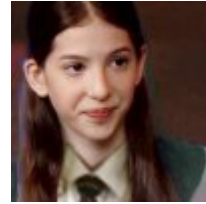


2012-07-01 09:22:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good




 **alt_sally_anne**

I'd rather hoped the Strettons would have got less cross while I was off at school but they're still furious. Pansy told you I wasn't locked in a closet or anything, right? But they took my journal away and only gave it back today because I have to leave tomorrow for the YPL camping trip. The one the younger students go on, that I'm a counsellor for.

At least between helping with YPL and having my own YPL trip and the CCF I won't be here all that much this summer.

And hey, Hydra. Welcome. Sorry I couldn't write back when you first joined. Are you finding the reading interesting? I hope I didn't ever say anything unkind about you back before I knew you better.



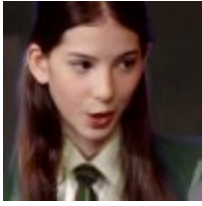
 **alt_ron** at **2012-07-01 22:27:33**
(no subject)

Are you all packed for camping? I almost wish that's the trip I was going on. I mean, it was loads of fun when it was our trip. Don't let them loose in the caves, though! Heh.

Actually, I wonder if some of them will be scared and want to go home. I think we seemed older when we were firsts going up to second than this lot.

You should definitely tell campfire stories! Like the ones about Sleepers getting loose and wandering around the hills and eating people. Or you could tell them the caves are haunted with terrible pirates' ghosts that'll try to scare you to death. Or about smugglers, hiding out and slitting people's throats if they come too close to where they've stashed their goods.

So what's the weather supposed to be? It's been raining loads here.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-01 22:30:28](#)
(no subject)

Oh yeah, giving my pack of firsties screaming nightmares would be BRILLIANT. Thanks for the great idea!

I'm packed. I heard it's been raining but hopefully it'll clear up?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-01 22:35:40](#)
(no subject)

Well. You could just tell the ones in other tents!

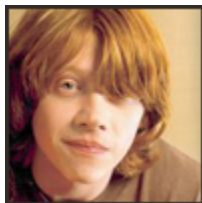
Is it going to be just like our trip, d'you know? Or are you doing different things?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-01 22:45:26](#)
(no subject)

I assume they're not planning to lose someone down an old cave this time, or whatever it was that happened to you lot?

It's the same area. They're having the counsellors come early, I assume to find out what all we'll be doing.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-01 23:18:14](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I expect they've cut all the really fun things out, trying to make it all 'safe'.

You'll have to write and tell us, then.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-01 23:19:06](#)
(no subject)

I told Ron we weren't quite ready to send Harry over to fetch you, but I'm still glad that you're all right.

And you'll be able to write while you're at camping, so

that's something. It's really too bad you weren't assigned to the same group that Ron and me were, though.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-07-02 00:18:29](#)**
(no subject)

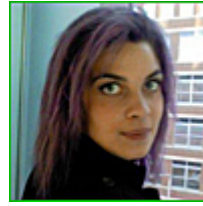
I know, but at least we'll be together for our own YPL trip and for CCF.

And Harry pulled me aside before we all went home and said to let him know if there was anything he could do to make things easier this summer with the Strettons, so I'm thinking I'll ask him to say I need to come along to some of those clubs. If they switch back to ignoring me it'll be a lot easier to visit Mum for everything.

2012-07-01 17:37:00

Sunday in the Park

We had a break in the rain today, so Albia and I went for a picnic in the park. We spread our blanket on the grass to keep from getting damp, and we enjoyed the sunshine while it lasted.



 **alt_nymphadora**

The mudblood carried the hamper and Bea's things--it's nice to have a bit of domestic help, actually. She's getting to be quite good at watching Bea, though we're still being cautious about that.

There was a quartet playing in the bandstand. Bea thought it was wonderful fun to 'dance', by which I mean, she'd stomp and turn and clap until she'd fall over. And then she'd laugh and get up to dance some more. The players let her come up and see their instruments, which was very kind of them. I think she especially liked the witch playing the clarinet. She wanted to touch all the shiny little keys and stops on it. And she shrieked (in a good way) when the witch made it toot and hoot while Bea held her hand underneath the opening at the bottom.

But then a family of ducks marched past us, and Bea forgot all about music! We followed the ducks to the water, and stood on the little footbridge, throwing our bread crusts for them to chase until we ran out. Next time we'll know to bring some specially for the ducks!

Now we're home and enjoying the quiet of Sunday evening. Junius is reading the paper, I've cleared the supper things, and now it's time for Miss Bea to have a story and a goodnight snuggle.



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2012-07-01 23:28:30**

Order Only

It is nice to have Ellie with us, and she is getting to be quite reliably good with Bea. She's also learned to be helpful serving people in the beer garden, and we've trusted her a bit further with things in the shop. She helped us unpack some of the crates that came through from Aleks, even.

Speaking of trust, the bigger thing we have to tell is that Beth's begun trusting us to hide people that her group are moving. It's only

been a couple of times so far, and only one or two at a time. I don't suppose it will ever be more than that, actually.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2012-07-01 23:41:58**

Re: Order Only

That's good news. How much information has she let you know about the operation -- where they come from, where they go, that sort of thing? And remind me; she doesn't know about our own smuggling, does she?

Perhaps we could let her in a bit more, and have her direct some of those people our way next solstice. We could certainly take on a few more next time around.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#) at 2012-07-02 01:54:01**

Re: Order Only

Well, we rather carefully don't ask each other for too much information. But I think most of the people we're seeing come from the New London area.

And I get the idea that they could be on the way to different places--that Beth's group have a few places they take people to. North. Into Scotland some of them, I think. And maybe to the mountains in Wales.

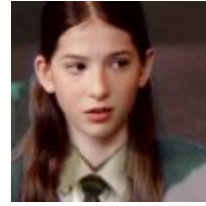
You've seen the box we keep in the corner of the garden? And the umbrella stand where people can leave things they don't need any more or want to trade: they can leave or take whatever they like. Or if they're caught in a sudden rain, people check to see if there's rain kit or a broly there.

Well, Beth and I were talking about that one time, and she wondered if we might be able to get together some rain cloaks and warmer things because sometimes she knows people who need them. So we put word round and people brought in all they could, which was a surprising lot when we sorted through it all. Anywiz, she didn't say, but I got the idea that they send people to places where the weather's a bit more severe than it tends to be down here in New London, and people running away don't always have a good warm cloak or one that will keep them properly dry.

It seems that we hardly know anything about her group, and I suppose that's true, but we know enough to trust that they're helping people we want to help, too. And I think I might be safe raising the question of getting people out through the wards. If the rest of you agree that I should, that is.

2012-07-02 10:57:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private message to Neville



I was thinking about people we might want to add to the lock. I like Susan, you know, and I think she's trustworthy. I'd be in favour of adding her.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

But look, here's who I started thinking about last night: Evelyn. If anyone ought to know she has extra people who have her back it's your sister. But you haven't mentioned her, and you'd know her best, so I didn't want to suggest her publicly if you know of a reason she shouldn't be added? I mean I know she hardly ever uses her journal but neither does Lee, outside the lock.

What do you think?

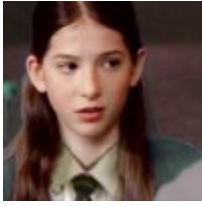


 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-07-03 03:39:53**
(no subject)

I'd like to add Susan, yeah. About Evelyn: I've thought we should have added her for a good while now. I know, she doesn't use her journal much, but maybe she would, if she thought she had a safe place to write what she likes. I think that she's been scared a couple times, seeing the way I draw fire when I've used my journal in public and people dump all over what I write. Because of who my parents are. It's made her more reluctant to use her own.

But on the other hand, it's also stressful to keep secrets sometimes. I guess I need to think a little about whether she's ready for a burden like that.

I dunno. She's been real ~~tense~~ quiet, sort of subdued, since getting back from Hogwarts. The end of the year was hard for her. Maybe it'd be good to give her a week or two to relax a little first.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-03 03:48:12](#)
(no subject)

Mmm.

What was it you were writing McLaggen about the other week?



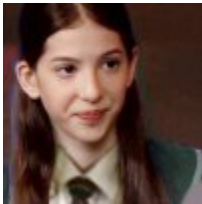
 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-07-03 03:52:51](#)
(no subject)

Uh...no offence, Sally-Anne, but I guess that's Evelyn's business to talk about if she likes. Not mine.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-07-03 03:53:15](#)
(no subject)

Why do you ask?



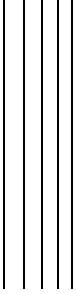
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-03 03:54:20](#)
(no subject)

Because I could get you instructions for that hex Fred and George found for me that time. That's what finally got McLaggen to leave Katrina Bundy alone.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-03 03:54:57](#)
(no subject)

For you to give to Evelyn, I mean. So she can cast it on him herself.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-07-03 03:57:04](#)**
(no subject)

I'll send you Pig. Why don't you send the instructions back.

(Thanks.)

[2012-07-03 13:09:00](#)

Good afternoon from the camping trip!



 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

Our students seem to be settling in, though managing the larger number of rising second years has a few practical challenges - we gave up on cooking over a campfire last night due to both the drizzle and the problems of getting food ready for everyone fast enough. Instead, we retired to three of the larger tents and their kitchens.

It's been a little more damp here than we'd like, but the rain held off long enough yesterday to get the tents up, and it's cleared part of this morning, allowing for some of our nature walks. Highlights included a nest of puffskeins, two wild (but quite friendly) kneazles, and most exciting, signs of a mooncalf (there'll be an expedition tonight to see if we can spot it dancing.) My thanks to Mr Wright and Mr Kenrith for their expertise.

Also a large number of sheep, and a herd of ponies, which lead to a fascinating conversation. It's apparently quite a new discovery that the not only are Exmoor ponies distinct from the Dartmoor as we've known for a while, but the Exmoor ponies are in fact magical beasts. We ended up talking a great deal about similarities and differences between apparently closely related species. So much we're finding out now that proper magical research can be done under the Protectorate.

This afternoon, we've some Herbology workshops. Tomorrow, we look forward to several workshops on charms and other skills useful for camping (we're already all getting quite good at drying charms), and of course Thursday is the day we transfer to near Tintagel.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-03 17:39:26](#)**

Private message to Cadugan Kenith

Much thanks for offering to help Leopold out after we realised two groups would be far better than one given the weather. If you don't think it was too awkward, you'd be quite welcome again. Leopold's lovely, and very good with students, but I hate to impose too much on any one person.

I'll definitely let you know if we have luck tonight. (Though whether

the rampaging horde will frighten the poor thing before we get a chance is an excellent question.)

I'm sure Mina Grubbly-Plank would be most interested in your notes and observations, if you're truly willing to share. You needn't use me as a go-between (and I'm all over the place this summer anyway) but an owl to her saying I thought she'd be interested would be quite welcome, I'm sure.

On the more personal front: it was good to catch up after so long, however briefly. I've thought a lot about Wales this year, and learning to let go of some assumptions. (Much thanks for that.) As to your other news, I'm truly glad you're happy and found someone who appreciates your wanderings and obsessions. (Also, I still can't believe your eldest is nearly five. Where the time goes...)

Do take care,
A.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-03 18:16:14](#)

Private message to Raz

Things are going well enough. (When I'm not being pestered with questions, rained on, or listening to people whinge about the rain, I am actually enjoying myself.) I'm looking forward to the move to near

Tintagel, though. At least there, we'll have access to indoor space if the weather continues dreary.

I'm pretty sure we've another surge of bullying, but they're being careful enough it's hard for me to spot anything in action. Not much I can do other than try to keep the usual lot of culprits well separated. Which does not work well when you've got 20 grumpy people jamming into a tent to make supper, let me tell you.

I don't suppose you've had a chance to ask around a little more about what on earth Stint might be angling at now? He's very clearly frustrated by Poppy (good on her!) but the meetings last week were... Well. Still mulling over, but trying not to dwell.

Speaking of meetings, Madam Umbridge does not camp, thank you, but she was here from when the counsellors arrived yesterday until everyone was in tents for bed, and showed up again first thing today. It did not improve my morning.

Having my own tent (well, borrowed) was also obviously the smart thing. Salve to my mood, and handy when two of the counsellors needed to pop in last night. (One nightmare, one mild reaction to a plant.) And if Umbridge is going to ask me persistent questions - "And why did you choose to do it *that* way, dear?" - I'd much rather be somewhere other people can't overhear.

Miss you, though. If that needed saying.

(Do let me know if supper with the family might be doable sometime next week once you've an idea of your own obligations. If not, Mum understands, but she wants to be very clear you'd be most welcome. I need to go regardless, since Mum wants to go over a few family things quicker done in person.)



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-03 18:35:07](#)**

Private message to Mum

Mum -

Do thank Uncle Sylvanus and Auntie Tremella for the loaned tent again when you see them this week. It's just the thing. (I'll thank them myself, too, of course.)

Could you do me a favour and look up three charms for me? I know they're all in your Bilford's Big Blue Book of Nature Charms, and I couldn't lay hands on a copy of my own last week. (Can't imagine why the thing's out of print, as I'd not think it was particularly political, but there you are. And the new version's not due out until November, which is unhelpful timing.)

The ones I want are that one that helps illuminate a particular plant by name so you can avoid it (we had an unpleasant reaction I'd rather avoid in future), that one that identifies plants that have thorns or stings or whatever, and the one that helps you locate creature dens and nests. Thought I remembered the last, but I think I've forgotten something in the wand movement.

I should be able to come for supper sometime next week with as much of the immediate family as is handy. (Though I don't know about Raz's commitments yet, and it might just be me.) Maybe even to help you with the berry jams, if you want to try for that.

There's one of those worrisome student noises. Later.

2012-07-04 13:27:00

Private Message to Reethi Singh



 [alt_lana](#)

I had lunch with Sarah yesterday and she took me to this really amazing little shop that I've got to take you to next. It's called Naught, and it's- well, you'll see. Sarah's putting on a party for me, and she thought she'd get favours here, but then she had such a good time shopping, she decided she'd just bring me to see it first. And, anyhow, we ended up booking them to do the whole party! I mean, they've got this really fun programme and they demonstrate all their magical gizmos and model their unmentionables (some of it's really well unmentionable, too, no lie). It's going to be hilarious!

And I know you're going to come to that, but you can't wait. You've got to go with me to the shop and see for yourself. I promise, they're just brilliant in there. And it's just for witches. They only let wizards in on Tuesday evenings and then only if they come along as their girlfriend's or wife's guest.

Of course, Ned made fun and acted like Sarah and I were completely daft when I told him about it. But that's a whole other thing.

He's promised Papa we'll do the whole ritual with the sheets and all. Even though we've- It's all a bit ridiculous. But it's not as if I'm going to explain that to Papa, either, so I can't blame him. Only Ned's almost as bad, you know. Just really hasn't got any imagination. Is Catchlove better?

I can see why you just went off and signed the parchments privately. I wish I could do it that way.

Anywiz. You've got to come with me to Naught. What time do you get off tomorrow? Or we could go during lunch. It's just down an alley off the Strand.

[2012-07-04 14:57:00](#)

One Month

It's just a month until my nuptials. That's really very difficult to believe. It seems I've known Ned forever, but also that this will change everything absolutely.



 [alt_lana](#)

And I suppose it will.

We're going to move into his flat to start, since it's such a nice place and there's really not been time to figure out anything different. Not between our work and all the other business that planning for a wedding requires.

I have my last fittings next week, and then there are all of the other celebratory things beforehand. Lunches and parties and time with special people who want to wish me well. It's wonderful and trying all at the same time--difficult to fit into my schedule, I mean, but also just a bit overwhelming.

One feels as if one is just on the cusp of the unknown, and it's a bit staggering, is all. Sobering.

Abuelita has been sewing beautiful things for my trunk for years and years, but she showed me everything last evening, all of it together, and it was so lovely. It was too much. I know that now whenever I see her sewing, it will make me go all teary. Just thinking about it does.

One month. And then I'll be married.

I can't entirely believe that.



 [alt_lana](#) at **[2012-07-05 00:52:06](#)**

Private Message to Ned Pennifold

Have you confirmed the things on your list? I've been going through things with Mama here at the house and making lists for Mr Blunt at the store. You agreed on the darker blue for hangings, right? And the royal for the sitting room draperies. I'll tell him to confirm delivery with you.

Hirsch will be in touch about delivery for the furnishings. That's separate. And you'll want to confirm that they're to remove the

things we decided we'd discard. Be sure they commit to a flat fee beforehand.

I've been adding things to a new list for you. I was going to send it along tonight but I'll just wait until I see you tomorrow. Who knows, I might think of another thing or two to add.

Mr Crouch hasn't asked you to prepare an internship dossier, has he? I don't want to spoil my chance by pestering him about it, but I heard he was asking you to fetch some forms this morning and I wondered if- well, you'd tell me, wouldn't you?



 [alt_lana](#) at [2012-07-05 20:28:48](#)

Private Message to Orion Sandoval

Got your owl. I'm sorry the post woke you so early, but you needn't be such a pr- pill about it. If you kept reasonable hours, you'd have been awake when the deliveries started.

Honestly. How dare you accuse me of fishing for gifts!

Yes, of course, I was trying to sound like an idiot. Obviously. What was I supposed to say?

I only wrote because Mama said her friends thought it odd I'd been so quiet about the wedding plans. As if I weren't happy about it. You know they're seeing the Jugsons and Bobolises at the weekend, and she didn't want to be answering the same questions over again.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-07-06 02:46:34](#)

(no subject)

It does come up on one quickly, doesn't it? But I know Ned's growing rather more excited than he cares to admit. I'm sure you'll be surprised how easily and smoothly everything goes when it comes down to the moment.

Now, have you or your mother anything that still needs doing before the Daughters of the Protectorate luncheon? I've a free afternoon on Sunday and Aleta mentioned that there might still be a task or two. I'm sure that helping on the committee and planning the wedding so

close together must be quite a stress on you both. Do let me know if there's anything that doesn't require your individual attention.



 **alt_lana** at **2012-07-06 03:30:46**

(no subject)

Oh, yes. The time does seem to be going so much more quickly all of a sudden.

As for the induction, I'll ask Mama, but I know she's had almost daily conversations with the head of catering and the management. If they've not got all the details sorted by now, I expect she'll have their heads.

The one thing you might do, if it's not too much trouble, is see if you can't find out whether Mrs Chillicotte has given a bit more specific thought to what she's going to say to open the ceremony. Last year, it was a bit disorganised and ran long. I'm not sure I'm in the best position to speak with her about that, but if you felt you could do it without offending, that would be a true help.

[2012-07-05 13:34:00](#)

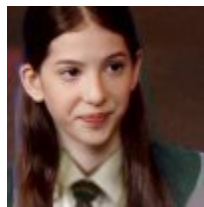
The Weather

2nd Years,

I know the weather is not as dry as you would like it to be for this sort of event, but do stop complaining. We are all dealing with it. You only make people more irritable, by constantly bringing it up. Please just enjoy the scenery, and look forward to meeting the Cannons shortly. Its just a little misty, and will probably stop soon.



 **[alt_dean](#)**



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-07-05 20:49:18](#)**

Private message to Thomas

I almost sympathise with them but MERLIN, THE WHINGING. There are hexes that would make it stop but sadly I don't think Siz wants us to use them!



 **[alt_dean](#)** at **[2012-07-05 20:54:20](#)**

Re: Private message to Thomas

I agree. It's aggravating. I don't think we were that way. But I'm not sure it rained much during our trip. and there are so many more of them than there were

of us



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-05 21:45:35](#)**

Private message to Dean Thomas

Thanks for the attempt, though I don't know anything's going to make much of a dent. And for coping with distracting that knot of boys while I dealt with that mess with the brooms.

At least tonight, we can be inside for the evening if it doesn't clear.

Have you been doing all right with your tent?



 **[alt_dean](#)** at **[2012-07-05 21:58:07](#)**

Re: Private message to Dean Thomas

It was no problem at all professor. My tent is fine. I suppose I do have a couple of the hardheaded ones, but nothing I can't handle. They know I mean business, and they know not to tempt me to report them.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-05 22:15:16](#)**

Re: Private message to Dean Thomas

Good to hear. It's hard when they get to select their tentmates to spread all of that out, though I tried to do some where I could.

I quite agree part of the point is letting you all sort things out yourselves as much as possible. (Though if something might become more significant, I'd much rather have you tell me unofficially than be surprised by it.)



 **[alt_dean](#)** at **[2012-07-05 22:30:21](#)**

Re: Private message to Dean Thomas

No worries. I promise to alert you straight away, if something significant happens.

2012-07-05 13:43:00

Private Message to Fintan McLaggen

Mr McLaggen,

Do kindly come see me. After we speak keep yourself away from Muirgheal Hedigan, at least until after dinner. Also, please leave the girls alone. You have not exhibited that sort of behaviour before. I would hate to have to tell Professor Sinistra that I had to have you sit out of this afternoon's activity due to inappropriate behaviour. Keep in mind, you are who your friends are. and you are always being watched. Bad behaviour now could limit your opportunities in the coming years. You may associate with whomever you like, but you do not have to follow their example. Remember you have the potential to set the higher example among your friends, and if they don't accept you they are not your friends.

Also a word of advice about Eva Spinx. She is not someone you want to make a enemy of. Give her back her makeup kit please, and apologise. Yes, I know you took it. Do it and do it quickly! For Merlin's sake, we all know what she looks like without it. Do that first, and then come see me.

Thomas



 [alt_dean](#)

2012-07-05 14:05:00

Training

I'm exhausted and its not even time for tea...



 [alt_ginny](#)

After my morning chores, I went on a few go sees, to designers working on their spring/summer robe lines. I think I did well. After that, it was nothing but training for CCF. I actually successfully completed a 3.2 kilometer run. Flew about 48 kilometers round trip on my broom. And even got about a half hour of swimming in. I will give myself a much needed break tomorrow, but will still do some running in the morning. I will pick up again on Saturday. I think every other day is good, with a quick run every morning just so I don't get lazy.


I really like swimming, but I'm not a fish. I was able to go under as far as 1.5 meters to day and stay for about a minute. I not they want us to get to at least 8 feet. I will attempt to go further, but it's not much fun. I definitely need to work on my endurance.

Does anyone not busy want to go swimming on Saturday to get some training in? I went alone to clear my head today, but its much more fun and safer with others. I would be doing my training in the morning up until noon. I have plans after that.

2012-07-05 14:31:00

Private Message to Honoria



 [alt_ginny](#)

I've been getting that on the broom nearly every day. It's certainly in good condition. I am glad I didn't have to spend the Galleons on a brand new broom. One of the photographers I work with is a quidditch photographer also, and replaces his broom every 2 - 3 years, even though he doesn't need to. So this broom is about two years old, and he gave it to me for far less than I would have had to spend on it in the shop. And he clearly serviced his broom regularly. There isn't even a scratch on it. He had it painted black for me and had my name added to the handle in green sparkle writing. He also told me that if I make the team next term, I could possibly do some broom and quidditch robe advertisements with him for the Christmas catalogs and mags.

Anyway, would you like to meet in Diagon Alley on Saturday for an ice cream? Around 2:30? Troy and I are meeting up for a late lunch, but you are welcome to join us for dessert. You can even bring someone if you like.

2012-07-05 18:56:00

Flyin' Rye-wards

Those of us who went had a brilliant time. You should all think about coming next Thursday if you couldn't make it today. We decided we shouldn't say in the journals where we're going next time or where we're leaving from, so if you want to come, drop me a PM or an owl, and I'll tell you the details.



 [alt_ron](#)

Anywiz, it was great. We met up at Greenwich at the top of the park, by the Observatory, and we left from there. We gave everyone's brooms a look-over as they turned up and had a bit of quarreling about whether everyone who came really knew what they were putting in for, but everyone wanted to go, so we did. Hope we didn't leave anyone behind who wanted to come, but we'd given you fifteen minutes by then, so we went ahead. I mean, it's Greenwich, innit? No excuse for not leaving on time from there!

We flew along the Thames for a bit and then turned south across Kent. It was really decent weather--just some drizzles in the morning. But we hadn't even gone close to an hour before the whingeing started. So we set down someplace called Sevenoaks, where Archer knew there's this awesome house called Knole that's almost big enough to be a castle. We set down in the park outside it, which I hope the owners didn't mind, but there were a few people who decided they needed to drop out, and it turns out there's a Floo office in town, so they went off there and I hope they got home with no problems.

It was all brilliant after that, though. We got to Rye in time for lunch out on Camber Sands. And after that we did some sprint flying up along the shore to the marshes, but then the winds came up well stiff and were buffeting people right round. Which, one way of thinking about it is that it was a true agility drill fighting through those sorts of gusts, but it wasn't what we'd meant to do, exactly, so then I decided we should go back up into town and see if the streets were less windy, which they were. So then we flew squadron pursuits through the alleys in the old parts of town where the houses are really close together and hang out over the streets.

It was too snitch for snidgets, that, really. Only, it was a shame about the spill you took, Li. Those cobbles looked fierce where you went down on them.

Anywiz, when the rain started really chucking down, we stopped into this inn called the Mermaid that's been there since medieval times, and we got to talking to a couple of old chaps who told us all about how the fishing'd come back and was best in the country now that they'd got muggle crews to dredge out the old harbour right up to the old docks and fish stalls. And how they'd completely got rid of all the hideous muggle buildings and roads and all and how the estuary was recovering and all the birds and fish and animals were back.

But then they told us we'd been well daft to go flying out over the marshes like we did, because the other thing that's back out there is smugglers! So that got everyone buzzing, you can guess. About how people thought they'd seen something or heard something or wasn't there smoke from a cooking fire out over the horizon and a load of nonsense, really.

And then we came back by Floo from Rye because we were all well tired and the rain wasn't letting up.

Mum had stew ready for supper and loads of it, which was brilliant because I could've eaten a horse I was so hungry when I got in.

But I'm totally ready to go again next week, y'know. **Who's in?!**



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-06 02:03:43](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Ron,


Yes, it's quite a shame about all the rain, what? Mrs Montague had to move her garden party indoors.

Remy and I have been thinking of going to the swimming pool in St George's, as the Jugsons haven't one of their own. I say, did your sister say something about swimming? Have you got a place to swim, then?

Between these clubs, Mrs Jugson's social engagements and all the tutoring they've arranged for me, it's hardly felt like summer.

-Justin



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-07-06 02:18:47](#)**
(no subject)

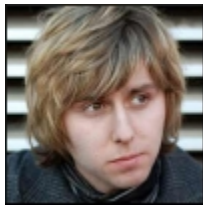
Well, there are some ponds out here and places where the river has deep spots where you can swim. I don't actually know where she meant.


I thought she was coming with us today, but then she didn't, so no telling.

Maybe she's going in to swim in New London. You know about the Serpentine, the lido in Hyde Park? And I think there's a bathing place up in Hampstead Heath, too.

So you were at a garden party instead of flying with us?

Did you have to get all kitted up for that?



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-07-06 02:27:39](#)**
(no subject)


Yes, Mr Jugson arranged for us to go to St George's though, as it's ~~apparently cleaner~~ indoors, so it shan't matter if it's raining.

And yes, it's been garden parties and parlour teas and all manner of outings. Luckily I've also had some summer-weight robes done, though I think perhaps not enough, what. I've already had to have everything laundered twice.

I think Remy and I might be able to shake loose Thursday next, though, if you send along the information. I'm sure I may borrow a broom from Mr Jugson.

-Justin



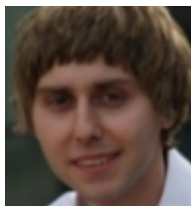
 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-07-06 03:09:05](#)**
Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley

Where's St George's? I've never heard of it.

If you can come, we're going to meet at the central Floo office in Avebury at half-nine. We'll go

out to the circles and do some Ley Lining, which is a nift bit of touch flying that can really give you a different feel for your broom. I've only tried it twice, but Avesbury's the place everyone says you've got to go to really properly fly ley.

When we're done there, we'll fly to Salisbury for lunch. And then we're going to head down the coast, flying over the New Forest. There's a channel down there between the coast and the Isle of Wight, so we'll get to do some more shore manoeuvres and people can Floo home from Lymington. It's about 60 miles on the broom, like today.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-06 03:21:35](#)

Re: Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley

It's just outside New London, near Whitechapel and Wapping. Supposedly it used to be frequented by Muggles and Wizards but it's been done over and now it's sort of a private swimming club. Mr Jugson said he didn't want us going in where just anyone could swim, since who knew what might be in the water, what? He said the Serpentine sometimes has leeches in.

I'm well sure Remy would like the ley flying. I'll tell him about it.

-Justin



 [alt_ernie](#) at [2012-07-06 03:45:09](#)

(no subject)

If you flew to Sevenoaks, you weren't far from ours at Hever. If I'd been with you, we could have done a flyover!

Sounds as if you had better luck with the rain than we've had out here, at any rate. I've been out charming our tent stakes to keep them in the ground.

Count me in for next Thursday, yeah? I'll see if I can't get Smith to come along. Especially if Finch-Fletchley's going to be there.

F-F: are you in for next week, then?



 **alt_justin** at [2012-07-07 02:14:23](#)

(no subject)

Hello, Ernie,

Yes, I think we're both coming--me and Remy, what.

It'll be brilliant to see you and Smith. What of any of the rest of the side?

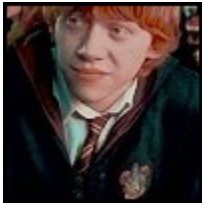
-Justin



 **alt_ginny** at [2012-07-06 04:41:06](#)

(no subject)

Sorry Ron. I forgot that was today, I had go sees to do this morning, so I had to do some training on my own. However I am completely free next Thursday, and I am definitely in.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-07-06 05:49:29](#)

(no subject)

Good.

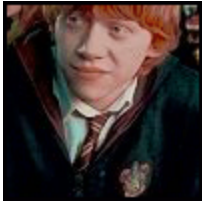


 **alt_sally_anne** at [2012-07-06 05:14:09](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I'm in if the Strettons will let me come. Even if it's STILL RAINING.

Bloody hell, I don't know if I'm more annoyed by the rain, or the complaining about the rain, at this point. I hope you have better weather in New London, but even if you don't at least you won't be sleeping in TENTS.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-07-06 05:47:38](#)

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

Well, all right, then!

And, yeah. The weather sounds as if it's been completely foul in Cornwall. Shame about that.

About the whingers, too.

I mean, it's the same at home, of course. But it was a bit better in New London this morning. Not so great in Rye, but not all dire, all the time.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-07-06 06:12:46](#)

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

If you can come, we're going to meet at the central Floo office in Avebury at half-nine. It's going to be brilliant. We're going to start with Ley Lining, since Avesbury's the place everyone says you've got to go

for flying ley.

Lunch in Salisbury along the way to the Solent, flying over the New Forest. We'll get to do shore manoeuvres there, and people can Floo home from Lymington. It's about 60 miles on the broom, which is what we did today except for Brocklehurst and Midgen, who should've listened when I said I didn't think they realised what the trip would be like. I mean, Midgen!

And Brocklehurst. I couldn't believe it when she was waiting at the top of that hill by the Observatory. I think she'd have seen sense, though, if it hadn't been for Midgen. Course, they weren't the worst ones complaining when we got out over the countryside. That was the Stevens sisters, which, I mean, you can't tell Lizzie Stevens anything, can you? I tried, really, but no. Because Effluvia got into CCF and all, so they were definitely coming and that's it. Well, and actually, Stebbins was the absolute worst, but then he didn't make the cut for CCF, yeah? So I should've known he couldn't fly for spit. Anywiz once the others started moaning, he's the one that said we had to stop. He was stopping even if no one else did. And then it was all of them. Honestly.

And then Effluvia stayed, after all, only she was better once Lizzie'd gone. I expect she'll be sore tomorrow, though. I don't think she'd


ever done more than fly in a park before. Or with Hooch at school to pass her fistie standard. But that's what this is about, yeah? Trying out new stuff and getting better on our brooms!



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-07-06 22:23:04](#)
(no subject)


Count me, Ron. I don't think I've ever been on a broom that long before, but the countryside was lovely.



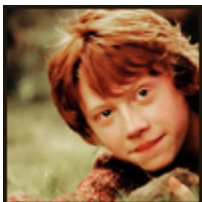
 **alt_pansy** at [2012-07-06 22:23:31](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


My arse will never be the same again.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-07-06 22:46:44](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


Heh. Yeah. I'm a little saddle sore today, too.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-07-06 22:47:05](#)
(no subject)

Excellent!




 **alt_harry** at [2012-07-06 22:25:08](#)
Private Message to Ron Weasley

I'd like to come.

I'll have to check and see if it's okay.

But I'd like to.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-07-06 22:46:14](#)
Re: Private Message to Ron Weasley

Brilliant!

I hope you can!

2012-07-05 19:00:00

Private message to Draco Malfoy

I did my best to put the fear of fifth-year Slytherins into that wretched Maegera Featherstone and Rebecca Mackrell. They'd caught Caroline Bones from behind with 'petrificus totalis' and were just getting started when I came round the side of the tent and found them.



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Featherstone acted like butter wouldn't melt in her mouth but I think I had the lay of things. I told her she wasn't much of a Gryffindor if she thought she needed to strike from behind (with two against one!), and Mackrell ought to know better than to go after someone from her OWN HOUSE for Merlin's sake. (Aren't Hufflepuffs supposed to be 'fair and kind' to one another?)

I know this is a rather ridiculous request but if you see the opportunity to let it be known just how little Harry Marvolo likes cowardly bullies, it really would help. You would not BELIEVE the collective squealing that happens whenever his name comes up in conversation (or maybe you would, tent walls being what they are). Anyway, I'm getting a bit worried Featherstone and Mackrell will try some 'prank' while they're out exploring that will go horribly wrong.

How's your tent? Are your kids holding up in the rain? I'm tired of the rain too but I'm even more tired of the whinging about it. I've started fantasising about an anti-whinging hex. Surely someone must have invented one. Something that would make someone close her mouth and smile every time she got the urge to say 'rain AGAIN?' or 'do we really have to go OUT in this?' or 'but SHE got the lower bunk LAST night, it's MY turn' or ... well. You get the idea.

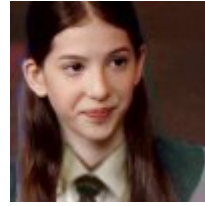
2012-07-05 19:20:00

Private message to Susan Bones

Maegera Featherstone and Rebecca Mackrell caught Caroline by herself and were making mischief, though I found them before it got too far. I just thought you should know -- anyway, does Caroline have any friends in her tent, do you know?

Someone she could go places with? Mackrell's IN HUFFLEPUFF, which makes it all the more upsetting.

I suppose maybe it was just mild teasing, like Featherstone tried to claim, but I wouldn't think that would start out with 'petrificus totallis.'



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

2012-07-06 13:33:00

*Private message to Marston
Strangeweale and Latimer Caldwell*



Gentlemen,

I do hope this letter finds you both well, and as productively engaged in joyful labour towards our mutual goals as I have been. I do rather envy you both this week - the horrid damp does get into everything. Still, nothing deters me from the Lord Protector's work.

 [alt_umbridge](#)

I must say, you were absolutely right to want to dig deeper into the programme: there is much we could harvest with the proper guidance that is going to waste. I also agree that certain parties are not as responsive to direction as might be. (I had hoped for better, but will redouble my efforts there.) And that, as might be expected, those of lesser background are struggling in the ways that really should have been anticipated. So unfair to ask them to serve beyond their grasp.

I would like to speak in person before the New London trips begin, so we can all focus our attention where it will do the most good in the weeks to come. Tuesday afternoon? Other afternoons that week are possible should that not suit.

I'll be sending an owl shortly with my observations thus far, so you have the best chance to review and add any further concerns, queries, or comments.

No real need to trouble Bagnold Whitacre with concerns outside his scope, but there are one or two notes about budget matters that might be useful to draw his eye to.

[2012-07-06 20:38:00](#)

(no subject)

Simonetta, I'm so glad you came to luncheon today. It was lovely to catch up. And I'm sure Monday will go splendidly. I'm pleased you thought to have me look over your remarks, truly. It's kind of you to ask my opinion.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)**

Now, Diana, don't worry about Maghnus - he'll find his way. It's perfectly acceptable to take a few months to decide what he wants to do. Let him go hiking if he wishes to go hiking. I'm sure it shall be good for him in the long run. There's no rush.

As for me, I'm quite undecided about our family holiday. We hoped to take the boys to Snowdonia but that's impossible now. Perhaps Galloway or Keswick will be a better choice. After Freedom Day, of course, when they return from their CCF responsibilities.

Speaking of Freedom Day, Yvaine, I know you were asking and yes: I'm so glad you are interested in the committee. Of course, you were waiting to check with Charles and that's only right, now that he's the man of the family. We've a meeting on Wednesday so do come along to Nicola's studio and we may talk about what would be most effective.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2012-07-07 13:27:16](#)**

(no subject)

Had supper this past week as Araminta Croft's plus one at Pontner's--Jugsons were guests of honour, showing off the defector. (Not entirely impressed.)

AC went on all evening about Burdett-Coutts and your Fr Day committee's plans for Faerie revels. She was full of particulars about transformations to Our Lord's parks. And heated debates over slogans and themes. Not sure how you have time for anything else.



 **[alt_narcissa](#)** at **[2012-07-07 22:50:08](#)**

(no subject)

When it is important business for the realm, one finds the time. I'm sure you know the feeling, even if your business is more in the way of defending Our

Lord's peace, while mine is ensuring that we take the appropriate opportunities to show Him our gratitude.


I only met young Mr ... is it Finch-Fletchley? such a tongue-tying name Well, only the once. At the Yule Ball when he escorted our Hydra. But he seemed benign enough, indeed one might even say bland.

Or was it the Jugsons who did not impress you, dear? One hears they'll be at the Hedigans' on Tuesday evening. Fergus told me Amara tried inviting them to her salon on Thursday as well but they declined on the grounds that they've tickets to the theatre that night.

Oh, but as for the theme: You're right, Nicola's rather too taken with it and simply must have her way. I do think it's brilliant, mind - but finding a slogan has been ... challenging.

On the other hand, I can't wait to show you your costume for the fancy dress!




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-07-08 03:04:56](#)
(no subject)

...

Not another fancy dress event.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-07-07 22:20:25](#)
Private Message to Narcissa

Snowdonia's impossible, is it? Are you sure that's wise? I realise you're still upset with Maebh, dearest, but you need not shift your support away publicly.

Draco mentioned that he'd prefer a family holiday this year be just the family, and Harry. Quite agree. Believe I can convince Razzer that no additional security is necessary. Believe Our Lord shall not be bothered if arrangements were made to minimise the size of the party, either.

And does your last mean that Yvaine's seeing sense? Have been thinking it might be good to invite Charles to the club. It could help him to realise that Lycus' sacrifice has opened doors for him, in its

way. But you know Yvaine better than I, my love. Would she prefer such an overture come through you to her, or direct to Charles?

My apologies again for being required in the country on a Saturday. Should be home soon. We're just concluding the sweep of Easton Wood. There's only the observation of the re-fortifications and then will be free to return.



alt_narcissa at **2012-07-07 22:35:24**

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

I don't see why it should trouble anyone, husband. I merely said it's impossible - not why I'll not set foot in her lodge. Let people conclude what they will. If it hurts Maebh's business I shan't lose a moment's sleep, true, but she ought to have thought of that before crossing me. Besides, I could have done a great deal worse.

Draco said as much to me, too. It would be quite pleasant to see you both spending more time together, without any other distractions. I don't suppose I could convince you not to work at all while we're away, though. I'll settle for requiring you to leave the journal closed for at least four hours each day. And if we go on any outings. Have I your word?

Yvaine. She's much more worried about the younger one, Darius, than Charles. She seems to think Charles - understands, in his way, since Lycus was always candid at home about his patriotism and devotion to Our Lord. But Darius is at a difficult age to lose a father. I think I'll have them for supper one evening when Draco's back from his counselling. I'm sure he'll have a good influence on the lad. There's the Cadet Force, as well. She was so relieved that he was accepted. I rather think we need to treat her and the boy with some delicacy. But that's not to say that taking Charles in hand would not be a service to her, darling. I'm sure she'd be very grateful.

So the suspicions were true? Easton Wood was infested with free Muggles? Really, I don't know why you must still go on routs like that, as if it were still wartime. At times I think 'Consultant' to MLE must translate to simply an unsalaried Auror's position. But so long as you're unhurt and coming home soon, I shall rest easy.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2012-07-07 23:05:02](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa

It's not Maebh's *business* that concerns me, my dear, it's that she has begun to acquire certain allies who could make all our lives exceedingly tedious. Including Barty's, and I'm not sure she would not choose some action directed to him in particular just to spite you both.

Some of the same connexions, I might add, which require me to answer these equally inconvenient calls to assist when I would otherwise prefer to take my leisure. At present it will not do to appear anything less than enthusiastic. More's the pity.

But yes, I am quite unhurt, though the muggles could not say the same. And on the way home presently.

2012-07-06 22:15:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Dux



 [alt_justin](#)

That tutor has been setting me so many charms exercises and potions essays I've hardly been fit to set quill to parchment. And when I've not been busy with that, your Aunt and Uncle have quite occupied most of the time. You're right: They're trotting me out to everyone they think will show an interest. We've a supper party tomorrow, as well.

Remy's coming along on Ron's flying expedition next Thursday, though. And we're joining the History Club on Wednesday afternoon for the Museum of Curiosities. Do you think you'll be able to go?

Was the seance fun?

I say, it's actually been well enjoyable to mate about with Remy, without Alfie along. We went to a swimming club this afternoon - I say, rather an exclusive swimming club, what? I don't like to think what your Uncle must be investing in all this. Or what he hopes to gain from it.

Still, Remy's not a very strong swimmer, so perhaps your uncle would have done it anyway to help him along this summer.

How about you? Have you been getting in any of the exercises that Professor Siz recommended?

-Justin

2012-07-07 20:46:00

Private Message to Sally-Anne Perks

Hey, Perks,

Have Featherstone and Mackrell been causing any more trouble since you caught them the other day?

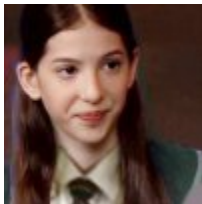


 [alt_susan](#)

I've got Andie Haley looking out for Caroline--she's well-liked, and even if she weren't, people seem less likely to start mischief around her, on account of being Professor Siz's niece I suppose.

Oh, I've got to run--I hear screaming. I'm *pretty* sure they're just terrifying each other with *Dame Drusilla's Darke Tales of Doome* again but I should go check to be sure.

Were we this bad? Scratch that--no one's got into a smuggler's cave this year, so they're still ahead of us.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-07-08 04:44:17**
(no subject)

Well, I haven't caught them again, but I came up to them today and they suddenly stopped talking and looked nervous. They might have just been discussing my personal faults, however, which is fine.

We got into more trouble but we were less annoying.



 [alt_susan](#) at **2012-07-08 12:03:57**
(no subject)

Yeah, I've been keeping a sharp eye out, but you're more observant about those sorts of things.

I hope there's some coffee left from breakfast! I'm going to need some after being up half the night calming nightmares.

[2012-07-09 13:03:00](#)

(no subject)

The Quidditch Club is meeting tomorrow. Johnson, you're sure Wood can come? I've got the schedule made up, but if anyone else wants to come along, let me know and I can rotate you in for the drills and things. I think we'll mostly be talking about joining up with professional leagues and things, but I can always add to the agenda.



 [alt_harry](#)

And thank you Mr and Mrs Malfoy for letting us use the manor again.

Draco, Sally-Anne, has the weather been holding up for the camping stuff? I hope so.



 [alt_ginny](#) at **[2012-07-09 17:32:48](#)**

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

You didn't for get about me joining did you? I am looking forward to running drills with those of you already on the house teams.



 [alt_harry](#) at **[2012-07-09 21:16:39](#)**

Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo

I didn't. You're in the rotation.



 [alt_ginny](#) at **[2012-07-09 21:21:44](#)**

Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo

Thanks Harry. You're awesome!



 [alt_harry](#) at **[2012-07-09 21:16:05](#)**

Private Message to Raz

Did you get my message about the long distance flying thing on Thursday? If you're busy or something that's okay. I mean, it is all day.



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2012-07-10 02:26:41](#)**

Re: Private Message to Raz

It's not trouble, I've just been clearing my schedule, point of fact. Not that I was exceptionally busy to begin with.

But no, I look forward to it. I'll do my best to linger out of sight and let you feel unsupervised, though. You won't even know I'm there.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-07-10 02:28:51](#)**

(no subject)

It was wet and more wet, mostly. And the rising seconds are quite the whinging bunch - or maybe it's that everyone's actually that whingy before they endure CCF trials. Or manage to get a little older.

Definitely looking forward to quidditch, though.

[2012-07-09 13:37:00](#)

Thanks and appreciation

I've just seen the last of our rising second years off, and we're just wrapping up here now. A bit of tidying, and our debriefing with our counsellors, as always, then we get to get off home as well.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

My thanks once more to everyone who put in so much time and energy on this week's camping trip. As always, we owe a great deal of gratitude to the many specialists who gave a few hours to offering a nature walk, providing a lecture or discussion, or teaching our students fascinating new charms.

But this year, I particularly want to thank all our counsellors (Eric Bundy, Samantha Montgomery, Grant Page, Susan Bones, Ernie MacMillan, Draco Malfoy, Sally-Anne Perks, and Dean Thomas) for their good nature and hard work under less than ideal circumstances. I know this was not the most pleasant week to be camping, but they all did their best to make everything run as smoothly and enjoyably as possible. Well done and most appreciated, all of you.

As always, parents, if you have any questions about our activities or your child, please do contact me via the YPL clerk's office or by journal.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-09 18:11:32](#)**

Private message to Felix Green

Ugh. Damp all through. I need a day to dry out and warm up (and sleep), so let's plan on Wednesday for parchment work and the write-up, and Friday if we need more time. That new form the oversight board wants is going to take hours, I can tell. But I did keep hour by hour notes as they requested, so it should be easy enough to do, just tedious. And I've all the expense reports (we're under budget, comfortably, but there's a couple of adjustments to categories we need to make.)

On those four letters of complaint you've already had (goodness, do people think I can rearrange the weather to suit?), I'm thinking of how to handle them. I suspect you might have one or two more coming. If there's anything from the Hedigans, the Mackrells, or the

Featherstones, please let me know immediately, and take the usual precautions. (Nothing I could take direct action on, but I ended up having to have words with all three of their children.)

See you Wednesday.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-09 19:15:42](#)**
Private message to Mum and Diane Haley

That was an unpleasant week. It wasn't outright rain so much as an unrelenting drizzle at least half the day - entirely cheerless. I actually enjoyed the bits that weren't perpetual whinging, but we had fewer and fewer of those as things went on.

Diane - I've told Andie myself, but wanted to tell you too (and do show this to Chiron): Andie is growing into herself in a lovely way. She's done more than her bit to help ease some tensions within that class (that spate of bullying continues) without either joining those being nasty, or becoming a target herself. It's been a delight to watch, truly, and you should both be very proud of her.

She's also showing quite the knack for Charms work, a very precise touch. And I know you feel a focus on Defence isn't as important for young witches, but please, can you trust me? She'll be better off if she has the skills and confidence to handle herself if she ever has to. If you don't want to look at tutoring, at least let's figure out a cohesive set of materials she can practice over the summer. (And you know I'm glad to help her as time allows.) Do talk it over with Chiron, and we can talk more this week. And I'll bring a few things to look at.

Mum - I think Thursday probably works best. Still no idea if we're getting Raz as well, and might not till the day of. Sorry about that. But I'll plan to come for lunch, and we can do the early jams in the afternoon if you can manage the afternoon off like you thought. I'd like a bit of honest cooking to look forward to rather than shifting parchments. And I do have a few ideas for Dad's birthday. It'll be good to see you all.

Right. Everyone's finally gone, and I'm off too. See you all Thursday.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-10 18:31:34](#)

Private message to Mum

Mum -

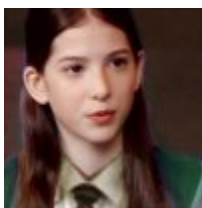
Almost certainly just me on Thursday unless the weather's truly miserable. Raz does have some other obligations. I don't mind, truly - it's in a good cause. And it'd be nice to have a little time with just family. (And it might be easier to persuade Diane if he's not there, actually.)

I know you and she think I fuss too much, but honestly. I know Diane got Andie that new book, *Elation* - she wrote to me about it. Ask Andie how different that Hogwarts is from the one we live in. It's not all light and cheery frolics in Charms class. ~~How anyone could think that after the past few years~~

I am so grateful the Carrows are gone, you've no idea. And you know I and others do all we can to keep our students safe. But there's still far more risk than anyone would like, and more than a few students who like pushing the limits and seeing what they can get away with. And someone ends up their first victim.

I want Andie to be able to take care of herself if she has to. No matter what.

See you Thursday, noon.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-09 21:47:42](#)

Private message to Professor Sinistra

Thanks for your trust and confidence in me. It's been an interesting and rewarding week even if the weather was terrible.

Also, I'm just wondering, will Miss Umbridge (it's Miss, right? ~~I don't want to get it wrong~~) be coming to the debriefing?



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2012-07-09 22:16:30**

Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

I'm very glad you were along on this week - you truly were a tremendous help. All of you were, really.

As to your second question, I understand she prefers Madam Umbridge. I honestly don't know if she'll be at the debriefing: I have been asked by the YPL oversight board to welcome her when she's available.

I hope that her questions weren't too difficult distracting while you were working with the younger students?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2012-07-10 04:16:53**

Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

I know how to handle those sorts of questions. It was okay.

2012-07-09 19:59:00

A magical creatures club?

I wonder who might be interested in doing a magical creatures club this summer? I've talked with several people who thought it might be fun. The idea would be to get together to visit various sites to see the sorts of creatures we've been learning about in Professor Grubbly-Plank's classroom.



 [alt_luna](#)

For a first meeting, what about getting together at the Whipsnade Magical Menagerie? Would this Saturday at 10:00 am work? They're having a special exhibition this month of exotic magical birds. I've heard they've obtained a nesting pair of African Jaberknolls, which are purple instead of our native blue, and this is a really rare opportunity to see them.

For future meetings, there are other menageries and museums, or we could meet at some sites that are supposed to have magical creatures, and we can try to identify them in the wild.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-07-10 23:19:27**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Lunes -- this is a really good idea. It sounds like something you'd come up with. I just wanted to let you know that with the things I've been doing to help keep Harry busy and all, well, I'm not sure I can add this to the heap. But it does sound like fun, and I hope you get people to come, and if I wasn't so busy already, I'd be one of them.

[2012-07-09 20:48:00](#)

Private message to Ronald Weasley



 [alt_molly](#)

Ron, dear:

I'm out on another barter network meeting tonight, and since I keep missing you (we NEVER seem to be home at the same time; what HAVE you been doing with your time??) I'm just putting a private note here to bring some things to your attention before I forget.


Thank you for being prompt about milking the goats this morning, but PLEASE do remember to be careful about closing the latch all the way when you come back out of the goat shed. Persephone got out and ate two whole rows of cabbages before I had her corralled again. I know this may not seem like a tragedy to you, since you're not fond of cabbage anyway, but the tomatoes certainly would have been her next target, the greedy thing, and those you would have missed.

We've received a notice that your YPL salary has been deposited under your name at Gringotts. I know you've been pining for some pocket money, dear, but your father and I do want to chat with you about what sorts of things you can spend the money on.

Your father said something about Pansy Parkinson sending you a broom? That's the one meant for Sally-Anne Perks, isn't it? Arthur also mentioned you're planning to tinker with some of the charms on it. What sort of charms? Maybe you'll think I'm a worry wart, but do you truly know what you're doing? It's one thing if you're adding cushioning or waterproofing charms, but if you're doing anything to fiddle with how it actually operates, isn't that the sort of thing better left to a professional?

Oh, and speaking of Sally-Anne: Mrs Elspeth Buchanan mentioned that she's set up a barter contract with Sally-Anne's father. He'll be coming out this Wednesday to work on the charms on her new cistern. It's an all-day job, and might even take him a couple of days, actually. I wonder...do you think the girl might think it a good opportunity to visit him? Could you pass the word along to her? I think it would be less obvious if you do it rather than me.



 **alt_ron** at [2012-07-10 02:32:52](#)
(no subject)

Um. Hiya, Mum.

Persephone got into the cabbages? Really? Um, that's a shame. No idea how that happened. I guess goats are just really clever with their noses, yeah? She must have got the catch up on the lock all by herself. But, um. Sorry if it was anything I forgot, anywiz.

They paid me already? I haven't even done anything yet! But, so, yeah. I figured you'd want to talk about what it's for. That's all right. I understand. I mean, it's not like it's a modeling gig or anything. So, yeah. Is Dad going to be home at all this week? It seems like he's working extra long hours this summer. Or maybe it's always like this and I just forgot. Is everything all right in the office, do you think?

And, yeah. About the broom. Pansy got it for Sally Anne. As a surprise. And I'm just putting cushioning charms on and some handling spells to make easier to steer in a stiff breeze and at heights and all. So she'll have a better time when we go off on these distance flying trips. Same spells I've tried on my own broom.

I'll tell her about her dad.

Actually, Mum. D'you think Sally Anne and Pansy could maybe come stay here on Wednesday so we could get ready to go on the Avebury trip Thursday. I mean, we could check out her broom and all. And maybe, like you said, she could go see if she could talk to her dad while he's at Mrs Buchanan's. Anywiz, I'll ask her if she'd like to.

If it's okay with you and all.



 **alt_molly** at [2012-07-10 02:59:40](#)
(no subject)

Yes, you've received a payment, but I think it's just a token amount, just to verify the account, you know, and the bulk of it will come later.


I know that sometimes from the way I grumble it sounds as if your father is always working longer hours. But I do think it's been a bit worse than usual. Part of it is that the investigations since that

Dogstar group was shut down has slowed everything down. And part of it, I think, is that he's supervising Nicholas Towler now. I think that Nicholas will be a help once he gets up to speed, but until then, your father has to explain everything before doing it, you see.

Oh, so these are charms you've already tried out on your own broom? Well, that makes me feel a little better.

As for Sally-Anne and Pansy, well...ordinarily I might hesitate, simply because things are so cramped here, but Fred and George just told me that they are spending Wednesday night with a friend, so the girls could stay in their room. So yes, I think it will be all right. (Don't worry, I'll check the room for hexes first. AND change the sheets.)



 **alt_ron** at **2012-07-10 03:13:35**
(no subject)

You're the best, Mum!

2012-07-09 21:33:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good
Private Message to Sally Anne and Pansy



Say, Sally Anne.

Mum just said that she heard your father's going to be working on Wednesday and maybe more days than that at Mrs Buchanan's. She lives in Odcombe, I think, which is over into Somerset. Near there, anywiz.

 [alt_ron](#)

Mum thought you might want to know. You know, so you could maybe go see him. I guess she thinks Mrs Buchanan wouldn't mind if you did.


And, uh. I asked Mum if you could come stay over here on Wednesday so you could maybe do that before we go off on the trip to Avebury on Thursday. Only, um. I know you were really wanting to see your mum, not your dad so much, but maybe it'd work out really well if Mum thought you were going to see your dad because then you could go off like that's what you were going to do, only you could go to your parents' house like you were planning all along, and then you could see your mum instead.

And we could still go to Avebury on Thursday, see? And then really no one could guess that you went. I mean, you could come and we could tell Mum and Ginny and the twins and whoever's here that we were going off to test our brooms for Thursday, and then ~~we could go~~ you could go without anyone guessing, yeah?

Pansy, that means you, too. I asked Mum if you both could come. And I'm sure she'll say yes.

And, um. When she does, I'll send you a PM outside the lock so she can see I invited you. Only, I wanted you to know now.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-07-10 10:18:07**
(no subject)

Good going, Ron. Really.

And good on your mum.

2012-07-09 22:13:00

Private Message to Pansy Parkinson and Sally Anne Perks



So, yeah. She said yes!

It'd be brilliant if you could come on Wednesday and stay over. That way we you could be gone as long as you need to and no one'll have to know at all.

 [alt_ron](#)


D'you think?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-07-10 04:10:24**
(no subject)

Yes.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-07-10 04:14:10**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I told Mrs Stretton I need to go to New London to do some extra training before CCF. It isn't even really a lie, I mean the long-distance flying club is good training, right? Anyway she's letting me go, I can leave Wednesday morning or even Tuesday night I think and she won't expect me back until Friday.

Are you coming with? I mean I'm not sure I'll be able to find my way ~~I'm worried that~~ I'd like you to come, if you want, anyway. I think you'd like my mum.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2012-07-10 06:07:18**
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Yeah. You're right. I should totally fly with you there, if that's okay. I wasn't sure

I've been looking at the maps and plotting ways we could go. Seeing if we couldn't knock a bit off by Flooing part way without making it obvious where you're going in case anyone's paying attention. Anywiz, I've got ideas.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-10 10:15:36](#)

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

Of course you've got ideas. You're brilliant, Ron.

I think we'd have to come up with a good story about the flooring, in case. Like maybe we'd heard about a really ace patch of flying in a certain area or wanted to tour around and see a specific site.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-10 13:09:04](#)

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

Course I am!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-10 10:17:08](#)

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

Tuesday night, if you can.

I miss you like mad.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-10 10:29:51](#)

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

If it's Tuesday, I'll have to say something to mum and Prospero, only because I think they might notice if I'm gone for more than one evening, but I'll throw something at them about CCF and long-distance flying and that'll do.

We've got you a good broom. Ron's been fixing it up.



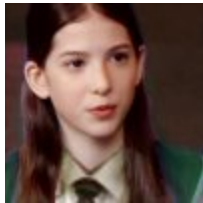
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-10 13:08:04](#)

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

Um. Were you meaning that Sally Anne would go to yours tonight or that you'd both come here?

Mum said you could stay over tomorrow night. The twins're going to Lee's then, I think. Anywiz, she's going to clean up their room, and you'll stay there. I don't know what she'd say about you coming tonight, too, but I could ask.

If you don't come tonight, we should talk about whether you come here in the morning first thing and we all go together, or whether we meet up someplace with a central Floo office. I'm not sure about stuffing two brooms and me through the Floo at once, though, so maybe you really had best come here first!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-10 13:43:25](#)

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

If I come on Tuesday I was thinking your London flat, so we could get an early start on Wednesday without anyone noticing other than Mrs Weasley.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-10 23:03:34](#)

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

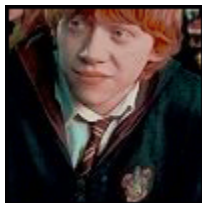
Yes, of course.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-10 13:44:37](#)

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

And a broom -- oh, brilliant. I was thinking I'd have to talk Jeremy into lending me his.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-10 16:39:43](#)

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

No. You don't need Stretton's broom any more. This one's completely wizard, too. I mean, it's not a Quidditcher's broom, but it's really better for just flying. More comfortable, y'know.

Can't wait for tomorrow. Come as early as you can.

||| Shame it's supposed to keep up with the rain, but I guess you're used to that by now.

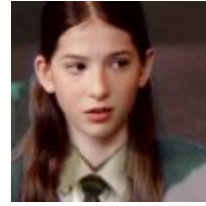


 **alt_pansy** at **2012-07-10 10:14:05**
(no subject)

I'll be there.

2012-07-09 23:17:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



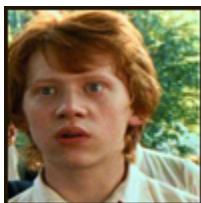
I'm back at the Strettons and I've had a nice hot bath and all my robes are clean and dry again AND I got to sleep in a proper bed last night. That was possibly the most miserable week for camping we could have asked for.


 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Madam Umbridge kept turning up and poking her nose in things, and here's the really funny thing. At the beginning of the week, I think she assumed I was a pureblood, because I'm in Slytherin. But then she found out I wasn't, probably from Healer Stint, who was ALSO there for part of the week, and INSTANTLY it was like in her eyes, I was a completely different person. Before she knew, she thought I was clever and competent and after, she thought I was some sort of pathetic magical weakling and surely Draco was covering for me.

AS IF.


Anyway she made it clear she didn't think half-bloods ought to be in leadership positions like YPL counsellors. Not by saying 'I don't think half-bloods ought to be YPL counsellors' but more things like, 'Do you really think, dear, that's the right thing to do in this situation? Perhaps someone with a different background would handle this problem differently.'



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-10 16:32:57](#)
(no subject)

That's such total, total bollocks. Who does she even think she is?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-10 17:14:53](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, who IS she? I mean, what does she have to do with the YPL programme? Is she part of the oversight team from the Ministry or something?

(If she's that bad about half-bloods, imagine what she'd say about muggleborns.)



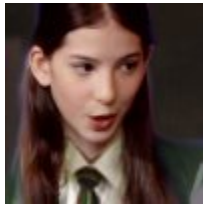
 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-07-10 17:57:51](#)**
(no subject)

Well, she WAS the Minister for Magic for a while. And then she resigned. And now ... I don't know what her actual job is, other than minding everyone else's business.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-07-10 23:12:34](#)**
(no subject)

Ugh. She sounds awful.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-07-11 00:05:26](#)**
(no subject)

You'll probably get to meet her when you go on your trip. She seemed like a really COMMITTED busybody.

2012-07-10 11:58:00

Order Only: Party at 12 Grimmauld Place!




 **alt_gredforge**

Sorry, sorry, Mr Snape, that's lessons at 12 Grimmauld Place. Potions on Thursday morning (we've both finished our essays for you, and we've read through Chapter 16), and Defence Thursday afternoon with Sirius (and maybe Remus?).

Terry, Sirius said if you'd like to join us, we could all come to stay and sleep over on Wednesday evening. Only we won't be able to stay up all night talking, because sleeplessness combined with an advanced potions lesson the next morning doesn't work so well. You'll be able to make it?



 **alt_terry** at **2012-07-10 17:16:41**
(no subject)

Yeah, I can come. Mr Longbottom said that either he or Mrs Longbottom will side apparate me to get me there.


I hope I can watch the Potions lesson.



 **alt_gredforge** at **2012-07-10 17:18:04**
(no subject)

Sure you can. We'll ask Snape if he can set you something simple to brew, too. You ever brewed potions before?



 **alt_terry** at **2012-07-10 17:19:33**
(no subject)

Madam Pomfrey demonstrated, on the stuff she brews for the Hospital Wing. And Hermione and I read textbooks in our secret classroom. But I haven't had many chances to brew myself.

2012-07-10 21:23:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private message to Pansy and Ron

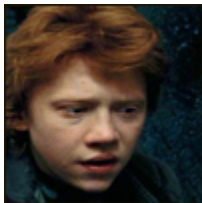


 **alt_sally_anne**

When you two mentioned a broom I thought you'd found a used broom to fix up.

This broom is BRILLIANT. I could practically go out for the Slytherin Quidditch team with this! (Not that I will. Too many people are better than I'll ever be.)

Anyway. Thank you. Both of you.



 **alt_ron** at **2012-07-11 02:42:47**

(no subject)

So. You like it?



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2012-07-11 02:58:33**

(no subject)

I like it a LOT.

Pansy said you'd added an extra cushion charm and charms to make it handle better -- I couldn't really test it all out properly but even just sitting on it in the back garden, I could feel the difference in the cushioning. It's brilliant.



 **alt_ron** at **2012-07-11 03:12:39**

(no subject)

Really?

Wizard!

2012-07-11 21:56:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



We're back at the Burrow. (Me, Ron, and Pansy.)

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

I'm really tired but I think I said out loud while camping that I was really looking forward to that long-distance flying trip so I think I'd better go tomorrow, too.

Anyway. We flew to Bagwylydiart and saw Mum. She's well. I'll write more in a bit.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2012-07-12 03:03:36**
(no subject)

And now that I read back I realise I don't think we ever talked about it where anyone else could see.

Other than in the spring. We talked a little about it in the spring. But Ron found out from his mum that my father was going to be away today, doing a job for someone, so I could visit my Mum without seeing him. So I told the Strettons I was doing training for CCF and I spent last night at Pansy's and tonight we're staying over at the Burrow -- Pansy and I get the Twins' room, but Mrs Weasley says she checked it for hexes and I don't think Fred and George would do anything HORRID to us anyway.

I think she suspected what we'd done, actually. I mean she told Ron because she thought I might like to go see my Dad, but we left really early and got back really late. Anyway she made a lot of food at dinner and all her questions were things like 'was the weather nice? did you get some nice flying in?' and she never asked where we'd gone.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-07-12 03:46:06](#)**
(no subject)

D'you mean you think she knows we saw your mum not your dad?

I hate that. She always knows everything! It's a nightmare, really, like she's got eyes in the back of her head. And ears everywhere.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-07-12 04:59:53](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, I think she suspects we went to see Mum, because of how long we were gone.

Maybe she has some sort of eavesdropping spell? I could totally imagine there's some book of spells people give you when you become a parent, that let you spy on your kids.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-07-12 20:30:05](#)**
(no subject)

I'm glad I got to meet her.

Very glad.

She seemed really normal nice. And like she was happy to see you.

2012-07-12 22:25:00

Going the Distance

That was an experience! I don't think I ever caught on to the ley lining, but it was something else to watch Marvolo doing it. And Professor Raz!



 [alt_ernie](#)

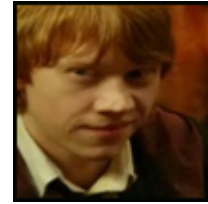
And I've certainly not ever flown that far. It was wizard, especially seeing all the places that have flooded. It was awesome to fly over top of that and see it from above!

I was completely done in when I got home, though, and I fell straight asleep after I washed up. But then I woke up a bit ago, hungrier than I think I've ever been. Got the kitchen girl to bring me everything she could find worth eating.

Really, I think I could still eat some more, only I'm starting to yawn again, so I think I'll just go back to bed.

[2012-07-14 17:37:00](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good
Private Message to Sally Anne Perks and
Pansy Parkinson*



 [alt_ron](#)

So. Are you able to walk yet?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-15 01:02:27](#)

(no subject)

Cheeky.

Yes, I can. I spent most of Friday sleeping, though.

I think that I got the hang of ley flying, at least. I mean, it was hard not to given all the flying we did. About halfway through our trip on Wednesday, I got tired of working so hard and then it was like the broom was flying itself, almost. So that wasn't nearly as tiresome as I thought it'd be. And it didn't take me nearly as long to pick it up again on Thursday, even though it came and went when I started thinking about it too hard.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-15 02:04:39](#)

(no subject)

Yeah. You're right. Flying ley helps you feel the broom's magic blending with the earth's and yours so you can get to that place where you don't have to think about every twitch and turn or rise or drop.

But, yeah, flying a long way or just flying a lot'll get you to the same place eventually.

Good on you for feeling it!


Course, there's more to it, too, ley flying, I mean. It's dead useful for surveying, because if you can sense it, then it totally helps you find your way even in unfamiliar places. I think they're going to have us trying that during CCF this year. Or maybe it's just in the surveying sessions, I've been looking at some stuff Charlie sent me about it. He uses it all the time.



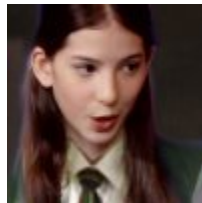
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-15 02:07:45](#)
(no subject)

I'm moving again. Blame Gemma.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-15 02:48:56](#)
(no subject)

What did Gemma do to you?

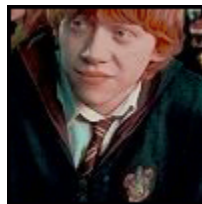



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-15 14:56:12](#)
(no subject)

When I didn't get up at what she considered a reasonable time, she came and jumped on me in my bed.

I'M UP NOW GEMMA.

Hey, you know what? Philip is going to be at Hogwarts this fall. He'll be a firstie. Gemma is so jealous! And she's hoping he gets Sorted into Hufflepuff. She STILL wants to be a Hufflepuff.

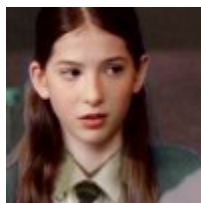


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-15 15:40:38](#)
(no subject)

Gemma's a goose.

Where do you think Philip'll get Sorted?
Ravenclaw like his brother?

I'm glad I met your mum. I liked her.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-15 15:59:05](#)
(no subject)

Ravenclaw like their parents would be my guess.

And I'm glad you got to meet her. ~~Once, anyway~~



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-07-15 18:19:48](#)**
(no subject)

It seemed as if she's all right. I mean, I guess I thought maybe she'd-

I don't know what I thought. That they don't get enough to eat, I guess, so I expected she might be sort of ill looking? But she wasn't, really.

She was really kind, too, and it was great when she laughed. I mean, I was being daft, I know, and it was lucky she thought it was funny when I almost knocked everything off that shelf. But, yeah, she was really nice.

And I could tell she's dead clever, the way she makes do with things without using magic. And the things she knows about. She was a Ravenclaw, too, wasn't she? I think you said one time. It totally makes sense now I've met her.

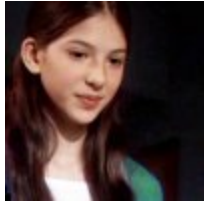
She seemed really pleased about you wanting to be a Healer. But I, uh- I didn't really understand what she was trying to say about Muggle medicine, though, being like wizards' duels.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-07-15 18:32:02](#)**
(no subject)

It's thanks to your mum they have enough to eat now, actually. My father could never find enough work, that was part of why we went hungry so often when I was little. Your mum knows loads of people through the barter network who don't care he's married to a muggleborn, they just like being able to hire a magical mechanic who'll trade work for meat and eggs and wool and the rest.

Both my parents were Ravenclaws. My mum really is clever, though. The bit about wizards' duels was a METAPHORE, she was trying to explain vaccines so you'd understand. I guess it didn't work.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-15 18:34:31](#)
(no subject)

And I was glad she was pleased I want to be a Healer.

Her idea about getting Healer training AND going to muggle medicine school would be mad even if I weren't in the Protectorate, though. I mean there are only so many hours in a day. Unless you use a Time-Turner, I suppose.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-15 19:55:42](#)
(no subject)

Of course she was pleased! I think you're well on your way, and you'll be just brilliant at it.

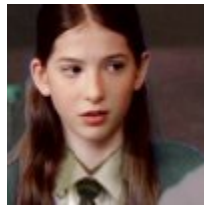
I can see how learning about one would help you with the other, even though they really do things very differently. I can't imagine literally *sewing* skin together. With a needle and thread! Ugh ugh ugh. You'd think they would've come up with something better than that. I mean, they invented aeroplanes, after all.

The pictures she showed us of your grandfather were really ace by the way.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-15 19:57:18](#)
(no subject)

Those really were ace pictures! She never showed them to me when I was little. I think maybe my father doesn't know about them.

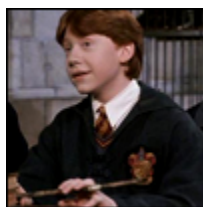



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-15 19:58:39](#)
(no subject)

And when she was talking about her brothers and sisters

I wonder if any of them are alive? They might be in the muggle camps.

We never talked about that, either, when I was little. She had NINE siblings. So even if



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-15 20:15:32](#)
(no subject)

Nine's a lot. And some of them must've got married and had kids, too. So you could have loads of cousins.


I wonder if any of them showed magic?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-15 20:31:25](#)
(no subject)

Doesn't your dad work with records and things, Ron? He could look, couldn't he?

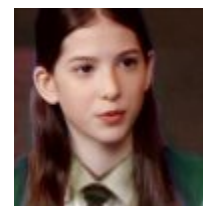


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-15 20:36:48](#)
(no subject)

Well, yeah. You're right.

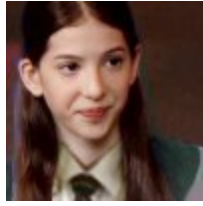
We'd have to know their names, though.

I mean. Sally Anne. What was your mum's name before she got married? And d'you know what her sisters' names were after they got married? It wasn't just all brothers she had, right? (I mean, it could've been. Look at Ginny!)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-16 02:34:50](#)
(no subject)


No, she had some of each. I should have asked her for their names, I didn't even think about it. Her maiden name was Goddard.



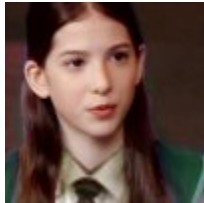
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-16 02:49:23](#)
(no subject)

And she didn't grow up anywhere near where I did. Neither of my parents did, actually -- they moved there because they thought it would be best to live somewhere very out-of-the-way. My mother grew up in Eckington. I've never been there.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-16 02:52:41](#)
(no subject)


Where's Eckington? Never heard of it.



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

It's in Derbyshire.

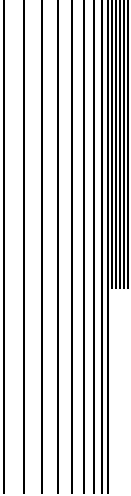


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-16 15:44:14](#)
(no subject)

Oh, yeah. Now I see it on the map! Did you know there's another Eckington outside Gloucester? Funny what you learn by looking at maps.

You know, we could go there sometime and see if there are any graveyards with stones or anything. You might find out something about your relatives that way.

I'll ask Dad, though, whether he could find out about any of them in the camps. You did want me to ask, right? I tried talking to him yesterday, but there was always someone around.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-16 19:18:18](#)
(no subject)

I don't know. It's not as if I could do anything about it if he finds them.

Yes, please.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-16 02:28:01](#)
(no subject)

Cousins! I didn't even think about cousins.

2012-07-16 13:25:00

Order Only

I've just had an odd encounter. Here at St Mungo's, between sessions.



 [alt_poppy](#)

I'd stopped up to the First Floor to visit Midas Wellfleet, an old friend who's had a time of it since being bitten by an Aureata beetle. (He's struggling, I'm afraid, Pomona. You should come see him soon, if you've a mind to do that.) As I left the ward, I surprised a knot of wizards out in the corridor, who acted distinctly as if I'd caught them doing something they oughtn't to.

And, because Fate seems bent on punishing me, it was Facinorous Stint speaking to Meniscus Fulton and someone else I didn't recognise. Fulton's an Auror. One of the ones who investigated the unpleasantness during that YPL outing in January that put Aurora Sinistra in such hot water.

I know Aurora thinks Stint's stirring up trouble for her. We've met for lunch and a chat a couple of times at a quiet cafe she likes--which is another story, about which I'll only say here that I believe inviting me there was a sign we're on a bit more familiar footing than previously--and she's confided that Stint has been causing fresh trouble on the committee. What his scheming amounts to, she can't entirely pin down, but it's making her very apprehensive about the success of the upcoming CCF training weeks.

As you know, I've my own reasons to be wary of Healer Stint, and since I've had my wings clipped and my jesses tied to the perch here at St Mungo's of late, I've had some leisure to turn Stint's scrutiny of me back his direction.

That said, it was a complete accident just now, my stumbling upon his tête-à-tête with Fulton and that other wizard. If I'd been skulking about trying to listen in, I'd have made sure I wasn't seen. As it is, I've been caught catching him at something without having actually learned anything useful at all.

You should have seen the dark looks they gave me. Gracious. If I'd been a pot of milk, I'd have curdled.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-07-16 21:57:48](#)**
(no subject)

Ugh. What a horrid little man Stint is!

I'm sorry to hear about Midas, as well. How badly off is he, really?

We've barely spoken the last few years; he seemed to feel his work at Regulation and Control of Magical Creatures was quite all-consuming.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-07-17 01:47:25](#)**
(no subject)

I quite agree.

Midas' situation is rather dire, I'm afraid. And while it's a terrible way to put it, I think his work may literally consume him before it's over.

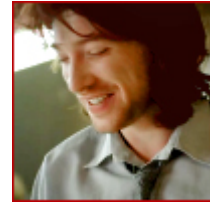
The bite was on his palm. It's taken all of his fingers but the tip of his thumb, and it's run up the whole of his arm. His Healer confided that it may already have got into his lymphatic system, as well, so really I'm afraid it may be beyond their ability to cure him.

He's taking it with his usual good humour, though. Wanted me to see if I could find a good photographer to do a portrait that would capture the 'gleaming gaudiness' of it. (His words.)

2012-07-16 21:48:00

Private message to Stephen Rosier

Thanks, it was an enjoyable evening. I promise I'll buy the rounds next time. Of course, usually if you want your personal aide to be at his desk bright-eyed and bushy-tailed on time the next morning, ready to slog through the piles of reports in his in-box, it's best not to dip too deeply into the Firewhiskey with him the night before. Especially when you buy the good stuff.



 [alt_bill](#)

I'm so glad you ignore standard managerial advice like that. It's part of the reason we get along so well. Don't worry, I was able to get home without splinching myself or anything, and I don't expect I'll have any trouble reporting to work in the morning. (Maybe I have a harder head than the average. It probably comes from so much experience at drowning my sorrows at the sight of the Chudley Cannons bombing out of the finals. For the hundred millionth time.)

The conversation was exceedingly interesting. I'll talk with my Dad, as you suggest, although like you, I'm not sure the trains idea for transporting so many workers is really a viable one. But I'll see what I can find out.

[2012-07-17 13:15:00](#)

Private message to Poppy Pomfrey

Poppy -

Thanks again for meeting me Friday. It's such a pleasure to relax with a friend.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

I wish I could manage to get away this week, but now that we're traipsing all over New London, it's unlikely. This group is all settled into their rooms, and into the afternoon activities now, though, so at least I've a moment to catch my breath. (And Madam Umbridge did appear this morning, but had a meeting this afternoon, so even she's gone for a bit.)

I don't suppose you've anything else on the Stint front? I've discussed it thoroughly with Raz (for obvious reasons) but anything you might happen to overhear, even just if you see him talking to someone, would be tremendously helpful. I feel like it's all fog and mist, and nothing certain. And it's hard for us to take it further without somewhere to start. "There's this thing, and it's very vague, but I swear he's up to something" seems most unlikely to convince anyone at MLE, especially given the history. I feel foolish saying it even to you, and I know you believe me.

I'm also still holding out hope for an actual vacation at some point, but I admit that's looking harder and harder to manage. How are there so few weeks in the summer?

I hope this week's course treats you a bit better than the previous. And I think Mum may have something to pass along to you, too, next I see her.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-07-17 19:45:15](#)**
(no subject)

Not to worry about this week. I shall be sorry to miss seeing you, but I quite understand.

It's funny you should ask about Stint. I would have written you yesterday, but it would have drawn his attention, and I was feeling very uneasy about that.

I did precisely what you imagine: I stumbled upon him having an

apparently furtive conversation with two other wizards (neither of them St Mungo's folk). One was Auror Fulton; I didn't know the other. Unfortunately, I didn't hear a word they were saying. I merely stepped out of the Dai Llewellyn ward and took them by surprise. They couldn't possibly have looked more displeased to see me. At the risk of sounding melodramatic, I have to tell you that Stint looked downright murderous at the interruption.

But that's all I can tell you. I've not been able to sort out who the third wizard was, though I have probed delicately, and I can't begin to guess what they were discussing.

I do hope you'll have a smooth and satisfying week showing off New London's charms. I've got one final week of 'Protocols and Professionalism' with this cohort of beginning Healers, and then I'm off to the Firth of Moray for the next of my summer commitments.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-17 19:53:36](#)**
(no subject)

Goodness. I don't blame you for being uneasy. Do watch yourself, please. Stint's nasty enough, but some of Fulton's just as sharp (and with less reason for restraint, I'd think.)

I do hope this week goes smoothly. Our counsellors seem to be doing well enough, the security (for our Mr Marvolo) is going nicely, though he seems to have accumulated rather the fan club. And you're right that there's a lot to enjoy this trip when everything's going well.

And at least if the weather's bad, we're mostly inside anyway, or can be. I keep thinking about doing a short walking tour if Raz and I can't get away at the same time, and then I realise I've had entirely too much of a damp outdoors already this summer.

Beyond that, it's trying to wedge in other social events between the commitments (otherwise, I'd try and see if you were free Friday evening, between the two trips, but I'm busy then, and Raz is insisting I keep the 25th free as well.)



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-07-18 16:55:09](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know much about Fulton, save for the fact that he was involved in January with that YPL business. That he's an Auror is enough of a caution for me.

I suppose security is your worst headache for all these events. Especially the ones that include Mr Marvolo. Bless.

Is there something special about the 25th, then? That's not the start of Freedom 'Day', is it? (I'm sure I shouldn't care if people wish a holiday in summer, but it does seem that those festivities have ballooned over time, and what was once a single day affair has spread rather. But surely it's not grown to be a whole week's entertainment, has it?)



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-18 17:03:45](#)**
(no subject)

There are Aurors I quite like. Well, at least one. (Campanella, that would be.) But caution definitely indicated as a rule, I agree. And around Fulton in particular.

And yes, security's quite the complication, though it's easier to manage here in many ways than camping would have been. Thankfully, Marvolo himself is very easy to deal with about it as a rule.

As to the 25th - special only in that it's one of my two days off between the New London trips and the CCF weeks. For values of 'off' that still seem to involve a lot of last minute detail checking. So something pleasant I don't have to arrange seems like quite the thing in there.

On Freedom Day - the bits I've heard suggest that the stalls will be up a bit earlier, but I'm more involved in the CCF parts. They plan to have the students march in a parade (in new uniforms and with synchronised charm work, no less), so there will be lots of practicing between their arrival on the 27th and the day itself. Jamming that into the schedule took a little doing, but they're all bright enough it should go well.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-07-18 17:22:18](#)**
(no subject)

Marching in uniform?

Oh, my. Well, I expect it will be quite a spectacle. Imagine in several years' time when there are more years involved!

I agree that it sounds a tight fit for scheduling, though. I'd thought you had quite a full slate of activities already.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-18 17:30:19](#)**
(no subject)

There are some arguments I was clearly not going to win this year. Actually, I'm surprised we've managed to hold off on uniforms and marching and patriotic songs this long.

(And our dear Madam Umbridge is so very excited about all that. I'm just gritting my teeth politely.)

On the scheduling, quite. It's a completely full three weeks, really. There's what we did last year - four core areas, plus a specialty. There's various physical challenges and group exercises to develop leadership (and a couple of those are going to be quite demanding in more than one way). There's the fact the whole thing's centering around the battle of Leicester (and they're also touring Nottingham) with various lectures and exercises and projects. And there's a whole bit about cryptography and message analysis that got put in.

And then you add in that some of them swim far better than others (and there's a number of water activities), and a few things I can't talk about yet, and. Well. Yes.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-07-18 17:53:33](#)**
(no subject)

(I take it that she's rather given to enthusiasm. Have I ever mentioned Poole's Jelly Gums to you? They're not only quite pleasant but have a

gentle relaxant that works wonders for tooth grinders and jaw clenchers. Herbs and fruit. Nothing transfigured in them. I quite prefer them to anything else I've tried.)

I think the cryptography sounds most interesting, though I quite understand why it was difficult to shoe horn in amongst all the rest. I remember you mentioning that there was particularly keen student interest in doing it, though. Were you able to find someone interesting to serve as the instructor?



 **alt_sinistra** at **2012-07-18 18:07:46**
(no subject)

Enthusiasm. Advice. Suggestions. And all with that edge of "Of course I know best."

I've had it made quite clear to me that she's to be given every courtesy, but she will keep trying to be friendly on top of everything else.

Thanks for the recommendation, anyway: I'll see if I can pop out to the apothecary this afternoon.

The cryptography is interesting, though it took a lot of sorting to figure out something that wouldn't cause more trouble down the road. But Marlagozia Starling came out in favour of it (she's head of the Anti-Fomentation team, and their head communications analyst as well), and she'll be doing the initial lecture, and then several of her staff are running various practical exercises.

And yes, on the student interest - Padma Patil, that one.

2012-07-17 14:10:00

Order Only: Drinks with Rosier



 [alt_bill](#)

Went out for drinks with Stephen Rosier last night. I'm cautiously optimistic that things are going well there. I have the impression that he's taken a definite liking to me, which I'm doing everything I can to cultivate. Not that he's exactly the type to pour out his heart to a subordinate, I mean. But it's clear that the man is lonely. He lost a son during the war, and he still keeps the boy's picture on his desk. To be blunt, Dad and I have discussed how I can possibly use this, by presenting myself to him as a friendly, ambitious young man that he can take a paternal interest in grooming for a rising career.

As Dad can attest, things are definitely tense both in this department and Muggle Domestication, what with the investigators on the Dogstar operation still nosing through everything. There've been discussions about the necessity of disrupting the remnants of the Dogstar network in the camps. Since they haven't managed to uncover some of those networks, however, there is significant doubt about how to do this. Should the staff be replaced (oh, right. With whom???) or moved to other locations? Should the camp population be shuffled around to break up traitorous alliances? The gung ho types are insisting it must be done: break up all family groups, keeping no children over the age of 10 with their parents or siblings. Adult siblings would be split up, too. Rosier's of two minds about the proposal. As for me, I'm trying not to show how aghast I am at the cruelty that would be involved in separating families. On the other hand I can see what an opportunity it might present for us to place key people into the positions that we want (from Sherwood, or even Ridley's people, if we can get her to cooperate) if I have a hand in the reorganisation.

So, being of mixed opinions myself, I'm reacting by enthusiastically endorsing the idea while keeping up a steady stream of comments that make clear the huge logistical problems the proposal presents.

Like how would all these hapless muggles and muggleborns be moved about? One proposal involves herding them all onto train railcars and moving them that way. A codicil that really made my blood run cold was the idea of transfiguring 'em all first, into something more...herdable. Like cattle. He joked a bit about maybe not bothering to change them back: perhaps the milk and meat is more useful than

muggles or mudbloods. Yes, cannibalism. How jolly funny.

Or, he snickered, if you really want to save space, transfigure them into mice. We could even send in some cats if we want to efficiently cull the numbers.

With heroic determination, I managed to keep from spewing my Firewhiskey back up. I did point out that the lingering labour shortage (from Black's epidemic) made nonwizards still useful to have around. He (somewhat regretfully, I think) admitted that I had a point.

Then, when he'd imbibed enough liquor to become really loquacious, the conversation turned especially interesting. If horrifying. I asked why we couldn't simply put more of the muggles and mudbloods to Sleep, and he told me that a certain proportion are resistant to the Sleep spell. Some of them live too close to ley lines. But many resist because of a faint hint of wizarding blood. A distant ancestor, if you will.

I raised an eyebrow at that and pressed him a bit, and in the end he freely admitted that in his opinion the Ministry's propaganda about the origin of Muggleborns is a total crock. Muggleborns don't steal magic. But being born into Muggle families, their loyalty cannot be trusted. And then, almost casually, he mentioned that therefore their magic should be forfeit to those whose loyalty is unquestioned. 'But the Department of Mysteries is working on that, of course.'

It took some careful probing to figure out what he was hinting about, and once I did, it took all my self-control to keep myself from--well.


You know how the Ministry's always going on about muggles stealing magic? Well, the Ministry knows that's absolute rubbish.

Instead, the Ministry is trying to steal magic. From muggleborns to give it to squibs. Proper purebloods, you understand, from proper, loyal wizarding families. The ones who really deserve it.

I made an excuse to wrap the evening up shortly after that. Don't think I could have sat there listening much longer. Dad, he asked me to ask you about the feasibility of this train proposal, given your interest in muggle technology. Not many of the old rail lines that are actually near the camps are in very good repair. They might try a smaller pilot project first, maybe moving people in just four or five camps, just to iron out the kinks to start.

I can't help but hope if they do, they'll discover it stiffens resistance more than they think is worth it. Ugh.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-17 23:43:25](#)
(no subject)

He said--
how--

Merlin. I can hardly believe it.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-17 23:46:04](#)
(no subject)

All those times I heard the pureblood kids whispering whenever I walked by...

They called me a thief. Hermione, too. They sneered at us and looked down on us because they said we were low as could be. We were dirty, rotten thieves who stole what we had no right to have.

Now you're telling me that it's the other way around? The Ministry is trying to steal our magic?!




 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-07-17 23:47:27](#)
(no subject)

Um, yeah.

I'd ask if you can appreciate the irony, but I'm sure you don't.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-17 23:49:20](#)
(no subject)

Hardly.

That's why they took us away from our families. Away from anyone who could protect us. To make it easier to do.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-07-17 23:51:15](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, probably.

If it helps, I think that the idea that the Ministry could steal magic from you is as much a crock as the idea that you stole it from anyone.


Because if they could do it, well...they would have. Long ago.



 **[alt_terr](#)** at **[2012-07-17 23:55:11](#)**
(no subject)

You're right. If Amycus Carrow could have stolen my magic, he would have drained me long before it would have ever occurred to me to pick up a wand.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-07-18 01:26:34](#)**
(no subject)


Oh, Bill.

That's possibly the most awful thing I've heard in a good long while.

How they can look at people, thinking, feeling people, and reduce them to animals so easily... well. I can't understand it. I don't know if I ever will.

At least we've learned more about why the Sleeping spell didn't work for everyone. And we've learned more about their plans. That's valuable, even if it is horrid.



 **[alt_fr](#)** at **[2012-07-18 01:46:14](#)**
(no subject)

makes sense. the bits about their being more likely to pass on magic. I mean, the number of muggleborn we get every year is about the same as it was before the spell was cast, maybe even more.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-07-18 21:24:46](#)
(no subject)

Appalling. But also most interesting.


I wonder if this might not be the thing that would spur Ridley to join with us. If you could bring a piece of real intelligence about particular camps where the people are to be moved, and if we indeed had a plan to shuffle a number of trained operatives from Sherwood into place amongst those being resettled, then she might be more inclined to identify her operatives and allow them to be brought into our plans.

It's worth trying, at any rate.

I hope we'll find a way to liberate more than a few of those people while they're in transit.

In meantime, someone ought to transfigure Stephen Rosier into a rat and feed him to a roomful of hungry kneazles.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-07-19 02:06:57](#)
(no subject)

Agreed on Ridley. This may pry loose some of that information she's hanging onto with a death grip. Her hopes of rebuilding her network goes down significantly if all her agents are scattered to the

four winds.

2012-07-17 15:57:00

Order Only: Private message to Frank Longbottom and Sirius Black



 **alt_arthur**

I still haven't located Terry Boot's file, and I'm still not daring to draw attention to him by asking for it. On a hunch, however, I went to check the camp census records directly in Cumbria, since that's where Carrow took custody of him. That led me in turn to the parish records of the town of Ravenglass where he was born, and what I learned there made my heart sink.

Terry's entire family is dead. His parents were Samuel and Rosemary Boot, and he had an older sister by the name of Sophie. The three of them perished in the typhoid epidemic that struck Cumbria in the winter of 1985/86. His father was thirty, his mother was twenty-eight, and the girl was seven years old at the time of their deaths.

I had such hopes that I would have better news for him than this. I'm afraid the truth will be a bitter blow to him. Frank, I think it would be best if you and Alice could give him the news in person. Sirius, I'm letting you know because he is getting together with you and the twins again on Thursday. I'll let the twins know, too.

I suppose we must be his family now.



 **alt_frank** at **2012-07-17 21:15:21**
(no subject)

damn.

thanks for the update, arthur. it's better he know than not.

[2012-07-18 08:26:00](#)

Private message to Rory

Love, how many of your family have said they'll be able to make supper at Spence on Friday? I'll need to give the kitchen elves a head count by tomorrow.



 [alt_rabastan](#)

I told them to make something light and seasonal. Otherwise they'll make six endless courses, filled with dishes that have pretentious, continental names. They're so excited to have something to do we might end up with a few French words in there anyway. So long as it's all not completely intimidating, I think we'll be good.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **[2012-07-18 14:58:48](#)**
(no subject)

I think we will in fact have the lot. (Well, except Orion's girlfriend, but that's no surprise. She offered to help with the various kids.) You should be impressed, because we don't even manage that for Christmas reliably anymore.

Mum and Dad. Diane and Chiron. Orion. Storm and Dittany. Sage. Tempest. Theo.

10, plus you and me. And yes, less intimidating would be good. Spence by itself is bad enough, and a six course meal would just be entirely too much for Sage and Theo. Storm's promised to do what he can to keep Theo from being a brat, but I apologise in advance. If it's not bending your ear about Quidditch, it'll be all the glories of the Protectorate and your role in that (and the H word, I fear).

Sage is likely to be quiet - don't take it personally. If we can get conversation round to books, she'll probably start talking. Temp's quite looking forward to it, and I think you'll like her.

Do I need to do anything in particular, now we've got the invites settled? Other than, perhaps, make it not quite so obvious we're sharing a bed and bedroom? (Mum's figured it out at least, but that's a conversation I'd rather not have with either Diane or Sage.)

At least this trip is going well. Harry's doing very nicely - all the

counsellors are, actually. It ended up being a surprisingly good mix, even though I was a bit unsure it'd come together.

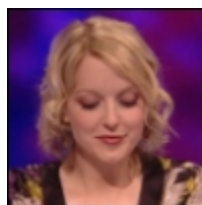


 **alt_rabastan** at [2012-07-18 16:58:57](#)
(no subject)

I'll leave bringing the conversation "round to books" to you, then, and I'll cover the quidditch. If the weather holds, we can dine on the terrace- best view of Green Park in New London, they say. And privacy charmed, too. We can look out, but no one else can look in. Nothing brings life to a gathering more than a little group voyeurism, isn't that right?

I don't reckon there'd be reason to venture all the way up to the bedrooms, but if it's a concern, I'll get an elf to move your things elsewhere. Carefully.

Glad to hear everything's going well. Can't say I'm too put out that the long-distance flyers aren't meeting this week, as last week's journey left me near-exhausted. I was fine during, but after- let's just say I felt every one of those twenty-some years difference between my age and theirs.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2012-07-18 17:17:58](#)
(no subject)

The terrace sounds lovely. And you're right it'd give everyone something to talk about.

(Thank you, love. There are rather an overwhelming lot of my family to deal with. Even if I have spared you the aunts and cousins so far, and intend to keep doing so as long as possible.)

As long as you don't mind discussing the details of every game in the past two decades with Theo, that sounds fine. (I do love him, he just has no tact, and no sense of when to stop.)

As to the elves - no need to move anything that's put away. I was more thinking the small personal things. Though, really, I could just leave my bags in the guest room when I come back, and that should cover most of it. The telescope's not that obvious, and I think most of my books migrated to that desk in the library


anyway.

(You don't mind that I'm not drawing attention, do you? Just that Diane wants details to a degree that I'd rather not share and Sage has what I hope is a very temporary prudish streak at the moment.)

As to your flying, I've heard you getting more than a few compliments, in between the other conversations. Skill and experience *does* count for something, you know. But I'm glad you've a pause too. (And from the sounds of it, more than one of them doesn't mind a break either. Both Ron Weasley and Pansy Parkinson were commenting on the fact they felt it the next day.)

I overheard something that makes me think Harry might ask you about Saturday for another outing, but I've no idea if they'll actually coordinate anything.



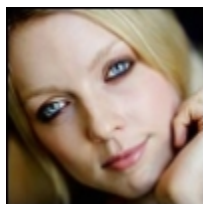
 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-07-19 00:45:45](#)
(no subject)

I think I'd rather be around the big, bustling family than the small, cold variety that is my own.

Would I *mind* discussing the details of the last two decades of quidditch? I guess you don't remember that New Year's Eve party and how that was mostly all anyone was doing, eh? But don't worry, I'll steer the conversation to more inclusive topics as needed.

I don't mind- they're your family, after all. But with the kind of reputation I've carried around the last fifteen years or so, I doubt they think we've dedicated ourselves to a "chaste courtship."

Ah, good to know on the flying. I'll see if I can ask Harry about it tomorrow.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-19 01:20:26](#)
(no subject)

In that case, I am glad to provide the big bustling family. Just tell me if it gets too much? Mum and Dad really do approve of you and want you to feel welcome and included.

As to the Quidditch - well, I didn't think the topic was the problem. More that Theo does tend to go in for the "listening to pearls drop from the lips of the sage", which can be a little tedious when one would prefer actual conversation. (That, and the fact he and Diane have been the big fans in the family. Not that I'm not coming round, mind you, and especially after setting up your present for you. Quite looking forward to watching games more intelligently at school this fall, even.)

As to chaste or not - of course they should be able to figure it out if they think about it. But I do hate people prying for the very private details (and people do, when they get me alone - Diane's better than many, there, even.)

To be fair to Sage, she broke up with her first serious boyfriend a few months ago, and I gather he was neither particularly skilled, nor at all interested in improving. But until she comes round to the idea that there's other options out there who do far better (and yes, I mean you, among others), there's no talking to her about it. She is even more stubborn than I am.

(Poppy and I were talking before the end of term about the abysmal state of relationship and sexual education, actually. Clearly, I've failed as an older sister, and once Sage is up for talking about the topic again, I'll fix some of that.)

And Dad, well. He knows better. Could hardly be married to Mum and not. But he's said that's the problem with raising daughters. We go off and grow up and become adults, and he remembers us being five or eight, or eleven. Sweetness and innocence and needing all the protection in the world. And harder for him because you're the first of my relationships he's really ever met. So it's kinder to give him small steps, and let Mum help, than be too blatant.

Right. They'll be finishing with the ghost tour soon (I took a break outside, to enjoy the evening since it's clear enough for a bit, as I've seen it often enough now.)

Sleep well, love, when you get there.

2012-07-18 12:48:00

Private message to Padma

How's your summer going? You're not with the group that's going to London this week, are you? Do you know yet if you're with the good group or the losers? I suppose they wouldn't tell you outright which group you were with but I reckon you'd know from looking at who was on it.



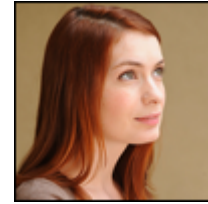
 **alt_seamus**

I've been working with my tutor and I've hardly seen Mr Rosier, he's been so busy with his new job at the Ministry. We have Sunday dinner together, at least. ~~It's been lonely~~

He said I can have some time off from revising this week, if you have time to come visit? Parvati too, if she wants.

[2012-07-18 16:03:00](#)

ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Sirius and Arthur



 **[alt_alice](#)**

We told Terry last night, after dinner.

He was very quiet when we broke the news, and when I went to take his hand, he immediately changed into the Professor. He crawled right up in my lap and we stayed that way for a good while -- I held him tight while Frank ruffled his ears and petted him, and we told him stories about the families that we've lost, and the ones we've had to create from the friends around us, and I think that helped. He really is so much more comfortable being shown affection to when he's a dog.

He didn't seem like changing back when it was time for bed, nor spending the night in the dormitories, so we Transfigured a pillow into a dog bed in our room and he joined us for the night. Partway through, he ended up tucked under Frank's arm, but he was gone in the morning and was very quiet during breakfast.

Sirius, love, I hope that when he's come to you, he'll have had the time to process things. I'm very glad he's seeing you and the twins tomorrow. I'll be giving him the side-along to Grimmauld, so we can chat a bit more then.

Arthur, thank you again for following up and for passing along the news. Frank's right, it is far better that he know what's happened and be able to move forward. He'll never be without family. Not as long as he's got all of us. If you could update the twins, that would be very useful. We ought to tell Hermione, too. Perhaps they could?



 **[alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-19 02:11:37](#)**

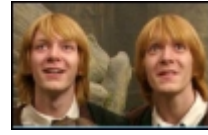
(no subject)

As awful as it must have been to break the news...well, I'm glad it was you who did it. And not Carrow. Hell, Carrow probably knew. Yes, he must have known, and I'm sure he withheld the news to torment the boy. But if he had ever ceased to amuse himself and decided to tell Terry, I'm sure he would have done it in as brutal a way as possible.

I've told Fred and George, and they're glad they will be with him tomorrow. I do think the idea of having them tell Hermione is a good one. He may be reluctant to speak of it himself, at least at first. But from what the twins have said, he does feel close to her, and I think it would be good for her to know.

2012-07-18 21:12:00

Order Only: Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo



 [alt_gredforge](#)

Hermione:

Dunno if you saw, but Terry recently asked Dad to see if he could track down some information about Terry's family, now that he's free.

Well, Dad tried, but he didn't end up finding good news. He wrote a private post to Frank and Sirius last night to let them know, and Frank and Alice told Terry in person last night.

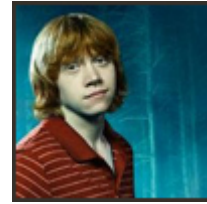
By checking the muggle records, Dad managed to find out that Terry's whole family is dead. Guess he had a mum and a dad, and a big sister Sophie, but all they died of typhoid back in 1985. His parents were around thirty or so, and his sister was seven. Dad hasn't managed to track down any photographs from the official records, or at least not yet.

Dad told us, since we're seeing Terry tomorrow, and he's going to privately pass it along to a few others (Minerva and Poppy). Anyway, Frank and Alice asked if we could pass it on to you.

Don't know if Terry'll mention it, on the ISS lock. But we figured you should know. From Frank's report, he took it about as good as could be expected. But he turned into the Professor right after they told him. Guess that's how he handles it now when things seem especially hard.

[2012-07-19 08:52:00](#)

Private Message to Pansy Parkinson and Harry Marvolo



Ugh.

Tamblyn looks better this morning, but honestly. What was he thinking? Hope he's done sicking up.

 [alt_ron](#)

Between him and the ones who couldn't sleep after meeting the Tower ghosts... I'm done for this morning.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-19 14:36:53](#)
(no subject)

He's a prefect. And a Ravenclaw. He ought to know better than to bring firewhiskey on a boat. Or, you know, on the trip at all.

I think Cho Chang is worried we're going to tell. But she shouldn't be, I mean, if we were going to we would've already, wouldn't we?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-19 14:41:54](#)
(no subject)

Do you think we should have? Told, I mean.

Only he was being such a tit last night, and I didn't want Professor Siz thinking the rest of us were doing that, too. Or thinking we knew he had it or whatever.

So, yeah. Why does Chang care if we tell?

I heard she broke things off with Diggory. Maybe she likes Tamblyn now? Which would be perfectly daft, but whatever. I mean, girls. They're totally in loooove with one bloke at breakfast, and then by dinner they've got a mad crush on someone different.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-19 14:47:53](#)
(no subject)


Really? I mean, I hadn't heard that.

Girls.

They can be really hard to sort out sometimes, can't they? I mean, even the nice ones. Maybe she just cares because he's in her house. Or something.

And he was being a tit, and if he does it again, we're definitely telling. Maybe we ought to tell him that, so he knows.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-19 14:52:17](#)
(no subject)

Thanks for that.

And we don't want to get Professor Siz in trouble with that awful Umbridge, either. It's not her fault he was being irresponsible, but she's been looking a bit stressed out lately, and I'd hate to add to it because someone was being stupid.

No harm done. This time.

And I have no idea about Chang either way. It's hard to tell when people aren't around one another, you know, but she hasn't written him any PMs lately, if that means anything.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-19 14:55:16](#)
(no subject)

Um.

Well.

I mean girls in general. You know.

And yeah, it was sort of gross cleaning up after, but I guess that's why there's more than one counsellor.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-19 14:59:08](#)
(no subject)

Ta.

Honestly, I think most of the mystery would clear right up if you lot actually sat down and listened to us every now and again. You know. Boys. In general.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-19 15:01:06](#)
(no subject)

Well, I mean. You're always talking, aren't you. Girls, I mean. In general.


Hard not to have to listen.



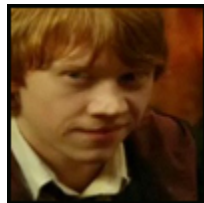
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-19 15:08:37](#)
(no subject)


What a hardship!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-19 15:17:07](#)
(no subject)

Heh.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-19 14:53:43](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Ken Towler was talking about it when we were at Avebury. Said he'd talked to Chang and she was fuming about how Diggory was all up in his own head this summer and had got all dull and serious about everything and wasn't sending her letters or wanting to meet up at all. Stuff like that. We could ask Bell. She might know if it's true.

And, yeah. Girls. Can't make heads or tails of 'em, mostly.


That's a good idea. Let's talk to him at lunch if we can get him alone. I mean, that was so not on, what he did.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-07-19 14:40:50](#)**
(no subject)

And you'd think they'd be used to ghosts after seeing the ones at Hogwarts. But re-creating your mad cat dying scene was a good idea to get their mind off things. I think Frobisher nearly woke up the others, he was laughing so hard. And Mackrell seemed to like it well enough. At least he went to sleep after.

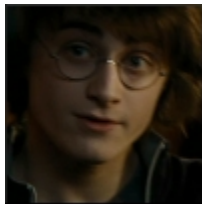


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-07-19 14:48:34](#)**
(no subject)

I mean to say!

Frobisher's spent all year with your hideous Baron down there in the dungeons, and Mackrell's always just laughed at Sir Nick and the way his head flops about sometimes. I don't see why they were wetting themselves about Queen Anne. I mean, sure, she was in a bit of a mood last night, and it was dead grim when she started shouting. I mean, the way she was waving her head around, and all.

I don't know. Maybe something happened to the two of them when we weren't looking. Did they go off to find the loo or something? Maybe some of the ghosts gave them a bad turn then.




 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-07-19 15:05:35](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, good point. Maybe we could ask.

At least they're getting on better today.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-07-19 15:19:40](#)**
(no subject)

Sheesh. This Miss Robins talks a lot! She's what, undersecretary to the secretary under the Minister or something?

I wish we'd just get started on the tour. She's telling us way too much about stuff that happened yonks ago.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-07-19 15:32:13](#)**
(no subject)

Well, you know how us ladies like to talk. And yes, she's the undersecretary to Fudge or something.

The few times I've met her I found her rather annoying. And overly familiar. In an annoying way.

Ugh.

She does go on.

[2012-07-19 11:43:00](#)

Private message to Pansy Parkinson and Ron Weasley



Having fun yet?

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

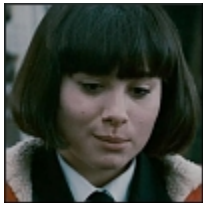


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **[2012-07-19 16:46:30](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

You got the 'good' group, didn't you? From the look of the names it must be the good group not the bad group. So at least you'll have the fun activities.

Poor Evelyn. She's pretty much got to join YPL, but of COURSE she's in the bad group, just like Neville was.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **[2012-07-19 17:25:37](#)**

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

We did. I can just imagine Patil's face when she gets her turn. She'll probably be rotten to all of them, but in that nearly-nice so it's harder to tell way. Like Hembridge.

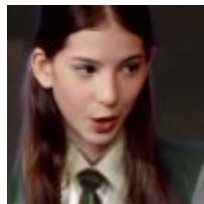


 [alt_ron](#) at **[2012-07-19 17:38:22](#)**

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

Ha. Hembridge!

That's a perfect name for her. Oi. She's awful, isn't she?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **[2012-07-19 19:18:48](#)**

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

She's rather like a grown-up Patil.

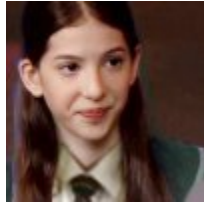
Except shorter.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-19 19:38:20](#)

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

And pinker.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-20 02:11:57](#)

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

Yeah, she's pinker that Parvati and Lav on a pink bender.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-19 17:23:51](#)

(no subject)

Loads! Harry and Ron just finished doing some sort of blindfolded defence demonstration with the Aurors where they have to use touch magic, and they both did really well. We're in the collections now.

We had the boat cruise last night, and Tamblyn brought a flask on board, got smashed and vommed over the side of the boat. I didn't find out until after, of course, because Chang wanted everyone to keep it quiet. And I was busy doing my job.

It really was adorable to see the ickle second-years get all swoony over Tintagel playing. There were shrieks. Loud ones. And three or four of them were begging for autographs after.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-19 17:45:46](#)

(no subject)

Yeah, we had a brilliant time with the Aurors this morning. After they got done telling us the whole bloody history of the Ministry. What a snore!

But then we went down the sparring dungeons, and!

They were dead amazing, the Aurors were, duelling each other and showing off silent casting and evasions and attack strategies and some amazing hexes. Shame they didn't teach us how to cast those!

But then! Oh, my gosh and Merlin's boots! They asked me and Harry to come up and try some blindfolded defences. Dead brilliant. Mind you, I nearly wet myself once they'd got my eyes covered! Heh. But it really worked! I was totally able to feel the shifts in the magic around me, and I got off six or seven perfect deflections before one of them got me with a tickling hex. It was awesome. And they explained some about the theory, and it's exactly like ley lining, which was why they asked us to come up and help demonstrate.

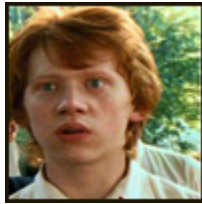
Just brilliant. All of it!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-19 17:46:53](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

It is a bit off that they knew that, though. I mean, that they'd be reading our journals like that. Maybe it was just Harry's. But still.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-19 17:48:15](#)

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

Oh.

Yeah.

I hadn't thought about that. Guess they were reading what we all wrote about the flying club.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-20 02:12:49](#)

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

Remember that time Mr Crouch popped into my journal to wish me a happy holiday? You NEVER know who's reading. Unless it's under the Lock.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-19 17:47:33](#)

(no subject)

It was incredibly ace to see. And you did very well.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-19 17:52:27](#)
(no subject)

Thanks, you.


It was amazing to do it!

And I think Harry had fun. Don't you?

I mean, he doesn't really very often, I don't think. And I thought when they first called him out that he was going to say no. He just sort of had that look, y'know.

Don't blame him, really. Must be dead annoying to have everyone always expecting you'll do stuff just because. And that you'll do it perfectly. Like when that Miss Robins was talking about the tri-wizard tournament and got everyone looking at him. That made him really uncomfortable. You could totally tell.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-19 18:11:38](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


Yeah.

I think between what happened at the Frost Faire and what happened after the last task, he'd rather forget the tournament ever happened.

He didn't even put his own name in.

Even though it's a bit creeper, I'm glad they called you out because of the ley lines. Because it did make it seem less like they were picking on Harry to pick on Harry, you know?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-19 18:20:45](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Yeah.

[2012-07-19 13:12:00](#)

Private message to Poppy Pomfrey

If someone asks me why I'm writing, I'm going to tell them I asked you what the charm you like for blisters is. A couple of people brought new shoes this trip, and are rather feeling it this morning. (The Poole's Jelly Gums are quite useful, too, thanks.)



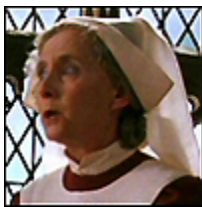
 **[alt_sinistra](#)**

But really, it's more Stint. We're in the Protector's Collection this afternoon - nice to have a chance to see it before it fully opens and there's crowds, really. I'm keeping an eye on my journal because of a conversation with Theo, so I ducked off into an alcove with a bench while they were getting the introductory lecture.

A few minutes ago, Stint came in to the room next to me. He'd been having quite the chat with Umbridge when I'd last seen him, but he came along with Harry, and was asking him all sorts of details about the plans for the rest of his holidays. Was he looking forward to the CCF weeks? He'd heard something about the Malfoy vacation, and was Harry going on that? Were there any other plans? All about the various clubs and organisations and who was going on which thing.

Harry handled him quite well, really, didn't give much away and finally said that he had to get back to his duties. (To which Stint was all complimentary. Such a reliable young man, attentive to his obligations.)

I just wish I had any idea what he was about. Besides, presumably, making trouble for me, and for you. He's clearly trying to get some sort of location info, especially after all that business about the maps and timing for the Hambleton day during the CCF programme, but I cannot manage to figure out what. Or why.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-07-19 17:36:02](#)**
(no subject)

Well, that's interesting. I'm glad to know where he's gone off to this afternoon. We were all expecting him to be here in our seminar this afternoon, ready to harass the poor souls assigned to give presentations. He's been horrible--especially to the youngest of the witches in the group, which I know will surprise you no end. Several of them have

begun talking about giving up and breaking their contracts here. They just don't see that he'll allow them to enter the profession with their dignity intact. And I don't blame them a bit.

We're to have a drinks 'party' this evening, and lunch was nothing but whispers about hexes that could be useful if he or one of the others presses his advantage too far. And it's not just the witches who are feeling the ugliness of his power games.

But, I'm sorry. I'm rather missing the thread, aren't I? What's he up to with your lot? It must be something he finds important for him to leave the sport he's been enjoying here.

I don't need to tell you to keep your ears and eyes open, of course. Do you think, after all, you've enough to make having a word with Lucius Malfoy, a wise precaution? Or is there a chance he's somewhere behind whatever it is that Umbridge and Stint are engineering against you?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-19 17:50:15](#)
(no subject)

Glad to spare you all there, I guess. As to the witches - are you likely to get a chance to see Delilah Mytens? I don't think I'm speaking out of turn if I say she'd be willing to be of help there. Or my cousin Melantha, too, though she's less likely to see new trainees.

I honestly don't know. I've heard more than a few conversations of people wanting to make nice with Harry, assuming he's got influence. This wasn't like that, much more like he was fishing for something. But it was so wide-ranging, I'm not entirely sure what it was.

Raz and I have talked about going to someone - and yes, Lucius Malfoy, most likely. I don't think he's behind this: he was more supportive during the investigation hearing in March than I'd expected, and if he'd been behind whatever is going on now, I'd have thought it'd be the reverse. (And Narcissa's been encouraging enough that.. well. No. Don't think it's that.)

It's mostly a question of time. And presentation, really, because everything I do have seems very misty indeed when I put it down in

any kind of order. There's certainly not enough to go to the MLE or anything like that.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-07-19 18:36:53](#)**
(no subject)

I will make a point of stopping in for a word with Delilah Mytens. That's an excellent suggestion. Thank you for that.

Hm. I trust your instinct when you say he was doing more than mere opportunistic fishing for whatever advantage might happen to fall his way.

There's something more pointed about Stint these days. He seems to be fairly itching for opportunities to flex his muscle.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-19 18:44:20](#)**
(no subject)

I find I'm missing seeing her this summer, rather a lot. Gilly too, of course, but both Delilah and Sigrun have really grown on me, and I really miss having a perspective outside my own obligations and circles. We managed to get together last week, but I won't see them again for an age, it feels like. (Maybe not till late August, in fact.)

And see, there's the thing. I've been feeling Stint's been fishing since that meeting in April, but when I actually try to explain why, I can't come up with anything concrete at all. Even Raz barely believes me. (I mean, he believes me because he believes *me*, but he also admits the thing I fear, which is that people will assume it's some sort of pettiness over the business in December.)

And he will keep showing up at YPL events, when there's no earthly reason for him to.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-07-19 18:53:52](#)**
(no subject)

Aside from his being on the committee, you mean?

No. I do see what you mean, and also why it's so difficult to support what your instincts tell you. It's because he is on that committee and there's nothing to stop him showing up to any of the events or asking anomalous questions during the meetings or conferring with others (Madam U) who happen to be (other) thorns in your side. All can be explained quite away, and yet all add up to real reasons to suspect him.

What about Auror Wright? Could she be of help to you in this?



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-19 19:00:12](#)**
(no subject)

Exactly. And generally - well, except for him - the committee members don't usually show up for most things. Campanella if there's a particular security consideration, or one of the others if their area is especially involved. But there's nothing particularly needing an attending Healer in wandering around New London.

(Note that he's gotten out of the trips where he might actually have had to work, mind you, like January. Or the Dales trip this spring. Or most of the CCF weeks - he's still insisting he's busy with something incredibly important the middle week, when we could actually use another pair of trained hands.)

And you're right. It's like drops of rain, and yet, when you put out a bowl, the bowl fills. No single drop gets you wet, but together, they do add up.

As to Campanella, she agrees there's something odd, but she can't pin it down, and doesn't have leisure to look at the details. Now the Tri-Wizard Cup's over, I gather they've handed her some other projects, but she's been busy enough getting her feet under her there that I don't even know what she's working on. (And, of course, hate to ask her for more time if all I have is vague guesses.)



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-07-19 21:54:07](#)
(no subject)

I trust you didn't really need my recommendation on blister cures: sticking plasters (Beerman's), *Desuppurate*, or any of the usual anti-friction charms.

Also socks.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-19 21:56:25](#)
(no subject)

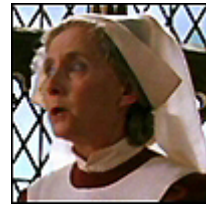
I had figured as much (especially the socks.)

The excuse did come in handy: Madam Umbridge asked what I was writing about, and Stint was still within hearing distance, so I could say with a straight face what I'd asked. They're both gone now, thankfully.

[2012-07-19 13:37:00](#)

Order Only

I'm having a conversation with Aurora Sinistra. About Facinorous Stint--again.



 **[alt_poppy](#)**

Only this time, she's said something that should concern us. He's turned up this afternoon at the Protector's Collection and she's caught him asking Mr Marvolo a string of questions about his plans--whether, for instance he's going along with the Malfoys on their family holiday and where they'll be staying this year. She says he was inexplicably interested in the specific plans for certain of the CCF training exercises that would send students off on their own to various remote locations. It wasn't his role to concern himself with those details, and yet he insisted on having a voice in those assignments.

And she's talked recently about her worries over security, especially involving Mr Marvolo.

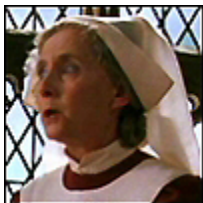
I think Aurora's concerned that Stint's plotting some harm to the boy, trying to engineer opportunities for an attack of some kind. I know it sounds implausible, but there could be something in it.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2012-07-19 19:40:26](#)**

(no subject)

stint. I know he's been a pain in the arse to you this past term. do you really think he'd aim that high? to what end?



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2012-07-19 19:57:09](#)**

(no subject)

I've no idea, Frank. The man's a social climber and fancies himself a mounting figure at St Mungo's.

(I saw his seal on a document this week and nearly choked on my tea: it's a lion rampant. Please.)

I'd have been inclined to think he was merely seizing opportunities to ingratiate himself with Lucius Malfoy--and the Protector, through his son, but Aurora says it was something other than oily flattery

that he was dishing out with the boy this afternoon. And I have to agree that his eagerness to probe for details of his whereabouts opens the possibility that the man is planning something dodgy.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-20 16:45:00](#)

(no subject)

He'd have to be desperate or delirious to go after Harry right under MLE's noses, surely? Have you any details about the encounter? If he wasn't flattering Harry then what was he doing?

Threatening him?

Couldn't he just as easily mean to mess with the Razzor or Professor Sinistra herself as Harry? I mean to say, not that I mistrust your concern, Poppy, but it's third-hand, isn't it?

(And where is the CCF training? I suppose I could jaunt up nearby if we're all that worried about Harry's safety.)



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-07-20 21:11:44](#)

(no subject)

I quite agree. It makes little sense, and yet Aurora's had a building sense that something is very off about Stint's interest in arrangements and security surrounding the boy. I don't find her to be a flighty or alarmist sort, so I've come to think that there might be something to her concerns.

You make a good point, Sirius, when you say that Stint's motive is most likely to cause difficulty for her--and/or for Rabastan Lestranger. The trouble is that a particularly potent way of undermining either of them would be to make it appear that one or both have somehow failed in protecting the boy.

This might not require actually harming him, of course. Perhaps Stint merely intends to demonstrate their inadequacy, but if there's a risk of his coming to harm. . . I thought you would wish to know.

The CCF exercises are being held at Leicester this year, and the solo activity about which Aurora is most concerned is to be staged at Hambleton.

As for Stint's interaction with the boy yesterday, she described it as a very focused information fishing expedition on the subject of Mr Marvolo's planned whereabouts for the rest of the summer holidays.

2012-07-19 15:59:00

Private Message to Hermione Granger

Things are good here.

They're actually pretty nice.

I was thinking. I know you didn't come last time, but would you rather? Not be there?

I'd rather you weren't.

I mean, it's okay if you're okay, but I bet I could ask Professor Siz if you could come here instead. If you wanted.



 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_hermione](#) at **2012-07-19 20:05:09**
(no subject)

Really?

I didn't think you could, because I had always thought that they didn't want you to be any different than the other students when it came to having a servant and things.

But it doesn't make me happy to be at Buckingham, you know that, it's kind of scary even. So yes, if you'd ask, I'd like that.



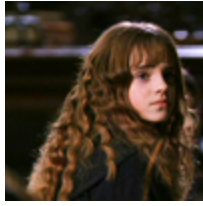
 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-07-19 20:06:36**
(no subject)

Okay.

Yeah.

I figured.

I'm sorry I didn't think of it sooner.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-07-19 20:07:57](#)
(no subject)

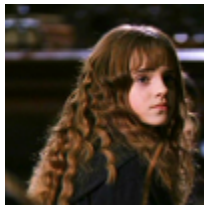
It's all right, I don't think it would have worked sooner.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-19 20:13:28](#)
(no subject)

I asked.

We did this duelling thing where we were blindfolded. It was pretty ace. I think you would've liked it.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-07-19 20:14:16](#)
(no subject)

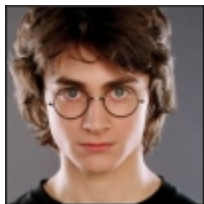
What was the answer? What will my duties be? I suppose probably not just what they are at Hogwarts.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-19 20:36:41](#)
(no subject)

She said not this time, because it was going to be over soon anyways, but she'd try and organize it for the CCF weeks.

And she said you'd do general cleaning like in the kitchens and living spaces and things. If that'd be okay with you.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-19 21:06:06](#)
(no subject)

She's said you'd be sleeping with the other women servants.

[2012-07-19 16:07:00](#)

Private Message to Professor Sinistra

I was wondering

I wanted to know if Granger could come along while we're on our trip.



 [alt_harry](#)

She could help out. I mean, it wouldn't be just for me. I wouldn't make her do my job or anything. And I know it's not the usual thing.

I'd just rather she wasn't at Buckingham when I'm not there.



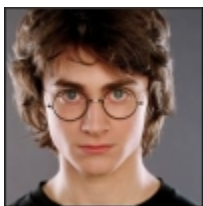
 [alt_sinistra](#) at **[2012-07-19 20:31:50](#)**

(no subject)

That... I don't think we could this trip. (And you'll be home tomorrow afternoon anyway, so there's not much time to arrange it.)

But for the CCF weeks, possibly. If you're willing for her to do general work - the kitchens, cleaning the public spaces, that kind of thing. It'd be unfair if she helped you personally, really.

Give me a few to see if I can get in touch with people.



 [alt_harry](#) at **[2012-07-19 20:34:15](#)**

(no subject)

Yeah. Okay.

That'd be great. If you could.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **[2012-07-19 20:55:48](#)**

(no subject)

All right. Heard back from the staff where we're staying. They'd actually welcome another pair of hands, it turns out. Kitchen work (food preparation, nothing complicated), getting things out quickly for meals, cleaning up after, and then some general cleaning of public spaces.

We're hoping you'll be outside much of the time, but if the weather's bad, they've got a couple of rooms we'll use for training, and those will need to be kept tidy.

They can arrange a bed in their muggleborn women's space, as well. (They have rather a large staff, but only a few girls and women, because much of the upkeep work is outside.) Less freedom of movement than she usually has at Hogwarts, but what I've seen suggests they treat their muggleborns well enough.

If that's agreeable, I'll confirm with them.

2012-07-20 10:10:00

*Private Message to Hilde Nordgren
and Claudius Yaxley*



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Crouch: I've been contacted by St M's Oversight Committee who are questioning our procedures or actions (or something) relative to prisoners transferred to ICD ward at Hampstead--the so called Vale of Health facility--in the most recent term (includes DStar74.AC6). No idea what they're on about. This is the first time we've had any objections from this quarter. Bloody nuisance! Wish you'd have a look at my draft response.

Nordgren. Do not reply as drafted.

Healer Oxley: I'm writing to acknowledge receipt of your summary of the committee's report for the term ending 20 June 1995 and to address your request for a meeting with a representative of my department on questions raised in said document. First, I must take exception to the tone of your letter, stooping as it does to insinuations of malfeasance on our part. Second, I find that my calendar is quite rigidly scheduled and cannot accommodate your request. Auror Trainee Reethi Singh will supply my place at the meeting called for 27 July.

Do not concede their terms, time, or place for meeting. Do not send a trainee to do our business. (Refer them to me.) And. Cut that nonsense about tone. I don't care how affronted you were. Neither do they. Clearly.

*Your fellow servant in Our Lord's Service, H. S. C. Nordgren,
MLE*

*Copying: Healer Frith, Healer Marks, Healer Pathe, Healer Stint (Chair),
Healer Tuttsall*

Omit closing blather. Do copy committee.

Suggest replacing with: Oxley. Received Oversight Committee report. Auror Crouch will meet with your representative(s) Monday, 23 July. 10:00 am. MLE Room 4, Ministry of Magic.

[2012-07-20 16:04:00](#)

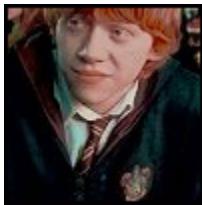
(no subject)

We're almost ready to load onto the train. This week has just flown by! I think I'm still full from the toffee pudding last night. It really was quite good. As were the songs. I've got the chorus from that one about Morgan le Fay still running through my head. *She still roams the hills and dells* indeed!



 [alt_pansy](#)

Professor Sinistra, thanks again for such a wonderful opportunity. I've enjoyed the chance to get to know some of the rising thirds better, as well as the other counsellors, and it really has been quite interesting to be on the other side of things helping to organize everyone and keep them on schedule. And fun, too! I hope the next group up has as good a time of it as we have.



 [alt_ron](#) at **[2012-07-20 22:51:48](#)**

(no subject)

Better weather if they're lucky!

I thought supper last night was brilliant. I mean, roast stuffed pheasant! It was awesome when they brought out the platters and marched around showing off what we were getting. I guess it's good to have a big group for a place like that. The venison was good, too. Almost makes you want to go hunt. Wonder if Mum would cook it if we got it.

Nift place, too, the restaurant. The building and the art, I mean.

Anywiz, yeah. Thanks, Professor Siz. It was dead fun being a counsellor. I'm really glad I got to go!



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **[2012-07-21 12:12:21](#)**

(no subject)

Thank you for all your hard work, and I'm glad you enjoyed it. (And Thursday night really was rather fun, wasn't it? We'll have to see about doing that again future years.)



 **alt_draco** at [2012-07-21 00:51:24](#)

Private message to Pansy

It sounds like your week was loads better than the camping - which wasn't altogether bad, but just sort of dull and damp. I suppose that the YPL/CCF people have now decided that they'll not only try to keep Harry and me from teaming up together, but you and me, too. And you and Sally Anne. The whole "everyone should work together with people from different houses and different backgrounds" mentality is such rubbish, when you think about who it comes from.



 **alt_pansy** at [2012-07-21 01:46:48](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

Siz is *quite* the Hufflepuff, isn't she? And it's a bit rich considering they have the good and bad groups despite it all.

I think camping would've been a great deal more fun with someone to go star gazing with, which is probably why they didn't want to pair us up.

You wouldn't *believe* what Tamblyn tried to pull. He brought firewhiskey, and when we cruised the Thames, he got roaring drunk and sicked up. Ron and Harry had to clean up after him. If he gets Head Boy, I'm going to laugh *so* hard.

I'm planning on telling mum I've got a club meeting for something or another that'll last all weekend, when really it's just a giant excuse to spend it with you. Well, and we have that dining whatsit on Saturday evening. But I'm all yours before and after. And I'll be staying in New London on Saturday night, so we can stay out as late as you'd like.

If you're free, that is.

I really have missed you, you know.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-07-21 02:55:49](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

I wasn't just talking about Siz, really, but you know, everyone. All the adults involved with YPL and CCF.

There wasn't much star-gazing to be had in that downpour. Not *real* star-gazing.

Did Harry talk to Chang at all? I'm going to try to get him to, now that she and Diggory are finished.

Tamblyn will definitely have trouble filling Avery's shoes if he's that much of a dunce. None of the fifth and sixth year Slytherins have ever been caught drinking. It helped that Avery looked the other way, but still, only a newt-end would drink until he vommed when he was supposed to be setting an example.

As late as my parents will let me, you mean. But you know, we'll have all those club meetings to attend and some of them do go on for hours, don't they? And I can't help it if certain people have been utterly deprived of my company...

I missed you too, Pansy.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-21 03:10:24](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

He was Harry. Meaning he overthought everything and complained about how hard girls were to sort out. I think he was waiting for Chang to make a move, which I don't see happening.

Are they really and truly on the outs? That didn't last terribly long, did it? I heard it's cause Diggory's been all moody since the tournament.

Do we want Harry with someone who is fickle and can't handle a bit of seriousness? Because last I checked, Harry tends to be on the serious side.

They'll probably give Head Boy to Diggory. After all, he was very politic about how he handled the tournament, and they might figure they owe him a bit.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-21 12:10:01](#)**

(no subject)

I'm very glad you enjoyed yourself - and you were all a great help. Thank you again for your willingness to help and your cheerfulness.

2012-07-20 22:14:00

Private Message to Seamus

It was brilliant to come over.

I mean, I've been having fun working in the shop with mum, designing and all, but it's actually hard work, you know?



 [alt_padma](#)

So it was nice to just have a day to do whatever we felt like doing.

Sorry you're having a boring summer. CCF will be fun. You need to swim more, though, and not just fly.

And sorry Evgeny hasn't written to you.

But Freedom Day's going to be snitch, don't you think? And the Cryptomancy--even if I'm sure it wasn't really Siz's idea.

We should have a party before the end of hols. See if he'll let you and then we can work on the invitations and all.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2012-07-21 02:23:32](#)

(no subject)

Of course it wasn't Siz's idea, it was YOURS, wasn't it?

I'll ask Mr Rosier about a party. Good idea.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-07-21 02:30:43](#)

(no subject)

No, I mean her idea to make it actually happen. I know she didn't think much of it when I suggested it.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2012-07-21 02:38:36](#)

(no subject)

Maybe she was afraid of giving Parkinson ideas.

SURELY she noticed. Was there anyone who didn't?



 **alt_padma** at [2012-07-21 02:45:03](#)
(no subject)

Maybe the firsties.

But what gets me is does she think anyone doesn't notice how much she plays favourites? I mean, look who's on the trip this week. And the things they're talking about--like Astoria Greengrass (read what she wrote about the pantomime!). Which means next week it'll be all the rejects. Well, the ones she can't chuck out right away, anyway.

Oh, but that reminds me, speaking of Porkinson. Did you notice that we're going to be in Leicester for the CCF? I bet you anything that wasn't Siz's idea, either!



 **alt_seamus** at [2012-07-21 02:50:43](#)
(no subject)

Leicester. That was where her father died, wasn't it?

I suppose it's too much to hope for that she'll spend the week weeping on Perks' shoulder and we won't see much of either of them?



 **alt_padma** at [2012-07-21 02:57:14](#)
(no subject)

Hah. It's more likely that everyone will spend the whole time being extra-sensitive to her feelings about it all and treating her like she's a bubotuber about to burst into a million bits.

I mean. It's not like I don't sympathise but I'd rather people just didn't call endless attention to it. You don't see Warrington expecting everyone to fawn all over him and he lost his dad a lot more recently. You know?



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2012-07-21 02:59:08](#)**
(no subject)

Well, you have to admit that if there is ONE thing that Parkinson is good at, it's getting people to pay attention to HER.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-07-21 03:01:39](#)**
(no subject)

Too right! Daphne ought to take acting lessons from her, instead of her grandmother!



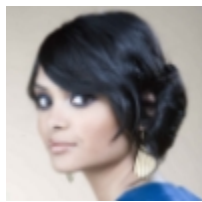
 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2012-07-21 03:12:08](#)**
(no subject)

Daphne might say there's a difference between being an actress, and being a drama queen.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2012-07-21 02:51:19](#)**
(no subject)

And ugh, you're right. I suppose SOMEONE has to be YPL counsellor for the losers, but it's not surprising that Siz picked you for it, is it?



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-07-21 02:59:59](#)**
(no subject)

No, it's not. If I so much as slip a single point in the standings next term, I'll be sure to point it out to Vector because then I'll be sure that she's playing tricks.

But the problem is am I supposed to put them all in their proper place, then, or coddle them and tell them they can still make good if they work extra hard?

I just wish it were easier to guess what Siz wants.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2012-07-21 03:13:20](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. I don't suppose you could just ASK her? Maybe not in quite those terms, but -- you know, 'Professor, it's pretty well known at this point that the second group never gets to do as many nice things as the first group. What should we say to people who complain? Should we tell them that if they work harder they'll get nicer things next year or would that be a lie?'



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-07-21 03:23:46](#)**
(no subject)

Maybe.

But then again, I'm not so sure it's up to her anymore, either. Like the Cryptomancy. I know she didn't want to include it in anything, but someone decided it would make a good part of the programme.

There's a committee, isn't there, that tells her what to do. I wonder who's on it. Mr Rosier would know, wouldn't he?

Maybe it's the committee that will decide if the losers will get into the CCF and all.

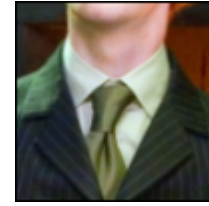


 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2012-07-21 03:38:21](#)**
(no subject)

That's a good point about the committee. Mr Rosier WOULD know. I'll ask him.

[2012-07-21 17:42:00](#)

Private message to Penelope Clearwater




 **[alt_percy](#)**

I have reservations for two for tomorrow night at Casa Di Stella's, which is a little spot that Mr Crispin told me about. I'd like to take you out to dinner to celebrate...well, it's not an anniversary precisely. Two weeks at your new job instead of two years. But I still think it's an occasion worth celebrating! Seven o'clock? I'll apparate to your place at quarter to.

Oh, and I have the list of new potential flats that have come on the market in today's *Prophet*, and I've circled a couple that look promising.



 **[alt_penelope](#)** at **[2012-07-21 23:09:39](#)**
(no subject)

That sounds wonderful, Perce! I could certainly use some celebrating, considering how infuriating Dad's being about everything. He makes everything I'm doing for Mr Powell seem so...insignificant.

And I know it's tedious, all the things he's been asking. But I can tell he's meticulous when it comes to the records. Did I tell you he still uses Beckinsale's 3rd Ordination System for filing? I didn't think anyone younger than Madam Pince would use that arcane a filing method! I had to go get a reference just to remember where to put Deeds of Record. It's small wonder he wants me to prove I'm up to it: If I mis-filed a single scroll it'd be an age before we found it again.

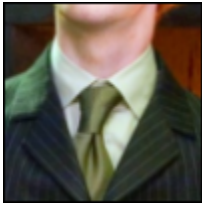
So a little flat-hunting won't go amiss, either. Do you think we could look at one or two over lunch this week? Would Mr Malfoy give you some extra time? I know you've said it's been difficult to get away lately. (He's not been cross with you, still, though? And if you explained why, I'm sure he'd be more in the mood to help. I mean, Mr Powell certainly would appreciate it if I don't arrive in a strop every morning because Dad's so impossible.)

You can make up the time later in the afternoon, too, like I'm offering Mr Powell. I think it'd be worth it if we can move quickly this time.

Well, we can talk about all that tomorrow. It's so thoughtful of you,

Perce, really. It's just perfect.

I just realised--*Casa Di Stella*--isn't that the newish place with the astronomy theme? I heard it's very much in demand. Are you sure we should be splashing out like that if we're going to sign a lease? I mean, I'd love it but I'd be just as happy with Brewster's or the Cockerell, you know?



 **alt_percy** at [2012-07-22 01:48:21](#)
(no subject)

Beckinsale's 3rd? Merlin, really? I thought that went out--except for Hogwarts, of course--when the Protectorate was formed. My goodness.

I hope we'll be able to go flat hunting, but it might be difficult for me to break away. My lunch hours have been tending to disappear, lately. After work perhaps, except that it's a pretty good bet that I'll be unexpectedly asked to stay late at least a couple times a week, and I generally only get about an hour's notice. So we can try to make some appointments, but don't count on me getting there the first time. You can go and check out the likely candidates, if I can't come, and hopefully once you've narrowed the list down, I can come back with you to see them again, if I miss the first time.

Yes, Casa Di Stella is the one with the astronomy theme, but don't worry about the cost. I've been saving up for a special occasion, and this certainly merits as one. And it's my treat.

2012-07-21 19:36:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_justin](#)

Hello, friends,

How was the New London trip, what?

I say, CCF is coming up rather quickly, isn't it? Remy and I have gone swimming twice this week but I think overall I'm still well unprepared for whatever they're going to throw at us. Have you lot had any hints at all, as you've been counselling?

The Jugsons took me out to another party this afternoon. This one was at the Derwent home and Ron, your sister was there as well. Did you know she would be going?

The Derwents are rather nice although they seem to be the sort with loads of well boring acquaintances. There were a number of people our age, though, which made the time pass more quickly.

I've been terribly occupied all summer long and yet, I suppose it sounds a bit rich to say, but, I do miss home. Dijon, I should say. Only in little things, what? Like the fresh bread our cook made every other day or the chimes on the clock in my mother's salon. My old bed and the books I left behind. The view from my window onto the *Rue de Talant*. I miss television commercials and believe me, I never thought I should miss those in the slightest!

You've every right to tell me it serves me right, what? Still. I'm sure I shall snap out of it once we're all together again at the CCF exercises. Something about the party this afternoon made me think of home, I think.

Well, enough of that. Sally-Anne, you'd said you were going to write more to us, about visiting your mother? Do you think she's going to join forces with Mrs Weasley and Madam Pomfrey and become a three-witch crime-fighting squadron, what?

How is everyone else enjoying their holidays?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-22 04:51:38](#)
(no subject)

That would be rather brilliant, wouldn't it.

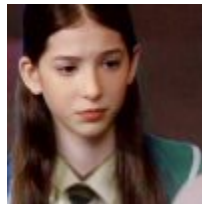
I told her I'd talked to someone who might be able to help her leave. That it's possible to get in and out of the wards, because Sirius Black did it. And that he's alive, not dead like MLE still insists he is, and if someone helps her leave they'll help her fake her death, so that I won't be in any trouble.


If she goes to the continent I don't suppose she'll be joining any crime-fighting squadrons which is a shame because I think she'd really get on with Mrs Weasley. And Madam Pomfrey. And I won't ever see her again. But she'll be a great deal safer than she is here.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-22 15:07:55](#)
(no subject)

Do you really think you'll never see her again? I mean to say, do you think things will always be this way here, with the wards? Even when we're old?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-22 15:53:57](#)
(no subject)

Well -- maybe, come to think of it.

I'd thought before that maybe when I finished at Hogwarts, as long as I was very discreet I could visit with her more regularly. And that's only three years away, you know?

But if she leaves the Protectorate -- there won't be any way, unless until things change a LOT. Which surely will be more than three years.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-22 17:53:11](#)
(no subject)

I don't know much about how the Protectorate took over. Not much from the perspective of the old Ministry, I mean, but I've been trying to read and find out more. It seems, though, that when they took over the Protectorate changed things a LOT in a fairly short amount of time. They changed everything else before they changed most peoples minds. So, I wonder if it would be as hard to change things back as people think.

In twenty or thirty years it will be a lot harder. There will be less people who remember what muggles were like before they were in camps. The kids at Hogwarts, there might not even be any halfbloods. There's fewer in the younger years already. I wonder if the people in the wand-smugglers ever think about that. About how time might be running out.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-22 18:00:20](#)
(no subject)

That's a really unnerving thought, Hydra.

You're right, though. I mean, I don't remember anything else, ever, but it was changing when I was a baby and I'm not THAT old. And I've heard older people (like Mrs Weasley, but she's not the only one) slip up and call the Cardinal Curses the Unforgivables. And my mum went to Hogwarts just like any other Witch, she was even a Prefect. And she had some of the same professors we have, when she was there, like Professor Slughorn and Professor Sprout (and the Headmistress, for Transfiguration).

I don't know what it would take to change it back. I mean there are people who'd like to, and I don't think it's just the Wand Smugglers. But they're all frightened. It's hard to know if there are enough people who want to change things to ever make it happen.

Although it wasn't that many people, when it was the Council and the Lord Protector against the rest of the Wizarding World. And they managed.



 **alt_hydra** at [2012-07-22 18:45:13](#)
(no subject)


I'm sorry, I didn't mean to be unnerving.

I'm only thinking of people like me, who were raised similarly. I've looked through what was written under the lock and I see how everyone felt sorry for me, and what they thought of Mummy. But when I was younger I just thought that was how all Mothers were. Aunt Narcissa was kind, but Mummy would always say that she was really just weak, and also secretly cruel because her kindness was just a trick to make me feel sorry for myself. She showed me the Black family tree and where all the traitors had their names burned off, and made it sound as if people who were traitors were horrible monsters from fairy books who were fated to face justice in the end. And she was so strong and sure of herself, and hardly anyone ever contradicted her, so I believed everything she said.

It's probably an extreme example, I suppose. I think most people just like to carry on and forget about the way England used to be, because if they remembered, they would feel a lot of guilt. So they don't say anything to their children that would go against what the Protectorate says, because that would be like remembering.

And no, it didn't take that many people to topple the old Ministry, but they were all people who were ready to die, and were ready to kill. Well, all except the Lord Protector, he wasn't ready to die. So he found a lot of people who would do it for him.



 **alt_hydra** at [2012-07-22 15:50:14](#)
(no subject)

Well, I would think it peculiar if you never once missed home at all (though I still don't understand that thing, television - how do they make pictures move in a box without magic?). I don't think this will be the last time you miss it, either.

Justin already knows this, but I don't really like being at St. James any more than I have to, so I've been going to every single club

meeting that I can, and even trying to come up with new clubs. Tea Appreciation, for example. Even if I'm the only one who shows up. I could go to Le'Strange to be with Daddy and Rigel but then it's not as convenient to New London.

Mummy comes home at strange hours of the night, usually with two or three other Aurors. There's one, Foxe - he looks at me strangely. I think Mummy told him that I'm an occlumens.



 **alt_justin** at [2012-07-22 16:21:59](#)

(no subject)

I suppose it's natural, yes, but it does strike one as selfish to complain when I've no one to blame for my homesickness but myself.

Perhaps it's just that it's been too long since I saw you, what?

It's just like the wireless, television, only with images as well as sound. I can't think why wizards haven't figured out how to do it. They did something like it for the second task in the Tournament, what? But I suppose perhaps it takes a great deal of magic to do it all the time.

Remy's been trying to get us to as many of the clubs as we can manage, as well, only some of them meet when I've got tutoring and such. In fact, Mr Jugson's decided that the tutor could also work with Remy and Alfie while he's at it and Alfie's none too happy about it, what!

Which clubs are meeting this week? We've got until Friday to occupy ourselves.

-Justin



 **alt_hydra** at [2012-07-22 18:04:23](#)

(no subject)

I can imagine what television looks like, just not how it could work without magic. But I suppose if I couldn't do magic, I'd figure out some other way, too, with that science thing.

Well, Alfie probably needs more tutoring than you or Remy. I've

heard what he says about Professor Acton and Professor Sprout and some of the others, and he acts as if he thinks he's more clever than they are, and he's only just turned twelve.

I do wish Remy didn't insist on coming along to every club gathering with you, though.

Well, the Tea Appreciation Club could have their first official meeting. I was also thinking... I wonder if there's a way to have my cousin, Mrs Ponds, invite me over to her shop again. Oh, or since it's a shop and cafe, I suppose anyone can come over, any time they're open?

Maybe we should go there.

Did you see she has a *mudblood* working for them? I was surprised to see that. Disappointed, too.



 **alt_justin** at **2012-07-22 19:39:06**
(no subject)

The Jugsons have one, too, you know. A Muggleborn. She's quite kind, however, even when Alfie's rather beastly to her.

Why do you suppose your cousin decided to get one, though? I suppose with a baby, they need a little help now and then and it's less than paying a nanny. From everything you've said, though, I can't imagine that she or Mr Ponds would be cruel to anyone in their household, what?

Remy's all right. I think if we arranged for him to be elsewhere he'd give us room, what? I was concerned at first that he'd not like his parents taking me to all the parties and things but it turns out he's well aware that they're showing me off and he's just as content to stay home, if you follow me.

Why don't you ask your cousin if we could have a Tea Appreciation meeting there in her cafe, what? Then everyone could come and we could meet and I'm sure if we slipped off somewhere no one would notice, they'd be too interested in your cousin and her daughter and all.

-Justin

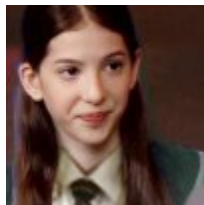


 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-22 23:59:00](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I remember. Maggie, right? I never seem to get a glimpse of her when I come over.

I wouldn't like to think that they're cruel, but Mr Ponds is a pureblood and I don't know much about him, or what he believes in. He seems kind, but sometimes I can't tell if people are being themselves around me. Most of them are so careful, because of Mummy.

But yes, I'll ask her if we can have a club meeting at the cafe. I've told her about you so I think she'd like to meet you. ~~And I don't think she'd stop us if we slipped o~~



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-23 03:20:54](#)
(no subject)

I once tried to persuade the Twins to persuade their mum to take a muggleborn servant. Because I know she'd be kind, and it's better than the camps, or having someone like Amycus

Carrow as your master, you know?

But that was before what happened to the Woods, and the rest of the people in the Vale. They had muggleborns they were pretending were servants but really treated like ordinary people, and word got out and ... well, Oliver is okay. But I think both his parents are either dead or in Azkaban.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-23 03:28:12](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I remember reading about the Woods. But they had loads of muggleborns, didn't they, and not just one or two, what? I should think it's a bit harder to conceal that sort of thing when one does it on a larger scale.

The Jugsons aren't cruel to Maggie, at least not that I've seen. Our tutor treats her like something he's scraped off his shoe but Mrs Jugson simply acts as if it's normal to have a servant.

I simply behave as I would have done to our maids or butler, or mother's chauffeur. Except that I do make sure she gets enough to eat, what, because I think otherwise the Jugsons' cook might try to make her eat table scraps or something equally barbaric. I pointed out that servants work harder when they're healthy and pleased and Mrs Jugson seemed to think that was sensible.

Also, Maggie's more her ladies' maid than anything else and I suspect Mrs Jugson doesn't care to have a personal servant who isn't about to collapse from starvation.

Now I'm quite curious about the Ponds and their muggleborn, what?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-22 22:26:36](#)
(no subject)

I would love to meet your cousin -- we've corresponded a little but I've never actually met her in person. Do they have tea at her shop? Or something else we could all meet to Appreciate?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-23 00:00:48](#)
(no subject)

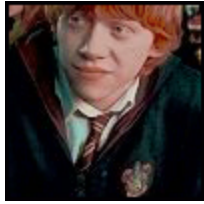
There's a cafe in the garden and I can't think of any cafe in England that wouldn't have tea, even if it isn't what they specialise in.


We could always learn about metamorphmagi while we're there.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-23 14:47:22](#)
(no subject)


That would be utterly brilliant! I've never seen a metamorphmagus before. At least not that I know of. And I know that Mrs Ponds has always been rather nice to Sally-Anne.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-07-23 15:12:39](#)**
(no subject)

You're right. That'd be brilliant!



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-07-23 00:52:02](#)**
(no subject)

We had another meeting of the Magical Creatures Club, but I think we won't have the next for two more weeks.

My summer has been rather dull. Mrs Brown has insisted on me accompanying her quite a bit when she goes on her errands and meetings. I think she expects me to learn from all her socialising, you know, how a proper witch is supposed to behave. Only I would think that she should have given up expecting me to be a proper witch because I keep doing things that she thinks are rather odd. Not that I'm trying embarrass her or anything. But she just doesn't really understand that I'd be much happier sketching in my room, or out taking field notes about magical creatures.




 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-07-23 00:53:03](#)**
(no subject)

Er...what sorts of odd things?

Or maybe I shouldn't ask.

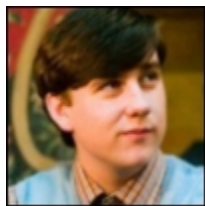


 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-07-23 00:56:37](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, nothing too scandalous. Just things like taking a hedgehog out of my pocket when I'm reaching in for a handkerchief. That sort of thing.

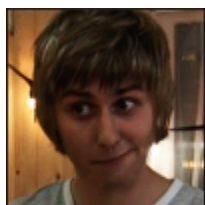
It caused such a bunch of screeches at the tea at Mrs Pendleton's garden party last week; you've no idea! Although I'm sure it wasn't the hedgehog's fault at all that he ended up in the sugar bowl. That was simply because I sort of fumbled him when I took him out of my pocket and that's where he happened to

land. I couldn't help it...those spines were quite uncomfortable. But it didn't bother him. He didn't even wake up from his nap before I snatched him up and stowed him back away.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-07-23 00:57:14](#)
(no subject)

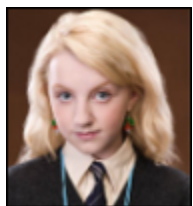
I'm sure none of my Gran's garden party teas were ever that exciting.




 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-23 01:00:27](#)
(no subject)

I say, that's brilliant! Where did you get a hedgehog in the first place?

-Justin



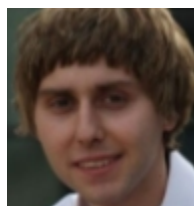
 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-07-23 01:14:39](#)
(no subject)


I found him in one of the adjoining gardens, and I wanted to sketch him, but Mrs Brown called to tell me to come because she was taking me to tea. And so I stuck him in my pocket and then forgot all about him, until I wanted my handkerchief.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-23 03:22:50](#)
(no subject)

Hedgehogs are so CUTE. I love their little faces. I wouldn't want one in my pocket, though, it seems a bit dodgy for both you and the hedgehog!



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-23 00:56:22](#)
(no subject)

Hallo, Luna,


I should love to go along on a creatures ramble but I think the last one you had was while I had my

tutor in, what? Or if not then there was something Mrs Jugson had arranged at that time.

After CCF, I hope these social engagements shall quiet down. Do you think Mrs Brown would let you come to something Hydra hosted? Especially if it's tea, what? Aren't all good witches supposed to be able to host a tea properly? You could convince her you're coming to learn the difference between assam and ceylon and she could hardly object, what!

-Justin



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-07-23 00:58:24](#)
(no subject)

I think Mrs Brown would quite like that. She's getting rather wary of having me accompany her to all her social events. It would be lovely to see Hydra again.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-07-23 11:47:47](#)
(no subject)

My summer's been a bit of a bore, really. Now Evelyn's leaving to go to London. She's a bit nervous about it, and it'll be even more lonely without her around.


2012-07-21 21:56:00

Private Message to Honoria

Honoria,

I think I've been outed, but I can't be sure yet. I know I've been spotted. You know that Justin kid? The defector? Well he was at the party the Derwent's had today. I went, because Troy wanted me there, but I didn't know there were going to be as many kids our age that there was. I know he talks to Ron sometimes. I've been keeping an eye on the journals and I haven't seen anything yet. Hopefully it doesn't come up, I wouldn't know what to say. I mean everyone there saw that we stayed together the entire time, and that he was holding my hand. They would be so upset with me for dating a Slytherin, and I'm not supposed to be dating at all.



 [alt_ginny](#)

Other news: He kissed me today, just before I left. We had some time to ourselves as I floored home. His parents were kind to me. I think they like me, and ignored the fact that my name is Weasley.

How are you doing? I know you said things were getting crazy at your house with Lana's wedding. Have things calmed down for you yet? We can do lunch, if you would like to get away for a bit. Let me know and I will keep you posted too. Just think, we have CCF to look forward to. You will be able to breathe again soon enough.

Well I suppose I should try to do some damage control. I will talk to you soon.

2012-07-21 22:15:00

Askin M' Mates

I'm needin a reliable source for a few items, ifn yeh know what I mean, and I've done everything short o' standin outside Gringott's, using Accio to see if some of it might fly up out of somebody's vault.



 [alt_wagstaff](#)

An then I thought... Will, ol' man, yeh've got friends in the world! Ask em, and some o' them'll know how to get their hands on what yeh need.

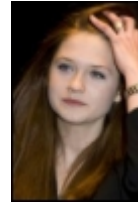
An then I had a second thought, an it's that my mates here might have all types o' items that'd be o' use. No doubtin that!

So, yeah.

Let me know if yeh've got a bit o' bric 'r brac that might do me.
Cheers.

2012-07-21 22:18:00

Private Message to T.D.



Troy,

I think I've been out by Justin. I know he knows Ron. Plus he gave us the funniest look today when you took my hand. My no boys clause is still in effect with Purest Sparkle. They may turn a blind eye because your family's name is respected in a lot of circles. Where my family is concerned, they don't know I am dating at all. So until I am forced upon to give information, we are just good friends. It really is no one's business that we are more than that anyway.

 [alt_ginny](#)

Thanks for understanding,

Ginny.

Oh, I almost forgot. I will see you tomorrow for lunch. I will be there at noon.

2012-07-23 09:31:00

*Private Message to Bellatrix Lestrange
and Lucius Malfoy*



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

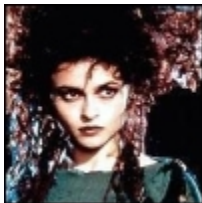
Have just finished meeting with members of St Mungo's Operations Oversight Committee. Two of them: Gregorius Pathe and Frances Oxley.


Registered their concern over circumstances of our transferring Dogstar prisoners to Hampstead incurables facility. Misliked the condition of the miscreants on arrival. Have filed an 'Ethics brief' with some newly established commission of theirs. Have named Truncheon, Brundage, and me as implicated parties, along with MLE generally.

I pointed out that the Irreversible Cruciatus ward was designed to admit exactly such cases. (As it says on the tin.) Asked if they questioned Our Lord's provision for law enforcement. Wouldn't be budged from their claim of authority to 'scrutinise and review' our procedures where there is 'overlap between institutions'.

Agreed that it is time for review of agreements and conduct. Informed them MLE has initiated review of St Mungo's handling of State prisoners, its responsiveness, cooperation, and conduct in carrying out its duties.

Was clear, by the way, that Healer Stint is the instigator, though he's put others out front. Overdue for scrutiny, that one.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at **2012-07-23 19:21:38**
(no subject)

The more I hear about this Healer Stint being a thorn in various sides, the more I wonder why he's been allowed to burrow in and fester. Pluck him out and obliterate him, if he offends. I'll do it myself, if it means I no longer have to endure reports of his various transgressions.

Or have we come so far from those days when we dealt with such matters in a way both precise and final?



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-07-23 22:58:52](#)**
(no subject)

Much as I agree in sentiment, Bella, it is not Stint himself who needs swatting, but whomever is pulling his strings. Razzar has shared a concern or two that leads me to believe Stint is merely the buzzing insect that conceals a more insidious noise.

More to the point, he has managed to gain himself vocal alliances in certain quarters. Acting so ... decisively ... may well leave us at a greater disadvantage. Even if keeping him in play requires excessive patience.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2012-07-24 02:41:16](#)**
(no subject)

Understand both points. Am investigating his connections (at Court and beyond), but also have no intention of allowing him freedom to cause mischief.

L. What information has Rabastan brought you. Could use any info you have. From whatever source.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2012-07-24 03:13:31](#)**
(no subject)

Re: Raz, precious little that is concrete, apart from the intelligence that he has made inquiries into the CCF arrangements that are just on the edge of his brief.

Confirmed as much with Draco and Harry over supper. Came to the camping trip when he was not expected; asked Draco seemingly innocuous questions about our family holiday (specifically whether Harry would accompany us). Similarly made nuisance of himself in New London during the activities last week, cornered Harry and peppered with questions of only minimal relevance and with similar topic.

Having lunch with Glendower fils to-morrow; expect that shall prove elucidating.

[2012-07-23 11:02:00](#)

Private message to Nymphadora Tonks-Ponds and Junius Ponds



Dear cousin Dora and Mr Ponds,

Hello, have you enjoyed your summer so far? Is the shop ever so much busier this time of year, or does it get quiet, with people going on holiday and such?

 [alt_hydra](#)

I've been making new friends and getting involved with some clubs, as well as being accepted into the CCF programme. Some of us are thinking of having a Tea Appreciation club, and I suggested that we see if it would be possible for us to visit your cafe some day this week? That way, I could see Bea, too. I'm sure she's ever so much bigger than the last time I visited. And you could meet some of my friends, who I'm sure will all be on their best behaviour. I don't want to trouble you, though, so if this week isn't good then perhaps another time. I'll be leaving for the CCF programme on Friday, and will be busy with that until 18 August.

I hope all is well!

From,
Hydra



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-23 18:22:35](#)

(no subject)

Wotcher!

We'd love to have you come for a visit. And your friends, if they'd like. How many of them might come, do you think? Only, we've got just the little cafe, and wouldn't want to run short of tables if it's a large group.

We do have some nice biscuits at the moment. The tea's just ordinary, though, you know.

Do come. Bea will be so excited to see you!



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-23 19:17:06](#)
(no subject)

Well, I only know for certain that Justin and Remy (another of my cousins) will come. But I know that Sally Anne Perks is interested, and I think Pansy Parkinson is, too. There might be a few others, as well, but I promise to do my very best to keep it small and manageable.

Would Wednesday be too much trouble?


From,
Hydra



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-24 02:52:24](#)
(no subject)

Wednesday would be perfect. I'm so glad!



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

Oh, wonderful. I'll see to it that the group isn't too large or overwhelming, I promise!

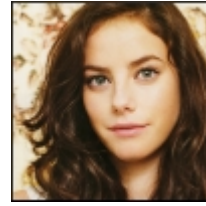
From,

Hydra

[2012-07-23 12:59:00](#)

Exciting News!

Mr Krumgold, who's been my dance instructor since age 10, has agreed to host a private dance workshop tomorrow at his studio near the West End. I realise it's terribly short notice, but his schedule has been very full, as he's been busy choreographing two of the musicals that will be opening at the end of this summer. For those of you who are unfamiliar with his work, he was the choreographer for the Veela's dance at the Quidditch World Cup.



 [alt_daphne](#)

Now, Gerald doesn't usually offer many private lessons, particularly for *free*, so this is a wonderful opportunity for those of you who've never had one. Oh, and before anyone says a peep *Smith yes*, boys are welcome to attend, too. There's only room for about seven or eight people, though, so let me know if you'd like to be considered!



 [alt_eloise](#) at [2012-07-23 19:38:46](#)

(no subject)

So if you say "be considered" does that mean it's selective?? Who can attend, I mean?? I really LOVE to dance!!



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-07-23 19:42:30](#)

(no subject)

Well, if fifteen people say that they want to attend, I'll have to par the group down somehow. Probably based on skill level and experience, as well as considering who would *truly* benefit from such an opportunity.

Shall I add you to the list, then?



 [alt_eloise](#) at [2012-07-23 19:43:00](#)
(no subject)

Yes, please!!



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2012-07-23 20:44:04](#)
(no subject)

Daphne,

It's been a while since we have had a talk. I would like to come if you don't mind.



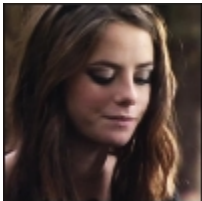
 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-07-24 02:30:37](#)
(no subject)

Certainly, Ginevra. I think you'd be a most welcome addition.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-07-24 00:36:24](#)
(no subject)


Sounds brill, Daphs! Count me and Pav in for sure.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-07-24 02:31:05](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I already was!



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-24 01:47:08](#)
(no subject)

That's absolutely brilliant, Daffs! It sounds like a lovely opportunity, and this really speaks volumes about how much you are to Mr Krumgold.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-24 01:51:18](#)

Private Message to Daphne

If there's a free spot, count me in, as it does sound like loads of fun. If not, I'd rather it go to someone who'd benefit from the experience, unless said individual is so annoying that she'd make it a bit less enjoyable for everyone else that is.

Are you free to go out to tea sometime soon? I'd like that. I know we've been working on all these clubs of Harry's, but it'd be nice to just catch up just the two of us without an official function to plan.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-07-24 02:35:09](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphne

Well I'd rather it go to you than Midgen, to be honest. I already had to gently talk Millie out of it - or I tried to, at least, but then she got huffy and said "dancing is stupid, anyway."

I have a lot of extra lessons and things, but I'm sure I can squeeze it in sometime! I'd like to hear what you and Draco have been up to. Do you think he'll want to come to the dance workshop?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-24 20:03:38](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphne

I figured as much. And I'll ask him, I'm sure he'd be fine with coming along. Especially if Blaise was going to be there too.

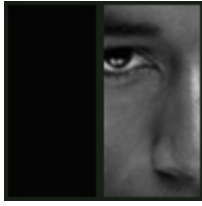


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-24 20:06:01](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphne

And we can sort out schedules for a quick meet-up sometime. I'd like that very much.

This summer has been busy, hasn't it? Pleasantly busy, though.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2012-07-24 02:03:51](#)

Private Message to Daphs

Is this choreographed balletic dance or partnered social dancing? I'll come along if you need gentlewizards to round out your numbers. If it's show tunes and chorus lining or choreographed spectacles, then I think I'd rather leave you to it.

You've seemed, well, a bit purposefully chipper when I've seen you this summer. You're doing well, aren't you? Would you like to meet for tea on Wednesday or Thursday? I'd like to see you before we all pack off for CCF.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-07-24 02:45:08](#)

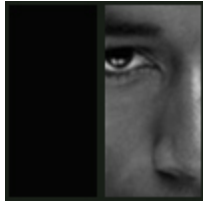
Re: Private Message to Daphs

Social dancing only. ~~Gerald~~ Mr Krumgold knows that ballet and chorus lines aren't of use to most of the general public. Samantha already wrote me a private message asking if he can teach us the Veela dance, though. Wouldn't that be a laugh?

I suppose I'm either being overly chipper or I'm not being my "usual self." Finding the right balance is hard. When I go to lessons or visit with Grandmother it seems that nothing's changed at all, but then, other times, I'm struck with this dreadful feeling that Barney hasn't forgotten anything, that he hasn't moved on at all.

On Sunday morning Miss Jessup found a mutilated rat on the front steps, right on the mat. Father says it must have been Isis (that's Queenie's new cat, for when she joins us at Hogwarts in autumn), but Barney knows how much I detest rats. And I've *never* seen a rat in all of Belgravia! I'm sure there's charms and things to keep them away.

So yes... I would love to meet for tea.



 **alt_blaise** at [2012-07-24 02:50:12](#)


Re: Private Message to Daphs

You haven't seen Bole at all, than? I don't like to think of his skulking about. Leaving you dead rats or anything else.

Count me in for the dance, but then we must definitely have tea. Wednesday?

I miss seeing you.



 **alt_daphne** at [2012-07-24 03:01:52](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphs

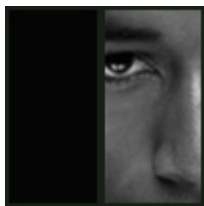
You just want to learn the Veela dance, don't you?

I haven't seen him, no, but the rat has me worried. And not seeing him doesn't mean he's not there.

I hope I'm only jumping at shadows.

Wednesday. The Owlery room? (I always eat too many of their scones, but I haven't had one in ages)

I've missed you as well, Blaise. It will be so good to catch up, just the two of us.



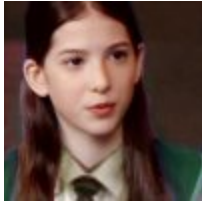
 **alt_blaise** at [2012-07-24 03:10:41](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphs

Well, I admit it would be good fun.

About Bole: yes, that's just what I mean. I think it's worse if he's keeping to the shadows, there but not where you can see him. If anything else happens, you absolutely must call in MLE.

The Owlery room is perfect. Excellent.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-24 02:53:04](#)

Private message to Daphne

I'd very much like to, if there's space. I'm sorry I didn't get a chance to write earlier, and I certainly understand if I missed my chance.

Also, if you need boys to round out the numbers, I could bring Jeremy Stretton. He's not a particularly experienced dancer but he knows the basics.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2012-07-24 03:04:25](#)

Re: Private message to Daphne

Mr Krumgold sent me a private message a few hours ago, and he says anyone is welcome to watch, there's just not enough room for more than four or so pairs to dance at the same time. But we can probably trade off and take turns? Stretton's welcome, as well. More boys are always good, but you know, it's quite typical for girls to dance with each other in these situations, too.

I do so look forward to seeing if Smith shows up.

[2012-07-23 13:19:00](#)

Order Only: Private message to Dora and Sirius

So Hydra Lestrage sent a message to Dora and Junius this morning. She and some of her friends are hoping to come visit the cafe. For a 'Tea Appreciation' club, of all things.



 [alt_lupin](#)

I don't know whether to assume her mother put her up to this, or if she genuinely just wants to visit Bea again, but if Justin Finch-Fletchley is one of the friends she's planning to bring, he'd recognise Padfoot, wouldn't he? We'll try to determine EXACTLY when she thinks they're coming so you'll know when to make yourself scarce. We might want to pass the word to Beth to steer clear that day, too, no sense courting trouble.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-23 19:11:04](#)
(no subject)

I tried to sound happy to hear from her and also suggest we might not be the best place for a big lot of her friends to come all at once.

I haven't heard back from her. Perhaps she's reconsidering.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-24 01:24:42](#)
(no subject)

Well, much as I'd love to clap eyes on Justin and see for myself how he's doing, let's hope you're right and she decides the shop is too small for her crowd.

I'm sure he'd recognize Padfoot, even if Bea's calling him Sinbad somewhat reliably.

And Remus is right: We can't be sure it's not her mother's idea.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-24 02:15:59](#)
(no subject)

Well, it seems it's not to be the crowd I'd imagined: she's mentioned your Justin, plus that Sally Anne Perks and her friend, Pansy Parkinson. And you know, now she's said it, I remember that once Cousin Hydra asked Sally Anne Perks to write and warn me about Cousin Bellatrix's schemes. I hadn't remembered they were friendly.

Of course, she also mentions her Cousin Remy might come. He's a Jugson, you know, and I don't know anything to say in their favour. I expect that he deserves a chance to show what he's made of. Couldn't hurt us. Too much. If we're careful.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-24 02:34:53](#)
(no subject)

Brilliant.

Although, if Justin's coming then Jugson makes sense. They're the ones fostered him, aren't they?

I suppose he can't afford to get rid of this Remy chap.

And you'd best look sharp with Perks about; she's a clever little thing. She'll put two and three together and come up with six quicker than Bea can go from smiles to shrieks.



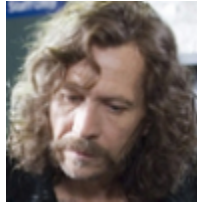
 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-24 02:56:31](#)
(no subject)

It's Wednesday they're coming. Maybe I should try baking scones again. I know the last time wasn't really a success, but it would be nice to have something fresh for them.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-24 02:57:40](#)
(no subject)

Is there anything in particular you're worried about her noticing?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-24 03:20:29](#)
(no subject)

Well. She's met you before. Not Junius, I mean, you. And she's observant.

I'd just be extremely careful if I were you two.

And no, I don't think it's worth wasting polyjuice when I can just as easily hide across the mews and scry on everyone if necessary.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-24 02:55:09](#)
(no subject)

If you want a closer look at Justin there's always the polyjuice. We could use an older bloke and tell Ellie you're my uncle.

2012-07-23 21:07:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

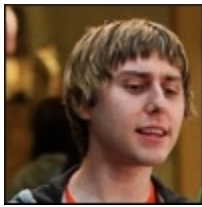



 [alt_hydra](#)

I spoke with my cousin, and she and Mr Ponds will be happy to have the new Tea Appreciation club meet at the cafe on Wednesday. She says that the biscuits are nice, but the tea is just ordinary (but when was the last time you had your tea poured by someone with purple hair? I know it's only happened to me just the once.)

She seemed a little bit worried about how big the group would be, so we might not want to make it an open invitation for everyone. Maybe we can do something like Daphne does, and say "there's only room for X number of people." Or I suppose it could just be whoever can make it from the lock, plus Remy, plus Harry and Draco... if you think they would want to come along, Pansy.

What do the rest of you think?



 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-07-24 03:29:01**
(no subject)


Hullo, Dux,

We'll come as soon as Mr Barnes lets us out of our tutoring.

And please don't tell me you're thinking of dying your hair pink, what?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at **2012-07-24 03:31:36**
(no subject)

Well, now that you bring it up...


It wouldn't have to be dye. It could be a temporary charm.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-24 03:43:59](#)
(no subject)

I know a charm that'll do that.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-24 04:09:56](#)
(no subject)

Well, it would get your mother's attention, what!

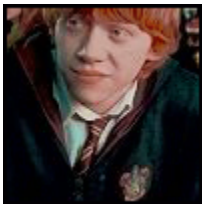
-J




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-24 03:46:02](#)
(no subject)

I think probably whoever can make it from the lock plus Remy and Harry and Draco (if they want to come).

Although who even knows how many Strettons I'll have trailing along with me. I think it'll be just me but I can't say for sure. Jeremy might come too.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-24 08:35:55](#)
(no subject)

Really? What's Stretton doing now, anywiz? Not working anywhere? Would he really come?

It could be good fun if you've got Gemma along. Imagine her going out for tea! Has she got gloves and a hat? I mean to say, that one's dead adorable when she's excited about anything.

I might actually come, then. I mean, yeah. Why not.

D'you think Harry really might come, Hydra? I mean, no offence, but it'd be different if F-F's the only other bloke along.

What about you, Nev? Or Lee? Last lock thing before you get too ancient for us?



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-07-24 13:39:13](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know. I think he will want to come, but it depends on whether or not he's able, or if there's something else on his timetable. Pansy might be the best person to ask him, though, since it was she and Draco who decided on getting him out of Buckingham by making him a part of different clubs.


But Remy's a bloke.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2012-07-24 19:45:05](#)**
(no subject)

I'll come. If you think there'll be enough room for me?



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-07-24 21:15:08](#)**
(no subject)


Good. It'll be good to see you mate.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-07-24 19:55:51](#)**
(no subject)

So wait, you'll come if I'm bringing Gemma but if it's just ME you're staying at the Burrow?!?



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-07-24 21:22:08](#)**
(no subject)

Huh? I didn't say that did I?

Just. You said you were coming--which is good!

See you there.


Um. So did you go to that dance thinger with Greengrass?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-25 00:21:41](#)
(no subject)

Yes, and I had a good time.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-25 01:31:02](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

What was it like?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-25 01:42:15](#)
(no subject)

I think Daphne fancies her dancing teacher.

Blaise Zabini and Padma Patil were there, and they danced together a lot better than I would have predicted. Blaise is a pretty good dancer, but Padma was also really good at following his lead. It seems to make her really cross, though. But then she asked him to dance with her again.

I thought it was okay. I didn't step on anyone's foot, when it was my turn to dance. Midgen stepped on mine, though. She was very apologetic. (There weren't enough boys to go around, so some of the time girls danced together.)



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-25 03:56:39](#)
(no subject)


I think her dancing teacher may be a bit of a shirt-lifter. Aren't all dancing teachers?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2012-07-25 01:43:26](#)**
(no subject)

Appreciating Tea (and biscuits) is going to be a lot more fun, I'll tell you that. For one thing it'll be you and Pansy and Justin and Luna instead of Patil and Zabini and Midgen.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-07-25 04:02:24](#)**
Private Message to Sally-Anne

Draco's been over-thinking the tea trip. You know. Worrying about people he doesn't know as well being there, and not knowing his cousins well enough so they wouldn't think he was being insensitive or improper. And he's asked me to spend time with him instead, most likely so he feels like he's got a halfway respectable reason for turning Hydra down. So I don't think we'll be going, even though I will miss seeing you.

Have an extra scone for me, will you?

Perhaps the next Appreciating Tea could combine with Tea Time of the Strange. I'm sure Sue would love to come.



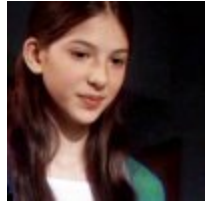
 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2012-07-25 12:18:34](#)**
Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

We're supposed to be at this tea shop at 3, right? And I reckon it must be on the Floo, so I was thinking of going to Diagonal Alley first. Professor Siz sent a voucher so I could buy some new boots for trekking (not the boots for marching that come with the uniform, y'know). Anywiz, I haven't gone to buy them and I kind of have to since we're leaving- wait, what day do we go? Anywiz, Mum's been after me to get it done, but there just hasn't been time, has there? And anyway, I didn't want-

I was wondering if you'd got a voucher for stuff, too, and needed to go pick it out, cause we could go together today. I mean if you can get away. You and Gemma, I guess. D'you want to, maybe? Or were you meeting up with Pansy first? I

mean, I was thinking I wouldn't maybe say what I was shopping for to her. I mean, it's not really something anyone else needs to know, right?

Anywiz, would you want to?

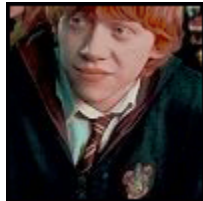


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-25 14:16:02](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

Oh, GOOD idea. Yes, I got a voucher and I haven't been shopping yet either.

Maybe one? We can eat lunch, then meet?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-25 14:59:04](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally Anne Perks

One it is. Just write if you can't. If the Strettons, y'know, make you not.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-07-24 17:09:22](#)

(no subject)

I would love to come. What time did you have in mind?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-24 19:17:45](#)

(no subject)

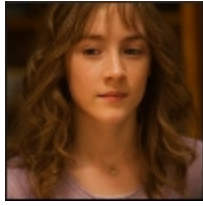
When I came for tea last time it was at 3 o'clock. I should think that time would be fine for this occasion.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-07-24 19:46:35](#)

(no subject)


That will work fine. I will be there. What's the address?



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-07-24 23:13:38](#)**
(no subject)


It's Lazlo's of London in Camden. It's really more of a shop than a cafe. The address is 63 Doughty Conduit.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-07-25 01:34:03](#)**
(no subject)


Thank you! I'll be there.



 **[alt_lee](#)** at **[2012-07-24 17:11:39](#)**
(no subject)


Thanks, but I'll have to be with you in spirit. My mum's hacked off at me and has a list of chores for me to do today and tomorrow, and I don't think I'll be able to get away.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-07-24 20:09:35](#)**
(no subject)

I'll ask Draco to see if he'd be free. Harry's usually up for just about anything, and as long as he's got people there he can talk Quidditch to, it should be fine. But I'll see.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-07-24 20:13:15](#)**
(no subject)

On second thought, it'd probably be better coming from you, Hydra. Perhaps you could send out an invitation to Draco and me in a PM, and then another one to Harry? I'm just thinking that if you're to be putting it on, it'd make more sense coming from you, and it is both your cousins.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-24 22:02:48](#)
(no subject)

Well, alright.

I will have to be careful and ask in a way that doesn't make it sound like we already discussed all the details. Harry probably won't notice, but Draco might.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-24 22:23:27](#)
(no subject)

Yes. He would. I'm sure you'll be fine. It's far easier in writing.

I was just thinking about what I'd say to them, and it's your tea, and your cousin, and it'd sound off coming from me instead of you.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-25 03:55:48](#)
Private Message to Hydra

I'm sorry. I don't think we'll be making tea.

I've been talking to him. It's not that he doesn't want to get to know Mr and Mrs Ponds -- not exactly. I think he just feels it'd be a bit awkward with a crowd of people. I think he's worried it'd come off as... well, almost like it'd be disingenuous of him. He hasn't been writing and visiting them like you have, you know. And he can get a bit stiff around people he doesn't know as well to begin with.

He told me that if it were just you, me, him, and Harry, it'd be different.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-25 14:58:43](#)
Re: Private Message to Hydra

Yes, he told me the same thing.

I suppose I hadn't thought of him feeling awkward, but I can see now that he does. I think Aunt Narcissa and Uncle Lucius have raised him to give a lot of

thought about what impression he's making, both to people of his own station and those who aren't.

Whereas I was raised not to worry about what other people think, but to just focus on serving Our Lord, because only his impression matters.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-25 15:48:31](#)

Re: Private Message to Hydra

Sometimes I wish he was a bit more easy around people that aren't in his normal social circles. I've found it to be rewarding more often than not. I mean, there's a cost, of course, there always is, but it's been worth it.

What do you think now? About his impression?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-25 15:55:19](#)

Re: Private Message to Hydra

I don't know, I think he's just trying to be the way most people expect him to be.

I'm not sure what you're asking me? What do I think about the impression he makes on others? Or on me?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-25 16:19:03](#)

Re: Private Message to Hydra

I think so too. That can be awfully limiting sometimes, can't it?

I guess I was asking about the impression he makes on you.

But if that's the sort of question you'd rather not answer, I understand.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-25 17:07:44](#)

Re: Private Message to Hydra

Draco is spoiled. Auntie Narcissa always gave him everything he ever wanted, but I think it was maybe to make up for the fact that he's been held responsible for Harry since they were both young.

I think he's worked hard to create a public image of himself, you know, of everything Draco Malfoy is supposed to embody, because it helps. His parents have been threatened before, and I know that Draco himself has been cruciated - by the Lord Protector himself, I think.

I think he must hate the Lord Protector, because you can't be afraid of someone for years and years and not have at least a part of you start to hate them.

But his status in the Protectorate might make him feel safe and secure. I know that my status makes me feel secure sometimes, too, and then I feel bad about it because it's not a status that everyone has. Like Sally Anne and Luna, for example. It's the same for Justin, because he has status that Hermione and Terry don't have. But feeling bad about it doesn't really change anything, so I try to ignore it.

And I try to remind myself that status doesn't really protect anyone here, not really. I don't know if Draco has realised that yet, though. You're probably in a better position to find out than I am.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-25 18:01:35](#)

Re: Private Message to Hydra

I worry sometimes that I don't fit that image. And that he'll come to his senses and we'll be through. I've even told him as much, but he doesn't agree.

We've talked about status quite a bit, actually. About how people in the middle, like MacMillan and Smith and Brown and the Patils, how they have the best of it, and don't have to worry, but how being at the top, being so close to Him, how it

can be really dangerous. After all, he's seen it first hand. As has Harry.

He doesn't feel safe and secure. Far from.

I came up with a plan to give our counselling money back to the CCF, mine and Harry's and Draco's, but Draco wanted to keep his, because he wasn't sure if he could depend on his family's money. Because he worries it might get taken away. On top of all the worries he has about Harry. He worries about Hermione too. Quite a lot, actually.

I think he hates being afraid, and he also hates not knowing what to do about it. But it's also scary to think about the alternative too.



 **[alt_hydra](#) at 2012-07-25 18:33:47**

Re: Private Message to Hydra

If he's worried about his family's money being taken away, well, he must be worried that the Lord Protector would do it. Because who else would be able to?

He's better at pretending everything's fine than I realised.

And If he's worried about his family, then I can see him being extra-careful about his image right now, and making sure he's doing the appropriate thing.

Only I'm not sure what image it is that you don't think you have. I guess you might mean that you're not as worried about what people think of your actions as he is?

I don't know. I do sometimes worry about what people will think, not because of what it will mean for me, but more because of what it means for people I care about. It probably helps that people who don't know me, don't really know what to make of me. Or else they're maybe afraid of me because of who my Mother is. So if they see me doing something, like going to a dodgy tea shop in Camden, they probably think I'm spying for Mummy or something. I suppose no one would ever imagine that Auror Lestrangle's daughter could be anything but absolutely, positively loyal.

And really, I want to make sure that they keep thinking that way, because I think it's probably better if they do.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2012-07-25 23:03:34**

Re: Private Message to Hydra

Well. There was that queen of the scumbloods... thing. That was a pretty clear sign that some people think I've stepped out of my place. And there's his parents. His mother has never liked me much, and Lucius has been very distant about our being together.

The message I get from all that is that I'm not good enough. But I never get that from him. Which is something. Which is everything, really.

I can see what you mean about wanting to keep people on their toes, so they don't know what to think. How that might be best. But it must get rather tiresome. And lonely.

I'm glad you have Justin. So you don't have to be that way to everybody. And you have us too.

[2012-07-24 14:48:00](#)

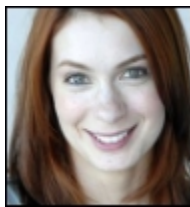
Order Only: The camping trip is on




Alice and Frank:

We players have figured out a schedule that will keep a guard over Ridley but still allow me and Emmeline to break away to accompany Algie, so that you can take Neville and Evelyn on your camping trip. Is the plan still for noon on Saturday? We'll meet you at the rendezvous point.

 **[alt_kingsley](#)**



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-07-24 20:15:40](#)**
(no subject)

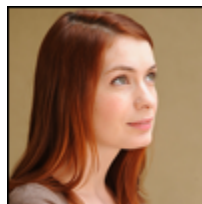
Yes, it is. I know Ridley has been wearing, Kingsley, and I can't thank you and the rest of the Players enough for helping us despite having her to watch over on top of everything.


I can't tell you how much I'm looking forward to seeing them again.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-07-25 01:22:06](#)**
(no subject)

You're planning on bringing Kevin along, my friends? Is he manifesting his magic yet? I hope that won't be a problem around Neville and Evelyn. They still think he's a squib, right?



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-07-25 02:34:34](#)**
(no subject)

He hasn't yet. But he is getting around that age. Frank and I were talking about it the other day, and we're worried that his seeing Neville and Evelyn might trigger it, especially if he gets excited, but we'll see. After all, Neville was a late bloomer.

And yes, that's what they think. Rather, they've assumed because he didn't show up in the book, and we haven't corrected them.



 **[alt_frank](#) at 2012-07-25 02:58:08**

Private Message to Alice

the twins knew about the fake book, didn't they?

because of what terry told them.

wonder if they passed that nugget on to the rest of their group.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2012-07-25 03:00:16**

Re: Private Message to Alice

Well, love, you know how they can all get when it comes to talking about that. Not that I fault them -- I think it's quite admirable how they're so set on keeping things quiet.



 **[alt_frank](#) at 2012-07-25 03:25:37**

Re: Private Message to Alice

well. if it means the difference between having to oblivate them or not, I'd rather ask.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2012-07-25 03:26:09**

Re: Private Message to Alice

If it comes to that, love, we'll ask.



 **[alt_frank](#) at 2012-07-24 21:30:51**

(no subject)

thanks, man.

saturday works for us.

I'll take over a ridley shift or five when we get back.

thanks.

[2012-07-24 17:13:00](#)

Private message to Draco and Pansy

Hello,

I've been talking with Justin and Remy about having a Tea Appreciation club, and they both thought it was a good idea. And then I thought that Lazlo's of London would be a good spot for a first meeting. It's more of a shop than a cafe, but it's cosy, and really, I wanted to invite the two of you because Dora Ponds, the proprietor, is Draco's cousin, and mine.



 [alt_hydra](#)


Draco, I know you don't know her very well, but she's very kind (and so is her husband, Mr Ponds), and she's a metamorphmagus, which is fascinating, and her little daughter has the ability, too. I don't think you've really properly met Bea, have you? I'm sure that she'd be happy to meet another cousin.

I was planning to invite Harry, too, since the whole point of the clubs is to keep him busy. And Pansy, I think Sally Anne would be interested in coming too, if the Strettons will give her permission.

We'll be going there tomorrow at three. Do you think you would like to come?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_draco](#) at **[2012-07-24 23:24:18](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not entirely sure, Hydra. That shop's in Camden, isn't it? Dodgy area, too.

If it were just family, that'd be one thing, but if it's going to be Finch-Fletchley and Sally Anne, too, I don't know that I fancy the idea of having a reunion with our cousin with them present. Sounds just too awkward to me.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-24 23:27:17](#)

(no subject)

Oh. Well, I think Justin might've invited Ron Weasley, as well.

And, if I had to guess I would say that Weasley will ask along Longbottom and Luna Lovegood. And you never know which Stretton Sally Anne will end up bringing along, as well.

So it might quite a big group, you see. That will make it feel a lot less like a family reunion and more like a club getting together to have tea, won't it?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-07-25 14:51:38](#)

(no subject)

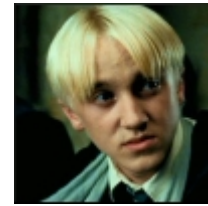
Hydra, thanks for thinking of me, and Pansy too. Maybe another time? Especially if the group was smaller - say, just you and me, and maybe my Mother. Maybe Pansy and Harry, too.

But have a good time - sounds like you'll have enough people there that you won't miss us.

2012-07-24 17:28:00

Private message to Pansy

Sometimes I really don't understand Hydra. Who goes to a ramshackle shop in Camden to appreciate *tea*, of all things.




 [alt_draco](#)

I mean, I know what this is really about. At least I think I do. Auntie Bellatrix isn't the warmest mother in the world, and Hydra's latching on to our cousin, instead. Though if she really wants to be mothered she ought to get in touch with mine - she loves to take Hydra shopping and things. I suppose that Hydra might secretly want to hack off Auntie Bella a bit, though, and going 'round to visit cousin Dora is a better way to accomplish that.

It's funny, though, because after listening to Blaise and Daphs talk about their plans to go to the Owlery Room, I was thinking that you and I should really go to one of those posh high teas, too. Not the Owlery Room, but maybe Katyenka, in Russell Square Gardens. Mother loves it, so I'm sure that you would, too. I'd much rather do that tomorrow afternoon, just the two of us.

I'm just really not comfortable with the idea of visiting my cousin with so many other people there. I don't know her well at all, and the very idea of it is just too strange.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2012-07-25 02:56:04**
(no subject)


I can see how it'd make for an odd sort of experience for the both of you, especially if you haven't really ever talked much before. Hydra's certainly exchanged her fair share of messages with her, so I think it's a bit less awkward on her end. If you'd rather not go, I understand why. I think Hydra does too.

And I do think you're right, that it's less about mothering and more of showing a bit of spine, you know, making her mum grit her teeth a little. You know Hydra. She can be very quiet and understated about it, but I think she quite likes showing how different she is, even in very small ways.

Not that I blame her.

But there are certainly other ways you can show your support to Hydra, and even to get to know your cousin better (if you want to, that is) without having to go along with a large party.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-07-25 03:06:10](#)
(no subject)

How do I know if I want to get to know her better if I barely know her at all?

And you know, Mother's always asking after her, and I can tell she does it more because it's her "duty" than she really wants to. So if I show up at her shop and say "Hey, let's have a tea and a chat, cous," it's just a great big filthy show, isn't it? Cousin dora knows that there's this whole... *history* with her parents and my parents and the Lestranges, and no one talks about it, but it's just there. She's from the side of the family that "went bad," and I'm not, and we're just supposed to go on as if that isn't a problem.

It's like Harry, you know, pretending like Granger is his friend, and trying to ignore the fact that he *owns her*. She tries to ignore it too, I think.

Plus, it's in Camden.

Sorry, I know it's really not that much that Hydra's asking. If it was just her and me, and maybe you and Harry, then I might think about it. But not like this.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-25 03:42:47](#)
(no subject)

I can see that, yes.

And you're right, I think that if you went in there and acted like you were just cousins and everything was wonderfully jolly, it would be unfair to the both of you, and it would also be quite unrealistic.

To be fair, though, I don't think that's quite what Hydra was expecting of you, and I don't believe that's how she sees her connection with the Ponds either, even though she's had a bit more of a basis for knowing them than you do.


And I'm not saying it's something you should want to do. Or even something you ought to do out of obligation. Because it is a rather personal sort of decision to make, isn't it? How you feel about something, I mean. Or someone. And what you want to do about it, even if it's to do nothing.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-25 02:56:23](#)
(no subject)


And the tea room does sound lovely. Let's.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-07-25 03:06:25](#)
(no subject)

Really?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-25 03:47:14](#)
(no subject)

Of course!

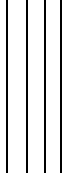
Even though this summer has been loads of fun, it's been packed with people. And I rather like just the two of us.

I'm sure there will be other tea appreciation meetings, or things enough like it.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-07-25 14:48:11](#)
(no subject)

Brilliant. Shall we meet by the fountain in the square? Then we can have a walk through the gardens before tea at Katyenka.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-07-25 15:41:20](#)**
(no subject)

I'll see you there.

2012-07-24 19:04:00

Private Message to Percy Weasley

Perce,

I'm guessing you've been held up at work, like you said might happen.



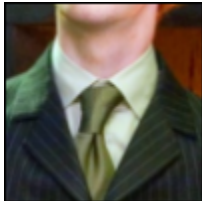
 [alt_penelope](#)

The thing is, this place is perfect. And if we sign the papers now, we can even move in a little early. The landlord says he can let us start bringing things over the weekend, as the couple who lived here told him they'll be out completely after tomorrow.

It's only 10 Γ more per month than we were hoping. I don't think it's worth trying to talk him down, do you?

Look, I'm just going to tell him we'll take it and you can come and sign over lunch tomorrow.

All right?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-07-25 00:58:54](#)
(no subject)

It's always worth trying to talk them down. But if you already said you'd take it, that limits our options. Quite a bit.

It has everything on our checklist? 10 Γ though...

When do you get evaluated for a raise? Will you have to wait a year? Or six months?



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2012-07-25 01:08:41](#)
(no subject)

Well, you can always tell him that I oughtn't to have made the decision alone but it's not that much over-budget. I mean, we'll just eat less take-away.

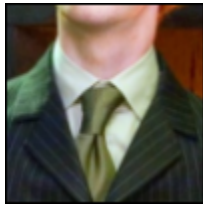
It's got everything and more besides. It's very clean, the rooms are large, and he sprays for doxies three times a year. There's a bay

window and it's right in the neighbourhood we wanted in Islington. Just up the street from that curry place we liked.

No muggle fixtures at all, just like Mr Malfoy recommended. And it's already on the Floo Network with a private fireplace - that's actually included in the rent. (Remember the other place we'd have had to pay extra.) Oh, and laundry on site, as well as charm-locked broom storage.

There's even an extra cupboard which will be perfect if we do decide we can afford a mudblood before we get a larger place. Or we can use it as an extra pantry for now.

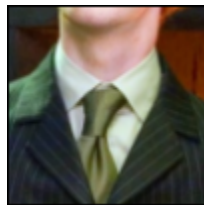
Oh, and there's a little balcony overlooking the back garden, so we've got a terrace in the summer. It's a second-floor walkup but that's better than the one on the fourth level we saw a couple weeks ago.



 **alt_percy** at **2012-07-25 01:24:00**
(no subject)

That does sound just like what we were hoping for. I suppose I could try to negotiate him down a little more. It's worth a try, anyway.


Less take-away? Then we won't be eating at that curry place very often, will we? I hope you've been working on your cooking. Mum's been going on about teaching me this summer, but I've been pulling down so many late nights, we really haven't much of a chance to do that.



 **alt_percy** at **2012-07-25 01:25:34**
(no subject)

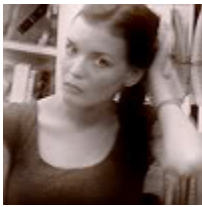
Bill's become rather handy in the kitchen, I understand. Maybe he has a bachelor cookbook to recommend, that would be good for preparing easy meals for one or two.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2012-07-25 01:26:36](#)
(no subject)

Oh, for Merlin's sake, I meant we could get fewer dishes and split them, or get the same order but stretch it with more rice and so on.

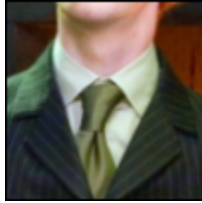
I've already told you the kitchen is not my natural habitat. But yes, I've asked Mum for some recipe books. how hard can it be, really? Eggs are easy, and pasta just takes boiling water. And a roast is the easiest thing in the world. We'll be fine.




 [alt_penelope](#) at [2012-07-25 01:13:44](#)
(no subject)

I suppose I can ask Mr Powell about a rise in six months but not right away, certainly.

You've just passed a year with Mr Malfoy, did you talk to *him* about a pay rise?




 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-07-25 01:19:01](#)
(no subject)

I started a year ago, as of July 7. I should have had an evaluation by now, and I'm hoping for a raise, but Mr Malfoy has been so ~~shør~~ so busy that it hasn't been scheduled.

If it all works out as I hope, I suppose we could swing the higher price. If we're careful.

All right, I'll arrange to go see the landlord tomorrow.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2012-07-25 01:34:52](#)
(no subject)

You'll feel differently when you see it.

I'm going to start packing.

[2012-07-24 20:37:00](#)

Private Message to Lav and Pav

Well, Pav was there so she already knows, but this way we can all talk about it.



Lav, you will *never* guess what happened today at Daph's dance party.

 [alt_padma](#)

Well, you'll guess some of it. Daphne's clearly absolutely, utterly moony over that dancing instructor of hers. And he's quite dashing, it's true. But he's far too old for her, honestly. If he's actually interested back then I'll be shocked if they don't wind up in trouble about it! Really after Bole she ought to know better.

And Perks showed up with Jeremy Stretton, of all people. And he was much clumsier on land than he is on a broom.

But. That's not the interesting thing. Or maybe the terrible thing. We're still not sure what to call it.

Zabini and I danced. Twice. I had to go again to make sure because the first time--well. He's been dancing forever, you know, so he really knows how to lead. Which is such a *relief*--I mean, Page was utterly hopeless and the less said about Davies the better. And of course, Seamus can dance but he's not particularly masterful about it. But Zabini--well. Like I said, he just sort of--took control. And the whole time we were dancing I was just sure I was shaking! My palms got all sweaty and I was so embarrassed I could hardly talk. I just stared at him like a dunce. But that actually helped, you know, because I could almost see where he was going to turn or throw in something fancy. And then he complimented me on 'keeping up' with him!

Which I didn't like, I can tell you.


But afterward my hands felt all tingly, sort of, and the next dance was with Stretton and he was all stiff and I had to push him through the moves a bit. So later (I waited out one or two to give the other girls a turn), I asked Blaise Zabini if he wanted to give it another go. He said something like, 'Sure, why not?' and it happened again!

I dunno. He's such a complete pillock it's unbelievable. But I think if I only ever had to dance with him, that would be all right.

Who knew?

Look, don't tell anyone, will you? I don't want people to think I've gone and done something daft like fallen in *love*--with *Zabini*, of all people! It's utterly inane to even consider it.



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2012-07-25 01:43:00](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Greengrass!

Fancying older boys is rather understandable, really, but she takes it a bit far, don't you think?

And as for Zabini, I suppose he is rather fit. And that's the thing about dancing, no one really has to *talk*.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-07-25 01:50:43](#)
(no subject)

There's old and there's old, and Mr Krumgold is Dio's age, or thereabouts.

Really, it's a little creepy, if he's interested in her too.

Zabini? Fit?

I suppose. I hadn't really thought about it. Mostly he's just so infuriating it's hard to notice anything else.

You know, I think I remember Dad saying once that there have been loads of famous artists--musicians and dancers and singers--who were amazing duos but couldn't actually stand one another off the stage.

Not that I want to be in a dancing partnership with Zabini, of course! And I doubt he aspires to be a professional performer, either.

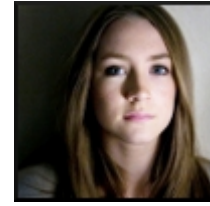
Did I show you the latest designs? I'm having my own robes made for Lana Sandoval's wedding next week, based on the things Mum and I have been working on, and they're going to be utterly *gorgeous*. I'll send you the sketch and the swatches. You'll just go green.

[2012-07-24 21:21:00](#)

Private message to Harry Marvolo

Hi Harry,

I just wanted to let you know that a new club, Tea Appreciation, is meeting tomorrow at Lazlo's of London, in Camden. Probably around 3:00. Don't worry, I haven't made you president or anything, but if you want out of Buckingham, you're welcome to join us. It will be Remy and Justin and me for sure, and Sally Anne and Luna, and maybe Ron and Neville. I also asked Draco and Pansy, but they haven't gotten back to me yet.



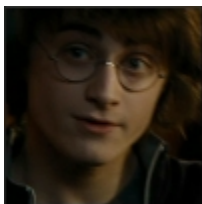
 [alt_hydra](#)

I think Draco feels uncomfortable about coming to the shop because it's owned by our cousin, Dora Ponds. She's a halfblood, and her parents were traitors, so Draco doesn't really know her at all. I've been getting to know her better, though. Her family is very polite, and very loyal to the Protectorate.

I hope your summer has been going well. Have you enjoyed coming to the clubs and being a YPL counsellor? I know that the clubs weren't really your idea, after all, so I hope it hasn't been burdensome. I know that it's been nice for me, to have a good reason to socialise away from St. James. Mummy hasn't remarked on it much so far, she's so busy with her investigations, you know. But I keep waiting for her to suddenly snap to attention and put a stop to it...That's how it usually goes, with her.

Let me know if you can make it tomorrow.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at **[2012-07-25 04:12:48](#)**
(no subject)

Hey, Hydra.

The tea thing sounds like a fun idea. I'm not sure if I'll be able to go, because of security and stuff. It's hard to do things last minute. But I'll check. And I'll let you know.

And it's okay about your cousin. I mean, I think it's nice that you're


going to her shop. And I'm sure she's polite. And loyal. Draco can get a little held up about stuff sometimes. I think he wishes I got more held up about it too.

The clubs have been nice. I mean, I've got to know a lot of people I didn't know as well before, and I've done a lot more things than I'm used to doing during summer, it's mostly been fun stuff. Or at least interesting. I don't think I would've come up with it on my own, but I'm glad it happened.

I know what you mean about wanting to get away sometimes.

I hope she doesn't. Start paying attention, I mean. But if she does, we'll make you vice-president of lots of things.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2012-07-25 14:44:30](#)
(no subject)

I understand. Aunt Narcissa has been to the shop and so have I, so it might not be a place that needs a lot of security? I haven't made any public journal announcements about the tea and you being there, either, which might help.

I don't know if making me vice-president would help much. If Mummy decides I'm spending time with the wrong people, or doing the wrong things, there's not much that can change her mind. I would just have to lie to her.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-25 16:15:26](#)
(no subject)

I've checked with Raz, and it's okay, he said I can just come in by floo and they'll sweep the shop before or something.

So I can come.

At least it's easier for you to lie, now that you can keep stuff from her properly. You know.

|| But if there's anything I can ever do to help, you let me know.

[2012-07-25 08:48:00](#)

Private Message to Shivani Johns

I'm sorry I didn't answer the other day. I did see what you wrote. Only, I suppose I didn't know quite what to say, and I've been kept so busy at work I can't even-



 [alt_lana](#)

I've been trying extra hard to impress, and I know he thinks I'll come short because of the wedding, and that would be well. It can't happen because keeping his good opinion, even if he doesn't agree to an Internship, is just absolutely the most important thing. I really mean that. If he said we had to work, we'd put off our wedding trip. We'd put off the nuptials, too, if it came to that, though that would be a huge mess for Mama and Papa, but it would have to be all right. It just would. And obviously Ned feels the same way.

But that's not what you asked. I know.

I thought we'd been through this ages ago. Only, I know. You mean that it's real now where it was just talk then.

No, I don't believe I'll regret it. Ned's a good sort, the right sort. How could I do better? And, anyway, it's entirely too late for rethinking. The invitations are out. (Who's your plus-one going to be? Not Theo, surely!)

I simply plan to enjoy the wedding as much as ever can be, and then the rest will sort itself. Over time.

Because we'll have all the time in the world to work out what it means to be married to one another, won't we?

And if he's not the most- well, you know. I don't see that one really needs one's husband to be everything. That puts an unrealistic burden on Ned, really. That's how I see it now, I think. Only, I'm mostly choosing not to think about it, I suppose.

Anyway, everything is coming together, and Papa's making sure that mine will be absolutely the most impressive nuptial celebration New London has seen yet. Setting the standard for others to note.

Psyche Bobolis can just weep with envy: her nuptials can't hope to compare--but, of course, everyone will be thinking back to mine all the

while they're suffering ennui at hers. Ugh. That's going to be a task, keeping a sociable face for that event. But it will be so useful to have a husband for those sorts of engagements, won't it?

2012-07-25 10:04:00

Private message to Raz

Brother, you ought to have sent me these logs earlier. I can't say I like the progression I see here.



 **alt_rodolphus**

Very minimal frequency previous to June 12. It appears as if your attempt to avoid "triggers" was helping.

And then, what's this on July 12? All you've written is **10**. So it lasted ten hours? Is that the longest yet?



 **alt_rabastan** at **2012-07-25 16:13:39**

(no subject)

I sent them six days ago. If you've only got to them just now it's none of my doing.

Can't say I like the progression I see, either. I like even less the way that it feels.



 **alt_rodolphus** at **2012-07-25 16:16:13**

(no subject)

Ah, yes, you know the work. How it piles up and spreads. I would have got to them sooner if you had given any indication that such dramatic changes had happened.

10, Raz? What is it.



 **alt_rabastan** at **2012-07-25 16:17:20**

(no subject)


Intensity. A while back, they suggested I sort them by rankings, but I never much bothered until 12 July. Reckon they all felt the same until then.



 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2012-07-25 16:19:18](#)**
(no subject)

You ranked it a 10? After everything you've been through as a - on the council... a headache gets a 10. Are you sure?



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2012-07-25 16:19:38](#)**
(no subject)


Yeah, I'm sure.



 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2012-07-25 16:21:58](#)**
(no subject)

Long-distance flying. Was that a trigger before?



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2012-07-25 16:25:42](#)**
(no subject)

Extreme physical exertion, yeah. Though I hadn't considered flying as such until now.

Though who knows if that's what it was. Could have been the altitude, the pollen count, or any other number of things. Mostly, it's down to me having been cursed a few too many times in my life.



 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2012-07-25 16:28:19](#)**
(no subject)

Yes.

You really should try to avoid that.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-07-25 16:31:21](#)
(no subject)

Oh, should I? Do tell me more. Any tips on how to avoid the wrath of Our Lord when he's in the mood to cast cruciatus?




 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-07-25 16:35:55](#)
(no subject)

Marry someone who will salivate at the thought of volunteering to be victim in your stead.

In all seriousness, you do need to be careful. A body can only withstand so much.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2012-07-25 16:37:25](#)
(no subject)

Ha, not so sure about that.

But yeah, I hear you on the other. I'll do what I can.

[2012-07-25 10:50:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Lessons



 [alt_tery](#)

You all know that Hermione and I studied as best we could in our secret classroom. I sat on the floor in the Transfiguration classroom for years, so I couldn't help but pick up things in that subject, too. And there were some teachers at Hogwarts that found ways to teach us without admitting they were teaching us things. Like Madam Pomfrey demonstrating brewing simple potions, or Professor Sprout and Professor Brutka giving us chores which were really instruction.

But this is the first time I've stood with my own wand in my hand in front of a real wizard teacher, and been expected to show what I can do with it. It's been sort of nerve wracking. Letting anyone see me using my own wand, even though I know everyone here thinks I have a perfect right to use it.

It's better doing Transfiguration (I've heard so many lectures, after all) or Potions or Herbology (since the wand isn't used much for those subjects anyway). Charms is a bit more difficult, but that was one that Hermione and me have worked on a lot together. But the most nerve-wracking is Defence. I've been learning stuff about defending yourself against a dark creature, lectures on what to do if you're facing a kappa or a hinky-punk, or a boggart. But then the teacher was talking about defensive spells if you're facing another wizard and...~~I just I thought I was gonna~~ well, that didn't go so well.

The teacher and I talked about it. And I pointed out, that the thing is...if I'm ever facing another wizard, and they're trying to hurt me or capture me, and I raise a wand against him, then I have to win. Or escape.

Because if I don't, and I'm captured, then I know I'll be killed once they figure out I'm a muggleborn.

It really raises the stakes, needless to say. And knowing that put all sorts of mental blocks in my way, but I'll have to figure out my way through them.


Now that I have my own wand, I'll never go back to the way I was.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-26 00:22:24](#)
(no subject)

It's a good idea that your Defence professor teacher had you start out with dark creatures, then, isn't it? There's less at stake. At least with something like a kappa. (Dementors would be a different story.)



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-26 01:58:03](#)
(no subject)


Yeah. He's a really good teacher, and he knows what he's doing.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-07-26 01:38:57](#)
(no subject)

Do you think you'll ever be in the position of having to defend yourself against another wizard, for real? I mean, where you are, you said you were safe, right?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-26 01:41:11](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I'm safe. It's all--what's that word? Theretical at this time. (Thearetical?)

But who knows what I'll face in the future. I mean, when I grow up?




 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-07-26 01:43:52](#)
(no subject)

Blimey, Terry. I hope not.

I mean, you don't mean you be something like a soldier or anything, do you?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-26 01:45:26](#)
(no subject)


I don't know.

You know there's stuff I can't talk about.

I just know that things have to change. For people like me.

No one should have to go through the kind of shite I had to go through with Carrow.



 **[alt_neville](#) at [2012-07-26 01:46:38](#)**

(no subject)

Agreed.

But how can it be changed?



 **[alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-26 01:47:03](#)**

(no subject)

We'll just have to figure that out, won't we?

[2012-07-25 19:04:00](#)

Private message to Mrs Ponds and Mr Ponds



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)**

It was really lovely to meet both of you, but especially Mrs Ponds, since we've exchanged letters a few times. And Albia is an absolutely delightful baby. I'm going to experiment a little with that charm that's supposed to make things indestructible (it doesn't really, but it makes them at least a little sturdier) on some origami dogs for her to see if those hold up a little longer than five minutes. Waterproofing might help too, for when she puts it in her mouth. She did seem to like it (or at least the noises it made) for as long as it lasted.

And thanks for letting our crowd invade your cafe -- I know a bunch of Hogwarts fifth and fourth years aren't precisely your normal customers. I hope we didn't drive off too many regulars. There are all sorts of 'student clubs' this summer -- the real reason for them is to give some of us an excuse to get away from our families (or foster families) for a bit.

(And maybe the next time I come I'll get to meet the dog? I quite like dogs. How long have you had him?)



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2012-07-27 01:18:26](#)**

(no subject)

It was a pleasure to meet you, too. I'm so glad you all wanted to come to our little place. It was very nice of Cousin Hydra to think of coming here.

Bea would be so pleased to have an origami animal from you. You had her pretty well spell bound while you folded them. You're right, though, that a bit of re-enforcing and waterproofing wouldn't go amiss!

I couldn't help noticing that you're especially good with children. Have you thought at all of going into teaching or caring when you leave school? The other little girl you brought seemed very taken with you, too; it was very sweet.

Actually, the lot of you were very kind to Bea. Mr Marvolo, too, and

the other boy, the ginger haired one? But then Bea does like to show off for boys, especially.

And for the dog when he's about.

Funny he wasn't here, but we can never tell. He comes and goes as he pleases, and sometimes he just likes to have a ramble for a few days. So far he's always come back to us, though. We've had him for, what, three years, maybe? It seems forever, and he was full grown when he found us, so we don't properly know how old he is.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-27 03:09:45](#)
(no subject)

I know, I was really glad Hydra suggested it. I've wanted to meet you for ages but it had never occurred to me that since you run a CAFE I could just GO sometime.

I made a couple of origami animals today and I'm just owling all of them. One's a dog, one's a cat, and one's a dragon. We'll see how long they hold up. Gemma -- that's the little girl who came with me, Gemma Stretton -- has also enclosed a gift for Bea. From her collection of stuffed animals (she has quite a few; I think they may be charmed to reproduce when left unobserved, you might want to be sure this one doesn't get left in a dark corner with any other stuffed animals) she chose a knitted kitten that's in bright yellow, because that's the Hufflepuff colour and she heard you were a Hufflepuff so she figures Bea will probably be one someday too.

(Gemma's parents were both Ravenclaws but she wants to be a Hufflepuff. Originally that was because yellow is her favourite colour but now she says she wants to be a Hufflepuff because she believes that things ought to be fair.)

Anyway the kitten's in with the origami.

I do like children but what I really want to be is a Healer. I might not be able to get into the training programme, though, because they don't much care for half-bloods -- you know how it is. ~~Also, there's this bloke Stint~~ If I don't manage to be a Healer I'll probably look for work as a tutor -- for nannies people most often choose ~~muggles~~ mudbloods these days because they're so cheap. The Strettons have a girl named Maureen, and of course you have Ellie,

does she help you with Bea? But I might be able to find work as a tutor. I'm good with children and I have excellent marks. Pansy says I can always come live with her, so at least I won't be stuck with the Strettons.

The ginger haired boy is Ron Weasley, he's a Gryffindor and a good friend of mine. I imagine Bea liked his hair. I like

I'm sorry I didn't get to meet the dog! I quite like dogs. (I like almost all animals, actually. I have a pet rat but he didn't come with me on Wednesday. Maybe I should bring him next time, he would have LOVED the biscuits.)

[2012-07-25 19:14:00](#)

Well, my goodness

Percy announced at dinner that he's moving out of the Burrow. He's found a flat in New London. With a roommate. He's really quite excited about it, says the flat is quite lovely.



 **[alt_molly](#)**

Well. I must admit, I didn't expect--well.

Children must grow up, after all. They must, or Arthur and I aren't doing our job properly. Still, I must admit this particular announcement caught me quite by surprise.

I--I suppose I'll have to see if I can round up some extra sauce pans and linens to help stock his new home.



 **[alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-26 00:30:53](#)**

Order Only

Had he not talked about moving out before, Molly?

At least he's sensible enough to go in with a flatmate to save his Galleons.

And aren't you and Arthur always saying how much you worry about him seeing something that could land you in a hot cauldron?

This way you can have him over for Sunday suppers and continue to gently counteract whatever nonsense Malfoy's shovelling into him.



 **[alt_molly](#) at [2012-07-26 00:37:26](#)**

Re: Order Only

Well, yes, he's talked about moving out before, but only in the most general way.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-07-26 00:38:25](#)

Re: Order Only

He was pretty private about flat-hunting in front of Mum and Dad, but I knew he was looking.

I suspect that Mum's problem is partly his flat-mate.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-26 00:40:47](#)

Re: Order Only

Why, who's his flat-mate? Wood? Stretton?

Not that Baddock or any of the other Death Eaters' sons?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-07-26 00:42:21](#)

Re: Order Only

No. It's Penelope Clearwater. The young lady he's seeing.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-07-26 00:44:35](#)

Re: Order Only

And there's your problem.

The young lady.

Mum, I thought you liked Penny.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-07-26 00:46:20](#)

Re: Order Only

I do! In a general way, I mean. And I'm not a complete prude.

But, oh, I admit I don't quite like it. It just seems to me that they're doing things in the wrong order.

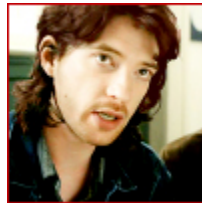


 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-26 00:50:49](#)

Re: Order Only

They do seem to get along quite well. I don't have as much of a problem with the two of them moving in together as Molly does.

But I will admit that while they seem content together for now, I almost wish that Percy might choose someone differently if he's thinking of settling down permanently.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-07-26 00:51:55](#)

Re: Order Only

Why's that, Dad?



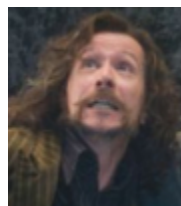
 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-26 00:55:42](#)

Re: Order Only

Because...well, it's subtle.

Somehow, I think they manage to bring out in each other some of their worst personal tendencies.

Well, no. To be fair, I really can't say that for sure about Penny; I don't know her as well, of course. But Percy, now: I overheard a snatch of something he was saying to her once about 'when they get their own mudblood.'



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-26 00:57:34](#)

Re: Order Only

Merlin.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-07-26 00:58:20](#)

Re: Order Only

Ugh.




 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-07-26 00:59:30](#)

Re: Order Only

I can't believe you didn't pull out his ribcage and wrap it around his ears.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-26 01:01:53](#)

Re: Order Only

It was partly that I didn't mean to be eavesdropping, and I didn't particularly want him to know I had overheard him. It was partly that I was so shocked. You know we've never allowed that word in our house.

But Percy's an adult now, and if he's intentionally choosing to use it, that means it's more of a risk for your Mum and I if we make it clear we're challenging that point of view.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-07-26 01:03:35](#)

Re: Order Only

It's all that vile Lucius Malfoy's fault anyway. Curse the man.




 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-26 01:05:01](#)

Re: Order Only

Now to be fair, Molly, we have to admit that we saw signs and glimpses of these types of attitudes before he ever went to work for Malfoy.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-07-26 01:07:43](#)

Re: Order Only

Maybe.

But the wretched man has done everything he can to coax them to the surface.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-26 01:08:15](#)

Re: Order Only

True.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-26 01:10:16](#)

Re: Order Only

It's a sign of how much ground we've lost, Molly. Round the shop, it's all too frequently used and not even as a particularly derogatory term.

Which is in itself blood-curdling, and that's the grim truth, to coin the phrase.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-26 00:53:49](#)

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Bill

I admit I haven't been paying much attention to Percy's love life, but he's been 'seeing' Penny Clearwater for a couple of years now, hasn't he? Does your mother really imagine they've remained completely chaste before this?

(Not that it's impossible. Just...unlikely?)




 **alt_bill** at **2012-07-26 00:58:03**

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Bill

Look, I don't know how it worked in your family, but here's how it works in mine: I don't directly inquire about my Mum and Dad's sex life, and they don't inquire about mine.

That leaves Mum free to imagine that I'm chaste as a monk, I suppose. (As a matter of fact, I am as chaste as a monk, annoyingly. But I have more than a hunch that Percy isn't.)



 **alt_sirius** at **2012-07-26 01:06:37**

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Bill

My family's not the best example, Bill. Circe knows I still get the shudders thinking about my own parents' intimacy, so I understand your perspective perfectly!

Though I was, as it happened, absolutely and depressingly unattached all through school. And much more chaste than either of my parents assumed, at that - right up until the summer after I moved out on my own. Not the education I'd recommend for a young man, but in those days it was the fashion to, er, indulge in all sorts of amusements in Muggle London.

But I can understand that it's awkward, even in a normal family like yours, when the kids are old enough to be starting their own households.

I suppose it just never occurred to me that anyone his age, with a steady girlfriend for that long, wouldn't have taken advantage of the opportunity.

And let's face it: Your mum's not a prude, exactly. Nor is she an idiot.

But I'll give you that she can be willingly blind, if she wants to be.




 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-07-26 01:15:31](#)

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Bill

Mum wants us to get legally hitched. And to give her grandbabies. In that order, as she puts it. I will say that I'm grateful she isn't nagging me, trying to set me up with anyone or anything. But that's her expectation. She'll bite her lip hard about Percy in the end, I think, even though he's not following her preferred agenda.

But we'll all be able to see the teethmarks.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-26 01:08:14](#)

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Bill

And as for your own situation ... Bill, you ought to come round more on Friday and Saturday nights.

Can't guarantee you'll meet anyone interesting but at least you shan't be lonely, either.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-07-26 01:15:59](#)

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Bill

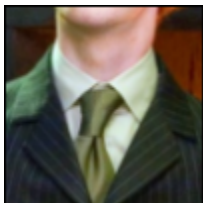
That's a good suggestion. I think I'll take you up on it.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-07-26 00:35:03](#)

(no subject)

Good for Percy!



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-07-26 00:35:31](#)

(no subject)

Thanks, Bill.

2012-07-25 19:25:00

Order Only

Bloody hell, Sirius, you WERE NOT WRONG about that Perks girl. 'Mr Ponds, I swear I know you from somewhere,' she says, over tea. 'You look so familiar! Are you from Bromsgrove,' or whatever godforsaken town it was she went to village school in, 'because I might have seen you there when I was attending village school?'



 [alt_lupin](#)

I should've just said YES but of course I said no so THEN she started trying to work out where she might have known me from as I assured her that she was a complete stranger to me and I must merely have a passing resemblance to whomever it was in Bromsgrove or Bromsfield or Bromleigh that she was trying to remember.


I could have sworn she never gave me more than a passing glance when she was a first year at Hogwarts. I certainly never looked twice at her.

As for the rest of it, we just about had a heart attack when MLE walked in to sweep the shop, but apparently they were only interested in things that might be a threat to Harry, and stayed respectfully out of the way the rest of the time.

I suppose I should acknowledge they were all perfectly polite, except for Jeremy Jugson, who was a bit obnoxious. Justin seemed well. Perhaps a little irritated by his foster-brother. Understandably.

(I suppose the rest of you are wondering what we're talking about -- Hydra Lestrangle invited a large group of her friends over to Laszlo's today for 'tea appreciation club' or some such. So we played host to Hydra, Harry, the aforementioned Jeremy, and several members of the Jr. Auxiliary, including Sally-Anne Perks but not Pansy, whose absence was noted several times, I guess she was originally planning to come.)




 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-07-26 00:42:16**
(no subject)

Speaking of the rest of them, I should mention that Neville was there. He's been to Laszlo's before, of course -- he saw his mother in the back room, some

years back. He did a good job of pretending I was a complete stranger, and that he'd never been to Laszlo's before.




 **alt_alice** at [2012-07-26 03:48:13](#)
(no subject)

I'd expect no less of him.

Did he look well, Remus?



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-07-26 00:49:44](#)
(no subject)

I told you she's a clever thing. About as clever as our Hermione, in fact.

But now I'm twice as disappointed that I couldn't see Harry or Justin.

Had you at least got rid of that lad who works for the Parritts before MLE arrived? The one who likes to chat so much (probably because he fancies Ellie)?



 **alt_lupin** at [2012-07-26 00:52:23](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, we warned the lot of them off. Said there'd be a bunch of loud teenagers nosing around and they made themselves scarce.



 **alt_lupin** at [2012-07-26 00:53:25](#)
(no subject)

If they come for another round, you could use polyjuice. See them both.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-26 02:06:15](#)

Private Message to Moony

You know, I might do just that - if for no better reason than to hear Snivellus twist himself into agony over what a 'waste' of Polyjuice it is.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-07-26 01:30:30](#)

(no subject)

Oh, dear.

Yes, Sally-Anne Perks IS a clever girl. Very observant, too, which is probably a personal characteristic that isn't particularly helpful in this case.

She does certainly know how to keep her counsel, though.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-07-26 01:31:42](#)

(no subject)

We know Perks pretty well, from her friendship with Ron.

One thing we can tell you for sure is, no matter what she figures out, she's never a blabbermouth. If that helps.

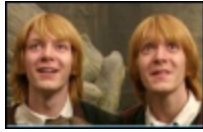


 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-26 01:41:25](#)

(no subject)

We already know she's in the Jr. Auxiliary, lads. Your discretion is admirable but that one, at least, is not a secret. (She wrote to Sirius, to ask him to help her mother. Which confirmed what Poppy had suspected for quite a while.)

I'm going to do my best to refrain from thinking about which of our other visitors today might be in the Jr. Auxiliary, lest I NEVER SLEEP AGAIN.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-07-26 02:07:14](#)
(no subject)

Um.

We can tell you that not all the Junior Auxiliary were there. And not all the people who were there are Junior Auxiliary, either.


Does that help?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-07-26 02:47:40](#)
(no subject)

And you know, when we made our move to join the Order and wised you up about the Junior Auxiliary, it really wasn't our intention to turn all your hair grey.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-07-26 02:48:15](#)
(no subject)

No. That was just a perk.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-26 01:43:17](#)
(no subject)

I have to say, it IS something of a relief to know she's on our side. And that even if she weren't, MLE doesn't tend to hire half-bloods.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-27 01:22:57](#)
(no subject)

Well, yes. There's that.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-27 01:22:14](#)
(no subject)

I liked her. She was very polite--the first to write us, even--and she was sweet to Bea.

It's not her fault you're crap at keeping your cover.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-27 01:42:30](#)
(no subject)


Says the one who can simply change her face at will.

He's fine at keeping his cover. He's stood up to Ministry scrutiny how often?

I told you, Perks is just dead clever.

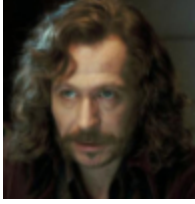
Apart from trusting Hydra, that is. But then she's got Justin good and fooled, as well, so I can't fault her, either, I guess.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-27 18:35:23](#)
Private message to Dora and Padfoot

I've been thinking about this -- why she recognised me. Padfoot's right, I've fooled endless Ministry officials over the years, and plenty of people who had at least a passing acquaintance with Remus Lupin have looked at Junius Ponds without turning a hair.

Apparently what she recognised was my stance -- the way I walk, the way I slouch. It strikes me that as a fostered half-blood in Slytherin, she's probably learnt to be extremely observant of body language. I should have thought about this; it's nearly always the people at the bottom who are most closely observant of the people around them.



 **alt_sirius** at [2012-07-27 20:50:39](#)

Re: Private message to Dora and Padfoot

Case in point: Ellie.

Have you noticed that lately she's kept a close watch on how much old Meeps has had to drink? He was about to get into it over Falmouth's last match when Ellie went and got Dora, calm as you like.

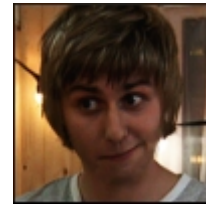
And she keeps track of your ledger for you, have you noticed? She always knows exactly where you left it.

2012-07-25 21:13:00

Tea Appreciation

I say, that was jolly fun!

Mr and Mrs Ponds, thank you again for allowing our party on your premises. It was most kind of you to extend the offer to Miss LeStrange. Remy and I quite enjoyed ourselves. I hope we weren't too disruptive, what! Please allow me to compliment you again on how cosy and comfortable the place is. And you've well interesting stock, too: I was rather surprised to find Keemun tea on the shelves. I think Remy even found a birthday present for his brother.



 [alt_justin](#)

Harry, it was good to see you again! Glad you could join us, old chap. I'm sorry so many of these bally old clubs meet at times when it's impossible for me to get to them. I've been working hard, though, to make sure that when I enter the fifth year with the rest of you that I can keep up properly.

Only two days before the CCF starts. Is anyone else excited?

-Justin



 [alt_justin](#) at **2012-07-26 01:35:24**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

It was an excellent idea, Hydra, and I'm glad to have met your cousins.

Sally-Anne, I wasn't half prepared for Gemma. Is she like that all the time? You must be exhausted at day's end, what?

Did you ever work out how you think you know Mr Ponds? Remy was disappointed the dog wasn't about; he and Alfie want a dog but Mrs Jugson says they're too messy.

I did try to keep Remy making such rude comments about the Ponds' servant but--well, we all did, really, without being too obvious about it, didn't we? She was quite nice, despite his behaviour.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-26 01:46:31](#)

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

Gemma's always extra excited for outings. A tea shop outing with me AND loads of my friends (including Harry Marvolo!) is just about the most exciting thing possible for an afternoon.

I still have no idea why Mr Ponds looked so familiar. It wasn't his face, it was his slouch. The way he walks. I wondered if maybe he was someone I know, but drinking polyjuice, but he'd need some sort of Special Double-Acting Extra Long polyjuice if that were it, or else he swigged more potion when I turned to tell Gemma to stop trying to climb the trellis.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-26 13:25:51](#)

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

Maybe he just reminds you of someone. Mum always thinks strangers look like someone she knows from somewhere.

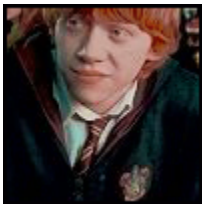


 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-26 03:50:04](#)

(no subject)

Yeah, it was fun, wasn't it?

And thanks, Mr and Mrs Ponds. You really do have a nice shop.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-26 13:36:20](#)

(no subject)

It was great not to have of a load of second years to look after, yeah? Though I think they'd have had more fun if we'd taken them to Laszlo's than when we had tea at the Museum of Curiosities that first

day.

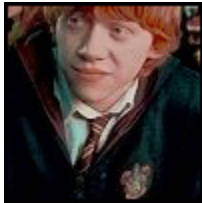
Anywiz, I like going to little places like that. There's one in Ottery St Catchpole, but we hardly ever go there since it's so close to the Burrow and Mum likes it best at home.


It was dead hilarious when little Bea grabbed hold of you and started talking to you. Bet she could learn Parsletongue, cause she could make her mouth the right shape. I guess it would be horrible to see her change to a snake face, but it was a laugh to see all the noses she can grow.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-27 01:30:58](#)
(no subject)

You're welcome. We were very pleased to meet you all.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-26 13:45:16](#)
Mr and Mrs Ponds

Thanks! We had a great time. Bea's adorable! It was fun meeting her. And you were very nice to have us there.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-27 01:30:02](#)
Re: Mr and Mrs Ponds

You were very nice with Bea. Thank you. She quite liked the attention--did you notice?!

We were glad you came round. And you'll be welcome anytime you'd like to come again.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-27 01:24:57](#)
(no subject)

You're quite welcome, I'm sure. We were very glad to have you.

2012-07-26 10:20:00

Prefects

Congratulations to the fifth-year Prefects! I got my letter this morning and Linus wrote to say he did, too. And then I got a letter from Diggory (congratulations to you, too, Cedric! And to Melinda Pennifold, Head Boy and Girl) reminding the Prefects that we've got our first meeting on the train to Hogwarts.



 [alt_padma](#)

I'm sure we're all in well-organised hands this year, though understandably Melinda's distracted by Ned and Lana's wedding in a week. (I can't believe it's a week away! I'm putting the final touches on my formal robes today, too, since we'll be at CCF starting tomorrow, so they have to be ready. I hope they still hang right. It's only a week but given how much weight I lost last summer, with all the exercise and all, it could be a bit of a change.) Thanks again, Lana, for inviting me--and Professor Sinistra, thanks for making sure that the few of us who are going were able to leave CCF for it.


I've still got so much packing to do! It's times like this I wish mum would get us a proper mudblood but then, I guess that's what wands are for, too.

Oh, and I hope everyone was satisfied with the marks from last year's exams? I was a little disappointed in my Charms mark but I'm sure it's nothing I can't make up this year before O.W.L.s.

Remember, History Club is still planning to meet after CCF, but I heard that there'll be loads to interest us on the exercises, as it's an important part of the training this year to study up on the final years of Our Lord's rise. But when we get back, we've also got a walking tour planned in New London (we thought maybe Cheapside, the old cathedral and maybe as far as the Barbican site).

So who else will we see in the Prefects' cars on the train? I'm looking forward to working with everyone!



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-07-26 14:32:12](#)

Private Message to Seamus

Look, just you've every right to be upset if it's Weasel and not you. But they had to have picked Bundy, right? I mean, she's utterly boring but she's also tops in everything, shockingly. And they can't have two halfbloods in the same house, so it would have to be Weasley, then. I'm sure it's not because of what happened last year and if you don't bring that up, then there's a much better chance everyone will forget about it.

As long as Mr Rosier's happy with your marks, that's all you really need to worry about. He knows that not everyone can be a Prefect-- and anyway, you can still show leadership even if you don't have the badge.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2012-07-26 14:39:43](#)

Re: Private Message to Seamus

Oh!

Uh, I'm sorry I didn't write right away yesterday when we all got owls, but it's me and Lav.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-07-26 14:42:31](#)

Re: Private Message to Seamus

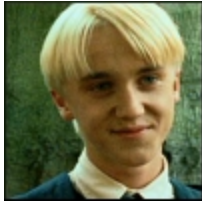
It is?

~~Lav didn't~~ Oh.

OH!

Well. That's brilliant, then.

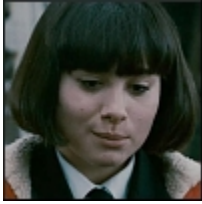
~~Only now Pav will~~ We'll have to make sure Pav doesn't feel left out.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2012-07-26 16:25:15](#)**
(no subject)

Congratulations, Padma. I guess you'll be seeing Goyle and Millie in the Prefects' car at end of summer.

That ought to be fun for you lot.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-07-26 18:13:32](#)**
(no subject)

Cheeky.

But yes, that's excellent news, Padma.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-07-26 18:16:24](#)**
(no subject)


Thanks. What about you? Did you get the badge or did Daphne? Honestly, I don't know which of you I would choose, if it were up to me.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-07-26 19:31:01](#)**
(no subject)

That's sweet of you to say, Padma. And we do have a very strong class when it comes to choices. But it wasn't me, and it wasn't Sally-Anne either, so five knuts says Daphne's the lucky one. And good on her, too. She did such a brilliant job helping to host the Durmstrang contingent last term, and she's very organized, so I'm sure she'll get on marvellously.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-07-26 19:33:27](#)**
Private Message to Draco

And congratulations to you, too.

I know I'm assuming, but they'd be idiots not to make you a Prefect. And you certainly deserve it!



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-07-27 02:17:53](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

Cheers. I reckon it was a pretty tough decision between you and Daphs, but in the end they probably gave it to her because she didn't get YPL counsellor.

I can't believe I get to do both. I mean, it's a terrific honour, but I can't even begin to imagine how busy I'll be.

I wonder why I got it instead of Harry.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-27 04:10:07](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

Because you're obviously far more responsible, and also actually would *want* it instead of whinge about how you always get chosen for things.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-07-27 01:37:31](#)

(no subject)

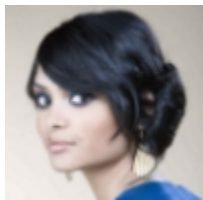
Congratulations to you, too, then, and to Daphs.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-07-27 02:18:41](#)

(no subject)

Cheers, Padma. Looks like it'll be a busy year.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-07-27 02:22:56](#)

(no subject)

I know what you mean! Prefect, YPL, CCF...and you've Quidditch on top of that, as well! And all our clubs--well, I suppose most of those won't continue into the term, but still.

Lucky for you it's not all that important that you keep up with

everything. I mean, if you decide to drop CCF or if your marks slip, it's not going to matter in the long run, is it?

Not like some of us. (Did you hear what happened to Capper?)




 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-07-27 02:25:33](#)
(no subject)

You never know what will matter in the long run, is how I see it.

No, I've not heard, but I gather that since you bring it up, it wasn't anything good.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-07-27 02:34:27](#)
Private Message to Draco

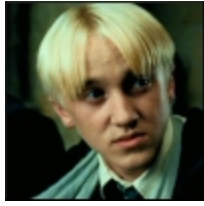
He failed almost all his O.W.L.s. Except for Arithmancy and something else--Creatures, I think, maybe. I'm not sure.

Corner knows more about it, he's somewhat chummy with Steve Capper, Thom's brother. You know there are two girls, too, but one's already left school and the sister is fostered somewhere else, I dunno who her foster-parents are. Michael says that Steve says she's been trying to get custody of him and his sister but so far she's not had any luck.

Anyway. Thom got his letter today telling him he only has the two O.W.L.s and that as a result he won't be allowed to return to school in the autumn term. Steve wasn't sure if their foster-parents would be willing to try to keep him on, or even if Education or Purity Control or whichever one it is will *let* him stay with his foster family, even if they want him to stay.

But they'll never do that to a pureblood, certainly not one from a really respectable family, right?

I mean, you're right, of course, marks do matter in the long run, but not the same way for you as for other people. You don't have to go out and look for a job, for instance.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-07-27 02:42:46](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

Well, that's a blow. For him, I mean. And after so many of our professors were running around trying to help him, too. Don't know the bloke well, but I can't help but think he could have scrapped together a few more O.W.L.s than that, or how else did he even get a Hogwarts letter in the first place?

No, they wouldn't do that to a pureblood, not a loyal one at least. No, for that they'd figure out something entirely different.

Are you and others really under the impression that my parents would let me get away without having a job? If anything, they expect me to have a better job than Father does. I'm supposed to improve on the family name, not coast along on it. It might not be the sort of pressure other people face, but it's its own special variety.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-07-27 03:02:25](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

Yeah, I can well imagine that Professor Vector is beyond frustrated. She's been telling him for years that he's a prodigy at Arithmancy but that he oughtn't to waste it by neglecting everything else.

What do you mean something different? I think a pureblood who doesn't qualify would just be a burden on his family but there are some jobs out there. Like, I dunno, conductor on the Knight Bus or something. Or sweeping up someone's shop.

And no, of course, everyone knows that you're going to do great things, Draco. But what I mean is that you basically have your pick of whatever you want to do. You could be Minister if you wanted, or run the WWN or own your own Quidditch team. See?

I mean, I'll probably work with Mum in her shop, or Pav will, or I might still go for a Potioneer, but someone like, say, Jones, she'll have to interview and search and apply and hope

someone gives her a chance. That's what I mean. You don't have to worry about that; you just have to pick what you want.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2012-07-27 03:26:38](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

That's just it, it would be up to the family. But that doesn't mean it'd be pleasant or easy to come home as a burden and disappointment. Hydra is a pureblood; so is Teddy. I wouldn't want to let down either of their parents, would you?

Yes, it's quite the privilege, being able to know you can do anything (provided you don't muck it up). Like drive the Knight Bus - my secret dream, you know.

I think you ought to go for Potioneer, for what it's worth.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2012-07-27 03:35:28](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

It's bad enough envisioning disappointing either of my own parents. Especially Dad, even though--well, even though he doesn't seem to harp on our marks so much these days. He's ~~barely even around enough to~~

I do want to go for Potioneer, but I know Mum wants at least one of us to inherit the business. And Pav's got a great sense of fashion, you know, but she's not quite as good at designing. So I might not have a choice about it. Or we might work something out where we work together so I can brew on the side.

But Draco, if you drove the Knight Bus, it'd be the best transport in the Protectorate! It wouldn't be bumpy or make people spill their tea, and you'd run it much more efficiently and people would really enjoy it. Or you could create a whole network, like a fleet of buses, and they'd be extra posh and all.

And the best part is that you could decide who gets to ride and who doesn't!



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-26 19:31:35](#)
(no subject)

Congratulations, Miss Patil - and to all the other new prefects as well, and to Mr Diggory and Miss Pennifold. (Both of whom are also giving their time to CCF work, as well. Good show.)

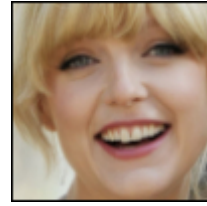
I'm glad we could make all the arrangements work out for Miss Sandoval's wedding. (Though I must add: for those remaining in Leicester, there'll be some entertainment I hope you'll all enjoy. And by that point in the session, I'm quite sure you'll all want a lighter evening.)

2012-07-26 10:56:00

Private message to Narcissa Malfoy

Narcissa -

Please bear with my incoherence, but this is so odd to write. You're the first person I've told.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

Raz proposed last night, and of course I said yes. (He completely surprised me, and is rather smug about that. I'm delighted. And overwhelmed.) We both hope you'll be pleased.

I'm also well aware that Our Lord's permission is both essential and not at all certain. ~~I can't bear to think what happens if~~

Raz thought he'd wait until after the Freedom Day celebrations are over before asking for time at Court and that makes sense to me. But I've no idea what to expect, or if I can do anything to improve our chances or, well. Any of it.

I'd welcome whatever you could offer. Advice. Support. Information. Ways not to fret. ~~Recommended potions for nerves.~~ I need to be out at the CCF site much of the next three weeks, but I'm expecting to sleep at Spence, and to be able to get free for a few hours most days.

I'm also bursting to tell my family and a few friends, but it must be better to wait until we know what Our Lord's answer is. But I equally don't want them to find out (or guess) before that, and I've no idea how to balance things. (Though I suppose keeping busy will help.)

You were so clear in April and since that you wish me - us - well. And now I'm terrified it's all going to implode and disappear, and I'd do anything for it not to. I'm so grateful for your advice and friendship so far, and I'm desperate to get the next part right. For Raz, even more than for me.

Aurora



 **alt_narcissa** at **2012-07-26 17:05:55**
(no subject)

Oh, my dear Aurora, how splendid for you both!

Do forgive me not responding right away; I saw your message while I was with several witches from the DoP and I had no desire to give Madam Millingham-Kennilworthy any sort of hint as to the news. You're right: For the moment, discretion is essential. Though of course, you must be simply buzzing with excitement.

Knowing Razzler, I suspect your family (or at least your parents) may already have a suspicion. I'm sure, in any case, that it would be understandable to tell them of your intent, so long as it is impressed that the happy event awaits Our Lord's approval before it can be officially acknowledged. Then at least, you shall have the support of your loved ones, whatever the outcome.

But I am confident He will give His blessing, especially taking into consideration all you have done with the Young Protectors' League. I do agree with Rabastan that it will be best for all to wait until the holiday has passed and you have time to prepare the petition. I believe that the successful conclusion of the demonstrations at Freedom Day may do well to curry His favour with you even further. I should think Professor McGonagall could also be counted on for a reference in your support and perhaps Dominic? I'm not sure how well you know the Selwyns, as none of theirs are at Hogwarts quite yet. Stephen may be willing. We heard this morning that his ward has been named one of Gryffindor's Prefects; I may be wrong but I sense your hand in the assignments? Well, regardless, he is sure to be proud of what he's accomplished with young Mr Finnigan and thus disposed to magnanimity.

As for not fretting, my dear, I've told you before that you've already overcome the most difficult of obstacles: Razzler himself. The rest will sort itself, I'm sure.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-26 17:43:29](#)
(no subject)

I am relieved to hear all that. Thank you.

I admit I've been between delight and nerves all morning, after last night's sheer exuberance. Raz did the thing wonderfully from my point of view, and he himself has never been the difficulty for me. I am rather startled at how much has changed in less than a year, mind you.

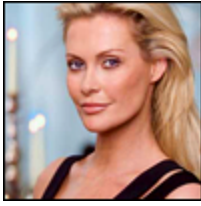
I will see if I can catch my parents and tell them privately. I know they'll be delighted, and they've been so careful to neither press nor assume all along. (They were very pleased when Raz insisted on having the immediate family over last week, and I'm glad to say that went well.)

Minerva is a bit of a puzzle. She's said not one word against us dating, but at the same time I don't know whether she's pleased or simply tolerant, and I have to admit it creates some complications for her. I've only met the Selwyns briefly - at the Yule Ball and a few other events.

Mr Rosier, well, that's a little tricky. The YPL committee made the decision not to select his ward as one of the counsellors this year after a great deal of conversation. It made things a little distant, even while he and I were working through some of the arrangements for Mr Finch-Fetchley's change in circumstance. And while I'm sure Seamus will do a fine job as prefect, I'm only lightly consulted in such decisions, except for Hufflepuff, where Pomona does talk things through with me in more detail. So while I do indeed hope it's put him in a pleasant mood, perhaps Raz might make more headway there?

I do feel a little better with something concrete to think about. Thank you for that. And I'm sure settling into the CCF weeks will help as well, to at least keep me distracted.

I hope you're enjoying your last day with Draco before he's off again for weeks, as well. That is rather one of the difficulties of the YPL commitments, isn't it? That the students are off for the summer as well as during the year.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-07-27 01:33:27](#)
(no subject)

Well, Minerva has her own share of pressures, to be sure.

Razzer might do well to seek out Stephen, at that. You know that Raz and Evan were very close, at one time.

But as for Draco, forgive me if I laugh, but you ought to spend enough time around teenagers to understand that at his age, parents are low on the list of people with whom he wishes to spend time! But he has asked for a private family holiday once he returns from the CCF, and I take that as a good sign he has not forsaken us altogether.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-27 01:52:10](#)
(no subject)

Raz has talked about Evan, yes, and I'll encourage him to sound out Mr Rosier and see. (And quite on Minerva.) We did a little more talking over supper, too.

As to Draco - I'm sure you're no less adept than my parents were at insisting on some time together, whatever the teenage inclinations. Raz did mention the plans for the trip (and that Harry was looking forward to the idea), of course. And by the end of the CCF weeks, I'm quite sure they'll need something relaxing: the schedule's more than a little grueling.

I did manage to catch my parents: they came briefly for tea. They were most pleased, and of course promise not to breathe a word. Far better not to tell my siblings yet: most of them would be fine, but two wouldn't, and I'd rather be fair and do them all at once.

2012-07-26 20:20:00

*Order Only: Private message to
Caradoc Dearborn*



 [alt_kingsley](#)

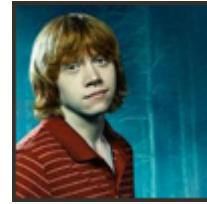
It's your shift now. I pulled a double shift because Benjy was dropping delicate hints about resorting to a permanent mouth-sealing charm if he had to deal with her again today.

I know, I'm sorry that Emmeline and I are leaving you lot to deal with her for almost a week, but Steve has said he'll help. I'll make it up to you, my friend.

Our patience is starting to pay off, I'm sure of it. Take heart: it's been several weeks now since she's thrown any dishes.

2012-07-26 21:33:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good
Private Message to Neville Longbottom



 [alt_ron](#)

Are you off camping yet?

If you are I hope you're having fun. And if you are, well, I guess you might want to read the rest of this after you get back. (Really, stop now if you want.)

So, I heard from Bundy today that she didn't get Prefect. And I didn't. I mean I didn't expect to, but, well-

And I reckon you didn't, though that would be the best news ever if you did.

Anywiz, it's not good news for Katrina and I have a bad feeling about which of us got it on our side. Actually, I guess, I can't decide which would be worse.

And, I mean, this year was bad with those two. Think what it'll be like now?

Yeah.

Sorry to tell you rotten news, but just, yeah.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2012-07-27 01:53:08**
(no subject)

I'm not camping yet; we leave Saturday.

I was holding off writing to you because I hoped you had it, but I was afraid to ask. I knew there was no way it'd ever be me. And I was hoping for Bundy. She really deserved it.

I think it'd stick in too many people's craw to give it to Dean, since he

wasn't even here with us first year. And there are still people who hold their nose up at him since he spent so much time in the camps. Maybe the Headmistress doesn't see it that way--I'm sure she doesn't--but she knows a lot of others do.

So I bet it's Seamus.

That means

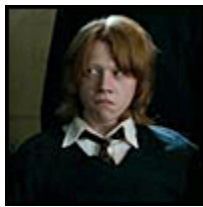
yeah




 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-07-27 01:54:44](#)
(no subject)

Maybe...maybe it might turn him around?


If not, well, at least there'll be nights he'll be off doing prefect rounds so he won't be around the room looking squinty-eyed at us.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-27 02:07:57](#)
(no subject)

And taking points for squinting back. What a git.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-27 02:14:39](#)
(no subject)

At least have fun camping. I think that sounds like loads of fun.

This year when things get really sour, we can make up plans about leaving school to go off camping somewhere instead of having to live with Finnicky and Mean.

[2012-07-26 21:47:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good
Private Message to Sally Anne Perks



Yeah. So yesterday was loads of fun. Shopping and then the tea club.

 [alt_ron](#)

But today was-

Well, Mum's in a strop because Percy's moving out. To live with Clearwater. She tried to keep me and Ginny from realising that part, which was a laugh because I mean, it's dead obvious, innit? Anywiz, her mood isn't a laugh at all. Wouldn't be surprised if the WWN put out a weather advisory because of the storm brewing out here in Devon.

And then I got an owl from Bundy. And Prefect letters are out. Well, you saw what Patil wrote, I guess. Anywiz, Bundy didn't get it, so they passed her over. I mean it's not even close between her and either of the others in marks or anything else.

And I saw what Pansy said about it being Greengrass in your lot, which, still-- you're better in everything. And I know you said it could be rough in your House if you'd got it, but it's still just so wrong.

It's just daft.

Um. So, do you still think you got the right boots? Have you been wearing them around the house? Mine are going to be fine. Best fitting shoes I've ever had, actually.

Anywiz, you're all right, aren't you? About Greengrass and all?

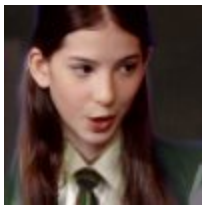


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-27 02:49:44](#)
(no subject)

Oh, so CLEARWATER's his roommate? I saw what your mum wrote and I wondered why she seemed so put out. Of course he wants to find his own place, he's done with school and working, you know? The Strettons think Jeremy OUGHT to be finding his own place (and a proper job). He's hanging about because of Maureen, of course, but anyway.

About Daphs -- well, yeah. Back when Professor Siz was choosing YPL Counsellors, she talked to Professor Slughorn about me and he said that he had been considering me for a prefecture but it would have to be one or the other. Because I'm a half-blood, that was clear. Anyway, Siz asked me what I thought. And first of all, I thought it was pretty likely he'd choose Daphne in the end. I mean, it was because of Bole she got all strange after hols, and once that was straightened out she started getting back to normal. And second, I realised it would be really difficult for me to be a Prefect in Slytherin House. It might be different if I'd been Sorted into Hufflepuff or Gryffindor, but when I pictured what it would be like in Slytherin I knew I'd be one of the ones like Clearwater, who tries to throw her weight around but no one really respects her. So I told Professor Siz that I wanted to be a YPL Counsellor and I am.

Anyway. I think Daphne will be fine. I think Draco will be fine. I hate to think about Finnigan, though, and LAVENDER BROWN? It has to be Lav if it's not Katrina because if it were Parvati, Padma would know, right? Of all the people -- it should have been Katrina, and it should have been you. But really. Katrina's cleverer than Parvati and Lav put together. I guess they reckoned they could only have one half-blood prefect at a time, in Gryffindor, and they wanted Finnigan - - to kiss Rosier's arse, probably -- so then they were stuck choosing between Parvati and Lav.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-27 02:55:23](#)
(no subject)

Oh, and the boots, right.

Yeah, I'm happy with these. I think spending a little pocket money for the charm that makes them not chafe my ankles was the way to go, and they fit me really well.

I wonder if anyone in the CCF is going to come with those 'Etienne's Excellence' boots? We'll know if we see the shiny green stripes (even if they don't have the stripes 'illuminate themselves to provide an emergency beacon if the trekker should become lost!') WHO SPENDS THEIR MONEY ON THAT is what I want to know. Maybe Remy would, if he were going hiking?

He was sure rude to Ellie, wasn't he? The Ponds' muggleborn servant. She seemed -- well-fed, at least, and not scared of Mrs

Ponds. I'd noticed she was hanging around before he pointed it out, actually. I kept thinking it would be nice if she could just pull up a chair and join us. I mean she's not even that much older than we are, you know?

2012-07-27 00:02:00

Private Message to Seamus



 **alt_dean**

So I'm assuming you were appointed Prefect. If either of the others would have gotten it, I am sure we would have heard no end to that celebration. Congrats mate. I knew it would be you, and you deserve it. The question now is how to get beyond the brooding looks you all too well know they will be throwing at us, especially at you.

I look forward to seeing you soon.



 **alt_seamus** at **2012-07-27 14:59:35**

(no subject)

Yes! It's me, not Weasley (I don't think it ever would have been Longbottom, to tell the truth. His marks are too low, even if his parents weren't the worst of the worst.)

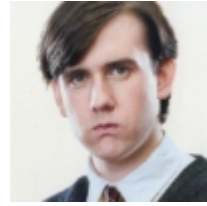
Lav's the other. You know, between you and me, Bundy would've been a better choice -- she's cleverer and her marks are better -- but I imagine Hooch didn't want TWO half-blood prefects, so I'm glad she picked me rather than pairing Bundy with Weasley.

2012-07-27 10:27:00

Private message to Neville Longbottom

Draco dormiens nunquam titillandus.

If you see this, then you know you're okay with what you heard.



 **alt_neville**

2012-07-27 14:08:00

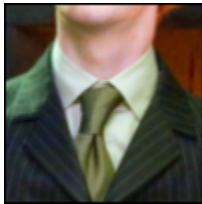
Private Message to Percy Weasley



 **alt_ginny**

Percy,

Congratulations again on getting your own flat. I just wanted to offer some assistance to you that I know will become useful later. If you like, when I get back from CCF in a few weeks, lets do some cooking together. We could do it at home or at a display kitchen I could use in New London. Let me know. I am sure we will have a snitch of a time together.



 **alt_percy** at **2012-07-27 21:15:08**
(no subject)

That would be...I'm touched, Gin. Thank you. Frankly, I think Penny and I are both privately dreading a little trying to keep ourselves fed. Mum sets a high standard, and I'm probably rather spoiled.

(It's also much more practical than anything the twins have suggested! They've offered to help me set up a miniature goat shed in our flat's living room because they say they know how I'm going to miss doing all the goat-related chores.

As if.

Knowing them, they'll probably try to smuggle some live chickens into the boxes I'm packing up.)



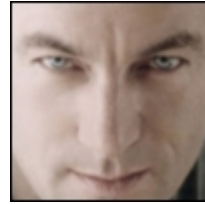
 **alt_ginny** at **2012-07-27 21:27:37**
(no subject)

Well just let me know when you want to get together. I could also give you my Purest Sparkle schedule when its made available to me. I wouldn't mind stopping by whenever I am in town and whipping somethings up for

you all.

2012-07-27 14:36:00

Private Message to L.B.



 [alt_lucius](#)

Pansy,

Have had occasion to glimpse some of the plans for the exercises of the next fortnight.

Sure you realise there will be moments that will be ... difficult for you. Trust you will be able to soldier through those incidents and maintain your composure.

Rest assured that none of the accounts contain inappropriate or contradictory information, and nothing that ought to give you any cause to worry. Only that, naturally, being in the place and learning the full history of the battles will perforce bring insight, stir emotions, which are more easily suppressed elsewhere.

Keep your head and you'll be fine. Remember that your father died a hero, regardless of the wand that brought him low. And remember that ultimately, that wand has been stilled, as well: Proof that betrayal always pays its price, in the end.

Perhaps I have not said so recently, but I've been ... proud of the way you have comported yourself this year, in the face of ample provocation. Hope you shall continue to show your classmates and all who would scrutinise your behaviour that you have matured and are beginning to grow into a witch who exemplifies the qualities of breeding and industry which are to be applauded in Our Lord's society.

And there will be those who are watching your moves, along with Draco's, Harry's, &c, so do be careful, my dear. But be sure that amidst the gravity of the training grounds, you also remember to have fun.

We are all looking forward to Freedom Day, when as you are no doubt learning, we shall all see the combined skill of the CCF. Until then, I remain as ever, your loving god-father,

Lucius



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-27 19:15:57](#)
(no subject)

Lucius;

I'm so glad you wrote.

Professor Sinistra was kind enough to let me know in advance, as soon as she found out, really, so I've had plenty of time to think it through and prepare. And I'm sure that everyone will be very understanding, which can be trying in its own way too. I will do my best. And you're right, just because parts of it will be sad, that doesn't mean that I can't ever smile, or laugh, or have a bit of fun. I'll try to remember that.

It will be a great deal easier now that she's gone. ~~I didn't know that you knew.~~

And you have no idea how happy you've made me just now, by saying what you did. I think I can take on just about anything knowing that you're proud of me. It means ever so much. I hope that our class will meet expectations at the Freedom Day as well, and I cannot wait to see you then.

All my love,

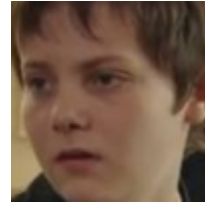
Your Little Bit.

2012-07-27 15:33:00

Private Message to Steve Capper

Got your owl. Bloody hell, I'm sorry.

I thought you said your foster-parents were going to see if he could still live with you? Did that not make any difference or did they change their minds?



 **alt_michael**

We'll be sure to join up in the best revising groups, mate. It's not going to happen to you, okay?

Have you talked to your sister? I tried not to let Bitsy know what was happening because she'd have nightmares that I'll be taken away. I had to tell Mum and Dad, though, and I think she overheard some of it.

They really snapped his wand? Bloody hell.

[2012-07-28 14:10:00](#)

Private Message to Draco



 **[alt_lucius](#)**

Son,

Trust you have arrived safely and find the accommodations adequate, considering the purpose of the exercises. No doubt you are considerably occupied with training so we do not expect to hear from you too often over the coming weeks.

However, in light of our conversation this past week, did wish to remind you to report any observations you make regarding FS or his influence in the programme. Particularly if you perceive he and DU are combining their efforts in any troublesome way.

Regardless, do enjoy the activities - to the extent possible, of course.

Your mother sends her love and wishes me to ask you to take care of yourself (and I do not believe she means to confine the instruction to wearing dry socks or eating sensibly). Also that she has undertaken the preparations for our holiday, according to your requests. For my part, rest assured you understand the risks involved and shall neither disappoint nor endanger yourself, so that we may have you safe home again on your return.

Doubt there shall be much time during Freedom Day for any private conference but, should you have reason to need it, am confident we may seize the opportunity after the formalities have been observed. Look forward to seeing you in any case, and until then I remain,

Your loving,

Father




 **[alt_draco](#) at [2012-07-29 04:20:01](#)**
(no subject)

I'll let you know if I see anything, or if he starts asking me questions again. How should I be able to determine if he and Madam Umbridge are combining efforts, though? They do talk to one another quite a bit, but then a lot of the adults do.

I suppose I'll watch to see if their actions and behaviour change in any marked ways after they have one of their little private exchanges.



 **alt_lucius** at [2012-07-29 04:51:10](#)

(no subject)

Patterns are difficult to discern, of course. That's one reason it has taken so many of us this long to determine that his efforts might require counter-action.

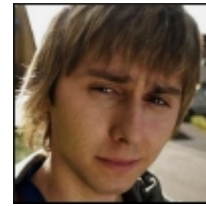
Watching for their conferences and noting their behaviour is an excellent choice, Draco. Take care not to be observed in turn, however. Do not wish to believe Stint would harm you but it is not outside the realm of possibility.

You need not put yourself in his path, either. Soon or late, he will show his hand.

[2012-07-28 19:49:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I say, I think it's dashed unfair to ask us to sit through this dry old lecture, what, after all the swimming, running, flying and marching we've been doing since before breakfast!



 [alt_justin](#)

(If anyone asks, we're taking notes, yes? And if anyone should need to know something about the Falklands, my mother had a cousin in the Royal Navy--but I rather think it does make sense, given how it took the military out of the country at just the right (or wrong) time.)

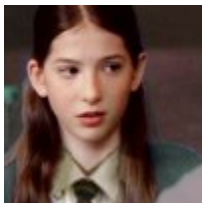
Still, this is the only way I think I shall bally well keep awake, if he insists on droning on, what?


-Justin



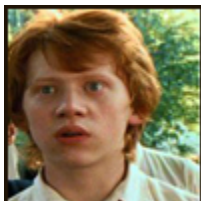
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-29 01:46:05](#)
(no subject)


Sorry, did you say something, Justin? I couldn't hear you over the sound of my snoring, listening to this wanker.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-29 01:49:00](#)
(no subject)


Did you hear about Capper, by the way?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-29 01:52:10](#)
(no subject)

They really, actually snapped his wand? For real?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-29 01:54:00](#)
(no subject)

I mean, that's so dire it's got to just be talk, yeah?



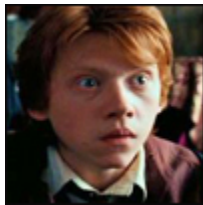
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-29 01:57:49](#)
(no subject)


I asked Professor Siz.

It's true, all of it. They snapped his wand and took him to the camps.

And then she said, 'it won't happen to you, you're clever and you work hard and the examiners are fair.'

I heard his foster family's going to try to have him assigned to them as a domestic servant.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-29 02:28:19](#)
(no subject)

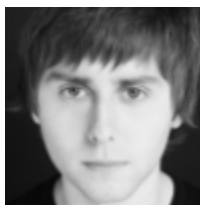
REALLY?


I mean-

Have you ever heard of that happening to anyone? For failing exams, I mean. I know there are people who've got caught doing illegal stuff, and got sent to the camps.

But they really took his wand?!!!

Merlin.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-29 02:35:18](#)
(no subject)

Yes, Ron,

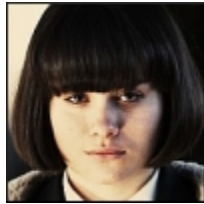
They not only took his wand, what, they snapped it. Right in front of Steven, as well.

MacMillan heard from Corner--you know they're mates, he and Steven Capper--and that Professor Vector tried to petition on his behalf with the Educational Board--but it didn't make any difference.

He's got an older sister and a younger one but they weren't fostered with him. She's in contact with his foster-parents, though.

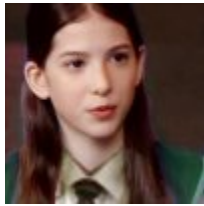
Somehow I doubt they'll be allowed to take him into service, what?

-Justin



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-29 02:47:11](#)
(no subject)

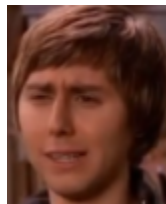
Maybe someone else will.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-29 04:00:27](#)
(no subject)

I don't know, it'll be interesting. I mean there's a lot of demand now for muggleborn servants, actually, but imagine having a 'servant' who had been trained at Hogwarts like your own children but wasn't allowed to carry a wand anymore. But COULD, you know, if he picked one up.

I don't think they really thought it through, you know?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-29 04:16:51](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I don't think he's got much hope.

I didn't want to say it to MacMillan or Corner but I very much doubt his sister's efforts will do any good, nor his foster-family's.

I mean to say, if the Ministry were willing for him to stay in

their home, they could have simply filled out the proper forms and done it that way, what?

They've chosen to make an example of him. I only wonder why now, why him, and not anyone else before, if you follow me.

-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-29 04:18:26](#)
(no subject)

Yes.

That's an interesting question. It's possible he's the first to really fail, but not all that likely.




 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-29 04:23:32](#)
(no subject)

Perhaps he's the first who didn't achieve the minimum number of O.W.L.s? He only got two, according to his brother.

How many does one need? I should think it almost takes effort to fail all but two, what?

-Justin



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-07-29 14:39:56](#)
(no subject)

I received an owl from Portia Rubens, one of my roommates. She's dreadfully upset about what happened to Thomas. He used to help her sometimes with her Arithmancy homework.

I think all of the Ravenclaws will be quite shaken by this, not just the half-bloods. One of the not-so-nice things about our House is that sometimes we take some excessive pride in our cleverness, think it's all we need. And it's true: he wasn't just clever in Arithmancy, he was truly brilliant. I suppose he thought he was so good at that one subject, that he would be

safe.

Merlin, listen to me talking about him as if he's dead or something.

It truly is awful.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-29 14:41:33](#)
(no subject)

That's right, he was a Ravenclaw, wasn't he? A Housemate.

How awful.

I wonder if...if any of the people I'm with can do something.

I can ask.

Although it might be really hard. I suppose part of the point is that they want to make a public example of him.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-07-29 14:48:20](#)
(no subject)

It is. Because as far as most wizards go, if you're without your wand, you're as good as dead. Legally, you're practically nothing.

Blimey, the poor bloke.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-29 03:58:15](#)
(no subject)

I haven't heard of it happening before but it's what the law says happens.

Bet you a knut it wouldn't happen to Finnigan no matter how many exams he got a T on, though.



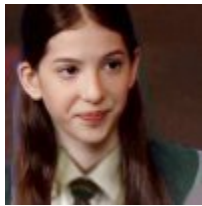
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-29 04:12:07](#)
(no subject)

Yes, that's just it. I'm sure that if the Cappers' foster-family had any sort of pull, we'd be hearing different consequences.

Although in Finnigan's case, it might be just as dire, in its way. After all, he may have special privileges (so does Dean Thomas-- and so do I, come to that) but he's just as removed from his family as any halfblood in fostering.

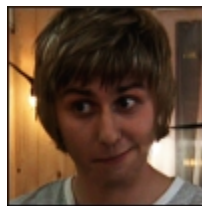
It strikes me that they had a reason for placing him so well, what? And for making him such a massive pillock. I shouldn't think they'd like to throw away that sort of asset, if he did manage to muff things for himself.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-29 04:21:04](#)
(no subject)

Well Ireland's supposed to be a right mess. I don't know why they'd take an IRISH half-blood and say, 'you're going to be our special favourite, provided that when we say "jump" you say "how high?"'



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-29 04:25:16](#)
(no subject)

Does anyone know anything about Finnigan's family? Perhaps he's related to someone important there. A political hostage, or something like that.

In the Middle Ages, nobles' sons were fostered to one another as hostages. It could be that sort of arrangement.


-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-29 05:05:35](#)
(no subject)

From what he's said, I think his mother's family basically runs Ireland. They've got castles all over the place, although it doesn't sound particularly pleasant there, as there are muggles running around trying to blow things up.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-29 05:13:32](#)
(no subject)

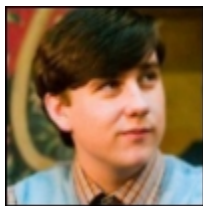
From what I understand about Ireland, there have pretty nearly always been muggles running round trying to blow things up.

But that's right: Everyone thought it might have been the Irish Muggle Army that set the explosions at the Quidditch Cup last year, remember?

Well, in any case, that well explains everything, doesn't it-- why he was placed so well and he's been so carefully raised.

But I'm knackered and we're up early again tomorrow, so, I think it's time to put out the lights.

-Justin



 [alt_neville](#) at [2012-07-29 14:44:42](#)
(no subject)

I do. I'm afraid I can't talk about it, because he told me what he did in confidence, so I've never spoken to Ron about it, even. What he told me makes me more sympathetic toward him, even when he's at his worst.

Like I said, I can't talk about it, but he's in a really awful position.



 **alt_justin** at [2012-07-29 14:52:37](#)
(no subject)

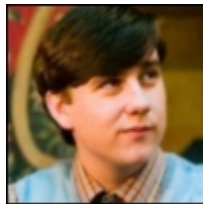
Hullo, Neville,

Are you camping, then? We're all taking it in turns to shoot at targets at the moment, so there's a little bit of time when we can check our journals. But then it's back to running, swimming and flying. (Oh, and shooting the targets while on broomback!)

You've no need to break his confidence, old chap, but that's interesting. So you don't think his attitude is an act at all, what? I mean to say, if he's in the sort of spot one could imagine, one option is to behave as if one swallows the Protectorate line whole. The other option is to *actually* swallow it whole, what?

I don't suppose it's possible he could be pretending? We spent a little time together over the Easter holidays--Mr Rosier wanted him to be friendly, what--and there were times when one could almost like him.

-Justin



 **alt_neville** at [2012-07-29 16:46:16](#)
(no subject)

Yes, Evelyn and I are off camping now, with my great uncle Algie. We take this trip every year. It's been fun, although it rained last night.

I don't know if Seamus has actually swallowed it or not. But I believe he thinks he has to work as hard as possible to convince everyone he has swallowed it.

Which maybe means it doesn't really make much difference whether he really has or not, right? He'll act the same either way.

My gran always said it's your actions that show who you really are.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2012-07-29 02:43:27](#)
(no subject)


That's just awful.

Isn't he brilliant at arithmancy? And they're just never going to let him do magic again.

Ugh.

Ugh ugh ugh.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-29 02:57:47](#)
(no subject)

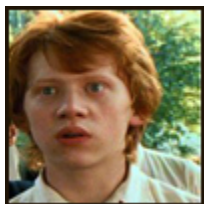
Yes, it is. Bally well awful, indeed.


It's not discussed much outside of Ravenclaw, what, but I did notice that a great many professors were trying to help him pull up his marks in advance of O.W.L.s. I mean to say, it's quite clear in the documents concerning halfbloods that if one doesn't qualify after taking the exams, one's status may be revoked.

I do think Ron's right and it's the first time it's happened quite so blatantly, what?

Still, it's sobering. According to Ernie, Michael's trying to make sure that he and Steve are in decent revising groups. I can't bally well blame him, can you?

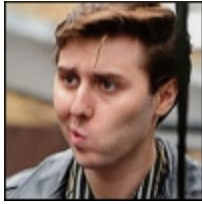
-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-29 03:01:59](#)
(no subject)

That's just daft, isn't it?

I mean, if he's all that in Arithmancy, well. You'd think they'd want the best wizards in a field like that to have jobs. Isn't that better for the Protectorate than changing his status and sending him away?



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2012-07-29 03:07:48](#)**
(no subject)

If one wants to make an example of a halfblood who didn't think rules would apply to him?

It's barbaric, what, but it's not daft. Or, well, of course it's *daft*--it's mad ridiculous!--but there's method in the madness.

I'm sure it should have been quite different had Capper been fostered to an important or influential family--or if he'd even made an effort in subjects other than Arithmancy.

It's a bally well terrible thing to happen to him, all the same. But there's no denying that it's having quite an effect on every other halfblood in Hogwarts, what?

I say, suddenly tonight's lecture seems a bit more important. I think Linus Moon took loads of notes. Perhaps I'll ask if I might compare.


-Justin



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-07-29 04:15:24](#)**
(no subject)

He is, yes. When I was in the library he helped me with one of my problems, once. Or he tried to. I'm afraid I didn't really understand his explanation, as it went entirely over my head.

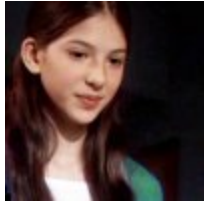


 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2012-07-29 02:56:10](#)**
Private Message to Sally-Anne

It will NEVER happen to you. Never.

I promise.

I'd empty out my account and we'd fly to Ireland and take your mum with us and we'd hide until Sirius Black could get us all over to France and get your mum a wand, and then we'd go anywhere in the world you wanted and live there.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-29 04:06:28](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Okay.

That makes me feel a lot better, actually. I mean I've always done fine on exams in the past but it's different knowing that if you fail, they will send you to the camps.



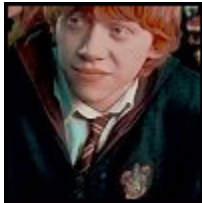
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-29 02:27:23](#)

(no subject)

Yes, I heard.

Shocking business, what?

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-29 01:50:14](#)

(no subject)

Sorry, mate, I was sleeping from his second sentence on.

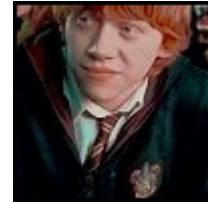
Open Eyes charm, though. One of Fred's. Or George's. I'm not sure. Anywiz, it's brilliant for something like tonight.

I mean, really? They expect us to stay awake?

[2012-07-28 21:58:00](#)

Private Message to Mum and Dad

Hiya. Sorry I didn't write yesterday, but we've been so busy with fitness and skills tests. And marching, which is hilarious. I mean, it's just mental, we're so rank at it. But they've got us doing it for hours. And, get this: we're meant to go march in uniform at the Freedom Day celebration in New London, so we've got to work out how to do it. Or there'll be trouble.



 [alt_ron](#)

Um, so yeah. Mum. I did send Percy an owl. All right? I mean, I wrote to say the Burrow will feel empty without him grumping about. And that the goats'll miss him. So I did do it, and you don't have to keep reminding me, yeah?

So, um. I was thinking. Percy's room. It seems a waste for it to just sit there with the dust piling up. So do you think I could maybe move down there?

Anywiz, I miss you, but it's all good here. No big accidents or cockups yet. Except for the whole marching business. So I'll see you in three weeks, yeah?

Your favourite son,
Ronald



 [alt_molly](#) at **[2012-07-29 16:33:29](#)**
(no subject)


I'm very glad to hear from you. That's right it had slipped my mind that you would be in London for Freedom Day. I hope it will be fun (and that you won't be too hot, and you have enough water to drink. And don't forget to use the sunburn potion, or you'll peel like an orange). Your father and I had talked about making a day out of it and going to London to see the parade. The twins will come along with us, although I don't know about Percy's or Bill's plans. Percy's quite busy packing up and moving into his new flat, and he may wish to spend the day unpacking and settling in.

As far as Percy's old room...well, that's a thought, and a very practical one. I'll admit it hadn't even crossed my mind. Percy's moving out took me rather by surprise. I'll speak with your father

about it.

My initial instinct is, I think I would prefer to wait a little bit, dear. After all, you'll be with CCF for most of August, and you're going back to school on September 1 anyway. I think it might be a bit more tactful to let Percy get settled into his flat, and be sure that it's all going to work out. Let's give him a chance to feel it's really his, before he sees we're displacing his place at the Burrow. You know he can be a bit prickly and territorial about his space and his things. Then, if all goes well, after he starts to feel really at home in New London, I don't think he'll take it amiss if we move you down there, starting next summer. We can talk with him about it at Christmas, perhaps, so he'll be able to become accustomed to the idea. Would that be acceptable?



 **alt_ron** at [2012-07-29 18:33:30](#)
(no subject)

You don't have to come to the parade, y'know. Not for me, I mean.

I think we're going to really reek at this marching thing. People are starting go all shouty crackers about it, too. I reckon Blaise Zabini may blast somebody if they don't smarten up soon. Bundy and I have a wager on who'll snap first, him or Patil.

It's just for pudding, Mum. Before you say anything. The wager, I mean. If she loses, she gives me hers, and if I lose, she gets mine.

Anywiz. So Percy's not finished shifting house yet, then? I thought he'd be gone already. And once he is, what does he care what happens to that room? I mean, he'll have his own new rooms in New London. It's not like he'll need his old one.

Only, it would be loads easier to shift my things when I'm packing up, and then I could just come home to that room at Christmas Hols. And anywiz, you know how my room smells of ghoul dung whenever it's been shut up for a long time. That's really foul, too, in case you hadn't noticed.

Think about it? I mean, maybe you could just not tell Perce for a bit if you think he'll have a snit over it.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-07-29 22:34:21](#)
(no subject)

But we do want to see it, dear. And we can get together with you afterwards, if you like, but really, if you'd prefer to go off with your own friends, your father and I will understand entirely. Ginny will be joining us, but you don't need to, if you don't want to do so.

And as for the room, let me think about it. I'll talk with your father, and perhaps then to Percy.

2012-07-28 23:44:00

Private Message to Seamus

I'm bored out of my mind, and even though we've done all those drills and fitness test, I'm not tired.



 [alt_dean](#)

Anyway have you heard about Capper? I heard his wand was snapped, and he was taken to the camps. If there is one place I would do anything to stay away from, its the camps. I'm not really worried about my marks though. I'm sure we will both get more than the minimum number of O.W.L.s. I suppose we really know now what danger we face for not doing well.



 [alt_seamus](#) at **2012-07-29 14:23:30**
(no subject)

It won't happen to us. All the professors tried like mad to help Capper and he only ever cared about Arithmancy. We're not pillocks, we'll take help where we need it.

And once we're done with school, loyalty counts a lot more than marks. It's not just half-bloods who can get sent to the camps -- people like the Weasley Twins will need to watch their step once they get out into the real world.

[2012-07-29 09:03:00](#)

Private Message to Seamus and Su Li

More challenges? And it'll take until after lunch?

If you ask me, we should be concentrating on the parade routine. Freedom Day is *Tuesday* and we're not going to be ready at all!



 **[alt_padma](#)**

I hope this doesn't end up like the play where *certain people* don't take it seriously enough and ruin the whole thing.

Well, anyway.

Good luck on the challenge. Though I'm so tired and sore from yesterday I'm sure I won't do as well as I'd like. I hope they take that into consideration!



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2012-07-29 14:25:36](#)**
(no subject)

I know. One person's mistake will be really obvious in that synchronised charmwork. Maybe if someone's not taking it seriously they'll kick him out of CCF? We can hope, right?



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-07-29 16:26:53](#)**
(no subject)

Ugh--there's a tight turn after the third target and I overshot, so I lost time having to come back to the fourth target.

Also, there's an extra wind-generating charm on the approach to the seventh one.

[2012-07-29 09:53:00](#)

Private message to Ginevra Weasley

I do hope everything is going well. The breakfast table looked sadly empty today with you and Ron off at CCF. Is there anything you forgot to pack that you need? Let me know, and I'll send Errol with a delivery (ask Ron, too). Or maybe I can borrow Hermes from Percy if it's a bigger item.



 **[alt_molly](#)**

Speaking of Percy, I just also wanted to say that he mentioned your offer to help him learn a bit more about cooking. I've been wanting to do more to help him as he moves out, especially since he doesn't have much notice, but I've been so busy with the barter network that I haven't had much time to spare. So I do very much appreciate your thoughtfulness even more, dear.

Love,
Mum



 **[alt_ginny](#)** at **[2012-07-29 18:22:34](#)**
(no subject)

Mum,

I saw this while taking a small break. I do have all my things. I will ask Ron to make sure he has all his.

Regarding Percy, I know he's a little spoiled when it comes to a home cooked meal, and there is no better cook than you. I did let him know that when ever I am in town for a shoot, I wouldn't mind stopping by to whip something up for them. I just hope he doesn't starve while I am here at CCF, or that the pair of them don't contract food poisoning from improper food handling.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-07-29 19:49:02](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I'm giving them a start to their larder, including some easy to cook things. And at least he knows how to scramble eggs.

Oh, also: your father and I have decided we'll come to London tomorrow to see the parade. I did let Ron know, too. They give you a

block of free time after the parade is over, don't they, so the CCF students can explore the Faire with their friends or family, if they wish?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-07-29 19:51:09](#)
(no subject)

If you and Ron would prefer to remain with your friends, dear, that's all right. Just let us know. I think Bill will be meeting up with us, too. Although I suspect Percy plans to spend the time working with Penny on moving in to his flat.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2012-07-29 21:14:37](#)
(no subject)

I'm sure we would both like to spend time with you. We still have a little more than a fortnight to be with our friends.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-07-29 22:31:17](#)
(no subject)

Oh, goodness, Tuesday, I meant, of course. Mercy, I've been so busy, I barely have time to look at a calendar.

That's wonderful. We'll come find you afterwards.

2012-07-29 15:09:00


Private Message to Dominic Selwyn

Good show. I'm glad to see someone had the backbone needed to enforce standards. Massopust's own doing? Or did he need your help to find his spine?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **2012-07-30 03:45:24**

(no subject)

Not help; merely permission.

The Hogwarts staff, on the other hand, probably would have let him start over as a first-year if no one had put their foot down. I suppose it's inevitable that teachers get attached to their students (well, aside from the Carrows).



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2012-07-30 11:40:54**

(no subject)

The Carrows aside, that school could use some stiffening up, from what I hear.

I've had this conversation with Rabastan, but he's of the opinion that students learn best if they enjoy what they're learning. Which is Raz for you, and I expect it's fine for him because his students must always know they are one sneeze from feeling the fire of one of Our Lord's boldest wands.

The trouble is that from Babbling or Acton or that Brutka fellow, an approach like that licenses laziness.

2012-07-29 16:38:00

Private message to Poppy Pomfrey and Pomona Sprout



It's a pity I can't say "I told you so", sometimes.

You know I've been arguing against synchronised marching all along (and uniforms, and patriotic songs) as a focus for the YPL time.

 **alt_sinistra**


This weekend so far has been a rather nice illustration of why. All the people who overruled me have not the slightest idea how to get thirty three students all pointed in the same direction at once. (33, incidentally, is a horrible number to try and arrange in any kind of pretty marching order, no matter the arithmantic possibilities).

And as they keep refusing my suggestions of oh, how to manage students I've worked with for years, I am currently sitting on a stone wall in the sunshine and catching up on my journal reading. It's a pleasant enough distraction from about eight other things I'd rather not be thinking about.

I do think it will come out all right on the day - even the students who I expect would like it just to be over with are doing their best to learn the necessary pieces. And I think the end result should be rather appropriately showy if it comes off right. But really. Is this the best thing we could be spending a dozen hours on? (Not counting all the prep time, of course.)

I do hope both of you are well, and Poppy, that your latest round of mandatory education is not too dire. You may expect to avoid Stint, at least largely, as he plans to be here part of most days through Thursday, apparently.



 **alt_poppy** at **2012-07-29 21:28:31**
(no subject)

You're welcome to say it here to us, whenever you wish. Just so you know.

Tell me that you at least had a day or two away from it all? Last we spoke, I think you were counting on a nice evening with Rabastan. I trust you took at least that much of a respite.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-29 21:49:05](#)
(no subject)

I told them so, I told them so, I told them so.
Actually, that does feel better. Thank you.

I had two very lovely days (well, an evening and the next day) worth of break, actually - more than I expected, though we didn't get away from Spence at all. Though - well, as these times always seem to do - it also brought up some things I'm trying not to think about for a bit. (Or talk about, though I hope to manage that sooner than later with you both.)

The other new thing on that list, of course, is Thomas Capper - I'm sure you've both heard the news. I had a few more details from Helena yesterday: apparently quite the unanimous decision at higher levels to go as far with it as they did.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2012-07-30 01:37:25](#)
(no subject)

The Capper boy. Oh dear, yes. Most awful, isn't it?

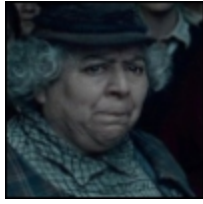
I dare say I dread exams right along with our pupils, though for other reasons. I suppose I dread the results of their dreading exams. I know it's infrequent, but every year I wonder if this or that one will break down completely and be unable to carry on.

But then there are the ones I don't see, like Mr Capper, who, if report carries true, was simply unconcerned with his marks or standings or mastery of any subject other than arithmancy. I do wonder if he's as unconcerned and as unmoved by regret now as he apparently was throughout his schooling.

I find it horrifying to imagine his Fate. Do you suppose it's possible that he really does not care one way or the other? I disbelieve it.

As for the other. I am pleased you had a bit of an escape with Rabastan. Good show. (As for whatever is weighing on you, you are welcome to share or not as you need or wish.)

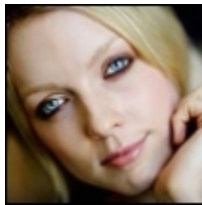
I hope only the bet for you, you know.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2012-07-30 02:00:48](#)**
(no subject)

As frustrated as I was with Mr. Capper at times, I truly hoped it wouldn't go so far as all that, especially considering the adjustments made in other situations--such as that of Miss Calderwood.

One hopes that several months' suspension will have adjusted her disposition, but I suppose we will find out regardless.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2012-07-30 03:10:01](#)**
(no subject)

I hoped so too. Especially after some of what I heard from Helena - she's not the most senior in the Exam Authority, but she's been around long enough to be invited to listen into some of the

higher debate. They did seem to want to prove a point.

One of those things that keeps me up, wondering if something could have gotten through to him, and we just didn't find it. Surely Septima, too, and she must be devastated, though I've not heard from her.

Poppy - I should warn you, there may be worse exam nerves than usual next year. I've heard a great deal of worry from the halfbloods here, even Miss Perks (who truly has no reason to worry, if her marks stay remotely as they have been.) I did my best to reassure her, but if even she's worried, it may be an especially bad year that way. I just keep saying to work hard, and listen to their professors about suggestions for needed help.

Perhaps an early agenda item for a staff meeting? (And have either of you heard much gossip about the Dark Arts position? I tried to encourage Campanella to apply, but she put me off.)

And Pomona, as to Miss Calderwood, well, I'm just glad she won't be returning until January. That would be one too many things to worry me this summer, really. (Also, our Mr Diggory is being very thoughtful, even broody, but I've not had a chance to talk to him much. I do intend to, as I get a chance.)

Right. I've had a bit of stargazing - enough to tide me over a little longer - and I should find my bed, so I can do my best impression of a bright and cheerful morning person tomorrow. (Perhaps the image will both make you laugh, in which case it's done some good to someone.)

2012-07-29 23:45:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Many happy returns, Neville.

(I decided it was close enough to midnight that it counts.)

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

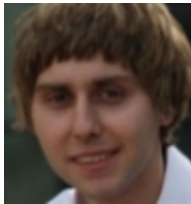
I hope your Uncle Algie makes sure you get cake.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-30 11:24:57](#)

(no subject)

Yeah. Many happy returns, Nev. I'm glad you're spending your birthday with family. Hope you catch a whole load of fish for supper. If your uncle knows how to cook it, I mean.



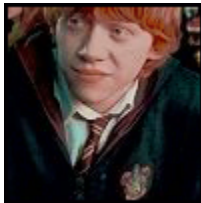
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-30 11:34:19](#)

(no subject)

Oh, I say, yes, happy birthday, old fellow, well done!

You may be glad you're off with family and relaxing; we're up at the crack again and off to the parade grounds. I say, it's more like boot camp than summer camp, what!

-Justin



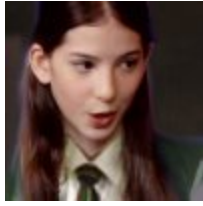
 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-07-30 11:46:29](#)

(no subject)

Boot camp? Ha.

Yeah, Nev. It's totally all about the boots this year. No lie.

I need a better charm for getting the mud off. So the polishing charm will work better. I got a real dressing down about that yesterday, and I hear they're going to make a huge thing of inspecting us today.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-30 18:54:39](#)
(no subject)

I was going to look for you at lunch but then PATIL had to be all, 'ohhhh, for those who TRULY CARE, we're going to be doing EXTRA PRACTISING!'

Anyway I know a charm that's specific to mud and I know a rune that's supposed to make the boots keep their shine and repel the mud. And if we ever have five minutes to ourselves again I'd be happy to show you.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2012-07-30 18:58:28](#)
Private message to Neville

Yeah. I know you felt hurt when you didn't get into CCF so it might make you feel a bit better to know that this year has really not been fun.


Marching and drilling and stuff in formation. And Madame Umbridge.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2012-07-30 11:52:31](#)
(no subject)


Happy birthday, mate! Another year older and we hope wiser!



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-07-30 11:53:23](#)
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Neville.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-30 11:54:58](#)
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Neville. I have a present for you--a small one. But I'm planning to wait to send it to you until you're home from your trip, so you don't get too many questions.

2012-07-30 00:34:00

Private Message to Hermione Granger

Is everything going okay?



 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-07-30 17:29:02](#)

(no subject)

I'm fine.



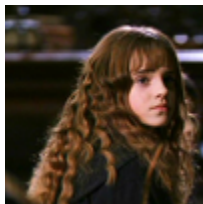
 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-30 17:45:07](#)

(no subject)

All right.

Is it

I mean, I know we talked about how you'd rather be here than Buckingham. But it's okay?

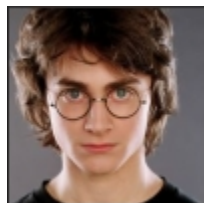


 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-07-30 17:47:18](#)

(no subject)

Well I don't have to have your father looking over my shoulder.

It isn't like Hogwarts, but it's all right.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-30 17:49:11](#)

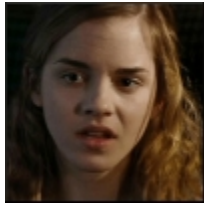
(no subject)

Well, yeah.

I'd rather

Could you not call him that any more? I mean, if you need to to other people, that's okay.

But he isn't.




 **alt_hermione** at **2012-07-30 17:51:53**
(no subject)

It isn't easy to say one thing to one person and another to another, you know. But okay.

That's the thing about it not being like Hogwarts. At Hogwarts people are used to me and here they are too, except everyone is trying to be so good that it's not the same. At least at Buckingham it's all people who have always acted the same way towards me. Not like this.



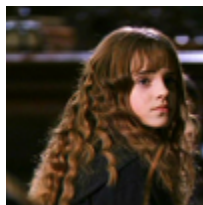
 **alt_harry** at **2012-07-30 18:01:05**
(no subject)

Yeah.

I know how you mean about everyone trying to be good. Umbridge is always looking at everyone and taking notes.

Is anyone giving you trouble?

That Stint person hasn't been talking to you, has he? If he does, you can tell him I told you to not talk to him.



 **alt_hermione** at **2012-07-30 18:03:14**
(no subject)

I've dodged him, you know, but Umbridge is worse, she comes around and bothers me about whether I'm folding your socks right. Folding your socks right!!!! It's STUPID. And she's punished other people, but not me yet, I think she's trying to decide if she has to ask you to punish me or not.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-30 18:13:10](#)
(no subject)

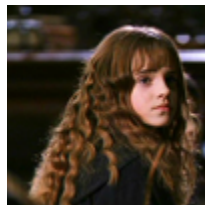
Socks?

That's really stupid.

I'd say you can tell her that's how you learned in Buckingham, so to take it up with them, but she might think you're talking back or something. She's awful.

Pansy's calling her Hembridge. I don't think anyone likes her at all.

And if she does try to, tell me.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-07-30 18:15:52](#)
(no subject)

Okay.

What are you doing today?

I'm supposed to be helping the house-elves cook but they won't let me.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-07-30 18:27:50](#)
(no subject)

I think it's drilling.

Or maybe more drilling.

Or maybe we'll get to work on that song about how great the Lord Protector is.

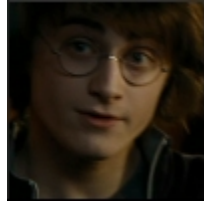
While drilling.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2012-07-30 18:28:38](#)**
(no subject)

Ha ha.

How does the song go? I suppose it's a new one.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-07-30 18:34:04](#)**
(no subject)

We say tow row row row row a lot.

And how lucky we are, and a bit about a jewelled scepter.

Oh, hang on, there's this bit where it says

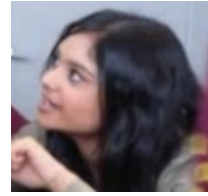
And if we should fail and fall, we do so full aware

What does that even mean? Well, I know what it means, but it's stupid.

2012-07-30 12:23:00

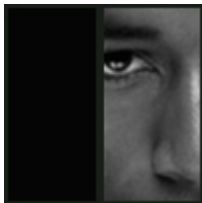
Extra Practice


For anyone who is interested, some of us are skipping lunch and taking sandwiches to our first afternoon session, so we can put in a little extra practice on the parade routine.



 [alt_padma](#)

We're meeting out behind the barracks, right on the edge of the castle park, in five minutes.



 [alt_blaise](#) at **2012-07-30 17:04:09**

(no subject)

I'll be there.

We'll see who cares about our doing this properly.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2012-07-30 17:13:52**

(no subject)

Miss Patil -

Excellent initiative.

Watching you practise, I think you were on to something in trying out a better way to signal the coordination between the field for the coat of arms and the charges. It may be that it'll be far easier when the music charms are in sync, but I could see remarkable improvement just with having someone in the front row signal start higher with the wand movement so the rows behind could see.

[2012-07-30 12:57:00](#)

Private message to Penelope Clearwater




Penny,

I found out today that Mr Malfoy has bespoken practically all my time tomorrow. I'm to represent his office at a number of Freedom Day events throughtot the day and into the evening. I'm afraid this means I won't be free to work on arranging things at the flat, or doing any of the shopping we planned. And I won't be able to escort you to any of the Freedom Festival events.

 [alt_percy](#)

I'm really sorry.

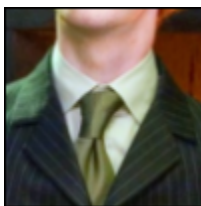



 [alt_penelope](#) at **[2012-07-30 18:16:52](#)**
(no subject)

But you said that

But it's a **National Ho**

Well, I guess if it's for Mr Malfoy, then you'll have to do it, it's only right. Is it-- Do you want me to go ahead and go shopping without you or are they things I could come along on? I mean, would it be helpful to have an escort along?




 [alt_percy](#) at **[2012-07-30 20:09:33](#)**
(no subject)

I think your time would be better spent at the flat or shopping, to be honest. I don't think you'd have much interest in the Freedom Day reception at the Bureau of Weights and Measures. Among other things.

If you go shopping, just pick what you like. I trust your judgement.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2012-07-30 20:17:11](#)
(no subject)

Well, I guess it says something that Mr Malfoy trusts *you* to represent him on things like that.

Did you find out whether your mum had an extra table in the attic, after all? We need chairs, too.

And a proper sofa, and more bookshelves. Unless you're willing to keep some boxes down in the storage lockup in the cellar?

~~I didn't expect you to have so many books.~~

We don't need two sets of Lockhart, surely?




 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-07-30 21:34:23](#)
(no subject)

I still have to check the attic; haven't had time yet. Mum is going to check on extra furniture through the barter network. I'm not sure I quite like that idea; she might dig up something truly horrendous and expect us to use it.

I really don't want books in the cellar because of the risk of mould. As for the Lockhart, if you go through and keep whichever set has the marginalia notes, that would be fine. But put the other set aside for me, and I'll see if I can find a used bookstore to take them.



 [alt_penelope](#) at [2012-07-30 22:55:07](#)
(no subject)

Well, to be perfectly honest, I was going to look in some second-hand shops for the sofa and all. There're some places near Picadilly that have decent used stuff-nothing that's not clean or anything. But I have to agree about the barter network! I mean, some of the things people try to trade are really dodgy.

I don't know about the bookshops. I actually asked at MacGhille's in Hogsmeade a couple years ago, about selling the

Lockharts, but he wouldn't even take them, much less buy them. But it's not *just* the Lockhart set, Percy. Between the two of us we've got nearly two of every textbook and I was looking through your box and you've got your own *Hogwarts, a History* and so've I. And you've got the complete set of the *Chronicles of Hartwick House*--I've got them, too! Well, we can't get rid of mine, mine are signed.

Perce. You've got a whole box of Martin Miggs. Really?



 [alt_percy](#) at [2012-07-31 01:31:11](#)
(no subject)

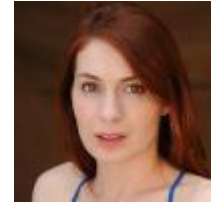
Well, let's see what Mum comes up with for us. Some of the used stuff she finds is horrible, but some of it, particularly from estates, is really very superiour quality.

I don't have a whole box of Martin Miggs. Those are Ron's. I don't know how they got mixed up with my stuff.

Perhaps the twins did it to irk me. Wouldn't surprise me.

2012-07-30 14:59:00

ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Severus Snape



Severus.

Neville came up to us after lunch today with a very specific request.

 [alt_alice](#)

The long and the short of it is, he wants us to tell him everything, and then obliviate him after. He's said he'd rather know what we do for an hour or two and forget than stay in the dark.

Did you know this was coming? Did he talk this over with you at all?

I hardly

Frank is asking Minerva and Arthur permission.

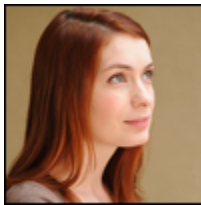



 [alt_severus](#) at **2012-07-30 19:06:04**
(no subject)

I did not know.

He has more bottom than I expected.

Bottom in the sailors' sense. I would not presume to pun.



 [alt_alice](#) at **2012-07-30 19:09:33**
(no subject)

Naturally.

When he asked, he looked so very much like Frank.

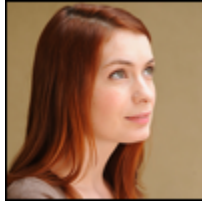
Oh dear.




 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-07-30 19:13:04](#)
(no subject)

If he had asked me, I would have done it myself.

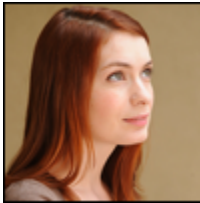
I do not understand why Minerva's permission is necessary.




 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-07-30 19:16:26](#)
(no subject)

Frank and I are both aware of how our family can present security liabilities. It's always good to check with someone, even if we think it perfectly reasonable, just in case.

If we're to make a case for his getting into the Order, we must be careful.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-07-30 19:49:44](#)
(no subject)

If they should give permission, I should like to ask you a rather large favour.

You're under no obligation to say yes.

But Frank and I were talking, and, well, there are a few things we'd like to do, and one thing we very much need.

We think it'd be nice if Terry Boot were to be fetched from Moddey Dhoo, so he and Neville can have a sit-down.

And, well, I'd like to ask you if you'd help with the obliviation. It's a delicate thing, and while Frank and I are both proficient enough to use it as a weapon, this isn't an enemy we're talking about, this is my son. Making it rather more difficult. You are better at memory spells than either of us and know his brain better than we do. And he trusts you. As do Frank and me. Would you?

Would you fetch Terry and help us? Please?

I know we haven't talked to the rest of the Order yet about you

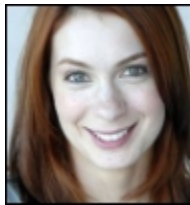
coming to Moddey Dhoo formally, and this'd just be meeting at the rendezvous point to pick him up, but that is something I very much want to sort out after all this is said and done. I wish it was under less hurried circumstances.




 [alt_severus](#) at [2012-07-30 19:50:46](#)
(no subject)

Terry Boot.

Fine.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-07-30 19:51:20](#)
(no subject)

Thank you.

2012-07-30 15:00:00

ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Minerva McGonagall and Arthur Weasley



 [alt_frank](#)

first off, the camping trip is going fine. no sign of magic from kevin, everyone's getting on, and the change-off with kingsley and emmaline went off without a hitch.

neville told us something today.

I'm not good with words. but I can put down what he said, or near enough.

he said that he wants to know everything about what we do. he wants to ask us questions, and to have us be able to tell him the answers truthfully. he wants to talk to us. really talk to us. and then he wants us to obliviate him. because it'd be safest that way.

all he ever hears about are the rumours and the bad things, the things we're accused of doing, and all we can ever tell him are that the bad things aren't true, but there's nothing to take their place. and so he's left wondering and being afraid and worrying, and it's keeping him up nights not knowing. he said it was eating away at him.

he's prepared to have us obliviate him, minerva.

you know we wouldn't do something like this without checking in first. so this is me. checking in.



 [alt_arthur](#) at **2012-07-30 19:11:56**
(no subject)

My word, Frank. What a request.

How long has he been thinking about this?

Do you think it's a good idea--do you want to do it? And do you think you could handle the obliviate spell? Because it would have to be very carefully done.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-30 19:12:30](#)
(no subject)

Oh, and is it just Neville who's asking? Is Evelyn aware that he was planning on asking this?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-07-30 19:18:16](#)
(no subject)

It is a delicate matter. The performance of the Memory Charm is, as you noted, of utmost importance—and while young Mr. Longbottom may be capable of making this choice for himself, I quite agree that Evelyn is not of an age where we can rightly expect her to make such a decision.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-07-30 19:19:41](#)
(no subject)

she doesn't know what he's asked.

and you're right. she isn't of an age yet. but he is.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-07-30 19:18:31](#)
(no subject)

it's not a matter of what we want, arthur.

it's a matter of what he needs. he's been thinking about it for a year now.

and alice is asking snape if he'd be willing.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-30 19:25:21](#)
(no subject)

I'm sure Snape would be the best one to do it.

Such a thing never would have occurred to me. But it seems Neville's thought carefully through the security ramifications if he's suggesting it himself.

There is a slight risk, but if he's willing to bear it...I can't think of any harm it would do, if we're sure of the obliviate afterward. And with Severus doing it, we would be.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-07-30 19:26:54](#)
(no subject)

If he agrees, then. And if no-one tells Poppy before the actual event has already taken place. I shudder to think what she would say to me.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-07-30 19:28:11](#)
(no subject)

right.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-30 19:29:00](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I concur, too, Frank.



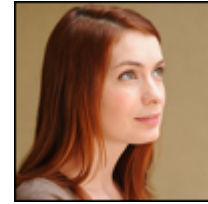
 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-07-30 19:30:42](#)
(no subject)

he's said yes.

thank you.

2012-07-30 15:31:00

ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Terry Boot



Terry, love, I've a rather odd request for you.

Neville has approached us and asked us to tell him the truth about what we do, all of it, and obliviate him after. He figures this is the only way he'll get to know things before he's joined, even if it's only for a little while, and Frank and I are going to do what we can to honour his request. We've asked permission from Minerva and Arthur, so they know what's to happen, and Frank and I were talking about it and thought it might be nice for you to come along and tell Neville yourself about Moddey Dhoo. I think it'd do his heart good to see you, and to know you're with us, and to hear about how things are like straight from you.


 [alt_alice](#)

Is that quite all right for you? Would you be willing to talk to him?

If you aren't, that's just fine. But if you are, Severus can swing by and pick you up. I don't believe you've had much opportunity to speak with him very often, but he's been working with Neville on Occlumency for a while now, and will be helping us with


with the obliivation.



 [alt_terry](#) at **2012-07-30 19:39:28**
(no subject)

That's brilliant! I would love do to it. When? When would you do it? Right now? There isn't a class or anything going on right now.



 [alt_alice](#) at **2012-07-30 19:50:42**
(no subject)

Oh, sweet heart, I'm so glad.

Laura can get you to the proper place. If Arabella is free, I'd like her to meet him too, if at all possible. If you could ask her, that would be lovely.



 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-07-30 19:51:59](#)
(no subject)

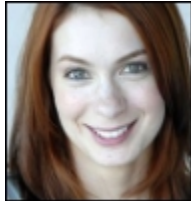
I'll go find them right now.


It'll be wonderful to see him!



 [alt_tery](#) at [2012-07-30 19:56:31](#)
(no subject)

Found 'em. On our way to the rendezvous point.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-07-30 19:57:30](#)
(no subject)

Good.

Very good.

2012-07-30 15:35:00

Order Only: Private message to Sirius and Dora

Full Moon's coming up. Are we going to claim it's another buying trip, or is it time to tell Ellie I'm a werewolf, do you think?



 [alt_lupin](#)

It's a slightly safer big secret to let her in on than 'oh, and by the by, our dog is Sirius Black and we're members of a secret organisation plotting the downfall of the Lord Protector.' We could see how she handles it.

On the other hand, Kreacher will be put out if he stops getting his monthly opportunity to babysit the Last Heir to the House of Black.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-07-30 20:39:56**

(no subject)

I think I'd rather we tell her than have her guess there's something amiss.

Which is only a matter of time.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-07-30 20:40:53**

(no subject)

Do you reckon we ought to warn the others if we decide to sit her down with the news?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at **2012-07-30 21:16:47**

(no subject)

This is Remus's secret not an Order matter. I don't see why we can't make this call on our own.

Mind you, I think we ought to discuss it with all of them before we come to telling her about Sirius or anything to do with our Order business. If we come to the point of telling her any of that.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-30 21:26:05](#)
(no subject)

I'm inclined to agree with this. And I think that running each minor decision by the full Order only encourages Peppy the tendency of some Order members to think they should have oversight of every last detail.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-30 21:44:22](#)
(no subject)

Now be nice about Madam P. Someone needs to ask unpleasant questions sometimes or make us stop and think things through. If it weren't for her, it might have to be you.

But I meant to say about our decision. I'm comfortable now trusting Ellie to keep Bea safe overnight after I've left for work. So this month you and Sirius could go off to Grimmauld alone and not worry about leaving us.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-30 21:49:13](#)
(no subject)

That's an excellent point about Madam P.
Padfoot? How much extra trouble do you think Kreacher's going to make if he's deprived of Bea for a month?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-30 22:38:22](#)
(no subject)

Doesn't need to be deprived, does he? We can bring her round one of the days we're working with Terry and the twins.

The thing I like about this plan is that rewarding her with taking care of Bea will distract her for another month.

Or else, if you do sit her down and explain, it'll make her more inclined to a. believe you and b. not make a fuss over it.

Though you might want to come up with an explanation of why you've been taking Bea with you when you're about to turn into a slaving, mindless monster. I don't think you want to go as far as tell her about the Wolfsbane, do you?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-30 22:39:13](#)
(no subject)

More slaving and mindless than usual, I should say.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-30 21:12:47](#)
(no subject)

I agree with you. She's proved herself trustworthy with everything so far. And clever about things I wouldn't have expected, so you're right that she'll soon guess there's something off about these once monthly trips. I doubt she'll leap right to 'Mr P's a werewolf', but I think this is our next step and we might as well do it now.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-30 20:42:02](#)
(no subject)

Incidentally, any idea what Frank and Alice are up to?
Don't want to nose in, of course. But I'm dead curious.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-30 21:21:10](#)
(no subject)

If it were a crisis--I mean, if they were in danger--it would be Kingsley and Emmaline they'd be calling for, not Snape and Minerva and Arthur. Don't you think?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-30 22:35:50](#)
(no subject)

If it were really a crisis, they'd have posted openly.

Which is why I'm curious, naturally.

But I'd forgot they're off with Neville, so I'd bet ten Galleons Remus has it on the first try.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-30 21:23:43](#)
(no subject)

They're camping with Neville this weekend, aren't they?

Perhaps Neville got them tipsy on butterbeer and demanded to be let in to the Order?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-30 21:55:30](#)
(no subject)

Or told them he's got someone knocked up and means to marry her? That'd explain their writing Minerva to shout about what's gone wrong with the castle's chastity charms. And they might be asking Snape for a potion for the girl? No idea what they'd want from Arthur, though. Advice about what they could take to ease the headaches teenagers cause their parents?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-30 22:07:47](#)
(no subject)

Well, it can't be Ginny Weasley he's knocked up -- the last one they'd be sending messages to is Arthur, in that case...



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-30 22:11:42](#)
(no subject)

Ha. No. You're right about that!

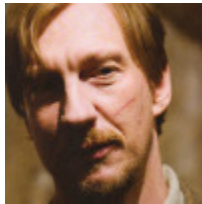


 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-30 22:34:23](#)
(no subject)

You're the funny one.

No, I think Remus is probably right. Which is almost as bad as your guess, in terms of what it means for us.


Next thing you know the whole lot of the Jr. Auxiliary will be pounding down our doors, demanding to be sworn in.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-30 22:38:11](#)
(no subject)

That'll be brilliant -- so much more convenient for all of them to chat with you. They'll be able to send you private messages instead of owls. AND ask Dora to hound you if you don't reply right away.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-30 22:42:42](#)
(no subject)

....

How long is it before the solstice? I'll have to plan if I'm going to move back to France.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-30 23:57:20](#)
(no subject)

I dunno. But she says Frank's going to explain.

Plus she's all weepy.

Maybe she's knocked up again.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-31 02:55:23](#)
Private Message to Moony

I'm popping over to 12GP for a visit from Allie.

Don't wait up.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-31 03:40:09](#)
Re: Private Message to Moony

How's it going, then?

NOT THAT I AM WAITING UP FOR YOU. I just haven't happened to get tired yet.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-31 03:48:05](#)
Re: Private Message to Moony

Think you would be glad I didn't invite you.

There's crying. And that other one. Pride. And er, well. Something about when Neville was born? I dunno but there was apparently a lot of ... fluid. Ych.

And then, she's ... Oh, now she's giggling. Okay. We're okay.

Yeah, we'll be fine. But I expect we'll be here for a while longer.

And I'll have Kreacher fumigate before the boys come over again.
Promise.

Promise.



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2012-07-31 03:49:44**

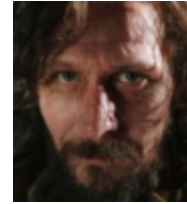
Re: Private Message to Moony

Right.

I'll see you tomorrow.

2012-07-30 19:36:00

Order Only: Private Message to Frank and Alice



Everything all right?

We figure it can't be an alarm or you'd have written to everyone.

 [alt_sirius](#)

Still, can't blame a chap for ~~worrying~~ wondering.



 [alt_alice](#) at **2012-07-30 23:53:34**

(no subject)

No. It isn't.

Oh, Sirius.

Frank's working on something that will explain.

I'd re-hash it with you, only I'm a bit too heartsick right now.

We're fine. We will be. Fine. It's just one of those times where I'm happy and so very sad at the same time, and it's all a bit overwhelming.

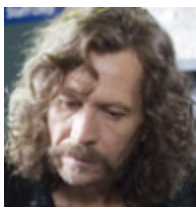


 [alt_alice](#) at **2012-07-31 01:51:54**

(no subject)

And now you know what we've been up to today.

Short of the swearing, it's pretty much what I would've said too.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2012-07-31 02:19:49**

(no subject)


Yeah.

Merlin, Allie.

Remus and I were just half-joking that sooner or later the whole lot of them will want to be inducted.

Listen, drop in once you've said your farewells to them, right? It's quiet in back tonight, I'm sure we can slip away to Grimmauld and talk for a while.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:23:16](#)**
(no subject)

We're here til Friday, love. But once all is done, I'd very much like to make my way to Grimmauld for a little.


Very much.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:24:33](#)**
(no subject)

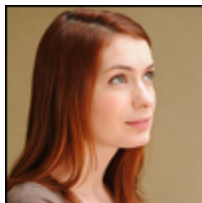
Eh. They have to sleep at some point, right?




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:42:13](#)**
(no subject)

You've got a good point.

I'll see if I can slip away for an hour or so while Frank holds down the tent, as it were.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:47:41](#)**
(no subject)

Right.

Two of the three are down for the count and the third is fading. Frank has been thoroughly kissed and has agreed to not wade into the replies to his journal entry until I get back.

I need a large hug and a small drink of something steadying in whichever order pleases you.

I'll be there soon.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:50:41](#)**
(no subject)

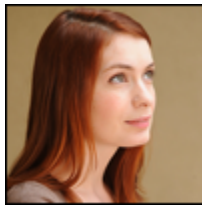
Love, if I'd known it was that easy to get you to leave him for me ...


I'll be waiting for you with the brandy and the hug.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:59:59](#)**
(no subject)

Or I've got something else if you prefer? I think you've as good a reason for it as any.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-07-31 03:01:00](#)**
(no subject)

God, yes please.

2012-07-30 21:33:00

ORDER ONLY

I need to talk to you lot about something. someone.
my son. neville.



 [alt_frank](#)

we started writing neville the summer before his second year. we've spent three weeks and a handful of hours here and there with him since we left him with his gran. during the interactions we've had with him, we've given him our advice about school, we've talked to him some about our past, but we've kept quiet about everything else. when we write, we don't use our names, or his. I have to watch every word I say around my kids, because what we can't talk about is what we do every single day, what we've done every single day for the last fifteen years, the people and the places and the work we've done and all of it.

everything we've done with them has been careful. we ask permission. we wait. we keep our secrets, even when it's just me and him in the middle of nowhere and there's no-one around keeping an eye on things. even when he's kept all the other secrets we've ever given him. it's been hard, no mistake. but we've done it. because I'd rather talk about the fucking weather with my kids than not talk to them at all.

sorry hermione. sorry terry.

my son, without knowing what exactly it is we do, asked us last year if he could be a part of it someday. my son was crushed when he wasn't selected for the damned CCF because he thought it'd make him more useful for us. and the reason he wasn't in it was because he deliberately sabotaged his chances when he found out there was going to be a boggart. because his biggest fear was that he'd make a mistake and betray us, and he couldn't let anyone see how he felt about us. he's been studying occlumency with snape since january. hermione, I'm not sure what he says to you in private, but I know that when it comes to the rest of the juniors, he keeps quiet about taking occlumency lessons, about his portkey, and about writing us. and every one of you who's worked with him at Hogwarts knows how careful he is.

my son came up to us today and told us what he wanted for his birthday.

he told us that he only ever heard about us through other people's stories and rumours and news, that it was all he had. that the giant hole we'd left in our conversations with him, the one that gives us such a hard time, that it's much harder for him because all he's got to fill it with are his own fears and other people's lies. that it kept him up nights thinking and worrying. and my son told me that what he wanted more than anything was for us to tell him the truth, to sit down and talk to him and be open with him for the first time in his life, and then, he looked us in the eye and said that he wanted us to obliviate him after because that way we'd still be safe. he'd been thinking about it for almost a year. he figured it was better to know, even if it was just for an hour or two.

so we did what we always do. we got permission. and then once we did, we started talking to him. everything we could think of. and then we got snape to bring along terry boot, and we all talked to him for a good two hours, and it was the best goddamn two hours of my life.

we told him why we left him and his sister behind. why we thought it was worth the cost. what we were hoping to do. what he could be a part of someday. he saw that terry was safe and happy, and heard from him about what life was like at moddey dhoo, the place that we built up from a ruin and made into a sanctuary with two wands and years of hard work, where we have almost every muggle born child who has been born on this island in the last six years and counting. he nearly broke down when he found out kevin wasn't really a squib. got really quiet when we were telling him about the garden and hannah's tree too.


and then, when all was said and done, he asked me if he could write himself a note. a four word code he'd come up with to write down on a scrap of paper he could keep so he'd know that what he'd asked for had happened. that he'd been told, and been obliterated. that way, he'd know it had already taken place, so he wouldn't keep asking for it, and he'd know that it was done of his own free will. and even then, he said that he understood if we didn't want him to do it. he was willing to give that shred of reassurance up just so we could keep our security.

and then snape obliterated him for us, because al was too afraid she'd make a mistake and I was too chicken shit to do it myself, and he took terry back before neville came out of it. and now we have to go back to being careful again.

he might not legally be of age, but he's handled himself like a man today, and he has for a good long while.

last time we met, we tabled talk of bringing him in. I'd like to reopen that conversation because I damn well think he deserves at least that. and severus, man, thank you. thanks for what you did and what you said to him before you did it. he might not remember, but I will.




 **[alt_alice](#) at 2012-07-31 01:44:20**
(no subject)

And I know this goes without saying, but I'll say it anyways.

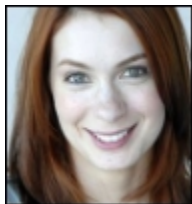
I agree with Frank about re-opening the conversation to let Neville in. And I agree with him about our son's capabilities, and his desire to be a part of this.




 **[alt_frank](#) at 2012-07-31 01:46:11**
Private Message to Al

he was fucking brilliant today.

he was amazing.




 **[alt_alice](#) at 2012-07-31 01:47:01**
Re: Private Message to Al

He was, darling man.

How could he not be? He's ours.




 **[alt_frank](#) at 2012-07-31 01:48:14**
Re: Private Message to Al

I'm going to play a last game of chess with evie.

I don't know if I can read any of what they say. not right now.

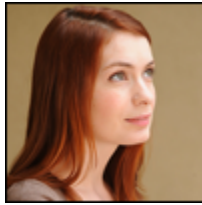


 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-07-31 01:49:33](#)

Re: Private Message to Al

I'll keep an eye on things, love.

You said your piece. Very well, I might add.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-07-31 03:24:26](#)

Re: Private Message to Al

I know you're not going to read this until tomorrow, but I wanted to put it down now, while it's still in my head.

He was so proud of you, love.

He looked over at you once or twice while Terry was talking, and I could tell. Plain as day. He was so very proud.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-31 01:56:21](#)

(no subject)

I feel really honoured that you included me, and it was just brilliant to see him again. (He's grown so tall! He's really starting to look amazingly like Mr Longbottom.) I wondered if I would ever be able to see any of my friends again, to be able to thank them in person for all they did to help me escape. Those two hours just flew by.

It was so hard to walk away, knowing he wouldn't remember. But I know he believed with all his heart it was worth it, and it was sure worth it for me.

(I think maybe I should wait about saying whether he should be allowed into the Order or not until the adults have had their say.)




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-07-31 01:59:16](#)

(no subject)

You got to see Neville? BRILLIANT!!!



 **alt_alice** at [2012-07-31 02:00:57](#)
(no subject)

I'm glad, love.

And I know what you mean about it being hard.

You'll have a chance to tell him everything again someday. I promise.



 **alt_gredforge** at [2012-07-31 02:04:37](#)
(no subject)

Bloody hell, he has some nerve. We're impressed.

We can tell all of you that he's never breathed the slightest hint of any of the secrets he's protecting for Frank and Alice. So that's what happened at the CCF trials. We know he was all torn up about it. Now we know why.

I think if there's anyone in the Junior Auxiliary who deserves in, it's him. (Well, aside from Lee, of course, since he's almost of age.)



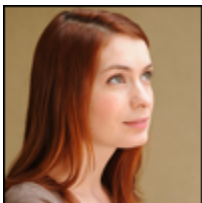
 **alt_gredforge** at [2012-07-31 02:05:20](#)
(no subject)


Don't know if that's enough, though.



 **alt_kingsley** at [2012-07-31 02:06:25](#)
(no subject)

Neville was the only one? His sister wasn't in on it at all?




 **alt_alice** at [2012-07-31 02:10:32](#)
(no subject)

No. He didn't tell Evelyn his idea, and she watched Kevin in the tent while we went somewhere else to talk. She didn't see Severus or Terry either.

Evelyn's shown some curiosity about what we do, of course, but

she's not on the same page as Neville is right now. Nor should she be.



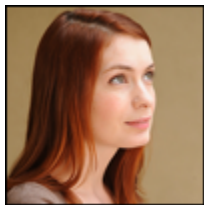
 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-07-31 02:14:30](#)
(no subject)


And she's realised we went off to talk with him about something or another. But she takes after her brother in that she knew that if we could, we'd tell her, and since we haven't, she hasn't pressed.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-07-31 02:24:52](#)
(no subject)

And what's this code he used? That note's not going to cause trouble if it falls in the wrong hands, is it?



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-07-31 02:32:37](#)
(no subject)

I don't believe so. Before he came to us, he wrote a private message to himself in his journal.

"Draco dormiens nunquam titillandus. If you see this, then you know you're okay with what you heard."

And then, before he was obliviated, he wrote "Draco dormiens nunquam titillandus. Check your journal." on the scrap of paper. We can charm it so only he can read it if you think it'd be troublesome.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-07-31 02:42:11](#)
(no subject)

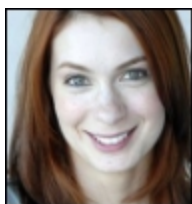
Huh.


I see. Don't think you need to charm the paper eyes-only. The words are innocuous enough. But come to think of it, you might want to charm it so he can't lose it, if it's important to him.

So the code was a signal to himself, to tell him that if he saw

those four words in the note, he'd know he really meant what he wrote in the journal.

Clever.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:43:14](#)**
(no subject)

I rather thought so, yes.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:56:47](#)**
(no subject)

Interesting.

One thing we must think about is that I can see how this would be better for you and Frank and Neville. Or at least how it would make things more bearable. Because I can see how the present situation has to be a real strain for the kid. But how would it help the Order? What can he offer us?

Fred and George Weasley did have tangible benefits to offer. But Neville, as decent a kid as he is (and I don't doubt that), has less to bring to the table.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:59:07](#)**
(no subject)

What about Lee then? You didn't ask what he could bring to the table when you lot voted he could be added in.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2012-07-31 03:00:44](#)**
(no subject)

True. Aside from the work he's done with you on all your R&D work. But Lee Jordan will be of age when he joins. Neville isn't.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-07-31 03:19:51](#)**
(no subject)

No, he isn't. And that's a fair point, because it affects my children, too. Especially Ron, I think, who is the next best candidate in my family, and exactly Neville's age.

Oh, Frank and Alice, I'm so sorry, but I don't really think that the children should be admitted before they come of age.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:10:02](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, Frank. Both of you...oh, I'm sure it was both entirely wonderful and completely heartwrenching.

(And my goodness, what a very different way your son chose to persuade you as opposed to the method that George and Fred used!)



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:10:46](#)**
(no subject)

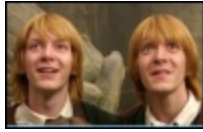
Hey, our way worked, didn't it?

And we thought through security, too.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2012-07-31 02:12:52](#)**
(no subject)


Well, yes, it did, of course. But one thing I do regret was that the way you chose meant that I really couldn't be a part of telling you everything I'd longed to say to you for so long. Frank and Alice were able to have a heart-to-heart chat with Neville. But with you, Arthur told you everything, while I went to bed, trying not to spew!



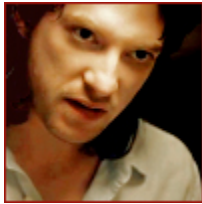
 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-07-31 02:14:08](#)
(no subject)


Huh. Never occurred to us. Sorry, Mum, if we sort of wrecked the experience for you.



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

At least you had the distinction of figuring it out first. I was clueless until Mum and Dad sat me down.




 [alt_bill](#) at [2012-07-31 02:19:21](#)
(no subject)

Frank and Alice--wow.

Did he ask for this? I suspect not, if it was his idea to be obliterated. I'm sure it's agonising for you as his parents, but it's clear that he at least sees it's not safe for him to have the burden of these secrets now.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-07-31 02:27:07](#)
(no subject)

No. He doesn't know we're asking for this. I wouldn't dare to raise his hopes like that.

I think the reasons why he came up with his idea in the first place is because we've told him that we'd be able to be more open with him once he's of age, and I can imagine how far away that can seem to him.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-31 02:28:27](#)
(no subject)


Yes. That's how it seems to me. Mind you, I've only just read this and don't know if it will see, different after thinking it through and reading what others say.

The thing is, it was safe to include Terry because you were taking

him in to Moddhey Dhoo. I know we have Hermione, but again, that was done at a very different time and, I expect, with a deal of consideration before you did it. I don't know, I guess I'm saying it would make perfect sense to me if he'd come to you and asked to go live with you. But he didn't--even after you'd told him about the sanctuary.

I'm sorry. I think it seems he may have known best when he decided not to ask you if he could join the Order now instead of waiting. Like Bill says.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-31 02:33:29](#)
(no subject)

Maybe it just didn't occur to him that he could ask. It didn't occur to me, and I was right there with him.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-31 03:23:13](#)
(no subject)

It's possible, but it looks as if he thought it all through very well, and if he'd wanted, he could have asked them to take him with them, especially when he learned that the place where they live is safe for children and that their work there is so important.

And if he truly just didn't think to ask, I expect he'll figure out a way to put the question to his parents and then to us--when he decides that's something he wants to ask for. If he does decide it's what he wants.




 [alt_pomona](#) at [2012-07-31 02:21:57](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Alice. Oh, Frank. You have every reason to be proud of him.

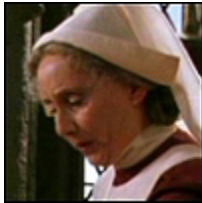
I've kept circling back to our discussion in June, and I still think what I said then: Neville himself seems as reliable as any (and more reliable and sensible than many an adult, truth be told.) But I also admit I've more than a little bias.

I do think the larger questions still remain: does it place the Order members at Hogwarts at risk? Would it distance him from his friends? And those, I'm still not sure how to answer.



 **alt_terry** at [2012-07-31 02:30:21](#)
(no subject)

There is something in that, the question of whether it would distance him from his friends. He needs those friends. He relies on them a lot, especially because people do give him grief at Hogwarts. I think Hermione sometimes had a real hard time keeping secrets from two different sides.



 **alt_poppy** at [2012-07-31 03:03:28](#)
(no subject)

Your son is a good boy, Frank. You are absolutely right in that. You and Alice deserve to be very, very proud of the man he is becoming.

I've seen that for myself on several occasions--not least the one you mentioned, when he sabotaged his own quite excellent chances of earning a spot in the Combined Cadet Force by injuring himself and then by winning my consent to keep him in my care, although his wounds were quickly healed.


I've also seen glimpses of ways in which his group of friends, our so-called Jr Auxilliary, are working together--with your son in the midst of the scrum, so to speak--they are working together to improve their skills to protect and ready themselves for what may lie ahead and to put themselves in the best position to make a real contribution to us when they one day join in our work. Whatever we decide, I hope it does not rob that group of his presence. He's not the leader, but he is a steadying force and, I believe, a most important contributor there.

Frank, Alice: I have to say, too, that I can't help but read this with a mother's eyes. I know what it is like to leave a child behind, and I can guess how wrenching this must be. I would give anything to have even five words with my child again. I don't wish to be maudlin. I'm sorry. I only thought to mention Rue to explain to the others why I'm inclined to say that we should allow him to join.

That said, I do have one strong request of this whole group: really, we must resolve this question once and for all before we admit the Longbottom children or any of the rest. We cannot go on deciding these things in an agonizing debate in the crucible of crisis as each of them in turn stages a coup and forces our hands. We, after all, are adults. We abdicate our duty if we allow minor children to learn that they can manipulate us if only they can stage a properly skillful ambush.

What are the circumstances under which we think it appropriate to admit underaged members to the Order? What do we imagine their role will be? What parts of our work will we invite or forbid them to participate in? Will they be expected, as the Weasley twins are, to finish school? Are we subjecting them to more danger by including them under those terms?



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-07-31 03:15:33](#)**
(no subject)

I've been mulling this over ~~since this afternoon~~ for the last hour.

I agree that Neville's trustworthy. I'd have a couple of hesitations about bringing him into the Order. Some are minor -- for instance, he'd suddenly be privy to the sort of staff-room gossip that no Hogwarts student really ought to be reading. The concern that Pomona raised -- that this would distance him further from friends he needs and relies on -- is more of a concern.

When we discussed this some weeks back, I half-jokingly suggested we swear in the entire Jr. Auxiliary; Fred and George cautioned that not all of them are at the point that this would be a good idea. Nonetheless, it's clear there are a few things they've worked out rather conclusively -- specifically, that someone's smuggling in wands, and that Sirius Black and Hermione Granger are both members of this group.

Would it harm anything if we confirmed this, and added a few more pieces of information:

1. Neville's parents are also members of this group.
2. The Wand Smugglers are the ones who are sheltering Terry. (Surely they all suspect this. They might even have assumed it's true.)

If we told ALL of them, then it would erase some of the divisions between Neville and his peers. And it would give Neville some information he'd be allowed to keep, beyond 'it's okay.' I can't see how any of this would compromise the Order any more than we're already compromised (God help us all if Bellatrix LeStrange ever decide to legitimise any of them.)



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2012-07-31 03:30:15](#)
(no subject)

Have I told you recently that I think you are brilliant? I hope Bea has your head.

This is plain good sense.


Wish I'd thought of it.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-07-31 03:33:37](#)
(no subject)

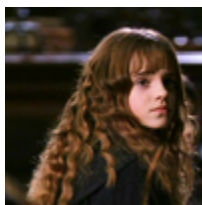
That might help quite a bit. Could Hermione pass that on then?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2012-07-31 03:36:06](#)
(no subject)

Or I could! If you'd let me?

And another thing: it means he could write private messages under Fred and George's lock to me for Mr and Mrs Longbottom, and I could pass them along to you!




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2012-07-31 03:45:37](#)
(no subject)

I certainly could!! Or Terry. Either way, but I'd like to.

I usually don't bring good news, I have to be the mum and tell people 'don't do that,' I'd like to get to say something good for once.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2012-07-31 04:01:34](#)**
(no subject)

It would certainly be better coming from Terry or Hermione than it would be giving permission to Neville to pass it on. It would be best if we could continue to obscure the fact from the Junior

Auxiliary that Neville's in touch with his parents.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-07-31 05:41:08](#)**
(no subject)

Yes.

I'm thinking about this, and here's another hesitation to adding Neville to the Order at this point that I'd add.

Neville's greatest fear -- his boggart -- is to accidentally betray Alice and Frank. I'm a bit concerned that the full knowledge might prove to be a heavy burden -- not one he'd refuse, if it were offered, but one he might find difficult to carry.

Allowing Terry and Hermione to tell him and his friends things he's more or less guessed will be a different matter.

I think the possibility of crushing a serious and trustworthy young person under the weight of deadly secrets is a good reason to hold off on adding anyone underage to the Order, although I hesitate to just make that policy. On one hand, I agree with Poppy, we can't keep re-opening this issue in crisis mode. On the other, there are things we can't foresee -- and when they come up, it's likely to be in a moment of crisis.



 **[alt_arthur](#)** at **[2012-07-31 18:27:28](#)**
(no subject)

I'd like to hear from Minerva. But I'm leaning toward preferring Remus' proposed solution to formally inducting Neville into the Order.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2012-07-31 18:48:17](#)
(no subject)


I quite concur.



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-31 20:14:42](#)
(no subject)

Then Frank and Alice, I think we must regretfully conclude not at this time. But we will implement Remus' suggestion. As soon as we can hammer out the details.




 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-31 20:19:27](#)
Private message to Frank and Alice Longbottom

I am deeply sorry, you two. My heart goes out to all of you. But I do hope this interim measure helps, and I have no doubt we will admit him when he is of age.

Your son is a fine young man, there's no doubt of it. But I'm afraid that, taking all factors into consideration, we should wait.

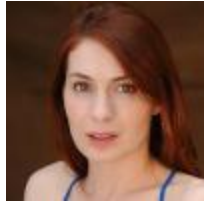


 [alt_frank](#) at [2012-07-31 20:28:12](#)
Re: Private message to Frank and Alice Longbottom

right.

two more years.

right.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-07-31 20:35:46](#)**

Re: Private message to Frank and Alice Longbottom

Message received, Arthur.

We've got a limited time left to spend with our children. So we're going to concentrate on that right now.

There really isn't much else to say.



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2012-07-31 03:48:20](#)**

(no subject)

I was pleased to have the chance to tell your son what I truly thought of him.

2012-07-31 07:18:00

Private Message to Lana Sandoval

Oh, I really need to see you!

About a charm-

Abuelita told me last night about all the rituals, the traditional things they'll do during the ceremony to bind us and the things that come after, and-!

I knew there's to be some business with the sheets, and obviously I know how seriously they all take that. That's why I changed my mind with Ned about, well- so he'd know we were going to have to cheat that. But it's not just hanging out the sheets in the morning and having the elders examine them. There's a really ancient spell they use that-

It's too awful. And I'm really frightened-

And also just so angry!

There's no way to cheat it. I've been up for hours reading everything I can find that's even remotely relevant. And it just confirms what Abuelita said right out. It's not even just that the blood has to be mine, from down there. It knows how it's spilled and whether it's my first bleeding. And whether Ned's-

I can't-

Unless-

Could you? Is there some spell you know or some device you could craft that would queer the charm and make it show that I'm entirely pure? Oh, *please* say there is!

Morgana. I know I shouldn't send this to you, but I want you to help me! And I wouldn't mind if you're a little cross with me about it because I like it when you are. I know you're right about the lines we can't cross in messages, and that's not a game at all. Only, neither is this. You don't know what they'll do if I shame them.

And there's almost no time



 [alt_lana](#)

2012-07-31 08:00:00

Private Message to Rodolphus Lestrangle

I've got this one last manuscript I'm trying to send off-the one about Polyjuice. And I'd really, really like to have you see it before I call it done.



 [alt_lana](#)

I need to get it in the post right away, though. I know it's short notice and you may be busy, but please could you try to work me in?

Only, the wedding's so close, and there's just no time!




 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2012-07-31 18:00:07](#)
(no subject)

- Lana, I hadn't expected to hear from you here so close to your nuptials.

A manuscript on Polyjuice. Are there any more details you can give me?

That is, are you all right?




 [alt_lana](#) at [2012-07-31 18:23:34](#)
(no subject)

No, I'm really not. It's all a terrible mess, and I wonder if I shouldn't give over the whole thing.

Please, can you make time? I'm sorry to be such a wreck, but I wouldn't ask if it weren't really so important.



 [alt_lana](#) at [2012-07-31 18:25:26](#)
(no subject)

Did you want me to tell you more? Here, I mean?

Only, I thought you might not want me to.



 **[alt_rodolphus](#)** at **[2012-07-31 18:30:22](#)**
(no subject)


Perhaps not. I sense that I might better grasp the matter if it were explained in person.

For the present, let's keep our heads about this.

Today is difficult, what with the ongoing festivities, but then again, as like to be so busy that a few hours absence won't raise questions.

After tea and before supper, I'll be at Le'Strange to freshen up. Are you free to share your manuscript with me then?



 **[alt_lana](#)** at **[2012-07-31 18:38:00](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, I'll be there!

Thank you. So very much.

2012-07-31 08:30:00

Order Only

Frank, tell Neville and Evelyn to be a bit ginger with Allie this morning. She's okay but probably a little, er, slow-moving.



 [alt_sirius](#)

She's on her way back; I made her stay at Grimmauld for fear she'd splinch if she tried returning last night.

We talked, most of the night. Well, I let her talk. Seems like she needed a good crying out.

So I'm just reading through everyone's conversations now but it's rather remarkable how Alice and I covered most of the angles people have discussed.

Except the one about letting Hermione and Terry tell their friends a couple of choice pieces of information. (And I agree with Dora, Moony: You're brilliant.)

But I've been thinking about it, off and on, ever since they all started asking questions and the letters came from more than one or two people and so on. Eventually this lot are likely to all ask for induction into the Order.

And I agree with Poppy that we can't allow them to continue forcing our hands.

In all honesty, I'm more concerned with what happens if they *don't* come to us about joining. Fred, George, you said before that you didn't think everyone on your lock would be good to add to the Order and not just because of their ages. The thing is, unless we're sure of their intentions, it's an unconscionable risk even to confirm their suspicions about the links they've already made.

However, all that having been said, trust has to start somewhere. I think we might let Hermione and Terry tell them the facts in Moony's proposal but also tell them that we have a message: Good show, you're all very clever, keep sticking together and helping each other, yes, we'll consider new recruits but no, not until you're of age.

That might stave off the uncomfortable conversations for a while, at

least.

I also think it's high time we found something to do that would actually move things along a bit. I know we're making progress but it's a bit too slow and incremental for me. At our current rate of smuggling it's going to be another ten years before we have enough of them distributed.



 **alt_pomona** at [2012-07-31 13:42:19](#)

(no subject)

Remus did have quite the idea, and I think it is the best way forward. But I also agree with you, Sirius, that a clear limit until they're of age may be the most practical. (Are any of us up for this conversation again at irregular intervals? I don't believe so.)

The only thing we might wish to add to it is - well, should there be a crisis, I know Arthur and Molly have spoken to their children about warnings to heed. Could we perhaps come up with some passphrase or other indicator, should the worst happen? We know they suspect Poppy's associations, but not, so far as anyone's mentioned, mine. Having a way to indicate trustworthiness quickly in a crisis might be essential one day.

(And perhaps sooner than later: we still have no idea who we're likely to have join us as Dark Arts professor, after all. Unless Minerva's heard something more recently. Or what else might change.)



 **alt_poppy** at [2012-07-31 14:04:52](#)

(no subject)

Quite agree with you about establishing a secret code to confirm friend not foe.

Afraid I've got no leisure for conversation today, though. Second day at Moray Firth. Awful weather up here, making the seas roil. And my stomach.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-31 17:15:06](#)
(no subject)

Do you need some ginger tea for that, Poppy?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-31 16:33:45](#)
(no subject)

A pass-phrase is an excellent idea. Hermione, Terry, do you have any suggestions? It needs to be something brief, something not revealing of further secrets, but not so obvious that someone might stumble across it ('Grim Truth' is too obvious, as is 'I'm with Sirius Black.' And it can't be 'I'm with the Wand Smugglers,' as then they'd realise that we're on to some of THEIR secrets, which is hardly a way to engender trust.)



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-07-31 15:53:49](#)
(no subject)

It'll stave off uncomfortable questions for you, maybe. But it might raise some uncomfortable questions for us. If they learn that you're open to recruits when junior auxiliary kids come of age, it might dawn on 'em to wonder whether we've been recruited already. Especially since they suspect mum's involved.


Don't worry, though, we'll lie if we have to.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-31 16:29:15](#)
(no subject)

This is a good point. Would the two of you prefer that we not open that particular door?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-31 17:46:19](#)
Private Message to Moony

I suppose it could simply be 'Good show, now leave us to do the important stuff' but that makes us sound like stodgy grown-ups. I shouldn't like to

have been dismissed so easily when we were their age; I can't imagine they'll take kindly to being told to shove off, either.

Merlin, what a mess. It would be easier if we could just accept them all with open arms.

The pass phrase might be the key. 'Good show, you're all quite clever. Now we'd like to make sure that you all stay as safe as possible, so please don't ask us more about what it is we're doing. But in the meantime, if we need you to run, someone will contact you with the phrase "Mr Padfoot sends his regards" and you'll know it's important. And if you need to get to safety, Terry or Hermione can get us word.'

Or is that too egotistical?



 **[alt_lupin](#) at 2012-07-31 19:17:04**

Re: Private Message to Moony

I'd leave out the 'clever,' it sounds even more like we're stodgy grown-ups.

It probably wouldn't hurt to let them know we're watching out for them, though.



 **[alt_sirius](#) at 2012-07-31 19:25:56**

Re: Private Message to Moony


I'm worried about using 'Padfoot' - definitely can't use 'Sinbad,' too many of them know that's the Ponds' dog's name. But even Padfoot is ... well, it's all muddled up together.

Bugger all. We used to be so much better at this.

Oh, I know!

What if we used Prongs, then? Or 'Mr Wormtail was a massive traitor'?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-31 19:31:32](#)

Re: Private Message to Moony

Prongs or Wormtail sounds a bit safer.

I know the Twins had our map. Have any of the others seen it.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-07-31 19:32:56](#)

Re: Private Message to Moony

We'd have to ask the twins. I think Hermione has it now, though.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2012-07-31 18:18:08](#)

(no subject)

No, we don't think so. We were warned when we joined that we might need to lie to our friends. We might need practice at lying convincingly. Why not practice on our friends? And Sirius is right, it would keep the pressure off you.

Mum might even consider it fitting revenge for the trick we pulled on her to join.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2012-07-31 18:23:33](#)

(no subject)

She might!

Although seriously, boys, I've found that when it comes to Order business, the more you can avoid lying in the first place, the better.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-31 18:42:39](#)

(no subject)

I don't know as they'll assume you're already members so much as eagerly pass word to let you know that you and Lee could demand to be let in. They'll then ASSUME you're members and if you deny it, they'll wonder what in Merlin's name is wrong with you.

So perhaps you might mull over how you'll deal with THAT dilemma.

It might be better to suggest that they can join once they've completed their NEWTs. Then issue the invitations as appropriate when they come of age.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-07-31 20:10:00](#)**
(no subject)

Ha. True.

Saying they have to pass NEWTs will delay the question for most people, too.

Better make it that they can petition to join, not that they can join. Don't promise 'em something you might not be willing to grant.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2012-07-31 23:15:47](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, and also: does that mean you're gonna delay on adding Lee then? He turns 17 next week and you voted to add him when he became of sge. Will he have to wait until he passes his NEWTs?

We suppose you could tell them they have to wait until they pass NEWTs, but really you could approach them when they turn 17.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-07-31 23:41:31](#)**
(no subject)

I'm thinking more that we'd tell them they had to wait until after NEWTs, mostly to give the three of you some breathing space.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2012-07-31 21:43:24](#)

Private Message to Sirius

Thank you, love.

I don't know how I would've faced today without a little steadying first.

You are quite wonderful for letting me talk your ear off like that. Well, you're quite wonderful, full stop.

And I'm not just saying that because you're generous with your stash.

I've got all sorts of things to work through with what we've been doing on our end in terms of wand production, and Frank's got an idea or three about making our own inroads to the camps that need to be put down on paper, but my head and heart aren't quite in it right now. Give us a few more days before we're useful again and can poke at it properly, because it really is important to sort out, you're right.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2012-08-01 00:37:47](#)

Re: Private Message to Sirius

Anytime, dear heart.

And I'm sorry. Truly I am. If it were just Neville, you know Remus and I would be in favour in a heartbeat. It's just...this Jr Aux. We have so little idea of how many they are, or how trustworthy.

Well, we talked it all out last night, didn't we?

(And you're not kidding about my stash. I thought Aleks's last bag would see me through at least the holidays. I'll just have to be extra-conservative for a while. Not complaining, mind; Moony's tolerant but with the boys and Bea about I ought to cut back even more than I've already done.)

And yeah, I'm glad we'll be putting more together about the ongoing mission. I suppose I'm as much to blame as anyone for not doing more.



 **[alt_alice](#) at [2012-08-01 02:47:57](#)**

Re: Private Message to Sirius

Yes. Well.

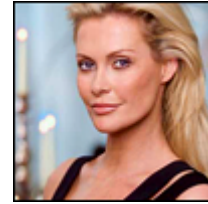
That was a rather bitter potion to swallow. But it's done now, and we'll manage.

And one of the best ways I can think to manage is to plan for the future rather than dwelling on what can't be changed. So there's that.

2012-07-31 10:25:00

Freedom Day

And a very happy birthday to Harry Marvolo, as well!



I noticed this morning that people are already lining up along the parade route, choosing just the right spot for their viewing. Personally, I find that some of the balconies on the Victoria Embankment offer many of the best opportunities, if one can gain access.

 [alt_narcissa](#)

Our Lord's viewing stands, of course, have been prepared since last night. Nicola and Gabriel just have a few last-minute touches this morning and then they shall be dividing their time between overseeing the parade itself and the celebrations at Buckingham afterward.

The real treat shall be this evening's firework display and the lights along the river. I hope everyone has a chance to enjoy our Shakespearian idyll.

As for the performances, I'm told we've a number of treats in store and I cannot wait to discover them.

We have such a lot to celebrate, with Our Lord's leadership and grace. His vision of a free and powerful wizarding nation has never been more clearly realised, particularly in light of the 2 or 3 notable accomplishments this year which assure us, as ever, that His puissance will triumph over any wrong-headed attempts to tear down what He has wrought. I have never been more proud to call myself a Witch of the Protectorate.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2012-07-31 15:10:57**

Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

Goodness, I completely forgot to tell you: In light of our conversations of recent months, and especially given your news last week, I've arranged my usual spa day to be for two tomorrow. From everything I've heard about the CCF programme, it's going quite well and I'm sure no one will think it amiss if you left it in the hands of the instructors and counsellors for the day.

Now, do forgive me for only mentioning it now; honestly, I was sure I asked Mariposa to send you an owl but she claims I did not. It must have slipped my mind in getting Draco off to CCF and all the preparations for today's gala.

Do let me know if I need to put a word in anyone's ear, particularly, as I understand it, *certain* ears, who might give you a moment's trouble over your well-deserved respite.

And once we know the date of your Court reception, we'll arrange another primping session to be certain you are relaxed, calm and ready.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-31 15:31:05](#)

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

Oh. Yes. Tomorrow.

I believe I can manage it, though I would like to be back at Leicester by, oh, four, for the tail end of their tour of the battlefield, if that's not a problem.

Thank you. I would love to - well, relaxing is lovely, but talking further with you would be even more restorative, I'm sure. And after the festivities today and tonight, a break will be entirely welcome. I do think the parade will come out well in the end, and I've robes I think will do well tonight.

Please don't feel you need to trouble yourself with a word in anyone's ear: I'm sure I can manage, and you must have plenty else to attend to at the moment.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-07-31 16:36:29](#)

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

Oh, it's no trouble at all, dear; happy to do it. But if you think the way is smooth enough as it is, then that's fine. Just let me know if you run into any objections.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-07-31 16:50:51](#)**

Re: Private Message to Aurora Sinistra

I'm not sure that objection is quite the right word, but disapproval, yes. Which only makes me the more determined, really.

(Truth is, I'm neither expected nor required to be at the CCF site all the time, and I've had a bare 6 days without YPL related commitments of some kind this summer, I can certainly take a day to catch my breath and enjoy time with you.)



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-07-31 15:21:03](#)**

(no subject)

Yes. I walked in this morning, too, to see the state of things. Agree that it should be a rich tribute to the Protector.

Have my doublet and hose and lace-collar and -cuffs. Looking forward to the ball. Also looking forward to tight corsets and plunging bodices. On the 2 or 3 witches who can best show themselves in the fashion.



 **[alt_narcissa](#) at [2012-07-31 16:40:10](#)**

(no subject)

I'm sure you'll be the envy of every warlock, dressed at the height of four-hundred-year-old style.

Personally I think it will be too warm for bustles and busks. I intend to select something a little more modern, so that I am not mistaken for one of the hired actors.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2012-07-31 21:41:13](#)**

(no subject)

Quite a satisfying afternoon, wouldn't you say?

And another all around success for your friends, the B-Cs.

You needn't worry, by the way, that I'll turn up tonight

inappropriately attired. I had Ned check into it when you first taunted me with the idea of another fancy dress gala. I cannot fathom what other people find appealing about such nonsense. Aside from the necklines.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2012-07-31 16:00:01](#)
Order only

Emmeline and I don't mind to be fishing instead, but I'm sure the rest of the Players regret that they're spending the day staring at our guest rather than working a crowd in New London. We really do need to resolve that situation


Arthur, you and Molly will be there, won't you, to see the parade since your kids are in it?



 [alt_arthur](#) at [2012-07-31 16:01:45](#)
Re: Order only

Yes, and Bill, too. It's quite a crowd lining up. Weather's perfect for it, too.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-08-01 02:53:09](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Mrs Malfoy.

I hope you liked the parade.

2012-07-31 17:45:00

(no subject)

I think all that drilling really paid off. I think everyone did a really good job. This was the best birthday present you lot could've got for me.



 [alt_harry](#)

Bones, that was really top coordination of the bell choir. Patil, that idea you had with the signals to make sure the timing went off worked really well. Blaise, Perks, Weasley, I saw you all working on your charms during breaks and it showed, and I know that lots of other people worked extra to make sure that everything looked sharp.

Professor Sinistra, thank you for all the time you've spent working on the programme. We couldn't have done it without you.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2012-07-31 21:59:38**

Private Message to Draco Malfoy

tow-row row row row row row row.



 [alt_draco](#) at **2012-07-31 22:04:30**

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy

to the Lord Protec-TOR!

Some talk of Paraclesus, and some of Gryffin-DOR
Of Merlin and Agrippa, and such great names be-
FORE.
But of all the world's great wizards, there's none that can com-
PARE.

I'll be hearing that in my sleep for days, I'll have you know.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2012-07-31 22:00:16](#)**
(no subject)

Happy Birthday, Harry. I hope you're having a brilliant Freedom Day.




 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2012-08-01 02:22:43](#)**
(no subject)

Thanks, Hydra.

I hope you're having a good day too.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2012-07-31 22:14:03](#)**
(no subject)

It was so hot. My feet are sore from walking so far. But I think we did rather well. Better than some of us feared we would, anyway.

And the bit with the charm, where the ouroboros symbol above our heads was shimmering and oscillating like that, I think practically looked like we intended it that way. Don't you?

I hope you're having a wonderful birthday. It's quite nice that the whole Protectorate celebrates it with you, isn't it?




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2012-07-31 23:28:57](#)**
(no subject)

They still *would* think it was intentional if you hadn't just said something, Lovegood.

Happy Birthday, Harry--I'm really glad it's going well. And thanks for the compliment! Everyone worked really hard and I'm glad it paid off.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2012-08-01 01:46:36](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I don't think it hurts exactly if anyone knows it was a serendipitous surprise.

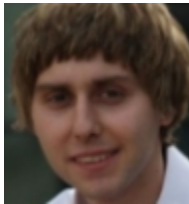


 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-08-01 02:08:26](#)
(no subject)

You're right. It looked better that way.

I'm sorry your feet are sore.

Thanks.



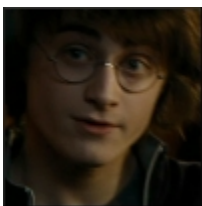
 [alt_justin](#) at [2012-07-31 23:27:13](#)
(no subject)

A very happy birthday, Harry!

I say, we did do the thing rather well, considering how long we had to work on it, what?

Some of us are off to the street stalls. I expect you've responsibilities this evening, but if you'd like to join us you'd be quite welcome.

-Justin



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-08-01 02:10:52](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, Justin.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2012-07-31 23:39:02](#)
Order Only

Many happy returns, Harry Potter.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-08-01 00:20:23](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Mr Marvolo. And a very happy birthday to you, as well.

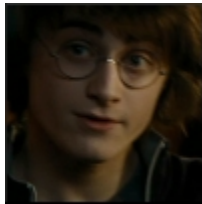
I'm delighted - though not surprised, knowing you all - at how well it came together in the end. You all did a marvellous job. (Though I'm equally sure everyone's looking forward to moving on to other activities now.)




 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-08-01 00:21:33](#)
Private message to Harry Marvolo

I do also have something for you that I hope you'll enjoy. I was planning to bring it back with me tomorrow, but I won't be at Leicester until late afternoon. I'll see if I can find you right after supper.

In the meantime - if you want a friendly face, I hope we'll be easy to spot. We're about to head into the formalities again.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-08-01 02:14:14](#)
Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

Thanks, Professor Siz. It really is ace. I can't wait to try out the plays on Raz's model. And I can totally use it at our next Quidditch club meeting.

We did okay, right?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-08-01 02:20:18](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

Excellent. It seemed like the right sort of thing.

I think it all came together very well, really. And the comments I've been overhearing seem generally quite pleased. Let's just hope that the most important opinions fall the same way.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-08-01 02:24:39](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

Good to know.

And yeah, I hope too.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2012-08-01 02:46:54](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

I've wished on more stars about that kind of thing recently. Childish, I know, but still soothing.

You're doing quite well with the CCF tasks so far, and I expect that'll continue to hold. Your work this past year shows rather nicely there.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-08-01 02:51:57](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

yeah. It is. Sometimes.

thanks.

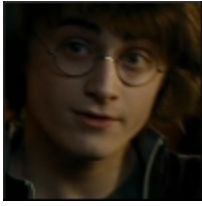


 [alt_ron](#) at [2012-08-01 01:58:01](#)

(no subject)

Cheers, mate. We all pulled together to bring it off.

Many happy returns, too.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2012-08-01 02:14:40](#)
(no subject)

We did, didn't we?

And thanks.

[2012-07-31 18:41:00](#)

Order Only: Private message to Frank and Alice Longbottom



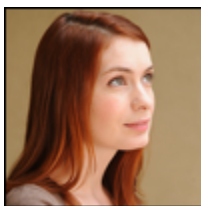
 **[alt_lupin](#)**

You mentioned that Neville's boggart has something to do with the two of you. It occurred to me this morning that this might be an issue for Evelyn, as well, and as a rising third year she'll likely be studying boggarts this year.

There's a boggart in Grimmauld -- none of us have got round to dealing with it yet. It's been lurking in a desk drawer in the drawing room. I expect I could capture it without too much difficulty and bring it by. While a boggarts lesson is not exactly a relaxing activity for a summer holiday, it would serve a couple of purposes -- first, it would give Evelyn a chance to see what her boggart is. It would give Neville the same opportunity -- if he's avoided boggart encounters, presumably while he knows what his fear is, he might not know the precise form they'd take.

I could also give them a lesson on dealing with them. It shouldn't be either of you that does this -- the fact that Neville's boggart is related to the two of you, and your boggarts might be related to Neville, that would complicate the whole thing immensely. Ideally, they'll both learn to recognise and deal with boggarts so quickly that no one nearby will even realise what it's turned into. But we can also observe and help them think of cover stories ('my greatest fear is that I'll grow up to be a traitor like my father, so I see myself as an adult being arrested by MLE,' say, when actually it's Frank he's seeing.)

What do you think?



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-08-01 02:34:32](#)**

(no subject)

I think that's a rather good idea, Remus.

At the very least, neither of them have actually faced a boggart. Neville's gotten out of it whenever it's come up at school, and Evelyn will be facing hers this upcoming term.

You're right, it's good to know how to deal with them at the very

least, and how to think about explaining what it shows to other people might also help depending on what shows.

Perhaps Thursday. Will you be recovered enough from the full moon to bring it by then?

Would you be coming as yourself, then? You think that would be all right?

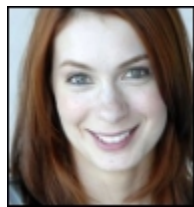


 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2012-08-01 04:20:36](#)**

(no subject)

I can use polyjuice if you think it best.

Neville's seen me before, but for all he knows, I was polyjuiced that time.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2012-08-01 15:45:29](#)**

(no subject)

I think since you're usually out and about as Mr Ponds, showing up as Remus might actually be better. Especially since as Remus you're a bit of a familiar face to Neville at least, from his first year at

school.

They'll know not to ask where you've been since then, and you're right, they might assume you were disguised at the time. It's up to you, though.

2012-07-31 21:17:00

Private Message to Daphne and Blaise

We did it!!

Thanks, both of you, for helping whip everyone into shape. I think if we hadn't added that second early-morning sectional this morning it wouldn't have come off as well as it did (but honestly, the tail needed the extra work!), and having you two both dropping some well-placed comments really made a difference to who came out.

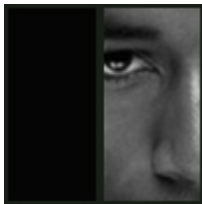


 **alt_padma**

Did you happen to get any of the crepes at that one stall near the Horseguards? There was one with mango and one with raspberries. I could have gone back for another but I didn't dare. Still, it was so nice to be able to celebrate on our own for a while. Too bad we had to leave right after the light show.

Though now that we're back I'm so tired it's hard to hold up the journal. And yet I'm still buzzing with the high from the parade going so well, I don't think I can quite sleep yet.

So. Tour of Leicester tomorrow. Think the weather will hold?



 **alt_blaise** at **2012-08-01 02:08:10**
(no subject)

Cheers, Patil. And good show, as well. You really showed leadership, helping pull this sad lot together. Really, you'd think half of them were raised in the camps the way they mill about and pay not the least bit of attention to clear instructions.

I missed the crepes, but had some very fine mead at a stall near the new arch.

Tomorrow should be most interesting. I expect, though, that we'll have some trouble with discipline after today's high point.



 **alt_daphne** at [2012-08-01 02:58:03](#)
(no subject)

I missed the crepes, too - there was just so much going on! I did get a pear tart from somewhere, but some drunken oaf ran into me and I dropped it into the street.

I just saw what Lovegood wrote about the shimmering on the ouroboros being accidental. Does she ever think before she speaks? Or writes, I should say.

I'm ever so tired, too, but I can't stop reading everything people are writing about tonight.

I'm so glad nothing went wrong. I had this moment where I thought back to the Quidditch World Cup, and my heart started beating so fast.... Thank Holda that Auror Crouch and the rest of MLE put an end to those awful Dogstar people!



 **alt_padma** at [2012-08-01 03:33:35](#)
(no subject)

I know! I think that's what Mrs Malfoy meant when she said that their accomplishments this year have made Our Lord's realm even better. Getting rid of the DogStar was a huge part of that.

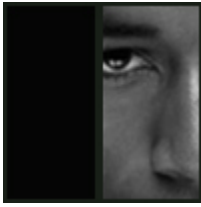
Lovegood is a complete tact-free zone. She has no filter, at all. Honestly, it's one of the things about Ravenclaw that I wish were a little different: We have so many of the clever ones, but then they go and do daft things like Capper or they live in their own little worlds like Loony.

Lines has this theory that sometimes the most intelligent people are the worst at simple things. (He's got a point, too. I mean, have you seen how Duncan Inglebee dresses himself? Ugh. It's like he doesn't even notice when his collar's inside-out.)

And that's terrible about your pudding! You'd think MLE could put a stop to that if they can topple the DogStar!

Melinda Pennifold has walked past the barrack door twice saying

it's lights out now. I know she's right--we really need to go to sleep--but honestly, I just can't stop reliving the day.



 **alt_blaise** at **2012-08-01 21:20:53**
(no subject)

Moon's one to talk. I suppose he's developed his theory from his own data set.

It wasn't Lovegood who congratulated Daphs on her engagement. That still sets the bar for daft things to write in public places.