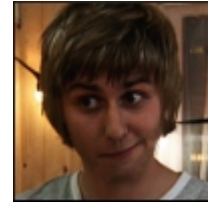


2012-05-02 13:50:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 **alt_justin**

What, ho, all,

I say, it looks as if the weather's supposed to be fine at the weekend. About bally well time, what!

I received a parcel this morning. I don't suppose anyone else noticed. Well, I should say, that was rather the point, what? It was packaged with a shrinking charm, so it looked nothing like that great huge hamper Malfoy got last week! But that's what it was, nonetheless, though not quite as enormous. It expanded after I brought it up to the dormitories at lunchtime.

It was from Mr Rosier. 'Just a reminder of what we have to offer,' according to the card.

There are biscuits and crumpet, clotted cream, jams (not Stretton jam, Sally-Anne, what), goose liver and potted quail and all sorts of lovely things for a smashing tea, along with a tea service and pot. And cheese! There are four kinds, including Stilton which is simply the rarest cheese imaginable in France and it's well brilliant. And there's a tin of my favourite tea blend. I say, I've not a clue how he knew that it's my favourite but I jolly well doubt it's just luck.


I mean to say, I bally well doubt they're inclined to take 'No' for an answer, come to that.

But one can't send it back, what, that would offend, I'm sure.

So, shall we have a picnic on Saturday?

-Justin



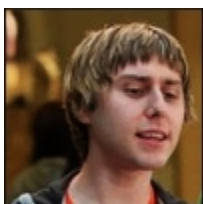
 **alt_ron** at **2012-05-02 18:44:06**
(no subject)

I reckon you should write back and ask if ginormous hampers are what they're offering you, how often they'd plan to send them. I mean, if it's just the once, well, that's not much to look forward to, but if they'd

come once a fortnight, that might be something to think about!

Seriously, though. Sign me up for Saturday!

D'you reckon there'll be any cheese left by then?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-03 02:02:54](#)

(no subject)

What ho, Ron!

Actually, that's a fair point! I mean to say, playing naïve might be just the way to commence bargaining. Hard to get, what? I say, good show, old man.

And yes, I shall save the lot for Saturday. Though that means quite a bit of restraint!

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-02 19:29:22](#)

(no subject)

Oooh, I LOVE clotted cream.

I still don't think you should defect but there's no point in letting the food go to waste so I'd certainly help you eat it on Saturday if you like.

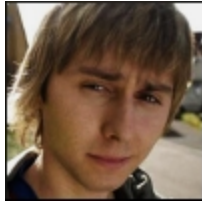


 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-03 01:09:09](#)

(no subject)

Are you going to defect, do you think, Justin? What's your thinking on that?

I haven't had tea in



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-03 01:52:46](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Terry.


I'm sorry you can't join us. I wish it were possible.

But as for defecting, I say, the more I look at Mr Rosier's letter, the less I think they'll take my refusal well gracefully. I mean to say, can you imagine any of them letting go once they've got their hooks in?

I've a feeling the best I can hope is that I can bargain well enough to ensure some measure of safety security.

-Justin

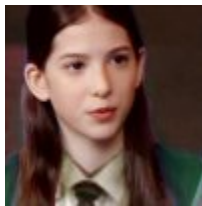


 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-03 02:04:18](#)
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,

Splendid. Half-two Saturday, then?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-03 05:21:02](#)
(no subject)

Sounds good to me!



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-03 00:58:29](#)
(no subject)

Sure, a picnic sounds fun. All the stuff they sent you sounds brilliant.

Do you have any idea about when they expect an answer from you?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-03 00:59:20](#)
(no subject)

Well, except maybe the goose liver. (Goose liver? Really?)



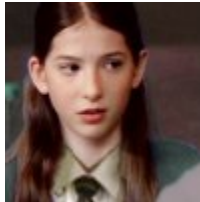
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-03 01:37:27](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Neville,

Goose liver's actually quite good, really. It's quite rich. You ought to try it.

Mr Rosier said before that there was no particular time limit but of course one couldn't wait until the very last minute.


-Justin



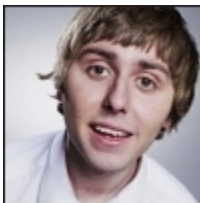
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-03 05:20:35](#)
(no subject)


I had the same thought about the liver.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-03 01:00:23](#)
(no subject)

A picnic sounds splendid. What time?




 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-03 01:39:49](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Luna,

Smashing! Shall we say half-two?

-Justin



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-05-03 01:01:06](#)**
(no subject)

Wizard.

Okay if Gred and Forge come, too?




 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-05-03 01:39:07](#)**
(no subject)

Hullo, Lee,

Of course, they ought to come! But I did want to have Hydra along, if you don't mind.

-Justin

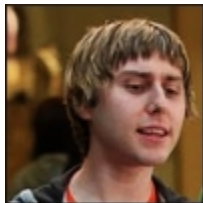


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-03 03:26:49](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, all right.

Hydra's fine with me.

Er. You're not thinking of inviting Finkigan along, are you? I mean, just because the hamper came from Mr Rosier doesn't mean you have to have him, does it?




 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-05-03 03:37:39](#)**
(no subject)

Goodness, no. I expect I shall have to spend time with him now and then, to keep up appearances, what, but no, I hope to be able to relax a bit, which shouldn't be possible with him along.

-Justin



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-05-03 13:51:41](#)**
(no subject)


Gred and Forge said they'd stop by for sure, but might not stay for long. Because--get this--they have to revise in Potions.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-05-03 13:52:57](#)**
(no subject)

Huh? They're not even taking Potions!



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-05-03 13:54:02](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, but they've worked out some kind of deal with Sluggy where they're going to take the end of the year test and then try to brew some tough potions for him in September. If they manage to do it, he says he'll let them into the NEWTs Potion class.

2012-05-03 12:29:00

Order Only: Waiting

Well, if the Ministry's going to come and inspect Doughty Conduit, we all wish they'd hurry up and do it, already.



 [alt_sirius](#)

It's making us all realise what a squeeze it was before, since Dora and Remus have been spending more of their time there at points when we anticipate the knock on the door. Of course, 'Junius' reasonable request that any inspection come between the hours of 2:00 and 6:00 PM so the family could all be awake was met with a stony reply to the effect that their staff cannot possibly predict when they'll be able to get to us and that the point of an unscheduled inspection is that it's not on a particular schedule. We figure they're unlikely to come after supper, anyway, but other than that this waiting is putting a bit of a strain on us all.

I'm tempted to say Dora's got the worst of it, as she pointed out last night that if they find anything that doesn't pass muster, she might well face some repercussions in the Department of Magical Maintenance. Merlin knows details like where we've hung out the washing might not be considered confidential and who can tell whether our inspectors will report back to her supervisors what they observed in her home.

So we're stuck until they can get 'round to us. Which is not particularly easy when Saturday's full moon is making a certain one of our number more tetchy than usual. (Hence why Dora may not actually be the most nervous of the family.) But then I'm not one to talk. My part in all this is easy: act like a normal dog and keep Kreacher busting through the grate at an inopportune moment.

Any word on Ivy Lovell?




 [alt_kingsley](#) at **2012-05-04 15:31:51**
(no subject)

Yes on Ivy Lovell. I've sent word to Arthur this morning. Yes, we have located the family--at least we think. We've sent a request through channels that they trust that we'd like to meet with them. I think it's best if Emmeline and I approach them, since our contact can vouch for us (although we haven't explained our business, of course, and

we'll be going Polyjuiced as usual). We hope to get word that we'll be allowed a rendezvous tomorrow.



 **alt_bill** at **2012-05-04 15:43:04**
(no subject)

I'm sorry that I'm not quite as well situated in this new position that I can find out what's happening behind the scenes for you (I might have at least been able to learn which inspector has been assigned). I do have a contact in that department, and I'll try to rig a way to give you an hour's notice if I possibly can.



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-05-04 17:04:55**
(no subject)

Much appreciated, Bill. Don't get yourself in a tight spot, though. We'll manage.

In all honesty, I think we're as well-prepared as possible. We've left just enough clutter upstairs to make it look lived-in, not so much that it looks desperate.

2012-05-03 12:44:00

YPL Counsellor Interviews

Thank you, everyone who turned in such thoughtful applications: I know it will be a very difficult process to make our final choices, and a great deal will depend on the final interview.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

These will be scheduled for forty-five minute slots next Tuesday (between 3pm and 9pm), Wednesday (between 2pm and 9pm) and Friday (between 2pm and 9pm). Kindly check your calendars (some of you have classes in the 2pm or 3pm slots, for example) and sign up as promptly as possible.

We'll be meeting on Saturday to determine our final choices (and it is possible we may have a few last minute questions to help us in that: I know it's a Hogsmeade weekend, but please keep an eye on your journals for a note from me.)

Interviews will be in my office, with Campanella Wright (from Magical Law Enforcement), and Helena Provim (from the Wizarding Examination Authority) as the other representatives of the committee. Questions will include clarification of your applications, additional discussion about your interests and long-term plans, and various other topics. We don't ask everyone the same questions, but you are expected not to share the details of your interview with others until the entire process is complete.

Feel free to ask any additional questions below about the process. Good luck to you all!

Other students:

Obviously, much of my time (and a number of my office hours) next week will be affected by these interviews. NEWT exam students, I'm quite confident you're in excellent shape, but I'll be available the next two Thursday nights and Sunday afternoons and evening. OWL students, I'll be available the same times (though the NEWT exams do take priority). In both cases, I'm expecting to have your final pre-exam charts and other notes ready for you to pick up on Monday.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-05-04 12:25:49](#)

Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

Professor,

Seeing your notice yesterday reminded me that I had not previously answered your inquiry (a fact Narcissa had pointed out some time ago but which of necessity kept shifting lower in priority than one would like to admit).

Unfortunately, one reason for this negligence stems from the simple truth that I have little advice to offer. Our Lord's wishes regarding His son's activities in the coming summer holiday remain ... unexpressed. Past experience has indicated that He does often look to the summer months to turn His attention more fully onto areas of Harry's education which Hogwarts cannot fully encompass. However, that said, He has often spoken of the importance of allowing Harry to make his own choices and seek his own way in the world.

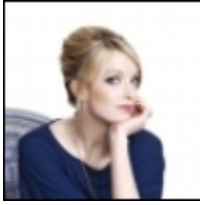
As for my own son, he may do as he likes. His mother and I do of course anticipate that he shall shoulder the responsibilities of Prefect if his professors see fit to award the rank; naturally his marks surely show sufficient merit on that score. Admittedly he has not maintained a perfect record but in my own experience, the Prefect who has not earned an honest detention or two often is the less understanding and approachable for his lack of adventure. At any rate, if he puts his interest to the YPL then I have every expectation he should succeed in the duties assigned to him there as well and for similar reasons. Naturally, however, should it fall that he takes on both offices and find the obligations present him with too great a conflict, we should advise him to set aside his commitment to the House Quidditch side or the YPL before allowing his Prefecture to suffer. On the other hand, if you judge that another student may derive greater benefit, am confident he should soon recover from the disappointment.

Either way, Narcissa and I trust your capable management of the candidates and rest assured, shall support whatever decisions the committee make on either account.

Again, forgive my delay in answering. Hoping you find this remotely helpful, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Lucius S. Malfoy, &c.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **2012-05-04 13:49:21**

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

Thank you for this.

I rather thought it might be something like that on Harry's account, but it is such a delicate consideration that I wanted to be certain I wasn't missing something. And of course, I quite agree about priorities for Draco's time (though I have tried to keep the term-time YPL commitments to a minimum.)

I shouldn't take more of your time, but do deeply appreciate your thoughts and your confidence in the committee's decisions.

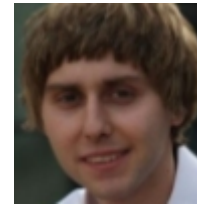
Aurora

[2012-05-03 14:15:00](#)

Private Message to Dux

Hullo, you.

I've been thinking about the guest list for tea on Saturday. I say, do you think we ought to invite Marvolo? I'm not sure if Pansy plans to come or if she'll bring Malfoy along, though they'd be welcome. But it occurred to me that if Marvolo were to come, perhaps he could bring Hermione Granger as well. No one else I've invited would have the slightest objection to including her, what.



 [alt_justin](#)

But perhaps the invitation would look better coming from you? I mean to say, you could send him a PM and your mother might see that you're socialising with him, if you follow me.

Thought it might do just as well if I sent it, from the point of view of certain other quarters. I'm not sure. What do you think?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at **[2012-05-03 21:12:29](#)**

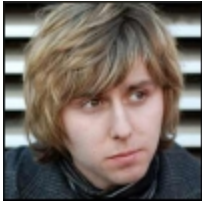
(no subject)

Well, it always looks good to invite Harry to places and events, even if he ends up not attending.

I'm not sure about having ~~Hermione~~ Granger along, though. I know that none of those people would object or be unkind, not on purpose, but wouldn't it be a little awkward for her? She knows me a little, and Draco a bit more than that, I think, but she doesn't know any of the others well at all. What's she meant to say to them?

I mean, I see *why* you want to give her a chance to come along, but I'm not sure if this is the best way to get to know her. I'm not sure if there even *is* a good way to get to know her. I know I haven't figured it out yet.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-04 02:13:56](#)
(no subject)

Well, Perks knows her a little. But perhaps you're right.

Still it seems one ought to make an effort somewhere and I'm quite certain the mates that I've made here would not find it uncomfortable having her there. That is, provided it made sense for her to be along. And it certainly wouldn't make sense without Marvolo, what?

-Justin



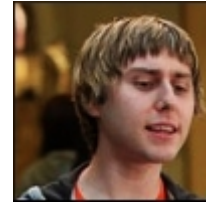
 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-04 02:39:37](#)
(no subject)

I think it would be good to invite Harry, and for Granger to get to come along, I just don't know if it means that you'll be able to get to know her she'll be able to do or say much, though. That's all.

From,
Hydra

[2012-05-04 13:06:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo



 **[alt_justin](#)**

How certain are you that no one reads Harry's PM's, what? I mean to say, if someone sent him a PM that said 'Oh, by the bye, Sirius Black is living in his old parents' house,' would anyone take notice? (No, don't fret, I'm not planning anything that daft!)

I'd really like you to be able to come to tea tomorrow. I asked Hydra if she thought we should invite Harry on the premise that we could encourage him to bring you along, and then--I don't know, perhaps he'd see that the others treat you fairly or the others would then see that he doesn't treat you badly at all, and they'd see how Hydra is about things as well.

But. Perhaps it's a really bad idea, at that, what? Is it asking for trouble? Would we all sit round feeling awkward and afraid to make the first move?

I guess I'm asking if you thought that if I wrote him, I could signal him somehow that this group of mates I've assembled are all right. Or perhaps you could do. But I need to know how careful I'd have to be in my note. I could easily tell him that I'm seeking his advice as the Lord Protector's son and who better to ask about the Protectorate, what, but the trick is letting him know somehow without letting any of the authorities know that I'd like you along as an equal, not as a servant. And that he doesn't need to treat you like one in front of us all.

I bally well shouldn't wish to make things worse for anyone, though, if you follow me. I say, what's your advice?



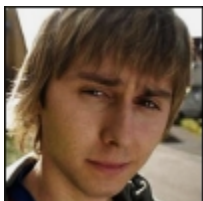
 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-05-04 19:28:04](#)**
(no subject)

Well I said something nearly as daft the other day. Honestly I didn't mean to but for a moment I just forgot that we weren't under the lock, and I called Mr Milland Mr Snape. I didn't say anything because I thought it would only make it worse but nobody can be reading, can

they, if they didn't notice something like that?

I suppose they could read backward. But it doesn't bear thinking about.

But why do you have to say you want me along as an equal?? You could just say "Hydra would like to see her" - we spent an awful lot of time together before you know so it wouldn't be in the least odd.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-04 20:27:04](#)

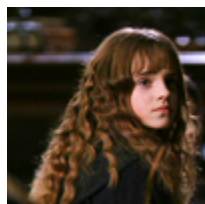
(no subject)

Oh, I wasn't planning to say anything that obvious, what? Only that, if one needed to speak in codes, I didn't wish him to think me some crass idiot who only wished to gawk at a muggleborn.

Wait. Do you mean to say the caretaker is that fugitive everyone was looking for last year? Is he one of Sirius's friends, then? A smuggler? Or is he simply hiding in plain sight, what? Goodness, and I thought I was bally well cheeky!

And does that mean the Matron's helping him to hide, or someone else at the castle?

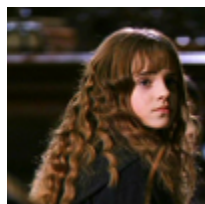
-Justin



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-05-04 21:59:16](#)

(no subject)

Oh MERLIN.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-05-04 22:03:29](#)

(no subject)

I just mean, I didn't mean to say that to you TOO. But there's a lot of things going on.

Look, you can't ever say and I can't say anything else about it at all, okay? Only if you're ever in trouble you can go to him. Just don't ever ever ever say anything.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-05 03:37:53](#)
(no subject)

I suppose it's a jolly good thing nothing dire happens to you anymore if you speak out of turn, what? But all right, I shan't ask. Or tell.

I did speak to Harry, right at the end of supper. I'm not sure he'll come if Draco Malfoy doesn't but, well, dash it, I've a feeling Pansy shan't come either if she thinks Draco's not welcome.

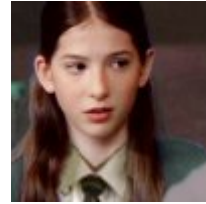
Would you mind it, terribly, if Draco did come along? I'm afraid I don't trust him very much but I know you know him better than I do so if you'll be comfortable enough then that's all right with me. I did tell Harry that Draco would be welcome, of course--but I would have said that anyway as he's Pansy's boyfriend.

I'm not sure why things have to be so dashed complicated, what? Particularly with everything else we have to worry about!

-Justin

2012-05-04 13:12:00

Private message to Pansy



Right.

So, I cornered Milli this morning before breakfast and asked about Daphne. And she tried to pretend she didn't know what I was talking about -- for about a half minute and then her face crumpled up and she said she was really worried and didn't know what to do but Daphne had said not to tell anyone. I told her it was okay to tell me because I already knew, the truth wouldn't be any worse than what I was imagining.

 **alt_sally_anne**

Anyway you know the time she said Milli hit her with a book, accidentally? That was actually Bole, he hit her in the face. But Milli thinks it's happening more, even though she hasn't seen bruises.

I haven't seen Daphne change in months. I mean she changes behind her curtains, or in the loo, and she NEVER used to worry about who saw her knickers. Do you suppose it's to hide bruises?

Bloody hell, Pansy, I don't know what to do. Do you think we should talk to Daphne? Do you think it would matter if we brought Padma in to talk to her?



 **alt_pansy** at **2012-05-04 18:54:21**
(no subject)

Bloody hell indeed.

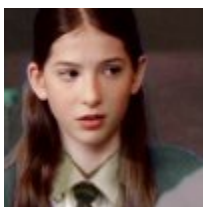
I think that I don't want Padma Patil's nose in this just yet.

I think that you, me, and Milli need to talk to her first. And tell her we're worried. And tell her she needs to leave him now, and we will start walking her to and from classes and stay with her when she's in the common room and hex his bollocks off if he touches her again.

And if she doesn't leave him, we need to tell Madame P. And Draco. And Blaise.

And I'm not beyond teaming up on him and giving him a thorough drubbing. I think between the five of us we could cause a good deal

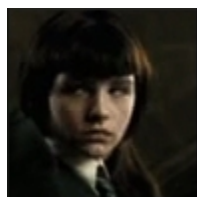
of damage. Add if we add Harry and Teddy to the mix, I'll bet he'd truly regret crossing anyone from our year.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-04 19:01:52](#)
(no subject)

Bole's in NEWT Defense and NEWT Dark Arts. If we go after him I for sure want Harry, Teddy, and Draco there.

Let's try to talk to her this afternoon. She tends to go straight back to the dorm these days when she's not in class so it should be easy to find her.

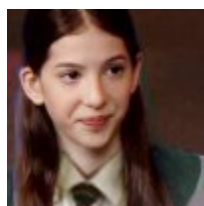


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-04 19:11:12](#)
(no subject)

Right.

Let's make sure Milli is there too.

How *dare* he.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-04 19:26:43](#)
(no subject)

She should be there but don't expect her to talk. I think we need to tell Daphne that we figured it out on our own or she'll just be cross with Milli for telling her secret.

How DARE he, but -- why does she put up with it? I mean that's what I keep wondering, I don't understand why she hasn't ended things. Daphne has loads of friends, and it's not as if Bole's father is on the Council or something, if anything her family's a bit more influential than his -- she could have talked to people! Is she ASHAMED? Because HE'S hitting HER? I just



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-05-04 19:35:12](#)**
(no subject)

I've no idea.

None at all.

Maybe it's like those awful romance novels where she thinks he's really good on the inside?



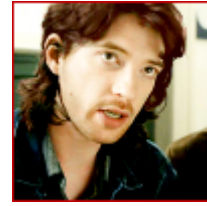
 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-05-04 19:45:18](#)**
(no subject)

That would make a certain awful sort of sense.
Daphne likes 'fixing' people -- I mean look at Milli.

2012-05-04 14:51:00

Order Only: Justin Finch-Fletchley

Sirius, I remember that you mentioned awhile back that Justin Finch-Fletchley sent you a letter telling you he's been asked to defect. Minerva, has there been any chatter among Council members about this?



 **alt_bill**

Apparently, he hasn't given them an answer yet. You might be interested to know that I was recently commissioned to send a luxurious hamper overflowing with consumable goodies to the lad, along with a wooing note from Rosier.

I suppose they figure that the route to a teenage boy's loyalty must run through his stomach.

[2012-05-04 20:52:00](#)

Private message to Mummy

Mummy,

I don't know if you saw, but in my weekly owl to you I mentioned that the applications for the CCF programme are due on Monday.



 [alt_hydra](#)

And I know that you said you might want me to do something different from CCF this summer, like perhaps spend time with Aunt Narcissa, and learn things from her about marriage, hostessing, and fashion and such.

But I was thinking maybe I could still apply for CCF, only I would write my letter to Aunt Narcissa about how I aspire to be like her one day. I know that Aunt Narcissa isn't an Auror or on the Council, but if CCF had been around when she was at school, she would have probably been involved, wouldn't she? That's the essence of who she is, really - she's always sure to be involved in everything important and everything that matters. So if I'm to be like her, then maybe I should do the same?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at **[2012-05-05 14:33:05](#)**
(no subject)

Now Hydra, you know I read ever single letter of your weekly reports. I saw your mention of CCF, but you did not indicate anywhere that you haboured an intent to apply and were seeking advice on the matter.

You really must learn to speak up more directly about those subjects you find pressing.

As for the matter at hand - recent developments have me less hasty to steer you away from CCF than before. As I indicated to you some weeks ago, natural occlumens are rare. It does not do to waste such a talent, even if it does handsomely raise your worth as a potential partner to our Lord's son. Do not abandon the latter aspiration, but also put your sights on using your gifts to benefit our Protectorate as a whole in ways other than throwing card parties and appearing in the newspapers.

I have been thinking on how you might best do this. Your gift, combined with your inquisitive, yet quiescent, nature, may make you a good candidate for work in the Department of Mysteries as an Unspeakable. They are, as you know, not permitted to speak of their work in any capacity. Not even under the most severe of duress. Occlumency is an absolute necessity, and all the better if it's innate rather than learned.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-05-05 14:39:45](#)**

(no subject)

The Department of Mysteries, really? But no one knows much about what they do, do they. We've never had one come in and speak about their work to the YPL, because none of them are allowed to do that. I've always Some people seem certain that what they do must be terribly frightening, and maybe even dangerous.

But I am ~~good at keeping secrets~~ intrigued by the sound of it. Who should I write to about it? For my application, I mean.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_bellatrix](#)** at **[2012-05-05 15:03:09](#)**

(no subject)

The overly erudite are apt to perceive it as more dangerous than working for MLE. For them, nothing can be more frightening or more challenging than studying how magic works its way into the very fabric of all existence - death, time, love, thought.


But I'm afraid that there's little else that even I can tell you about what they do. Though it does bear stressing that good marks in Arithmancy are absolutely essential to one in that field, so you'd best keep up your studies. I suggest writing to Erasmus Croaker's father, who has a high-ranking position within the Department of Mysteries. As the father of a son who is in YPL, he is also more likely to familiar with our goals and aspirations than the rest of them.

As a final note, I would like to say that I am pleased that you are

open to this idea. Let it serve as a lesson that I *do* have some capacity in judging what's best for you, and that I *do* have a deeper understanding of your character - of your strengths and your weaknesses - than you or your Father or your sister give me credit for. I know you feel that they can be more understanding, more *kind*, but they would only help you to cling to your weaknesses all the more.

I'm sure you've learnt by now that there's no place for that here.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-05-05 15:06:40](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, I will write to Mr Croaker. I don't think anyone else is writing to someone in the Department of Mysteries, and I don't think anyone wrote to them last year, either. I suppose that a lot of people would be put off by the fact that they don't know much about what they'd be getting into, with a job like that, but I don't think I would mind it so much.

And yes, Mummy, you're right. And I know, and I've learnt it.

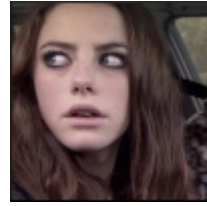
Thank you for your advice.

From,
Hydra

2012-05-05 09:23:00

Private message to Millie

What did you tell them? *WHY* did you tell them? I thought I explained to you that it was an accident, just a misunderstanding. And besides that, it's nobody's business!



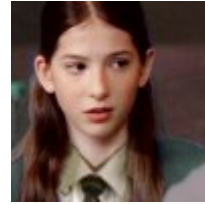
 **alt_daphne**

If you thought you were helping, well, all you've gone and done is make Barney suspicious. Now he wants to know why my roommates are all giving him filthy looks. "*What are you saying to them?*" he wants to know. And he was already in a foul mood because nobody's got back to him about his quidditch tryouts.

Oh, oh, I'm just SO CROSS with you. I want to set your hair on fire. Your stupid hair that you coloured blond for some reason. I just hate you right now, I really really do. I hate everyone...

2012-05-05 11:05:00

Private message to Pansy

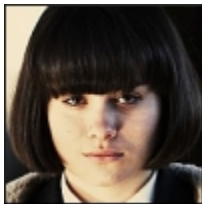


Well, that didn't go well.

What do you think we should do now? I DON'T believe her that nothing's going on and we have nothing to worry about. Honestly the fact that she tried so hard to convince us makes me more suspicious not less.

 **alt_sally_anne**

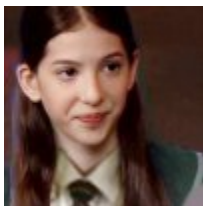
I could talk to Madam Pomfrey. I don't think Daphne's been to the hospital wing since before she started seeing Bole, she didn't even go when she had the bruise on her face that she said was from Milli.



 **alt_pansy** at **2012-05-05 18:08:02**
(no subject)

Yes, I think you ought. And maybe we both ought to go to Slughorn. Do you think Milli would come and talk to him too if we asked? I know Daphne's angry with her, but it'd be for her own good, I'm sure Milli knows it.

And we ought to tell Draco and Blaise.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-05-05 18:15:02**
(no subject)

I'll tell Madam P. I'll let you talk to Draco and Blaise.

Maybe we can decide later about Slughorn? The thing is, if Daphne went to him and said 'he's frightening me, I need help,' I think he'd be useful. Getting him to intervene when Daphne is saying 'it's all fine, leave me alone' will be a lot more difficult.

I don't know if we'll get any help from Milli. She's been avoiding me ever since that conversation with Daphne. I think making her decide whether she cares more about Daphne being cross with her than Daphne being SAFE might not get us what we want.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-05 19:25:12](#)
(no subject)


Good idea.

Okay.

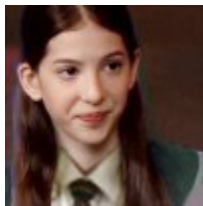
I wish things had gone better.

I just don't know what we could've said differently.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-05 19:25:40](#)
(no subject)

And did you see? Madame P already wrote him.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-05 20:47:06](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, which is good, she took it really seriously.
On the other hand, I went to her in person so
Daphne wouldn't see I wrote to her, and she'll
know as soon as she sees that -- well, I suppose
she won't KNOW but she'll surely suspect.

But we couldn't just leave it, the way she ~~wanted~~ said she
wanted.

2012-05-05 13:49:00

Private Message to Horace Slughorn

Horace, if you would be so kind, I could use a word with you. I've been made aware of a matter that requires our attention, yours and mine.



 **alt_poppy**

I shall be here all afternoon.



 **alt_horace** at **2012-05-06 03:51:09**
(no subject)

Terribly sorry, Poppy, that I am only just seeing this. I was completely engrossed in some reading all day and neglected to check my journal before nipping down to Hogsmeade for a swift pint.

Well, I should say I'd intended it to be swift.

At any rate, if this is regarding Warrington, the situation is quite contained. And if it's to do with Miss Pummel, that's been sorted as well.



 **alt_poppy** at **2012-05-06 14:57:45**
(no subject)

This time of term takes its toll on us all. My evening was similarly consumed by situations that were not as quickly dispatched as one might have hoped.

Fortunately none of those was a Slytherin matter.

This, I'm afraid, concerns Miss Daphne Greengrass, fourth year. A delicate matter, as the young lady seems reluctant to own the serious and injurious nature of her circumstances.



 **alt_horace** at **2012-05-06 18:38:49**
(no subject)

Dear me, Miss Greengrass, you say? Am I to understand you've discovered the cause of her concerning slide from the height of her social circles?

But it sounds as if you think the problem is something she has the means to reverse. I'm glad to hear it! Such a promising talent ought not to be wasted.

Well. I'm most curious as to the 'circumstances' you have unearthed, Poppy. Most curious indeed.



 **alt_poppy** at [2012-05-07 03:17:12](#)
(no subject)

Horace. I'm sorry we were interrupted this evening. You were quite right to go on: it took a good while to reverse the hexes and check them over for unintended effects.

As for Miss Greengrass, I do believe that the solution must include her accepting that Mr Bole's behaviour is untoward and ought not to be excused let alone borne with.

That said, I do not believe that Miss Greengrass is equipped to deal with the situation on her own. As I said earlier, I do believe you must intervene to stop Mr Bole's unacceptable treatment of her. Surely this is not the first such case you've seen.



 **alt_horace** at [2012-05-07 16:18:01](#)
(no subject)

I'm glad you got them all sorted. Expect no less, of course.

But no, indeed, indeed it's not, though one could wish it were the first case I've seen. Or you. You know I try not to involve myself directly in these romantic squabbles; at that age every word, every glance, every raised eyebrow seems to have such powerful meaning to their naive little hearts. I've generally found that it's useless to fight such storms of passion; they calm themselves best when left to rage out at sea. One finds that intervening often only throws young lovers more steadfastly into each other's arms.

Naturally, I trust your assessment implicitly. I'm merely pointing out that if the situation is as drastic as you say then any course we mere adults may attempt could just as easily fail as succeed.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-05-07 21:57:59](#)**
(no subject)

I do not disagree that the love affairs of the young are inconstant and unpredictable. However, when they are damaging and violent, it is incumbent on adults to exercise their authority and intervene.

It is your duty to make the effort, Horace. I trust you'll find that you have more sway over your pupils than you expect.

[2012-05-06 14:40:00](#)

Picnic

Hullo, friends,

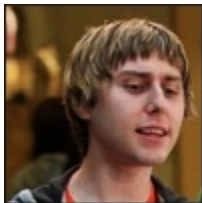
I say, I thought yesterday's picnic was positively corking. Thank you all for coming; I hope I shall be able to host other jolly gatherings once in a while before end of term. Marvolo, Malfoy, I was very pleased to see you decided to come along! We've not spent much time at all this year, despite being thrown together somewhat when I came for the Quidditch World Cup, what? I say, it was grand to make your acquaintance again.



 **[alt_justin](#)**

It's well hard to believe that it's already May. It seems like just yesterday I was wondering whether I'd be coming back to England with the other students from Beauxbatons but at the same time, it feels as if I've been here ages and ages. I suppose it's down to meeting so many people who've become good friends.

-Justin



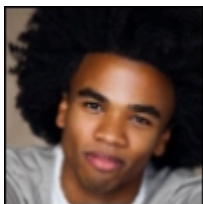
 **[alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-06 19:29:11](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I do think it went rather well. Admittedly not as well as one might have hoped, what, but it's a start.

Hermione, I hope it wasn't too awkward. I'd hoped-- well, I'd hoped that we'd all be able to relax a bit more. Perhaps next time, what.

-Justin




 **[alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-06 23:22:52](#)**

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

Thanks for sharing the hamper with this disreputable lot. I hope you don't mind the twins slipping in the Canary Creams.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-06 23:23:33](#)

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

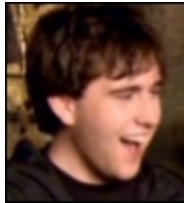
It was rather fun to see someone besides me getting caught by those things.




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-06 23:24:26](#)

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

Oh, I wasn't caught by them. I knew what they were. George suggested it.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-06 23:24:57](#)

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

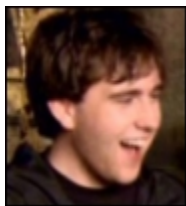
Really? You ate one on purpose?



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-06 23:25:30](#)

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

Sure. They figured it would break the ice. And it worked, didn't it?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-06 23:25:54](#)

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

Well, it was funny.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-06 23:27:32](#)

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

Yes, it was.

I was glad to try one, too. That sensation of feathers erupting all over the skin, it quite tickles, doesn't it?

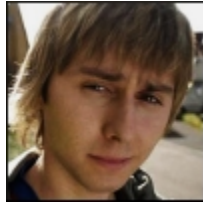
(Sorry I got feathers into the clotted cream though, Justin!)



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-06 23:44:18](#)

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

I do quite like Hydra, Justin. I know what it's like to prefer to be a little quiet by nature.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-07 02:45:06](#)

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

Thank you, Luna.

I'm rather fond of her, myself.

It was good to have you there, too. You've quite a way of seeing people without judging them harshly.

-Justin



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-07 02:51:00](#)

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

Hullo, Lee,

Not at all. I thought it was jolly fun! I had planned a few other methods in case we needed some help but that did the trick bally well perfectly.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-06 23:18:02](#)

Private message to Justin

Sorry I didn't call you "Effs," but I don't want people to realise that that's your secret name, which they will if I leave it as a comment here.

It was nice of you to invite everyone. Draco and Harry seemed to stick out a little. I think Draco, especially, felt a little outnumbered by

Gryffindors - not that that sort of thing really puts him off his step. And no one was rude to Granger, so that's good.

But the way you told everyone about Uncle Stephen and the Protectorate's offer... it makes me think that you've already made up your mind, or are close to doing so.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-07 02:41:45](#)

Re: Private message to Justin

Hullo, Dux.

Don't mind it at all, and quite clever of you, what.

I'm glad Draco and Harry both came, even if, as you say, it put everyone on their guard for a little while. I say, Fred and George's Canary Creams are jolly droll, aren't they?

And no, I shouldn't have thought any of that crowd would be rude to Granger. I've got to know them here and there throughout the year--you know I've tried, perhaps harder than most, to meet people from all over the school--and I do believe I'm a fair judge of their characters.

But I wouldn't say I've made up my mind completely, what? Only that I bally well feel as if either choice could go the worse for me so...if either choice is no choice, if you follow me, then I might as well stay where I've a ghost's chance of being happy. And possibly making a difference, to boot.

That's not to say I shan't wake up tomorrow and change my mind, what? But no matter how I weigh the options it seems to always come out the same.

Did your mother answer you about the CCF programme? (That reminds me, I should ask about the YPL in my thank-you letter to Mr Rosier.)

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-07 03:51:06](#)

Re: Private message to Justin

It's not that I don't want you to stay, but I do wish that there weren't so many things that came along with it, if you see what I mean. But I know that it isn't up to me.

And yes, she answered. I wanted to tell you, but not with everyone there. She advised me to write to Erasmus Croaker's father, who works in the Department of Mysteries. No one knows much about what that work involves, only that it requires you to be very good at keeping secrets. So I wrote to him, but it wasn't very long, because as I said, no one really knows what he does, not exactly. No one is supposed to have anything but the most general idea. I know he's done projects on how time and magic works, but that's the extent of it.

I told him that I grew up with parents who do very important work, and that I've learnt that you have to keep things to yourself, and to not let them affect your emotions if you can help it, and that you can't let it change who you really are, either. That sort of thing.

I just hope I wasn't too general. But how specific can you be with a man whose career is a secret?

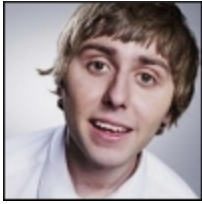
From,
Hydra



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-06 23:52:48](#)

(no subject)

Thanks for the invitation, Finch-Fletchley. It was fun, and we were sorry we weren't able to stay long, but it's probably just as well: Ron no doubt ate enough Stilton for all of us.




 **alt_justin** at [2012-05-07 02:53:34](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I say, most welcome, Weasley and Weasley. And Weasley, as well. I'm glad there was more than enough to go round, what!

And those transforming sweets of yours are bally well smashing, as well. It made quite the entertainment and just when we needed a laugh, too.

-Justin



 **alt_ron** at [2012-05-08 14:29:16](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, it was snitch. Thanks for asking us all.

It is a funny old thing how fast time goes, innit? It's almost time for the Third Task of the tournament. Guess Marvolo isn't letting it worry him much. Good on him, yeah?

2012-05-07 21:39:00

*Private Message to Mr Rosier and
Professor Sinistra*



Mr Rosier,

My name is Ginny Weasley. I realize that you are a very busy wizard, and may not

 [alt_ginny](#)

have the time to respond, but I am a rising 4th year and I am applying for the CCF this year. I am writing to you, because I have a desire to serve the protectorate in the best way possible, and I find that the best route is through the Ministry.

The duties performed by you, and your fellow officials, impact us all. They keep us safe and allow the wizarding community to thrive. I look forward to be able to preserve what has been established through a career at the Ministry when I leave Hogwarts. I am sure all loyal pureblood wizards would feel the same. It is with that in mind that I ask for your advice in what would show one has the best potential for Ministry work. I am looking forward to the training that this summer promises to provide. I take my studies seriously, and I am among those in the top of my year. I promise that any advice given will be taken in the most serious way. I strive for perfection in all that I do.

Please excuse the brevity of this letter. I did not want to take any more of your time than was absolutely necessary with this assignment.

Respectfully,

Ginny Weasley

[2012-05-08 12:24:00](#)

Order Only: We've found Ivy Lovell

but she won't be joining Moddey Dhoo. We were right; she's with a Travellers family.



 [alt_kingsley](#)

Our contacts directed us to meet with them in Machynlleth, Wales. She is not a muggleborn, actually. She's a half-blood, but her mother, Phoebe Hearn, never attended Hogwarts, although she did receive the letter. They just didn't want anything to do with *gaje* like us, and given the events of the last decade, who could blame them? Emmeline and I started out by talking with Phoebe and her husband Nathaniel, but although they allowed us to see Ivy, they became distinctly less friendly with us once we explained why we were there. Before we knew it, they had called several other members of the family in, and suddenly there were three other very business-like wands pointed at our throats.

We kept our cool and made no sudden moves, and eventually things calmed down when we convinced them we weren't with the Ministry, were working against them, in fact. I'm sorry we involved others than the parents in the explanations, but we really were not given much of a choice. Emmeline and I eyed each other, and she mouthed, 'what do we do?' as a fierce argument broke out in a language we couldn't understand.

The matriarch, Vansi Lovell, Ivy's great-grandmother, finally called for a deck of cards. She quickly laid them out in a spread I've never seen before. It wasn't a tarot deck like we use in divination, but a standard playing deck, except with less cards than we use, only seven and up. She spoke in her own language, but the man next to me, seeing that we didn't understand, pointed along and gave us a whispered translation or two. I remember that when one card was turned over, the King of Clubs, there was a sigh, and people relaxed a bit. ('That's the card for you,' our interpreter whispered, indicating me. 'It means a loyal man of good character.') I remember he said that the seven of spades meant a decision to be made, and when the nine of spades was turned over, everyone shook their heads gravely. Vansi Lovell looked over at Emmeline and me and said, 'The baby will not be going with you.'


Phoebe and Nathaniel Lovell looked relieved.

'And yet--' Vansi turned over one more card, the seven of clubs, and tapped her lips with her finger. '--the cards say that if we help you, the investment will give us a good return. So. How may we be of assistance to you?'

We've spent the past three days with them, talking over possibilities with Vansi and her son Moti. They may be able to help with surreptitious supplies for Sherwood, and possibly with reconnaissance. I need to talk with Davidson, and his lieutenants.

But at any rate, that's one crib you won't be filling, Alice. I've no doubt, however, that they will keep the baby safe. They have some seriously skilled magic users in that family.



 **alt_alice** at **2012-05-08 20:30:52**
(no subject)

How wonderful.

I'm glad to hear she's safe, and that we've made a good contact. Thank you, Kingsley.

[2012-05-08 15:15:00](#)

Order Only: Ministry Inspection

Bill, we got your Patronus just in time. Thanks.

It seems like it's the day for everything to happen: Ivy and now this.




 [alt_sirius](#)

They're looking at the upstairs now so I'll have to change back to Padfoot in a moment.

Just wanted everyone to know we're in the middle of it now. More after it's over.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-08 20:16:27](#)

(no subject)

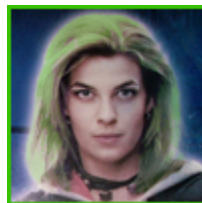
Very glad you received it. Stay safe, and report back when you can.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-09 01:09:29](#)

(no subject)

Sirius? Please? I'm sprouting grey hairs here. Report back, would you? Or Remus or Tonks?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-09 02:08:10](#)

(no subject)

Oh, Bill. Sorry to leave you dangling.

The inspection was fine, we think. Of course, they wouldn't tell us anything on the spot. We'll have to stew about it until they can be bothered to make a decision.

But we've not been arrested--or any of the other things you must be thinking.

Although today did have a bit of concerning business: Beth let me know tonight that one of last night's crowd was someone her lot have been looking into, and they're fairly sure he's a spy for the

citizen watch. It's not the first time he's been here, but he's not a regular.

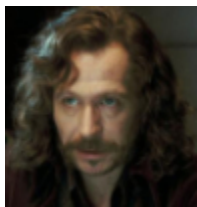


 **alt_bill** at [2012-05-09 02:25:25](#)

(no subject)

Thanks for relieving my mind.

Any idea what name the suspicious bloke's using?
Of course, it could be entirely false, but even so,
some of my sources might know something.



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-05-09 02:27:10](#)

(no subject)

Yes, sorry - they left just as we needed to get supper on and then there was quite a crowd for a Tuesday. None of us had any time for an update.

Besides, as Dora says, it's hard to say how it all went. You know how the Purity Control types are: Stone-faced and tight-lipped.

There were three of them, a witch and two wizards, one of them taking photographs 'for the file.' We're not sure but I think that means that they probably compare the condition of the space on inspection with subsequent visits? Probably to make sure that we're not pampering the servants with fripperies like beds, pillows or privacy. Maybe it's so they can prove the placement makes a difference to the tidiness of the home, I dunno.


Anyway, the third was a problem because we'd hoped that Dora and Remus could each keep an eye on one of them at all times but it would have been dead odd for old Sinbad the Dog to follow 'round everywhere the third one went. Luckily they weren't all that interested in splitting up, except for once when one of the wizards wanted a second look down in the cellar. There was also a tense moment when the witch (was her name Parker? Perkins?) tried to tell us (well, Dora and Remus) not to give them the tour, that they'd do better looking on their own (read: Snooping). I growled and Remus picked up on my hint, making up a story about how he'd have to take them upstairs, anyway, since the dog would object if they tried to go near the baby without one or the other of them there.

'Won't that be a problem for a domestic?' Miss Parker asked somewhat crisply.

'Oh, no, of course not; he'll get used to someone who's about all the time,' Dora answered. I will say, for none of us having had any way to communicate, we did a fair job all working together. I'm rather proud of us all, in fact.

Anyway, they stopped objecting after that and they got on with it. And like Dora says, they didn't point out anything they thought would be a problem but who knows? We might get fined 100Γ for not keeping our towels folded properly or because the outhouse isn't quite inconvenient enough for a lowly muggleborn.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-05-08 20:20:23](#)**

(no subject)

Oh, my. Be very careful!



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-08 20:29:35](#)**

(no subject)

Yes. And let us know how it goes, of course.

2012-05-09 17:23:00

Order Only: Well, that was easy, in the end

Just received an owl from the Ministry. They found nothing objectionable in our application and are assigning to us one Ellie Summers, as soon as we remit payment for her first month of service, plus some extra galleons which seem to be more or less a damage deposit.



 [alt_lupin](#)

We can either pick her up or have her delivered. I'm thinking Dora or I will pick her up; it'll give us a look into the camp, and you never know when a little extra knowledge will come in useful.

I believe we could get her as soon as tomorrow, though apparently if we're not quite ready for her we have up to two weeks to claim her.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 00:12:43](#)
(no subject)

I think we ought to go tomorrow, one of us. I could either go straight from the Ministry in the morning or in the afternoon when I'm up again.

It doesn't seem fair to have her first day be a Friday, since that would mean throwing her straight into a weekend at Laszlo's. Thursday night should be a bit quieter for her first go at serving in the garden.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-10 02:55:32](#)
(no subject)

Excellent news!



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-10 02:56:09](#)
(no subject)

Yes, indeed. I am really happy to hear this.

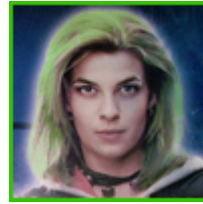


 **alt_sirius** at [2012-05-10 03:16:10](#)
(no subject)

Guess I'll be enjoying my last night as a human for a while.

2012-05-10 09:54:00

Order Only: Private Message to Sirius Black and Remus Lupin



 **alt_nymphadora**

She really is knackered. I think she was asleep before I got through the door. I locked it anyway, though that just seems heartless. Still, I know- it's what the Ministry expect and no good stepping wrong so early.

But if we're really going to lock her in, then there's no reason you have to be Padfoot all night, Sirius. Truly. You two could go back to Grimmauld, even. Bea and I can be here, making the place sound lived in.



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-05-10 15:03:47**
(no subject)

I'll concede I don't necessarily have to stay as Padfoot but what about when you leave for the Ministry in the early morning?

Someone'll have to be closer than two floors away behind a locked door. We could take turns coming back in the middle of the night but that seems inefficient.

No, I think it's all of us staying at Doughty Conduit until we can tell her we don't live there, really. But we could do that by stages. Tell her you two have a nest on the sly, that sort of thing.



 **alt_lupin** at **2012-05-10 15:06:19**
(no subject)

We could move back over here in the early morning.

Isn't there some conditional lock spell people sometimes use for unruly children? Where it unlocks if there's any sort of real emergency?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 15:08:23](#)
(no subject)

I wouldn't want to trust that, would you? What if it didn't unlock and there were something awful happening.

Like a fire.

Or if she were ill.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-10 15:10:30](#)
(no subject)

Not that my parents ever used. But then we had Kreacher if there were a real emergency.

And then there's the beds to think about. We can transfigure Dora's bed so it doesn't look like she's sleeping in Bea's room. But none of her things would be in the master bedroom.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 15:12:30](#)
(no subject)

Do you mean you couldn't live with some of my things scattered about for show?

I think a pair of knickers and some scent would do nicely, don't you?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-10 15:13:59](#)
(no subject)

...

There's just no acceptable answer to that. Not if I want to continue to live, full stop.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 15:15:33](#)
(no subject)

Drama queen.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-10 15:17:39](#)
(no subject)

Well, half right.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-10 15:13:29](#)
(no subject)

Well, as far as the beds go, I don't think it much matters if our 'servant' knows Dora and I have separate rooms.

Kreacher. There's a thought. Too bad HE'S not more trustworthy.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-10 15:18:41](#)
(no subject)

Absolutely not. Though I do think for all his fussing he'd probably take care of Bea, it's just too dangerous to let him leave Grimmauld, even if it's just to the confines of Doughty.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 15:20:39](#)
(no subject)

Afraid I think that's right.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 15:19:35](#)
(no subject)

Look.

It doesn't have to be knickers. It's not as if I leave my dirty clothes around my real room.

It could be a brush and mirror on the table and a few clean things on 'my' side of the cupboard and in 'my' part of the dresser. I'm not really the sort to have too many things, anyway. As you know.

You're right, though, it'll be annoying to manage it. Since I do need clothes and a place to keep them, but they'll just have to stay at Grimmauld, save for what I really need.

I suppose I could step through the fire and change there.

Actually, that's not so bad. Of course, that's what I'll do.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-10 15:35:13](#)
(no subject)

We could round up a few extras for show. Might be easier than trying to remember where we've left things you actually want to use.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 15:39:41](#)
(no subject)

Exactly.

I think it will work just fine.

And I'll sleep in with Bea. I'll transfigure the bedding in the mornings so it looks like the dog's bed.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-05-10 15:53:33](#)**
(no subject)

Our lives are weird.

Ta, Dora.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-05-10 15:06:54](#)**
(no subject)

I wish we could just trust her.

If anyone had reason to side with us against the Ministry, it's her.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-05-10 15:12:25](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah but that turnaround time was awfully quick. Arthur didn't say anything about it being that easy to get someone once the inspection was done.

We have to give it time to see if she can be trusted. There's no telling what they've brainwashed her to think. Or if she's really who they say she is.

I don't like it any more than you, love, but we've got to go by the book for a bit.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-05-10 15:13:48](#)**
(no subject)

I know.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-05-10 15:14:10](#)**
(no subject)

You think she's not Ellie?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-10 15:16:08](#)
(no subject)

I think she could be Ellie or Princess Anne or Lana bloody Sandoval, for all we know.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 15:24:31](#)
(no subject)

...

Just think. Lana Sandoval cleaning bogs for Dora Tonks Ponds. Almost makes me hope.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-10 15:35:47](#)
(no subject)

That'd be bloody brilliant.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 15:25:56](#)
(no subject)

But, hang on.

We should ask Arthur if he had a hand in getting Ellie lined up for us. He must have done, mustn't he? Since she was one of the ones we asked him to see about.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-10 15:38:14](#)
(no subject)

If they really had some reason to be suspicious I would think they'd just swoop in and arrest us, not send a spy to infiltrate.



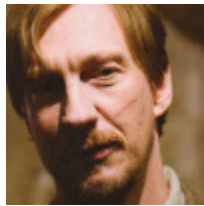
 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 15:55:46](#)
(no subject)

It's only that they decided so quickly after the inspection. What if they approved us so fast because they suspected us, but they wanted to collect more evidence. I mean, they must know we'd cleaned up for the inspection. What if they saw something suspicious but not anything that would warrant arresting a pureblood out of hand?

I don't know.

Sometimes I see it your way. I want to. But sometimes I see it Sirius's way.

So I expect we're smart to be cautious for this first while, at least.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-10 15:43:09](#)
(no subject)

Besides, if we come at this from the angle that she might be a spy in polyjuice (where's she hiding it, if she's Sandoval?) or some other disguise attempting to infiltrate because someone suspects about the Order, we'll never be able to trust her, will we? Because no matter how trustworthy she seems, it might be an act.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 15:52:01](#)
(no subject)

I agree about the polyjuice. I think it can't be that. (Though it would be just brilliant if it were Sandoval having to slum it with us.)

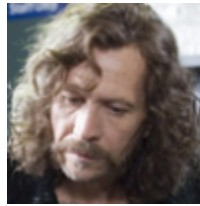
Still. We can't just trust her straight off.

I mean, Sirius is right: even if she is just Ellie Summers, it's likely they've trained her to look sharp and tell what she sees. When I signed for her, they said there'd be a review after a fortnight, and I was thinking they meant so we could send her

back if we decided she was defective. That's how he made it sound, you know.

But the more I think of it- well, Sirius could be right. They might have trained her to watch the people's she's placed with and give a report when they interview us all.

They wouldn't even have to suspect us, particularly. It could just be standard procedure. That's how it is at the Ministry these days, for certain. Tell the DIRRT chaps what you see, if you happen to see anything worth telling.



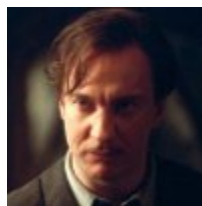
 **alt_sirius** at [2012-05-10 16:00:28](#)
(no subject)

Exactly. I'm not saying we ought never to trust her because obviously that was part of the point of the exercise, to see if we could get someone who'd serve both the purposes of the underground *and* give us a chance to help someone who needs it--really help, that is, and not pretend to be Ministry-indoctrinated bigots.

But we've got to let it develop naturally over time. We can't just wake her up this afternoon or tomorrow or at the end of a weekend and show her our deepest and darkest. Even if she were inclined to be sympathetic it might scare her badly enough to run back to the Ministry telling tales.

Although.

Come to think of it, perhaps it *would* be better to hit her with it all straight off, see how she takes it. If there's any hint of duplicity over the next 24 hours we could Obliviate her and send her back to the Ministry with an excuse.



 **alt_lupin** at [2012-05-10 16:03:43](#)
(no subject)

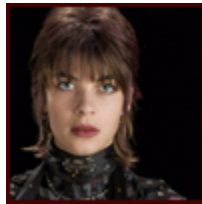
When you say 'all' what exactly to you mean? 'So, hello luv. We're members of the secret Order of the Phoenix, the dog is Sirius Black, and we'll be giving you a wand in a bit and

lessons on using it. Kindly don't turn us over, then, and this should be a smashing arrangement'?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 16:05:00](#)
(no subject)

ha



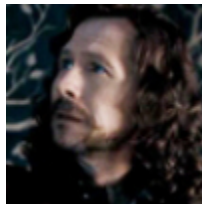
 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 16:06:45](#)
(no subject)

Oh, honestly. If you say it like that-

I don't know!

How can we possibly know what we should do?

And why did we think this was a sane idea to begin with?

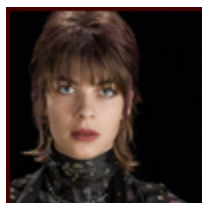


 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-10 16:10:16](#)
(no subject)

Maybe not luv or naming the Order but ...
yeah. More or less.

'The dog is a wizard in hiding, we don't actually live here but we'd like you to make the place look like we do. And we're helping to smuggle other muggleborn out of the camps and into places where they can live free.'

How about that?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 16:19:00](#)
(no subject)

All right.

What if we do that last bit.

What if we tell her we're helping smuggle other muggleborn out of the camps and want to know if she'll help us cover that

up by making it look like we're here even when we're off doing smuggling runs. She doesn't have to know about our having another house. She could just think we're really super active smugglers. And, no, I don't know why I think that's better-


Gah.

But the smuggling. That's a big secret, but it's a side secret. Not our biggest one.

It should get a reaction from her. And if she doesn't act the way we think she should and doesn't want to help, then we oblivate her and send her back.

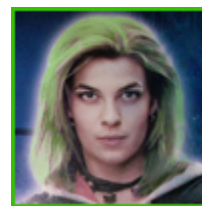
Maybe?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-10 16:29:46](#)
(no subject)

Okay.

The more I think about it, the more I like this idea. But we need to give her a few days before we hit her with this. Because if we know her a bit we'll have a better idea of whether her reaction is 'right,' you know?

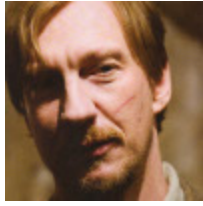



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 16:34:27](#)
(no subject)

All right.

Maybe Sunday night, then?

Besides. We don't even know yet that she'll work out in ordinary ways. What if she smashes every glass we have and spoils the food? Or drives off the customers?



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-05-10 16:06:20](#)**
(no subject)

At any rate we can't possibly, not without involving the rest of the Order.

Perhaps we could let her in on something right away, though. Just to see how she responds. We COULD possibly tell her straight off that we don't really live here, we have a larger, nicer home that's a secret from the Ministry that we floo to and from, and since we'd like her to be able to escape from danger we won't be locking her in.

And go from there.

I have to say, in some respects I think that if we want her to trust US, it might be best not to lock her up. Ever.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-05-10 16:10:13](#)**
(no subject)

Well.

But if we tell her we're not living here, and we don't lock her in, and if she is a spy, then we're telling her she's got all night to go make a report, and we'd never see those signs of duplicity we're meant to be watching for.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-05-10 16:12:09](#)**
(no subject)

Treat it like we do parents. Tell her we need an in or out from her right away.

Don't let her sleep until she takes a vow?

I dunno.

Merlin, you're right, Dora. This was simply an insane idea.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-10 16:24:54](#)
(no subject)

We can't deprive her of sleep. That's a hideous idea.

I'll admit I can't remember what we were thinking, exactly.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 16:31:04](#)
(no subject)


Well, and besides, we've already put her to bed. She's down there sleeping right now.

I hope.

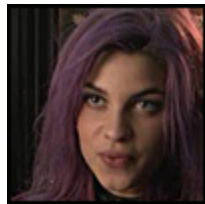
I was starting to feeling silly that we're all sitting here, writing each other, but really-

What if she's down there listening to see if we'll say anything she could hear?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-10 16:24:22](#)
(no subject)

I'm thinking we'd leave wards, just not lock her. Some spell that would tell us if she slipped out.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 16:26:29](#)
(no subject)

Or let someone in? Or talked to someone through a window? Or through the Floo?

Can we be sure of all those?



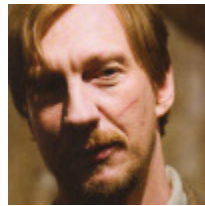
 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-10 16:33:20](#)
(no subject)


I think you're right, Remus. We can't. We have to give her the opportunity to turn us in.

But after we've established a rhythm. And that means not locking her up but making the other arrangements like the transfigured bed in Bea's room and Dora's things in the other bedroom and all that.

We'll just have to take our chances she doesn't choose to come upstairs to slit your throats.

But I think we can stop that by reminding her that it'll take a while before the family dog accepts her as someone who should be allowed to roam free.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-10 16:37:20](#)
(no subject)

All right.

Let's establish a rhythm, tell her part of the truth as soon as possible, and see what she does. It's a good point you could keep watch over her for a few days and see what she does.

I have to admit the secret I'm MOST eager to let her in on is that the dog is a wizard. It's one of the more dangerous ones, though.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-10 16:10:55](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. That's more or less what I'm thinking. Just tell her that you're cheating the Ministry in small ways - ways that at most would get us fined but not necessarily thrown into Azkaban.

See what she does with it.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-10 15:07:20](#)
(no subject)

I hadn't thought of that quite.

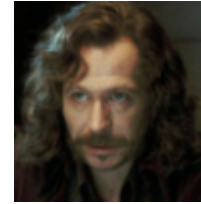
Well, or-

No, you're right, it's no good if I bring Bea through to Grimmauld before I go, she'd wake and you'd have to, as well. And then, of course, you'd all have to be back before time to wake Ellie.

2012-05-10 13:36:00

Order Only: Ellie Summer

Well, she's here, currently kipping down in the cellar where we'd made up the 'room' for the Ministry to see.



 [alt_sirius](#)

We've been doing a good deal of talking about how to go about having her, now that we've got her.

Arthur, can you perhaps reassure us we were assigned one of our choices so quickly due to your handiwork? I have to admit I'm a bit suspicious that it fell out without any seeming false starts. But if you plied a wand to making sure it went through without any hitch, then I think we'll all feel a good deal more at ease she's not some Ministry spy.

Of course, we're assuming she is a Ministry spy - that is, we're assuming she's been indoctrinated and warned and bribed to report anything she may see that doesn't add up - but we're just a little nervous to make sure she is who the Ministry and her profile said she is.

In any case, our current plan is to pretend that we're exactly what we've told the Ministry we are, at least through the weekend, and see how she does. If she doesn't set off any alarms in our estimation, we'll try her letting her in to a small violation of Ministry codes and judge her reaction to that.

Unless Arthur or Bill tells us there's a reason to be extra cautious, in which case we'll reconsider how to proceed.




 [alt_arthur](#) at **2012-05-10 20:47:39**
(no subject)

I did ply a wand in order to ease your way, in fact. I also arranged to have this placement assigned to me, and I found nothing worrisome within her file. Forgive me for failing to mention it to you, as I could have put your minds at ease. However, I do think you are very wise to be cautious around her, especially at first. Certainly there is no guarantee that interested other parties haven't told her to keep her nose out for anything suspicious.

I do hope she settles in all right. If you have any problems or questions, do let me know.


Or...I wonder. Perhaps if I were to drop by some time in the next week and speak with her privately? I could pretend to her that it's part of the department's settling in routine, and if I give her an open-ended invitation to chat, we might see if she's inclined to blurt out anything worrisome? What do you think?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-10 20:50:03](#)
(no subject)

I think that would be brilliant, Arthur.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-10 21:09:53](#)
(no subject)

Perfect.

Perhaps we should tell her something a bit compromising first, just to see? Or let her observe something?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-10 22:08:44](#)
(no subject)

What do you have in mind, Moony?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-11 15:20:35](#)
(no subject)

I don't know. Maybe we could 'accidentally' let her see that muggleborns who arrive at the shop on errands are encouraged to relax for a bit? Or we could let her find out that some of our stocks are smuggled in.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-05-10 22:53:39](#)**
(no subject)

All right, you lot.

I think we've worked out her robes and how she's to stand and what she's to say to you when she comes upstairs.

I didn't realise she'd be so worried about so many things, but it seems there are supposed to be loads of rules and instructions, and I've been making things up all over the place. So follow along and pretend you know exactly what we've decided on. She's just washing her face now, and then we'll be up.

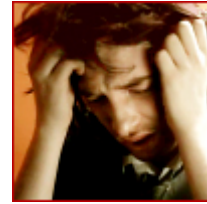
No jokes, if you please, Mr Ponds. I don't want her going to bits on us.

And we're a bit worried about that dog, so maybe he could have a care not to terrify her straight away?

2012-05-10 22:34:00


Order Only: Private message to Arthur Weasley

Dad? Still awake by any chance?



 [alt_bill](#)



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:00:37](#)

(no subject)

For a bit. What's on your mind, son?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-11 04:02:22](#)

(no subject)

Nothing serious. Thinking.

Not thinking.

Bugger.

Bit pissed. To tell the truth. Never mind.

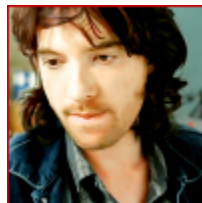


 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:05:01](#)

(no subject)

A bit--

Everything all right then, son? Anything happen at work?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-11 04:06:37](#)

(no subject)

No, no. Work's fine. Just fine. I'm the bleeding golden boy, I tell you.

Like I said, I just knocked a few too many back. I'll


be all right.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:07:37](#)
(no subject)

Out with the mates, then? Where did you go?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-11 04:08:46](#)
(no subject)

No, not like--no.

Well, to tell the truth, I was out on a date.

Don't, for the love of Merlin, tell Mum. I'll never hear the end of it.



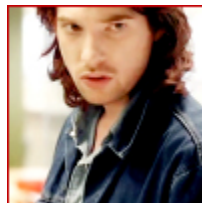
 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:09:17](#)
(no subject)


Oh, my. Really?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:21:50](#)
(no subject)

Someone's interested in snabbling up Mr Eligible #24, I take it?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-11 04:26:41](#)
(no subject)

Ha, bloody ha, thank you very much.


Honestly, it was a nightmare. A girl with about twice as much hair as sense. I had to tipple, just to block out the sound of her laugh.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:27:51](#)
(no subject)

My word.



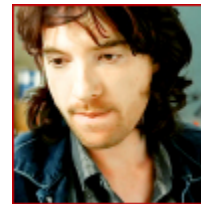
 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-11 04:28:13](#)
(no subject)


I was lucky I didn't splinch myself coming home.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:28:43](#)
(no subject)

I'm very glad that you didn't.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-11 04:29:42](#)
(no subject)

You have no idea how lucky you were.
Meeting Mum at school.




 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:31:27](#)
(no subject)

Well yes, I was. And I thank my stars for that every day.

Are you sure there isn't anyone you know from your school days that might be worth another look?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-11 04:31:46](#)
(no subject)

No.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:37:48](#)
(no subject)

Are you sure? Perhaps with a few years out of school, some of them might have, well, matured a bit? Perhaps their personalities might have changed to be more to you

liking?


What about Sadie Pilpott? Or Carlotta Beamish?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:39:06](#)
(no subject)

Or there was that girl in your old department who seemed to be quite taken with you for awhile...Janie Simmons?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-11 04:40:39](#)
(no subject)

Merlin, not you, too, Dad.

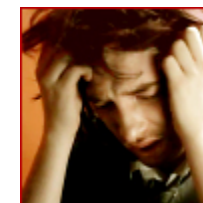
It's Jenny Simmons. And no. I think she's finally come to her senses and abandoned her stalkerish tendencies.




 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:42:00](#)
(no subject)

It's not like you to be quite so...so cutting, Bill.

You'd better back off the Firewhiskey a bit if it makes you so maudlin.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-11 04:43:32](#)
(no subject)

I'm not maudlin.

I'm--

bloody hell, Dad. I'm lonely.




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-11 04:44:44](#)**
(no subject)

...

My dear boy.

I'm sorry, I won't tease you. But then why--?




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-11 04:46:12](#)**
(no subject)

Why I won't go out with any of them? Why nobody seems to suit me?

Don't be thick, Dad.

It's the Order, of course. How can I possibly take the risk?



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-11 04:47:37](#)**
(no subject)

Sorry, I'm sorry.

Bugger. I have had too much to drink.




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-11 04:49:31](#)**
(no subject)

I'm so sorry, son. I had no idea. You've always brushed off your mother's little comments about the ladies with such good humour that I had no idea this was

weighing on you.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-11 04:51:10](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, well.

It has.

Look, it's late. I'm going to slug down some water to chase this alcohol and stagger off to bed. I have to get in early tomorrow, worse luck.


Don't mention this to Mum, please? She'll just worry, and there's no point.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-11 04:52:11](#)**
(no subject)

Are you sure, son? Your mum and I don't generally keep things from each other. And of course I'm concerned for you.



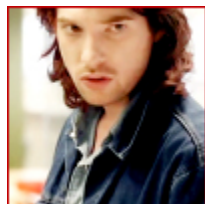
 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-11 04:52:28](#)**
(no subject)


For now. Please?



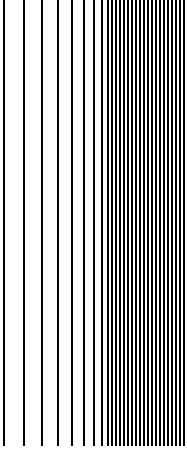
 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-11 04:53:44](#)**
(no subject)


Very well. As long as you promise to speak with me about it again, son. Maybe when you have a bit of sleep under your belt. I'm not going to simply forget about this.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-11 04:53:59](#)**
(no subject)


Fair enough.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-11 04:54:25](#)
(no subject)

Sleep well then, my boy.



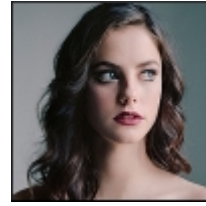
 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-11 04:54:57](#)
(no subject)

You too, Dad.

2012-05-11 09:06:00

Private message to Blaise

Blaise, do you think you could slip away at lunch to meet somewhere? Oh, but you might have plans with Teds, I suppose, or need to run to the library. Well, I'll just-



 [alt_daphne](#)

No, this is fine, I really don't want to wait to tell you.

I've ended things with Barney. Or more truthfully, Professor Slughorn ended things, or helped them along a good deal, at least. Did you notice how he said he wanted to speak with me in his office after yesterday's lesson? Well, when I got there, Barney was there, too. I could see by look on his face that he wasn't expecting that. He probably thought Slughorn had brought him in to puff him up about his future in quidditch, maybe wheedle a promise for tickets out of him, that sort of thing.

The Professor sat us down and oh, it was so tense. He said that he understood how the passions of youth must have drawn us together, and that we both had bright futures ahead of us, but we were so tightly yoked that our path was becoming increasingly narrow, and before long it would be so narrow that it wouldn't be able to take either of us to the heights he knew we were capable of. And I could see from the way he was looking at Barney the whole time that he was trying to get Barney to say something, to break things off. He probably thought it would be easy, but it wasn't. I always knew it wouldn't be.

This bloody awful silence just went on and on, hanging there while he waited for one of us to respond. I glanced over at Barney and I could see from the way he was holding his jaw that he was furious. I'm sure Professor Slughorn didn't notice. It's the sort of detail you can only pick up on over time.

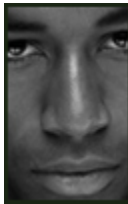
So that's when the Professor started looking to *me* to say something. He said I was very mature for my age, but that I must feel overwhelmed with someone older, especially someone who cut as striking a figure as Barney did. And he was sure that I knew that Barney would be meeting a lot of girls once he was out of school, didn't I? After that, he waited for me to speak. So I did.

I said that I didn't want Barney to be prevented from achieving his goals because of me. I said that I wanted nothing but the very best for him, and that's why I wanted us to just be good platonic friends, so that he wouldn't feel obligated to attend to me while he was starting out on his new life.

Surely he can't find fault with that. With me ending things because I'm only looking out for *him*? He always says that I don't think of him enough, that I don't put him first, but he can't argue with this, right? Professor Slughorn was right there, so he couldn't do anything to stop me. And besides, Professor Slughorn turned so cheerful right then and he got out some brandy and poured some for Barney like they were at the club together, and he even let me sip a tiny bit out of a tiny, wee cup. And I rushed out while they were still talking - I didn't want to walk back with Barney...

I'm just so relieved. And a little afraid.

But mostly relieved.



 **alt_blaise** at [2012-05-11 16:32:35](#)
(no subject)

Where are you now? Come out to Greenhouse Two, if you can get away. You could say you need to prune something or check on one of your plants that's had an infestation of mickle mites. Or something.

I'll meet you there.

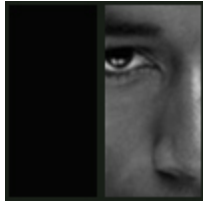
That's really good news, but I don't like that you sound unsure. You think he's not going to accept it, don't you?



 **alt_daphne** at [2012-05-11 18:15:37](#)
(no subject)

Okay, I'll see what I can come up with.

I don't know. Last night I felt wonderful, but then I noticed he wasn't at breakfast and it gave me a pit in my stomach. It's mostly that I'm worried that he won't.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-05-11 18:22:28](#)**
(no subject)

Daphs-

Don't let him see you come out here. Don't come if you think it's not safe.

I mean it.

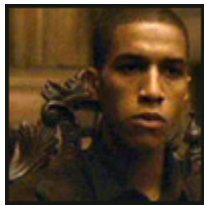
I could come meet you, if you can think of a better place.




 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-05-11 18:32:45](#)**
(no subject)

Well, he still has to go to lessons and study for his NEWTs and things. He probably wasn't at breakfast because he didn't want to have to answer anyone's questions about what happened.

But I want to talk to you. Don't worry, I'll be careful, I'll make sure he's nowhere near.

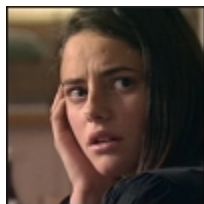


 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-05-11 18:36:39](#)**
(no subject)

Does he have a lesson this afternoon? Or a NEWT revision?

Maybe you're right about his not wanting to talk to anyone this morning, but I don't know that I'm as optimistic that he's just going to give you up.

You're rather special, you know.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-05-11 18:50:24](#)**
(no subject)

NEWT revision for Dark Arts.

No more special than Josephina Gamp. He was still hung up on her when we started dating... I suppose I should've taken that as a bad omen from the start.

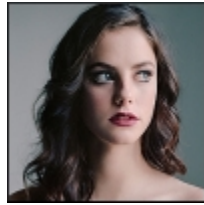
You must think I'm very foolish.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-05-11 18:54:48](#)**
(no subject)

You're worth a hundred of Gamp, Daphs.

And, no, I don't. I think you're perfect.

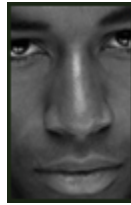


 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-05-11 19:08:34](#)**
(no subject)

I'm really no

Thank you.

I'll see you in the greenhouse? Five minutes.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-05-11 19:11:41](#)**
(no subject)

I'll look for you.

2012-05-11 13:01:00

Private Message to Julius Avery and Penelope Clearwater



 [alt_horace](#)


My dear Miss Clearwater: You'll be happy to know that you were not alone in your reservations concerning Miss Greengrass. The matter has been discussed and resolved to, I hope, all our satisfaction, except perhaps Mr Bole's.

Julius: Keep an eye on him for me, will you? I've a suspicion he may do himself no good over the weekend.

And both of you shall, I trust, keep the rumours to an absolute minimum. The last thing this situation needs is for some ill-timed remark to send Bole into a fit of pique. I'm sure you both agree.

I've also informed Madam Pomfrey and the Headmistress after my chat with them last night.



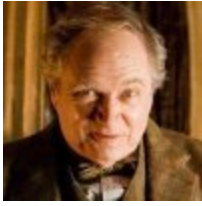
 [alt_penelope](#) at **2012-05-11 17:12:09**
(no subject)

Understood, sir, and thank you.

But are you at all worried that Bole might be a danger to anyone else besides himself, Professor? I don't mean to pry but--well, Greengrass has tried to break things off before, from everything Melinda's said. Bole's always found a way to get back together with her. Even if that's not likely from whatever it was that you told him, you don't think he'd try to hurt someone else? Like yourself, perhaps, Professor?

Or anyone really, if he thinks that person is standing between him and Greengrass. I'd just like to be prepared for what sort of threat he might present.

Thank you, though, for taking this matter into your own hands. I'm so glad that you did, sir.



 **alt_horace** at **[2012-05-11 17:16:12](#)**
(no subject)

Not at all, Miss Clearwater; my own role was nothing, only a nudge in the direction which Miss Greengrass clearly wished to go.

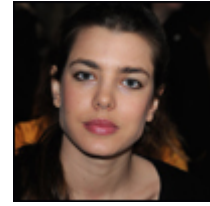
As for Bole harming me, think nothing of it. I shall be perfectly fine.

2012-05-11 14:15:00

Private Message to Auror Crouch

Sir.

I've collected everything. Including the artefact you requested.



 [alt_lana](#)

Have reported to Hopkirk. Briefed Travers & Forney.
Covered all instructions with Pennifold.

Oh, and there's been a message up from DoM: Bale wants a meeting with you. Says you know what about. Ned says he wasn't best pleased to hear he'd have to wait.

Leaving portmanteau at safe drop now, including this journal. Then on to Ips52. Understand there are to be six of us this time. No surprises, I hope. If all's to plan, I'll report tomorrow, usual time/place.

Off.

[2012-05-11 17:33:00](#)

Spring's fer Livin'

Travellin's a fine way to live, but sleepin rough in a rainy, raw Spring makes a bloke appreciate a bed an a fire. Thanks to a few o yeh, what've opened yer doors to Muggins here when he was wet an miserable. (Yeh know who yeh are.) Warms the heart--and other bits--when people're decent like that.



 [alt_wagstaff](#)

Keep an eye out fer me and me mates. Springtime's a good season fer pedlars. Remember, we bring yeh items yeh can't conveniently buy down the high street--know what I mean? Items that might cause questions if'n yeh asked fer 'em. But items everyone needs now an then, just the same.

Fer cleanin things, an clearin rubbish, an riddin yerselves o nuisances, yeah?

Oh, an keep sendin yer owls. They find me sooner or later along the way. Like this one from Nils in Down Ampney:

Wagstaff -

I've been waiting for years for my aunt to die. Nice house, fair few galleons coming my way when she does. I hate to see her suffer, so is there any way to encourage things along?

That's right thoughtful of you, Nils, not wantin her to linger an suffer. An yeh've come to the right man fer an answer, yeh have, cause what yer wantin is somefin quick an easy an no questions comin along behind, yeah? I mean ter say, yeh could take her down St Bungle's, but once a person goes in the doors there, there's no tellin how long they might be, innit? Yer wantin somefin quiet and private, right there at home.

What yeh need is *Milch o' Malecho*. Small flask should serve yeh, an any pedlar worth 'is pack can help yeh to it. If yeh can't find one, send yer bird back here wiv a galleon, an I'll see yeh get it.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-12 03:44:07](#)

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

Er.

He's talking about how to kill someone, isn't he? That Nils chap's aunt, yeah?

That's-

I mean, I've seen him post sometimes before, this Wagstaff bloke, but I thought he was just a pedlar. I mean, actually, I wondered a bit back during the Frost Faire if he was part of something like the wand smugglers, cause it seemed like maybe he was making plans to meet up with people on the sly during the faire.

But, um, wot?! This isn't like the wand smugglers at all.

D'you reckon MLE'll catch him?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-12 04:05:58](#)

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

Hullo, Ron,

I say, I'm sure they know about him, what? Surely? Some of his other posts are well seedy, aren't they?

How can they not have noticed?

But catching him might be another matter, what, if he's always on the move.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-12 04:17:12](#)

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

Ugh.

It's like when that Severus Snape chap first escaped Azkaban, everyone was afraid he could be anywhere. And everyone thought he was breaking in places. Even here.

And now there's this bloke. I mean, I suppose wizards have always been able to brew Potions that could kill you, but you don't like to read about how someone's looking for something to top his aunty.

Makes me twitchy, thinking about it.

[2012-05-12 00:09:00](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Are you asleep yet?

How has Blaise been?

I couldn't not tell him. I mean, I think if I were in his place, I would have wanted to know.



 **[alt_pansy](#)**

And now that Bole and Daffs are split up, I hope that's the end of it.

I still can't believe he *hit* her like that. And that she didn't tell anyone about it. Except Milli. Or, you know, leave him right then and there.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-05-12 04:28:51](#)**
(no subject)

I couldn't say, he's either not here, or barred in behind his curtains with silencing charms.

I don't even know that she told Millie - from what I gathered (which wasn't much), Daphs told Millie that she ran into a door, and she didn't want anyone to know that she'd been so clumsy, so she asked Millie to cover throw her with that book-throwing nonsense. Even Millie was able to see around that one.

Yeah, I know, it seems well daft to stick with someone who hurts you like that. And not like Daphs at all, really.

Which... I don't know. You don't reckon that she... *liked* it, do you?

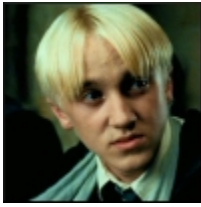



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-05-12 04:34:23](#)**
(no subject)

...people like it?

I mean, I'm not sure she did. She was angry and embarrassed and all when we talked to her about it, but she also seemed sort of scared. Like she was nervous about what he'd do if he knew we knew.

I don't think she'd like it if she knew I'd told you and Blaise about it, for one.



 **alt_draco** at [2012-05-12 04:41:20](#)
(no subject)

Pretty sure some people do. Not as a general rule, but under, ah, special circumstances.

And she has that thing for Auror Crouch. I doubt it's because he's *tender*.

But that still doesn't make what Bole was doing okay, because if she was embarrassed and angry then she probably didn't like it at all.

Who knows what Blaise is planning, but I bet it's something.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-12 15:48:10](#)
(no subject)

do you?

Oh. Yes, I suppose I see what you mean. There was this awful romance novel that we passed around last year that had bits in it where

well.

I see what you mean.

And I don't know if she wanted it to happen, or if she liked it, but I do know that she hasn't looked happy at all since she started seeing him. And she's been staying away from everybody and not going to things on her own, and since they've broken up she seems a lot better.

I'm sure he knows this, but Sally-Anne and Milli and I are all willing to do something if necessary. And I'm sure Harry and Teddy would join in too. If there's a need.

Blaise does tend to be rather subtle when it comes to pretty much everything, so I doubt he'd want a show of force, but if it does come down to that, he'd have it.

2012-05-12 00:18:00

Private Message to Daphne

Are you okay?

I mean, it's got to be difficult, even if--well, even if you didn't want to stay together.



 **alt_padma**

Look, I just want you to know...I'm glad you've ended things. Even if it hurts for a while. We've been worried about you and you can do so much better.

And I know you've got other friends but if you want someone else to talk to, Daphs, really, I'd be willing to listen.



 **alt_daphne** at **2012-05-12 04:53:56**
(no subject)

It is difficult, but not for the reasons you think.

Thanks for being understanding, and for offering to listen. I'm not ready to talk just yet, but when I am, I'll remember that you offered.

2012-05-12 09:46:00

Private message to Daphne and Pansy

Daphne, would you like to walk down to Hogsmeade with me and Pansy (and probably Draco and Harry)? We're leaving in a few minutes, you can come find us outside Great Hall if you don't have time to write an answer.

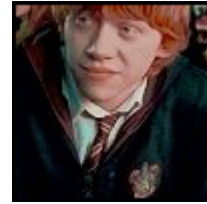


 **alt_sally_anne**

[2012-05-12 15:13:00](#)

Check It Out!

Hey, you lot! If you're in Hogsmeade, you should come up the top of the road, past the Broomsticks and have a look at the handcarts and buskers up here.



 [alt_ron](#)

That bloke's back with his flying carpets, and they're charmed for stunts. Jordan and Towler're up on 'em now, doing mad loops and zooming about.

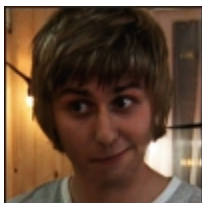
There's a witch, who's doing something with a sieve and water and says you can see the future in it. I dunno, but there are a whole pile of people seeing what she's on about.

There's a bloke selling the snitchest looking hats and trick spectacles and stuff.

And there's a cart with Quidditch stuff--team banners and badges and picture cards and all.

Another one's got dancing rats. I don't even know. You have to see it, though. They're all in costumes and hats. Some of them are even in tap shoes, I think, or maybe it's just a charm that makes it sound that way.

And then there's this chap, called Tom Foolery, and he's got all sorts of musical thingers--mouth harps and foot stompers and pit squawkers that you play under your arm, and zingers and horns and hooters and drumsticks and ting-a-lings--and he's letting everyone try stuff out. Really mad fun.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-13 00:33:16](#)

(no subject)


Hullo, Ron!

I say, those spectacles that made everything look all stretched out were well amusing! Did you try on one of the stovepipe hats? They actually gave off steam, what!

It was a smashing day, wasn't it?

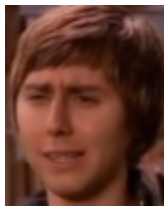
-Justin




 **alt_ron** at [2012-05-13 02:52:43](#)
(no subject)

It was awesome.

And almost warm out, too. Most of the day.




 **alt_justin** at [2012-05-13 23:35:45](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

None of them were that Wagstaff bloke, though. I wonder if he's been captured after that last bit of 'advice' he gave?

-Justin

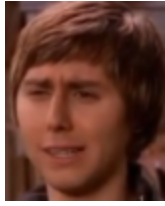


 **alt_ron** at [2012-05-13 23:47:07](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Yeah. You're right about that. I thought about it, too, though--whether he might be there. When I saw all those buskers and pedlar-types.

I wouldn't be surprised if he did get arrested. I looked in the Prophet today, actually, but I didn't see anything about it. Hard to know, though. I wonder if they always put a story in when people get arrested. I mean, sometimes it seems MLE wants everybody to know, but other times you sort of hear rumours about people getting arrested, but then people talk about how it won't ever get printed.

Luna's dad had a paper, y'know, and sometimes it had stuff in that the Ministry got cross about or that couldn't get written about in the Prophet.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-14 00:01:42](#)

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

I don't think it means anything, necessarily, if there isn't a story in the papers, what? I mean to say, in the Muggle world the papers are so full that there are loads of things they leave out, all the time. One has to choose which stories are noteworthy, if you follow me. And I should think, even if loads of people read his journal or write to him for advice, that the *Prophet* wouldn't find arresting or detaining someone like Wagstaff would be all that interesting to most people, do you?

If he were someone important or turned out to be some sort of DogStar person, then perhaps, because that would be a chance to show how clever they are for catching him, what?

I did know that about Luna, in fact. She told everyone about the printing plates for her father's press. I wonder what would happen if someone started another paper full of the things the Ministry don't want people to know.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-14 00:25:31](#)

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

You're probably right. I mean, I guess that Wagstaff bloke's been writing for along time, but I don't know who really reads him. I mean, I looked at some of what he's written and I'm sure I never saw it when it was first in the books. The journals are funny that way, yeah? I mean, you kind of only see stuff you're going to be interested in. Or hacked off by, I guess. But somehow they know what you'd want to know about. And other stuff you just don't ever see. Unless you go looking for it. I mean, sometimes I tell my book I want to see stuff about um, well, like stuff about some Quidditch player, and then it shows me stuff people I don't even know have been saying about the Broadmoors or whatever. Or sometimes I get interested in other kinds of stuff. And the journals are totally full of mad stuff that people from all over are writing about just every kind of mad thing.

Anywiz.

Yeah, but if anyone tried writing stuff the Ministry don't want people to know, they'd have to watch their backs, yeah. I mean, look what they've tried to do to Sirius Black, right? Or that Charlotte Watshername that writes stuff for DogStar.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-14 00:55:14](#)

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

Say. This is a different thing, but did you see Krum at all while we were in Hogsmeade? I figured he'd gone with Sally Anne and Pansy again, but I don't think so now. I mean, when I was coming out of Honeydukes, I thought I saw him ducking down one of the alleys like he was following someone.

It was sort of queer, if you know what I mean.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-13 16:53:04](#)

(no subject)

There was some wizard stuff there, definitely. We had a long talk with the chap selling the trick spectacles and hats, asking him all about his merchandise. Gave us some ideas we can definitely use.



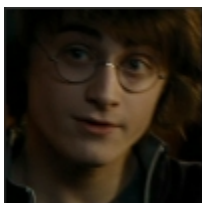
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-13 23:11:20](#)

(no subject)

Heh.

I thought you were so busy with Potions revision you couldn't do anything else.

Should've known better, though.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-13 22:55:24](#)

(no subject)

Did you buy any of the music things?

It was brill, wasn't it.

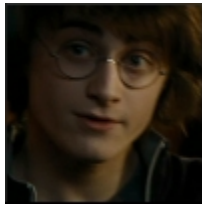


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-13 23:20:06](#)
(no subject)

Nah, I'd already spent all my money up at Honeydukes, but it was snitch he was letting us play everything.

I liked Bobolis's idea of having a parade, but I guess Edgecomb was right that somebody would've needed to actually buy all the instruments before we marched off with them. Shame Bobolis didn't want to put up the dosh! Maybe that bloke'll be there next Hogsmeade day and we can do it then.

I still think you should've got that hedgepig hat. It was dead hilarious some of the stuff it said to people!




 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-13 23:34:00](#)
(no subject)

If he's here next time, we might have to. And yeah, it was funny enough, but I figured my housemates would get tired of it after a while, and people don't take to being insulted very well at Buckingham.

Still. It was good for a laugh, wasn't it?

And I really want a flying carpet. It's not as good as a broom, of course, but it looked dead fun. Especially if you put a whole lot of people on it at once.



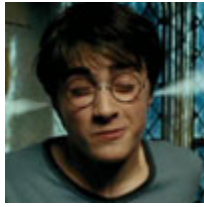
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-13 23:41:09](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I reckon that's true about Buckingham. Grown ups don't much like things that take the mickey, do they?

And, yeah, it was. Seems like everybody needs some laughs these days. When are NEWTs over? I mean, really, right?

Oooh. That's what we should do next time--see how many people you can squash onto a carpet and still get it off the ground!

Ha.




 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-05-14 00:05:57](#)**
(no subject)

It's too bad they don't let the firsties come to Hogsmeade. I bet ten of them would fit on one easy.

I bet Crabbe and Goyle would break it if they tried. It'd just give up or tear or something.

And yeah, not many grown ups have a really good sense of humour, do they? I mean, it's like they forget how to have fun or something. I hope that never happens to me.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-14 00:16:01](#)**
(no subject)

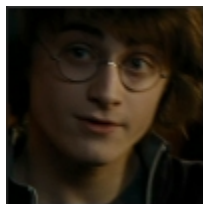
Say, did you see Professor Siz put up the list of YPL counsellors? Congratulations, mate.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-05-14 00:51:35](#)**
(no subject)

You too!

I mean. You got in too, didn't you?

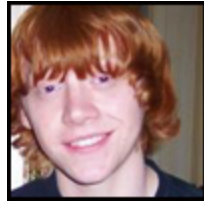



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-05-14 00:52:48](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. You did. I just read again.

Congratulations!

This summer is going to be ace.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-14 01:00:09](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. I did. Thanks.


Thought I didn't at first, actually. I mean, I'm last on the list. But, yeah, I got it, and it's going to be strictly wiz!



 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2012-05-14 13:32:07](#)**
(no subject)

You're last on the list because they're in alphabetical order. You'd think someone with 'Weasley' for a surname would start from the bottom as a rule, and work your way up.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-05-14 13:36:06](#)**
Private Message to Zach

Isn't that what he *is* doing, though? Starting from the bottom and working his way up?

I guess it's not too hard to figure out how Professor Siz makes some of her decisions. Sorry you weren't selected, Smith.

But you probably ought to be more careful what you say, you know? In public, anyways. I told Lines that no one likes a sore loser. It's not well snitch.

2012-05-12 21:23:00

Order Only: Private message to Padfoot and Dora



I think she's almost quit crying.

If we're going to get a scene like this every time she breaks a glass ... perhaps Madam Pomfrey could send us some calming draughts to keep on hand? Or do you think she'll settle down once she realises we're not going to cruciate her for accidental breakages?

 **alt_lupin**

(Dora, maybe you should try again tomorrow to tell her just how many of those glasses you've broken. I don't think she was listening, she was too busy telling us how sorry she was.)




 **alt_sirius** at **2012-05-13 02:32:31**
(no subject)

Or perhaps you could point out that a weeping waitress is not the sort of thing people want on a cheerful Saturday evening?

Merlin. I'm glad you stopped her when you did, though. I was sure she'd cut herself on the shards.



 **alt_lupin** at **2012-05-13 02:34:48**
(no subject)

I know! The only thing worse than a weeping waitress would be a weeping, bleeding waitress. With her hands full of broken glass.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-13 02:38:02](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I can think of worse. A weeping, bleeding waitress who's also cowering in fear from the family dog.

I'll stay up with Bea until she's settled for the night, yeah?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-13 02:40:25](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

She's going to be horribly embarrassed when we tell her the truth about you. Assuming we can trust her and we get to that point.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-13 02:44:06](#)
(no subject)

No kidding. If.


When did Arthur say he would swing by? I hope we can manage.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-13 02:46:50](#)
(no subject)

'Some time next week.'



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-13 02:50:08](#)
(no subject)

Brilliant.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-13 02:48:03](#)
(no subject)

And if we want to tip her off to some violation of Ministry Codes, to see if she rats us out, we'd better act scared when Arthur turns up. Or she'll think SHE'S the one being set up.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-13 02:52:49](#)
(no subject)

Not sure that applies to 'Sinbad' but you go right ahead.

Which means I think you'd better arrange for her to see something tomorrow, yes?




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-13 02:56:45](#)
(no subject)

I meant me and Dora. I don't think Sinbad needs to have a problem with the Ministry.

In fact, perhaps you can stay there while Arthur's talking to her. See if you notice anything Arthur doesn't.

And yes. I still don't know what, but yes.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-13 02:57:44](#)
(no subject)

And she might think that anyway. About being set up.

Did you notice her rearranging the shelves this afternoon? She was putting the snuff boxes alongside the tins of string mints.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-13 03:01:53](#)
(no subject)

She was?


What for?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-13 03:04:32](#)
(no subject)

Well Little things that go in a hip pocket.
What do muggles call it? Impulse purchasing. I dunno. It hadn't occurred to me until I saw her doing it but then it seemed dead clever.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-13 03:07:44](#)
(no subject)

Oh!

That's

rather brilliant, actually.



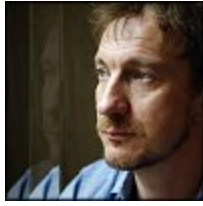
 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-13 03:27:50](#)
(no subject)

Exactly. I think someone who can make an intuitive leap like that about something so small could easily size up a Ministry visit a few different ways.

And she's good with the older ones, isn't she? Like Bert Bantam? She had him grinning ear to ear. Before she dropped the glass, of course.

I dunno, I think--well, from what she's said I think she does know her circumstances are vastly improved from the camp. We'll just have to see if she can settle down.

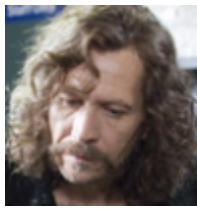
Speaking of settling down ... see you in a bit.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-13 02:42:48](#)
(no subject)

There's one good thing about that, though: at least it put the rest of her dramatics into perspective, for the Saturday night crowd. They know you're friendly, so if she's acting like you're some sort of savage monster AND acting like she's afraid Dora and I are about to haul off and cruciate her...

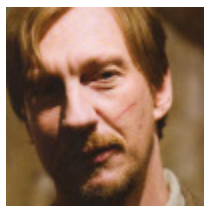
Merlin. It's bad enough having a muggleborn servant. If people think we mistreat her, ugh. I think Dora's gone out to smooth things over, so people know we took her inside to calm her down, not to punish her. I'd send her back out but I'm afraid she might break another glass out of pure dread.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-13 02:49:08](#)
(no subject)

Oh, that reminds me: Before the infamous glass shattered, I did hear old Nell muttering that she thought it was strange your taking this route for help. So there's that.

I hope this scheme of Beth's isn't just some elaborate form of initiation stunt.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-13 02:50:36](#)
(no subject)

You were thinking that too, eh?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-13 03:28:29](#)
(no subject)

I've told her she can call it a night. She washed up the spoons and forks, but I didn't make her touch anything breakable.

Tomorrow, though, I'm taking her out back and I'm going to give her all the chipped cups and plates I can find, and we're going to smash

every last one until she can laugh about it.

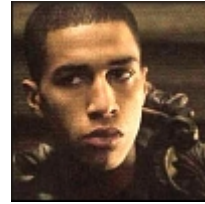
I hope she can laugh about it. If not, we'll need to send her to the mad house by the time we're through.

What a night!

2012-05-13 08:14:00

Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

I'm not cross you didn't come along to Hogsmeade. It's only Hogsmeade, after all, but listen: you can't stay in your room all the time until term ends.



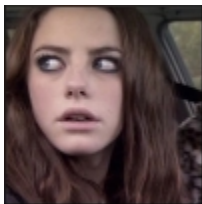
 **alt_blaise**

We can make sure you're never alone. Draco, Teds, Vince, Greg, Harry, Pansy, Perks and I, and Milli, we can make sure he's got no chance of cornering you. We'll walk you to lessons and meals and keep you covered here in Slytherin-- wherever you go, we'll be right there. We'll make sure that if he tries anything, it ends up with him at the bottom of the lake or getting himself expelled.

And, Daphs, I talked to Gamp yesterday. She didn't tell me what she's holding over him, but she's got something for certain. You should talk to her. Find out what sort of thing it is. See if she's got ideas what you could use that he'd have to take seriously.

Listen. She's still worried about him. And this is what I really didn't like: she told me she's worried what will happen when term ends and she's home--she feels safer here at school. I hadn't thought about it that way, but I see what she means, and it's not good. We've got to figure out something that convinces him to leave you alone permanently, full stop.

Teds and I are coming back down to the common room. We'll be there all day, and I told Vince and Greg to stick close in case they're needed. We'll be sure Bole knows we won't let him touch you.



 **alt_daphne** at **2012-05-13 15:57:59**

(no subject)

I know he seems like the type to drag me away by my hair, but he's really not. He's sneakier than that, and he can cast some wandless magic, besides. Being surrounded would only help for a while, but in time he'd think away around it.

And there's always Owl post, too.

I had hoped that Professor Slughorn's talk would be enough for him to realise that people have noticed how he is, at least a little bit. And

that he would only hurt himself to carry on like that.

But there was some parchment next to me in bed when I woke up this morning. A letter right there on my pillow. He says that nothing is over unless he says that its over, and that he'll make me see how much I need him, and how much he needs me. Whether I like it or not. And then after I read it, the note dissolved into pulp. No evidence. You see how clever he can be.

He might be talking about Imperius with that last bit - he's gotten skilled at it, you know.

I don't know what to do.



 **alt_blaise** at [2012-05-13 19:28:25](#)
(no subject)

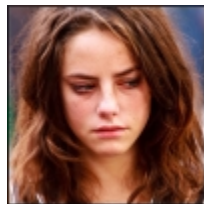
He what?

This is mad, and it has to stop. What I mean to say is that we have to figure out how to help you stop it.

Look, Daphne, I'm going to see Professor Slughorn. I know he may not be able to help, but he has to at least know about that note Bole sent you.

Do you really think he'd use Imperius? Has he already?

I know you don't know what to do, but we're going to get it sorted. I promise.

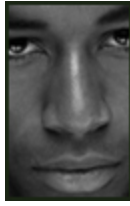


 **alt_daphne** at [2012-05-13 22:03:58](#)
(no subject)

What if Professor Slughorn doesn't believe you?

He's a NEWT-level student in Dark Arts, so of course he's used Imperius before.

Please be careful. I hate the thought of dragging other people into this.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-05-13 22:13:13](#)**
(no subject)

I meant has he used Imperius on you, Daphs.

And I've already talked to Slughorn, so I'm sorry if you think I shouldn't have done.

I don't know if he'll do anything to help, but I still think he needed to know.

For what it's worth, I don't think he disbelieved me about the note. He did say, of course, that it's a shame there's nothing left of it to keep as evidence. He didn't say whether he planned to do anything.

I think, really, we have to plan for what happens if he doesn't. Or doesn't do anything that actually helps.

I hate that you're having to hide in your room all this time. Are you able to concentrate at all on homework even? Can I get anything for you?



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-05-14 02:23:23](#)**
(no subject)

He really didn't like crying and sniveling, that's all.

Did you see Sinistra posted about the counsellor positions? I know you didn't go for it yourself, but I did, and I really wanted to be chosen. She wrote me to say that I'm her first choice if someone else drops - as if that will happen.

I wasn't chosen because my schoolwork has slipped, she says. Funny, this is the first she's brought it up with me. And of course Sally Anne got chosen. She's Sinistra's pet, she is.

I really can't concentrate on my work, but I am trying. I have to do well, I just have to. I don't want people to know anything's wrong. I don't want them to think that I'm anything but fine.



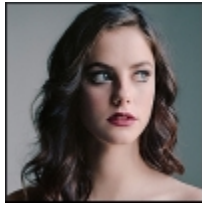
 **alt_blaise** at [2012-05-14 14:30:44](#)
(no subject)

I wish you were partnering me for this Transfig assignment. Milli's making it nearly impossible.

You look better this morning, you know. Did you sleep a little, then?

Listen, I've been thinking. We've got DADA next. What do you say we talk to Professor Raz about it? You and I could, I mean, afterwards when everyone else goes on to lunch. He might at least have some ideas about ways you can protect yourself from specific stuff Bole does. I mean, you know him well enough now to guess some of what he might do.

And then after Potions this afternoon, I want you to talk to Professor Slughorn with me. I hope, maybe, he'll ask to talk to you himself, but if he doesn't, we're going to stay behind and ask what he's going to do to help. Because he has to. He's Head of House, and he has to look out for you.



 **alt_daphne** at [2012-05-14 18:01:22](#)
(no subject)

I did sleep a little. Mostly because even if he's planning something, at least I don't have to spend time with him anymore. Which is good, because he had this way of making me feel like he was right and I was wrong. I'm sure that sounds strange, but he could be very persuasive.

I don't know about talking to Professor Raz ~~I feel like it all started~~ Barney's one of his NEWT students, he might favour him because of that. But he does seem to be fair, doesn't he? He tries to keep everyone safe during dueling club, after all. I suppose it might be worth a try.

2012-05-13 18:35:00

NEWTs and OWLs Weeks

I'd like to remind everyone that the next two weeks will be especially difficult for the students sitting their N.E.W.T. and O.W.L. exams.

Please afford them every courtesy. I'm sure none of our 5th- or 7th-years would intentionally say or do anything out of order but on their behalf, I ask others' indulgence and to bear in mind the stress they are doubtless feeling as they enter their week of examinations.

And of course, best of luck to everyone.



 [alternity](#)
 [alt_penelope](#)

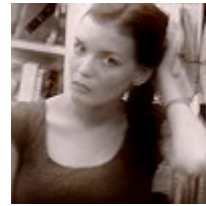
2012-05-13 18:51:00

*Private Message to Penelope
Clearwater*

You've revised all you can.

You're not going to fail.

It's going to be fine.



 **alt_penelope**

Oh, help.

2012-05-13 20:08:00

YPL Counsellor selections

Good evening, everyone. I'm sorry to be later with our announcement of the YPL counsellor selections than I'd hoped, but we had some extremely difficult choices to make this year. All our applicants turned in thoughtful and interesting applications, and in many cases it came down to final details in our interviews.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

We also deeply appreciate an anonymous donation that allowed us to take on one extra counsellor and solve a challenging decision among the selection committee.

For those of you selected, please stop by during my office hours to discuss the possible schedule, and there will be a brief meeting of YPL counsellors from all years to discuss summer plans at 4:15pm on Wednesday, May 30th.

Many congratulations to our new additions to the YPL counselling staff.

Susan Bones
Katrina Bundy
Michael Corner
Ernie MacMillan
Draco Malfoy
Harry Marvolo
Pansy Parkinson
Padma Patil
Sally-Anne Perks
Dean Thomas
Ron Weasley

And of course, the best of wishes to our NEWT students as they begin their exams.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-05-14 00:30:10**

Private message to Seamus Finnigan and Stephen Rosier

Good evening to you both -

I wanted to write and briefly explain the decision of the committee, as the list above likely does not reflect the outcome you'd hoped for.

Mr Finnigan, you submitted a thoughtful application, and your interview was equally solid.

However, concerns were raised both about some of your choices in both last year's CCF training (particularly relating to Miss Bundy) and this January's CCF event (the matter of the broom). Your actions in both cases lead the committee to be uncertain about how you might handle challenging situations with younger and more vulnerable students.

We know that being able to handle a complicated situation smoothly is a skill that takes time to learn. We will certainly continue to offer you chances to demonstrate your skills and problem-solving approaches. And we will gladly continue to consider you for future leadership opportunities within both the YPL and CCF in other roles.

Mr Rosier, should you have additional questions, I expect to be in New London on Tuesday afternoon (or the following one), should you wish to discuss the matter in person. Likewise, I'm available by firecall around my teaching and exam review commitments. Mr Finnigan, should you wish to discuss further, I'd be glad to arrange an appointment outside my office hours when we can talk privately.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-05-14 00:40:36**

Private message to Daphne Greengrass

Miss Greengrass -

I know that our decision above is not what you'd hoped, so I wanted to write and let you know that it was an extremely difficult choice. Should any of our existing counsellors need to drop from the programme this summer, you are the top of my list for a replacement.

A large part of our concern had to do with our discussion of the slips in the quality of your work over the past few months. I understand Professor Slughorn has had a word, but if I can be of help, please let me know. You're a bright and talented young woman, and I know the past term is an exception to your usual high standards.

If you'd like to discuss further, I'd be glad to - just arrange an appointment outside my usual office hours so we'll have some privacy.




 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-05-14 00:45:23**
Private message to Horace Slughorn

Horace -

Thank you again for your feedback on the students in your house. As you can see, I ended up offering the places to Miss Perks and Miss Parkinson.

I understand, from the little I've been able to catch in conversations this week (around doing the interviews) that you've had a word with Miss Greengrass. I've let her know, above, that it was a very difficult decision, but that she would be next on my list should someone need to give up their place for any reason.



 **alt_horace** at **2012-05-14 15:05:36**
Re: Private message to Horace Slughorn

Thank you, Aurora. I am sure your decisions were well-considered and I have no objections.


As for Miss Greengrass, I believe that the YPL is far from her greatest concern at the moment. Rest assured I shall be watching out for her carefully through the remainder of term. I hope we may have cleared the way for her to rise back to a prefecture but--circumstances may well prove that the obstacles are not yet entirely overcome.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-14 00:55:38](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Professor Sinistra, I really appreciate the opportunity!



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-14 00:57:52](#)
Private message to Raz

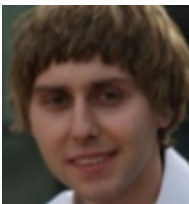
Good grief.


I knew this year's choices were going to be complicated, but I'd no idea how much. We're finally settled, but today has involved four firecalls, three panicked newts with last minute questions, two sets of documentation by owl to go to New London, and a partridge in a pear tree.

(All of which, by the way, is helping your argument that I should let it go to someone else. If you were wondering.)

Thank you, love, for getting me to stop thinking about it last night for a while. It made all the difference to my temper today. And Campanella and Helena and I sorted things out much more easily after we'd all slept.

No stargazing tonight, far too cloudy, so I'm planning on option b: a nice mindless book, some new music to listen to, and more than a smidge of alcohol. I suspect I'm not great company, but you'd be welcome if you like, and I'd understand if not.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-14 01:52:44](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Oh, I say!

Congratulations, Ron, Sally-Anne and Pansy!

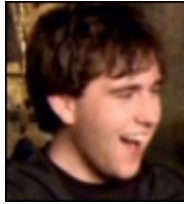
-Justin




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-14 03:01:20](#)**

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

Cheers, mate.




 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-05-14 14:21:04](#)**

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

Well done! Congratulations, mate.




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-14 15:26:13](#)**

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

Thanks, Nev.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-05-14 02:20:24](#)**

(no subject)

Thank you very much, Professor, and the members of the selection committee. It's an honour to be chosen to represent the programme. I'm sure we'll all do our best.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-05-14 15:09:54](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Ugh.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-14 15:52:30](#)**

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

You can say that again.

Bundy says Fawcett said that Li said Moon told her that Patil's going around saying Mr Peakes paid to

get Thomas in. Either that or you paid to get Siz to take Sally Anne, which is just a complete lie. About Sally Anne, I mean. And Patil knows it. Sally Anne was probably the first person Professor Siz put down for it, y'know what I mean?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-14 17:59:07](#)

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

Exactly. And she'd be a shoe-in for prefect too, if they didn't turn up their noses at half-bloods that is.

But, you know, if it comes down to something like that when she goes up for being a Healer, you'd better believe I'd pay people. Lots. For just that reason. Because it isn't fair.

So I guess I don't mind terribly if people thought I'd do something like that, because I would. And it'd work, too. Which is why Patil's all down in the mouth about it.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-15 00:53:47](#)

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

Double ugh. My House, no less.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-14 03:03:14](#)

(no subject)

Thanks, Professor Sinistra. That's wizard!




 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-14 14:21:36](#)

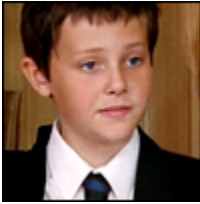
(no subject)

Congratulations to both you and Dean.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-14 15:32:42](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, it's going to be dead snitch this summer!



 [alt_michael](#) at [2012-05-15 03:09:49](#)
Private Message to Professor Sinistra


Thanks.

I still can't quite believe it. I mean, my Mum's real proud and it's great and all. I mean, I'm glad for the opportunity.

I'm just sort of surprised.

I'll try not to let you down.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-15 16:27:49](#)
Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra

Mr Corner -

You're very welcome. All three of us were most impressed by your interview, truly, and we're certain you'll do well with it.

[2012-05-13 22:20:00](#)

Private Message to Seamus and Linus

I'm sorry you weren't on the list.

Seamus, what did Professor Sinistra say? Lines, has she said anything to you at all?



 [alt_padma](#)

Did you see the part about the 'anonymous donor' who made it possible to take 11? Who do you think bribed their way on, then? Maybe Parkinson paid so they'd take Perks, or Peakes bribed her to take Thomas. Or someone gave them money for Weasel--only I dunno who'd sponsor him!

Oh, also? Lines, you already know this but Clearwater's probably going to crack before the end of the week. She just grabbed up all her books and shut herself up in her dormitory and told Edgcombe and Anderson to just handle anything that came up and to leave her alone the rest of the night.

And--this is really important--what should we do about Daphne Greengrass? I mean, I know she broke up with Bole but did you notice how the Slytherins are all treating her like a porcelain doll? I don't want them thinking no one but them can keep her safe from him, you know? She should know that everyone thinks he's a lout. But I don't want her to think everyone knows everything, I mean, she was even too embarrassed to say anything to me and tried to make it sound like I couldn't possibly get it.

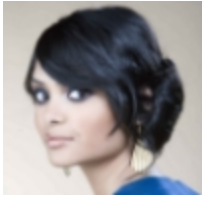
What gets me is that she thinks Parkinson does get it? Ugh.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2012-05-14 04:23:15](#)
(no subject)

She's still cross about Weasley's broom, apparently.

I reckon Parkinson bribed her to take Perks. She has the money AND she'd do it. And that explains why there are FOUR Slytherins as counsellors, doesn't it? It's a shame Greengrass doesn't have a rich best friend to buy her way on.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-05-14 14:58:15](#)
(no subject)

Well. I mean, the thing is that Siz thinks Perks is just Miss Perfect, right? I mean, I think she'd adopt her if she could. Probably because Perks is always sucking up. Plus she's a hardship case, you know, so knowing Siz she wanted to give her one of the positions because it pays a little bit. But yeah, I wouldn't put it past Parkinson to pay off anyone if it meant giving Perks a leg up.

Four Slytherins and three Gryffindors, though. And only two Ravenclaws and two Hufflepuffs. I mean, with Hufflepuff she probably figured she couldn't look like she was favouring her own house. But I bet Mr Peakes bribed her to take Thomas. I don't think Harry or Draco needed any help, do you? It sure wasn't Bundy's foster-family.

I guess it's possible that one of Weasley's older brothers leaned on Professor Siz to take him. But you'd think they'd be careful about that sort of thing, especially since one of them works for Mr Rosier now.

And I wish you hadn't pulled that stunt with the broom, but more I wish everyone would just get over it, already. It wasn't that dangerous by itself, it just didn't go off the way you planned. Any anyway, if it'd been someone who wasn't on Draco's team, he'd have been laughing just as loud as anyone.

Did you see what Zach wrote to Weasley? I mean, it's kinda funny but it does make it plain why he didn't get a counsellor slot. He doesn't really have any other setting besides obnoxious, does he?

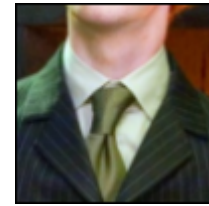
But Greengrass...I really wish there were something we could do for her. I bet I could get Tamblin to send the Quidditch side after Bole and tell him it's not only Slytherins who are looking out for her. I can't understand why he's so obsessed, anyway. Everyone knows she's just waiting for Auror Crouch to decide she's old enough to be noticed. I'd've thought a taste of Bole would sour her to the bad boy type but I guess some girls just like someone who's a little bit too dangerous for their own good. But at least Auror Crouch is also dashing; Bole's fit but he's a clod when he's not on a broom.

Well, anyway. It's too bad. But there's still CCF, I guess.

2012-05-14 09:09:00

Private message to Penelope Clearwater

I know it's a nervewracking day, but you'll do just fine, I promise! You've revised hard, you're ready for the big event. Just keep calm and remind yourself you're perfectly capable of showing them what you know.




 [alt_percy](#)

(And you'll have a new charm on your charm bracelet when this is all through.)

I've spent a few evenings in the past couple weeks looking at flats. A couple of near misses, but nothing quite in our price range yet, but I am hoping the market will open up a bit now that winter's over.



 [alt_penelope](#) at **2012-05-14 23:54:14**
(no subject)

Ugh, it was horrid.

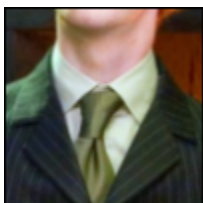
I absolutely couldn't remember the Omicron Declension for about the first half of the written Runes exam. Then I suddenly got it and I had to go back and correct about a third of the cases.

I'm sure I muffed the essay, too.

And I've got four more days to go! Charms and Potions tomorrow and the Arithmancy *practical* Wednesday night and--

At this rate I'll never make it.

Are you sure you want such an idiot for a girlfriend? You might want to hold on to that charm until we're sure it's going to be okay.



 [alt_percy](#) at **2012-05-15 00:42:29**
(no subject)

I was dead certain I'd wrecked my chances when I took the Runes NEWT exam, too, but instead I pulled an E.

I know it all seems hopeless when you're in the middle of it, but honestly, they've seen tonnes of students struggling with nerves, it'll be over soon and I guarantee you'll survive it.

[2012-05-14 12:25:00](#)

Order Only: 'Inspection'



 **[alt_arthur](#)**

I'd spoken of dropping by this week for a surprise 'inspection.' How is Ellie working out? I've seen no indication in her file that she's had interviews with anyone in the department other than myself, by the way, if that helps put your minds at rest a bit.

Do you want me to test her loyalty, so to speak? Are you comfortable enough with her that you think it's time to sound her out, by letting slip something dodgy, something she might report to me if I give her the chance?

If so, let me know, and I'll act a bit sniffy toward Remus when I arrive, and insist on talking with the girl alone and then encourage her to open up. If you still think we need to stay cautious, I'll act a bit friendlier and won't press her for anything. Let me know.



 **[alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-15 03:14:10](#)**

(no subject)

Arthur.

Yeah, we've been working on slipping her some suspicious information so that she'd have something to tell you when you came.

I think it's all right for you to drop in any time. We did have an incident at the weekend, a simple matter of a dropped and smashed water glass, which gave us some pause. Not because she was clumsy (Circe knows Dora's a poster child for butterfingers) but because she carried on as if sure that Remus would take the cost of the tumbler out of her hide.

Turns out her old mistress used to shoot off the hexes fairly quickly whenever Ellie made a mistake and throwing herself at the witch's feet was a reasonably successful method to avoid dire punishment.

I've a feeling so far all you'll learn is that Mrs Ponds is a bit of a funny duck for making her throw glasses at the wall yesterday. But we did make sure that she overheard an exchange last evening about needing to restock the jars of pickled kangaroos' claws, and that Mr

Ponds had better do it because Mrs Ponds didn't dare drop one owing to how fantastically expensive they would be to replace, seeing as they're smuggled in and all.

So at least if you come, she'll have something she could choose to reveal to you.

Remus suggested I might hang about the pair of you just to see if she drops any other signs that a human wouldn't notice, which I think might be a bit conspicuous but might not hurt, either.

2012-05-14 13:02:00

Private message to Horace Slughorn

-Sluggy

Do you think you could come by my office after your last lesson of the day? Two of your Slytherins, Daphne Greengrass and Blaise Zabini, have asked to meet with me to discuss some kind threat that Miss Greengrass is facing from Barnabas Bole. They implied that they'd like to have you there as well, and I share their sentiment. I wouldn't want to advise them in any way without their Head of House's input.



 [alt_rabastan](#)

I don't suppose that we might issue a school-wide ban on dating next year? I've had enough of dealing with student's romantic issues to last three lifetimes, I think.

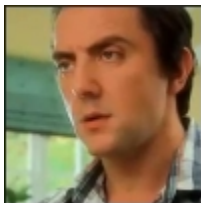
-Raz




 [alt_horace](#) at **2012-05-14 19:15:41**
(no subject)

Of course, my boy. If I'm correct this is the same matter I spoke to you about at breakfast--though I fully understand that perhaps you had not yet ingested sufficient quantities of tea to retain my meaning.

I do think it's best we all discuss the situation and come to an equitable arrangement. I expect I shall wish for your assistance with Mr Bole, as well, when the time comes to once again impress upon him that his behaviour toward Miss Greengrass--and Miss Gamp, for that matter--is wholly unacceptable.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2012-05-14 19:21:38**
(no subject)

Quite right. I've never been much of a morning person, but now with Rory I'm even less of one.

Yes, I gather that what's been going on is dead serious, to the extent that banning dating would probably not solve

the matter (not that I was seriously suggesting we do as much).

And of course you will have my full cooperation when it comes to making an impression upon Mr Bole.

See you in a bit, good sir.



 **[alt_horace](#) at 2012-05-14 19:49:03**

(no subject)

Believe me, over the years I have wished for bans on all manner of activity, dating not least among them!

In this case, I am at least gratified that the young people are seeking the aid and counsel of their elders. Too often, as you know, they try to resolve their problems entirely on their own. While I appreciate it in the abstract, for matters that really don't require the intervention of an adult, there are too many times when they do not even realise they are in over their own heads!

Luckily enough, as it's NEWTs week, I have no lessons in my final period. I'll come upstairs directly.

2012-05-14 19:30:00

*Private Message to Minerva McGonagall
and Poppy Pomfrey*

Poppy, I think you had better come and join us in Rabastan's office. Minerva, you as well, if you can. Urgently.



 [alt_horace](#)

We've been having a long discussion with Miss Greengrass and Mr Zabini.

Poppy, I'm sorry to interrupt your non-celebratory evening but you'll agree, I'm sure, that it's quite necessary.

2012-05-14 20:36:00

Private Message to Julius Avery

Julius,

If you could, kindly find Mr Bole and bring him up to Professor Lestrangle's office.



 [alt_horace](#)

If you need to speak to anyone in order to locate him, please do not tell them why you need to find him. Also, please do nothing to agitate him on your way upstairs with him.

And it should go without saying, Julius, that I should appreciate it if you said nothing to anyone else about bringing him up to see us.

Possibly it would be better to bring him by the west stairwells; Madam Pomfrey has taken Miss Greengrass to stay in the hospital wing tonight and I do not wish the two of them to see each other under any circumstances.

As always, I trust your discretion in this as in all confidential matters.

2012-05-14 21:01:00

(no subject)

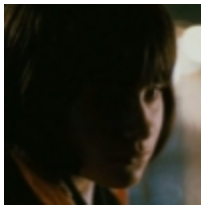
Isn't it a lovely evening?

I can't imagine how stressful things will be next term, with OWLs and everything, so for now, I'm just going to enjoy the time I don't have to study.



 [alt_pansy](#)

I'm very much looking forward to this summer as well.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-05-15 01:04:12**

Private Message to Daffs and Blaise

Is everything quite alright?

I haven't seen you since dinner.

Should we be worried?



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-05-15 01:06:34**

Re: Private Message to Daffs and Blaise

No. It was before dinner.

I didn't see you at dinner.



 [alt_daphne](#) at **2012-05-15 02:24:52**

Re: Private Message to Daffs and Blaise

I was in the hospital wing. I'm alright, but I'm staying here tonight, just in case.

I told them everything that he did. Matron's going to give me something to help me sleep.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-05-15 02:30:47**

Re: Private Message to Daffs and Blaise

I'm glad you're okay. I mean, that he didn't do anything more. And that you're with Madame P.

She really is a good listener. If you want to talk.

And she's good at not asking too many questions if you don't.

And I'm glad you told.

And every fourth year in Slytherin is ready to take Bole behind a broom shed and make him thoroughly regret ever hurting you. Ever.



 **[alt_daphne](#) at 2012-05-15 02:33:54**

Re: Private Message to Daffs and Blaise

I've talked enough, I just want to sleep.

Thanks, but I don't want anyone to do anything to him. I just want him to leave me be.

Please don't tell anyone what's going on. I would appreciate it.



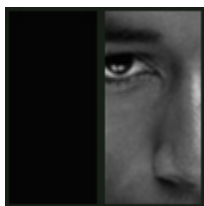
 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-05-15 02:38:25**

Re: Private Message to Daffs and Blaise

I told Draco and Sally-Anne that you were all right and spending the night in the hospital wing, only because we were all worried. I'm sorry. I told before you wrote, otherwise I wouldn't have said.

But I won't tell anyone else.

I just meant that we'd do what ever would help you best. And if that's making sure he leaves you be, that's what we'll do.



 **[alt_blaise](#) at 2012-05-15 03:57:43**


Re: Private Message to Daffs and Blaise

Thanks, Pansy.

I'm sure it's fine that you've explained the situation to Draco and Sally Anne, but it's definitely best to keep from saying any more than needed to anyone else.

She's going to be perfectly fine. And Bole is going to leave her alone. We're all going to see to that.

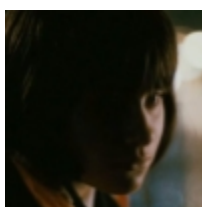



 [alt_pansy at 2012-05-15 04:34:31](#)
Re: Private Message to Daffs and Blaise

Of course we are.

And I agree. No-one else needs to know.

We're Slytherins. We know how to take care of our own.




 [alt_pansy at 2012-05-15 01:05:39](#)
Private Message to Sally-Anne and Draco

Any news from Daphne or Blaise on where they are? They haven't written in the journals, have they? All I've seen is something from Professor Raz and something from Professor Slughorn and it all seems like it could be something serious.

Where is Bole?




 [alt_pansy at 2012-05-15 01:10:51](#)
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Draco

And now he's written Avery.

Professor Slughorn, I mean.



 [alt_draco at 2012-05-15 01:44:41](#)
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Draco

Teds says he saw Avery walking with Bole in the direction of Raz's office.

If he's hurt Daphne, and I mean *really* hurt her, they wouldn't have just sent the Head Boy to fetch him, but there's obviously something going on.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-15 01:55:52](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Draco

Yes.

You're right. If he'd hurt either of them, there'd be much more going on.

He was at dinner, wasn't he? So he couldn't have gotten up to much. I don't think.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-15 01:58:21](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Draco

Maybe they've just finally got to the bottom of what it is he's been doing to her. Because I'm not sure she was telling any of us the full extent of it.

Think they'll do to him what they did to Calderwood?

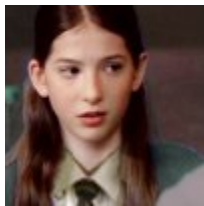


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-15 02:09:41](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Draco

Maybe worse.

Here's hoping.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-15 02:10:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Draco

Oh, I hope you're right they got to the bottom of it.

She's seemed utterly terrified these last few days. I mean, she hasn't been herself since January or February but the last few days she's barely even come out from behind her bed curtains.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-15 02:19:28](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Draco

That's true. I just reckoned she was being dramatically lovesick, or something. You know how she goes.

Pansy and I still can't figure why she took so long to tell anyone. You stumped too, then?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-15 02:28:26](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Draco

I think she was embarrassed. She asked him out to begin with, you know? I think that might have made it harder to admit what a bad idea it was.

And when Pansy and I tried to talk to her about it, she seemed utterly humiliated.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-15 02:32:44](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Draco

She's written back. She's told Professor Slughorn and Professor Raz everything, and she's in the hospital wing for the night. Not because she's hurt or anything though.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-15 03:09:20](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Draco

I haven't heard anything about Bole having come back. I wonder where they've stuck him?

Too bad about Daphs. Hope she'll be alright.



 [alt_eloise](#) at [2012-05-15 01:50:33](#)
(no subject)

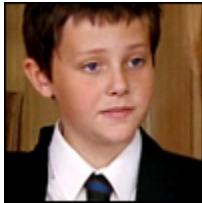
Not just OWLs, but you'll be a YPL counselor next year, too. I can hardly begin to wonder how you'll have time for anything!!

And with Malfoy counseling too, you'll probably scarcely see each other at all!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-15 01:57:34](#)
(no subject)

I'm sure we'll manage somehow.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2012-05-15 02:02:38](#)
(no subject)

Somehow I think anyone in NEWTs might not be too happy reading this.

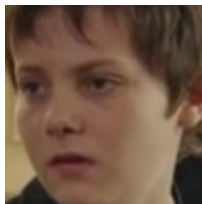
But congratulations, by the way.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-15 02:08:33](#)
(no subject)

Well, if they're taking the time to read this, they certainly aren't studying, are they?

And you too, Corner.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2012-05-15 02:11:34](#)
(no subject)

I guess not.

And thanks. I'm still not...quite sure how it happened. I was sure it'd be Moon.

[2012-05-14 21:46:00](#)

Exhausted

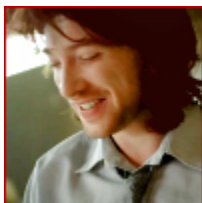
I've barely glanced at my journal for what seems like the past two months, because I have been so dreadfully busy trying to get my garden in. And it's not just the vegetable beds and plots of flowers for the Burrow that are keeping me outside from dawn till dusk. At the winter quarterly planning meeting for the barter network, a number of us discussed the growing number of elderly people who really have difficulty getting their seeds and cuttings into the ground in the spring. In many cases, they are quite dependent on their gardens to keep them supplied with food.




 **[alt_molly](#)**

So we put out a call for volunteers to help, and I signed up myself to assist four other households. It has been quite a bit of work, but it gives me a good feeling to do it. So I'm rather weary from the effort of turning over sod, pulling weeds, hauling compost and so on. I can't rely entirely on wandwork for those sorts of tasks, because it gets to be quite draining. But it's been a lovely way to get to know some of the network's members a little bit better, not to mention a nice chance to exchange perennials and seeds, too, and to get some lovely garden ideas. (I was so impressed with Mabel Snell's cottage garden of flowering potions plants, for example.) Of course, it also means I'll be dropping by during the growing season to help with the weekly weeding, and I'll be as busy as a niffler raiding an unguarded dragon hoard come harvest time!

We've had three goats drop kids this week. This is good news, of course--I think I have enough to sell at least one--but meanwhile my goat shed is getting perilously overcrowded, which upsets the nannies and isn't particularly good for the kids. Bill, do you think you might be able to come over some evening this week and help me with the expansion charms? Your father has been pulling some extraordinarily long nights at the office, and he's so very tired by the time he gets home that I hate to ask him to do it.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-16 02:59:56](#)**
(no subject)


Sure, I can come over, Mum. I'll be over tomorrow evening.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-05-16 03:00:28](#)
(no subject)

Oh, thank you, dear. That will be a big help.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-16 03:01:44](#)
(no subject)

Not that I'm trying to get out of it or anything, but what about Percy?




 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-05-16 03:02:39](#)
(no subject)

I've barely seen him lately. When he's not at work, he's been flat hunting in New London.

well. Besides, Percy and the goats don't get on very



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-16 03:03:04](#)
(no subject)

Whereas the goats and I get along splendidly. Gee, thanks.

2012-05-14 21:58:00

Private Message to Seamus

Seamus,

I still can't believe that you didn't get in. I would rather it be you than Weasley. I wish that last summer never happened. It's not like you did it on your own. I feel like they are still holding that against you (they were war games after all, and apologies have been made), and making it seem all the worse because of that prank. With the exception of CCF and any thing that we can do together, this summer is not gonna be that great.

Merlin, I hope one of us will get the prefectship. Maybe it will be you. They can't possibly think of making Weasley a prefect, and Longbottom doesn't have the confidence to carry the title with the respect it deserves. The prefectship would a joke if either one of them had it.

Anyway, I wonder who the donor was. And I really wonder who the extra is. I bet it's Weasley! He can't really be anyone's first choice. What do you think?



 **alt_dean**

2012-05-14 22:16:00

Private Message to Professor Sinistra

Professor,

I am very thankful for the chance to serve the YPL, and I will try my hardest to not let you down. With that said, I hope you don't find the rest of this note rude, or me stepping out of my place. I know the decisions are final, and I know I don't know and can't know why they were made. I just have something to say on behalf of a friend.



 [alt_dean](#)

Seamus, I feel, has had a lot of negative attention due to the events of last summer especially when the event earlier this year was added on. Anyone who truly knows Seamus knows he wasn't trying to hurt Weasley. I didn't know about that prank, but I know Seamus would seek more to slightly embarrass in that way that we boys do, than to seriously injure. In the case of last summer, Seamus didn't act alone. And I wish people would recognize that. I own up to the incident as much as he does. POWs and using tactics to get them to reveal information was my idea, partly inspired by who I wrote to. I just can't sit back while my friend repeatedly takes criticism over a mistake we both made.

For Merlin's sake, I just hope you as well as all the others can see the good in Seamus. And not have your judgements clouded by the past actions of boys being idiots.

Respectfully,
Dean Thomas



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-05-15 13:56:49**

(no subject)

Mr Thomas -

Your loyalty to your friend is wonderful, and I do understand why you feel you had to write. (I also know you know there are people who would see it as rude or inappropriate, but that I am not one of them.) Now, clearly, I'm not going to discuss other students with you (though I've told Mr Finnigan he is welcome to come see me if he wishes). But if it would help, I am glad to share a little more of what went into the process.

First, everything I said in the announcement was true: we had a wealth of wonderful applications, and it was an extraordinarily difficult process to make our final decisions. So much so that we spent all day Saturday, and much of Sunday working through the possible options.

Second, I was not making these decisions alone. Auror Wright and Mrs Provim both brought their own skills and insights to the process. We decided early on that we'd much prefer unanimous decisions, so we spent a long time, this week, talking about what mattered most to us in the selection for these positions. While I see all of you regularly, they've also had extensive opportunity to review your records and observe at various YPL events.

One thing that came up in that conversation, over and over again, was that selecting students to be a counsellor is a different thing than selecting them for the CCF, or even selecting them for a specific leadership role related to a particular project or activity. Particularly in as large and sometimes fractured a class as our current first years have been, we decided that we needed to give preference to certain qualities. These included demonstrated ability to respond well in a crisis, the ability to respond proportionately when provoked, a consideration for safety, and awareness of how someone works with others (both their friends, and those they do not get on well with.)

Third, we were also looking not just at individuals, but at a group. There are some basic questions of balance: we want roughly the same number of male and female students, for example, since the counsellors supervise housing. We wanted representation from all four houses. But we also wanted to build a group where some people might be gifted at encouraging cross-house interactions, while others might bring practical skills, or an ability to influence or direct the energies of younger students.

And so we made this set of choices, after a great deal of debate. We continue to look at ways to find ways for the students not selected for this opportunity to gain leadership and other skills, and to demonstrate their character and potential. (In fact, I'll be in New London discussing some of that this afternoon.)

I do look forward to your participation as a counsellor, and I'm very excited by the group we did select, even while I know the decision has been disappointing to several.

[2012-05-15 11:38:00](#)

Private message to Barty

Barty, know that you're busy with wotsit, but I was up all night thinking on this, and I've got to talk about it with someone. And it can't be Rory - not yet.



 **[alt_rabastan](#)**

Have you ever been in a situation where you might've fathered a child? Unknowingly, I mean.

Well, of course you've been in those situations. We went to that Psuedo place together, after all. And I'm sure you've always known when it was happening. I certainly hope so, at least, as it tends to be more enjoyable that way.

What I mean to say is that did you ever have a former lover come up to you with a baby or child in tow and say "Guess what, Barty, this one's yours?"

Or, say, even had that actual *child* run up to you and say "Hallo, you're my Daddy!"

Or... yeah, things of that nature.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-15 20:24:34](#)**

(no subject)

Ah.

Well. It never went that far. I mean, there were never any sprogs.

...

There were two times that 'arrangements' had to be made. Three if you count Beatrice Mackrell: that wasn't my mess, but I helped her out of it.

Sounds as if you've had a shock. What's happened?

4:24pm

2:24am



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-05-15 20:56:28](#)

(no subject)

Right. They had someone working for the quidditch leagues who would make "arrangements" for players - never had to take advantage of that service, myself.

Something like that.

You know the Greengrass girl? The one who they cast as you in the play, and who appears to... fancy you a smidge? She..

Well, maybe you remember - I know you were a few years behind us, but if you recall, her Mother and I dated our last years at Hogwarts. She wanted to get married, I wanted to do other things.

And Daphne, that's her daughter - she thinks that I might be her Father.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-15 21:26:33](#)

(no subject)

...

I think I'm lucky she only fancies me. Sent me tickets for a summer concert series, you know, as a Christmas present.

Do you think you might be?

5:26pm

2:56am



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-15 22:34:10](#)
(no subject)

Well?

You think she might be, don't you?


By the way. When you say you never had to take advantage of the league's service, were you just saving yourself for the sake of sport back then? Or did you leave it to the witches to take care of themselves?

Can't say I trusted most of my 'acquaintances' that far.

6:34pm

3:15am



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-05-15 23:02:28](#)
(no subject)

I don't know.

It was after I got out of hospital- first time I was injured. I was trying to recover from both that and Evan's death, and Vic showed up, all prepared to "be there" for me. And I needed someone, so I didn't turn her away. Even though she was engaged to Greengrass by then.

And no, I wasn't saving myself, but I never seriously considered it would happen to *me*. That sort of thing only happened to other blokes, you see. A very mature outlook I had there- and the very reason why the possibility exists and I can't ignore it.

But she really doesn't remind me of myself at all. She... you don't see any resemblance, do you?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-15 23:16:05](#)
(no subject)

I really haven't paid that much attention to the girl, but if you say she doesn't look like you, well, you'd know how to judge that.

Though that could be bent by wishful thinking.

I suppose you can't ask your Astronomer what she thinks. I'd say she's best placed to give a real assessment.


At any rate, there's an obvious resemblance between the mother and daughter. That one would fly to your bedside, too, if you were injured. Or mine. Whatever. Romantic heroine type. Probably writing you into her first novel right now.

How do you want that story to go, then?

7:16pm

4:02am



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-05-15 23:56:49](#)
(no subject)

I want that story to not be written, thanks. Just no.

There was a time when I once wondered what I might've given up by not choosing a life with Vic, but that time is far behind me now. Might not be so far behind her, as it turns out- if what her daughter says is any indication.


Romance heroines they may be, but the girl's more drawn to danger than Vic ever was. The whole reason this mess came spilling out is because the lad she was dating, Barnabas Bole, had been brutalising her for the last few months. Sluggy and I, along with the rest of the staff, had to take steps to make sure

that he'll leave her alone from here on out. When we were questioning her about what she'd endured, she just started spilling out everything.

She's been keeping this hunch of hers a secret for months, it seems. Think she surprised herself by even telling me. Now I'm not sure what I'm meant to do. Find out once and for all? And if so, what happens after?

And I will talk to Rory. Course I will. I just wanted to sort it out in my head a bit, first.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-16 00:21:11](#)
(no subject)

Bole? Son of the Prophet's editor? Former. Shame he's retired. You could have used that to keep the younger one in line. Since you've decided to get in the middle of it.


Must have been ugly, then.

She's not knocked up, is she? Not likely is it, during term. Did you ever wonder what sorcery keeps that from happening with the usual frequency in that school? It's not that the students abstain. To my knowledge.

8:21pm

4:04am



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-05-16 00:42:21](#)
(no subject)


Sluggy's got connections to the elder Bole and plans to use them, from what I understand. While I've done what I can to impress upon him that I can make or break his quidditch career, if it suits me to do so.

Fair amount of ugly, yeah. But no, to my knowledge she's not

in a family way. Small mercy, that.

Must be something in the castle's protective magic, though I have had cause to wonder if it extends to adults, as well. Not that I'm planning to risk that in any capacity whatsoever. Certainly not now.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-16 00:57:13](#)
(no subject)


Has Bole been scouted by Puddlemere, do you know? Want me to drop Mackrell a line? Surely he's not such a paragon we couldn't pass him by.

You were clever, choosing a witch committed to her career. She's got an interest in avoiding that, same as you.

8:57pm

4:09am



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-05-16 02:06:59](#)
(no subject)

Not Puddlemere, but Tutshill, Wimbourne, and New London, I think. Just as a broom-warmer, mind. All the teams are thick with skilled beaters, but they tend to have the shortest careers, so its good to have extras on hand. What everyone's looking for is a stand out Keeper. In my day, that's what everyone wanted to play- be the big hero under pressure. Now it's more exciting to be the one who drives the crowd wild with a well-placed bludger to the skull.

We do at that I think, but you know how it goes. The longer we're together the more we'll both face scrutiny for not producing some sprog.

And as for that- was she one of those you had to make "arrangements" for? Ursula, I mean.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-16 02:22:29](#)
(no subject)

Yes, Puddlemere have all the skull-bashers we can use, and you're quite right, we could definitely do with a better Keeper.

Do you know the Ministry put me on the list for their population pamphlets as soon as the rumour mill got hold of my interest in Athena Belby. I started getting twice the number when I took up with M-

Nevermind. Anyway.

I thought I'd slipped that past you, about the two 'arrangements'. Ursula, to her credit, took care of all that herself. Not so, the other one.

But that was a wholly other situation. Began with Mother foisting eligible virgins on me at 'social teas' she lined up every Wednesday after I left school. Mordred's nether beard, it was awful. I decided my duty went no further than banging as many of them as I could persuade.

Unfortunately, that was exactly what Isadora Martin had in mind. Had to schedule the appointment, pay for it, and apply a bit of 'persuasion' to be sure she'd go through with the procedure.

Was never happier to send nuptial salutations than when Rowle married her.

10:22pm

4:12am



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-05-16 02:54:58](#)
(no subject)


Well, given my past admitted carelessness, I'm now concerned that I may have some other potential child out there- learning to ride his first broomstick and water down his not-Father's firewhiskey.

But if that were the case, surely the child would have been trotted before me by now. Then again, Victoriana never did that, for her own peculiar reasons.

I'm going to have a talk with her. Got to.

But thanks for listening, mate.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-16 03:05:48](#)
(no subject)

Glad to do it.

Stay well, will you?

11:05pm

4:14am

2012-05-15 13:07:00

Private Message to Rabastan Lestrangle

How are you feeling today? None the worse for that second bottle we opened? You seemed to need it at the time.




 **alt_horace**

I shouldn't take Miss Greengrass' personal confession too much to heart. It had obviously been weighing on her but it is in the way of teenaged girls to over-dramatise everything when they are already distressed. Unfortunate that it came out in the throes of her much more serious concerns. I'm sure in the light of day, she has come to see how absurd the notion is.

Meanwhile, I've contacted Hieronymus and asked him to come to the school today, if possible, to determine what's to be done with his son. I agree with Minerva that if Miss Greengrass does not wish to pursue the matter, the best outcome may simply be to allow him to complete his NEWT examinations and then give him our leave to commence his post-Hogwarts career a month earlier than expected. Julius and Maghnus have agreed to escort Mr Bole to and from his exams; I don't wish him to consort with the other students while we resolve the question of whether he is to remain one of them.

I only wish Miss Greengrass or Miss Gamp had come to someone in authority sooner. So much of their troubles could have been avoided.



 **alt_rabastan** at **2012-05-15 18:04:06**
(no subject)

Shame, isn't it? Seems they both thought themselves quite alone. To the point where they never even went to each other.

As for that personal confession, I'm not taking it to heart ~~yet~~ exactly, but I can't say it didn't get my attention. I'm sure you remember how inseparable Victoriana and I were back in the day. It's all just a very surreal reminder of what might have been.



 [alt_horace](#) at [2012-05-15 18:15:29](#)


(no subject)

Oh, no doubt, no doubt, my boy. It's not that it's not, er, plausible but--well, I'm sure there's nothing really to it, if you see what I mean.

And between you and me, you know that Miss Greengrass takes after her grandmother with a flair for the theatrical. Surely you've not forgotten her fascination with Barty when studying to portray him? I believe her conviction regarding you to lie much more firmly in the realm of wishful thinking than reality.

Not that we all don't have moments where we are confronted with a road not taken, my boy, not at all. Only that I shouldn't like you to waste too much time fretting over the allegation's veracity.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-05-15 18:24:05](#)

(no subject)

Oh, I'm not fretting at all. Just given me pause for thought, you see.

You're right, though. Miss Greengrass was very intrigued when she learned about her mother and me... back last term, it was. No doubt she got a bit carried away with the possibilities. I'm sure that's all that it is. She's at that age where you also fancy the notion that you might not really belong where you are, after all. And she is theatrical, as you say. Memorably so.

2012-05-15 20:30:00

*Order Only: Private Message to Minerva
McGonagall and Pomona Sprout*



 [alt_poppy](#)

This business with Miss Greengrass and Mr Bole is an ugly thing, and I'm afraid I have not managed my part at all well.

Minerva, I'm terribly sorry if you end up being pulled in. I feel dreadful. And remiss. And culpable for failing to have intervened more directly when I first heard the girl had suffered injury at his hands.

Because she did not come to me and had not authorised the one who did come to make report on the matter, I did not insist that Horace send her to me for an examination.

I don't know why I thought that passing the matter on to her Head of House should be sufficient. Clearly, clearly I should have insisted on seeing her for myself.

Naturally, my fault has been identified by my superiors. I heard from the supercilious Healer Stint this evening that there is considerable concern about my failure to adequately protect our students, particularly our young witches, whose dawning sexuality leaves them vulnerable to exploitation, etc., etc.

I could scarcely submit to such a lecture from a man who loses no opportunity to use his authority as a tool for pressing unwelcome advances on witches unlucky enough to be his subordinates. Not me, of course, but others aplenty. His hypocrisy was unbearable. And yet, of course, I had earned the lecture and dared not object.

Pomona, I've included you here so you'll know what I've done without my repeating the whole miserable tale.

The worst of it is, that I do sincerely wish I had done more in a more timely way to help Miss Greengrass. I'm quite beside myself over it.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-05-16 13:32:31](#)
(no subject)

Poppy, dear.

I'm sorry I didn't see this sooner - one of the charms on the food greenhouse is clearly failing, and I spent the evening in Gwendolyn's company restoring the plants while she mended the problem.

His hypocrisy fails to surprise me, given all I've heard. Do you think he'll make much trouble over this? Or is it one more thing for his list of complaints we all hope will be ignored?

As to your actions, yes, we all should have seen more, clearly. (Aurora stopped by briefly last night, and said as much herself.) But at the same time, should you have compelled the girl to see you? Her seeing you might well have angered Bole, after all, until he was well in hand.

My own history also reminds me of the difficulties of speaking up or seeking help, though that's certainly not something I'd expect someone like that Stint person to begin to grasp.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-05-16 15:09:59](#)
(no subject)

Fortunately, I've had plenty to distract me overnight and this morning, though I must say that I hate feeling so haunted by the knowledge that this bloody committee of vultures is scrutinising every detail of each day's report, salivating at the chance of catching me out for whatever I might omit--either to do or to enumerate on parchment.

I'm sorry.

I shouldn't complain. I ought to be more professional than that after all these years.



 **alt_pomona** at [2012-05-16 15:26:41](#)
(no subject)

Goodness, Poppy. You are shaken, clearly. That's not at all like you.

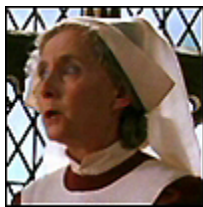
Of course it's terrifying to be under that kind of scrutiny. I am deeply grateful I've not come to official attention unduly, beyond the usual matters and the food supplies.

The least I can do is listen better to you than I've clearly been doing. And of course, everyone needs a chance to talk out a bad day, or a question of ethics, or the ongoing cases of "What if".

Though in this case - yes, you might have done more. But in the end, she was not further harmed, the matter is now on its way to resolution, and a number of people are older, wiser, and better prepared the next time something like this occurs. That's no bad thing, and no small one, either. And through it, there are still many other students who've also needed your attention, and who you've served as well as you always do.

(That does make me wonder: I don't suppose there's any chance you could make a case you'd have more attention for subtle needs if you had less in the way of interminable parchment work to submit so often?)

What would help, do you think? I can spare some time this afternoon or evening, if you wish.



 **alt_poppy** at [2012-05-16 15:42:53](#)
(no subject)

I'm past the point of pertly making suggestions of that sort. You know me: I certainly tried making just that case, but it was months ago.

The truth is, this has been building since the summer. They've taken every opportunity to turn their screws tighter.

I suppose they must be hoping I'll find it all too much and simply resign. (No, I've no intention of making their work so easy. Never fear.)

But it's been a relentless progression of additional demands and ever more invasive scrutiny. I'm certain there will be another inspection very soon. I can only hope they wait until the term ends, but it could be that they'll arrive today. I've no way of knowing, and they will not feel any need to provide notice.

Unless they've sent word to Minerva and required her to keep quiet. (I do understand the position you're in, M.)

What would help? Gracious, I've no idea. Aside from what I've been doing. I've taken a page from Aurora's book and have been meeting their requests for documentation with triple the detail they've demanded. I am documenting absolutely everything that occurs in this w-

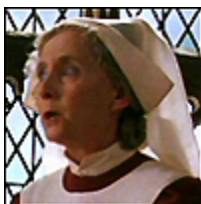
Must run. There's been another incident in the examination hall.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2012-05-17 12:57:37](#)**
(no subject)

I realise that we discussed this last night, but I would like to remind you that however much you may blame yourself, there are entire networks of people who ought to feel so responsible—though they will not.

Ultimately Miss Greengrass's Head of House is the proper one to deal with such disturbances within his zone, recall. You would have been encroaching on his territory to push your complaint too far: not always the best approach. You were in a bind.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-05-17 15:07:25](#)**
(no subject)

I'm pleased you see it that way, at least. Have they asked for your assessment? The St Mungo's inquisition, I mean.

I received a post owl this morning, informing me that my now-annual contractual review will occur Monday and/or Tuesday, 18-19 June 1995 at St Mungo's, to be preceded by an(other) on-site inspection at the Department's convenience. I'm also notified (and I

presume you will be, as well) that during my absence on 18-19 June, a substitute will be provided to the school by St Mungo's as they are mindful that the YPL programme will be conducting CCF trials that week.

[2012-05-15 21:13:00](#)

Private Message to Dux

Hullo, there, you,

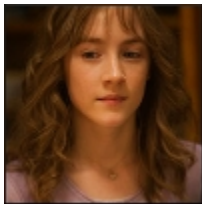
I say, is everyone's seventh year this fraught? I heard that a chap in today's exam burst out like a canary cream, what! And I don't think he'd been anywhere near Fred and George Weasley, either.



 [alt_justin](#)

Perhaps I've not considered *every* possible drawback to staying.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at **[2012-05-16 01:56:52](#)**

(no subject)

Well I don't know about everyone, but they seemed just as fraught last year as this year, if that's what you mean.

So does that mean you feel that exams here are more difficult than in France? Because if so, I think I will have to add that to the list I am making.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at **[2012-05-16 02:26:14](#)**

(no subject)

Can we not

No, I don't think they're more difficult but perhaps they don't determine one's whole future? Or perhaps it only feels as if they're not as important because they're far away.

Or perhaps I'd never really worried about it, what?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-16 02:32:41](#)
(no subject)

I know you're probably tired of me trying to make sure you really see all sides of things, but you *did* bring it up.

But really, "harder exams" isn't a big enough reason to go on the list.

It's funny, because at the picnic you held for everyone, I had a moment where I thought "this will be so nice, to be able to do this whenever we fancy next year." And then I remembered.

When did you say that they'll want an answer from you, again?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-16 02:45:18](#)
(no subject)

I do see it, Dux.

And it's not as if I'm unaware of the risks.

It's just.... It's completely mad, I know, but somehow I do feel more like this is home. Even if France is the only home I knew growing up, what? And I've friends here, much more than at Beauxbatons.

And you.

I mean to say, do you really want me to leave?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-16 02:57:08](#)
(no subject)

If I said that I did, then you would leave.

That's what you would do. Am I right?

From,
Hydra




 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-05-16 03:04:32](#)**
(no subject)

Look, Dux. I don't want to quarrel. It's not a test, what? I'm not bally well playing chess. Stop thinking like a Slytherin. Just answer the question.

Do you want me to tell them no?

-Justin



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-05-16 03:06:15](#)**
(no subject)

No. I want you to tell them what you want to do.

I'm just scared, is all.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-05-16 03:17:26](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I'd say that's well sensible. Being scared, I mean to say.

It's not that I'm not worried. I just...I think part of me wanted to come here and stay even before I got here, if you follow me.

But I have been thinking--I've still got to make sure that if I do stay, things at home are arranged.

I wonder what would happen if I told Mr Rosier 'No' just to see how badly they want me to say 'Yes.'

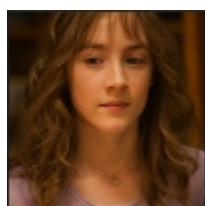
Of course, there's the possibility they don't bally well care

either way. In which case, I suppose I'd leave, what? But it's possible that they'd be willing to negotiate in order to claim that I turned.

But then there's also the possibility they're monitoring all this, in which case I've just given away my whole strategy, what!

See? That's why I need a Slytherin about now and then. Couldn't do without one.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-16 03:22:18](#)
(no subject)

If it is being monitored - well, I don't think that's too likely, but if so, they're probably deciding right now whether to call your bluff, or bluff you in return and pretend that they don't know that you're bluffing.

What sort of things would you negotiate for, though? Or is that the sort of thing best shared in person, so no one can peek in to read it?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-16 03:28:39](#)
(no subject)

Hm, well. Mostly I think we've talked about it before. Making sure my mother's cared for and so on, so forth.

I don't think they'd give me a bad foster placement but that's the sort of thing I could ask, I suppose. I'd also want to make sure I still had access to my own accounts. I shouldn't like my foster family to decide they could control my cash flows, what?

And it's well worth asking what sorts of things would be expected.

I'll write up an owl tomorrow. There's time in History of Magic. Let's think what else to put in, all right?

-Justin

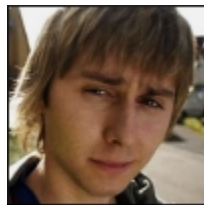



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-16 03:35:10](#)
(no subject)

Those are all reasonable things to ask for, I think. I thought maybe you'd decided to ask for a broomstick with gold-tipped twigs, or someone to carry your books from class to class (in which case, I'd volunteer for that, to give you a break from carrying mine).

But I'll try to think of more things that are important while I'm getting ready for bed.

From,
Hydra



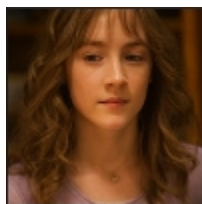
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-16 03:39:42](#)
(no subject)


You carrying my books? Nonsense, Dux. I wouldn't hear of it. I like seeing you in the corridors but it's for me to tote for you. And nothing to do with blood or magic, either, what. That's what a gentleman does, isn't it?

I suppose it is getting late.

Sweet dreams, Dux.

Love,
-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-16 03:42:07](#)
(no subject)

It is. Goodnight, Effs.

||| Love,
Hydra

2012-05-15 21:33:00

Order Only: Interrogating Ellie Summer



 [alt_arthur](#)

I dropped by Laszlo's at midafternoon today, and frowning in my very best obnoxiously officious Ministry manner, I proclaimed loudly that I was there to interview the mudblood Ellie Summer, to determine how she was settling in. (Thank you, Remus, for not laughing. Very heroic of you; I'm sure it must have been difficult.) Tonks ushered us to the small back office and snapped her fingers to coax 'Sinbad' to leave, but he just cocked his head and gave her a look of total doggie incomprehension. Bea obligingly set up a convincing wail right at that moment (wonderful timing; I suspect that Remus stuck a pin in her) and so I waved Tonks off irritably, saying that I supposed the hound could stay. And so Sirius sat in on the meeting too, curled up at Ellie's feet, just as we hoped.

I started out with the sorts of intake questions she has been forced to answer for years: name, place of birth, age her magic first manifested, date of her removal to 'proper' Ministry custody, age of first menses, what was known concerning her family history, confirmation that she has not had any contact with them, etcetera. I had brought along as props my briefcase stuffed with parchments, a clipboard, and one of the more intimidating department forms to fill out. That allowed me to play on her nerves a bit by taking long pauses to make reams of incomprehensible notes in indecipherable shorthand (it's actually a form used to requisition workers by blood type for various assignments, but Ellie naturally didn't need to know that). The give and take of familiar questions seem to steady her somewhat, although I noticed that when I took particularly long pauses she reached out absently to stroke Sirius's ears. At which point I was hard put not to laugh myself.

I then asked her about her present assignment, doing my best to make the questions as insulting and condescending as possible. ('How long after your masters eat are you permitted to eat? Is the food they give you spoiled in any way? Are you allowed blankets for sleeping? Have you acquired any infestations of lice or other vermin since your work assignment began? Where do you toilet? You DO? They actually allow you to share the family's facilities rather than use a chamber pot? Hmm' [a stern look and more copious notes]. 'Have you ever soiled your sleeping quarters at night before they unlock it in the morning? You haven't? My goodness, you're quite well-trained then, aren't

you?') She merely blinked at every question, no matter how impertinent, and answered each in the mildest possible voice.

I turned a page over on the form, looked down my nose at her, and asked her to tell me about Mr and Mrs Ponds. What was her impression of them?

She stared off into space for a long moment, and her expression changed not a jot, but I noted her fingers tightening a bit on Sirius's collar. She muttered something about how of course it's not her place to judge her betters. 'Yes, yes,' I said impatiently, 'but the Ministry prides itself on making the best possible placement for all Mudbloods placed within its custody, and so we must take your impressions into account of course. How else can we learn whether your masters were the right sort or not? The Protectorate naturally must make use of every pair of eyes and ears, even the most insignificant, to monitor what happens within its borders.' I let the pause spin out even longer until she licked her lips, looked down at her feet and mumbled that she was sure that Mr and Mrs Ponds must be the right sort, because Mrs Ponds beat her when she broke a glass, so she knew that they wouldn't stand for any stupid mudblood nonsense.

It's a good thing she wasn't looking at me right then, because I'm afraid my face would have scared her. Fortunately, Sirius grabbed her attention at that point by suddenly sitting up and starting to lick her hands. (Good save, Sirius). When I had regained control of my expression, I probed a bit more, but she adamantly resisted all my lures to be a talebearer. Mr and Mrs Ponds were model citizens, she was sure, 'quite strict, really.' I asked her whether they have put her in charge of Bea, and she said no, because of course she has to prove herself trustworthy first.

So, anyway, that's what I gleaned from our meeting. She showed some 'tells' of nerves, which would probably be apparent to an experienced interrogator, but despite significant pressure from me she stuck to her story in the most inoffensive way and defended you.

Sirius, can you add anything more?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-16 03:03:57](#)
(no subject)

Cor, Dad. Sounds like you were channeling Percy.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-16 03:04:27](#)
(no subject)

I suppose I was. In a way.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-16 03:10:46](#)
(no subject)

Poor kid.

Terry once talked to us about why it always felt natural to him for muggleborns to lie to their masters. 'You have to do it,' he said, 'if what they want on the outside doesn't match how you feel on the inside. If you want to stay sane.'

Guess it's understandable, given who his 'master' is and the company he keeps. Meant that Terry saw a pretty skewed sample.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-05-16 03:04:56](#)
(no subject)

She lied to protect us?

That's certainly promising.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-16 16:09:32](#)
(no subject)

Yes. But also a reason to be wary until you get to know her better.

The point being that she IS willing to lie.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-16 03:10:32](#)
(no subject)

She said I beat her?



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-16 03:12:38](#)**
(no subject)

I'm quite sure it's what she thought I wanted to hear. That it would make less trouble for you.

Merlin. That says a lot, doesn't it?



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-05-16 03:14:08](#)**
(no subject)

It's awful.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-05-16 03:19:04](#)**
(no subject)

But it says a lot that she lied to a Ministry official to protect us. You're right.

Do you know, Arthur, that the first days here, she was terrified of Sinbad? She's got over that, I guess, too.

You were perfect. Though, I expect that doesn't make you feel any better than I feel about her saying I hit her.




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-16 15:18:16](#)**
(no subject)

It was a role I didn't enjoy playing, believe me. But it was necessary. And it did teach us something, that the girl is already showing loyalty to you.

I know you'll treat her kindly, and surely that will help her heal. In time. I regret that, due to the part I had to play, I couldn't assure her of that myself.



 **alt_alice** at [2012-05-16 03:23:44](#)
(no subject)

Well, that's fairly good news, isn't it?

Our Muggle born young people, the ones who were in service, have had a wide range of challenges. Tim had a very positive experience with his... well, I wouldn't call them masters. They were more like adoptive parents, really. And then there's the experiences of our dear Portia, and Zachary and Nicholas, who were all just brutalized by their owners. I'm sure she's heard horror stories aplenty, and knows that she's got a better thing going on than many.

Remus, Sirius, Tonks, from what I've seen with our people at Moddey, it's taken a good long while to gain trust and to establish healthy relationships. I suspect it'll take special care with Ellie, because even once you sort out what's really going on, she'll still be pretending to be a servant, and that can be a hard thing to turn on and off again. That, and she'll be a bit out numbered, which cannot really be helped.

I think it's promising, very promising that she was willing to lie about her position and how she was being treated, and that she didn't reveal anything illegal she overheard. But we still ought to be careful, because it's a different thing to cover up minor infractions to stay in a place where people treat you nicely, and to keep very big secrets that could get people killed. That changes the equation a bit.

I hope it all works out, though, and that we're going to be able to do right by her.



 **alt_nymphadora** at [2012-05-16 03:44:31](#)
(no subject)

That's it, exactly. That's what I hope. That we can make her life better and do the right thing by her. Not use her or make her twist herself in knots for us.

Do you know that when I came home from work this morning, she plonked down on the floor at my feet and

she took off my shoes and started massaging my feet, Alice

it was--I don't even know--

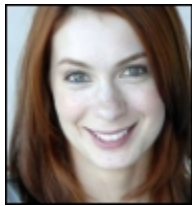
I could hardly sit there and let her do it, but if I'd jumped up and shown how shocked I was, she'd have thought I was angry and she'd have been terrified, but, well.


It was just so--

No one should have to do that for another person, at least one they're not intimate with, and then they don't have to do it, if you see what I mean. It was just--

I couldn't help wonder if it was what the woman she'd worked for before had made her do or if it was just that she was so utterly frantic to show me that she wants to be here and will do anything we want just to convince us to keep her.

I still don't feel right about it at all.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-16 03:58:59](#)**
(no subject)

I think there's a lot going on there, Tonks.

Part of it is doing what she thinks she ought.

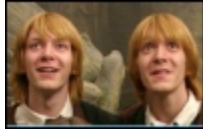
Part of it might be because she wants to show her appreciation and doesn't know how.

The young people we have here -- it's hard sometimes, because we don't want to give orders or make them feel like they *must* do something, or even that they'd be punished if they didn't do their work. But that's their default setting, even though we've been working between us to sort things out. It's slow going, no mistake.

I think the fact that you, Sirius and Remus have all three been working on how to create a place where you're all on equal footing will help with Ellie. She'll not be linked to Bea in quite the same way, of course, but you've got practice talking through your problems and sorting out ways where everyone can have a say and can reach some sort of mutual agreements, and that's a good model for Ellie too. And I think it'd be different if she had a wand of her own, too, and was able to learn how to use it. That has a way of equalizing things, and restoring something that should by

all rights belong to her.

I know you're not nearly there yet, but you're certainly moving in the right direction.

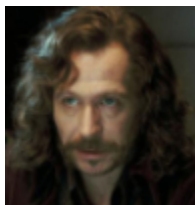


 **alt_gredforge** at **2012-05-16 15:31:46**
(no subject)

You know, we don't know if we would ever have become as good friends with Terry Boot as we did if it hadn't been for a sheer fluke. That git Carrow turned him into a dog once as a punishment. Terry got away from him and we found him and sort of adopted him as a pet. Brought him into the Gryffindor Common Room, had him sleep by the fire, fed him choice bits of beef stew we sneaked out of the Great Hall, generally made a fuss over him. He told us later that it was the first time anyone had ever treated him decent, and until then he didn't even know that it was like. Lavishing him with affection, he said, 'without expecting anything in return.' That last bit was what was what seemed most significant to him, we think.

Of course we're not suggesting you transfigure Ellie Summer or anything! There are some Muggleborns who get treated like pets (Dennis Creevey springs to mind), and it doesn't do anything but convince them they're subhuman.

But just treating her decently will probably go a long way. As long as you make it clear it's because you think she deserves it as a person, and not because you're expecting extra work out of her.



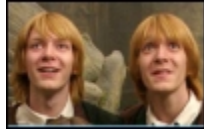
 **alt_sirius** at **2012-05-16 17:45:49**
(no subject)

I think something else that will help is when she sees how we treat the other muggleborn who come in to the shop. She's started figuring it all out; I can tell.

And you're right, Dora, she's completely overcome her fear of 'Sinbad' so that'll help us gauge how she really feels about things.

But as to Terry: He's been transfigured into an animal before, you say? Hm. That ... could mean something.

Have to check a reference. If I can remember which book it was in.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-16 19:33:47](#)
(no subject)

Oh, wow. We didn't even think of that.

Yeah, and what's more, he stayed in that form for almost a week. Professor McGonagall spotted him when we brought him to a Quidditch game and immediately knew he was a human, and so she changed him back, forcibly.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-16 19:38:12](#)
(no subject)

Right.

I mean to say, the principle's different when someone is forcing a form but it might create a mental model for him.

I think it's in Wycliffe. Of course, I don't have my copy because I hid it in my old bedroom and then left home with it still shoved into the back of the wardrobe. I'm sure it's still there but currently as you know I'm



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-16 23:18:54](#)
(no subject)

Sorry about that. She started coming up the stairs. Barely had time to change back to Padfoot.

I was saying (rather appropriately) that the other delay here is that we're not getting back to Grimmauld Place as often as we could do a week ago.

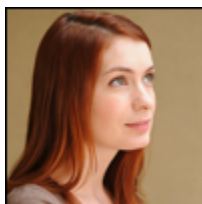
I'm spending almost as much time as a dog, lately, as I did last year, in fact. Now that Ellie's over her fear of Sinbad, she's grown a bit obsessed with him, actually. Wants him around and tries to find him when she hasn't seen him in an hour or


two. I think she might believe that his protectiveness of the family might just extend to her, now that he's 'used' to having her about. Sad thing is, she's right. At least until she gives us a reason to act otherwise.

I could only change back because she's fixing Dora and Remus their supper now. Remus had to tell her that it's all right to let Sinbad out of the back of the garden, that he likes to ramble about the neighbourhood and that it's better for them since he can sometimes find his own supper that way.

But the good news is that that gave me the chance to find an open Floo and visit Grimmauld. I can't stay long but I'll get that book and take a look at it tonight, after Ellie's asleep.

Well. Maybe I'll stay long enough for Kreacher to make me something to eat.



 **alt_alice** at **2012-05-16 05:21:52**
(no subject)

I think another person who can weigh in on all of this would be our Hermione, of course. I'd bet she'd have an insight or two that could help shed some light, and some suggestions for how to proceed.




 **alt_sirius** at **2012-05-16 17:51:53**
(no subject)

No, Arthur, I think you've summed it up. She was definitely nervous and afraid when you started interviewing her; I could smell it. But then about halfway through she became ... defiant, I suppose, is the best way I could describe it.

But like you said, we don't know yet whether that's really out of loyalty to Dora and Remus or if it's just a product of not telling the Ministry anything. I think some from the camps would have trouble admitting that it's raining even if a Ministry official were offering them an umbrella.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-16 19:37:28](#)**
(no subject)

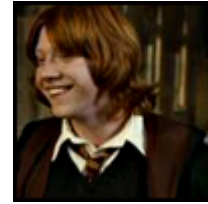
Interesting.

It's definitely helpful to have an animagus on staff.

2012-05-16 09:23:00

Oh, Brilliant!

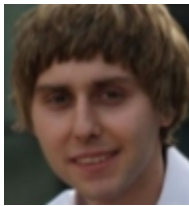
Have you lot seen what the Hufflepuffs've done to the north stairs? They've charmed a great ginormous banner to cover the gap when the steps rotate away from fourth west.



 [alt_ron](#)

Saw it on my way up here to Binns' room. Wish I'd been on that one--people were dancing on it!

Hope Diggory sees it before Milland comes along and takes it away.



 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-05-16 15:55:31**

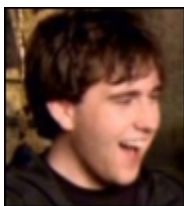
(no subject)


Hullo, Ron,

It's still there! One of the second-years tried to bounce on it like a blanket or trampoline, what, and a prefect told her off.

No one will say who put it up but Begy claims it's perfectly safe.

-Justin



 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-05-16 16:12:07**

(no subject)

I like how they charmed it so the badger dances when people try walking on it.



 [alt_zacharias](#) at **2012-05-16 23:11:40**

(no subject)

It's well snitch, innit?

Took us weeks to figure out.

Did you hear what happened when Milland showed up? I've never seen him so cross. Somehow he figured out that it was Fleet and

Diggle and he threatened to keep them in detention right through the end of their NEWTs so they'd have to repeat the year. Professor Vector told him he couldn't so he told them he'd take 200 points apiece. Worth it, though.

(Besides, Professor Vector waited until he'd gone and gave them each 100 points for ingenuity.)

Anyway, Milland made them take it down but--brilliant, hey?

[2012-05-16 20:31:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am up to No Good


I've got a claw. I've got a claw!

It's my left fourth finger. It's a real claw!



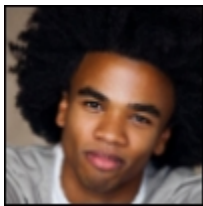
 [alt_terry](#)




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-17 01:35:35](#)
(no subject)

Are you serious? Like a real animal claw? That's fantastic!


Wait a minute. Getting Fred and George.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-17 01:37:59](#)
(no subject)

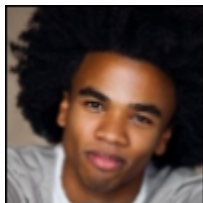
They're asking, what sort of animal is it? Do you think?




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 01:39:57](#)
(no subject)

oh


bugger



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-17 01:40:36](#)
(no subject)

What? What? Is it something big? Something scary?

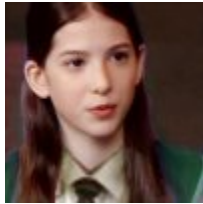


 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 01:41:55](#)
(no subject)

I dunno what sort of animal

but I can't change it back


let me try again



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 01:41:04](#)
(no subject)


What's wrong?



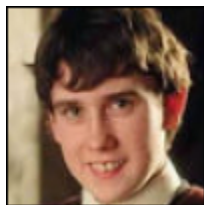
 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 01:42:54](#)
(no subject)

I can't change it back! What'll I do?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 01:43:21](#)
(no subject)

WHAT IF HE SEES?!



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 01:44:53](#)
(no subject)

Uh, oh.

That's not good.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 01:37:06](#)
(no subject)

You did it? You did it!

Can you change anything more than the claw? I mean, your finger?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 01:39:30](#)
(no subject)

That's fantastic!

Were you trying to turn into something specific? I mean do you know what sort of claw it is?




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 01:49:15](#)
(no subject)

It's an animal, I'm pretty sure. Not a bird, I think. And not something...something that lives under the water. A curved sort of claw, longer and narrower than my fingernail. Pointed, but not REALLY pointed, like if it were a lion's or anything like that. So not something that hunts with claws. And above the claw it's sprouted with this sort of hair. Fur, I guess. Shortest near the claw but longer up toward the knuckle, like a couple inches.


Merlin, it looks weird.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 01:50:11](#)
(no subject)


The claw is a colour sort of between brown and black.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 01:50:42](#)
(no subject)

WHAT AM I GONNA DO?



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-17 01:51:07](#)
(no subject)

Where is he right now?




 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-05-17 01:52:31](#)
(no subject)

Not here. He's been busy with the prisoners all afternoon, and I think he's writing his notes up this evening.

But he'll come back and he'll see and then he'll KILL me!




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-17 01:53:25](#)
(no subject)

Look, Terry, the twins are saying don't panic.


They're gonna slip out to the library. They've got something they want to look up.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-17 01:54:07](#)
(no subject)


Is the ghost around? The ghost who is your friend? Perhaps he can distract him?



 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-05-17 01:55:05](#)
(no subject)

Maybe. Hang on. I'll call for him. Sometimes he comes when I call.




 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-05-17 01:55:34](#)
(no subject)

I'm shaking all over. I'm really scared.


WHY WON'T IT CHANGE BACK!?



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-17 02:00:37](#)
(no subject)


Well, it's probably harder to do if you're upset. It'll be easier if you can keep calm.



 **[alt_tery](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:01:18](#)**
(no subject)

That's really not helping!




 **[alt_tery](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:04:31](#)**
(no subject)

Donaghan just came. Hang on.

All right. He's slipping out to check where the git is.



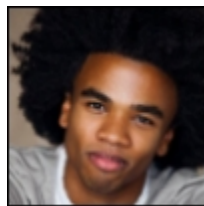
 **[alt_tery](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:09:52](#)**
(no subject)


Now he's back. The ghost.

and bugger, he says that the git's headed back here.

now.


the ghost's going back out to try to head him off for awhile.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:11:06](#)**
(no subject)

Do you have some liquor in the room? I know you say he does most of his drinking on Friday and Saturday nights, but can you give him a bottle, get him really pissed? So he won't notice anything?




 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:11:46](#)**
(no subject)

Just a minute.

Twins are back. Wait--



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:18:11](#)**
(no subject)

Right. Okay, so the twins slipped out to check a book they knew about in the library.

They said it's a really good sign. But it's a common mistake when you're just starting out, changing just part way, or not being able to change back right away. You could be overthinking it. They said the book put it like this, it's like when you bite your cheek and then you can't stop running your tongue over the torn part, see?


So yeah, do the do-not-notice incantation over it. Then YOU won't notice either. And they say that'll calm you down, and your body should spring back on its own, like, as long as you can stop fretting about it, see?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:22:44](#)**
(no subject)

Terry, if it's too risky to use your wand, if you need something to distract yourself, do multiplication. 2×2 is 4, 2×3 is 6, 2×4 is 8, if you have it memorised just recite it and if you don't, work it out for every number up through 10×10 .



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:24:05](#)**
(no subject)

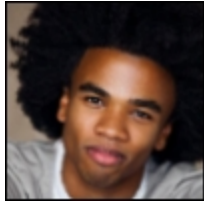
He's not back yet. Guess the ghost distracted him. I've got the glamour on it now.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:25:31](#)**
(no subject)

Brilliant.

You're a really good wizard, you know.




 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:26:42](#)**
(no subject)

And put the bottle out somewhere he can see it when he gets back.

It's gonna be okay, mate. The twins are ecstatic and they said to tell you congratulations.


Don't you realise what this means? You're gonna be able to do it, Terry!



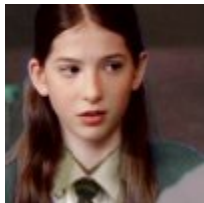
 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:22:57](#)**
(no subject)


Try a calming spell on yourself, too.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:24:52](#)**
(no subject)

Good idea. I'll do that, too.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-05-17 02:31:59](#)**
Private message to Lee Jordan

Lee?

Can you tell the Twins I'd really like to read that book? If they could let me know title and section I'll get it on my own.

I would really like to learn the animagus transformation. I don't know if I'll be able to but I'm not even really sure where to start and it sounds like that book has information I haven't been able to find.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 02:05:00](#)
(no subject)


Instead of changing it back can you cast a notice-me-not charm on your entire hand?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 02:13:32](#)
(no subject)

That's a good idea.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-17 02:14:07](#)
(no subject)

But you'd best do it quickly before he gets back. You can't pull your wand out when he's in the room.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 02:16:19](#)
(no subject)

Or use one of those illusions you do when he's beaten you, and you've healed yourself but want him to still see bruises.

You can solve this, Terry. He's not going to see.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 02:21:39](#)
(no subject)

Right. All right.

Bugger, I'm shaking so hard, and I can barely hold my wand.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 02:23:44](#)
(no subject)

Did you see what I said about multiplication?
If you can't cast a charm right now do the
multiplication table in your head.

~~It's what I 2x2 is 4, 2x3 is 6, and so on. Do it all the way up to
100. If the Twins are right~~



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 02:28:25](#)
(no subject)

Right. All right.

Thanks.

Sorry I was panicking. But I got the

he's here



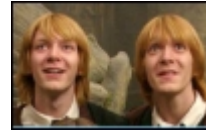
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 02:32:42](#)
(no subject)

Bugger.

2012-05-16 20:57:00

Order Only: Sirius, help!!

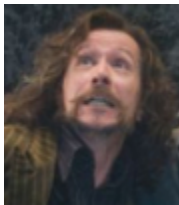
Terry just got word to us that he's managed to change a finger into a claw.



 **alt_gredforge**

Except it won't change back. Now he's panicking because he's afraid the git will see. And probably kill him.

Bugger all. Is there anything he can do?



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-05-17 02:06:15**

(no subject)

He what?

Tell him it's all right. Happens. The best thing is not to over-think turning it back. Most common mistake when you're starting out is to get stuck. It's a good sign.

But the second-most common mistake is that once you're stuck it's hard not to keep trying to change it. It's like biting the inside of your cheek and then not being able to keep from running your tongue over the torn skin.

If he can keep calm and forget about it, it should revert on its own. The challenge is Carrow. Can he put a disillusionment on it?

It's a good sign, though. And the passage I was looking for *is* in the Wycliffe. I'll copy it out for you in a little while.



 **alt_gredforge** at **2012-05-17 02:12:18**

(no subject)

Good. Right. We'll pass that on right away.

Thanks, Sirius. Ever so much.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-05-17 04:01:55](#)**
(no subject)

All right.

Ellie's gone down to her cot and we're settling in for the night. I've got time to look at Wycliffe.

Can Terry receive owls? It might be more efficient at this point for me to write to him directly. I can put a charm on the letter so that Carrow won't be able to read it.

Wycliffe gives over two chapters to the transfiguration of humans into animals. Unfortunately he doesn't devote more than two paragraphs to the Animagus transformation but he does talk about the theory that having been transformed into an animal could predispose a practitioner to that same species. However, I have to caution you that all the information I've ever been able to find is clear on the matter of forcing oneself into a particular type of animal. It could lead to disastrous consequences, like never being able to change back.

So what I'd suggest to Terry at this point is that if he can somehow recall what it was like to be that dog - not focusing so much on the physical aspects or on that dog in particular, or even dogs in particular, but the sensation of ... *nowness*, I suppose. The way things looked, the way they smelled, the way that the ground felt beneath his paws. What it felt like when one of you two scratched his ears. That sort of thing.

But if I can send him an owl, I might be able to give him a few other suggestions.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-05-17 04:15:15](#)**
(no subject)

Great. We have an owl you can use, Pigwidgeon (we call him Pig). He's been trained to avoid Carrow, and to only deliver to Terry if Carrow's not there. We'll send him to you.

Except--we suppose that'll make it clear to him we're with the wand smugglers then, right? Or that SOMEONE with the group of kids on the lock we made is in contact with you. Because he'll wonder why he's getting a letter from you that's delivered by Pig.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-05-17 19:51:53](#)**
(no subject)

Are you forgetting that little game of Twenty Questions that Hermione had me play with your group? I think he already knows someone is in contact with me.

But don't worry; I can be careful in what I tell him.

2012-05-16 21:45:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



So Terry, when you get back:

You said it's a claw between brown and black. Curved. Longer and narrower than a fingernail, pointed but not super sharp (so not a hunting animal) and fur near the knuckle.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

I'm trying to think what sort of animal it might be. Nearly everything with paws has claws -- rabbits do, squirrels do, weasels, rats, bats. Rat claws are pretty sharp, though. Definitely not a lizard or other reptile because those don't have fur.

If you were turning into a weasel (for instance) you'd get a whole lot smaller but maybe that didn't happen because you transformed just one finger? The Headmistress would know for sure but I can't exactly go ask her.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-05-17 02:53:05**
(no subject)

Probably not a rabbit, come to think of it. Their claws are blunt but also pretty short. Maybe a squirrel or weasel.

Not a deer. They have hooves.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-05-17 02:54:45**
(no subject)


He didn't say what colour the fur was, did he? That might give us a hint, too.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 02:55:39](#)
(no subject)

We should take bets!



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-17 02:56:56](#)
(no subject)

He also didn't say whether the claw was smaller, proportionately, than the rest of his hand. I wonder if that's different if he's going to turn into a really smaller animal? Does everything shrink at the same time as you change?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 02:59:31](#)
(no subject)

Have you ever seen the Headmistress transform?

Maybe I'll see if Professor Brutka would persuade her to come and give us a demonstration.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-17 03:01:50](#)
(no subject)

I never have. I've never seen any animagus transform, which makes sense because they're really rare.

And I suppose the Headmistress doesn't have much call to turn into a cat, in the regular course of her duties, I mean.



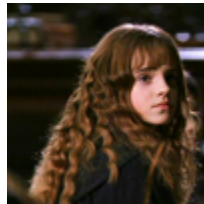
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 03:13:16](#)
(no subject)

If I were the Headmistress I'd transform into a cat just to roam around the castle because everyone would assume I was someone's pet. Think how much you'd overhear.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 03:21:13](#)
(no subject)

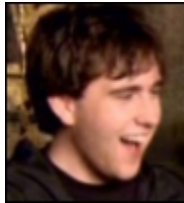
Oh, thanks. Now I'm going to be looking funny at every cat I see!



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-05-17 13:04:18](#)
(no subject)

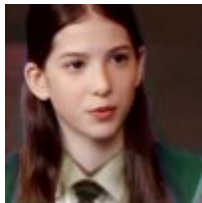
She looks like a tortoiseshell, with little markings around her eyes like glasses.

Also when she does it it happens all at once. So it looks like she's just hunching over and then she sort of gets smaller. She doesn't just put out a claw.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 03:00:33](#)
(no subject)

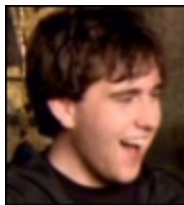
No idea.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 02:56:25](#)
(no subject)

No, just that it was short.

Which doesn't narrow it down all that much. I can't think of any animals that have long fur down by their claws; think how tangled it would get in twigs and so on when they were running around.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 02:59:24](#)
(no subject)

Sloths do. I dunno. Maybe? Except their claws are really long and curved.

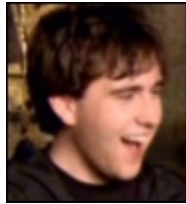
And I can't exactly see Terry turning into a sloth.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 03:01:31](#)
(no subject)

No! And yeah. Don't sloths have ENORMOUS claws?

He might be a fox. Although I'd think he'd have commented on the reddish fur.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 03:04:13](#)
(no subject)

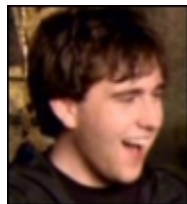
Or what about a ferret?

Probably not a badger. That'd hurt his Ravenclaw soul.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 03:07:48](#)
(no subject)

Ohhhhhh that would be almost as bad as if a Gryffindor became an animagus and turned into a SNAKE.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 03:09:13](#)
(no subject)

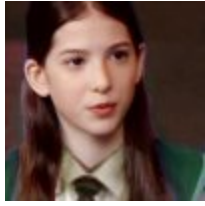
No kidding! Any Gryffindor would probably die of shame.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 03:10:03](#)
(no subject)

'Oh hurrah! I have mastered this incredibly difficult bit of wizardry! I am so proud!'


'Oh HORRORS! I have turned myself into the symbol of a rival house! I CAN NEVER TELL A SOUL OR TRANSFORM AGAIN!'



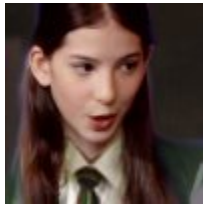
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 03:08:19](#)
(no subject)

Honestly I think I'd rather transform into a badger than a snake. Snakes are cold-blooded and this isn't a very warm castle.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-17 03:08:15](#)
(no subject)

Probably not anything in the cat family, either. Their claws are all very sharp, aren't they?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 03:15:33](#)
(no subject)

VERY sharp. If he were turning into a cat he'd have been able to draw blood if he pricked one of his other fingers with it.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-17 04:26:52](#)
(no subject)

Well, if it isn't any sort of cat, what about a wolf? Or a fox?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-17 03:09:10](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

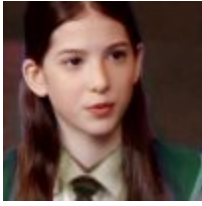
I've just looked through my journal for the evening. Hydra and I were working on a letter to Mr Rosier so

I couldn't before.

I'm glad you suggested the charm for Terry's hand, what?

I've no idea what sort of claw it could be, though. Bear?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 03:11:41](#)
(no subject)


Well that would be absolutely huge but then again a weasel would be tiny. If you don't shrink or grow until the end of the transformation...



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 03:12:52](#)
(no subject)

Oh, great. Then Terry could turn into a bear and BITE CARROW'S HEAD OFF.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-17 03:13:46](#)
(no subject)

I'm not sure he'd really like to do that. When you think about it.

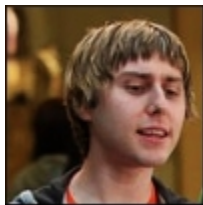
I mean, it would really be sort of nasty, wouldn't it?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 03:14:22](#)
(no subject)

Oh, er...yeah. I suppose it would.

Sorry.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-17 03:15:15](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Luna.

He shouldn't have to actually chew it, what? I mean to say, he could spit it out.

I would do.

But it would certainly solve his problem!

-Justin



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 03:15:39](#)
(no subject)

Urgh!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 03:16:52](#)
(no subject)

I say, old chap, that's an excellent idea.

Terry: if you turn into a bear, spit Carrow's head out after you bite it off.



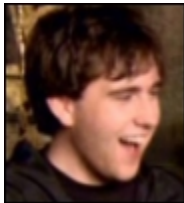
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 03:14:19](#)
(no subject)

That would be brilliant except he'd want a bezoar handy, Carrow's got to be completely poisonous.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-17 04:21:03](#)
(no subject)

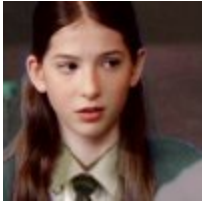
Point.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-17 03:19:00](#)
(no subject)

Another thing...he didn't mention whether it was a retractable claw or not, did he? Are there any animals that are able to retract their claws besides cats?

(Maybe it didn't even occur to him, or he was too freaked out to try. I would probably be!)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 03:22:26](#)
(no subject)

I think it's just cats.

If he could've retracted it that would have solved most of his problem right there.

[2012-05-17 10:27:00](#)

I solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good



I have my finger back.

I've never been so happy to see my own finger.

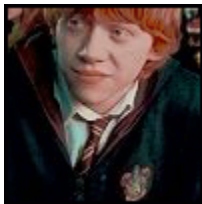
 [alt_terry](#)


I was dead lucky. the git never noticed a thing. Well, except for the Firewhiskey bottle i left out for him on the table.

The calming spell I put on myself helped. And with the notice-me-not spell, I actually had forgotten about it by the time I went to sleep! (Weird, huh?) It was back to normal this morning.

I think I have to be real careful about when I do this from now on. Sometime when I figure he's going to be gone for several hours. Just in case.

And of course, that assumes I'll ever get up the nerve to try it again. It was really really scary when I couldn't change it back.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-17 15:39:58](#)
(no subject)


Good show, mate.

Glad it's back to normal, but really, really well done you got that claw to

what's the right word for it?

that you got a claw to happen, y'know? You're going to figure out the whole transformation any day now!




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 16:09:37](#)
(no subject)

The word I thought when it happened was 'erupt.' That claw just sprang out of my fingernail. I was so surprised I almost shrieked. It felt like...well, like nothing I've ever felt before. It started with a sort of tingling, and then another feeling I can't describe. Maybe a sort of...tickling--no. Not physical. I guess it's a sensation rippling through my magic.

The thing is, right when I looked down and saw the claw, that preliminary tingling was starting in my other fingers on that hand, too. So I guess I might have even gone further with the transformation if I hadn't sort of stopped everything dead when I saw the claw. Don't know how I did that either. I guess I just got distracted and lost it, whatever that power was.

Not sure that makes any sense.




 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-05-17 16:20:55](#)**
(no subject)

We're relieved things are all right for you.

If it hadn't been for Carrow, perhaps it would have been rather interesting to have it stay that way. You could perhaps do things with a claw that you can't with a fingernail. Sharpen quill points, perhaps?



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-05-17 16:21:22](#)**
(no subject)

What an idea!


No. I think I prefer all or nothing.



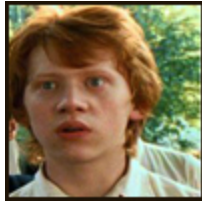
 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-05-17 16:22:08](#)**
(no subject)


What colour was the fur, Terry? I don't think you said. Was it curly, or straight?



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-05-17 16:25:16](#)**
(no subject)

It wasn't kinky, or curly. Short enough to be smooth by the toes, and then long enough to sort of, uh, flop in any direction. Sorta silky. Not particularly pretty, though. It was a mixture of colours: some sort of cream, and some strands were dark, almost charcoal, so altogether it looked like almost a dirty grey.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-17 16:31:13](#)
(no subject)


Toes?

I thought it was on your hands? Were you getting fur all over, then?

Ew. I mean, that just-

Yeah, mate, you need to get on with it so it's a real transformation, not just a bunch of hair all over and some claws, 'cause that's just- not a good look.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 16:49:25](#)
(no subject)

Oh, yeah. It WAS my hand, but when I saw the claw, I started thinking 'paw,' and I guess I think of animals with paws as having four feet, rather than two hands and two feet. If that makes any sense.

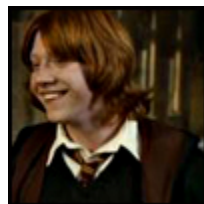
But I still have no idea what sort of animal I was turning into. It's kind of unnerving feeling, knowing that, well, I have the potential to be something else, something real different. But I just don't know what it is yet. Even if it's inside me.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-17 16:51:50](#)
(no subject)

And no, I was just sprouting fur on that one finger.

Maybe I'd better learn a depilatory charm. Just in case.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-17 16:54:03](#)
(no subject)

Hahahahaha!

Oops. Nearly got detention for that.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-17 16:27:30](#)
(no subject)

Sure it does. Magic's always like that: if you get surprised or you think, 'that can't happen', then you lose the spell and have to start over.

I mean, it happens to firsties all the time, and even now in Transfig it sometimes happens to me when something happens that I wasn't expecting.

In Charms and Defence and other subjects that use spells, it doesn't happen much now because I don't have to think about how casting works anymore, I just know.

Mind you, that doesn't mean spells don't go pear-shaped anymore, 'cause they definitely do. And sometimes it takes yonks to get a new Charm to work at all, but it's different now, and when they do finally go, they just pop like any other spell.

You'll get it to go soon, though. I'm dead sure of it.

2012-05-17 11:52:00

Private message to Professor Sinistra and Mr Leopold Wright



 [alt_luna](#)

I'm so happy that my owl didn't find you too busy to consider being my mentor for the CCF application. I've thought a great deal about the questions you asked me in return, and I hope my answers will help give you a better idea of why I'd like so very much to be a naturalist.

My father always took me for long walks in the woods around our home from the time I was a very little girl, and he was the one who taught me to look for the signs of magical creatures. I learned how to sketch because I became fascinated with recording the details of what tracks and nests looked like, or the details of the way feathers lay on the back. (My handwriting was a bit sloppy because I was so young at that point, and so sketching was easier). I added paints later because I wanted so desperately to capture just the right colour of the iridescence on the wing of a Fireball Fly or the different jewel-like tones of glowing salamanders. I've spent years collecting notes and sketches in field books (my father showed me how). We kept a Life List of the magical animals and birds and so on that we saw, and it was always particularly exciting when we would find signs of a truly rare creature.

So Care of Magical Creatures is my favourite class, of course. But I'm particularly interested in what you do, working with particularly endangered magical species. My primary interest in Potions class is a little off-centre: I like trying to adapt potions or potion ingredients so that it's not necessary to use as much or as many ingredients taken from the really rarest animals. For example, did you know that when you're brewing Romney's Elixer for Speed, if you add three ounces of hag toe nail clippings, you only need three parts of unicorn hoof shavings to one part horse hoof shavings (instead of five parts)?

I only had to blow up four cauldrons to find that out, too!

I'm sending one of my field notebooks by return owl. I hope you will find it interesting. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Luna Lovegood



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-17 18:17:38](#)

(no subject)

Miss Lovegood -

I'm so glad Mr Wright had a chance to write further to you.

I'm sure you and he will have plenty to discuss. Don't feel you need to include me on further conversations, at this point, though I do appreciate knowing this. (Though if you don't mind, I'm going to take advantage of the opportunity to drop him a quick private note about some other details for this summer before I forget.)



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-17 18:26:12](#)

Private message to Leopold Wright

Leopold -

Thanks so much for encouraging Miss Lovegood. She's a bright young woman, and I'd love to see her get an opportunity to develop her skills in a useful direction. She does have the oddest ideas sometimes (as you noted in your comments to me), but she means well, and her ability to look at a situation and see both the wonderful and the unusual are fascinating. I'm also hoping she makes it into the CCF, as her problem-solving skills would shake things up nicely.

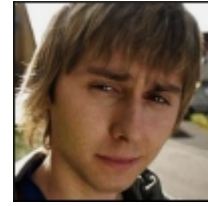
While I'm here, though: first, thanks for facilitating us getting the most recent wildlife reports for Hambleton, Bedford Purlieus, and the Peak District locations. We're still hoping for the first, but will see about taking steps to avoid the spots you suggested.

And second, thanks for confirming for the camping trip again: you're by far my favourite presenter of the Magical Creatures specialists we've had, in terms of the stories and approaches you share. I think it'll be the Tuesday again, but if that changes, we'll let you know.

And I apologise again for keeping Campanella so occupied over the weekend when you were actually home: I know she was looking forward to more time with you. We should be in good shape now though for another month or two, at least.

2012-05-17 15:32:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 **alt_justin**

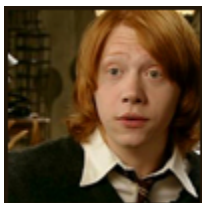
I say, Terry, I'm well glad that you're back to normal. I do think it's got to be a sign you're heading in the right direction, what? Besides, being able to cast that disillusionment under the circumstances more than proves you're bally well cracking at magic and don't let anyone tell you otherwise.


I'm writing a letter to Mr Rosier. Hydra and I were working on it last night, as well but I wanted you lot to look it over, too. There are a few things in it that I'm concerned might be tipping my hand, what, but one has to bring them to light and better to do it now, when there's time to back out, than after I've agreed and come to find out it's the bad end of a wrong decision.

I also thought, well, if I copy it out for you lot, you might point out anything I've missed asking, or might want to say differently, if you follow me. There's some information that's rather personal. I say, I hope you don't find that it's selfish or, er--well, there are things to do with money, and other somewhat touchy subjects, what? But as I say, the questions have to be asked.

If I wrote it out under the lock, would that be all right? I've told Hydra that I planned to ask some of you to have a look so it's not as if she'll wonder if something suddenly changes before I send it. I have to send it soon, though, or there shan't be time to work everything out.

-Justin



 **alt_ron** at **2012-05-17 21:07:34**
(no subject)

Sure, sure.

Is it very long?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-17 21:17:21](#)
(no subject)

That would probably be wise, yes.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-17 23:55:25](#)
(no subject)

I still think you


Yes. I agree with Pansy, you should have us look.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-18 01:55:44](#)
(no subject)

Sure, if you think it might help.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-18 01:56:20](#)
(no subject)

It would be our honour, really.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-18 01:57:09](#)
(no subject)

I'll have a look at it, yeah.

2012-05-18 13:53:00

Private message to Rory

Hallo love. You're off from now until midnight, yeah?

Mind if I come up? Something I need to tell you.



 **alt_rabastan**



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-05-18 19:59:48**

(no subject)

In my rooms, and certainly.



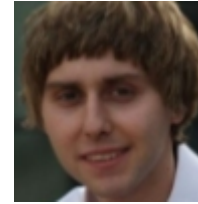
 **alt_rabastan** at **2012-05-18 20:02:06**

(no subject)

Right, I'll be up straight away.

2012-05-18 16:15:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Hullo,

Here it is:

 [alt_justin](#)

"Dear Mr Rosier,

I hope you received my previous note of thanks for the tea basket. As I said, I shared the contents with several of the friends I have made during my time in the Protectorate. It made quite a jolly party.

I'm sure you will not be surprised to learn that I've been giving your kind offer quite a lot of consideration. I shan't deny that there are temptations here that I find compelling. But it's a monumental decision, to choose to leave forever the only home I've ever known.

I had a few questions, which I hope you shall not find forward, but which would go far toward easing my mind.

To begin, you mentioned that I'd be placed in fostering. May I ask how that would be accomplished? I'm sure it's an unusual situation, coming into a foster-family at such a late stage. As I'm only a year from my majority, I'm not keen to enter an arrangement that would present significant limitations on the independence I have enjoyed this year. Would it be possible instead to simply remain at Hogwarts over the school holidays, or to be assigned to one of the staff instead of moving in with another family for so short a period of time? Or does one's foster-family relationship continue beyond one's coming of age? And if so, what measure of influence does one's foster-family have the right to exact? Over what aspects of one's life? Apprenticeships? Property?

For example, I have been accustomed to manage my own finances. Would that be allowed to continue? And for that matter, those finances currently reside in accounts on the continent. Would I need to set up an account at Gringotts in New London or could I continue as I have been, transferring the funds there for withdrawal as-needed?

Second, the Young Protectors' League. In our initial meeting you said that I'd be given a chance to test in and participate. At what level? Obviously, I would not expect to be a counsellor but could I attempt to

join the CCF, although the application deadline has passed? Would I remain involved in the activities with the rising-fourth year class or would it be more appropriate to join the rising-fifth?

Third, there's something that has been troubling me about the political direction you've said France is taking. As you know, my mother is not a witch, but a Squib. If the Magical Freedom Act passes, she may find her own independence impaired. She may even become the victim of harrassment, either pursuant to the bill in the French Wizengamot, or even as a reprisal by individuals who might take offence at my decision to remain in England. I hope you'll understand if I say that I am not ashamed of my mother or her capability to look after herself. However I know that bringing her in to the Protectorate would represent something of an embarrassment, one to which I am not eager to subject anyone. I wonder, therefore, if it would be possible to ensure her safe conduct to a new location of her choosing, where she will be less of a target to any who might wish her harm.

Fourth, perhaps most important, would be my studies within Hogwarts. Beauxbatons has a different academic pattern. I know that half-bloods must acquire a minimum number of O.W.L.s in order to remain in school for their N.E.W.T. levels and to be considered true citizens. I think you may appreciate my concern, then, that I should be entering the O.W.L. year without the previous years' preparation. Has there been any discussion with Headmistress McGonagall about overcoming that obstacle? I'd be willing to sit additional lessons or study under a tutor if that would be acceptable.

Finally, there is the matter of what would become of me as a denizen of the Protectorate. I should like to be able to express my gratitude, of course, but I wonder if you have any thoughts about what might be expected of me in that regard. Perhaps that's related to the question regarding fostering but I'm sure you'd know that better than I.

I certainly appreciate the openness with which I have been met and the opportunities I have been lucky enough to experience during my tenure as a visitor to Hogwarts. Despite the challenging circumstances of my birth, I have found myself welcomed here against all expectation. I hope that the questions I have outlined may be resolved before the end of term.

Yours very sincerely,

Justin Finch-Fletchley"



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-18 21:16:05](#)
(no subject)

1. I wouldn't say "temptations." I'd say "opportunities."

2. You've got a good point about foster-families, but I'd make it a little less like you're assuming any foster-parents would automatically be bad. Because they're not supposed to be, it's more to make sure that you'd have good influences, even though it doesn't always end up that way. Maybe instead of saying "exact," which makes it sound like they'd be punishing you or something, you could put it like you're asking about the advantages and disadvantages of gaining a foster-family, like first you can ask about what sort of help they could provide with getting a job, and then you could ask about things like property without coming off wrong.

3. The whole "expected of me" part is tricky. I don't know if you ought to ask right out like that. Maybe Sally-Anne has a better way to word it. I think you can plan on being paraded around a bit, and interviewed for the paper and things, but I'm not sure it's worth asking in the first place, really, unless there's something more specific you want to know.

Also. I have a solicitor, Ari Baddock, and he looks over all my contracts and things. I'm not sure if he'd be willing to take you on as a client, but it might be worth looking into to have a solicitor who's familiar with all of these things in the Protectorate who can read over anything that's been put in writing about you. And your mother. And if you mention that we're friends, and that you're also friends with Hydra, that might help. I'm not sure how much he'd ask for in terms of payment, but he'd tell you. And if he's too busy or something, he'd be able to direct you to one of his friends who could take you on. And if you were worried about your mother, and really wanted to be sure they'd do what they promised, it'd be better to do it that way than try to negotiate something on your own.

It'd also be a way to help keep your money safe. Mr Baddock is very good at that.

I'm not sure how long you can wait to send the letter, so I'm not sure you could send it to him first to look over, but I think he'd probably also want a copy of it, along with copies of letters from Mr Rosier. So I'd make a duplicate before sending it off. Just in case.

I think if you got a solicitor, they might think it's a good sign that you're very serious about coming to the Protectorate, but you'd have to be careful how you put it so they wouldn't think you thought they were trying to pull anything over on you.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-05-18 21:18:29](#)**
(no subject)

Maybe you could put that in the letter -- that you were looking into a solicitor to help you sort through the necessary paperwork for banks and things, because you were very serious about considering your options, or something. So they wouldn't be taken by surprise if you ended up with one.

And the solicitor wouldn't just be for finances -- he'd also help with other things -- only you wouldn't have to put that in there.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-19 02:40:25](#)**
(no subject)

Um. Wow.

That is a lot.

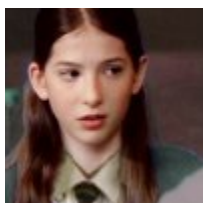
What Pansy said, I guess. That was smart about getting someone like Mr Baddock.

I wonder about the fostering thing. I think you're right to not want to be placed in a family. But maybe instead of saying that, you should start with the stuff about school and say more about wanting to be sure you'll be ready for exams, and ask if you couldn't maybe stay here and be tutored instead of spending the long vacation with a family, yeah?

And now I think of it. Um. Maybe you could ask one of the teachers if they'd be willing to tutor you. And willing to tell the Ministry they think that's what you need. And you asked the right person, the Ministry might think it was a good idea to ask them to be like a foster parent for you instead of a family. I mean, my first idea was you could ask Professor Raz, because it would make sense you might need extra work on Defence, but he's in charge of Harry Marvolo's security, isn't he? I'd sort of forgotten about that, but I think that's

right. But what about Professor Brutka. He'd be sort of perfect because he's taught us two subjects--Creatures and Transfig--and he's really wizard at both of them. Plus he's French. Or came from France to here, anywiz. And he's got an in with the Malfoys, I heard, so I think he's probably someone the Ministry would think was good for you to spend time with.

Um. That's all I can think of for now. Hope it helps.

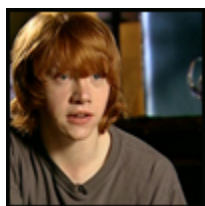



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-05-19 14:42:43](#)**
(no subject)

Are both of your parents supposed to have been squibs not muggles? Because if you're meant to have had four wizard grandparents then I think you ought to say you want to be classified as a pureblood (albeit one in fostering). In fact even if you didn't you should ask for that, why would you emigrate only to be classed as a second-class citizen? I mean they upgrade people sometimes for political reasons so they could certainly say that your desire to live forever in the Protectorate shows the True Wizarding Blood that flows through your veins. Or whatever. If they wanted.

You could still ask about OWLs because they're important even if you're a pureblood. But.

There's a book of regulations in the library, I'll show you where. You should have a look through that, too. There's one that's about halfbloods and another that's about fostering, you should probably look through both.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-19 15:40:42](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, yeah. That's brilliant, really.

You should totally tell them you're not staying if they're going to classify you as a halfblood. I mean, why would you? And Sally Anne's right, they can totally classify you anyway they want.

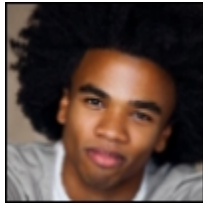
That's an excellent thing to negotiate for.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-19 15:45:27](#)
(no subject)

I think so too. I mean, you'd have to be careful with how you say it, of course, but you should.

So maybe you go about it by acting like you just assume that'll be the way it would happen, because of course you'd be classified as a full-blooded wizard, you're only keen to know about whether you'd get a foster family or not due to your unique position. And I wouldn't even mention the possibility of being classified as half-blooded as a deal-breaker. It'd be implied well enough.




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-19 22:05:21](#)
(no subject)

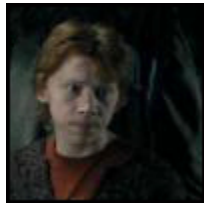
Yes, and since you're assuming you'll be treated as a Pureblood wizard, you should speak as if you assume you'll be in control of your own money.


Ask for help setting up a Gringotts account yeah, but don't act as if you have to ask for his permission (or a foster family's permission) to do so.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-19 22:06:10](#)
(no subject)

Frame it like you're asking for friendly advice, I mean, not permission.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-19 22:26:45](#)
(no subject)

Only, if he's too friendly about it, they may just not tell him what they're going to do until it's too late to go back. And they can just say, 'So sorry, but you didn't specify that' or 'It's a shame you didn't ask that question. Of course, we'd have explained if you had done.'

I mean, we know they're going to lie if they can if there's something he wants that they don't want to do. Or if they don't


lie, they'll say stuff to try to trick him into thinking they're promising one thing when they're really not.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-05-20 01:07:08](#)**
(no subject)


That's what the solicitor'd be for.



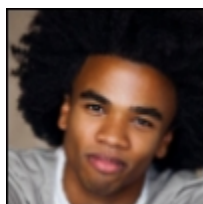
 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-05-19 21:42:55](#)**
(no subject)


Yes, they can classify you anyway they want. It's all meaningless anyway.



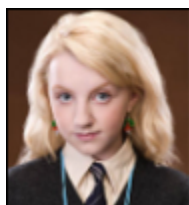
 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-05-19 21:43:59](#)**
(no subject)


Tell that to someone living under meaningless muggleborn restrictions.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-05-19 21:46:45](#)**
(no subject)

Don't think she meant it quite that way, mate.




 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-05-19 21:57:14](#)**
(no subject)

No, I would never say that the sorts of things that you or Hermione have to bear don't matter, Terry.

What I meant was that I don't see any difference between you and me. You're a Ravenclaw like me, and you're a wizard just as much as me or Justin. I used to be called a Pureblood, you know, and now it suits them to call me a halfblood. But that change isn't based on anything real. It's just an excuse to treat me differently, just as their calling you a muggleborn is nothing more than an excuse to treat you differently. And to take advantage of you.

It is unfair. And unjust. That's the point.



 **alt_terry** at [2012-05-19 22:00:08](#)
(no subject)

Look


I

Sorry, Luna.

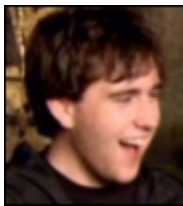
I'm sorry.

It's just been a hard day. He's been drunk all day and hard to bear, and it's put me in temper. Didn't mean to snap your nose off.



 **alt_luna** at [2012-05-19 22:00:54](#)
(no subject)

Never mind, Terry. I quite understand.




 **alt_neville** at [2012-05-19 21:41:29](#)
(no subject)

Yes, that IS very clever.

Do you know what your parchmentwork said when you were admitted here at the Protectorate? About your blood status, I mean? Because they might go by that. But maybe those documents didn't say anything at all about your blood status since you were simply coming as a guest for the Triwizard tournament, rather applying for immigration. Perks is right: you'd definitely be a lot safer, and have a lot less restrictions, if you were accepted as a Pureblood.



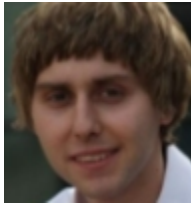
 **alt_terry** at [2012-05-19 22:11:41](#)
(no subject)

dunno if I have any particular advice about the letter.

Just that you'd better be awfully sure about this. And that there's not a chance that your real blood status could come out.

Pity there's no way to find out what would happen if it did without tipping your hand. But it wouldn't be pretty.

Do you have any kind of plan in place if it does?



 **alt_justin** at **2012-05-20 23:41:20**
(no subject)


Thanks, everyone.

I've made loads of the changes and I shall send it tomorrow. I'm taking your advice about presuming that I'll be a pureblood (that's well brilliant, what) and Sally-Anne, thanks for showing me the book. Even with this tactic, that had a great deal of bally good information.

Pansy, I well think a solicitor would be wise. But...I say, isn't Mr Baddock rather close to Mr Rosier, socially? I mean to say, aren't they both Councilwizards? I don't think it would do to go to him, specifically. Perhaps someone else, what?

-Justin



 **alt_pansy** at **2012-05-21 00:22:02**
(no subject)

Well, you've got to figure that any good solicitor would have connections. I'd figure that'd be a good thing on the one hand, and a not-so-good thing on the other.

The good thing is that he'd know all the politics and things, and would be able to sort out the trickier things much easier because of that.

The bad thing is that he'd be a little harder to trust that he's got your best interests in mind. But from what I've seen of Mr Baddock, he tends to be very straightforward. He treats me like a client, not like a child, and I trust him. I understand if you'd want to talk to someone else instead, but here, knowing important people typically makes things easier.

I wouldn't trust him so far as to tell him who your mother really is, for instance. But I wouldn't think you'd want to tell that to any solicitor regardless.

[2012-05-18 22:06:00](#)

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

I hope you aren't still dwelling on what he said to you about your mum.



I saw that you were still up.

 **[alt_hermione](#)**



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-05-19 02:09:42](#)**

(no subject)

Yeah.

I am.

Up, I mean.

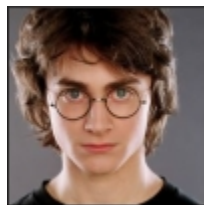
I wish I was better. I mean, I know we've only met two times to work on it, but I'm really not very good at all.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-05-19 02:10:58](#)**

(no subject)

Well I'm not either, only I started a little bit earlier. I wish I was better too. I know someone who's a natural Occlumens, wouldn't that be nice!



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-05-19 02:17:03](#)**

(no subject)

You mean Hydra?

Yeah.

I'm just

I mean, there's no way around it. Because I've started, so if someone does try to look, they'll see Mr Milland. And you. And I've got to work with him to learn it, don't I?

It's just there's a lot that could go wrong.

But it's good you're learning too. Because it really helps to work

on that stuff with someone, and it's not like I can ask anyone else to help.

Well. Maybe Hydra. But if it's all automatic and stuff for her, I'd bet she isn't really good at helping other people, because she doesn't have to work at it.



 **alt_hermione** at [2012-05-19 02:19:21](#)

(no subject)

Yes. Hydra.

There's always a lot that could go wrong, all the time. It's the way everybody lives. Well, everybody but you and Draco and Hydra. I'm sorry but it's true. So this is just how everyone feels, which probably doesn't help you feel better, but at least you know that it will probably be all right.

And what he said about you and your mum was a compliment, I think.



 **alt_harry** at [2012-05-19 02:26:02](#)

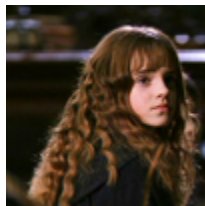
(no subject)

I think Draco is always thinking about what could go wrong.

Or what I could do to mess things up for him.

He called her mind transparent, and said I was like her. I think he was just coming up for a good reason why I was so bad at it. Even after all those times we practised.

But I think you're right. He really did like her. A lot. Which is sort of weird. He won't talk about her, not until I'm better, but I can tell by the way he said it.



 **alt_hermione** at [2012-05-19 02:29:33](#)

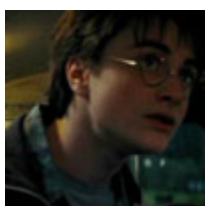
(no subject)

I don't ever know what Draco's thinking, but I don't think he's thinking in the same way that some other people are thinking, because nothing

really that bad could ever happen to him. Even though he could get Cruciated, that still isn't that bad.

I think one of the things he liked about her was that her mind was transparent. Only he didn't say mind, he said face. That's a nice thing, to have an honest face. And your mother did, apparently. He doesn't have a very honest face, does he? Not at any time, not now or before.

Anyway you're very honest, and that's why you're a Gryffindor, really. That's why it's so hard I bet. Slytherins it comes easy to.



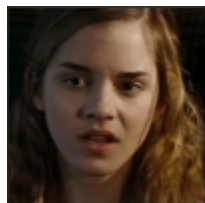
 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-05-19 02:35:05](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, it's not like you can tell what he's thinking. He was Slytherin, right?

And yeah, that makes sense. I'm just too much of a Gryffindor to hide things.

What did you think about Finch-Fletchley?

When we were at the party?




 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-05-19 02:36:32](#)**
(no subject)

He's nice.

I'm worried about saying too much more about it on here, since he's got all of the immigration things and so on. They might be looking for his name on the journals. And then they'd read this.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-05-19 02:39:50](#)**
(no subject)

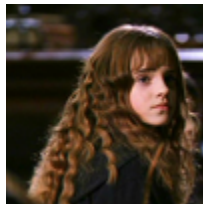
Oh. Right.

It's good to hear you think so, though.

I've been thinking a lot about her lately. My mother. Because

of all this stuff with Mr Milland.

I wonder if that giant is still out there in the Forbidden Forest. He knew her too. I mean, not like I'm going to go looking for him or anything, but I wish I could talk to him again.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-05-19 02:41:26](#)
(no subject)

That all gives us lots of reasons to keep working, doesn't it? Because then we can be honest. More honest. Maybe that will help: to think about it like a thing to let you be honest, not a thing to let you lie to people.

I don't know. I'm tired. You should try to sleep too if you can.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-19 02:45:33](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Me too. We'll work more tomorrow.

And I know why I'm doing it. It's to help you. Because I can't do a lot. Not really. But I can try to do this. So I'm going to work as hard as I can. I promise.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-05-19 02:46:04](#)
(no subject)

Thanks.

Good night.

2012-05-19 14:16:00

Private message to Raz

Are you as swamped with last minute panic over OWLs as I am? I certainly want drink and distraction tonight. And good grief, Capper. A few things, so I don't forget them later.



 **alt_sinistra**

First: If you met Victoriana on a Tuesday afternoon in New London, you could use meeting up with me after as an excuse if she tried to drag the conversation out uncomfortably. (And if we had supper somewhere public after, it might also squash any gossip before it starts.)

Do you need ideas on locations? I think Campanella and I have eaten recently at several places near the Ministry that suit a visibly public but actually private conversation that might suit.

Second: I keep coming back to the transcripts from the April YPL meeting. Would you be willing to have a look at them - one bit in particular? Something's still nagging at me about Stint in there. I've got the full transcript, plus my and Felix's notes on body language and tone of voice.

(Doesn't have to happen this weekend. But if there is something, I'd want to figure out the next step sooner than later.)

Third: Have any of your friends or relations expressed a desire to entertain you for your birthday? (I am sorry I've the YPL thing in the afternoon, but of course when we set the schedule, I had no idea I'd want to be otherwise occupied.) I'd understand if you want a night in New London or elsewhere without me, you know.

But if not, I've some plans of my own I'd like to finalise. You deserve a particularly excellent birthday this year, after all.



 **alt_rabastan** at **2012-05-19 19:32:52**

(no subject)

Those are both excellent ideas. You're getting good at navigating the waters of high society, you know. I'd give Narcissa credit there more than I'd give it to myself. And we can go anywhere- your choice. I'd advise something not too over-the-top romantic, lest it look like I've

got a reason to be guilty, hah.

I'll look at the transcript, sure. You can give it to me tonight. Anything in particular you want me to pay attention to? Aside from signs of Stint being a complete arse, that is?

Oh, I don't know about birthdays, no one's said anything to me. With the recent news that I might be father to a fifteen year old girl, I'm feeling decidedly old and not particularly happy about celebrating my approaching antiquity.

You know, Barty asked if Bole had gotten her pregnant. Bloody Erebus, if that were the case, I'd be a bludgering grandfather. Merlin have mercy on-

Have I mentioned that you're taking this all very well?



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-05-19 19:56:59](#)**
(no subject)

My, that's a compliment, love.

Really, it's as much growing up in an absurdly large extended family, and knowing the places people try to make a meal out of the most innocent tidbits as anything else. But you and Narcissa (and the YPL work), yes, have shown me some ways to manage it a bit more gracefully. Let me think about where for supper, but yes. I was thinking relaxed and happy rather than blatantly romantic.

On the transcript: I'd rather not tell you beforehand if you don't mind, beyond that it's about what questions he asks. If you truly don't see anything, maybe I can set it aside and stop poking at it.

As far as taking it very well, honestly, love. You were young. It's clear you had no idea, or you'd not be this way about it.

Did you make some careless choices? Yes. But people do. It's part of becoming an adult. (And besides, it does take two to produce children, so there's responsibility on her side, too.)


And if in this case, it involves a young woman growing up with a family who loved her, (my brother knew Philip at school, and I know he's a good sort) and resources and all that, it's scarcely the worst

possible outcome. Much as sorting out the truth is a good idea.

Right. Happier topics. I won't make a fuss, then, but I think you'll like your present. Do you need to stay here, or could we get away for a night, do you think? (And if so, I'm guessing from the above you might prefer somewhere other than Spence and New London.)

Think of it as celebrating a year of you being alive and well and all the wonderful things of the year, rather than you being ancient. (Which you're not.)



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-05-20 00:30:49](#)
(no subject)

Relaxing will be good- as for happy, well, let's just see how my visit with Vic goes, first.

No, understood. Not that my own biases won't colour my perspective, but it's probably best I not know your thoughts in advance. And if you need someone to get you to set it aside and stop poking at it, I'm doubly happy to take it out of your hands.

She does seem to have grown up well enough. Part of me feels it's a shame Vic couldn't have let things be and kept her uncertainties to herself, as it quite seems to have undone the girl these last few months, if her little downward trajectory is any indication.

But then- secrets that heavy... I suppose they're bound to get out, eventually.

I'm sure I will adore my present to bits. You've got a good record, there. And I see no reason why we shouldn't be able to slip away if I can plan around it in advance- provided my old-man memory lets me remember to do so.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-20 00:42:05](#)
(no subject)

Well, happy in the sense that I'm secure with you, at least. And if we don't manage actually happy, we'll have a meal together, just the two of us, and that's never bad.

Thanks, on the transcript. It's just - well, you know how when you write a word over and over, and all of a sudden you're sure you're spelling it wrong, even though you aren't? It's like that. If you say there's nothing to it, I'll trust you.

You're quite right on the difficult few months: I can't imagine living with that for so long. (Rather impressive she managed as well as she did, really.) I do feel particularly bad about the YPL counsellor position now, too. That, and the Gryffindor boys are the two I think are going to haunt me wondering if I made the right decision.

Right. Let me send a quick owl about the place I have in mind for next Saturday, and then I should be able to come down for the night, transcripts and all.

2012-05-19 14:54:00

Private Message to Ned Pennifold

Neds, would you mind awfully much going to see Mama? Today or tomorrow if you can manage it. She's sending me so many messages in the journals, I know she's working herself into a state again.



 [alt_lana](#)

Remind her, please, that she mustn't under any circumstances send me an owl. (Don't say, 'unless you direct it to MLE' because she might forget.)

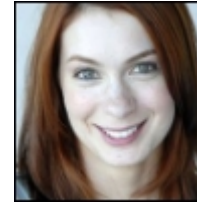
And, Ned, if anything were to happen to me, Orion's got the key for the chest in my room there at the carriage house. I've written letters for my parents and a few others, and my Will is there. Would you be certain those things are taken care of properly? I'd ask Orion, but he's been travelling so much recently, I'd just feel better if it were you taking care of it all.

I expect I won't be back in New London until it's all over. But that should be soon now!

One way or the other.

2012-05-20 21:30:00

ORDER ONLY



 [alt_alice](#)

We're well into the swing of late spring at Moddey Dhoo, which means we've been planting onions and beans, keeping a careful eye on our fruit trees, and eating plenty of greens and asparagus. We've managed to get through the lean months with careful planning, and still will have some food stores left by the end of June, thanks in no small part to the smuggling shipment from Lazlo. I'd rather we not depend on that as a known source of supplies every year, though, as goodness knows what may happen in the future. So this year, as with the past three, we're upping the crops we're growing (and taking a page from Molly's neighbors about vertical planting too, thank you Molly), so that we'll be prepared in case a dozen adults drop into our lap unexpectedly this year too.

Our older students with wands have been learning at a prodigious rate. Finbar and Tim have already been making noise about joining up with Sherwood, but I think we've managed to convince them to stay on for at least another six months of solid training first. And they are truly seeing the benefit of the learning they've gotten so far, and how it may be of use to them -- and given their desires, we have geared their remaining lessons towards the practical and defensive so as to help them be as prepared as possible. Tricia is learning the trade from Mellisandra, so I don't believe she's going to leave any time soon -- and Richard is rather attached to our Danny, who is rather attached to Moddey, so I think he'll be staying here as well. Lisa Nicholas and Zachary are still not of age, and once they are, they'll be free to decide either way.

Our younger students are also doing quite well. Minerva, you'd be pleased, Regina is quite knowledgeable in Latin, and their essays have improved markedly since she's taken them in hand. It's hard to believe that Felicia Saint and Freddy Bookman will be ready for their wands soon. Judith is naturally dreading the day, seeing as how much mischief her son gets into without a wand to help. Colin continues to be the master gardener in charge of the Memorial Garden, and Alec Turner has also come quite a long way -- being with a larger group of older students has done him good, I think.

Our babies are all happy and healthy, and the additional people we've added to the nursery have helped considerably with that.


We're still planning our summer -- Arthur and Molly, we'd just love for the twins to come for a visit, please let us know if that will be in the cards. Goodness knows you are more than welcome to come along too, Molly, I always enjoy seeing you, as do the children. And Poppy, as always, we look forward to your summer visit as well. We've got a whole bumper crop of babies and growing teenagers for you to look over, and I very much look forward to seeing you again. And although we don't have any boat building to do this summer, the Players are of course welcome to come and rest up for a bit! Fair warning, though, if anyone comes to visit, we might conscript you for a day to help renovate a section of the castle for new dormitory space.

Of course, Frank and I are very much hoping to be able to co-ordinate another visit with Neville and Evelyn this summer. Kingsley, I know that you and Emmaline have very generously taken on helping us with that in previous years. Will that be something you can do this year as well? I know Algernon can be a bit much, and we can always sort out other arrangements that would be less time intensive.

One wrinkle in seeing Neville and Evelyn again is that Kevin is becoming more and more talkative -- it's certainly hard to completely understand everything he says, and as he's so young, I doubt he has much to say that would be anything too complex, but it's still something that will become a definite concern. That, and it hasn't happened yet, but he could show his magic at any time. At the very least, we'll have to keep careful watch over him during our visit, as the excitement of the journey and seeing his siblings might tip him over the edge.


That's all I can think of for the moment!



 **alt_frank** at **2012-05-21 03:50:45**
(no subject)

you done scribbling yet?



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-21 03:52:57](#)**
(no subject)


Almost, dearest.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-05-21 03:53:46](#)**
(no subject)

good.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-21 03:52:38](#)**
Private Message to Sirius Black

How are you doing today, love?

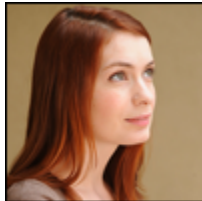
I've been sending good thoughts your way all day long.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-05-21 18:50:28](#)**
Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

Better than I expected. But then, I'm still spending most of my time as a dog, just now. ~~Dogs don't~~ That always makes it easier.

But thanks.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-21 19:59:25](#)**
Re: Private Message to Sirius Black

I look forward to seeing you soon.

And I'm glad you were able to spend yesterday with people who loved you. Some of them, at least.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-21 14:49:30](#)**
(no subject)

Oh! And before it slips my mind;

Sirius, Remus, Tonks -- any word on Puneet?

Also, now that you're getting a bit more settled, would a visit from Cousin Ponds along with her two young ones (Kevin and Will) be too much trouble to pull off for Bea's birthday celebrations? We can always throw her a bang up party next year with proper guests if so, but I would like to be there even if Kevin and Will cannot.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-21 14:50:48](#)**
(no subject)

I could also take the opportunity to stop by and talk to Puneet's parents myself, if you think that'd help.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-05-21 19:01:19](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, bugger all. Puneet.


Er, yeah.

As for Cousin Ponds, I think it might make sense to have the family over. If nothing else it'll give you a chance to look at Ellie for yourself. Anyway, if we're maintaining the fiction that you're a cousin, you ought to be there for Bea's day, or later Ellie might find it strange that this 'cousin' isn't actually around for family affairs.

But then again, Bea's parents might have another opinion.


We'll have to come up with a way to get Ellie out of the house for at least a little while. I'd like to have a proper visit, too, especially if you're bringing Will.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-21 19:57:27](#)**
(no subject)

That would be lovely. Kevin and Will are both quite used to the way Judith looks -- the person I go as when I'm Cousin Ponds -- so that will work rather well.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-21 20:00:33](#)**
(no subject)

And don't you worry about Puneet.

If I recall, you gave his parents a bit of a memory charm last time (didn't you?), so it wouldn't matter which one of us talked to them. And I could come prepared with the letters, which is what they were concerned with last time around, and have them ready to go.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-05-21 17:27:34](#)**
(no subject)

I would LOVE to come, believe me, but it's just so difficult to avoid questions with Percy living at home.

But Arthur and I have talked it over, and yes, we've decided we'll allow the twins to come to stay for a week during the summer. We'll come up with a cover story for them...perhaps a friend inviting them for a week long holiday, or perhaps an internship. Or--I know! We can say they've gone to visit Charlie.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-05-21 17:32:12](#)**
(no subject)

Brilliant, Mum. It's a good cover story, too.

We're really looking forward to seeing Moddey Dhoo.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-21 17:32:58](#)**
(no subject)

I hope the other children find it believable, considering the trouble the twins landed in the last time they visited the dragon sanctuary.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-05-21 17:33:28](#)**
(no subject)

Well, we charmed our way right back out, didn't we?



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-21 17:34:48](#)**
(no subject)

I'm afraid you did.

I sometimes wonder if there isn't any tight situation you two can't talk your way out of...and I shudder to think of the consequences the first time you can't.

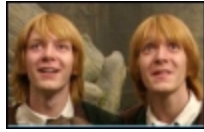


 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-05-21 20:10:05](#)**
(no subject)

yeah, well, I'm pretty charm proof. so best behaviour, especially around explosives, wand cores, and babies. and just to clarify, those three things are never allowed in the same room.

but we're looking forward to your coming.

fu says hello. he's been working on testing the use of tactical bombs and sonick waves to break through wards, and he's got a second prototype of armour that non-magical people can wear that has shielding and protective runes inscribed on it. the first prototype worked fine, but heated up too much with fire hexes, so he's had to make some adjustments.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-05-22 04:25:23](#)**
(no subject)

Tell Fu hello back from us.

We've been dreadfully busy, between cramming for the Potions finals, practising occlumency, and all the rest of our regular schoolwork, but we've nipped into the library a few times to do some research for him. There's a whole collection of books on the history of magical weapons and armour-making in the Restricted Section; it was willed to the Hogwarts library about fifty years ago by a bloke who was absolutely barking mad on the subject.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-21 20:02:12](#)**
(no subject)

Wonderful. We'll put them to work, no doubt, and make sure they're safe.

They'll get along brilliantly with Tricia, I have no doubt. She's been working with Mellisandra these past few months, and she got very excited when I mentioned there might be visitors her age coming to study with her too.




 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-05-21 18:36:06](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, I'm more than happy to do the camping trip again, Alice. I think we in the Order owe it to you as thanks for working for Moddey Dhoo as you do.

Algie's a rare character, true, but we've had some good talks, and he's certainly taught me more about fishing than I'd ever need to know.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-21 20:04:00](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Kingsley. So very much.

And I would love it if you and the Players could spare a visit to Moddey this summer. You always bring the

children such joy, and I know how hard it can be to travel for as many months out of the year as you do.



 **alt_frank** at **2012-05-21 20:04:45**
(no subject)

thanks, man.

2012-05-21 11:02:00

Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Narcissa

I've been thinking of you all day--and Reg. I expect you've spent the day with your thoughts and memories, as well. I'm writing tonight--Sunday--but I'm going to charm this for tomorrow. Today is your own.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

I wish I could see you, but we're approaching deadline now. I'd rather tell you this in person, but ink will have to do: you mean more to me than anyone I've known, Narcissa. I have two regrets: that I've not better served Our Lord and that I've had so few hours with you. But each minute of each hour is clear in my memory. Each word, each kiss, each touch. Each hex. I hope you won't regret them. I never will.

1:12am

1:04pm



 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2012-05-21 23:50:41**

(no subject)

Come back in triumph, then, and you shan't have any cause for regret.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2012-05-22 00:56:42**

(no subject)

As you wish.

2012-05-21 20:23:00

Private Message to Percy Weasley



Oh, Perce.

The charm arrived today. It's just perfect.

 **alt_penelope**

I managed to get through it and now it's the 5th-years' turn. I remember two years ago going out of my mind for OWLs and now compared to NEWTs I feel like I had nothing to worry about at all.

Too bad Capper didn't take them seriously enough. Can you believe he had the gall to complain last night that if he fails his Astronomy OWL it's Professor Siz's fault? Because she 'wasn't available' when he tried to see her on Tuesday. Everyone knew she wasn't going to be around on Tuesday! She'd made sure everyone knew it. Capper's a brilliant Arithmantist but he's dead oblivious about anything else. It's sad, really. I don't think he'll have a good week.

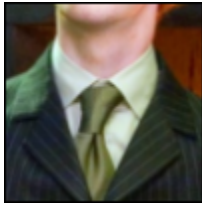
Oh, and Avery finally did something he can be proud of as a Head Boy. Unfortunately it's one of those things we all wish we didn't have to do. Still, he made a decent enough guard, escorting Barney Bole back and forth to his exams and to the room where Professor Slughorn was making him stay in solitary confinement. I'm sure you've probably heard through Mr Malfoy that Bole was told to pack himself off as soon as NEWTs were over? He thought his father was going to make a big stink on his behalf. No fear of that: His father (Avery says, anyway) wrote him back and said that if he wanted a hope of making the Quidditch sides as a professional, he'd do what the Headmistress and Sluggo told him, keep his mouth shut and slip off quietly on the Saturday train to London. It's appalling that no one realised how brutish he is, honestly. But Gamp and Greengrass are both so visibly relieved he's gone it's hard to believe no one saw it before.

It's so odd to think that in just a few weeks I'll never be back here. If I didn't have Head Girl duties I think I'd be perfectly happy to follow Barney on that train and find a flat right away. Oh, did I tell you in my last letter that Professor Siz got me an interview with two of her contacts? The first is someone who needs a research assistant or something and who'd be willing to spend most of the time in New London looking through records. And the second one's her aunt, who isn't really her aunt but well, anyway, she's a family historian for hire. They both sound like they could be dead boring or they could be

brilliant--I guess it'll depend a lot on what they're like to work for.

Things are really coming together.

How's work?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-05-22 15:07:31](#)
(no subject)

I'm so glad you like the charm. I had fun picking it out. Your bracelet's going to be chiming nicely with all the charms we've added together in the last year. Doesn't it feel good to be through with NEWTs, though? There's no feeling like that in the world.

Capper's a fool, even if he IS brilliant at Arithmancy. (What do you expect of a halfblood though, really?) He'll win no sympathy for trying to shift the blame to a professor, and if he fails all the rest of his OWLs, they may not show him much mercy.

I did hear about Bole, yes. Shocking. I despise sadism like that. He should limit his aggression to bludgers rather than people.

I have been continuing to try to find flats, honest. I have enough saved for a security deposit and several months rent, so I could jump on something right away if I found the perfect place. But no luck so far. I haven't had much time to look as Mr Malfoy's been keeping me so busy; I've had a number of late nights. I don't mind that actually: sometimes he'll order food in, and then I don't have to go home to the Burrow and eat rather plain food off Mum's chipped plates set on a wobbly table.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2012-05-22 15:25:52](#)
(no subject)

I think half the 7th-years have been walking around this week in a state of euphoria. Too bad Professor Slughorn had to remind us that we've still got his essay due Friday and of course, all our other end-of-term work.

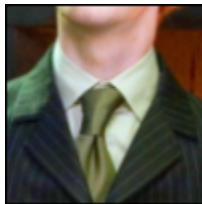
Ordinarily, I'd agree with you that part of Capper's problem is blood. But in his case, I do think it's more about single-mindedness. Maybe it's something about which halfbloods are fostered and

which aren't, I'm not sure. It just seems to me (and this is purely anecdotal, of course) that the ones who don't live with their families have better incentive to do well in school. Perhaps it's their foster families' expectations or just wanting to get out on their own. (That might just be me assigning motive, though!)

We'll find something, don't worry. Of course I'd love it if you found something before I'm finished here but really, I can stand being back at home for a while if necessary. And besides, if it gets too horrible I can stay with Fae, or Karo, for a little while. (Though I think Karo and Ptolemy plan something similar to us as soon as she's finished. She got an owl from him that he's been 'softening up' his father, which I think means he plans to propose again. Don't worry: No pressure here! I'm quite pleased with our plans as they are.)

Except. I hope you don't expect amazing cooking once we do move in together. You ought to know better by now--the kitchen is not my natural habitat, ha! Perhaps it's just as well Mr Malfoy lets you order in, if you're developing a really rich palate.

What's been happening to make you work so late? Or can you not say?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-05-22 16:13:59](#)
(no subject)

I'm willing to cook, too, don't forget, although I suppose you might find the fare I make rather monotonous. I'm sure we'll muddle through in the kitchen together one way or another.

As for working late, it's mostly because I've been pressed into taking Mr Malfoy's place at a number of public appearances lately. There have been more and more of them now that the weather's warming up and of course, he's so much in demand! Ribbon-cutting ceremonies, that sort of thing. Of course, that cuts into my workday, and so I sometimes have to stay late to make up the time to finish up various tasks.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2012-05-22 16:31:16](#)
(no subject)

Right. So note to ourselves: When we apply for a mudblood, we'll have to specify 'Good Cook' as one of the requirements.

That's really great, if Mr Malfoy's trusting you to go to important events and represent him. I suppose that leaves him more time for his meetings and so on. Have you met anyone really impressive that way? I bet he's trying to help you meet people on your own, too, so you can build up a rapport with the people he interacts with. I knew it'd only be a matter of time before you started really making the most of the opportunities you can get in his office.

You're on your way, Perce: I'm so proud of you.

2012-05-21 20:49:00

Private Message to Harry

Hello, Harry.

I figured we need to start sorting out Draco's birthday and what we could do for it. I know you're occupied with the upcoming task, so I figured you could help me settle on something and then I could do most of the arranging.



 [alt_pansy](#)

Do you have any ideas?

I know we have to pull it off during that first weekend in June, because then we've got finals, and then you've got the Third Task. That, or we wait until after exams and things, which would give us more time to plan.

I was thinking if we talked to Lucius, we might be able to organize an exhibition with the New London Quidditch team, maybe even split them up and have some of our own join in for a pick-up game here at Hogwarts? I know he's been missing Quidditch this year, and if we have a party after and get some team members to stay for it, that might be well snitch. That, or have some bands come and play. I know Tintagel would come if we asked, and if we get one more, that'd make for a proper set, wouldn't it?

We'd have to ask for permission, of course, and if it was something large, we'd have to expect that other people would be invited too, not just people from our House. Which he might like if it was a Quidditch exhibition he got to play in, but I'm not sure. What do you think?

Or we could keep it small, just us Slytherins.

I just want it to be really special. And something he'd enjoy.

What do you think?




 **alt_harry** at [2012-05-22 01:11:27](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, that's right, he didn't have much of a decent birthday last year with everything that happened and all.

I think if you're planning it, it's going to be something he'll like.

I don't know. I don't plan these things a lot.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-22 01:20:09](#)
(no subject)

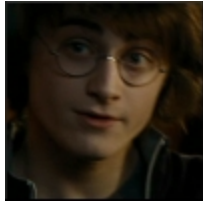
Well, you've got to start somewhere. And seeing as how his rotten birthday last year was pretty much entirely your fault, I think you owe it to him, don't you?

I know he likes spending time with people he's close with. And those people are mostly in Slytherin.

But I also know that he'd totally appreciate something just fantastic and different.

Maybe... maybe we could start off with something small, and then surprise him with the larger thing? Like have a picnic where we take our brooms along, and it's people he likes best, like you, and Hydra, and me, and Blaise and Daphs and Sally-Anne, and, well, I guess pretty much every Slyth from our year would have to be invited else they'd get shirty, but that's still on the small side. And then after we do that for an hour, playing games and eating, we could surprise him with the real exhibition game by flying over there together. So that way he gets time with friends, and then he gets a really nice surprise.

If we could even get them to come, that is.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-22 01:25:50](#)
(no subject)

Point.


So, okay, he thinks we're all just going to go for a nice flying trip around the lake or something, and then there's the surprise.

I can see that, yeah.

And if it's during a time when they're practising or training or something, they maybe could just come up and practise here instead. If they're a new team, it'd be smart, because they'd probably get loads more fans that way, especially since a bunch of us already saw them for that one thing.

And if we made it a proper game, yeah, splitting them up and having some of our players in there would be loads of fun. I mean, it's something I'd want to do.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-22 01:31:21](#)
(no subject)

All right. So we'd have to do some things.

1.) We'd have to check availability and if they'd be willing to come up.

2.) We'd have to ask permission from Madame Hooch, and probably Professor Slughorn too.

3.) Once things were sorted, we'd have to make sure people knew about the surprise so they'd come to the exhibition without telling him. Maybe we make sure he leaves his journal behind when we go on the picnic, and then make an announcement about the game or something? We could do that.

But it depends on if they're free.

And if we have permission.

But we can certainly try, can't we?

You know Hooch better than I do. How about you ask her permission, and I can write Lucius and see if he can help arrange things, or at least get me the proper introductions to the people who could help organize things. And I'll include you on the private message so it's like it's from both of us.

Is that okay?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-22 01:32:45](#)
(no subject)


Okay.

Yeah.

I can write Hooch.

And if it doesn't sort out, we can figure out something else.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-22 01:52:17](#)
(no subject)

You're a really fast letter writer.



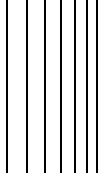
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-22 01:53:16](#)
(no subject)

I've had lots of experience.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-22 01:59:28](#)
(no subject)

...should I write Hooch now? Or wait to hear what Mr Malfoy says first?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-22 02:00:33](#)
(no subject)

We can wait.

2012-05-21 21:34:00

Private Message to Lucius Malfoy and Harry Marvolo



 [alt_pansy](#)

I've been talking with Harry about planning for Draco's party. I know that you're probably very busy right now, and most likely already have plans for his party after school is finished, but we both thought that we could do something special for him during school as well seeing as how we're all going to be staying after exams for the last Task.

It's been a long year without Quidditch, and we've got that brand new team in New London, and I thought we might be able to convince them to come up for a practice session here at Hogwarts and have some of the students including Draco, of course, play in an exhibition match.

We've got two potential time slots I thought would work best, given final exams and the Triwizard tournament, and I understand how much coordination and care those things would take, so I'd be careful to not make it be troublesome, and would be sure to ask permission from all the people I'd need to. If that doesn't end up working out, we've got other ideas too.

If you know who I could get in touch with about having them come here, Harry and I could write them ourselves and see whether they'd be available. I just know that you certainly have connections, and would know the best way to go about organizing something like this, and Harry and I both want to make sure that Draco's birthday is very special.

And, of course, I hope you are having a marvellous spring, and I'm doing very well, and I've truly been enjoying our visiting friends from Beaxbatons and Durmstrang. You've probably heard that Slytherin was very well represented in the new counsellors for the YPL, and I can't wait for this summer. I miss you very much, and look forward to seeing you at the Third Task.

All my love;

Pansy



 **alt_lucius** at [2012-05-22 20:04:36](#)
(no subject)

Pansy,

You know, I had half-expected to hear from you Sunday or yesterday, but not about this.

There is a ... challenge ... at present, using the Hogwarts pitch for anything of the sort you propose. We did not cancel the Quidditch season lightly; the area of and around the pitch is being used for other purposes. Harry, you should be learning the precise nature of that use soon enough.

However, that is not to say that it would not be possible to arrange something if security can be organised so that Harry and the rest of you may leave school grounds.

You've a scant two weeks, however, if you wish to assemble this party on the Saturday prior Draco's birthday. Or had you expected to plan it for the following week-end?

In any event, would not recommend the Lethifolds for this venture. Cannot afford to owe any of their owners a debt, at present, even one that turns to their own advantage. Allow me to make inquiries with a more likely side.

If nothing else, you both have extraordinarily expensive taste in giving each other presents.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-22 20:17:52](#)
(no subject)

Yes. Well, I decided that it'd be much more productive of me to focus on things that make me happy.

I was thinking that following the Tri-wizard cup, we'd all be a bit at loose ends, what with most people not leaving until the 16th, and without classes or exams. And during the week, Quidditch teams might be less likely to have a match. So perhaps the 14th or 15th, if that'd give more time to pull things together?

I would greatly appreciate if you'd see if they could come, and, like

I've said, we've been tossing around other smaller-scale plans if that one doesn't work.

It's too bad about the pitch, but I'm sure it would be just as wonderful elsewhere.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-05-22 21:13:35](#)**
(no subject)

Well, after the Task there should be no impediment to regaining the pitch. Shall make inquiry of Wigtown; if not them, Portree may be looking for a favour or two.

Glad to hear that you have channelled your interests rather than dwell on the past, Little Bit. Does not negate one's attachments, of course, but time and perspective do help to overcome the ache.



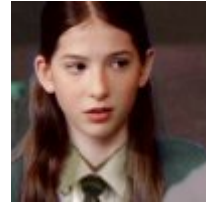
 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-05-22 21:22:08](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Lucius! Please let me know what they say, and if there's anything else you need me or Harry to do on that end of things.

We'll talk to Mr Milland and Madame Hooch and Professor Raz and Professor Slughorn to make sure we have permission and everything, and could use the pitch and all.

2012-05-22 10:06:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



So people are saying Thomas Capper did so atrociously on the Transfiguration OWL practical yesterday that the examiners were discussing whether they should make up a mark lower than 'T.'

 **alt_sally_anne**

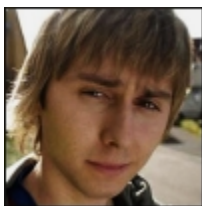
He was supposed to turn a mouse into a teacup and he got it to have a handle out its head but then it scurried away. And then they brought him another mouse (!) and he did manage to turn it into something teacup-shaped but it was FURRY and when they tried to pour tea into it, it squealed.

I heard from Fawcett that the whole of Ravenclaw House thinks he's going to fail. Everything except Arithmancy, which he's brilliant at, but he could just never be bothered with ANYTHING else.

Oh and last week he went looking for Professor Siz and you know she has bent over backward making time to revise with him but he just HAD to have her when she was gone at that YPL meeting and he threw a tantrum about how it's all her fault if he fails.

He's a half-blood. According to the regulations, if you don't complete your magical education they can snap your wand and send you to the camps. I'm not actually sure what that means with OWLs, whether you've officially failed to complete it if you fail all your OWLs or not. None of the Prefects know and it's not really spelled out anywhere. Fawcett thinks they're going to snap his wand but she tends to expect the worst.

He's got loads more exams to take and you're allowed to fail SOME of them (did you know Professor Siz failed her Herbology OWL?!) so maybe it will be okay.



 **alt_justin** at **2012-05-22 17:13:13**

(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

Oh, I say. How dreadful. But then, one can't help but

wonder why he'd let so many of his other subjects go until it's well hopeless, what? I suppose his parents haven't been after him much.

How many exams can one fail and still continue in school? Do you know if there's a number below which one can't return, or is it a percentage based on how many subjects one's taking? I mean to say, if one were taking eight subjects and had to pass half, that's a bit different from taking ten subjects and being required to pass 75% of them.

What if he returned next year to work exclusively on Arithmancy; could he be allowed to do that?

-Justin

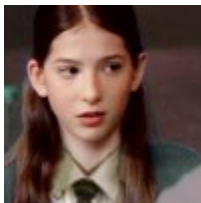


 **alt_sally_anne** at [2012-05-22 17:27:37](#)
(no subject)

He's in fostering. So I don't imagine they've been after him much, no.

To stay on you need to be doing NEWTs in at least three subjects, one of which has to be Transfiguration, Charms, Potions, or Herbology. Technically you can go on in Charms and Herbology with just an A (that's the lowest passing mark) but they don't recommend it. You need an E to go on in Potions and Professor Carrow insisted on an E in Transfiguration but I don't know what Professor Brutka's policy is.

But 'continuing to NEWTs' and 'not failing your OWLs utterly' is a different sort of thing. If Capper were going to get As in everything but Arithmancy no one would be worried. If he pulled a passing mark in Transfiguration it certainly wasn't from his performance on the practical. I suppose he might have done a bit better on the written exam.




 **alt_sally_anne** at [2012-05-22 17:29:19](#)
(no subject)

Oh and nearly everyone who stays on is doing more than three, of course. When someone's doing the absolute minimum like that it's usually because he's brilliant at Quidditch and is hoping to stay on and get scouted by a team regardless of how he does at NEWTs.

Capper can barely stay on a broom, so at least he's got no worries there.

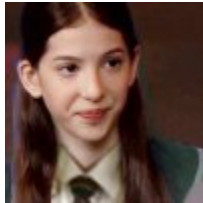


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-22 17:53:12](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, three's really scraping bottom, innit?

I don't think Wood did very many NEWTs, but he did more than three, and everybody knew he was going pro.

But Wood's a pureblood, so that's not the same thing.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 17:56:31](#)
(no subject)

If there were any halfbloods who could Keep like Woods, they'd have some powerful people wanting to keep them on a broom, at least.

He's a pureblood, but -- his whole family got arrested and he didn't, you know?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-22 18:11:10](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

I mean, I see what you're saying about halfbloods. If purebloods can get arrested just like that, then they're not going to think twice about snapping some halfblood kid's wand when he gets sent down from Hogwarts with no OWLs. Or just one or whatev.

But the other part-

You think Wood turned on his family, don't you? I haven't heard any more about them, have you? I mean, you probably read the Prophet more than I do. And you lived with them. Did they ever say what happened to all of them? Are they in the camps? Or-



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 18:18:51](#)
(no subject)

I don't want to believe that he'd turn on his own family.

But if they told him it didn't matter, if he couldn't save them, if he could ONLY save himself --

I don't know.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 18:25:31](#)
(no subject)

And yes, it was all in the Prophet.


Of the pureblood wizards in the Vale of Glamorgan, all were either killed or sent to Azkaban.

I think all the muggleborns were killed.

There were a couple of young children who went to fostering.

And Oliver Wood got a Quidditch contract and did you hear, he's coming on Saturday to talk to the YPL?



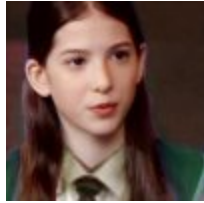
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-22 18:55:01](#)
(no subject)

Well, yeah. And Wood was good and all, but he got a totally brilliant contract with Puddlemere. They even traded away Cumberland so they could play Wood full time. And I mean, he's done all right, but like you'd expect from someone new to pro-level. And Cumberland's dead ace: he's won more matches for the Falcons this year than anyone can count.

So. Yeah. It looks like there might've been something going on behind the scenes, y'know, with getting Wood that offer from Puddlemere.

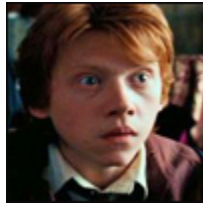
Maybe.


Or maybe Puddlemere had just got fed up with Cumberland. I mean, he's a bit of a Bludgerhead, and he's always saying horrendous things in interviews that set all the other teams out for Falcon blood.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 18:27:18](#)
(no subject)

(I heard it from Viktor.)



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-22 18:51:52](#)
(no subject)

Wait. He's coming on Saturday?!

Quidditchers for YPL?!!

That's so totally dead wizard, it's the awesomest thing ever!

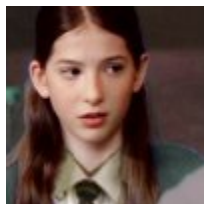
I'd heard we were just having some old wizards from the Ministry to talk about International treaties and boring stuff like that.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 21:18:22](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, they're talking about 'international co-operation thru sport,' right?

I guess someone had the bright idea of making the quidditchers a surprise? to reward the ones who showed up, I guess.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 18:27:56](#)
(no subject)

You know it just occurred to me I haven't heard ANYWHERE else.

So don't tell anyone.

Or if you do, don't tell them you heard from me!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-22 18:53:45](#)
(no subject)

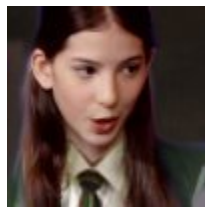
Oh.

I, um

I already sort of told Towler.

I can tell him not to say anything to anybody.

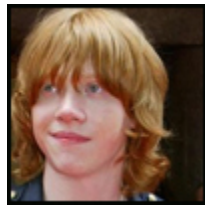
I'm not sure where he got off to, though. But when he comes back, I'll tell him.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 21:18:54](#)
(no subject)

Oh, well.

If there's on Gryffindor who can be counted on to keep something under his hat, it's got to be Towler, after all.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-22 21:22:29](#)
(no subject)

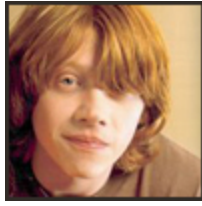
Heh.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 21:19:45](#)
(no subject)

Did you tell him it was ME who told YOU? Or did you just say you heard it somewhere?

Because if it's Towler spreading it, everyone will think he heard from someone else. Wood, maybe, since he was a Gryffindor.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-22 21:24:37](#)**
(no subject)

No. 'Course not.

Just said I'd heard it from someone.

No worries--your secret's safe with me!



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-05-22 17:56:16](#)**
(no subject)

Professor Sinistra failed HERBOLOGY? No way!




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-05-22 17:59:05](#)**
(no subject)

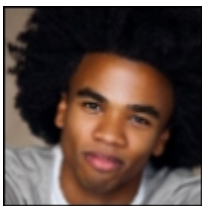
She says even now plants tend to all just look like green growy things to her.


Which is more or less what a lot of people say about stars (except they'd say 'little twinkly things.') It's funny, isn't it?



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-05-22 18:08:46](#)**
(no subject)

You're right about the Ravenclaws being worried. I overheard Marietta Edgecombe talking to Grant Page about it in the Common Room. From what they said it sounds like all of the Prefects had been keeping an eye on him, trying to coax him to join revising groups and so on because he's been doing so poorly on tests. But he won't pay attention to anything but Arithmancy.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-05-22 18:09:32](#)**
(no subject)

Well, if he's not careful, pretty soon he won't be paying attention to anything but emptying rubbish bins or cleaning loos.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-22 18:11:14](#)
(no subject)

I can't believe that they'd do that to him.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-22 18:12:08](#)
(no subject)

Don't you?




 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-22 18:14:10](#)
(no subject)

Well, when you put it that way.


Yeah. I guess they would.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-22 18:15:23](#)
(no subject)


I overheard Professor Vector once telling Madam Hooch that he was one of the brightest Arithmancy students she's ever had.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-22 18:16:12](#)
(no subject)


Like they'd care.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-22 18:18:34](#)
(no subject)


Professor Vector would care. And the Headmistress, I suppose. And all his friends.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-22 18:19:11](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. But they're not the ones who are gonna decide his fate, are they? If he fails.

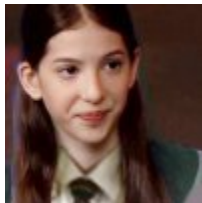


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-22 18:24:18](#)
(no subject)

No, there's some committee that's picked by the Ministry. There's a Department of Education, y'know. And the point is the teachers aren't supposed to be part of it. So they can't help students they like, I guess. Or the opposite.

I mean, it's good Carrow was never in charge of deciding who'd pass Transfig OWLs.

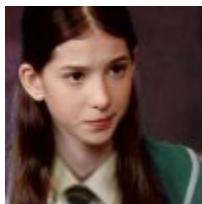
But the thing is, too, the people on that committee don't know how you did in lessons or whether you were brilliant on the projects and homework and all. Or if you tried or didn't or anything. They just know if you did well on the exams or, y'know. Didn't.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 18:16:23](#)
(no subject)

Right. But that's the ONLY thing he's any good at, is what Fawcett said.

He's probably dead clever (you'd know better than I would) but if he doesn't put in ANY work on anything but Arithmancy...



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 18:17:21](#)
Private message to Luna

How are you at the core subjects, Luna? I know you're brilliant at CoMC. A few times Professor Grubbly-Plank has used your diagrams to show the other classes how it ought to be done.



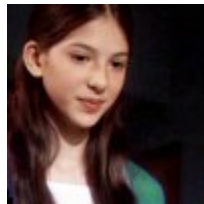
 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-22 18:22:26](#)

Re: Private message to Luna

Oh, I do rather well, I think. I've never had any reason to blush about my end of the year tests.

I like studying.

That's quite nice to hear, that Professor Grubbly-Plank is using my diagrams. She had asked to keep a few of my exam papers once I was through reviewing them, but I didn't know that was why she wanted them.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 18:26:14](#)

Re: Private message to Luna

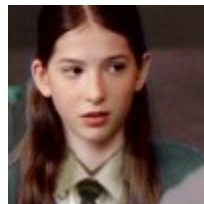
All right then, you should do fine on OWLs.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-22 18:29:13](#)

Re: Private message to Luna

Are you very worried about them? You're quite a good student yourself.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 18:31:52](#)

Re: Private message to Luna

I'm worried, but not about passing. I'm worried about getting good enough marks to do the right set of NEWTs to maybe get into the Healer Training Programme later.


Especially Potions. I do alright in Potions but I think I'll need to do more than alright to get in.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-22 18:15:44](#)
(no subject)

If he's lucky. It could be a lot worse. If they reclassify him as ~~mudb~~ muggleborn.

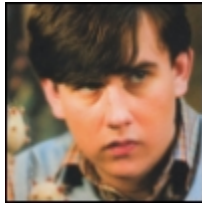


 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-22 18:27:48](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. And having a wand for years and then having it get taken away to get snapped. That would be awful.

I don't know how I'd manage to hang on if I lost my wand now.

(Of course, if they found out I had it, that'd probably be the least of my worries.)



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-22 18:30:30](#)
(no subject)


Let's not even think about that.

2012-05-22 10:42:00

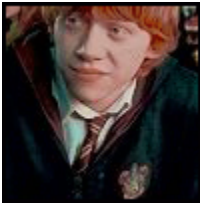
Happy Birthday Megs!


If you'd like to help her celebrate, meet us in the common room after dinner!



 **alt_susan**

There will be biscuits and other tasty things (and a surprise!).



 **alt_ron** at **2012-05-22 17:56:01**
(no subject)

Yeah, happy birthday, Jones!



 **alt_zacharias** at **2012-05-22 21:15:51**
(no subject)

Good on ya, Megs!

And you as well, Sue, for organising.



 **alt_susan** at **2012-05-22 21:17:25**
(no subject)

See you there!

2012-05-22 12:37:00

Private message to Rory



 **alt_rabastan**

That could have gone better.

For a start, having her come to Spence seemed to put certain...expectations into her head. She was dressed to the nines, as if meeting with the Lord Protector himself, and was all ready to reminisce about our days at Hogwarts together. I suppose that's what she thought I was having her over for- a nice little stroll down memory lane. Which isn't to say that she tried any of her charms on me- far from it. She spoke about Philip and her girls in glowing terms and clearly loves being the lady of the Greengrass household.

So I thought she'd turn silent, maybe even angry, when I brought up Daphne. She did look shocked for a split second, but then she tried to... it was the oddest thing, but she tried to *change the subject*. "Oh yes, it's true that I don't really know if Daphne is yours or Philip's, but don't trouble yourself over it, I'm not asking anything of you, Raz, and I'll see to it that Daphne doesn't, either. Now, you really must tell me where you procured this tea, it has the most exquisite bergamot flavour."

Well, not quite so abrupt as that, but you get the idea.

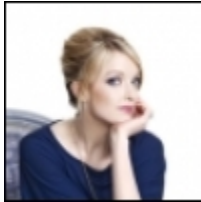
When I suggested that we do something to determine once and for all who Daphne's father is, she wouldn't even hear of it. Accused me of trying to "cause a disruption" in her life, and even to punish Philip, who knew nothing about any of this and never would, or so she insisted.

The only thing I can figure is that Victoriana doesn't want to know who she sired this child with. She apparently relishes the mystery, the possibility that she's got some piece of me- and getting answers would ruin that for her.

Anyway, we can discuss it more at supper. I wanted to get out the basic details to you here so that we can speak in more covert terms then. Speaking of covert- had a good long look at those transcripts this morning. See a few bits that seem... off. But I can't tell if Stint is up to something suspicious or if he's just being a pain in the arse. It's clear to me now that he's the worst type of Ravenclaw- the kind who likes to butt into everything and ask a load of questions just to see

people if they can make someone flounder. So yeah, we'll compare notes.

See you soon, love.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2012-05-22 19:03:24](#)
(no subject)

Oh, goodness. I'm so sorry, love. Truly. You deserve better than that, and so does Daphne. (And what about the disruption in both of your lives, I'd like to know. How selfish of her!)

Pardon. I'll behave. You don't need to hear me ranting. At least I'm sitting here on my own, waiting for Campanella to be done with someone who grabbed her for a moment, and have a moment to get my expression under control.

On the transcripts: I floated the general worry by Campanella earlier and she admits something struck her a bit odd in the meeting too, but not so much she tracked it down. Stint is very much the kind to butt into everything, but there's something in the tone of his questions that still gets at me (and the fact that if he were just trying to make things difficult for me, he didn't pick the easy ways to do that, if you see what I mean.)

Perhaps you and I can come up with something to draw him out, if he really was aiming at specific pieces of information?

In more pleasant news, I've managed the last two bits of necessary planning for Saturday, so that's something. I'm quite looking forward to spoiling you thoroughly, you know.



 **alt_rabastan** at [2012-05-22 19:58:44](#)
(no subject)

Yes, well, altruism was never one of Vic's qualities. I'm not sure where this leaves me, but I suppose I can try to solve the matter without her approval. I don't like to think of going to Philip as a means to strong-arm her into facing the thing head-on, but I suppose it may come to that. Bugger.

Well, that's the trouble with looking at a transcript versus being

there in person. A transcript just isn't the same, is it? Can't tell a thing about tone from a transcript, but I do believe you when you say you heard something odd in his words. Seems the best way to draw him out is to give him a place where he can speak in front of lots of people while using impressive words. Likes that, doesn't he?

Heh, I'm just glad you said "spoiling" and not "doting." I'll know I'm definitely, officially old when we've moved on to "doting."



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-22 20:09:52](#)

(no subject)

I seem vaguely to remember hearing there's charms to prove paternity - wouldn't that just involve you and Daphne? All right, and a Healer who could be trusted to keep things confidential, which would be the sticking point. And inquiring about it is rather the trick too.

Stint does like the big impressive words. Not sure I want to be around him just to prove the point, mind you - I'm rather hoping he doesn't decide to show Saturday, as it is. But the June meetings might give us more data, I suppose, too.


As to the spoiling, definitely that and not doting. (I do have hopes for a bit of energetic mutually enjoyable activity, you know. In among the spoiling.)

Right. Now Campanella's teasing me about blushing.

Before I finish with her, speaking of Saturday: you'll want to pack comfy robes, your broom, and something warm to go flying in (might be a bit brisk, but worth the chill.) Plus anything you particularly want overnight, of course. I'm taking care of everything else.

Right. I should be another half hour, maybe, then ready to meet you. Love you, and looking forward to supper.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-05-22 20:49:17](#)
(no subject)

There is. I suppose the question is whether Daphne will need parental permission to do so, since she's not of age. That, or there's always paying someone to bend the rules, but that sort of person probably can't be trusted in confidence.

Well, now you've got me even more curious about this birthday venture- an actual journey involved? This does sound like spoiling. All the better if it's "mutually enjoyable."

Looking forward as well- see you in a bit.

2012-05-22 14:45:00

The DogStar Speaks



 **alternity**
alt_charlotte

RUN or DIE all you who OPPOSE us.


We will DEFEAT you. We will PREVAIL.

We show NO MERCY. Suffer NO QUALMS. Allow NO FEAR.

We ROOT OUT WEAKNESS wherever its ROT is found.
Rest assured we will PURGE the CORRUPTION that BURROWS in the
BOWELS of this land.


We WILL NOT REST until we have SHED YOUR LIFEBLOOD
AND
RAISE the VICTORS' CUP to CAROUSE at your DEMISE.



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-05-22 21:23:34**
(no subject)

Well, if I had corruption burrowing in my bowels, I know I'd want it purged for good and all.



 **alt_lupin** at **2012-05-22 21:26:40**
Order Only

Not by Dogstar's preferred methods, though.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-22 21:37:54](#)

Re: Order Only

No but you've got to admit it sounds dead uncomfortable.

Besides, I figure mocking this lot is the best way to make clear I don't support whatever murderous plot they're cooking now.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-22 21:44:51](#)

(no subject)

Such a surprise.

Granted, as character studies go, you've nailed the traitor's preoccupations with this impersonation.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-22 21:53:25](#)

(no subject)

Cryptic, as usual. Are you accusing me of impersonating myself or are you complimenting my ability to call the DogStar impostors?

[2012-05-22 18:11:00](#)

Private message to Harry

Hey - I was catching up on my journal and noticed that Pansy wrote to both you and my Father last night.

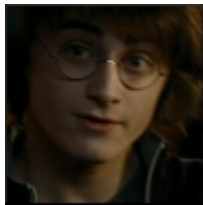


 **[alt_draco](#)**

You're making plans for my birthday, aren't you?

So, what's it going to be then? And look, no offense, but Pansy's usually good at this sort of thing, so just let her take lead, yeah?

Oh, but if you could dissuade her from inviting Longbottom, I'd appreciate it. I suppose Weasley would be alright, but Longbottom never contributes anything, just sits there like that blinking toad of his. It's entirely unnerving.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-05-23 00:25:43](#)**
(no subject)

Hard to pull anything over on you, isn't it?

Yeah, we're planning. More like she's planning and then telling me what I can do to help.

She's already coming up with lists and everything, and he isn't on them so far.

Part of it is supposed to be a surprise, and I'm not even sure if we can pull it off, but if we can, you'll have a good time of it, no mistake.

She really likes you, you know.

I mean, of course she does. But it must be nice.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-05-23 00:34:45](#)**
(no subject)

What about that message to my Father - is he going along with everything or trying to make things difficult? I'm pretty sure he still doesn't like the idea of the two of us dating. Or else he's still cross about the earrings. Or maybe it's both of those things.

Yeah, it is nice. We have a good time together. I do, at least. And I think she does, too, only... I don't know, sometimes I get the feeling she's tense about something. Almost as if she has something she wants to say to me.

Could be that it's around this time of year that Regulus Black died. Bloody nightshade, I can't for the life of me fathom what she and Mother saw in him. He seemed mental to me. Didn't he seem mental to you? Don't tell either of them I said that, though.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-23 00:45:27](#)
(no subject)

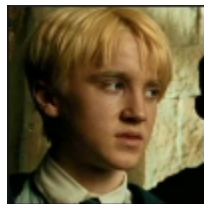
He was mental. And sad. And weird.


I won't tell. Don't worry.

I think it's a girl thing. Like girls sort of obsess over stuff sometimes. Even when it's not good for them.

He's going along, actually. He did say something about how you both liked to give one another expensive presents. Like he was sort of joking. So there's that.

Why wouldn't he like you two dating, you think?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-23 00:55:46](#)
(no subject)

Well Pansy definitely obsesses over things sometimes - she even gave herself that ulcer a while back. I just wonder what it could be... I think if it were something serious she'd tell me, though, just like I tell her everything.

Don't worry, that doesn't mean I told her about Milland. I figure that's *your* business, and nothing to do with me. Though I still say it's weird. Now there's two grown men who are obsessed with you because of your parents. He'd just better be able to teach you, is what I'm saying. Or else what's the point?

I've no clue why he doesn't like us dating. I held off on telling him because I thought he and Mother might be excited and start

planning our wedding way before we're ready, or something nutty like that, but he's not like that at all. He hasn't said much about it either way, but still, he doesn't seem pleased.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-23 01:05:55](#)
(no subject)

That's sort of weird. If he didn't like it, he'd probably say, wouldn't he? And he likes Pansy.

Maybe that's why she's being a bit off. Because she knows why he's not happy about it? I don't know. I do know she likes you tonnes, though.


And she seems really happy.

Like happier than she's been in a really long time.

Maybe we could go together or something. To meet with Milland. And talk. I think it'd be ace if you learned , and I think you'd be really good at it too. And we could practise together.

And yeah, he's a little intense, and sort of weird, but he listens to you like you're a real person. Like Raz does.



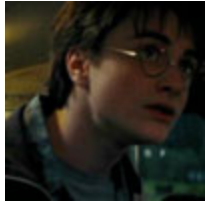
 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-23 01:15:38](#)
(no subject)

Well, he dated loads of birds before he married Mother, so he probably worried I'm missing out on all that, or something.

Hmm, I hadn't thought of that - of her feeling strange because of Father. Maybe I'll bring it up with her.

And hey - you know, I bet after you thump Diggory in the final task that Chang will finally see the light and ask you to take her out for a butterbeer this summer. Bet you fifty galleons.

I don't know... It'd be snitch to learn, but I don't trust him. He didn't make a vow about *me*, after all. And speaking of, isn't Raz going to wonder when you don't go to him for Occlumency lessons like you'd asked him about?



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-05-23 01:25:53](#)**
(no subject)

Well, like I told you, he got sort of weird about it, like he wanted me to learn, but didn't know if it'd be okay for him to teach me. And he hasn't brought it up since. I haven't either.

I don't even know if he's a legilimens, but if he isn't one, there'd only be so much he could teach me. I guess if he did bring it up again, I'd probably just show him what I'd learnt so far, and he'd just assume I picked it up naturally, like Hydra did. Maybe. I hope. Unless he could see me learning from Milland, that is. But if he were a proper legilimens, I think he'd be a lot less worried about people finding out that he'd taught me, wouldn't he?


I don't know. I'd rather he not get into trouble, and just sort of find out I know it without his having to do anything.

And it would be snitch to learn.

I think it's okay to not trust him. Milland I mean. You've got a pretty big secret over him, don't you? So you've got some leverage. And I'd know if he did anything to you or something, and he'd know that'd make me angry and I'd stop going to him. So because we're good friends and he wants to stay on my good side, I think it'd work out. As long as we're careful.

And I think it might be best to learn from someone no-one knows about, you know? So no-one knows you know how to do it?



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-05-23 01:31:50](#)**
(no subject)

There's no way Raz is a legilimens. If he was, we would've heard about it by now. So yeah, you're right, he can't do as much. He probably wishes he could, though.

You could always take lessons from Auntie Bellatrix.

No, scratch that. I see why you prefer Milland.

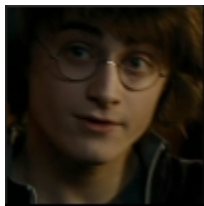
And I suppose we both have the upper hand, when you put it that way. If he does something to *me* it would kind of like be hurting you, too, so it might put his vow in jeopardy.

I might be willing to meet with him, at least.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-23 01:56:31](#)
(no subject)

Ace.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-23 01:28:34](#)
(no subject)

And maybe that's it, yeah. The lots of birds thing.

I have enough trouble dating one.

Maybe you're right about the butterbeer, though. I'm glad I told them to go to the Yule ball, because Diggory's been really helpful during the cup at least. And it would've been awful to take someone who didn't want to go with me.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-23 01:34:07](#)
(no subject)

Right. And you know, I don't think it's that she didn't want to go with you, it's more that she wanted to go with Diggory more, because they'd already grown close. It's still good that you asked because she knows you fancy her now, and if things change with Diggory, she'll remember that.

[2012-05-22 19:58:00](#)

Private Message to Daffs and Sally-Anne

It's such a beautiful evening. Do you want to go for a walk? Or we could fly a little if you're game.



 [alt_pansy](#)



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-05-23 00:07:06](#)

(no subject)

Oh, I don't know...

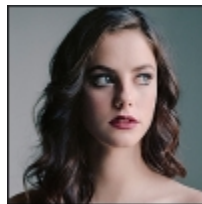


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-23 00:13:26](#)

(no subject)

We could always play cards or something instead if you'd rather. I'm just bored, really, and I like being out of doors this time of year.

Besides, this way you could help me plan the surprise part of Draco's party without Milli overhearing.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-05-23 00:16:53](#)

(no subject)

I know. And I could use the exercise, and the fresh air.

Only there's really nothing to keep Barney from being *outside* the castle, is there?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-23 00:21:00](#)

(no subject)

I'd bet he's under supervision all of the time. I mean, he was escorted to and from his exams. So I'm sure they wouldn't let him just wander.

We could ask Avery before we leave, just to be sure, though.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-05-23 00:24:22](#)
(no subject)

Okay, let's ask.

Once NEWTS are over, though, Barney has to leave the castle, and he won't be under supervision then.

So I'd better get out while I can.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-23 00:30:03](#)
(no subject)

Let's do.

You'll be safe at Hogwarts, he can't get back in here without permission. And we'll come up with all sorts of ace things to do this summer where he wouldn't be able to get anywhere near you.

Promise.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-23 03:38:16](#)
Private message to Pansy

I didn't want to say anything since she DID come out flying.

Did no one tell her Bole left last week, as soon as NEWTs were over?

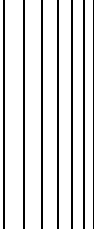
I really hoped once he was gone she'd just go back to normal but I guess it'll take a while.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-23 04:09:43](#)
Re: Private message to Pansy

Yeah. I guess it's because she's been stuck in her room so much, and has been avoiding her journal. I don't blame her.

And it's sort of awful that she's so worried he could get to her



during summer hols or something.

We'll really have to sort out things she can do with us when we know he'll be away training for things or something, so she'll be able to relax a bit.

[2012-05-23 11:05:00](#)

YPL announcements



 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

YPL

A reminder that our final YPL event of the year will begin at 1pm Saturday in the Great Hall, though if the weather cooperates, we'll move outside for the second half. We'll be welcoming various speakers on International Wizarding Relations for a panel discussion, then hearing several people speak to wizarding cooperation and sport.

CCF trials announcements:

We're delighted to be able to announce that the lists of those 3rd years selected to participate in the CCF trials are posted in the common rooms. For the students selected, please see me during office hours for more information. Letters are being sent home to your parents about your travel arrangements.

As always, we want to reassure everyone that this is but one way to serve the Protectorate, and that we've provided some alternate guidance and ideas privately to everyone not selected to continue.

YPL 6th or 7th year counsellors:

We'd like to have four of you stay during the trial week (ideally one from each house) to assist with some pieces of the trials and also to supervise students in the evenings. Please let me know if you're interested as soon as possible.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-23 15:26:41](#)**

Private message to Felix Green and Campanella Wright

Hello, both. I keep coming back to look at the transcripts from April and I still think something is odd. I'd like to try floating some changes, and seeing what the response is.

Felix: Would you send the following out on my behalf to the full committee, via owl? And then copy and include the map sketches 2c, 2d, 2g, and 2k.

[begin note]

We've had several followup conversations about pieces of the CCF

planning, particularly the solo activity for the rising 5th years.
Proposals currently under consideration:

- 1) moving the day from the beginning of week 2 to the beginning of week 3 to allow greater time for skill acquisition.
- 2) moving the location to a space easier to oversee, particularly given the security considerations around Harry Marvolo. (Which would mean planning for Bedford Purlieus or the Peak District park, instead of centering on Hambleton, and additional consideration for endangered magical creatures in those other two sites.)
- 3) adjusting the location of individual students at Hambleton - please see the attached sketches for alternates. (2c is the one currently chosen.)

I'd appreciate your comments (to me and to Campanella) no later than the end of next week. Kindly include any thoughts on all three, or just let me know you have no problems with either the current or proposed. We'll make a final decision no later than the June 25th meeting. [end note with the usual stuff]

Campanella: thanks for yesterday. I did just see the invite for supper Saturday, and I'm glad I've got other plans, really. That crowd does not enthuse. I'll look forward to seeing you at noon, though.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-23 15:46:12](#)

Private message to Pomona Sprout

Pomona -

Just realised I should drop a note. I'm fully aware of the approach of the anniversary of poor Hannah's death, but Saturday is Raz's birthday, and we've plans to be away overnight. Leaving after the YPL event on Saturday, back by early afternoon Sunday. (I do plan to poke my head into the common room before supper, as usual and be around that evening.)

If anything is truly dire, we won't be far, but frankly, both Raz and I could use a break from the castle, however brief, and I'm hoping we can ignore the rest of the world for a bit. (And how pathetic is it that 18 hours is the outside we can manage?)



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-05-23 16:10:14**

Private message to Mum

Your list for the hamper sounds just the thing, and I appreciate you and Tempest doing the shopping and prep more than I can say. I think we'll have a good time of it, brief as it must be, and we'll see what he thinks about Sunday morning. (Thanks for your confidence in my skills, rusty as they are. Temp's been teasing me mercilessly.)

As to the summer, still no real idea, though I'm guessing I'll be in New London most of the time when I'm not at YPL events. More when I know it myself, but I would like to come ~~home~~ stay and see everyone for a day or two. On the rest, well, this week and last have been challenging for several reasons. I'd be doing more research if the weather cooperated, but other than that, it's been tremendously better than March or April were. (Scarcely takes much, mind.)

The flood of notes from the aunts and cousins has finally died down, though the more you can do to convince them to lay off advice on how to get Raz to propose, the happier I'll be. (I'm ignoring all of it, taking things as they come, and enjoying the time we do have together. Pushing is so clearly not the right thing.) I have been writing to cousin Mel a bit more, and that's been very pleasant.

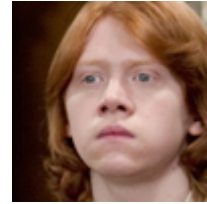
(And how is Diane doing with her latest? Andie's excited to get back and be helpful.)

Must run, more sometime soon.

2012-05-23 13:02:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

This is the longest day ever. Runes went on forever, and now it's Double Potions. Oi! I'm dying over here.



If my head falls into my cauldron, duck!

 [alt_ron](#)

Only I was up almost all night because of Gareth Archer. Heard him shouting in the middle of the night. Ours is the closest room to theirs, so I was the one who got there first. Well, except for his mates, but they're a useless lot. Ed Bones and Jimmy Peakes were both sitting up, staring at him, but they seemed like they were still sound asleep, really. I swear Peakes was snoring. And soon as I got there, they both flopped over and were out again.

But Archer wasn't going back to sleep. No way. He didn't want to go see Madam Pomfrey, and I don't blame him, so we went downstairs and played chess. All the way til breakfast.

I didn't mind. I mean, McLaggen came in right after I did, but he's got OWLs this week and looked a wreck. And really, even on a good day, no one wants to spend time with McLaggen. And Archer was a bit of a mess, too.

Said he'd had a dream about his father coming back--you know about his dad, right?

Anywiz, last night he had this dream his father came back and was going to kill him. He figures it's because he read what those Dogstar people wrote in the journals yesterday. Thing is, I guess Archer really hated his dad. For leaving him and his mum and for being a traitor. Did you know MLE questioned him and his cousin--watshername, the Slytherin one--only Archer couldn't tell them anything because he hadn't talked to his father in years. Well, I guess he did tell them something--last night he told me he told MLE he was glad his father was dead.

I mean, yeah. That's dead awful, innit?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-23 19:21:58](#)
(no subject)

Aurelia's the Slytherin who's his cousin. She's a year ahead of me and if she ever talks about it, it's not to me.

But I do know she was close to him, because they shared a House -- neither of her parents are Slytherins, you see (and obviously his children didn't grow up to be Slytherins, so.) They'd exchanged a lot of owls. When he died she gave all of his letters to MLE and I don't know if she ever got them back.

He wasn't exactly a traitor, you know. He died under suspicious circumstances while MLE was interviewing him but they didn't know anything for sure because he died so suddenly. People talked -- when Aurelia wasn't around -- and what everyone thought was that he WAS a traitor and killed himself somehow, you know? So that he wouldn't tell them anything no matter what. Because the other possibility was MLE killing him by accident and that didn't seem likely.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-23 19:43:28](#)
(no subject)

Anyway -- why did Gareth think his father would be angry at him? Because he's loyal? Or because he told MLE that he was glad his father was dead?

If he thinks his father's angry because he told MLE that he hated him, tell him his father would have been cheering him on. His father was a SLYTHERIN. He'd have been saying 'right on, son, defame my name and spit on my grave, whatever it takes.' I mean, unless his father was just a miserable git, which he might have been. Does Gareth think he was in DogStar?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-23 19:43:51](#)
(no subject)

Archer thinks he was a traitor, for sure.

Course, he also thinks he was a prick for leaving his mum. He wasn't too happy about her having to take him back to her family's place outside some tiny country town on a

farm. I guess they'd lived someplace else first and he'd had friends and all, and then they moved.

Didn't have much to say about it, really. And I didn't ask too much because, I mean, we live on a farm outside a village, don't we. Guess we won't invite Archer to the Burrow ever. Like we would, anywiz. Don't think he'd like my parents much, y'know?

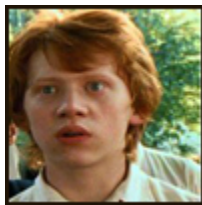



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-23 19:49:48](#)**
(no subject)

Well, he probably was, honestly. A traitor, I mean.

As far as being a prick -- well.

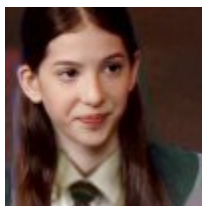
If he was a traitor, maybe he left to try to keep the rest of them safe. Neville's parents left him and Evelyn with their Gran, you know? Even if they are exactly as awful in real life as they were in the play last year, I'm sure they left Neville and Evelyn behind to keep them safe, not because they hate children.




 **[alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-23 20:07:15](#)**
Private Message to Sally Anne

I don't think Nev'll like us talking about his parents.

But I bet you're right that they did leave Neville and Evelyn to keep them safe. Only that's not what Archer thinks his dad did. He said he figures his dad was giving secrets to Dogstar to help them kill the Lord Protector.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-23 20:10:07](#)**
Re: Private Message to Sally Anne

Bugger.

I'm putting my foot in it all over today, aren't I?

Where did Archer's father work, anyway? I know he was at the Ministry but was he in a department that would even HAVE any secrets that would help Dogstar kill the Lord Protector?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-23 20:23:35](#)

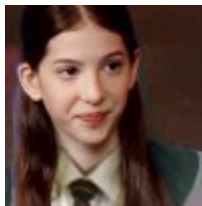
Re: Private Message to Sally Anne

Nah, it's okay. Maybe Nev'll tell us something about them, since you did say it.

No worries.

I don't know what department he was in. Archer didn't say, and I wasn't really asking him a lot of questions. Just letting him talk when he wanted to. I mean, maybe I should've asked more, but I was thinking his dad was sort of like mine, maybe, only if that's so, then Archer's not like me. And I didn't want him to realise.

Only, see. Here's the thing. I wouldn't want my dad to be working for Dogstar, either. I mean, they want things to change, but they've killed loads of people--regular people--and they haven't changed anything. And then they write stuff like they did yesterday that's just horrible. And, what's that even about?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-23 20:30:50](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally Anne

No.

I know.

But he might not have been working for Dogstar. He might have been working for the wand smugglers. Or some other group. Not that you could tell that to Archer, 'oi, there are actually LOADS of traitors out there who AREN'T in Dogstar!'



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-23 21:20:40](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally Anne

Um.

Did you see Nev leave Potions?

He definitely read this. Right at the end of the lesson. I tried to say something, but he wouldn't look at me.

And he's not back here in the room.

If you see him at supper, maybe try talking to him? I know you didn't mean to upset him, and he'll know it, too. Soon as he sees you.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-24 00:55:58](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally Anne

Bugger bugger bugger.

I tried to catch him at supper but he avoided me. Or didn't see me. I'm not sure.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-23 19:34:32](#)

Private message to Ron

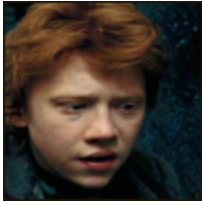
I kept thinking yesterday about Woods, and whether he turned on his family. I don't think he turned them in. I mean, I don't think he went to MLE and said, 'hey, you should know this thing about my awful traitor parents.' But I think when everyone got arrested he might have figured the only way to save himself was to say, 'I always suspected they were rotten blood-traitors but I never knew for sure! I'm so disgusted by all of them, the horrible things they got up to while I was at school!'

I kept thinking

ugh

I kept thinking about your family. If someone in your family got caught doing something illegal, what the others would have to do, and whether ~~you'd~~ they'd be able to do it.

The Vale felt a lot like the Burrow, you know? Crowded and friendly with chickens running around and gardens and pick-up quidditch and homemade cider. The Woods were a lot like your family.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-23 19:49:49](#)**

Re: Private message to Ron

Uh-

I wish you hadn't said this.

I mean, I don't have nightmares, but if I did, it'd be this. It'd be Percy telling Mr Malfoy something about my parents, and maybe not because he really even had to, like to save his neck if something happened, but just because he thinks he's so much better than the rest of us and thinks they're not trying hard enough to be good whatever-

I don't even know.

But I wish-

You really think the Woods were like us?



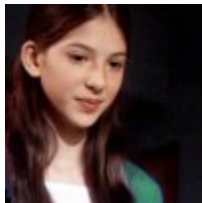
 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-05-23 19:51:23](#)**

Re: Private message to Ron

I'm sorry, I should have kept my mouth shut.

Only I was already thinking about it yesterday and now with Archer

I'm sorry, Ron.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-05-23 19:56:10](#)**

Re: Private message to Ron

But yeah.

The Woods were a lot like you lot.

Remember when they took me to see the ocean, since I'd never been? They didn't tell me where we were going, they just woke me up before dawn and we flew in the dark and then the sun rose and I could see it all spread out in front of me. And we had a picnic.

I suppose that's not exactly the sort of thing your parents would do. Your Mum's a lot more practical than Mrs Woods was. She'd have sent me off to see the ocean with you and the Twins and a picnic basket but I doubt she'd have woken me up while it was still dark so I'd see it at sunrise.



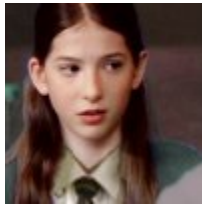
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-23 20:13:45](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Heh. Well, she'd've known she wouldn't get us all out the door and on our brooms while it was still dark, that's for sure!

But if we'd known it was nift to see the sunrise, we might've done. The twins and me, I mean. We like to go off exploring.

Listen. I've been thinking about you getting to see your parents this summer. And I really meant it, I want to help you do that. I mean, I know it's not close, but we're sort of on the way there, right? And, well, anywiz, you should go, and I'll help. Just say how.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-23 20:29:27](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

It's a bit over a hundred miles from the Burrow to Bagwylllydiart, assuming I read the map right.

What's the furthest you've flown in a day?

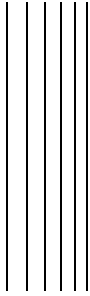


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-23 21:22:49](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Uh. Well. Maybe thirty or forty miles? I'm not sure. We've flown all over to the little villages around Devon. But not in a straight line from one place to another place that you could look up how far it is from home, say.

We're pretty tired after one of those days, but we do lots of stuff while we're out and about, y'know.



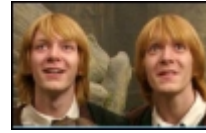
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-24 00:57:20](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

If we leave really early, and the Strettons think I'm spending the night with Pansy, it might work.

2012-05-23 20:50:00

Order Only: Gareth Archer



 **alt_gredforge**

We noticed Ron was just about drooling into his soup at lunch, he was so tired, so we asked him about it. He told us he was up most of the night with Gareth Archer. Guess Archer woke up with a nightmare, and the shouting carried all the way up to Ron's room and woke him, too. So the two of them went down to the Common Room, playing chess and talking. Sounds like the poor bloke had some stuff he needed to get off his chest.

Of course we couldn't say it to Ron, but we saw it when we went back and read the Order Only posts. His dad died for the Order, didn't he? So we figure...we owe him. The Order does. And he's having a hard time of it. That Charlotte-whosit's journal raving like that stirred up a lot of stinking stuff for him, sounds like. It's eating away at him, according to Ron. Thinking his Dad was a traitor.

Dunno. Just wanted to put it out there. Don't know what anyone can do about it. (Ron says he suggested that Archer could maybe go see Madam Pomfrey, but he hexed that idea down flat.)

We'll look out for him, maybe try to get him to play with chess us, too. Get him to open up a bit more, if we can. At least that's something.

Maybe N

We just thought you lot should know.



 **alt_bill** at **2012-05-24 02:32:52**


(no subject)

Bugger. I don't like it, but yeah, I want to know.

Aloysius was one of mine. I do feel responsible.

Minerva, could we...bloody hell. No. It's not like we can give him a bloody pension, for the support of Widows and Orphans of Fallen Order Heroes.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-24 02:39:24](#)**
(no subject)

And he was a hero. One I was proud to know.

Dammit. His son should know that.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-24 02:46:10](#)**
(no subject)


Someday he will, dear boy, if we have anything to say about it.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2012-05-25 13:59:36](#)**
(no subject)

I shall call him into my office at the first opportunity and try to set him straight—as best I can.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-25 21:44:42](#)**
(no subject)

If you can do it without alarming him. Or giving him the idea that someone peached on him.

I suppose with Dogstar in the news that might be an excuse to check in with him.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-05-24 03:43:46](#)**
(no subject)

not exactly.

but the twins can keep an eye out for him at school. and when he leaves, we have people who are out there like you, and your dad, and Remus and Tonks who can see that he's able to get a job if he needs it.

and if he's ever ready to hear the truth, we'll tell it to him.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-05-24 02:50:17](#)
(no subject)

Oh, the poor boy. How very sad.

I've never met him, even though he's in Ginny's year, isn't he? But I've never heard her mention him.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-24 02:51:08](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. He keeps pretty much to himself, most of the time.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-24 02:51:59](#)
(no subject)

We've noticed.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-24 02:53:52](#)
(no subject)

Well, thank you for speaking up, boys. I'm not sure what we can do, realistically, but...

At least Minerva and Poppy and Pomona are aware of the situation. And maybe they can keep a bit of an eye on him, too.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-24 02:54:44](#)
Private message to Arthur Weasley


Dad.

~~Have you ever~~

~~have you and Mum~~

Never mind.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-24 03:08:22](#)**

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley

I think I know what you are getting at.

I suppose now that you're in the Order you understand why your mother goes through periods of watching that clock so closely.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-05-24 03:11:12](#)**

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley


All right. Since we're laying our cards on the table.

Have you thought about it?

Sorry. That's a brainless question. Of course you have.

I guess we mean...what HAVE you thought about it? Getting caught? What you would do, we mean?




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-24 03:13:59](#)**

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley

Your mother and I have discussed it, yes. At great length. And lay awake thinking about it, in the dark watches of the night, believe me.

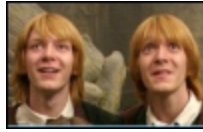
Our first concern, of course, would be getting as many of you to safety as we could. There are safeguards in place at Hogwarts. It does my heart some good to know that at least you know now, so that you could maybe help herd the others to Minerva or Poppy or Pomona.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-24 03:19:32](#)**

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley

The chief difficulty is Percy. Unfortunately.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-24 03:20:04](#)

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley

Yeah. We can sort of see that.

And maybe even Ginny, too. It's hard to tell.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-24 03:20:43](#)

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley

Yes, I'm afraid so. It may become clearer in a year or two.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-24 03:20:57](#)

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley

And if worst came to worst...?

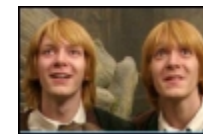


 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-24 03:23:05](#)

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley

That's between your mother and me, boys.

But we would do what we would need to do to keep from betraying the Order. Whatever it takes. We have different contingency plans in place, and believe me, we have discussed every scenario we can possibly imagine, exhaustively.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-24 03:23:43](#)

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley

Yeah, but Dad...what if the whole Order goes down?




 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-24 03:24:50](#)

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley

Then Merlin help us all. We go down as bravely as we can.

And others will pick up to fight after us.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-24 03:26:42](#)**

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley

That's what we did for Aloysius, after all.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-05-24 03:38:10](#)**

Re: Private message to Arthur Weasley

Bill was right.

There's more to adulthood than getting your apparition licence.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-05-24 21:27:03](#)**

(no subject)

I can't say that I know the Archer boy well at all. I've seen more of the girls--cousins, I think.

Of course, I treat all alike on my ward, but if any of the Archer children were in need, I would certainly hope to help.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-05-24 17:12:32](#)**

(no subject)

The aurors had a tradition about this, back in the day. Whenever an auror fell in battle, afterward the spouse would be given a pin. Either a tie tac, if the spouse was a man, or a small brooch if a woman. It showed two crossed wands. Usually it was done privately at some point at the funeral: the general public never knew about those pins, but the aurors all knew.

So if you saw someone wearing that pin, you would instantly know the situation without anything being said, and were supposed to look out for the wearer. Whether it meant giving up a seat at the Knight Bus, or silently arranging for payment for a meal in the Leaky Cauldron, we'd do it. A grace note, if you will, to acknowledge the sacrifices of the families of the fallen.

Not sure if the aurors bother with that anymore. The culture's changed enormously in the department a lot in the last ten years, of course, and it doesn't strike me as the sort of thing that Voldemort would encourage.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-05-24 17:13:53](#)
(no subject)

That's lovely, Kingsley.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-05-25 13:58:50](#)
(no subject)

But we cannot do such a thing—can we?

It would be far too dangerous for young Mr. Archer.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-05-25 21:46:19](#)
(no subject)

I'm afraid not, no.

I just hope we can all look out for him in other ways. See that he has no trouble landing a job when he leaves school, for example. That sort of thing.

2012-05-24 12:26:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Dudley again



I'm making friends with Dudley.

We started off sort of like friends right away, when we met. Or anyway, friendly acquaintances. It made sense. We're both stuck here, and we're the same age, so it would have been natural. But the git did something really rotten to both of us, and tried to fix it so we'd blame each other. It hurt a lot, having that monster go out of his way to ruin something that might have been a lifeline for both of us: a real friend.

 [alt_terry](#)

I thought a lot about it, and then I decided the best way to spite the git would be to do something he would never expect. Make a friend out of Dudley, in spite of everything.

It was hard at first. Dudley was skittish, and real suspicious of me, and I don't blame him a bit. He wouldn't let me get near him. But I just waited and watched until he went out to do one of his hardest chores--burying one of the dead prisoners. And then I quietly went and started helping him dig the grave. It takes a long time for two kids to do it without magic. We didn't say anything, but he could see I was working just as hard as him. I helped him put the prisoner in the grave, and we covered him up. And then we stood there together, looking down at the mound of earth. He spoke for the first time in hours. 'Maybe it'll be you next time. Maybe it'll be me.'

I thought about it and then decided to take the risk. I wanted to show him I was willing to trust him. 'It won't be me. I'm going to try to get away.'

He jammed the spade back into the ground. 'You used magic on me. Didn't you?'

My heart started beating like anything. When he'd been hurt, I used my wand to heal him. But I'd told him to close his eyes. 'How'd you know?'

'Maybe I peeked a little. Besides, I ain't dumb.'

'What are you going to do about it?'

'I won't tell him,' he said with scorn.

I let out a breath slowly. 'Good.'


I gave him the other shovel, but he held on to it, and looked me straight in the eye

for the first time. 'Take me with you when you go. I know the land around here. I could help you.' He could see I was hesitating, and he added defiantly, 'I didn't tell. I wouldn't. I'd die first.'

My magic tells me sometimes when someone can be trusted. And it was telling me to trust him. 'Then I'll take you with me.'

He smiled. I smiled back and left him there, his bare feet sunk deep into the dirt of the grave.




 **[alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-24 21:55:04](#)**
(no subject)

I'm glad you've got someone you can trust. Besides that ghost.

I mean, the ghost seems dead useful, but having someone alive, even if you can't talk much, it could help you a lot when you get your chance.

Would you really take him with you? I mean, would he slow you down?



 **[alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-24 23:33:54](#)**
(no subject)


I might slow him down. See, the wild card in all this is that I can't escape without mastering the animagus transformation, but I don't know what my animagus form is. Not yet.

I mean, think about it. I could be something so big that's it's hard to hide. Or an animal that doesn't see very well, or needs help getting food. Or so small that it can't travel very fast. I might need his help. And he DOES know the land around here, and all the routines of the local camp. That might be a big help.

On the other hand, I have a wand, and I know about the haversack that Justin buried. And I have the name of a contact outside who might help us.

But more than that, my gut just tells me it's the right thing to do. I can't leave him here alone to face the git's wrath.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-05-24 23:36:33](#)**
(no subject)

I might be really struggling if we can't break that blood spell, too. He might need to carry me. If I'm small enough.


If I survive



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-05-25 02:26:26](#)**
(no subject)

I'm almost afraid to ask this, but how's it been with the git lately? Has he been leaving you alone?




 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-05-25 02:55:46](#)**
(no subject)

Hard to predict. He was concentrating on the prisoners for awhile, mostly ignoring me.

Then he beat me up pretty badly Tuesday night. Don't worry, I was able to fix myself up again. Mostly. ~~And he did the Cru~~

Now he's all happy and humming because his sister says she's coming to spend the summer with him.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-05-26 00:18:35](#)**
(no subject)

Sometimes the most inspiring plants are the ones that grow where you don't expect them. Like between the cracks of concrete. And hence, the loveliest.

I'm glad that you can find a friend even in the most difficult places.

[2012-05-24 18:24:00](#)

Chess Tonight

Say. Who's for chess?

I'm so done with revising and homework, y'know?

Archer. What about you? Anyone else? We could set up in the Great Hall tonight if people bring their own boards.



 [alt_ron](#)



 [alt_ron](#) at **[2012-05-24 23:30:41](#)**

Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley and Sally Anne Perks

This includes the Beauxbatons and Durmstrang lot, if anyone wants to come. Sally Anne, you could tell Krum, yeah?

And F-F, you could bring Hydra. I'd write her myself, but I don't think her mum liked it when she's played with me before. She's decent, though. Tell her she owes me another game!



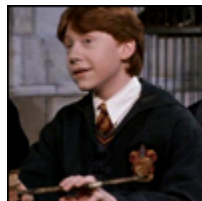
 [alt_justin](#) at **[2012-05-24 23:40:12](#)**

Re: Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley and Sally Anne Perks

Hullo, Ron,

Certainly, we'd be happy to join.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at **[2012-05-24 23:47:06](#)**

Re: Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley and Sally Anne Perks

Snitch. See you there. Anytime you can make it.

Archer's coming. Have you met him?

He can be a bit hard to talk to, but you're good at that sort of thing.

Not that you have to spend a lot of time talking to him. I mean, it really is about playing chess.

Or, y'know, people could bring cards or gobstones or whatever if they're not much for chess.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-05-25 01:04:47](#)**

Re: Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley and Sally Anne Perks

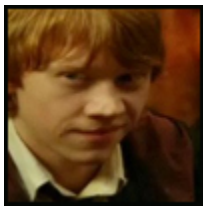
Viktor says it sounds like fun. I didn't think he even LIKED chess. I think he just wants to spend some time around people who aren't going completely mental over either OWLs or NEWTs.




 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-05-25 00:38:44](#)**

(no subject)

I'll come. In case you need some sacrificial chess victims to wipe the board with.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-25 02:08:18](#)**


Private Message to Neville Longbottom

Thanks, Nev. Glad you're here.

Did I see you winning one against Zimmerman?
Mind, it looks like Summers is mutilating you now.

(Psst. Queen to E5 wasn't your best move.)



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-05-25 03:03:56](#)**

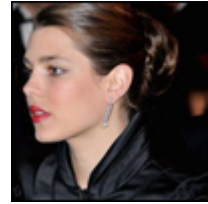
Re: Private Message to Neville Longbottom

Now you tell me.

2012-05-25 01:01:00

*Private Message to Mafalda Hopkirk and
Claudius Yaxley*

A87 clear. Awaiting forensics at Ipswich 46.



 [alt_lana](#)

2012-05-25 04:34:00

*Private Message to Claudius Yaxley
and Mafalda Hopkirk*

A6 clear.

Also A14.

No word yet from A21, A22, A86.

Send clean-up to Ips459.



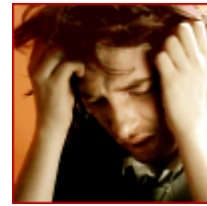
 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

2012-05-25 08:22:00

Order Only

Oh my GOD.

LOOK AT THE PAPER!!



 [alt_bill](#)



 [alt_kingsley](#) at **2012-05-25 13:38:42**

(no subject)

What? What is it?

I'm here in Sherwood. No paper deliveries.



 [alt_bill](#) at **2012-05-25 13:40:58**

(no subject)

The headline reads: DOGSTAR EXTINGUISHED!
Here's what it says:

'Claudius Yaxley, Head of MLE and Mafalda Hopkirk, Head of the Auror Division announce the success of a co-ordinated strike over night against the subversive organisation calling itself the DogStar, culminating in a large number of arrests. At this hour, the operation has successfully concluded. Prophet reporters expect full details will emerge later this morning.'

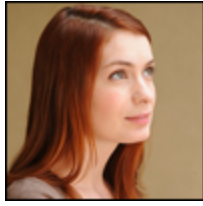



 [alt_kingsley](#) at **2012-05-25 14:06:02**

(no subject)

Oh, my.


Just talked to Emmeline and Dorcas. We'll do a quick pack up, move to an area where we can get the next edition quickly.



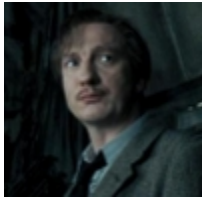
 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-25 14:52:36](#)**
(no subject)

And make sure Davidson knows to keep an eye out, in case any intelligence they gather leads to him.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-05-25 15:06:46](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, we've spread the word. He's sending warnings out on his network. But I don't think any of his people will be touched. As far as I know, they're a separate network from Dogstar entirely.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-05-25 13:50:12](#)**
(no subject)

There are no Order members with Dogstar contacts, are there?

Molly, does your clock show anyone in your family in danger?


Dora, when did you last see Beth? I know she said she wasn't with Dogstar, but we can't be sure.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2012-05-25 14:01:14](#)**
(no subject)

I am quite cut off from information. I received word this morning that it had happened—but apart from a note from the Lord Protector warning me that some of my students might have family involved, and to control them 'with an iron fist,' no expectation that I will immediately be able to find anything out—though I shall send some discreet owls in an hour or so.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-25 16:05:51](#)**
(no subject)

Oh dear.

I hope they are able to claim ignorance, like Gareth Archer, or are young enough to be fostered. I really do.

I can imagine what it must be like for them. I think about it often, about what it'd be like for our children were something to happen to us.

And unlike our Neville and Evelyn, they don't have portkeys, or a support network to turn to who would be able to harbor them.

Please let us know what will be done for them.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-05-25 14:07:53](#)**
(no subject)

Everything seems normal on the clock, Remus. Everyone's position is just as it is, with no hint of 'Mortal Peril.' Thank goodness.

Arthur, have you heard anything at work? Was anything said at that early meeting you attended?



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-25 14:10:25](#)**
(no subject)

Nothing was mentioned, except.

Oh, god. Norma Brownmiller didn't show up for the meeting. And she didn't send a Floo message that she was sick or anything; she's normally quite conscientious about that.


And the meeting was ended early, abruptly. With no explanation. We were all just sent back to our offices.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-05-25 15:09:11](#)
(no subject)


Oh, Arthur, no! Surely not? That kind woman? Why, I never would have believed that she'd thrown her lot in with them. Dogstar has done some violent things, haven't they?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-25 16:15:37](#)
(no subject)

Dad, have you found out anything about Norma?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-05-25 16:19:05](#)
(no subject)


Bill...your father just Flooed, briefly.

I think he was on the verge of tears.

He went down to Norma's office, and there was a blue ward over the door that prevented him from entering. MLE.

He's gone out for an early lunch to try to pull himself together.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-25 16:32:25](#)
(no subject)

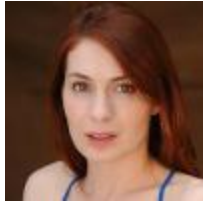
Bugger.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-05-25 16:34:42](#)
(no subject)

For once I won't chide you about language. I'm quite upset myself. I met Norma at the office holiday party and I very much liked her.

Oh my goodness, her family. She has a husband, and a little boy who's only three.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-25 16:38:19](#)**
(no subject)

I wouldn't do anything suspicious by trying to contact them directly. Is there any other way you can find out if they're safe or not?

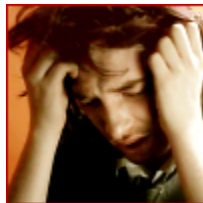



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-25 17:40:57](#)**
(no subject)

Norma's husband is Scott Brownmiller. He works at a private research and development potion consortium, but on the Herbology side. Quite a whiz at Herbology.

What was the name of it? 'Herbaceous Ouroboros,' that was it.

Bill, do you know anyone, ANYONE with contacts there?



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-25 17:42:20](#)**
(no subject)

It wouldn't be safe to check directly, but...I'll see what I can do, Dad.




 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-05-25 15:33:20](#)**
(no subject)

I haven't seen Beth in a week, I expect. But she's got no truck with the Dogstar. She practically foams at the mouth if they come up.

Safe to say her lot have no connections there.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-25 14:26:09](#)**
(no subject)

Oh. Goodness.

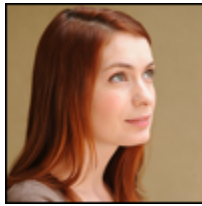
Any reported dead?


Kingsley, Sherwood hasn't been touched?



 **alt_frank** at [2012-05-25 14:27:27](#)
(no subject)

have you sent nev his tree yet?



 **alt_alice** at [2012-05-25 14:27:56](#)
(no subject)

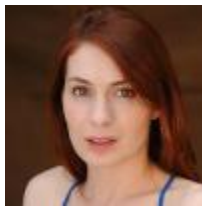
Not yet. I was planning on sending it off soon.




 **alt_frank** at [2012-05-25 14:28:31](#)
(no subject)

might want to add a note letting him know we're all right.

he reads the paper, after all.



 **alt_alice** at [2012-05-25 14:29:07](#)
(no subject)

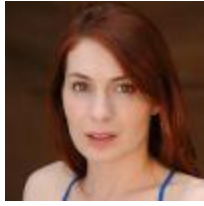
Right. I shall.




 **alt_gredforge** at [2012-05-25 15:04:54](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, you'd better. Our sources say the poor kid is freaking out. He's terrified that you've been arrested.

(Madam Pomfrey, we're, uh, slipping him something that'll give him an excused to get released from class. Just in case he shows up at the Hospital Wing with his blood on his robes, don't worry. It's quite harmless, really. Do him a favour, and keep him there for observation for awhile, will you?)



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-25 15:16:51](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you.

Very much.

He'll get the owl tomorrow. I wish it could be faster.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-05-25 15:30:31](#)**
(no subject)

Blood on his robes?

A bit overdramatic, but yes, of course, I'll see to Mr Longbottom if he arrives here.



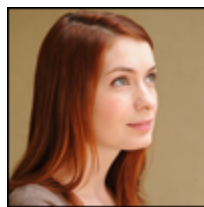
 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-05-25 15:57:42](#)**
(no subject)


Just a nosebleed, that's all. Nothing serious.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-05-25 15:10:21](#)**
(no subject)

All is quiet here. Davidson is checking in with the other locations right now. Haven't heard yet about our contacts in the various camps. There are a lot of them.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-25 16:01:28](#)**
(no subject)

I wonder if they'll even report the names of those in the camp.

How awful.

I suppose we ought to be grateful that our operations are a bit more discrete, and less likely to warrant infiltration, but the more people we make connections with, the more risk we take.

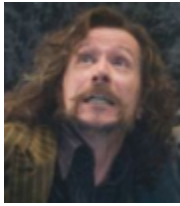
But it wasn't us today.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-05-25 14:27:14](#)
(no subject)

bet you a galleon this was what crouch has been up to. he's been under the radar for months. hasn't been posting regularly at all, and when he has, it's been private.

I thought he was up to something or another. looks like this was it.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-25 15:12:40](#)
(no subject)

Too right.


Bugger.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-05-25 16:02:12](#)
(no subject)

Bill, I take it this is the first you've heard of any sort of move on Dogstar?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-25 16:10:09](#)
(no subject)

Yes.

Bloody hell. I've let you all down.

Dammit, I HAVE to get an in into that bloody department. MLE.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-25 16:10:54](#)
(no subject)

No doubt they were keeping the cards extremely close to the chest, my dear boy. Don't blame yourself.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-25 16:15:38](#)**
(no subject)

I know this is a stressful time.

You haven't let us down in any way. It's just important to sort out the gaps we have in our intelligence gathering. And you've moved to a new office, which makes your job a bit more difficult than it would be otherwise.

If it was a deep undercover mission, as Frank and I suspect, there's very little you could have found out, even with someone in the MLE keeping an eye on things.

Still. We can think about what we can do to have better intel next time. You're right, it would be nice to have a connection in the MLE. But we have to be especially cautious for the next few months, after such a large crack-down, people will be far too nervous to take chances.

So we'll wait, and we'll work carefully, and we'll get better.

2012-05-25 09:11:00

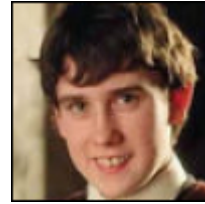
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Look at the paper.

Look at the paper.


Oh my god.

my parents



 [alt_neville](#)



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-25 14:15:42](#)
(no subject)

What? What!? What's going on?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-25 14:20:27](#)
(no subject)

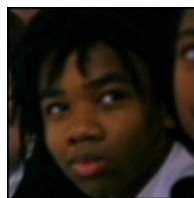
The headline says 'DOGSTAR EXTINGUISHED.'


There's not much else. Lots of arrests but they don't say who.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-25 14:48:42](#)
(no subject)

I think I'm gonna be sick.




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-25 14:52:34](#)
(no subject)

It doesn't...it doesn't mean them. Not necessarily.

Hey, Nev. The twins say they've got something they might help. They've got a pill they've been working on, it'll make you spew. Uh, sorry. But it'll get you out of class for the rest of the day.

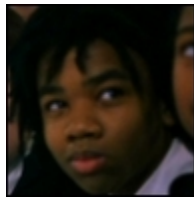
Do you have class now?




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-25 14:54:46](#)
(no subject)

Is that wise, though? Would it be bad for people to think Neville's getting sick at the idea that his parents have been arrested?

Neville, I'm sorry, I'm sorry! I hope--I hope they'll be all right.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-25 14:57:08](#)
(no subject)

Uh. That's a good point, Terry. Damn.

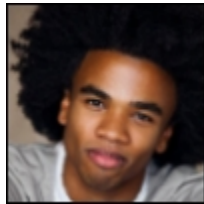
Wait a minute.


The twins maybe have another idea.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-25 14:56:17](#)
(no subject)

It's a free period.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-25 14:59:18](#)
(no subject)

Nev, we've got something else. A nosebleed nougat. That'll look more like a coincidence.

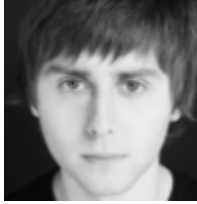
Can you meet me by the portrait of Ludwig the Lugubrious? You know, on the second floor, on the way up to Gryffindor Tower? I'll get you one.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-05-25 15:01:53](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. Yeah. I can get there.

Tell the twins thanks. I just--I just can't face class today.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-05-25 15:08:30](#)**
(no subject)

Steady on, Neville.

I don't think your parents, what little I know of them, could have been involved with this DogStar business. All those posts Sirius made saying that he doesn't support them, what? And he's friends with your parents, isn't he? So, horrible as this is, I hope they're safe.

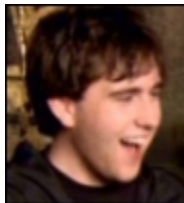
-Justin



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-05-25 18:59:18](#)**
(no subject)

They are safe.

Neville, I promise you they are FINE. I know.

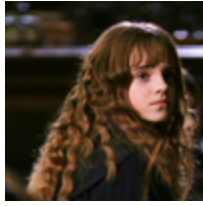


 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-05-25 19:36:51](#)**
(no subject)

You know? For sure you do?

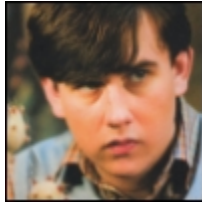
Oh...oh THANK YOU. Thank you.


Is it all right if I let Evelyn know?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-05-25 19:38:10](#)
(no subject)

Yes, only don't tell anyone I told you—you can tell Evelyn, only not about me. Okay?




 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-25 20:14:11](#)
Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo

Yes, of course. I'll keep your name out of it.


We were so scared. We even wondered whether we should have activated our portkeys. But we knew we could have never come back if we did, and we'd have no idea where we were going. Especially if Mum and Dad had been arrested. I mean...I guess I figure they'd have planned it so we wouldn't have landed in the MLE's arms. But we had no idea.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-05-25 21:42:22](#)
Re: Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo

You did just the right thing, Neville, and I think that you should wait for me to say if you possibly can, I mean, if you aren't in immediate danger, because the portkeys will work even if you're actually WITH the MLE, won't they? So you could wait till they actually came for you and then go, couldn't you?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-25 22:00:43](#)
Re: Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo

I'm glad we did the right thing. I wouldn't want to make things worse. And yeah, I want to stay at Hogwarts.

It was just hard. Not knowing.

I know we have to...to show everyone we're unconcerned. Mu

Gran explained that. No matter what people say, we have to put on a show that we think that my parents are nothing but the lowest scum and blood traitors and all. Usually I can do it. Well, usually I manage it by just keeping my mouth shut and not saying anything.


I just discovered today it's a LOT harder to do if you're really afraid. And you don't know what's going on.

Dinner will be easier. I can pretend better as long as I know they're safe. So thank you for that.

I'm so glad we've got this lock. So you can use it to get me word through the journals if we need it. If we ever have a day like this again.

I hope we never do.



 **alt_ron** at **[2012-05-25 20:52:22](#)**
(no subject)

Hullo, you.

Feeling any better? Anything you want when I come up?

Er. You're in the tower or the hospital wing?




 **alt_neville** at **[2012-05-25 21:04:04](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. Yeah, I am.

I'll come back to the tower. I'd really appreciate it if you go with me when I go to dinner.


I've got a feeling there might be some nasty stuff said, and I could use some friends around.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-05-25 21:04:50](#)**
(no subject)

I'd be willing to back you up, mate. And the twins will come, too.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-26 02:55:09](#)**
(no subject)

We were glad to do it, y'know. Back you up, I mean.

2012-05-25 11:44:00

Private Message to Narcissa



 **alt_lucius**

Dearest,

Sorry to miss you at breakfast; was already in the field by three o'clock to help in the search for any unaccounted operatives. Suspect it shall be late Sunday before we are entirely finished with the preliminary interrogations. (*Prophet's* estimate of the detentions and arrests is, if anything, a bit low: Closer to 60 than 40.)

However, we've taken a brief pause for luncheon, so I have time to tell you: Everything (and everyone) is all right. No injuries of any note to worry you; no major losses on our end. Many on theirs (over one hundred at last count); one of their policies was to commit suicide rather than allow capture. A policy, one might note, that not all of them followed.

The one thing that this operation has made immediately clear is that the DogStar's reach has extended itself further than anyone believed possible. There are sure to be a series of larger investigations prompted by the information we are now collecting. The camps, St Mungo's, even the *Prophet* had been infiltrated. Where they had none of their own ensconced, they allowed bribes to turn blind eyes to their labours.

Still much to be done and of course, reports to be given at this afternoon's Court. Suffice to say, although the organisation was not eradicated completely, it was a decisive victory.



 **alt_narcissa** at **2012-05-25 17:01:06**

(no subject)

Thank you, husband. That's wonderful to hear. With so many of you at work on this it's been a bit like the old days.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-05-25 17:02:39](#)
(no subject)

I know. I'm sorry to give you any cause to worry.

Mordred. It's never *done*.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-05-25 23:26:30](#)
(no subject)

You of all people should know that it's never a simple matter to raise others out of ignorance. Invariably they either bite the hands that feed them or try to topple their betters in their own favour.

If the ... circumstances were different, my love, I doubt you should feel so tired.

Was Court better, in the wake of this development? Are you able to come home at all?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-05-25 23:32:19](#)
(no subject)

Better but not, yes.

Am only going as far as the St James' house for a few hours' sleep, possibly as early as midnight; depends on this subject's response to our questioning.

Sunday may be optimistic.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-05-25 23:42:46](#)
(no subject)

Poor love.

Shall I come to Kensington? From there it's as close to MLE as from St James' Square.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-05-25 23:46:15](#)**
(no subject)

No, I prefer you to stay in the country. The streets of New London are already growing raucous with the celebrations. Suspect there shall be more than one wizard arrested for over-indulgence.

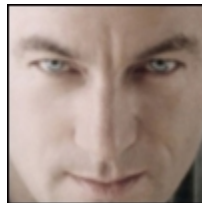
Unless Stroud has erupted? If so, I can dispatch Crabbe to look after you.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2012-05-25 23:52:22](#)**
(no subject)

Really, I'm perfectly capable of looking after myself, Scip. Besides, Stroud is, for the moment, quiet. Though whether it shall remain so after dark

It's you I'm worried about, though. If I know you, you'll stay at MLE and only return to St James' Square to freshen up before returning. At least if we were in Kensington I should have a hope of forcing you to eat something and rest a while.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-05-25 23:55:48](#)**
(no subject)

There's no need to worry, Rio. I'm fine. And there is work to do.

If you must worry about anyone, tell your sister - no, nevermind. It's easiest to simply pull her off onto another task.

2012-05-25 13:03:00

Private Message to Percy Weasley and Ned Pennifold



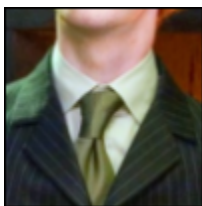
Ned, if you please, see if you can coax Barty to eat. There's a lad.

 [alt_lucius](#)

Weasley, go and find Hieronymus Bole as well as Barnabas Cuffe. Cannot be done via Private Message; Floo is fine so long as it does not generate too many inquiries. Require them at MLE headquarters at their earliest convenience, with full lists of the *Prophet* staff during both their tenures (Yes, aware this will take Hieronymus a while).

Also, last month's inspection tour of Bawsey. There was a witch on the team telling us about the fortifications to the waterfronts in King's Lynn. Blishwick, I think? Well, whatever the name: She had details of the piers and mentioned similar projects using camp personnel in Southampton, Hull and Birkenhead. Should like her to bring the elevations and the list of all labourers assigned to any of the work, particularly anything to do with shoring the foundations or work under-water on pilings and such. As soon as possible, please.

Last: Have copious pages of notes from interrogations beginning around 5:00 AM. See if you can pull them into coherence in time for Court. Shall need Yaxley and Hopkirk to read over before presenting.

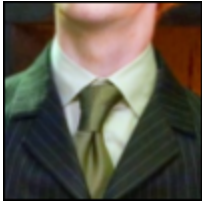


 [alt_percy](#) at **2012-05-25 17:32:35**
(no subject)

I have located Mr Bole and Mr Cuffe as requested, sir, and have passed along your requirements. Both have said they will pull the reports together immediately.

Yes, sir, that was Jessamyn Blishwick. I will track her down to obtain the information you have requested.

I have picked up the notes in your outbox and should have them boiled down for Mr Yaxley's and Ms Hopkirk's consumption in an hour.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2012-05-25 17:33:10](#)**
(no subject)

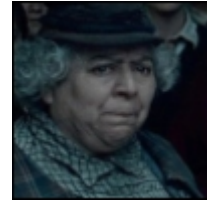
And may I say, please do pass along my heartiest personal congratulations to Mr Crouch, should you speak with him soon.

[2012-05-25 14:12:00](#)

Private Message to Aurora

Auri, dear,

Please enjoy your time outside the castle and don't feel guilty about it in the slightest.



 **[alt_pomona](#)**

You need it and I'll wager your lad does too.

It *will* be good to have you back for the ceremony on Sunday, I must admit.

Mina will be there as well, but I'll be grateful for all the support I can muster.

And she wasn't he



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-05-25 18:35:49](#)**

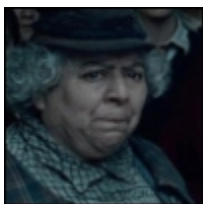
(no subject)

Oh, thank you, Pomona. That eases, I admit.

(We do need it, and I do hope it'll help. I've certainly done every bit of planning to try and ensure that. And there's the bit of me that can't forget that as bad as the 27th was last year, it could have been even worse.)

On a more pleasant note. Mum's come through splendidly, both for the two of us Saturday, and with biscuits and a few other things for the gathering Sunday. I'll bring those down before supper on the day. She says it was a pleasure, and she and Temp had a lovely time in the kitchen the last two nights, and both send their love and compassion.

Also a bottle for .. well, after we send the students away. For you and me and Mina.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-05-25 18:41:18](#)**

(no subject)

They didn't have to do that, truly.

But I'm thankful for their kindness.



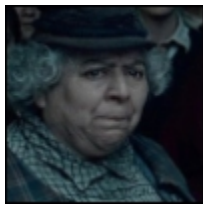
 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-25 18:47:33](#)
(no subject)

Mum said it was the least she could do - she felt so helpless last year.

(That was after I got the lecture about how allowing people to help is a gift and a kindness to them, so would I please stop trying to do everything myself and let them be of use. Of course.)

She, well. I hadn't realised till we were talking about it on Tuesday how much the journals change some things. Mum said everyone - well, housemates, hers and everyone else in the family's - knew about, well, events, at the time. But also, that they wanted to know everyone else was doing as well as they could be, after. They weren't asking you, or me, because, well. But they kept each other informed about any sign of hope.

I'm sort of glad she didn't tell me until now, really.

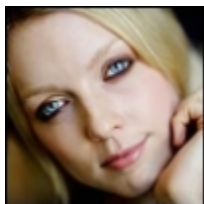


 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-05-25 18:51:44](#)
(no subject)

Well, as far as letting people be of use is concerned, you should always listen to your mother.

S'true, though, about the journals. It's part of why I resisted them for so long, for all they're damned convenient at times.

Everything's so bloody *public*.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-25 18:55:22](#)
(no subject)

I'd tell her you said so, but I'd never hear the end of it.

Truth, though, on the public. And people do make much of who you're sending private messages to. (Don't I know that one: one of the gossip rags charts that kind of thing and predicts how relationships must be going based on it. Mine

included, not that she's remotely accurate.)

On the other hand. Convenient. And sometimes nice to be able to go back and read.



 **alt_pomona** at [2012-05-25 18:59:17](#)
(no subject)

I'm sure you wouldn't--I do remember your mother.

You're a better woman than I, when it comes to the press. I'm pretty sure I'd have owled someone a Venomous Tentacula by now.

The journals make everything so...connected. I sometimes wish Hogwarts still seemed its own place, a bit separated from the pressures of the rest of the world.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2012-05-25 19:08:48](#)
(no subject)

Quite. Once Mum gets her teeth into something. (Not that that's not handy, sometimes.)

As to the press, I agree with Raz's argument that paying it much attention just makes it worse. Reading the most absurd bits aloud in the bath does wonders, though.

I do agree on connected. I remember even when I started, everything was so close and isolated - people didn't even go to Hogsmeade much, never mind New London. I enjoy going in myself (as much as it's also necessity these days), but I can't help but remember when people couldn't poke their noses into every detail, and even the wireless was more restricted, so it was the Prophet and a few other papers, and that was it.

And yet, if I don't keep up with the journals and the papers, I'll put my foot in my mouth over something or other, and that's worse.

Glad I didn't have classes today, actually (both my Friday lectures are the 5th years, so obviously not meeting this week.)

Though I've had a steady trail of people with other questions to make up for it.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-05-25 19:56:36](#)
(no subject)

And I supposed it's worth remembering that Hogwarts was far from perfect *before* the journals, although I still wish that our young people could conduct their fumbblings and missteps in a less *exposed* forum...one can impress upon them the need for discretion of course, but there are limits.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-25 20:02:55](#)
(no subject)

There are days when one can only hope the rest of the world has a very short memory, yes.

Speaking off - good grief, did you see Capper's rant? At least his siblings tried to talk him down in the comments, though I think they've rather given up now too.

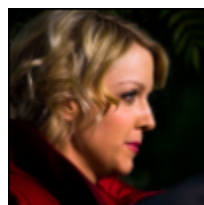
I know I tried my best, and he refused to pay any attention, but I admit I'm not looking forward to seeing Horace at supper tonight.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-05-25 21:09:51](#)
(no subject)

I'd have some strong words with the boy if he were in my House, to be sure!

I wish I could disagree, but I'm afraid Horace *is* likely to be rather smug.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-25 21:40:07](#)
(no subject)

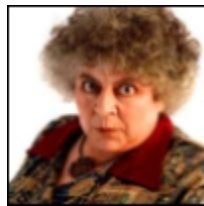
Septima's just been up, and she has had words with him, though what good it will do. (She also promises a note to forward to the YPL oversight board if they ask questions,

confirming I'd made myself quite available if one considered the week to have more days than Tuesday afternoons and Saturdays. Which is something.)

On Horace, quite. And in all fairness, he does have some cause. I did rather dig in on Capper's behalf beyond good sense.

Ah, well. I will distract myself with thoughts of more pleasant tomorrows, see if Raz can't find some way to keep Horace occupied in conversation, and if I can't find some conversational topic he'd rather not interrupt with you or Bathsheba or Septima.

Smug looks are one thing, but smug conversation would be worse.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-05-26 00:16:29](#)
(no subject)

Well, that wasn't so very bad, was it?

It seems the news about Dogstar quite vanquished every other topic of conversation.

And my point about our students and the public nature of their comments seems decidedly more, well, *pointed*.

I find Miss Patil challenging at times, but she did not deserve such a bruising set-down.

But enough talk of such things! Take your mind off to more pleasant matters, my dear.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-05-26 00:27:49](#)
(no subject)

Quite right what a distracting topic does to the staff table. (And by the time I'm back for a meal at supper on Sunday, Horace will likely have forgotten.)

And you have more than a hint of prescience. Miss Patil indeed. I am quite with you on both points. It does make me

think we might need to have a word about the concepts of tact and thinking before journal-writing sometime soon.

As to pleasant matters - I should probably work more on my marking, but really, I'm going to pack for tomorrow, and then curl up with some material I'm reviewing. (I agreed to do a review of some research in exchange for where we'll be tomorrow night. Worth every minute, but I want to read through my locational arithmancy notes before I tackle it.)

On the other hand, I think that sort of thing's quite enjoyable, so.

But of course, keeping an eye on the journals in case something comes up I do need to pay attention to.

2012-05-25 14:27:00

Wow, considering the last couple of years

this year's birthday will be one to remember!

Thanks for everyone who sent cards and all. It's nice people remembered, even though Pav and I shifted our actual celebration to Easter Hols so we could all go to Camelot together.



 [alt_padma](#)


But just think, we'll always remember our birthday as the day DogStar met its end! I bet there'll be a Special Edition of the *Prophet* tonight, don't you think? They already confirmed that DogStar were behind the Cup explosions and that bridge that fell into the Severn about six months ago, the one people thought was metal fatigue, and that horrible story over Christmas about the village school that caught fire? That was them, too.

Apparently MLE wanted to bring them all in alive for questioning, but loads of them swallowed little poison ampules they had with them. Once MLE found that out they stopped it from happening, though, so they'll be able to stand proper trial. (I wonder who'll even be asked to be their Defenders? I shouldn't like to have to argue that case. I mean, what can anyone say? It'll probably be the quickest trial in history.)

The only thing I wish is that they'd found Sirius Black but the early reports said he must have got away. They say the witch who ran everything at the top was actually his lover, taking her orders from him, though, and when he learned that they were going to be caught, he strangled her to protect himself and then fled.

I'm well glad I didn't have to worry about OWLs this year! Imagine trying to concentrate with all this going on? Our Common Room's had the wireless on all day (relax, Clearwater, it's not bothering anyone) and I think we're going to save our cakes, me and Pav, and have them with a few people in one of the classrooms tonight after supper, so we can toast MLE's success!



 **[alt_lavender](#)** at **[2012-05-25 19:59:21](#)**
(no subject)

I wonder if this means it will be a memorable year!

I suppose we'll find out.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-05-26 00:20:59](#)**
(no subject)

I think it has to be!

And look at my new journal cover spell. Mum sent it. Isn't it nift?




 **[alt_lavender](#)** at **[2012-05-26 01:33:58](#)**
(no subject)

Wiz-nift!


I'm glad you and Pav enjoyed your cards--Camelot was snitch, but it's still nice to get a little something on the actual day, isn't it?



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-05-25 20:30:32](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

what a pack of lies.




 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2012-05-25 20:32:29](#)**
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

wish the git took the paper. but his sister floored him to tell him, so he's listening to the wireless.

they're telling a bunch of lies about Sirius Black, too.



 **alt_padma** at **2012-05-25 21:05:25**

Private Message to Lana Sandoval

Lana,

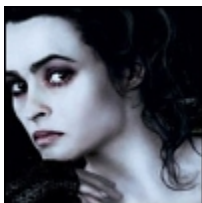
There are some amazing photographs of the Ministry from early this morning. Did you get a chance to see them? The article mentioned how long you've been working on bringing DogStar down. To think that you were undercover for so many months! I'm utterly amazed at how hard it must have been, to not give yourself away or anything. And not being able to tell anyone or see anyone? Wow. It's unbelievable. And Daphs thinks she's such a great actress!

I heard a rumour from Bobolis who had it from his cousin, because he was there covering things at the Ministry: Is it true you wrote that last DogStar post, and that's why Sirius Black knew it wasn't real? How exciting to be really putting all your training to use and on such a major operation! I guess that's what it's all for, isn't it? Do you think you'll get a medal or a commendation or anything? Bobolis says his cousin wants to profile you and Ned before the wedding. Will you let him? It'd be so snitch!

We're so proud of you, here in Ravenclaw.

Oh, and Fawcett's been a regular watering pot over it, which I guess is understandable but honestly, you'd think she'd have learned by now that she'd be better off if she'd not remind people her mother died helping mudbloods escape. No one thinks she was DogStar, really, but the way Fawcett's acting, it's got to make everyone wonder.

But anyway, otherwise, all of the House is just as pleased for you as it's possible to be! I hope your family see how important you are to MLE, and to Auror Crouch and all the others. I've no doubt you'll be one of their stars for years to come!



 **alt_bellatrix** at **2012-05-25 23:28:18**

(no subject)

I thought I saw you at the viewing of the traitor's body, small one. I can't fathom how you became so addle-headed as to forget that experience, and to believe him not "found."

I would expect a girl from your family to know better.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-25 23:33:42](#)
(no subject)

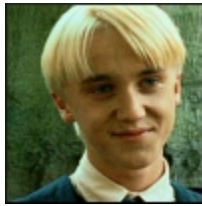
No worries, Auntie Bellatrix. I'm sure all Padma meant was that it's too bad they haven't found the person who's been impersonating him and using his journal. It gets so boring, reading that tripe again

and again.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2012-05-25 23:34:48](#)
(no subject)

So you read it, do you?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-25 23:35:15](#)
(no subject)

For a laugh, sure.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2012-05-25 23:35:56](#)
(no subject)

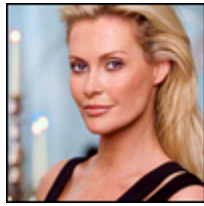
You find treason funny, do you?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-25 23:37:19](#)
(no subject)

Of course. Because what's the point of

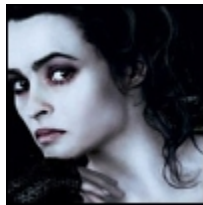
Sometimes, but I see what you mean. I'll do my best to take it more seriously.




 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-05-25 23:41:05](#)
(no subject)

He finds inanity funny, Bella.

And so he should.




 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2012-05-25 23:53:29](#)
Private message to Narcissa

Don't interfere with my work, Cissy, and tell your husband and son to do the same.

If the Patil girl is going to air such regrets in public, then others are bound to as well. Best a pureblood girl from an acceptable family be made an example of so that others will mind their quills.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-05-26 00:25:57](#)
Re: Private message to Narcissa

I had rather you allowed them to enjoy the moment, Bella, and if necessary, go after the *falsehoods* at their source.

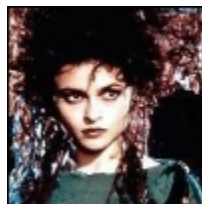
Since Black's end cannot possibly be in doubt.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-05-25 23:34:34](#)
(no subject)

Oh! Auror Lestrangle.

Well, of course I meant to say whomever's using his journal now. Black's, I mean. Impersonating him.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2012-05-25 23:38:24](#)
(no subject)

You and my nephew should both take care with the words that you use.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-05-26 00:18:47](#)
(no subject)

Yes, of course. It's just that that's what the reports were saying. Of course, I'm sure that's the whole point of someone impersonating him, to confuse us. I shouldn't have grown over-excited.

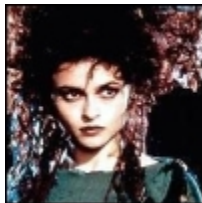
But it is all very exciting, and a great triumph, for all of us, and especially for Our Lord.




 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-05-25 23:38:21](#)
(no subject)

Now, now, Bella, surely if anyone is to blame for perpetuating the myth that Black lives, it's the reporters who insist on confusing the issue.


The children are merely celebrating our victory.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2012-05-25 23:42:15](#)
(no subject)

The children are old enough to know better, and young enough to still need the occasional pointed reminder.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-26 01:02:17](#)
(no subject)

I'm not dead, Bella.

But you're still a shrivelled old hag, sad to say.

As for you, Miss Patil, it's clear Ravenclaw are not completely daft these days, if they understand lies when they read them (even if it's subconscious).

Too bad they tend toward being sycophants.

But a very happy birthday to you, at any rate. You can remember this as the day that Bellatrix LeStrange rained on your parade.

[2012-05-25 15:02:00](#)

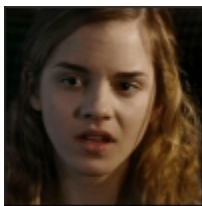
Order Only: Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo



 [alt_severus](#)

Hermione, now might be an appropriate time for you to become more open with your cohort than you have historically been.

We do not have time for children weeping and wailing over imagined losses.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-05-25 19:05:06](#)

(no subject)

How did you know Neville was worried?!

I already told him. Please don't tell his mum and dad though—I know I'm allowed but it's so strange to be able to talk about it, and I don't know if they'd think it was right for me to do it, or else they would've told me to.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-05-25 19:08:31](#)

(no subject)

Mr Longbottom is not a stupid boy. He loves his parents very much. That much is clear from our lessons.

I shall not tell any one any thing you do not wish. Let it never be said that I do not know how to keep a confidence. I believe, however, that Mr Longbottom's parents simply did not think of the possibility of your involvement. You do not often communicate with them.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-05-25 19:09:43](#)

(no subject)

Well, what do I have to say to them anyway?? 'Hullo, shined some shoes today, learned some more Occlumency but I'm still terrible at it, also some Potions, I'm better at those, and Harry says hello, or he would if he knew you existed, and Neville's grown an inch," or something? That would be ever so dull.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-05-25 19:10:28](#)
(no subject)

'Dull' in the eyes of a mother is something very different than 'dull' in the eyes of a sensible human being.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-05-25 19:11:07](#)
(no subject)

Alice is perfectly sensible!



 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-05-25 19:12:11](#)
(no subject)

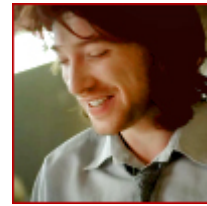
I believe I know better than you do what constitutes 'sense.'

When I was your age, we referred to our elders as 'Mrs Longbottom' and 'Mr Longbottom.'

2012-05-25 17:19:00

Mum? Dad's swung by my flat...

and I talked him into going out for a curry with me. He said to tell you he'll be home late.



 [alt_bill](#)



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-05-25 22:22:37](#)

(no subject)

Thanks for letting me know, dear. I hadn't planned anything particularly elaborate for dinner anyway, just leftover corned beef sandwiches.

Tell him it's all right with me as long as he brings home any leftover curry.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-05-25 22:23:29](#)

(no subject)

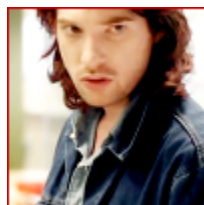
Man to man talk, is it?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-25 22:23:58](#)

(no subject)

Yeah. Thanks for being understanding.




 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-25 22:27:36](#)

Order Only

He just doesn't think he can keep it together in front of Percy. And we're going to compare notes. See if we can think of any way to safely check on the Brownmillers, and we're going to compare notes on our networks, try to figure out how to ascertain that everyone's okay. Kingsley may come over, too, to debrief on us what's happening at Sherwood. I gather that Davidson's had some word of upheavals and arrests at some of the camps.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-05-25 22:28:43](#)**

Re: Order Only

I think that's wise, dear. Just...tell him to stay as long as he needs to stay. And to wake me when he gets home. No matter how late it is.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-25 22:30:20](#)**

Re: Order Only

I'll let him know. Thanks, Mum. You're the best.

2012-05-25 17:23:00

*Private Message to Nisha Desai and
Mafalda Hopkirk*



Montague's just told me you've been asking after the Smythe journal. I don't have it. I thought you knew.

 [alt_lana](#)

Dogstar had a protocol for moving it whenever it was used. Some paranoid security measure. I'm not sure what they thought the Ministry capable of in regards to tracking the thing.

I used it precisely to trigger that mechanism. (I can't take credit: it was on Crouch's order.) Idea was to see what would happen when I'd written in it, to find out who'd turn up to claim it. Thought we might get one last break that way. But the results were unexpected: it was an elf. Snatched the book and was gone before I could blink.

Maybe it will turn up in Evidence once they've had a chance to go through all the seized property.

Did you want me to meet you? I've been reviewing parchment but am available if needed.

2012-05-25 17:28:00

Private message to Barty

While I have a moment:

Well done. Could use you on my current.

Did the duckling bring anything to the table?
Or was she a squalling thing, constantly
underfoot?



 [alt_bellatrix](#)




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2012-05-25 23:57:04**
(no subject)

Did you need me immediately? I could break away
here for an hour or so if that would serve.

Have you finished with Procyon, then? Or is that the
current you mean?

The duckling was useful. Still has limits. But she accomplished what I
ordered. Still considering whether I'd keep her on if she asks to
intern.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at **2012-05-26 00:18:05**
(no subject)

I mean my long-term current: Level 13. No ducklings
allowed.

As for the other - Procyon's cracks are beginning to
show. Just a matter of time now.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2012-05-26 02:50:56**
(no subject)

I'm yours. Noted.

Good work.

2012-05-25 20:28:00

Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr

Congratulations.

Lucius reports that you are well. Is it true?

Also that you are likely to be occupied well into the weekend.

Finally that New London is growing quite boisterous. That the Manor would be safer than Kensington.

~~But not as close~~

If you're returning to Marlborough at all, please be careful.



 [alt_narcissa](#)



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2012-05-26 02:51:54**
(no subject)

Not only well but triumphant. Would like to show you exactly how much. The Floo is open to you at M if you feel inclined. I will likely be there by 4 or 5 am, and you would be welcome before or behind.

2012-05-25 21:07:00

Order Only: What Davidson's people can tell us



 [alt_kingsley](#)

is not very much so far. Although fingers are very itchy on the (few) wands they have in the free enclaves, there hasn't been a hint of auror or enforcer activity zeroing in on their people, much to everyone's relief. They have exerted themselves to the utmost to check in with all of the camps where the Sherwood Band has links or ties. Most of them are in the Midlands, especially Lincolnshire and Derbyshire, but they have friends of friends and attenuated contacts sending word back from throughout the Protectorate.

Security is very tight in the camps, everywhere, with all personnel on call for backup and doubled shifts scheduled for the next forty-eight hours, probably to keep a lid on things. Arthur, I'm sure you heard this today, too. And there are scattered reports of people being hauled in, many in the middle of the night. Davidson's compiled a list of about ten people so far, holding a wide variety of jobs. Wizard, muggleborn and muggle. A warehouse inventory manager in a camp in East Anglia. A farm overseer in West Lindsey. A supervisor of a dairy in Crudgington, in Shropshire. We can check it against the list the *Prophet* half-promised to publish tomorrow.

I spent some time with Arthur and Bill tonight, and while I was here, Bill received a few patronuses from several in his analyst network, informing him of several people who mysteriously skyved off from their desks at the Ministry today. Aside from Norma Brownmiller, there was a woman who worked with the Floo network, and another in Squib Affairs. Bill's going in tomorrow, he says, ostensibly to catch up on reports for Rosier, but really to see what he can glean about other Ministry arrests. Cautiously. Bill says he thinks that very little will be said in the *Prophet* about anyone with Dogstar who actually worked at the Ministry. It doesn't at all fit the preferred narrative about the loyalties of true citizen of the Protectorate.

We're all going to have to keep our heads down for awhile.



 **[alt_kingsley](#) at 2012-05-26 03:57:09**

Private message to Molly Weasley

Molly, about Arthur. It hurts to see my friend bleeding so badly over all this. About his colleague, Norma Brownmiller. He blames himself, because he'd intended to approach her about the Order, but Minerva said she preferred to wait, that the time wasn't right, and he didn't press the issue. And poor Bill's miserable that he didn't manage to blow open a MLE covert operation singlehandedly, I guess, so that we could have received a warning.

Just be very good to them both. Seems foolish to urge such a thing, I suppose, because I always know you will be. You always are.

Ah well, never mind. Just feel the need to say it.



 **[alt_molly](#) at 2012-05-26 19:59:33**

Re: Private message to Molly Weasley

Thank you, Kingsley. I appreciate your kindness to both of them. Arthur told me how much your talking with them helped. I do intend to coddle him this weekend as much as possible. I let him sleep late--I think the emotional distress really wrung him out--although he is planning on going in this afternoon. They are calling for all hands on deck due to the clamp down in the camps. He may have more to report to us tonight.



 **[alt_sirius](#) at 2012-05-26 04:12:43**

(no subject)

Thanks, Kingsley.

I don't think I have to tell you we've been following this closely today. We're all in for some uneasy times.

We'll be up a while longer, I think. The streets are quite loud; we've kept the doors open and more than a few people have been nursing their drinks, unwilling to go out into the 'celebrations'. It's comparatively quiet out in the garden, though, while people sit and figure out whom they can trust and whether they're going to be investigated next.

Merlin. I didn't care for DogStar's methods but I didn't expect them to end like this.




 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-05-26 13:06:45](#)

(no subject)

Kingsley, you and the Players are more than welcome to come to Moddey for a few weeks until this all settles down a bit -- I can't imagine you're getting many gigs at the moment, and MLE might be more likely to give a closer look to groups of travelling wizards right now than they would otherwise.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-05-26 20:01:25](#)

(no subject)

Thanks. We'll probably split our time between you and Sherwood, though. Davidson is going to be increasing border controls, just in case, and so our wand strength is critically needed. But we'd be pleased to accept your invitation for at least part of the time.

The children will be a welcome distraction.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-05-27 01:33:28](#)

(no subject)

steve and me can lend a wand when it comes to that too.

2012-05-26 12:19:00

Private Message to Nisha Desai and Mafalda Hopkirk



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Yaxley's right. About the internal arrests. Those need cover. Clean up. And careful staging.

Desai. Expect that you and Montague are in?

Sandoval is. Brundage is, and Farthing will be.

Let Farthing cover the bloke from Waste Management. If she complains, remind her she's the one who gave Ridley space to slip our net.

So.

Farthing: Bert Lane, W.M., widower

Brundage: Theodore (Ted) Ballston, Squib Affairs, single

Montague: Belloria (Bliss) Tipton, Welcome Desk, newlywed

Desai: Miriam Stein, Floo Ntwk, married, three sprogs

Sandoval: Naufragous Green, Filing Clerk, Central Archives, married, one sprog

I'll cover if any of you are needed to play yourselves for meetings, other business, interviews, etc. To be clear, Desai: not willing to cover overnight.

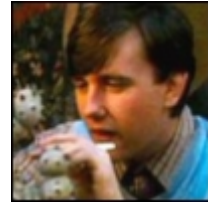
Pennifold has complete packets on your pseudos, PJ, and personal effects. Where there are familial complications, MLE have Questioned, Obliviated, and Confunded. Want you embedded by supper.

Will work out timing and method for engineered elimination. Depends on Truncheon and Penderyn's lot.

2012-05-26 13:10:00

Private message to Professor Sprout

Professor, will you be around in the greenhouses this afternoon by any chance? I received something by owl post today that I'd like to consult with you about it. Thanks.



 [alt_neville](#)



 [alt_pomona](#) at **2012-05-26 19:15:15**

(no subject)

The next hour or two, yes, and then again this evening.

Any supplies I should have ready?



 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-05-26 19:32:02**

(no subject)

Thanks!

Dunno about supplies, but maybe you'll have to tell me. It's a plant--a baby tree, actually--that somebody sent me, and I just want some advice about caring for it properly.



 [alt_pomona](#) at **2012-05-26 19:39:35**

(no subject)

Should be fairly straightforward, then.

I'll likely be doing some tidying in Greenhouse 1, but if not, give a yell into Greenhouse 4, but don't come in, and I'll be right out.

2012-05-26 15:44:00

Private Message to Isobel and Inigo Sandoval



 [alt_lana](#)

Mama,
I'm so sorry. I'm afraid tomorrow evening's celebration is going to have to be pushed back. I'm not sure when I'll be home again. And I know it worries you, but please know this is not anything like last time. I can't tell you more, but it's not anything terribly dangerous. I promise.

I can tell you now that Mr Crouch gave me an excellent report on my performance. And Auror Wright told me that she read the full report and, really, she's never seen him give any higher praise to a subordinate. Only, it means so much to know that I've really pleased him.

Tell Orion I'm sorry to have left the Carriage House a mess. He should just pile my post in my room as he was doing. Oh. And I'd meant to write Honoria tonight about her exams, but I won't have time now. Tell her I'm concerned and I hope she's going to give proper care to revision this year.

And, please, don't either of you worry. I promise I'll be in touch as soon as I'm able.

2012-05-26 15:45:00

Megs, Eloise...

If anyone's looking for me, I'm picking Valkyrie up from the Owlery and then going flying.

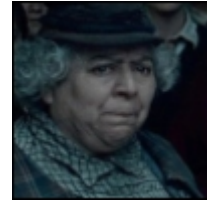


 **alt_susan**

Dunno when I'll be back--in time for dinner, I guess.

2012-05-26 19:53:00

Order Only : Private message to Alice and Frank Longbottom



 **alt_pomona**

That was a more pleasant and also more challenging hour than I'd anticipated. You might have seen your Neville write earlier. He came to me asking how to best tend the cutting you sent him, Alice, dear.


Hawthorne's a fair bit trickier than some, but he and I had a good chat about it and I showed him a few of the methods to keep it stable until he gets back to Augusta's and can plant it properly, and what to watch for. Naturally, I did not push at his story that it came from "a gardening friend".

There were a few times he quite had to stop talking for a minute or two, as the talk turned Hannah. Thankfully, having one's hands in dirt does give one an excuse or two for that kind of thing. It's clear he cared more than a little for her - he's taking it near as hard as her yearmates.

And so I did something I'd not have done for many. We're having a gathering - just the House - to remember her tomorrow night, and I invited him. Quite startled him, I think, when he realised. I do hope the sett will understand, but I think they will, and turning him away seemed quite the wrong thing indeed.

He offered, then, to come in and spend time tomorrow afternoon helping me finish tidying and clearing some space. So if there's anything you'd like me to have an eye or ear toward, I'll have a bit more time with him then.



 **alt_alice** at **2012-05-27 00:34:33**
(no subject)

Thank you, Pomona. I appreciate it more than I can say.

Hawthorne really is the best tree for her. And him too, I think. It's rather fitting that her wand was made of it, because it's meant to heal broken hearts and be a sign of spring.

Neville tends to be very good at keeping to himself, and can sometimes find it hard to trust other people. I'm so glad he feels like he can confide in you, and it's quite a testament to your way with students. He really does love Herbology, you know, and speaks quite highly of you. I believe that you are by far his favourite professor at Hogwarts.

He's taken Hannah's death quite hard, and has spoken about it to us more than once. I wish we could show him her tree, the one in the memorial garden, but this is the next best thing.

And I'm so glad the cutting travelled well. I was worried about it -- it can be so tricky.

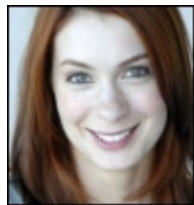



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-05-27 00:47:26](#)**
(no subject)

Ah, thank you, Alice, for that. I admit I've been feeling a bit alone tonight, so the kind word's particularly welcome. Aurora's off elsewhere, and Poppy's had her hands full with students worked up over the news in the papers.

As to your boy, he's always a pleasure to see, and he's a delight in class, as well. Certainly one of my brighter stars in the subject, and his side projects are going well.

Not a surprise, of course, given your touch, and you needn't have worried about the cutting. Looked full wick, as my old instructor used to say, like it had just been cut.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-27 00:52:01](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not surprised that so many Hufflepuffs are gardeners. It does require a great deal of patience, and a great deal of faith.

I can imagine that this particular week-end is especially difficult for you, seeing as how you've got a lot of students to look after and no small heart-ache yourself.




 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-05-27 01:04:37](#)**
(no subject)

Quite. On both patience and faith. And hard work where you don't see the results for quite some time. (On which note, it's always surprised me that more don't go in for teaching, but there you are.)

Aurora and Mina are helping out tomorrow, mind you. And of course, Mina both wasn't here last year, and is still finding her feet in some ways. Not that she's not doing quite well, mind.

And Aurora - well, I sometimes forget quite how young she is, really, and that it was the first student she'd known who'd died while she was teaching. But there's personal aspects for her too, with the anniversary, and she's quite right to get a bit of quiet while she had a chance.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-27 01:21:08](#)**
(no subject)

What's your take on Aurora? I know from what Poppy's said that she's getting pulled in all sorts of directions, especially with that YPL business.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-05-27 01:36:24](#)**
(no subject)

Ah, on that. She is, yes, and this spring's been quite bad for it. (And I think, perhaps, she's told me more than she's told Poppy, even.)

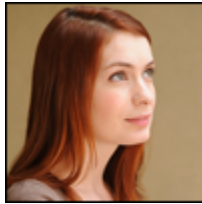
I think the YPL would be a far worse thing if she weren't overseeing it, truly. She's told me more than enough stories from meetings about proposals and personalities to make me sure of that. But at the same time, she's getting less and less sure how long she can hold on, and that's a worry.


She does care deeply about her students. All of us have favourites, of course, but she'll put herself out time and again to be of help when it's needed, or to be as fair as she can possibly manage.

And even her relationship with Rabastan, well. I never thought I'd say it, but he's not only been good to her, but for her, as well. (And there's a sentence I'm sure neither of us ever expected to be saying or reading.)

They're careful, in public, of course, and there's things I don't see. But she swears he not only asks for but takes her advice, regularly, gives her every respect. She's blossomed, since they started dating, in ways I don't think anyone expected, her included.

It makes me wonder what else we're not seeing, honestly. Not just with her, but everywhere.



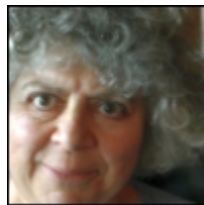
 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-05-27 01:55:37](#)
(no subject)

I know the feeling -- there certainly is more to Neville's group of friends than meets the eye, for one.

And Rabastan Lestrangle... from what Neville's said, he's always treated him like any other student.

And I respect that. Very much. Even though you're right, it's not something I'd expect I'd ever say.

I think that there's a lot of good people out there. More than we know. And they don't always look like who we'd expect.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-05-27 02:12:10](#)
(no subject)

Exactly. It is an odd world, isn't it? Odder than we think.

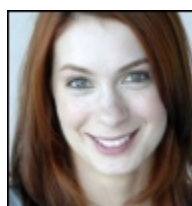
And you're right about Rabastan's teaching. He's a popular teacher, naturally, given his fame and his field, but I've never heard of him treating a student badly. Firmly, yes, given the dangers of practice, but he's had a surprisingly deft hand with personalities and challenges.


I did ask Aurora about Rabastan and your Neville once, in

passing, since of course she knows there's history. She said that's not even her influence, that he was inclined to be fair and let students prove their own worth when he started here.

It does make me sad, though. Wondering about the good people we're not finding, who might be home alone tonight wondering if there's others like them out there in the world, wanting something better than we have.

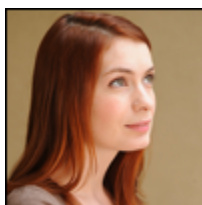
But that's me getting maudlin again, and perhaps I should find my bed.




 [alt_alice at 2012-05-27 02:32:41](#)
(no subject)

You and me both.

Thank you again.



 [alt_alice at 2012-05-27 00:46:49](#)
(no subject)

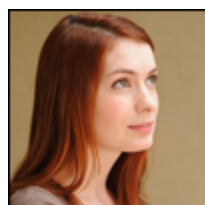
And it's well within the spirit of our House to offer an open door to those who would benefit from it. I'm sure they'll manage with their usual grace.




 [alt_pomona at 2012-05-27 00:51:50](#)
(no subject)

That was my thought, yes. And your Neville's friendly enough with Susan Bones, in particular, that I think they'll all do as we both hope they would.

I had a moment after I offered, wondering if I might have tipped my hand, but there's enough reason I'd ask him without the Order connection that I think it's quite safe.



 [alt_alice at 2012-05-27 01:02:36](#)
(no subject)

I want so badly to tell him, Pomona. I want to tell him how many people he's got looking out for him, and why we couldn't be there for him.

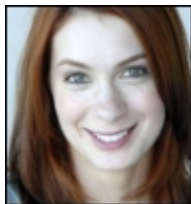
I will someday soon. I just wish it was sooner sometimes.


But yes, I'm sure you did just fine with him, and that even though he doesn't know how much of an ally he has with you, he does know that you care for him. And are keeping an eye out for him. And that matters so very much.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-05-27 01:05:42](#)**
(no subject)

It truly is a pleasure, in his case. Not just for your sake and Frank's, but for his own. You can be most proud of him. For that matter, Evelyn, too, though I see a bit less of her.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-27 01:18:53](#)**
(no subject)

We are very proud of them both.

I worry sometimes about our Evelyn. She has fewer friends, and is a little quieter and more tightly wound than Neville (which is quite an accomplishment). She came in during an especially difficult time, you know, so soon after the news story broke about Frank and me.

But I can tell that she's more confident about her thoughts when she writes me than when she started, and I think she's growing into herself quite nicely all things considered.

And Neville, well, I woke up one day and he'd become a young man over night. A very serious, very sweet young man who has a solid head on his shoulders, and goodness, I could just talk on and on about the both of them. Typical mum.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-05-27 01:27:15](#)**
(no subject)

It's always a pleasure to hear, dear. Truly. And it's only the mums and dads who talk about their children purely in terms of what they can get for them that I dislike.

And I do think you're right, that your Evelyn is coming out of her shell a little more this year. She's one of those that perhaps takes a little more time to grow into herself, but you and I know those are some of the strongest in the end.

2012-05-26 20:45:00

Order Only: Ellie and New London

It's been a tense night and day around here, no mistake. So far, the custom hasn't suffered, though like I said last night, it's quite subdued in our little garden compared to out on the streets.



 [alt_sirius](#)

I'm just grabbing a minute or two while Ellie's out in the yard. It's become quite difficult, actually, to stop her trying to keep 'Sinbad' with her at all times.

The good news is that she's been talking to him, when we're alone. Mostly narrating what she's doing but occasionally there's an opinion about Mr or Mrs Ponds thrown in.

Dora, you'll be happy to know that she thinks you walk on water.

Today she's been pretty worried about all this DogStar business. I don't think she knew anyone in the network, from what I've overheard, but she's concerned (as are we all) with what the Ministry will do to find out how many in the company are left, the ones that managed to get away. She seems to be afraid that the few who remain will also do something desperate in their last throes of existence.

Personally, I think it's more likely they'll regroup and start over - although, that said, the papers claimed both that their titular head (my 'lover,' apparently, Remus and I had a good laugh over that one) and their primary recruiter had both been captured.

We've still not seen Beth, either. I suspect she's laying low for now. If she's not in by a week's time, we'll worry.

Oh, and the neighbourhood watch stopped in this evening, again, trying to round up volunteers to brandish their wands along the streets to the west, where 'that element' live. Lucky for us it looks to be a busy night again, so Remus - sorry, Junius - was able to say in all honesty that he thought he'd need to stay behind to give Dora and 'the help' a hand with the crowd, but that they'd be welcome to stop in for a drink afterward. That seemed to placate them.

Remus, I think next time they come calling, busy or not, you'd better go out with them. Or send Dora, depending. I didn't like the way that second bloke looked at you when your back was turned.

Oh, Alice, Frank, before I forget: We can't afford to miss our rendezvous with Aleks this year. I owed him just before Ellie came and sent him the usual requests. Who's going from your end?



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-05-27 01:30:06](#)**
(no subject)

me and steve are going out with victor. we need to make some minor repairs on the hopeful, but we'll be ready to go.

kingsley, man, any word from davidson about people we can bring along?

here's hoping once you start working with beth in earnest, we can have a steadier stream.

here's hoping beth is still around to work with.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-05-28 14:20:35](#)**
(no subject)

Yes. Davidson says he has about six people ready to try to slip through the wards. Can the Hopeful take that many?

2012-05-26 22:56:00


Private Message to Neville

Hey, Neville, are you up?



 [alt_susan](#)



 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-05-27 03:05:46**

(no subject)

Yeah. Wish I wasn't. Can't sleep.

Guess you know why.

You too, huh?



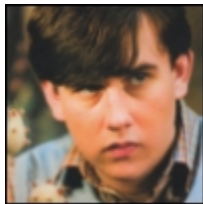
 [alt_susan](#) at **2012-05-27 03:07:23**

(no subject)

Yeah. Stupid insomnia.

I was hoping the flying would help, but...

my body's tired, but my *brain* isn't.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-05-27 03:13:48**

(no subject)

I went and worked in the greenhouses today with Professor Sprout. Hauling compost, that sort of thing. Same reason. Was hoping to tire myself out.



 [alt_susan](#) at **2012-05-27 03:18:42**

(no subject)

Guess it didn't work too well for either of us, huh?

Well, mine worked for as long as it lasted.

I didn't want to come back.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-27 03:20:29](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

It was nice to talk to Professor Sprout about Hannah. She invited me to the gathering that Hufflepuff is having tomorrow night for her.

You don't think anyone will mind if I come? Professor Sprout said I was welcome, but I wouldn't want to intrude.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-05-27 03:31:28](#)
(no subject)

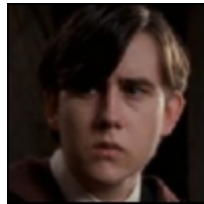
Well, Zach and Bobby might not be thrilled with the idea, but the rest of us would be happy to have you, and they won't be too awful in front of Professor Sprout.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-27 03:41:16](#)
(no subject)

I'll stand at the back, and I won't make a sound, I promise.

It would mean a lot if I could come.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-05-27 03:44:38](#)
(no subject)

Thanks.

Well, I hope you get some sleep. I'm going to put my journal down and try again, too.

Good night.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2012-05-27 03:46:35](#)**
(no subject)

You should definitely come--don't let them keep you away.

I'll try to talk to them beforehand.

Yeah, g'night.

Thanks for keeping me company.

2012-05-27 00:50:00

Private Message to Patrick Shaughnessy

Received your message. Had just been about to retire. Shall return within the half-hour.

Meanwhile, stop blithering and fetch a Pensieve from DoM. Or a better scribe than took down the last one's confession.

Under no circumstances allow the prisoner to rest until he has given his full account. That includes sitting or lying down.

(If we are not to sleep because they break at inconvenient intervals, see no reason *they* should be allowed any.)



 [alt_lucius](#)

[2012-05-27 11:13:00](#)

Order Only: Today's story in the Prophet

Well, there's no question now why Norma Brownmiller's office was warded on Friday.



I read the story this morning, a four page spread, and it almost made me physically ill. The paper claims that MLE had known of her involvement for months, and she's been the subject of both a departmental internal investigation and the MLE sting that finally cracked Dogstar. Minerva, we have had an incredibly narrow escape. We'd discussed the idea of approaching her for the Order, but you thought the time wasn't quite right. If I had done so, we could have been implicated in all this.

 [alt_arthur](#)

But on the other hand, if I had approached her, perhaps she never would have become involved with Dogstar in the first place.

She hinted three years ago when James Prescott was arrested that she had suspected he was involved in an illegal operation of some sort. I came away with the impression that she'd let me know if they ever contacted her. But if they did, if Prescott's organization was indeed Dogstar, she kept it to herself when she became involved.

For those of you without access to the paper: it's stated that forty-six separate insurgent cells were crushed in the operation. These cells ranged in size from one to six members. When faced with arrest, the 'miscreants' did all they could to kill the brave enforcers, and rather than be captured, many took their own lives and the lives of their comrades. I note that there isn't any clear count of either the number arrested, or of the dead. Fourteen enforcers were injured in the raids. Most are expected to recover, but Our Lord's loyal people are asked to keep Copernicus Gibbon and Celaeno Painter in mind as they cling to life in St Mungo's.

There's an in-depth piece detailing the people involved in Norma's cell. The leader was an apothecary to one of the Muggle camps: Broxtowe, in Nottinghamshire. There was also a camp requisitions specialist from Erewash, in Derbyshire, a camp labour crew overseer from Manchester, and a muggle labourer from the overseer's crew. As for Norma, they've clearly decided to make dragon food out of her. Her objectionable behaviour at work is strongly implied (like trying to lower muggle maternal deaths, I suppose). A short statement from her supervisor, Cresus Deverill: 'Always suspected her of harbouring

blood traitor sentiments' etcetera, etcetera. I'm sure he must be sweating, as it's mentioned that there will of course be a complete investigation of the entire department.

Her fate is unclear, but it does mention that her family is missing, and her husband is wanted for questioning. Any loyal citizen who spots him or might be approached by him must of course promptly contact MLE.

The poor devil.

The reporter does his best to quash any rumours that Sirius Black was somehow involved without actually coming right out and stating what the rumours were. It does say, however, that some Dogstar operatives believed he was alive (and thus reveal themselves to be total fools) and these lies gulled and lured the Dogstar operatives to even greater acts of mayhem and treachery.

Among the other bad news: Frank and Alice, I'm going to be sending you a copy because you need to read it. Your names were also featured quite prominently in the coverage, tying you firmly to the worst acts of torture of Protectorate citizens and multiple murders, although your capture has not been reported. I think you must be very careful not to contact Augusta, Evelyn or Neville for a good long time.

I'm so very sorry.



 **alt_frank** at **2012-05-27 18:50:08**
(no subject)

right.

understood.

it's to be expected. they need some villains that everyone would recognise.

and if we need to pull out of our trip this summer, we will.

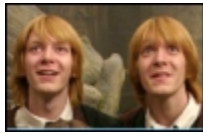


 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-05-27 18:51:22](#)
(no subject)

We'll wait and see the lay of the land in a few weeks.

But yes.

I'm glad the term is almost over, so that they don't have to spend too much more time around their school mates. It must be frightful for both of them.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-27 19:44:36](#)
(no subject)

We'll keep an eye out for both of them, promise.

Saw Evelyn at breakfast, but afraid she left as soon as the owls arrived with the papers. One of her roommates went after her, we think, with a plate of toast. So we reckon her roommates'll look out for her.

Haven't seen Neville at all. Ron thinks he might be in the greenhouses, and he'll probably go to look for him there.

We'll make sure that someone sits with him at meals, and no one gives him any lip. He won't think he's all alone. Count on it.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-05-27 19:45:13](#)
(no subject)

thanks you two.

keep a special eye on my evie, right?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-27 19:46:11](#)
(no subject)


Right. Of course we will.



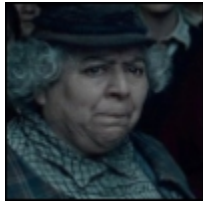
 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-27 19:45:24](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, boys.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-05-27 19:46:47](#)
(no subject)

I appreciate it very much, Fred and George.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-05-27 20:00:36](#)
(no subject)

He is down here, indeed, though he clearly wants quiet. I left him tidying in greenhouse 1, and I'll check on him again shortly.

(Such news, Arthur. With that many involved, I'm dreading finding out which of our students might be affected, now. And why did it all have to be this same weekend?)

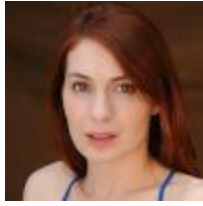



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-27 20:24:00](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Alice. How terrible for you.

We've seen the Prophet, and it is truly wretched what they've said about you. At least in the midst of things Friday, the lies about Sirius were so ridiculous they made us laugh--imagine him, having it on with someone called Pleniloquence Ridley?! Honestly.

But today's articles are horrible. We've been trying to sort lies from truth, but it's all--well, it's grim, that's all. And the bits about you and Frank are as bad as the rest put together.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-27 21:10:11](#)**
(no subject)

We'll want a copy to read through ourselves, of course.

After all, how else are we going to know what we've been up to these last few years?

As Frank said, they needed a recognizable target.

Still.


Bugger.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-05-27 21:49:19](#)**
(no subject)

Does this change your plans at all for coming this week?



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-27 21:55:40](#)**
(no subject)

No.

I'll hate leaving Frank behind, of course, but it'll only be for a little while and I could use a friendly shoulder or three.

It'll be a bit more difficult with your Ellie around to get in a proper word in, but I think it'd make me feel a great deal better, and I'd be polyjuiced, so there's little to no security risk.

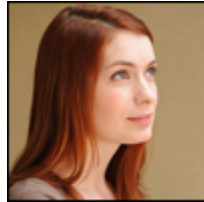
Unless you think I ought to stay away. Which I'd understand entirely.



 **alt_frank** at [2012-05-27 22:25:13](#)

private message to al

I'm not made out of glass, you know.



 **alt_alice** at [2012-05-27 22:30:35](#)

Re: private message to al

Oh, love. I didn't mean it that way at all.

I don't like being away from you under the best of circumstances. And when it feels like the world is falling apart a little more than usual, I'd much rather be held by you until it comes back together again. But I can put on a brave face and go to a birthday party, because it's important, and maybe it really will help me feel better. And I'll be with people who will treat me almost as well as you would.

So let's just say it's not you I'd be worried about, dear man.



 **alt_frank** at [2012-05-27 22:36:03](#)

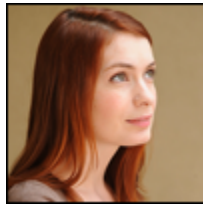
Re: private message to al

right.

okay.

sorry.

they try so damn hard. I'm just sick of being pitied. doesn't help things at all, does it? doesn't make their lives any easier either.



 **alt_alice** at [2012-05-27 22:41:07](#)

Re: private message to al

They are trying.

Let's take the rest of the evening off, shall we?

We could take a hamper and go to the cottage, and stay there for the night.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-05-27 22:43:55](#)**

Re: private message to al

okay.



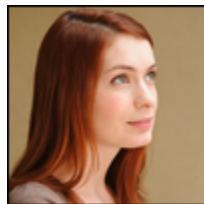
 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-05-27 22:37:27](#)**
(no subject)


Oh, no, do come. I could use your sound head around here.

It's a bit mad in the streets this weekend, and the watch have been round again, telling us we need to come out and join them. I'm afraid, one of us is going to have to, really. They weren't happy about taking no for an answer, and we've said it every time. I think they're getting the notion that we might not be what they think of as loyal. (Imagine. Us?)

I don't want to think of Remus having to go, but if it's me and those thugs start smashing things up, I'm likely to bash someone in the nose. And then where will we be? I mean, they don't seem the sort to listen to plain sense.

Ellie's a complication, that's true. But we'll manage. And, actually, I'm glad to have you come now. She's been really unsettled about all this mess, and I think it might help to have another woman in the house. One with a calm tone and a sympathetic way.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-27 22:46:52](#)**
(no subject)

Well, then, it'll be something to look forward to.

And it sounds entirely distasteful, but better than getting the wrong sort of attention. That sort of thing ends up with you being the one with the smashed windows, and I'd rather we avoid that.



 **alt_alice** at [2012-05-27 19:00:20](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I see.

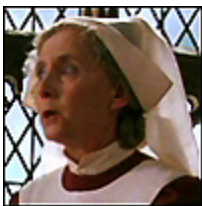
It will be hard to not be able to pass along letters. I have a feeling they'll need a few reassurances. I'd like to think they know us well enough by now to be able to discount the stories they hear, but we've been able to tell them nothing about what we actually do to counterbalance what they're being told, and it can't be easy to read about us that way even if they don't believe it.

Perhaps

Well, I don't want to risk security, of course, but perhaps we could pass word through Severus? After all, Neville does know that we are connected to him, even though he doesn't know who he really is.

If you're amenable, that is, Severus.

I didn't even think of that on Friday, only because Frank and I try to be so careful about not passing along information that would end up compromising any of us, or tell him too much that he'd be in danger. We're so used to having to keep him in the dark about everything, I suppose we automatically assumed he had to fend for himself until we could get word, but this would be all right, wouldn't it? At least until school lets out?




 **alt_poppy** at [2012-05-27 19:48:55](#)
(no subject)

I think that's a wise course. Unless Severus objects in some way.

And if that's the case, then I could take the boy
aside.

He suspects our connection already, of course. Speaking with him would merely confirm what he already guesses.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2012-05-27 20:03:18**
(no subject)

I'd rather keep you in a grey area for as long as possible, Poppy. I wouldn't want you exposing yourself like that, even if it is a small leap to make.

I appreciate the offer, though. It means quite a lot.

And I know our Hermione can be a little freer with her words now that the vow has been lifted, but I wouldn't want to ask her to risk herself that way.

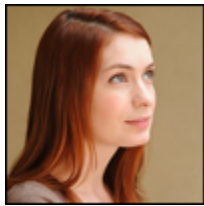
He's my son, and I trust that whatever we told him would be kept as safe as he could manage, but until he gets better at Occlumency or comes of age, we have to walk that line carefully. Just because he knows so much already doesn't mean we ought to push it even further.




 **[alt_severus](#) at 2012-05-28 02:43:10**
(no subject)

I saw no reason to object. Consider your son reassured.

Miss Granger will, I am sure, use her own judgment about what to say and do.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2012-05-28 02:50:05**
(no subject)

Thank you, Severus.

And I'm sure she shall. I just don't want her to feel unduly burdened or pressured to do something she isn't comfortable with because of a mother's anxiety.



 **alt_poppy** at **2012-05-27 19:58:16**
(no subject)

Arthur. When you say that there is to be a complete investigation of Deverill's department-

Your role is as a liaison, is it not? Do you expect trouble will come your way?



 **alt_arthur** at **2012-05-27 21:18:18**
(no subject)

Yes, I am the liaison. And yes. I do expect rather expect some trouble. Perhaps only tangentially for me, since I'm not actually assigned to the department, but how much may depend on whatever notes Norma kept.

Not anything about Dogstar, of course. But I did put heads together with her a time or two about accounting tricks to sneak pro-muggle expenses in the budget past Griderson, and later Deverill. That certainly wouldn't look good for me if it were revealed now. She was smart, though, and if I were to hazard a guess, I would think--I would hope--she wouldn't have left anything incriminating in writing.

Listen to me, talking about her in the past tense. I hate this. If only I knew. I'd do anything to help her if I could. But they've got their claws into her thoroughly, and I know there's nothing I can do.

If she's even alive.

2012-05-27 11:52:00

(no subject)

People have been just glued to the wireless and reading the newspaper around here, trying to get all of the information they can.



 [alt_pansy](#)

The Quidditch World Cup seems like it was a long time ago, but really, it hasn't even been an entire year. It was awful, and I remember being so angry and frightened after. Angry that they were the sort of people who would set off a bomb in a Quidditch stadium, and frightened that they were still out there, bragging about what they'd done and plotting to do more awful things to innocent people.

I'm glad so many of them were caught, and are being held responsible for what they did.

I also know that this weekend is a hard one for many of my friends, because of what happened this time last year at Hogwarts. I'm sorry so many of us are sorting through some difficult memories right now.

But even though this weekend has had its ups and downs, we've got many more weekends to look forward to. I'm very much looking forward to the Third Task, even though it will mean that our visiting friends from Beauxbatons and Durmstrang will be leaving us soon after, and I'm also looking forward to a lovely summer with my friends.

Sally-Anne, Ron, Nev, are you free? I thought we could maybe take our lunch out of doors. It's a beautiful day, after all.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-05-27 16:24:03**

Private Message to Susan Bones

Hey, Sue.

Every now and then, I sort of wish we could just get rid of May.

Are you doing all right, then?

I had that song we wrote written up properly in sheet music if you want a copy of it.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-05-27 17:40:51](#)

Re: Private Message to Susan Bones

Agreed.

I don't know, honestly. I mean, if I'm doing alright.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-27 18:33:27](#)

Re: Private Message to Susan Bones

That's okay.

I think that's better than knowing that you're not.

If that makes sense.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-05-27 18:45:46](#)

Re: Private Message to Susan Bones

It's definitely better than thinking you are and being really...not.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-27 19:04:47](#)

Re: Private Message to Susan Bones

~~I've gotten awfully good at pretending.~~

Yeah. I agree.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-27 18:33:48](#)

Re: Private Message to Susan Bones

Anything I can do?



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-05-27 18:49:18](#)

Re: Private Message to Susan Bones

Well, I'd love the song lyrics--thanks.

And...well...I'm thinking of writing a little something and posting in on the journals. About

Han.

I can't decide if I want to or if I'll just end up feeling stupid.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-27 19:03:59](#)

Re: Private Message to Susan Bones

I think that writing things down makes them mean a little more.

I've written lots that no-one will ever read except me, but it helps sometimes.

So if you don't want to feel stupid, you can always just write it to yourself. But if you do make it so other people can read, I think that's okay too.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-05-27 20:56:22](#)

Re: Private Message to Susan Bones

Yeah, if I write this it'll be for other people to see.

Because I want people to *remember* her and not the way that eulogies at funerals are, where they make the person sound so perfect they almost don't seem real.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-27 21:02:47](#)

Re: Private Message to Susan Bones

I get that, yeah.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-27 16:26:17](#)

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

Lucius seems to be more than a little wrapped up in the arrests and things.

I think we might have to come up with a back-up plan just in case, for Draco's party.

And I don't believe a word they've said about Sinbad. Just so you know.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-27 16:41:27](#)

Private Message to Hydra

Hey, Hydra.

I don't know what you're up to today, but if you want to join us on our lunch, you'd be more than welcome.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-27 16:41:51](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Nev, I know you've been having a rough time of it, and I don't blame you if you want to be on your own. So you don't really have to go for a walk or anything.

And it can't be easy to read that stuff about your parents.

I just figured it'd do well to remind everyone you've got friends. That's all.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-05-27 20:33:52](#)

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

I found him. But, yeah, he doesn't really want to do anything but just stay in the greenhouse.

I think he was glad to have the sandwich, though.

I'm coming back out. Are you still down by the lake?



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-05-27 20:47:48**

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

Yes. We'll wait for you and then make our way back together.

2012-05-27 12:10:00

Private Message to Zach

Hey,

Just so you know, Professor Sprout invited Longbottom to the ceremony this evening.



 [alt_susan](#)

I know you don't get on with him much, but I think Han would want him there, and it would mean a lot to me if you could be civil.

And I know *you* wouldn't do anything disruptive, but if you could try to rein in Bobby and some of your other mates, that'll be good too--they really do listen to you.



 [alt_zacharias](#) at **2012-05-27 16:51:02**
(no subject)


That blood-t bloke?

And Han?

Sue. That's

Well. You're right, we wouldn't do anything to ruin Han's remembrance, anyway. But tell your mate he'd better watch his step. Fleet and them won't take well to someone like that corrupting any other Hufflepuffs. Nor me, either.



 [alt_susan](#) at **2012-05-27 17:39:50**
(no subject)

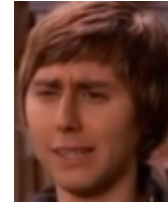
You didn't know they were friends?

Anyway, I talked to him last night and I don't think he'll be any trouble.

He's not such a bad bloke, really. Certainly not your typical loud-mouth Gryffindor.

2012-05-27 13:21:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_justin](#)

Hullo, all.

I say, the news this morning has been well dire, hasn't it? Well, as Pansy said, everyone's been trying to gather up as much information about it all as possible.

And Neville, I hope you'll accept my sympathies, as well. I didn't know any of you last year, of course, but I can bally well understand how you all must feel today.

But listen, I've got to tell you all - after the YPL presentation yesterday, I don't think any of you noticed but Mr Helpmann spoke to me. He'd been the one organising my visit back at the Quidditch World Cup. At first I thought he simply wanted to say hello, what, but it became clear that Mr Rosier's been talking to him about my letter. He was clearly trying to get me to say something then and there. Which I say, I thought that was bally well cheeky, what, given all the DogStar business Friday!

Well, of course I put him off as politely as I could do, but it just happened at that moment that Professor Froissart saw us talking. He asked to speak to me and led me away from all the others.

Once we were alone, he demanded to know whether I'd been talking to the Ministry on my own. I said that they approached me, which was the complete truth, what, and then he got very upset. Luckily he was speaking French so I don't think many people would have understood him but--he said I couldn't possibly think of staying, that the patriotic thing to do would be to return to France and explain how badly we need to change things there, instead.

I told him I hadn't made a decision and that if anything, this weekend's news was something to consider seriously. He reminded me that we're leaving in three weeks but he asked me to come and see him on Monday so he could explain why I need to go back with him.

I rather got the impression he thought he'd be blamed for it, if I stay.


But I hadn't even thought that we really shall be leaving in three

weeks, if I leave. If Mr Rosier's going to respond and everything's to work out, he'll have to move quickly, what?

I say, I really do mean that this weekend's events give one pause. I'm well certain these DogStar chaps aren't our wand smugglers but...do any of you suppose the smugglers will rethink what they're doing because of the DogStar being routed?

-Justin



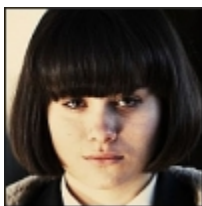
 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-27 20:38:49](#)**
(no subject)


This is what we've been trying to tell you, mate. Things here are not what they want you to think. And sometimes it seems they're getting worse, not better.

It's good you haven't said yes yet. Now they'll know they have to really offer you something if you're ever going to.

And I think you should listen to what Professor Froissart says, too. Before you make up your mind.

So you think he's worried he'll get in trouble if you don't go back with him? I'm sort of surprised he didn't know about it. I mean, he's Mr Malfoy's brother-in-law, isn't he?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-05-27 23:55:04](#)**
(no subject)

What did he mean by telling people in France to change things?

Did he mean change them to make them more like us?

Or less?



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-05-28 00:31:20](#)**
(no subject)

Hullo, Pansy.

Well, I say, they've been working on it for several

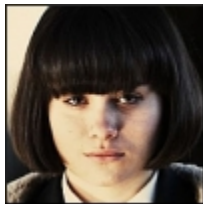
years now, what? Ever since your Mr Malfoy went to France. They've been passing all sorts of laws that increase wizards' rights and lessen the penalties for performing magic in front of or on Muggles.


There's a bill in front of the French Wizengamot now, in fact. I'm not sure when it will be coming up to the vote, but it's called the Magical Freedom Act. If it's passed, wizards and witches there shall be able to cast spells openly. There's another proposal but it's not quite as far along, from what some of the others have heard from home. Some of our students' parents send them *L'Étoile* now and then, you see.

Mr Rosier said several things as well, when he talked to me over hols. That's what I meant when I said that it's happening in France, anyway, if you follow me. That's why the most important thing is to make sure my mother can leave there if I stay here. And I still think staying here is the best way to arrange that.

Professor Froissart has no reason to offer any sort of incentives, what? Nor any ability to negotiate.


-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-28 00:56:11](#)
(no subject)

But what do you think Professor Froissart thinks about it? Do you think he liked what he saw? Does he want to tell them to go ahead with it? Or change the direction they're going in?




 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-28 01:05:29](#)
(no subject)

I thought I just answered that, what?

Yes, he means to further the cause. No doubt about that.

-Justin




 **alt_terry** at **2012-05-28 01:00:20**
(no subject)

it sounds like you're doing the best job you can to walk a careful line. but you are going to have to make your mind up soon.

is there anything else you need to learn, to make your decision? What would it be?

you're right about the wand smugglers. hadn't thought of it quite like that, but they must be awful worried right now. especially if any of their lot work anywhere that the dogstar people did--like the ministry--which means they have to duck all kinds of investigations.



 **alt_justin** at **2012-05-28 01:31:11**
(no subject)

Terry,

How are you, old chap? No more rampant claws, I trust? Or if you have had, they've been all right to change back at will?

I've rather made up my mind--that is, I know what I should prefer to do. But I should be very foolish to do it if their answers to the questions I put to Mr Rosier are not satisfactory. I borrowed Sally-Anne's suggestion that I ask to be classified as a pureblood, and that I be given the opportunity to stay at Hogwarts over the summer, particularly if I need to sit extra lessons to prepare for OWLs, what? Though that was mostly so they could say no, I have to go to fostering at any rate.

I'm particularly worried about the fostering piece. I know Luna's not had an easy time of it and of course, Sally-Anne's had particularly dreadful experiences with the Strettons, now and then. I shouldn't be able to be of much use if they assigned me to a foster-family that turned me into a pauper, or tried to arrange a marriage for me, that sort of thing. I should like to preserve as much independence as possible, in other words.

So, I suppose if the answers are ones I can accept, then they'll have a deal.

Especially if our smugglers are taking a breather, as it were, then it bally well makes sense to provide as many of us to fight in a year or

two as possible, what?

-Justin




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-28 01:42:14](#)
(no subject)

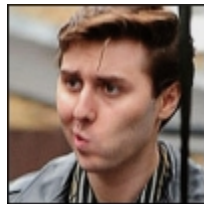
No, no more claws, although I'll admit I haven't tried again yet. the last experience was a bit too unnerving.

as for fostering, and the chance you could get a bad assignment: i've learned that if you set your mind to it, you can bear anything you have to, as long as you have good friends to help you through.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-28 01:42:52](#)
(no subject)

That's very true.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-28 01:45:52](#)
(no subject)

Yes, quite right, too.

I say, I jolly well didn't mean to sound a whinger, or a plonker or anything like that, what? I've nothing but admiration for you and how you've born the indignities of your life, Terry. I'm sure I don't know anyone stronger, what?

Not all of us are that strong, though.

But in any case, I only meant that--well, one grows accustomed to certain resources, and particularly to being able to put them to use helping one's friends. I shouldn't like to have to curtail that.

-Justin



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-28 02:09:37](#)

Private message to Justin Finch-Fletchley and Amycus Carrow

Right. you know i hate like poison doing private posts, and why, but i do want to say this once, 'cause i think you need to hear it.

i don't have any kind of grudge against you in any way, justin. i don't, and so you don't need to feel bad around me anymore because you're able to study and have a wand in the open and everything. and you can complain if you need to if things are hard for you without worrying that i'll think you're a berk or something because things are way harder than me.

i've got a wand, too, remember. and i study on my own all i can, and i'm going to get away from the bloody git once and for all. and when i do, it'll be that bookbag you buried for me that may make all the difference when I finally escape. do you have any idea how much the very thought of that bookbag out there waiting for me helps me? do you have any idea how much it makes me laugh to myself sometimes that you know Sirius Black, and you're out there studying openly and being treated like an honored guest and proving all their garbage wrong about muggleborns, and they don't even have a bloody clue?

Neither of us know what our lives would have been like if our situations had been reversed. but i don't know if i could have been as brave as you. going to a foreign country and all, and then deliberately choosing to stay in the danger zone, just in the hopes of being able to help.

well.

guess i've wanted to say that for awhile.

i really hope that i'll get to meet you someday, whether you stay or whether you go. somehow.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-28 03:19:57](#)

Re: Private message to Justin Finch-Fletchley and Amycus Carrow

Oh, I say, Terry.

No, you were quite right to remind me that I've no cause to complain at all.

And believe me, I well understand that you and Hermione both support my predicament, what?

Only, you're wrong, you know. About my being brave. Quite wrong. Between you and me, mate, I'm well terrified.

Over the last weeks, everyone in the ISS and Hydra as well have asked me to explain why I want to stay in spite of all that might happen if my secret's discovered. I've given loads of reasons but, to be desperately honest, Terry, there's really only one that truly matters. I mean to say, I should hate the thought of never seeing Hydra again and I should miss everyone I've befriended, what, but naturally one can live with loneliness, or privation or even physical pain. So all those reasons to stay, fundamentally, are selfish ones.

But I simply couldn't face myself in the mirror if I ran to safety, knowing that you and Hermione and hundreds of others like you are prisoners and slaves in this country.

-Justin



 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-05-28 03:43:29](#)

Re: Private message to Justin Finch-Fletchley and Amycus Carrow

i remember once when I told Fred and George i didn't see how they could be friends with me. because they're gryffindors, and i have to play crawling boot so often, just to stay alive. i didn't trust that they wanted anything to do with me, see, because i didn't believe that anyone would want anything to do with me. And you know what they told me?

they said that being brave had nothing to do with whether or not you were scared. it has to do with what you're willing to do in spite of being scared. so I guess that means you are brave.

would you join the wand smugglers if you had the chance? (i mean, assuming that they're not like Dogstar, and they don't go around murdering people.)

I would. if they're like what i hope they are. just working to make people like hermione and me, and yes, you, free and equal.

would you join them even if it meant you could never see hydra again?
because you know it might come to that someday. we're all going to have to
make choices, and some of them may be really hard. choosing between
people we care about, and doing what we need to do.

that's maybe what neville's parents did.



 **[alt_justin](#) at 2012-05-28 03:59:20**

*Re: Private message to Justin Finch-Fletchley
and Amycus Carrow*

Yes, I would do, in a moment, even if it meant
never seeing her or that she might never
forgive me doing so.

I....

One of the things I'm most concerned about is what'll happen
when Hydra learns that I knew Black, that this lock exists and
we've all been talking about all of these things. And that I
couldn't trust her with it all.

I don't think she agrees with the Protectorate, not anymore.
But her parents, her uncles and aunts, nearly everyone she
cares about has played a role in perpetuating this madness.
It's rather a lot to turn against, what?

My only hope is that she'll see why I couldn't share everyone
else's secrets without everyone's consent. She's even-
tempered in that way, at least. Still, I'm well prepared for her
to grow cross. I'm afraid she might decide to be done with me
for good and all, though.

Well. That day's a while off, I think.

-Justin



 **[alt_terry](#) at 2012-05-28 14:14:56**

*Re: Private message to Justin Finch-Fletchley
and Amycus Carrow*


i don't really know what it would be like to have to turn
against your whole family, because i can't remember
mine, you see. the closest i can get to imagining it would be to think of

what it would be like if i could never talk to or be with my friends again.

that would be awful. it might be more than i could bear.

you would have to really believe in what you were doing, in order to make a sacrifice like that. and i suppose you would have to trust that you could make new friends who believed the same way you do. or in her case, a new family.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-05-28 01:47:08](#)**
(no subject)

My experience fostering with the Browns hasn't been nearly as difficult as Sally-Anne's I don't think. Of course, I would have preferred to be assigned to the Weasley family, but the Browns aren't as cruel as I think the Strettons are. They just think that different things are important than I do, and they don't understand me very well at all. But I haven't let it bother me as much as I think some girls would.

2012-05-27 15:48:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Listen. Thanks, Pans. For what you did. Writing in public about us.



That was-

 [alt_ron](#)

yeah.

And I know I wasn't making sense earlier when we were talking about it. It's just-

I don't know what I think. I don't know-

See, the thing is, I don't understand this Dogstar lot.

Oh, I get that they didn't do all the bollocks the Prophet says they did or planned to do--I mean, starting another epidemic? or somehow making all the dragons break out and attack us? probably not--but they did some of it, for dead sure. And some of it looks like stuff they really might try to do. Like bomb the Third Task. Or put poison in pumpkin juice. I mean, how can you tell what they'd do or wouldn't.

Pansy's right. They bombed the World Cup. And they hurt loads and loads of people. And they've done other stuff, too, that hurt just as many regular people as camp enforcers or Ministry people or whoever they were meant to be targeting.

And I don't understand what they mean to do. Do they want to make things better for the Muggles? or for us? or just make things a mess so the Ministry look like fools?

Because, have they done any of that very well? I mean, MLE don't look very foolish today. And the Ministry can tell the Prophet to print whatever it wants, yeah? Like that rubbish about Neville's parents.

Or that business about Mrs Brownmiller at the Ministry. You know, I met her when I went to work with my dad that time. They're on committees together, I think, and he's a liaison to her department. And she was really nice. I know dad likes her. Only, see. What they said- what Mr Deverill said about always thinking she was a

bloodtraitor and too soft on muggles and all. He could be saying the same about my dad.

I bet he has done. Told MLE, I mean, that my dad's soft on muggles and muggleborns. And what happened to her? Could happen to my dad. It really could, I think. I mean, I know he's careful. I know he is. But.

And I know he'd never be part of Dogstar, only what do the wand smugglers actually do? You know? I keep thinking-

What would they be willing to do? How different are they? And-

What if they actually are part of Dogstar, y'know? How do I really know they're not? I don't, do I?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-27 21:45:40](#)

(no subject)

Ron, I honestly don't think they are. I know I can't prove it, but...

Look. Hermione knows Sirius Black. So he's with the wand smugglers. And Hermione is, too. Sirius Black has always warned about methods. Didn't he? I've never seen him raving about killing anyone, unlike that journal that was Dog Star's. And I just...I just don't think that the people who gave me a wand, so I could survive being assigned to someone as cruel as the git, would go around blowing up bridges and plotting to poison water sources and murdering people. I just don't.




 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-27 21:57:23](#)

(no subject)

I agree. About the Weasleys, at least. They wouldn't ever be party to doing anything cruel. We don't even know they are involved with anything, anyway.

But I'm afraid that doesn't necessarily mean that some people at the Ministry won't look suspiciously at Mr Weasley. Precisely because he IS so kind.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-27 22:50:13](#)**
(no subject)

Well obviously I don't think they are, either. But that's the point. I can't prove they're not, and you'd never have thought it of Mrs Brownmiller. And she was a friend of my dad's. Or, well. I don't know that friend is right. I mean, my parents don't really have that sort of friends. Neighbours, yeah, but it's not like we have loads of people come for parties or supper or anything. Ever.

Which-

Nevermind.

But the thing is, once you start thinking about it, all the things you think you know go pear-shaped.

What do you think Sirius Black would've done to get you your wand? Or to help you if he thought he could? Would he kill Carrow? Would he hurt other people if it would help people who need his help?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-05-27 21:49:41](#)**
(no subject)

I'll hear about it one way or the other.

But if it means a little more attention is on me and less on him, that's okay. And I can handle a bit of attention.

You're right, though. You don't know. And I think that's a good thing. Because if you did? That would just... I don't even know what that'd be like. It'd be awful. For lots of reasons. ~~I bet you'd feel a bit like Ne~~

I guess it'd be better to know for sure that they weren't for sure, but you don't.


~~And normal people can do bad things. Awful terrible horrific things. Things you'd never think they could do. Things that make you sick and sad and~~

I'm sorry.

I think your parents are lovely. I wish my mum was more like yours. And I wish you knew for sure that they weren't.

And as far as what they wanted to do? The Dogstar people? I have no idea. It doesn't make any sense to me at all. What Terry said about the wands... that makes much more sense.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-05-27 22:57:01](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I know. And Nev'll know, too. I know he'll appreciate you doing it.

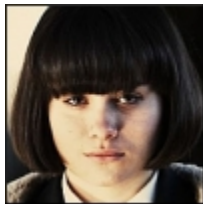
And, yeah. It's just the not knowing.

And then stuff like this happens, and you know it could happen to them. To Mum and Dad. And the papers would say stuff about them, and probably it would all be lies. I mean, it could totally all be lies. Or not.

I don't know.

I know I sound mental.

I mean, I want to think that Sirius Black and whoever's part of it with him would only do good things. Only, I wonder sometimes what they might have to do in order to get anything good done, y'know?



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-27 23:03:49](#)
(no subject)

You don't sound mental.

There's a lot we don't know.

And there's a lot that people lie about.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-27 22:11:10](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Ron.

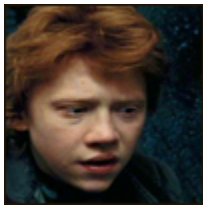
It's well shocking, isn't it? Though outside of the Protectorate, people--Muggles, I mean to say--blow each other up all the time. Not that that's not bally well shocking, as well, what, only--well. I mean to say, it's not that much safer, really.


But as I told Neville, I don't think Black condoned anything the DogStar did. Did you see, even the last post, the one that the gossip magazines are saying was actually MLE--he simply made a joke about it, but if you knew him, you'd know it's because he was probably well upset by all their threats.

I think the smugglers are trying to change people's minds, what, more like...one at a time. Or a few at a time.

I say, *do* you think your father's one of them? The smugglers, I mean?

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-27 23:05:21](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, yeah. 'Muggles blow each other up, too.' They say that to us all the time here. That's why they had to put them all in camps because they were horrible and violent and did awful things to people. But then the Ministry does the same stuff. And not just to the Muggles.

I think you're right about Sirius Black. He didn't like the Dogstar business. And he was trying to tell people not to support that.

And I like that, yeah, that the smugglers are trying to change people's minds. Or anywiz, that's what Black's been doing in those Grim Truths of his.

I dunno about my dad. I guess I sometimes like to think maybe he and mum are part of it. I mean, they're probably not. They're not the heroic type, y'know, at all. Just regular parents, who have to work really hard and can be a bit mental sometimes.

It's just I think they'd support Sirius Black if they could. And they'd agree with the things he says.

[2012-05-28 10:22:00](#)

Private Message to Ernie

Ugh! I have *such* a headache!

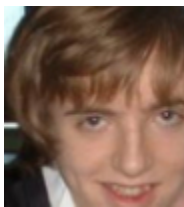
See if I ever take anything from Zach again!

It was kind of nice though, while it lasted--to forget and not think.

I could get to appreciate that.



 **[alt_susan](#)**



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2012-05-28 15:04:48](#)**

(no subject)

I liked the burn. But I think the secret is just not drinking a whole load at a time.

How much did you have? I only had a sip or two.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2012-05-28 16:03:14](#)**

(no subject)

Point taken.

I took a couple of big swigs--probably not that much more than you, but I'd never had it before.

Had you?



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2012-05-28 18:08:20](#)**

(no subject)

My Dad let me have a taste last year. After the Cup.

But, yeah. I can see how something like that could go really far, really fast.

Can you believe exams will start next week?



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2012-05-28 21:05:24](#)**
(no subject)

Don't make me think about exams yet!

Although, come to think of it, I could use the distraction and so could you probably.

Want to do some group revision later this week?

2012-05-28 12:00:00

Private Message to Isobel Sandoval and Nicola Burdett-Coutts



 [alt_narcissa](#)

Isobel, have yours returned home yet? Lucius had estimated he'd be done yesterday morning but it was closer to seven in the evening before he emerged from the Ministry.

Meanwhile, I've heard from more than one source that your Lana conducted herself quite well in this entire affair. In fact, I've been to Buckingham this morning along with Lucius to discuss appropriate recognition of the contributions of several key Aurors, your daughter among them.

It's been decided that a ceremony on Saturday evening would be the best opportunity to present their commendations. Nicola, would that give you and Gabriel sufficient time to prepare? Isobel, I was hoping you'd speak to Inigo about assisting with the supply for the reception to follow that night.

Our Lord wishes as well to extend generosity to the loyal citizens who have endured in the face of the Dogstar's perfidy. Nicola, I'm sure you have ideas for some sort of impromptu carnival - perhaps as simple as complimentary refreshments at several stations along the Thames? Well, you'll think of something astonishing, you always do.

I've got to run for now but shall we get together tomorrow to discuss the matter in more detail? I can have Mariposa reserve a room at Alhambra so we can plan in peace and privacy. Isobel, do say you'll join us?

2012-05-28 14:15:00

Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr.

Have you reached a place in all your reports where you can take lunches again?



We ought to meet. That is, I'd like to see you. To talk. Perhaps to satisfy myself that your prolonged service left no lasting trauma.

 [alt_narcissa](#)

I've just made arrangements for tomorrow, but - Wednesday? Tulips? (Not our usual fare, I know, but we should know no one there.)

Or.

I suppose it doesn't matter where. It might be wiser to go somewhere familiar.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2012-05-29 01:25:19**
(no subject)

The reports are the least of it. Pennifold is seeing to all of the parchmentwork that doesn't absolutely require my quill.

We are making progress, though. Lucius has told you as much, I assume.

Wednesday lunch, yes. I'm finding it difficult to work more than two or three minutes at a time without distraction. A proper meal and a change of location would be helpful. And you.

Let's make it Marlborough, though. I'll have the elf set lunch at half-twelve.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2012-05-29 01:44:06**
(no subject)

No, not Marlborough. It's

Not Marlborough.

The Rookery?



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2012-05-29 01:56:41](#)**
(no subject)

Yes. All right.

I've spoken with Bennett to reserve his best table.

2012-05-28 16:10:00


I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Whoever arranged to send me that last letter with Pig, thank you so much! It made me so happy, and I'll do exactly what it says.

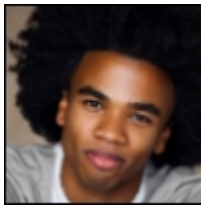



 [alt_terry](#)



 [alt_luna](#) at **2012-05-28 21:13:28**
(no subject)

Who DID have Pig last? I've lost track.




 [alt_lee](#) at **2012-05-28 21:15:09**
(no subject)

Either Gred and Forge or maybe Hermione? I think.

What'd the letter say, Terry?



 [alt_terry](#) at **2012-05-28 21:16:28**
(no subject)

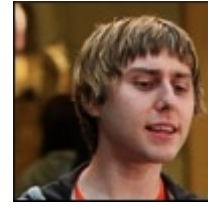
Never mind. It just had some really good advice that I plan to take.

[2012-05-28 18:53:00](#)

Private Message to Dux

Hullo, you.

Well, I say, that turned out to be a little easier than I thought it would be. He was prepared to make a strong argument, I think, but it turned out my first line of defence was the only one I needed.



 **[alt_justin](#)**

L'amour, c'est tout, I said.

It was well difficult not to laugh at the way his face changed. *Une fille anglaise?* he asked. Luckily he didn't ask who or it might get back to your family, what? I just nodded and shrugged.

It's well amazing what a Frenchman can make of a shrug.

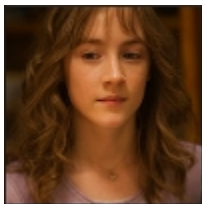
He did say something about how affection can change quickly at our age and then I'd be here for no reason but I could tell his heart wasn't in it. I listened and nodded and shrugged again. Then I asked, very quietly and respectfully, whether he wouldn't rather stay here if Madame Froissart decided she didn't want to go back to France.

Enfin! Je ne sais rien, entendez?, he said. Then he said, *Allez, sortez!* and waved me out. Somewhat impatiently, I should think. I say, I hope I didn't hit a little too close to home, what?

But it doesn't matter. He certainly won't object to my going back with him if things don't work out but I think that's the last he'll try to convince me not to stay.

I just wish I'd hear back from Mr Rosier's office.

-Justin



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-05-29 01:17:19](#)**

(no subject)

That's what you said?

It probably wouldn't be hard for him to find out who, you know. If he wanted to.

Uncle Stephen might be busy with the Dogstar business still. I'm sure he'll get back to you as soon as he's able.

But it is anxious, the waiting.

From,
Hydra



 **alt_justin** at **2012-05-29 01:30:40**
(no subject)

No, I agree, it wouldn't be difficult at all. Though I never said whether my interests were returned, what?

But I think he'll let it go. He did say 'I know nothing' the way one would do--sort of, 'If anyone asks me, I shall deny any knowledge,' if you follow me. Washing his hands of it, I suppose one might say.

What worries me about the waiting is that there's still so much to settle. And not a lot of time left to settle it.

But you're right; there's no help for it.

I've heard everyone talking about exams. They're next week, aren't they? Do you need to do loads of revising this week?

-Justin



 **alt_hydra** at **2012-05-29 02:35:43**
(no subject)

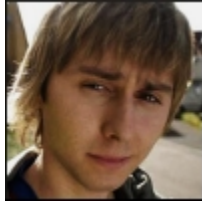
They start Monday, yes. And I will need to do revising, for Arithmancy especially. It's funny that I've sort of learned to enjoy it, isn't it? Even if I'll probably never get top marks in it.

At least I know I'm bound to do better than last year. I don't know anyone who's in the hospital wing, and no one's just been... Well nothing too awful's happened. At the castle, I mean.

Speaking of the castle, I haven't really been able to tell what the foreign students think of the Dogstar arrests. Maybe you can tell me about what you've heard... When it's just the two of us, if that's

better.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-29 03:15:47](#)
(no subject)

Bother. Froissart's given us a series of essays but that's all. If I promise to work on my essays and leave you alone is it all right if we sit together, even if you're revising with Effie and the others?

I suppose I just don't wish to wait alone, what?

You're supposed to knock wood when you say things like 'nothing awful's happened,' goose.

I don't mind saying it here. They've all reacted differently, of course. Some of them are well glad the year's almost out and they'll be going home soon (but then some of them have been looking forward to going home all year). And some are surprised that the DogStar wound up sounding as large as it did from the papers. And some think it's nothing compared to things that have happened outside, or in America or Africa or places where people get hurt and there are large arrests all the time, only that it's odd it's happened to wizards, because that's usually a Muggle thing (and of course, the implication is that it wouldn't happen if it were wizards). Delacour was mostly worried about whether it would change anything about the third Task and Archimbault was mostly trying to convince her that if anything, arrangements for the Task would be safer now that the curs had been put down--his words, not mine, what.

Have you heard anything about the Durmstrang lot, then? I meant to ask Sally-Anne if Krum's said anything either way. I say, at Saturday's event he didn't seem well natural in his replies, what? As if he'd rehearsed what to say. But from what Sally-Anne says, he's a wizard of very few words, so perhaps he's just uncomfortable speaking in public.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-29 03:33:45](#)
(no subject)

Of course we may sit together. I wish I only had to write essays..


And I know about knocking on wood but I suppose I'm not really suspicious anymore. I mean, what can a bit of wood do to prevent anything? But oh.. now you've just made me go and do it, just in case (I'm at my desk).

Curs? Well, I suppose it is true that people were worried about the third task, especially after what happened at the World Cup. The crowd won't be close to that size, of course, but it's going to be a pretty tremendous event. And it is good to know that it will be safe now.

I haven't heard much from the Durmstrang lot. If anything, it seems as if they're being careful *not* to talk about it, not in English, at least. I did hear Richard Vaisey say that one of them in his year asked if these sort of mass arrests happen a lot, and that he didn't seem very impressed.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-29 03:38:07](#)
(no subject)

Good, and I promise not to be a nuisance. You might not want these essays. Besides, they're to be handed in in French.

You're awfully kind to Delacour; I think she tends to think about everything in terms of how it affects her, if you follow me. I suppose some people were worried but, really, you're quite right, there's been relatively little to disturb this year. (And I've just knocked wood, as well, what, on the bedstead!)

I'll have to ask Sally-Anne what Krum's told her, if anything.

But now it's getting late and if you've got revising to do tomorrow, you'd better get to sleep. Me as well, what?

||| Sweet dreams, Dux.
||| -Justin

2012-05-29 10:17:00

The garden's coming up!



 [alt_molly](#)

This is always such an exciting time of year. Putting in the garden is hard work, but it's worth it to see all the green shoots coming up. We've been eating the new lettuce and I should have peas ready to harvest soon. Quite a welcome change to our supper plates after a winter of canned foods. I was worried that we weren't going to have quite enough rain in early April, but things have evened out now, and my crops are well established.


The hives seem to have wintered well, and the bees have been buzzing around the orchard. We have some new kid goats. The chickens seem to be momentarily sulking (no new eggs in three days), but otherwise the flock seems to be thriving. I was hoping for some eggs this morning so I could bake a cake to cheer up poor Arthur at dinner tonight.

This business regarding the Dogstar arrests has been a nasty shock for him at work. It's a great relief, of course, to have the traitors routed, but the Muggle Domestication department is going to be doing a top-to-bottom review. Arthur's involved only tangentially, since he's merely a liaison to that department, but he's had to pull together any correspondence or reports or notes he has in conjunction with any collaboration he had with Norma Brownmiller. There will be interviews, too, and he may be called to sit in on some of those as well. Arthur's quite upset about her perfidy. As well he should be! He has been wracking his brain, trying to think of when he might have seen some hint, some clue. But there was none: he had absolutely no idea.

I have a meeting with the barter committee this afternoon. We've added a number of new households this spring, and the network is really flourishing. I'm quite proud of my own part in making the network grow. I do enjoy the administrative work. It's a fine chance to meet and check in with my neighbours.


Oh, it's starting to rain. The spinach will love that.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-05-29 17:45:22](#)**
ORDER ONLY

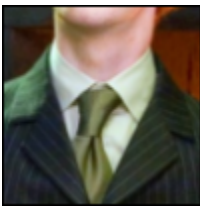
Any word yet on her husband and son? Or are they still missing?



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-05-29 17:46:06](#)**
Re: ORDER ONLY

No, unfortunately. At least not that Arthur has heard. Bill has his ear out at every back channel at the Ministry, too, because we doubt any arrest would be made public.

Poor Norma. Arthur's beside himself, wondering what's happening to her.



 **[alt_percy](#)** at **[2012-05-29 17:51:58](#)**
(no subject)

It just makes my skin crawl, to think that Dad worked with the woman.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-05-29 17:54:22](#)**
(no subject)


Well, not very often directly, dear, of course. He would sometimes review reports she generated, but most of the work was quite routine.



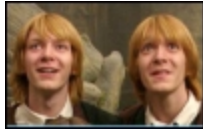
 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-05-29 17:57:37](#)**
Order Only

Git.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-05-29 17:58:37](#)**
Re: Order Only

Now, now. He's only saying the sorts of things that I'm saying.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-29 17:58:55](#)
Re: Order Only

Yeah, but in his case, he really means them.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-29 21:50:44](#)
Order Only

Molly, I'm sorry Arthur's having to go through it.

I was past his office this morning, and he was already there and deep in parchment. I didn't bother him, but do tell him I was sorry to see him working so hard.

Things have been tense in the Ministry, from top to bottom. Since Thursday night, we've been delivering all the building's rubbish to MLE, and that DIRRT group are calling people in again.


No one seems interested in me, though, so no worries on my account.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-29 23:40:12](#)
(no subject)

The cake can be forgiven, Molly, dear, as long as you kept your promise and roast chicken is on the menu for tonight.



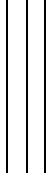
 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-05-29 23:40:53](#)
(no subject)

Of course I did! I'm pulling it out of the oven now.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-29 23:41:48](#)
(no subject)

Perfect. I'm wrapping things up, and I should be home in about ten minutes or so.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-05-29 23:42:23](#)**
(no subject)

Supper will be waiting, dear.

2012-05-29 17:19:00

Private Message to Bartemius Crouch, Sr



Well, father.

Congratulations. You must be beside yourself with pride, having such a number of hopeless new cases to defend.

 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

I'm sure you'll outdo yourself. You've a perfect record still, haven't you?

Shame mother's not here to read about all your latest failures.

Bale tells me you've been pestering him for the return of her personal effects. I can't see what you want them for. It's not as if you spared her any interest when she was alive.

[2012-05-29 18:44:00](#)

Han

I couldn't do this last year...I couldn't find the words, but it's been a year and now I think I can.



I want to say something about my friend Hannah Abbott, something to help people remember.

 [alt_susan](#)

Han was so much more than a tragedy, so much more than how she died.

But it still hits me every time something important happens, that we're all moving forward through life, getting older and Hannah won't.

She could be quiet and shy in big groups, so I'm not sure how many people outside our House really got to know her well. But she was so much more than the soft-spoken girl in the back of the class, though she was often that too.

When I think about Hannah, what I remember the most about her is that she was happy. That might sound simple and obvious, but anyone who's been unhappy for any length of time knows different. Hannah was one of the most cheerful, positive people I've ever met. And it's not as if she had the easiest life all the time either--she just had a natural talent for seeing the bright side of things.

She was really close to her family and especially her sister; she'd always talk about how much she was looking forward to showing Chessie everything about Hogwarts. I hate that she never got to.

When it was just us in the dorm, she absolutely loved to laugh and be silly; I don't think anyone who just knew her from lessons would believe the craziness she could get up to, and half the jokes wouldn't be funny to anyone who wasn't there. The other thing about her that I think would surprise people is that she absolutely loved loud music. Of course, she was a huge fan of The Weird Sisters--she'd have been well chuffed that they played the Yule Ball--but she also listened to some really wild stuff like *Playing Quidditch With Hags*, even though her dad didn't really approve.

And even though she was shy sometimes, she was really nice--a good friend and a good listener. We didn't really start talking as much until

the end of first year, but once we did it was like we always had. She had a way of getting everyone together, and she always did her best to help everyone get along. She just had this way of talking people around until they realised that whatever they were fighting about wasn't such a big deal after all.

She worked really hard at her revising, but she always made time for fun. She loved Herbology, and when we were talking about our future careers last year, she said she'd like to learn about how Herbology is used in Healing. She cared a lot about living things in general, and hated to see them hurt.

She wasn't perfect or anything; I wanted to make sure and say that. She was a complete neat freak, and the constant cheerfulness could get annoying. She sometimes panicked and did things without really thinking them through. I used to wish she would stick up for herself more outside of our House.

But she was really, truly a good person, and I miss her a lot. They took the extra bed out of our room, because there are so many first years this year. In some ways, it's easier not to have that reminder. But I don't always want it to be easier.



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2012-05-29 23:58:46](#)

Private Message to Sue

I thought we weren't going to go all sappy.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-05-30 01:31:44](#)

Re: Private Message to Sue

I'm a girl. We're allowed, yeah?



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2012-05-30 01:40:51](#)

Re: Private Message to Sue

Now, see, you had to go and remind me that you're a girl. One of the good things about you is that you're more like a chum than a girl.

I guess I just wish you'd've made up your mind so a bloke can know what's going to hit next.

Hey, did you see Ced come back from that thing he had tonight? He looked dead well determined. I'm going to ask him what he found out. Want to come?



 **[alt_susan at 2012-05-30 01:43:43](#)**

Re: Private Message to Sue

What, I can't be a chum *and* a girl?

Is that not allowed or something?

Sure, I'll go with you--do you think he'll really tell us anything though? You know how he can be about that stuff--if it's even remotely bending the rules of the Tournament.



 **[alt_zacharias at 2012-05-30 01:54:22](#)**

Re: Private Message to Sue

Chums are less complicated.

And if you ask me, Ced could use a little rule-bending. It's not like the other Champions are playing fair. Don't tell me Krum's not getting all sorts of help from that Karkaroff bloke. And Delacour? Please, I don't think she'd've even got her name in the Goblet without that Froggy Froissart's help.

Yeah, let's go see if we can get Fleet and Bobolis to convince Cedric that getting help is just evening up the playing field, at this point.



 **[alt_susan at 2012-05-30 01:58:29](#)**

Re: Private Message to Sue

I can give you a chum-ly punch on the arm if that'll help!

And point taken--I like that Ced's such an honourable bloke all round, but he could stand to relax a little bit.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-05-30 00:38:48**

Private message to Susan Bones

That's a beautifully shared remembrance, Miss Bones.

Are you and your dormmates doing all right?

I missed checking in with everyone before supper, but I'm still off in New London. I'd be glad to stop in on my way back if it'd be helpful for anyone.



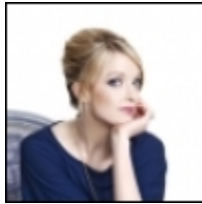
 **[alt_susan](#) at 2012-05-30 01:34:19**

Re: Private message to Susan Bones

Thanks, Professor Siz; it's good to hear it from you.

I think we're alright here, I mean, as much as we're going to be. The ceremony was good--it sort of gave us a way to get it all out.

How was New London?



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-05-30 03:05:01**

Re: Private message to Susan Bones

As much as we're going to be, quite. Also on the ceremony helping.

New London was largely pleasant - I go in for YPL business most weeks, but I've been taking the chance to have supper with friends (and tea with my mother, today, too.) That's always good, but this week particularly so.

Do let me know if Miss Zimmerman has trouble settling? She was doing much better when I left, but one does worry.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-30 00:50:05](#)

Private Message to Susan Bones

It's lovely, Sue.

I think she would have liked reading it very much.

And I wish I'd gotten a chance to know her better.

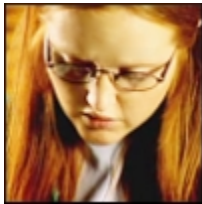


 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-05-30 01:38:31](#)

Re: Private Message to Susan Bones

Thanks for understanding, Pansy. I wish neither of us had to, but it's good to be able to talk about them a little bit.

I still send her private messages sometimes--it makes me feel better for some weird reason--and imagine what she'd say back.



 [alt_eloise](#) at [2012-05-30 02:05:14](#)

(no subject)

Well said.

You're not the *only* one who knew her, you know



 [alt_susan](#) at [2012-05-30 02:06:32](#)

(no subject)

Thanks, El.

It was really hard to write, but I'm glad I did.

2012-05-29 19:03:00

*Private Message to G A Penderyn and
M Truncheon*

Travers delivered your message.

Will be down shortly--one or two things to
finish here first.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

[2012-05-29 19:16:00](#)

ORDER ONLY KINGSLEY!!!



 [alt_arthur](#)

GET HERE NOW

**AS SOON AS YOU SEE
THIS**

**THE BURROW--DO NOT
APPROACH THE HOUSE!
PERCY'S HERE**

**APPARATE JUST BEHIND THE
GOAT SHED, OUT OF THE
SIGHT OF THE BURROW
WINDOWS. CALL MY NAME
SOFTLY AND COME IN
SLOWLY WITH YOUR HANDS
UP AND YOUR WAND AWAY.
NO SUDDEN MOVES!**

HURRY!!!

NO ONE ELSE. JUST KINGSLEY!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-30 00:24:21](#)
(no subject)

Dad? Dad!



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-30 00:25:51](#)
(no subject)

Mum! What's going on?!

MUM!




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-05-30 00:24:33](#)
(no subject)

Arthur?

What in-

What is happening there?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-30 00:27:55](#)
(no subject)

Well, bugger me.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-30 00:28:51](#)
(no subject)

Bill?

What do you know?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-30 00:37:19](#)
(no subject)

Not a damn thing. Shit.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-05-30 00:39:49](#)
(no subject)


we're keeping an eye out on our end for any sudden arrivals.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-05-30 00:29:50](#)
(no subject)

You gotta help him!



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-05-30 00:33:52](#)
(no subject)

No! Absolutely not! Dad gave an order and I will sit tight. And so will you! Kingsley's the best one to help him, whatever it is.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-05-30 00:35:19](#)
(no subject)

it'll be fine.

there's a reason he only wanted the one of us.

just sit tight.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-30 00:28:18](#)
(no subject)

Arthur?

Molly?


Do you need help there?



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-05-30 00:34:30](#)**
(no subject)

I'd say we wait til we hear more



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-30 00:35:47](#)**
(no subject)


Sit tight, Tonks. His instructions were clear.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-05-30 00:37:53](#)**
(no subject)

On my way.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-30 00:38:59](#)**
(no subject)

Report back as soon as you can.

2012-05-29 19:42:00

Order Only: Scott and Rory Brownmiller



 [alt_arthur](#)

I went out after supper to pen the goats up in the shed for the night. I had just turned to fasten the latch--and suddenly my blood froze. A wand tip was digging into my neck, just under my ear.

'Turn around, Arthur. Slowly,' a hoarse voice said. 'Very slowly.'

I obeyed and saw him there, swaying in the dimming light, his son clutched tightly to his chest, wrapped in burlap sacking. The boy's eyes were closed, and his head lolled backwards, mouth slack. Scott's right hand was outstretched, shaking, but the wandpoint was now zeroed right between my eyes. 'No sudden moves,' he cried in a soft voice, and I could hear the panic. 'I'll kill you if I have to. I swear I will.'

'But you don't have to. Merlin, I'm glad to see you. I've been so worried.' He hesitated, afraid to believe, and I added softly, 'Is the boy all right?'

His eyes flicked downward. 'He's just asleep. I keep putting him under. He's hungry. But all I've had to give him are eggs.'

Eggs. From the chicken coop. How long had he been here? 'What happened to Norma?' I asked.

His eyes filled with tears. 'Norma's dead. When she joined Dogstar, we put charms on our wedding rings. So we'd know. She'd gone to a meeting. I was waiting up for her and...I felt it burn. Thursday night, Friday morning. I only had time to grab Rory and run.' He licked his lips, on the brink of flight, or blasting me, or I don't know what. Terrified, and unsure what to do. 'Norma said--Norma said, if it all went to hell, that I should go to you. That maybe you would help.' His hand started shaking harder. 'If you're really Arthur Weasley. If the MLE didn't kidnap you and put a goon in your place with polyjuice.'

I kept my hands up and open. 'I'll help you. Let me get my wife.' He crouched lower, and I could tell he was just about to lose it. 'I'm taking my wand out,' I said, easing it slowly from my wand pocket. 'Just to call Molly. Watch.' I sent a patronus to the house. It was a risk, but I knew Molly was upstairs in the bedroom, and Percy was shut in

his own room.

Oddly enough, the sight of the patronus seemed to steady him. He straightened up from his crouch, looking relieved. 'You are Arthur. Norma told me what your patronus was.' He thought for a minute. 'Did Norma ever tell you the nickname she used for me?'


I thought for a minute and remembered. Years ago she told me: it was 'Raven.' He raised his wand and an enormous silver raven patronus burst out the end of it. The goats stared up at it, chewing their cud, absolutely unimpressed, as it circled the shed roof until it winked out. I let out a long, slow breath. He was who he said he was as well.

Molly came in then, and stopped in her tracks with a squeak. 'Oh my goodness!' She looked down at the boy in her arms, and said exactly the right thing: 'Oh, the poor little boy! He must be so hungry and frightened! I'll just nip into the house and make you both some sandwiches. And I'll get him a blanket, and perhaps a pillow...' she headed back to the house, muttering to herself.

And after that, it was all right. I convinced him to allow me to call Kingsley. We took them with side along apparation here to the Order Safe house number 3.

What on earth do we do with them?



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-05-30 01:23:00](#)

(no subject)

I'll apparate over to the safe house.

al is going to talk to arabella.

we're going to have to wait til the boy is conscious enough to answer questions properly just to make sure.

we're going to have to ask about how involved he was in dogstar. sounds like it was mostly his wife, though.




 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:35:22](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, I think that was the case, actually. He stayed out of it, to keep the boy safe. But he did know about it; she told him a great deal. It would probably be very useful to debrief him.

Kingsley's being his most soothing, which helps. The man's still shaking quite a bit. It's obvious he's been under immense strain, barely able to sleep. He's been hiding here at the Burrow since that first night, in the hay pile in the goat shed during the day and roaming around a bit more at night. He obtained water from the river. But he's ravenous with hunger. And the boy's been under imperio for three days, to keep him quiet and sleepy, and to force him to eat those raw eggs. Scott hated it, but he didn't have much choice.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:41:52](#)**
(no subject)

I'm glad you found him, Dad. And that it wasn't Percy's turn to shut up the goats tonight.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:42:21](#)**
(no subject)

Merlin. We can all give thanks for that.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:24:38](#)**
(no subject)

arabella will want to know how fit you think he'd be for moddey. that, or we could send him and his boy to France.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:39:21](#)**
(no subject)

What about Sherwood?

Although that would be rough living for the boy, I suppose.

He might actually be safer in France, true. I'm sure that things will be hot for him here for months to come.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:45:53](#)**
(no subject)

France is a good option. If he's willing. Things will be very dangerous here for them.

And for you, too, Arthur. I hate to think--

What if MLE have you under watch? They mustn't stay there any longer than necessary.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:56:12](#)**
(no subject)

we're already at the safe house, but you're right, arthur shouldn't stay here much longer.

we take off for our smuggling run in a few weeks. so that's definitely on the table.

and if he needs to camp out in the safe house until then, we can keep him fed and under wards without compromising our security too badly.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:57:26](#)**
(no subject)

Agreed, Frank.

...

Have you been following Harry's posts tonight?

Poppy? What's wrong up there?



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:31:33](#)**
(no subject)

I've packed a bag for them both, Arthur. Fortunately, I have some children's clothes in his size, since we had a swap today. And I can tuck in a toy or two. And perhaps some camping gear--but perhaps that can wait until you figure out where they'll be going.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:32:29](#)**
(no subject)

Merlin.

Dora told Ellie to clean up all the trays of dishes, which is our signal that there's something going on in the journals that I should go up and read.

Bugger all, Arthur. I'm sorry about Norma.

But it's a good job they did come to you. Have you asked what he wants? He may just want to get out after all he's been through.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:38:01](#)**
(no subject)

I think he can't even begin to think about it until he has a couple of nights of sleep under his belt, without the fear that someone's going to stick a pitchfork into him, and then haul him off to get taken apart by MLE. He's still shaking from the adrenaline jag of confronting me.

I think once he's slept, the grief will hit him, too. He won't be fit to make too many decisions for a day or two at least.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-05-30 02:06:49](#)
(no subject)

right.

no point in letting him make up his mind one way or the other until he's slept and eaten.

I'm pretty sure he'll stay where he's put for the time being, arthur, unless you or min think we ought to keep a twenty four hour watch on him. if not, we can check on him first thing in the morning.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-05-30 02:14:29](#)
(no subject)

I'm willing to stay, and I think it would be a good idea. It would at least discourage him from bolting in the morning. Arthur's right, he's really wound up. Can't blame him, with what he's been through.

I think we'll want to debrief him all we can about Dogstar, too. And depending on what he can tell us, that may take some time.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-30 02:16:25](#)
(no subject)

He's responding well to Kingsley, so I'll leave the poor man and his son in Shacklebolt's capable hands. Headed for home now...don't want Percy to get suspicious about why I've been out doing the night chores for so long.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-05-30 02:17:32](#)
(no subject)

right.

Kingsley, man, you okay on your own tonight? I think it'd spook him too much to be outnumbered. and he likes you better.

I can go, come back tomorrow. that work for you?



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-05-30 02:20:27](#)
(no subject)

Sure, we'll be fine. Bring a good breakfast when you come back, maybe some of Victor's pancakes if you can manage it. Hearty food after a decent night's rest always makes things

look better.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-05-30 02:18:16](#)
(no subject)

And yes. I'm rather devastated at the news about Norma, too.

A very good-hearted woman, toiling in the trenches of the Ministry doing the most thankless of tasks, and she didn't deserve this.

Damn. I am truly going to miss her.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-30 02:24:54](#)
(no subject)

That's such a shame. I'm sorry.

2012-05-29 19:52:00

Private Message to B Crouch, Sr

**DID YOU FORGET YOUR
TRACE, FATHER?**



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

YOU CANNOT HIDE FROM ME

2012-05-29 20:11:00

Private Message to Barty Crouch, JR.

Are you all right?

It's most unlike you to send a private message to your father. And twice in quick succession



 [alt_narcissa](#)

Is -

~~Can I~~

Do you need ... help of some kind?




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-30 02:41:49](#)
(no subject)

I'm

fine.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-05-30 02:45:23](#)
(no subject)

Oh God, what's happened?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-30 02:43:53](#)
(no subject)

As well as I've ever been, maybe.

One way of looking at it.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-05-30 02:47:49](#)
(no subject)

Don't you dare use Auror codes with me.

Are you WELL or are you 'fine'?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-30 03:01:59](#)
(no subject)

Not Auror code.

You'll have to wait until tomorrow to assure yourself of that, I'm afraid, but I promise that nothing could make me miss our luncheon.

For now I am going to take myself to bed.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-05-30 03:22:33](#)
(no subject)

Infuriating man.

2012-05-29 20:42:00

Private Message to Raz and Draco

Mr Pontner says it won't take too long to show us the set-up for the Third Task and go over rules and things, so if we get done early enough, I'll just come to Duelling Club when I'm done. And maybe we could talk after about how we could sort out what I need to work on.



 [alt_harry](#)

Raz, will you be in your office after, in case we do end up going late?

2012-05-29 21:25:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger



Im trying to find Milland.

its important.

 [alt_harry](#)

really really important.

Im going to the castle to see if hes in his office but if you can read this can you try to find him too?



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-05-30 01:28:28**

(no subject)

I cant pm him

I dont think hed want it

I just need to find him now?



 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-05-30 01:38:51**

(no subject)

We're all at dueling club - I was wondering what was taking you so long. What's going on? If you need help I'm going to ask Raz to stop everything and go find you.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-05-30 01:40:56**

(no subject)

hang on



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-30 01:43:22](#)
(no subject)

okay

so I was talking with Krum about stuff.

and we heard something making alot of noise in the woods by the pitch

and it was mr Crouch. The old one. And he was acting really weird and saying lots of things and he was asking for Mr Milland only he wasn't calling him Mr Milland if you know what I mean and he was all hurt and stuff so I left him with Krum and tried to find Milland only hes not in his office and maybe you could tell him to read his journal or something, Raz I mean



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-30 01:44:38](#)
(no subject)

because even if I can't find mr milland, he's really hurt and needs help and I don't know what else to do?

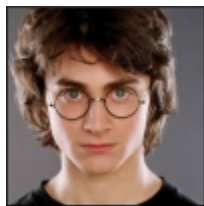


 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-30 01:53:32](#)
(no subject)

What? You mean Auror Crouch's Father? Asking for -

Oh, bloody nightshade...

Okay, I'll tell Raz.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-30 02:01:54](#)
(no subject)


Okay.

He wrote.

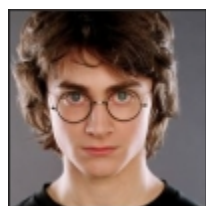
Okay.


And yeah, I don't know why he was, but I was trying to find him only he wasn't in his office or anything.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-30 02:37:42](#)
(no subject)

So what's going on now? Raz left in a hurry and he had his serious face on. I tried to come along but he wasn't having it.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-30 02:52:53](#)
(no subject)

He's dead.

Mr Crouch.

And Krum is sort of out of it and doesn't remember what happened.

Karakoff came running just as we came up. and Milland too.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-30 02:55:46](#)
(no subject)

Blimey, it's a good thing you got out of there. Sounds like Krum was obliviated or something.

Well, I'd try to keep Raz from realising that Crouch was looking for Milland before he -

Wait... you reckon he was dying when he came upon you acting all funny? Or did someone *kill* him when you left to get help?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-30 03:00:31](#)
(no subject)

I don't know.

I really don't.

I mean, whoever obliviated Krum must have done something,

because Crouch was too out of it to manage a spell.

But yeah, I won't tell he was asking for Milland. And Krum won't either, because he was also asking for Karakoff. And other things. I'll tell you once I get back.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-30 03:04:42](#)
(no subject)

Karakoff too? That's mental.

Yeah.. club's over and we're all heading back to the dorms. Meet you there soon.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-30 01:37:56](#)
(no subject)

okay.

He's not in his office.

Or at least the door is locked and he isn't answering.

I'm going to look some more.

2012-05-29 21:38:00

Private Message to Raz and Madame Pomfrey




Something's happened.

To Mr Crouch.

 [alt_harry](#)

The older one, not the younger one. He's hurt and acting really weird and I left him in the woods by the pitch with Krum taking care of him but I think he needs help?



 [alt_poppy](#) at **2012-05-30 01:52:55**
(no subject)

Bartemius Crouch? What in Paracelsus' name is he doing--

~~This isn't a pran~~

Where are you? And where am I needed?



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-05-30 01:58:17**
(no subject)


He's out in the woods by the pitch

Krum is there.

If you shout, he'll hear.

I'm just at the castle now, if you want I can show you where he is.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2012-05-30 01:54:53**
(no subject)

Barty's Father?

You're alright, aren't you? Are you in the castle?



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-05-30 01:59:18](#)**
(no subject)

I just got here, yeah


I'm okay

Just

worried about him.

I was going to go back with Madame P and show her where he was?



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2012-05-30 02:01:52](#)**
(no subject)

You're both waiting for me at the entrance before you go anywhere.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-05-30 02:02:36](#)**
(no subject)

Okay.

2012-05-29 22:41:00

Private message to Raz

Don't feel you need to answer until you've a chance. I caught a tiny bit of it, but what on earth happened?



 **alt_sinistra**


I was coming back from New London, and ran into Cedric on my way back in - he had quite a few things he wanted to ask about the third task. I'd like to consult with you on a couple, but, well, they can wait.

But then Harry comes running back up just as we were coming in the main door - looking for you and Poppy, he said - and something had clearly happened. But right at that moment, Isolde Inglebee came looking for Poppy, as Adelaide Zimmerman was having hysterics, and I went off to deal with that, once Harry said you were on your way down.

I'm back up the tower now - teaching midnight to one, but if you want company after, just let me know and I'll come down (or make yourself at home in my rooms.)

New London was fine. (Mum sends love, Gilly approves of my taking time to relax, there's yet another complication with the CCF. You could set a clock by all three. The last's manageable, thankfully.)



 **alt_rabastan** at **2012-05-30 03:14:03**
(no subject)

Barty's Father- Harry and Krum stumbled upon him after their meeting with Pontner, injured and out of it. Came to fetch me and the Matron, but when we got back, Crouch was dead and Krum was obliterated, from the looks of it.

Searching the Forest- Milland, too. Just to be sure.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-05-30 03:16:04](#)**
(no subject)

Good grief.

Want me to track down Minerva for you? Anyone else?



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2012-05-30 03:19:27](#)**
(no subject)

You don't think she's passed out for the night?

Probably should let her know, anyway.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-05-30 03:21:17](#)**
(no subject)

I'll see what I can do.

(Knew there was a reason I kept Instant-Sober potion up here.)

2012-05-30 09:08:00

Private Mesasage to Draco Malfoy

Draco,

I just wanted to tell you about something I think you should know before the whole school errupts with it. I was in the loo near the Great Hall right after breakfast, and saw a drawing about Pansy. It had her with her misfit of friends, she was sitting on a throne of some sort- very disturbing. A banner was over the top calling her "Queen of the Scumbloods". I just thought you should know. I think you are very close to her.



 [alt_ginny](#)

I tried to remove it, but it will take something stronger than a simple cleaning spell to remove. I'm sorry to be the messenger of bad news.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-30 15:46:41](#)

(no subject)

Her misfit of friends... So, your brother was in there, then?

Interesting, I suppose.

Thanks for letting me know.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2012-05-30 16:32:18](#)

(no subject)

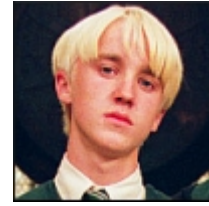
Of course he was, but I am trying not to think about his madness

2012-05-30 09:53:00

Private message to Daphne Greengrass

Daphs, I need you to do me a favour, first chance you get.

Girls' loo near the Great Hall - some kind of drawing in there about Pansy. Do whatever you can to get rid of it. I'll owe you a debt.

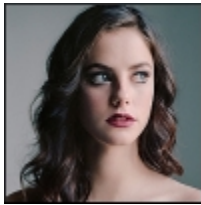


 [alt_draco](#)



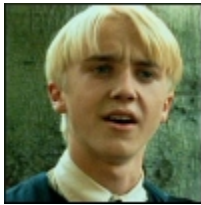
 [alt_daphne](#) at **2012-05-30 16:00:07**
(no subject)

Of course. I'll take care of it straight away.



 [alt_daphne](#) at **2012-05-30 16:16:09**
(no subject)

I'm sorry, Draco. One of the Gryffindor Prefects, Johnson - she's in there and she shoo'd me out. She's trying to clean it up but it doesn't look as if she's having much success....



 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-05-30 16:17:49**
(no subject)

Bloody brilliant.

Thanks for trying, just the same.

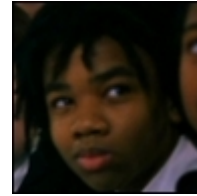
2012-05-30 10:51:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am up to No Good

There are jokes and then there's just plain nasty.

You lot all all right? Keep your chins up.

(Which is not to say Gred and Forge aren't planning a little quiet retribution, if we can find out who did it.)




 [alt_lee](#)



 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-05-30 15:58:45**
(no subject)

Maybe you should all stop talking to me.



 [alt_lee](#) at **2012-05-30 15:59:16**
(no subject)

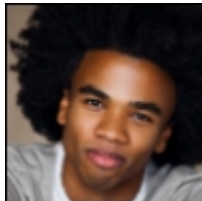
Don't get a swelled head or anything, Neville. You weren't the only person insulted.




 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-05-30 16:00:16**
(no subject)

Yeah, but maybe I'm the one with the worst reputation.


So make me a pariah and maybe they'll back off.
I'm already one anyway.



 [alt_lee](#) at **2012-05-30 16:00:45**
(no subject)

Don't be thick. And don't be a martyr.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-05-30 16:17:44](#)
(no subject)

Don't be daft, Nev.

No one's leaving you to take it all. Like that would work, anywiz.



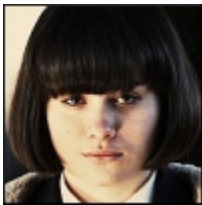
 **alt_justin** at [2012-05-30 16:18:00](#)
(no subject)

Neville,

Nonsense. That only gives whoever did this the satisfaction of a job well done.

It wasn't at all.

-Justin



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-30 16:20:51](#)
(no subject)


I had a choice to make.

And I made it.

I knew what I was doing, Neville.

...I really hate May.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-05-30 16:27:15](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I know you do.

Thanks, though.

I don't suppose coming out to pitch stones at the squid with your minions would make it better. We could take lunch out there. Show everybody exactly how much you care about that rubbish.

Um. Unless you do sort of care and don't want to make things worse.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-30 16:37:47](#)
(no subject)

I want to go back to my room and hide.


It's stupid.

They're stupid.

Whatever.

I just would rather not draw any more attention to myself today.




 **alt_ron** at [2012-05-30 16:55:14](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

All right.

Sorry.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-30 18:39:03](#)
Private Message to Ron

I wish I could just laugh it off and be brave and do whatever I wanted.

And what I would want any other day is to go on a picnic and throw rocks into the lake with my friends.

I just can't make myself smile today. And I'm tired of being brave.

You're still my friend, though.

One of the best ones I've got.

tuna brains.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-30 19:30:46](#)**

Re: Private Message to Ron

You're not letting Midgen and the rest get to you, are you? You're so much better than any of them. Than all of them together.

And I suppose Patil was writing to gloat? You saw what she said over on Midgen's thing? Yeah. What a cow.

Oh, say. I've got one for you:

Did you hear the one about the two cows?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-05-30 19:40:34](#)**

Re: Private Message to Ron

No, I haven't.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-30 19:44:25](#)**

Re: Private Message to Ron

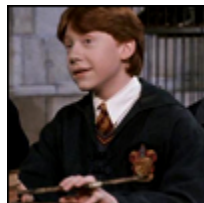
Well, just wait patil I tell you...



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-05-30 20:11:16](#)**

Re: Private Message to Ron

hah.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-30 19:56:28](#)**

Re: Private Message to Ron

Right.

Okay. I've got another one for you...

So. Did you hear what the blowsy cow said to the lousy bull?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-30 20:12:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Let me guess... "Just remember, I'm not allowed to kiss anyone ever, and I'm much more in love with Lana Sandoval than I ever would be with you."



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-30 20:19:05](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Ha! No. What she said is 'Is that you, MucSmellin?' (Get it? 'Is that your Muck smellin?' Heh.)

But I bet you're right about what she'd say if Macmillan ever tried kissing any part but her-

yeah.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-30 20:21:26](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Okay. Here's another one...
What did the nosy cow say to the noisy one?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-30 20:55:31](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

I've no idea. I guess it depends on who the nosy one is and who the noisy one is, doesn't it?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-30 21:00:48](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Heh. Yeah.
The nosy one says to the other one, 'Aren't you a a loose pigeon?'

Yeah, okay that one wasn't great. I was going to make it a 'blowsy smidgen', but that wasn't really better. Seems like it

should be easier to make fun of Midgen.

Never mind. I've got another one for you.

What's dim, dusty and full of cobwebs?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-30 21:09:45](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Oh, Ron. You really know how to make a queen feel appreciated.

And you're awful punny.

What *is* dim, dusty, and full of cobwebs?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-30 21:11:06](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

A Corner.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-30 21:11:29](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

What does a Hufflepuff do if you tell her to think for herself?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-30 21:31:41](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Explode?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-30 21:52:43](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Hahaha.

Probably.

And if you tell her not to be such a mousy eejit, she...

Begsan Moans



 [alt_ron at 2012-05-30 21:54:46](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Get it?

Megan Jones, Begs an' moans.

Yeah. That's all I've got.

At least you laughed, right?



 [alt_pansy at 2012-05-30 22:15:03](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

I did.

Thank you for helping me smile. I needed it.

You need anything? Other than a chance to hex the pants off of whoever drew it?

Patil says it wasn't her, by the way. Who can be sure, but she seemed very anxious to dodge responsibility.

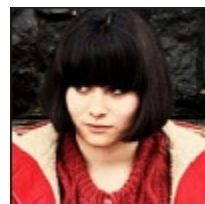


 [alt_ron at 2012-05-30 22:58:57](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Nah, I'm all right. I'm used to it, anywiz. People saying stuff about me.

And Patil's a cow, remember? Enough said?




 [alt_pansy at 2012-05-30 23:27:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

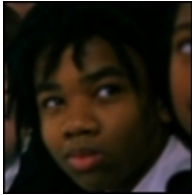
Well. You shouldn't have to be.


Because you're brilliant.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-30 16:02:11](#)
(no subject)

What's happened?




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-30 16:05:23](#)
(no subject)

Some cartoons were posted in both the boys' and girls' loo. Showed, uh, Pansy up a throne, with the characteratures of some of the rest of us around her. Sort of, uh, kneeling. And then a banner overhead.

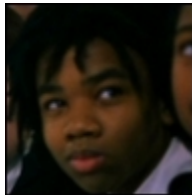
With a real nasty crack on it.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-05-30 16:06:21](#)
(no subject)

What?

Surely...they wouldn't dare call her mudblood. Would they?




 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-30 16:07:13](#)
(no subject)

Close. A variant.

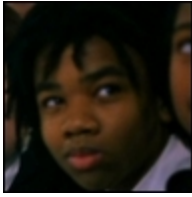
'Scumblood.'


(Sorry to repeat it, Pansy.)



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-05-30 16:08:14](#)
(no subject)

They're not particularly well drawn.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-05-30 16:08:54](#)
(no subject)

I don't think the *drawing ability* is what people particularly notice about them.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-30 19:55:32](#)
(no subject)

THIS is EXACTLY why I like you, Luna.

She's totally right. Whoever drew them got my hair COMPLETELY wrong.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-30 20:02:57](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Ha.

Um. I'm trying to cheer Pansy up by telling her lousy jokes. But I'm not sure it's working yet.

How is she?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-30 20:12:53](#)
Private message to Ron

She's really upset, actually. And trying hard not to show it.

I think what's upsetting her isn't that they went after her, but that they went after the rest of us to get at her. You know? Like that time Miss Professor Carrow made a bookshelf fall on me and I wound up in the hospital wing, and Pansy knew that really Carrow was trying to hurt HER and she knew that the absolute worst way to hurt her was to go after her friends.

It's bothering me more than it should, really. It reminds me of primary school, which was horrid.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-30 20:25:17](#)

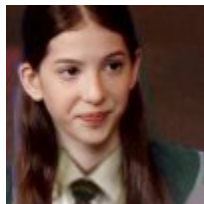
Re: Private message to Ron

Oh.

You know, I had fun in primary, but, yeah-

I know it wasn't that way for you.

But I thought it was teacher that was horrible. Were the kids awful to you, too?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-30 20:28:22](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

When the teacher's going out of her way to be awful there are plenty of kids who will, too.

Especially when the oldest kids in the room only just turned eleven.

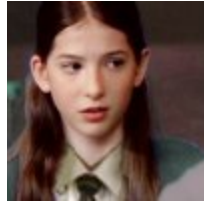


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-30 20:55:17](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Yeah, I can see how that would be true.

So do you think they've got less horrible as they've got older?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-31 00:06:10](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Some of them, yeah.

Others, well, here's the thing. The kids at my primary school weren't the rich ones or the important ones. The rich kids, and the kids with important parents, usually have private tutors. So the social order went like this: the poor purebloods were at the top of the heap, and the teacher made sure we all knew they were better than the rest of us. Then the people who were technically half-bloods but only because they weren't quite pure. Then half-bloods where the wizarding parent had gotten rid of the muggle or muggleborn parent. Then half-bloods in fostering. Then half-bloods from blood-traitor families. I wasn't quite the only one but I was close.

Anyway.

So you come to Hogwarts and it all gets shaken up, you know, because you're Sorted into Houses and all that. And I got Sorted into Slytherin, which was HARRY MARVOLO'S House, and Pansy Parkinson wanted me for a friend. And since none of the Slytherins even knew my background they were kind enough at first, and even once they all found me out Pansy liked me and everyone was at least polite to me because they didn't want to get on her bad side.

The people who were horrible to me in primary school -- well. There were two who were the worst of the worst. One got Sorted into Hufflepuff and did really poorly on her OWLs because in the end she just wasn't at ALL clever, and she didn't stay on to do NEWTs so she's not even here anymore. The other was never here at all. She turned out to be a Squib. She never showed magic and never got a letter and I don't even know what happened to her but I don't imagine it was very nice.

Sometimes I wonder what it would've been like. If we'd gone to the same one. You and me, I mean.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-30 20:29:19](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Anyway the GOOD thing about primary school is that I got really good at not showing when something was bothering me.

That's been dead useful, today.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-05-30 20:58:05](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Yeah.

Well. I haven't said anything to anyone. But I'm pretty sure people could tell I'm well cheesed

off.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-30 16:16:55](#)

(no subject)

Hello, Lee,

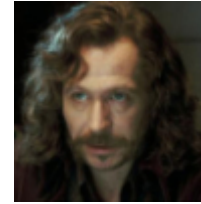
They're all over the school, what? There's one in the water closet near the Charms corridor, as well. It looks as if it had been put up rather hastily; it wasn't hard to take down, except for the banner part.

I say, they'd have to have had a number of people, whomever did it. Don't you think? So it stands to reason someone might be willing to say who's behind it.

-Justin

2012-05-30 10:53:00

Grim Truth: 95/30/5



 [alternity](#)
 [alt_sirius](#)

Greetings, British Wizarding World.

A few days ago, we all learned of the sweeping rout of an organisation that had set itself the task of bringing down the Protectorate regime. In what appears to have been an operation comprising months of work and dozens of staff, MLE managed to 'crush' most of the group that called itself the DogStar Company.

I've written before about my mixed reaction to that group and its supposed origins. It's not easy to find oneself becoming a rallying cry, especially when one's stated objectives and motives seem to have been adopted and ignored in equal measure by the group using one as its touchstone. The DogStar may have expressed sentiments many of you in the Protectorate feel and think and wonder and wish, but they spent too much time indulging their darker impulses, pursuing their goals by any means and giving too little thought to the collateral consequences of their actions. Nonetheless, the men and women of the DogStar clearly believed in their cause and in their final moments, proved their dedication to their credo. As tragic as it is to have lost so many lives, it would be more tragic still to decry them as having sacrificed in vain, or in service to a fool's notion.

Perhaps some of you reading this don't think of it as a loss. Perhaps you do think of it as ridding the country of a dangerous menace, a disruption that needed to be put down. Perhaps you were happy when you learned that the group behind the Quidditch World Cup bombing had met its inevitable sticky end. That's understandable, I suppose, especially if you lost someone there or through any of the other deeds attributed to them. But if you look more closely at who those people were, it's more sad than gratifying. Because they were, in the end, people: Mothers and husbands, sisters and sons. They were shopkeepers and teachers, office-workers and potioners. They recognised that the Protectorate is an oppressive place and they took action to overthrow the despots who created the current state. Whether we agreed with their methods or not, they did sacrifice themselves in service to an idea of a better life for us all.

Yet that sacrifice may well lead one to wonder how the DogStar could have grown so large when its values were so radical and violent. Do the sentiments espoused by its members really pervade the entire

realm? If all their members - muggles, muggleborn, witches and wizards alike - did not support those darker impulses, then how could they have joined DogStar? How could they have worked so hard for an organisation that believed it could be acceptable to set off bombs that would kill hundreds of innocents, on the chance that they might take some of their enemies with them? There are probably as many answers as there are fallen.

Of course, I can't be sure but I think that in many cases, it may be because they thought there was no alternative. It could be that the strain of living under the yoke of oppression created by the Pretender and his Death Eaters drove many to choose DogStar's plan to take desperate action over sitting back and doing nothing. Or it could be that people began to think that DogStar's methods were *necessary*, that their violence answered the cruelty of the Protectorate in a way that non-violence could not do, that they were fighting fire with fire, as it were. That it was the only way to stop the brutality of the Ministry.

Unfortunately, as we've seen over and over, losing one's scruples in the face of an enemy does little but lower oneself to the same level. Using Dark methods to fight Dark wizards only turns one into the thing one is fighting. Instead of upholding justice, the DogStar became as brutal as the Ministry, as indiscriminate and as unjust.

I can't know why they did it, but I fear that many who found themselves in DogStar may not have realised before joining how ruthless a group it was. In that respect, they may have been similar to several who initially joined Voldemort without seeing the pit into which they were about to fall. I wonder how many who still serve him have now seen that the pit has no bottom, that there are no depths to which he will not sink, and who now deeply regret their choices but believe they are unable to escape.

I wonder how many in the DogStar felt a similar way, and how many justified their actions because they were in the name of the greater good.

The difference between good and evil is not just in motivation. It's in the lines one draws and will not cross. It's in the fundamental choice to not kill, no matter the provocation, to not bring harm to innocents even if doing so would stop a thousand murderers, to refuse to cast spells that violate the basic rights of the victim, such as subverting their free will. It is in looking long and hard at what we are and are not willing to do to improve the lives of those we wish to help. It is in

continuing to seek out others with the same moral code and freely advocating to take only those actions which uphold that code. It is in relying on one another, constantly and continually, to help each other resist the temptation to resort to magic that will cause irreparable harm.

If there is a Grim Truth from the events of the last several months, it is that the surviving members of the DogStar - and anyone else who is mourning their colleagues - still have a choice. The remnants of that organisation can still remember and honour the lost by reforming to fulfill a better purpose. I urge them to re-examine their goals and the path to achieving them. I hope that they can find alternatives to wasting the human potential their former comradeship had amassed.

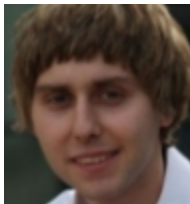


 **[alt_terry](#) at 2012-05-30 16:10:06**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

You weren't a part of them. Were you?

I can't believe you were.



 **[alt_justin](#) at 2012-05-30 16:20:50**

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

Terry,

If he had been, he'd be jolly two-faced to turn his back on them now, what?

I say, Sirius always says that he's telling the truth in these columns and I bally well believe him.

-Justin

2012-05-30 11:03:00

So Megan and I are wondering...

Who's the Queen of the Scumbloods??


Someone said there was originally a drawing that explained, but by the time we got to the loo closest to our classroom, Bundy had got rid of everything but those words.



 [alt_eloise](#)

What's a scumblood, anyway?? Is it something worse than a mudblood that we don't know about??



 [alt_megan](#) at **2012-05-30 17:09:26**

(no subject)

Ooh, maybe a scumblood is a mudblood who's really, really bad. The kind who steals magic from babies.

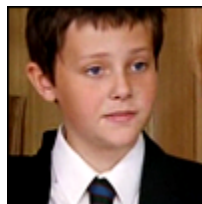


 [alt_eloise](#) at **2012-05-30 17:10:16**

(no subject)

Maybe!!

Except I thought that's what an ordinary mudblood was...



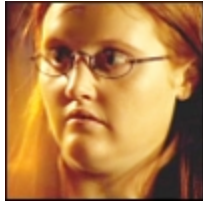
 [alt_michael](#) at **2012-05-30 17:41:16**

(no subject)

That is an ordinary mudblood.

Tamblyn says it's someone with better birth and all, who should know better, but who gads about with lowlifes.

But I think that should be a slumblood, don't you?



 **[alt_eloise](#)** at **[2012-05-30 17:46:05](#)**
(no subject)

Ooooh. Ooh!!



 **[alt_eloise](#)** at **[2012-05-30 17:46:24](#)**
(no subject)

I think I know who it's about, now.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-05-30 18:43:02](#)**
(no subject)

Aren't you the clever one?

I'd like to know who thought of it, though. No one in the Corner has any idea and usually if there's something brewing, someone there has heard a rumour even if they won't admit to knowing anything.



 **[alt_eloise](#)** at **[2012-05-30 18:46:06](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, it's pretty rare that something nasty gets said about someone and the people in the Corner don't already know all about it!!



 **[alt_ernie](#)** at **[2012-05-30 18:34:01](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I heard from Diggle that's it's someone who's so bad at magic they're practically a Squib...or someone who has a lot of Squibs in their family.

Then again, he could have been having me on.




 **[alt_eloise](#)** at **[2012-05-30 18:46:45](#)**
(no subject)

I thought someone like that was just called "squibbish"??


I think Corner's got it right, Erns.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-30 18:10:48](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Nice.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-05-30 18:13:54](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


Daft cow.

Jones, too.

And Corner's right there with them, being a complete tit.

Who's next? Bulstrode?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-05-30 20:07:50](#)**
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Daft cow is right.

Eloise Midgen is nearly as thick as Gregory Goyle, and she snorts when she laughs. As if anyone cares what she thinks.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2012-05-30 20:17:08](#)**
(no subject)

It's people being stupid berks, is what it is.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-05-30 20:35:27](#)**
(no subject)

Certainly it would be understandable if you wanted to speculate amongst your friends, *in private*, where no one would be none the wiser, but do you really have to perpetrate it here. I'm sure you didn't mean any harm, but it really isn't very courteous to the persons involved.



 **[alt_eloise](#)** at **[2012-05-30 20:37:25](#)**
(no subject)

Well it's not as if I'm the only one speculating. Look at the other journal entries if you don't believe me.

Plus we've figured out who the persons involved are. Parkinson and her mates.


Anyway, I'm not the one who wrote it!!



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-05-30 20:38:18](#)**
(no subject)

See, now that's even less courteous, bringing names into it.



 **[alt_eloise](#)** at **[2012-05-30 20:39:15](#)**
(no subject)

So??

It's not as if any of them are courteous to me.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2012-05-30 20:41:06](#)**
(no subject)

So you're only courteous to people who are courteous to you first? Well -

Yes, that's understandable. But I think you're probably imagining insults where there are none, in this case.

It isn't, after all, technically "rude" to simply pay someone no attention whatsoever.



 **[alt_eloise](#)** at **[2012-05-30 20:46:55](#)**
(no subject)

It's not technically "rude" to ask questions, either.

That's all I'm saying.

2012-05-30 11:26:00

*Private Message to Melinda Pennifold
and Gemma Bundy*

Yes, Tamblyn says they're in the boys' loos,
too. I've told Mr Milland; he didn't seem too
bent on prioritising it.

Just see if you can get them down without
causing a fuss.



 **alt_penelope**

2012-05-30 11:28:00

*Private Message to Claudius Yaxley
and Mafalda Hopkirk*



My report is on your desks.

Presume you've got Penderyn's and
Truncheon's, as well. And Forney's.

 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Plan to be out of the building this afternoon. Accessible by the usual
methods, however.

2012-05-30 12:25:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

Can Harry loan out his cloak for the rest of the day?



Just kidding.

 [alt_pansy](#)

Sort of.

It's just getting really hard to keep up a normal-looking face.



 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-05-30 16:39:05**

(no subject)

Don't let them see that they're getting to you. That's what they want, of course.

Whoever "they" are...

What do you mean "keep up" a normal looking face? Like...since this morning, you mean?



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-05-30 16:49:35**

(no subject)

I know.

It's embarrassing, and mean-spirited, and I don't guess I knew that many people disliked me quite that much, but in the grand scheme of things it's a nasty drawing on a piece of paper. That's all.

And I can say that to myself over and over, but it doesn't work. Because these past two weeks, I've been trying really hard not to think about things that would make me feel sad. And it just feels like I used all that up and I've got nothing left.

All I want to do is curl up next to you in a place where no-one's watching and not think any more about any of it.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-30 16:57:42](#)
(no subject)

So why don't you just think about them and let yourself feel sad?

I should think you're making it worse by trying to stifle it all back and not think about things.

See, I hardly ever get sad, I just get angry. Which is why if I find out who posted those drawings, they'll get a nasty surprise in the near future.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-30 18:35:15](#)
(no subject)

After the last two years, I was well sick of it.

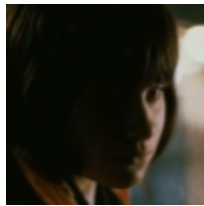
And I know it can't be all that fun to be around.


But you've got a good point.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-05-30 21:38:34](#)
(no subject)

Honestly, I'd rather you just be sad than get the feeling that.. well, that there's things you're not telling me. That you're not expressing, I mean.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-30 22:11:53](#)
(no subject)

I guess I don't tell you things sometimes because well, because I'm scared.

I love being with you, and I'm scared of ruining it, because look at me, Draco. I mess everything up.

And I really don't want to mess things up with you, and even when I try not to, something like this happens to remind me of how messy I am. And how much I don't deserve you.

I

I like you so much. I respect you. I love talking to you and being with you and snogging you and making you smile the way you do when we're alone and I want

I want to be the sort of girlfriend your parents would be happy with. But I don't know if I ever can be and it scares me because I think

I'm all jumbled up today. I'm sorry.



 **alt_draco** at [2012-05-30 22:29:24](#)
(no subject)

I like you and respect you too, Pansy. Why are you so scared of ruining things? I mean, I know you sort of... over-worry things, but honestly, I don't think there's anything to be worried about, not really. Of course my parents will be happy with you. If *I'm* happy with you then they'll have to be, too. They just haven't got used to the idea.

...There's more we should talk about, but we should probably wait til this all blows over, yeah?




 **alt_pansy** at [2012-05-30 22:44:50](#)
(no subject)

Yes. We should.

And in the meantime, I could use a hug. From my wonderful boyfriend.

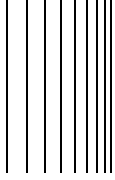


 **alt_draco** at [2012-05-30 22:50:39](#)
(no subject)

Of course. You need and deserve one, too.

Maybe two.

Meet you in the common room?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-05-30 22:56:33](#)**
(no subject)

I'll be there soon.

2012-05-30 12:41:00

Private message to Sally-Anne Perks

Miss Perks -

Should either you or Miss Parkinson want to be somewhere other than your dorms outside of class, whatever space I can offer, I'm glad to. I'll be in my office until 2, teaching 2-3, then there's the YPL counsellor meeting at 4, but you'd be welcome to make use of the classroom this evening to study or whatever's necessary.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

(And to give a public reason for this message, may I use your chart of the Northern Constellations from last year as an example for this year's 3rd years? It's quite the clearest example of what I'd like to see on the exam I've got handy.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-05-30 19:56:34**
(no subject)

Thanks.

And sure.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-05-30 20:05:52**
(no subject)

That includes any people you wish to invite, of course, within reason.

I wish I could do a bit more.

[2012-05-30 14:33:00](#)

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

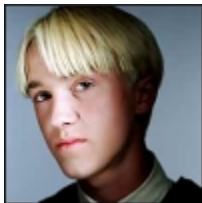
You all right, then?


I think Teddy might know something. He was doing his sly and smug bit this afternoon.

You should ask him, anyway. Maybe he heard something.



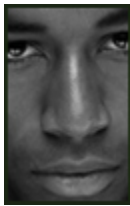
 **[alt_blaise](#)**



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-05-30 21:15:35](#)**
(no subject)

Right, cheers.

You don't know something yourself, do you?



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-05-30 21:28:17](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know anything. I've got a few guesses, though. I expect you do, too.

Thing is, those drawings may have been in poor taste, but what they were trying to say- well, you can find a lot of people here in our House who've been thinking that and not saying it.

Now it's been said.

And I'm sorry, but now I think Pansy's going to have to decide what she means to do about it.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-05-30 21:35:48](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, come on. It's not as if this hasn't come up before. And I will say what I've always said about the matter: her friends are hers to choose.

Which isn't to say I understand a thing about it.




 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-05-30 21:49:58](#)**
(no subject)

Well, yes. I suppose they are hers to choose.

Like Daphs and Bole.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-05-30 21:59:35](#)**
(no subject)

Isn't that comparison a bit much?

Longbun and Looney aren't going to give Pansy a smack -

but it's true I don't *get* what she sees in them. Sally Anne's fine, and Weasley can be semi-competent when he puts his mind to it, but how did Longbun and Looney even get in the mix? I thought they were just Weasley's, you know, Gryffindor charity project, but when she made that post about a "summer with her friends" and then named Sally Anne, Weasley, and *Longbun*?

She doesn't even see Weasley and Longbun that often. What's that about?

Sorry, I know you have no clue. Just thinking aloud.



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2012-05-30 22:19:45](#)**
(no subject)

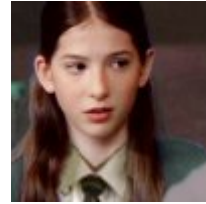
Certainly, there's a difference. Pansy's mistake is costing her respect, whereas Bole was not our sort in another way, but it took longer for anyone--even Daphs--to realise it because, really, Bole was entirely suitable as far as his family's concerned. But then, it's so much clearer in Pansy's case that it's really baffling how she can go on not seeing it.

But what I meant in comparing them is simply that it's one thing to let people you care about make choices like that, and

||| you're right that it's their choice, but when it's not good for
||| them, there's a time, finally, when you can't just stand by.
||| Because then it's on you as well.

2012-05-30 14:59:00

I Solemnly Swear that I am Up to No Good: Private message to Pansy



 **alt_sally_anne**

Professor Sinistra said if we want to come hide in her classroom to revise this evening we're welcome.

I don't know.


On one hand I want everyone to see that I don't care what they think. I'm good at looking like I don't care, if I want to.

On the other hand, when I was in primary school, sometimes it was best to show them they'd gotten to you, just a little. You had to be careful. If you cried, that made things worse. But if you really looked like you didn't care, sometimes that ALSO made things worse because they were bound and determined to get to you. So I'd show a reaction, a small one, so they'd know they'd hurt my feelings and they'd be satisfied and move on.

It might be better for all of us if we DO hide out in Professor Sinistra's classroom this evening. Whoever did it will know they got to us but hopefully they'll think 'lesson learned' and they'll leave you alone.

But I'd rather look like I don't care.



 **alt_pansy** at **2012-05-30 20:15:45**

(no subject)

I just don't want people looking at me any more today.

You are good at looking like you don't care.

Right now I really am not. At all.

How many people did it take to put those up?

Ugh.

Ugh ugh ugh.

I'm sorry.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-30 20:23:26](#)
(no subject)

We'll go this evening, then. She said we could bring others (within reason) if anyone else wants to come.

It probably wasn't just one but it wasn't dozens,


either.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-30 20:23:48](#)
(no subject)

And why are you sorry? You don't have anything to be sorry for.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-05-30 21:01:15](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry I keep dwelling.

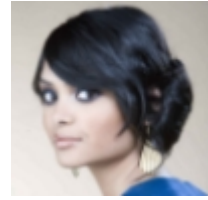
I just think it's ridiculous that people can't see how wonderful you are.

They're all idiots.

2012-05-30 15:03:00

Private Message to Pansy

Just so you know, I really don't have any idea who did it. And I'm sorry that it had to happen at all, but especially this week. Or well, you know what I mean. This time of year.



 [alt_padma](#)

I saw the drawing, before Anderson got it down off the wall. It was well horrid. (Well, except that whoever drew Ron made his ears look hilarious. Sorry, but it's true. Oh, and Longbottom's buck-teeth were sort of grotesque. But then they are, aren't they? I mean, objectively?)

I think whoever did it might have assumed Seamus or me or Lav would get blamed but we decided last year that you've a right to pick your friends, even if they're nobodies.

I mean, look at Daphs. No one takes the mick out of her because she keeps Milli around and everyone knows it's so Daphne looks even cleverer and prettier by comparison. But Milli's loyal to Daphs and I think they honestly do like each other. And I know it's the same for you and your mates--that you like each other, I mean, not that you picked them because they show you off to good advantage.

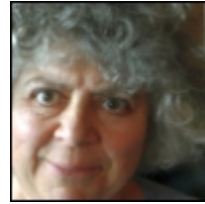
Anyway. Just wanted to say. I'm sorry everyone's laughing at you. I hope you find a way to get them back.

2012-05-30 15:05:00

Hufflepuffs

House meeting before supper, please. 5:30 in the common room.

Please be prompt and we'll keep it brief.

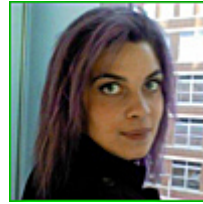


 **alt_pomona**

2012-05-30 16:31:00

Happy Returns

One year ago today was Albia Carina Ponds' first day in the world. And do you know what? The whole world has changed just because she's in it.



 **alt_nymphadora**

She's the best thing ever!

We're having a bit of a celebration here today. So far, I think we've needed four changes of clothes for Miss Bea. She believes fairy cakes and pumpkin juice are this season's new fashion statement. She's tried them in several combinations. Very avant garde splatter art.

And she's decided that napping is too babyish for such a grown up girl. Apparently, I'm certain that's what she was telling me each time I tried to put her in her cot.

I've no idea where she got that opinionated part of her personality from.



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2012-05-30 21:46:19**

Order Only

There. It took me forever to write that much.

Only, every time I look at Bea today, I think about Norma Brownmiller and her baby. At least she and her husband- I should remember what he's called, but bless me I don't-

At least the Brownmillers had a plan. They'd talked about what he'd do if she didn't come back. And they had a way to signal that she'd been killed.

And we've been going along, not talking about that.

I don't mean we've been careless. Or not minding the risks we're taking. We do. And we know that some of what we're doing does involve risks.

What I mean is, we haven't talked about what it would mean for Bea if one of us--or two of us--were arrested or killed or simply couldn't ever come home somehow. What would we want the others to do?

What would we want them to tell Bea when she's older? What would I want her to have of mine.

You know?

And I've just been weepy all day. And she wouldn't take a nap so I could have a cry and have done with it.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-05-30 22:18:00](#)

Re: Order Only

Well, hopefully now that you've got company, we're helping your mood instead of hurting it.

And don't you worry, Kevin will tire us all out, and we'll have to take a nap before dinner at this rate.

Did you see how he was calling out the different colours that Bea's hair was turning? I think he's found his new favourite person.

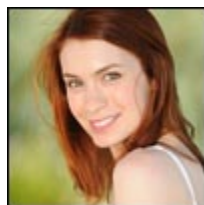


 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-30 22:26:50](#)

Re: Order Only

Ha. Well, she does like to do that. Especially if she's got an audience.

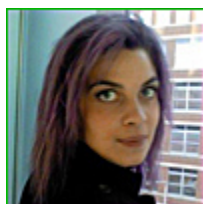
If he's not careful, he'll be her new boyfriend before long. Last bloke who turned her head like that was Rigel LeStrange.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-05-30 22:37:58](#)

Re: Order Only

Oooh! Well don't you know, the boy from the wrong side of town always wins.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-30 22:43:16](#)

Re: Order Only

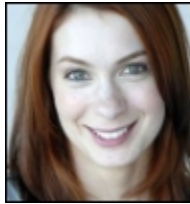
I think you may have something there.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-30 23:44:17](#)
Order Only

Ellie seems rather taken with little Will. It's very sweet.

Are you keeping an eye out, though? I'm not sure she'd know what to look out for with him.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-05-30 23:49:58](#)
Re: Order Only

Don't worry, love, I'm keeping an eye on them. As is a particular canine.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-31 04:13:40](#)
Re: Order Only

Thanks, Allie. For bringing Will. He's grown so much! I mean to say, they do that, of course. But it's ... good to see him looking so healthy.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-30 23:32:36](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I forgot!

I'll have to see if I can make a card tonight. I think I have time, but she won't notice it's late, will she?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-05-30 23:40:44](#)
(no subject)

No worries. You're perfectly right. Bea won't think she should only have letters on her birthday.

Besides, if you send her a card that arrives later, it will make that day special, too.

She'd be very glad to hear from you.

What about you, then? I expect you've got a lot to think about with end of term exams and last assignments and the rest. I remember feeling as if my brain might explode this time of year. (I hope it's not so bad for you.)

And what about the third task? I read that it was announced last night that there will be a maze and magical challenges blocking the champions' way through. Sounds very exciting.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-05-30 23:47:26](#)**
(no subject)

Well, then I'm glad. I don't have any old toys to send along time time, I'm afraid.

Yes, exams start on Monday, and it doesn't seem nearly far enough away. But I know that I'll do better than last year, at least.

It sounds as if you know as much about the third task as we do. I think they told the Champions a little more, so they could prepare, but I don't know what they were told, exactly. Are you and Mr Ponds going to be able to come to the school and watch?

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-05-31 02:52:16](#)**
(no subject)


I think a card will be every bit as good as a toy. She still has the Sing-Ami and the origami rabbit you sent before. Well, *I* have the origami rabbit and am keeping it for her for when she's old enough not to chew on it. But she loves the Sing-Ami beyond all things.

And, then, of course, she's just unwrapped several new toys today. So, you see, she doesn't need anything, but it will be very nice to be able to read her your card and remind her about your visit and all about you.

Do you happen to have a picture of yourself? I think she'd like to see a picture. She's so young, you know, that she forgets sometimes when she doesn't see someone for a long time. Like Cousin Ponds, who comes once in a while to visit, but Bea knows her now because we look at her picture nearly every day and talk about the times when she's come to stay with us. It helps keep her memories there in her head.

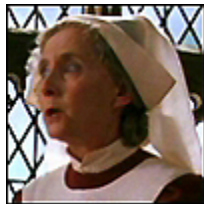
I'm not sure whether we'll be able to come for the Task. I understand there's to be a lottery for tickets. For the general public, you know. But I imagine we'll put our names in so we could come if we're lucky and get selected.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-31 03:25:33](#)

Order Only

The family dog will be at the Task, anyway.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-05-31 03:52:22](#)

Re: Order Only

Sirius. I apologise for having been unable to answer you last night. I was interrupted by some quite sobering business.

It did involve Mr Marvolo, but aside from being agitated by the situation, he was entirely well. Not harmed in any way.

I wish I could say as much for Bartemius Crouch, who met an unpleasant end out in the forest last night.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-05-31 03:56:07](#)

Re: Order Only

Grouch is dead?

Narcissa Malfoy must be beside herself. Who will she drag to the opera, now that he's gone?

But - how was Harry involved? Was someone trying to get at

him and Farty got in the way? Best thing he ever did, if that's it.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-05-31 04:16:58](#)

Re: Order Only

Ah, no.

I wasn't clear. Mr Crouch the Elder fell dead of a massive seizure of the brain.

As I understand it, Mr Marvolo and Mr Krum were merely returning from the Quidditch pitch via the outskirts of the forest, when they heard something within that attracted their attention, after which, they were met by Mr Crouch in his last moments of life. By the time help was raised, he was dead.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-31 18:30:13](#)

(no subject)

Sorry I didn't get back to you last night, but I had to look for a picture. I do have one, but it's an older one. I look a little different now, but she probably won't notice. I'll send it off with the card when I'm finished with lunch.

Well, I hope you get lucky. It'd be nice to see you there. But if you don't, then maybe this summer?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-05-31 03:49:20](#)

Order Only

My very best wishes to Miss Albia Ponds.

I daresay that most of us accomplish more in our first year, in the way of learning, assimilating, growing, and forcing change upon all around us, than in any other single year of life.

My congratulations to the birthday girl for having lived up to that duty!



 **[alt_nymphadora](#) at 2012-05-31 17:51:48**

Re: Order Only

Thanks, Madam P.

I hadn't thought about that, but it must be true. I don't think we'll tell Bea that every year from here on will be less exciting than this first one, though!

And she has certainly kept our lives exciting. And sometimes more than that.



 **[alt_molly](#) at 2012-05-31 13:59:54**

Order Only

I hope you received my owl in time. It's so hard to guess exact sizes for one year olds, but I used a yarn that's quite forgiving if you either need to shrink or expand the sweater. Happy birthday to Bea, and congratulations to you both on your one year anniversary of being parents. It's quite a ride, isn't it?



 **[alt_nymphadora](#) at 2012-05-31 17:49:01**

Re: Order Only

Thank you, Molly. Yes, the parcel came yesterday.

The sweater's perfect. By which I mean, it's ever so slightly too big now, but that only means she's got loads of room to grow, especially if we'll be able to use an easing charm as she gets bigger.

I hope you're holding up. Are you still going back and forth to the safehouse? How are they doing, would you say?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-06-01 00:33:33](#)

Re: Order Only

Yes, I stopped in again today, although I have to take care to be home again before Percy gets home. Rory's the dearest little boy. It does quite break my heart when he cries for his mum, but I've managed to distract him a bit.

Scott's come more out his shell today, I think, although I'm not sure what he and Kingsley talked about, since I was busy with the boy. It's obvious that for now he's immensely relieved to be safe. For the time being.

Arthur hasn't dared visiting again. We just don't want to take the risk.

[2012-05-30 17:32:00](#)

Private message to Effs



 **[alt_hydra](#)**

Hi.

I've been listening to people whisper about Pansy and Sally Anne and Ron and Neville and Luna all day. I'm trying to figure out why it matters. They go to school here too, so why should it matter if Pansy's friends with all of them? It shouldn't matter, of course.

I don't think people *would* care, if they didn't notice, but Pansy makes sure that they do. When she wrote after the Dogstar arrests, it seemed like a little bit of a challenge to the people who were giving Neville and Ron dodgy looks. Neville because of his parents, and Ron - well, because of his parents, too. You probably know by now that some people think they're took soft for purebloods. And by writing what she wrote, it was almost as if she said "I'd rather be with them than any of you." Even if she didn't say that at all, it's clear now that people took it that way.

I understand how she feels, but...

I don't know if I could do that. Say something so bold and so public. It's just not the way that I am.

Do you hate me for it?



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-05-31 00:37:10](#)**

(no subject)

Hallo.

No, I don't hate you, silly. If I did, I had bally well better back out of moving here, what!

But Pansy... Pansy's a very Dramatic person, isn't she? She doesn't do things by half-measures, for one. For another, she seems to have to express every feeling she has, all the way to the tips of her fingers and toes. Between you and me, I find it well exhausting. I rather prefer to simply get on with things, what?

I've half a feeling she makes stands like that to call attention more to herself than the people she champions. I say, I do think her heart's in

the right place but--well. As I say, I find her a little tiresome, now and then.

It's difficult, though, because I quite like Sally-Anne. And Ron and Luna. And Neville's actually quite a good chap, as well. But she does seem to attract more attention than any of them would wish for on their own.

So on the whole, I'm well glad you're more sensible, really. And more subtle.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-31 02:48:47](#)
(no subject)

You prefer to get on with things - that's very British of you, really. And quite French of her to not, isn't it?

I just thought you might want me to be the sort of person who took a bold stand about things.

But then you're pretty cautious yourself, so I don't know why I thought that.

I suppose that I just feel bad for Pansy, but at the same time, I feel like she ought to have known better. It wasn't very Slytherin at all.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-31 03:14:14](#)
(no subject)

Well, as I understand things, this is not an easy time of year for her, and whether it is or isn't, those cartoons certainly weren't half cruel. They'd be inappropriate at any time. So yes, I well sympathise with her finding herself at the centre of such controversy but it's quite true that she put herself there deliberately.

But I feel just as badly for Luna, Neville, Ron and Sally-Anne, what?

Oh, speaking of becoming properly British, what do you think it means that Remy's parents have offered to be my foster-family? (I say, I'd almost begun to think we'd get 'round that, dash it.)

-Justin



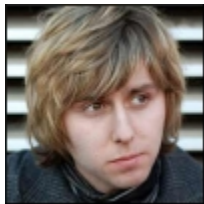
 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-05-31 03:24:58](#)**
(no subject)


I think it's because that this is the time of year that Regulus died, my cousin. They were close, though I didn't really ever understand why.

Yes, I feel badly for them, too. They get it bad enough as is.

Well, Mummy's always sneered about the Jugsons a little. She does that with a lot of people, but in this case I get the sense that she sees them as a little below the Blacks and Lestranges and Malfoys and Rosiers, and probably as social climbers, too. Because their history isn't as established, but they became a lot more respected when they became connected with the Lestranges. She likes to remind them of who they were before, and that they haven't been important for that long compared to us.

So if I had to say, I think they might want to look like Model Protectorate Citizens, by volunteering for the Fostering programme.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-05-31 03:40:01](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, quite.

I must admit, I'm a bit concerned about all the parchment Gringott's wants to set up my funds. And the idea that they'll be able to set an allowance out of it. Particularly if they're social climbers, what?


I don't suppose there's a choice (well, of course there is but I hope you follow me). I'm also well undecided which government to ask him to contact on behalf of my mother. I don't fancy sending her to South Africa or the Argentine but he didn't offer Canada or the United States. I think the best I can do is pick off

the list he supplied. I say, I beg your pardon; I don't mean to sound ungrateful about it but--well. South Africa, I mean to say. It's not what one would call safe, perhaps more now than even a few years ago.

What does your father think of them? The Jugsons? I mean to say, if one decided to follow your mother's tastes one should have no friends at all, what?

-Justin



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-05-31 04:06:34](#)**
(no subject)

I'm afraid I don't know very much about South Africa or the Argentine, other than they're awfully far away. I'm sorry that the options are so poor.

I think Daddy gets on with Uncle Janus quite well but they don't go out of their way to socialise one-on-one all that often. At gatherings and such they drink too much together, though, along with a few of the other men. I don't hear him say insulting things about the Jugsons the way Mummy does, but then, his Mother was a Jugson. She died about five years ago. I always thought she was rather sweet, but she didn't really listen and seemed in her own world. She seemed ages older than Nanella, for some reason.

Oh, Daddy did once say that Auntie Camille was frumpy and bland. She's definitely not in Auntie Narcissa's social circles, either. And when he's been drinking I've seen Uncle Janus look at her a little regretfully, I think.

And Remy... he can be a lot of fun but he's sort of a trouble-maker, you know. I don't think he means to be, he just doesn't think sometimes. Alfie can be sort of awful, though. But you're much bigger than he is, so I don't think there's much to worry about.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-31 04:25:38](#)
(no subject)

No, I don't expect you to know anything about other countries; it's all right. I suppose I could recommend Norway only I know Mother doesn't like the cold.


I wonder how expensive the Virgin Islands are?

I say, they sound delightful, when described like that. Ah, well. It's only for a year, what, and someone recently told me one can bear anything if it's necessary.

I can't look at these bally old financial parchments another moment or my eyes will surely cross permanently. We should get some sleep. Sweet dreams, Dux.

-Justin




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-05-31 04:31:02](#)
(no subject)

~~Why are they called Virgin~~ I suppose that if you bought some islands, it would be a way to invest your money so that no one else got to it. Not that I believe you for a second.

Good night, Justin.

Love,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-05-31 04:35:09](#)
(no subject)

To *live* there, goose, how expensive are they to *live* there?

(I've not got *that* much money! I hope you don't hate me for not being quite as rich as your family or the Malfoys. And unless the Jugsons are as generous as Mr Rosier believes they will be, I shall probably be quite a deal poorer

| | | | | than I'm accustomed to being for a while.)

| | | | | Good night, sweetheart.

| | | | | -Justin

2012-05-30 19:15:00

Order Only: Quiet day

Frank apparated back this morning, armed with a platter of Victor's pancakes. We'd hoped to do some debriefing this morning, but Scott soon fell asleep again, practically with his face in his plate, and when we half-carried him back to bed, he slept most of the day away. Guess he was really exhausted.



 [alt_kingsley](#)

Molly came around eleven to entertain Rory. Arthur, the woman's a wonder. She always knows what's the right thing to do. After three days of sleep the boy was up bright and early this morning, as lively as a sackful of pixies, but she was up to the challenge. She sat right down on the floor and conjured toys for him that marched around the room and glittering balls that spun in the air, and she helped him build towers of blocks and knock them down. After a break for sandwiches, she pulled a miniaturized rocking chair out of her pocket, tapped it with her wand to expand it to useable size, and then took him into her lap. He cried for his mother then, the poor kid, but she just hushed him and rocked him and sang to him softly. Scott lay on the cot to one side with his back toward us, and I wondered that she didn't take the boy into another room, but then I saw the man's shoulders shaking. Molly saw it too. She looked at me over Rory's head and then raised her voice a little as she crooned, *there now, there now. All will be well and all will be well.* And I understood why she stayed.

Scott got up again later to have tea and then he was finally ready to talk a bit. He had half-wondered if we were part of a different Dogstar cell, and was quite surprised to learn that we weren't. He fenced with Molly, Frank and me for a good half hour, obviously mulling over whether he could trust us. But his wife's death seems to have broken something loose in him, and perhaps in the end he reasoned he had no choice. As I had sensed, he was ready to talk.

He was never a member. But he knew what the risks were, as he and Norma had made the decision together that she should join. She had to swear her vow before Procyon, the legilimens protecting the Alpha, who tested all potential members for deception. The vow was serious; they didn't mess around. It included a promise to keep their secrets, and to commit suicide--or to kill other members of the cell, if necessary--to keep their information secure.

They wanted Norma for her 'in' with her department at the Ministry, of course. Her cell was specifically camp-related. Dogstar's long-range goal for cells like hers was to prepare for a day when there could be coordinated camp uprisings timed to coincide with civil rebellion or a coup.

Frank and I talked a bit about it afterwards. You know, whereas we've been working on extracting people out of the camps and into the Sherwood operation, it seems to us that Dogstar may have a relatively extensive network inside the camps. Sure, the Sherwood Band does have ties inside the camps, too, but developing an organisation on the inside hasn't been their primary goal. But maybe, if there are any vestiges of these intracamp networks that weren't uncovered in the arrests, it might be possible for us to hook up with them now. Especially if they've been cut off from their leadership?

Frank and I didn't press Scott about future plans today. It's too soon, and he's just not ready. We'll see what tomorrow brings. I hope at least he can give us a better picture of how the various layers of the conspiracy worked. More information than the bits the Prophet has been grudgingly doling out.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-05-31 03:32:45](#)**
(no subject)

I wish I could offer to come and have a look at the two of them, but it's simply not possible at the moment. As always happens this time of year, everyone here seems to be going to bits at once. Plus a few who don't belong here.

At any rate, your report on the boy pleases me, especially the way he played with Molly. It does not sound as if there is anything to worry about in the way of residual effects of his extended period under cognition-altering spells.

As for the father, I don't suppose you have any of Mrs Merriweather's Moodlifter? Or even any Pepper Up, which, while not designed for what ails him, might help with the most draining, dragging of his symptoms.

I think you've done well by him so far, allowing him to sleep and then soothing him with tea and sufficient meals. Tomorrow, however, your

strategy should be different. Assuming he sleeps soundly tonight, you oughtn't allow him to sleep for long portions of the day from here on. He will undoubtedly still feel very low and tired, but you mustn't let him sink into using sleep as a way to hide from the world.

I trust it doesn't need saying, but do resist the temptation to share anything alcoholic with him. Tea is just the thing, really. Stick with that.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-06-01 02:28:27](#)

(no subject)

He did better today. He was up early and although he's still subdued, he isn't pulling the covers over his head and trying to avoid the world.

Molly was over again today, too, taking care of Rory as Scott and I talked. The boy did have a restless night--some nightmares. A bit too much upheaval in his world, poor kid.

Scott's trying to remember and write down everything he can think of that he gleaned from Norma. It's not much. She took that vow of secrecy seriously. But he might come up with some thread, some detail that we can use to hook up with the remnant of the network.

If there's anybody left.

One of the things troubling him the most is the gnawing question about how she died. Was it quick, a suicide? Or a mercy stroke by a co-conspirator?

Or did she die in pain, even under torture?

I can't give him any answers, and of course I wouldn't insult him by pretending that I can.

2012-05-31 08:48:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_pansy](#)

I thought that I was doing the right thing the other day, but it drew all sorts of attention to all of you instead of making things better, awful attention, and it was something I did that set it all off, and I'm sorry for it.

What's mad is that we've been around one another since first year, Sally-Anne and Ron and Neville and me. And even though we don't usually parade it around and talk about it loads where people can see, everyone who knows us at all knows that we're all friendly. They may not understand it, but they know it. I suppose I thought it was dealt with back in second year and didn't bother people as much because it'd been so long. And the fact that it does bother people is ridiculous. And we shouldn't have to keep ourselves from talking where people can see. But apparently it does, and we do.

I just guess some people don't like being reminded of it, and wanted to let everybody know they didn't think it was right.

Neville, I hope things haven't gotten worse for you. Maybe being lumped in with all of us wasn't all that bad of a thing, but still.

I guess what I'm trying to say is that I thought things were different, and I'm sad they're not. And even though I don't always say it where people can see, I still mean it. And I could've handled things a bit better yesterday, and I'm sorry for that too. That's all.

2012-05-31 11:07:00

The Third Task

We got showed the entrance to the maze the other day. I'm not sure how much everyone else is going to be able to see, because it looks awfully high, but maybe they'll have pictures like they did for the underwater one. We have to shoot off red sparks in the air if we get in trouble.



 [alt_harry](#)

I've been practising, but it's sort of hard to figure out what exactly to practise for. But I guess that's sort of the point. At least we don't have breathing underwater on top of everything.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-05-31 15:13:25**

Private Message to Raz

So

I'm not sure what all I should or shouldn't say. About what happened.

But I know Krum hasn't said anything either.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-05-31 15:29:25**

Re: Private Message to Raz

I mean. I'm not going to say anything. Of course.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2012-05-31 23:44:05**

Re: Private Message to Raz

Why? Has someone been asking you about it?

And don't worry about the practice. It would be impossible to fully prepare for every possibility, so we'll focus on what's most likely. They're keeping me in the dark on what's in the maze, for obvious reasons, but I have some good guesses. There will most certainly be a challenge related to a creature of some kind, probably a plant-based challenge as well,

along with several physical obstacles and probably a puzzle or two.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-31 23:58:50](#)

Re: Private Message to Raz

No. No-one has. I haven't really seen anybody talking about it at all, like in the papers or the journals or anything, so I sort of figured I ought to not blab about it.

Did you sort out who killed him?

I'm really bad at puzzles. I'm not sure I'll get any better. But I can read up on plants.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-06-01 02:30:43](#)

Re: Private Message to Raz

They're not talking about it because he wasn't killed, Harry. I thought the Matron might have told you but I suppose she's been busy herself. He died of a brain seizure- a stroke. And after checking his wand we learned that he was the one who obliviated Viktor Krum, too. I'm sure it sounds strange to you, but people can do funny things when they have a stroke. That's how my own Father went, and he could barely speak, his words were all wrong. It's like a violent storm in the mind that sweeps through and rearranges everything...

It's still a bit mysterious why he came to the castle- if he was just addle-headed or if he was after something in particular... so if anyone starts asking you questions about it, be sure to let me know.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-06-01 02:52:32](#)

Re: Private Message to Raz

Oh.

Okay.



 **[alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-31 15:14:40](#)**

Private Message to Pansy and Sally-Anne

People are idiots.

Sorry about yesterday. That can't have been fun.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-05-31 17:11:56](#)**

Re: Private Message to Pansy and Sally-Anne

Thanks.



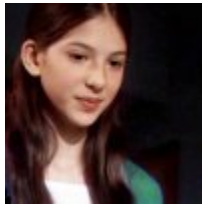
 **[alt_harry](#) at [2012-05-31 19:16:26](#)**

Re: Private Message to Pansy and Sally-Anne

Also.

I was sort of talking with Krum.

And if there's anything you need this summer, you know, with the Strettons and all, just let me know.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-06-01 02:36:12](#)**

Re: Private Message to Pansy and Sally-Anne

Thanks.

I guess the one good thing about yesterday was it actually had me looking forward to summer hols.

[2012-05-31 11:21:00](#)

Private Message to Barty Crouch, Jr.

Did you sleep at all last night?

I hope one of us could do.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)**

Now, don't fuss. I've talked to Ardenia and she's going to send you her very best. His name's Gaheris Gaffert and you're not to torment him; he's coming tomorrow to help you and he'll return on Saturday as well to make sure the final touches are right. Ardenia assures me he's discreet and more to the point, bearable. So bear it. I've asked Ned to make sure your calendar is clear tomorrow afternoon.

It's ... a lot to take in, Barty. It's a lot for you to have been through, as well.

Shall you talk to Mafalda about taking some time or must I?



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2012-05-31 17:53:57](#)**
(no subject)

...



 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2012-05-31 17:55:48](#)**
(no subject)

I said don't fuss, dear.




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-31 18:19:23](#)
(no subject)

Yes. All right re. Gaffert.

You're that worried I'd come to your award ceremony looking unsuitable? I do think I'm capable of dressing myself, but it's not worth fighting over.

You'll be glad to know I approved what Ned's written for the Prophet re. father. He nixed my suggestion that it close with 'No memorials, no condolences per request of survivor. Violators will be summarily executed.'



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-05-31 18:39:28](#)
(no subject)

You're underestimating what he's there to do, Barty. It's not the robes I'm worried about.

It's commentary like that. *Let* him relax you. You're wound tighter than Foucault's pocketwatch. Small wonder, I know, but -


Besides, it's not my award ceremony. It's Our Lord's.

You see? Darling, you don't even know which way you're pointed at present. And I can't ~~talk to~~

Well. I can't stand the thought you might 'summarily execute' someone for blinking the wrong way at you. It's beyond endearing right round into disturbing.

You're going to be on a stage whether you like it or not. Let's focus on getting through it with the people none the wiser, yes?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-31 19:16:08](#)
(no subject)

So. Gaffert's the master chef. And I'm the boar's head that needs dressing before it's paraded around the hall.

Fine. Yes. He may do whatever's needed.

And I will play my part.

I know a thing or two about acting, you know. And have had considerable practice.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-05-31 19:42:14](#)
(no subject)

If the analogy helps you to submit, dear.

And if acting is what you need to do, then yes.

But not with me, please. It's unbelievably wearying. And worrisome.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-05-31 19:52:50](#)
(no subject)

Not with you.

You didn't think yesterday was from a script, did you?

If it were, at least I'd know who to sack for writing such bloody nonsense.

Merlin, Reg would have loved my family's story. If only it had been written by some sixteenth-century Spaniard.

I am going to have to see Bale, you realise, but I'm waiting until Our Lord's ceremony is over before I allow myself that. Another homicide to my credit before Saturday might be difficult to tidy up.

Not acting. See?

2012-05-31 19:14:00

Private Message to Campanella Wright

I shouldn't be writing this, I know it, but I can't think what to do, and I'm really afraid I'm going to ruin my role.



 [alt_lana](#)

I just feel ill. My heart is literally racing. I'm sorry if my writing's difficult.

Only, he's married. Naufragous Green. And his wife expects-

I've tried saying I'm feeling ill, but you know it's been since Saturday, and I guess they're accustomed to have *relations* several times a week.

She just touches me. Well, touches him, but it's me. And I/he

I can't even talk about it.

I know I'm being an idiot.

I know this is my job. It's only a job.

But it makes me dizzy it's so unpleasant. I mean, all of it is awful. He is. I mean his arms and hands and feet and all of him.

My pseudos were women before, and it wasn't like this. I didn't mind it.

And those people didn't have families. Wives.

I don't know how Mr Crouch did it. And, no, obviously I can't ask him. I know you won't tell him.

You won't right? I mean, I'm not in danger. Really. I'm not asking to be extracted. Not at all.

Only, how did he manage having a wife who wasn't- who was someone he didn't even know, but who expected to be intimate?

Actually. I guess I do know how. But she was such a wreck between the memory charms and Imperius, it just seems too awful.

Really, you won't tell anyone I'm going to pieces about this, will you?

I've got to go back to the table now. I told her we ought to go down the local tonight and listen to the Quidditch on the wireless there. At least there's a crowd.

Can you think of anything I could do that might help? I'll check back here as soon as I can.

2012-05-31 23:11:00

Order Only: Progress

Ellie's asleep so I can risk changing back for a few hours.



 [alt_sirius](#)

Poppy: I've been thinking about your report on Barty Crouch, Sr. What in Merlin's name was he *doing* at Hogwarts? Has anyone figured that out?

And Kingsley, Molly: I don't think I've any good advice for you. You seem to be doing well enough with them. Keep at it, I suppose, until he can decide what's best for him and the boy.

I thought I'd let everyone know: I watched Ellie read my Grim Truth today. She waited until Remus was in the front of the shop and Dora was upstairs. She was in the kitchen to put together tea and as she was waiting for the kettle, she took a long, guilty look out at the shop, to make sure Remus wasn't going to come back soon. She pulled out her journal and flipped to my pages.

I know it was mine, in fact, because she pointed it out to Sinbad. 'Don't tell,' she said, 'No one's supposed to read his. He's meant to be bad. But he's not.'

She reads quite slowly and occasionally I could see her lips move. I think she had to re-read some of the sentences to make sense of them. (Perhaps I ought to think about writing to a lower comprehension level.) But something I wrote made her blink away tears. I didn't think it was that awful, personally.

She stopped herself crying, though, and put the journal away and fussed about with the tea. 'Honour the lost,' she said under her breath, 'by fulfilling a better purpose.' Then she patted Sinbad on the head. 'Right now my better purpose is Mr Ponds' tea, innit?' and that's when she put the tray together for you, Moony.

I wonder if she knew someone in the camps who'd been part of DogStar.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-06-01 13:20:29](#)**
(no subject)

I imagine that must have been very satisfying, Sirius. To actually see someone in your intended audience responding to your writing that way.

I'm pleased to hear that there seems to be some of the potential we hoped for in Ellie, and that you're seeing signs that she's certainly not swallowing all of the regime's propaganda. Time will tell if she can gradually be trusted enough that you can be more honest and open with her.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-06-01 13:21:48](#)**
(no subject)

That's right! We never mentioned it, but Terry just lived for your Grim Truth posts. And he wrote back to you, too, commenting on the posts using our Lock, even though he knew you'd never be able to read it. But he still needed to write it, to tell you he believed you, and he'd give anything to be able to tell you how much your words meant to him. We think they really helped him hang on during the worst days.

And he's just one person. There are countless others like him, no doubt.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-06-01 15:24:31](#)**
(no subject)

Ta, lads.

By the way, do you happen to know if the letter I sent for him made it through?

(And have I met that little scops owl before? He seemed familiar.)



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-06-01 14:03:07](#)**
(no subject)

I wish I'd been able to spend more time getting to know her, but she took quite a shine to Will.

know? I wonder. Did she have any younger siblings, do you



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-06-01 15:25:00](#)**
(no subject)

No idea. Maybe Dora can find out.