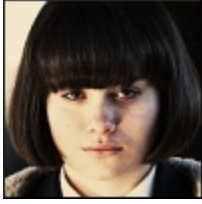


 [alt_poppy](#) at **[2012-04-13 13:30:21](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you for writing me, Miss Parkinson. I'm very sorry to hear about the death at the Stretton Estates. I'm afraid that Measles causes a very serious illness, and in very young children, it is sometimes too much.

I have checked with my colleagues at St Mungo's, and I can assure you that there is no quarantine in Coventry or at the Stretton estate.

I quite understand your concern on Miss Perks' behalf, but I can reassure you with respect to her health. I myself administered the potion that will prevent her developing Measles. I know of no cases where this prophylactic has failed.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 13:41:00](#)
(no subject)

Okay.

Thank you for checking for me.

I very much appreciate it.

[2012-04-13 08:46:00](#)

Order Only

My hands are well and truly tied with respect to the drama at the Stretton estates. That's five long Floo calls with various and sundry up the chain of management at St Mungo's with regular references to Ministry departments, Oversight Mechanisms, and Fixed Protocols.



 **[alt_poppy](#)**

Having failed to honour the Fixed Protocols, Healer Locksley and I have triggered an avalanche called Oversight Mechanisms, which is now roaring down upon us.

It will come as no surprise that the fact of Jason Baker's death has magnified the bureaucratic response. I count six separate enquiries that have been mentioned to me either as 'likely' or 'ongoing'.

And, bless them, our young friends are beside themselves with concern for Miss Perks. Miss Parkinson wants to know if there is a quarantine on Coventry or the Stretton farms, and, by the by, could I at least assure her that her friend is not going to die of Measles like that poor little baby.

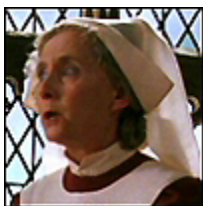
Perhaps a cup of tea is in order.



 **[alt_arthur](#) at [2012-04-13 16:08:22](#)**
(no subject)

Blast. Yes, I imagine the history of 'Black's epidemic' makes the bureaucratic response worse. Just when we don't need it.

Molly just floo called me to tell me how worried Ron is. She's doing her best to reassure him, but it's very uphill work.



 **[alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-14 02:12:59](#)**
(no subject)

Most interesting, Arthur: I've just finished speaking again with Healer Locksley, and it seems the team of inspectors that visited the Stretton estate learned

they were not the first 'officials' to come enquiring about the outbreak.

Seems they've decided the first group were certainly imposters. She says the working theory is that whomever they were, they'd heard somehow about the illness and were there to scavenge corpses for Dark Potions.

I kept my thoughts to myself, naturally, but you have to admit that's a particularly unsavoury view of what we were up to.

2012-04-13 08:55:00

Private message to Effs



 [alt_hydra](#)

I didn't sleep last night.

I'm sorry if I was distant yesterday. I'm not cross at all, but everything feels so surreal.

I've always felt a bit apart from everything, you see. There's the way that I was raised, with Mummy being who she is, and how she is. After what happened in first year, it was even worse. It seemed like I lived in one world, and everyone else was in a different world - I could see them, but they were behind glass. Or perhaps I was the one behind glass.

That's how I felt yesterday, with the feeling stronger than ever. It doesn't make me sad, but it is strange. And I know you've said I'm not the only one who knows, but I'm the only one *here* who knows, and it feels so lonely. But then I remember that you must feel that too, only far, far stronger, and I scold myself for being selfish.

And now the lie seems so stupid. Who would know the difference? Why would the difference ever matter? It only mattered because they said that it did.

I'm to go riding with Auntie Narcissa in a bit, and I just know that the whole time I'll be thinking, 'oh, how can you be so foolish? How can such things even matter to you, when you're so beautiful and have the best of everything?'

People make no sense to me, you see, so I think the only solution is to do something drastic. Maybe I might join a herd of unicorns and live with them someday. Do you think they'd accept me? Or there's always the centaurs. I should start studying divination, so I can fit in and be useful.

And you, I'd ask you to go with me, but I still think it would be better if you returned to France. Even if I would miss you terribly, at least I would know you were well ~~and safe~~.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-13 15:47:11](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Dux.

I'm sorry to have cost you sleep. I don't wish you to worry; I know it's a big decision but everyone here has been extraordinarily kind, much more than in France, even, what?

I say, I'm well glad that you don't think it ought to matter. But we should perhaps talk about it more when we're alone, what? So we can plan properly.

The thing is, I know that going back would be the simple thing to do. But one feels one can make a difference here, what, where there is little one could do on the Continent that seems of any consequence. Or at least in comparison to the possibilities here, like Mr Rosier outlined.

Besides, if I stayed, perhaps you shouldn't have to feel so alone all the time, even among your family. Even if that's the only difference I do make, what, it seems like that ought to be worth the sacrifices.

~~Oh, I say, if you're going to see your Aunt, I wonder if-~~ Sorry, nevermind that last. I had a thought about your Aunt but perhaps it's not altogether prudent, what?

I'm not sure living among unicorns is an entirely practical solution, however, what? But you're of use to me, anyway, and I can well see how you'd be of use bally well anywhere you like. I think there's loads to be said for someone who's strong but kind, thoughtful, serene and calm. And you are all that, dearest. I suppose you'd have to be, with your mother being, as you said, how she is. You'd come out of it either remarkably stalwart or completely barking, what?

Speaking of which, how bad has it been?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-04-13 16:11:17](#)
(no subject)

It wasn't you who cost me sleep, it was my own mind. I couldn't shut it off, you see.

Well, if things are going to change in France, then you could make a difference there. You could help them ~~see what~~ ~~it's really~~ prepare for the changes that might be coming.

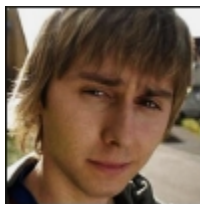
Thank you for making me feel less alone. But I shall really feel alone if anything happens to you. Like, ~~um~~ for instance, if you injure yourself while flying in one of those brisk, unpredictable winds that we get up at Hogwarts.

I don't know if it's prudent or not, since you've scribbled it out, but... perhaps not? Depending on what it is.

I could be of use to unicorns. They probably need help with grooming and whatnot, though that's not much to aspire to, is it? And if I'm calm I suppose it's from years of trying to keep anyone from being able to tell what I'm thinking. And now, it turns out they can't. Funny how that's worked out. But then again, panicking and making a fuss never does much good. It never has for me, at least.

I don't really know, they won't even eat supper together. Which I suppose might mean that it's very bad indeed. I usually eat alone in the kitchen with the elves. At least that means I don't have to pretend to eat meat. Daddy wants to have supper with me tonight, though, so that must mean that he knows Mummy will be working.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-13 17:43:04](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I can understand that. If it helps, I couldn't sleep much on the night before we talked, weighing what you might say or how you might react. And it's not selfish at all, what, to continue thinking how it impacts upon yourself--I think that's only human, if you follow me. Especially knowing how your family would feel, what?

But I've no plans to take any sort of dangerous broom flights, I can well assure you! Even if they set me to touring about the countryside as I've been doing and speaking to people on behalf of the Ministry, I shall Floo or take the train, thanks all the same, until I've learned to Apparate. So I don't think you've much to fear on that score, at least.

What I scribbled out was merely a question I thought she might be able to answer but it doesn't matter. I think someone else in my party is working on the solution. No need to trouble someone as important as your Aunt, what?

I well agree that panicking never does anyone much good, no matter what the situation. I suppose there are times when making a fuss might actually help, what, but it's difficult, isn't it, to put one's own needs or desires ahead of others'. I say, one simply has it drummed into one from an early age, not to bother or disturb when there are more important or threatening matters at hand. Though at times it means that the ones who are fussing or fretting are the ones who receive all the sympathy. And that can jolly well become tiresome. And then one does feel selfish for thinking that way, as it's hardly their fault their problems take precedence. Well, as I say, it's only human. I think the key to it is not allowing oneself to dwell there endlessly but to push on, what, and do what one can to be helpful.

I've said already, Dux, I think you'd be well amazing whatever you decide to do. But I'm not sure the unicorns would agree, what? I mean to say, what would a unicorn think of a girl who's been well snogged? Do you imagine that would be all right, or must she be wholly er, well--perhaps I'll just stop there, shall I? Besides, they don't much like boys, what, unicorns, I mean to say, so if you went and lived with them, we might never see each other even if I did stay in England. And that would be jolly well intolerable, as well as defeat the purpose, rather.


I say, I'm sorry they continue to row. Sometimes I wonder what life would have been like if my father had stayed but then, I realise that it means my parents would likely have quarrelled all the time and made themselves and each other wretchedly unhappy. I've never been certain my mother's not bally well unhappy, either, what, but at least she's not being made to feel worse all the time by having someone about who only makes her cross and upset. Do you think they should ever separate altogether? Perhaps that might be better, if it meant you and Rigel could be with your father

and your mother would be free to pursue her career without any constraint on her time, as well.

I say, I hope that's never us. And if it ever is, be sure to hex me into the next month, what, and quite right, too.

-Justin



 **alt_hydra** at **2012-04-14 00:19:35**
(no subject)

It was very brave, what you did. Things being what they are. It means a lot to know that you made a decision to trust me.

I've just got back from riding a bit ago. I really enjoy spending time with Auntie Narcissa, but yes, if it's nothing to do with someone she knows or someone she cares about, then it's probably best not to bring her into it. Maybe you should just speak with P Froissart?

Is someone from Beauxbatons fretting or fussing at you? It almost sounds that way, based on what you've written. Is someone having a problem? It's nothing too pressing, I hope.


I hadn't even thought about snogging and unicorns. I thought that the bit about... well, *purity* was something of a myth. A way to try to keep girls from doing as they please, in a way not much different than, say, a bracelet. I'd know for sure if I was only allowed to take Creatures. Why would a magical beast care about something like that, I wonder? I mean, baby unicorns must come from *somewhere*, surely?

Mummy and Daddy used to row a lot more than they do now. Now it feels as if they almost lead separate lives, barely acknowledging each other unless it's about me or about Rigel. But no, they would never publicly separate. Image and standing is just too important - in which case they probably ought to get better at pretending, at least, because I can't imagine that they're fooling anyone.

And no, that won't EVER be us. I mean, it can't be, if you see what I mean, and even if we fought, I can't see it going like that.

From,
Hydra



 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-14 01:14:06](#)
(no subject)

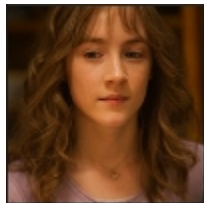
Was it? I didn't think of it as brave so much as only fair.

It's nothing too pressing and yes, I shall get help if we need it. But no, no one's fussing at me, per se, simply...fussing in my vicinity, if you follow me. Truly, it's fine. I suppose I'm merely a bit on edge, I expect it's the end of holidays that's doing it, what.

Perhaps they don't care to fool anyone, what--though then I should think it also wouldn't matter if they separated. After all, you've two homes already (or is it more than two?) and they needn't ever see on another if they didn't wish to do.

Oh, did your ride go well, at any rate? Was Rose happy to see you or put out that you've ignored her?

-Justin



 **alt_hydra** at [2012-04-14 01:44:12](#)
(no subject)

It was brave though, considering.

Are you looking forward to hols being over, then? I am, even if it means I have to throw myself back into Arithmancy. Because we'll both be back at school together.

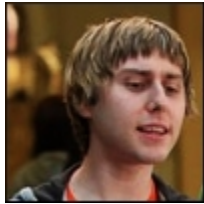
I suppose they are living separate lives, in some ways, but they still go to parties and events together. They keep up appearances even if they don't fool anyone. Separation and divorce isn't very common in the Protectorate, and even when the couple might be better off, it's still rather frowned upon.

It was a nice ride, but I don't know that Rose and I are truly acquainted with each other yet. It's such a long stretch of time that I don't see her while I'm at school. She's a very good horse,

though, and I think if I still have her when I'm older and can ride her several times a week, we might grow more comfortable with each other.

And you know how to ride too, don't you? Maybe we can go together, some day.

From,
Hydra




 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-14 01:56:19](#)**
(no subject)

I am rather looking forward to being back, for just that reason. I say, I think the only reason this was bearable was the fact they kept us so bally well occupied the whole time. But I'm also a bit concerned because it's been well exhausting, all this rushing about the country. It was rather relaxing to do next to nothing yesterday and then today just sitting at a Quidditch match, what? So I don't feel at all prepared to return to lessons.

Yes, I can ride, though I've never owned my own horse. I'd like that, going riding with you.

-Justin



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-04-14 02:45:49](#)**
(no subject)

Even during hols, they like to keep us busy, what with YPL and CCF, for those who are in it. I do wonder... if you end up staying, will they let you into YPL, and let you go for CCF, even though people start when they're in fourth year? And will they sort you and everything else?

From,
Hydra



 **alt_justin** at **2012-04-14 03:06:48**
(no subject)

Hm.

Well--yes, on the Sorting, Mr Rosier said they'd Sort me into a House as soon as ever I liked, whenever we decided to make the announcement. He left that part up to me, what, though he said that there might be an advantage to changing allegiance before the end of term. I'm not precisely sure that it's quite so well-advised as he seemed to think--but then of course, he's got his reasons for advising one way or the other, as well.

I hadn't asked about the YPL or CCF. I imagine they'd make some provision, if I showed willing to join. I say, are you planning to test into CCF?

I say, was your supper with your father pleasant?

-Justin



 **alt_hydra** at **2012-04-14 03:17:10**
(no subject)

I must say that I don't much imagine you sorted into Slytherin. Gryffindor or Hufflepuff, maybe.

I would like to test into CCF, but I don't know that I'll be allowed. Mummy said something a while back about sending me off to Auntie Narcissa's for the summer, to learn how to host parties and things, I suppose. But I know that everyone else would think that a bit of a daft plan, and probably try to talk her out of it. It's hard to talk her out of something when she's got her mind set, though.

Supper was good. I didn't have to eat the chicken, and there was berries and custard for pudding. Daddy's being extra-nice. I think because of what happened with Mummy at the weekend. But even under the niceness I can tell he's not really in the best of moods.

But Mummy wasn't there, so it could have been much worse.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-14 03:43:32](#)**
(no subject)

Last time, you were well proud of the fact you remembered I once said I thought I'd be a Hufflepuff.

Perhaps if one day you could visit France, I might take you to a real vegetarian restaurant. I don't think I've seen one here in the Protectorate.

Well, Dux, they've still got us going to the Chelsea Gardens tomorrow and I'm dashed embarrassed to say it but I fell asleep in the middle of the Quidditch this afternoon, I was that tired, what?

So I think I shall turn in. But we've only one day to get through and then we shall be back together. I say, I think that deserves a 'Well done' to us both, don't you?

Well done, Dux.

Sweet dreams,

-Justin

2012-04-13 09:04:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Pig's back. And he's still got the note I sent. She didn't add anything, so she didn't get it and send it back. From the looks of him, he kept at it all night, looking for her.

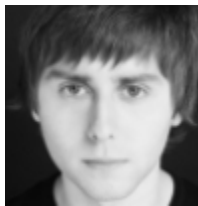


 [alt_ron](#)

Um. This isn't good.

I think we should go there and get her, don't you?

We could Floo to Coventry. There's probably one at the Owl Office, right? And then, I don't know. We could bang on the door and tell them we're from the Department of Fostering or something that'll make them think they'd better open up or they'll be in loads worse trouble.



 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-04-13 14:14:23**

(no subject)

Morning, Ron.

I was just about to post to ask if we'd had any news and saw this.

I don't think that's a good idea, though.

Your father works at the Ministry. Perhaps he could make an enquiry?

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-04-13 14:19:51**

(no subject)

Cheers, mate.

Yeah, we don't know anything new.

Good idea about asking Dad, though. I'm going to ask Mum if I can fire call him about it.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-13 14:29:38](#)
(no subject)

Pansy's just written in her own post, did you see?

Coventry's not under quarantine and Matron's sure Sally-Anne's not ill and not likely to become ill.

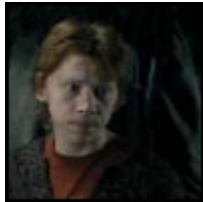
That probably means that the Strettons don't want anyone visiting.


Look, I well understand wanting to help but it's likely your intervention would bally well do just the opposite.

Though I suppose the one thing it might accomplish is remind them that people would notice if Sally-Anne were to come to harm.

Hang on. I've an idea.

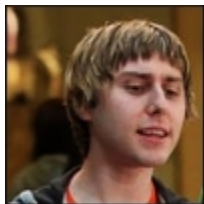
-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-13 14:40:05](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I saw it. I was answering it here.

What's your idea?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-13 15:07:14](#)
(no subject)

Sorry, had to close this to go down the corridor.

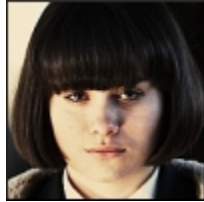
I went and knocked on Viktor's door. Poliakoff finally answered, looking as if I'd roused him out of bed (probably had done, what), and said that Professor Karkaroff and Viktor went down to the pitch early this morning, as Viktor knows several of the players on both teams who'll be playing today, and was invited to their warm-up.

I thought, as Marvolo's made an impression on the Strettons in the past, that Krum might do this time.

I could try to speak to him at the match, though, if we think that

would help.

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 15:13:56](#)
(no subject)

Harry might too, if I asked him to.


Wouldn't hurt to ask both of them to send a letter to the Strettons, but what would they

write?

And we could write Jeremy, too.

I've got pip, and Harry's got an owl, and there are school owls. I'll ask Harry to write, and I'll write Jeremy, and Krum can use a school owl if you can get him to write.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-13 15:17:47](#)
(no subject)


Yes, a New London owl, not a school owl, but yes.

I think it's key not to issue any threats, what, but merely to enquire if she's all right and recovered and gently point out how proud one is of her quick-thinking and action.

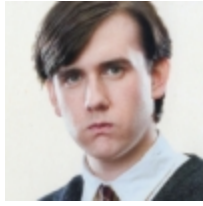
I'll look for Krum at the match, what?

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 16:53:56](#)
(no subject)

I'll tell Harry something similar, and to possibly try a fire chat if it wouldn't be a bother.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-04-13 20:47:51](#)**
(no subject)

Have you heard anything back from him?
Sorry, just catching up on the journals now.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-13 21:15:07](#)**
(no subject)

I just did.

He tried firechatting but it didn't work. So he sent off the owl.

And I've sent off Jeremy's.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-13 21:26:17](#)**
(no subject)

Good. That he did.

Hope he tells you if he hears anything back.

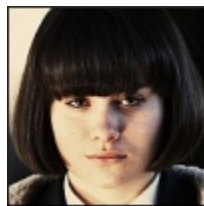


 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-13 19:55:12](#)**
(no subject)

Pansy,

Is Marvolo writing? Viktor said he would do but then Professor Karkaroff came and fetched him. Seems that the winning team wanted him to come along for a pint so I'm not sure he'll get to it straight off, what?

-Justin




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-13 21:10:17](#)**
(no subject)

Harry said he'd write.

I'll see if he sent it off.


And if he'd try the fire chat too.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-13 21:26:50](#)
(no subject)

How was the Quidditch? You went, right?




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-13 15:14:41](#)
(no subject)

That's actually a good idea about Harry.

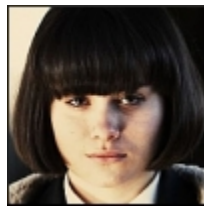
Hermione could tell him to try the Strettons' Floo. Bet you can't block Buckingham on your

Floo, yeah?



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-04-13 15:39:16](#)
(no subject)

It is a good idea.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 15:05:16](#)
(no subject)

You're right about that last part.

Perhaps we could write Jeremy?

Jeremy would know what was going on.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-13 15:09:01](#)
(no subject)


Hullo, Pansy.

Yes, that's an excellent idea. Jolly good show!

I'm sure she'll be fine.


-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-13 15:15:35](#)
(no subject)


Yeah. Do you want me to send Pig? I should've told him to find Jeremy when he went before. That was really daft of me not to think of it.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-13 15:16:45](#)
(no subject)

Only, the twins want to send him to Lincoln. And I promised Terry they would do, so maybe you should send yours instead?




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-13 15:36:10](#)
(no subject)

No, that's all right. Use Pig for this, if it'll help.

i want to make sure she's all right, too.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-13 15:41:46](#)
(no subject)

Nope. Not doing it.

Besides, Pig's asleep on his perch right now, and I know what look he'd give me if I said he had to go right back to Coventry right now.

It's all good, though. Pansy's got hers. In fact, she's probably already sent her off.

And Pig will be rested up and ready when the twins send him.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 16:54:57](#)
(no subject)

We've got it covered, Terry.

Thanks, though.

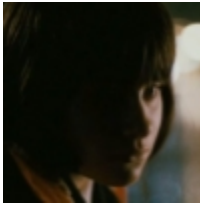



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-13 14:17:47](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Yeah, just ignore F-F.

I mean, yeah, I'll ask Dad if he can look into it, but really? What can he do? Besides, he's already at work. I guess I could fire call him there.

What do you want to do?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 14:58:47](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

What we *want* to do and what we *ought* to do are two different things.

I know she's not sick.

I'm pretty sure she's not arrested.

I'm worried about her, *especially* because of the floo being shut down like it is, that's just not on. But it could be that she's just being punished.

And if we try and sneak onto the estate and ask after her, or track her down, which is what I *want* to do, she'd definitely get in trouble if she got caught, and we'd probably get in trouble too, and even though there's not a quarantine there still might be some Ministry people about. I hate to admit that he's right, but he is.

I wish I knew more. I really do.

And it hurts my heart to not do anything, not knowing if she's okay.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 15:00:30](#)


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

I hate them.

I hate that she's got to be fostered and can't be with someone who loves her like her mum and dad. Or me. Or you. It's not a home. They're not her family.

We are.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-13 15:12:29](#)

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

Yeah. Too right.

I wish my dad would try to get her fostering changed to us, but-

My parents tried to get Luna assigned to them when her father died, and the Ministry put her with the Browns instead.

I'm pretty sure that even though my dad works in Protectorate Affairs and has a really important job that anyone would say is totally showing loyal--I'm pretty sure that some of them at the Ministry think my family are, well, not as loyal as they should be.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-14 15:33:05](#)

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

I'm sure Luna knows that your mum cares for her, even though she can't be there during holidays.

And after she's left Hogwarts, she can visit the Burrow whenever she wants for dinner and Christmas and things like that.

After Sally-Anne and me leave school, we're going to live in our house in London together. And you can come over whenever you

||| want, and it will be brilliant. And she is never going back to the
Strettons. Ever.

2012-04-13 15:11:00

Private Message to Harry

Harry;

I need a favour.

Sally-Anne got in trouble at the Strettons. There were some Muggles that got sick and they didn't want to spend the money to send for a healer. So she tried to help. And one of the babies got so sick it died.

But today, the floo to the Stretton's is closed, and she isn't writing in her journal, and I'm concerned. Not that she got sick -- she took medicine for that -- but that she's in trouble, and it's worrisome to not be able to talk to her to see if she's all right.

I know you've sent letters to the Strettons in the past. As a favour to her. I was wondering if you could do that again? For the both of us? Maybe send a letter to Mr and Mrs Stretton, and enclose a short note to Sally-Anne?

It just has to be a few lines.

I would really appreciate it. And I know she would too.



 [alt_pansy](#)



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-13 19:18:22](#)
(no subject)

Okay.

Yeah.

What should I say?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 19:19:55](#)
(no subject)

You could just say that you were hoping the Strettons were enjoying their hols, and would they pass along a note to Sally-Anne for you?

And the note to Sally-Anne can be whatever you want, but if one of

the things you could tell her is that I'm thinking of her and hope she's okay, that would be nice.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-13 19:20:33](#)
(no subject)

Okay.

I'll send it.

And I'm sorry she's in trouble.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 19:21:23](#)
(no subject)

Me too.

At least hols are almost over.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 21:11:35](#)
(no subject)

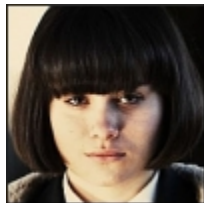
I wonder if the floo is blocked for you too, or just me.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-13 21:13:23](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I thought I'd try fire chatting before sending off the letter but it was blocked for me too.

So I sent off the letter instead. To the Strettons. Like you'd asked.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-13 21:14:12](#)
(no subject)

Well. Thank you for trying, any ways.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-14 03:38:22](#)
(no subject)

She wrote back.

She said thanks for the consideration and that she's fine.

Looks like her handwriting.



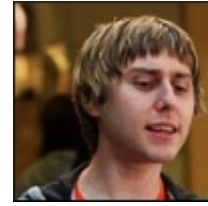
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-14 04:29:16](#)
(no subject)

Thanks again, Harry.

I really appreciate it.

2012-04-13 21:57:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 **alt_justin**

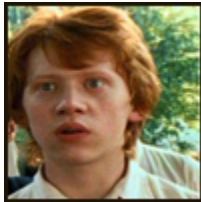
Viktor called the Strettons' and Mrs Stretton answered. She told him that Sally-Anne couldn't come and speak to him as she's been grounded. He said she was polite but a bit frosty, what, and mentioned that Sally-Anne's been coming and going on her own too much for a girl of her age. I say, it sounds as if she wasn't impressed by Krum at all. I hope that didn't make things worse for her, having an older boy ask for her.


He asked if she was all right and Mrs Stretton said yes, she's fine. He asked if he could speak to Jeremy. She didn't bally well like that, what, but she had him fetched to the grate and he more or less confirmed that Sally-Anne's all right and that she'd see us on the train. Of course, Viktor says Mrs Stretton was just there off to the side, so Jeremy could hardly do anything else, if you follow me.

Has anyone else heard more?

Oh, and Ron: I can't tell you much about the Quidditch, sorry to say. I, er, fell asleep, what?

-Justin



 **alt_ron** at **2012-04-14 02:26:26**
(no subject)

Fell asleep? Oi.

I suppose they've had you doing rather a lot, though, haven't they?

Still.

I'd've sold my baby sister to get those tickets. Heh.

I'm glad Krum talked with Stretton, though. That's good, yeah? She's all right. Just in trouble, which we sort of figured. Mind you, that's rubbish, what they're doing, but at least it's just another day.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-14 02:58:39](#)
(no subject)


What ho, Ron,

Yes, that's just it. I'm sure you've had chores and such at home but at least you've had a few days not spent trekking about being shown points of interest and having to maintain a somewhat curious attitude about the whole of it, what? It's been well exhausting. Though I say, it was really only yesterday I had enough personal time to realise just how little rest we've had this holiday.

As far as Sally-Anne...I'm glad we've got it sorted, though I agree it's ruddy well not on keeping her from her journal and all.

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-14 03:06:46](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Justin.

That makes me feel a good deal better.

I should've thought to write you a private message in case he got curious how you knew, but you can just say I sent you an owl if it comes to that.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-14 03:08:55](#)
(no subject)

Pansy,

That's what I told Poliakoff this morning, what?

Don't fret about it, it's fine.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-14 03:59:10](#)
(no subject)

Hullo everyone.

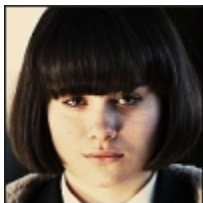
I'm sorry to have worried everyone so much.


The Strettons got in trouble because they were supposed to report the measles outbreak to St Mungo's, or someone at the Ministry, or maybe both. And since I went to the estate I also broke quarantine and that got them into extra trouble. They had to pay fines AND they're going to have to pay a healer to inspect all their farms and so on AND they're going to have to submit a bunch of paperwork to the Ministry about how they'll handle this sort of thing in the future.

And then when they went to look for me they found a note on my pillow saying I'd gone to Pansy's.

So they were really furious when I came back.

Mrs Stretton tried to cruciate me only she couldn't manage it. So then she took my journal and my wand and they locked me up and left me there until the messenger came from Harry and then they let me out so I could write him a note saying I was okay. Which I did. I thought they might lock me back up but they let me have something to eat and then Mr and Mrs Stretton had a HUGE fight because he was still utterly furious and wanted me punished more but she said it was too risky because my friends 'knew what strings to pull' and finally they gave me back my journal and wand but I'm supposed to stay in my room and I'm not allowed to go on visits or broom rides or do much of anything fun for the rest of hols. Fortunately it's almost time to go back to school.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-14 04:08:43](#)
(no subject)

She's right about pulling strings.

And if she tries anything like that next time you're there, I will pull them again.


Hard.

I'm glad the message from Harry worked.

I'm sorry they were being stupid asses who were punishing you for THEIR mistake.

I can't wait to see you on the train. It'll just be a little while longer.




 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-14 04:55:14](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, you would pull 'em hard, wouldn't you?
Probably right around their throats.

Good to hear you're all right, Perks.

And good on Malvolo. And Krum. And all you lot for doing what you could to make sure.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-04-14 04:59:46](#)**
(no subject)


i'm glad Mrs Stretton couldn't cruciate you, Perks. and yeah, it's a good thing you don't have to stay there much longer. well, until summer



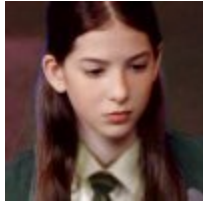
 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-04-14 05:05:52](#)**
(no subject)

That's just not on. Them punishing you, I mean, when they were the ones doing stuff wrong.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-04-14 05:08:24](#)**
(no subject)

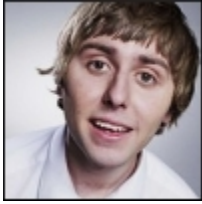
Yes. But haven't you ever noticed that knowing they're really wrong deep down inside sometimes makes people even angrier?




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-14 05:11:07](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, it did.

I kind of think that's part of why she couldn't manage the cruciatus curse, though.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-14 13:55:48](#)**
(no subject)

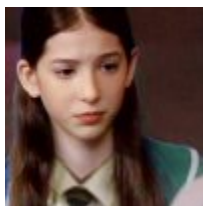
Sally-Anne,

I say, what a nice message to see when I woke up this morning! I'm well glad to see you writing again, though it's shocking bad form of them to treat you so ill.

I suppose you rather stirred up a ~~hornets'~~ billywigs' nest for them but that's only because they obviously weren't looking after things properly--I mean to say, properly even for this place, what?

Has Jeremy been helpful? Viktor said it seemed as if he wanted to say more but couldn't as his mother was standing just a few feet away.

-Justin

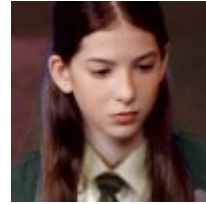


 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-14 14:42:21](#)**
(no subject)

They were furious at Jeremy too, because he said he was the one who gave me the note. (It was actually Maureen but he didn't want her to get in trouble.) So he couldn't do much but he put a note under my door in the night so I know he replied to your owl, which is good, worrying wasn't going to do any good.

2012-04-13 22:43:00

Private message to Pansy Parkinson and Harry Marvolo



I'm alright.

Thank you for sending the letter, Harry, it's why the Strettons let me out have my journal back.

 **alt_sally_anne**

I'm looking forward to going back to school and I'll see you both on the train. I'm sorry I worried Pansy so much.



 **alt_harry** at **2012-04-14 03:55:25**
(no subject)

Good to hear it, Sally Anne.

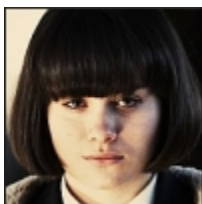



 **alt_pansy** at **2012-04-14 03:57:07**
(no subject)

I'm glad you're okay.

And I'll see you on the train.

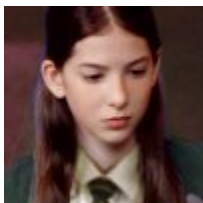
And you don't have a thing to be sorry for.




 **alt_pansy** at **2012-04-14 03:58:56**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Are you really all right?

What did they do?



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-04-14 04:03:18**
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Mrs Stretton tried to cruciate me but she couldn't. And that made her even angrier but she STILL couldn't. So then she hexed me. And then they locked me in a closet and didn't give me any food

until Harry's messenger came.

They were really angry.

I want to tell Harry that his message REALLY helped, I mean I think eventually they would have given me something to eat because sending me back to school fainting from hunger would have made them look bad, but they might have made me wait another day. I hate being hungry so much, I can't even tell you. It's awful. I'd rather have been cruciated, I think, although I suppose being locked up without food is better than being cruciated, THEN locked up without food.

Anyway I want him to know how much the message helped but at the same time I'm not sure I could stand it if he felt sorry for me. So.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-14 04:17:19](#)

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

I'm glad it helped.

And we can come up with a way to thank him when we get back.

The Strettons can go splinch themselves.

2012-04-14 07:39:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good
Private Message to Sally Anne Perks



I saw that you wrote Pansy and Harry.

You're all right, then? Really?

 [alt_ron](#)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-04-14 14:38:46**

(no subject)

I replied under the lock to Justin's post, I'm sorry, I thought everyone who was worried would see that. I guess I should have

I'm all right. I'm sorry everyone was so worried.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-04-14 15:42:49**

(no subject)

They tried to cruciate me and that didn't work so then they took my journal and wand and locked me up in a closet and didn't give me anything to eat until Harry's messenger came, and that convinced them they might get in trouble if they didn't let me out.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-04-14 17:12:55**

(no subject)

I can't believe them, and I can't believe there's not anything we can do to keep you from having to go back there ever again.

And even seeing what's happened to you, I can't even believe F-F is thinking about saying he'll stay here and be fostered. I mean, what does he think? That he'll get to pick who takes him? That Hydra's parents would foster him? I mean, is he completely daft?

I mean, it's not even like it's just you who's got a horrible foster home, is it? He knows about Luna, too.

And, I mean, F-F. He seems well intelligent, like he can really think things out, but then it's like he's not even seeing any of it at all.

Are you really okay?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-14 17:21:20](#)
(no subject)


Not really.

I hate it when people worry. Especially Pansy. She made herself SICK worrying once.

I thought things were okay here. Jeremy's decent enough and Gemma's a sweet kid, and Mr and Mrs Stretton usually ignore me and that was okay. But now


We'll be back at school soon, though.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-14 17:31:53](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry.



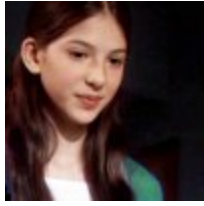
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-14 21:05:45](#)
(no subject)

Are you reading the load of codswallop F-F's writing? Says he doesn't mean he'd be a super spy, but that's exactly what it sounds like. Like he's hero in his own book or something. Going to fight to make everything change. Right beside Sirius Black.

Yeah, right.

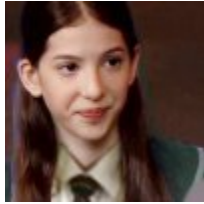
Pull the other one, with bells on, why don't you.

And he talks about Hydra Lestrage like they're going to get married. You don't suppose that he's faking about his age, too, do you? I mean, he sounds like he's bally well forty-five, what, what?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-15 00:15:15](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, he bally well does, doesn't he?



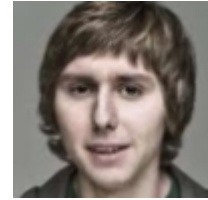
 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-15 00:35:04](#)**
(no subject)

And I don't know what he thinks he'll actually be able to do.

I mean we know there are wand-smugglers. Have we managed ANYTHING useful? That time we tried to get a message to them about that muggleborn woman in the loo in London, they didn't arrive in time.

[2012-04-14 10:48:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Hullo again,

I say, it's been quite a long couple of weeks, what, with Terry's and Sally-Anne's difficulties.

 [alt_justin](#)

There's something I've been wanting to tell you all but we've all been preoccupied with their more pressing problems. But now that they're both able to monitor their journals again--well, I mean to say, I had best get this in before something else happens, what!

So, I'm not sure whether any of you who were there realised it but at that camp in Newcastle, while the rest of you went to see the herb garden, a camp official called my name and told me to come with him. I didn't see much choice and it certainly wasn't worth a panic, not to mention that had I looked guilty or tried to signal any of you or done anything else well odd, I'm sure he might have thought something was amiss and chosen to scrutinise me further. Hydra says she saw that I was well frightened but that it looked more or less the way anyone would do when one can't imagine why one's in trouble--sort of like the look people got in Cambridge when the Proctors told them they weren't meant to walk on the grass, what?

Well, anyway, as I said, this bloke asked me if I were Justin Finch-Fletchley and of course I bally well said that I was, and then he said that I was to come with him, so I did. And he led me into the large house they told us were their administrative offices. I was getting more and more nervous, I can tell you! But when I managed to ask him whatever could be the matter he just said, 'Don't know, do I? Someone wants to meet you,' and then grumbled a bit about being put off the schedule for the morning. He took me to a rather nice little study overlooking the lawn. Mr Rosier was there--Finnigan's guardian, what--and he invited me to sit down and then he asked had I given any thought to staying in England at the end of the year.

I say, of course I have done, what! But I tried to stay calm and listened to what he had to say about it. It was difficult to tell if he knew anything; I don't think he did, really, because at one point he tried to make it sound as if I could escape Toubon and the others by declaring right away and getting Sorted so that I'd no longer be considered a Beauxbatons student. I suppose he didn't consider that one would still

have to see them in the corridors or that they are sharing Ravenclaw Tower to be much of an impediment, what?

But he didn't say anything that even remotely sounded like a threat. And he did offer tea but I said no, thank you, I was quite content, so that I wouldn't become tempted to tell him things I might not have done otherwise. I don't think it was his own idea to talk to me, though: I think that someone else at the Ministry believes it would be a coup for them to gain a defector out of the Beauxbatons delegation. They asked Mr Rosier to come because of Seamus and in his new job I suppose it's rather under his jurisdiction.

I didn't ask just then about my mother. I didn't wish to give them any reason to look into her any more than the French have done. Besides, he mentioned going into fostering so I doubt they'd want her to come to England--which jolly well suits me since I'd want her to leave France altogether, what? And go to Canada or America or somewhere it'll be much harder for them to decide they do want her hostage against my good behaviour.

Because that's the pill among the sugar, isn't it? The reason they want me to stay is to show everyone how brilliant life is here and declare myself a bally old convert to the Protectorate's way of life. So if I were to stay, I expect I'd have some responsibilities to uphold and of course, while Mr Rosier didn't say anything of the kind, it stands to reason that if I displeased the Ministry, there could be repercussions, what?

But if no one's thought already of holding her then perhaps I could say that as a condition of my remaining, I want to make sure no one in France can retaliate against her, and that I want confirmation she's been able to go somewhere else to live. I think she has an aunt in America; perhaps she can go and live with her and then she'll be safe. That would give them something they want while making sure I've got something I want without necessarily making them realise their mistake.

He said that there were a number of details we'd have to work out, such as where I'd be fostered (but he implied that it'd be with a well-to-do family, what) and I don't know about the YPL or anything, I didn't ask. He also didn't say I had to give an answer straightaway, that I should take all the time I needed, but of course, it should be decided before the end of the term.


So. I thought we should all have a think about what else I might want to ask for by way of assurances, before I give an answer. Or what else

there is to think about. I've a list and it's growing longer but I know you lot will jolly well have questions I can't think of and wouldn't necessarily know to ask.

What's Hufflepuff like? I mean to say, I've barely spent any time with Smith, MacMillan, Hopkins and Stebbins. (Isn't there another one in the 4th? Oh, Summers.) I say, we'd be rather cramped, what?

-Justin



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-04-14 16:49:30](#)
(no subject)

My goodness.

So you are seriously considering it, then?

You're sure, you're quite sure that there's no way the Ministry could discover your true background? Because you wouldn't want to stay if there were any chance of that happening, believe me.

But if not....

Well, I think you're quite right to try to find a way to make sure your mother's safe. It will be quite hard on her, of course, though. ~~You might never~~

What makes you want to stay?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-14 16:52:20](#)
(no subject)

Wow. Blimey.

I think you shouldn't agree before finding out who you would be fostering with. And we could probably give you more information about the family than maybe the Ministry would. It'd be different for you to foster with someone like Gran than it would be to do it with, say, the Goyles.


(No offence to Slytherins or anything.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-14 17:26:28](#)
(no subject)

You were doing fine until you said 'no offence to Slytherins.' I wouldn't want to live with Greg's family either.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-14 17:31:17](#)
(no subject)

your foster family's bad enough.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-14 17:34:49](#)
(no subject)

We'd offer to foster you, Justin. But I don't think the Ministry would ever go for it. They would probably say Gran's too old. And I guess my family's suspect anyway. Because of, you know. My


parents.



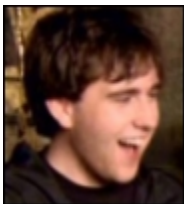
 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-04-14 17:53:25](#)
(no subject)

Yes. And the Ministry has turned down the Weasleys for me already.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-14 17:00:09](#)
(no subject)


So you think you'd be sorted into Hufflepuff, then?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-14 17:00:41](#)
(no subject)

We'd like to have you here in Gryffindor.




 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-04-14 17:01:25](#)
(no subject)

he'd belong in Gryffindor, if he's thinking of defecting to the Protectorate when he's a muggleborn.


you'd better be really, really sure about this, Justin.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-04-14 17:01:56](#)
(no subject)

Would he have to be, though? Perhaps he could negotiate something, say, giving him the right to go back to France in a year if it's not working out?




 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-04-14 17:02:46](#)
(no subject)

no. the ministry would never allow that. even if they told him they would, they'd break the promise. it'd be too politically embarrassing.

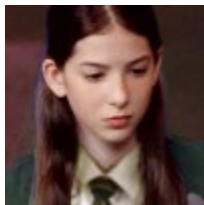
if he stays, it's for keeps.



 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-04-14 17:04:25](#)
(no subject)

and if he stays, and they make a big political deal about the wandering son coming home to where he belongs, the Protectorate, and THEN they find out he's a muggleborn, they'll have egg all over their face.

no telling what they'd do, but it would be terrible for justin.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-14 17:22:16](#)
(no subject)

He'd disappear.


And then they'd blame Sirius Black.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-14 17:49:19](#)
(no subject)

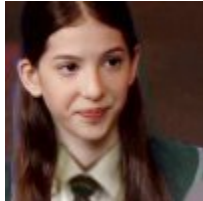
that is exactly what they'd do.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-14 17:05:33](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Terry's right.

I wouldn't trust anything they promise you.



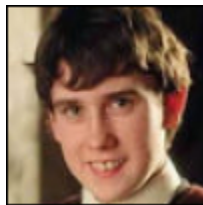
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-14 17:28:41](#)
(no subject)

It'll Sort him into Hufflepuff if he wants to be in Hufflepuff.

It'll Sort him into Gryffindor if he wants to be in Gryffindor.

Didn't any of the rest of you TELL the Hat where you wanted to be? I told it my parents were both Ravenclaws but I wanted to be in Slytherin and we talked it over and it put me in Slytherin.


It might draw the line if Justin said he wanted to be in Slytherin.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-14 17:40:01](#)
(no subject)

It didn't quite work that way for me. It did seem to be thinking of putting me in Hufflepuff for awhile there. I didn't ask for any house, but it was almost like it couldn't decide. It seemed like it took it forever before it put me in Gryffindor.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-14 17:04:00](#)
(no subject)

Um. Wow.

Why would you want to stay here? I mean, do you

really not care if you can't see your Mum again?

And what makes you think she'd want to move to America? Or Canada? Is she well close to that Aunt of hers? Does she not like it in France?

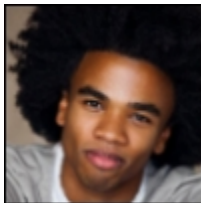
And, uh. I'm not sure how rude it is to ask, but I guess you don't have to answer if you don't want, but where's your father?


Do you really think the French would do something to your Mum if you said you wanted to stay here? Or do you think our Ministry could do something to her if you say you don't?

And, yeah, would you really want to foster? I mean, yeah, Mr Rosier is rich and I guess he's been nice to Finnigan, but anyone can tell he's made Finnigan think like him. And if he didn't fall in, I bet Mr Rosier wouldn't be so kind. And Thomas. I mean, his foster father completely brainwashed him or scared him so much he changed, and now he's a complete menace. Because, see, they can send him back to the camps if they want. Any time. And they could threaten you like that, too, couldn't they?

So why would you even think of doing it?

Oh. And while I'm asking you the whole load of questions. Hufflepuff???



 **alt_lee** at [2012-04-14 17:06:19](#)
(no subject)

Maybe your brother Bill could find out? If Mr Rosier's gonna be the one who would foster him? Bill works for Mr Rosier right?



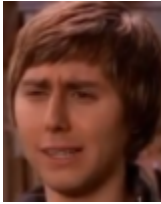
 **alt_neville** at [2012-04-14 17:08:26](#)
(no subject)


What's wrong with Hufflepuff? There are a lot of nice people there. I can't see any of them giving Justin a hard time.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-14 17:24:09](#)
(no subject)

It wouldn't be cramped. The room would get bigger and there'd be another bed.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-14 20:30:38](#)
(no subject)

Ron,

Of course I care whether I ever see her again, what, but I'd rather she go somewhere she has a better chance for her own safety. I'm coming to realise that she really must go outside of their grasp or she'll be in danger whether or not I return to France.

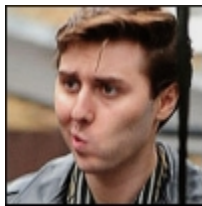
As for my father, it's all right, I don't mind. He lives in Australia. I'm told I have some half-siblings born to his--companion, I suppose one would say. It's more polite than calling her a mistress. It's well complicated. I don't remember him much at all, though. He left when I was about three or four, I think.


-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-15 00:16:13](#)
(no subject)

I guess what I don't understand is why it makes more sense for you to stay here and tell your mother to go somewhere far from France, instead of you going home and THEN telling her she needs to go somewhere far from France with you.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-15 00:27:07](#)
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,

If all I wanted were to get away then you're quite right, that would make more sense.

But I can't bally well go home, arrange for her to get out, and then come back, what?

And if I ran...and left all of you here to go on this way with no end in sight...well, I think I should jolly well go mad, in that case. I can't explain it better than that.

-Justin

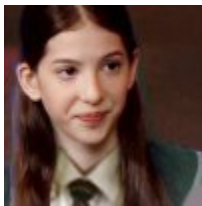


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-15 00:32:47](#)

(no subject)

Justin, we will be okay with out you. You CAN leave. The rest of us can't, but that doesn't mean you should feel like you have to stay.

If you leave you can help keep France from becoming more like the Protectorate by telling them the truth about what things are like here. If you stay, you'll have to pretend it's because the Protectorate is so bloody brilliant you couldn't stand to leave once you saw it. Which people like Lue Dominic Selwyn can use to convince people it really IS perfect here.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-14 17:25:52](#)

(no subject)

You're mad if you're thinking of staying here.

Couldn't you go back and then tell your mum that more than anything else you want her to move with you to America? There are wizarding schools in America, aren't there? ~~If my mum could leave~~




 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-04-14 17:42:38](#)

(no subject)

Oh, I can think of a reason.

Especially if he's told Hydra Lestrange he's thinking of staying.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-14 17:43:42](#)
(no subject)


WHAT?!

Oh, no.

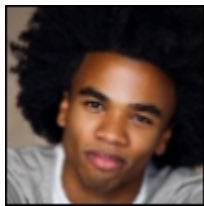
Justin, you're mental.


Is Luna right? You're thinking of staying because of her?



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-04-14 17:44:00](#)
(no subject)

Well, now, that's not very tactful.




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-14 17:46:04](#)
(no subject)

Maybe he doesn't need tactful. Maybe he needs to be told he's taking leave of his bloody senses!

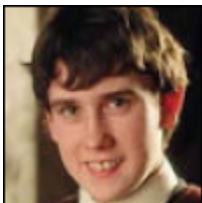
He can hardly tell her he's a muggleborn!



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-04-14 17:50:22](#)
(no subject)

Well, I think it's important to say that if you decide to stay that I would welcome you. The Protectorate should be proud to have you.

And we will always be your friends.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-14 17:52:06](#)
(no subject)

Er. Yeah. We would.

Didn't I say he'd be welcome in Gryffindor? Or anywhere at Hogwarts.

And you like Hogwarts, Justin, we know that.




 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-14 17:54:10](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Luna.

-Justin



 **alt_terry** at [2012-04-14 17:55:54](#)
(no subject)

one thing's for sure, if he stays:

it'd would be a spit in their eye. everytime they say a muggleborn can't amount to anything.

even if they never know it. I would know it. And Hermione would know it. and all of you.

And that's something.

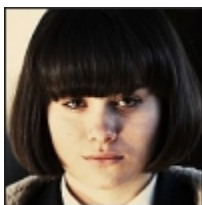



 **alt_justin** at [2012-04-14 18:05:21](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Terry.

Yes, that's just how I see it, as well.

-Justin



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-04-14 17:56:45](#)
Private Message to Justin

You see how worried they are just about your deciding to stay. And Hydra.

You've already told her, haven't you? Hydra, I mean. About who you really are.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-14 18:00:30](#)**
(no subject)

We have some good things, for some people. But for most everyone else, it's awful.

And you have to think about what you say, and who you say it to almost everywhere. Except under this.

I have no idea why you'd want to stay.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-14 20:18:24](#)**
(no subject)

Well. I guess I do.

A little bit.

But it's still mad of you.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-14 19:26:36](#)**
(no subject)

Right, everyone.

Thank you all for your concerns. Hermione, you've not said anything but I look forward to your opinion, when you've a chance to give it.

Terry's got one of the reasons I wish to stay, as I rather hoped he would do. There can be no doubt that their agenda in asking me to stay is to gain a show dog, if you follow me. I think we may safely say that whomever my foster family will be, it shall be people who can be entrusted with that mission and who have the means and social status to maintain the fiction of a success story. That's not to say that I shan't be subject to the sort of prejudice that Sally-Anne or Luna have suffered, what, or even the humiliations or abuse that Pansy and Hydra have endured. I've come to see that there's no proof against brutality, even among purebloods. I think that any outright abuse should jeopardise their whole game, however, so we might safely discount any dire predictions that I shall be treated worse than a servant (sorry, Terry, Hermione. It's well awkward knowing that it's just luck I'm not in your place). But likewise, thank you for the offer,

Neville, but I'm certain your grandmother lacks the prestige or the material capability to fit the Ministry's bill.

As for finding out what my real background is, Luna--yes, there is a possibility they might still discover it, what? There is always that possibility, whether or not I return to France. Mr Rosier pointed out some laws that have been passed there and others that are in the works, which make it more likely that even if I returned, it'll become much more difficult for me should anyone guess or learn the truth.

I say, though, if they were going to conduct extensive research into my family, one would hope they'd have done so before dispatching Mr Rosier to make his offer, what? The further along it goes, surely, the less likely they are to probe, as well. And moreover, what, I do believe that had they any idea, then the tenor of Mr Rosier's interview should have been quite different.

Sally-Anne points out that if they ever did suspect, confirm or discover the truth, or indeed that if I were caught in any sort of treason, I would simply disappear and Sirius would get the blame. I quite agree.

However, if I do the job sufficiently well, it's possible that I shall be able to gather intelligence that I can pass along to Sirius, so he can get it to his freedom fighters and wand smugglers, what? I don't mean to suggest that I shall become a well deadly spy or anything of that nature but I might play a small role. I say, I don't think I should be able to turn tail and run when there's so much to be repaired here, what? Certainly not while others continue to suffer while I sit back on my heels in safety. And doubly so if France is turning more hostile toward muggleborn, as well.

Now, I say, I appreciate the Gryffindor vote of confidence, but I've thought before that if I were Sorted, I should probably be a Hufflepuff. I agree with Sally-Anne that I'm no Slytherin; I'm not clever enough to be a Ravenclaw; nor am I brave enough to be a Gryffindor. (And before you lot protest based on this discussion, I'm not considering staying because I'm brave. Far from it, if you follow me.) More to the point, what, I think that I shall be less threatening if I'm Sorted to Hufflepuff and far less likely to be noticed in their ranks.

That brings me to Hydra, what? I say, that's a well personal topic. Lee, I do appreciate your incredulity but I think others here could speak to the ways in which she is almost her mother's opposite. In

time, I think she would make a good member within this circle, in fact--though not now, to be sure, she's not ready just yet to see everything we've done and all the things you've discussed here over the last three years. I don't wish to betray a bias, of course, but it should come as no surprise that she and I have begun discussing the proposal on its merits. I say, I can't pretend I don't wish to stay in part to be near her but I hope I'm realistic. Sooner or later her parents shall have to discover our attachment. Staying in the Protectorate would only bring that about all the sooner.

-Justin

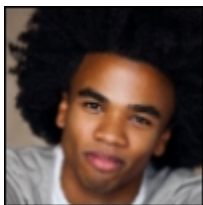



 **alt_neville** at [2012-04-14 20:16:37](#)
(no subject)

Guess I hadn't exactly thought of it that way, Justin.

I mean, it's your right to be here. You were born here. (You were born here, weren't you?) You're a citizen of...well, I won't say of the Protectorate, exactly. But of what the Protectorate is supposed to be. The British Isles.

And sure, we'd like you to be able to help the wand smugglers, we all would.



 **alt_lee** at [2012-04-14 20:30:24](#)
(no subject)

..

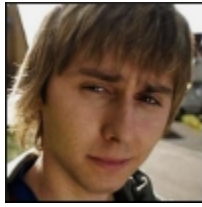
Guess it doesn't make sense for us to say we'd welcome you as a Gryffindor and then to go off on you for wanting to do something brave.

Right, look, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to be a berk about Hydra Lestrage or anything. You know her best. It's just...

Oh, bugger, you know perfectly well how dangerous this all is so we don't need to tell you. I'm sure there are any number of people here who could explain to you how Bellatrix Lestrage could eat us all for breakfast.

And yeah, so maybe the daughter's not the same as the mother.

But you'd bloody better be right about that.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-14 20:51:04](#)
(no subject)

Lee,


I'm quite sure that Hydra's incapable of harming innocents and that she pities any creature who is suffering. And I'm quite sure that she does not believe her mother's lies anymore.

We've also discovered in the last week that she's impervious to her mother's attempts to read her thoughts, so there's an additional protection.

As I said, I'd like to consider adding her to the lock at some point in the future, though not immediately. When she's fully prepared, what.


-Justin



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-14 22:01:17](#)
(no subject)

You mean you are planning on telling her? That you're a muggleborn.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-14 22:15:50](#)
(no subject)

i'd like to hear more from Sally-Anne, Pansy and Hermione about what Hydra Lestrage is like. i know you think well of her, justin, but it'd be useful to get the opinions of other people who see her more often.

i didn't get any bad feelings about her, particularly. but i wasn't around her enough to be sure. she certainly never said anything cutting to me about being a mudblood.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-15 00:24:22](#)
(no subject)

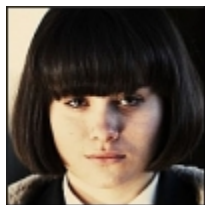
Bringing Hydra on the Lock isn't a mad idea at all, actually, if she really can do occlumency (because if she couldn't, it wouldn't matter how trustworthy she was in intent, I think her mother's always rummaged through her mind the way Milli rummages through Pansy's toiletries).

Last year, Bellatrix Lestrange went to visit the Ponds' -- you know, Nymphadora Tonks and her husband. Because Hydra had corresponded with Mrs Ponds (they're cousins, actually, did you know Bellatrix Lestrange had a SISTER who married a muggleborn?! those were Mrs Ponds' parents) and Auror Lestrange said she just wanted to make a social visit with Rigel. Hydra asked me to write to Mrs Tonks, because I could do it without her mum noticing, to warn her that Auror Lestrange was suspicious or SOMETHING and was lying when she said it was just social. Not that Mrs Ponds couldn't have guessed that, I'm sure, but Hydra was really worried, and wanted to go behind her mother's back to warn her scandalous cousin to try to keep her out of trouble.

She's done other things like that, too.

On the other hand she asked Hermione which one of her parents was a pig. Because that's what Bellatrix told her when she was little, that muggleborns were born when a muggle had relations with a pig. She didn't mean to be cruel, though, I'm sure she didn't. It's what she'd been taught, and she didn't know better.

Anyway, Justin could always tell her his OWN secret and let the rest of us know how she reacted. He trusts her, so he could run the risk of testing her, you know?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-15 02:46:00](#)
(no subject)

Well. For starters, she is incredibly private. Although I'm sure she's talked with Justin about what she thinks and feels, she certainly doesn't open up to just anyone. Not about personal

things. Whenever I've tried to talk with her about herself, she clams right up.

There was that time when she was a first-year and she was doing all of those things because she was under the power of the journal. The entire time, she didn't tell a soul what was going on, and even now she doesn't like talking about it. I don't blame her, mind, but she keeps things under a rather tight lid.

And after that, I know she wrote the LP over the journals several times and met with him once. She doesn't talk about that either, but she seemed a bit obsessed at the time.

Whenever she punished herself by standing up in the Great Hall and making that announcement about how she wasn't worthy or something, I tried to get her to talk about it with me and to let her know I was sorry about it, but she just told me that she deserved it and didn't seem to want to talk further. And although she seems to want to be friendly with some of the other girls in other Houses, she doesn't extend herself.

So she keeps to herself. Which makes it really hard to tell what she's thinking. She's always been nice to me, but she keeps her distance, and she doesn't tend to share things about herself. It's all about surface things like pets and books and school.

And what Sally-Anne said, during her first year she had all these weird sorts of ideas like that because of what her mum said, and seemed to believe all of it. She seemed really young. And sort of... well, like she had no idea how the world really worked. And she's gotten a bit better about that, from what I see, but since she never really opens up about anything, short of what Justin's said, it's hard to tell whether she's just learned better to not show her hand, or if she still believes everything her mum ever said to her.

Until Justin got here, the people she'd talk to the most were Draco and Harry.

So the answer is, I'm not sure. I'm not calling you a liar, Justin, I'm just saying that she's never told me something I can use to confirm what your experiences have been. Although Sally-Anne has a point about warning her cousin about her mum. That's something.

I've asked the girls in the Tea Time group to let her in, sort of as a way of getting to know her better, so that might change. And if Justin's serious about wanting her under the lock, Sally-Anne and me can make more of an effort to get her to open up a bit so that we can help sort out better if she'd be fit for it.

2012-04-14 17:46:00

master?

whre are you?

i've been trying to fnid you but i cant
and now i cant walk


i need you

please i need you!



 [alt_tery](#)



 [alt_tery](#) at **2012-04-14 23:48:32**
(no subject)

please

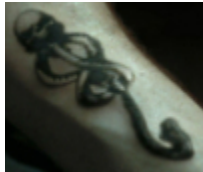
please



 [alt_tery](#) at **2012-04-14 23:49:04**
(no subject)

tell boot where you are


bootwill crawl there



 [alt_amycus](#) at **2012-04-14 23:53:27**
(no subject)

Master's busy, tidbit.



 [alt_tery](#) at **2012-04-14 23:54:05**
(no subject)

but i need you



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-14 23:54:49](#)
(no subject)

Hmm. Are you in pain then?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-14 23:55:17](#)
(no subject)

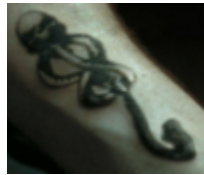
yesyse

terrible pain



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-14 23:56:57](#)
(no subject)

How exquisite.




 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-14 23:57:52](#)
(no subject)

Tell your master all about it, then.

Some things are meant to be savored.

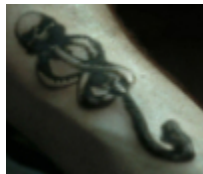


 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-14 23:59:19](#)
(no subject)

but boot needs to find you

please tell boot where you are so boot can come to you

if boot could lay his head at your feet boot would be better




 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-15 00:00:48](#)
(no subject)

Ah. That's the Leash, that is.

Surely you've become used to it this week,

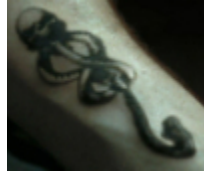
hmm?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-15 00:01:50](#)
(no subject)

please come to your boot
have pity on your mudblood


please please please



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-15 00:02:25](#)
(no subject)

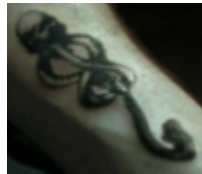
Oh, I'm not in the mood, I think. I've better things to do.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-15 00:04:10](#)
(no subject)

its changing

its BURNING




 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-15 00:06:46](#)
(no subject)

Come now, this won't do.

I told you to tell me about it. I'm afraid I require the details, tidbit. You don't want to stint on the details when your Master asks for them.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-15 00:08:31](#)
(no subject)

it's different

this isn't like being sick when you're not tehre

its crawling under my skin

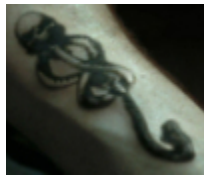
its direty and boot has to get it out

scratching my arm

scratching my arms to pieces

shredding the skin
but it wont get out

get it out get it out get it out




 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-15 00:09:27](#)
(no subject)

Oh, that. Why didn't you say so? It's high time that turned up.

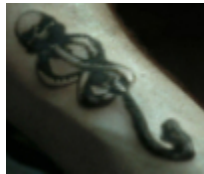
Yes, it's been about a week, hasn't it?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-15 00:10:03](#)
(no subject)

what did you do to me?

what did you do to your boot?




 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-15 00:10:58](#)
(no subject)

Questioning your master, are you?

You know what happens when mudbloods
get lippy.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-15 00:12:06](#)
(no subject)

boot will die

boot will die if his master does not come




 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-15 00:15:24](#)
(no subject)

Oh, not yet. All you need is a lancet and an ampule. We just need to remove a little

blood, once a week or so, and you'll be right as rain. A cheerful, smiling tidbit again.

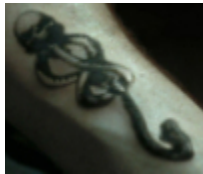


 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-04-15 00:16:28](#)**
(no subject)

that's all the spells master put on boot will do?

just keeps boot close to his master? and makes him give his blood up once in a while?

so boot won't die




 **[alt_amycus](#)** at **[2012-04-15 00:22:28](#)**
(no subject)

There are two or three other things. Odds and ends, nothing for you to worry your mudblood head about. But tidbit will be fine.

As long as his Master is alive.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-04-15 00:22:44](#)**
(no subject)

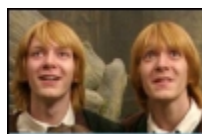
as long as...



 **[alt_amycus](#)** at **[2012-04-15 00:24:03](#)**
(no subject)

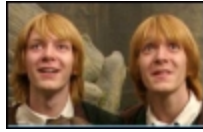
Really now, tidbit. Master's quite disappointed. Thought you were brighter than that.

What use is there for a possession when its Master is no more?



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-15 00:00:00](#)**
Order Only

You utter piece of dung.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-15 00:42:37](#)

Re: Order Only

Right.

Severus, Remus or Stephen: does this give us any more information about what's needed to break these stinking spells?

SO WE CAN KILL THE BLOODY BASTARD?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-15 00:52:53](#)

Re: Order Only

Remus is managing the Saturday night crowds.

If I'm reading this right, Terry can't go too far a distance from Carrow, he has to have an ampule of blood drawn every week, and Carrow's strongly hinting that if anything kills him, Terry will die as well.

Coming up to Hogwarts to torture Alecto is looking like a better and better option.

(Sorry, Molly.)

We'll have a look again. We've got all day tomorrow. There are still books in the library we haven't searched.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-15 01:08:11](#)

Re: Order Only

Doesn't look like he's hinting.

Looks like he's out and out telling him.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-15 01:11:00](#)

Re: Order Only

Perhaps...perhaps it isn't true.

Boys, he does like to make the poor boy as miserable as possible, doesn't he? But just because he claims it doesn't mean he's actually set up the spell that way.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-15 01:12:18](#)

Re: Order Only

Yeah, he likes to torture Terry all right.

Not as much as we'd like to torture him.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-15 01:12:53](#)

Re: Order Only

You mustn't talk like that.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-15 01:13:28](#)

Re: Order Only

But it stinks, Mum!



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-15 01:14:21](#)

Re: Order Only

Of course it does. But no matter how angry it makes you, you must keep your heads. That's what being in the Order requires you to do.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-15 01:15:35](#)

Re: Order Only

I'm afraid that even if we don't know for sure--and yes, I agree that Carrow's a liar--we still have to treat it as if it is true.

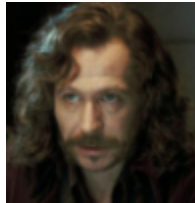


 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-15 01:20:22](#)

Re: Order Only

Too right, Bill.

Mordred. I'd like to wring his neck.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-15 01:19:09](#)

Re: Order Only

You're mum's got a point, lads, much as I suspect you don't like to hear it.

Carrow knows Terry's got other people who look out for him, care about him - you two, for example.

He could be trying to draw you out by threatening Terry. He could simply be trying to protect himself from Minerva's threat about duelling him, waiting to see if the idea of Terry dying makes her back down. He could be lying so Terry doesn't try to defend himself next time Carrow's on a bender.

Or he could be telling Terry the absolute truth.

We'll keep looking and as soon as we find anything useful, we'll let you know.

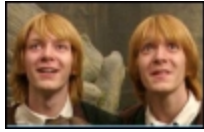


 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-15 01:27:52](#)

Re: Order Only

Yeah.

Note that Carrow didn't bother to take this to a private post. So maybe he was playing to an audience.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-15 01:29:29](#)
Re: Order Only

Not to mention he was toying with him.


He liked seeing Terry's pain. Got a kick out of it, the sick bastard.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-15 01:30:04](#)
Re: Order Only


I'm afraid he did.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-15 00:29:56](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Bloody hell.



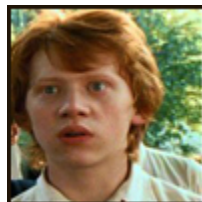
 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-15 00:38:31](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


I know.

It's enough to make you spew.

I reckon Ron's told this to the twins if they haven't seen it already.

I'm afraid once they know they'd probably try to apparate into Lincoln Castle or something and splinch themselves.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-15 02:51:00](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Yeah, they're plenty hacked off about it.

But they said they're working out what to do about it, because if Carrow's telling the truth, then they can't just go grab Terry or kill Carrow, even if they could get into Lincoln castle.

But you should see them. They get scary focused when they've got something to work on like this. And they're dead scary tonight.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-15 00:36:09](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Terry and that Monster

Bloody hell, Terry.

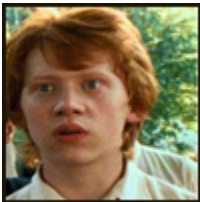
I've bally well no idea where to even begin.

Even telling you to keep up your spirits doesn't seem to be at all helpful.

Fred and George must be working on this. They'll have seen it, surely.

There's got to be a way. We're not going to give up.

-Justin



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-15 03:06:24](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good Private Message to Terry Boot

Terry.

The twins said to tell you to hold on.

I promise you, they're working as hard as they can to figure out how to help. And they said, well, if you can keep writing clues about what's been done to you, that helps. But they're sorry because they know it must be horrible to write about it, too.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-15 03:24:32](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good Private Message to Terry Boot and Amycus Carrow

Terry.

The twins said to tell you to hold on.

I promise you, they're working as hard as they can to figure out how to help. And they said, well, if you can keep writing clues about what's been done to you, that helps. But they're sorry because they know it must be horrible to write about it, too.

[2012-04-14 20:49:00](#)


Private message to Padma

How was your holiday? Favourite and least favourite bits?



 **[alt_seamus](#)**



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-04-15 02:59:50](#)**

(no subject)

Mine was all right. Favourite bits were the camp visit, Camelot and that afternoon we went to see Cats Hexing.

Least favourites were when Mum and Dad tried to act like they were getting back together, when Dad finally figured out I've been seeing Lares and made me break up with him and that time we didn't go see Fat Kneazle because Finch-Fletchley actually wasn't coming to spend time with you.

You? Mr Rosier's not made you break up with Evgeni or anything, has he?



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2012-04-15 03:09:24](#)**

(no subject)

Favourite bits: Camelot and Cats Hexing. The camp visit wasn't bad and neither was Cambridge.

Least favourite: having to pretend to like Finch-Fletchley. Nature walks are boring.

Easter was boring, too, but that was good.

Sorry about Fat Kneazle. I was looking forward, too. Why Finch-Fletchley was so set on going to Lincoln I don't know -- I mean the high point of the trip was seeing where a castle WAS before it disappeared.

Mr Rosier doesn't exactly approve of Evgeni but he doesn't mind, either.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-04-15 03:19:36](#)
(no subject)

What I don't understand is why we couldn't still go just because he wasn't coming along. I mean, I guess if he stays and goes on record how brilliant things are here, that's fine. I guess it doesn't matter much to him since he doesn't have mates in either Hogwarts or Beauxbatons, right?

Oh, there was one other thing: Haruman's finishing his Healer training this June, too, so there's this ceremony and Mum was all happy he'd completed the programme and he's going to be a real proper Healer now. Except he told me and Pav that now that he's done the Healers' training he's going to see if he can still make it into the Aurors' programme, instead. Mum doesn't know but she'll probably do her nut when she finds out he's applied.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2012-04-15 03:23:24](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I don't know. Mr Rosier had some idea about bringing me along that day and finding Justin in Lincoln. Except instead he went to talk to him while they were at the camp, and of course I WAS along for that but he decided he didn't need me there.

I just asked and he says he'll get me some tickets to Fat Kneazle over summer hols so maybe we can go then?

If Haruman wanted to be an Auror why didn't he apply for that program in the first place?! Although maybe someone who's both an Auror AND a Healer might be useful investigating certain crimes?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-04-15 03:33:04](#)
(no subject)

Oh, that'd be snitch!

He's always wanted to be an Auror but Mum was absolutely set against it. Not because she thinks it's not an important job but because it's so dangerous. And Dad

said that he'd probably never get any important cases, because he knows a couple of MLE Enforcers who are Muslim and they hardly ever get assigned to the good stuff. They told him they wanted him to be a Healer and they made him go to Healer training.

But yeah, he's hoping that his training will make him interesting enough to the Aurors that he has a chance. He's well fit already, he runs every day and we've been doing all the CCF exercises together.

Have you been keeping up with that? I figure this summer they'll expect us to be in form so I've been working on the crunches and all. Pav thinks I'm well bonkers.

[2012-04-14 21:51:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

All right, so I've been reading our ISS stuff to the twins whenever we get a chance away from Mum and Dad.



 [alt_ron](#)

And they've got some things they wanted me to write for them.

Perks, glad you're in the land of the living. We'll give some thought about whether there is any other ways messages can be passed along in an emergency besides the journals.

Finch-Fletchley. While we're personally moved that you'd consider making your home here permanently, you might ask for a range of choices for homes for fostering. Finnegan's a bit of a berk, in our opinion. As for adding Hydra Lestrangle to the lock, well, we know we don't get a vote anymore. But we're rather fond of you all, and we'd rather not see any wand snapping or camp banishments. We could help you by drilling you in how to do the 'oblivate' spell first, if you want to talk to her. It'd be wise to have a backup plan.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **[2012-04-15 02:59:40](#)**

Private message to Ron

Didn't they have anything to say to Terry? Even just, 'we're still listening, we'll find a way'?

As far as other ways to pass messages -- it would have to be well-hidden, they emptied my pockets as well before they shut me up.



 [alt_ron](#) at **[2012-04-15 03:16:34](#)**

Re: Private message to Ron

Yeah, sorry. I was trying to work out how to say what they said. (Cause what they really said was mostly about what they'd like to do to Carrow if they ever have a chance.)

I put it on Terry's journal so he'd see it. I hope.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-15 03:18:25](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Oh, I see where you wrote something, now.

I think you have to add Carrow or Terry won't be able to see it, though. Just like Harry has to be on all of Hermione's private messages.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-15 03:21:33](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

That was daft. I forgot.

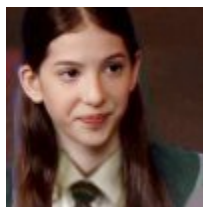
Thanks.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-15 03:22:47](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Oh, and I told them what you said about hiding whatever it is that they'd make to help us get messages to each other if we can't use the journals. They won't say what their idea is, though.



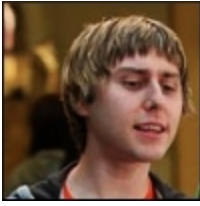
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-15 03:26:33](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Well, I started thinking about it and I could make myself a bracelet like the ones we made for Hermione and Terry. The Twins would probably make me a bead if I asked, to hide things in, and I could put it in a bracelet that I'd charmed not to be noticed. If it's worked to hide something from Amycus Carrow it would certainly work to hide it from the Strettons.

I hate the idea that I'd need something like that. But I could put FOOD in it, in case the Strettons lock me up without food again.

If you had known what was going on, there wasn't anything you could have done, anyway. The Strettons are my guardians and they're allowed to discipline me however they see fit.




 **alt_justin** at **2012-04-15 03:03:34**
(no subject)

Ron,

Tell them that yes, I've been working on the Obliviation spell.

-Justin



 **alt_ron** at **2012-04-15 03:20:30**
(no subject)

They mean it that they'd be happy to help us get better at Obliviation. They've been working on it for a while. Well, from before Pansy got on the lock. She can tell you about that. I expect they're loads better at it now than they were then, and they're actually really good at showing you how to do stuff.

2012-04-15 07:57:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

got pig all right. the git didn't see him.

thank you for the letter and the bezoar. I've stashed them in my bracelet.

sending pig back to sally-anne
with a sample some of my blood
guess it doesn't make a difference to bleed out a bit more
please see that it gets to fred and george


the pain's not so much this morning.

i'm sorry you all had to see that.



 [alt_terry](#)



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-04-15 13:30:31**
(no subject)


I'm glad Pig found you.

And, um. Yeah. It looks like you must not feel so badly this morning as you did last night.

That was well scary guess you know that. sorry.

We're going to figure something out, Terry. Really we are.



 [alt_luna](#) at **2012-04-15 22:12:20**
(no subject)

There's no need to be embarrassed, honestly.

The one who should be embarrassed is him.

Of course he won't, but the point is that if there's any shame, it's not yours. It's his.

We're very glad that Pig reached you.

2012-04-15 20:48:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good
Private Message to Sally Anne Perks and
Pansy Parkinson



 [alt_ron](#)

It's good to be back here, really. I mean, I'm not looking forward to lessons tomorrow or anything. I'll see you in Potions, though. D'you remember what Slughorn said we'd be doing? Yeah, me neither.

Anywiz. Hope you're okay now we're here. D'you think you'll get to sleep all right?



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-16 02:33:31**

(no subject)

I'll be fine, tuna breath.

It was nice to sit with you on the train.

I've no idea what we'll be doing. Whatever it is, it's bound to smell awful.



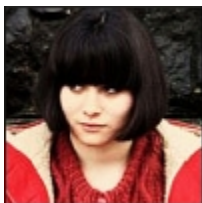
 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-04-16 02:55:29**

(no subject)

Good.

Yeah. We should do it more often.

Too right about that. Hope it's not another of the ones that goes lethal if you put stuff in at the wrong time.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-16 02:35:49**

Private Message to Sally-Anne

Do you want to sleep over?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-16 02:52:49](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Yeah.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-16 02:53:28](#)

(no subject)

Potions ... I just hope we didn't have any homework for hols. We didn't, did we?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-16 02:56:50](#)

(no subject)

I didn't write anything down about it if there was.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-16 02:59:33](#)

(no subject)

That would be more reassuring if you ever wrote anything down.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-16 02:54:01](#)

(no subject)

And yeah. It was nice sitting with you on the train.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-16 02:57:29](#)

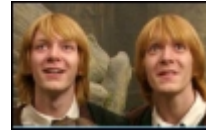
(no subject)

Yeah.

I mean, thanks, really. Glad I could.

2012-04-15 22:03:00

Private message to Professor Slughorn



 **alt_gredforge**

May we come to see you tomorrow? We know you don't ordinarily have office hours on Mondays, but we wanted to come to speak to you concerning a proposal we have in mind.



 **alt_horace** at **2012-04-16 03:10:13**
(no subject)

A proposal? That sounds intriguing, boys.

I've no cauldrons to loan you, if that's what you're about. Particularly when they return blackened with dents or in a twisted lump that used to be a bowl.



 **alt_gredforge** at **2012-04-16 03:32:52**
(no subject)

No, sir not a cauldron loan; something different. Something you'll find intriguing, we hope!

We'll stop by between the last classes and dinner, if that's all right.



 **alt_horace** at **2012-04-16 03:51:46**
(no subject)

Certainly, certainly. My door is always open.

I shall look forward to hearing your proposition, then.

[2012-04-15 22:07:00](#)

Private message to Penelope Clearwater

Well, that was one of the quietest Easter holiday fortnights I think we've ever had here at the Burrow. Ginny was gone to New London practically the entire time, Ron was off several times for CCF events. And the twins, inexplicably, spent most of the hols holed up in their room. And no explosions.




 **[alt_percy](#)**

It's a pity we couldn't spend more time on the search for flats. I realise we're just trying to figure out what neighbourhood we want at this point but...it is discouraging, isn't it? I had no idea that a simple one bedroom could be so expensive. Never mind the two bedrooms that we want. I realise that we could economise more if we chose something like the last one, but really, what's the point of saving our Galleons with the hope of eventually hiring a muggleborn when we're forced to share a bath on the floor with someone in another flat?

Well, we still have time. With some further hunting, I'm sure we'll find an acceptable neighbourhood with more affordable rents.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2012-04-16 03:48:20](#)**
(no subject)

Maybe quiet for you! I felt like I was just starting to relax when we were off on another CCF trip with the visitors. Though I will say I'm glad that at least one or two of them seemed to appreciate the effort that went into it all, not to mention the lessons to be learned from the chosen locations. And when I wasn't with the CCF or with you flat-hunting--well, I've complained enough about Dad. He's convinced I'm not going to pass my N.E.W.T.s unless I spend every waking moment revising. Beats doing chores, though!

And don't worry about the mudblood. I know we're not going to get one right away. I do wish the places that offer building-wide service weren't at such a premium. It's a shame about the shared bath, too, though if you think about it, it would probably be in less demand than in the dormitories at school--or in the Burrow, for that matter.

Are you sure you don't want to look in Islington, Southwark or even Camden? It's not as if you have to walk to St James's Square, after all. Mr Malfoy doesn't need to know where you've taken a flat; I

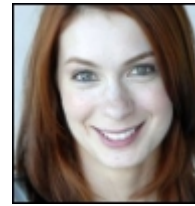
mean, would he even ask? I just think we could get more for the Sickles if we looked someplace a little more...mixed. At least for a while, anyway. There's nothing that says we'd have to stay in it long-term.

Well, busy day tomorrow. We'll get there, I know it. Love you. Miss you already.

2012-04-15 23:51:00

ORDER ONLY

Jason and Ethan are both here, safe and sound. That leaves Puneet, Ivy, and Sirius. (It feels so odd, writing that last one down!) Have we located Sirius and Ivy yet, Arthur?



 [alt_alice](#)

Ethan has thus far proved to be a completely normal and happy baby, and his parents were not only blissfully unaware of the associations we traditionally have with Leap Year children, but hadn't noticed a thing out of the ordinary. Nevertheless, I've been sure to put him in Jacinda's nursery, as she's the nursery worker with a wand, so she can closely supervise him.

We've got a full house and no mistake. We've already expanded our nursery space into two more rooms, and I think that if we have the same number of babies next year, we will have to get at least one or maybe even two more people to help with the under fours group. Our two new nursery workers have proved to be excellent additions to our little community at Moddey -- although they are both a bit quiet at our group meetings, which I hope will improve with time, they get along well with Jacinda and are both very hard workers. Candace has recovered significantly from her ordeal, although we must all continuously remind her to not work quite as hard, and that her stay at Moddey is not contingent on her speedy recovery. I was initially worried about her ability to work with the babies after losing her own, but from what I've seen of her, she's been good with the children and seems to be content. Her aunt Florence is quite a rock and a good woman, and I'm so glad Candace has her for emotional support.

We've also been talking about long-term plans, and how many more people we can expect to sustain with our current space. We've been keeping on top of crop production, and goats and chicken and fishing along with supplements from smuggling have helped, of course, but we have to continue expanding all of those sources of food continuously every season, which requires increased efforts. Enough of the adults and older children have wands to make the burden a bit easier, of course, but Arabella's coming up with some projections for the next five years about the acreage we would need (as well as how much space and food the goats and chickens would require) to keep our increasing numbers comfortably fed.

Our young people who have their wands have been proving

progressively more and more helpful -- although I am loathe to cut into their (much-needed) magical education with work, they have all been able to apply the magic they have learned to help around the castle, and have also been incredibly good about pairing up with the younger children to provide them with some much-needed attention, supervision, and help with lessons. We've also made a decision as a group to include those who are of age join in on our group meetings and have full rights for voting on decisions -- even though they are still learning, we thought it'd be important to respect their role as adults within Moddey Dhoo. It's all due to Fred and George, really, so thank you, both of you.

The castle will need some serious renovation or construction of a new wing sometime soon to anticipate increased numbers of new children, in addition to the aging and growing children we already have requiring more space. And supervision. And adults to supervise them. We may need some help this summer with construction projects if any of you can be spared.

On another note; Fred and George -- I must make sure that you are aware that our Neville is taking occlumency lessons from Severus. If we are to limit any additional connections your group of friends will make between Molly and the Order, it might be best to not let him know that you are also planning on taking lessons, as that would lead to questions about how you would have known to go to Mr Milland. Also, unless Severus has chosen to tell him, Neville remains ignorant of Severus's identity -- only that we wished him to take occlumency from Mr Milland.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-04-16 14:40:37](#)**
(no subject)

Alice, on the issue of garden acreage: on some of my barter network visits, I've met a number of people who use some rather ingenious methods to grow crops vertically, using just a narrow bed. They set up a framework of pipes and strings and train the crops to grow up the strings. This can be done with things like tomatoes, peas, squash, cucumbers, climbing beans and so on.

Another quite clever method was to attach a row of gutters on a wall, set at a bit of slant so they could drain: then each could be used planted with a different sort of salad green.

Both of these methods might save you a bit of space.

I can send you some sketches.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-16 15:04:11](#)

(no subject)

We'd be on a bit of a larger scale, naturally, but I'm sure that Regina would appreciate the plans. She and Arabella have been tossing around all sorts of ideas, and adding this to the pile would most certainly be

helpful.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-16 16:14:24](#)

(no subject)

I don't think we've found a confirmed location for Ivy or Sirius but our going theory is that they're already safe from the Ministry; I agree, though, it'd be nice to know for sure that we don't have to worry about

them.

You know, hearing about the way you continue to expand makes me wonder how you'd manage if we ever brought someone to Moddey Dhoo who simply would not contribute or who caused you a lot of nothing but grief. We've been lucky, I think, in not taking in someone like that but it's also largely down to you, Allie, and Arabella and the way you have of gentling people and bringing them 'round.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-16 18:21:14](#)

(no subject)


That's sweet of you to say, love.

We've had a few problem spots here and there -- Mr Turner was quite the malcontent when he first arrived, for instance, and some of our young people have required more gentling than others. Some of our group meetings can be quite lengthy and involved before we all come to a consensus as well. But I think that everyone understands what we have here, and that even though we don't always all agree with what would be the best way to move forward, we are all coming from a place where we genuinely care and want the best for Moddey Dhoo and the people

in it. And that makes all the difference, I think.

I wonder if that will change once we add more people. I hope it doesn't.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-16 18:22:04](#)**
(no subject)

And I agree with Ivy and Sirius; but the question would be do we leave them on or off the book?

On, and someone might make more of a concerted effort to track them down. Off, and if they're caught, it could bring the entire book into question.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-04-16 19:43:10](#)**
(no subject)

I say we keep hunting for them for now.

Emmeline has been doing some trips to check in with her contacts with ties to the Travellers. She's trying to trace any with the family name of Lowell, and tells me she hopes she'll have something to report by the end of the week.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-16 23:06:26](#)**
(no subject)

Arthur, perhaps you can say for certain: my impression from within the St Mungo's realm is that the Ministry genuinely ignore the Travellers and Roma, so long as they keep themselves to themselves--and the Ministry are well aware that those clans are mixtures of magicals and what the Ministry choose to label as squibs. I think it's very rare that one of their children does make itself known in our book, but not entirely unheard of. So, I don't really believe Alice's worry would pertain to Ivy Lowell if we do determine she's of Traveller or Roma stock. If she were ever found, she wouldn't be expected to be in the book, and in any case, it's not likely a Ministry employee or a Healer who came across her would feel inspired to intervene.


Now. We know that could change. It's certainly true that those

groups suffer harassment and discrimination. I can't say entirely why the Ministry have not chosen to intern them. Certainly, there's historical precedent, but blessedly we've chosen to think it was a Muggle atrocity to persecute and shun such people.

But that's only Ivy Lowell. And only if she is, indeed, a Traveller or a Roma child. There's still our wayward Sirius whose surname I've forgotten. That's not the problem is it? Might we have been wrong about such an important detail? I wish I'd thought of that before I went and had a look at the book. (There are no new names, by the way.)

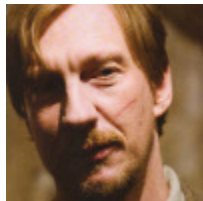
Supposing, however, that we haven't found him because his parents are in hiding, then that presents exactly the dilemma Alice has laid out.




 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-17 05:02:08](#)**
(no subject)

I don't suppose there's any chance we could convince the Trustees that thanks to the efforts of the Protectorate, the Book has begun to list only those children who BELONG at Hogwarts

School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-17 05:02:43](#)**
(no subject)

(That's certainly worth a try, as a stratagem, should a muggleborn child be found by the Ministry at some point.)



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-16 17:31:58](#)**
(no subject)

We'll be happy to help with farming or construction, whatever you need, this summer. Can't wait to see the place.

And yeah, noted about Neville. You don't need to worry, by the way: he's never hinted the slightest bit that he was in any contact with you. We'll talk to Severus Snape about it. We need to talk to him anyway, after we pitch our potions proposal to Professor Slughorn.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-16 17:37:38](#)
(no subject)

What potions proposal?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-16 17:38:15](#)
(no subject)

We're going to ask to be allowed to join the NEWTs class.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-16 17:39:25](#)
(no subject)


But you didn't get enough on your OWLs, and I don't see why he'd let you in. Anyway, you'd be a year behind!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-16 17:43:23](#)
(no subject)

We're going to pitch it to him as a challenge, a contest. Tell him to give us ten really fiendishly hard potions to study over the summer, and then he can test us on them when we arrive next September. We'll study with Severus Snape to catch up. If we manage it, then we'll join the NEWTs class.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-16 17:43:58](#)
(no subject)

Huh. What makes you think he'd bend his own rules and go for that?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-16 17:45:06](#)
(no subject)

Because we're showing real motivation. We're hoping he'll admire it as an original approach.

We also plan to suck up a lot if necessary. He likes that, too.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-16 18:05:20](#)
(no subject)

How lucky that I am present and able to read about your plans.

Come see me tonight at four o'clock to discuss this matter. You have detention for general weaselly behavior, if anyone asks why you are seeking me out.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-16 18:21:32](#)
(no subject)

Could we make it just a little later, sir? That's the time we've set for our meeting with Professor Slughorn. But we will come to see you right afterwards.

(You can increase our detention for being late.)



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-16 18:25:37](#)
(no subject)

That's the first time I've ever seen them volunteer for detention, Severus.

Maybe they really are turning over a whole new leaf.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-16 18:34:02](#)
(no subject)

Five o'clock then.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-16 19:32:02](#)
(no subject)

Thanks. We'll be there.

[2012-04-16 12:14:00](#)

Order Only: Possible leads

Fred, George:

Remus, Dora and I spent most of the day combing through the rest of the library (well, as much as Bea would let us). We found two references that may give us a clue.



 [alt_sirius](#)

The first is in *Grimoire Germanicus*, which is rare, but not impossible Carrow's got a copy. Roughly translated it's a spell meant to kill one's lover at the moment the caster commits suicide. Why anyone would want such a spell I can't imagine, but then, it is a German grimoire. Anyway, it's the best we've found and most likely thing Carrow could have twisted to the purpose he indicated. I'm copying the original Latin/German pidgin as well as the best two translations we could work out.

The second is in the *Saurian Compendium*, which makes this unlikely as it's intended as a manual on dragon-keeping. But nonetheless there it is: 'A Spell to Boile the Blude.' I've copied that one out for you as well.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-16 17:23:35](#)
(no subject)

We can at least find out through our sources if Carrow has a copy of either of those books. That'd be a start.

Although...it could be Alecto Carrow that has either one. She likes to collect Dark texts, yeah? Or she could have found either one in the Restricted section.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-16 17:25:01](#)
(no subject)

We can check the Restricted Section tonight. One of us maybe could distract Madam Pince while the other checks the card, and that'll tell us, if the library has the book, whether either of them have ever checked it out.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-16 19:06:04](#)
(no subject)

You know something I've been pondering.

Technically, the 'owners' of muggleborns in service don't own them; they're merely renting from the Ministry, isn't that right? Certainly the paperwork we filled out seems to suggest that to be the case.

Could Arthur nudge someone to look into Carrow's work, here? Because by arranging for Terry to die if he does, he's surely committing some form of theft. Is there any advantage to getting that bastard in trouble with the Ministry?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-04-16 19:53:40](#)
(no subject)

It's true that's the case now. But Terry Boot was one of the earliest muggleborns bound over for service, and the contracts were not standardised at that point. It could be that they simply used an agreement that Carrow drafted, and Merlin knows what foul conditions and clauses he might have put into it. He would have wanted total control; that seems to be his *modus operandi*.

Anyway, it's a good thought and worth pursuing. I'll definitely look into it.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-16 22:43:43](#)
(no subject)

There might be a silver lining there, if true--or a measure of explanation of his history with the boy: if his contract for Mr Boot is unique and could not now be replicated, it might seem to Carrow a reason to hold back from murdering the boy. He has, as you know, come close on a number of occasions.

2012-04-16 12:33:00

Order Only

Minerva, can you name some day or evening I can stop by Hogwarts, where you can give some excuse that requires Hermione to attend you, and together we can lift that Unbreakable Vow on her? I would like to get this taken care of as soon as possible.



 **alt_arthur**



 **alt_gredforge** at **2012-04-16 17:35:24**
(no subject)

Hear, hear.



 **alt_mcgonagall** at **2012-04-16 17:40:29**
(no subject)

Wednesday evening would be an excellent time.



 **alt_arthur** at **2012-04-16 17:47:01**
(no subject)

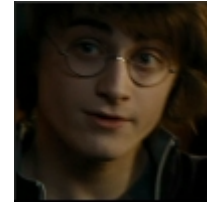
That will work well for me, too. I will plan to be there at 7:00 pm, if you'll open your Floo for me.

[2012-04-16 15:36:00](#)

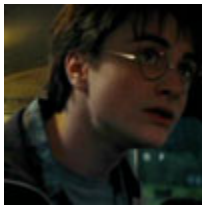
(no subject)

I hope everyone had a good Easter hols.

It was fun spending time with everyone who went touring, and I got to see some places I hadn't been before. It's sort of funny when you live somewhere all your life but have only seen parts of it.



 **[alt_harry](#)**



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-04-16 19:40:40](#)**

Private Message to Raz

How hard is it to learn occlumency?



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2012-04-17 00:17:26](#)**

Re: Private Message to Raz

Quite the topic of interest lately, that. Well, between you and Hydra, anyway. She popped into my office last evening when she got off the train, just to tell me that she's a full-fledged occlumens now. Not sure how she came to that conclusion, though she assured me that she was certain of it.

Thing is, it varies from person to person. You know how some people are rubbish on a broom, and you probably can't even fathom why since it comes so naturally to you? Occlumency is a bit like that, with some people being inclined toward it and others not. Now, someone who isn't inclined toward it can learn with proper training, but it's a good deal more difficult and takes a much longer time.

My brother Rodolphus picked it up with a very short amount of training, and I took a bit longer, but still not so long as some. I can't say that it was "easy," though. It was Bellatrix who taught me- that alone was a challenge.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-17 01:27:09](#)

Re: Private Message to Raz

Yeah, she was the one that brought it up.

I think it's something I should learn.

Or at least give it a good try.

Can you teach me?



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-04-17 02:25:37](#)

Re: Private Message to Raz

Did she say how she's so certain she's learnt it?
Well- nevermind that, I'm sure she'll tell me herself.

And as for you learning it, ~~I'm not sure if- no~~ I'm sure that it would be a great relief to your father to know that you could protect your thoughts, should any of his enemies attempt to infiltrate your mind. Not that I intend for anything like that to happen to you while I'm around, but one never knows when I might again end up at death's door, eh? There's the fact that you actually want to learn it, too...

Speaking of, I've gathered by now that your father and Lucius have rather forgot one particular focus of your studies, haven't they? Because otherwise, I would have heard how it went by now.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-17 03:57:37](#)

Re: Private Message to Raz

Yeah.

I don't really plan on reminding them about it either.

I'm sure they'll remember sometime, but I guess it was a bigger deal to me than it was to them.

And all Hydra's really said was that it made a load of difference for her. And I can see how it would.

...I know that it's one thing to think something could be useful or good to know, and it's another if your teaching me about that something could get someone in trouble.

Would it get you in trouble? Or me?

I know it's sort of hard to sort that sort of thing out ahead of time

especially if the things that get people into trouble change a lot

but I wouldn't want that to happen.

Even if it would be useful.

I mean, it'd be different if I woke up and knew how to do it all of a sudden, like Hydra. But if it'd be more trouble than it's worth for you to teach it, that's okay. I just thought I might as well ask, you know?

2012-04-17 10:26:00

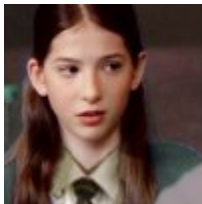
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Terry, thank you so much for the beads.
They're gorgeous.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Ron or Lee, can you tell Fred and George to find me, I went looking for them yesterday but I guess they were in detention for something?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-04-17 15:36:51**
(no subject)

Also, the reason I need Fred and George is that Terry sent a sample of his blood, like he said.

I just wanted to suggest two things -- Lee, pass this along.

1. Professor Slughorn has a cruopticon. I don't know if they'd see anything useful through it, but he might let me borrow it. I think I'd need a good excuse, though, I don't want him getting suspicious.
2. If it won't make Terry horribly uncomfortable to have you doing this -- set some aside. One of my books for Dark Arts gives a blood-preservation spell that will keep it 'fresh.' Because, if Carrow casts EVEN MORE awful spells on Terry it might be useful to have a comparison sample, you know?



 [alt_terry](#) at **2012-04-17 16:09:05**
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Sally-Anne. I'm glad Pig got there in time, and I'm glad you like the beads. I figure it'd be a good idea for Fred and George to make you a bracelet like mine, too.


Maybe one for all of us?

I'm okay with Fred and George preserving some of the blood and setting it aside. You've got a whole ampule, so it should be enough. As long as they have to put it someplace real secure. You can do, um, awful things to a person if you've got some of their blood.

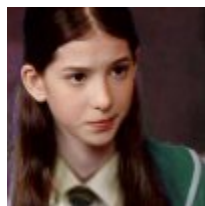
Not that I think any of you would do something like that to me. But--

yeah. Keep it safe.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-17 16:09:31](#)
(no subject)

What's a cruopticon, by the way?

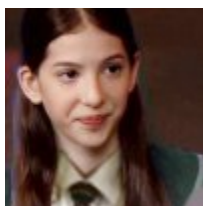


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-17 16:22:45](#)
(no subject)

It's a device that lets analyse spilled blood. It tends to be used in Dark magic but it can also be used for perfectly reasonable purposes. Back when Carrow first took you away, I used it to look at the beads you'd carved for everyone to see if any of them had traces of your blood on them. Because we were going to try to get you Fred or George's extra journal, and there's a spell you can do to make an object find its way to someone but it requires some blood or hair or something else from their body. We figured, we could hide it in a bead and put it on a bracelet, and we found one of the beads that had a little bit of your blood on it (because you'd cut yourself while carving) and we were going to put that on a bracelet, too. We thought if we could get it CLOSE to you and drop the bracelet, the magic would get it the rest of the way to you. It's like an anti-loss spell, sort of.

Anyway.

Carrow gave you back your own journal. But that was our plan.

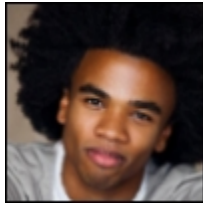



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-17 16:24:35](#)
(no subject)

It does seem like maybe it would be a good idea for all of us to have bracelets that have beads charmed to hide things and spells to keep other people from noticing them.

You never know when you'll have something you need to hide, you

know? It would just be handy. I'm going to keep some food and water in mine in case the Strettons lock me up like that again.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-17 16:37:23](#)
(no subject)

Terry, I just talked with Fred and George.

They asked me to pass on to you to please check the git's shelves to see if he has a couple of books. They ran across references to them when they were down at Knockturn Alley researching blood spells; if the git has them, he might have based the blood spells he cast on you on the spells in those books.


One's *Grimoire Germanicus*, and it's in German. Obviously. They said it's rare. According to what they learned, it has a blood spell in it that's supposed to kill the caster's lover when the caster commits suicide. (I asked them why? and they shrugged and said they had no idea. Some people are mental).

The other is *Saurian Compendium*, which is a manual on dragonkeeping. It's supposed to have a spell in it to, um, boil blood.

Another possibility might be that spells might have come from Alecto Carrow instead. The twins checked the Restricted Section last night (after they through with Detention) to see if she might have found the books there, but they didn't find the books in the collection. Perks, Carrow doesn't keep too many Dark Arts books in her classroom, does she? There's always her office, but not sure it's a good idea to try poking around there.

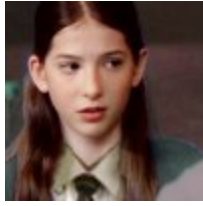
Anyway, Terry, do you see either of those books at Lincoln Castle?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-04-17 16:45:56](#)
(no subject)

I know for sure he won't have the German one. He can't read German, and he won't keep any foreign books in his library. (Well, except for a Frenchman by the name of de Sade.)

You'd think he'd be willing to use translation spells, but no, he usually thinks any author who doesn't write in English isn't worth reading.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-17 17:37:25](#)
(no subject)

She does keep some Dark Arts books in her classroom, but they're just the volumes that the Dark Arts students have access to.

There's a LOT more in her office. Like, a whole lot more.

I'm not sneaking in there, though, and I would heartily recommend against it even for Gryffindors. Although -- I don't suppose Fred and George could make Extendible EYES? That would at least let someone look around at all the titles, and maybe look them up somewhere else.

And I suppose I could always go visit her. During her office hours. She does hold them occasionally. And just remember as many titles as I could.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-17 18:08:05](#)
(no subject)

Maybe if I went too I could pretend to just be there because I had nothing better to do and act bored. And look around the room.

Unless you think she'd think it was weird.

But I think that not many people would want to be in her office alone, so it wouldn't be *that* unusual.

Or you could take your omnioculars.

No -- never mind that last one. That would definitely be too weird.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-17 18:22:25](#)
(no subject)

Oh, you could ABSOLUTELY come, too. Ordinarily she'd take the opportunity to suggest that I was too much of a coward to come alone, and to say something horrible to you about your

father, but these days she's a lot quieter.

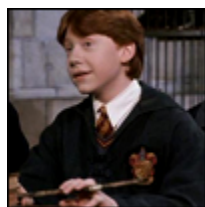
Omnioculars are a BRILLIANT idea. Maybe you could have them, and pretend to be playing with them because you were bored? How weird would that be?




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-17 18:55:33](#)**
(no subject)

Well, considering we're both founding members of the Tea Time of the Strange, I'd say I'm more qualified than most to do something weird and pull it off.

I can just be fiddling with them, and if she asks, I can say we're going bird-watching after.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-17 18:58:15](#)**
(no subject)

Pick a time when it's not pitching it down outside, then.


'Course, then you could say you're going out to look at rain drops and see if they really are all different.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-17 19:00:50](#)**
(no subject)

It's snow flakes that are different, tuna brain.

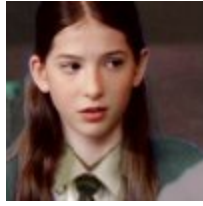


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-17 19:03:17](#)**
(no subject)

Oh. Right.

Well, make sure it's not raining out, then, if you're going to tell her you're going birding.


Unless. I bet Luna knows some bird that can only be seen when it's chucking it down.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-17 19:05:02](#)**
(no subject)

It's not raining today. Maybe we should go this afternoon and get it over with.




 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-17 19:07:27](#)**
(no subject)

Fred and George say they're working on another idea for Miss Professor Carrow's office that would be less risky, and anyway, maybe we should wait until we find out from


Terry if her brother has the books first. So let's hold off on storming her office for now.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-17 19:09:38](#)**
(no subject)

Well, just so long as you're aware that I'm a Slytherin and might lose my nerve and conclude that the whole plan is far too risky if you give me too much time to consider it.




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-17 19:09:13](#)**
Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

So, um.

Any plans for later for celebrating a certain person's birthday?

(I mean ones that people who aren't Slytherins could come to.)



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-17 19:23:38](#)
Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Yes! Of course.

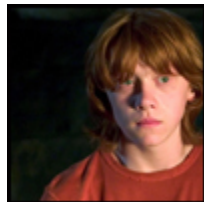
There's going to be a bit of a party in the common room tonight with cake, but I thought this weekend we could do something fun with the lot of us.


I was thinking we could go boating on the lake. The water's a bit chilly for swimming, but we could ask if we could take out one or two of the boats they use for the firsties for the afternoon. If the groundskeeper says no, we could just have a really nice picnic.

Or! I could ask the twins if they could put together a fireworks show when it gets dark, and we could go up to the Astronomy tower and have cocoa and hot things.

What do you think?

I'm still waiting on some things to get here. Especially after the Strettons sent her back to school with hardly any things to wear other than her uniform and no pocket money at all.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-17 20:54:51](#)
Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Oh.

All right.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-17 21:19:04](#)
Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

What?




 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-04-17 19:48:33**

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

I tell you what -- if you ask the twins about fireworks, I'll ask Professor Siz about getting use of the astronomy tower this weekend.

And if they need any money, you know, to help pay for costs of things, that's fine.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2012-04-17 20:59:20**

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

So.

Yeah, I like the idea of having a thing up on the tower. That'd be nift.

I'll ask the twins. You asked Siz, I guess. What did she say?

Or, um. Were you asking about being a counsellor? I did. I mean, I actually think it would be dead snitch to do.

But I bet I won't get it.

I tried to get her to say if it was by House. Because then at least someone from Gryffindor would get to do it.

But even if that's so--she didn't exactly promise, so it probably isn't--it'd be Finicky. Unless he doesn't go out for it, I guess, but what are the chances of that?



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-04-17 21:06:31**


Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

I asked, and she said that we could have it for Saturday night.

And yes, I did ask after becoming a counsellor. Or rather I asked if there could be more than one girl or boy from each house, only because I know Sally-Anne wants to be one, and I don't want to shove her out of it, you know? But it would be aces if we were all one.

I think it's worth it to try, at least. And that business that Lameus did with your broom is bound to count against him. And you were so helpful with Arista Selwyn this past summer, too. That has to count for something.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-17 21:16:39](#)
Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

She said we could have fifteen.

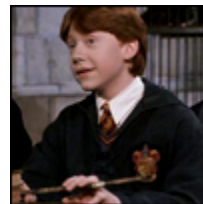
I was thinking Lee and Neville and Luna and Justin and the Twins and you and me and Sally-Anne, of course.


And Viktor.

And Sue and Milli and Hydra and would it be terribly awkward if I asked Mandy, just so she wouldn't feel left out if the rest of the Tea of the Strange was invited?

If it would be, I can just ask Hydra ~~even though Milli would pout a bit and I'd have to explain to Sue so she wouldn't feel snubbed.~~

And that'd be twelve. Or fourteen depending.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-17 22:01:38](#)
Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Um, yeah.

It's okay if you ask Brocklehurst. I think we got that all sorted.

I hope.

Not going to ask whatsisname?



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-04-18 01:28:42**

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

Well, I suppose I could, couldn't I? If there's one more place left.

If you wouldn't mind that either.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2012-04-18 01:34:56**

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson

You could, yeah.

And I think the bigger thing is whether he'd mind.

I mean, I really don't. That's why it was-

yeah, too bad he wasn't able to come for Quidditch. Or did you not actually ask him then?



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-04-18 01:54:28**

Re: Private Message to Pansy Parkinson


I'm glad. That you don't.

Very.

And I did ask, and he said that he didn't want to horn in seeing as how it was sort of tradition for you and me and Sally-Anne to get together over hols, but that if you had anything going on this summer he would think about going then.


It's not that he doesn't want to, I don't think. It's just that he doesn't tend to do things that are different from what he's used to very often. I mean, I'm fairly good at making new friends with people, but pretty much all his close friends are ones he's had since he was four. You know?



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-17 16:48:12](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, so Lee got to them first, but the twins say they'll look for you.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-04-17 16:18:29](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, they got detention from the caretaker. He got hacked off at them, don't know what they did this time.

They said to come find them at lunch, and they'll take the beads to charm them for you.


Happy birthday, by the way.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-17 16:23:03](#)**
(no subject)

Thanks.

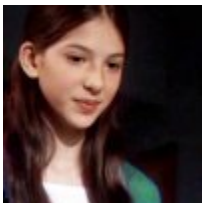



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-17 21:01:28](#)**
Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

Say, you what's just got a year older.

Want to go for a walk before supper?


I, er, have something I wanted to give you, and I guess I won't see you later. If they're doing something down in Slytherin tonight or whatever.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-17 21:47:44](#)**
Re: Private Message to Sally Anne Perks


Yeah. I'd love to.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-17 22:00:39](#)
Re: Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

All right, then!



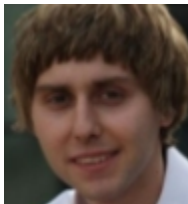
 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-04-17 21:12:30](#)
(no subject)


Happy birthday! Ooo, what do the beads look like?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-17 21:48:04](#)
(no subject)

Snakes. They're really, really nicely done.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-18 00:34:10](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I say, Sally-Anne, many happy returns! I'm sorry I didn't realise it was your birthday or I might have been able to get something for you in New London.

What do you think the twins have planned for getting in to search her office?

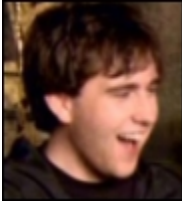
-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-18 02:05:40](#)
(no subject)

Well I hope they're not planning to SNEAK IN because if they are they should at least have me and Pansy look at the book titles first. If they sneak, they won't have long at ALL and they'll want to be after a specific book.

Also, if she catches them she'll probably KILL THEM. My plan is a lot safer.



 **alt_neville** at **2012-04-18 14:41:35**
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Sally-Anne (a little belated).



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-04-19 00:49:50**
(no subject)

Thank you for the plant, Neville, I really like it.

Does it need real sunlight? I've left it in the greenhouse for now. Slytherin has pretty much all magical light and some plants don't like that at all.

2012-04-17 11:10:00

YPL and CCF upcoming plans

Good afternoon! Now that we've returned to school, a few notes. Questions on any of the following, do stop by and see me. (And I'll be in my office this afternoon and evening, as well as the other usual hours.) In particular:



 [alt_sinistra](#)

The mural project

The dedication and final presentation of the new mural will take place this coming Saturday, April 21st, at 2:30pm, (by the mural, naturally). Everyone in the castle is welcome to attend, and there will be some refreshments. Mrs Pencarrow will be finalising some of the charms and remaining details this week: schedule is posted by the mural and on the board by the stairs to the astronomy tower.

Summer plans

We're continuing to work on details for the YPL and CCF summer plans - keep an eye out for more announcements in the next week or two. For first years, I can confirm the camping trip (as always with a few new activities), and for the second years, our two New London trips.

Fourth Years

I'm delighted to say we have a larger than usual number of openings for 4th years interested in being YPL counsellors for younger students. We anticipate our counsellors will participate in one trip each this summer (with a small number of the most senior counsellors assisting with the CCF programme weeks). The process involves an application form (available from me now), some short situational questions, and a brief interview.

Third Years

For current 3rd years: we will be beginning the CCF application process a little earlier this year than last. Our process will be roughly the same as last year - a written application, a letter to someone in a field you may wish to explore after leaving school, and then further detailed testing after the end of the school year.

I want to emphasise again that not being selected is not a comment on a particular student's skills, loyalty, or magical ability: it simply means that the selectors feel that the CCF is not the programme best suited

to developing that person's potential and service to the Protectorate. We anticipate selecting 15-16 students again this year.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-17 15:52:05](#)

Private message to Professor Sinistra

I'd very much like to apply to become a YPL counsellor. ~~Do you think there's any chance~~ I'll come get an application form today.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-17 15:58:53](#)

Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

I'm glad to hear that, Miss Perks, of course - and really, I should have mentioned it yesterday when you stopped in.

I hope that you're settling back in comfortably?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-17 17:46:25](#)

Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

Yes, the term is starting out very well, thank you.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-17 16:10:29](#)

Private message to Penelope Clearwater

Miss Clearwater -

A few things I wanted to check on. First, that while I greatly appreciated your help last summer, I know you're also now looking toward the longer future. While I'd be glad to have you back as the summer assistant, I'm wondering if you'd prefer some more flexibility in searching for a permanent position than our busy summer schedule would allow.

I am, of course, delighted to be a reference for you (by letter or otherwise) in your search. And if you let me know the kind of positions you're most interested in, I'll gladly keep my ears open.

Given all that, though, I'm assuming we'd need to find someone to consider for the summer-long assistant position you had last summer. I certainly have a few ideas of my own, but was wondering if you had any particular suggestions.



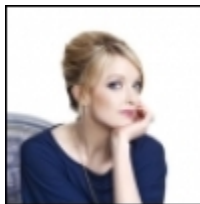
 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2012-04-18 00:52:37](#)**

Re: Private message to Penelope Clearwater

Professor,

I'm glad you said something. As it happens, I had been meaning to talk to you about the stipend for the summer because--well, I think I've mentioned before that I don't have any intention of remaining a burden on my ~~father~~ parents any longer than necessary after finishing school. But I have been trying to figure out how to balance the demands of the CCF/YPL programmes with the need for an earnest job search.

I'd be happy to discuss the current YPL counsellors and their merits. During your next office hours? I can have my recommendations drafted by then.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-04-18 01:03:05](#)**

Re: Private message to Penelope Clearwater

You have mentioned that before, and I quite understand the challenge. I'm glad you brought it up again, though.

My worry, of course, is that once we hit the summer, you'd have very little chance to interview (or prepare) in order to find something that suits you longer-term. I'd hate to find you at a loss in August, with your peers having found positions, and you having done (excellent, of course) work but needing something new.

As I said, I'm quite glad to do whatever I can to help you find a lasting position. And if your concern is something flexible enough over the summer to interview, but also help you bring in something, I do know of a few people who have summer research positions open that might be a good fit. They'd both give you some income, and be fine with you needing to take a morning to interview, or prepare something.

(Remind me: Runes, Arithmancy, and Divination, yes, for NEWTs? Anything I'm missing? Though the two positions I know about right now are both straight research.)

If you'd like a bit more privacy to discuss than office hours usually allow, I'd be glad to talk after classes either tomorrow or Friday (any time between 3 and 5:30 or so.)



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2012-04-18 01:21:15](#)

Re: Private message to Penelope Clearwater

Oh, I hadn't thought about--yes, you're right, of course, it could be seriously disadvantageous to start later than my classmates. But wouldn't that be true of a summer research position, as well,

Miss?

And yes, I've kept all three, as well as all the standard subjects. My best O.W.L.s were Runes, Charms, Astronomy and Herbology, followed by Transfiguration, Potions and Defence. I also took the Creatures O.W.L. and passed it but I don't think I'd be able to pull that off at the N.E.W.T. level.

What sorts of postings, if you don't mind my asking? I mean, I know that you had an apprenticeship that was far outside of New London. I don't think I'd want to have to live somewhere remote in order to take an assistant's position, you know?

Not that there's anything wrong with room and board but--well, I think you might understand why it would be--difficult, for me.

And perhaps Friday, yes, thank you. I've got the Prefects' meeting tomorrow night so I'm always putting together the agenda for that in the time between lessons and dinner.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-18 01:41:53](#)

Re: Private message to Penelope Clearwater

Excellent questions, of course. And no, neither are off in the remote parts of Cornwall: I had a lovely time at my research assistanceship, but you neither need the dark night sky nor that kind of isolation. (Besides, I was building - with the advice of my mentors - a very specific set of professional skills so I could

come back and take over teaching. And that made me willing to be there for a time without much else in my life. Much healthier to have a better balance, I'm sure.)

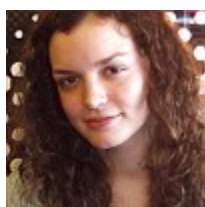
Both the positions I know of are actually in New London, and they're both fairly flexible about how long the work might continue (allowing for reasonable notice, of course). They're both expecting to be busy enough for the foreseeable future that another pair of hands would be useful, but not so much they'd need to cling to someone who found a permanent position.

One of them is with an old friend of mine, a researcher named Chimera Powell. He's a sort of independent librarian: he takes on consulting research projects for a variety of clients - sometimes it's tracking down old books, or authenticating documents, or helping an appraiser with documentation for an item. I met him while I was doing research on some old astronomical charts.

The other is actually with one of my cousins - though she's about the same age as my mother, and I've always called her Auntie. Gera Cumberhatch is her name. She does the same kind of independent research, but she's focused more on family history. Not the genealogy as much (she leaves that to other people) but filling in the background details, or writing up a history on a family property or a reclaimed house, that kind of thing.

Both really require good research skills more than any specific magical aptitude, though Runes, Charms, and Defence all have their moments with some older magical items and books. (And while Chimera's not an astronomer himself, he regularly takes on projects for other members of the Astronomer's Guild, so your knowledge there could be quite useful.)

At any rate, I'll get my notes together on both, and what they're specifically hoping for, and we can talk it over Friday afternoon.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2012-04-18 01:46:46](#)

Re: Private message to Penelope Clearwater

Okay. Thanks, Professor.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-04-17 18:11:08**

Private message to Raz

Love -

I'm hoping you have a good time with duelling club tonight, though everyone seems quite energised to be back, and I know that makes it hard to keep them focused. Even my newts were hard to get settled this morning.

I'm hoping the weather stays clear long enough for me to finally get some decent research time in tonight. (If you want to come up when you're done, you'd be welcome, but it might be on the boring side for you.)

And don't worry that the above is me working too hard. More like having gotten everything sorted so that once we get the final decisions on the CCF details, I can get all of that out with a minimum of fuss. I'm about to settle down to a few hours cheerfully catching up with journal issues I'd been ignoring.



 **[alt_rabastan](#) at 2012-04-17 23:16:43**

Re: Private message to Raz

I will come up. Harry's come to me with a request. Nothing dire, by any means, but how to proceed is the question. I'd like to hear your side of things, even if it means waiting until you're done counting rings on distant planets, or predicting the effects of a nearby comet on the newest crop of mandrakes. Are mandrakes a crop or a litter?

The things one forgets since NEWTs...

Anyway, see you then love.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-04-17 23:25:46**

Re: Private message to Raz

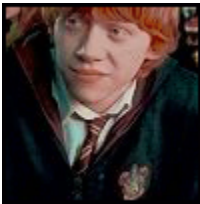
Ah, see, love, you're talking to the person who failed her OWL in Herbology, so I've not the foggiest.


You are most welcome to come up, and I will certainly take a break

to talk. (You know I'll always make time for you, starry sky or not.)
Though now you've got me curious about the question.

And it's satisfying (well, to me, and maybe five other people in the Protectorate) but arcane calculations of the movement of stars away from their source of origin. Even more tedious than rings or comets, I fear, but also easy to pick up and put down when I need to.

Also: Saturday night, there will be some fireworks off the Astronomy Tower. I've already given my permission for the parties in question to be up there, and been invited if I'd like.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2012-04-17 18:47:28**

Private Message to Professor Sinistra

Will the selection for counsellors be by House? Or just by who's best qualified overall? Or some other way?

I think it'd be awesome to be a counsellor, and I'd be good at it, too, cause I'm good with people, y'know, especially younger kids. And I've always really liked the YPL activities and I participate and all, so I'd be enthusiastic about everything.



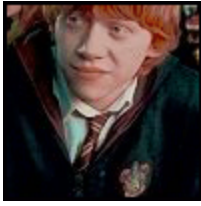
 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-04-17 18:56:01**

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

A little of all three. We do try to keep some balance by house - but we're looking to add between 8 and 10 new counsellors from your year, and it may not be perfectly balanced.

As to what I - we - consider, you're quite close. I'm looking at how well someone works with younger students, whether they've been able to help create connections within their House and between their House and others, how they've handled chances to show leadership or self-reliance. And of course, those in CCF have a definite edge this year.

I know there will be some very hard decisions to make about who to choose, but I'm glad you're interested: do stop up and get an application when you get a chance, or you could grab one tonight before class.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-17 19:00:32](#)

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

Thanks, Professor Siz. I'll come before Astronomy, then.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-17 20:04:51](#)

Private Message to Professor Sinistra

First off, can there be more than one girl counsellor per house? Because I know that Prefects are just one boy and one girl.

And second, I know that other years have had some of the same people be counsellors and Prefects. That's still a possibility, right? That you could do both?

And third, it's Sally-Anne's birthday this week, and I wanted to know if we could throw a party in one of the astronomy towers on Saturday night. I know she loves astronomy, and I thought it'd be fun to be outside if the weather's nice, and we'd be sure to clean up after, and I was going to surprise her with fireworks, but other than that we wouldn't be too loud or too late. And there wouldn't be a frightful number of people -- just ten or fifteen. Could we?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-17 20:30:42](#)

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

Excellent questions.

It's possible, yes. Normally I do consider balance between houses, but we're looking for 8-10 counsellors this year. Slytherin has a particular number of people I'd like to include if they're interested but I know it'll be a hard decision.

And yes, it's possible for people to be both counsellors and Prefects - though some people prefer one to the other entirely, and that's fine too. (I do talk to the heads of house about my potential choices, but the Prefect process runs a little differently, and they're often not sure of their final recommendations until after I need to make a choice - they often want to factor final marks for the year in, for example.)

As to Saturday: I wouldn't say yes to everyone, but since it's you (and Sally-Anne) and since you asked, certainly.

I do keep a number of protections up, but if you let me know when you'd like to be up there, and when you'll be done (curfew, I assume?) I'll gladly arrange for you to be able to get out on the tower. No more than fifteen, though, please, unless we talk further.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-17 21:01:43](#)

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

Thank you, Professor Siz! I just know Sally-Anne will appreciate it incredibly much.

And yes, I'll make sure, no more than fifteen. We'd be there after dinner, so starting at 7:30 if that'd be all right? And we'd be done by curfew.

We'll have the fireworks towards the very end if you wanted to stop by for a cocoa and to catch the show. You know, in case you had to supervise.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-17 21:55:47](#)

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

That should be excellent, and I'll leave things open for you after supper.

As to the fireworks - that's almost enough to tempt me out of my usual Saturday evening plans. I'm sure it'll be glorious. (And honestly, I do trust both you and she to have good sense, no matter who else is there, or I'd not have said yes in the first place. Though I will let you know where I'll be, too, just in case something comes up.)

She's helped me restock the storage bins up there recently, so if you do need warm blankets or whatever, she'll also know where they are.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-04-18 01:33:53**

Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

That sounds wonderful, Professor.

If you can make it up, we'd all be happy to see you, and if not, I really do appreciate your letting us use the space.



 **[alt_daphne](#) at 2012-04-17 23:21:49**

(no subject)

Oh, I've been waiting for this announcement! I'll come see you for an application as soon as I can. I'd also like to ask some questions about the interview process, such as: Will we know the questions in advance? Should we wear regular school robes or the special occasion school robes? Is anyone on the interview panel sensitive to perfume or strongly scented soaps? But we can discuss these in person, if it's best.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-04-17 23:40:24**

(no subject)

Ah, excellent questions, Miss Greengrass. I'll answer here, in case it's helpful to others (and feel free to ask other questions about the process as well.)

1) The interview is done with a small panel, generally myself and ideally two of the YPL committee members. Exactly who depends on availability, but it's most commonly been Auror Wright and Mrs Provim (who spends her workdays in the Wizarding Examination Authority office.)

2) School robes are just fine - and in fact, it might be best to think about it as a conversation, rather than an interview.

None of the committee members are particularly sensitive to scent, but we'd prefer to focus on you, not what you're wearing. (And we usually interview in my office, so there's a fair bit of space and comfortable seating.)

3) We don't share the specific questions in advance, but we are

looking at a combination of:

- someone's past history, behaviour, and leadership
- their ability to guide younger students
- their ability to encourage friendships both within their house and between students of other Houses.
- common sense and practical approaches to problem solving.
- what they feel the position will allow them to learn, practice, or better understand, and how that might help them in the future.

Some of these things, we already have a good idea about, but we also ask some questions about situations that have come up on trips, or have a sample situation for someone to solve or comment on. You can ask older students who are counsellors about some of what we've asked in previous years, but of course, we change the specific questions for each year (and vary them between students in a given year.)



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-04-18 00:25:40](#)**
(no subject)

Thanks, Professor! I'm really looking forward to the mural unveiling.

And thanks for the application, too.



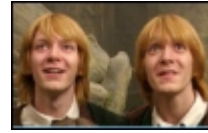
 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-04-18 00:38:11](#)**
(no subject)

You're very welcome, and it was good to hear you'd had such a pleasant time over the holidays.

(I'm looking forward to the mural unveiling as well. It's been fascinating to see it go from discussion to reality.)

[2012-04-17 14:07:00](#)

Order Only



 [alt_gredforge](#)

Well, we've had a busy day since getting back to Hogwarts. Mum, we hope you'll be impressed with our industry.

First of all, we met with Professor Slughorn who laughed a lot at first when we proposed our idea and seemed to think it was a very good joke, but after we talked a bit it looks like he's considering it. At any rate, he said he'd let us know by the end of the week if he's willing to do it. If he is, he'll give us a list of the potions to study over the summer, and then he'll test us on two when we arrive next September.

Secondly, we have a sample of Terry's blood, taken since the latest round of spells were put on it. We just received it today, by owl. A whole ampule. Maybe we should keep part of it under a preservative spell, so we can compare it to a later sample if the git puts ANOTHER round of spells on him? One idea that occurred to us (belatedly): doesn't Professor Slughorn have a cruopticon? We ran across to a reference to how they're used in analysing blood in our reading last week, and we think we saw one on the shelf when we were in his office last night. Maybe we could have asked if we could look at it while we were meeting with him, if we had thought of it at the time. We're trying to come up with excuse for borrowing it--unless Mr Snape has one? (A cruopticon, we mean, not an excuse). Anyway, we'll drop the blood sample off at the caretaker's office after classes.

Lastly, after our meeting with Mr Snape last night, we swung by the library to check the the Restricted Section. We chatted up Madam Pince in our most artless manner but didn't find a record of either of the two books titles Sirius gave us in the ledger (don't worry, we didn't mention either of the titles to her). Terry's going to check Amycus Carrow's shelves.

(Hope you liked the little basket of potion ingredients we left for you, Mr Snape. The Mumsey Wort's very fresh, even if there isn't much of it. Oh, and Fred had a bit of a headache come on about an hour after last night's experiment with occlumency ended. Is that normal? George didn't. Weird.)



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-17 20:17:13](#)
(no subject)

Sirius, is there a cruopticon at Grimmauld? It's the sort of thing your father might have had.

And the preservative spell is an excellent idea.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-18 02:03:16](#)
(no subject)

Would a broken one do?

I'm surprised it was still there. Back of the cupboard in his study.

I could see about repairing it, maybe. If I can clean it up it might be made to work again.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-18 14:29:43](#)
(no subject)

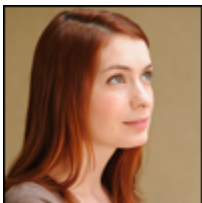
If you can't find someone to fix it, give it to Fu. We bet he can repair anything. Even if he's never seen a cruopticon before in his life.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-17 21:10:39](#)
(no subject)

Also: we'd like to search Alecto Carrow's office for the books. Maybe we could time it during a staff meeting or something?

(Um, we're doing our best to discourage our confederates from attempting the same thing, honest.)



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-17 21:44:53](#)
(no subject)

I would certainly hope so!



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-17 21:49:41](#)
(no subject)

DO NOT break into Alecto Carrow's office.

She undoubtedly has wards that would alert her to your presence, and frankly it would take something a great deal more compelling than a Hogwarts staff meeting to keep her from immediately discovering you.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-17 23:43:53](#)
(no subject)


No indeed, you absolutely mustn't do such a thing, boys!



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-17 23:45:36](#)
(no subject)

My nerves positively couldn't stand it.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-04-17 23:46:20](#)
(no subject)

Just think, Mum...if we hadn't let them into the Order, they'd probably be going merrily ahead with plans to break into Alecto Carrow's office on their own *and you would have absolutely no idea.*



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-18 16:36:16](#)
(no subject)

A horrifying thought.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-18 01:31:38](#)

Private Message to Moony

And you would know.

Fortunately, we weren't planning on trying to be sneaky about it. But I guess best not let any of them know that.

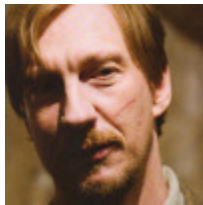


 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-18 01:58:27](#)

Re: Private Message to Moony

True.

But we're not 17, either.



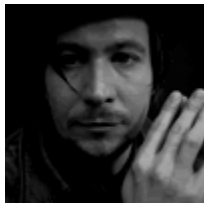
 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-18 02:19:46](#)

Re: Private Message to Moony

You know, Bill raises a good point.

These children, with all the good will in the world, are considering breaking into Alecto Carrow's office? I'm impressed with their daring and commitment, but I have to admit that I'm also rather horrified. I don't think her connections would protect, for instance, Pansy Parkinson, should Alecto Carrow catch her in the act of burglary. Let alone someone like Ron Weasley or Neville Longbottom. Or Poppy's protege, who doesn't even have blood purity on her side.

It makes me wonder what else they're up to. And just how risky it is. Considering how much they know, it's unnerving.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-18 02:33:23](#)

Re: Private Message to Moony

Well. We know they've risked themselves before, loads of times, to try to help Terry or Hermione. And others, too. Remember that muggleborn girl Hermione told me about, in New London? And just recently, we know Miss Perks put herself on the line with the muggles on her foster-parents' farm. You had a different experience, love, but remember that at 15 James and I thought

we were all well invincible.

There's a perverse streak in me that actually wants to see Lucius Malfoy try to acquit Miss Parkinson from such a predicament. He might actually intervene, given the bad blood between him and Alecko. But then I realise it's unfair to let her get herself in that kind of hot water in the first place.

Perhaps it's her latest owl that has me thinking dark thoughts, though.

At least I'm reassured that Harry's not in the thick of it all. And I hope not Justin, either.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-18 02:41:55](#)**

Re: Private Message to Moony

You did, I know.

I think that's part of why I worry.

Although it's not exactly that I'd choose for them NOT to run these risks, even if I had the power to make that choice for them. Their willingness to run risks for Hermione and Terry, for a muggleborn stranger, for sick muggles -- it gives me hope.

I just hope they're being careful. Breaking into Alecko's office? There's no way to do that carefully.



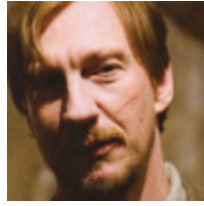
 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-18 02:48:35](#)**

Re: Private Message to Moony

No. Even *we* were presuming she'd come running--of course, it's no use explaining that's what we wanted. Especially as no one seems to have bothered to ask.

Of course, we were all Gryffindors. If this group is comprised as we think, they've got at least a couple canner types.

Still. Waiting for a staff meeting? Hardly subtle, that.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-18 03:14:57](#)

Re: Private Message to Moony

They're SUPPOSED to be canny, at any rate.

It's possible the Weasley lads kept the real plan a secret. As a fall-back, of sorts. Minerva could arrange for them to be occupied during future staff meetings, but if that wasn't actually what they were planning...



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-18 02:42:36](#)

Re: Private Message to Moony

And Pansy sent you another owl? You're a regular agony aunt, you are.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-18 02:52:45](#)

Re: Private Message to Moony

This one's less on the order of advice seeking and more on the order of 'You're a right git.'

But Circe, you're right. I can't seem to discourage her even when it's for her own good.

Perhaps she's one of those Slytherins who doesn't have any sense. I dunno. Maybe it's pointless to avoid her. She seems to have taken amiss all my previous attempts to direct her without engaging her directly. I'm not sure how much more obvious I could have been without tipping off Malfoy.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-18 03:15:59](#)

Re: Private Message to Moony

She lost her father quite young, didn't she? And then Regulus.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-18 03:27:29](#)

Re: Private Message to Moony

Yes.

I don't know why he encouraged her, either, though, to be honest.

Okay. Sort of. I mean to say, I can see why they got on but--

Well.

I dunno.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-18 03:28:09](#)

Re: Private Message to Moony

Come to bed.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-17 22:22:11](#)

(no subject)


No, indeed! Remus is entirely correct. You are not to consider such a thing. It is not a task for you.

It is a task for the Headmistress and the Matron. And the Caretaker, I suppose, if he sees fit to join us. Lest he feel neglected by my not having mentioned him and his qualifications for the duty.

Minerva. You saw what state Alecto was in when she returned, as well as I. Clearly, we can no longer neglect the fact that she is ailing and that it is impairing her ability to carry out her duties. You have her own brother's word that she requires a Healer's examination. Sure it is time to go to her, will she or nill she, since she has refused to come to the Hospital Wing to be seen.

(Mind you, that hex I put on her the last time Amycus was on my ward might have something to do with her aversion to the place.)



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-04-17 23:47:08](#)**
(no subject)

Now that is an excellent idea.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-17 23:47:33](#)**
(no subject)

We like it, too.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-18 02:02:17](#)**
(no subject)

You may need more than Minerva's orders to get her to hold still for an examination. Let alone while you search her office.

This is the woman who once ambushed and cruciated Lucius Malfoy, after all.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-18 03:04:16](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I wasn't thinking I'd just ask politely if she'd let me check her heart rate and have a look up her nose. And I am intending to have Minerva with me, not just turn up waving her Writ of Authority like a white flag across the battlefield.

I take your point, though.

Minerva: do you think it might be worth inviting Professor Lestrangle along. And perhaps one or two others?



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2012-04-18 16:22:41](#)**
(no subject)

You, Severus, Professor Lestrangle, and I should be enough to make it possible. Professor Carrow is a fierce fighter, but she relies on surprise too much: I believe we will be able to take her

unawares. A Full Body Bind should solve matters.

Best, too, to send Professor Lestrangle with you to the Hospital Wing. You will need him to keep her under control—and then Severus and I will have free rein in her office.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-18 16:35:07](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, alright.

I can be at your disposal most anytime (barring the usual, unforeseen disasters to students).

What strikes you as the best time to carry this off successfully?



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2012-04-18 16:37:14](#)**
(no subject)

Saturday, lunchtime? She rarely eats outside her quarters; she will be forced to open the door to me.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-18 16:41:03](#)**
(no subject)

Quite. Particularly if we have Mr Milland along with his master key.

And, yes, Saturday noon it is.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-18 03:30:35](#)**
(no subject)

See, and now you've gone and done it, as usual. You do find a way to see good in everyone.

[2012-04-17 20:52:00](#)

Private Message to Percy Weasley

I think I just got fired from the YPL.

Professor Siz just wrote me:

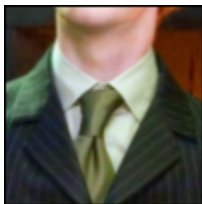


 **[alt_penelope](#)**

"....[W]hile I greatly appreciated your help last summer, I know you're also now looking toward the longer future. While I'd be glad to have you back as the summer assistant, I'm wondering if you'd prefer some more flexibility in searching for a permanent position than our busy summer schedule would allow."

I mean, she offered me a good recommendation letter and all. And I know, so far, very few people have stayed with it after leaving school but...Merlin's beard, it'd be nice to be the one to decide whether I'm done or not, wouldn't it? I mean, if Avery wanted to stay, I bet she'd tell him good on you and glad to have you.

Well, I guess the positive side is that I'll have plenty of time to look for work.



 **[alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-18 02:09:08](#)**

(no subject)

Are you disappointed? I can understand why you might wonder whether she's dissatisfied with your efforts, but surely that's not why. I suspect it's more that she's being realistic about the opportunities which should be opening up for you at this point. You are Hogwarts' Head Girl, after all, which means you'll be busy with more interviews than most students will be.

Except...well, do you know what she's told Avery?



 **[alt_penelope](#) at [2012-04-18 02:14:39](#)**

(no subject)

No, I don't, and yes, I think I was over-reacting a little. She's actually offered to share two positions she knows about in New London, and whether one of them might be a good place for me.

I mean, I'll know more on Friday, I guess. We're meeting.


Have you given any more thought to what I asked? About other districts? I think we might be able to stretch our Sickles more if we're not so focused on the more exclusive areas. I don't mind if there's a halfblood or two if you don't.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2012-04-18 02:30:06](#)**
(no subject)

Hmm. Perhaps we could look at Islington or Southwark. Especially if we think of it as more a temporary arrangement, for perhaps a year or two until we get well established. I would definitely prefer some of the other neighbourhoods we had discussed, however.



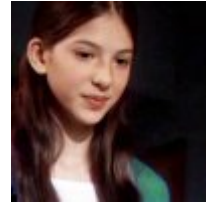
 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2012-04-18 02:44:31](#)**
(no subject)

Well, of course, I would too, Perce, but it's not likely we'll find much in the right range, is it?

I'd rather have a well decent place in Islington or Southwark than a bedsit in Notting Hill or Knightsbridge, right?

2012-04-17 22:23:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private message to Ron




Thanks again for the picture card. I really like it.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

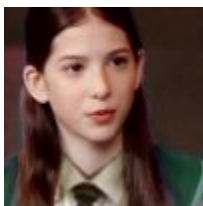
Pansy said her real gift to me will be here in a few days and in the meantime the other Tea of the Strange girls gave me a hamper of food so even though the cake was in the Slytherin common room maybe we can get together tomorrow or Thursday? (No jam, though! They figured I'd have plenty. Ha.)



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-04-18 13:09:39**
(no subject)

I'm glad you like it. I mean, I didn't know then what that stupid bloke said to you, but he's wrong. You're going to get to go there. The College of Healing Arts. Even if you're the first halfblood after a gap of twenty years or whatever it'll be then, you'll make them see how daft they were to keep halfbloods out. It shouldn't be about that at all. Not when someone's as good at helping people as you are.


Anywiz. What was actually in your hamper, then? Biscuits and sweets and wotnot? Any cheeses or juices or, I don't know, what do they put in those things for people's birthdays?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-04-20 02:31:12**
(no subject)

Crumpets and tea. I need to get hold of some honey, Luna gave me one of those honey-drizzling things with runes carved in the handle. It's supposed to 'give you extra insight,' if I'm reading them right, from eating the honey.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-20 03:37:01](#)
(no subject)

Oh, that's easy. I asked Mum if she could send some, and I bet she will. So then you can see if it gives you extra insight for end of term exams, yeah?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-20 03:38:12](#)
(no subject)

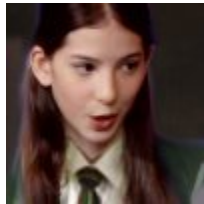
Well THAT would be handy.

I should probably revise anyway, just in case, though.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-20 03:39:08](#)
(no subject)

Well, don't hurt yourself.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-20 03:42:51](#)
(no subject)

Surely your mum has reassured you that a little revising never hurt anyone.

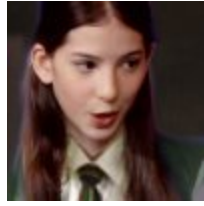
Oddly your brothers seem to have suddenly reached that conclusion, did you see what Lee said about them trying NOW to get into Potions? I think Professor Slughorn probably agreed to let them do it for the amusement of seeing them try.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-20 03:44:49](#)
(no subject)

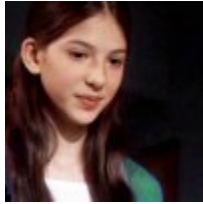
I think that may prove that revising sends you mad.

Only way to explain it, really.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-20 03:54:10](#)
(no subject)

You might just be on to something there.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-20 03:38:23](#)
(no subject)

And, thanks.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-20 02:34:26](#)
(no subject)

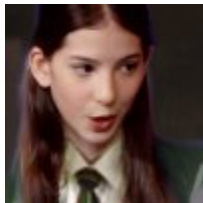
You've never had a hamper for your birthday?

Cheese would be really nice. The really BIG FANCY ones sometimes have cheese. And fresh fruit. I don't know why Professor Slughorn likes candied pineapple so much when the fresh kind is so nice. (I've only had it a few times, but it's really nice.)



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-20 03:38:20](#)
(no subject)

I don't know if I've even had the candied kind. Or wait. Was it pineapple in that salad at the Quidditch World Cup? Or was that something else?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-20 03:41:27](#)
(no subject)

Um...

I don't remember any of the food from the QWC. I do remember the meal was really fancy. What color was the fruit? Pineapple's yellow once you cut it. There's actually a special charm for preparing it -- it's got this spiny skin that almost looks like a reptile. And there's a core, too, that you can't eat. The charm takes the skin off and cuts it into rings.

And it's really juicy and sweet but it also has a really unusual flavour.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-20 03:46:07](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. I'm not sure what it was, either.

Mostly I remember not being able to sort all the forks.

And then singing stuff with Arista.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-20 03:55:23](#)
(no subject)


I remember it just kept coming and coming and coming.

And talking with you through the journals about the forks and all that.

And then trying to keep people from dying.

I hope we have a really boring summer holiday this year. No one getting sick or blown up or ANYTHING.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-20 04:41:24](#)
(no subject)

You can say that again.

[2012-04-18 07:50:00](#)

Private Message to Lav and Seamus



 **[alt_padma](#)**

Have you looked at the application?

I mean, it's simple enough but why do you think they want to know how many hours a week we spend reading? or exercising? I thought the point was to demonstrate fitness with the actual exercises.

And then those situation questions! 'You see a fork in the path. One path leads to a forest, the other to a castle. Which do you pick?' Oh, and the one about walking down the street at night and witnessing a robbery? What do they want you to say?

It's like they don't give you enough information to choose, you know? Is the robber a wizard? Is the castle as far away as the forest? Is it day or evening and would there be any shelter?

At least there's a proper essay topic. And no more PMs to famous people.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2012-04-19 01:40:24](#)**

(no subject)

Well, I think you can just assume whatever you want, for those questions. They probably want to see us reason something out. If you're seeing a robbery you might not know right off whether it's a wizard or not, but petrificus totallis will work on muggles too, right? And surely they'd want YPL leaders to be the sort of people who'd intervene and would have a sensible plan, too.

I picked the castle because people are more interesting than trees. I forget what I actually said for that question, though.

I think the weirdest one was about the turnips.



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2012-04-19 02:46:06](#)
(no subject)

Agreed! Fancy imagining myself as a turnip! I said I'd be chocolate mousse, because it was the most luxurious thing I could think of right then.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-04-19 02:47:23](#)
(no subject)

Right, but what if it turns out that it's not a robbery at all, it's a pureblood wizard disciplining his mudblood? Then it wouldn't be right to intervene at all, you know?


I said that transfigured turnips always have a vaguely turnippy aftertaste so it hardly mattered. Have you noticed?

And I said that it depended on which castle it was and how far away and what time of day it was and whether I had a broom with me to fly over the forest instead.

What about the lunch question? I said Merlin, of course, and Shiva and Rowena Ravenclaw.

Oh, and what about the one asking for a time when you helped people resolve differences? I probably gave the worst answer ever to that, I just talked about how we worked on History Club so people could bring whatever books they wanted to talk about.




 [alt_lavender](#) at [2012-04-19 03:49:52](#)
(no subject)

I think your History Club answer is a good one, because it shows that you've already done a lot of things for the school. Which you have!

I said that I'd absolutely love to have lunch with Kirley McCormick, but also Madame Malkin, and...one of the great Seers, I forget which.



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2012-04-19 02:44:39](#)
(no subject)

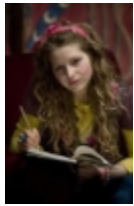
I thought the PMs to famous people were very nice! I got a lovely reply from that lady at the Ministry. Which reminds me that I really do need to apply myself more to my Divination...


As far as the questions, well, I think they're a bit naff, but if you just say something that sounds clever you'll be fine, especially on the forest one.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-04-19 02:47:58](#)
(no subject)

Lav, are you applying?



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2012-04-19 03:45:21](#)
(no subject)

I wasn't going to at first, but I had a long firechat with Mum a couple of days ago and she convinced me that I really ought to.

[2012-04-18 11:08:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good
Private Message to Sally Anne Perks and
Pansy Parkinson



 [alt_ron](#)

So I started looking at that application during History of Magic, and I think I've got my answer to the question about the two paths.

But, um. I wondered if you'd look and say whether I'd better write something different instead.

First, I'd get out my Locator stone and fix my position. And I'd start off going towards the forest, to explore and map it, because I'd be curious about what's in there. And that's what I'd do unless I heard sounds from the castle like a tournament. You know, trumpets flourishing and bells ringing out. And swords and lances clashing against shields. If I heard that, I'd leave the forest path and use my navigational skills to find my way through the forest to the castle, and when I'd got there, I'd make my way to the tournament grounds to the horse stalls and broom sheds. And I'd challenge the squires to a throw at gobstones to let me enter the competition in their place. I wouldn't even care if I didn't win, though I bet I might, just on pluck and starter's luck!



 [alt_pansy](#) at **[2012-04-18 16:55:18](#)**


(no subject)

I like how it's like a story.

I think if you're interested in the forest, you ought to go into a little more detail about why it's interesting and all, because otherwise, it seems a lot more like you'd just prefer the castle.

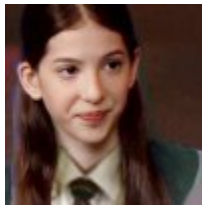
It's good how you talk about some things that we'd learned in the YPL like the navigating, and how it would be okay if you didn't win all the time, that it's trying that's the fun part. I think they'd like that. It's very much like you.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-18 17:32:19](#)**
(no subject)

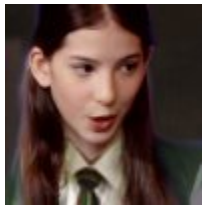
Um. D'you think I should talk about wanting to see if there'd be abandoned houses or smugglers' caves in the forest? Or, um. Does that sound too much like looting and plundering and probably not good? Or even, maybe, too interested in old muggle stuff? I dunno.

Maybe I should say I'd be interested in creatures. In there in the forest.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-18 17:42:38](#)**
(no subject)

Go with creatures. Or maybe interesting plants but Nev's about the only person I know who really CARES about Herbology.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-19 01:53:22](#)**
(no subject)

Who'd you put down for the three historical people you'd like to have lunch with? I said Salazar Slytherin, Godric Gryffindor, and Helga Hufflepuff. I figure I'm clever enough that if I leave out Rowena Ravenclaw no one's going to think I'm an utter pillock.

On the other hand, 'three of the four founders!' has got to be the most boring answer to that question ever. (It's true, though. Except I don't care that much about Helga Hufflepuff. I'd LOVE to hear whether it's true that Gryffindor and Slytherin were best mates, though. Maybe it would be more interesting if I said I wanted to have lunch with Salazar Slytherin, Godric Gryffindor, and the Keeper for the Chudley Cannons.)



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-19 02:17:16](#)**
(no subject)

I think you ought to talk about finding out if they were friends, because you have friends who are both, and I think they'd like that sort of thing.


I still haven't settled on mine yet. It's hard!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-19 02:21:18](#)
(no subject)


Oh, that's a really good idea! Because the YPL always puts us up in groups that sort of break up our Houses a bit, and I could talk about what I like about the people from other Houses and how valuable it is to work together (because bringing a Gryffindor always means you have someone to hide behind! er, I mean, because just as no one wizard is an island, no one House is perfect and we all need each other blah blah blah etc.)



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-19 02:38:12](#)
(no subject)

D'you think it's a trick question? Like, if you answer with people who weren't alive at the same time, they'll think you're dim and mark you down for it?




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-19 02:44:40](#)
(no subject)

See, now, I think that because it's all of history, it could be anyone, so I'd want to have different sorts of people to see what they'd all think of one another too.

I guess it depends on how you explain it in terms of whether they'd think you were really dim.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-19 03:01:40](#)
(no subject)

I mean, I was thinking, I might say I wanted to have lunch with some of the best cooks ever. Only I don't really know any famous cooks from history.

But that'd be clever, wouldn't it?

Or. Well, I'd really like to meet Percy Fawcett, the explorer, and Bowman Wright, y'know, the bloke who invented the snitch, but I'm not sure who else, really. I was thinking maybe Wronski, but I expect they're meant to be British wizards, yeah?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-19 03:11:38](#)
(no subject)

Not necessarily. I mean, we've had our international visitors all year, so getting on with witches and wizards from other countries is something they might think is important.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-19 03:28:14](#)
(no subject)

I think Helga Hufflepuff is supposed to have been a really good cook, actually. It's why Hufflepuff House is near the kitchen.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-19 02:01:35](#)
(no subject)

Every question makes me think about the WORST POSSIBLE ANSWER I could give.

'Who'd you like to have lunch with and why?' 'How about Albus Dumbledore, Sirius Black, and the Lord Protector? MAY THE BEST MAN WIN!'

'If you saw a man being robbed, would you intervene?' 'No. A proper wizard ought to be able to look out for himself. If he's so weak he's falling victim to robbers, we're all better off without him.'

'You come to a fork in the road. One path leads to the woods, one to the castle. Which do you choose, and why?' 'Neither. I return the way I came, because it's lunchtime.'

'If you were a turnip and we transfigured you into another food,

what would you taste best as?' 'I could not possibly be a turnip; the turnips all get Sorted into Hufflepuff.'



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-19 02:15:49](#)
(no subject)

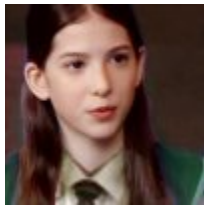
Hah! I think their heads would explode.


Or we could get extra silly.

"I would rob the robber and sell the goods back to the person he robbed at a profit."

"I would pick up the fork and put it in my pocket, as it might prove useful."


"I would transfigure myself into something that I wouldn't want to eat, because I wouldn't want to be tempted."



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-19 02:21:56](#)
(no subject)

That last answer isn't bad. 'I should prefer to be transfigured into mutton liver so that no one will eat me unless they're doing it under dire threat.'



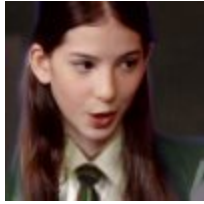
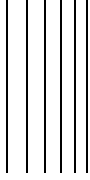
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-19 02:35:20](#)
(no subject)

That may be the absolutely most Slytherin thing you've ever said.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-19 02:42:26](#)
(no subject)

Now *that's* saying something.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-19 03:28:34](#)
(no subject)

It couldn't possibly.

2012-04-18 22:15:00

Private Message to Julius Avery



 [alt_penelope](#)

Look.

I honestly don't care if you have no incentive to pass your N.E.W.T.s and I really have no interest in whether you use the rest of your lessons to catch up on the engrossing adventures of Martin Miggs.

But will you please stop acting as if Prefects' meetings are nothing more than an excuse to chat up the 6th-year girls?

It would also be refreshing if you could at least occasionally pretend that you could be arsed to lift your wand (or even a finger) on behalf of other students, particularly anyone who isn't in your own House.

Ackerly and Ross both saw it happen and I have no reason to think Bundy would bring it to us if it weren't important. And you *know* Hedigan, Drumgoole and the others have been a problem since the beginning of the year. I thought it had finally subsided but obviously not.

And as for Darius Warrington--well, I can certainly give him a healthy measure of understanding, considering. But that's no excuse. Lynch is a first-year and he's in third. He should know better, regardless. He should certainly know better than to let a bunch of firsties guide his action. What did they do over hols, think up ways to harass their peers?

So why can't you admit that there's an issue? If you're so certain that Slytherin handle their own problems, then handle it. Or I'm going to Slughorn and the Headmistress.

And I don't mean just telling them not to get caught, because I know that's all you did before. So fix it. Or I shall.

[2012-04-18 22:51:00](#)

Order Only: Private Message to Moony and Dora



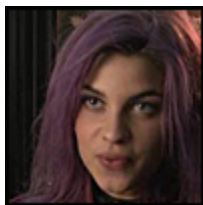
Well?

You wanted to see it.

 [alt_sirius](#)

Let's have it. I mean, I see I've been a right git, as she says (well, from her side) but what now?

Is it good or bad that no matter what she quotes (and Dora, that's Uriah Heap, that last bit), all I can hear whenever she starts on lyrics is 'Go Ask Alice' - and no, not just because Allie's usually my first line of defence when it comes to girls. Because I wish it had been on one of the albums she'd nicked. Perhaps I'll send her a copy of Lewis Carroll, as well.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-04-19 03:06:40](#)
(no subject)

Let her feel part of your pack, Sirius. She wants to belong somewhere.

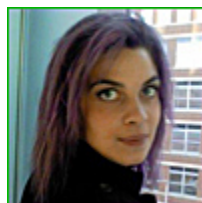
That's the biggest part of what I get from her letter. She wants you to acknowledge she's one of yours.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-19 03:22:13](#)
(no subject)

One of my what?

It's not as if I've never answered or acknowledged her already.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-04-19 03:34:01](#)
(no subject)

But it is, from her place, especially since you write to other people she knows.


Look, yes. You've sent her messages, but she wanted answers to her questions. Not just a tip of the hat in

public.

This is what I see: she's read your Grim Truths and from the beginning she's understood what you were saying. Enough to write you follow up questions. Could you ask for a better reader? Has anyone else been that responsive to them? Has Harry? Not that it's a competition, but she's understood the things you're hoping he'll see that are nonsensical and wrong about the Protectorate. And she's asking you to explain how that can be.

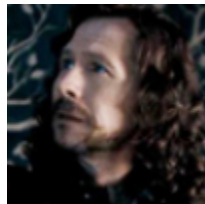
She's asking you to explain because she needs help sorting between what she's been taught and what she sees: she was brought up to have none of those questions. She got the full indoctrination into all the DEs' lies, and she can see that it's all wrong (thanks to you and to her friends), but she needs you to answer her, and I'm going to say it again, I think she needs you to accept her as one of yours. A kindred spirit.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-04-19 03:38:20](#)**
(no subject)

You've never sent her a letter, though. You answer her, but impersonally, in cryptic references in the journals.

Whereas Harry gets real mail. It's not surprising she's a bit put out.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-19 03:42:21](#)**
(no subject)

Harry's my godson.

I don't know if I trust her. I don't know if I trust myself to write her. Besides -

No. Nevermind. If I start down that path I'll sound as lugubrious as they always got.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-19 03:49:28](#)
(no subject)

Would it be better if she were taking these questions to HER godfather?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-04-19 03:53:07](#)
(no subject)

There. See? Exactly.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-04-19 03:52:32](#)
(no subject)

And she's Lucius Malfoy's goddaughter (or something very near it if it's not officially so). Wouldn't you like to win her away from him?

You have more than a chance. Honestly, from where I sit, it looks as if she's begging you to please make the play for her. She's yours for the asking.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-19 04:03:29](#)
(no subject)

~~I don't want Reg's seconds, thanks.~~

Sorry.

Fine. I'll do it. No, I don't want her running back to him with the tale of a prodigal daughter.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-19 04:07:24](#)
Private message to Padfoot

Regulus had a really ... strange relationship with Pansy.

I don't think she expects you to have that sort of relationship with her, at all.



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-04-19 04:18:25](#)

Re: Private message to Padfoot

Regulus had a Reg relationship with her.

He did what he does. Did. Whatever. You know what I mean. He always had a knack for making himself pathetic. And she's the same.

And look. I know she's not to blame. I know that. And I know that she blamed herself, her 'wrong-headedness,' for the way Voldemort twisted him and forced him further into his own madness. And no, I didn't want to let that stand.

But the truth is she made it worse. She gave him an outlet to indulge all his poetical, Proustian petulance and sink deeper and deeper into self-pity. So much so that he gave up.

Circe. She's a kid. And at the same time she connected to him in a way that - that I couldn't do, Moony. Because I just couldn't stand the self-indulgence. Merlin, I'm getting fed up with myself now for letting myself wallow.

I dunno. I'm not angry with *her*. I'm just

I don't know.

I'm utter bollocks at this stuff.



 **alt_nymphadora** at [2012-04-19 03:11:13](#)

(no subject)

One of your albums is about Alice in Wonderland?
Really?

I bet Bea would love it.

But, actually, you should send it to Pansy, you know. And the book. I think she'd like that.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-19 03:28:32](#)
(no subject)

Hah, no, it's about taking hallucinogenic mushrooms.

But as that's also what Alice in Wonderland is about

....



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-19 03:30:43](#)
(no subject)

If it's the song I'm remembering it's not EXACTLY about Alice in Wonderland. It's more about Alice in Wonderland if you read it after taking a large number of mind-altering muggle potions.

Which is not to say Bea wouldn't like it. I can think of several great songs inspired by muggle potioneers that she'd probably like.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-19 03:35:29](#)
(no subject)

We should be starting her on the Warlocks, anyway.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-04-19 03:42:21](#)
(no subject)

Oh, please.

Mr Crouch liked the Warlocks.

Possibly still does. Thankfully I don't have to know.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-19 03:50:21](#)
(no subject)

Listen, you. Everyone likes the Warlocks.

Warlocks, Beatles, Elvis - there are some things that are just universal. You do realise that the

Warlocks have covered over 20 Beatles songs in their career?
And no one even noticed or cared. They just pretend that it's the
other way 'round.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-04-19 03:56:14](#)
(no subject)

All right, you lot. I'm going to leave you to it if
you're going to talk music history. Next thing
you'll do is use the word 'classic'.

I think anyone who uses that word should automatically lose
the debate.

'Night to both of you.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-04-19 03:19:21](#)
(no subject)

And I think it would make you feel better, luv. Which
we'd all like.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-19 03:31:01](#)
(no subject)

Suck out the poison, you mean?

Right.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-04-19 03:39:16](#)
(no subject)

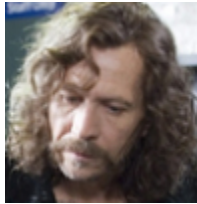
That's the very model of an unsavoury metaphor,
innit?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-19 03:40:52](#)
(no subject)

I don't like that analogy. It suggests there's something poisonous about this girl, and frankly, she's faithfully kept secrets that would, if discovered, probably get her sent to the camps in spite of her connections.

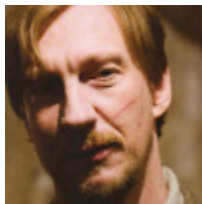
If Lucius Malfoy found out she'd been protecting the secret of two muggleborns with wands, do you think he'd protect her? His fondness has its limits, I'm sure.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-19 03:47:23](#)
(no subject)

I meant my own poison but you've got a point, Remus.

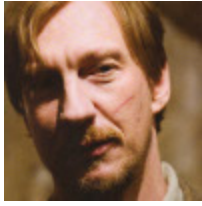
Allie's always doubted her motives. And I have to say her other letters have come at some incredibly inconvenient times while nonetheless pretty much demanding answers I don't have. So what else could I do besides drop her hints or wink in her direction and hope she'd keep digging on her own? You know as well as I that the answers she wants can't be given, they have to be found.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-19 03:53:00](#)
(no subject)

Well, does Allie have a theory for why she's kept all these things secret, then?

I don't think -- well, maybe she DOES expect answers on a plate. Maybe. But I think if you just -- you could say, in a letter to her, 'I can't give you these answers; I found them on my own, some things you just have to find on your own,' and I think that would be okay, really, because Dora's right. More than answers she wants to feel that she's part of your pack. She wants you to care about her, enough to write.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-04-19 03:48:28](#)
(no subject)

Her letter more or less confirms what we'd suspected: she's a member of the Junior Auxiliary. Which means she knows about Terry's wand. And Hermione's wand.

And since wands do not materialise out of thin air from their component elements, she knows of the existence of the Order of the Phoenix, if not our full list of activities. Her comment about having friends in common with you suggests that as well, and also suggests that Fred and George were not the only ones who suspected that Molly Weasley was in on the secret, and they may have guessed about Poppy, too, or Pomona, or even Minerva.

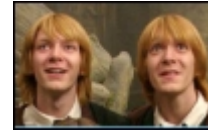
AND she knows about your canine ways.

And she's kept it all a secret.

I think you should write to her. Frankly, she's well beyond the point where total secrecy is more of a risk because who even knows what she'll stumble on next? But more than that, I think she's earned a bit of credit. She deserves an acknowledgement. (And an apology, because she's right; you shouldn't have told Harry, not without asking her first. Or at least warning her.)

2012-04-18 22:56:00

Order Only: Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo



 **alt_gredforge**

We figure Dad's come to Professor McGonagall's office by now and so you've had the Unbreakable Vow lifted.

The two of us just wanted to say thanks. For taking that Vow and living under that danger for as long as you did to protect the Order, all while you were taking all the shite you have to take living in the Protectorate as a muggleborn. Keeping secrets from everybody and for everybody. All while trying to help us, under the I Solemnly Swear lock. And trying to squeeze in a proper wizard's education, on the sly, no less, on top of it. AND being Marvolo's servant.

Honestly, we don't know how you did it. Hermione, we're so sorry...we had no idea how hard it must have been, what sort of pressures you were living under. We've been members of the Order for only three weeks, and now that we're keeping secrets from the kids on the I Solemnly Swear lock while still trying to help them, we're really starting to understand--how did you keep your hair from turning white, anyway?

Neville's in the same situation, isn't he? Sort of. Not as badly, of course, because he's not a muggleborn. And he's not a proper member of the Order, either. But he's keeping secrets from both sides, too. Have you ever--no. Of course, you couldn't talk about it with him at all, because of the Vow. Blimey.

Anyway, that's all, that's what we wanted to say.

You're a bloody heroine as far as we're concerned, Hermione.

Someday, if we have anything to say about it, everyone will know it.



 **alt_hermione** at **2012-04-19 13:33:15**
(no subject)

You're welcome. And thank you. And you know, I feel like the ISS lock made things ever so much easier in some ways, because being around adults all the time

only is very strange, and at first I didn't know if I'd like to speak with other young people really, but I do.

It was hard at first. But I signed on for it. And it's always been this way. I didn't really have friends before you all, you know, I mean, I had some friends, but not magical ones. They keep people pretty separated out in the camps so you can't start a revolution. Well, the people who move between camps anyway, like my parents and me were, so you can see that even though it doesn't feel right I never got used to telling people everything all the time.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-19 14:40:18](#)**
(no subject)

We're glad we made things easier. We hoped we would; that's one of the reasons we invented the Lock in the first place.

It is sort of weird, talking with the adults, isn't it? Different. Maybe it's a bit easier for us, now that we're of age, and so maybe they see us more as adults ourselves.

Except we're not quite used to that, either. We keep expecting Mum to use our ears for windchimes for calling people by their first names or something.

We really hope you'll get to see your Mum again.

2012-04-19 17:37:00

Order Only: Private Message to Fred and George Weasley



I appreciate your initiative in bringing the blood directly to me.

 **alt_severus**

I have provided Madam Pomfrey with a sample to test from a medical perspective.

I shall inform the Order as a whole of what I find when the results are conclusive; it may take several hours to prepare the sample. It is clear that there is something Dark going on; I do not know what precisely, as of yet. Fortunately I do not need to borrow a broken cruopticon. One is in my possession, do not fear.

Meanwhile, please continue your efforts. I shall see you next week.



 **alt_gredforge** at **2012-04-20 01:04:38**
(no subject)

You already have a cruopticon? Excellent. Thanks ever so much for doing this.

We're doing the exercise of clearing our minds in the evening. It makes us get sleepy, but we'll keep practising every night.

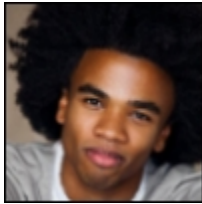
2012-04-19 19:28:00


I Solemnly Swear That I Am up to No Good

i checked the git's shelves carefully while he was busy with the prisoners. he doesn't have either of those books that Fred and George asked about. Would you let them know?



 [alt_terry](#)



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-20 00:49:24](#)
(no subject)

I'll let 'em know, Terry.

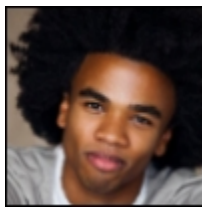
Just so you know, they're real serious about doing whatever they can to figure out a way to help. They've even gone to Slughorn to ask to be let into the NEWTs potions class.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-20 00:50:14](#)
(no subject)

Are you serious?! The twins are picking up NEWTs Potions?

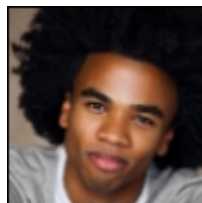
How can they do that? They haven't been taking potions for a year, have they?




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-20 00:51:09](#)
(no subject)

Dunno, but you know the twins. They can talk anyone into anybody. Even Slughorn.

They've even asked Percy for his NEWTs notes.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-20 00:57:44](#)
(no subject)

They won't be picking it up right away, but they plan to study over the summer. If Sluggy agrees, he'll test them when they arrive at school next fall.

[2012-04-19 22:30:00](#)

Private Message to Mum

Mum,

I'm doing okay. It's good to be back to school, I guess. And there's not much time until end of term. But, um. I miss you and Dad.



 [alt_ron](#)

And you know what I especially miss? The honey we have at home. Do you think you could send some?

Thanks, Mum!

Your favourite son,
Ronald




 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-04-20 12:13:15](#)
(no subject)

I miss you, too, Ron. I miss all of you. My, the Burrow seems so quiet without you!

I'll send a small pot with Errol today.

Give my love to Ginny and Fred and George, won't you?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-20 19:19:37](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, Mum! You're the best!

2012-04-20 14:53:00

Private Message to Messrs Weasley and Weasley, Year 6



 [alt_horace](#)

Gentlemen,

Having given the matter you proposed much consideration, I am prepared to extend to you a chance to win placement in my 7th-year Potions classroom.

This is only the opportunity to qualify, not a guarantee that I shall find your performance acceptable after your O.W.L.s and a year with no lessons.

As we discussed, here follows a list of ten (10) potions a rising-7th-year potioneer ought to be able to brew. When you return from the summer holidays, I shall ask each of you to prepare one (1) of the potions, chosen at random from the list I now provide. Each of you will be assigned a different potion. You shall each work independently and without instruction, under the supervision of a proctor, though you may of course use the approved text (e.g., *Advanced Potion-Making*, Borage) and I shall allow you each one 12-inch length of standard parchment on which to bring in any notes you may find helpful. These are not to be shared, though of course you may bring in duplicate copies of the same notes if you so desire. All the usual restrictions and expectations of Hogwarts' testing policies shall apply, naturally (c.f., enchanted quills, consumption of luck- or intelligence-altering substances, &c.).

In addition, I should like you to both sit the 6th-years' term-end written exam this June (N.B., aforementioned expectations on exam-taking). You shall of course receive no official mark for your performance on the examination but your answers will be of assistance to determine where your strengths and weaknesses lie *viz.* the theories and standard practices of Potioneering. Your ability to retain these concepts and to demonstrate them without the benefit of references will, of course, be a factor in my final decision but more importantly it ought to give you both a clearer sense of where you need to concentrate during your summer holiday, if you expect to correctly prepare the potions that here now I present:

1. *Amortentia*

2. Bethelda's Babbling Beverage
3. Draught of Peace
4. Elixir of Euphoria
5. *Felix Felicis*
6. Hiccapping Solution
7. *Libatium Acrimonia*
8. Mandrake Draught
9. Potion of Strength
10. Titubation Tonic

Should you have any questions on these, the terms of this offer or on any of the specifics of your study of Potions, I am of course at your disposal via the usual methods.

Wishing you both success in your venture, I am,

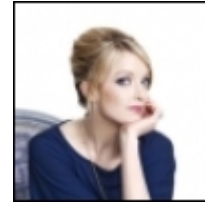
H.E.F. Slughorn
Potions Master

2012-04-20 15:09:00

Private message to Horace Slughorn

Horace -

Wondering if you've had a moment to think on what I asked you Tuesday.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

Of course, I haven't seen applications come in yet, but it's already clear the Slytherin interest in the YPL counsellor positions is extremely high, and I'd much appreciate your thoughts.

As you know, while many of the characteristics are similar to those I know you (and the other heads of house) consider for perfect positions, I'm also looking at how well students work across houses, and with providing direct leadership and mentoring to younger students. And of course, any information you think might be useful as I and the committee members review applications is always appreciated.

We can stretch to 10 positions this year, I think, due to the size of the first year class, which gives us a little more room, but I do try to keep things balanced between houses and genders. I already know that Miss Greengrass, Miss Parkinson, and Miss Perks are all interested and well-qualified among the girls. And while I understand Mr Zabini is politely not particularly interested, there's the question of both Mr Malfoy and Mr Marvolo. (Crabbe and Goyle, naturally, would not win out in such circumstances regardless.)

On the latter point, I suspect I may need to make some careful inquiries about Our Lord's plans for his son this summer, but I'd appreciate your advice on that before doing so.



 [alt_horace](#) at **2012-04-20 19:45:33**
(no subject)

Ah, Aurora. Yes. Do forgive me but I have also had another matter weighing on my mind, which I now think I have resolved. Or at least set in motion to be resolved.

Rather the opposite of the Capper problem. (Speaking of, have you made any headway, my dear? I certainly have not done.)

Well. Among the three young ladies, Miss Greengrass displays the greatest social poise and has what I would qualify a supple mind. She has certainly applied herself in all her subjects to achieve an adequate level of success. Her attempts to reach beyond the walls of Slytherin's common room, however, may not meet your rigorous standards. And one feels one must point out that her work lately has had a tendency toward sloppiness, though not so much that one shows concern. Her ambitions lie in a much more artistic direction, I understand. I believe the YPL would force her to make more of an effort to socialise outside her set; though of course, a prefecture is not out of the question and would reward her already evident tendencies to manage the affairs of her House.

Miss Parkinson shows her father's determination in my lessons and has a knack for the art but her performance in other subjects, as I understand it, are nothing extraordinary. It must be said she has also quite the reputation for building connections across the houses. However. There's her health to consider and the effect of high levels of stress on her constitution. And of course, much as I dislike to speak ill of one of my own House, she has distinguished herself, certainly, but not necessarily in ways we (or her godfather) would prefer to see.

As for Miss Perks, it's clear that she has benefitted greatly from her close association with Miss Parkinson; indeed the two are inseparable. Would it be indelicate of me to presume that you favour the girl not only on her strong work ethic but because you know she is a hardship case? If that's your concern, I think we may safely conclude that Miss Parkinson sees to Miss Perks' every material need, even if her foster-family chooses to supply her with only rudimentary kit. Still, she does work hard and she is a clever thing. One of the rare halfbloods who has excelled, nay thrived, within our serpentine halls. I might even go so far as to recommend her for a Prefect, if her marks are as strong as expected.

But it's for that reason I caution you, Aurora, not to let your personal liking for the girl govern your decisions in her future. If she were selected as a counsellor for the YPL then it would be impossible to recommend her as a Prefect. You are always assiduous in your consideration for our charges' careers; I only ask that you ask yourself, my dear, which accolade would be of greater advantage to her in years to come? Alas, that answer depends on her own plans, which as I understand from Poppy lie in the direction of Healing. I believe she could succeed either way but would she be better served through academic achievement or the practical opportunities

afforded through the Ministry's programme? One thing is certain: She will not get both.

Now, for the gentlemen. I wonder if you have consulted Rabastan on the subject? Surely if anyone knows Our Lord's mind regarding his son, it is the lad's personal security force. But leaving that aside, you are aware that Minerva has been asked to offer up weekly reports and that Mr Marvolo's progress is one of the topics on which he wishes to be apprised? My advice to you would be to interview the lad and ask whether he wants the post.

Mr Malfoy, of course, has followed his father's footsteps throughout his time at Hogwarts. I have every reason to expect the trend to continue. I sense that the YPL is, you'll forgive me, less important to him by virtue of its irrelevance to his future. He has done it because it is there and it is expected. (And truly, one could say the same of Mr Marvolo!) Again, an astute method might be to question him in private and determine whether he even cares.

Of course, you may find that they both care for the simple pleasure of being selected. That is a risk. Nonetheless, you should then be armed with information instead of hazarding a guess as to their reactions.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-04-20 20:05:47**
(no subject)

Goodness, that's quite a lot of comment indeed! Thank you for taking the time. As to my own thoughts:

Miss Greengrass: you're quite right about her recent work, and that's a concern of mine. And, likewise, that she's done much better building connections within her House than outside it. That said, she's shown great interest, and been otherwise quite suitable in terms of the YPL work.

Miss Parkinson: I do agree about some of her history - but I admit, she's shown more than a little growth in the past two years, and I'd like to continue to encourage her energies in the service of the Protectorate.

As to Miss Perks, you are right that I find much of value in her - she's been assisting me with some projects this year, and I do appreciate her work ethic, attention to detail, and willingness to

chip in (no small thing when herding first years through camping and long hikes.) And of course, her classwork is excellent.

On the boys - yes, of course, I've had some discussions with Raz about it, naturally. But I understand there's still quite a bit of discussion at Buckingham about related matters, the question of the best way forward to develop Mr Marvolo's skills and training. I do intend to ask other sources, but had hoped you might have insight as well.

Finally, regarding Mr Malfoy, you're quite right that there's no necessity for him to have such a position. At the same time, given the number of Head Boys and Girls who have also been YPL counsellors (a fact I'm quite proud of), I'd hate to have gossip center on someone - particularly with both his skills and family connections - not being selected, even though it's scarcely necessary to his future.

I am glad we're starting the discussion earlier this year than last - I do intend to speak to a number of people (students, as well as adults who know them well: the Gryffindor boys are also a particularly challenging decision this year) over the next two weeks, and see if that helps.

As to Capper, well. Septima mentioned he made a little progress with her over the holidays, but I admit I am still less than happy with his chart work.



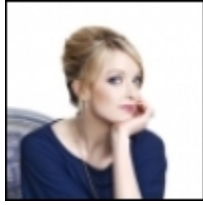
 **alt_horace** at **2012-04-21 01:23:15**
(no subject)

Yes, yes, indeed. Each one has advantages but none is an ideal choice. The best one can do is weigh the merits and make a guess. And of course, seeking multiple points of view, as you are doing. I assure you, none of us envy you your position! But I am confident that you shall rise to the challenge as always.

I am curious as to Rolanda's opinion of her charges. I can only judge what I see over the boiling cauldrons, of course, but it seems to me that any decisions on that front shall require no small amount of careful guidance.

Tell me, since we are discussing the students: What think you of

Warrington the younger's adjustment, in the wake of his father's patriotic sacrifice?



 **alt_sinistra** at [2012-04-21 02:48:14](#)

(no subject)

Oh, yes. And that is quite why I'm thinking through the implications now, and will continue to seek a variety of advice. Rolanda's not yet had a chance to get back to me either, but I'm sure I'll catch her sometime this weekend.

On Warrington - I heard more than a little about his outburst earlier this week (and a bit more from Miss Clearwater this afternoon, actually.) I have to say that going after a much younger student really isn't the thing (and hadn't we made it clear to our own after that matter with the French students, over winter holidays?)

I did hear over the holidays that more than one person's impressed by how bravely his mother's holding up, and the same with the older brother, though of course I don't have Charles in class any longer. I'll certainly let you know if I hear anything further on Darius that you might not be aware of.

2012-04-21 11:05:00

Exam Time, Innit

Mr Wagstaff -

Did you go to Hogwarts? Do you know what happens to people if they fail their OWLs? I'm afraid I'm going to. I can't sign this with my name, but you could call me 'Farleigh Fearful'.



 [alt_wagstaff](#)

I did do, yeah. Back aways.

What happens to people if they fail their exams? Well. Some of em take up a pedlar's pack or sign on fer an apprentice to a trade, and they make somefin of'emselves.

Others sit around and do nothin til they starve to death.

Not a total loss to my way o thinkin, because wiv a bit a charmwork, their landlords can use em fer fertiliser.

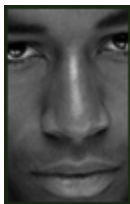


 [alt_padma](#) at **2012-04-21 16:55:05**
(no subject)

That's ridiculous.

Besides, it's probably been a while since you were at Hogwarts. 'Farleigh' ought to know it depends on whether he's a halfblood or a pureblood, too.

Why's he writing to you, anyway? I only saw this because I was trying to find other people's posts about exams.



 [alt_blaise](#) at **2012-04-21 22:04:23**
(no subject)

Cheers, Patil.

You're right. This is really poor form.

Must be a halfblood. Any idea who it is?




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-04-21 22:11:26](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I have theories but I bet we could figure it out easily enough.

If it's O.W.L.s then it's a 5th-year and yeah, gotta be a halfblood. It can't be a Prefect or they wouldn't be failing. And 'Fearful' probably means it's not a Gryffindor or a Slytherin. 'Farleigh' is probably a boy (though they could just be trying to sound like a boy).

Do you normally read this Wagstaff bloke, then? I've been looking through his older entries. There's some well odd stuff he talks about.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-04-21 22:21:24](#)**
(no subject)

I took 'Farleigh' as a pun. Fairly Fearful. But that could be reading more in than the person who wrote it's capable of. I mean to say, someone who's failing.

You're right it could be male or female, but that still leaves only a handful of people, really.

I've never seen this Wagstaff before. It just was here this afternoon. I suppose once you'd answered him, it floated up where I could see it. Or maybe I saw it for the same reason you did, looking for people writing about revising. ~~I was actually looking for something else altege~~

Is it worth reading his older bits? (Do you mean 'odd' in an entertaining way?)



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-04-21 22:29:24](#)**
(no subject)

I mean odd in a 'Why haven't MLE already arrested him?' way.

||| Maybe we oughtn't even be writing in his journal at all.

2012-04-21 12:50:00

Order Only—Alecto's apartments

Poppy, I look forward to hearing from you when you reach the hospital wing. I shall keep you updated here.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

These rooms are a sty. I do not believe house-elves have been allowed here in years. The stench is quite distinct.

Books are intermixed everywhere—on her desk, in shelves, stacked on the ground. This process will not be simple or short.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-04-21 16:58:49**

(no subject)

What's Poppy doing to Alecto? Please tell me she's running some incredibly uncomfortable test.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at **2012-04-21 17:03:05**

(no subject)

Oh, I believe so.



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2012-04-21 17:26:28**

(no subject)

I'm sampling all bodily fluids, of course. Some are more delicate to extract; some demand testing in situ.

Your fervent hope should be to never require so thorough an examination.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-21 16:58:51](#)
(no subject)

Minerva, Rabastan and I have her ensconced in my private examining area. I'm afraid that the full body bind continues to be absolutely necessary, and we've been forced to use rather strong muting charms to keep her from disrupting the entire ward.

Shall I send Rabastan back to you?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-21 17:02:52](#)
(no subject)

No—keep him with you. You may need his help if she breaks her bonds; but more than that, we must keep him out of here. Snape and I will find it easier to search if we can speak freely.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-21 17:06:32](#)
(no subject)

Has she made comment on any symptoms that might lead us to the source of her complaint?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-21 17:11:03](#)
(no subject)

Nothing especially enlightening.

Chills and shakes.

I'm pressing now for whether Amycus dosed her with anything or attempted any other sort of treatments.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-21 17:07:18](#)
(no subject)

A rubbish heap indeed. I do not know what she thinks she is doing with some of these potions, but rat bones should not be an ingredient in any of them. I am tempted to pour them out.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-21 17:08:17](#)
(no subject)

The urine I am certainly pouring out, then scourging.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-21 17:12:44](#)
(no subject)

Although it occurs to me that she has been attempting to trace the source of the poison herself: there may be method in her madness, as she has saved nail and hair clippings as well.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-21 17:14:03](#)
(no subject)

Are they dated? Collected in any way to preserve chronology?



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-21 17:16:55](#)
(no subject)

No—although perhaps the piles are ordered in a way that she understands. They are in a row.

Asafoetida throughout the room. Disgusting.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-21 17:35:02](#)
(no subject)

Speaking of piles and foul scents, I can't imagine how she can bear to sit.

More than you wish to know, perhaps. My apologies.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-04-21 17:41:54](#)
(no subject)


Merlin, woman.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-22 01:36:17](#)
(no subject)


Urgh.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-21 17:24:43](#)
Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey


And once again, I'm so glad I'm not in Snape's shoes.
Or Milland's, as the case may be.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-21 17:27:34](#)
Re: Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey

Don't envy mine.
My gloves, either.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-21 17:29:56](#)
Re: Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey

Too right. Though I wouldn't say no to playing the Rizzer's role in this escapade, this is one time I don't half mind being in the spectators' stands.

Reach in and think of England, Poppy.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-21 17:32:40](#)
(no subject)

I've been pressing her for details of whatever treatment Amycus might have tried, since we know he was furious at the lack of care she'd received here.

She's not said anything of use, alas. Only that he has the skill to

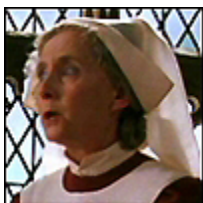
distract her from her suffering. Be glad you cannot hear the tone with which she speaks of it.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2012-04-21 17:48:53](#)**
(no subject)

Well, that has torn it.

I shall photograph the rooms and we must leave it at that—though Severus has been collecting samples from each of the bottles. Then I shall send the house-elves through. It is unsanitary.

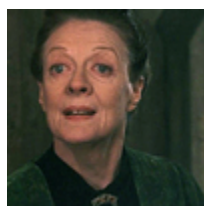


 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-21 17:54:08](#)**
(no subject)

Do it quickly, then.

Unless you want me to confound her and plant the suggestion that she ought to attend this mural unveiling before returning to her rooms.

I imagine in her current state, she'll make an impression on whichever of the governors attends. Possibly that would be useful?



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2012-04-21 17:57:05](#)**
(no subject)

Quite. That seems like an excellent idea. It shall give the house-elves time to work, as well.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-21 17:57:41](#)**
(no subject)

Why not?

The only issue I see is that if we can't find the poison and we can't get her to give up the secret, the Governors might fire her and then we'll lose her altogether.

Poppy.

I don't suppose you could convince her that letting you talk to Amycus is the answer?



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-21 18:00:03](#)**
(no subject)

I wish I thought it likely that they'd sack her and send her packing. I doubt you need worry.

As for the other thought, I had it, as well. She didn't bite. Suggested I know how to use a journal as well as he.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-22 01:37:14](#)**
(no subject)

You didn't find anything then?

Well, aside from all the rubbish. But anything to the point?



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2012-04-22 01:40:52](#)**
(no subject)

Nothing yet.

My analyses of her bodily fluids, as disgusting as they may be, will perhaps shed light, however.

2012-04-21 13:14:00

Private Message to Honoria

Honoria,

I know we had set sometime aside to revise this evening, but just as the first part of the unveiling ended, I was called away to New London. I am so sorry. I won't be back until late tomorrow night. And then I will, more than likely, stay up a little while longer revising. We can get some revising done on Monday afternoon if you like.

Also, thanks for helping me stay awake this week during lessons. I have no idea what's going on. But dozing is certainly not acceptable.



 [alt_ginny](#)

2012-04-21 13:35:00

Mural unveiling

Students:

you're reminded that the YPL mural unveiling begins at 2:30. Please gather by the mural. We'll have a brief discussion and review of the process, Mrs Pencarrow will talk about some of the artistic highlights of the piece, she will trigger the final charms, and then we'll adjourn for refreshments and further conversation.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

Headmistress:

Mr Peakes and Mrs Fleet have both arrived, along with several of the YPL committee members. Would you care to join us for tea beforehand? We could come up to your office, but at the moment we're talking in that small side room on the first floor hall nearest the stairs from the entrance hall.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-21 17:46:08](#)
(no subject)

I am a bit busy, Aurora. I wish you had informed me of this possibility sooner. I shall come as soon as I can—please pour without me.



 [alt_horace](#) at [2012-04-21 17:49:44](#)
(no subject)

Not to worry, not to worry, Minerva. Aurora, as it happens I was just about to come up myself and could easily come join you, if that would be helpful, of course.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-21 17:51:26](#)
(no subject)

That would be quite welcome indeed, Horace. Thank you.



 [alt_horace](#) at [2012-04-21 17:53:03](#)
(no subject)

Certainly, my dear, certainly. No trouble at all.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-21 17:50:03](#)
Order Only

You'll need to finish your search soon, in any case.

I'm afraid that I shan't be able to keep my patient much longer without breaching the fiction of this being a collegial intervention for her own safety.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-21 17:53:39](#)
Re: Order Only

We are nearly finished. Severus is bottling the last of the samples.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-21 17:50:38](#)
Private message to Minerva McGonagall

I had not expected the outside attendance either, frankly.

I can certainly manage, though Peakes is pressing me somewhat about the YPL counsellor process and a distraction would be welcome.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-21 17:51:47](#)
Re: Private message to Minerva McGonagall

Will Horace do? He is certainly forward about it, but in this case, perhaps not unwelcome.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-04-21 17:53:56**

Re: Private message to Minerva McGonagall

He'll do quite well - please don't feel you need to rush now.

2012-04-21 13:57:00

Private Message to Leighton Thomas

Leighton,

I have been going back and forth all year over if I should speak to you or not. I was doing some research on my father's family, and realised that we are related. I wanted to get to know you some, and hopefully talk about the relations on that side of the family. Would you like to have a chat tomorrow after breakfast? We could have a walk around the grounds if you like.

Dean



 **alt_dean**

2012-04-21 14:06:00

Private Message to Professor Sinistra



Professor,

I saw you message earlier this week, and decided to think things over before responding. After talking things through with Mr. Peakes, I am highly interested in applying for one of the YPL positions. I picked up a copy of the application this week, but I was unsure then. I am more than sure now, and I am very excited for the opportunity.

 **alt_dean**

Dean



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-04-21 20:48:48**

(no subject)

I'll certainly look forward to seeing your application, Mr Thomas.

[2012-04-21 17:04:00](#)

Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

Say. I can see there's something wrong.

You're avoiding me and making an entirely unsubtle job of it.



 [alt_blaise](#)

And Bole-

Nevermind about him.

No, I do mind what he's doing to you. That's the point.

Really, it has to stop.

I know you won't want any sort of scene, but I say, there must be something you know--or something of his you could get hold of--that we could use to *help* him see his life would be more *promising* if he'd leave off meddling with you.

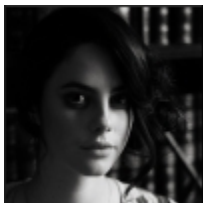


 [alt_blaise](#) at **[2012-04-22 12:44:45](#)**

Private Message to Daphs

Look, the other thing I wanted to say--and this doesn't mean it's why I wrote--I wrote because I'm seriously worried about you and still am--the other thing I wanted to say is about my birthday: don't get yourself in a mess with Bole, trying to do something for me.

I've been telling people that I'm putting off the celebration this year for summer. And I mean it. We'll have some sort of very nice, small house party. For just a few people. At Mother's house by the sea, perhaps.



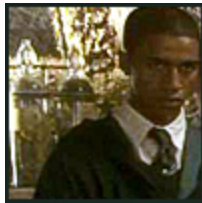
 [alt_daphne](#) at **[2012-04-22 15:44:15](#)**

Re: Private Message to Daphs

Oh, you're birthday - well, I've already passed my plans along to Lizzie so that she can take lead on things, but if you're waiting until summer I can let her know that, too.

I don't want to avoid you, Blaise, but Barney can be so...*complicated*, you see. And I really don't want anyone to know just how complicated things can be. Between us. I've seen Padma's written to you, and if she's mentioned me I hope that I can count on you to be discrete, as always.

He'll be leaving school in a few months, and will probably be signed to one of the quidditch leagues. He won't want a school-girl anymore, not then. He'll end things with me and things can go back to the way they were.



 **alt_blaise** at [2012-04-22 19:18:36](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphs

Well, Lizzie could always surprise me. I just don't want you getting into 'complications' over it.

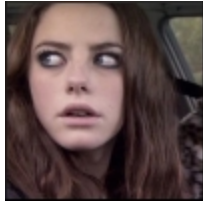
No, you know, I'm not going to use euphemisms for it, Daphs. He's hurting you, and what he wants is something he can't ever have: he can't control you completely, no one can. Short of Imperius, I suppose, but I don't think his sort would find that satisfying. What he wants is for you to be completely bent to him, but he'll break you trying. He's breaking you trying.

It's-

I've seen it before, and it's awful. It's the way Mr Mulciber was with Mother. He could have killed her, you know. Nearly did. And before you tell me Bole's not that bad, think. About the way it's going, and what's next, and what could be after that, because it happens in steps.

I hope you're right that he'll lose interest quickly, but you want to be making plans for how to help that along.

Don't worry about Patil. She did ask, and no surprise: people can see there's something wrong, Daphs. It's that serious. But I put her off, and, of course, I'll be discreet. It's none of Patil's business at all.



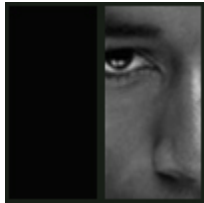
 **[alt_daphne](#) at 2012-04-23 01:12:21**

Re: Private Message to Daphs

I think it would all be fine if I could just stop making him cross with me. He's really very sweet to me a lot of the time, and he knows that he has a Beater's temper and can be prone to over-reaction. So really, it's not so bad. It's my fault for not telling him the truth about going to your Mother's wedding party. He thought I was with my family and when he read about the wedding in the papers, well of course he was furious because I had lied to him, and there's no way around that. But I'm not sorry I lied, because I wanted to go to the wedding, I really did.

And then, well, sometimes I think if I can just make him cross enough, he'll be sick of me and break things off. I can just imagine what people would think of me then, though - what he would say to them about me, I mean.

How did things end with your Mother and Mr Mulciber? I'm not sure I've ever really heard about that part.



 **[alt_blaise](#) at 2012-04-23 01:48:58**

Re: Private Message to Daphs

I don't know that you're right about that. It's not all right that he gets remorseful after he's hurt you. He does it because he's afraid you'll walk away from him. And he doesn't want that. He wants you to only notice him, and only do anything at all if you're with him. If he had his way, I bet, you'd not even go to lessons, you'd just sit in your room until he's back from his lessons and flying and whatever he does, and then you'd be there, ready for him.

See, about the wedding. If you had a proper relationship with a sane person, you wouldn't have had to lie, you would have said where you were going to go and it would have been fine. And even if you hadn't said, if he were a reasonable, normal person, he might have felt hurt or cross, but he wouldn't have acted like it was a major crime.

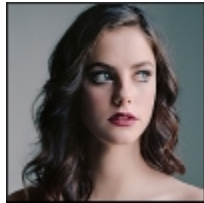
He's just got you thinking sideways, Daphs. That's part of it.

What happened with Mr Mulciber was plenty 'complicated'. He got very angry with Mother. That happened often. And once he locked her in his dressing room for days. Well, for at least two days. I'm not sure. I was small, but I remember a lot of it, and it was at least that long. I thought he'd killed her, but then I'd hear her and I knew he hadn't yet.

In any case, it was night, and Mulciber got roaring drunk, and he let her out. Made her kneel down and beg forgiveness. And then he made her do everything he ordered her to do. Bring his boots. Bring his evening clothes and his gloves and do up all the fastenings. He was going to go out. He kept asking her to pour another drink and another drink. And then all of a sudden he was on the floor. Sick all over. So ill. And he died.

I was hiding in the corridor, watching from the dark side of the door. And when he was dead, I helped Mother clean things up before she called the Healer.

Nothing the Healer could do, of course. Nor MLE when they came.



 **alt_daphne** at **2012-04-23 15:53:34**

Re: Private Message to Daphs

Oh, Blaise, that's simply awful. How terrible for you to have seen that, and for your Mother to have lived it.

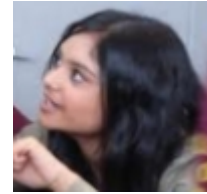
I thought about this last night, and I just don't know. Barney isn't nearly so cruel as Mr Mulciber, but he has that quick temper. He says he's going to work on it, and sometimes it seems as if he has, and he's lovely to be around again. And of course he wants me to go to lessons, and he supports my application for YPL counselor, too.

I can see why you're looking out for me, after you've been through what you've been through. But I'm not sure that the situations are entirely the same.

[2012-04-21 20:37:00](#)

Private Message to Blaise Zabini

So who do you think wrote to that Wagstaff bloke?



Sloper or Capper?

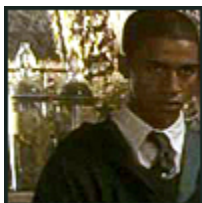
 **[alt_padma](#)**

Incidentally, I saw that you wrote to Daphs. Is she okay? She's seemed so quiet lately, and that's not like her at all.

Also, I've been meaning to say, thanks for not making me feel like a dolt for inviting you to Camelot when it was your mum's wedding. I knew it was but I thought since it was in the evening you might not have much to do beforehand. I should have known better! Anyway, even if you couldn't come, I wanted you to know that you'd have been welcome.

And I thought you really handled your mum's wedding and all of that really well. I mean, not that you'd do anything otherwise, but I saw some of the reports about it in *Dish* and it all looked well grand. Is Cooper nice? He seems nice. I mean, not like some terrifying stepfathers like in a novel. Really normal.

Oh, so what did you think of the mural? I thought it came out all right but there's something...I dunno, sort of common about it. I think traditional portraits are so much more elegant, don't you? But it's also sort of nift the way it sort of changes depending on whether you're looking at it when the staircase is sideways or straight on. And from the 2nd floor instead of the 1st. It's going to take some getting used to, I think.



 **[alt_blaise](#) at [2012-04-22 03:01:16](#)**

(no subject)

I thought about Sloper, but I think you're right about it not being a Gryffindor. I was actually figuring Rickett. What I've seen of Capper, I doubt he cares one way or the other if he fails OWLs. I don't know him well at all, though.

No worries about Camelot. It was nice of you to invite me.

Mother's wedding came off well, I agree. You'll have to admit, she

has enough experience of them that you'd expect her to know how to plan one. As for Mr Cooper, he's pleasant enough. Mother thinks him charming and finds his talent remarkable, but then she likes that sort of installation art he does. And as stepfathers go, he's certainly not the worst. Not that I've much to go on yet to rank him.

I agree about the unveiling. I think the best I could say is that it fulfills its name: it's definitely a mural and covers an impressive amount of wall.

Oh, and Daphs. I shouldn't worry if I were you. Actually, I was writing her about two things: a Potions question and my birthday.

Remind me when yours is? The Camelot trip was an early celebration, I think?



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-04-22 03:56:37](#)
(no subject)

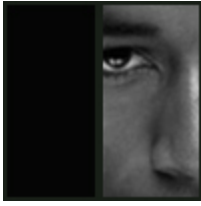
Rickett's a good guess. I'm pretty sure it's Capper, though. Professor Vecs has been on his case like anything. It's no wonder, either--I mean, aside from what'll happen to him if he doesn't place in enough of them, he's a Ravenclaw. It's well mystifying.

And yeah, that's about right on the mural. I dunno, I mean, I like the CCF and YPL and all but it just seems like it's there to make the halfbloods feel better about themselves. Although, did you hear that Healer fellow talking with Mr Peakes? It sounds like if some people have their way maybe the YPL won't pander quite so much.

Not anything against Professor Siz, of course. Just she's got that Hufflepuff sense of fair play, you know? Still, I'm putting in for the YPL counsellor position mostly because it's the thing to do, I guess. Are you?

What Potions question? Maybe I can help.

And yeah, our birthday (mine and Parvati's, y'know), is 25 May. When's yours? Sorry, it's probably really awful that I don't even know, isn't it?



 **alt_blaise** at [2012-04-22 12:39:49](#)
(no subject)

I think the CCF is useful. Or may be. One wants to have the training to take up a leadership role if there's ever a need to protect the realm.

But I'm not applying for a counsellor's position, no. Seems a bit like wanting to be a tutor or a nanny. Let the halfbloods do that if they need the stipend.

I think you're quite right about Professor Sinistra, too: there's an awful lot of coddling that goes on.

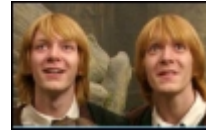
No worries on the Potions business. I worked it out.

My birthday's coming this Friday. The 27th. No worries about that, either. I'm putting off the celebration until school's out this year.

2012-04-21 20:41:00

Order Only

We have some news to give, and we're hoping for some in return.

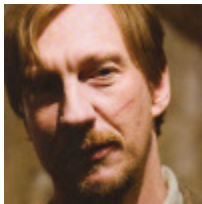


 **alt_gredforge**

Terry Boot has checked Amycus Carrow's shelves, and he didn't see the two books that Sirius mentioned. From the sounds of it, we think he's doing a bit better. We're hoping that maybe Madam Pomfrey and Mr Snape have learned something from the blood sample he sent?

Professor Slughorn has agreed to our proposal, so we will be sitting the sixth year Potions written exam (not for credit, but just to get an idea of what we need to work on). He's given us a list of ten potions to study over the summer (we'll get you the list, Mr Snape) and he'll test us each on one of them when we return to school this September.

Sounds like the search of Alecto Carrow's quarters was as unpleasant as the lady herself. Did you learn anything significant?



 **alt_lupin** at **2012-04-22 03:28:01**
(no subject)

I think they may all still be recovering from the horror of the experience.

They may also have a selection of books that they're combing through, looking for likely magic.



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-04-22 04:10:51**
(no subject)

Minerva said she was taking photos so they could examine the bookshelves at more leisure.



 **alt_mcgonagall** at **2012-04-22 18:01:58**
(no subject)

Indeed. Though they have not yet been developed.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-22 13:09:48](#)

(no subject)

My apologies.

I was kept from this yesterday by a surprise inspection and a not entirely pleasant conversation with a colleague from St Mungo's.

I've completed my tests on Mr Boot's blood sample. He's not anaemic, thankfully, and the blood continues to clot normally, shows normal resistance to contaminants and disease agents, and is not deficient in either potassium or magnesium.

It does, however, suggest lead exposure, which is not good. I wonder whether the water system in that castle is full of lead piping. The level is not so high that I think Carrow is directly poisoning him, though he might, of course, be using lead in some potion he's forcing Mr Boot to imbibe.

You could send him a tonic if I were to brew one?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-22 22:50:10](#)

(no subject)

Yes, of course. Hope it's pretty concentrated: our owl can't carry much weight. Will it be something he'll have to take a lot of doses of, or will one dose do?

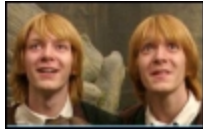


 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-22 23:36:37](#)

(no subject)

Ah. Your owl is terribly old or frail, then?

I should be able to apply a lightening charm. I was supposing it safe only to send a single dose. He can't well store a bottle of tonic under Carrow's nose. It will be necessary to send further doses occasionally.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-23 00:44:45](#)
(no subject)

Pig...that is, Pigwidgeon...is willing, but really small. A scops owl, we think. Which makes him dead useful for sneaking stuff past Carrow, but he just can't carry much.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-22 13:36:16](#)
(no subject)

As for Alecto Carrow.

Paracelsus! What a wreck of a body. From the sound of it, her quarters are a magnification of the infected, infested, littered state of her person.

I found doxy bones driven under her skin at one elbow, atop one shoulder and one hip. And a witches' pouch containing an embalmed doxy hidden in a snarl of her hair--by which I mean, she had gone to the trouble and fine work of weaving hair into the traditional pouch and filling it with bits of coloured thread, shards of mirror, and the doxy itself, and then she'd tucked the whole thing into her coif.

She's covered in deliberate cuts and scars. Has a urinary infection and, well. Suffice it to say that I treated her for several chronic inflammations and infections. And applied a scouring charm to slough all the foul contaminants from all surfaces.

And, yes, Sirius: that's not a pleasant treatment to endure. I suspect that Miss Professor Carrow will be in an especially foul temper this week. If she has the energy to make her unpleasantness known.

She is definitely diminished. Weight, hair, lashes, nails, cuticles, cartilage, mucous membranes, pores, fluids and solids all chronicle loss of vigour. Her blood sample showed anaemic and betrays signs of Dark exposure, though I shall defer to Severus for that analysis (as in Mr Boot's case).

I cannot give any specific diagnosis, however. She is wasting. If pressed, I'd say she's been exposed over a long period to multiple malignant agents--probably it's a matter of surrounding herself with so many Dark items, but it's also her use of Dark spells. She's rotten inside and out, and I'd wager that at this point, she's poisoning

herself with her own foulness. At any rate, that's what I wrote on the report: 'auto-toxicity.'

2012-04-21 21:42:00

I have the best friends in the WORLD


Thank you so much, Pansy for organising everything, and Fred and George for the fireworks, and Professor Sinistra for letting us use the astronomy tower, and everyone who came.



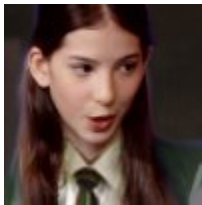
 [alt_sally_anne](#)


This was an absolutely BRILLIANT birthday.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-22 02:45:54**
(no subject)

I'm so glad you liked your surprise!




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-04-22 02:46:55**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

It was a wretched afternoon (did Pansy tell any of you that Healer Stint showed up, he's utterly horrid and wanted to ask me questions about the Strettons' and measles) and this made everything SO MUCH

BETTER.

Sorry about the shriek when you all jumped out. I was maybe a little high strung after this afternoon.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-22 02:52:22**
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Stint is an arse.

But it's a good thing he didn't spoil your day!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-22 02:55:11](#)

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

He really did spoil it but you lot saved it anyway.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-22 03:01:15](#)

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

Well, that's what I meant.

That it ended up better than it started.

I'm sorry he was so worrisome.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-22 02:54:21](#)

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

I say, that's unsettling. What sort of questions?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-22 02:59:07](#)

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

Oh, let me think. He wanted to know all sorts of things about the Strettons and their procedures, most of which I didn't even know. He wanted to know how I heard about it, and then he wanted to know why the muggles would have sent ME a note asking for help when I'm only a fourth year Hogwarts student. (He kept interrupting me and then wanting to talk and talk and talk, which was fine as I didn't really want to answer his questions anyway. He lectured me about overstepping my knowledge and all the terrible, terrible damage you can do when you don't know what you're doing.)

He wanted to know why I wrote to Madam Pomfrey. (Because she's the Matron! Duh.) Why she came. What she did while she was there. What she advised me to do. Whether SHE gave me the cautionary lecture. What she thought I'd be doing.

He wanted to know why I wanted to be a Healer. What made me think I could manage it. What made me think I had any right. Blah blah blah on and on and on.

I had Professor Sinistra there at least.



 **alt_justin** at **2012-04-22 03:09:52**

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

Oh, I say, how deplorable.

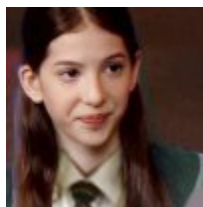
I hope that doesn't mean the Strettons will continue to resent you taking matters in hand,

what?

Or that Madam Pomfrey will be in trouble.

Well, at least you had something pleasant to finish the day.

-Justin



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-04-22 03:14:39**

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

I'm sure the Strettons will continue to resent me. Madam Pomfrey shouldn't get in trouble, though; we talked about this when I first came back to school, because I wanted to let her know that I'd been asked and had said she'd been there. She said it was fine, I should tell them exactly the truth, she had informed her colleagues about coming (in fact that's why the Strettons got in so much trouble) and that it fell (kind of) within her responsibilities because I am a Hogwarts student and she needed to administer the potion as a precautionary measure to ensure I didn't become seriously ill.

Anyway I just told him the exact truth, I'd asked her for advice through the journals and she came to give me the potion and I followed her instructions when she came and sent me back to the house to bed.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-22 03:21:13](#)

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

Well, I mean to say, I'm sure they shall do but I meant that I hope you're not in for more undeserved punishment, what?

And good for Madam Pomfrey; given everything we think about her it would be bally well inconvenient if she were to come under investigation.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-22 03:11:43](#)

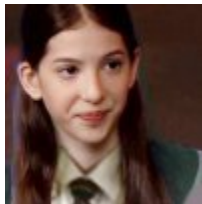
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

What a berk!

Hilarious that he didn't really care about listening to your answers. I mean, he just looks like the sort of bloke who only wants to listen to himself talk, but if he was supposed to be finding out information from you, that's not a very good way to do it.

Though- maybe he was more interested in making you feel small, and I guess he did that about as well as anyone could.

Deserves to be kicked, he does.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-22 03:17:03](#)

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

He does.

And yeah, honestly I don't know what he was after? Because if it was information why would he interrupt me so much?

He and Professor Siz don't get on. At all. She was as polite as anything but when he left -- I'd never seen her so angry. So maybe that was the point, he was trying to infuriate Professor Siz and I was just there to help him do that? Maybe if I hadn't asked her to stay, he'd have asked her. I don't know.

But, he followed me and Draco around Cambridge just to tell me I couldn't be a Healer (same git!) so WHO KNOWS. Maybe he just LIVES to be cruel to half-bloods.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-22 12:21:41](#)**

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

It's hard to imagine anyone out and out not liking Professor Siz. Especially a grown up. I mean, I know some people worry about what marks they'll get in Astronomy, but even that- I mean, I don't know anyone who thinks she's not fair.

And, yeah. Sorry, but I think that may be it. There are gits like that, aren't there?

What did Malfoy think? Did he say anything afterwards?

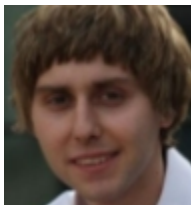


 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-22 14:31:44](#)**

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

About Stint, in Cambridge, you mean?

Stint annoyed him because he butted in to our conversation and I think he found him a little creepy. I don't think he dwelt on it though.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-04-22 02:50:23](#)**

(no subject)

Hello, Sally-Anne,

Happy birthday, again! I say, thanks for inviting me, Pansy. It was jolly fun.

-Justin



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-22 02:55:27](#)

Private message to Sally-Anne Perks

I am so very glad your evening was a vast improvement on the afternoon. I do hope that's going to be the end of it, but you were quite right to want to have someone sit in. I've filled Madame Pomfrey in, as

well.

The fireworks were spectacular, weren't they? The colours were stunning, and the patterns even more so. I'm very glad I came up to see them. (And not just because it reassured Mr Milland no one was going to do damaging things to the castle. As if I'd risk my own tower.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-22 03:01:17](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks

Thank you SO MUCH for staying.

There are some people I don't care to be alone with. He's the one who crept up on me and Draco when we were at Cambridge, he made it clear he already doesn't like me.

The fireworks were really brilliant.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-22 03:17:43](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks


I won't be alone in a room with him either. (Nor will several other female friends, actually.) Honestly, I'd much rather be around the people he doesn't care for than the ones he does, from everything I can

tell.

So, hardly a pleasure to need to be there, but I am very glad I could help. You did extremely well with him, truly.

My plans for the rest of the evening are calling me, but do have a wonderful night, and all the best for an entirely annoyance-free day tomorrow. And I hope this year gives you all sorts of wonderful things to enjoy and explore.



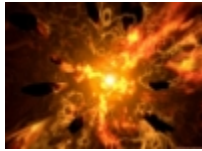
 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-22 03:07:18](#)**
(no subject)

It was wizard, wasn't it? And the fireworks were really good ones, too. Better than I expected we'd get.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-22 03:17:25](#)**
(no subject)


Utterly wizard.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-04-22 03:56:01](#)**
(no subject)

Why, thank you. It was ripping good fun to show them off. And what a fine occasion for unveiling them, too!



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2012-04-22 22:46:26](#)**
(no subject)

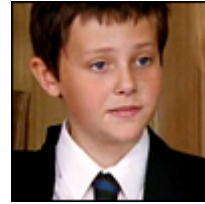
It was really snitch! I'm really glad I got to come out and help you celebrate.

[2012-04-22 11:37:00](#)

(no subject)

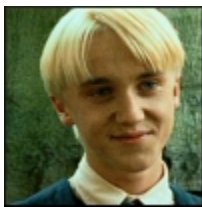
I've finished my YPL application. Who else?

Does anyone want to meet around 3:00 for a game of chess?



 **[alt_michael](#)**

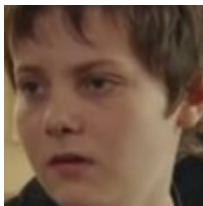
Teds, glad you enjoyed your birthday party yesterday. Wish I'd known Parkinson was planning something for Perks, we could've combined.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-04-22 15:46:43](#)**

(no subject)

Right on time for once, eh Corner? Well done.



 **[alt_michael](#)** at **[2012-04-22 15:51:00](#)**

(no subject)

Well. I still have to read it over one last time. Do you think I ought? I guess I better had.

I mean, there's still some time. It wouldn't hurt to show it to Tamblin and see what he has to say.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-04-23 01:01:50](#)**

(no subject)

Couldn't hurt, certainly.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2012-04-23 01:53:57](#)**

(no subject)

Eventually, you've just got to hand it in though!

Believe me, I'm aware of the temptation--I spent ages fretting over mine.




 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2012-04-22 16:12:29](#)
(no subject)

I guess I'll put mine in. But I dunno. That mural? That was pretty naff.

But the CCF is more fun than I thought it'd be, so, maybe if I'm one of the counsellors the programme won't be so boring?



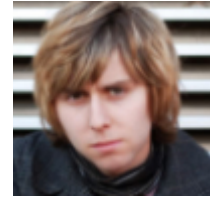
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-22 19:00:53](#)
(no subject)

Got mine in.

I'm for chess! Count on it.

2012-04-22 19:01:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Hermione Granger (and Harry Marvolo)



 [alt_justin](#)

I say, how are you? Did you have a decent holiday? It's too bad Harry wasn't allowed to let you come on any of the outings.

I couldn't help but notice that you of all the others didn't have anything to say about Mr Rosier's proposal to me. And--well, I say, I'm well interested in your opinion on the matter. I suspect that you might see things a bit differently to the others, especially as you're in more regular communication with Sirius.

To hear them all talk about it, one would think I had no idea I'd be doing something well dangerous, what?

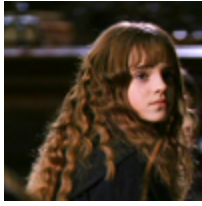
I don't think they gave any thought to the fact that I'd already considered this possibility when I agreed to come to the Quidditch World Cup and then again when I was invited back as one of the visiting students. The whole exercise could have easily pointed to this sort of thing--that or they would wish me to be their spokesperson back in France, what--but either way, that once they found me and found they could influence me, they'd have one use for me or another as long as it suited them.

I wonder if any of them have considered that it might not be safe for me to go back, what, or that Mr Rosier's assurances that there shall be no negative repercussions might well be a load of bunk?

Well, I shan't go on about it, particularly if you agree that I ought to decline and then turn tail as soon as I get back, what?

But--well, what do you think about it?

-Justin



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-23 03:13:46](#)
(no subject)

I didn't want to say anything because well sometimes I don't know what to say. I think it's a decision you have to make for yourself.

I think one thing you have to realise is that your parents aren't safe anyway so it doesn't matter what you do. They will always be in trouble, really, you can't help it, it just is that way. So don't let them be there because you have to realise that your Mum would probably just want you to be safe. It was hard for me to learn that and I wish I'd learned it earlier.

That's all really. I couldn't be the one who said something about danger because I'm in danger all the time and sometimes I think it's stupid of everyone on the lock who says, oh, don't put yourself at risk, when me and Terry have been at risk always always always since we were born. So I just don't say anything because what could I say?

I don't know, Justin.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-23 03:23:04](#)
(no subject)

Thank you and I'm sorry, I know it's hard.

Yes, I've been thinking about my mother, rather a lot, what. I think she'd be a good deal safer if I were able to arrange for her to leave, go to Canada or America. I'd probably tell them one and tell her the other, just to be sure she could get lost in all those Muggles and they couldn't find her. Or else, do you think Sirius had friends in America who might help her? He seemed to know some people there but I'm not well sure.

And your point about being at risk is true. I've been at risk ever since I walked through the doors at Beauxbatons, what, because every day there's a chance someone will find out that I've been passing as a pedigreed wizard when I'm not.

Sally-Anne seems to think I could go back to France and start speaking out freely against the Protectorate. How long would that last, what? And then even if they don't imprison me as a

muggleborn, they'll surely expel me and snap my wand. And then what should I do?

Either way, I don't think I could look myself in the mirror if I ran away from the sort of risk you and Terry face every day. I just don't think that's bally well proper, what.

I don't know, either.

-Justin

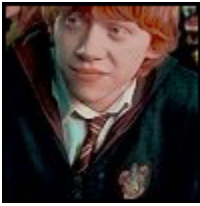
2012-04-23 10:13:00


Private Message to Ron Weasley

I saw you tried to write your sister and the Matron. I was in the hall when she passed out. It was in between classes., but I couldn't get close. The prefects in the area, told people to back off and give her some air, but when they couldn't wake her up, they took her to the hospital wing.



 **alt_dean**



 **alt_ron** at **2012-04-23 16:39:03**
(no subject)

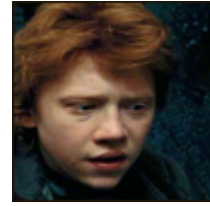
Cheers, yeah.

I'm in Madam Pomfrey's reception now, waiting to find out what's what. Sandoval's here, too. I guess Gin's been really extra tired, and staying up mad hours trying to get her homework done.

It's this modelling business, innit. Only, I bet Madam P gets exactly nowhere if she tries telling Gin to quit it.

2012-04-23 10:37:00

*Private Message to Ginny Weasley and
Madam Pomfrey*



Gin?

Heard they took you up to the Hospital Wing. You all
right, then?

 [alt_ron](#)

Is she all right, Madam Pomfrey?

I'm in lessons, but I'll come up at lunch. Should I bring anything?

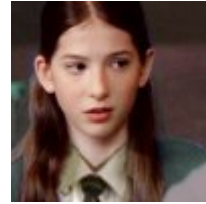
2012-04-23 12:56:00

Private message to Hydra Lestrange

Hydra?

Are you okay?

I heard Ginny



 **alt_sally_anne**



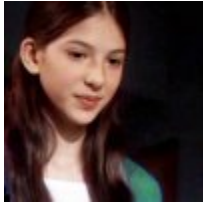
 **alt_hydra** at **2012-04-24 02:52:45**

(no subject)

Hello Sally Anne,

I heard you were asking after me, and yes, I'm fine. It's to do with Ginny Weasley, is it? Well, I don't know anything about that, and I didn't do anything, I swear to you.

From,
Hydra



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-04-24 03:05:42**

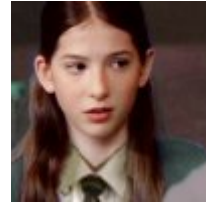
(no subject)

I wasn't worried that you might have done anything so much that something might be happening to you.

Anyway I'm really glad that wasn't it.

2012-04-23 12:57:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private message to Justin

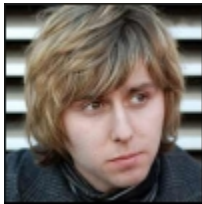


Justin, have you seen Hydra today? Is she acting normal?

 **alt_sally_anne**

When she was -- that is to say, when she was a firstie and was having periods of difficulty (I don't know how much she's told you about that) Ginny Weasley always had problems at the same time. She'd faint, or something. Hydra would just sort of disappear, no one saw where she went.

Anyway Ginny fainted today in the corridor. They couldn't wake her and had to take her to the hospital wing. I'm worried it's starting again.



 **alt_justin** at **2012-04-23 18:13:37**

(no subject)

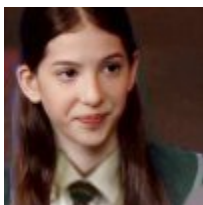
Hullo, Sally-Anne,

I say, Ron's sister fainted? Is she all right?

When did it happen? I walked Hydra to her first lesson this morning but we've not been on the same track since then, if you follow me. I'm trying to recall if I saw her at lunch.

Has Hydra replied to you, what?

-Justin



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-04-23 18:18:48**

(no subject)

She hasn't, but she's much better than I am about not checking her journal during lessons, so that doesn't mean she's NOT okay.

I wasn't at lunch (I had lunch with Siz -- I'll tell you lot about it later) so she might have been there and I wouldn't have seen.

I probably should have sent this to the whole ISS but it's probably

nothing, you know? It feels a little like invading Hydra's privacy to get everyone thinking about it again.

But as soon as I heard about Ginny -- anyway, if something did possess Hydra nothing bad came of it or surely we'd have heard, and you can ask her if she had an ordinary morning.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-23 18:24:59](#)
(no subject)

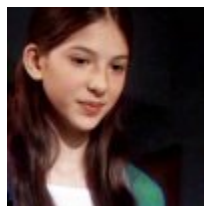
Wait, you mean to say that this is related to the *possessions* in her first year?

I'm not sure that could happen again, what. Hydra's developed her Occlumency. She'd been trying to learn it but over the last year it's seemed she's come into the talent. She's a natural Occlumens.

I mean to say, it's certainly true that \forall the creature from the Chamber was able to possess her in her first year, what, but I don't think that could happen now that her mind is blocked to penetration.

Or, well. I don't know. Could it do? Perhaps that's not how possession works.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-23 18:30:11](#)
(no subject)

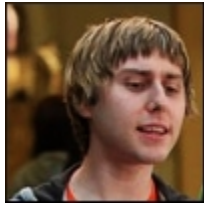
REALLY?

Oh, that is excellent news.

Do you suppose she could teach -- well, probably not given that you said it's a natural talent. I don't suppose I could teach someone how to steal honey without getting stung. (For that matter I don't even know if I still can. It's been years.)

I have no idea how possession works actually, whether occlumency would keep it from happening, though it does seem like it SHOULD.

That definitely makes me feel better at any rate.



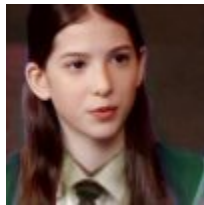
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-23 18:36:04](#)
(no subject)

I don't know how much was the result of training herself and how much is simple, raw inclination. Her mother has the ability, after all.

I say, please don't tell her I've told you about it, what? I try not to rattle on about her confidences. Though I don't think she'd mind if you knew but it ought to have been her decision.

At any rate, I'm just leaving Herbology and I ought to see her coming out as we go in, so I'll let you know if anything seems amiss.

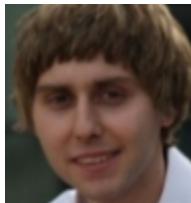
-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-23 18:40:17](#)
(no subject)

I won't tell her, don't worry. ~~Does her mother~~
Anyway, do let me know. I'll probably talk to Madam Pomfrey if it turns out she felt odd this morning, or try to persuade her to go on her

own.



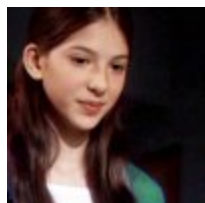
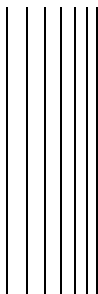
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-23 20:12:09](#)
(no subject)

What ho,

She's perfectly fine. Not acting oddly at all, what? And she says she's been fine all day.

I do hope Ron's sister's feeling better.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-23 20:14:07](#)
(no subject)

Oh, good.

I haven't heard anything about Ginny but
Madam Pomfrey can fix most things.

2012-04-23 15:08:00

Private message to Ginny Weasley

Will you write me when you're out of the Hospital Wing? Just to let me know you're all right?



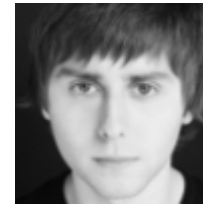
 **alt_luna**

2012-04-23 18:33:00

Private Message to Fred and Ron Weasley

Fred and Ron,

I say, I'm very sorry to hear your sister's unwell. I hope it's nothing serious? Do you know what happened?



 [alt_justin](#)

Fred, do share this with George as well.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-04-23 23:04:38**

(no subject)

Cheers, mate.

I guess she's going to be all right. Madam Pomfrey's given her a sleep potion and says she won't let her leave until she's really rested. Not sure what that means, but it sounds as if she'll be there through tomorrow. (She's going to be dead cross about that. If she wakes up and knows it, anywiz.)

I guess she just got herself really tired. A bit mad about homework, that one. And she's been off to London some, so I guess it's just too much.

We reckon Mum will have something to say about that. And we're glad we're at school and won't have to hear it.

Unless she sends a howler.

What d'you think, Fred?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2012-04-24 00:34:44**

(no subject)

Don't think Mum will send a Howler, no. She thinks twice about sending those ever since the one she sent your second year. But she'll be worried.

Some of the rumours have been ridiculous. Better hope Ginny doesn't hear any of them.

2012-04-23 19:46:00

Order Only: Searching for Ivy Lowell

Emmeline has spent the last week following news of one of her contacts with the Travellers, hoping for a lead that will help us find Ivy Lowell. She managed to track down one of the people I mentioned, a woman with the Sight.

This was useful, because they might have been inclined to be suspicious when Emmeline told her we were trying to find a family by the name of Lowell that had recently had a baby named Ivy, but the woman's Sight told her that we don't mean the child any harm at least. Anyway, Emmeline's contact said she will pass the word along, and if all goes well, we might hear something back, maybe in a week or two.

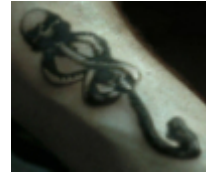


 [alt_kingsley](#)

[2012-04-23 20:28:00](#)

(no subject)

On the menu: roast diricawl, with a side of arsenic bat sauce. Necessitates plucking and twisting off the wings of both. Drawing, flaying and quartering. Surely the blood would be useful for something besides keeping those worthless, maggot-ridden carcasses alive.



 [alt_amycus](#)

How DARE you

bind my Justine



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-24 03:50:43](#)

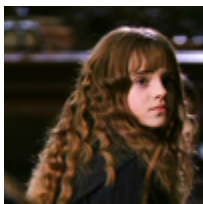
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Ugh.

Be careful, Terry.

I guess Madam Pomfrey decided she needed to take a look at Alecto while most of us were looking at the mural (that's what I heard today, anyway) and they put petrificus totalis on her to get her into the hospital wing. I think the Headmistress helped. And Professor Raz.

It would've been the perfect time to sneak into her office and look at books except apparently they were in there, probably trying to work out what was making her sick.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-24 14:07:30](#)

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

I think someone probably already thought of that.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-24 15:36:54](#)

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

Yeah, Fred and George say there's no need to search her office now.

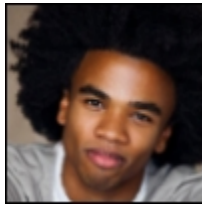



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-24 16:18:03](#)

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

Hang on. Are you saying the Headmistress searched her office for those books and the twins know about that? What did they tell you, Lee?

And another thing. If they went in there to search and not just to find out what's wrong with Miss Professor Carrow, does that mean Professor Raz is in with Madam Pomfrey and the Headmistress and they're all part of the wand smugglers?



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-04-24 18:14:18](#)

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

Oh, no, not at all.

Fred and George are just saying that when the Headmistress and Madam Pomfrey were worried about Miss Professor Carrow and confronted her, there was an hour or so in there when her wards were down. Maybe Professor Raz took 'em down, and he didn't get around to putting them up again right away. Probably because Miss Professor Carrow kept him busy, trying to brain him or something. And so while they were hustling her to the hospital wing the twins nipped in there and took a quick look around, see? And got out again without anyone being the wiser.

They'll let us know if they found anything out, but they want to go through their notes first.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-04-24 14:07:08](#)
(no subject)

My invitation to duel is always open, Amycus.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-24 15:33:02](#)
Order Only

As much as we'd love to see the git facing the business end your wand, Headmistress, we're guessing you're figuring he's too much of a coward to face you.



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-24 15:34:38](#)
(no subject)

You can wait until the day that Mudbloods have wands.

I don't duel with scum.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-24 15:39:04](#)
Order Only

Oh, the irony...



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-04-24 15:39:51](#)
Re: Order Only

And yeah, we called it.

He's a coward.



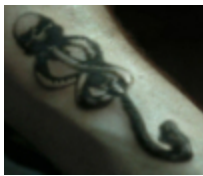
 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-04-24 15:21:12](#)
(no subject)

Truly, Amycus, your ability to fixate on the smallest insignificant details is astounding. Did you not expressly charge Minerva and Madam Pomfrey to discover the source of Alecto's infirmities?

And yet now, when they have endeavoured on your behalf--and surely at no small inconvenience to themselves, as I understand the affair--you see fit to berate them for their intervention?

Be glad they have bothered to acquiesce to your kind request. Or if Alecto prefers to save her own decaying skin, then let her do so without professional assistance.

Either way, confine your raving to the walls of your impenetrable fortress; that is why you have one, is it not?



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-24 15:49:56](#)
(no subject)

Spreading your fantail to defend two sour biddies, are you, peacock? They're not the allies you need now. As I hear it.

The Wyrms Ouroboros is quick to gobble up strutting peacocks who distract themselves with pecking in the mud.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-04-24 15:58:12](#)
(no subject)

As ever, your sources of information are as sad as your attempts to bully those around you, Amycus.

Our Lord would hardly care to see you refer to Him in so cavalier a manner. Given His sufferance of your antics it would not be wise to damage the few alliances you may still claim.



 [alt_amycus](#) at [2012-04-24 16:12:13](#)
(no subject)

Cavalier? But how can it be, when He himself has chosen it as the symbol of our own dear Protectorate itself, the sign of eternity, immortality, infinity? Do you question how He chooses to honour Himself?

(On the other hand, you do know what a peacock symbolises, do you not?)



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-04-24 16:26:00](#)
(no subject)

I question Our Lord on nothing.

Except perhaps what He sees in you that is so endlessly amusing. But perhaps your particular motley is merely the drab colouration of the house sparrow.

2012-04-23 20:53:00

Private Message to Mr and Mrs Weasley



Dear Mr and Mrs Weasley,

Please allow me to express my sympathies regarding Ginny's unfortunate collapse this morning. Rest assured, the prefects are doing all we can to control the rumours, particularly anything remotely tinged with a hint of the problems of her first year.

 **alt_penelope**

I've gone to see her and Madam Pomfrey reports that she had contacted you by Floo earlier today. Ginny's resting comfortably, just worn clean out by her busy academic and work schedule, but there doesn't appear to be anything more sinister going on.

I also want to apologise for not being more aware of her level of exhaustion. I relied on the Gryffindor prefects to report anything egregious but of course, I take a special interest in Ginny, along with her brothers. It's regrettable that Ginny's independence has apparently led her to conceal her over-commitment from all around her. I've interviewed Honoria Sandoval, as well, knowing that they are quite friendly, and she said that she knew Ginny has been tired but had no idea that she had extended herself beyond her endurance.

However, I promise you both that now that I am familiar with her condition, I shall keep a closer watch. Luckily, Madam Pomfrey is an excellent Healer and Ginny was placed under her care within minutes of fainting.

I'm sure that you will be happy to know all three of her brothers came to visit and have behaved themselves just as you would wish in light of their sister's illness.

Again, please accept my wishes for her speedy recovery and my promise to help look after her once she is back on her feet.

Sincerely,

Penelope Clearwater



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-04-24 01:50:39](#)**
(no subject)

You are more than kind to write, thank you, and we appreciate your promise to look out for her. Yes, we've heard from Madam Pomfrey and we have every confidence Ginny will receive whatever care she needs, but I'm glad to hear that the boys have visited her, too.

[2012-04-23 20:57:00](#)

Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

Aurora, how are you, dear?

I'm sorry we've not had more time for pleasant visiting since your return to the castle. I do hope the holiday allowed you to catch up a bit. Are you finding that the return to academic routines is pushing you back into the same exhausting patterns?



 **[alt_poppy](#)**



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-04-24 02:05:21](#)**
(no subject)

I was wondering when you'd ask.

The holidays were a bit of a mess for a while, but improved toward the end.

Coming back - well, the YPL counsellor positions are causing me more than a few complications, and Saturday certainly didn't help any of that. But it's a more manageable sort of busy.

Yourself?



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-24 02:13:41](#)**
(no subject)

Ah. I regret that we've reached a pass where you dread my asking after you. My apologies.

I'm glad to think that there was something enjoyable about the holidays. I suppose mine were a bit like that, as well. They began with a surprise inspection from above, but once that was complete, I was able to enjoy the quiet of a near-empty castle.

Until, of course, the episode at the Stretton estates. I gather you were pulled into Stint's interrogation of Miss Perks on Saturday. I'm sorry that was added to your plate, but I'm grateful you were there for her. I wouldn't have her in a room alone with him for anything in the world.

It infuriates me that he's at liberty to harass her.

Did you know he's told her she's no chance as a Healer? And, of course, he could put himself between her and whatever chance she does have. But why should he bother? It's simply evil.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-04-24 02:19:52](#)**
(no subject)

More that ... well, it was quite bad in there for a bit, that first week of hols. And I've heard chart and label from Raz about it, believe me. A second lecture would not improve things, and I admit I've been ducking the one I've rightly earned from you.

I - well, as I told Miss Perks, I won't be alone in a room with him either, so was certainly willing to be there for him. He was his usual horrid self, but she handled it brilliantly. Far better than I would have at her age, I admit.

I've done a little cautious asking around on that - both Deliliah Mytens (and she's promised me some copies of the current training application materials, when I see her for supper tomorrow) and my cousin Mel (Melantha, who you might remember). I think it'll rather depend on whether Stint remembers who she is in a few years time.

I am very glad her friends took such good care of her on Saturday, though. And she and I had a further chat over lunch.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-24 02:36:17](#)**
(no subject)

I do appreciate your having an eye out for Miss Perks. I do think she has a strong calling towards the Healing arts--quite against her expectations for herself, I believe, as she had some very badly negative experiences of Healers when she was small.

And thank you, indeed, for asking after the current state of things for halfbloods. It seems such a shame to have true ability and inclination go to waste.

It is a comfort to know that she has a robust group of friends to buoy her up. I wish that all our students were similarly endowed.

I've spent the afternoon on a case that might have been much different if the child were not so inclined to keep herself to herself and to attempt to handle all things on her own.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-04-24 02:41:41](#)
(no subject)

Miss Perks mentioned something of the kind, yes. And truly, I'd like to do whatever I can to give her what opportunities are possible. She'd be an asset to whatever she turns her hand to, I'm quite sure. It's a shame to waste talent and brains like that, I quite agree.

And particularly when some of the purebloods seem to expect the world handed them on a plate, with no effort on their part.

I did hear something about Miss Weasley at supper. Nothing too difficult to treat, I hope?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-04-24 02:56:41](#)
(no subject)

Well, I take it that your cousin was not a pureblood of that stripe. It took her rather a lot of strict application to ready herself for admission to the College of Healing Arts. In fact, I don't particularly remember Melantha from her years as a student here--I think she must have been a healthy child--but she came to me a year or so after leaving school to say that she'd had a change of course and was wishing to train as a Healer. I was impressed with her determination.

As for Miss Weasley, I suppose she's one of the most driven students I've seen at third year, though it is not only academics that she has committed herself to. And therein lies the problem: she's attempting to do too many things and expects herself to accomplish in each of them at the very highest level. She's been going off to bed at lights out, but then rising again after the Prefects are asleep, and putting in several more hours nearly every night.

I've no idea what she thought would come of it, but then I

suppose it's no surprise the students attempt such things when the teachers they admire behave in quite the same way.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-04-24 03:07:49](#)**
(no subject)

I deserve every bit of that comment, I know. If it would make you feel better to have given me the full lecture, go ahead?

I am trying to be mindful of the effect it has on students - I've seen a few less dire but worrisome tendencies in a couple of my newts, as well, though nothing I'd call to your attention directly yet. (And to be frank, the first week of the holidays scared me into more caution than I'd had.)

The problem is, of course, what one gives up to find more time. And the costs of those choices are what still keep me up at night.

(Raz has been on me to find some better solution than managing the YPL work myself. He is absolutely right on the one hand, and yet, you and I know how damaging the programme could be in the wrong hands. And thus, my problem.)

As to cousin Mel - no. That sort of thing doesn't go over well in our family as a rule. We're far more prone to overwork than under. I'm sure you fail to be surprised. I think the only one of us without a work ethic is Theo.

But I've had a few complaints from a few of the fifth years about how they surely don't need to practice that much more. And yet, of course, they do, if they wish to pass their OWLs.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-24 03:27:45](#)**
(no subject)

I'm sorry to know that it came to the point of your suffering a scare, but I do hope you'll find some compromise that allows you a balance between your conscience, your heart for the students, and your own needs, physical, professional and personal.

It is surely one of life's most difficult tricks to find balance.

In my view, most fifth years err on the side of wishing to do too little than too much--with a few, often spectacularly unhealthy, exceptions.

And now, my dear, I'm going to stop writing so you cannot say I tempted you to work over-late. I trust you will find a good night's rest.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-04-24 03:31:11](#)**
(no subject)

So I hope as well. It's just finding the way through that's complicated.

And truly, it's you who should find your rest. I've another hour of teaching to go yet (though we'll be inside, which at least removes the set-up and clean-up.)

Sleep well, yourself, and I promise I'm looking forward to my own bed when I'm done with the 2nd years.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-04-25 22:43:49](#)**
(no subject)

Poppy -

Just thought I'd let you know that I offered to let Miss Weasley skip tonight's observing session, and she refused the offer. (It'd be easy enough to catch her up later - one of the benefits of the projections when we're inside as I'm sure we will be tonight.)

I also admitted I've struggled with my own workload, and encouraged her to come chat. Not that I'm pretending to have anything like all the answers on that, but at least someone else keeping an eye on how she's doing might not go amiss.



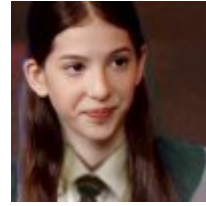
 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-04-26 02:50:08](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you. Yes, I think that could be very helpful to her.

Even if she does not take you up on your offer to talk, simply knowing someone else who has struggled with overwork and exhaustion--someone she's observed to be as successful, smart, and well-organised as you are--may help her consider her circumstances from a fresh perspective.

2012-04-23 22:45:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

So Professor Siz invited me up for lunch today. She said she had something she wanted to talk to me about.

I applied to be a YPL counsellor, of course, and I guess she got in touch with Professor Slughorn to see what he thought about the Slytherin girls. He said that he thought I'd make a fine YPL counsellor but he'd considered recommending me for Prefect, and that I couldn't possibly be both so she should think over what would serve me better.

Except of course he didn't say he was PLANNING to recommend me as Prefect: he said he 'might even go so far as to' recommend me for a prefect (she looked in her journal and checked the wording, when I asked.)

And of course she has to pick YPL counsellors now, and Prefects won't be chosen until summer, I guess.

She wanted to know what I thought. ~~She is such a Huff~~ She said she thought I'd be brilliant at either and she'd LOVE to have both me and Pansy as counsellors together but that she honestly didn't know if it would be better for me to be a prefect and she also didn't know if Slughorn really intended to make me one. (And I can't go ask him, of course; he'd be horrified that she actually told me what he said.)

Anyway. I've been thinking it over and I think that he's worried about Daphne; she's been acting really oddly for the last few months. I think it might have something to do with Bole. If she manages to pull herself together he'd prefer her as Prefect. If she doesn't, he'd have to decide between me and Pansy (Milli would never be prefect, she's not clever enough) and he would like to keep his options open. But if I'm already YPL counsellor it definitely wouldn't be me.

But I don't think it would be me, anyway.

Here's the other thing about being a Prefect -- I'd have to enforce rules. I'm not sure whether I really COULD, in Slytherin. I mean I don't know if I could get people to listen, or if I'd be sort of like Penny, one of those people that people roll their eyes at and keep doing

whatever they want (like Avery does).

But, here's the thing about being a YPL counsellor: Professor Siz says that she's under pressure to have an assistant or even let someone else altogether run it and she doesn't have any idea who might end up being in charge next year and it might be someone dreadful. I think she's worried it'll be someone dreadful.

Anyway, if anyone has any advice for me I'm all ears.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-04-24 14:10:17](#)**
(no subject)

Well it seems like YPL means getting closer to people, doesn't it? In the Protectorate, I mean, which means becoming more and more like them sort of, or rather, I think what I mean is, you'd be protecting yourself and making sure you had a place, but then you might be asked to do worse and worse things.

But I don't know what happens to halfbloods who don't succeed at all. I mean I know you might have to take a really horrible job if you didn't succeed. Even if you did well in school.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-24 15:56:07](#)**
(no subject)

Well so far YPL has been a lot more about doing interesting things and learning useful skills than making us into model loyal subjects even though that's what they say it's supposed to be about.

Although Professor Siz hinted that maybe they're going to make it MORE about making us loyal subjects, in the future (that's not quite how she put it but I think that's what she meant.) If someone else took over, which could happen.

Halfbloods who don't succeed, I mean who fail their OWLS, it really depends on who they are. If it was Susan I don't think anything would happen, she'd have a hard time finding a job but they wouldn't take away her wand. If you're a halfblood in fostering, in theory they reclassify you as a muggleborn and snap your wand, if you 'fail to complete your magical education.' I don't know if they'd actually do this to someone who failed all his OWLS or if that's only if you get expelled.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-24 14:42:18](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

Goodness, that's rather a serious discussion, what?

I'm afraid I don't know Daphne well at all. What's been odd about her behaviour? Is this business with Bole something that's likely to carry over into fifth-year?

I suppose if it were me, I'd lean toward the YPL. Especially as Professor Siz will recommend you wholeheartedly, what, and for all the other reasons you've mentioned. Even if she doesn't remain with the programme for some reason (and how likely is that to happen in the next two years?) you'd at least have the position already. I say, that's not to say they couldn't invent a reason to take it from you but -well, I mean to say, I expect they'd have to bally well work hard at an excuse. Besides, and please don't take this the wrong way, but it sounds as if the YPL would give you some of the same advantages without putting you in quite so visible a position as a prefect, if you follow me.

Do you suppose Professor Siz might be able to recommend you as an assistant? Or is that meant to be another fully-qualified wizard?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-24 15:58:44](#)
(no subject)

Bole is her boyfriend. He's a seventh year so who even knows? She doesn't go nearly as many places as she used to and she's jumpy and just odd, you know? She used to be the most graceful girl in our year and now she's sort of clumsy and her marks have slipped.

If someone else took it over -- oh, I suppose they COULD remove me, although mostly I was thinking that it would be very pleasant to work for Professor Siz and much less pleasant to work for, oh, Professor Acton.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-24 17:38:50](#)
(no subject)

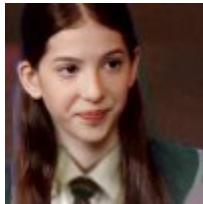
Oh, but I thought--I mean to say, are she and Zabini not together, then?

Suddenly clumsy? Perhaps she's the one who's possessed, what?

Sorry, that was dashed uncalled for. But I say, in all seriousness, do you think Bole might be doing something Dark to her, the way Carrow does to Terry?

Yes, I can see how it might be worse to stay in the YPL while working for someone who's bally well awful but then, there's no saying you'll have to keep it up, what? And even if you must do, it's not as if it's a job you'll have forever. I'm well confident you could make the most of it, no matter who's in charge.

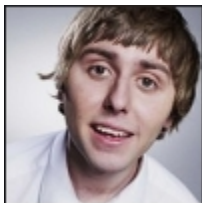
-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-24 17:57:56](#)
(no subject)

She wanted to take some other boys for a spin, I think. She went to the Yule Ball with Bole.

I don't think Bole's doing anything REALLY Dark to her but I've wondered a few times if maybe when she says she tripped and hurt herself, he actually pushed her, or hexed her to make her trip. You know? Except, why on EARTH would she keep dating him if that were the case? She's a Pureblood, she's well-liked, she's got friends -- I don't know what she gets from Bole that she'd tolerate it if he was really hurting her?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-04-24 14:43:37](#)
Private Message to Sally-Anne

And I say, I hope it's not indelicate but, doesn't the YPL offer some sort of stipend over the summer months?

That would give you some pocket-money *and* keep you well away

from the Strettons' while you're occupied, what?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-24 15:59:25](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Yeah, it does. And that is an EXCELLENT point about the summers.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-24 15:47:12](#)

(no subject)

Yeah, I think you ought to go for YPL. I wouldn't skip that, hoping that Slughorn's going to choose you for Prefect because, well-

The thing with Professor Slughorn is that he's only really interested in people whose families are important or who, well, seem like the sort to become important themselves someday? I mean, I know he's been nice to you sometimes, but-

Well, here's an example. I've heard he started being extra nice to Cormac McLaggen the year his brother got accepted for Auror training, and was always asking if he'd heard from his brother and saying his brother used to be one of his very best pupils and all, but then when he got himself kicked out--Rufus, I mean, got kicked out of the Auror programme--then all of a sudden Professor Slughorn stopped being all jolly to Cormac and just ignores him now.

So I guess I wouldn't trust a maybe that Professor Slughorn said to Professor Siz. I'd go on and apply for YPL. Especially if she's thinking you and Pansy might both get chosen for that.

And, yeah, I hadn't thought about it that way, but I can totally see why being Prefect could go badly for you.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-04-24 16:13:04](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, that's exactly it about Slughorn.

He goes hot and cold with me, actually. He called me in after the play, congratulated me on my fine performance, said he was confident in my ability to reach my goals despite my 'unusual circumstances,' and so on. But mostly he just sort of ignores me.

I think he's hoping that if I'm a roaring success when I grow up, that I'll think back and consider him someone who was helpful to me. But he doesn't actually want to extend himself to support me because he doesn't want his current set of influential friends to wonder why he's doing favours for a halfblood. Although I might be being unfair. BUT, if someday he'll do my one favour I'm not sure I'd want to burn it on him making me a Prefect. He's got really useful contacts that could get me a real job, you know? Or a really good summer internship, the sort that could lead to a job. And I'd take that over being a Prefect.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-24 17:23:12](#)**
Private Message to Ron Weasley

Is Ginny all right, then?

I'm sorry to hear she's been feeling ill.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-04-25 16:26:29](#)**
Re: Private Message to Ron Weasley

Hiya. Sorry I didn't see this before.

Yeah, I think Madam P's letting her out today. She gave her sleep potions that kept her asleep two whole days, though. And was looking into whether she's deficient in stuff in her blood. I don't know; it sounded a load of gobbledygook to me.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-24 16:00:21](#)
(no subject)

I think I agree, too. Go for the YPL, for all the reasons that Ron and Justin said. But it would be smart to think about what you can do if Professor Sinistra doesn't end up in charge of it next year.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-24 16:01:30](#)
(no subject)

I mean, to position yourself. For the career that you want. Like can you do an apprenticeship with Madam Pomfrey, for example?



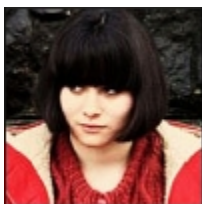
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-24 16:13:56](#)
(no subject)


If I had any idea who they'd put in charge in her place, it would be a lot easier to figure out.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-04-24 16:46:28](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, that does it make it difficult, doesn't it?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-24 17:09:36](#)
(no subject)

Well. I know we've talked about it just us, but I think everyone's brought up some good other things. Like if Professor Siz isn't always in charge of the YPL.

I think you're more likely to come off loyal with the YPL than with a Prefecture. I'm not sure which one would help you get a job more, but it seems like the YPL gives a bit more of a chance to get to know all sorts of people outside of Hogwarts, and that could help.

If things were fair, you'd be Prefect. But they aren't, and this is a sure thing, and we could be in it together. I'm not sure about

Daphne, I really am not, but Sluggie likes her, and she tends to fit a bit more into what he thinks a Slytherin girl ought to be, I think. Even if she has been off lately.



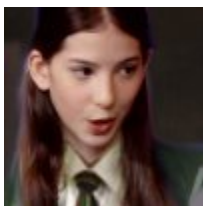
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-24 18:02:19](#)

(no subject)

That's a really good point about making contacts.

The thing about a Prefecture is that it's prestigious. A lot more prestigious than the YPL. And everyone understands exactly what it means if you were a Hogwarts Prefect. You have to explain the YPL to people.

But -- contacts might do me more good than a prestigious accomplishment, you know? Dora Tonks Ponds got a crazy number of NEWTs and then she couldn't find a job anywhere, even so, because of her blood-status (well plus she was from a particularly scandalous family and her foster-family hated her). I think people are more likely to overlook my blood status if they know me, than if they know something about me, even if the thing they know is that I was a prefect.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-24 18:05:22](#)

(no subject)

And honestly even if there were no discrimination at all against half-bloods Daphs might still be prefect! I mean has she EVER had detention even once? We've both been in trouble a few times.

[2012-04-24 11:07:00](#)

A few reminders

I'm delighted to have seen so many excellent YPL counsellor applications come already in this year - just a reminder that to be considered, I will need to have your application in hand by 9am on May 1st. It's quite clear it will be extremely challenging to make our selections, but it's wonderful to read your thoughts and ideas. We currently expect to arrange interviews the week of the 7th, but may need to stretch that out, depending on various schedules.



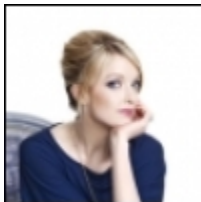
 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

Third years: applications for the CCF programme are now available on my door. They'll be due on Monday, May 7th.

Fifth years: I've been marking your charts from last Friday, and clearly a number of you could benefit from additional time with the exam-format charts. Please come prepared with your calendars to lecture on Friday, so we can arrange some times for further practice sessions before the rapidly approaching OWLs.

Seventh years: I'm delighted to say (but not at all surprised) that you're quite a bit better off, though there's a few fine details we should continue to work on. Remember that your independent projects are due the 4th, and that I still have some time available if you want to review your results before turning in your final work.

A moment for the stars: it's a particularly good week for spotting several asteroids, namely Astraea, Hebe, and Flora, all found within Leo this week. And Venus is particularly bright right now, though you'll need to come up between sunset and curfew to have a good look - she's set by the time we start class. I plan to be around the tower Wednesday and Friday evenings if the weather's clear, if anyone wants help taking a look at either.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-04-24 16:08:52](#)**

Private message to Lucius and Narcissa Malfoy

Good morning, and I hope you're both well. I'm writing at the moment because of the conundrum of the YPL counsellor positions, and I'd very much appreciate your advice.

Certainly both Harry and Draco would be welcome, helpful, and entirely suitable - that's not the issue in the slightest. And we're taking on enough new counsellors that taking them both would not present the challenge it might in some past years. It's the other considerations that make me worried I might put a step wrong somehow without realising.

Adding Harry to the younger year trips does complicate the security arrangements (though we can certainly manage it), and of course, I have no idea if Our Lord has other plans for Harry's summer. (And last Raz had heard, nothing was fully settled.) I am hoping, Lucius, that you could at least guide me to the best method of inquiry.

The other one I'm struggling with particularly are the Gryffindor boys, of all people - and I'm still not quite sure how I'm going to untangle that.

Narcissa, on a more enjoyable note: I've worked out my own obligations for the summer, and I'm forwarding a copy by owl. If there's a social event you think I (or Raz and I) particularly should be at that takes place during the YPL events, I can get away for an afternoon or evening from anything except the camping trip with a little notice. Other than that, I'm hoping for both a few days of astronomical collaboration and a few days with my family, but think I'll otherwise be in New London.

And of course, I'm continuing to think a great deal about our conversation over the spring holidays. If you're free on a Tuesday afternoon between now and end of term, perhaps tea in New London?

2012-04-24 21:37:00

Private Message to Lavender and Parvati

So, which of the rumours about Weaslette do you think it really is? Did she really 'work herself to exhaustion' or is she pregnant or what?



 [alt_padma](#)

If she's pregnant, I bet Thomas is the father.

Just kidding! I don't think she's really up the duff. She's so frigid I don't think she'd know what to do with a boy if one grabbed her by the hair and threw her over his shoulder.

But I think she could be pulling a Frobisher. All that modelling. I bet someone's convinced her to starve herself so she'll look less chubby in her photo shoots.

Anyway. Lav, have you put in your YPL application? And Pav, did you get a letter from Mum? I did if you didn't. She's well cross with Haruman for applying to the Aurors. She thought he was dating someone seriously (finally!) but it turns out that he's been going to a duelling club in New London trying to improve his skills for the tests. (There's more about Dad, too, but it's a lot less interesting.)



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2012-04-25 03:30:20](#)
(no subject)

Surely she's a bit young to be doing *that* with boys?

Then again, you never know...I suspect that there's not a lot she wouldn't do to keep modeling.

2012-04-25 12:04:00

Private Message to Luna


Luna,

I'm fine. I truly am. I was just much more tired than I was willing to admit to myself. I will be ok, I promise.



 [alt_ginny](#)



 [alt_luna](#) at **2012-04-25 20:27:11**
(no subject)

I'm sorry things have been a strain for you lately. Are you having trouble sleeping?


(I could lend you my little pillow stuffed with lavender if you like. It's supposed to help with that sort of thing.)



 [alt_ginny](#) at **2012-04-26 02:13:30**
(no subject)

No, no trouble sleeping. Thanks though. I have been more or less ignoring needing to sleep.



 [alt_luna](#) at **2012-04-26 03:15:30**
(no subject)

Oh, but that's the sort of thing it really isn't wise to ignore.


Well, if you change your mind, I have the pillow in my trunk and you're welcome to borrow it at any time.

[2012-04-25 12:08:00](#)

Just Because...

I pass out does not mean I am pregnant. For Merlin's sake! The rumours you all create are wild. It seems many of you do not know how to be creative without befouling people's names. And the others I have heard of are just as mad.



 [alt_ginny](#)

Thank you to those of you who were concerned.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **[2012-04-25 18:32:28](#)**

(no subject)

Miss Weasley -

I'm glad to hear you're much better.

Please don't feel you need come to class tonight, if you need the additional time to rest. I'm quite sure it will be cloudy tonight, so it'd be a simple matter to catch you up with the projections we'll be using at some later date.

And more delicately, Madame Pomfrey had a word with me about the kind of example I've been setting for students through my own actions and choices.

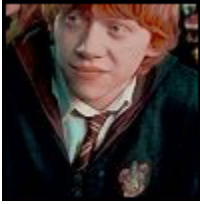
Working hard is admirable (and very much a part of my nature, as it is clearly yours). But several people near me have also brought it home that one can only continue to do one's best work if one takes adequate time for rest, for relaxation, and for time with friends or hobbies. And I'll admit here that I've seen a difference in my own magical work since I've started paying more attention to that advice again, these past two weeks or so.


I won't say more than that here, but if you ever do want to talk about finding ways to better balance your goals, I'm certainly glad to offer what advice I can or help you find other resources who can help.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2012-04-25 20:23:29](#)
(no subject)

Thank you Professor, I appreciate your concern. I don't want to fall further behind, so I shall come tonight. How ever I will consider taking you up on that offer to talk. I think that would be very helpful indeed.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-25 18:57:15](#)
(no subject)

You out of the infirmary, then, Gin?


Hope you're feeling more yourself.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2012-04-25 20:15:52](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I'm fine now. Didn't mean to worry anyone. I will make sure ii take better care. I can't believe I've missed a day and a half of lesson. That's not on, and it won't happen again.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-04-25 20:42:29](#)
Private Message to Gin

Well, yeah. Let us know if there's something that would help. The twins and me, I mean.

Honorita Sandoval seems quite nice. I hadn't really talked to her before, but we were in the waiting room for a while together. She thought maybe you'd been doing loads of work in the middle of the night. Said she wakes up sometimes and you're not there and not in the loo, either.

Are you having a rough go with some of your subjects? Cause like I said, one of us could probably help if you needed it.

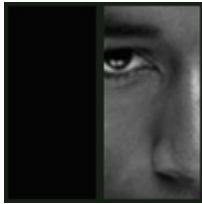


 [alt_ginny](#) at [2012-04-25 20:58:29](#)

Re: Private Message to Gin

I don't need help, but thanks. I think I study more than anyone but Percy. I'm just making sure my work schedule doesn't knock me out from being among the top of my year. I have been making sure I have mastered the material, even if it cuts the number of hours of sleep I get.

And I won't stop modelling. Mum already thinks I should rethink my contract. I can handle the pressure. I know I can.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2012-04-25 19:06:45](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Teddy Nott

Well. I guess we're all on notice, then.

Would you have thought GWasley might get herself knocked up? Really, what are the chances?

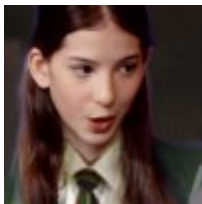


 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-04-26 01:36:30](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Teddy Nott

Ha, yes, I think the implication was more that she'd fallen prey to some lecherous photographer - aren't they all shift-lifters, though?

And didn't she once screech at you for writing PMs to me in her journal? I'm surprised she hasn't said anything about it yet.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-25 19:43:24](#)

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

Think I should tell her that my first thought was 'possessed' rather than 'up the duff'?

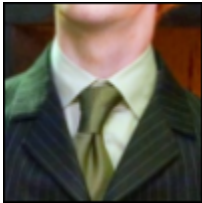



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-25 20:20:10](#)

Private message to Ginevra Weasley

Ginny...that is NOT the way to put such appalling rumours to rest. Don't you realise you draw further attention to such lies by repeating them in such a public manner?

Honestly, Gin. Have some sense.



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-25 20:20:30](#)

Re: Private message to Ginevra Weasley

Oh.

And I hope and trust you are feeling more the thing.



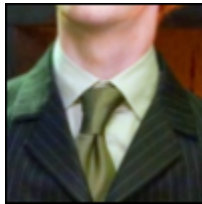
 [alt_ginny](#) at [2012-04-25 20:38:56](#)

Re: Private message to Ginevra Weasley

I suppose you are right. I just got really upset. Which is not hard to do around here.

I will keep your advice in mind in the future.

Sorry Percy



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-04-25 20:55:45](#)

Re: Private message to Ginevra Weasley

Well, naturally, who wouldn't be upset by such a horrid rumour? I'm sorry you've been subjected to nonsense like that. But sometimes a dignified silence IS the best response, strategically, I mean.




 [alt_ginny](#) at [2012-04-25 21:13:23](#)

Re: Private message to Ginevra Weasley

Yes, I know. You are right. You won't here a word contrary to that from me.



 **[alt_molly](#) at 2012-04-25 20:22:30**

Private message to Ginny Weasley

Oh my goodness, Ginny.

You are feeling better? Your father and I have been most concerned. Did Madam Pomfrey have any idea why you had that little spell?

Dear, we might have to give some serious thought as to whether you should really be doing this modelling if it's going to run you down like this.



 **[alt_ginny](#) at 2012-04-25 21:06:08**

Re: Private message to Ginny Weasley

I fine mum. I promise. I suppose, I wasn't being completely honest with myself. I promise you that I will try to balance better. But I refuse to let my studies fall behind. I have much to catch up on now. But I won't stay up all night. And I'm not needed in New London for a few weeks. I will get the needed rest. I love you, and please give dad my love.



 **[alt_penelope](#) at 2012-04-25 23:58:10**

Private Message to Ginny

Good to see you posting again, Ginny.

Please know that the prefects have been tamping down whatever rumours people have been so rude as to spread. If you continue to have trouble, please feel free to come to me or any of the other prefects.



 **[alt_ginny](#) at 2012-04-26 00:56:55**

Re: Private Message to Ginny

Thanks Penelope.

I think all will be well, but I will let someone know if there is something I can't handle.

2012-04-26 12:15:00

Private message to Professor Sinistra

I've been thinking about what you said, and I think I would rather be a YPL counsellor than take a chance on Professor Slughorn making me a Prefect.



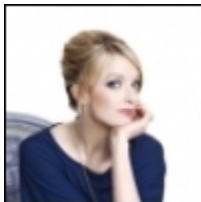
 **alt_sally_anne**

First of all, I'm not sure he actually would. I think he's more likely to choose Daphne or Pansy regardless.

But also -- well, it's nice that he has so much faith in me (at least hypothetically) but I'm not sure I'd be a very successful prefect. I think I would be an excellent YPL counsellor.

Finally, the YPL has given me a lot of opportunities to meet people and I think in terms of my future prospects, contacts will get me further than being able to say that I was once a Prefect.

(I understand that you might yet look at applications and give the position to someone else, but I wanted to let you know that I'm still very interested in the position, even knowing that it would close off the option of becoming prefect.)



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-04-26 20:26:01**
(no subject)

Miss Perks -

I'm delighted to hear that. (As you say, I can't guarantee it, though it would take a great deal for me to decide you were not one of the better candidates.) I agree that the possibility for future contacts could be quite helpful, and give you some choices in the future.

In fact, I had supper on Tuesday with friends, including a Healer friend who passed on a copy of the current requirements for application. I know you've talked about this with Madame Pomfrey, but Healer Mytens had a few additional thoughts (one of her immediate colleagues works closely with the College of Healing Arts staff to evaluate candidates.)

The short version is that halfbloods do stand a chance, but generally need a much stronger application, and it helps if they're interested in

areas which have a particularly high demand. (That varies year to year, of course.)

I think you already know they look closely at exam scores (Charms, Herbology, Potions, and Transfiguration in particular) and that your electives will also be important. But they also consider past experience or internships, and the internal process is apparently fairly political: candidates with someone who can successfully argue for them in decision meetings do better. The right internship, she says, can make or break a candidate.

That said, she does know a few people who are quite open to qualified halfblood interns (as she is) who are respected by the admissions committee. In the meantime, whatever experience you can get that demonstrates organisational skills, ability to respond well in crisis (as you've done several times, of course), and time working more informally with Healers would only strengthen an application.

Likewise, we would want to hope that Healer Stint forgets about you in the interim: it is apparently fairly easy for one or two vocal opponents to damage someone's applicancy if they choose to exert themselves. (Fortunately, a lot can change in three years.)

2012-04-26 19:08:00

Private message to Pansy and Sally Anne Perks



 **alt_draco**

Did you see that package the Owl brought at supper? Massive, wasn't it? I think that Harrod's clerk I called on the fire must be new, or just nervous about filling an order for Malfoy, because judging from the weight of the box that's going to be a lot more food than what I actually asked for. Not that we'll have any trouble getting people to finish it off. The fifth years are eating a lot, have you noticed? Something to do with studying for OWLs, I suppose.

We'll start setting up after lessons tomorrow. I'll make Harry help me with the decorations, maybe Jeremy, too, and we'll get Vince and Greg to move the common room furniture if we need to. Teds will keep Blaise occupied elsewhere.

Would you two mind coming up with some games or other entertainment ideas, though? I know music and theatre was important back then, so Pansy, maybe we can get out our guitars. But even that can only go on for so long. Charades? Cards? I don't know.

Renaissance - bit of an odd theme, don't you think? Especially coming from Daphs. No wonder Lizzie didn't know what to do with it.

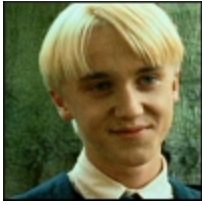
Pansy - see you after I'm done at the library?



 **alt_pansy** at **2012-04-27 02:25:50**
(no subject)

That sounds brilliant. I'll look up some fun games that we can play that'd be renaissance and get everyone involved. Is renaissance a word? Well, it is now.

Do you think he'd like it if we did an old-fashioned dance? Or would that be a bit too much?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-04-27 02:53:01](#)
(no subject)

Well, you know Blaise - as long as it's all about him, he'll be in good spirits.

Oh, and speaking of, I've decided that regardless of who it offends, it's best if we keep things Slytherin-only. That's the way Daphne always did it because she knew it was what he preferred.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-27 13:19:04](#)
(no subject)


Oh, of course! I mean, it's his day, and that's who'd he'd want to be with him the most.

...Almost everyone, that is.

Honestly. I've tried to speak to Daphne about it, but you know how she's been lately.

And no pesky firsties or second-years either. If the third-years are game, maybe we can call them pages and make them wear funny hats and serve drinks to him? And make one a jester? Oooh. I'll bet Whitacre or Jugson would be up for it.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-04-27 15:36:38](#)
(no subject)

Whitacre and Jugson will be amiable, I'm sure. Warrington - well, let's just leave him be.

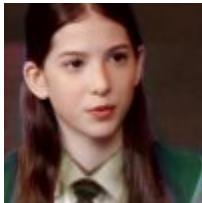
You really think Daphne would go so far as to not show up? I mean, she comes up with an idea for the whole celebration, but then doesn't feel it's "proper" for her to do it herself. All I can figure is that Bole must be jealous of her history with Blaise, and she wants to downplay it for his benefit.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-27 18:17:02](#)
(no subject)

I hope she does. If only because she could use a bit of fun, and Blaise would appreciate her presence.

But I asked if she wanted help doing her hair this evening, in fancy braids or something, and she seemed a bit vague about the whole thing.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-27 04:11:56](#)
(no subject)

Do you like Tarocchi? Because that was totally a Renaissance game and honestly some people insist that all card games came from that one. I know there are at least a few people who have decks and there's probably at least one WITTY deck. I'm pretty sure I could round up a few decks for the party but only if you (and Blaise, if you know) don't absolutely hate the game. Because once those decks come out it tends to be absolutely nothing but Tarocchi for a week or two (until everyone gets tired of the jokes the people on the cards tell and the decks all get left at the bottoms of the trunks again).

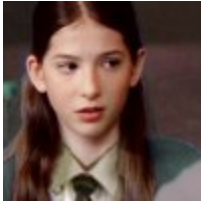
It would be ideal if someone has a Tarocchi deck with really renaissance art. I know last year I saw someone playing with a deck that was sort of Shakespearean, but I'm not sure who it belonged to. It might have been someone who's gone from Hogwarts.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-04-27 15:40:19](#)
(no subject)

I have no idea if I like Tarocchi, but we might as well give it a go. If there's a way to get gambling involved, even better. Blaise likes it when the stakes are high.

As for who has a deck, I'll ask Higgs. He's obsessed with everything Shakespeare, so maybe he's the one you're thinking of.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-04-27 17:10:38](#)
(no subject)

It might have been Higgs.

Tarocchi is a trick-taking game so it's easy enough to get gambling involved. Ante a knut a point, or a galleon a hand, or whatever. Honestly the problem with making it high stakes is that the cards will sometimes tell everyone if you've got a weak hand, because they think it's funny. It depends on the deck.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-27 18:14:07](#)
(no subject)

That sounds like it could be a laugh, at least!

2012-04-28 09:24:00

Many Thanks

As surprises go, that was quite a nice one. And well executed. Malfoy, I understand that was largely down to you, so thank you very much.



 **alt_blaise**

The courtly hats were tremendous, and Jugson: you're a natural in motley!

Perks: I'm told you were the one to suggest Tarocchi. Clearly, Ted's was the most unusual deck, though I enjoyed Professor Slughorn's most of all. (Thank you, sir, for lending it to the occasion.)

Parkinson: the dancing was an entertaining idea, though I think we need to hire a dancing master if we ever plan another Renaissance evening. You have to confess that our attempts at the Galliard were not entirely dignified. Good fun, though, surely.

The roast swan was brilliant. I don't believe I've ever tasted anything so good, which, of course, is saying something. Bravo to Harrods' food halls and to whomever made the selections--Malfoy, I suspect you.

Oh, and the self-filling goblets were a pleasant surprise, weren't they? I confess, though, that things are a bit *fuzzier* than I'd expected this morning.

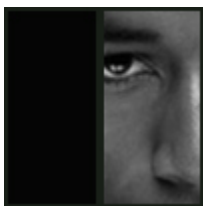
My thanks to everyone who came to celebrate with me. It was wonderful fun.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-04-28 15:08:30**

(no subject)

I'm glad you had a good birthday. And I agree, Slughorn's deck was excellent -- very sophisticated jokes.



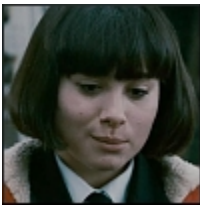
 **alt_blaise** at **2012-04-28 15:22:54**

(no subject)

Yes. It's interesting how different one deck can be from another. They don't like being mixed. Mother tried that at a party once, for a lark, but the cards

were quite insulting about it.

Teds' deck is actually rather interesting. Did you give that one a look at all? It's not just infamous sorcerers, but the devices they created or are most associated with. Some really snitch arcane items in there. Teds can tell you all about most of them.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-29 00:39:32](#)**

(no subject)

I'm so glad you had a good time!

Jugson trying to juggle really was very amusing.

And Renaissance dancing really is far more complicated than I thought! At least people looked very elegant when they bowed and curtsayed, even though we were all doing it at different times. And it was fun, so there's that.

Many Happy Returns!

[2012-04-28 10:08:00](#)

Private message to Pansy

I can't believe Daphne didn't come!

Did she slip out at some point to see Bole or was she just upstairs in the dorm room all evening? She didn't LOOK ill and honestly even if she had been I'd have expected her to come down, smile wanly, wish Blaise many happy returns and apologise for not staying longer.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)**



 **[alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-29 01:55:02](#)**

(no subject)

No, she stayed up all night.

Poor Blaise. I mean, you could tell he had a good enough time and all, but it was his *birthday*. You think she'd at least write him a PM or something, but not a thing.

Ugh.

Do you think we all ought to try and talk with her? You and me and Milli? About Bole?



 **[alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-29 02:12:43](#)**

(no subject)

Did you see Patil?

I mean, I know it's not hard to see that Daff's not doing well, even to people who aren't her besties, but she does have a bit of a point.

About it being a problem.

What do you think we ought to say? I mean, we have to say something.

2012-04-28 21:58:00

Private Message to Perks and Parkinson

Look. I know you lot in Slytherin like to take care of your own, right? But I'm worried about Daphne.



 [alt_padma](#)

I asked Zabini about it earlier and he gave me a brush-off. And then I heard that she didn't go to his party last night (which he'd said he wasn't even going to have a party, which now I think he'd decided so it wouldn't put her in an odd position with Bole, but obviously that didn't work the way he planned). So I thought--well, I figured I'd ask someone with half a hope of being honest about what's going on with her.

Is there something we can do? Not gang up on her, obviously, she'll just insist that there's nothing wrong. But something.

Maybe get someone to tell Bole to leave her alone? I dunno, but I just hate seeing her looking so stressed.

Or maybe this needs to come from someone outside her House, so she'll take it seriously? I dunno.

Parkinson, what do you think?



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-04-29 02:38:55**
(no subject)

I've been talking with Sally-Anne about just that while we've both been working on our applications.

We're going to try to talk to Milicent about it, to see what she can tell us, because Daphne talks to her the most out of all of us. Because Daphne's really been giving most everyone the run-around about what exactly has been going on, including Sally-Anne and me. But we know what you do -- that she looks miserable, and hasn't been doing as well in her classes, and that Bole's most likely at the bottom of it. Maybe she's just hoping to wait out the term and then break it off this summer after he's left school. Or maybe she doesn't want to break it off. But Milli would know. I think.

And I don't really know what to do either though, and neither does Sally-Anne. I mean, I don't want to make Bole angry, because he

might get angry with *her*, and you're right, she's not likely to listen if we just sort of bring it up.

But if we were all telling her about it, all the girls in our year, that'd be sort of hard to ignore, wouldn't it? It'd be embarrassing for her, even if we promised we wouldn't tell other people. But I think it'd be a way for her to see that we all care about her, and are worried about her, and want to help her out as best as we can. Even if it means... I don't know... all ganging up on Bole and hexing his bits off. Or walking her to and from classes. But he's a nasty piece of work and I hate seeing her like this, I really do.

We'll talk to Milli, see what she says.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-04-29 02:56:24](#)**
(no subject)

All right. Let me know what you find out. Because yeah, that's exactly it.

I dunno why so many of us girls all seem to fall for boys who are such wankers. I mean, is it just that *all* boys really *are* wankers, underneath? That would well bludge, wouldn't it? But that's what they're always telling us, isn't it, that they're just interested in one thing and they're selfish berks who'll either say anything to get it or they'll just take it even when you say No.

It kinda makes all those 'It's patriotic and proper to get married and have kids' programmes the Ministry runs make more sense, doesn't it? I mean, who would ever put up with boys if there weren't a good reason for it. Even if they are fit. There's a reason I've decided not to bother with Quidditchers anymore.

Well, anyway. If there's anything I can do to help, let me know, okay? I think it's high time we all showed Daphne that we're her friends and it's important for us all to stick together when it comes to not letting that sort of thing happen to each other.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-04-29 03:06:29](#)
(no subject)

I agree that it's important to let her know that this sort of thing isn't all right, and that she deserves far better. We all do.

And if we don't do something about it, it's like we're saying that we're okay if it happens to us too. And I'm not. At all.

And the boys in our year, and even the older boys, they need to learn that it's not something we'd just put up with, either. Because they might think that's the way things ought to be.

Not all boys are like that, though. Thank Merlin. Otherwise, you're right, why would anyone bother? Draco isn't like that at all, for one. I mean, I know we've only been seeing one another since this term, but so far he's really respectful, and I know he'd never take advantage or try to push me to do something I wasn't willing to do because he respects me. And if he didn't, I don't think I'd like him nearly so much.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-04-29 03:18:34](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

Well, yeah. I mean, obviously there have to be exceptions. And I'm sure even the beastly ones start off all charming and gallant, or else how would any witch let themselves get so attached?


I mean, Page was really nice until he turned into a berk because I wouldn't snog him. And Davies was well attentive but then he up and asked Delacour to the Ball without even thinking about it (although honestly, that probably had more to do with Delacour being part Veela than anything. But he's still snogging her and probably more than that, which is fine, I'm not interested in going as far as that yet, thanks).

Finch-Fletchley seems like he's well chivalrous. He's always walking Hydra to her lessons and carrying her bag. What does she think about him, do you know? It's odd, though, because Uloshenko--do you know Evgeni? He and Finnigan have become

good mates this year, so I've spent more time with him than most of the Durmstrang boys--well, *he* and Seamus decided to find out more about F-F when we were at the museum over hols, and Evgeni thought that F-F was a shirt-lifter. I don't think he was offended about it, though, only bemused.

Perks has become sort of friends with him, haven't you, Perks? F-F, I mean, not Uloshenko. And he's also very thoughtful toward Lovegood, isn't he. I think he finds her sort of funny.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-04-29 03:29:42](#)**
(no subject)

If he's a shirt lifter, he's awfully good at pretending he isn't. He's bally well sweet on Hydra, what? At least from what I've seen.

I think she likes him well enough. Hydra's not one to go on and on, you know.

Delacour's got no sense of humour. And she's been fairly useless at the Tournament, hasn't she? If she wasn't part Veela, I'd bet she'd have a hard enough time getting boys to like her, even if she was pretty.

2012-04-29 18:51:00

Private Message to Hermione Granger

You were right about Mr Milland. About how he can be sort of... I don't know. Intense? Not nice? I mean, not like he has to be super friendly or anything, but he wasn't.



 [alt_harry](#)

He said he couldn't tell me anything, really, not unless I learned Occlumency. And when he showed me what it'd be like, if someone ever did try, he said it'd be not good if people found out about you and me. Being friends. And Hydra's said how she thinks I ought to too.

But.

I asked Raz about it earlier, and he seemed sort of weird about it -- like it would be really tricky if I did learn it, and he didn't tell me anything outright, but I could tell he was worried. And. I was thinking. Milland said that if I were really dead good at it, people wouldn't be able to tell if I was hiding anything, but if I wasn't good enough, they'd know. He would know. So if I can't do it well enough, He'd know I was hiding something from Him, and I think that'd be bad. Really bad. like Task 2 bad only worse. Because it's one thing to not do what He wants, but it's another to... I don't know. I think He'd see it like I was defying Him. Or challenging Him.

So I've got two choices.

I could try to learn, and hope that I'm really fast and good at it, and if I'm not, risk really messing thing up, or I could not try and hope no one ever tries to look in my head, and not do anything that would get you or Draco into trouble ever. Which is sort of impossible. Because I always screw everything up. Even when I try. especially when I try. Which is why I'm so worried about screwing up the Occlumency thing too.

I don't know.

What do you think?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-29 23:40:21](#)
(no subject)

Well it would be worse if he were trying to learn about something and he found out about me.

I mean

For me.



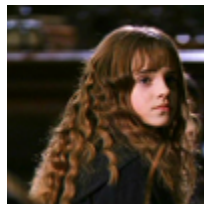
 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-30 00:50:05](#)
(no subject)

Would it, though?

I mean, I'm not arguing, I just want to sort it out. Because right now, what He'd find out is that we're friends. And yes, you'd get into trouble.

But if he thinks I'm challenging him like that? I don't know. Seems like the stakes would be higher. Like rather than sending you to the camps he'd just up and kill you or something.

He wouldn't kill me. I don't think. Just in case. But I think it might be worse? Maybe?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-30 00:57:33](#)
(no subject)

But then he'd look to me.

He's been trying to teach me Occlumency and I'm horrid at it Harry. It would be worse than *anything* if he got to me. I promise I promise I promise. You don't know.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-30 01:02:13](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

Right.

I mean, okay, yeah, I hadn't thought about it like that.

If you put it like that, I guess making Him angry is better.
Because then he wouldn't have as much of a reason to look to
you. If it worked.

But if you can't do it, what makes you think I'd be any good?
You're loads smarter than I am.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-30 01:04:43](#)
(no subject)

It isn't about being smart.

That's what Mr Snape says anyway.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-30 01:09:55](#)
(no subject)

Don't

I mean

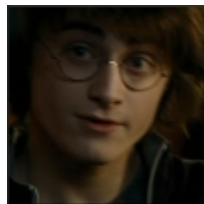
I'd rather we just call him Milland? Just in case.

And if it doesn't take being smart, I'll be *ace* at it.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-04-30 01:17:32](#)
(no subject)

Okay, Milland, and you're plenty smart Harry,
honestly.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-04-30 01:27:32](#)
(no subject)

I'm smart enough to know how much stupider I
am than you.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-04-30 01:17:10](#)**
(no subject)

And another thing I remembered about what we talked over is whether Raz decides he wants to teach me after all.

Because then he'd see Milland, wouldn't he? And you. I mean, he probably already knows a bit about you, but he'd know for sure. And I know he wants what's best for me, but that might not be what's best for you.

So I guess I'd just sort of have to pretend I didn't want to do it any more? If Raz ever brought it up again, I mean.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-04-30 01:35:29](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know. Is he an Occlumens or a Legilimens too?



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-04-30 01:40:56](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know. I just know Hydra told me to talk to him about learning it. And he didn't tell me he couldn't.

[2012-04-30 13:49:00](#)

Another Month

Albia is eleven months old today. She's talking like anything, and sometimes we can even tell what she's meaning to say. I'm her old 'Ma', and Junius is her 'Pa', and then there's the sorry old dog who adopted us, and we're pretty sure he's 'Da', though I heard her call one of the stray cats that, too, this week.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)**

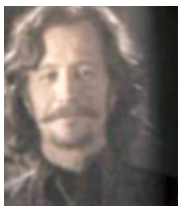
She has her own words for nearly everything, but we're not properly sure they stay the same from day to day. At any rate, we've been too dim to learn most of them. We've been trying to teach her that we always say 'Please' when we'd like someone to give us something and 'Ta' when they do.


Junius insists she said 'Ta' back to him Friday night when he handed her the soother she'd dropped, but I think it's just wishful thinking. I saw it all, and what she was really doing when she said it, was giving her soother to the 'Da'. I think she's pretty well decided she likes her thumb better, anyway.

She has a jolly sense of humour. She thinks it's especially clever when old Pa Ponds makes her food zoom around before it settles on her tray. Or when he takes his egg cup at breakfast and wears it as a cap. That always makes her laugh.

And she's all but walking now. She pulls up and then moves around, going from whatever she's got hold of to the next closest thing she can grab onto. She especially likes to ramble along the shelves in the shop, because then whenever she tips over and finds herself sat on the floor, there's always loads of reshelving to be done to help us out!

I can't think what we did before we had her. And she'll be a whole year old next month!



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-30 19:57:30](#)**
Order Only

I could've sworn last week she was using 'Da' for Remus and 'Pa' for me but you're right, it doesn't seem to have quite settled yet. Then again, I was thinking that the poor kid's got to be the most confused baby on

the face of the earth, between you changing your face to amuse her, Remus with all the spells he uses to look like Junius and then there's me. How many of these people does she think are her family?

I guess we're lucky she hasn't decided to be frightened of any of the versions of ourselves she sees on a regular basis.

Still, it's fair amazing what goes on in that little head, innit?



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-04-30 20:08:39](#)**

Re: Order Only

Well, it makes more sense that she'd call the doggy 'Da', don't you think?

And just imagine what our relations would say about it if I told the world that Bea's decided that the family dog is her 'Pa'.

As for the changing, I think she's got it in mind that that's all perfectly natural. After all, she can do it herself.

She was busy trying to do your nose last night. Almost had it, too. I suppose it will be a mustache next. Actually, I wonder if she could do.

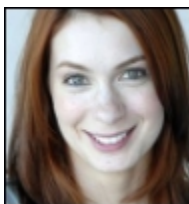


 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-04-30 22:27:24](#)**

Re: Order Only

Sinbad. Padfoot. Either one has a sort of 'Pa' sound. But it does make me wonder what'll happen when she really masters words. Names. You know she has a name for Kreacher, too?

My nose? Or my snout? Given the show she gave Hydra, it's possible she'll get the hang of facial hair, yeah.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-04-30 21:01:43](#)**

ORDER ONLY

It's hard to believe that Bea will be a year old in a month's time! Goodness.

I was thinking it might be fun to bring Kevin up for a visit and a proper birthday party for Bea's first next month, if you wouldn't mind the extra company, that is! He already knows one or two birthday songs, because we sing them at least once a month at dinner.



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2012-04-30 22:00:23**

Re: ORDER ONLY

It would be lovely to have a proper party. I wonder if we'll have hired someone by then. I don't suppose that has to make a difference, but, well. It might.

We had notice today that we're to expect an inspector from the Ministry one day this week to have a look at whether our home and shop will be suitable for a Muggleborn placement.

I think Remus plans to ask if they couldn't tell us more specifically which day and what time, as my schedule at the Ministry means I'm asleep into the afternoon. I don't know whether they'll accommodate us or whether they'll decide we're trying to game the inspection.

At any rate, we're making sure it looks like the Ponds live a normal shopkeepers' life in Doughty Conduit that could only be improved if they were allowed to hire a bit of help from Muggleborn Labour.




 **alt_alice** at **2012-04-30 22:55:18**

Re: ORDER ONLY

If they are there in a month's time, I'll just be Remus's sister again. That works rather well. Only I'd hoped Frank could come too, with Will, so Sirius could spoil him a bit, so we'd have to take that into account too.


I'm sure we could make it manageable, and have a grand time even we had to put on false names while we were there. It'd most likely be a shorter visit, though.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-04-30 22:28:35](#)
Re: ORDER ONLY

Considering that Kevin's on Remus' short list of acceptable dates for our Bea, might as well start throwing the two of them together straight off, eh?



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-04-30 22:50:59](#)
Re: ORDER ONLY

It couldn't hurt, could it?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-01 19:05:34](#)
(no subject)

I didn't know she was so close to being a year old. Has she learnt to make any new faces? How are all the animals doing?

Please tell Mr Ponds that I said Hello, as well.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-01 21:29:18](#)
(no subject)

Why, hello, there!

Bea's trying new faces every day. Noses, mostly, but last weekend she made her ears pointy. I've been trying to show her about lop-ears, which she thinks is very funny, but she hasn't tried it herself yet.

We've quite a menagerie, don't we? We're still feeding the cats. Luckily there haven't been any new kittens recently--that we've found, at any rate. I'm still putting out food on the upper sill for my bird friends, but they're understandably cautious. There's still only the one dog. I think he scares off any others who might nose about. Oh, and Bea's still very fond of a certain Sing Ami bunny she had from a favourite cousin of hers!

Mr Ponds says 'Hello' back and wonders how you are getting on with end of term projects and exams coming on.