

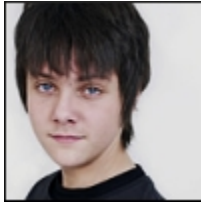
2013-01-01 10:45:00

Happy 1996, everybody

And happy birthday to Luna Lovegood.



 **alt_sally_anne**



 **alt_michael** at **2013-01-01 17:59:15**

(no subject)

Happy New Year.

Did you get in to New London at all? The fireworks were really nift. And there were all sorts of street vendors and treats and things.




 **alt_sally_anne** at **2013-01-02 03:31:23**

Private message to Michael

No. The Strettons wanted to stay home. They had some idea about a private family celebration but then they got into a row with Jeremy and I wound up going to bed early.



 **alt_ron** at **2013-01-01 18:48:49**

(no subject)

Yeah.

I wonder what this year will be like, actually.



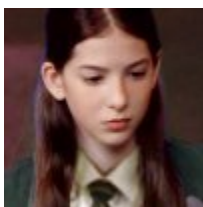
 **alt_ron** at **2013-01-01 18:52:32**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Odd to think of it being New Years even, and Luna's birthday, and stuff just going on.

I mean, I can't really get my mind around it that this is a year my dad won't be here for.

Things had started feeling more normal, y'know, but today everyone's all quiet again and sort of avoiding everyone else.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-02 03:34:13**

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

Did it make it any better having Luna there? She said she was going to the Burrow for dinner. And she's the sort of person who almost doesn't notice if everyone else feels awkward and quiet. Or, well, she notices but carries on being mad and cheerful anyway.

I still almost can't quite believe your dad is gone.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-02 04:04:59**

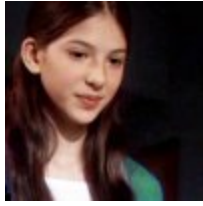
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:
Private message to Ron*

Actually, I think that's why Mum invited her.

I mean, no. Of course, she invited her because Luna's stuck with the Browns and they don't care about her, and Mum wanted her to have a nice time on her birthday and people to be with, but-

Yeah, I think Mum knew it would help us out, too, having Luna here. It's just, when we're all here alone, it feels like maybe we should talk about it, but no one really has anything to say, that's not just sad, anyway. And you're right about Luna. She's just always herself, whatever,

Are you coming to the meeting for the revue? Only, maybe we could do something after. Like stop into Flourish and Blotts and see if they've got anything that would help with Dolohov's course. He keeps talking about better translations than the one I was able to get, and I thought, maybe they'd have got some in stock.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-02 06:19:00](#)

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

I wasn't, but I could meet you after. Or I suppose I could just come -- I told Daphne I'd help with costumes and so on, I don't think she'd object if I were there. Pansy's going.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-02 06:31:38](#)

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

Do.

That'd be wizard.

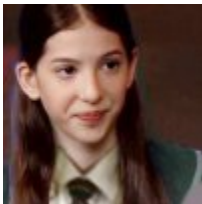


 [alt_luna](#) at [2013-01-01 20:49:14](#)

Private message to Sally-Anne Perks

I loved the earwarmer you sent. Did you really knit it yourself? If so, I'll have to get that pattern from you. The the protective runes were very cunning. They'll be just the thing to keep wrackspurts away. Thank you!

I'm going to be having dinner at the Burrow, which makes me very happy. The Browns don't seem to have really noticed it's my birthday at all.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-02 03:30:08](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks

Yeah, the Strettons never remember my birthday either. I'm glad you're going over to the Burrow.

And I knit it myself, of course! It's a very simple pattern, even with the runes.

2013-01-01 14:42:00

Private message to Luna Lovegood

Happy birthday, dear. Are the Browns planning a celebration with you, or would you like to come over to have dinner with us?



 [alt_molly](#)




 [alt_luna](#) at **2013-01-01 20:44:31**

(no subject)

I don't think ~~they would miss me~~ the Browns would object if I came to the Burrow for dinner. Yes, I would like that. Thank you.



 [alt_molly](#) at **2013-01-01 20:45:24**

(no subject)

I will Floo Mrs Brown, then. Why don't we plan on it? Come through the Floo at 5:30 or so?

2013-01-01 21:21:00

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo
and Draco Malfoy*



Happy new year.


I've been looking at Harry's present. I think it'll be easier once we're back at school and the two of them are in the same place.

 **alt_hermione**

Or, are you coming to New London tomorrow, for the revue meeting? You could bring it then, if it'd be all right for me to meet you (and get out of Buckingham for a while).

I need a better idea of what you would like to *do*, though. I think it some modifications will be easier than others.

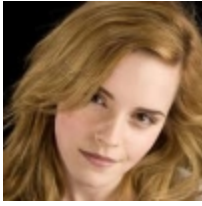


 **alt_draco** at **2013-01-02 02:47:39**
(no subject)

Assuming it's me you're addressing - yes, I'm going to the Revue meeting, but I don't know if Harry is. I suppose since he has mates that will be there he could conjure up a good reason to show up and bring you along.

Blaise and Daphne will be there, probably Samantha and Lizzie Stevens, too. Fair warning.

A better question might be what do *you* want to do... but since you ask, I'm curious how to expand their uses to others. For example, duplicating the box so that items can be sent to multiple people (though perhaps not multiple people simultaneously; seems impossible, that). I don't know how many people, specifically, but three would be a good start, though I'd prefer at least four, eventually.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-02 03:47:44](#)
(no subject)

I wasn't sure if you were both going. I guess you're right and it wouldn't be much of an outing, though. It would just be nice to get away from B

No, I don't think it's possible to send one item to multiple destinations. Just a cursory examination indicates that it's somewhat limited. Otherwise people would buy loads of them and then link them all together, wouldn't they?

I think I'd like to see it working, though. Have you tried sending anything yet? I'm going to put something in this one and send it. When you get it could you send it back? I want to see if anything changes when it's transported.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-02 04:02:34](#)
(no subject)

I'll see if I can talk him into it.

Well, considering where (or who, rather) the boxes came from, I would presume that their use is restricted across the Protectorate, and for good reason. They would make certain activities far too easy for most peoples' liking. I don't know of anyone who has more than a pair of them, and very few who do at that.

All right then, I've got the bit of parchment and sent it back. But now I think you ought to make a change to the parchment and send it again, to see if the change holds as it ought to.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-02 04:17:35](#)
(no subject)

Well, that's just it, isn't it? It's like the other project, where it's easier to create the objects from the same original material. But there probably is a way to connect pairs that aren't 'keyed' to this pair. It still wouldn't create duplicates but at least maybe you could figure out a way to send an object from one to any of the others.

You'd have to have a way to tell the box which box it's sending to, if that makes sense.

Okay. I'm putting another piece in. (The first one didn't change.)



 **alt_draco** at [2013-01-02 04:28:07](#)
(no subject)

That would be ideal: a means to send one item to one box, but to have many different boxes - and box-owners, as it were - to choose from.

I'm going to need to dig into my Arithmancy books when I get back to the castle. There's one on the Floo network, how they're all connected, particularly in public locations, that might be useful.

I've got Perthro. Is that what you sent? Parchment itself looks the same.




 **alt_hermione** at [2013-01-02 04:32:22](#)
(no subject)

Yes, that would be a good place to start.

And that's what I sent. Probably we can move on to more complex things. Hang on, let me try something else.




 **alt_draco** at [2013-01-02 04:39:20](#)
(no subject)

Black queen from a chess set. Still moving about, and violently, at that. Was that how it was when you put it in the box?

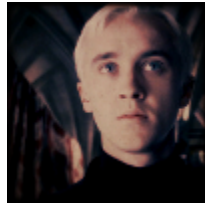
Oh - *shite*. Bloody nightshade, I've just had a horrible thought.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-02 04:40:50](#)
(no subject)

Well, she was upset at being separated from her king but she wasn't necessarily 'violent' I don't think. She hadn't drawn her sword or anything.

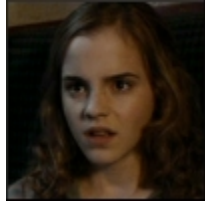
What's your horrible thought?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-02 04:44:46](#)
(no subject)

Bollocks, I'm an idiot. I should have thought...

Black queen, see? Made me think of it. The possibility that Harry and I might have been given the boxes for the same reason that the people - all of us - were given journals. To keep an eye on what sort of things we're passing between each other. Blast.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-02 04:54:04](#)
(no subject)

If that's true then they'd certainly know if you started modifying them.

Should we stop? So far you've only been experimenting with what you can and can't send.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-02 05:02:18](#)
(no subject)

Yes. Right. Modifying isn't itself necessarily a bad thing. We could say that we just wanted to make them more useful, which is true.

But until we know for sure, we'll have to be careful about what we send through them.

Which is annoying. Their very appeal lies mostly in the fact that there's no need to be careful. Or less of a need, at least.

We'd best stop for tonight. I'll check with Harry about the Revue tomorrow.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-02 16:44:41](#)
(no subject)

Right, we're coming.

I still don't get how they'd know. Unless they had a box too, that showed what we were passing, but that doesn't look like something they could do. At least not according to you lot.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-02 16:50:46](#)
(no subject)

I suppose it'd be more worrying if the gift came from your Father. Auntie Bella always acts as if you can do no wrong, after all.

I wish there were a way to know for sure, though.

Anyway, I'll give you my box when we're at Featurette today and you can give it to Granger later.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-02 18:58:00](#)
(no subject)

That's only because she thinks He can't do any wrong, and I get lumped in with all that.

I guess it's sort of like the PMs. We can't be sure, but we can be careful.

2013-01-02 10:04:00

Order Only


My hand is still terribly shaky.

Molly, I would appreciate a visitor. I am likely to kill my captors otherwise.



 **alt_mcgonagall**



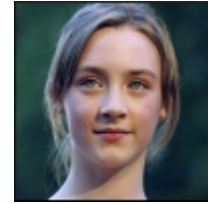
 **alt_molly** at **2013-01-02 17:53:23**

(no subject)

Of course I'll come. I've just made some scones, too, and I'll bring them along.

[2013-01-02 11:34:00](#)

Private message to Nymphadora Tonks-Ponds



 [alt_hydra](#)

Hello cousin Dora,
How were your Christmas and New Years? Very happy both, I hope. Has the shop been terribly busy? I suppose if it were, it ought to have slowed down by now. I'm sure that Bea got a load of presents that she's happily playing with. Please give both her and Mr Ponds my best wishes for 1996.

I know it's terribly short notice, but before we go back to Hogwarts, do you suppose my friends and I might have another Tea Appreciation at Lazlo's? Everyone so enjoyed the last one, and have been asking when we might be able to go again. I think Bea has a lot to do with it, as it's not very often one gets to see a metamorphing baby! I'd like to see Snuffles again, too, if you think he might be around. I missed him last time - maybe he doesn't like crowds very much? - but one never gets to see dogs at Hogwarts, only cats and rats and things.

Though of course that all depends on whether you'll have us or not. We could do tomorrow, easily I think, or perhaps squeeze in on Saturday. If the timing's not good, and I understand if it isn't, then maybe we can work out something on our next holiday from school.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-02 22:45:21](#)
(no subject)

Well, hello, you!


We'd love to have you come, of course. Tomorrow might be better than Saturday, if you can manage it. Only, it's hard to tell about Saturday what with the faire on. It could be really quiet, but sometimes that's just when we get a crowd and have to scramble because we weren't expecting it. People are funny like that.

How are things at home, then? Rigel must be getting more

interesting to play with. What is he getting up to these days? Doesn't have a puppy, I guess?

I'll see if I can't lure ours in tonight and try to keep him around tomorrow. He's a mind of his own, though, and he's very clever about giving us the slip sometimes when he fancies a ramble.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-02 23:41:11](#)
(no subject)

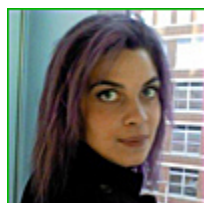
We could come tomorrow, and if it's too crowded, we can make ourselves scarce. You won't have to put us first and can help your other customers first.

It is fun to watch Rigel play. He got some brilliant toys for Christmas, and he's quite good and well-behaved, really, I don't know why Mrs Baylock hovers 'round him so, as if worried he'll need something or might hurt himself. I suppose that comes from having watched after Harry Marvolo when he was a baby.

But no, he hasn't a puppy. Mummy doesn't like dogs, or any other animal, really. He does have a rabbit. It follows him everywhere.

I'll let my friends in the Tea Appreciation club know that you said tomorrow is all right.

From,
Hydra

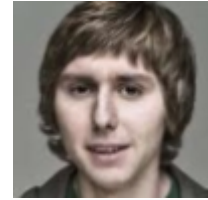


 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-03 02:28:20](#)
(no subject)

It'll be lovely to see you. I'm glad you can come!

[2013-01-02 11:56:00](#)

*Private Message to Pansy Parkinson and
Hydra Lestrangle*



Happy new year!

I suppose you were both at Buckingham on Monday night? We were on the streets, though Mr Jugson did manage to clear a spot for the firework display.

 [alt_justin](#)

I know I shall see you both this afternoon, but coming to tea reminded me: Hydra, weren't you going to arrange another Tea Appreciation at your cousin's shop? I say, we're running short of time if we're going to go.

(And I think we should all like to go, what? We could perhaps call using the Galleons so as to limit the size for her.)

-Justin



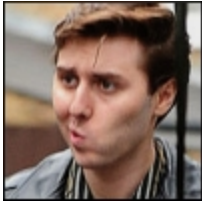
 [alt_hydra](#) at **[2013-01-02 18:08:24](#)**
(no subject)


Yes, we were at Buckingham. I'm actually looking forward to the meeting at Featurette today because it's rather tiring, to be around adults all the time. At least most of them seemed to be in better spirits than they did at the Malfoy Christmas party. The Lord Protector, especially, and Professor Dolohov and Auror Crouch. Mummy too, I suppose.

The champagne was nice, but it was too bad I had no one to toast to the New Year with.

I did want to do another Tea Appreciation, if she'll have us again. I can write to her and ask. What day is best, do you think? Had I better not mention the dog? Only I'm wondering if he'll be there, you know.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-02 18:12:16](#)
(no subject)

I know; I felt the same (only Mr Jugson had not brought particularly good champagne).

Well. I suppose if we have no interest in Quidditch on Friday we could go then; but otherwise tomorrow and Saturday are the only options. Only I think we're meant to go and take in some of the 12th Night celebrations on Saturday. Would tomorrow be too short notice for them?

I'm not sure what to say about the dog, what? If you mention him they might suspect that we suspect; on the other hand if you don't, he might make himself scarce.

-Justin



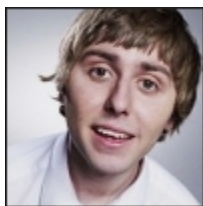
 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-02 18:16:57](#)
(no subject)


Well, I'll write and ask, and explain the schedule difficulties. Perhaps it won't be too terribly short notice.

I might say that I missed the dog last time, and ask if he doesn't like crowds. Or say I have a bone for him. Maybe that's all a bit too suspicious but we might be able to tell for sure, by how she answers, whether she knows what the dog really is.

Or I could just not mention him at all, and we could arrive a bit early. Which would be rude, but we might be more likely to catch the dog before he slips away.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-02 18:33:36](#)
(no subject)

I think if you can make it sound casual enough, then it might do.

(Sorry. Alfie wanted to play Exploding Snap.)

-J



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-02 18:49:20](#)
(no subject)


Okay, I've written her. Here's how I put it.

I know it's terribly short notice, but before we go back to Hogwarts, do you suppose my friends and I might have another Tea Appreciation at Lazlo's? Everyone so enjoyed the last one, and have been asking when we might be able to go again. I think Bea has a lot to do with it, as it's not very often one gets to see a metamorphing baby! I'd like to see Snuffles again, too, if you think he might be around. I missed him last time - maybe he doesn't like crowds very much? - but one never gets to see dogs at Hogwarts, only cats and rats and things.

Though of course that all depends on whether you'll have us or not. We could do tomorrow, easily I think, or perhaps squeeze in on Saturday. If the timing's not good, and I understand if it isn't, then maybe we can work out something on our next holiday from school.

Do you think it's all right?




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-02 19:17:18](#)
(no subject)

It sounds fine to me.

She'll probably sort out that we're digging a bit, at least if she knows about the dog, but that's probably not an entirely bad thing.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-02 18:55:47](#)
(no subject)

That is a rather good idea.

||| I think it's a fair bet that she does know, but it's worth it to see what she says back.

2013-01-02 13:03:00

Private message to Raz

Dearest -

The talk with Dai, well, we *are* talking again finally, so that's progress. Took an awful lot of yelling (more me than him) though. Hurrah for the amazing powers of sheer bloody-minded stubbornness, I guess.



 **alt_sinistra**

Still at the Guild - Georg's plying me with coffee and comets, and he says he'll walk me home when I'm ready. Could be another hour or three, since I may as well check a few things in the library while I'm here. (And is that the first time I've actually called Spence home? Might be.)

And love? This argument, it made it so very clear how you've changed me for the better. Thank you for that and your patience.



 **alt_rabastan** at **2013-01-02 21:01:32**

(no subject)

Good to hear it went well, love. If things had gone pear-shaped, I'd hardly be able to do much about it - except pour you a drink, of course. But honestly, yelling? I don't fault you for trying, but see here, you've shifted the life-story he envisioned for himself, yeah? You know, the one where the two of you end up together. And blokes who are proud, they don't give up easily on that sort of thing. I expect he won't truly budge until he knows that his vision is just the stuff of fancy, which might not be until well after we're married. Or never at all.

I have a hard time seeing how I've changed you for the better. I'm sceptical, see, because you were pretty close to perfect when we met. Plus there's all those comments I get now about how a "good woman" has finally brought out the best in me and whatnot. So far as I can tell, the situation is quite reversed.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-02 21:27:53](#)
(no subject)

We didn't even touch on his romantic inclinations. Not really. (The last time we tried - well before I ever met you - it went so very badly. Much much worse than today. There was broken crockery. And I think a chair.) But he's had plenty of chances to do something about that, and hasn't.

But it's more - you're right, the life-story he'd envisioned. I was supposed to have this nice safe little trajectory: learn my field, go teach, live happily ever after in Hogwarts, with stars. And while I'm still very much hoping for "live happily ever after" - and Hogwarts, and stars - it is coming out in rather a different way than I ever expected.

Anyway, even more than the romance, I think he's held out hope that somehow, being at Hogwarts, I'd be safe and secure and he wouldn't need to worry about me. (How one could possibly think that given the Carrows, I've no idea. Or three years ago. Or two years ago, for that matter. And last year wasn't exactly safe either, just in different locations.)


But about perfection - don't you dare go putting me on a pedestal, Rabastan Basil Lestrangle.

I am perfectly aware I've any number of tedious habits and flaws, and things I should be much better about. Yes, I like to think I'm good for you. But you're every bit as good for me. The hols have brought it home. Today, not feeling nearly as flat-footed as I usually do when things take a turn I couldn't plan for. Feeling like I had some sense of control, wasn't constantly a beat behind somehow. And even the harder things (Hypatia, that conversation with Chloe, or some of the social bits), it - I think I'm managing better. Eventually, anyway.

Which, love, is pretty much all you. (Though Tosha's also been a help.)

Speaking of bad habits, I am currently buried in parchment, and will be later than I thought.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-02 22:41:32](#)
(no subject)

I'm pretty sure that I'm allowed to put you on a pedestal now, and then for at least a year after the honeymoon (the "honeymoon phase," yeah?). And then, shortly thereafter, I'm meant to find all sorts of flaws that I never saw in you before, which I shall lament about to my mates while getting pissed on ale. So no worries, we'll get there eventually.

That new found sure-footedness you've got is just as much a product of navigating new and different social circles as it is a product of my influence. Reckon that's just what happens when you leave the tower. Now, credit for getting you to leave the tower—that I'll take.

Come home when you can.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-02 22:53:04](#)
(no subject)

Also please take credit for getting me to laugh, would you?

(Though I do hope we can avoid some of the less pleasant parts of the post-honeymoon-phase. Some of them seem so very unappealing. I am perhaps naive here.)

I think I'm not explaining very well, too, but that's all right. It'll keep. Just, today, made me think, over and over, about using the right tool, the right way, in the right moment. All the things you've taught me about wands, and words, and presence, and reacting. See? Explaining badly, I'm sure.

Anyway, I am nearly done here, and I'll get Georg to walk me back. Half an hour maybe?

[2013-01-02 22:30:00](#)

Order Only: Meeting Saturday, 12GP

The Order of the Phoenix will meet at 12
Grimmauld Place on Saturday, January 5th at 10:30
a.m.



 [alt_lupin](#)

Charlie suggested that those who wish to view Bill's memory in the Pensieve should come earlier -- 8:30 a.m. -- and watch it as a group. If anyone below the age of twenty wishes to view the memory, you should probably mention that now, so that we can decide whether this ought to be allowed.

Agenda:

1. The dark ritual Bill witnessed. What can we learn from it?
2. We may be able to determine the location of the ritual with the help of an expert astronomer. Suggestions of a trustworthy one to approach?
3. Order Co-Head nominations and voting. (This ought to be the first order of business, but I'm being realistic here.)
4. Milland.
5. Any other new business that occurs to anyone to bring up.
6. Adjournment, hopefully before midnight.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-03 15:56:03](#)

(no subject)

At the risk of keeping us beyond midnight, I think we've a number of other items that ought to be on our agenda.

First. I should very much like to hear from Albus a report on his researches.

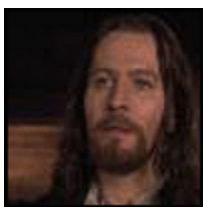
Severus and I will be bringing Minerva, but she understands that we will also be making a brief, but unglossed report of her condition and the actions we've taken to aid her. (This should be an agenda item, Remus. I promise it will be brief.)

I should also like to hear a report from Laszlo's about your operations--the ongoing smuggling of goods from overseas and the transportation of people. (We I think we'd like to hear an update about your work with Beth and her group--how many have you've

hidden on their way to wherever?)

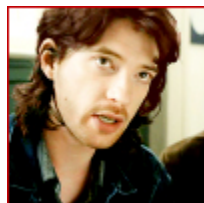
And I should like reports from Tonks and Frank about their work on the Ridley list, and from Kingsley et. al. about their efforts to cultivate a network within the camps based on our connection with the families of children at Moddey. I realise both of those efforts are in early stages, but we ought to give them official space in our discussion.


Finally, or *somewhere* in our conversation, I believe we need to discuss Arthur. Of course, we've already had occasions for memorialising him, but at this meeting we surely need to discuss what projects he had in hand, and how we can carry them forward, and what we will do in his absence. We will keenly miss his presence at the Ministry and his work in that department. We need to address this matter directly.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-03 16:07:40](#)
(no subject)

Right. And on the last, I hope that Nick Towler can help us organise Arthur's ongoing efforts. (Sorry, Nick, I know it's a horrid way to come to your first official meeting with us.)



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-03 17:16:54](#)
(no subject)

That's another item for the agenda: an official welcome to Nick Towler.

Nick stopped by the Burrow this week, actually, to say he's ready and willing to continue Dad's work in the department, as much as he can. Which is a big relief.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2013-01-03 22:49:56](#)
(no subject)

As though I can not read this statement.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2013-01-03 16:12:56](#)**
(no subject)

Albus has confirmed he will be present. You may expect both of us just before half-eight.

Might we also add - at least briefly - matters at Hogwarts? There is still the matter of whoever was spying last spring, and there is the ongoing consideration of Dolores Umbridge.


I don't think we need take too much time over either, but an idea what to alert the rest of you to would be a help.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2013-01-03 17:25:39](#)**
(no subject)

We'll be there, although I hope the meeting won't last too long (probably a futile hope). The children and I have to be at this Twelfth Night event by 2:00 pm.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2013-01-04 01:07:46](#)**
(no subject)

we'll both be there early.

good to know the old man is planning on showing.

I've already talked to bill about adding a discussion about current security measures to the agenda, and Tonks and me will be ready with a report about our camp contacts so far. like to talk about hermione's galleons too.

will you be there, Hermione?

[2013-01-03 08:54:00](#)

Private message to Harry and Granger

Harry, I know I was non-committable on Hydra's invitation yesterday, mostly because I still don't much fancy the idea of having tea in some ramshackle Camden shop with a relation I scarcely know, but see here, I've had second thoughts. I think we ought to go.



 **[alt_draco](#)**

Do you think you can get leave from Buckingham? And bring Granger? I have something else to give to her, but if you don't think you should bring her then I suppose I'll just give it to you to give to her.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-03 17:26:27](#)**
(no subject)

It's not really ramshackle at all, it's quite cosy. And they have interesting things on the shelves, or at least they did over the summer. Your mother even found something there one time, I remember. I think you'll

like it.

And the Ponds are nice people.

Harry wants to come so yes, I think we'll manage it. Why, what else did you find?



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2013-01-03 17:32:38](#)**
(no subject)

Did you forget I have my discerning and exclusive reputation to uphold? Though I suppose if Mother can enjoy her visit, so can I.

I never said they weren't nice. I'm sure that they are. They rather have to be.

I found another set of boxes. Well, one half of a set. Harry should have the other, somewhere. They were given to us as Christmas gifts when we were twelve, from Regulus Black.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-03 17:53:53](#)**
(no subject)


Well, I don't think your mother took tea or anything. Just went shopping.

~~What do you mean they have~~

You've got another set? That's marvellous! Are they really the same sort of thing? Do you think they were made with the same properties? Then I'd you'd really be able to tell things about how they work.

I wonder where Harry put his? I'll have to look.




 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2013-01-03 18:13:36](#)**
(no subject)

Of course she didn't take tea. Mother doesn't take tea in places like that. Not that you do, in fact, know particularly much about my Mother.

They look like they have the same craftsman, so I expect that they also transport items, though we'll have to find Harry's to know for sure. That gives us four boxes, then, though I'm still wary of the other, more recent ones.

Yes, do have a look for it. It's more square in shape than the other one, with a circular pattern carved on the lid.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2013-01-04 01:24:30](#)**
(no subject)

Wasn't that bad, was it?

It's sort of nice seeing Hydra like that. All happy. And in charge. You know. Not all quiet.

And it's a good thing you remembered about the other boxes, only because I'd never have thought of them.

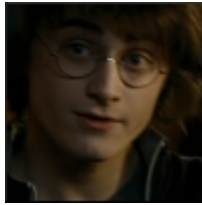



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-04 01:32:39](#)
(no subject)

I was just telling Pansy that it wasn't entirely without charm. Is "rustic" a nice way to put it?

Hydra's changed, all right. Or was she always like that and we just didn't know it? She's obviously mad for cousin Dora, but it's such a difference from her own parents - who can blame her? I suppose Finch-Fletchley deserves some credit, too; he clearly has no trouble speaking his mind, does he? But always so impeccably polite about it that one can't rightly find themselves a reason to mind.

And I wouldn't have remembered the boxes if I hadn't stumbled across mine.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-04 01:51:45](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, rustic works. And she was nice, Mrs Ponds, I mean. And funny. I can see why Hydra'd like her.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-04 01:54:47](#)
(no subject)

Let's be honest - Hydra probably thinks it's snitch that she can give herself a pigs' nose and cat whiskers, too.

How was your private chat with Wossname?

2013-01-03 08:58:00

Private message to Pansy

I'll be coming along to the Tea Appreciation group today. I've told Harry he ought to come along as well, if he's able.



 [alt_draco](#)


You know the boxes that I gave to Hermione to experiment with? Well I started to have second thoughts about modifying them or using them for much, because considering that they came from Auntie Bella, it might not be such a clever idea to muck about with them, for a variety of reasons.

But then, last night, I came across something I forgot that I owned.

I was directing the elf - we were clearing out my wardrobe of all the robes that no longer fit - and I was coming across all sorts of random things, like old comics, exploding snap cards, and the like. Even found an old orange that was dried up to a hard stone. And then I found a box, almost exactly like the one Auntie Bella gave me and Harry this year. This one has a shape is a little more square, and the carvings on the lid are different, but I'm sure it was made by the same craftsman. It was given to me for Christmas when I was twelve, and Harry got one, as well. Obviously, we were both too dim back then to figure out that the boxes actually *did* something and weren't just for stashing odds and ends into.

So we don't just have two boxes, we have four. And two of them probably safer to use, because they didn't come from my Aunt - they came from someone else. Regulus.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2013-01-04 00:52:15**

(no subject)

That's

That's rather brilliant, actually. I've been thinking, and he would probably have gotten a laugh out of your putting them to unexpected use.

Do you think it's worth the risk to try linking the four together? Or just fiddle with the safe ones?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-04 01:00:23](#)
(no subject)

Would he have?

I can't say, since I never allowed myself to get close to him. He took up too much of Mother's attention for my liking, back when I insisted on having it all to myself.

Bit regretful about it, mostly because I think I would understand his black (pardon the pun) humour about the world a bit better now. But I didn't then, so.

Do you reckon he knew, even back then, that me and Harry would have secrets to keep?

And I haven't decided yet, on the last. I suppose we'll see what Harry and Hermione say about it.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-04 01:15:39](#)
(no subject)

I think he would've understood the desire to have secrets, true secrets, more than just about anybody, because he had so little that he could keep to himself. When he came back, I mean.

And he did keep his humour in his own way, despite everything, didn't he?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-04 01:22:17](#)
(no subject)


Yes, I see what you mean, there.

He did, but it went over my head, in those days. Funny how it didn't go over yours. You've always been old before your time, though.

That shop - Lazlo's - I suppose it wasn't as bad as I thought. Not glamorous, but not entirely without charm, either. Hydra was

being quite a bother asking about that dog, though. She's a little too mad about animals, if you ask me.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-04 01:32:09](#)**
(no subject)

A mother who didn't particularly care to be one will do that, I suppose. But that's made me who I am, and I don't particularly mind how I turned out, so I don't guess I'd change it.

And I'm glad it was less uncomfortable than you thought it might be. She was rather stuck on him, wasn't she? I hope her future husband, whomever he may be, is thoroughly prepared for hosting a menagerie.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2013-01-04 01:37:08](#)**
(no subject)

I know I wouldn't change it. You're perfect the way you are.

Are you sure that she and Finch-Fletchley haven't already got married in secret? They way they give each other moony glances and sneak off to snog right under her mother's nose - well, she'd best be careful. Both of them.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-04 01:43:21](#)**
(no subject)

Finch-Fletchley rather likes playing with fire, if you haven't noticed. Despite his ballys and what what's. I wonder sometimes why he was sorted into Hufflepuff.

And you are incredibly sweet to say so. And rather gorgeous, if I do say so myself.




 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2013-01-04 01:50:02](#)**
(no subject)

I have noticed. I PMed him a while back and tried to suggest he tone it down a bit, but he didn't seem fussed. Fine by me if he fancies a risk. Bumbridge is probably too thick to notice he called her out, anyway.

If calling you perfect gets me called gorgeous, I need to do it more often.

Will you be at quidditch tomorrow?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-04 05:21:59](#)**
(no subject)

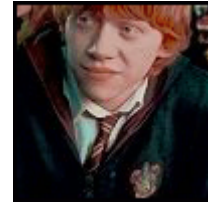
Naturally! After all, it'll give me the opportunity to see my gorgeous boyfriend.

Good night, Draco.

[2013-01-03 10:04:00](#)

The Revue

So, that was well interesting yesterday. I liked the funny bits. I think it's going to be loads of fun, Greengrass, and if we can bring it off, it'll be a good show!



 [alt_ron](#)

Guess I've got to learn something about dancing now, yeah?

Yeah.



 [alt_ron](#) at **[2013-01-03 16:10:34](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

So who's going to tea this afternoon?

What time are we meant to be there?



 [alt_hydra](#) at **[2013-01-03 16:14:15](#)**

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

I'll be coming, of course, and Justin, too. I don't know if he'll be made to bring Remy along or not.

I also invited Harry and Hermione and Draco but I don't know if they will all show. Draco didn't really say either way, but he didn't show up last time, you remember.



 [alt_ron](#) at **[2013-01-03 16:17:45](#)**

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

Yeah. It is sort of hard to imagine Malfoy being very comfortable there. It's not his sort of... establishment, is it? Heh.

See you there, then. I'm looking forward to it! (More than yesterday's meeting. I was dead nervous about that! Though I guess it went well enough.)




 **[alt_hydra](#) at 2013-01-03 16:22:06**

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

Yes, last time he kept saying "but it's in *Camden!*"
Though this time, he just said he wasn't sure if
he'd be able.

I thought the meeting went well, though I think I saw Blaise Zabini give you a few funny looks. I suspect he might be a little put out that he wasn't given the lead and you were. But at least he didn't say anything rude, I suppose.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-03 16:33:48**

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

Zabini. Pfft.

I'd do the part just to see him look sour, y'know?
That's half the fun of it!

(The other half's going to be seeing Greengrass worry that I'll embarrass her.)

Course, the third half'll be all the jokes and making people laugh!



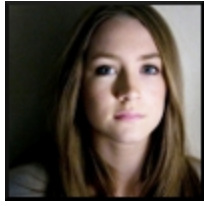
 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-03 17:01:10**

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

I'm coming to tea so I'll see you this afternoon.

I keep thinking about what I should say to Mr Ponds. I must have made him all sorts of nervous last time talking about how he looked familiar. I'm tempted to tell him I worked out who he looks like, and it was the caretaker.....of my village school when I was little. (We did have one. It was a woman, though, he'd find out if he checked.) Or maybe I should just keep my mouth shut this time?

Hydra, do you think the dog's going to be there?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-03 17:43:30](#)

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

I don't know. I hinted to Dora that I'd like to see the dog, because one never gets to see them at Hogwarts. She said she'd try to get him into the shop but I don't know if she meant it or not.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-03 16:11:20](#)

(no subject)

Glad you made it, Weasley, and finally have a script now! It really is a clever, funny story, isn't it? And who doesn't like a bit of time travel - so exciting!

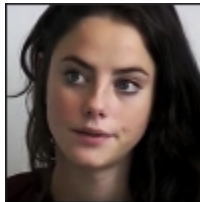
See you in rehearsals!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 16:18:11](#)

(no subject)

Cheers!



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-03 16:31:58](#)

Private message to Ron Weasley

Though I have been meaning to ask you a little bit more about your experience, so I can figure out where we'll need to start things.

If I may ask, how many years (or months?) of dance training have you had? And at what age did you start? Do you have one particular teacher that you've worked with, over the years? Is there one particular dance or step that you consider yourself exceptionally good at?

As you may know, I got all my training from Mr Krumgold, so I understand the style and technique he infuses into all of his choreography. But style and technique can vary from teacher to teacher, of course. The dancing that Professor Siz and Madam Pomfrey taught us prior to the Yule Ball, for example, was terribly old-fashioned (and rather stodgy, to my mind), but the sort of thing

that one needs to know for very formal events.

Anyway, it doesn't really matter how much experience you have, or what it was like. I'm absolutely positive that I can get you up to speed in no time! And Mr Krumgold too, of course.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 16:36:34](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Hahahaha!

Dance training. That's hilarious!

Um.

Did Mr Krumgold say anything about teaching me what I'll need to know? Or, maybe you could give me some pointers?



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-03 16:45:58](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

So, just to make sure we're clear, you've never been taught anything? Not a waltz, maybe? Or a box step?

That's not a problem, or anything! I just want to make sure...

Mr Krumgold has told me that he thinks you're a "natural." He'll be teaching the whole cast the choreography, and there will no doubt be a few sessions that will focus on just you and me. We're the ones everyone will be watching the most, after all.

But of course I will give you pointers. Perhaps this might even be for the best. Since you haven't had any training, you won't have any habits that clash with my training. You're a perfect blank slate!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 16:48:09](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley


That's me. Perfect!

And, um, also perfectly blank where dancing's

concerned.

You're being very decent about it. I'm glad it doesn't bother you at all!




 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-03 16:55:19](#)
Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

It doesn't bother me because I understand Gerald's Mr Krumgold's method for how he casts roles. ~~Even if don't agree with~~

And really, Weasley, I'd like to think I'm a decent person, though perhaps you hadn't noticed? Besides, one has to take their knocks in the real world of theatre before they can start acting the diva.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 17:00:11](#)
Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Well, there you go. I reckon when we start learning the steps, you'll get plenty of knocks and a few stepped-on toes.

Good to know I'll be helping you towards your goals when it happens!




 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-03 17:11:37](#)
Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

It's so nice to see someone who is cheerful and good-natured about their short-comings.

But let's not forget what Shakespeare said:
Assume a virtue, if you have it not.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 17:14:53](#)
Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Ta. I think.

What did he mean by that?



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-03 17:26:39](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

He meant that if we make ourselves do something that doesn't come naturally to us - like dancing - then eventually it will *become* natural.

Though in this case that was Hamlet trying to convince his Mother to stop sleeping with her brother-in-law, so perhaps not the best choice of quotes. Oh bother, I'd forgotten that detail.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 18:20:29](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Um.

I didn't realise Shakespeare was like that. Sounds a lot more interesting than everyone

says.

Or, well. Pansy always says she likes them, Shakespeare's plays, but I thought that was just because it was... cultural, y'know?

So I should just try to act like I know how to dance and then doing it will be easier? I could try that, yeah.

Want to get together and show me a few steps before we get back to school? We could be waltzing up the corridors on the train back!



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-03 18:32:36](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Shakespeare is only seen as high-culture today because his works are rather old. In his own time, he was as popular as the *Blood Games* comics, or those Astra Morgansen books. He had something for everyone - philosophy and poetry for the genteel viewer, and lots of fighting, humour, and sex for the everywitch and everywizard.

So, you're really missing out.

I think if you visualise yourself as someone who could, in fact, excel at dancing rather than stomping all over my toes - yes, that would be a good starting place.

No waltzing on the train! I am a prefect, you realise. But meeting at Gerald's studio might not be a bad idea. Aren't you going to be busy with quidditch and things, though?



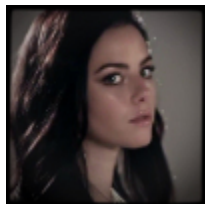
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 20:13:31](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Does the Prefects' handbook say something against walzing on trains? Course it would be even more fun to waltz on top of the train.

You could start on the first car and waltz all the way down to the end and then back up. You'd have to hop over the gaps, but I bet you could do that in step!

I could meet on Saturday, I think. Unless you're going to be at the faire all day. Turns out we've got to be at the faire in the afternoon, my family does, for an awa a thing. So I'll be up in New London, anyway. Do you think Mr Krumgold would let us meet in the morning?



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-03 20:49:56](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Weasley, I know you've been cast for your comedic skills, but do you think you could at least *try* to take the dancing seriously?

The fact that you want to meet is a good start, at least.

I live in New London, as you know (or, did you?). Meeting in the morning shouldn't be a problem. I'll see to it that Mr Krumgold has a studio cleared.

And, yes, I just saw your Mother's post - congratulations on your family being honoured for the festivities.

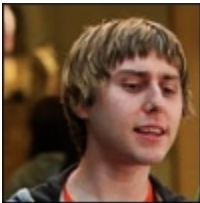


 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 16:13:55](#)

Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley

I told Mum you'd asked me for tomorrow morning, and she said it's all right. You could come along to the Quidditch in the afternoon, if you wanted. Last time Pansy and some others came who weren't going to fly, and it was well nift.

You'll be at the tea this afternoon, too, I reckon. See you there!



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-03 16:18:42](#)

Private Message to Ron

Hullo, Ron,

I'm well glad you came, and that you're going to give this a go. I do think I see why Mr Krumgold had faith in you to take the part. Brotherton has quite a wit to him, what?

I've spoken to the Jugsons and they're happy to have you come tomorrow. As I suspected, they're well encouraged by any sign that I've mates as it means I'm 'integrating' to the Protectorate. Besides, I rather think they're pleased by the idea that, if you'll excuse the allusion, I'm good friends with someone whose family have been in the news of late--they've some idea that being seen to be 'helpful' to your family will bring favour, if you take my meaning.

But that's not important; the important thing is that I'm glad to be of some little service, old man.

As for dancing, we could work on that if you like. I'm not the most graceful fellow, what, but Remy's, er, light on his feet and doesn't mind dancing the part of the girl. I'm sure he'd be pleased to help (and don't worry, I shall make sure he doesn't embarrass either of us!).

Although it might be jolly fun to watch as you request more rehearsal with Greengrass and see her grow more and more frustrated by it, what? The only downside is that it should require rehearsing with Greengrass.

See you this afternoon at tea? I shall be well curious to see if 'Snuffles' decides to let us see him.

-J



 **alt_ron** at [2013-01-03 16:31:43](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

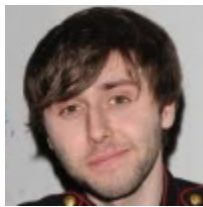
Just wrote you, too! Heh. Funny when that happens.


Yeah, I can come.

The Jugsons sound like my brother Percy. Shame about that, yeah?

Um. Yeah. I don't know about the dancing. But you're right, it's going to be hilarious to tease Greengrass and make her think I'm hopeless at it! (As long as I'm not really. Yeah.)

This afternoon's going to be dead interesting--going there now that we know what we do! And, yeah, I hope the dog's there this time. I expect Hydra told them we're coming? Maybe we should have made it a surprise.



 **alt_justin** at [2013-01-03 16:41:13](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Yes, I see. I'll just answer here if that's all right. (I did come along last Friday, too, but you likely didn't see me under all the layers of muffler Hydra got for me, what!)

As for the Jugsons, they do try. Well, you'll see. I'd much rather have them than Sally-Anne's Strettons, from all the reports. There are a few--differences, what, but of course no foster situation was going to be perfect, and could have been much worse. Still I wish one could talk to Maggie more openly. She was touched that I gave her a Christmas present (the Jugsons don't know that, of course), but rather suspicious of it as well.

Oh, I wonder if I asked the Jugsons, they'd let me bring her along? I can always tell them she could shop while we're having our tea.

As for the dancing, we'll make sure *you* don't embarrass yourself, either, what! Never fear.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 16:55:09](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

How do they treat Maggie? The Jugsons. I don't really see how people can live with someone else and treat them like they're nothing. I mean, if muggleborns were just off in camps and no one ever saw them, that'd be one thing, but when you get to know people...

I just don't really get it.

But then, I think the Strettons treat Sally Anne almost the same way they do their muggleborn servant, Maureen. Only they make Sally Anne do work that uses magic because she's so good at it, and of course, they don't let Maureen have a wand.

It's too bad we can't get them to meet. Maureen and Maggie. But I doubt the Strettons would let Sally Anne bring Maureen. Unless she was bringing Gemma and the rest, which- we probably don't want.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-04 22:10:53](#)

(no subject)

I'm glad everyone had a good time! I wish I could have af made it, but I suppose we'll probably talk about what was decided at the first meeting anyhow.

[2013-01-03 10:49:00](#)

Owl fom the Repopulation Office

I received an owl today from the Repopulation Office, with such a gracious invitation! They have chosen to spotlight our family at the Twelfth Night festivites in New London this weekend, given Arthur's heroism, and the large size of our family.

We are being honoured for our devotion to pureblood principles...isn't that wonderful? I'm truly touched. The Committee has arranged a hotel stay for us for Friday and Saturday nights, too. That will certainly make it much easier for the children to catch the train back to Hogwarts on Sunday. We'll be part of the presentation on Saturday afternoon at 2:00--oh, gracious, I have to make sure everyone has nice clothes. Apparently, there will be press there, too.



 **[alt_molly](#)**

Ginny, I think this will work out all right with your invitation to stay overnight tonight with Honoria. You can simply join us at the hotel tomorrow night instead of flooing home.




 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2013-01-03 17:09:59](#)**

Private message to Bill Weasley

They also sent me a ticket to the Twelfth Night Ball. Plus one. What, are they expecting me to get started on a new family now? I'm a little too old to bear any more babies for the Protectorate!



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-03 17:21:21](#)**

Re: Private message to Bill Weasley

Well then, invite me as your date, Mum. I wouldn't mind attending in the company of the most beautiful woman in the room.

We can maybe turn it into an opportunity, depending on who we speak with.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-03 17:27:08](#)

Re: Private message to Bill Weasley

Flatterer!

And yes. I suppose we should make use of any opportunities that we can. Which is why I'm going to the wretched thing anyway.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-03 19:54:45](#)

Private message to Dominic Selwyn

I know perfectly well that this invitation is due to your kindness in looking out for my family. Thank you so much.

Next week, perhaps we can meet again to discuss some of your other proposals for my family's support. Bill and I have come to the conclusion that they make practical sense, and we agree; we'd like to discuss the details further.

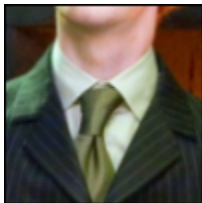


 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2013-01-03 20:41:15](#)

Re: Private message to Dominic Selwyn

You are most entirely welcome.

And I'll have my clerk schedule a time with you.




 [alt_percy](#) at [2013-01-03 22:46:48](#)

(no subject)

That's quite wonderful about the Repopulation Office's invitation, Mum! And I'm proud that they want to recognise Dad that way.

By the way...don't expect me at the Burrow for dinner. Now that I'm back at work, I have quite a few things to deal with here at the office. Mr Malfoy has very kindly ordered dinner in. I will probably be quite late.



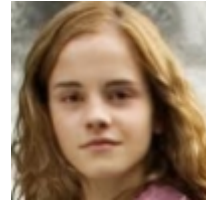
 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-04 01:19:32](#)**

ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Molly

You are being so marvellously brave, dearest. I'm glad we'll be seeing you before, at the meeting.

2013-01-03 12:56:00

Order Only: Private Message to Sirius and Harry



Sirius,

I talked Harry into going to Tea Appreciation (well, it wasn't actually hard, he wanted to go) but I thought, if you were to turn up just outside the shop, maybe he could follow you somewhere nearby and you could spend some time together?

 **alt_hermione**

I know that the Jr Aux are hoping you'll be in the shop but maybe it's better if you're not. But this way you could see Harry for a while.



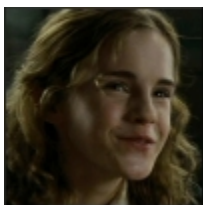
 **alt_sirius** at **2013-01-03 18:01:20**

(no subject)

Hermione, that's brilliant. Yes, I can figure something out, there are loads of abandoned buildings in the neighbourhood.

Wait a moment. What do you mean they're hoping I'll be in the shop?

They *did* recognise me at the Burrow, didn't they? Bugger. Kingsley'll have my head.



 **alt_hermione** at **2013-01-03 18:09:27**

(no subject)


Well, they're not stupid, no.

They didn't at first but yes, they're fairly certain it was you. And they wanted to make sure which is why they wanted to come to the shop again. But it's all right, they would have figured it out eventually because how long can the dog hide from everyone?

Anyway, I'll have Harry be sure to go outside the shop into the alley when he comes, so he can spot you and then you can lead him away. It'll just look like he'd following a stray dog, I hope. I mean, I think that will work and if the others don't see you then they won't know he was visiting you specifically.

Oh, I have a question for you: When you and your brother were young did you have a set of boxes that sent objects from one to the other? Auror LeStrange gave a set to Harry and Draco this year and then Draco remembered that your brother gave them a set years ago but they never even looked at them, only now he's found his and I've found the other one of Harry's, but it's got *S.O.B.* '66 carved on the bottom of it and it looks a lot older than the one Harry was just given. Were they really yours? Did you use them? How did they work and do you know anything about the charms that make them go?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-03 20:02:49](#)
(no subject)

Right. We'll be careful.

The courier boxes? Yeah, we had a set. Mainly used them to pass toys and things across the landing to one another. Reg tried to use it when I was at school that first year but something went wonky when he tried to send me a seedling and it died. (I tried to send him a phial of armadillo bile but it exploded all over the inside of his box. Which he took as a deliberate attempt to annoy him. I think he put them aside after that. Or our mother objected to the mess, more likely.)

He gave them to Harry and Draco? Hm. Seems I'm not the only one who's been Christmas shopping in the cupboards of Grimmauld Place.

2013-01-03 14:34:00

New London at Its Best

This weekend Our Lord will be welcoming His people to celebrate the pleasures of the season in His finest city. I've been walking the grounds, inspecting the preparations, and it's clear that Burdett-Coutts has outdone all previous efforts.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

The site is quiet now, but tomorrow the Embankment will fill with Our Lord's faithful subjects, celebrating the new year's promise with parades and games and and choirs of children--all sorts of festive exercises, all demonstrating our nation's pride. All good citizens will come to show Our Lord their gratitude for His good gifts of freedom and prosperity.

I look to see you all there.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2013-01-03 21:07:01**

Private Message to A Dolohov

Have time for a meal?



 [alt_antonin](#) at **2013-01-03 21:47:56**

Re: Private Message to A Dolohov

Certainly, my dear. Where should I meet you?



 [alt_antonin](#) at **2013-01-03 21:51:47**

Re: Private Message to A Dolohov

Blast. Just remembered I've tickets to the Wilton Consort concert tonight. ...Had actually forgot today was Thursday.

So: still yes, but I will need to abandon you early. (We could always stage a horrible fight in the restaurant and wait to see which gossip magazines fall over themselves to report it...)



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-03 22:00:16](#)

Re: Private Message to A Dolohov

Promising.

Let's make it Alhambra, then. Appropriate backdrop for the pictures.

Half-six?



 [alt_antonin](#) at [2013-01-03 22:07:18](#)

Re: Private Message to A Dolohov

Sounds perfect, dearest. I'll even be wearing my absolute best, since I'll be abandoning you to the theatre afterwards. If you dress up as well, we might keep the rumours alive a little longer and

wait to see who believes them!



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-03 21:17:30](#)

Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

When?

Before Saturday night.

Can't be responsible for what faerie robes may do.

Have I said how attractive that Egyptian costume was? Still see it vividly if I close my eyes.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2013-01-03 21:37:02](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Horrible. It's my job to look enticing, you know. You've no idea how hard it was to find something that did not require dark hair to pull off correctly. Shall have to pass on your compliments to the *modiste*.

What's this I hear about you and Tosha tying the knot? I'm so happy you've found each other, dearest. It's truly a wonder to behold two persons who match so perfectly.

Or did you not wish for *Whirl* to insinuate an upcoming solemnity?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-03 21:47:27](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Humility is lovely, but not necessary. It's not vain to take credit when it's due.

And, yes. We're very happy together. We've registered at Harrods. If one believes *In the Soup*.

When?



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2013-01-03 21:51:02](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Don't.



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2013-01-03 21:51:59](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Draco's playing Quidditch tomorrow, late afternoon. Lucius intends to take him to the club afterward.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-03 21:55:19](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

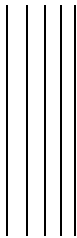
Marlborough?



 [alt_narcissa](#) at [2013-01-03 22:24:08](#)

Re: Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy

Horrible.



Yes.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-03 21:36:03](#)

Private Message to M Travers and N Desai

All security checks complete. Assume you've got yours in place to cover next shift.

On my way to Prophet, then off shift. But available.

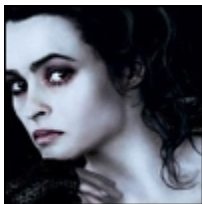
Don't hesitate.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2013-01-04 00:45:53](#)

(no subject)

I quite echo your sentiments, Barty. Soon, we will lift our glasses - and hearts - to honour Him as we ought.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2013-01-04 00:51:20](#)

Private message to Barty

Don't fill your dance card for the whole weekend. I've several tips of various subversive activities -

Or, if I'm perfectly honest, the tips are dull, dull, dull. Just more of the same.

All this socialising and conversation has me feeling caged, and if I know you at all, you're feeling the same. Should that be the case, let me know if you're up for sport.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-04 00:55:20](#)

Re: Private message to Barty

Have just finished supper. Meet me at Blackfriars.

Name the sport, I'm your second.




 **[alt_bellatrix](#)** at **[2013-01-04 01:15:33](#)**

Re: Private message to Barty

Sack and stick, all 'round the lighthouse.

Bring your gear. I'm not sharing.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-04 01:21:15](#)**

(no subject)

Fishing, are you?

I'd ask who died and made you so happy but I don't really think I want to know.

Perhaps I should be asking who's stolen your journal to write this cheery little post.

[2013-01-03 16:39:00](#)

Order Only: Private Message to Padfoot

That was quite the assemblage of Juniors in our shop today. Plus Draco Malfoy. Who ... you know what, if DRACO MALFOY of all people is in the Junior Auxiliary I'm just going to throw up my hands and say that clearly I am no judge of character, and all we really need to do is wait for the older generation to die off to declare ourselves the victors, because really, *Draco Malfoy*?



 [alt_lupin](#)

He didn't have quite the same look of ... anticipation the rest of them had, though. At least they behaved themselves. With unnerving precision. Which almost made me more nervous.

Did you see Harry?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-04 00:24:49](#)
(no subject)

Yes, a little bird named Hermione gave me an advance warning to keep scarce.

She made sure Harry came outside so he could spot me and follow. Did you notice how he disappeared? I led him over to the empty houses by Emerald. We had a good visit.

Malfoy knows more than he lets on, though. You know that - I mean to say, he knows that Harry and I correspond, and he's seen me in dog form and he knows that you, Snape and Macnair all got away that night.

But you're right, if he's in the Jr Aux then I'll eat Kreacher's sackcloth.

2013-01-03 16:50:00

Private message to Ronald Weasley

No, you don't get to run away. No matter how much you were provoked.

We're coming with you. No arguments.

WHERE ARE YOU?

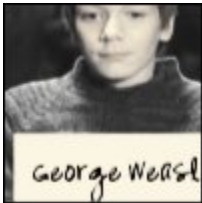


 [alt_gredforge](#)



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-03 22:53:24](#)
(no subject)

Bill was a total git.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-03 22:53:36](#)
(no subject)

A wanker.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-03 22:53:51](#)
(no subject)

A complete and utter berk.



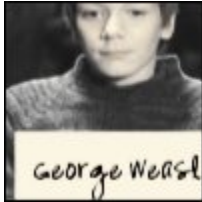
 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-03 22:54:07](#)
(no subject)

And that's putting it mildly.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-03 22:54:21](#)
(no subject)


We're TOTALLY ON YOUR SIDE.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-03 22:54:38](#)
(no subject)

WHERE ARE YOU?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 22:55:28](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

Argh.

Look just need to be alone.

Okay.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-03 23:05:25](#)
(no subject)


We're sticking to you. Like glue.

You wanted questions answered, right? We'll answer them. We're your best friends right now. YOU DIDN'T DESERVE THAT, and you don't have to come back to the Burrow until Bill crawls on his belly to apologise to you.

Look, what do you need? Do you need to talk? Scream? What?

You can hex us, if it'll make you feel better. We're really good at shield charms now.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 23:06:44](#)
(no subject)

He didn't have any right!

I was talking to Mum!




 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-03 23:09:21](#)
(no subject)

But he butted in, huh?

We missed that part, we came in later. We saw the painful denouement, though. Man, what made him go off on you like that?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 23:12:39](#)
(no subject)

Look.

I can hear you.

I'm over here

by the river

just-


can you side-along--and not splinch me?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-03 23:13:55](#)
(no subject)

We can, yeah. Where do you want to go? We could go to Lee Jordan's, kick him out of his room to talk. He wouldn't mind.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-03 23:16:14](#)**
(no subject)

Strettons.

Do you remember it?

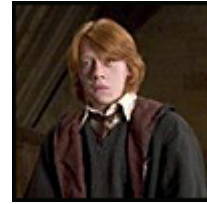


 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-01-03 23:18:05](#)**
(no subject)

Right. On our way to you.

2013-01-03 16:51:00

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



You there? Either of you?

I need to-

Can I come-

I can't be here right now.

 [alt_ron](#)




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-03 22:54:06**

(no subject)

I'm at the Strettons -- you can come, they won't care.

Do you want me to meet you at the floo?



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-03 22:56:39**

(no subject)

Um.

No.

I'd have to go inside again.

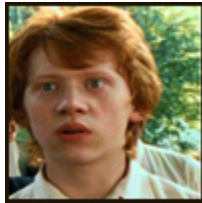
uh-




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-03 22:59:11](#)
(no subject)

Well, it's too far to fly.

Can you find a floo to use?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 22:59:59](#)
(no subject)

Um.

Argh.


I'm just so-



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-03 22:59:59](#)
(no subject)

Where are you? Should I see if I can find Jeremy, and have him side-along you? ~~I think he's with~~



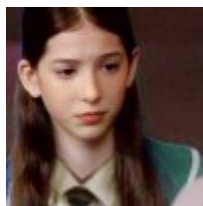
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 23:01:58](#)
(no subject)

I'm down by the river.

I'm-

We had a big thing here.

I was talking to Mum about, y'know. Like we talked about. But




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-03 23:04:29](#)
(no subject)

Oh

It didn't go well, then?

I'm looking for Jeremy but I can't find him. I'll keep looking.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 23:05:59](#)
(no subject)

No. It was awful.

She called for Bill. Well, actually, she sent a Patronus, and he came in like he thought she was being murdered by Dementors.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-03 23:07:35](#)
(no subject)

Oh ugh ugh ugh

Bill's one of them too, isn't he? He's always seemed


What happened? Did he do anything



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-03 23:06:28](#)
(no subject)

Here, you know what, I could come to you through the floo, right? And come find you by the river. Would that help?




 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 23:08:27](#)
(no subject)

No. They're all in there. Rowing.

Charlie and Bill and Mum. And the twins.

Or, well, they're looking for me.



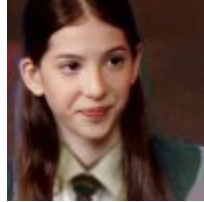
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 23:10:37](#)
(no subject)

Hang on.

They're coming, anyway. I can hear them. I'll get them to bring me.

It's all right if we all come?

Sorry. Guess the Strettons won't like that much.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-03 23:12:42](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Mr and Mrs Stretton are out, anyway.
Some party (like a pre-12th-Night thing for the not-at-all-important-but-they-WISH-they-were).

So come, all of you. No one will care.



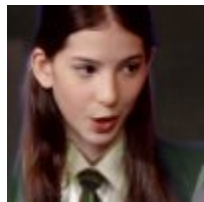
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 23:13:31](#)
(no subject)

Do you think I'll get splinched if they side-along me?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-03 23:14:53](#)
(no subject)


I would have JUST ONE OF THEM side-along you, I think it's riskier if they take you together, but I've heard it's actually not any harder to side-along an extra person than to apparate yourself so if they can do it without leaving half of themselves behind it should be fine.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-03 23:13:02](#)
(no subject)

This sort of thing will be quite a bit easier when we're old enough to apparate.



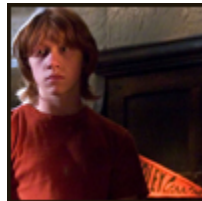
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-03 23:13:59](#)
(no subject)


No joke.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-03 23:14:05](#)**
(no subject)

I'll meet you lot by the broom shed out back.

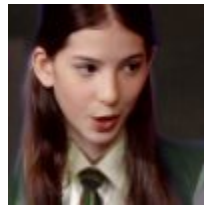


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-03 23:17:08](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah.

We'll be there.


Sorry.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-03 23:18:20](#)**
(no subject)

Don't apologise. Do you want me to hex the Twins for you when you get here? I could hex their mouths shut if you're worried they won't let you talk.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-04 00:49:13](#)**
(no subject)

Are you still there? At the Strettons? Because I'm coming over.

You could stay the night with me if you need.

I could let your mum know so she wouldn't worry.




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-04 00:52:04](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah. We're here.

You should come.

The twins are talking. Sally Anne's asking brilliant questions. You'll probably think of other things we should make them tell us.



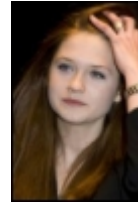
 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-04 00:58:59](#)**
(no subject)

Coming.

And I meant it, if you need a night away.


2013-01-03 17:30:00

Private Message to Troy Derwent



Troy,

I haven't been writing in my journal very much. Thank you for the gift you sent. I love the charm bracelet. I wear it everyday. I'm sure your received my gift in time as well.

 [alt_ginny](#)

I'm afraid I have some rather unpleasant news, and I truly hope you will understand. I wish I could give you the news in person, but right now its better this way. I don't want to break up, but we really need to slow things down for the moment. Preferably to a glacial pace. What I mean is, I need some time just for me. I need time to grieve properly, and to sort out my feelings. I've been around so many people this holiday, that I feel I want nothing more than to keep to myself for a while, for as long as necessary. I truly hope you can understand and forgive me.

I have no intent to hurt you, but I know this must sting a bit. Please don't look for me at the Twelfth Night festivities, I know your family had plans to attend. Also please give my apologies to your parents for not being able to see them.

I will miss you much,
Ginny

2013-01-03 17:54:00

Private Message to Antonin Dolohov

New Year's Resolution: to cease the ceaseless inebriation. As a result—I am feeling quite ill.



 **alt_mcgonagall**

When I return to the castle, I will not need more of your assistance than before. Perhaps a different kind of your assistance.

The Umbridge woman must not hear of this, you realise. That is my primary concern.



 **alt_antonin** at **2013-01-04 03:30:05**

(no subject)

Minerva, I would not willingly tell Dolores Umbridge whether the sun was shining to save her the thirty seconds of looking out the window, much less hint at something she has no right nor reason to know.

My skills are at your service. You have only but to say the word.

Wishing your very good health,
T

2013-01-03 19:31:00

Private message to Ron Weasley and Bill Weasley

Oh, Ron. Oh, Bill.

Where are you?

Please come home.



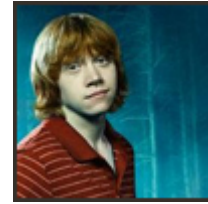
 [alt_molly](#)

2013-01-03 19:52:00

Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley

Uh. Justin?

I've got a favour to ask. I know this is awkward, but, well-



 [alt_ron](#)

Do you think I could come there tonight? I mean, I know you invited me for tomorrow, but, well-

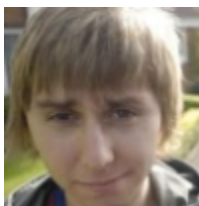
I really don't want to be at home tonight. And I can't really stay with either of the girls. Mum would kill me, and she's-


yeah.

Any chance I could come there? Would the Jugsons mind? Or, y'know. If it's not convenient- I mean, if you've got plans already tonight, well-

yeah.

It's okay either way.



 [alt_justin](#) at **2013-01-04 02:07:20**

(no subject)

Hullo, Ron,


I say, what? I mean to say, what's -

Sorry, yes, yes of course, certainly. Come at once. Do you have the Floo grate information, what? Or do you need me to send it again?

I'll just tell them you're coming through, shall I?

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-04 02:11:37**

(no subject)

Yeah, I've got it.

Thanks.

I'll explain when I get there. It's-
yeah. I'll explain.

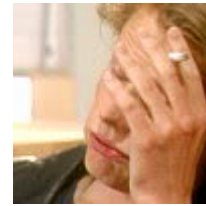
Be there soon.

[2013-01-03 20:47:00](#)

Order Only

Fuck. (Sorry, Terry, sorry, Hermione.)

So, we've had an issue here. Ron cornered Mum while she was making dinner and --



 [alt_charlie](#)

Well. I wasn't there for this part and things got a bit incoherent, but. He said he 'knows Mum is with the Wand Smugglers', and that the Jr Aux knows about the baby saving, and he wants to know what he can do to help. Which made Mum call for Bill, and Bill and Ron got into it, and it got bad, and Ron ran off, and then Bill ran off, and --

Well, enough about our issues. Anywiz. The twins went after Ron (guys? you found him, right? check in, please), but I've been looking for Bill. He's probably upset with me, I was the one who was trying to break the whole thing up, but I'm worried about him and I've been around all his usual haunts and can't find him. If anyone sees him, sit on him and let me know, yeah?

We're going to have to talk about what to do with the Juniors, since if Ron knows, they probably all know. Fred, George -- if you can get him back here, please.



 [alt_charlie](#) at **[2013-01-04 02:10:58](#)**

Private Message to Fred and George Weasley

Please tell me you found him.

And if you have -- look, promise him that Bill's not here anymore, and Mum's calmed down, and he should come back and we'll all talk calmly and if Bill comes back and starts shouting at him again I will petrify Bill again the minute he opens his mouth and raises his voice, and this time I won't let him out of it until Ron's good and ready.

Tell him I promise.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-04 02:20:43](#)

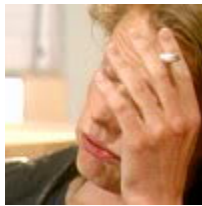
Re: Private Message to Fred and George Weasley


Yeah, we found him right away. Sorry, we should have checked in sooner, but we've been doing our best to talk fast enough to get him calmed down.

Really fast. Anyway, we took him to one of his friend's house, and now he's heading to another friend's for the night. He's all right. We'll tell him that Bill's made himself scarce (good thing, too, that berk), but he insists he's staying elsewhere tonight.

Among other things, he says he won't come back as long as anyone's thinking of obliterating him. Oh, Bill's spell missed, by the way. Really, what was he thinking? There's no point in trying to memory charm him; he just knows too much.

How's Mum?



 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-04 02:31:27](#)

Re: Private Message to Fred and George Weasley

I don't KNOW what he was thinking. Ron could have been thinking about doing this for months, and written about it, and told it to other people, and if so he'd just figure it out again straight away and know that it went badly AND that we were the sort of people who memory-charm first and ask questions later.

Which. I mean. Sometimes you have to be, but --

This isn't like Bill. He's smarter than that, he's usually better-controlled than that, I don't know what the fuck he was thinking, and I'm terrified that whatever happened at that ritual on Friday is still affecting him.

What if it's permanent?

Mum's all right. She finished making supper while I was running around everywhere looking for Bill, and now I'm back and sitting with her in the kitchen. We picked at supper a bit, and now we're just waiting. I'm thinking of starting up some biscuits to distract her a bit, since you know she'd take over the minute I brought out the bowls.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-04 03:09:48](#)

Re: Private Message to Fred and George Weasley

We're heading home, now. We want to put heads together with you and try to figure out exactly what happened.

Ron's calmed down a lot. But he's still really hacked off at Bill.



 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-04 03:15:10](#)

Re: Private Message to Fred and George Weasley

Not sure I blame him there. I'm a little hacked off at Bill myself. And it would be really nice if he'd TELL ME WHERE HE WAS.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2013-01-04 02:16:05](#)

(no subject)

So. How'd these juniors find out, then?

And who do they count amongst their numbers? Can't keep them straight. There's your brother and the Perks girl and who else?

Sorry to hear about the discord.

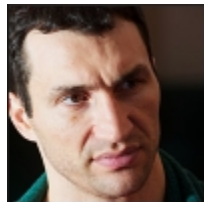


 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-04 02:21:03](#)

(no subject)

We don't know for certain. That's one of the things I was hoping Ron would be willing to tell us.

Hermione?



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2013-01-04 02:25:19](#)

(no subject)

I just hope we're being careful as we ought to be, and that this group is just happens to be too clever for their own good.

That probably sounds like I'm looking to blame someone.



 **alt_sirius** at [2013-01-04 02:45:39](#)
(no subject)

They're clever, all right. Too clever by half.

Perks is about as clever as our Hermione.

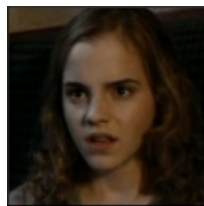
Anyway, Remus and I listed them off, back when we saw them all troop into the twins' room that day at the Burrow:

Perks, Parkinson, Finch-Fletchley, Weasley R, Longbottom, Longbottom, Lestrage. My money's on Lovegood, too. She wasn't in the room with them but she *was* keeping Ginny company in the kitchen, which could have been her way of making sure the others weren't interrupted. And Dora said she was there this afternoon.

Among the lot of them, they've had enough encounters with various members of the Order to have reached a number of conclusions. It's sort of a wonder Harry's not part of it, but then there's Malfoy to consider, which may be why he's not. (Which shows they have a bit of sense, at least.)

Though how they figured out we're taking muggleborns out of the camps is a mystery.

Anyone like to shed light on that particular revelation?



 **alt_hermione** at [2013-01-04 02:26:08](#)
(no subject)

Most of them were at the tea shop today. Draco and Harry aren't part of it. There are a couple people who weren't there today who are.

Almost everyone went to the Burrow the day after Mr Weasley they got home from school.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-04 02:35:17](#)
(no subject)

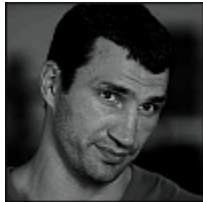
We think:

Ron, obviously
Neville and Evelyn Longbottom

Sally-Anne Perks
Pansy Parkinson
Justin Finch-Fletchley
Hydra Lestrangle
(that one still gives me palpitations)

Sometimes Luna Lovegood seems to keep company with this lot, sometimes not; I'm less certain about her. And there may be others that don't make it to their tea parties and so on.

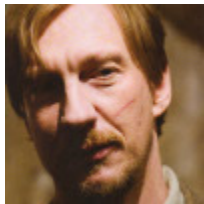
I'll admit I'm relieved to hear that Draco's not one of them. I was wondering, after he turned up today for tea.




 [alt_macnair](#) at [2013-01-04 02:38:17](#)
(no subject)

You'd rather have Bella's kid in there than Malfoy's?

Her Mum's probably the most skilled legilimens in the Protectorate, after Himself.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-04 02:41:15](#)
(no subject)

Did I say that? I wasn't aware I had the option of trading one for the other.

Hydra's seemed a part of things for a while. So either she's persuaded her mother to stay out of her head, or she's learned occlumency. Clearly. Since we aren't currently all in MLE custody right at this moment.




 [alt_macnair](#) at [2013-01-04 02:43:44](#)
(no subject)

There's always options for those without scruples. Which means no, you don't have the option.

Might have been born with it, since her Mother's so skilled. Cos there'd be no persuading Bella, otherwise.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-04 02:46:13](#)
(no subject)

I think you're probably right.

Severus, you've not been offering lessons on the sly to Hydra, have you? I don't know of any other Occlumency teachers at Hogwarts at present. (Oh, there's Dumbledore, I suppose. Perhaps he taught her, if Severus didn't.)

I think it's likely she was born with it. Though how they worked THAT out with certainty...who knows.




 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-04 02:50:48](#)
(no subject)

I have not taught Miss Lestrangle.

If it will ease your minds, I will check her when term begins again.

Of course, if she becomes aware I am doing so, she will also need memory-charming, should I not like what I find.




 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-04 02:42:31](#)
(no subject)

They'd have to have thought about that ahead of time and done something to work around it, right?

Right?




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-04 02:44:36](#)
(no subject)

If they hadn't, we would all be dead.

Because Bella wouldn't hesitate to strike, if she had even a tiny fraction of the information the Juniors have figured out.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-04 02:48:03](#)
(no subject)

Justin's absolutely certain of her. Hydra, I mean.

Merlin knows I think he's playing with fire there, but he's rock-solid on his belief that she's the antithesis of her mother.

And I can hardly throw stones about that, can I?

But yeah, it worries me, too.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2013-01-04 03:03:17](#)
(no subject)

You've been interrogated by Bella, right?

She always gets what she wants, if she has enough time.

We'd better hope the kid's a natural, then. You reckon she knows what Justin is? Can't remember if you've said.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2013-01-04 02:24:27](#)
(no subject)

I somehow sense that another item just got added to the Order meeting agenda.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2013-01-04 02:26:19](#)
(no subject)


Merlin...Percy didn't overhear any of this, did he?



 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-04 02:32:10](#)
(no subject)


Thank Merlin, Percy's working late tonight.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-04 02:36:24](#)
(no subject)

Good thought. 'The Junior Auxiliary: What the bloody hell, Order? If a bunch of school children figured us out, how safe ARE our secrets, anyway?'




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-04 02:52:31](#)
(no subject)

Steady on, Remus. I've just said, you've got a cross-section of people who have reasons to know a fact or two. And once you've got one or two facts, the others start to become easier to spot.

Except for the bit about the muggleborn infants.

Still curious as to who let the kneazle out of the bag there.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-04 02:40:26](#)
(no subject)

I just received a private message from Justin Finch-Fletchley. Ron's over there. I imagine they'll be putting their heads together and talking.

Oh, where's Bill?




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-04 02:49:01](#)
(no subject)

Mordred's mercy.

BUGGER. Bugger bugger bugger



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-04 03:24:45](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Charlie.

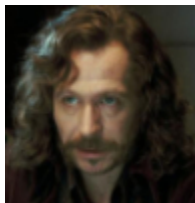
Bill was here for a bit. But he's gone off again. I think he had his broom.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-04 03:26:46](#)
(no subject)

He was there? Oh, thank heavens!

You didn't speak to him at all?




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-04 03:28:59](#)
(no subject)

No. I think he talked to Dora, though.

Molly, he probably just needs to clear his head, yeah? Let the man be.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-04 03:32:12](#)
Private message to Sirius Black

Clear his head?! Sirius, he had Ron up against the wall in a headlock! It was like he went beserk! He absolutely frightened me; I've never seen him like this, never!

Sirius...I'm just--

I can't handle this. ~~Not without Arthur.~~

The clock puts his status as 'Travelling.' It's been saying that for the past hour and a half.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-04 03:53:17](#)

Re: Private message to Sirius Black

And I once sent Snape into certain death because he rubs me the wrong way.

What's worse is that if it had worked, Remus would have been the one put down for the crime.

I didn't come down until an hour *after* the Shadow was out of petrol.

Trust me. He knows he was out of line. Let him come to grips with that - without an audience.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-04 03:54:00](#)

Re: Private message to Sirius Black

And if you ever tell Snively I said that, Molly ... I'll never send you coffee again.



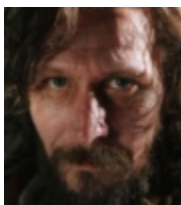
 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-04 03:54:21](#)

Re: Private message to Sirius Black

Of course I won't, Sirius.

Thank you. I just--

Thank you.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-04 03:30:17](#)

Private Message to Charlie

Rather wish he *had* stuck around to talk to me. I'd've given him something to take the edge off.

But sometimes it takes a swift flight over lots of sky,
you know?



alt_charlie at [2013-01-04 03:32:24](#)

Re: Private Message to Charlie

Yeah. Yeah, all right.

Merlin. I don't even know what to do next.



alt_sirius at [2013-01-04 03:58:36](#)

Re: Private Message to Charlie

Come to your Floo. You need some of this stuff more than I do.



alt_charlie at [2013-01-04 04:03:02](#)

Re: Private Message to Charlie

You're a marvel.

Now I just have to hide it from Mum!



alt_nymphadora at [2013-01-04 03:36:38](#)

Private Message to Charlie

I see Sirius has told you. But not all of it.

Bill was here. At the garden for a bit. Earlier. Not for long.

Long enough, though.

He was a right mess. And he made rather a worse mess here.

Look, I don't think he'd want any of the rest of them to know this (certainly not the twins or your Mum), but he made a bit of scene and kissed me. And then he seemed to realise it had been a really stupid thing to do, or at least that he'd done it stupidly, and he was gone as fast as he came in.

Not sure what to say about it more than that.

You all right there?



 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-04 03:54:10](#)

Re: Private Message to Charlie

The only good thing about tonight is that we're all IN DIFFERENT PLACES so when we're all shouting at each other it's in the journals and not face to face.

Because if one more person shouts at me tonight I'm body-binding first, asking questions later.

Yeah. We're okay

-- sorry, Mum just burst into tears at the kitchen table again, had to find her a fresh hanky. We're okay here, we know where Ron is, we DON'T know where Bill is but I'm going to write him in a minute and tell him to at least PROMISE ME HE'S OKAY, and oh, Merlin, I don't know what the hell he was thinking with you, and I just

I just keep thinking about what you said about Crouch.

Are you all right? ~~He didn't hurt you, did he?~~



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-04 04:05:03](#)

Re: Private Message to Charlie

What I said about Crouch?

Oh. About the darkening. You think Bill-

What did he do besides lose his temper?

I'm all right. I just got snogged. A bit abruptly. And, well- I'm not sure what the emotion was that was in it, but it wasn't something I'd like to repeat.



 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-04 04:38:09](#)

Re: Private Message to Charlie

It wasn't just losing his temper. Or, it was, but when I heard everything blowing up I came running in and Bill had Ron thrown up against the wall and looked as if he was about an inch from pounding his face in, screaming at him about Dad. The look on his face was

Well. He didn't look like Bill.

And then I petrified Bill, to keep him from hurting Ron, because he looked like he was about to, and there was more shouting once I lifted the spell, and Ron stormed out, and Bill tried to Obliviate him as he was going. Thank Merlin he missed or we'd have even more to clean up from.

I'm glad you're all right. I've heard from him now and he seems to have come back to his senses a bit, so I'm guessing he'll be mortified as soon as he realises what he's done. I'm so sorry -- well, I'm sure he'll be saying that to you himself as soon as he can, but still.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-04 04:54:44](#)

Re: Private Message to Charlie

That's all a bit much. I mean to say, his reactions were out of proportion with anything he could possibly have thought your brother was up to.

I see why you're worried.

But, really, the business here was nothing. And it's not as if I'm going to be scarred for life because some mad ginger bloke stormed in and snogged me. Don't make him feel worse about that part. And I don't need an apology.

Actually, I'd rather he didn't, really. It would be nice if we could just say it never happened.

Which-

Well, don't get me wrong. Bill's a nice enough bloke, I'm sure. Only, he made it sound as if he's been thinking about me for a yea a long time, and I feel as if I've only just started getting acquainted with him. It's odd to think someone's been thinking of you in a serious way when you weren't even really noticing.

I-

I just think it would be nice to start from the beginning there and not count this bit tonight at all.

Perhaps I'm the one needs obliivating. Are you any good at that?



 **alt_charlie** at [2013-01-04 05:09:26](#)

Re: Private Message to Charlie

Kind of shite at it, actually, but Sirius slipped me something that might help there. I was going to leave Mum with the twins and go huddle 'round back the shed for a bit to smoke it, but if you'd like I could come around for a bit and share. I promise not to try to snog you if you promise not to be Weasley at me.

Actually, I could really stand to be out of the house for an hour or two. I'll have to be back tonight for when Bill comes home, so only an hour or two, but now that everything's calmed down a bit I'll come by. If nothing else I can help you with cleanup.



 **alt_nymphadora** at [2013-01-04 05:14:00](#)

Re: Private Message to Charlie

That would be nice, actually.

I promise I will not be anything like a Weasley. In fact, I could make my hair violet or green or something so I don't even remotely resemble one of your lot.

Would that help?



 **alt_charlie** at [2013-01-04 05:21:01](#)

Re: Private Message to Charlie

You're a love. And I'm fond of green, me.

I'm on my way. (Don't let me get so out of my head I can't apparate back, though!)



 **alt_molly** at [2013-01-04 04:33:20](#)

(no subject)

Bill's written, sent Charlie and me a private message.

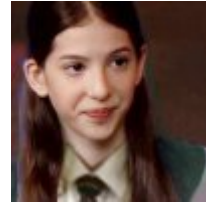
He says he's safe. He's just off flying for a bit, trying

to calm down.

Oh, thank goodness.

2013-01-03 21:08:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Meeting Minutes (again)



ISS LOCK MEETING MINUTES

Date: 3 January 1996

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Location: my bedroom at the Strettons

Members Present: Fred Weasley, George Weasley, Ron Weasley, Sally-Anne Perks, Pansy Parkinson (for part of it).

Members Absent: Everyone else.

AGENDA:

The Wand Smugglers. Also, Bill Weasley is a git.

So, Ron today went to his mum and told her that he knew she was part of a group that gives wands to muggleborns and rescues babies, and he knew that his Dad had been part of this group, and he knew they were working with Sirius Black and he wanted to know the rest so he could help.

His mum sent a Patronus off to Bill (oh, and I guess it's Mrs Weasley with the squirrel Patronus, so if you ever get a message from a talking squirrel, that's who it's from) and Bill came running in 'like he thought she was being attacked by Dementors' and when Ron tried to say the same thing to Bill, Bill -- well, let me try to remember exactly what Ron said. He said yes, this group exists, and in addition to Mr and Mrs Weasley, Bill and Charlie are in it AND the Twins but NOT PERCY and if Percy ever found out it would mean death for all the adults and probably the camps for Ron and Ginny and that's why Ron wasn't ever told, they were protecting him, and he couldn't join until he was of age.

Only he was a git about it. And when Ron pointed out that he already knew enough that if he ever got questioned the Order would be in huge, huge trouble, and Bill started screaming at him about how their father took those secrets to the grave, and he threw Ron into a wall, and then Charlie ran in and petrified Bill. And yelled at him. And then Bill told Ron that if he wanted, they'd answer all his questions for an hour but then they'd OBLIViate him.

So Ron left. And when he tried to turn his back on Bill, BILL TRIED TO OBLIViate HIM.

Utter, utter git.

Anyway. The Twins tracked Ron down and brought him here (the Stretton's) and they answered a bunch of questions -- for Ron, and me, and Pansy. Once we established that NOBODY WAS OBLIVIATING ANYBODY.

Merlin, like that would even work. Ron, maybe he just wanted you to forget that he'd thrown you into a wall.

Moving on. Here's what we found out about the Wand Smugglers.

1. Fred and George are members. Full, real members, like Hermione and Terry.
2. They've been members since April. While they were home on spring hols last year they talked to their mother. And Bill. I guess he was in a better mood in April.
3. They're of age, which apparently makes a really big difference unless you're a muggleborn, then you can join when you're eleven. Wait, except they didn't let Justin in. Maybe Justin should try? But not with Bill Weasley because he might obliviate you.
4. Apparently Neville and Evelyn's parents REALLY REALLY want Neville and Evelyn in, but too many people in the group objected.
5. They have a special way to talk to each other that was invented by a Weasley.
6. They know a fair amount about us, too. Like they know Pansy's a member. And Hydra. I guess they don't know about Susan Bones yet, though.
7. What the Twins are mostly supposed to be doing now is passing their NEWTs. And this is why they suddenly got so serious about their studies, and tried to get in to NEWT Potions.
8. When we asked what WE ought to be doing -- what was needed! -- the Twins said that the Wand Smugglers can use whatever special talents people have. The Twins are good at creating mayhem and they

think they can use mayhem. Mr Weasley was good at chess; he was a strategist. So we should think about what we're good at, and try to get better at those things.

9. We asked about what Justin overheard, and whether Justin and I should try to get Professor Dolohov to keep thinking of us as proteges and possible future Council Members -- would that be useful? -- and the Twins said this had been the subject of some debate and some people thought yes but most of the rest thought it was a really, really bad idea.

Anyway. There was one other interesting thing they told us. It's going to be a hard thing to get used to, I think, but I think it's a good thing to know.

They don't call themselves 'The Wand Smugglers.' (I suppose we already assumed that.)

They call themselves 'The Order.'



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-04 03:46:20](#)
(no subject)

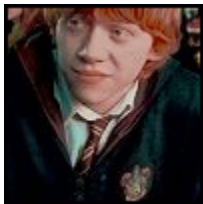
Oh and if anyone's wondering, Ron is spending the night at Justin's.


I think the Twins went back to the Burrow. But they agreed that Bill was a git.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-04 03:50:09](#)
(no subject)

Ron, are you all right?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-04 03:55:51](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. I'm all right.


Thanks, Hydra.

(Your bloke's a bit of all right, you know? He's being a real mate

tonight.)

(Thanks, F-F.)

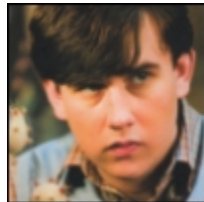



 **alt_neville** at [2013-01-04 03:57:35](#)

(no subject)

Bill tried to obliviate you?

WITHOUT ASKING?



 **alt_neville** at [2013-01-04 06:03:20](#)

(no subject)

And my Mum and Dad want Evelyn and me to join?

I'm gonna have to think about that....



 **alt_pansy** at [2013-01-04 14:58:14](#)

(no subject)

Nev's got a point.

I've been thinking since our talk yesterday that yes, some of what they've told us and some of what we've sorted out that they do are things that I can see are all right, but if it can get like *that*...

We know they made Hermione take an Unbreakable. And yes, they took it off, but still, she was very young and it could've killed her. And giving her and Terry the wands was good and all, but a terrible risk to both of them. And we think Macnair is a part of it, and didn't he try to kill Harry? I know he vowed not to, but still.


And they do dangerous things. Every day. Really really dangerous things. And I think we ought to remember that, and not assume

Well, we ought not to assume that everything they do is automatically the right thing, I guess. Or even that they might be doing the right thing, but it might not be the right way of

doing it.

And yeah, I know the twins told me they'd obliviate me if I was thinking of ratting on everyone, but that's different. I think. Anyways. What Bill did was not on. And scary.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-05 00:50:15](#)
(no subject)

I agree with this, actually. I know I haven't had much to say on the lock since I joined, but I have been reading and thinking, and reading and thinking some more...only a lot of what I *want* to say I can't quite put into words yet.

But one thing that for sure comes to mind is this: It seems as though the Wand Smugglers (I'm still thinking of them that way, even if they properly call themselves the Order) aren't all right with things like ~~what killed Mr W~~ the attack on the Quidditch World Cup last year, but what if some of them *are*?

Merlin, I wish I could be there to talk with you all in person!

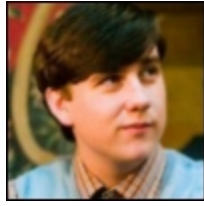


 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-04 16:06:16](#)
Private Message to Neville

It wouldn't be like that, Pete. Not with mum and dad. I know it. They'd never.

Only.

There's all these things we don't say to them, and all these things they don't say to us, and now that we know a bit about it and they know we know, I wonder if we can start saying things? I don't think they'd get angry like Bill, or try anything like what he tried, they'd probably just tell us they couldn't say, but that's something new, isn't it?



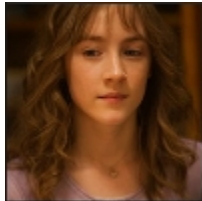
 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-04 16:53:01](#)

Re: Private Message to Neville

No, it wouldn't be like that with them, Lindy, I promise. In fact, I know it for an absolute fact. From personal experience.

Come to my room, will you? I have something to show you, a piece of parchment with a code on it. Well, it's charmed so only I can read it, but I'll read it to you and explain.

It has to do with what I asked Mum and Dad for, for my birthday last summer. It was brilliant. I promise, you'll feel loads better once I show it to you and tell you about it.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-04 03:57:52](#)

(no subject)

Yes, he's pretty good.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-04 04:13:16](#)

Private Message to Hydra

Cheers, you.

-J



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-04 04:18:28](#)

(no subject)

Ron,

It's my privilege, truly. Happy to be of service, old man.

Are you coming to the lounge? Remy and Alfie want to play Sorcerer's Syllogism and they say it needs a fourth.

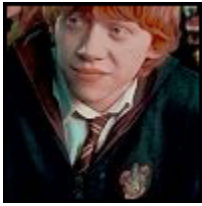
-Justin




 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-04 03:52:08](#)**
(no subject)

If they know I'm a member they're probably not very comfortable with the idea.

I wonder why they call themselves the Order when they all sound as if they don't get along terribly well.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-04 03:56:21](#)**
(no subject)

Ha.

Point.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-04 04:02:18](#)**
(no subject)

Maybe they were more Orderly at some point years ago?

From what the Twins said, I think this organisation has actually been around for a long time. Longer than any of us have been alive.

And if they're not comfortable with you being a member they can go stuff themselves. ESPECIALLY Bill Weasley.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-04 04:06:39](#)**
(no subject)

I suppose it must be that.

Is he a git because he tried to oblivate Ron? That's not so bad - well, I suppose it would be, in the Weasley family. Maybe he's not himself because of recent events.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-04 04:08:44](#)
(no subject)

Well plus he threw Ron into the wall.

He probably isn't himself but Ron lost his father too and so did the Twins and Charlie.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-04 04:36:43](#)
(no subject)

Well yes, of course I mean that they all lost their father. Only, I didn't know if I should say anything, before, but I really didn't think about it being significant until just now.

This morning, Mummy and Daddy were chatting about what a good mood Auror Crouch has been in, even though there have been rumours printed in the papers about him, and they started talking about how he's got the "glow."

The glow is what they call the euphoria you get after performing intense dark arts. The euphoria they get, I mean.

I've heard about it before, so I wasn't listening much. Though I did gather that there was some kind of ritual just before New Years. Mummy and Daddy were there, of course, and some other council members. And they mentioned a "Weasley." I thought they must mean Percy, along with Uncle Lucius, but maybe they meant Bill?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-04 04:38:59](#)
(no subject)

Wait

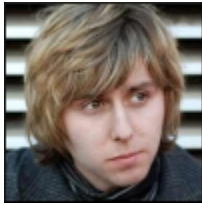
If it WAS Bill, what was he doing there?!?




 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-04 04:43:21](#)**
(no subject)

I wouldn't know that part.

I'm sorry, maybe I shouldn't have said anything.
I don't know if Bill was there or not, really. But
someone named Weasley was.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-04 04:11:40](#)**
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

I say.

I say, that's--a lot to take in, what?

I shall have to think about all that a bit.

'The Order' sounds like an arcane sort of religious sect, doesn't it? Or
as if they all follow some sort of odd philosophy, what, like the
Knights Templar or the monastic Orders.

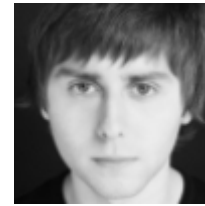
-Justin

2013-01-03 21:27:00

Private Message to Mrs Weasley

Mrs Weasley,

First, permit me to say again that I'm quite sorry for your loss. You likely don't remember me from the vigil but I'm a classmate of your son Ron's, in Hufflepuff.



 [alt_justin](#)


I simply wanted to let you know that Ron's staying at mine tonight. I think he simply needed some different surroundings. He was planning to spend time with me tomorrow before we go to the Quidditch gathering, so it's no trouble.

Please don't worry about him. I assure you we shall be quite fine here at the Jugsons'.

Sincerely,

Justin Finch-Fletchley



 [alt_molly](#) at **2013-01-04 02:37:12**
(no subject)

Thank you, dear, for attending the service and for your condolences. I know that Ron very much appreciated the support of all of his friends.

I think...I think that would be quite good for Ron to stay with you tonight, actually. And it's very kind of you to extend the invitation.

~~Tell him~~ Would you ask him to please firecall me in the morning? Just so that he can check in with me, and I can let him know the arrangements about us all going to New London tomorrow.



 [alt_justin](#) at **2013-01-04 04:23:10**
(no subject)

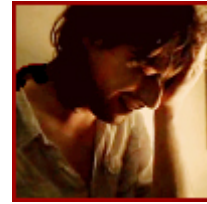
Please, it's the least I could do, truly.

I shall certainly ask him to check in with you, Mrs Weasley. Quite right, of course.

| -Justin

2013-01-03 22:01:00

Order Only: Private message to Charlie Weasley and Molly Weasley



I'm sorry.

I know I really fucked things up.

 [alt_bill](#)

I'm all right, I'm safe. And I won't do anything stupid. Or at least anything more STUPID than I've done so far tonight, which is a really low bar, isn't it, because that was just flat out IMBECILIC.

I'll come home when I'm ready. And I'll apologise to Ron, and to you. If any of you will ever speak to me again.



 [alt_charlie](#) at **2013-01-04 04:15:57**


(no subject)

THERE YOU ARE. Merlin, Bill, I was SO WORRIED.

Promise me you won't go drinking. Or take any potions you really shouldn't. Or if you're flying, Sirius said you had your broom, promise me you won't crash into anything. ~~On purpose or not~~

Everything can be fixed, we'll figure out what to do from here, just come back ~~when you're ready~~ and we'll start fixing it but PROMISE ME you won't do anything to make it worse because you think you 'deserve' it or some shite like that.



 [alt_bill](#) at **2013-01-04 04:19:53**

(no subject)

I won't. I swear. No drinks, no potions, no broom crashes.

Charlie...is Ron all right? Did my last spell hit him? I couldn't even tell.




 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-04 04:27:57](#)
(no subject)

I'm so angry at you about that

The Obliviate missed, yeah, and the twins say they did a lot of fast talking and got him off the ledge. He's safe, staying with a friend tonight.

Will you tell me where you are, at least? I know you probably don't want to see any of us right now, and I won't come looking for you, I just want to know where you are.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-04 04:30:27](#)
(no subject)

Thank god.

I'm flying. That's all. Over pretty deserted countryside. I just came down to write in the journal a bit because I knew you'd be going spare.

~~If only Dad~~




 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-04 04:43:01](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Thanks. I was worried.

I'm still worried. Will you wake me when you come in? As soon as you come in? Doesn't matter when. I'll make you a cuppa like Mum did for us the other morning when the rooster woke us. We don't even need to talk about it.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-04 04:46:34](#)
(no subject)

I will.

I saw you exchanged private messages with Tonks over on your journal. Did she, uh, say anything about what happened at Laszlo's?




 **[alt_charlie](#)** at **[2013-01-04 04:48:43](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, she did. Just to me, though.

She's all right, too. But you really owe her an apology.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-04 04:52:43](#)**
(no subject)

Shite.



 **[alt_charlie](#)** at **[2013-01-04 04:58:34](#)**
(no subject)

I told you, we'll deal with it later. The important thing right now is that you stay safe, and I'll help you figure out how to start fixing things from here once you're feeling a bit


better.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2013-01-04 04:28:04](#)**
(no subject)

Bill, I don't even know what to say to you.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-04 04:29:06](#)**
(no subject)

That's all right, Mum, because believe me, I'm saying it all to myself.

I'm sorry.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-04 04:31:07](#)
(no subject)

I'm just glad that you wrote to tell us you are all right.

2013-01-03 22:07:00

*ORDER ONLY: THE JUNIOR
AUXILIARY*



I'M ONLY GOING TO SAY THIS ONCE.

THEY KNOW LOADS MORE THAN YOU
THINK.

 [alt_hermione](#)

THEY ALSO HAVE A SECRET WAY TO TALK THROUGH THE JOURNALS AND THEY COMPARE NOTES. YOU ALL THINK THEY'RE BABIES BUT THEY'RE NOT, THEY'RE NOT STUPID AND THEY NOTICE THINGS AND THEY TALK ABOUT THEM. THAT'S HOW THEY FIGURED THINGS OUT, NOT BECAUSE THE ORDER'S INSECURE.

ALL RIGHT?

They don't know about Moddey Dhoo, though. They know you rescue babies but not where the babies go. They don't know about smuggling things other than wands (but honestly, they know that Mr Ponds is really Mr Lupin and they know that Sirius is hiding with him and Ms Tonks so it'll only be a matter of time before they put that together, too). And they don't know who ALL of you are but yeah, they know who MOST of you are. Anyone they already know. (Not Mr Snape, though, except for Neville and Evelyn, of course.)

Whenever someone comes into the secret lock for the Juniors, as you call them, they have to tell a secret that would get them in terrible trouble if people found out.

So they ALL know about Justin being muggleborn. They ALL know that the Weasleys (mostly) think the Lord Protector is a git. They ALL know things about each other that would compromise them if they told on the others.

And Hydra IS a natural Occlumens. She figured it out last year and that's why we thought it would be okay to let her in.

So Stop Asking Questions About It. THEY'RE CLEVERER THAN ALL OF YOU PUT TOGETHER.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-01-04 03:21:16](#)**
(no subject)

Too right.



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2013-01-04 03:26:48](#)**
(no subject)

Out of the mouths of babes: the harder you try to keep someone ignorant of your actions, the more they recognise there is a secret being kept, and work to uncover it.

I might also note that the Order has asked Miss Granger to bide under an unconscionable and crushing burden of secrecy for years now. How does she differ from the rest of your children? Mr Boot, as well. Why is it acceptable for him to know the full extent of our operations, and not others?

If I were a lesser man I would point out the key difference between the two of them and the other children under discussion.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-04 03:31:21](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not a baby, either.



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2013-01-04 03:36:41](#)**
(no subject)

You are quite correct, Miss Granger. My apologies.




 **alt_macnair** at **2013-01-04 03:33:49**
(no subject)

Got to say I agree with you there. Said as much last time, when you brought up the notion that we might recruit a few of them as spies.

Everyone seems fine letting Hermione do it, and since she was a baern, at that. ~~Think it's made her a wee bit snappish.~~




 **alt_alice** at **2013-01-04 05:46:12**
Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo

...Is it wrong of me to admit that I'm quite chuffed and terrified at the same time? Our Neville got his birthday wish after all. It feels as if a rather large weight has been lifted, even though it's in the middle of all this fuss (most of it more than a little unnecessary, I'll have to admit, we can be a tad prone to hysteria as a unit when it comes to certain issues).

Dear heart, I know there's an environment of openness among you and yours, which is probably for the best... but am I right in assuming that Neville and Evelyn have kept our visits to themselves? If you'd rather not betray confidences, I understand.



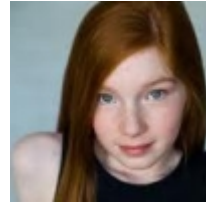
 **alt_terry** at **2013-01-04 16:45:08**
Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo

Wow.

So, um, do you feel better? Now that you have that off your chest?

2013-01-04 10:26:00

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



 [alt_evelyn](#)

Hello.

~~I know it's been Well, I don't know, but I can imagine It's sort of hard to know what~~

I'm sorry. About what happened with your mum and your brother and all. And I hope it gets sorted out.

And we've been learning all these things, and it's all at once, and it's sad, and messy, and uncertain, but I just wanted to say

I guess

I think it's sort of brilliant that your dad worked with my mum and dad. And that your mum still does. And that they kept those babies safe like that, and that they worked so hard to help all those people. I just never thought


Well, when we found out, it was just so wonderful. To get the chance to be proud of my parents like that. And part of what made me so happy was to know that they knew your dad. And they did all those brave and important things together. I just bet they were friends. They had to be. And thinking about that makes me glad, in spite of everything that's happened.

I wanted to say, after the meeting at the Burrow, only I didn't ~~know~~ how get a chance. And I hope that it's okay for me to say it. Anyways. It's good Justin could have you over for the night, and if you ever wanted, you could visit here too, even if it's just for fun and not because you need to.

Your friend,

Evelyn



 **alt_ron** at [2013-01-04 23:52:37](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, you.

Yeah. I was out with Justin all morning, and then off at Quidditch after that. Now we're in this nift hotel on the Strand in New London. It's dead posh.

We're here because there's some award we're getting tomorrow. I'm not sure what it really is. Something about Dad or maybe it's just about the fact that there are so many of us kids. It's Director Selwyn, I think, but maybe it's really that Repopulation Office. Mum said something like that.

Anywiz. It's kind of rotten timing, cause about the last thing I want to do is spend tonight all together with all my family. Because, yeah.


Last night was... well. It was pretty much the worst. Really, if the twins and Charlie hadn't been there? Yeah.

I guess it's all right now. Back to what it was, anywiz. Bill's said sorry. Actually he said he was an eejit, which is well true. I guess I'll write and tell all of our lot about it, so I won't write it all out twice.

You're right, though. The best thing about all of it is knowing that our parents work together. I want to meet yours. Because, well. If my dad thought your mum and dad are good people, and my mum does, then I know they are.

And it is brilliant what they do. We've got to make sure that we do everything we can, too.



 **alt_evelyn** at [2013-01-05 00:41:16](#)
(no subject)

Yes. We will. I'm sure of it. And I hope you get to meet them too.

And he was an eejit. Just because you're not of age doesn't mean he can treat you like you don't matter. Because you do. Or that you don't know how important it is to keep secrets. And what we've all been doing with the lock and the galleons, that matters. I don't know what I would've

Well.

It matters. I mean. Take Hermione Granger and Hydra Lestrangle working together, being friends, even just talking. When I think on it, really think on it, even though it's just a small part of everything, it's enormous, and brave, and utterly mad, and wonderful all at the same time. And that's something we've done all on our own.

I think sometimes you' we're pretty brilliant too, I guess.

Enjoy your posh hotel room, Ron Weasley.

If you get bored, or just don't want to talk to anyone, you can always wipe the floor with me at chess.

2013-01-04 15:17:00

Private Message to Professor Dolohov

Professor,

I've been thinking about this since I came away for the holiday. Right now I am craving to do more. I need more of a challenge. I know I get good marks, but I feel I need more to strengthen my foundation in the Noble Arts.



 [alt_ginny](#)

I guess I'm writing to ask for extra work. I must be mad, right? What sane student asks for more work? But would you mind giving me extra work? I would like to improve my understanding by having a solid grasp on the theory. Could you suggest some lessons or reading material that would strengthen my background knowledge? I think that a stronger foundation in theory will help me improve my wand work in the Noble Arts and in Defense as well. And, if you don't mind, when we are back could you work with me on strengthening my wand work in the Noble Arts?

Any help you can give would be very much appreciated.

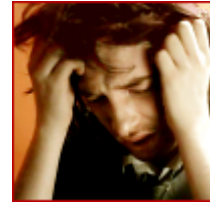
Ginny Weasley

2013-01-04 17:00:00

Private message to Ron Weasley

I'm sorry.

I've written several drafts of this, and that's always the way it starts. I'm really sorry.



 [alt_bill](#)

You're absolutely right. Dad would never have done such a thing. That thought just kills me, because I already feel I'm never gonna live up to his example. Blowing things so badly with you just underscores that.

No wonder you want to help. You couldn't feel otherwise, being Arthur Weasley's son. I was wrong to accuse you of having other motives, and I was absolutely dead wrong to try that spell on you, and again, I'm really sorry.

If you're willing to come talk to me, I'd like to offer an apology in person, because you absolutely deserve one. Hell, we'll have Charlie sit on me and hold my wand if that would help. There was something that happened in the last week that maybe is part of the reason I blew up at you like that. But even though that may be an explanation, it's not an excuse.

There will be a conference of ~~the~~ W.S. interested parties tomorrow, and I'll present your request to them.

In the meantime, if you're willing to talk, I'll answer some questions. I promise faithfully that whatever I tell you will be the truth. I'll even swear to it, by any oath you consider binding. I won't be able to answer all of them, mind, at least until the decision is made on your request. What's more, I suspect you won't walk away with any less unanswered questions than you have now, by the end of our conversation. Just different ones.

Frankly, I suspect your proposal will be turned down, given past history and decisions. But we can talk about other ways you might be able to help, even if your request isn't granted.

That's all, then, until we talk. Just--

Forgive me.

Addendum: If it helps any, Fred and George woke me out of a sound sleep this morning by upending a bucket of water on my head. They then told me I was a git and marched back out the door.

2013-01-04 17:16:00

Order Only: Private message to Tonks

God, what do I say?

I'm not sorry I kissed you. I hope it won't make you angry that I've been wanting to do that for a long time. But I'm dead sorry that I sprang it on you like that. And with, er, so little finesse. God. I've been trying to...how do I say this...work my way up to being more honest with you about how I really feel. After mulling things for over a year I had just decided I wanted to screw up my supposedly Gryffindor courage and make it clear I'd like to see you on more than a friendship basis. But every time I came over to Laszlo's, you were either busy with customers or Ellie was hovering, ready to take an order, or Charlie was there, too, having a beer, or Sinbad was literally lying at my feet. Which made things just a little awkward, you know? The right moment just never came along.



 **alt_bill**

Then I went and bolluxed things up good and all.

Anyway. There it is. I suppose when I see you next (well, not at the Order meeting; that would be even MORE awkward) we can talk about...hell, I don't know. What you want

Charlie said you preferred no apologies even if I'm dying to give you one.

So, since I want to do what you want....let's start again.




 **alt_nymphadora** at **2013-01-05 20:29:18**
(no subject)

Don't flog yourself about it, Bill.

It's been a horrible fortnight you've had, I think, and being out of sorts is perfectly understandable.

I hope you all made it to the ceremony in time? We cut it very close for you, didn't we?



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-06 00:16:03](#)**
(no subject)

All right. Fresh start. ('Out of sorts.' What a tactful way of putting it.)

We did, yes. Apparition is a wonderful thing. Mum's not happy about being here, but she's making a brave attempt at hiding it. Charlie and I are both doing our best to give her lots of attention and squire her about. This is the first social event she's been to since...well, since the Ministry party.

Thought the meeting went well, all things considered. I was really happy that if I had to go through that rite, at least we got some useful information out of it. Maybe even critical. It helped to all out our heads together. Although I really hope we'll come up with a solution which won't require us to murder anyone.

Maybe we can. If it's possible, I'm sure this group will find it.

Also pleased about Alice becoming co-head. Although...did you have hopes for yourself? Or Remus?




 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-01-06 00:26:00](#)**
(no subject)

I think Alice will be brilliant. I trust her completely, and I think she'll do as good a job as any of us could of keeping this mad, rather fractious lot in order.

Did I hear that you and Molly are going to the Ball tonight? Only, I wanted to be sure you knew we've closed up the beer garden for the night. Officially, we're off showing loyal at the faire. Ellie, Bea, and I have been, at any rate, enjoying the crowds and all the stickiest treats we can find. Not sure about the blokes.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-06 03:31:49](#)**
(no subject)

We are a mad and fractious lot, aren't we? Sometimes it's a wonder we get as much done as we do.

Yes, we're at the Ball (ducked into a corner for a quick scribble, while Mum's off ~~in the loo~~ uh, powdering her nose). More later when I'm not trying to jockey my way through the social grindylows.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-06 05:38:03](#)**
(no subject)

Bit more excitement tonight than I expected.
~~Although nothing, thank Merlin, like~~

I'm knackered, so I'll catch up with you later.
Hope to be by the beer garden in the next few days.

2013-01-04 17:37:00

Private message to Duckie

Duckie,

Did you need me for something? An elf has just told me that you've been lingering outside my workshop for some time. You need only say the word, you know.



 [alt_rodolphus](#)

And - I've just looked at the clock and seen I've missed supper. A date for hot cocoa before bed, instead?



 [alt_hydra](#) at **2013-01-05 00:43:15**

(no subject)

Hi, Daddy.

I was outside your workshop before, but now I'm in the library, reading. I had thought about watching you work this afternoon, but then, well, I heard you and Mummy arguing, and I decided it wasn't a good time to interrupt.

You didn't miss much at supper. Some kind of fish, mashed peas and parsnips. No pudding.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at **2013-01-05 00:51:00**

(no subject)


I suppose it must seem to you that your Mother and I do nothing but verbally flay one another. When we're speaking, that is.

These days, your Mother and I get on better when we see each other as little as possible. Unfortunately, the holidays - and our service to the Lord - have put us in close proximity for over a fortnight.

I'm sorry, sweet. I can tell you that there once was a time when I

would not have ever imagined it as such - this ice and friction. But none of that changes how dear you are to me.



 **[alt_hydra](#) at 2013-01-05 01:00:21**
(no subject)

Oh, I know. You needn't explain. I'm quite used to it, and it doesn't upset me anymore.

Do you ever think you ought not have married, though?

From,
Hydra

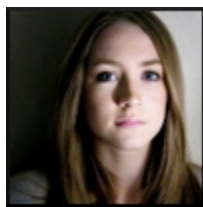



 **[alt_rodolphus](#) at 2013-01-05 01:00:52**
(no subject)

No, never. For if we hadn't, we'd not have you or Rigel. And many other things, besides. Even your Mother knows that.

Now, I will say that your gentleman "friend," Mr Finch-Fletchley, seems to possess impeccable manners. Hard to picture him raising his voice to a flobberworm, let alone a manticore. Perhaps that's why you appreciate his company, hm? I think it somewhat understandable.

Do you still spend a great deal of time in his company, then?



 **[alt_hydra](#) at 2013-01-05 01:01:30**
(no subject)

I suppose it depends on what you mean by a great deal of time. He lives with the Jugsons, so I see him when I visit Remy. We have some other friends in common, as well. Friends from

Slytherin, I mean.

He is very well-mannered, so really, if you're starting to worry about something, you shouldn't.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2013-01-05 01:07:24](#)
(no subject)

Of course I am worried about you, Duckie. I am always worried. What kind of Father would I be if I weren't? And since your Mother isn't up to the task - well, it quite falls on me. I take it up

gladly.

You are still too young to realise that you're becoming a very beautiful girl. Very. And it is in those moments before you realise what you have that you are at your most vulnerable.

I'm sure you're not old enough to grasp the full meaning of what I say. I'm probably frightening you unnecessarily, at is.

But do try to bear up with your old man's worrying.

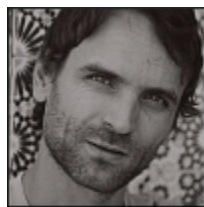


 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-05 01:09:42](#)
(no subject)

You're right. Daddy. I don't really grasp what you mean. I suppose I'm still too young.

From,

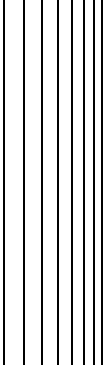
Hydra




 [alt_rodolphus](#) at [2013-01-05 01:11:09](#)
(no subject)

What about that hot cocoa? Will you indulge me?

Might be a biscuit in it for you, too.



 **alt_hydra** at **2013-01-05 01:14:23**
(no subject)

Only one biscuit?

I'll see you in the kitchens.

From,
Hydra

2013-01-04 18:13:00

Quidditch

Thanks to everyone who showed up again this week. Green side ruled! I trust everyone on red side had fun even though they got trounced.




 **alt_cedric**

I hope we broke in time for everyone to get to their parties. May everyone's Twelfth Night be fine and festive.

See you all back at Hogwarts next week for an excellent second term!



 **alt_harry** at **2013-01-05 04:11:08**
(no subject)

It was lots of fun, mate.

See you in a week.

2013-01-04 21:11:00

Private message to Draco Malfoy

No one can ever know, so write it here and be done.



 [alt_draco](#)

First: You are sickeningly weak. Doesn't fit with what you thought of yourself, but now proof undeniable. You have a wand, don't you? And you are taller, stronger. Could have done more. Insisted. Remember who you fucking are - you could see to it that she never works anywhere in the Protectorate for the rest of her life. (Should consider? No, don't want to think of her again.)

Also worth noting: Not as good as they make it sound. And unsavoury, given the circumstances. ~~Did Father know she~~ I want a bath. Maybe a drink.

Second: This is not who you are. Forget it, and be the man you want to be. The one that *she* deserves. Get yourself together, man, etc.

She smelled like vanilla. Or the room did. Something.

So, now you will hate the smell of vanilla.

I hate regret, it is the worst feeling known to man. It reminds you of all the ways that you are less than a man. And yet I'm relieved that I feel it, because if I didn't. What would that mean.

[2013-01-04 21:25:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good - Private Message to Justin



Hallo,

So - perhaps now you might tell me more about what you and Ron got up to today? I enjoy watching the impromptu quidditch matches, but it doesn't leave enough time for talking, or other things. Also, I end up with a sore bum from sitting for so long.

 [alt_hydra](#)

Daddy's just left me in my room for the night. He brought up hot cocoa and biccies and spoke to me as if I were still eight or nine. The biccies were nice, at least. Oh, and he asked about you, but I made him stop. I hope.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-05 04:56:56](#)

(no subject)

Hullo.

He came to your room with chocolate? I say, I-- suppose if he still thinks of you as an eight-year-old, there can't be harm in that, what. Still.

What did you say? To make him stop, that is.

As for Ron--well, he's obviously still well upset, and it sounds as if he's every reason to be, from Sally-Anne's report. We talked about that, loads, last night. And things like what we might do for the Order.

But this morning, I say, you know how I told you I've wanted to find my parents' London home, but I've never been able to go out on my own without Remy or Alfie wishing to tag along? Ron was bally well keen to go, so we borrowed brooms and flew to the neighbourhood. It was...enlightening.

-J



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-05 05:05:19](#)
(no subject)

I don't know, there might be harm in it. I'd like to grow up someday, after all.

I agreed to have hot cocoa with him, and that seemed to appease for now.

Why? What did you find in the neighbourhood? It's not gone, is it?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-05 05:18:05](#)
(no subject)

Oh. No, I meant--harm in his coming to see you in your room. I say, he really should realise you're not a little girl anymore, what!


No, it's not gone. There's a wizard family living there. I say, it looks as if they've taken half the block, what.

I'd jolly well expected something similar but it was a bit different to see it, if you follow me.

I say, it was bally well good to have Ron along, in more ways than one.

-J



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-05 05:25:05](#)
(no subject)

Oh dear, when you said it was in Knightsbridge I did wonder. A lot of those properties have been given out to pureblood families who fit the "Protectorate Ideals."

Though, now that I think on it... We really did change everything here. Every last thing. They did, I mean.

It's a bit sobering.

Are you alright then?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-05 07:14:58](#)

(no subject)

I can't sleep. Too excited about all that's going on, I think.

And did I mention I miss you?

I only wish there were more we could do, and sooner than passing OWLs or NEWTs or bally well coming of age, what?

And I suppose...I'm well surprised to hear that the group Sirius leads is so...so bally well intolerable. I thought when Hermione told us what they were about, that it would make sense and we'd understand how to help them.

I don't

Dash it all, perhaps I jolly well ought to swallow my pride and cosy up to Dolohov, despite this bally old Order saying it's a bad idea.


Maybe there's some good to be had in using the connections we have to the Council and learning all we can about what really goes on.

Oh, bother. It's too late to think clearly but my head keeps going round.

I think it's because I miss you. Did I mention?

-J



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-05 16:01:30](#)**
(no subject)

Bother, I fell asleep too early and I missed all of last night's discussion.

I don't know if the Order group is intolerable, it's hard to say without knowing all of them, but to me they sound just like any other adults. They think they know best but sometimes they don't know much.

But Professor Dolohov - the reason he's meant to be avoided is because he's good at making people open up, right? And he can have a very influential effect on people. I believe it, now, after seeing Auror Crouch with him. Auror Crouch never looks pleasant, but the way he gazes at Professor Dolohov, well, it reminds me of a very tame puppy.


So, cosyng up to him might be useful, but it might end up that he's the one cosyng up to you, if you see what I mean. So you'd just have to be careful, and remind yourself what he's like.

I've already tried to listen more carefully to Mummy and Daddy's conversations, and their firecalls. I don't like to do it, because the things they talk about aren't very nice, sometimes, but they know all about what MLE and the council are up to, so it might be important.

Well, since I gather you miss me, you'll be happy to hear that we're leaving for the Faire soon. So, not too much longer.


From,
Hydra



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-05 05:20:18](#)**
(no subject)

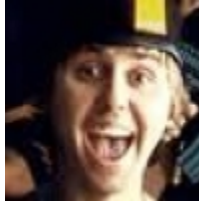
Also, I miss you. Would it seem too coincidental if you spent part of the 12th Night celebrations with the Jugsons?




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-05 05:28:07](#)
(no subject)

At their house? Overnight, you mean?

From,
Hydra




 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-05 05:38:54](#)
(no subject)

No, I meant walking round the faire with us but if you *could* stay the night here and go to the station with us next day, that would be even better.

I say, love, if you wished to dispel the fear that you're a mind-reader, you're doing a bally well good job of it.

-J



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-05 05:42:59](#)
(no subject)

Heh!

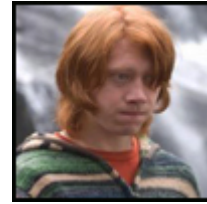
Well, I can read my *own* mind well enough, can't I?

And yes, I think I should be able to walk around the faire with you, certainly.

From,
Hydra

2013-01-04 23:09:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



So. Bill's said sorry.

What he actually said was... well. Some of it was just stupid things people say when they're trying to say sorry and the rest of it was actually pretty insulting, only I don't think he meant me to take it that way.

 [alt_ron](#)

The best thing I can say about it is that he wants me to not hate him because he wants us to still want to join them. He even said he and Mum would ask if we could join, but he doesn't think they'll say yes. And I reckon he's right about that, cause I don't think he's going to try very hard to convince them.

What he wants is for me--for all of us--to go back to being patient and to just wait until they all decide they want to bother with us. But between now and then, he doesn't want us hacked off and doing stuff secretly. Which. He can hope that all he likes, yeah?

Argh. Yeah. I could really get hacked off all over again about what he said. It was-

I told Mum last night that I wanted to talk about what sort of job I should try for that would be really useful to the ~~Wan~~ Order and also what I could do now that would help them. So today, Bill says: 'You wanted us to tell you things we need people to do? Well. We need people who can forge documents. The other thing is that I have a bunch of analysts who do research for me.'

There's no way he even thinks I could do either of those things. Maybe I was meant to think he was complimenting me, but honestly? He thinks I'm stupid. Stupid enough to think he took me seriously.

The thing about Bill is he's always wanted to act like he's my second father, like he can tell me what to do and tell me off for what I shouldn't have done and like he has the right to punish me if I don't do what he says or if I'm not doing what Mum or Dad says. But he's not Dad, and he's not ever going to be him. And right now? Acting like that is just-

If he hadn't hit me so hard last night, I'd have hexed him for that

rubbish. Another second or two and I'd've had my wand out. I'm serious.

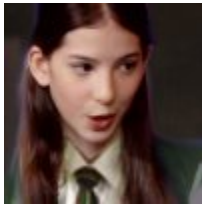
And I don't know if he gets how out of line he was, but he does get that Dad wouldn't have liked what he did to me. At all. And I think he gets that Dad would have answered my questions and that it would all have come out differently.

And I think that scared him. Made him sad, too. But scared him that he might have messed up with me and not done what Dad would have wanted.

And he's too right about that.

So that's what it is. Bill's still being a git. The Order's going to meet. Tomorrow, I guess. And I don't think they're going to take us.

Sorry I didn't do a better job with Mum. Maybe it would've come out differently.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 05:16:46](#)

(no subject)

He wants you to forge things?

Has he seen your handwriting?

That's just ... the dumbest thing ever. Like saying to the Twins, 'oh brilliant! we need your help; we'd like you to become Dolores Umbridge's favourite students.' Or saying to Neville, 'why don't you become a Quidditch player?' or ... yeah.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-05 05:22:41](#)

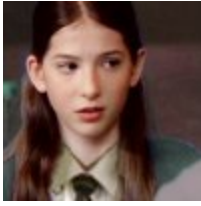
(no subject)

Yeah.

It's-

Did he really think I'd think he was serious?

Like does he even know me? Right. Not so much. But he thinks he can be my new dad. Nice.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 05:29:11](#)
(no subject)

Has he always been like that? Bossy, I mean. I know Percy was -- bossy and self-righteous and priggish.

What's Bill like normally? I mean I've never properly met him, before, but you always sounded like you liked him. Better than Percy, anyway.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-05 05:50:10](#)
(no subject)

It's different than Percy. I mean, Bill isn't a prig. And he's not embarrassed of the family. That's the real problem with Percy, y'know. He wants to be 'important' and have loads of money and have people treat him like they treat Council wizards. Like Mr Malfoy.

But Bill. I mean he's loads older, and I reckon he always was trying to help Mum out, running after us when we were small. But, yeah. He's always thought he could tell us what to do. And give out punishments like he has the right to do that for Mum and Dad without going through them at all. And Mum never calls him out on that. Dad-

Well, Dad would always talk stuff over if we said something was unfair, so I guess Dad sort of made a lot of those things right in the end.

But now-

Now Bill's acting like-

And Mum's-

Whatever. I'm really glad we're going back to school soon.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-05 07:20:17](#)
(no subject)

Steady on, old man. You'll be all right. And we'll show him, never fear.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 05:22:32](#)
(no subject)

Also.

They want us to want to join but they don't actually want to let us join. And they also don't want us to go off and try to do anything on our own but their ideas for things you could do are just stupid and also the Twins said that what they want is for us to get better at the things we're particularly talented in but Bill's ideas...


I mean it's not that you can't do research. That's just reading, yeah? You do research for school assignments all the time. But the Hogwarts Library, the not-restricted section, is hardly going to have some hard-to-find volume that Bill can't get any other way. You might be able to get a pass into the restricted section from Professor Dolohov but they'd really prefer we not talk to him, either, that was clear.

I just

I don't

well they do have Hermione as a member so clearly they aren't ALL utter eejits.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-05 05:28:07](#)
(no subject)

No. They're not.

Dad wasn't.

But the thing about not wanting us in... It's my mum that doesn't

want it. Neville's parents do want us in. Or they want Nev and Evelyn in, and I bet they'd take us.

And Bill doesn't want us. Or doesn't want me, so then you're out, too, because you must be as much of a dolt as he thinks I am.

Honestly.

If the twins hadn't come clean last night, I'd be so peeved I'd never want to join them ever.

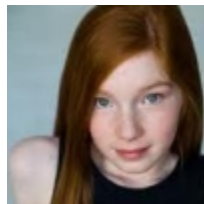
As it is. Well, we've got to figure out what we can do and get started on it by ourselves, and we'll see if we even need to join up with them later. Maybe it'll be better to keep separate, y'know?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 05:32:24](#)
(no subject)

Maybe.

We should think about Hermione's galleons. And ways to use them.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-05 05:53:08](#)
(no subject)

I've been thinking

Well, it's sort of

I know they could be used for lots of things, but some people have them that don't have the lock, people like Kitty Bundy and Harry Marvolo, and maybe

One of the things that was so good about this lock was a chance to say things I never would've dared. And to have it be okay. And I think that's important. So maybe one of the things we can do is just start writing things every now and then. Not the most secret things, of course, but just things that might make some of the other people think a bit, maybe even things that are silly sometimes, just so that they know they can write what they think too.

I don't know if it makes sense. But maybe that's one thing that we could do.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 05:54:36](#)
(no subject)

Like what? I mean I like that idea, but it's so little space. And THE LORD PROTECTOR IS A PRAT would fit but seems a bit risky.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-05 06:04:20](#)
(no subject)

Okay.

If blood is important, why is it so easy to change someone's status?

Fifteen years ago, muggle born people went to Hogwarts as students.

Does anyone really believe that magic can be stolen?

Hembridge waddles when she walks.

Things like that.

I don't know.

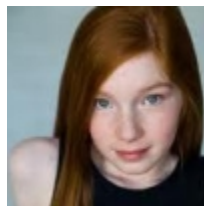


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 06:05:52](#)
(no subject)

These are good.

These are perfect.

We could start with this tonight, couldn't we?



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-05 06:08:50](#)
(no subject)

Oh!

Yes, I suppose so.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 06:11:18](#)
(no subject)

I did it. Did you see?




 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-05 06:13:32](#)
(no subject)

Yes!

Thank you.



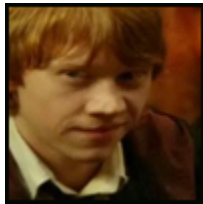
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-05 06:08:20](#)
(no subject)


She totally waddles.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 06:11:39](#)
(no subject)


Except when she's stopping to scratch her ankles.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-05 06:13:20](#)
(no subject)

Hem, hem!



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-05 06:21:56](#)
(no subject)

Evelyn,

That's brilliant. Utterly brilliant.


I say, we could scribble them down as they come and then

improve them together, what?

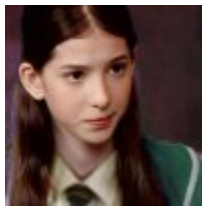
Oh, bally well done.

-Justin



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-05 06:26:12](#)
(no subject)

I'll work on some more on the train, then.

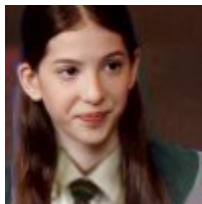



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 06:03:30](#)
(no subject)

Hmmm

though

have you seen any good graffiti? We could say that it was graffiti, in the message. 'Graffiti in New London: the LP is a prat.' Though that's really not very catchy.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 06:04:05](#)
(no subject)

Or suggestions like

'This week, say muggleborn instead of mudblood. See how it sounds.'



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-05 06:12:25](#)
(no subject)

That's good. But not for right away. Do easier ones first.


I mean, if someone doesn't think at all about saying mudblood, it'll take a while before they'd be ready to say muggleborn out loud instead.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-05 05:39:35](#)
(no subject)

Yes. Exactly what I was thinking.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-05 05:35:12](#)
(no subject)

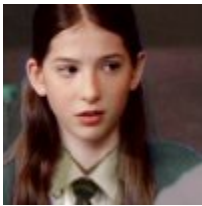
Ron,

I say, that's rubbish, what? Particularly in light of the list we made up last night of all the things we could do to help.

I've a mind to form our own Order and help them in spite of themselves.

For that matter, Sally-Anne could forge, I'd wager. Or I could, if I practised a bit, perhaps. I say, Sally-Anne, perhaps you're right and I ought to put Sirius to the question sooner rather than later.


-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 05:47:53](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'd be a better forger than Ron would. (No offense, Ron.) I don't have as steady a hand as you'd really want, though. It would take a lot of practice.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-05 05:53:29](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. You're right.

I mean, it's just a total laugh. Except it's not funny.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-05 05:38:11](#)**
(no subject)

That's awful.

I wouldn't have blamed you for hitting him. Not a bit.

And I think

Well, I think it's not an entirely bad thing, if they're being like that. For us to do things our way, at least for a little while. To sort out what we want to do, and how we'd go about doing it. Rather than being told.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-05 05:47:25](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah, that's it, isn't it?

If they DID let us in, we'd rather have to do what they told us. They'd probably make us VOW to do what they told us.

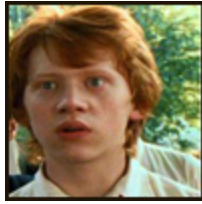
But they don't want to let us in. So....we CAN sort out what we want to do.


What DO we want to do?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-05 05:56:42](#)**
(no subject)

I don't really know. But I think that's something we have the right to figure out for ourselves.

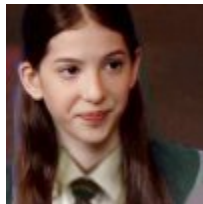


 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-05 06:20:12](#)**
(no subject)

Actually. One thing we ought to do is find out what Umbridge is at Hogwarts for.

And we're in as good a spot as anybody to snoop on her. I mean, we're all in CCF and some of us are counsellors for YPL.

I mean, really. She was Minister for Magic. So what's she doing, teaching civics and calisthenics at Hogwarts?




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-05 06:22:48](#)**
(no subject)

That's a good question.

I mean what she's doing is DRIVING US ALL MAD but why would she even want to? She drove Professor Siz out of the YPL and CCF so she could take over. Why would she bother?




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-05 06:24:17](#)**
(no subject)

Exactly.

I say we try to find out.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-05 06:27:20](#)**
(no subject)

Who's going to kiss up to her and try to get on her good side?

Pansy'd be good at that, really. She's always able to make people think she likes them when she's actually just being polite.

I mean. That's another thing I'm not really ace at.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-05 06:28:59](#)**
(no subject)

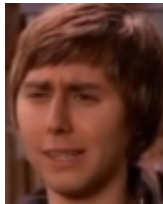
Oh, I'll just add that to the List of Skills, than, shall I?


Although it's hardly a compliment if it means I have to kiss Hembridge's arse.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-05 06:29:23](#)**
(no subject)

Well, it would have to be Pansy and not me. Hembridge doesn't like half-bloods. Which is awfully convenient for me, I have to admit, considering.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-05 06:39:44](#)**
(no subject)

We ought to be thinking of ways to plan round whatever she might have in store for the next activity. If she's got something like over the summer, what, with the challenge to torture muggleborns or goad them into acting, what could we do differently?

-Justin

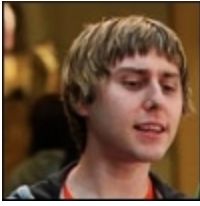



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-05 06:47:15](#)**
(no subject)

Ugh.

It's too late to think properly about Hembridge, but if she's flattered enough, maybe she can think of other things she'd rather do?

I'll have to think on that in the morning. Which I will not enjoy.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-05 06:03:11](#)

(no subject)

I do think we ought to use the coins, particularly as we can control who gets them, what? We can organise properly in that secret room.

I think we each might list the skills we believe would be useful, to whatever sort of enterprise we decide to undertake.

And I think we ought to each list the nature of the enterprise (by which I mean to say, we ought to each say what we think we are willing to do, or should do, or what our goal ought to be). Perhaps we could meet on the train or when we all get back on Sunday?

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-05 06:05:59](#)

(no subject)

Well. We can sit together on the train, but I don't think we want to talk about this sort of thing then. Let's meet up Sunday night.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 06:12:30](#)

(no subject)

We should meet in the secret room. The one where we had Hermione's party.

I don't think anyone else even knows it's there.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-05 06:47:39](#)

(no subject)

You know, something else I think we could do would be invent some charity or industry that requires support. Like that bally old nonsense about rebuilding Ireland, what? Something that people would look well horrid if they didn't support, but that really helped us help the muggles in the camps and such.

Or perhaps we ought to send the money to France and have them

send us things back that the Protectorate hasn't got, but people want.

I say, *we'd* be the smugglers, then, what!

-Justin

2013-01-05 00:07:00

(no subject)

Fifteen years ago, Hogwarts had muggleborn students. Does anyone really believe magic can be stolen?



 [alt_galleon](#)

2013-01-05 08:48:00

Private Message to Master Marvolo

I'm laying out your robes and shoes and then I'm taking the Floo like we talked about.



 **alt_hermione**

Okay, remember, Harry, if anyone asks you've sent me out on errands most of the day.

I shan't be looking at my journal much, so please, don't decide that you need me for anything. Or let someone bully you into thinking that you need me, either.

I'll find you during the presentations this afternoon.



 **alt_harry** at **2013-01-05 15:45:59**
(no subject)

It's all right. I mean, if you ever need time, it's yours, you know that.

And I've been practising looking disdainful just in case anyone says anything.

2013-01-05 12:26:00

Private Message to Ginevra Weasley



Miss Weasley,

I apologise for not responding to you earlier. And please do allow me to offer my condolences for the death of your father, and in such dreadful and sudden circumstances. I lost my brother, who stood in many ways my father, when I was in early adulthood, and I remember all too well the desire to throw myself into my work and my studies thereafter as distraction; I am in utmost sympathy.

 [alt_antonin](#)

I'm very pleased to hear that you would like to deepen your study of the Arts; I've been quite happy with your practical spellwork, but -- as I am certain you will remember from my classroom lectures! -- I am quite firmly of the opinion that a solid grounding in theory can only benefit you in the practical casting. I would be happy to work with you as much as you'd like. With your year I have the leisure to teach more slowly, and in greater depth, than I do with the fifth-years, many of whom I will only have for a year before they decline to pursue further study, but there are still many areas in which I am glossing considerably over a vast realm of information. If you would like to immerse yourself in some of those areas, I will happily be your guide.


Is there a particular category of practise we have covered in class so far that you are most interested in? Curses, compulsions, blood magic, etcetera? If you aren't yet certain, that is all right as well; we can speak about the options once term starts.

If you are interested in the theoretical underpinnings of the field, meanwhile: later in your year I will be teaching from Peverell and Peverell's *De signatura rerum*, on spell composition and on unravelling the building-blocks of magic. (It is already in use in the theoretical classes.) Until we are able to meet, you may wish to read that work on your own, and try the deconstructive techniques it speaks of on some (harmless!) spell you have learnt already.

Do stop by my open hours once we return to Hogwarts, and we'll speak of this further. As any of my intimates, and many of your schoolmates, will attest: I am always willing to lend books.

In service,
Professor Dolohov



 **[alt_ginny](#)** at **[2013-01-05 18:51:32](#)**
(no subject)

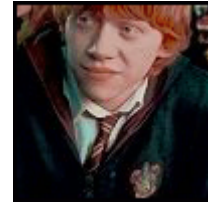
Thank you professor. I will read Peverell and Peverell's De signatura rerum, and think more about which area of study I have the strongest interest in. I know there are benefits in knowing them all, though blood magic and Curses both stick out to me at present. And I know it's really early to say this, but depending on the outcome of next years OWLS, I am planning to follow the Arts into NEWTS.

Thank you for understanding.

Ginny

[2013-01-05 13:03:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good
Private Message to Justin F-F



Cheers, mate.

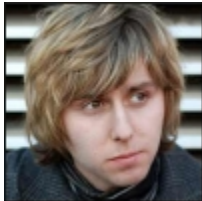
It was really great, you letting me come Thursday night.


 [alt_ron](#)

Sorry my family's been so, y'know-

It was really interesting to hear about yours and see that house where you were born. I remember Pansy showing us one time where Zabini lives, and it's over there in that same part of New London. So you were practically neighbours. Which is... odd to think about.

I'm dead tired today, yeah? I mean between staying up talking on Thursday, and the Quidditch, and then this dance thinger with Greengrass this morning, which would have been hilarious except for how it wasn't really at all--I'm knackered. Think Bill would get cheesed off if I fall asleep and snore just when Mr Selwyn's about to call us up for our award? I'd do it, except I want to stay on Mr Selwyn's good side.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-05 22:02:31](#)
(no subject)

Ron,

Not at all; it was the least I could do. I wish I'd had the chance to meet him. I do hope that sometime we'll be able to go back to yours under better circumstances but please, think nothing of it. I'm sure by Easter hols you'll all be back on even footing, what? You seem to care about each other too much for it to be otherwise.

I say, I know what you mean about being tired! I could barely sleep last night for all the excitement and then the Jugsons had us walking along the Faire all day. I'm sure you're relieved that the bally old dog and pony show is all over, what! Must have been a trial, old man, to keep a solemn face during the whole business.


I think you're well correct though, about staying on certain people's

good sides. I'm not sure you had reason to notice but I've tried as hard as possible to cultivate as many different friendships as are open to me. It's well impossible to like Madam Umbridge and Professor Dolohov jolly well makes me feel as if there are insects crawling up and down my spine, what, but if letting him think I've come round to a genuine interest in Noble Arts, what, also leads him to teach me a way to--do what we discussed Thursday night, then I shall bally well do just that.

Particularly if the Order are not going to take us seriously, what? Though perhaps Sally-Anne is right and I ought to ask Sirius if he'll make me a member, on the theory that he shall say no. But then at least one would be certain that they're all jolly well patronising towards us.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-06 00:43:47](#)
(no subject)

We'll definitely have a Burrow day when we're home for Easter. Have the others told you about it? It's a bit mad, our house, but there's loads to do, and we always have fun when we get everyone together.

I thought it was nice at the Jugsons. I wasn't sure whether Remy and Alfie would mind you having me over. Lucky they're so keen about games, yeah? Do they always want to wager on everything?

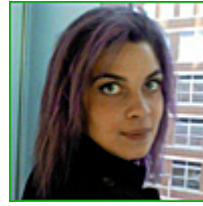
Too right about the awards. It was all silly presentation speeches and photos. And then the press wanted to ask loads of questions. And take more pictures. It was mad.

And, yeah. Keeping on some people's good sides is easier than others. There was never a chance with Carrow, y'know. And it never seemed like it mattered much one way or the other. I mean, he was a Council wizard--they both were--but everyone at school treated them like they were completely mad, and they were that. So it didn't matter if Carrow had it in for you or didn't and it didn't matter who you were, you were as likely to be on his bad side if you were Malfoy as me. Dolohov's different. In all ways. I'm actually learning loads from him, which is... I don't know. It's interesting. And, yeah. I mean to learn everything I can because that's what I need to do. To be any use at all.

Hm. Wonder what happens if Sirius says yes and swears you in?
Think you'd become as big a git as the rest of them once you're in?
Heh.

2013-01-05 14:29:00

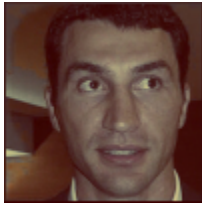
Order Only Private Message to Mac



 **alt_nymphadora**

Are you still here somewhere? I looked for you in the kitchens and the library, but then I got sidetracked, talking to Caradoc Dearborn and Madam Pomfrey. They're cousins, did you know? I didn't realise.

Only, I wanted to tell you I've learned a few things about the muggleborn you saw at Arthur's vigil, the Jugson's servant.



 **alt_macnair** at **2013-01-05 21:36:18**
(no subject)

No, didn't realise you were looking for me.

Gone with Snape to Hogwarts. Seems a bit of a risk, I reckon, but he assures me his quarters are well-warded. Also, castle's empty.

Didn't expect you to have anything to report so soon. What have you learned?



 **alt_nymphadora** at **2013-01-06 00:17:28**
(no subject)

Right. I guess I don't have to tell you not to look for us at the beer garden tonight, then. (We had Ellie close at noon and put up a sign that says we're off celebrating at Our Lord's Twelfth Night faire. Loyal subjects wot we are.)

Anywiz, about that young woman. She came along to the shop this week when my cousin Hydra brought her friends around for Tea Appreciation and general surveillance of our operation. She was there to do a bit of shopping for the Jugsons, and maybe play chaperone for Justin. I'm not sure. Anywiz, I helped her in the shop, and then set her up at a table by the door and chatted her up a bit.

She's called Maggie, so her proper name might be Margaret or Magdalen, and her surname's Fitzsimmons. She's in her early

twenties, actually just my age. We got onto it because the kids were laughing, and I said it made me feel old, listening to them, since I couldn't say when it was I'd last laughed like that with a group of mates. And she agreed about feeling so much older than any of them and said, 'I'm twenty-three. You wouldn't guess it, would you?' And she's right. I'd have said thirty-three, maybe.

She's only been at the Jugsons a year, and I gather she was in the camps before that. I didn't want to press too hard, so I didn't get any more from her then, but maybe she'll come to the shop again. I told her she'd be welcome for a cuppa anytime if she wanted to come back. It's actually been a good business strategy, I think. We get a fair few muggleborns here during the day, doing their shopping. There were two or three others in and out while she was here, and I think she noticed how we treated them. I hope she did.

I'm sorry. I guess she's not likely to be the person you thought if she's that much younger.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2013-01-06 00:31:14](#)
(no subject)

Nach eil e iongantach.


Sorry. Her name's Margaret. Margaret Simms.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-06 00:48:28](#)
(no subject)

Pardon?



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2013-01-06 00:52:28](#)
(no subject)

Scottish. Means "isn't it strange," or thereabouts.

Suppose I didn't really expect it would be her.
Now that I know, I'm not sure what to do.

She's a halfblood, not a mudblood. She's my sister.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-06 00:55:05](#)
(no subject)

Mac?

I'm sorry.

What can we do? We know where she is, at least. And-

You're not sure how you feel about it, though, are you?

I'm sorry.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2013-01-06 01:05:00](#)
(no subject)

Not sure. No. You could say no.

And you say she looks ten years older than her age.

You've done a service for me, and I appreciate it. Got to have a think on this, cos I'm not sure what to do next.



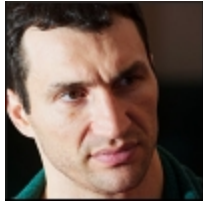
 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-06 01:13:49](#)
(no subject)

All right.

And I won't say anything about it to Remus or Sirius. Until you tell us there's something we could do to help.

I-

I am sorry, Mac.



 **[alt_macnair](#)** at **[2013-01-06 01:17:41](#)**
(no subject)

There is something you could do. If you see her again, ask if she's got family. Ask if she's got family, and see what she says.

Don't be sorry. We all got our own sad tales. Comes with the territory.

2013-01-05 14:40:00

Order Only: Minutes of Order Meeting, 5/1/1996



 [alt_lupin](#)

MEETING MINUTES

Order of the Phoenix

Date: 5 January 1996

Location: 12 Grimmauld

Members Present: Sirius Black, Minerva McGonagall, Poppy Pomfrey, Pomona Sprout, Alice Longbottom, Frank Longbottom, Fred Weasley, George Weasley, Molly Weasley, Dora Tonks, Charlie Weasley, Bill Weasley, Lee Jordan, Kingsley Shacklebolt, Severus Snape, Albus Dumbledore, Walden Macnair, Remus Lupin, Hermione Granger, Dorcas Meadows, Caradoc Dearborn, Stephen McGivern, Terry Boot, Nick Towler, Rhymes with Rudy.

Members Absent: Arabella Scrim

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

We decided to hold off on reviewing those, lest we start arguing about Milland before we reached that point in the agenda.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Bleak, what with Molly no longer running the barter network. We're also facing food shortages at Moddey, especially if we add more people to our safe houses. Sirius noted that Laszlo's is getting more into black market trading, because it's far more lucrative, which raised concerns about security...we were impatient to get to the main agenda, agreed to have a longer discussion of finances later, and never came back to it because we ran out of time. However: food. Likely to become a problem this winter.

AGENDA:

1. Official welcome to Nick Towler.

We started things on a bit of a high note. Many of us had not previously met Nick, who was recruited into the Order by Arthur Weasley and took his Oath from him at the Burrow, with Molly and Bill as witnesses. Nick also noted that he had maneuvered into position to continue Arthur's work with the camps. He doesn't yet have the knowledge of personalities among camp administrators (who will turn a blind eye to what, who can be bribed, etc.) that Arthur had, but he should at least be able to get information as needed to schedule camp trips, arrange documents. etc. when we are going in to find babies (or members of Ridley's network).

2. Dark wizards doing dark wizardry.

We moved on to the rite that Bill observed. Quite a few members of the Order arrived early, either to view the memory or to wait while others did so. (Those waiting were encouraged to do so in the kitchen, where Kreacher grudgingly provided tea and biscuits.) After the viewing, people were encouraged to make some notes privately and allow their stomachs to settle, and then we had Kreacher bring around some tea and toast. Poppy attempted to dissuade Minerva from viewing the memory, but Minerva was insistent; as the lone Order member who is also on the Council, there was no way

to know without watching whether there were details that she alone would be able to interpret. (Mac pointed out that he was also a Council member, and not all that long ago, but... well, Minerva did view it, in the end.)

At the actual meeting, we hashed through what we observed, as we were able to add quite a bit of detail to Bill's initial observations.

When Bill arrived at the site, he smelled smoke. Pomona recognised it as juniper smoke. She also spotted the seed pods of a plant called Irish Ladies'-Tresses, which are found in sand-dune pastures. That narrows the location down a bit, though not to the degree we'd have liked.

'Rudy' recognised the two dark-haired strangers as Kathleen O'Connor (Seamus's mother, as Bill had ascertained) and her oldest brother, Feagh O'Connor. He added that while the family as a whole runs things in Ireland, Feagh is the senior member of the family these days and the one who's nominally in charge. He doesn't get on particularly well with the Council; they consider him loyal but not particularly reliable, and they recognise that he doesn't always share their priorities.

Several potions were used over the course of the rite. Sirius transformed while in the memory and observed in dog form, and was able to smell that both Dolohov and Seamus Finnigan's hands had a particular scent -- he could pick out the smells of verbena, aconite, and belladonna. Severus grew quite interested in that, during the discussion, and asked whether Sirius had also smelled rosemary. Sirius said he hadn't. Severus asked if he was sure, which nearly degenerated into an argument right there (rosemary, Sirius pointed out, is a rather easy smell to pick out even in human form -- so yes, he was sure.) They did establish that he had caught a faint whiff of oleander. Severus said that this strongly suggested that Dolohov had anointed himself and the boy with a potion sometimes called *callis*, which is used to ease the passage of power from one to another in a rite like this. Seamus was the one required to commit the murder, but the actual act of power here -- whatever it was they did -- was accomplished by Dolohov.

Kingsley asked Severus if he knew how to brew this potion; Severus said that *of course* he did but added that it is used very nearly exclusively in the sort of rituals that the Order finds distasteful. Such as this one.

The potion that Rosier handed to Kathleen O'Connor proved a bit of a puzzle. It was in a flask made of aluminium, disguising both the odor from Sirius (all he could smell was the metal) and the colour from Severus. Poppy, however, recognised the effects: it was a strong calming draught. (She also managed to hear what Rosier said to her -- he didn't force her to drink, but encouraged her to do so. The precise line Poppy quoted was, 'Don't you wish to make this as easy on your son as possible.')

Severus speculated that this was a variant on the Draught of Peace that uses -- oh, he told us the variation but I didn't write it all down. At any rate, many calming draughts have ingredients that can interfere with the magics of this sort of business, but there's one that doesn't, and in fact it's been widely used over the centuries for more or less this purpose. Sometimes the sacrificial victim must be fully conscious and terrified, but clearly in this case it was not necessary. Bill looked like he was going to say something and then decided to excuse himself, briefly, instead.

Rookwood brought two phials for the ritual. Poppy confirmed that one held human blood, and the other didn't. Charlie thought the other was dragon's blood: it was in the

sort of phial that one uses for dragon's blood, and had the right viscosity and colour. Albus also got a look at that phial and agreed with his assessment.

Crouch laid out leaves in a circle; Pomona said the leaves were a mix of holly, oak, and aspen. (We really weren't sure, going through everything, what would eventually prove useful, so I wrote it all down. Well, apparently I missed the ingredients to the variant of the calming draught.)

Bill provided us with several good looks at the stars. Even the NEWT astronomers in the group couldn't manage the calculations to find the location, however. Aurora Sinistra certainly could manage it; alternately, Dumbledore listed off four others he thought could do it. He wasn't sure where they were these days. Dora noted that one of the four he listed currently works for the Department of Mysteries and can be presumed *even less trustworthy than Aurora*. She asked if Poppy and Pomona could ask Aurora to look at just a snippet of the memory, and possibly obliviate her after. Unfortunately, half the group glanced at Bill when she said that and he had to leave the room again to collect himself. The discussion was shelved: we decided we'd continue it in the journals and move on.

The third rune on the knife, the one that Bill didn't recognise -- Sirius and Albus both recognised it. It's very obscure and means 'Blood of the Isle' or in some contexts 'the Blood Royal.' Kingsley asked if that referred to the Royal family, the *muggle* Royal family, and Sirius confirmed that it did. Albus had also gone for a really close look at the phials of blood, when Rookwood took them out, and noted that one of them had the same rune carved in wax on the cap -- so, perhaps part of the ritual involved spilling blood from the House of Windsor.

That spun off into an interesting conversation about how much they might have stored. They executed the Royal Family rather publicly in 1984, on the first 'Freedom From Tyranny' Day. Severus started trying to calculate how much blood they might have stored, based on average blood volume for adults and children, and Sirius pointed out with some irritation that unless we knew what they were using it *for* it hardly mattered how much they'd started with. Anyway. It's a shame we don't have a spy in the Department of Mysteries, and for the love of Merlin and Morganna *no one repeat that line to the Junior Auxiliary*.

Albus also noted that our suspicion that this business had to do with the wards was correct. This was a warding ritual, an ancient one; he recognised pieces of what they were doing from the research he'd done, and he thought this was a smaller-scale rite than whatever they'd done to create the ward around the Protectorate. This one, he thought, was designed to bind the Irish muggles to Irish soil. What it would do to any Irish muggles currently on English soil... well, he didn't think it would kill them, at least. And he thought it was tied in to the main wards, though when pressed for details he got obscure, then quiet.

Sirius recognised Dolohov's incantation as being in Arabic but he couldn't tell us what Dolohov was saying, just that it was in Arabic. He did catch a few phrases that were repeated multiple times: one was 'blood calls to blood,' one was 'power of blood,' and he also picked out a few kinship terms mixed in (mother, son, brother, and sister, at various points). Frank agreed regarding the Arabic, and was able to write down a segment of it phonetically; if we can find a trustworthy speaker of Arabic, we could get a more complete translation.

Mac, Severus, and Albus all recognised the rune that was marked on Kathleen's hands. It's a rune that invokes dark power, and draws on the powers loosed with blood-letting and murder. Mac told us that he's been to a few rituals, though none quite like this.

The rune in question is used fairly regularly. Sometimes it's just traced with a wand or even a finger; if you draw it in blood, that increases the power. Particular sorts of blood increase the power further, and drawing it *in* blood on the body of someone about to be sacrificed, well, yes. That cranks it up by quite a lot. Mac asked us if we really wanted to know all the different ways that the power of that rune could be invoked to a higher or lower degree. He added that he'd seen some and heard about others. And then he started to say something about a knife and then backed off and asked for the children to leave the room if we were really going to get into it. And Bill went white as a sheet, and Molly asked if we could please not get into this unless it was really necessary, and we decided to move on.

Mac suggested he tell us what he'd noticed in *this* ritual, instead. He'd paid a fair amount of attention to what interactions people were having with the Lord Protector.

The most noticeable was that he was not pleased with Lucius Malfoy. Malfoy was present, and assisting, but uncomfortable with something. Mac thought that the boy's involvement made him uncomfortable, probably because he's of an age with Draco, and this was bolstered by the fact that Malfoy made an effort not to look at Seamus.

After the rite, while most of the observers were apparating away, the Lord Protector spoke to Malfoy -- Mac couldn't make out precisely what he said, but it was clearly a taunt. From what he could get, he thought Malfoy had disliked the LP's proposal that Seamus wield the wand or, if necessary, the knife. Sirius leaned forward and said he'd smelled something odd on Malfoy -- fear, or discomfort, or possibly something else. It had changed during the ritual, though.

From other things Mac heard, or gathered generally, there was some sort of altercation among the Death Eaters in the immediate aftermath of Arthur's death. Everyone looked at Minerva, and she elaborated: that evening, the Lord Protector summoned the Council, and demanded that those who were married bring their wives. (Apparently fiancées were exempted; Aurora Sinistra wasn't there.) To punish Yaxley (for failing to stop IMA, presumably), Voldemort demanded that *Lucius Malfoy cruciate Bettina Yaxley*. He then cast some sort of curse on a bracelet she was wearing: while she wears the bracelet, which she herself cannot remove, she will feel the pain of cruciatus if she picks up her wand.

Why? Minerva hadn't told us about this before, for reasons -- well, the report on her condition was later. At any rate, though, she wasn't sure why the Lord Protector turned his wrath on his Council in quite that fashion, but noted she thinks some of them are having their loyalty tested to the breaking point.

Charlie and Kingsley said that if that's the case, *surely* we can turn this to our advantage. Minerva shrugged and said that was a nice idea, but she was the last one who could afford to feel out the rest for disloyalty. And in fact if anyone approached her, it might be a test, one that she couldn't afford to fail -- so she needed to do what she could to discourage that sort of approach. Fortunately, her drinking is well known on the council. She noted with some acerbic humour that Dominic Selwyn used to send her Firewhiskey for Christmas, but chose this year to send her fruit. So. Anyone wishing to express concerns about what Our Lord intends to do to His Most Loyal Servants next...will probably express them to someone more *reliable*. Though probably not Bellatrix Lestrange or Barty Crouch. (No, Sirius, I'm still not calling him Farty the Grouch in the official minutes, and that's not what I wrote, either, you're misreading my handwriting.)

Other than Malfoy...Mac said that Selwyn looked thoroughly unsettled, Rosier had the look of a man who'd stuck his neck out and wasn't yet sure what price he'd be paying for it, and Dolohov looked like he thought he had something to prove. And Bella was clearly furious to be on wand-carrying duty. Oh, and he's seen the business with having everyone hand over their wand before. I'd assumed it was to protect the Lord Protector from Bill, but no. It's more that this ritual had an ingredient that couldn't readily be replaced (that would be Kathleen O'Connor) and thus it was critically important that no one bollocks it up by casting an ill-timed spell.

Mac then asked if Minerva had spotted anything he'd missed. She was silent for a good fifteen seconds and then turned to Moody Rudy and said, 'Finnigan's the name of the boy's muggle father. I asked about that, when he was first enrolled -- why Seamus Finnigan, and not Seamus O'Connor. It was his uncle's decision, made at the time that they took his blood for this godforsaken business. To remind his mother, always, that Seamus was a stain, an embarrassment, a liability, and possibly -- in the end -- a sacrifice. His father's name was Sean Finnigan. Do you know if he's still alive?'

Rudy looked thoughtful, and thought about it for a few minutes, and then said that he thought so. In hiding, somewhere. He'd heard rumours....maybe.

And Minerva turned to the rest of us and said that she'd seen enough that she knew how we could undo every bit of magic done that afternoon, if Rudy's Irish friends could find us Sean Finnigan. But, she added when everyone got excited, there was a catch. It would require his death.

Rudy said that he believed the man to be a member of IMA, and he might come voluntarily and die voluntarily, if it would serve his people to do so. Frank asked how we'd ever get him here; Alice said that maybe these wards, like the others, would go down at Solstice; Minerva said that the ward wouldn't bind him anyway, because of his blood connexion to Seamus. Finding him would be the difficulty; bringing him to England would be straightforward.

Terry asked which Order member would kill him, then, if we were going to replicate the dark rite, because that's what we were contemplating here, wasn't it? Bill objected, forcefully, to that idea. There followed a short, uncomfortable discussion. Let me see if I have the points correct:

1. None of us wish to commit cold-blooded murder.
2. However, if Dark Arts would bring down *all* the wards, not merely the one that restricts Ireland, some of us would consider countenancing it.
3. Particularly if the sacrificial victim were a volunteer. Minerva said that if her death were required to free us all from the wards, she would certainly offer it.
4. Somehow, that didn't make anyone any more comfortable with it. (And it wouldn't be her, in any case.)
5. Mac shrugged and said he'd do the rite, if it came to that.
6. Several people were getting clearly upset by now.

Dora broke in and asked whether Minerva was absolutely certain that there was NO way to undo the rite that didn't require someone's death. Minerva sighed heavily and said that no, she wasn't absolutely certain, she wasn't an expert on the Dark Arts or Our Lords' rituals and the mysteries surrounding them. That philosophically it is believed generally that one can always counter Dark with Light, and that in doing so a death would obviously not be required. But to counter death with life, a number of the pieces would be needed *alive*. And in the case of the British Royal Family... see above about 'Freedom Day.'

Sirius noted that the British royal family had an absurdly long line of succession traced out, and some of the Princes escaped. Minerva didn't think that would work, because the rune refers to the *Blood of the Isle* -- if you've fled, you're 'blood of the bloody continent, then, I suppose.' Albus said that he could give a more complete answer to this question as while on the continent, he met with Andrew, the nearest surviving member of the British Royal family, who was out of the country when the wards were put into place. In a sense, he *is* the King of the United Kingdoms of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (quite a mouthful, that) because he became such on the death of his mother, his older brother, and his nephew. However, he doesn't go by 'King' as he said that if you've fled into exile, you've abdicated, and he made a sarcastic remark about someone named 'Cyril the First.' Despite this, he willingly donated a number of phials of blood to Albus, and Albus has done quite a bit of experimentation since returning to the Protectorate to see if there's a way to break or even weaken the wards with blood from the House of Windsor. However, he has concluded that the wards of the conquerors will always hold against anything he could concoct from the blood of an exiled prince.

A countering non-Dark rite would also require a dragon. Charlie blinked and said surely *that* could be arranged... It would also be thoroughly complex in a way that a countering Dark rite would not. A countering Dark rite would be simple. But bloody. We'd need Sean Finnigan, either way. Rudy said he'd see what he could find out.

At this point, we broke for lunch (to avoid another argument) and resolved that everything else would need to be expedited.

3. Astronomers.

We'd already discussed this a bit; we went round again over sandwiches and shelved it again. We don't know if we can trust Aurora Sinistra. We'll look into the names provided by Dumbledore and see if any of them seem more promising.

4. Report on Minerva's condition.

Poppy stated that Minerva was being treated with the Contravinum potion. Stephen had heard of it and noted that it was potentially fatal. Severus said yes, it's fatal if it's misbrewed, which it will not be. It's taken weekly and requires three days to brew; Severus will be doing this on an ongoing basis but has also stockpiled a number of doses and says it stores reasonably well. Poppy said she's storing it with the two precious phials of Cinnabaris Vitalis she has thanks to Charlie's generosity.

5. Order Co-Head nominations and voting.

Everyone was given ballots. On the first round, Alice Longbottom had the largest number of votes, but not a majority. I was second (probably because no one's considered that you don't have to take the notes if you're the Co-Head), then Dora. Frank, Kingsley, and Albus also each got at least one vote.

On the second round, Alice was duly elected as Order Co-Head. Congratulations and good luck, Alice. (You'll need it.)

6. The Jr. Auxiliary

So apparently Ron Weasley approached Molly yesterday saying that he wants to join. And apparently this caused a bit of a scene, which Bill felt he needed to formally apologise for (for his words and actions, letting us all down, etc., etc., etc.)

At this point, we need to accept that our existence is not a secret from them; our membership is not a secret from them; and our projects are not a secret from them. Hermione's outburst notwithstanding, we're damn lucky that no one in the MLE has been placed to find any of this out. The question is what changes, if we admit them. And what it changes, right now, is their ability to read the Order lock.

And this is almost certainly not a good time to put them on the Order lock. First, there's Minerva, who is their Headmistress and whose condition is not a secret to the Order. Second, there's Seamus Finnigan, who is Ron and Neville's roommate -- Ron and Neville have faithfully kept the secrets they've been entrusted with (or figured out!) but concealing from your roommate that you know him to be guilty of matricide requires not merely discretion but a certain amount of acting ability. The Twins pointed out that Ron was cast as the lead in the school play. This didn't quite reassure any of us.

Moreover, winter holidays are nearly over. To discuss this properly we would also need to discuss it *with* them, not merely about them, and there simply isn't time before they go back to school. And we didn't wish to delegate that entire business to Minerva, Pomona, Poppy, and Severus. Sirius suggested spring hols. Molly and Pomona raised the objection that this would be directly before OWLs for a large number of our juniors, and for some of them it would be an extremely high-stakes test. (Not that Poppy is concerned that Miss Perks or Mr Finch-Fletchley will fail their exams as poor Thomas Capper did, but she suggested it would be in their interests to have distractions minimised directly before they sit the exam. And since new Order members can read back through ALL the old Order posts, offering up some deeply fascinating endless new reading material right before exams... well.)

Charlie suggested that we wait until summer, then have the Twins organise a meeting at the Burrow, where for once *we* can surprise *them*.

I asked Hermione what she thought about this. Hermione said that the Juniors discussed this last night and have decided that they're going to think about things they can do *on their own* and if the Order wants to recruit them, they should stop insulting them with disingenuous offers like forging work and recognise their very real talents. She added that she worked with several together to make the galleons, for instance.

That actually sounded fine to us; if they want to work on projects like the communication coins, that seems relatively harmless and Hermione can pass along their useful ideas.

7. Security Procedures.

This led into a discussion of security procedures. Frank wanted to bring this up (for Nick and other newer Order members) and mentioned that Moddey Dhoo regularly has drills to evacuate the island -- with a limited number of adults who can apparate and lots and lots of babies, drills are essential to make sure no one gets left behind. He went over the safehouses, reminding everyone that 12GP is under the Fidelius so it will work as a safehouse only for current Order members. He noted that Hermione, Neville, and Evelyn have portkeys to go to a safehouse in an emergency, but not Ron or any of the other Juniors. Molly got rather upset by this, saying that there's no way to ensure that a safehouse stays safe. Frank pointed out that the point of having a portkey is for a

true catastrophe -- the sort where there are no guarantees, only options that give you a chance.

Molly stepped out for a moment to collect herself and Charlie said that he thinks the real problem is that giving a portkey to Ron meant *not* giving a portkey to Percy -- or even Ginny.

When Molly came back, I suggested that we outfit all the Juniors with portkeys. Hermione will tell us how many (ten, she said, not counting the ones who already had portkeys) and we'll arrange to send them all to a single safehouse. What we'll do with them once they're there -- *Hydra Lestrangle*, especially! -- well, we'll think about that, but in the meantime they deserve that much protection from us. (Frank noted that the safehouses are severely understocked due to the food shortages. This will be less of a problem after spring, at least.)

Hermione added that quite a lot of them want to learn Occlumency. That brought up the question of distracting them from exams, again (also, isn't the point of giving them portkeys that they can escape if they're about to be questioned by someone like Bellatrix? If they've studied occlumency, will this make them overconfident and more prone to take chances?) No clear conclusion was reached.

Frank also wanted to talk about Ireland, and whether there was any way to secure Muggle camp occupants during conflicts. He threw out the idea of a Fidelius, but those are both time-consuming and extremely complex. We discussed a few ideas, but found no solution.

8. Matters at Hogwarts: Milland; Dolores Umbridge; the spy.

Milland: still in a dungeon.

Dolores Umbridge: still utterly loathesome.

The spy: Poppy and Pomona remain convinced it was probably Rolanda Hooch, but they have no new evidence for us. However, the good news is that there is no new evidence -- no one reports signs of anyone obviously skulking. Which raises the question of why, but we're leaving that for later discussion in the journals. Severus agreed with their assessment, but added he's seen nothing suspicious from Hooch except that she seems to actually like Umbridge's company.

There was more discussion of Milland, too, but it was as fruitless as the last three times.

8. Projects in progress: Arthur's work; Albus on research; Sirius on Laszlo's; Tonks on Beth; Tonks and Frank on Ridley; Kingsley on network; Hermione on Galleon Project

Nick had covered Arthur's work; Albus had discussed his research. Sirius had already mentioned Laszlo's was branching out into true black marketeering. Tonks said that we'd had some ongoing dealings with Beth and promised a fuller update in the journals. Tonks and Frank are making slow but respectable progress with Ridley's contacts. Kingsley said he'd report in the journals. Hermione showed us all her galleon, but I couldn't read the text, it was too bloody small. Apparently teenagers have better eyes than old people. (Dora, could you read it?)

9. Any other new business that occurs to anyone to bring up.

It being Rudy's birthday, Dora moved to sing to him. Dorcas seconded. Rudy attempted a motion to bring this to a vote, possibly even a show of hands, but the motion failed and we sang him 'Happy Birthday.'

ADJOURNMENT

It being at this point ten minutes to The Weasleys Need To Leave o'clock, we adjourned. And thank goodness, because my hand is cramping. Quibbling about what I forgot can be added in the comments (as if I could stop you lot).



 [alt_frank](#) at [2013-01-05 21:57:56](#)

(no subject)

just like to add that I've talked briefly to fred, george, lee, terry, and hermione about working on security protocols for the juniors that are more specific and cover a variety of scenarios, just to keep us all thinking ahead. portkeys are all well and good, but making sure everyone knows when to use them, and what to do once they get there, and how to handle things if they don't work is going to be important. especially because some of them probably have parents or god parents who can track their locations. merlin forbid we ever have to have a mass evac, but I don't want to leave them high and dry, and I don't want us to be stuck with our arses in the air.

and here's to my al.

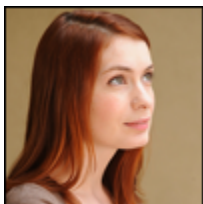


 [alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-05 22:01:14](#)

(no subject)

Thank you for taking notes, Remus, love. I think that about covers it.

And thank you to everyone for giving me your trust. I will do my utmost to keep it.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-05 22:07:03](#)

Private Message to Remus


Merlin.

I certainly wasn't expecting that.

I'll have you know that I voted for you, love. Both times. I'll have to

come by for tea in the next few days to talk, as I know I can depend on your advice and steadiness.

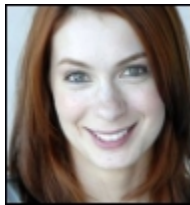



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-05 22:41:45](#)

Re: Private Message to Remus

One night a month, I'm truly not fit to lead. Would you really have wanted to count on the Order never having a crisis that required a leader on the night of the full moon?

You'll have to muddle through without a secretary, but that would probably be less of an issue.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-05 22:55:45](#)


Re: Private Message to Remus

Don't sell yourself too short, Remus. We all of us have our weak points, and having a weak point that can be anticipated and planned around is sometimes better.

What's done is done.

Just know that I trust you with all my soul, and that I'll be depending on your help to steer this ship of fools.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-05 22:56:57](#)

Re: Private Message to Remus

You'll have anything you want that I can give you. Always.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-06 03:44:39](#)


Private message to Mrs Longbottom

I'm really happy with the way the vote turned out, Mrs Longbottom. I think the Order made the right choice. Well, we would have done well with some of the others who received votes, too.

But I'm truly glad you'll be leading us.

Wish I could tell Neville and Evelyn. They'd be right proud if they knew.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-07 00:51:05](#)**
(no subject)

I've barely stopped moving since I left the meeting. Took Mum and the rest to the Twelfth Night festival, then Mum to the Ball, then was dealing with the portkey crisis, and then today Percy, Charlie and I packed up and moved Percy's things to my old flat, and then mine home to the Burrow. Whew.

So I'm belated at this, but I wanted to say that if anyone had to step in Dad's shoes, I'm glad it's someone who I know will carry on his vision for the Order.




 **[alt_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-01-05 22:09:01](#)**
(no subject)

The coin said, 'Sirius Black's got grey in his beard'.
Kidding.

Really it said something like 'Hogwarts used to have muggleborn students. Not long ago. Who's stealing magic from whom?' Rather nice, that.

And the ones before said things like 'Meet at the lake at 5' and 'Test, test, testy-test-test'.



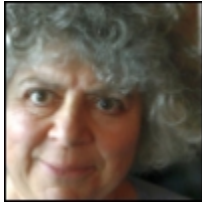
 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-06 00:46:21](#)**
(no subject)

Ta, love. Like a fine wine, getting better with age.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-06 00:58:50](#)
(no subject)

Exactly.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2013-01-05 23:48:18](#)
(no subject)

I'm not sure that congratulations is precisely the term, Alice, but I am certain you will do admirably by us all, and thank you for being willing to take it up.


For the rest of you, I realised there's a piece about Aurora I don't know that we've mentioned, and I can't decide what it means.

Did you know - besides Poppy, that is - that she didn't tell anyone about her engagement, excepting her own parents and Narcissa Malfoy (whose advice she needed) between when her Raz asked her and when they got formal permission from his lord and master?

Better than a fortnight between the two and she saw me at Lana Sandoval and Ned Pennifold's wedding in the midst. (Irma guessed something might be up, but I honestly had no idea.) And they kept it from his family and friends, as well.

Anyway. It says something about her ability to keep a confidence with the right incentive, though it's the issue of whether she'd be able to keep it from her Raz that's still the question. Or whether she'd be willing to for us.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-05 23:59:03](#)
(no subject)

Sorry, Pomona, I know I said this already, but the very fact that she plans to *marry* the Rizzer, knowing his background and his politics, disqualifies her in my book.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2013-01-06 00:32:25](#)
(no subject)

You did. Just - allow me the attempt to be as fair as possible to all sides. For what little consolation it gives.

You and others can speak for yourselves here. And she can't. Nor, for that matter, can he.

[2013-01-05 17:24:00](#)

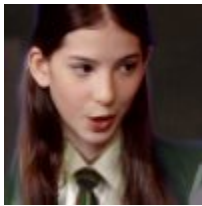
Twelfth Night

Gemma was in a choir that performed this afternoon and the Strettons took all of us to the festivities.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)**

The decorations are lovely and the music was very nice (well, and Gemma's choir was cute. At that age I think it's more about 'being charming' than 'sounding good,' although they weren't bad, anyway). We're walking around now to all the food vendors. Anything that's especially tasty I should look for?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-05 23:31:18](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Clearly the Strettons wanted to be GOOD AND LOYAL SUBJECTS OF OUR LORD or whatever it was Mr Crouch said.

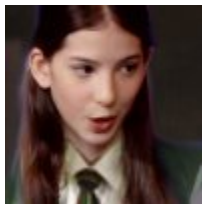
Maureen's here, they brought her to carry Val when she gets tired, which is generally less than a minute after we start walking anywhere. Philip and Gemma and Jeremy, too. Mr and Mrs Stretton gave us all money to buy what we liked, I think they want to go off and try to Meet the Important People. Good luck with THAT.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-05 23:40:09](#)**

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

Are any of the booths selling Stretton jams?




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-05 23:45:17](#)**

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

Well not in JARS

but that place selling crapes that's right by our table? they have some big tubs of it and they're filling the crapes with it. Some of them, anyway. I gave Philip some of the money, he's standing in line for some right now.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-05 23:33:09](#)
(no subject)

Try the treacle chews. They're at a bunch of the green kiosks. I was up near Westminster pier when I got them, but I've seen people eating them all over.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 23:35:22](#)
(no subject)

Brilliant.

I told Jeremy I'd mind Gemma and Philip (SORRY PHILIP!) while he hunted them down to bring them back.

(Philip hates it when Jeremy thinks he still needs 'minding.' And he has his own journal now, of course.)



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-05 23:41:16](#)
(no subject)

Heh.

Yeah, Philip. Let me tell you about big brothers. He'll still be doing that when you're my age.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 23:44:17](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, Philip, at least you have only ONE big brother.

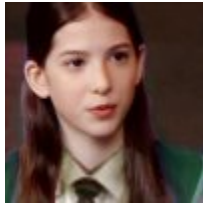
Ron has FIVE.

FIVE OLDER BROTHERS.

Think about THAT and tremble.

If anyone wants to find us, we're at a table in the little seating area that's got the enormous ice sculpture of a swan. I think it's a swan, anyway. Up on a pedestal. (It's really pretty.) At least for a


while yet. There's a booth with a really long line near us that I think is selling rolled-up pancake thingies. Crapes, I guess?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 23:47:40](#)
(no subject)

Though that's why your family was honoured today, right Ron? Six boys plus your sister, that's a LOT of children, and they had all of you even before Our Lord's government started offering incentives to encourage pureblood wizards and witches to have large families.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-05 23:48:48](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I may have been in the back when your mum went up to be Recognised And Honoured or whatever it was they said.

Unless that was some other red-haired witch with seven children. I couldn't really see.

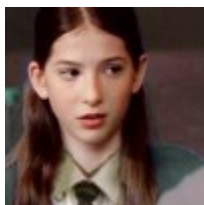



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-06 00:01:42](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

You were there?

That's really-

How'd you get away from the Fretsomes?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-06 00:03:03](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

It wasn't hard, actually, since we were already nearby.

What was it like, being up there in front of everyone?



 **alt_ron** at **[2013-01-06 00:07:48](#)**

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

There were so many people there. I mean.

It felt about the same as when I looked down at everyone in the stands during that Quidditch match.

Totally bloody terrifying.

Only today, nobody was thowing Quaffles past me.



 **alt_ron** at **[2013-01-06 02:37:20](#)**

(no subject)

You still at the faire? Or did you have to take the younger ones home?

I was thinking we could maybe walk down along the Embankment and see the lights. Towler said there's a faerie band playing some amazing stuff somewhere along there.

[2013-01-05 18:21:00](#)

Faire Ball!

Lavender, thank you so very much for hosting the pre-Ball party this evening! It was wonderful to get to chat and catch up, and then coif ourselves properly and add charms to our dress robes! Please thank your Mother for the refreshments, as well; it was all so very lovely.



 [alt_daphne](#)

The decorations this year are outstanding. But then again, they are every year - it's to be expected by now! The Tapestries are gorgeous, with rich, jewel-tone colours; certainly authentic, I'd say, and the flower arrangements smell divine. There's a certain Mediterranean warmth in the air that evokes the Italian Renaissance - or what I imagine the Renaissance might have been like, anyway.

They'll be starting with the Kings and Queens dance soon, so if you haven't arrived yet you should do within the next half-hour.

Perhaps this would be a good place to fill our dance cards? It's so crowded that it's sure to be difficult to find one another in the throng. What do you all say?

Celebriamo gli amici!




 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-06 02:02:22](#)
(no subject)

Draco! Don't forget to save me a dance.

Harry, that goes for you, too!



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-06 02:06:57](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, Daphs. It's always a pleasure to dance with you.

Though I had planned to stick with my escort tonight, if you don't mind. It's been a long weekend, and my feet are hardly in tip-top form. Fortunately, I think Pansy will forgive me a few missteps.

Looking forward to watching you on the floor, though.




 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-06 02:09:18](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Draco, you do disappoint me!

But there will be other balls, won't there?




 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-06 02:12:00](#)
Private message to Draco and Pansy

You and Pansy should find me and Blaise somewhere out-of-the-way -

We have brandy. And I've had SO MUCH champagne! I need to slow down though or I won't be able to dance...



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-06 02:19:04](#)
Re: Private message to Draco and Pansy

Have you now?

Good to know.



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2013-01-06 02:04:48](#)
(no subject)

I'm so glad you came and had a good time, and I'll be sure to pass your compliments on to Mother as well.

Ooh, I'm so excited for the dancing!



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-06 02:15:20](#)
(no subject)

I'll send her a note as well, of course!

Anyone in particular that you've got your sights on, Lav? Hmm?



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2013-01-06 02:19:41](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I don't know...someone charming who won't step on my feet!




 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-06 02:18:25](#)
(no subject)

Lav, is that Jeremy Stretton?

And look, the Frobishers are here, too.

Oh, and it's Tamblyn, with his brother! I'm going to go say hello. (To Tamblyn, that is, not Stretton or either Frobisher!)



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2013-01-06 02:21:29](#)
(no subject)

Well, *he's* certainly gotten a bit more fit since he's left Hogwarts!


I bet he's a foot-stepper, though.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-06 02:23:28](#)
(no subject)

Probably. He was always more graceful on a broom than on the ground.



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2013-01-06 02:28:26](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I see Frobishers too. I should probably go say hello to Vicky at some point.

I'm trying to think of something to say about her dress that is both complimentary and true.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2013-01-06 02:06:39](#)**
(no subject)

Dance with me later? I'll come find you.

Padma, where are you?




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2013-01-06 02:08:15](#)**
(no subject)

We're over near the band. Dad knows half the musicians. I'm in bright blue and Pav's wearing sea green.

Get some of the punch, it's divine.



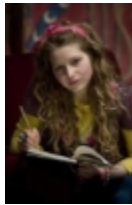
 **[alt_lavender](#)** at **[2013-01-06 02:15:30](#)**
(no subject)


Seamus! It's good to see you--don't be a stranger, now.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2013-01-06 02:16:40](#)**
(no subject)

Do you have a partner for the next dance? I think I see you. May I have the honour?



 **[alt_lavender](#)** at **[2013-01-06 02:22:01](#)**
(no subject)

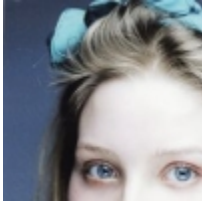
I would be more than pleased!




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2013-01-06 02:07:05](#)**
(no subject)

I think it's good that the King and Queen are starting with a proper dance, instead of launching straight into telling everyone do mad things like end every sentence


with 'over the edge' or turn round in place whenever anyone says 'Happy New Year.' It's just ever so much more elegant to at least *begin* as if it's serious!



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2013-01-06 02:12:17](#)
(no subject)

Agreed!




 [alt_blaise](#) at [2013-01-06 02:51:25](#)
(no subject)

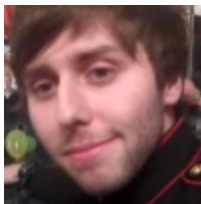
Dansez avec moi.


S'il vous plaît.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-06 02:53:42](#)
(no subject)

Mais bien sur!



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-06 02:11:17](#)
(no subject)

Hello, Daphne,

I'd be honoured if you'd give me the favour of a dance.

-Justin



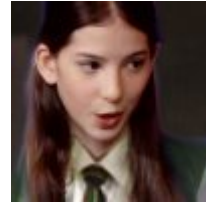
 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-06 02:17:21](#)
(no subject)

Of course, F-F. It would be my upmost pleasure.

2013-01-05 20:20:00

Private message to Pansy

So, Mr and Mrs Stretton bought tickets to the Ball for themselves and for Jeremy. I think they want Jeremy to mingle and flirt with the eligible Witches. You can just imagine how enthusiastic he is about THAT idea.



 **alt_sally_anne**

I think he's going to ask YOU to dance, just to warn you. You can hide when you see him coming, or just tell him no, if you don't want to.

The rest of us are still out watching the jugglers and so on. I keep thinking Mars and Val will surely drop over onto the ground and pass out at some point, but they seem to still be going strong.



 **alt_pansy** at **2013-01-06 03:52:58**
(no subject)

Ugh. I shall do my best to look interested enough for his parents without giving him the wrong impression.



 **alt_pansy** at **2013-01-06 03:54:58**
(no subject)

Draco's being

I don't know.

He's being awfully sweet, but something's a bit off. I think he needs

Well. I think he might need a bit of comforting, but I'm not sure why. And I'm not sure he'll tell me tonight.

2013-01-05 20:26:00

Private message to Lucius Malfoy

Just got pulled off the dance floor to handle a minor crisis. At least, I hope it's a minor crisis.



Apparently a dozen or more people were trying to use portkeys to get home and wound up in some very odd locations.

 [alt_selwyn](#)

I am absolutely certain that Magical Transportation was informed of the business surrounding Ireland this week, because I informed them myself. If Moira O'Connor couldn't be bothered to make the necessary adjustments -- well. I suppose there's been one dead O'Connor in the last week. I'll take care of the second one myself.



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2013-01-06 02:38:00**
(no subject)

Just how odd?

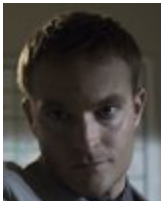
This O'Connor isn't related closely, is she? Would she have any reason to seek retribution for Kathleen?




 [alt_selwyn](#) at **2013-01-06 02:42:02**
(no subject)

She's about as closely related to Kathleen as I am to Dolores Umbridge, despite sharing a name.

If Barty wants to have someone ask that question, though, I've no intention of leaping to her defense. I told her what had been done and told her to call me immediately if she needed charts, the precise location of the rite, any of it.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **2013-01-06 02:47:07**
(no subject)

Circe and Morgana, I just got a call about a pair of twin four-year-olds who were holding a portkey when it activated -- HOURS early -- and took them, not home, but off to the home of some elderly witch in Brighton.

Who fortunately had the sense to floo them straight back to London

and they've been reunited with their parents, but we clearly need to do something IMMEDIATELY.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2013-01-06 02:50:29](#)
(no subject)

I was about to ask if you were confident they'll have the matter corrected by the time the majority of guests leave.

Sounds as if your answer would have changed, anyway.

How many incidents have been reported so far?



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2013-01-06 02:52:50](#)
(no subject)

~~Fifteen~~ Sixteen.

I got a firecall from a staffer in Magical Transportation. They're trying to fix it. Not sure if they'll manage it soon enough.

There's a way to deactivate the lot, apparently. That will inconvenience nearly everyone, but at least I'll be able to stop worrying about any four-year-olds getting dropped into deep water, instead of on the doorstep of a sensible old lady.




 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2013-01-06 02:50:26](#)
(no subject)

What the hell do we even say?

Any other week I'd simply say that Black's allies sabotaged the network, but we don't want to suggest we'd allow that sort of threat to touch those at Our Lord's celebration.

I really am going to have O'Connor's head on a platter after this. Though beheading is supposed to be a rather quick death (Nearly-Headless Nick excepted) and I think I'd like her to suffer.



 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2013-01-06 02:52:19](#)**
(no subject)

Calm, Dominic.

Set up a station near the cloak room and tell the guests that for everyone's safety, portkeys are to be checked for tampering.

We can issue new ones as people leave. Call in the Transportation staff. Or make it part of O'Connor's final act of contrition.

2013-01-05 20:44:00

Private message to Zacharias Smith

Smith.

I know you're at the ball, I saw you over by the punch bowl. I'm sure that you're going to avoid dancing all night but look -



 [alt_daphne](#)

I want to dance with you.

If you're amenable.




 [alt_zacharias](#) at **2013-01-06 03:48:22**
(no subject)

Wot?

Er.

Okay.



 [alt_daphne](#) at **2013-01-06 03:49:50**
(no subject)

What? You don't think I'm worth dancing with?

You think someone here is prettier than I am?



 [alt_zacharias](#) at **2013-01-06 03:54:26**
(no subject)

What?

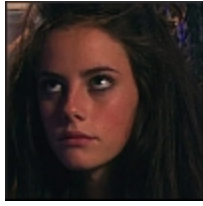
No, that wasn't

I didn't

~~You're dead pretty~~

I just didn't expect anyone to ask, is all.

Er. I don't dance well, Daphs. Maybe a slow one?



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2013-01-06 03:56:57](#)**
(no subject)

Right. A slow one.

A slow one would be perfect. Be sure to hold me close.

[2013-01-05 21:11:00](#)

Epiphany


This faire has been such a success thanks to the creativity and enthusiasm of so many talented participants. I don't know when I've enjoyed a public festival as much as I did this morning watching the parade with all the fresh-faced school groups marching in their colourful sashes, or this afternoon, attending the celebration of wizarding families, or this evening, enjoying the company of friends and acquaintances in such an elegant, gorgeously appointed room.



 [alt_lana](#)


It's been absolutely magical, all of it!



 [alt_lana](#) at **[2013-01-06 03:45:32](#)**
Private Message to Ned Pennifold

It can't seriously be taking you this long to get our drinks. What are you doing? You're not ill, are you?



 [alt_lana](#) at **[2013-01-06 04:02:02](#)**
Private Message to Vani Johns

Come find me. Our table's on the left side (if you're facing the orchestra). Ned and the others have gone off and left me holding the table.

Your robes are gorgeous tonight. And Marks looks sharp, too. Are you hitting it off? Anyway, aren't you so glad you're not with Higgs? Especially after the nuisance he made of himself at the St Mungo's auction. No shock to hear Wright dropped him after that. Who is he with tonight? Have you seen?

Anywiz. Come find me. As soon as you see this.

[2013-01-05 21:12:00](#)

Portkeys

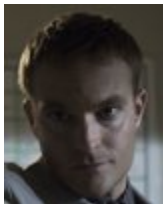
For your safety and security, all portkeys will need to be turned in for inspection. If you are presently at the Faire, a new one will promptly be issued -- or, if you can take the floo home or apparate, the Department of Magical Transportation will be offering a voucher good for £3 of the food or drink of your choice as an apology for the inconvenience.



 [alt_selwyn](#)

In the meantime, please keep all portkeys out of the hands of your younger children. The only people carrying portkeys should also be carrying wands. There may be some further announcements tomorrow; if you are currently at home, please do not attempt to use your portkeys (even Ministry-issued portkeys) to travel.

Thank you for your prompt attention.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **[2013-01-06 03:26:01](#)**

Private message to Moira O'Connor

Whether this was the result of incompetence or disloyalty on your part will likely be determined by MLE, but let me assure you that I will *personally* exact retribution for any injuries that result from this mess from *your* skin even if I have to visit you in Azkaban to flay you while you're held by Dementors.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **[2013-01-06 03:30:46](#)**

Private message to Solana James

I gather you're the one tasked with the scramble to replace the malfunctioning portkeys. Thanks so much for dropping everything to do this; I don't blame you, of course. It was Director O'Connor's responsibility to see to this -- or at least to communicate with the rest of you.

Let me assure you that outstanding performance under such extreme circumstances will be remembered, and rewarded. I know it's rather a lot to ask, but it has struck me that this disaster may be an excellent opportunity to take steps to reel in the many unregistered

portkeys in circulation. Please ensure that your staff registers the new ones as they're handed out, and rather than fixing the current problem so that every existing portkey directs to its original destination, I'm thinking we may simply want to direct them all to a single, safe location. For now, just focus on making the new (registered) ones, please.



 **alt_selwyn** at **2013-01-06 04:19:20**

Re: Private message to Solana James

All right, then. I've discussed with MLE.

We'd like all the old portkeys to redirect to a single location -- it's a secure one within MLE. This provides a number of advantages, including guaranteeing the safety of any misplaced children. (I have to say, the most nervewracking thing about this whole problem is that portkeys are one of the preferred ways to transport small children.) At any rate, I'll get you the precise coordinates in a bit.

So -- all old portkeys to MLE, all new portkeys to be registered. As poor as this timing was, I think this will actually be a significant improvement to the system in the end.



 **alt_selwyn** at **2013-01-06 03:38:02**

Private message to Barty Crouch, Jr and Lucius Malfoy

Barty -- as Lucius already knows, apparently portkey coordinates all got hopelessly scrambled by the work Tosha did last week. (I told that miserable woman personally what needed to be done; I don't know whether she's lazy, incompetent, or quietly disloyal. She is, in fact, an O'Connor -- though not closely related to Kathleen. Nonetheless. Irish.)

It's being handled. But. I had an idea. We've discussed a few times the problem of unregistered portkeys -- there are quite a few, they're a security risk, etc. Apparently it would be quite a lot easier to redirect all existing portkeys to a single location than to properly fix them. What do you say to the idea of directing them all to some secure location at MLE's HQ?

Naturally, new (registered!) portkeys would be issued for all legitimate purposes.

This would be more than a little inconvenient for you; it would flood your net with plankton, I think, for the most part. You'd have to sort through them all. Still -- thoughts? We could also just direct everyone to some safe and neutral location, but the prospect of netting a few actual troublemakers is a tempting one.

And please let me know what you determine about the O'Connor woman.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-06 04:10:25](#)


Re: Private message to Barty Crouch, Jr and Lucius Malfoy

Excellent idea.

Send them to Truncheon. Special delivery.

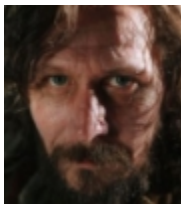
The sorting shouldn't be difficult and what we might catch could be worth the effort.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2013-01-06 04:16:40](#)

Re: Private message to Barty Crouch, Jr and Lucius Malfoy

Truncheon it is, then.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-06 03:41:45](#)

Order Only

You know that discussion we had today about making portkeys for all the juniors?

We might want to put a rush on that, if they're mucking with the security on creating new ones.

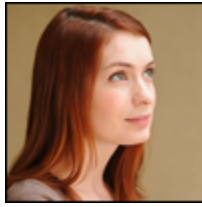



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-06 03:54:24](#)

Re: Order Only

I've just offered my services to Selwyn for whatever assistance he requires; maybe I can find out what the hell is going on.

All sorts of rumours are flying.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2013-01-06 04:33:43**

Re: Order Only

Thank you, Bill.

Let us know as soon as the rumours start solidifying more. We'll hold off on any portkey use or making new ones for the time being.

Hermione or Terry, if you could pass word to Neville and Evelyn. It's not urgent they know right this minute, but whenever you can manage.




 **[alt_bill](#) at 2013-01-06 03:49:12**

Private message to Dominic Selwyn

Some trouble going on with the network? What's the nature of the difficulty?

Do you need assistance in any way? I can escort my Mum to the hotel where my brother's waiting (she's about all done in anyway) and I can be back to fill in any way you find necessary?



 **[alt_selwyn](#) at 2013-01-06 03:59:13**

Re: Private message to Dominic Selwyn

Bill, you're a lifesaver.

Yes. The portkey network's gone all to hell. This isn't even part of my department, but it landed in my lap anyway, in part because we don't know whether the woman who runs Magical Transportation was incompetent or if this was passive-aggressive sabotage -- there was some arithmantical work her office was supposed to take care of and they bloody well didn't. So if your portkey was supposed to take you to Devon, it might take you to Berkshire. Or the top of Ben Nevis. Or the middle of Loch Ness. You see the difficulty.

We're re-issuing portkeys as fast as we can right now AND MY DAUGHTER'S GONE MISSING just to put the -- well.

Yes. I'm down by the cloakroom. If you think you can come down -- we're trying to register them as we go, and that's slowing us down.



 **[alt_bill](#) at 2013-01-06 04:11:26**

Re: Private message to Dominic Selwyn

Good grief. Yes, I'll handle anything you want; you take care of finding your daughter, absolutely. I'm already back from the hotel; I'll be right down. I assume you are already working on a trace?

Once you've found her, let me know of anything else you hear about the portkeys, or at least what I can say to people asking questions? There may be inquiries from the press.




 **[alt_selwyn](#) at 2013-01-06 04:13:27**

Re: Private message to Dominic Selwyn

She's turned up, thank goodness.

In the meantime -- don't talk to the press, for Merlin's sake. Just get down here.

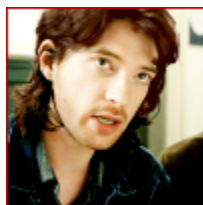


 **[alt_selwyn](#) at 2013-01-06 04:41:32**

Re: Private message to Dominic Selwyn

Do you think you could take the floo to Hogsmeade and go hunt down Septima Vector for me?

Wake her up, if you have to.



 **[alt_bill](#) at 2013-01-06 04:43:46**

Re: Private message to Dominic Selwyn

Will do. On my way.




 **[alt_bill](#) at 2013-01-06 05:04:04**

Re: Private message to Dominic Selwyn

Found Vector. She's definitely groggy (she was in bed asleep) but is returning to New London with me. I'm waiting while she's getting dressed, and...where should I bring her back?

I'm very glad to hear that Arista's been found safely.




 **[alt_selwyn](#) at 2013-01-06 05:07:21**

Re: Private message to Dominic Selwyn

Ministry. Magical Transportation office. We need her to do some calculations to reset the old portkeys. I'll meet you there.



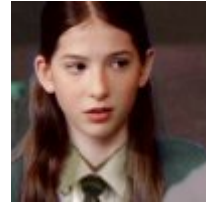
 **[alt_selwyn](#) at 2013-01-06 05:07:39**

Re: Private message to Dominic Selwyn

And thank you, Bill. You shouldn't have to be working right now, but I really, really appreciate this.

2013-01-05 21:45:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

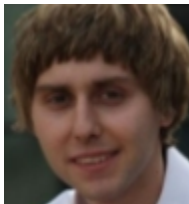


What do you suppose is going on with the portkeys?

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

We had one to get home for tonight -- they wanted us to be able to send Maureen on with Val and Mars, if they got tired.

I was thinking I'd take a voucher for more treats but the queue just to turn them in is around the block. I think we may just toss it in the bin and take the floo when we're ready to go.



 [alt_justin](#) at **2013-01-06 03:51:13**

Private Message to Sally-Anne

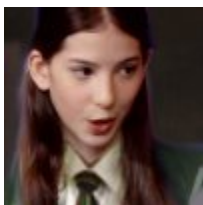
Sally-Anne,

I've no idea but I wonder if it's because they suspect the Irish have infiltrated again and they're cutting off their means of escape?

Did you notice that Director Selwyn wrote a private message to someone named O'Connor. It's got to be about the Irish situation, what?

But I don't wish to upset Ron by suggesting there might be trouble.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-06 04:08:41**

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Maybe?

But what I heard is that they'll still take you places, they just take you really WEIRD places.

Like I heard someone was trying to get home to Cardiff and they wound up in Cambridge. Opposite end of the country. They floo'd back here to complain and then apparated home.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-06 03:52:11](#)
(no subject)

Something's wrong with the portkeys.

What, as in ALL of them?



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-06 03:57:17](#)
Private Message to Neville


Do you think it's Dogstar? Or the IMA? Are they planning on setting something off and don't want anyone getting away?

Does this mean we aren't safe any more, and mum and dad can't get to us?

I want to go home.

Right now.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-06 04:05:56](#)
Re: Private Message to Neville

Well, they'd more likely to put up anti-apparition wards, wouldn't they? And people don't seem to be having any trouble with apparition, so I don't think that's it.

As for going home, we'll be okay. Gran and Uncle Algie can side along apparate us when we're ready to leave, right? I know Gran would prefer Floo, but with this crowd, there might be a long queue to use the fireplace.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-06 04:09:28](#)

Re: Private Message to Neville


Can we find them and go?

Now?

I know. I'm being silly about it.

But I'd rather go all the same.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-06 04:19:11](#)

Re: Private Message to Neville

Mr Weasley was at a party. A party that was supposed to be normal.

And there's so many people here.

There's so much that could go wrong.



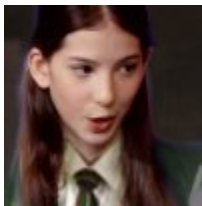
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-06 04:11:25](#)

(no subject)

Well, I don't actually know if it's all of them.

Some of them might work fine. But to test them out you have to use them, right? And I don't fancy a trip to ... well. That's just it, right? Who even knows where we'd go?

(We had a portkey but we've decided to floo home.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-06 04:27:08](#)

(no subject)

You know, this is going to completely mess up the village schools. I mean I used a portkey to go to school because we weren't on the floo network, but plenty of my classmates used portkeys too because the floo made them sneeze or they just didn't like it.

I imagine they're supposed to go back Monday, just like we're going back tomorrow. I wonder if they'll have it straightened out by then?

2013-01-05 21:51:00

Private message to Chloe

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU CAN'T FIND ARISTA?

Bloody hell

People have been just DROPPING their portkeys -
- what if she picked one up? It could have taken
her bloody anywhere. USE THE BRACELET, maybe she's just -- in the
loo, looking at the tapestries, playing some game. In fact it even ought
to find her anywhere in the Protectorate, but

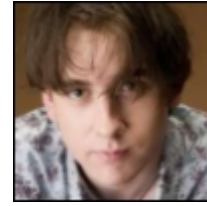
I will tear Moira O'Connor limb from limb if any harm comes to my
child due to this.



 [alt_selwyn](#)

[2013-01-05 22:13:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private message to Terry Boot




 **[alt_neville](#)**

Terry: Portkeys aren't working. So we can't use the go-to-hell portkeys Mum and Dad gave us. In case of emergency.

Can you ask them, uh...there isn't any emergency going on. Is there?

Sorry, don't mean to be panicking or anything. But we're at the Twelfth Night Faire in New London, and Evelyn's getting really nervous.




 **[alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-06 04:42:21](#)**
(no subject)

We're home again. Once she got wind of the portkey trouble, Gran and Uncle Algie took us home immediately via side-along. Gran doesn't like using anything but the Floo, but...yeah. She was a little worried, and she wanted to get us out of there.

Let us know about the portkeys as soon as you can. Thanks.



 **[alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-06 04:53:01](#)**
(no subject)

We've had word passed along that your portkeys aren't safe to use at all. Somethings thrown off the destination calibration, system-wide. Once things are sorted out, your mum and dad think they'll be getting you new ones, but they may not be sure for awhile.

If it helps, there's no emergency on their end. Or anywhere else in their network that they know of. It just seems to be some kind of trouble with the portkey network.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-06 04:53:57](#)
(no subject)

Thanks, Terry. It'll make me a little nervous not to have the back up, but knowing there's no emergency, it'll be a load off our minds.

[2013-01-05 22:30:00](#)

Order Only: Warning re: portkeys


Pass the word along to all our networks: DON'T use portkeys. At all. The destination calibration is entirely bugged up.



 **[alt_bill](#)**

Will pass along more as I-hang on....




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-06 04:38:13](#)**
(no subject)

Selwyn just told me that it was the rite. That damnable rite screwed up both the portkey network and the floo network. The floo network made the necessary adjustments but the person overseeing the portkeys did not.

No idea if it was sabotage or not. But the last name of the woman at the portkey network is O'Connor.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-06 04:40:44](#)**
(no subject)

So does that mean we should or we should not be trying to make more portkeys in a big hurry?

Sounds like we need to wait. And replace the ones we've already provided.


Bugger.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-06 04:46:13](#)**
(no subject)

Bugger indeed. I wouldn't advise making more; things are REALLY hosed up. Selwyn just ordered me to go find Septima Vector. To 'wake her up, if you have to.'



 **[alt_bill](#) at 2013-01-06 05:15:49**

Private message to Charlie Weasley

I hope Mum's gone to sleep, but if she hasn't, just reassure her for me, will you? Like I said, the portkey network seems to be bolluxed up, but no signs so far of any other danger or plot or anything. I'm perfectly safe but I'll probably be here quite late, helping deal with this.



 **[alt_charlie](#) at 2013-01-06 05:33:01**

Re: Private message to Charlie Weasley

Cheers. She's in bed already, and I'm just sitting up a bit and enjoying the quiet. If there's anything I can do from here, let me know.

2013-01-05 22:58:00

Private Message to Mr and Mrs Selwyn

Um.

I know you're really busy, Director Selwyn, but I just wanted you to know



 [alt_harry](#)


I was getting away for a bit, you know, because there were a lot of people and when I went downstairs I found Arista. And she's been telling me all about her bracelet, and how nifty it is, and how she's testing it to see if it works. And I've asked her if she wants to go upstairs, but she's pretty

She really wants you to find her, and I'm sort of pretending I'm talking with Draco right now so she doesn't know I'm writing you.

Anyways. In case you were wondering where she was.

I think we're by the kitchens.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **2013-01-06 04:03:32**
(no subject)

Oh bloody hell thank God

thank you very much, my boy. I'm rather tied up at present but I'm sure Chloe will be along momentarily.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2013-01-06 04:13:29**
(no subject)

It's no problem, Director Selwyn.

I just didn't want you to worry or anything and I saw you'd written Mrs Selwyn and, anyways, it's fine.

She's telling me her latest jokes. She's gotten a lot better at telling them than last Christmas. Anyways. We'll just stay here until Mrs Selwyn gets here.

2013-01-05 23:25:00

Private Message to Seamus

Where did you go?

We went out for a drink some air. We're over by the painting of Mrs DePasse.



 [alt_padma](#)

Come and join us. Zabini's only being slightly pretentious.




 [alt_seamus](#) at **2013-01-06 04:44:20**
(no subject)

I was dancing. And then --

I'll come find you. Are you still by the painting?



 [alt_padma](#) at **2013-01-06 04:48:38**
(no subject)

No, we're about to go have another dance.

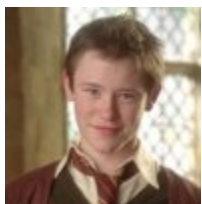
You should see how Daphs is treating Zach!

Oh, stay there on the floor; you'll see in a minute.



 [alt_seamus](#) at **2013-01-06 04:50:21**
(no subject)

I didn't think Daphne liked Zach. Particularly that way.



 [alt_seamus](#) at **2013-01-06 04:51:07**
(no subject)

You certainly seem to be enjoying Blaise's company, though.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2013-01-06 05:03:11](#)**
(no subject)

I said, he's only being mildly annoyinging.

He's very...graceful.

And he can be gallant when he rememmbers.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2013-01-06 05:19:13](#)**
(no subject)

I'd love to have a dance, next time you're free.



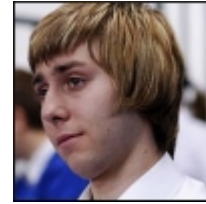
 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2013-01-06 05:30:11](#)**
(no subject)

They just said this is the last one.

I'll be right there.

2013-01-05 23:50:00

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



 **alt_justin**

Dux,

You've not left yet, have you? Without saying goodnight?

I came back from the loo and you'd gone from our table. Did your parents collect you?

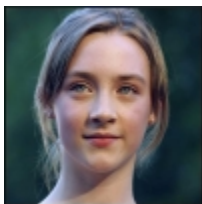
I say, Daphne's certainly flirting with Zach, what?


Just as well; if she asked me for another dance I don't think I could do it. I'm bally well done in from the last few days.

I'm thinking of telling the Jugsons I'm ready to go. But not before finding you, what?

There's such a long queue for portkeys I think it might take us an age to retrieve the cloaks.

-Justin



 **alt_hydra** at **2013-01-06 05:03:29**

(no subject)

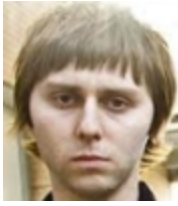
Yes, I'm still here. Daddy wants to bring me around to talk to some different people. I don't know why, exactly. Except maybe to keep me from dancing with anyone.


It's become a bit maddening.

I think Daphne's flirting with Zach because Blaise has danced several dances in a row with Padma. Zach doesn't appear to be fussed? Neither does Padma.

Shall I tell Daddy I've got to go to the loo and come find you?

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-06 05:06:58](#)**
(no subject)

I'd prefer you tell him you're coming back to Remy's but as that's highly unlikely, what, I suppose I'll settle for slipping away to come and find me.

Merde I say, I'm sorry, Dux. I'm just...bally well exhausted. And I still need to find your aunt and uncle.

-Justin



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-06 05:08:58](#)**
(no subject)


I'd better not, tempting as it is.

But we'll be back at school soon. And back at the stairwell.

All right, I'll excuse myself. Where are you?

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-06 05:11:14](#)**
(no subject)

I'm already envisioning a private train compartment with the blind drawn, what!

I'm just in the ballroom off the foyer.

-J



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-06 05:14:20](#)**
(no subject)

Just so long as we don't end up with detention!

On my way.

||| From,
Hydra

2013-01-06 00:03:00

Order Only: Private Message to Padfoot

Come back to bed.

I'm not sleeping either.



 [alt_lupin](#)



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2013-01-06 06:09:25**

(no subject)

No, I'd only -

I'm

I'm not good company right now, puppy.



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2013-01-06 06:12:05**

(no subject)

Is it the memory?

I was able to put it out of my mind for most of the day. But lying in bed I keep thinking about it. Seeing it again. Especially when the boy was kneeling on the ground, right before

You could tell he didn't want to.

And then his face after.

Sorry. I can't imagine I'm improving your mood any.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-06 06:15:08](#)
(no subject)

Not the memory itself, although - too right.

Old dream. Worse.

Serves me right for snuffling the scraps of those crepes on the pavement, eh?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-06 06:21:36](#)
(no subject)

I really don't know how you can eat things off the pavement, even in dog form.

What did you dream about? Was it the one about Severus?

Or the one about Bella?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-06 06:27:11](#)
(no subject)

I never told you

How did you

No, it wasn't either. Well, I should say it wasn't one or the other. Bits of both. Makes sense; I said something to Molly about that night. And then seeing Bella in the memory, well, that would trigger a dream about her interrogation, wouldn't it do?

But there was something else, not sure what. Something about those runes in the rite. Regulus.

Can't remember.

Anyway, there's no need for you to put up with me brooding on it. I'll just read a bit and come back down.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-06 06:28:44](#)
(no subject)

You talk in your sleep sometimes, you see.

But you dreamed about the runes? The 'dark power' one?

You're welcome to come brood here. We can brood together like a couple of hens.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-06 06:30:43](#)
(no subject)

Mordred. Glad I didn't sleep when she had me locked up, then.

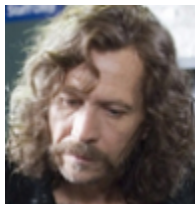
Don't keep you awake, do I?


Anyway, you *are* a hen if you think we need to dwell on it. It'll pass.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-06 06:33:18](#)
(no subject)

I can't imagine an MLE cell is particularly conducive to restful repose, but if it's any consolation, you weren't giving away any Order secrets. I knew what you were dreaming because -- well, I know enough about you that I could draw conclusions from what I was hearing.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-06 06:28:09](#)
(no subject)

I mean. Are *you* all right?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-06 06:30:09](#)
(no subject)

Well, no nightmares yet.

Not much sleep either, mind you.

I've been going over the memory in my head. I've been telling myself that I'm doing it to spot anything I might have missed but really, I'm just brooding.




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-06 06:32:58](#)
(no subject)

Well, stop that, then.


I think it was the power of suggestion, that's all. Just needed to look outside a moment.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-06 06:34:34](#)
(no subject)

There's a window in here, too, you git.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-06 06:38:12](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, obviously I *know* that, Moony, cheers.

It's not the same view as ... as out Reg's window.

Right. Done now.

I'm coming back down. No brooding. Plenty of careful study, however.

2013-01-06 00:06:00

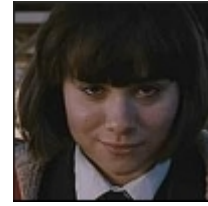
Private Message to Draco

Hello, you.

Are you okay having a good time?

Where did you get to, by the way?

Maybe it's me who's got somewhere. I'm by the ice things with Harry and Katie. Anyways. Harry's actually smiling, and he laughed a few times, and I'm glad she came.



 [alt_pansy](#)




 [alt_draco](#) at **2013-01-06 05:19:42**
(no subject)

I wonder who funded Bell's ticket? I don't think I've ever seen any of her family at the Ball in past years.

Saying goodbye to Finch-Fletchley. He's convinced the Jugsons to leave early now, it seems.

Are you having a nice time? If you want to dance with someone else, you ought to go ahead. I feel like I've been keeping you to myself all night.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2013-01-06 05:29:28**
(no subject)

I think she said something about her parents giving it to her for Christmas. She's very good at making things sound amusing. Harry was a bit embarrassed he hadn't thought to give her one himself, but she's laughed it off and they're bonding over parents being overbearing.


It's rather sweet.

I am having a nice time. And you needn't worry about the dancing. I've had a perfectly wonderful time with you, and can't think of anyone I'd rather be kept by.

I'd tell you you could take Daphs out for a spin if you wanted, but

her tongue is currently down Smith's throat, so I think her card is full.




 **alt_draco** at [2013-01-06 05:31:31](#)
(no subject)

Overbearing parents...yeah, I think he has her on that one.

Well the last dance is coming up, and I'd like to take you out there again, May I have the pleasure?

And Smith? Are you serious? I thought she came here with Blaise...




 **alt_pansy** at [2013-01-06 05:34:26](#)
(no subject)

She's with Blaise now. I may have hallucinated it.

The pleasure's all mine.




 **alt_draco** at [2013-01-06 05:37:24](#)
(no subject)

You must have had some of his brandy, then. I had a tad myself. Not too much. Guess I didn't fancy it.

Alright, I see you across the room. Be to you soon.



 **alt_pansy** at [2013-01-06 05:36:21](#)
(no subject)

I love you, Draco Malfoy.

In case I haven't told you lately.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-06 05:38:34](#)
(no subject)

I love you too.

Really, you have no idea how much.

2013-01-06 00:09:00

Private Message to Daphs and Padma

And if we should fail and fall, we do so full aware

Sing tow, row, row, row, row, row...

Sing tow,

row,

row,

row,

row,

row,

for the Lord Protector.

And a fine time was had by all, what?

G'night, ladies.



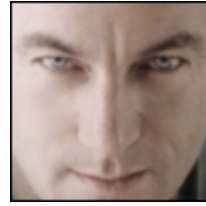
 [alt_blaise](#)

2013-01-06 00:54:00

Private Message to Draco and Narcissa

Son, if you could join your mother, she will side-along you back to Kensington for the night.

Must stay to ensure that this portkey idiocy is properly resolved.



 [alt_lucius](#)



 [alt_draco](#) at **2013-01-06 06:01:38**
(no subject)

Of course, Father.

Is Mother free from all her admirers, yet?




 [alt_narcissa](#) at **2013-01-06 06:07:17**
(no subject)

Draco!

I hope I shall never be *devoid* of admirers, dear. But I am, as it happens, waiting just by the Apparition point, whenever *you* can disentangle yourself from the harem you seem to have attracted tonight.



 [alt_draco](#) at **2013-01-06 06:09:55**
(no subject)

Mother, you seem offended. Not what I intended, I'm sure.

I'm completely disentangled, I assure you. I'll come to you straight away.

2013-01-06 00:55:00

Private Message to Barty and Dominic

Barty, the next street barker who complains of being given another hour's over-time to help amuse the throngs while they queue for the grates may be introduced to Truncheon's loving hospitality, as well.



 **alt_lucius**

For the last half-hour have had nothing but arguments from cart-pushers who claim exhaustion and to have had a contract releasing them at midnight.

They want to see you, Dominic, about those vouchers you promised. For some benighted reason your people have been sending the whingers to *me*, as if I can reimburse them out of pocket.

Think you had better come to the Embankment tent. Don't respond; just come along and address it.



 **alt_crouch_jr** at **2013-01-06 06:06:08**
(no subject)

'Wagstaff' has been culling his share of the whingers (and off-license purveyors of all and sundry), too. Busy night in Interrogation, as well. Am there now, in fact.

Could send Forney. Or Braithewaite. If you need re-enforcement.

2013-01-06 11:52:00

(no subject)

Sirius Black is alive. You've seen the pictures. We pretend he's dead bc we're afraid of Auror Lestrangle, not bc we don't know the truth.



 [alt_galleon](#)

[2013-01-06 11:57:00](#)

Portkeys

During the festivities last night, we began to hear reports of portkeys that were acting unpredictably. Naturally, this raised concerns, not least because portkeys are so often used to transport children or others who might not be at full magical capacity.



 [alt_selwyn](#)

After investigation, we have determined that all portkeys will need to be replaced. The Office of Magical Transportation has the arithmantical calculations necessary to set up new portkeys, and will do so on request starting first thing on Monday morning. (This will make things difficult for a day or two for some offices and village schools; I ask that everyone exercise patience and understanding.)

As of early this morning, we have successfully reset all existing portkeys to at least render them safe. All existing portkeys will now, when activated, transport the user to a single safe location; if need be, they will be assisted on to their final destination. However, we would like to strongly encourage you to not test this (if you try this, expect some significant delays!)

If you have a registered portkey, a Ministry owl will be by sometime today to collect it, and replace it with a new registered portkey that will take you to the same destination. (This should take care of most schoolchildren who use portkeys for transit.) If you have an unregistered portkey, please turn it into the Ministry, either by owl or in person. You can fill out a form to request a new one, and we expect to have it to you shortly. There is no charge for this service (although a nominal fee will go into effect after February 1).

Do not try to make your own portkeys based on the old methodology. They will not respond as you anticipate.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **[2013-01-06 19:03:09](#)**

Private Message to D Selwyn and C Yaxley

Already a silver lining.

Truncheon reports an individual of peculiar interest in his net this morning. Am on my way to have a look.

S. Have you taken the pleasure of debriefing O'Connor yet? Happy to second if you wish.



 **[alt_selwyn](#) at 2013-01-06 19:37:00**

Re: Private Message to D Selwyn and C Yaxley

I spent the night on the portkeys, but I'm eager to debrief O'Connor ... as soon as you're ready to conduct me to her.



 **[alt_selwyn](#) at 2013-01-06 19:37:44**

Re: Private Message to D Selwyn and C Yaxley

And that is thoroughly welcome news about Truncheon.

What a night. Ugh. I am delighted to hear that it wasn't an utter waste.



 **[alt_lupin](#) at 2013-01-06 19:50:09**

Order Only

Bill, were you able to find out where they're directing people?

Perhaps we should run a test -- surely we have someone with a legitimate portkey who could have plausibly missed the news. Send them through so we know just how poor a risk it is for any of us (or the Juniors) to use portkeys.

2013-01-06 12:54:00

NO RUNNING

We've already had to sit several of you down after running up and down the cars. Stop It. It's dangerous and it's against the rules.

Also, less shouting would be appreciated. I'm sure everyone's excited to see each other again but that's no reason to act like village schoolchildren.



 **alt_padma**

2013-01-06 13:08:00

(no subject)

Who cares? A fugitive who doesn't know life as a citizen. Find solutions on your own, not as a follower.

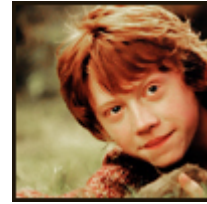


 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-06 13:34:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

So I guess I should say thanks to everyone for, well. Everything.



Evyls gave me Seeker Queens and Keeper Kings. It's totally wizard. Have any of you lot read it? Awesome quidditch strategies, but worked out from chess gambits and sequences. I've been sitting here reading it.

 [alt_ron](#)

Where are the rest of you lot who aren't sitting in with us?

Hey, Perks. I thought you were going to find us. Third or fourth car from the front. Come look us out.

Anywiz.

I really am glad we're going to be back at school.




 [alt_hermione](#) at **2013-01-06 20:32:19**
(no subject)

Sorry, I was reading. I'm in the compartment with Draco and Harry's bags. Draco's with the other Prefects and I think Harry's with Katie? Maybe. Anyway, there's no one else in here so I can read the journals for a while.

I guess someone didn't like the other message on the Galleon?



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-06 20:56:10**
(no subject)

Hiya. Sounds boring where you are.

Yeah. Wonder who that was? (Short list of guesses.)




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-06 21:03:20](#)
(no subject)

Oh, but it's not at all, I've been reading a book on the Floo system (transfigured to look like something very boring).

Also, I think when we get back we should talk about who to give new Galleons to. Harry gave me some at Christmas and I can turn them into more coins.

Why, is it more interesting where you are? It's not as if I could come and visit.



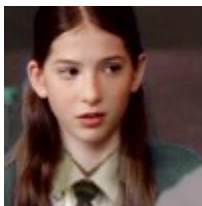
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-06 21:06:51](#)
(no subject)

It was probably Draco.

I'm rather glad that he did. Isn't that sort of what we were trying to do? To make a place where people can really say things, even if it isn't things we agree with?

Maybe other people will be more likely to write on it too, now. Like Harry.

Hermione, do you want a cauldron cake or something?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-06 21:29:18](#)
(no subject)

Oh, sorry. ~~Michael wanted~~ I was sitting with Michael for a while, and now I'm on my way to find Harry because he wanted a team meeting on the train, you know, for quidditchers who aren't also prefects or


whatever.

I agree with Pansy about the coin, even though I was the one who put up the message about Sirius -- I mean, whoever it was makes a good point, right? It's funny if it was Draco, because that's pretty much exactly what we all said yesterday. That we have to make our own way.

But even if

Well like Pansy said, we wanted a way for people to talk. To say things they were afraid to say when people knew it was them.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-06 23:01:01](#)**
(no subject)


Hullo, Ron,

I say, were we going to try to meet, after supper? In the secret room? I think we ought to do.

(Madam Umbridge also informed us that we shall be embarking on an outdoor exercise 'similar to last year's' on the 27th. Though I suspect when she says it's been changed, that's to prevent the sort of perils the scenario involved last year, what!)

-Justin




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-06 23:15:43](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, defs. We should go up there after supper. As soon as you can get away from people who shouldn't come along.


(Not sure I trust her to have made it safer.)



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-06 23:56:31](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, knowing her, it'll be worse.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-06 23:56:11](#)**
(no subject)

I've been making lists of Assets and Skills. And Things We Can Do. It isn't terrifically long, but it's a start.

2013-01-06 13:46:00

Our return to school

Dear boys and girls,

I am sure we are all so very glad to be returning to school where we can again devote our attentions and focus to becoming the very best possible citizens of the Protectorate we can be. I have been working very hard while all of you have been on holidays to arrange a number of exciting new plans for each and every one of you.



 **alt_umbridge**

Before I talk about our upcoming exercises together, I do want to mention one teensy thing. I could not help but notice that so very many of you make excessive use of the private messaging function in the journals. Now, it is understandable that *important* people may need to use the function to conduct critical business, and Our Gracious Lord makes that possible, as Our Lord makes all things possible.

But dear children, you should understand that using the private message function can feel so terribly exclusionary. When you write to only one or two other people, you cut yourself off from others, and you make those others feel uncomfortable and unwelcome. Surely, you want to demonstrate the very best of the Protectorate's welcoming and affirming ideas!

To that end, let us all make a resolution to make at least one public post in our journals each and every week, so that others may learn about what we're doing. In this way, we may also, if we are very fortunate, hear the guidance of older and wiser heads in our community most directly. To aid in this, I will be providing little essay prompts, delivered at random to students, to encourage us to have something to discuss as a larger community.

Upcoming activities

First, our regular exercise sessions will begin promptly again on Monday afternoon. Now, I'm sure some of you have slacked over the holidays, but I trust that the counsellors will set every example and create a particularly strenuous programme of exercises this week.

Second, we will gather on Sunday to be of great use to our village schools. We will travel by port-key (I am assured that the little

difficulties of this weekend will be resolved) in small groups to a number of schools, each group lead by several YPL counsellors. There, you will assist the teachers with any number of teensy tasks. Rearranging furniture or woodpiles for greater efficiency, repairing books and other items, and of course making sure that absolutely everything is tidy and organised. By being of service in these small ways, you will learn to be of service in greater ones.

Third, I remind our CCF students of our upcoming day-long session on January 27th. While there are some similarities to your exercise last year, there are some changes this year, including the fact it will take place at Hogwarts itself. Please be prepared to assemble at 10am in the front hall, wearing appropriate clothing, as we will be outside until nearly supper.

Finally, I am in the process of discussing a substantial new project, with the support of the Board and several members of the Council. While it is not quite ready to be revealed, I hope to have much more information for you within the fortnight.



 **alt_umbridge** at **2013-01-06 19:01:06**

Private message to Marston Strangeweale and Latimer Caldwell

Marston, I know you're still horribly busy with those disgraceful insinuations. How anyone could believe that someone as loyal and upstanding as you are had anything to do with that matter at the Ministry party, I have not the faintest idea. (Though as you asked, I have not spoken about the matter to others. I do wish you would let me be of assistance.)

However, I do need to update you both on my various conversations over the holidays.

I have now spoken to Peakes (extensively, including two separate visits at his New London home this week), Atkinson, Burroughs, Evan, Fleet, Jenkins, Rickett, Sedgewick, Shaw, and Vandemar. Fleet is still uncertain (implications for her husband), and Vandemar wants more details on the fiscal impact (I will be providing further information to him within the fortnight) but I believe plans are solidly in place once we find the slightest excuse. I will of course update as soon as I have anything new.

We've a solid majority, anyway, even if *someone* else gets Rickett on

their side. She is so annoyingly fickle.

I also have our new student project firmly in hand. Briefly, I intend to invite some three dozen students initially, and then winnow down substantially to those who can be of greatest use. After significant consideration, I do expect to include some of the children involved in that abhorrent duelling club: I believe it is more than worth giving Theodore Nott Sr. reason to back us, and that means adding Crabbe and Goyle's children as well, and a few others in their position. The power of redemption and giving their energies a proper focus should stand us in good stead if there's any argument.

In mutual service,
Dolores



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-06 19:15:40**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Blah blah blah blah, children. Blah blah teensy blah.
Hem, hem. Blah blahdety blah.

Huh. I'd forgotten what a windbag she is.

Anyone read it?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-06 21:38:57**

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

She wants us to use PMs less. Which just means I'll put ALL my PMs to Pansy under the lock now, I guess.

And she's going to make us write essays in our journals, because we don't have nearly enough to do.

There. Read it for you.



 **alt_umbridge** at **2013-01-06 19:16:33**

Private message to Cassandra Calderwood

Miss Calderwood,

Do stop by my office once you are settled in at school. I had a delightful conversation with your mother on Friday, as I'm sure she's made clear to you, and I have promised my every assistance in ensuring you do your very best this coming term.

I am at home to students from three to five pm each weekday afternoon, or by appointment.

Dolores Umbridge



 **alt_umbridge** at **2013-01-06 20:01:48**

Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle and Antonin Dolohov

Good afternoon,

I just wanted to update you both on the plans for the memorial garden. Despite the fact you were both too busy to meet, I have forged ahead, and I am delighted to say that there is a great deal of support for the project. We are still in the very earliest stages of the actual design, but I will of course inform you of planning sessions, since I am certain you would wish to be there and will be glad to assist.

In particular, I would appreciate your help in devising brief biographies of the following, suitable for building into the memorial. If for whatever reason you are unable to assist me directly - and I do hope this is not the case - please inform me who would be the best alternate source to approach. And of course, if there are any names I'm missing. I currently expect to include Serena Baddock, Regulus Black, Alecto Carrow, Amycus Carrow, Glaucus Gibbon, Julius Mulciber, Tony Parkinson, Evan Rosier, Malvasius Travers and Lycus Warrington.

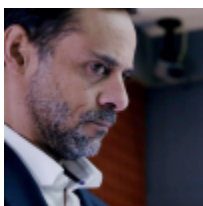
There is also the question of whether we should include those who were students (or who had just left school) who fought for Our Lord and died heroically for the Protectorate but who were not made one of his Council before their deaths. (Should I perhaps speak to Savitha Desai about them, as all were her students?) Those would include

Cormac Hedigan, Paxton Urquhart, and Dirk Vaisey, but I may be missing a few names.

Second, I am sure you both remember my plans for a CCF afternoon activity. Antonin, I could not help but notice you seemed greatly recovered over the holidays. I am therefore asking again whether you would be willing to assist - both of you - in providing challenges and supervision for the event. Rabastan, I understand from Campanella Wright that you should be informed of the specific tasks to ensure Mr Marvolo's security, in any case.

Perhaps we could meet later this week and discuss both projects and how you might be of great service? Thursday after supper would work well for me. (Antonin, that is also the day I hope to observe your classes, of course.)

Yours in Our Lord's service,
Dolores



 **[alt_antonin](#) at 2013-01-07 04:11:00**

Re: Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle and Antonin Dolohov

Dolores,

It is a pity I haven't been able to discuss the matter with you over holidays, but sadly, mine were quite full of work on Our Lord's behalf that was both urgent and time-sensitive -- anything not equally urgent and pressing was forced to fall to the wayside. But then, of course you will understand prioritisation, and that there are only so many hours in the day, due to your own past years of service.

The Council will of course wish to be informed of your plans, and to hold final approval of the design and its sentiments -- it is not, you understand, that anyone thinks you incapable or indiscreet, but there are certainly a number of considerations. I don't think, though, that Rizzer or I -- or any of our brethren -- would be the right people to provide the epitaphs for our fallen; we are too close to the matter, and far more likely to provide eulogy or hagiography than biography. There are several fine historians working on putting recent events into context; I would recommend approaching one of those.

As to the afternoon activity: as we are at the start of term and I am not yet embroiled in matters academic, I should be able to provide you with some assistance, presuming of course that Our Lord does not continue to require such a copious outlay of my time. My Thursdays are, sadly, rather full -- well, if you will be sitting in our classes, you've no doubt noticed my schedule. Perhaps Friday morning?

In service,
Antonin



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-07 13:04:16](#)

Re: Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle and Antonin Dolohov

Ah, one saw you - so very visibly - at so many social events it was not obvious you were at Our Lord's work so extensively.

As to the project, I have been told repeatedly, and by so many people, that no one but Our Lord's Council Members may truly understand that role that I was certain one of you would prefer to write the biographies rather than leave it to an outsider, even an otherwise qualified historian.

But I suppose if that - historian, then review - is what is necessary, then that is what must happen.

As to Friday, I see from your schedules that both of you appear to be free at 11 in the morning. My office, or do you require elsewhere?

2013-01-06 14:56:00

(no subject)

You'd be astonished how many people care. And how many he's inspired to be leaders themselves. Or at least no longer followers.



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-06 16:04:00

(no subject)

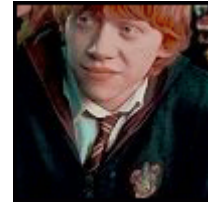
also bc ppl tried to say that he was an impostor in the GTs and that meant he was lying, but he really has been telling the truth all along.



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-06 17:19:00

Private Message to Mrs Selwyn and Arista Selwyn



Dear Arista,

I wanted you to know that Satsuma came along with me on the train today when I came back to school. He sat on the table and looked out the window for most of the trip, but I offered him some milk in a saucer when it was time for lunch. I think he wished I'd had some fish to share, but all I had were some bacon sarnies they made us at the hotel before we left for the station today, and he didn't seem to like the smell of that! Heh. I'll see if Ken Towler will share some of the food he feeds Malaprop--that's Ken's cat.

 [alt_ron](#)

Do you think Satsuma likes to spend time with other cats? I was thinking I'd wait until tomorrow to introduce him to Mal because Mal always goes off mousing as soon as we all come back to school. Sometimes we don't see him again for a day or so. Towler thinks he might have a girlfriend, but I think it's just that when we're all gone home for hols, the mice forget to worry about looking out for cats, so they're easier to catch when we first come back.

I expect you must be going back to school tomorrow, too. Are you happy that school's starting again? What's your favourite thing to learn about?

Anywiz, I wanted you to know that Satsuma and I are getting to be great friends. It was really very nice of you to let him come live with me since I don't have a familiar of my own. Thank you.

Your friend,
Ron Weasley

2013-01-06 20:52:00


Order Only Private Message to Charlie Weasley



Say. Are you still off work? Or did you go back today without saying?

 [alt_nymphadora](#)



 [alt_charlie](#) at **2013-01-07 03:20:20**

(no subject)

Off 'til Tuesday -- we spent today moving Bill out of his flat, and Percy in. I've got my feet up in the kitchen keeping Mum company at the moment with a cuppa.

What's up, luv?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at **2013-01-07 03:22:21**

(no subject)


Funny. I've got my feet up in the drawing room at the moment, having a cuppa. It's nice we close the shop on Sundays.

Anywiz, I was just thinking about all the things that have happened recently, and wondered about you.

How was the presentation yesterday? And the faire?

We went for a while, Ellie, Bea and I did. Came home when our noses got too cold. And our fingers (and everything else) got too sticky.



 [alt_charlie](#) at **2013-01-07 03:24:27**

(no subject)

It has been a pisser of a week, hasn't it?


I came home yesterday right after the command performance. Thought about sticking around for the Faire, enough that people could notice me being a good and loyal son of the Protectorate, but honestly, after all the shouting

yesterday morning I was so fed up with people that I just told everyone I'd take care of the chores so they could stay out as long as they wanted.

Didn't sleep all that well last night, though. Kept seeing that memory. And thinking about how Ron and Ginny have to sit in a classroom with Dolohov twice a week, and they don't have any idea he's the sort of person who can do that. Who likes doing that. And that poor kid...

Ugh. Tell me something happy to take my mind off it. Has Bea figured out the blocks I gave her for Christmas yet?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-07 03:35:02](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I suppose that was the thing that I was most struck by about Dolohov and Crouch. How much they enjoyed it. That's not the right word for it, but I'm not sure what is. I know Barty. I've seen him in all his moods, but during the rite, his face came over all excitement and... something else. Like he was in love or so entirely *charmed* by something. You know? It was not a Barty way of looking, at all. It was like someone was polyjuiced to look like him but didn't know how to act the part at all.

And Dolohov. Yes, well. You could see the energy making him swell up practically.

Sorry. Bea doesn't look a thing like that when she's playing with her blocks. But she does squeal with glee when she makes them make the happy sounds. Mind you, she's got no idea what she did to earn that. Do you really think it'll teach her to spell words?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-07 03:44:28](#)
(no subject)

Is it really very wrong that my favourite part of this whole week was smoking and telling terrible dragon jokes with you the other night?



 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-07 03:51:04](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. That's what I keep coming back to. And -- I was watching Dolohov, right at the start when Bill first got there, and he looked like shite. Like he was about to fall over any second. And then he set down his cane to start the rite, and once they broke the circle, did you see? Crouch had to pick it up and hand it to him to remind him to take it with him, and he didn't need it anymore. Like whatever they did healed him somehow. And I keep thinking, what if it wears off, and he decides he wants to do it again? Will he just keep killing people?

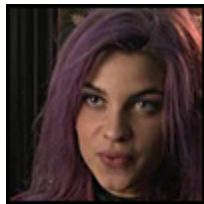
I remember thinking that about Crouch, too. He looked happy.

Or, yeah, in love. Merlin. You don't suppose the gossip rags are right and he's got a thing going on with Dolohov, do you? (Don't make fun of me for reading them, Mum leaves them lying around.)

...I think I need to go wash my brain out now from that mental image. Ugh.

I'm glad she likes the blocks! It was devilish to think of all the words those letters might be able to spell so I could do the charms right. I probably missed a bunch, so if you try to spell something obscure with them and they make the sad noises, don't blame me. I don't know if it will teach her to spell words, but Mum and Dad had a set like that for us when I was younger, and I think it did help us learn to read a bit earlier than we might!

And that was my favourite part of this week, too. What do you call a dragonkeeper who specialises in healing dragon teeth?



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-07 04:07:10](#)
(no subject)

You know, you're right. By the end of it, I'd totally forgotten how crippled he seemed at the start.

That's- it makes a horrible kind of sense that he would want

that power rush again and again and again. Ugh.


Actually, that's hilarious about Crouch and Dolohov. He's always in the gossip mags, y'know. But always, always with women. I mean, I wondered a bit when he had Regulus Black living with him, why they didn't ever make up stories to link them like that. Because Reg was open about hooking up with both blokes and witches. But they never. Think they knew Farty'd have their heads if they did.

But now they're having a real festival over what might be between him and Dolohov, and he's just letting them write it. I've no idea. Except to say it's not true. There's no way FGrouch is queer. He's entirely, boringly straight.

She loves the blocks. Loveslovesloves them. So much so they may drive us round the twist! Want to wager whether it's Sirius or Kreacher who snaps first?

And I've no idea. What do you call a dragonkeeper who specialises in healing dragon teeth?



 **alt_charlie** at [2013-01-07 04:19:12](#)
(no subject)

They call the fast ones 'Lucky'; they call the slow ones 'Stumpy'.

Yeah, I know, I know.

I wonder why Farty's been letting them go on about that, then? And hasn't done anything to stop them? Maybe Dolohov has him under Imperius or a love potion or something. Normally I'd be horrified at the idea, but really, couldn't happen to a more deserving bloke.

And my money's on Kreacher. Sirius can leave when the noise gets on his tits, after all! I'd apologise for the annoyance, but it's the sacred duty of friends and relatives to give the baby toys that make noise. At least I remembered to give you the earplugs, too. (They're awfully good earplugs. I sleep with a pair in, when I'm at the Reserve. Most of us in the bachelor dorm do -- Marcus has the bunk right in the middle of the

room, and he snores like you wouldn't believe and always forgets the silencing charm.)



 **alt_nymphadora** at [2013-01-07 04:33:44](#)
(no subject)

That's terrible. And I mean that in the best possible way!


Oh, say. That reminds me. I promised Bea I'd ask you whether dragons snore. Do they?

Doggies do. In case you were wondering. And terrible old elves, as well.

So I don't feel badly for either of them over those blocks. Heh. And she does have such fun with them!

Listen, I've got to take myself off to bed (with my earplugs) since I do have a shift tomorrow morning. But. Say you'll come to the garden tomorrow night? Bring Bill along if he's not too scarred to come back. I'd just like to send you off right in case they make you work every shift between now and Easter to make up for the time away. They won't do, will they?



 **alt_charlie** at [2013-01-07 04:46:08](#)
(no subject)

I don't think so. I'm going to owe a bunch more favours, but I haven't been burning too much leave for this; everyone's been quietly covering my shifts for me. 'Swat we do, when someone needs time away for a family crisis: everybody swings into action and figures out what needs to get done. Us dragon folk are a practical lot. (Then we whinge at each other later.)

So, I'll likely work a bit more than I have been, just to pay back the people who did the most for me while I was gone, but I should still have time to come 'round and annoy you. And yeah, I'll stop in tomorrow night. As long as Mum doesn't want to keep me. ~~Or Bill needs somebody to lean on some more~~

Tell Miss Bea that most dragons don't snore, but sometimes they hiccup in their sleep and belch fire. The Hogwarts motto isn't just a fancy bit of Latin -- the reason you never tickle a sleeping dragon is because if you surprise it, and you're in the way when it hiccups, you'll be losing your eyebrows at very least!

Sleep well, luv. Pleasant dreams.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-07 04:55:05](#)
(no subject)

Ta. I'll tell her.

Come round tomorrow night if you can. I'll understand if you can't, of course, but I'll be

sad.

'Night, you.



 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-07 05:03:14](#)
(no subject)

If you want, you know, I could arrange for a tour of the Reserve for you and Little Miss Sunshine, and she could meet a dragon up close. Well, not too close, but one of the

Fireballs half domesticated himself last winter and moved back into one of the spare cabins over this winter as well. He decided Sasha and Alex's four-year-old twins are just strangely shaped dragon kits and tries to herd them around if he thinks they're not minding. It's adorable.

(Mind you, I totally understand if you're a bit nervous about letting Little Miss too near them, but either way, you should come up for a visit.)

2013-01-06 21:14:00

Writing and Not Writing

Oh dear oh dear oh dear oh dear. I haven't been writing in my journal for the longest time. And Madam Umbridge says that we should be making at least one public post in our journals each week. And I haven't! And Madam Umbridge says it's not good and she must be right.



 [alt_megan](#)


But I haven't written any private messages either. So that's good. Madam Umbridge says they are exclusionary. And I don't want to make other people feel uncomfortable and unwelcome.

I wonder if I should write a public post for each of the weeks that I missed. Except that would be a lot of writing. And I'm not sure what to say. I have mostly not been saying anything, and trying to do well in my classes. And make my guardian proud.

I believe that my guardian knows Madam Umbridge. Of course they are both very socially correct people. That is a virtue. My guardian says so. And I do want to make her proud of me. So I had better write more.

It's probably good to write about wanting to do better. Isn't it? Because I do.




 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-07 03:35:23](#)
(no subject)

Well, she didn't say they have to be *long* posts, Jones. Some people simply have more to say than others.

More that's interesting, anyway.

But Madam Umbridge has a point: I think the effort of writing, and finding things to write, often leads to becoming a better writer. Don't you?



 **alt_susan** at **2013-01-07 04:13:40**
(no subject)

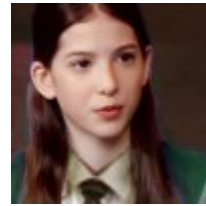
We've all been busy this year--it's a good reminder and all, but I'm sure it'll be fine.

2013-01-06 21:34:00

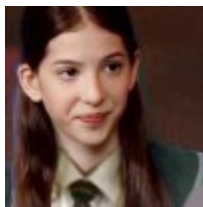
Back at school

I'm looking forward to classes starting again.

There really is nowhere in the world as cosy and pleasant as the Slytherin common room. The best thing about the first day back is that I get to sit in the common room, see all my friends, and sleep in my bed, and I don't have any homework to worry about at all yet. (Well, except for revising for OWLs.)



 **alt_sally_anne**




 **alt_sally_anne** at **2013-01-07 03:37:36**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Think that's long enough to satisfy Hembridge?

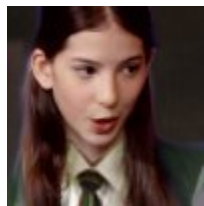


 **alt_ron** at **2013-01-07 03:41:09**

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

She can't really expect you to do more, can she? I mean, there are only so many things to say!

And I just bet your common room is cozy. It's in a
dungeon.

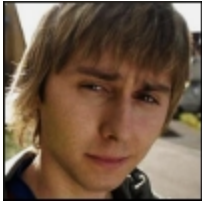


 **alt_sally_anne** at **2013-01-07 04:50:39**

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

Are you doubting me, Ron Weasley? We have a lovely common room. It's always warm and full of comfortable little corners to sit and have tea with a friend or read a book, and there's nearly always a little tray of crumpets or biscuits or something that the elves left out, and there are rugs to take the chill off the floor.

I'm sure Gryffindor Tower is perfectly nice, as well.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-07 03:54:46](#)

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

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

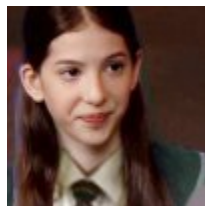
I'm sure she'll not even notice. Though I *did* note that Patil wrote a private message and then immediately posted an open one. Do you think she forgot, or is it possible she wasn't paying attention to Madam Umbridge's instruction?

I wondered though.... I say, we never really finished the discussion about that message on the Galleon, dismissing Sirius' contributions. I've been thinking about it and I'm sad to say there's some validity in it, what? I mean to say, Sirius has been speaking rather more conceptually than practically, if you follow me. (He hasn't posted a Grim Truth in a while, though. I wonder if he already knows it wasn't working?) But on the other hand, he of all the Order has at least been open in his opinions and his intentions. I wonder if these Galleons are really going to work if we're only sharing them with people who already agree with us.

There's an awful lot of risk to given them to others, though. Perhaps we ought to have two sets--one for calling meetings among people we can trust, to plan action, what, and one that we use exclusively for these 'Thought of the Day' type of sentiments?

What do you think?

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-07 04:51:13](#)

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

Two sets of coins would be dead confusing.

I don't know. Hermione, what do you think?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-07 05:14:17](#)

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

Well, I think maybe if the other set only receives messages, and can't send them, then it might be

possible. And I think we could set them so that a message sent to that set of coins shows up on ours, but messages sent just to our set don't show up on the others.

So we could, in theory, pull out the second coin and write 'The Lord Protector killed 3,000 Irish Muggles' and it would go to ALL the Galleons, or we could take our coin and write 'Meeting in the Secret Room at 7' and it would only go to us. But you're right, we'd have to keep track of which was which.

But perhaps we could come up with a way to tell the Galleon which type of message we're sending, the way the Journals know that 'Private Message' only goes to the two people named thereafter. We might need to train it a bit. Maybe 'G1' for 'Group 1' meaning our first, innermost circle of coins, and blank for a message meant for anyone?

Or we could just risk it and give people coins. They have to swear not to tell, anyway. They don't have to read what they say if they disagree and the only way someone else could read them is if the coinholder were holding the coin while someone else looked over their shoulder, and we put that other protection on so that's really really unlikely. Though it is a potential risk.

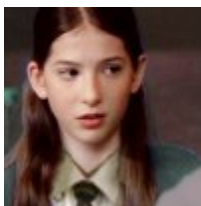


 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-07 05:16:43](#)

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

Oh, but I was also going to say, it might have to wait a while, unless it's really urgent.

I'm working on something else just at present.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-07 03:40:16](#)

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

Pansy -- ~~how does it work do you ever~~

On the train ride back I sat with Michael (except during the team meeting). And a couple other Ravenclaws -- actually for a good part of the time we talked about OWLs, actually, because, well, one of the Ravenclaws was Capper, and you remember what happened last year to his brother. Ugh.

Anyway.

We also talked a little about our holiday and

I had to leave out almost everything important.

How do you manage, with Draco? Because he doesn't know, either. Most of your secrets. ~~How do you keep it~~ ~~How do you stand it~~ How does that work, for you?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-07 04:40:13](#)

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

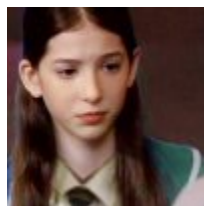
It's like there are different boxes in my head, and I keep some of them closed when I'm around him. And I feel guilty after, sometimes. I worry that he'd leave me if I did tell him everything.

So I try not to think about it too often.

But when I'm with him, it's different.

I can't tell him about the lock, and about Terry and Hermione, but we do talk about the future, and what we'd want it to be like, and what worries us. And that part is all true. And he knows about Sirius, and he knows that I think things were better before, when we were hidden and muggle born people were treated normally.

And sometimes I like keeping things to myself. You know. Like I didn't tell anyone about Sirius until I had to. It's... I don't know. It's comforting, I guess. So there's that part too.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-07 04:52:16](#)

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

Yeah

I just

I feel like Michael thinks he likes me, but the person he likes isn't really me, because I can't tell him who I am, too much of it is hidden. HAS to be hidden.

Maybe I can try to tell him more about who I really am? and see what happens.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-07 04:57:30](#)

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

I think that might help a bit.

But yes. It's hard.

And I've a feeling it's going to get harder.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-07 04:59:05](#)

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

Yeah.

~~Do you think we'll ever be able to add Draco~~



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-07 05:06:17](#)

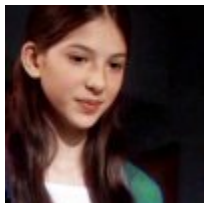
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:
Private message to Pansy*

I've got you, though.

And you've got me.

Always.

Promise.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-07 05:11:02](#)

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

Yeah.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-07 04:20:51](#)**
(no subject)

Yes. It's always best right when we come back. I've always thought school would be brilliant fun if we could just live here together and not have to go to lessons or do homework!

Although. I'm actually sort of looking forward to getting back to lessons, even.

Maybe I'm coming down with flu or something? D'you think?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-07 04:53:45](#)**
(no subject)

If you think you're coming down with the flu you should go see Madam Pomfrey.

I don't believe 'looking forward to lessons' is a common symptom, though. I think the first symptom is often 'exhaustion' followed by 'wanting to curl up in your bed and die, preferably immediately,' though I am not a trained Healer and if you're concerned you should seek real advice, not mine.

2013-01-06 21:53:00

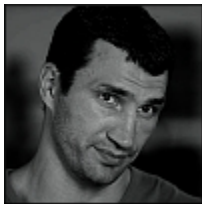
Order Only Private Message to Macnair



 **alt_severus**

Our discussion of yesterday evening has made me realise once again it is almost certainly time for you and I to make some contingency plans, in the event the Order is unable -- or, more likely, unwilling -- to do what needs to be done to achieve the ends they profess to desire. While Alice Longbottom is less likely to stand around wringing her hands and bleating about morals than certain others might, I agree with you it is unlikely any of that lot will be likely to fully accept the blatantly obvious conclusion that this war will not be won with purely clean hands.

I also appreciate your offer to be the one to propose the necessary actions rather than requiring us to fight through the instinctive reactions of certain members of that company to firmly attest the sky is green simply because I have stated it is blue.



 **alt_macnair** at **2013-01-07 07:16:12**
(no subject)

Nice of you to have me 'round yours. I'd return the favour if I had a place of my own, but as it is I just go where I'm needed.

Way I see it, time spent thinking of ways to do things clean only draws the thing out. Then it's probable that even more unclean things will be required to make up for time lost.

Don't know why they'd listen to me more than you. Could be I don't talk back as much as you.

Then again seems they've forgot I was ready to murder the Potter's boy cos I though the deed was the key to ending Voldemort.

That alone ought to make it clear I'll do whatever it takes.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-07 07:32:22](#)
(no subject)

Now that the children are back it will be difficult to repeat the experience, I'm certain. Which is a pity: I rather enjoyed the company. Though I'm certain it must have been odd for you to return here.

I am often tempted to ask them how many people they think die weekly under the Dark Lord's most merciful regime, and how many of those would live when they otherwise would not if we were to overthrow that regime tomorrow. But they find it easier to bear those deaths, I suppose, as they are not transpiring right under their noses. And I am certain they would not accept killing one to save thousands, when waiting for a solution that does not carry a cost in blood that they can see costs those thousands over time.

And yet it is we who are the heartless monsters, for daring to suggest decisive action.

I imagine they have forgot your willingness to sacrifice Potter, yes. Or they've concluded that your vow has defanged you, and decided that as long as you are not a threat to *Potter*, you are safe enough. Another example of the hypocrisies to which they seem prone.

It is not so much that I believe they will listen to you more than they listen to me; rather, it is that the mere act of making a suggestion will not automatically cause certain ears to tune out the words being spoken when those words come from your lips rather than mine. Black, for instance, would rather gnaw off his own limb than admit I might have a point.

I am aware that my method of proposing those suggestions is often taken as abrasive, and am working to control my frustrations enough so that I might mitigate that effect somewhat -- but having someone else making the same points may, I hope, override the instinctive response.



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2013-01-07 15:41:50](#)
(no subject)

They ain't seen what we've seen, and that's the truth of it. If they insist on keeping their hands out of the muck then I'm content to be the one who will do what must be done, against their wishes if it comes to that. I reckon you think the same.

It's high time to start pushing, making them see the solutions that they can't bring themselves to look upon.

And what about contingency plans, eh? What did you have in mind?



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-08 14:07:09](#)
(no subject)

I am not wholly certain.

I do not doubt Potter will be the epicentre of whatever steps finally roust the Dark Lord from power, but prophecy is an uncertain thing. I do fear the rest of the Order have fallen into the trap of believing the prophecy a forsaken conclusion, rather than something that must be helped along. I have been thinking about what else the boy should be taught to prepare him. If you have any ideas, I would appreciate hearing them.

But whether or not Potter will be the one to fell the Dark Lord in the end, there are still two dozen *soi-disant* "Councilwizards" to consider. I do not think they would so easily step aside; I cannot see, for instance, Lucius Malfoy or Bellatrix Lestrange willingly bowing to a boy taking the place of their former master. Particularly if Potter were to, once in a position of rule, begin overturning the Dark Lord's edicts regarding Muggle and Muggleborn alike. Whatever plans are put into place for seizing control out of the hands of the Dark Lord's régime must also account for the inevitable resistance, likely quite pointed, from those of whom that régime benefits.

Perhaps we should allow the Order to have their endless debates about ethics and morality unmolested whilst we arrange to thin the herd of that august company in anticipation of that happy day.

||| Or perhaps if we wait, the Dark Lord will continue to save us the trouble.

2013-01-06 22:11:00

Private Message to Lana Sandoval-Pennifold



 [alt_padma](#)

I'm sure you're terribly busy as always but I just wanted to say it was beyond nift to get a chance to catch up last night. You look like you're so happy with your life--and it's easy to see why. Ned's such a gentleman and the way your career is going, and all, it's like you've got everything anyone could want. No one could deserve it more.

It really was like a parade of our old schoolmates, wasn't it? Did you happen to see Rohani and Goshal? I spoke to them for all of about five minutes but they're both dead jealous of your wedding (still). Tamblyn's just as amusing as ever, isn't he? He and Cox had me in stitches, tearing apart everyone's robes and all those dusty old witches' frowning whenever the band played something written since 1962. When the King of Misrule told Madam Millingham-Kennilworthy to start a conga line? I've never seen quite that shade of red. Have you?

And I figured out who I expected to see and didn't: Weasley and Clearwater. Of course, I'd wondered whether they'd come anyway so soon after his dad, but given that the other Weasleys were honoured by the Repopulation programme I figured they must be coming. Yet not a sign. I suppose they decided they'd better stay in and save their sickles for a rainy day!

Anyway. It was so good to see you, and see you looking smashing, as always.

Your Friend,

Padma

2013-01-06 22:22:00

Back at Hogwarts

I'm sure we're all glad to be settling in and now that we're all in our Common Rooms, the reality of classes starting again tomorrow is being met with anticipation.



 [alt_padma](#)

It's probably going to be difficult to get to sleep tonight, many of you, but do try to get back onto a regular schedule as much as possible.

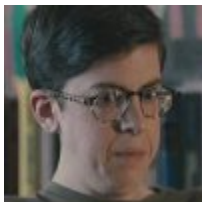
Also, Ravenclaw girls, remember that you're back to sharing bathrooms. That includes the mirrors and the sinks.


And Ravenclaw Corner, Madam Pince asked me to tell you all that she found a piece of toast after everyone left for the holidays, behind one of the windowseat cushions. I'm surprised at you, whoever you were: Eating in the library is a clear violation of the rules. If you have to eat, you also have to leave the library.

(On the plus side, I did get her to agree to stock our usual table with the reference volumes we've been using, so they'll be there tomorrow between lessons. Anyone who is looking for *Battle of Wills*, *1001 Defensive Spells*, or any of the *Arithmantical Calculation* series of volumes, among others, please come and use them at our table, with our compliments, but don't remove them. Madam Pince has the full list.)

And don't forget: History Club, tomorrow night, as usual. We may be suspending some Club meetings based on the rehearsals for *Hogwarts Through the Ages* but we'll let you know if that becomes necessary.

Welcome back, everyone!



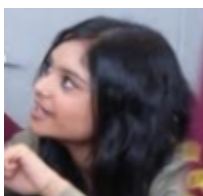
 [alt_linus](#) at **2013-01-07 04:03:44**


(no subject)

Padma,

My deepest apologies, but I had completely forgotten that we were starting History Club up again right away upon our return. To be truthful, the demands of my latest

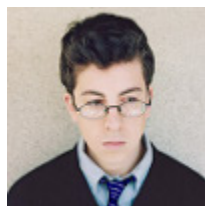
project had driven it completely from my mind; I have been immersed in making sense of certain bits of the history of Quidditch, and my head is full of arcane regulations regarding Quaffles. Shall I pull something together for the meeting? At this late hour, the wisest choice would probably be an overview of the historical periods which will be touched on by the Revue; I could probably talk about that in my sleep.




 **alt_padma** at [2013-01-07 04:08:46](#)
(no subject)

Oh, that's okay. I think an overview of the periods would actually be nift, for everyone, even people who aren't in it. It'll be helpful to those of us who are and informative to everyone else.

Since when are you interested in Quidditch?



 **alt_linus** at [2013-01-07 04:39:12](#)
(no subject)

It's not that I'm particularly interested in Quidditch so much as that I am particularly interested in numbers. In specific, I am interested in patterns and, well, one might almost say currents and tides in numbers, especially those sorts of numbers quantifying performance of individuals and groups of individuals, within complex systems.

Quidditch turns out to be an excellent source of those sorts of data. It was Cedric's idea, actually. I'm learning quite a lot about statistical analysis, which reminds me: I must ask Professor Vector about some arithmantic methods and charms for informational array. (Oh! Professor Siz showed me an indexing charm in one of my detentions that was absolutely wiz-nift, and I've been using that a lot, which is why I purchased my own reference works rather than going to Madam Pince. Using indexing charms on books in the school library is frowned upon, to say the least; I am given to understand that in addition to being bad form, it might possibly play hob with the cataloging charms already in use.)

Anywiz, it's a fascinating project, but it is time-consuming. There is a very great deal of Quidditch history indeed, when it comes to the minutiae of performance of teams over the years. ~~Much more~~

~~to analyse than in the late unlamented Sleeveless Robes Club
anyhow, so that's all ri~~

Right-oh. I'll have that overview ready to go for tomorrow evening
then.

2013-01-06 23:13:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good

Padma Patil is a dozy cow.

That's all.



 [alt_susan](#)



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-07 04:38:42](#)

(no subject)

Of course she is.

What did she do?




 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-07 15:23:40](#)

(no subject)

She's being all condescending in Megs' journal, but I can't say anything without looking like I'm picking a fight.

And maybe I'm still a little concerned that they're talking, period. I *know* none of us are first-years anymore, but still...



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-07 15:56:16](#)

(no subject)

I can see why.

Ugh. It's like making her a prefect gave her even more permission to be condescending and rude.

2013-01-07 01:50:00

*Private Message to Bill and Charlie
Weasley*



Boys,

I know, I know! I should be asleep right now, but I can't. I am restless tonight. The funny thing is that during Hols I was longing to be away from the Burrow. I wanted to not be there with all that was going on. Now I wish I was back there with you two. We've not been back 12 hours yet, and I am already feeling sad and lonely. I have no one I can really sit and talk to.


 [alt_ginny](#)

I miss you boys already.

Ginny

Oh Bill, I do not know if you saw her message. But the pink lady felt the need to tell us to be more inclusive in our posts, and not write so many private messages. She has nerve, that one. I feel as though she is trying to monitor our thoughts as well as our actions.



 [alt_bill](#) at **2013-01-08 03:00:47**
(no subject)

Miss you, too, Gin. The breakfast table sounded downright unfamiliar this morning, it was so quiet, now that the Hogwarts contingent is gone.


This was my first day back at work. Don't know how your re-entry went, but mine was tough. Work had really piled up, despite the hols. I spent my morning digging my way out of a pile of memos. Don't get me wrong, I like my job well enough--it certainly keeps me on my toes--but getting back to work can be difficult sometimes after a life-changing event like we've just gone through.

I think the loneliness will really sink in for me once Charlie's settled back at the Reserve. Sharing a room again with him has been nice; we've had lots of good talks. When it's just down to Mum and me, though, the Burrow's going to feel like we're two peas rattling around an oversized pea pod.

It's going to take time, and some days will be better than others.

Yes, I saw that post from Madam Umbridge. I can't quite make out what she thinks she can accomplish by getting people hacked off at her by raising a stink over people using private messages. That's rather mad. I'd be careful...I've heard from people who dealt with her when she was the Minister of Magic that she can be quite vindictive. Your thoughts always will be your own, though, Gin. Remember that.



 **alt_charlie** at [2013-01-08 05:08:47](#)

(no subject)

And I'm going back tomorrow, and I'm sure I'll wind up feeling the same. But I'm glad we could all spend this time together. I think it really helped, to remind us all that no matter what, we're a family and we're here for each other.

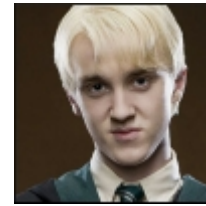
I think that's one of the best ways we can honour Dad, really. To remember that.

As for Madam Umbridge, I agree with Bill that you should be careful, bean. With people like that, people who have some kind of authority over you (or think they do), sometimes it's easier to just smile and nod and do what they want and cooperate with them for now. But Bill's right, too, when he says that your thoughts are yours, and that's one thing nobody can take away from you. As long as what she wants you to do is something silly like this, where it doesn't hurt anybody to go along with it and it makes it easier on you to cooperate, I would go ahead and do what she wants you to do, just to make it a bit easier on yourself. But never lose sight of what's really important, yeah?

2013-01-07 08:42:00

Back to Hogwarts

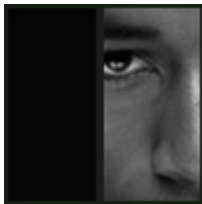
...and a more full schedule than ever. Revue rehearsal tonight, Prefects meeting *and* Revue rehearsal on Wednesday, YPL Thursday, Quidditch Friday, more YPL and rehearsal on Saturday, and so on.



 [alt_draco](#)

Fortunately, my journal has additional charms to mind my schedule well. And, as a YPL counsellor, I am well aware of how it behooves oneself to keep busy in the service of the school and the Protectorate. Those of you who find it to be overwhelming at times ought to try on this trick for size: sing or hum the YPL anthem to yourself as you go about your day. All those tow row row row's really pick up the pace and make the various tasks go along speedily, and the lyrics bolster the spirit, reminding us of precisely who it is we serve, and why.

See you all around the castle.




 [alt_blaise](#) at [2013-01-07 16:13:35](#)

(no subject)

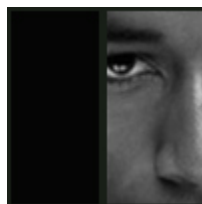
Quite right about the anthem. I hum it while I stride the corridors between lessons. It helps keep me on time for all my obligations.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-07 16:20:37](#)

(no subject)

And you know, I've noticed that you're never late. It's obviously working.



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2013-01-07 16:33:00](#)

(no subject)

I take it as a point of honour never to be late.


It's so clearly a mark of inferiour breeding to be careless about time.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-07 16:14:07](#)
(no subject)

I know what you mean! It really does lift one's spirits, doesn't it?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-07 16:22:59](#)
(no subject)

Exactly. I've been encouraging the younger students to think of it as a sort of fizzing whizbee for the soul.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-07 16:18:03](#)
(no subject)

What a truly excellent idea, about the song. I'll try that today.

I'd be lost without my scheduling charms! There's simply no other way to fully track all of a busy student's obligations, I think.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-07 16:42:30](#)
(no subject)

You know, if only there were a way to have my journal *sing* my schedule to the tune of the YPL anthem. I think that'd be just about perfect.

I'm going to work on it as soon as I have a free moment.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-07 17:01:03](#)
(no subject)

I could fold you an origami dragon that would sing your schedule to the tune of the YPL anthem.

You'd have to re-charm it weekly, though. But that would be a good opportunity to think through your schedule for the week!

(Also, it wouldn't have to be a dragon. I mean, it could be an origami hippo, if you'd prefer.)



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2013-01-07 17:03:19](#)**
(no subject)

You know, I think I fancy a hippo.


Can you guess what colour hippo I fancy?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-07 17:27:58](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know, what's your favourite colour?




 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-07 17:30:54](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

He fancies a pink one, Sally-Anne.

Which is actually amusing. If he weren't being so infuriating in other ways.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-07 17:33:12](#)**
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Oh of course he does.

I just wasn't going to say that anywhere that Umbridge might realise that I was making fun of her, too (if she gets cross with Draco...well, that's his affair, right?)



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2013-01-07 17:31:55](#)**
(no subject)

Grey. Though I've heard that this Spring it will be all about shades of pink, including, but not limited to: amaranth, carmine, carnation, cerise, fuchsia, magenta, persian rose, salmon, ruby,


and puce.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-07 17:35:02](#)
(no subject)

Well I do have a nice selection of parchment in numerous interesting colours, including fuschia, salmon, and even puce.

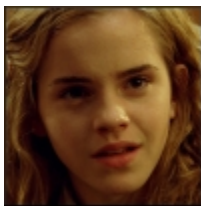



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-07 16:18:12](#)
Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

Bumbridge is too thick to detect sarcasm, at least. But her recent attempts to try to "limit" PMs is pure rubbish. Sure, it's fine and well to remind people that they ought to be reaching out publicly, as well, but you see that list of names she's just posted? From what I can tell, that's everyone who posted a PM yesterday after she made her announcement. I'd bet a fistful of galleons that she's calling that lot in to tell them off in person, maybe even give detention.

Which brings to mind something else - I thought these coins were going to be used to get around Bumbridge, maybe even figure out a way to get her out of the castle for good. Instead they've been used to announce quaint facts related to history and cultural events that everyone *with* a coin is already aware of. Is that really what the big plan is, regarding these galleons?

And if Sinbad's inspired oh-so-many people to become leaders, I'd like to know who. I sure haven't met any, lately.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-07 17:08:32](#)
Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

They can have more than one use, can't they? The coins? Besides, not *everyone* who has or ever will have one knows all the things you do. And do you really think someone's going to walk up to you in the middle of the 12th Night Ball and announce, 'Oh, hello, Lucius Malfoy's son, I am the leader of an insurrectionist faction bent on bringing down the Lord Protector and all for which he stands'? Of *course* you haven't met them.

If you want to use the coins to get round her, try writing a message about that and see what happens.



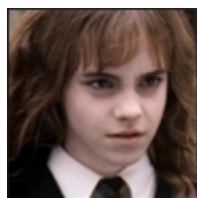
 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-07 17:28:35](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

Ha, funny Granger. You take me too literally. What I mean is: where are they? What are they doing? Surely if *I* feel impatient, you must feel it ten times worse. Unless you enjoy wasting your brain and your time reading shoe repair manuals.

So, it was you who wrote those last two galleon messages, was it?

And we might have to do, if Bumbridge keeps trying to put the clamp down on PMs.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-07 17:55:04](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

I never said it was me.

You'd better go or you'll be late for potions. Tow row row.

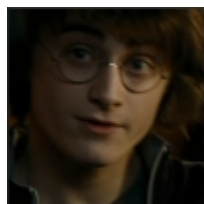


 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-07 20:34:06](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

And now I know that it was.

Potions over, tow row row.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-08 02:34:15](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

I'd be for that.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-08 02:56:52](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

Trouble is, we're already making fun of her in the journals and she doesn't even seem to notice. Not sure what good the galleons would do there.

What I'd really like to do is get her sacked.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-08 03:13:29](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

Okay. That's a start.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-08 03:20:45](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

Writing on those are sort of hard.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-08 03:28:41](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

Haha. Have Granger do it for you next time. She's got the technique down.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-08 02:35:09](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

Thanks for sticking that song in my head all day, by the way.



 **alt_draco** at **2013-01-08 02:57:59**

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Granger

You're row very welcome.



 **alt_draco** at **2013-01-08 01:54:16**

Private message to Lucius Malfoy

Did you see the card, Father?

Or perhaps you've made the decision to overlook it.



 **alt_lucius** at **2013-01-08 01:59:26**

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

The card you left on my blotter?

Context would be appreciated. Have you any?

(Presume that the 'hippo' in question does not dare to object to this conversation!)



 **alt_draco** at **2013-01-08 02:11:21**

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

I found it in a flower arrangement that was delivered on Friday morning. White camellia japonica - so, a message praising beauty.

Naturally, I was concerned. Anything addressed to my Mother that says only one word - *horrible* - would trip the wards.


I firecalled the florist and asked the identity of the person who ordered the flowers. They were reluctant, even fearful, it seemed, to give me a name. Instead, they assured me that the flowers came from a customer who sent flowers to Mother on a very regular basis.

Imagine my surprise when, at the Ball, I witnessed Barty Crouch fawning all over Mother and drawing her close to kiss her hand. I realise that many people fawn all over Mother, but this has a

different look to it. It has for years. When I've broached this subject with you before I've been cut off and dismissed, but I'm asking you now, as straight-forward as I can manage:

Doesn't this bother you? Even a little?



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2013-01-08 02:18:26](#)

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

Ah. That context. I see.

I have ~~warned~~ asked you before, Son, not to pry over-much into your mother's affairs. Your concern is ... understandable but unnecessary.

Which answer would you prefer? If I told you that it did *not* trouble me, would that satisfy you? If I told you that it *did* do, what would you expect might happen next?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-08 02:22:13](#)

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

affairs

I prefer the answer that's honest.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2013-01-08 02:27:51](#)

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

Then I believe I have answered you on previous occasions. There is nothing to concern you here.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-08 02:53:04](#)

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

I didn't ask if I should be concerned. I asked if you were.

Speaking of things that shouldn't concern me: Rowen Robins had a word with me the night of the Ball. She fairly slithered over and told me I was "growing up," and that before long I'd have all the witches on my knees, just like my

Father.

If I ever wanted to know how to please a real woman, she could teach me, she knew what someone like me would want. And then she tried to coax me outside.

Naturally, I declined.

~~And while were at it, were you behind The other night at the club, did you~~



 **alt_lucius** at **2013-01-08 03:02:44**

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

In that case: No. I am not the slightest bit concerned.

On the other hand, one wonders just how much Miss Robins had imbibed when she accosted you. Cannot imagine she was in possession of her wits to have behaved so inappropriately. (Then again, cannot imagine Fudge has been any better behaved a superior than Dolores - possibly worse. She is ambitious *and* attractive. Sadly common, it would seem.)

But perhaps we should grow accustomed to your looks and position offering an irresistible draw to that sort of thing. You were right to decline; rather wish you had said something to someone at the time to make sure she refrained from further sampling of the champagne.

Do you wish me to take up the matter on your behalf?



 **alt_draco** at **2013-01-08 03:12:59**

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

At last. So noted. You're not concerned.

So let's say that you know more about Mother's "affairs" than I do. No doubt. So. You don't care in the least? You don't plan to do anything about them?

Don't you love her?

As for Rowena Robins - If it were *my* looks and position that drew her to me, then I find myself wondering why it is that she kept speaking of you.

Thank you, but I don't need you to take up this matter, or any other related to women.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2013-01-08 03:45:02](#)

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

Draco. I did not say I do not care. I said I am not concerned. It is nothing to worry me because I know that it is no threat either to your mother's love or her devotion to our family. Your mother loves to be worshipped and Barty is her willing thrall; their dalliance satisfies her vanity; neither of them are foolish enough to ever forget themselves or jeopardise their fundamental loyalties. Until now, have had no reason to scorn their discretion.

But since you ask so baldly, no, I do not plan to do anything unless I am *forced* to call attention to it. In the meantime, it is to my advantage to conceal what I suspect from your mother and particularly from Barty. Why should I upset a working collaborative relationship with him, when our goals align so well and he is available and willing to put his considerable energy to tasks which achieve my aims and keep my hands clean?

Far better to hold it in reserve against the need for his cooperation over some other venture, in which he is not so complicit nor eager.

You ask if I love your mother. More than life. Now I have a question for you: Were I to interfere, do you imagine she would *thank* me for it? Can I (or *should* I) deny her the affirmation that she is still attractive, adored, in order to satisfy my 'manly pride'? Which is more important: Her exclusivity or her happiness?

Let us walk down the path you seem to advocate. Should I

challenge Auror Crouch to a duel? Inform your mother we are quits? Arrange him to meet with an 'accident'? Arrange for the *Prophet* to observe them in a compromising situation?

What good would that possibly serve? Any of us?

Or should I go on turning a blind eye, confident that your mother and I shall continue, as we have always done, to provide each other companionship, support, a public display of our contentment with each other and yes, genuine affection and love, whenever either asks it of the other?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-08 03:57:48](#)

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

What you have just described... makes no sense to me whatsoever.

If you love her above all else, how could you stand to share her? Let some other man touch her?

How do you know that she doesn't do it because of your infidelities, or that she doesn't do it because, deep down, she wants you to *stop* her and remind her that you belong only to each other?

It sounds to me as if you're both just pretending.



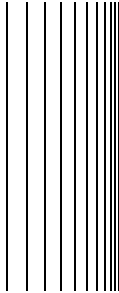
 [alt_lucius](#) at [2013-01-08 04:11:30](#)


Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

It does not need to make sense to you, Son, not right now. Someday it will. When you have had more experience of life and the complexity of relationships. They change, develop, bend over time. The ones that do not bend, break.

I do not wish either of us to break our marriage. Neither does your mother - of that, I am quite sure. Just as I am sure of her loyalty - loyalty where it *counts*, which neither begins nor ends in the bedroom.

It's ... complicated, I grant. But it is, nonetheless, very true, and not pretense at all.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **2013-01-08 04:41:24**

Re: Private message to Lucius Malfoy

I really can't imagine understanding. Not ever.

But, thank you for explaining. Finally

2013-01-07 08:59:00

Attention: Hogwarts

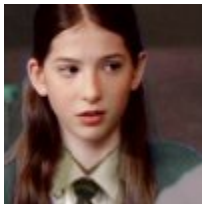
It is of the highest importance that the following staff and students come to me this week for consultation:

Archer, G
Carpenter
Dolohov
Frobisher, V
Goyle
Hooch
Hooper
Inglebee, D
Lestrangle, R
Perks
Pucey
Samuels
Slughorn
Twee
Umbridge
Warrington, C



 [alternity](#)
 [alt_poppy](#)

My thanks in advance to each of you for seeing to this at your earliest opportunity.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-07 15:33:42**


Private message to Madam Pomfrey

I could come in at lunchtime or this evening, or tomorrow in the late afternoon -- or do I need to come in right away? Was I exposed to something nasty?

Because if it's something like that I could come in right away and just be a little late to Defence especially if it's just that I need to drink a potion (that wouldn't take long).

How were your holidays? I spent a lot of time at the Burrow, actually, but also went with the Strettons to the Twelfth Night celebration.



 **[alt_poppy](#) at 2013-01-07 16:04:03**

Re: Private message to Madam Pomfrey

I apologise for worrying you, dear. No, I have no reason to suspect that you've been exposed to anything dire. I should very much like to have a conversation with you, however, at a time when we might speak uninterrupted. Let us say tomorrow late afternoon? I should like to discuss whether you've time this term to pursue an internship with me, and, if so, what might be a reasonable number of hours and schedule. (I'm quite happy to make that flexible, and I do remember that this is your OWLs term.)



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-07 16:13:27**

Re: Private message to Madam Pomfrey

Oh! That would be -- Yes. Tomorrow late afternoon would work.



 **[alt_umbridge](#) at 2013-01-07 15:51:40**

Private message to Poppy Pomfrey

My goodness, I hope there's nothing urgent you had in mind. I must say that trifling - annoying, but trifling - matter is much improved over the holidays. Being back in my own home, I'm sure.

But of course, if you wish to see me, I will be glad to oblige. Can it wait until Wednesday? I've the civics classes today and tomorrow, and another matter that must be clarified, and I'm observing Antonin's classes on Thursday.



 **[alt_poppy](#) at 2013-01-07 16:06:39**

Re: Private message to Poppy Pomfrey

Wednesday would be entirely suitable, but I do feel it my duty to follow up on the matter, particularly if it has been better whilst you've been away from the castle. A quick examination now would give us a baseline for comparison in the event that the symptoms re-emerge in the weeks ahead. (I'm sure we both hope they will not.)



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-07 16:15:46](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy Pomfrey

You're quite right, of course.

Wednesday at 11? If something else comes up, do let me know, but if it's not Wednesday, it would need to be Friday or later.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-07 16:28:04](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy Pomfrey

I have you on my schedule. Let us hope there will be no emergencies to pre-empt that appointment.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-07 16:07:26](#)

Private message to Poppy

I gather that since I'm not on that list that you have not had some new request from Wizarding Repopulation? (I didn't dare inquire directly in case it made them come up with some new thing, but I've had no further communication from them since before holidays. Except for the usual round of pamphlets, promptly delivered on the 30th. Ugh. Latest addition all about optimal fertility for your wedding day, which, really, no.)

At any rate, this is a placeholder to say I'd love to catch up, but I expect you'll be busy the next few days. Holidays in general, but Tosha introduced me to the most *wonderful* bookstore, and I found a good quarter of the titles we were trying to track down for our continuing research. I brought a couple back with me, but they're searching for the others on my list, and I'll check in with them next week and get whatever they've found sent here.

You, me, and Irma, sometime later next week for a really good research session? And chat before that, whenever we can find time, of course. And I'd love to schedule when Storm's coming out to measure for your and Pomona's presents, too.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-07 16:26:24](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy

Actually, dear, you weren't on the list because I was wishing to respect your privacy. (And I had an idea you might follow up in this way if I left you off.)

I wish I could tell you that Wizarding Repopulation have forgotten you altogether, but I returned to find a packet of parchment from them requesting several further tests--most involving Rabastan, but one request for further documentation of your cycles, including a request that we chart your temperature, pulse and auric fluctuations at specified intervals over the coming months as your happy day approaches. We should discuss what you might prefer to do about this particular request. I see no reason why our attention to its details might not be less than perfect.

Let's do set a time for catching up. Sometime after your difficult Thursday, I should think. Friday afternoon, then? Or anytime over the weekend. (And I'm eager to see those books you've collected. I'll speak to Irma, shall I?)

I am so pleased with my gift--how wonderful it will be to have a bespoke seat for working! You and your brother are kindness personified. I shall make myself available for measuring and consultation at whatever time is convenient for Storm.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-07 16:38:15](#)

Re: Private message to Poppy

Oh, fixed stars. What do they want, every moment of my every day charted? (No, don't answer that. Of course that's what they'd like.)


How much information does that really give them? I mean, should I contemplate working up entirely reasonable but non-revealing data for them, or is that more trouble than it's worth? (The researcher in me hates the idea. The realist in me, however... And I'm sure I could work up something that would be accurate in aggregate but not personally revealing. If I had to.)

As to when, Friday, please. I'm free at 2 or so and entirely at your disposal. As to Storm, I was thinking I might ask him to come out Sunday for a bit - there's a YPL activity, so most of the students

will be gone for the afternoon. Tosha's expressed an interest in meeting him, too.

The actual measuring shouldn't take him too long, anyway, and he's not been back since I started teaching, so the chance to show him around should be good fun.



 **[alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-07 18:48:34](#)**

Re: Private message to Poppy

(Quite.)

It gives them entirely too much information, and we will do nothing of the sort. (I believe the researcher in you may be obliged to set aside her scruples in this instance. At any rate, that's my recommendation.)

Two o'clock Friday will do nicely. Bring along some of your wonderful finds from this new bookstore of yours. (Which one is it?) Surely you won't make me wait for next week with Irma to have a look?



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-07 19:03:18](#)**

Re: Private message to Poppy

I will work on setting aside my scruples in the most practical way possible for the larger good, and see if I can't have a draft for you by Friday.

Do you have advice, there? What conclusions would we like them to draw, beyond "Go away, there is nothing interesting for you here?"

As to the bookstore - Poundtree and Associates, in Nocturne Alley. Despite the location, they've a very respectable selection on all kinds of topics. (More than respectable. If I were not being so careful of my budget - well.) The trick, mind, was getting a personal introduction, and their upper room is a trove of wonderful things, even beyond the research project.

(Tosha admitted after that he really just should have introduced me by letter months ago, but he couldn't resist seeing the look on my face when I started exploring. I have almost forgiven him.)



 [alt_antonin](#) at [2013-01-07 23:39:18](#)

Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey


Poppy --

I will of course be happy to stop in (and was already thinking I would this weekend, as I've something for you) but can you let me know how urgent this is? I've the sneaking suspicion you are making a point about our dear Madam Umbridge's decree of last night. (You must excuse me; I do not mean to be -- what was it -- exclusionary and unwelcoming. I am already resisting the urge to fill my journal with a dozen messages.)

Will this weekend be early enough? Or should I stop in after supper?

Regards,
Antonin



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-07 23:50:26](#)

Re: Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey

You are quite right... our meeting could, indeed, await your convenience.

I should, however, like to share with you the most recent communication I've had with your St Mungo's team. I believe you may find it interesting, and in any case, I should like to hear your preferences before I favour them with a response.



 [alt_antonin](#) at [2013-01-07 23:54:46](#)

Re: Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey

Oh dear; how ominous.

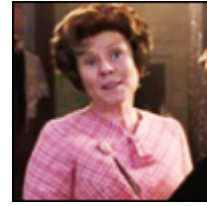
I'll stop in later tonight, then; if they are waiting for a reply from you, and you are waiting for a reply from me, I would not like to make you wait.

Regards,
Antonin

2013-01-07 10:44:00

Students:

Students on the following list, please report to my office promptly at noon. (Staff and fellow students, please alert those you see, as it would be much better for everyone to sort this out now.)



 [alt_umbridge](#)

Jill Capper
Maegera Featherstone
Michelle Iskanderian
Rebecca Mackrell
Phillip MacMillan
Darshana Patil
Padma Patil
Maurice Scroops
Judith Starling
Felicity Whisp
Ginevra Weasley
Ronald Weasley



 [alt_umbridge](#) at **2013-01-07 18:50:25**
(no subject)

To clarify a question received in our little discussion at noon, I wish to be clear that of course, private messages will be appropriate from time to time. Our Lord has given us a great gift, and failing to use it would be entirely improper and ungrateful.

However, the point I wish to be crystal clear about is that those uses should be limited to those times when they are truly necessary. Ask yourself, dear students, the following questions:

1) Does this comment truly serve Our Lord and Our Glorious Protectorate? Does it develop our skills, make us smarter or help us become wiser? Does it shape us to become even more loyal, a better tool for Our Lord's hand? Does it lead us to the joys of service, hard work, and commitment?

If it does not do these things, why does it exist? Spend your time, my dear students, on those things that serve your goals, not thoughtless or even hurtful distractions.

2) Would you say this thing to the person in public? If not, should it be said at all? Even in your private messages and conversations, your very words shape your reactions to others. It is your duty to always build appropriate relationships with all who help build Our Better Protectorate.

Remember, you may need that person's help at some point in the future!

3) If you must provide a correction or comment on some personal failing, and if you are truly the *appropriate* person to provide that comment, then a private message may well be appropriate. Sometimes a sharp word is all that's needed to send someone in a far better direction. Naturally, however, this is a challenge that we expect only our Prefects and YPL counsellors to shoulder regularly.

4) Of course, from time to time, private comments may be necessary for various trivial matters - no one needs to read a message to your mother about socks, you might wish to plan a surprise for a friend in private, or to ask an older and trusted adult in your life for advice about a difficult situation. But each and every time, ask yourself "Is this necessary? Is this helpful? What is its very purpose?"

And be prepared, should you be asked, to explain your reasoning.

2013-01-07 10:52:00

Revue and Rehearsals

Draco already mentioned scheduling, so now seems like a good time to remind those of you in the cast that our rehearsal schedule has been posted! As you can see, we will be meeting most late afternoons on Monday and Wednesday, and then again on Saturday (though a few of these will be shifted to Sunday due to Quidditch, Hogsmeade, and other such events). All cast members are expected to attend every rehearsal unless otherwise noted.



 [alt_daphne](#)

Further, those of you who've volunteered to do backstage work for the Revue will be meeting during rehearsal times, too. So far, the list of volunteers is as follows:

Stage Management

- Melinda Pennifold

Costumes, Glamours, and Makeup

- Sally Anne Perks
- Parvati Patil
- Evelyn Longbottom

Set Design (Painting and Construction)

- Eloise Midgen
- Millicent Bulstrode
- Gregory Goyle
- Vincent Crabbe

Props

- Michael Corner
- Cormac McLaggen
- Effie Stevens

Lighting and Effects

- Katrina Bundy
- Megan Jones
- Marjoram Montague

Historical Consultant

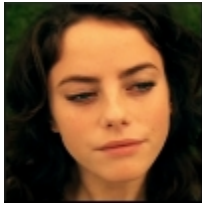
- Linus Moon

Musical Arrangement

- Pansy Parkinson

NOTE: more volunteers are always appreciated, so if you'd like to be involved, please let either myself or Professor Carpenter know!

The rest of you, I'll be seeing you at rehearsal later today!

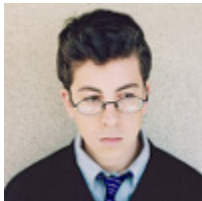


 **alt_daphne** at **2013-01-07 18:13:18**

Private message to Astoria Greengrass

Be aware that just because you are my sister does not mean that you will be exempt from any rehearsals, ever. If I had my way you wouldn't be in the chorus at all, but Gerald was just too charmed by the idea of having us both on stage, I suppose.

See to it that we have some kind of food and drink on hand for tonight. A simple spread of tea and cakes should do nicely.

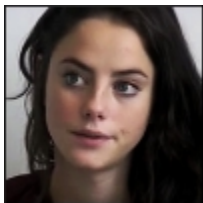


 **alt_linus** at **2013-01-07 20:11:00**

(no subject)

Daphne,

If you truly need me at every rehearsal, of course I shall strive to be present. Excepting of course any that coincide with the neverending string of detentions to which I have been sentenced. (Justly sentenced, I fully admit.) In any case, I shall of course do whatever I can to help, and if that means you want me at each and every possible rehearsal, ready to supply you with historical notes and suggestions at a moment's notice, I will simply have to pack up my other project's reference books and parchments and be there. The success of the Revue easily outweighs any inconvenience.



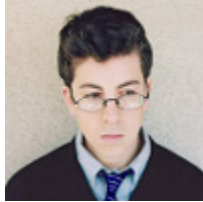
 **alt_daphne** at **2013-01-07 21:01:28**


(no subject)

Linus,

As the historial consultant (do you prefer the term *liaison* ?) you probably needn't be present at each

rehearsal. However, you should strive to make yourself available to the costume and set design people, should your historical expertise be required.



 **[alt_linus](#)** at **[2013-01-07 22:18:54](#)**
(no subject)

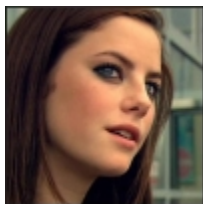
Consultant is perfectly fine, Daphne. The good old English of my wizarding forebears is sufficient for me. And I shall certainly do as you suggest. I look forward to speaking with the costume and set designers, and giving them sets of historical sketches and descriptions of appropriate items for each time period. It will be such fun.

In fact, I believe I could give them materials from our History Club presentation this evening! We're doing an overview of all the time periods covered by the Revue, you know. You are quite welcome to attend, as are all of the cast and crew.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2013-01-07 22:36:52](#)**
(no subject)

Well, that sounds lovely, Linus, but the cast and crew may be rather tired after tonight's rehearsal. It does take some time to get back on our feet when we return to the castle after a break, doesn't it! However, I will certainly let the backstage crew know about your presentation and how it pertains to the script, and will encourage them to attend.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2013-01-07 21:18:39](#)**
Private message to Ron Weasley


Weasley, do you think you can make yourself available for an extra half-hour on Saturday (before or after rehearsal, either is fine)? I'd like to continue with the footwork exercises we got started with this past weekend. Honestly, you did quite well. You have a good sense of rhythm and it certainly doesn't hurt that you're athletic.

Oh, it's really too bad that your family never manages to attend the Frost Faire Ball - though it was lovely to see your Mother and brother

there, enjoying themselves. Mr Krumgold and I performed a dance that's a more complicated version of the dance that Guy and Dolly perform at the end of the play. Perhaps you would have found it inspirational?

(I will say, this stress over private messages is something I could do without. I suppose Madam Umbridge means well in her efforts to make us so "serviceable," but she seriously takes it a teensy weensy schmeensy bitty bit too far!)

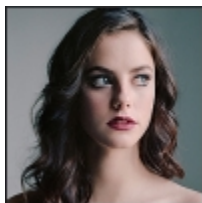



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-07 22:09:45](#)**
Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

What time is rehearsal on Saturdays? Only, I have Quidditch in the mornings, but yeah, I could meet for extra time. Think that's a good idea, really.

And yeah. I heard it was... nice. The ball. I hadn't heard you performed, though. Guess that's not what people mostly were talking about, though.

(She's a teensy weensy bit of a menace, Umbridge, yeah. I've got detention for writing a thank you to Mr Selwyn's daughter. I suppose Madam Umbridge thinks everyone in the world ought to have got to read that. Only, I wonder if it's more excluding to know that Arista Selwyn gave me her old toy cat when she didn't give the rest of them anything or to not be able to read the message and wonder why I know Selwyn's daughter when they don't. Which do you think?)



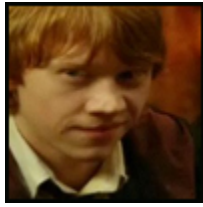
 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2013-01-07 22:23:45](#)**
Re: Private message to Ron Weasley


We'll start rehearsal at noon or so; whenever everyone's finished their lunch.

Oh. What have you heard people talking about, then? Aside from the decorations.

(You've got detention for writing a note to a little girl? A thank you note, at that? I should think that writing thank you notes would be a good example of service to the Protectorate, unless she means that all of our pleases and thank yous ought to be public, like little badges and things. As for exclusion, I couldn't possibly decide

between the old toy cat and your connection with the Selwyns - just mind you don't take anything to drink from her Father.)



 **alt_ron** at **2013-01-07 22:46:10**

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Well. I'd rather not miss out lunch again. I'm starving now because Umbridge took up all of lunch lecturing us on how impolite we'd all been. So let's say I'll stay after rehearsal on Saturday,

yeah?

Um. Mostly people are talking about who had nice robes and who looked ridiculous. I heard lots of people got pissed and did daft things. (Wonder if any of them were taking drinks from Mr Selwyn. Though, I reckon he was too busy with all that Portkey business to have been sharing Porphyry juice with anyone.)

I heard you went with Zabini, but danced a lot with Smith. How was that, then?



 **alt_daphne** at **2013-01-07 22:49:14**

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Hard to imagine that *she* would miss lunch! How much do you bet she went to her office straight after and made a little piggy of herself on cakes and treacle?

I didn't take any sunrise cordials from Mr Selwyn, but I did have, perhaps, a bit more champagne and brandy than I ought. It's so easy to cross that line from what makes you merry to what makes you silly or upset.

And yes, Smith. I'm afraid he's got quite the wrong end of things now and won't stop pestering me for another snog, and Blaise has failed to step up and call him out on his presumptions. I'm rather dreading the leers Smith is bound to give me at rehearsal tonight.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-07 22:57:56](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

I bet you're right, actually.

From what I hear, loads of people have trouble with that. Towler and Kirke said the head of the Daughters of the Protectorate, Mrs Millingwicket-Watsis got soused and led a conga line. There. That's a thing I heard about the dancing!

And Smith. Well, yeah, he can be- No one takes him seriously, though, so you shouldn't worry.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-07 23:03:11](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Yes, she was quite pissed (and practically lifting her robes so high that short children might have glimpsed her knickers!) but at least she was being merry about it. Though I've no doubt she's quite embarrassed now, in the aftermath.

That's precisely the problem with Smith; no one takes him seriously, and now he thinks I have.

Oh well, it's not your problem. Though if you hear anyone saying that he and I are *together* or something - well, could you do me a favour and say there's no truth to that at all?

[2013-01-07 14:55:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


So I had to read my thank you letter to Arista out to everyone in Umbridge's office. I tried to make it an entertaining performance. Hope they all enjoyed it. (Bloody Umbridge, though. Made Starling read a letter to her Mum about not having any decent socks in her trunk. The rest of them were fairly funny, though, I thought. Especially Scroops and Frobisher getting caught out planning a stupid prank.)



 [alt_ron](#)

I'm starving, though. I totally missed out eating because Umbridge went on and on about our better selves blah blah, and I've had lessons all day since. And Quidditch club and then Revue practice, so I've got to find something to eat now, or I'll fall off my broom or swoon on Greengrass or something later.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-07 21:20:26](#)
(no subject)

Ugh. She really is awful.

And I'll bring some extra biscuits to the Revue.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-07 21:28:35](#)
(no subject)

Oh. And I meant to say.

She gave us detention for tomorrow night. Patil and me. How fun will that be?




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-07 21:34:37](#)
(no subject)

For writing Mrs Selwyn?

Honestly.

She's ridiculous.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-07 21:55:35](#)
(no subject)

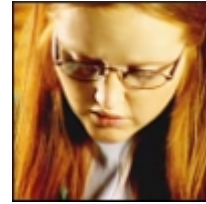
Because as YPL counselors, we should be setting the highest example.

Seriously.

At least I wasn't licking Lana Sandoval's a-se. That's what Patil's was. Of course.

2013-01-07 16:31:00

A Not at ALL Private Message to Daphne Greengrass



Miss!!

I thought I volunteered to help with costumes, not set design. Why've I been put in that group with the boys??

 **alt_eloise**

I'll help wherever you think is best, but I am of the opinion that I really ~~want to learn~~ am more inclined toward the daintier sort of projects, which might involve the stitching of luxurious fabrics, parrot-coloured eye paint, and eyelash-lengthening charms.



 **alt_daphne** at **2013-01-07 23:46:03**

(no subject)

Midgen,

Perhaps you've not yet had a chance to look at the script yet, but all the characters are Hogwarts students from different time periods. I very much doubt anyone will be wearing parrot-coloured eye paint!

And Millie is not a boy, and she's on set design, too. I do remember that you requested a spot on the costuming crew, but we really have that well-covered, especially since Parvati has spent time working with her Mother, who, as you know, is a designer.

I know it may not be the most glamorous of jobs, but we really do need strong, hearty individuals working with the larger stage pieces. Really, I think you would thrive on the set design crew!



 **alt_eloise** at **2013-01-07 23:47:25**

(no subject)

But I want

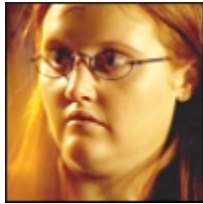
Really?? You think I would thrive there??




 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2013-01-07 23:49:11](#)**
(no subject)

Oh indeed. You're quite the picture of a perfect fit.

Tell you what: if, after a few weeks, you find that you don't enjoy building and painting the sets, you can go ahead and quit - no hard feelings whatsoever.



 **[alt_eloise](#)** at **[2013-01-07 23:50:12](#)**
(no subject)

But then I won't be contributing and offering my services!!



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2013-01-07 23:50:56](#)**
(no subject)

Then I suppose you had better do your best to stick it out.

You can do it, Midgen. Wait and see.

2013-01-07 22:14:00

(no subject)

WAT WOULD IT TAK TO GET UMBRG SACKED ?

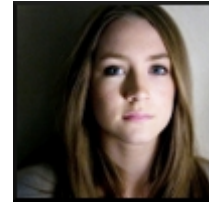


 **alt_galleon**

[2013-01-08 10:04:00](#)

Hello

Would anyone like to sit with me at lunch today?



 [alt_hydra](#)



 [alt_hydra](#) at **[2013-01-08 17:08:22](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I thought all morning about what kind of public post I could make so that I can write a Private Message to Dora, and this is what I've come up with.

It's not very good, is it?

Which of you started the discussion about Madam Umbridge? I suppose it's not as important as thinking about ways to help the Order, but we would be helping ourselves, and the rest of the school.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **[2013-01-08 17:11:45](#)**

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

I don't know who did.

It sort of looks like Ron's first message, though. Was it you, Ron?




 [alt_hydra](#) at **[2013-01-08 19:13:55](#)**

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

I was going to suggest that we get the professors to notice how horrid she is. Especially Raz and Professor Dolohov.

I guess no one did anything about the Carrows, though.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-08 19:23:32](#)

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

Whoever it was had a good point, though. The Carrows weren't liked by Lucius, not at all, but he couldn't do much because they were favoured by the LP.

I don't think He's quite that close to her.

And Dolohov already doesn't care for her. He did give her those socks. So maybe he'd know who on the Board doesn't like her?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-08 19:34:18](#)

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

Do you suppose...

Well, this summer, you and Draco were working to make Harry a little more comfortable with being a leader. Was that the idea or am I wrong?

I hate the idea of putting a burden on him if he doesn't want it, but Harry can pretty much do as he pleases at this school, so long as it doesn't come across as being a blood traitor.

I wonder what she'd do he he was like "I don't like what you've come up with here, and as the Lord Protector's son I want you to change it."

The Lord Protector might even be glad that he's taking charge like that - or maybe he likes that Harry never makes waves. I don't know.

But then it's so hard to imagine Harry doing that. Draco would be so much better.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-08 20:11:02](#)

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

Yes, that was part of it. And we thought it best he wasn't at Buckingham and had friends around him keeping his mind off things.

I could talk to him and Draco about it, and see what they think. It's worth a try, at least. He really doesn't like Umbridge, that much is plain.

I know that one thing he worries about is that if he does things wrong, Draco and Hermione are the ones who get hurt. So he might be unsure because of that.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-08 17:11:02](#)

(no subject)

I'd love to, Hydra.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-08 17:23:18](#)

(no subject)

Thank you.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-08 18:16:31](#)

(no subject)

I always find that I enjoy lunch in the winter at Hogwarts. Some of their food is so heavy for summer, but it's perfect when it gets cold.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-08 18:22:03](#)

(no subject)

I really do like the soup they're serving today.




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-08 18:49:03](#)

(no subject)

Yes, it's very hearty, isn't it?



 **alt_hydra** at [2013-01-08 17:23:02](#)

Private message to cousin Dora

Dear Dora,

I'm sorry that I've got to bury a private message to you inside my journal, but Madam Umbridge has made some new rules about using too many private messages. Yesterday, she pulled aside the people who didn't follow her rules and made them read their private messages aloud to one another. It was very embarrassing for some people, I believe.

Thank you again for allowing my friends and me to have a Tea Appreciation at Laszlo's. It was a very nice way to finish our hols, and I was so pleased to see Bea again (she's so big!). I am also certain that some of my other friends were *very* sorry to have missed your dog, but perhaps next time?

I've been coming back to a lot of the things we talked about in the autumn, about boys and growing up. I feel a lot clearer on some of those questions, now. I've also learnt something, and that's that my Daddy doesn't want me to grow up. Other adults act as if that's normal, especially when it comes to daughters, but I find it strange and a little unsettling. I also worry that when he opens up his eyes and sees that I'm more grown up than he realised, he might do something dangerous. Maybe to Justin. Even though I worry about that it doesn't seem to stop me from doing more and more things that he wouldn't approve of. Do you suppose I'm quite foolish?

I've also thought about what I heard you say to Mr Ponds during the tea. It surprised me quite a bit, I suppose. I've never thought of myself as resembling anyone in particular, let alone Aunt Andromeda - your Mother, that is. I don't look like Mummy (Rigel does, he has such dark hair and eyes). Daddy says that I favour the Rosier side of the family, not the Blacks, which I suppose I always thought meant I looked a little like Aunt Narcissa (except less beautiful). I suppose it got me thinking, is all. And maybe you can tell me more about her, one day. That and the rest of your family.

I hope all is well.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-09 04:47:05](#)

Re: Private message to cousin Dora

Hullo, Hydra.

I'm awfully glad you were all able to come. Bea certainly enjoyed it. And I did, too. You're welcome any time. With friends or without.

~~What you said ab— I didn—~~

That's really odd, your thinking I'd said something to Mr Ponds about you. I did have that thought while you were here. You were talking to some of the others and it just struck me how much you reminded me of my mum. Something about your eyes and the way you looked when your bloke offered you one of those biscuits you fancied. Just an expression, I guess, but it made me think of her.

It's a compliment. She was lovely, my mum. And ~~brav~~ She knew what she wanted and what she cared about, mum did. And she broke with her parents over it, too.

I'm not saying that to answer your questions about whether you should do things your father wouldn't approve of. I mean to say, if my mum is an example, it could be an example of what not to do or of the consequences of doing it. You know how she died, I expect.

But there are other ways to see it, too, and I think you'll have to make your own decisions about things you want that your father disapproves of or things he wants for you that you don't want. It's part of getting to be your own person, and I expect it makes all parents sad when it happens. Only some parents manage it better than others. And some parents are more... set on having things their way.

I suppose I'm not very much help when it comes to managing parents at your age because I didn't have mine then, and things with Crouches were not the they are between parents and their own children. But, still, when I was your age I know I was figuring out who I wanted to be and I was also learning how to be that person when I knew I'd have to hide her from the Crouches. Because I couldn't be like them. (Not that they wanted me to be, mind you.) But I didn't want to do the things they thought I ought to do, and I did a great lot of things they'd have been awfully cheesed off about

if they'd known.

But you may be right that you have to think about consequences if you step out of your father's line. I'm not telling you to ignore that or to pretend he mightn't do something 'dangerous'. You know him best, and you know what you need to be concerned about.

I do think, though, that from now on, you'll find yourself having more thoughts and doing more things that are yours, apart from your parents. So you'll have to figure out which things they can know about and which things it's best if they don't. That's how growing up works. For everyone, I think, but it's more important for people whose parents try to control them. You're growing into the person you'll be when you finish school and live on your own and make your own decisions, including about who to see and whether to get married. You're not going to marry your father, after all!



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-09 05:57:28](#)

Re: Private message to cousin Dora

You had a thought - but you said something about it, didn't you? To Mr Ponds or maybe it was just to yourself, just under your breath. You said that I reminded you of your Mother.

You said it out loud, right? Didn't you?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-09 06:03:38](#)

Re: Private message to cousin Dora

Pardon?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-09 06:06:25](#)

Re: Private message to cousin Dora

I'm sorry, I'm being rude, I know.

It's just that, do you remember if you just thought about how I looked like your Mother, or do you

remember if you actually said something out loud.

It's very important.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-09 06:07:55](#)

Re: Private message to cousin Dora

Oh.

Well, I hadn't meant to. But if you heard me, I suppose I did.

I was just so struck by it, I guess.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-09 06:09:01](#)

Re: Private message to cousin Dora

I'm sorry if I embarrassed you.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-09 06:18:24](#)

Re: Private message to cousin Dora

Yes, you must have. People say all sorts of things out loud without meaning to, and they don't even realise it.

You didn't embarrass me at all. I'm sorry, I was panicking about something that's just in my imagin - I'm just a little jumpy, that's all. I promise it's not to do with you.

I'm happy that I remind you of her. I'd rather remind people of someone like her, than someone like my own Mother. Even though I never did know her.

I will have to think more about what you said about consequences. I've already done so many - well, there's a lot of things that I could get in trouble for, sometimes I feel like, surely snogging a boy, or doing more than that, would be the least of it.

I would hate it if anyone got hurt because of me, though.

||| | From,
Hydra

2013-01-08 10:10:00

(no subject)

Strangeweale, Caldwell, Whitacre are YPL Oversight. Turn 2/3 against her. Or 7/12 of BoG might work too.



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-08 11:20:00

(no subject)

BoG or Oversight might turn if students lodged protest. What about boycott posting for 1wk? Or else all post same msg on given day.



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-08 11:24:00

(no subject)

Maybe we get parents to write in? Target specific BoG? Come up with list of specific issues.



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-08 11:26:00

(no subject)

YEAH NOT JUST COS WE DONT LIK HER . HAS
TO BE GOD REASON . MAYBE MAK HER DO
SOMETHING DANGEROUS ?



 [alt_galleon](#)

2013-01-08 12:11:00

(no subject)

Carrow didn't get sacked til he murdered Hannah. We may be stuck with Hembridge unless she gets bored and quits.



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-08 13:17:00

(no subject)

SHE ISNT THE LPS PET THO. HE WOULDNT
CAR ABOUT HER.



 [alt_galleon](#)

2013-01-08 13:18:00

(no subject)

Perhaps we make her bored? Overwhelm her with work? Find another job she'd like more?



 **alt_galleon**

[2013-01-08 16:33:00](#)

A post

Someone said we should be posting more in our journals and I agree.



 **[alt_zacharias](#)**

So here is my post for the week. I would like to invite anyone and everyone to reply with your thoughts, advice for clean living, the answers to tonight's homework (just kidding!) or any other teensy little thing that might be on your mind.



 **[alt_zacharias](#) at [2013-01-08 21:38:03](#)**

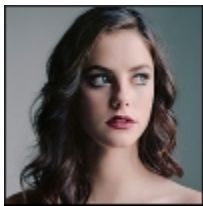
Private Message to Daphne

Hey, I tried to catch you in the corridors between lessons but you were always surrounded.

Have I done something to put you off? I mean, we were getting on really well, I thought, at the Ball on Saturday. But you didn't reply to my note yesterday and you stayed after rehearsal to work with Weasley.

I mean, is it that I *didn't* do something right? The tongue thing, maybe? I heard that takes some practice.

I just...thought you'd be up for it again, maybe.



 **[alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-08 21:43:15](#)**

Re: Private Message to Daphne

Smith.

You haven't done anything wrong; ~~you simply don't have enough experience to know how this works.~~
You are a fine fellow in many ways, and the Ball was a nice bit of fun. But, just because I fancied a snog and a dance with you on that particular night doesn't mean that I fancy it again.

Sometimes you just have to enjoy the moment, and then move on.
Do you see what I mean?



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2013-01-08 21:44:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphne

Oh. So you mean you just wanted to try it on the once, then?



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-08 21:46:03](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphne

Precisely.



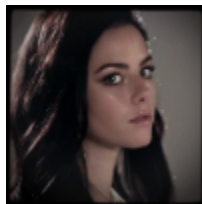
 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2013-01-08 22:01:00](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphne

Good. Right.

So, you don't mind if I ask your sister out, then, do you?

Because I actually was on my way to do, when you asked me to dance.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-08 22:08:21](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphne

ASTORIA??

You prefer my sister, do you? you arse

I think that sounds like a simply inspired idea. Yes, do go ahead and ask her out.

Oh! And here's a little known fact about my sister: she really appreciates honesty in a man.



 [alt_eloise](#) at [2013-01-08 21:44:18](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Zach!!



 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2013-01-08 22:02:42](#)
(no subject)

Oi, Ellie. What's the answer to question three?



 [alt_eloise](#) at [2013-01-08 22:39:20](#)
(no subject)

Nice try!!

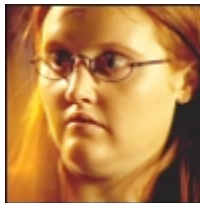
You sure are talking to a lot of Greengrass girls today. Will you write Queenie next?? She's the only one who's 'Puff!




 [alt_zacharias](#) at [2013-01-09 17:47:44](#)
(no subject)

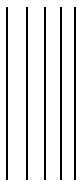
Might do, Ellie. Might do just that.

How about you? Which girl are you going to have your first snog with?



 [alt_eloise](#) at [2013-01-09 17:49:57](#)
(no subject)

You're horrible!!



 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2013-01-09 17:58:09](#)**
(no subject)

That's not what she said.



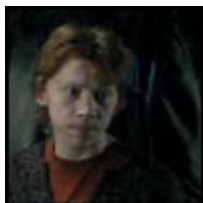
 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2013-01-08 22:12:42](#)**
Private Message to Astoria Greengrass


Hullo.

I hope you don't mind my saying, but your sister is a right wench. She got in between on Saturday; I was actually coming over to see if you wanted to give it a go.

Let's show her a thing or two, hey? No worries, nothing binding or anything.

-Zach



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-09 04:54:18](#)**
(no subject)

Smith.


Don't be dim. Greengrass isn't interested, so you should stop bothering her.



 **[alt_zacharias](#)** at **[2013-01-09 05:04:01](#)**
Private Message to Weasley

Which one's not interested, then? The one I snogged on Saturday or the one I'll be snogging tomorrow?



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-09 05:07:44](#)**
(no subject)

It's excluding to post private messages, Smith. Which one don't you want to know you plan to snog them both in a week?

That's not a very polite thing to do.



 **alt_zacharias** at **2013-01-09 05:16:59**
(no subject)

As it happens, Weasley, not that it is any of your business, they already both know.

So shove off if you can't mind your own.

2013-01-08 17:05:00

Private message to Tosha

Toshenka -

I have just spent two hours with Septima crying on my shoulder. Can you help?



 **alt_sinistra**

I know I told you that one of her students last year failed near everything but his Arithmancy OWLS. Despite several of us doing everything we could. (And curse it, it was not enough, and Horace still holds it over me that he was right about that.) And they broke his wand, sent him to the camps.

You know she was called in Saturday to help, got shaken out of bed, spent the whole night doing calculations at the Ministry. After, it hit home just how much Thomas Capper could have helped. That he could have done the arithmancy near enough in his head.

This morning, after her class, she went to ask how he was doing. I don't know why - no, I'm lying. I would look too. And because she'd been so helpful, someone tracked down where he - where he'd been.

He died, in October. Of all the stupid things, he fell, hit his head, and no one noticed for too long. Didn't wake up the next morning. I don't think his brother and sister even know.

She's in a bad way. And she's - all those what-ifs we talked about recently, losing students. She won't - can't - hear me about it. Can you come up as soon as you see this? Bring one of the books I found for her, too? I think she'll eventually want the distraction.

This is me asking a favour. And not asking about other things. Because I can do the arithmancy on those myself. (She is not her most discreet ever - all the more reason for you to talk to her before anyone else does. For the good of the school.)



 **alt_antonin** at **2013-01-08 22:11:05**
(no subject)

Dearest,

Of course I will come, if you think my presence, and my insights, would be more helpful than harmful; you

do not need to spend favour for that, simply ask.

I will assume you are in your office; I will be up in a moment. (Not the way I wished to make my first visit, but still.)

On my way,
T



 **alt_sinistra** at **2013-01-08 22:12:39**
(no subject)

Tosha -

Her office, not mine. Seventh floor, near the Ravenclaw tower staircase, just down the hall from her classroom. It's on the cards I gave you in September.

Thank you.



 **alt_antonin** at **2013-01-09 12:49:51**
(no subject)

I'm sorry I did not get back to you last night -- it was a contentious discussion and by the time we broke for the evening, I was more than exhausted. I do not know how much help I was, but I offered what comfort I might. (And, yes, talked her gently around to the realisation that she was being less than discreet, but at least I was able to do so such that she arrived at the conclusion herself; I promised I would relay you her most urgent wishes that you forget everything you heard, and assured her you likely already had.)

Meanwhile, in other news: I must reschedule our Friday; I spoke with Mr Longbottom yesterday afternoon and will be hosting him for further discussion on Monday and Friday evenings for the next two weeks. Shall we reschedule for Thursday evening? Dolores will be sitting in on my classes, and I am certain I will need sympathetic discussion afterwards. I am happy to brave your tower so as not to interrupt your open hours. (And yes, that would be a much more pleasant reason for calling.)

Yours,
T



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2013-01-09 14:21:34](#)**
(no subject)

Toshenka -

You are a wonder and a half. (Contentious *and* exhausting? Oh, dear.) I will be reassuringly forgetful at her, at any rate. I was planning to stop in and check on her at 11, anyway, and see if I can offer some gentle distractions. (Thankfully, two of my sixth year NEWTs handed me that yesterday: it's part of why we were meeting in the first place.)

On rescheduling: Thursday would be lovely, and I would be even more delighted to host you. And offer sympathetic discussion, and some of Mum's baking, and various other amusements.

Also, for your weekend planning: my best brother - that would be Storm - is coming on Sunday, to do the measuring for Poppy and Pomona's presents. I'd love to introduce you, and I'm looking forward to showing him around the place: he's not been back since I started teaching. If you'd let me know when would be convenient, I can bring him by your office, or you can meet us in mine, or wherever else seems handy. There's a YPL thing, so we don't need to worry about ducking Dolores, and Raz may or may not be dealing with security for that.

Last, before you ask, her - what she found out - has me a bit shaken, too. Raz, also a wonder, and I'm better this morning.



 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2013-01-09 23:11:33](#)**
(no subject)

I would be delighted to meet your brother this weekend. (Although -- "best brother"? A decidedly un-Hufflepuff showing of favourites, my dear. Though from what you've told me of him before, an understandable one.) My Sunday is currently unscheduled; I am at your discretion in this as in all things.

And speaking of discretion: when we speak tomorrow, remind me to tell you of Minerva's request to me. She seems much improved, and willing to begin regaining whatever ground she might have lost -- and to request my help in that, as well. It is

most encouraging.

I have, meanwhile, just finished speaking with Miss Calderwood, and making it plain to her that while I will be more than happy to help her make up the gap in her education forced by her unplanned leave, I will also expect her to ... make better life choices, shall we say. I do not think she will be bothering you further, and if she does I will be swift to step in.

Your,
T



 **alt_sinistra** at **2013-01-09 23:52:34**
(no subject)

It would be unfair, unjust, and untrue to imply I didn't have a best brother if I did, wouldn't it?

No, you're right, it strikes people as odd, but it's an old family joke, from when I was little. He was always the one who'd take morning chores so I could sleep in, and I started calling him my best brother for it. We had some trouble when we were both in school rubbing each other the wrong way, but that's long past. (The name, I should note, is a nickname: he's not been called anything else since he was about five and I was three. 'Calm after the', not 'Fury of', as you'll see when you meet him.)

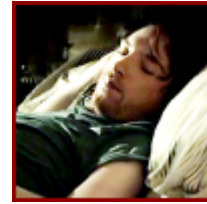
I have added "Minerva, promising conversations" to my list for tomorrow.

As to Miss Calderwood - ah, just as well you're coming up here, actually. I've a thing or two to show you on the way up the tower. We can walk up together after supper, and I can show you the best staircases?

On the larger question, honestly, I wish they hadn't acted as they did. And yet, I'm the last person who can say anything about it, or should. I do promise to tell you if I've the least hint of anything amiss from that possible quarter (and while I don't think I've actually said it in so many words to Raz, obviously, him too.) He was so very restrained last time.

2013-01-08 18:45:00

Order Only: Private message to Charlie Weasley



 [alt_bill](#)

I hope Maggie was happy to see you again. Not to mention Dree and Em. (I suppose that's too much to expect from Copacati. Tell me that at least she refrained from biting you.)

It's hard going back though, isn't it? I was so knackered when I came home tonight that I almost ended up planting myself face first in my plate of Mum's shepherd pie at dinner. How'd your first day back go?

Do tell your coworkers thanks again, from all the Weasleys, for shifting schedules around so that you could get so much time off.

Mum seemed to do all right today. As best as I could tell, anyway. If she sat down to have a little weep at midday of course, I wasn't here to see it, and she didn't admit it to me. I'm afraid that time is going to weigh heavily on her hands now that she's being eased out her barter network role. At least until the spring gardening season starts. She's used to being busy. I do think having her explore starting at Laszlo's is a good idea. Glad that Remus, Tonks and Sirius are willing to at least consider it.

Speaking of Laszlo's, last night was an excellent way to end our time together. Must admit I got almost misty-eyed watching Remus with Bea. Even a bit choked up. Reckon he's already as good a dad as Dad was (I did snicker to myself though when I spotted the jam on his lapel and the stuffed toy dangling out of his pocket). Between Tonks, Remus, Sirius, the Order and all the customers--not to mention you and me--Bea is going to be the most doted upon kid in New London.

I'm ready to start a new chess game. Do you want black or white this time?

One other thing. Thanks. Not just for all your help and support the past few weeks but also...for viewing that cursed memory. I know it wasn't pleasant. And yeah, I resisted when you first suggested it, but oddly enough, you were dead right. It's a comfort that I'm not carrying the weight of that all by myself anymore. Maybe that makes me selfish, but at least I don't feel so alone now. So, yeah.

Thanks.


That reminds me: Albus pulled me aside privately when the meeting was over and said something downright peculiar. He was talking about the rite, and my presence there. He told me that the effects of proximity to dark magic can vary from person to person. Mania, megalomania, even lust. Anger, aggression and irritation, too. (Which, I'm sure you'll agree, seems to be the route I took.) Of course it's worse if you do the dark magic yourself, he went on, but even just witnessing it can be difficult. 'One of the best antidotes, of course,' he added, looking at me in that piercing way he has, 'is remorse.'

At first I didn't understand. I hadn't participated in the rite; I didn't kill anybody.

But then I remembered what I did to Ron. And that's when I realised it for the first time: since I've apologised to him, I have felt better. It's a funny thing. That desperate, trapped-inside-my-own-skin feeling that made me want to flay myself with my own teeth, that has entirely disappeared.

Guess Albus knows what he's talking about.



 **alt_charlie** at **2013-01-09 13:59:04**
(no subject)

"Knackered" is a good enough way to put it. Two and a half weeks is apparently long enough to lose the knack of twelve-hour days; I wound up skipping supper and falling face down on my bunk the minute I was relieved. At least I took my boots off first.

I'm glad you're feeling better. And that Albus was right. I hope you and Ron can work your way around to being all right with each other again, but knowing Ron I think it'll take a bit of time -- look up 'stubborn' in the dictionary, it's got his picture there for it. So don't push too hard, yeah? I'll give him a bit to calm down some and then I'll try writing to him and see where his head's at.

I enjoyed the other night a lot -- that baby is the happiest child I've ever met. (All right, I might just be remembering Ginny at that age -- any baby would look relaxed next to her!) Just you wait, the minute Mum starts working there and spending more time around Bea, she's going to start dropping hints like anvils on us about grandchildren.

I really hope she doesn't. I don't have the heart to tell her that even if I did feel like I could tell her about things with Dree and Em without her going spare, I've thought about it a lot and ... I just don't know that I could have kids right now. Not with everything. I know Mum and Dad held off on joining the Order proper when we were all younger because of us, and I know they changed their minds when Mum's brothers got killed, and I guess that's a good enough reason, but ...

I've just been thinking a bit, these past few weeks, I guess. About what would have happened if Mum or Dad had been exposed as a member of the Order when we were younger. Or got killed. And I'm willing to take that risk for myself, but I don't think I could do that to a child. And even if I could, or even if there wasn't the Order to think of ... this isn't the sort of world I think I'd want to bring a kid up in.


But then I think that, and I look at Little Miss Sunshine and think, was it wrong for Remus and Tonks to have her? Is it wrong for them to keep up their work in the Order now that they do? And then I'm back around to "it's a good thing Bea's got such a large family, in case anything happens", and then I realise I'm getting mopey and go do something else to take my mind off things.

I envy the rest of the Order sometimes, you know? They remember the way things used to be. Before. I don't, really. Just a little bit, and it's all stories and what I remember from being a kid.

And you're welcome. For everything.

I'll set up the board again tonight or tomorrow. Your turn to play white, I think.



 **alt_bill** at [2013-01-09 19:32:46](#)
(no subject)

My instinct's the same as yours on Ron. Even if it made me feel better, the apology clearly didn't mollify him much, and I'm sure he's convinced I--well. Never mind. Yeah, I plan to give him a few weeks, and then I'll write to him. Maybe it'll cheer him up if I give him another opening to yell at me again.

Mum hinted to me about grandkids once. But I have a hunch Dad privately told her to back off, and she hasn't done so since. I know I

want kids...someday. ~~And someone to have them with.~~ Not now, though. Or not yet. And yeah, I'd prefer not to bring them into a world like this. Which just adds a sense of urgency to the work we do for the Order, doesn't it? We need to get cracking and change the world, I guess.

I can't blame other parents for going ahead, though. God, we need to have some hope in the future if we're going to go on at all, don't we?



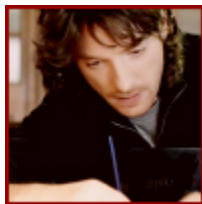
 **[alt_charlie](#)** at **[2013-01-10 01:02:19](#)**
(no subject)


It's a tough question, isn't it? On the one hand, can you really justify bringing a kid into this world, to grow up under the rule of the "Lord Protector" and his lot -- while on the other, yeah, what you said about having hope. And a reason to fight.

Mind you, thinking about that memory of yours, that's enough reason for me. Because a government that decides to make a -- fifteen? sixteen? -- year old kid kill his own mother to help keep it in power doesn't deserve to survive.

And -- oh, Merlin. I just thought of something. When we get rid of His Evilness and break the wards, and I do believe we will -- what's that going to do to Finnigan? To have to live with knowing he did that and to not even have left whatever comforting lies they told him to convince him it was necessary and needed?

Yeah. That's going to keep me up tonight. Or it would, if I wasn't so damn exhausted.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-10 03:24:40](#)**
(no subject)

Ugh, that is an awful thought.

I wonder how he's doing. Is HE feeling remorse? If he isn't, by all rights it should wreck him much worse than it wrecked me.

I wonder if it is, if it's enough for Ron to notice?

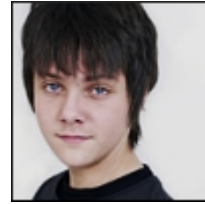
It feels as though we're losing a generation. You and I are the vanguard, the ones with only a faint memory of the way things used to be. We need to get this turned around again while there are still people who have the memories to lead us back.

2013-01-08 23:25:00

(no subject)

So in Potions today we made some potions.

We calculated some equations in Arithmancy and cast a few spells in Charms.

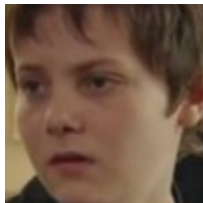


 [alt_michael](#)

It's hard to get up in the mornings, especially when it's dark outside and it's warm under the covers.

Daphs, I don't think we're going to need every single rehearsal to meet and talk about props and sets. Seems like we could meet once a week. After all, some of us agreed to do the backstage stuff because it would be less of a commitment.

Bits, it's only the second day back. Stop fussing. If you really forgot it, Mum will send it before long. I figure this way, whatever we're talking about will sound all mysterious and besides, now Mum knows to look for it. (Oh, except she needs to know you're talking about your teddy bear. But no one else needs to know that.)



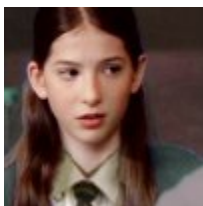
 [alt_michael](#) at **2013-01-09 04:47:59**

Private Message to Sally-Anne

Vector was really, really off during Arithmancy. Distracted, like.

I think she was thinking that Capper could've helped her loads the night she saved everyone at the Ball.

And you know we're going to start revision groups? Brocklehurst, Capper, Fawcett, Stebbins, Hopkins, Summers and me, at least an hour or two most evenings. We've all made a solemn vow to help each other through every single OWL.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-09 04:51:47**

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

That's a really good idea.

Do you think it would be okay to spread the word? I

think Katrina Bundy might like to come. Though Midgen probably would, too.

A lot of my friends are purebloods and most of the time it's fine. But when they talk about OWLS -- if they say they're nervous? I want to hex their mouths shut. Pansy doesn't, because she knows how cross it makes me, but some of the rest... Yeah.



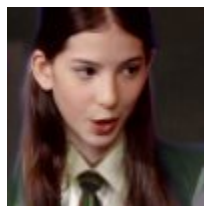
 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-09 05:01:01](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Bundy'd be all right. She's the only one in Gryffindor, after all, apart from Finkigan.

And yeah, we've talked about Eloise. I mean, we don't want anyone to fail, even if it means putting up with someone as brash as she is. Stebbins and Summers promised they'd keep her in line.

Your friends who fret about OWLs.... Does that include Ron? I know he's grieving but I hope he doesn't take that as an excuse to just go on being nasty to everyone.

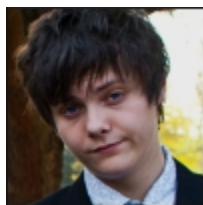


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-09 05:05:53](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

I don't think Ron's going to worry about OWLs until a week before the exams start.

And I know what you mean about Midgen. She can be really irritating but I still don't want her to fail. And she could probably use the help. Jones, too.



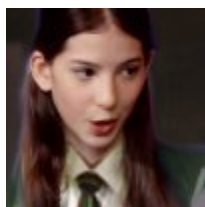
 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-09 05:13:57](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Yeah. I mean, basically any halfblood's welcome. Well, except Finnigan but he has bloody tutors so it's unlikely he'll need any help.

What gives with Weasley, anyway? He's being a right prat to Zach.

He's not going to come over here and ask us to say what we're discussing, is he?

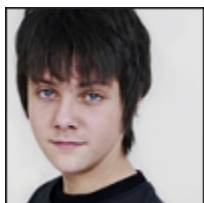


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-09 05:21:15](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Well, Zach's a prat more than half the time so I imagine Ron's taking the mickey to get a rise out of him.

I don't know if he's going to ask what we're discussing. Are you worried?



 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-09 05:24:16](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Well, for one thing I don't want someone coming along to tell us we've got to read what was in our messages (that's what Umbridge did, I heard). And for another, I don't want a bunch of purebloods horning in on our revising.

But there's also... Well, nevermind.

[2013-01-09 10:00:00](#)

Private Message to Tosha

Am I correct in thinking that you are set to meet with Madam U. to discuss the CCF soon?



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)**

Might I bend your ear, afterwards?

I find I require some help recalling the details of the CCF plans,



 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2013-01-09 17:19:23](#)**

(no subject)

She wishes my help in an exercise she has planned for later in the month. I must admit I am not much inclined to go out of my way in assisting her -- the woman does get under my skin like nobody's business and I will confess I have only not yet transfigured her into a brick and dropped her in the Lake because it would needlessly upset Auri - - but I am swallowing my annoyance and will do my best to be helpful; she cannot be trusted to have the students' best interests at heart and I do not yet know what her motives are.

(I have not yet told you, I don't think: she has taken it into her head that what we need is some sort of memorial to those of Our Lord's chosen who have fallen in service. She was attempting to assign Rizzer and me to write biographies of our lost -- which, barring the audacity of her assigning us homework, is one thing -- but is being rather indiscriminate in her choices of whom to honour, which is another thing entirely. Rather than telling her in no uncertain terms that no, we would not be writing memorials for Amycus or Alecto, I suggested she would surely achieve a much more suitable response by looking to some external historian, who would be able to place things in a more historical context. You may thank me later: I am certain you would have been her next port of call.)

I will certainly bring whatever I discover to you as soon as I unearth it. And in the meantime, perhaps you can refresh my memory on long-term sustaining of human-to-inanimate transfigurations in aquatic environments. Purely on a theoretical basis, you understand.

Meanwhile -- if I were you, котенок, I would have a care with

Septima. She received a rather bad shock yesterday -- that halfblood protégé of hers, who was sent to the camps last year? She received word that he had died, in rather banal circumstances, and it is weighing on her heavily. I did my best, but the gleam in her eye suggested to me that she might latch on anyone who promises to avert such a thing in future, and Dolores does seem to be at least paying lip service to the notion of academic vigour. If you wish me to begin constructing a programme of revising for OWLs and NEWTs posthaste lest Dolores beat us to it, I will happily do so.

Yours, in service,
T



 **alt_mcgonagall** at **2013-01-09 22:21:58**
(no subject)

Well, thanks be to God that you diverted her. If she had attempted to assign me homework, I believe I would have turned her out of the castle, and damn the Board of Governors. But what sort of exercise? She is remarkably close-mouthed around me. When I attempted to ask her about it today, she merely said "Oh Minnie" (which naturally put my teeth on edge) "you needn't bother your fuzzy little head about such things" (reference, I suppose, to my Animagus form) "for I have it well in hand," and sailed away like a very fat pink ship before I could reply. I had half a mind to hex her.

I shall pay a call on Septima tonight, although I do not know what I can or should say to her. "I am terribly sorry for your loss, now that I have pulled my head out of my trusty bottle," is hardly the correct tone.

Speaking of which. Have you any advice on where to find a line on some truly fresh tobacco? Professor Slughorn asked me whether I was brewing potions, then got rather sniffy about my health, and then told me flat-out that I would be 'on his hook further yet' if he did any favors for me. As I do not wish to indulge him when he is being so blatantly and casually Slytherin, I find myself at a loss. What the house-elves find in the regular shops might as well be flakes of shoe-leather.



 **alt_antonin** at [2013-01-09 23:01:08](#)
(no subject)

Horace will, I fear, never change. I will have my house-elf scout the growers for you and deliver whatever she finds. In exchange I ask only that you turn a blind eye to whatever minor acts of revenge I might find suitable for our darling Dolores. (As to that -- discretion forbids me to disclose the details, but you may take comfort in the fact I have been quietly causing her at least some minor annoyance. All in ways completely untraceable, of course.)

All I have heard is that she plans some coordinated activity -- Auri says Dolores is outside the extent of the plans Auri turned over, so as to what it might be, I do not know. When we spoke at the beginning of the year (before I realised my peace of mind would be found in avoiding her as much as possible) she gave the impression she was hoping for some sort of teamwork exercise with obstacles to overcome. Outdoors, in January, one might add. I believe she is hoping for my assistance in planning the obstacles; we shall see.

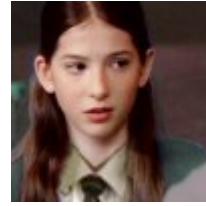
I will do my best, at least, to keep the matter from being too dire. One is tempted to arrange for her to fall on her face, or at least on her padded pink arse, but that would, alas, do poorly for the children. Who are the ones I most feel sorry for, in this mess.

If it is not overstepping my place, meanwhile -- allow me to say that I am very glad to see you so much restored to your former self. I have been most worried about you, котенок. I have not wanted to pry, nor to follow darling Dolores's mistake in setting your teeth on edge -- but it is good to see you looking so much better, and more able to stand against the challenges to the wellbeing of the school and the students Dolores represents.

Yours,
T

2013-01-09 10:24:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 **alt_sally_anne**

So, okay. ~~I'm a little worried about~~ I wanted to tell all of you that -- so did you see that Madam Pomfrey posted a list of people she wanted to come in for consultations? It wasn't because I was sick or anything, she wanted to talk to me about maybe doing an internship with her this year, in my free time. She wasn't sure I'd want to, because it's OWL year, plus sometimes Professor Dolohov and Professor Sinistra have hired me to do things for them that they pay me for, and she wouldn't be paying me; instead I'd get some training and experience. It might look good when I applied for the Healer Apprenticeship programme but also it might just be useful, all on its own.

Anyway

I asked her about privacy charms and she cast some extra ones and then I told her that I had been thinking about the future and the ways in which I might be useful and serve people I care about or causes I am interested in. Usually when I have conversations like this I say 'and serve Our Lord' but I was almost positive she's ~~a wand-smuggler~~ in the Order and I wanted to make it clear that I wasn't asking about things that would make me more useful to the Lord Protector but things that would make me more useful to groups that are working AGAINST him.

And I said that I thought she was a good person to advise me in this. And then I asked if in her opinion I should keep pursuing Healing, or if there are other talents I have that might be especially useful to groups that work on causes I am interested in?

So Madam Pomfrey said that I had a combination of talents that could make me a good Healer and said that groups working on causes I've an interest in are very much in need of skilled Healers, and in particular I would be useful because I'm good a problems-solving and I can fix things and make things (she thought that would actually be very useful for Healing, I'd never really thought about it that way but they DO use instruments that need adjustment or calibration or to be persuaded to look at things in ways they weren't precisely designed for). And then she said she'd like to give me the opportunity to develop the basic skills of Healing that would help when I apply for

the Apprenticeship program but also might serve me and others in ways 'as yet unforeseen but worth preparing for.'


And she gave me a look. I'd given her one, you see.

Anyway. I'm going to. Do the internship, I mean.

But I also thought it would be good for people to know that if they need an adult they can trust, Madam Pomfrey is definitely in the Order. This might be useful, you know, because you can ALWAYS say you're sick and go to the Matron, even if you're in the middle of class, and you can ALMOST always say you need to speak with her privately and people just assume it's that you're having some embarrassing personal problem.

That said I don't know that I'd tell her about any of the projects we talked about at our meeting the night we got back. I think she'd just tell us not too, it's too risky, we need to keep our noses in our books and so on.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-09 19:15:47](#)

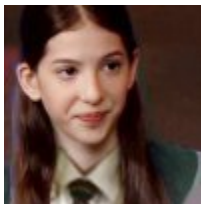
(no subject)

Definitely, you should do it, do the internship. If you can figure out how to work out the time, I mean.

Madam Pomfrey is a really good teacher. I don't know if I've ever said it directly, but she was definitely teaching me beginning Potions and Herbology, in the guise of telling me what I needed to know to help her in the Hospital Wing.

I think it'll help you with those causes you've an interest in. If you know what I mean.

I'm really glad she suggested it, and I'm sure you'll be a brilliant Healer.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-09 20:26:18](#)

(no subject)

Well, Madam Pomfrey clearly knew what I meant.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-10 04:54:05](#)**
(no subject)

That's brilliant.

And you're going to be ace at Healing.

I wonder if she'll open up even more once you start working with her.



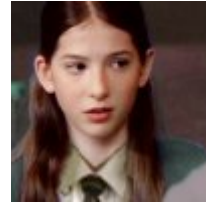
 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-10 04:59:56](#)**
(no subject)

~~I'm glad you're not cross~~

Thanks, Ron. And I don't know, maybe? It probably depends on what I ask. I mean, I didn't try to make her ADMIT that she knew what I was talking about and that I knew she knew.

2013-01-09 14:27:00

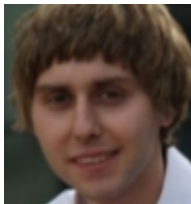
OWL revising group for half-blood students




As everyone probably knows, OWL exams are especially high stakes for those of us with impure ancestry. This can make revision more stressful in a lot of ways.

 **alt_sally_anne**

Any half-blood OWL students who want extra help or a group to revise with, talk to Michael Corner or me, we're setting one up.



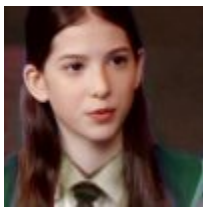
 **alt_justin** at **2013-01-09 22:09:02**
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,

Yes, I'm interested.

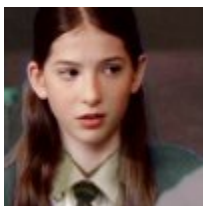
Are you going to be partnering smaller groups based on subject? If so, ought we to give you and Michael our lists of the subjects we feel confident to lead and the ones where we need the help?


-Justin



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2013-01-09 22:36:45**
(no subject)

That's a good idea. (Mostly, right now, we're seeing who's interested.)




 **alt_sally_anne** at **2013-01-09 22:37:33**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private message to Justin

Justin, do you know what they're going to do if you fail your OWLs? I mean, did they tell you?

Are they going to snap your wand and send you to the camps?
Because that seems

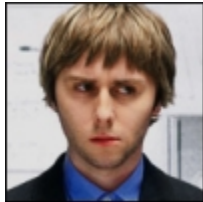


 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-10 04:30:30](#)

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

It's a fair question, what! It's been left somewhat open-ended but I believe the point is that if I should fail to pass a sufficient number of OWLs, I shall remain classified as a half-blood. So while I'm not up against the same stakes as everyone else, what, there *is* rather a lot depending on my performance.

-Justin



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-10 04:54:04](#)

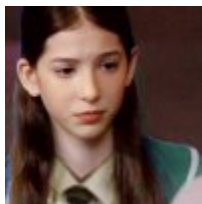
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:
Private message to Justin*

Of course, if I should fail sufficiently, I suppose they could do whatever they bally well wish.

I...I'm not sure how you'll take this, what, but I did wonder whether my presence would be acceptable to everyone. I'm rather unsure whether I ought to be showing myself as a halfblood who knows his place or a pureblood who is merely waiting to be accepted as such. It's well awkward and I'm sorry to impose myself on a group of which I'm not a natural part.

But in the end--well, I decided that it can't hurt to be seen as keen to revise as much as possible. And to be perfectly honest, what, I should welcome the practice. I still discover gaps in what I ought to know, that could give me away as a muggleborn.

-J



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 04:58:24](#)

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

Wow, I'm glad I didn't reply right away

okay

yeah.

So here's the thing. When I hear purebloods in our year talking about exams -- I get cross no matter what they're saying. I get cross when they say they're nervous because I want to scream, 'what do you even have to be nervous about, you wanker, they're not going to snap YOUR wand.' I get cross when they say they're NOT nervous because hey, I wouldn't be nervous either if I were a pureblood because what would it even matter? sure I might not be able to get into a Healing Apprenticeship programme but at least I wouldn't be SENT TO THE CAMPS.

Anyway. You -- I don't know what they'd do to you, honestly, but they might just arrange for you to disappear. Because you'd be an embarrassment.

Also, the stakes are just as high for you. Every day.

So yeah, come.



 [alt_justin](#) at 2013-01-10 05:40:05

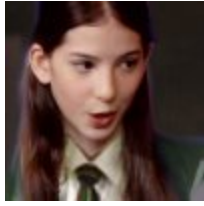
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:
Private message to Justin*

Oh, I say. Yes, I can see how you might well be on edge. Perhaps it's something about January and the end of holidays that tempers are running so high, all 'round.

I suppose it helps to remember that there are purebloods (real ones, I mean to say) for whom the consequences could be dashed severe, even if said outcomes don't derive from the Ministry. One can't know everything that might result from a passing or failing mark. And even if it's not a matter of life and death for everyone, that doesn't make their anxiety any less real, what?

Of course, you'll probably get cross now because I'm seeing their side. Don't worry, I shan't point out that I'm not 'really' a halfblood. No one needs to know it's completely true for completely opposite reasons!

-J



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 05:54:32](#)

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

Name one pureblood who's sitting OWLs this year who could face something as bad as the camps for failing OWLs.



 [alt_antonin](#) at [2013-01-09 23:35:36](#)

Private Message to Sally-Anne Perks

Miss Perks,

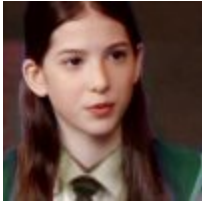
This is an excellent idea and shows marvellous initiative; five points to Slytherin for the thought.

I will make myself available to you all for additional tutoring and revision should you stand in need of help, and not merely in my own subject: I am also a competent enough instructor in Charms, Transfiguration, Arithmancy, and Ancient Runes, for instance, and obviously Defence is closely related to my own field. (Do not tell Professor Slughorn, but despite taking a NEWT in Potions, I have forgot nearly everything I have ever learnt.) Of course, my fellow professors will no doubt also wish to help in whatever way necessary, but if you or anyone else should find it difficult to arrange for time with them, please feel free to treat me as an additional resource.

Also, if you find yourselves in need of a place to revise where you are not likely to be disturbed, you may use my classroom in the evenings, or arrange with me to use my office: the library may be more suited to your purposes, but more crowded (particularly as exams begin to approach), and the library in my office does contain many of the texts in which you might find yourselves of need.

Having been reminded this week that quite a great deal rests on these exams for you and your fellow halfblooded students, I am most interested in serving as a resource for you all in whatever means might be necessary.

Regards,
Professor Dolohov



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 00:49:00](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne Perks

Thank you, sir.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 00:57:36](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne Perks

I heard Professor Vector was called to London to help fix the portkeys.

It made me think about Capper, too. And how good he was at Arithmancy, even he was rubbish at everything else.

I'm not REALLY worried, I mean, not exactly worried. I've done well in all my classes and I expect I'll pass my OWLs. But you can never know for sure; so much can go wrong.

I think probably the area people will need the most extra help with is Transfiguration. Professor Brutka is a very good teacher, but we had Mr Professor Carrow for our first three years. And he was not very good at explaining things, and he despised half-bloods.



 [alt_antonin](#) at [2013-01-10 02:00:04](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne Perks

The impression I have received from Professor Brutka is that he would be quite willing to help clear up any ... hrm, let us say, "fundamental uncertainties lingering from former instructional deficiencies"; is that sufficiently diplomatic? But I will happily assist as well; I am well aware that when one is having difficulties with comprehension, sometimes all it takes is an explanation from a different source.

I do not think you need to worry either; I would be most surprised should you encounter significant troubles with your own exams. But your concern for your classmates does you credit. (Mind you, I would counsel against becoming so entangled in concerns for your classmates' performance that your own should suffer, but I do not think that is likely.)

But -- if you will indulge me in an old teacher's and an old snake's prerogative for a moment -- I must say I've quite the interest in your successes, both academic and otherwise, and would consider it my very great pleasure to help you along the way.

Regards,
Professor Dolohov



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2013-01-10 02:15:18**

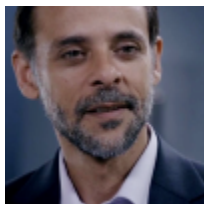
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne Perks

The one I'm actually most worried about is Potions. (The one you can't help me with, sadly!) I need to get an E or an O if I want to continue, and I do need a Potions NEWT in order to be considered for the Healers' training programme.

I think I can manage an E and I might even be able to get an O. But I can't take it for granted. (On the other hand, I think I could probably get an E on the Transfiguration OWL exam tomorrow. Though I'd probably stay up all night reviewing my notes, if I suddenly found out I had to.)

I dreamed last week that I was sitting the OWL exams and for some reason all my quills broke and the examiner wouldn't give me another quill and then I realised I didn't have my wand with me, either, and when I went to my next exam it was in some classroom that was in a tower I'd never heard of and I couldn't find it anywhere.

The whole dream was just ridiculous. None of that's going to happen. It was quite a relief to wake up, though.



 **alt_antonin** at **2013-01-10 02:35:02**

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne Perks


Sadly, I think that dream is universal. I stood my mastery by examination before a tribunal of the masters of the Cairo Conclave for the Noble Arts -- this was thirty years ago, when the Conclave was not yet publicly disclosed but still highly respected among those in the know -- and I could not sleep properly for a week before; I was plagued by dreams of standing in the centre of a

dim stone dungeon whilst shadowy figures in hooded robes threw nonsensical questions at me and berated me for failing to answer. (The actual tribunal took place in a perfectly comfortable room in a rather nice hotel, my examiners took me for supper after each day's examination was concluded, and I was unanimously admitted to the Conclave immediately upon completion -- but my subconscious persisted in coughing up the dream for at least a year thereafter.)

Come see me when you've some time, and bring your Potions notes with you. We will muddle through.


Regards,
Professor Dolohov



 [alt_eloise](#) at [2013-01-10 00:40:11](#)
(no subject)


I would like to be part of the group, please!!



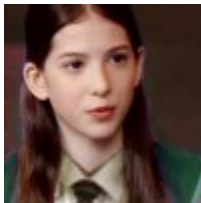
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 00:49:30](#)
(no subject)

All right. I'll let you know when we work out when and where we're meeting.



 [alt_megan](#) at [2013-01-10 00:48:49](#)
(no subject)

Might I participate? I really think I should participate. Because revision is already quite stressful.



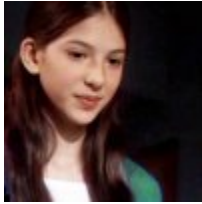
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 00:49:14](#)
(no subject)

Yes, absolutely you can.



 [alt_eloise](#) at [2013-01-10 00:55:14](#)
(no subject)

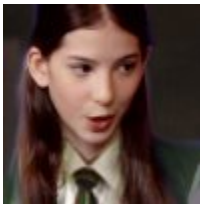
We can go together!!




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 00:53:01](#)
Private message to Michael

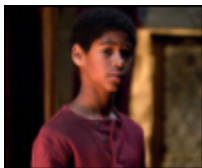
Professor Dolohov wanted to let me know that we could use his classroom if we wanted, or his office. Actually, Professor Sinistra said the same thing about HER classroom (but she told me in person instead of using the journals). Professor Dolohov pointed out that he has a rather extensive set of books so anything we'd likely want in the library would probably be there already. Which is brilliant, actually. Saves the trouble of fighting Ravenclaw Corner NEWT students for the books we need.


Professor Dolohov also offered to provide additional tutoring to anyone who needed help and not just in Dark Arts, he said he could also tutor people who needed help with Charms, Transfiguration, Arithmancy, or Ancient Runes (but not Potions.)



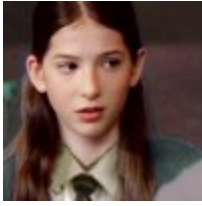
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 00:54:09](#)
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne Perks

Oh, and Defence, obviously.



 [alt_dean](#) at [2013-01-10 00:54:00](#)
(no subject)


I think I would be interested in joining you.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 00:58:13](#)
(no subject)

Okay, Thomas. We'll let you know when and where.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-10 03:31:15](#)
(no subject)

That's, er, a good point. I'm definitely interested in joining.

[2013-01-09 17:42:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good - Private Message to Justin



 [alt_hydra](#)

I've tried to carry on as usual, all day, but I can't stop thinking about something Dora wrote to me last night.

I asked her about something I heard her say to Mr Ponds - she said that I reminded her of her mother, my Auntie Andromeda. I rather liked the idea, because Andromeda married a muggleborn, and she didn't do as her family wanted, and I suppose I was thinking about you and me, you see.

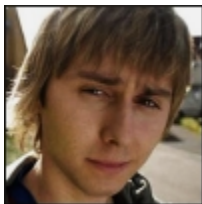
She said yes, she had a *thought* about my resemblance to her mother.

I asked her - I asked, but you didn't just think it, right? You must have said it out loud.

And she said that she hadn't meant to say anything about it, but she supposed she must have.

But...if someone doesn't want to say something out loud, they won't. Not unless they're being forced to, or they can't help themselves, like you can't help but gasp when you stumble on the ice, or groan when you drop your fork on the floor.

Or do you ever say things out loud without meaning to, and without even realising it?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-10 01:03:57](#)

(no subject)

Hullo,

I'm in the middle of this revising but I have a moment and saw you'd written.

I can see how you would think of us. I say, it's rather a nice thought, isn't it?

But.... Well, see here, love, one does sometimes speak out loud when one isn't thinking, but...doesn't one usually realise it when it

happens?

Unless your cousin is more distracted than the average person, what? Which she well might have been, with all of us and her little girl and such.

-Justin




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-10 02:53:39](#)
(no subject)

I want to think that you're right, that she's just a distracted sort of person, but I just keep thinking back to Remy, and what he said about me and what I was doing to him.

I'm probably just over-reacting, aren't I?

From,
Hydra




 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-10 04:11:04](#)
(no subject)

I suppose that depends, what? Do you think you're over-reacting to hearing your cousin Dora or over-reacting to what your cousin Remy said, or over-reacting to what it might mean? Or something else

altogether?

-J



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-10 04:18:42](#)
(no subject)

I don't really know.

I'd better go to bed. I'm awfully tired.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-10 04:23:43](#)
(no subject)


Don't be cross with me. I'm not taking the mickey. I mean to say, it's possible Remy's right. But if he is, you'll learn to control it and you can decide not to use it at all. And if he's wrong then there's nothing to worry about (but learning those meditations and such would not be a loss, in either case). It's all right.

You said to me once that other people can't make one change, deep down. This doesn't have to change you, love.

Would you like to meet?

-J




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-10 04:28:00](#)
(no subject)

No thank you, I really am very tired. I'm not cross. I just want to go to sleep, if it's all right.

I'll see you tomorrow.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-10 04:32:52](#)
(no subject)

Of course.

Only I *am* sorry if I've upset you. I

I suppose everyone is rather tense at present.

Sweet dreams.

-J

2013-01-09 21:06:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



So, we met the night we got back and we talked about our 'assets' -- the things we had, the things we had access to, the things we could do.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

I took notes (again) (someone remind me not to bring a quill next time). I thought I'd put what we talked about here, and Terry, you weren't at the meeting obviously but if you want to add your thoughts you can. Also, we wanted to talk about things we could DO with all these assets but we didn't come up with much and it was really late, so maybe we can talk about that some more, too.

OKAY.

Ron

Good at Defence, Charms, Transfig, and Dark Arts. Likes problem solving. Is brave, not easily embarrassed, doesn't mind getting dirty. Good at orienteering (finding his way), flying.

His mum has the barter network so he might be able to get hold of some things that are usually hard to find. The Burrow is also an asset because it's safe (or safer, anyway).

Sort of knows Director Selwyn.

Collection of muggle gadgets in the shed. (NOTE: have Justin look at this sometime.)

Could get hair from Percy if we want to impersonate Percy with polyjuice.

Hydra

Good in all her lessons except Arithmancy. Knows a lot of defensive hexes.

Not afraid of pain, good at observing and at keeping secrets, doesn't get upset easily, and some people are afraid of her (because of Auror Lestrangle).

Knows Occlumency.

Access to Auror Lestrage and Rodolphus Lestrage. Can eavesdrop; might be able to get hair.

Knows things about the Lord Protector that no one else does.

Access to private libraries, a horse, Mr Lestrage's workshop and potions lab and collection of dark artefacts.

MeSally-Anne

Good at lessons. Knows some Healing, clever at runework and making magical objects (nothing super fancy, though). Can fix things. Has a rat.

Access to the Stretton estates, which produce all sorts of food and cloth and so on.

Professor Dolohov, Professor Sinistra, and Madam Pomfrey all like me. Some of the muggles on the Stretton estate know me and trust me.

Pansy

Good at talking to adults. Good liar, good at codes. Can write songs, poems, jokes.

Property and possessions that she can access for use: a house in London (technically her mum has possession but she's not usually there); a potions room in that house; a House elf; a vault at Gringott's; a horse; money. She also has access to Lucius Malfoy's house in London.

People she can access: a solicitor; Lucius Malfoy; Sirius Black (though not as close to him as Justin); muggleborn stableworker at Gloss House; Professors Dolohov, Siz, Madam Pomfrey. Also knows a lot of important people who go to parties, casually. Knows a bloke in the Forbidden Forest who's part giant and owns a flying motorbike (not well).

Has copies of Lucius Malfoy's personal stationary, and his signature. Could get his hair.

Has an owl and a kneazle.

Justin

Good at getting on with people. Tactful! Good at duelling, all his lessons. Very good handwriting and might be able to learn to forge. Knows muggle first aid and water safety. Can ride horse and broom. Fluent in Latin, Greek, French, and 'Muggle.' Clean school record and no enemies.

Jugsons like him a LOT. Is friendly with their muggleborn, Maggie. Has a lot of money but can't access it yet. Has a solicitor. Contacts on the continent. Might be able to get things from Mr Selwyn or Mr Rosier. Professor Dolohov likes him loads.

Hermione

Brilliant (you said 'clever,' that's not right. I'm 'clever' and you're a lot cleverer than I am.) Good at learning from books. In the Order.

No one other than us (and the wand-smugglers) know she has a wand. Is in and out of places like Buckingham and Malfoy Manor all the time. Can brew Polyjuice Potion!

Because she's a muggleborn, people sometimes forget she's there and listening.

Evelyn

People forget she's there so she hears a lot of gossip.

Good at Arithmancy (and Charms and Astronomy). Knits and embroiders. Knows people in Wyre muggle camp. Knows some theatrical glamours. Okay on a broom.

Has trustworthy adults (her gran, Uncle Algie).

Has some books from her parents (who were Aurors).

Neville

Is learning occlumency.

Best subject is Herbology. Really good gardener. Knows a lot more

about Defence than he lets on in class. Also, see Evelyn's about trustworthy adults, books.

Luna

Artistic. Draws, sews, makes things, cooks. Best class is CoMC. Can tie knots really well. Has the parts to a printing press (not here).

Weasley Twins

Identical twins who can pass for each other. Can make things explode. Very clever at Charms, Transfig, and Potions. Know lots of big important secrets they can't tell us and can pass messages but can't tell us to who (other than the Order). Can apparate, including side-along. Lots of friends.

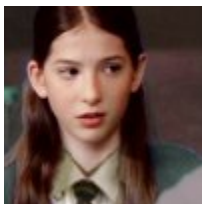
Lee

Good at Charms, Runes, Arithmancy, Potions. 'Gift of gab.' Can find things that are lost. Really good swimmer and can hold breath for a long time. Black market contacts. Secret way into Hogwarts kitchen. Good observer.

Susan

My quill point snapped and I told myself I'd remember what we said about Susan but now I can't, except that Professor Grubbly-Plank is a relative.

We talked a little about things we wanted to do but like I said we ran out of time. Pansy suggested we could do things for the muggleborns we knew, like Maureen and Maggie, and suggested more of the bracelets like we made for Hermione and Terry (and you made for me, too, I have one, though fortunately the Strettons haven't gone utterly mad again and I haven't needed it.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 03:35:44](#)
(no subject)

And I am SURE I forgot things but I think this is most of it.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-10 04:08:02](#)
(no subject)

Argh, sorry! I'd have loaned you another quill if I'd realised, and now I'm trying to remember what I said myself.

Well, my best subjects are definitely Charms (and I've done some studying up on my own, because, well, Professor Acton...) and Care of Magical Creatures, and I've improved loads at Herbology thanks to CCF and Neville. I'm a good flier.

Otherwise, my dad is the Cannons' assistant manager, so he can sometimes get deals on brooms and things....and I almost hate to bring it up again, but I'm pretty sure my being in the same house as Hembridge was mentioned.

Hopefully if there was anything else important, one of us will think of it later.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 04:09:57](#)
(no subject)

Neville, how are you learning occlumency?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-10 05:43:41](#)
(no subject)

With books. Although I've picked up some things with a private tutor. Someone my family knows.

I'm not sure I can say more than that about him, because for obvious reasons, he prefers to keep his knowledge a secret. But maybe I can pass along questions people have, and he can send back answers?

It's not much, maybe, but it's better than nothing.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-10 05:52:21](#)
(no subject)

Mmm.

My question is how I can learn.


I've used books. I'm not sure they're working. I don't know how I'd even know if it was working.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-11 03:23:25](#)
(no subject)

I can show you some of the exercises I've learned, and ask this person for any advice he might offer, even if he can't meet with you.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-10 18:09:23](#)
(no subject)

For projects we could do...I've been thinking about the bracelets you gave me and Hermione. You have NO IDEA how helpful they've been, and how much something like that would improve the lives of other muggleborn. I mean, I had the worst master possible, and it was just invaluable. I could keep stuff private, dangerous stuff, even though he ~~kept stripping me to the ski~~ never let me keep my own possessions. And if any of the muggleborn get a wand, it would help them hide it. Contraband objects, forbidden books to learn from, potions, extra food, it can all be secreted away. We should figure out how we can spread information about how to make them.

I'll write about what assets I have, but I need to think about it some more. Will probably reply to that tonight.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 00:39:18](#)
(no subject)

All right. My assets and skills.

Some of this is going to be easy, and some of this is gonna be really hard. Um. I'll start with the easy stuff.

I started out in the camps, and I've gone back to work there in the summers, so I understand the camps, and the muggles and muggleborns who live there. I know how the camps are run, and I know the tricks that people use to get by without getting the authorities angry at them. The culture and the codes. I can get by with very little food if I have to. I'm tough and wiry, and I can work really hard. If there were any reason to send someone to the camps, I'd be a good person to go. I could get in and out as the Professor, and I could pass as a resident once I'm in. I know how to do a lot of manual labour: gut fish, and hoe crops, and run industrial sewing machines. I know a lot about how to heal myself and put glamours over wounds so that you don't see that they're healed, so I'd be good at on-the-fly healing, if necessary. Although of course we'd be better to rely on Sally-Anne. But I could fill in, in a pinch.

Like Ron, I'm not afraid of getting dirty. And I'm not fussed about stuff that a lot of people find disgusting. Like blood or spew, or...or all the rest. Or dead bodies.

As for my studies: my teachers now tell me I'm at about the level of a Hogwarts third year in Potions, Defence and Herbology, I'm probably where I should be in Charms, and Runes. I've had the equivalent of the third year curriculum in COMC, mostly from helping Professor Brutka. I'm doing NEWT level work in Transfiguration, from studying the git's books late at night, and from learning to become an animagus. I'm also doing NEWT level work in Arithmancy. I've studied muggle chemistry and physics, too. My teacher said I'm very good at those. (Afraid I know next to nothing about Astronomy, Divination, or History of Magic, and I've never flown on a broom).


I can turn into the Professor instantly. My animagus form is small and nimble, so that's good for getting into small places and being unobserved.

Even as a human, I know how to make myself small and unobserved.

My inner magic often gives me a really good idea if someone is trustworthy or not.

So. That's the easy stuff.



 [alt_tery](#) at [2013-01-11 02:54:01](#)
(no subject)

Okay. Now for the part that's more difficult to talk about. Um...there are two reasons I'm gonna say this. First of all, the Order is aware that if we're really going to change things, to the point of throwing off the Protectorate, some of what we'll have to do won't be so nice, exactly. There are a number of pathways that could lead to a better world for us. But some of them could lead us through some bloody grim times. Like fighting. Even war. There are ways I can help on those darker pathways, because of some of the things I've been through.

But the other thing is--oh, bloody hell. Something's sort of come up, that makes it so I need to tell you some things I've been too ashamed to admit up until now. Scared to admit. Because I was too afraid of what you would think about this. So this is hard.

All right.

I know more about the Dark Arts than anybody should really know in a life time. I've seen a lot of the rites, and I know the theories behind them, and what they're supposed to do and how they can go wrong.

I know a lot of different ways to hurt people. I've seen it demonstrated, how to kill them. Both with and without magic. Some of the ways are quick and painless, but most of them aren't.

I've--this is really hard. Fred and George and Lee already know this. ~~I hope once you know it--~~

I've done it myself. I'm an experienced killer.

Amycus Carrow. He didn't die from a fall off the tower wall. The very first time I transformed--see, he was going to kill me. The way they explained it, I'm not a murderer, because I did it in self-defence. But I am a killer. As soon as I transformed, when he went for me, I--I tore his throat out. With my teeth. When Sirius Black and Neville's Dad found me and took me away to safety, I had his blood all over me. I didn't have any choice. It makes me sick to remember it, so I try not to think about it if I can help it, and I hate that it happened the very first time I transformed, and ~~I sometimes~~

~~still taste~~ I wish it had never happened, but I can't go back and change it now.


I was so afraid to tell you, but that's why I couldn't entirely explain before now why I hate the Dark Arts so much. Because the Dark Arts will always always find a way to betray you, if you try to use them. He used them to hurt and punish me. He thought he was clever enough and strong enough to dare the risk, but even the best Dark Arts practitioners don't escape the price in the end. So the Arts betrayed him by shaping me into a tool that would punish and destroy him.

I've thought, given all this, I might become a soldier, if it comes to war. I guess I've had just about the best training for it that anyone my age could ever have. I don't want to hurt people. Or kill them. I hope I never never have to again.

But I could. If I absolutely must.

So. That's it. That's what I couldn't bring myself to say up until now.




 [alt_luna](#) at [2013-01-11 03:07:51](#)
(no subject)

That is an impressive list of assets, really. Even if you hope that you will never have to use the darker ones.

He thought so little of you and didn't see all you were capable of doing. That was certainly very foolish, wasn't it?


I think I understand much better now. I'm so sorry for what you've had to face, as one Ravenclaw to another. It's difficult to look ugly things in the face at times, but we can help do that for you, if it's necessary for your peace of mind.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 03:08:16](#)
(no subject)

Oh, it is.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2013-01-11 03:09:10](#)**
(no subject)

Why is that, do you think?




 **[alt_tery](#)** at **[2013-01-11 03:16:02](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know. Hermione said something to me recently, about how it was ridiculous to have to keep so many secrets. I've been thinking about that. I understand the reason for most of them, the ones we have for the Order. But Hermione's right about one thing at least: so many secrets are a real burden. Then when you're hiding stuff about yourself on top of that, it makes everything even sort of more unreal.


I guess I was just sick of it. I couldn't stand any more going back and forth wondering if you would all kick me out of the lock group or something if I admitted the truth, so I finally decided I had to come right out and say it. Get it over with.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2013-01-11 03:19:00](#)**
(no subject)


Goodness, we wouldn't do that. Were you really afraid that we would?



 **[alt_tery](#)** at **[2013-01-11 03:19:36](#)**
(no subject)


Yes.



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2013-01-11 03:21:18](#)**
(no subject)

Well, that would be quite foolish of us, wouldn't it?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 03:21:53](#)
(no subject)

I don't know. You lot will have to decide that.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 04:49:38](#)
(no subject)


Terry.

We all hated the git. All of us. We hated him for what he'd done to you (and was doing to you) but he also murdered Hannah. Not to mention all the muggles he killed, like the man who became a ghost when you were at Lincoln.

WHY would we hold it against you that you killed him?

I mean even if you'd ripped his throat out while he slept, I wouldn't hold that against you, either. Because you'd still have been defending yourself against all the horror he was planning in the future for you. And defending other people against Carrow murdering them.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 12:31:14](#)
(no subject)

I suppose it does sound mad when you put it like that. Thank you for saying something...bracing.

I don't know if I can exactly explain why I was so afraid of what you'd think. I guess--I haven't really said what a mess I was by the time I escaped. I'd been stuck in that castle with him for over a year, and the only company I had was the prisoners he was killing and other slaves and him. I've told you how he got off on the idea of tainting me, corrupting me. It was like a battle of wills between us, that I would be all right if I could just hang on to myself, and not turn into someone like him.

I'd pinned all my hopes on learning the transformation. If only I could figure out, then I could escape. I'd be all right, I'd


be free. And then the day I escaped, I ended up doing something that had horrified me every time I saw him do it. Killing him was the very first thing I did in my animagus form. It felt like, I was free of him, but I had turned into him. So I was gonna take him with me wherever I went.

The Order was so kind to me. They knew exactly what was the right thing to do: they came right away and found Fred and George and brought them to me. That helped more than anything. And my animagus form helped a lot, too. When I'm in it, I can't be boot. It calms me down.

It's taken me a long time to come to terms with it. Finally telling you all about it is part of that.

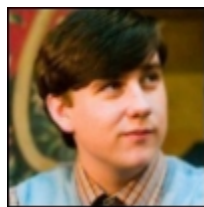
Thanks.




 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-11 15:07:36](#)
(no subject)

Yes, to all of this. I'm sorry for everything he put you through, and that you had to be the one to do it.

But I'm glad he got what was coming to him.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-11 03:27:22](#)
Private message to Terry Boot

It is a shock to hear. But I have to admit it crossed my mind a time or two to wonder how Carrow died, if it really was just an accident. Not that I thought you did it, but I wondered if someone with you had.

My Dad was one of the ones that found you? I'm glad, then, that he was one of the ones that led you to safety.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 03:28:29](#)
Re: Private message to Terry Boot

Neville. I know about Seamus. The Order was aware of it.

And I know that you know.



 **[alt_neville](#) at 2013-01-11 03:29:39**

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

Bugger. How--

oh. The letter?

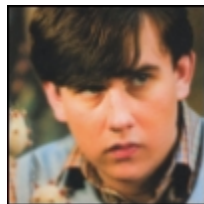


 **[alt_terry](#) at 2013-01-11 03:31:37**

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

They didn't read it to me, honest. They would never do that.

I just accidentally overheard them talking about it, in a general way. And since I already knew about what happened during the rite, I could put the pieces together pretty easily.



 **[alt_neville](#) at 2013-01-11 03:34:37**

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

But you got how upset I was, when I learned about what happened from Seamus.

Blimey, that's why you wrote this, isn't it? Because you needed to see if I'd tell everyone you should be thrown out on your ear or something?




 **[alt_terry](#) at 2013-01-11 03:35:42**

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

Uh.

Yeah.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-11 03:35:58](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

You sure you're not a Gryffindor?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 03:36:29](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

Yeah, I'm sure.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-11 03:39:22](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

It seems to me that the cases are different.
But I'm going to have to think about it all, I'll admit.

Anyway, I'm not going to tell them to toss you out on your ear. Okay?

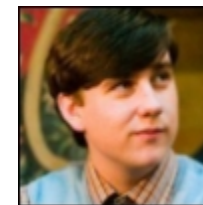


 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 03:40:24](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

...

Thanks, Nev.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-11 13:06:45](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

Any advice on what to say to Seamus?




 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 13:07:26](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

That depends. Are you very good friends with him?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-11 13:08:10](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

No, we're really not. It's almost a fluke that I knew at all.

He's become awfully cold, like he's trying to freeze me out.




 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 13:08:37](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

That's not a very good sign.

I guess the only thing I can think of is, just make sure he has someone he can talk with that he trusts.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-11 13:09:06](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

I guess that would be Padma Patil.

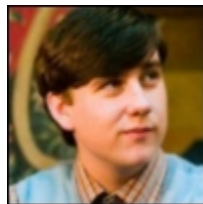


 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 13:09:22](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

Her? Oh, joy. She'll really get him on the right road.

Yes, I'm being sarcastic.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-11 13:09:50](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

Uh huh.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 13:10:04](#)

Re: Private message to Terry Boot

I dunno, Neville. Just...just do all you can to show him that you're not horrified by him, and you don't hold it against him.

Even if you are.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-11 04:11:33](#)


(no subject)

Well if you're experienced in that then I suppose I am, too. Not the same way, but -

Dennis. You remember.

It may not have been me, but I was there, and it wasn't self-defence. Not at all.



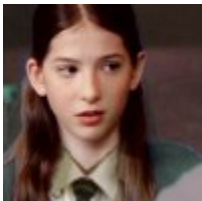
 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-11 12:35:34](#)

(no subject)

I hadn't thought of that. But yes, I do see.

I've been talking to a couple people here about it, and that's helped a lot. About ethics, and responsibility, and knowing what's under your control and how to handle it when something terrible happens that isn't under your control.

I wish you could meet them. I think you would like them. I hope you've had people you can trust that you can talk with, too.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 05:05:02](#)

(no subject)

Bracelets are a really good idea.


They made me one, too. Last year, after the measles epidemic, the Strettons locked me up without food for a few days.

Anyway I keep some food in it (with a preservative charm) just in

case that happens again. And other things. I've been thinking lately about other ways to use it.

But yeah. The bracelet part is REALLY easy to make, and I'm better at making this stuff now so I could make it and then let the new owner put a drop of blood on it to make it come back if it got lost (when I made them for you and Hermione I needed your blood WHILE I was making it). The Twins would have to make the container beads, though. I don't know how to make those.



 **[alt_tery](#)** at **[2013-01-11 12:51:55](#)**
(no subject)

I'm sure they'd be happy to teach anyone how they do it.

2013-01-09 23:16:00

Order Only Private Message to Severus Snape



 **alt_poppy**

I've just come from Minerva, and I find another degree of improvement. Interesting, isn't it, how such things come in spurts rather than in steady increments?

If she continues as I hope, then by Saturday or Sunday, we might shift to the maintenance regimen we've discussed with a once-per-week dose. I will continue to monitor closely lest there be any slippage as we taper off.

And now to change the subject, allow me to wish you many happy returns! My notes inform me that you've reached another birthday and are due for your annual checking over by the Matron. Please stop up at your earliest convenience.



 **alt_severus** at **2013-01-10 11:37:18**
(no subject)

I have noticed her improvement; it is most encouraging. Should you be in need of further potions brewed, and you lack the time or do not wish to be observed in the brewing of them, tell me: I continue to owe Minerva much, and wish to repay her. It is encouraging that she is responding so well.

Your birthday wishes are as unnecessary as always -- I do not value the day any more or less than any other -- but I suppose it would be hypocritical of me to ignore your summons after so long in coaxing Minerva to seek treatment.



 **alt_poppy** at **2013-01-10 18:20:14**
(no subject)

I shall keep your offer in mind, Severus. If I put you off now, it is for two reasons, neither of which is a refusal to recognise your skill... or your generosity in offering.

The first consideration is that I am taking on an apprentice, and I intend to introduce her to the sort of compounding and brewing I do regularly and, if she proves adept ~~and di~~, the more exceptional preparations that are occasionally required. (I started to write 'and discreet', but I am already confident on that score.)

Secondly, I generally prefer to do my own brewing, though there are items for which I rely on Horace's expertise (and will continue to do so as it would be difficult to explain why I might no longer require his assistance with those items). Healing is an organic art, however, and I find that where I have prepared the medicinals myself, my application of them is more controlled, nuanced, and effective than when I must rely on commercial preparations or someone else's brewing.

Still, there are times when a specialist Potioneer's skill is demanded. And, as I say, I will keep your offer in mind.

2013-01-10 05:03:00

Order Only: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley



 [alt_terry](#)

Feel terrible.

Neville wrote to his parents. I...I overheard them talking about it. They don't know I was listening.

Guess Neville knew about that dark rite in advance, because Seamus told him beforehand. Seamus expected to be the one to die, but then Professor Dolohov fixed things so that he wouldn't, but he had to kill his mum instead. But Neville didn't know exactly what happened until Seamus Finnegan woke up from a nightmare when he got back to school. And he blurted out the truth to Neville.

He's just horrified. Neville, I mean. To find out that his roommate's a murderer.

Do you think Neville would hate me, if he knew the truth?

I haven't told any of them. You're the only ones who know. And Lee.


But it's just eating away at me. That they don't know. But if I lose all those friendships if they knew the truth...how could I stand it?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-10 11:16:34](#)
(no subject)

Didn't you say Frank explained the concept of self-defence to you? And the difference between being someone who's killed and someone who's a murderer?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-10 11:18:04](#)
(no subject)


Well, wasn't it sort of self-defence for Seamus? If that was his choice, between killing her and dying himself?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-10 11:18:42](#)
(no subject)

We don't know. Maybe you should ask Frank.



 [alt_tery](#) at [2013-01-10 11:20:07](#)
(no subject)

He'll just be hacked off at me for overhearing. Except I didn't mean to, exactly. I was the Professor, so they sort overlooked me. And I was dozing, so maybe they thought I was asleep, but their voices woke me up.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-10 11:22:44](#)
(no subject)

Well.


You said Neville was horrified. But that doesn't necessarily mean he hates Seamus, does it. We expect he'll be horrified if you tell the truth about this. But that doesn't mean you'll lose his friendship. We're still your friends, us and Lee, right?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-10 11:23:29](#)
(no subject)

Do you need to tell? You said it was eating away at you.




 [alt_tery](#) at [2013-01-10 11:24:22](#)
(no subject)

I think I do. But I'm scared to.

I'm really scared.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2013-01-10 11:24:50](#)**
(no subject)


It's really the last secret.



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-01-10 11:26:26](#)**
(no subject)

And it's a big one, we see that. But it's not everything about you, Terry. It isn't even the most important thing.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2013-01-10 11:27:02](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, yeah? Then what is?



 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-01-10 11:36:35](#)**
(no subject)


The most important thing is that you're still a decent person, even after everything that the git threw at you. And that you survived.

They are your friends, Terry. If you need to tell, you can go ahead and do it.

If you were a Gryffindor, we'd tell you that you can still be brave, even if you're scared. Maybe that's true of Ravenclaws, too. Except you're just going to have to Ravenclaw-logically reason it out for yourself, whether it's the best thing for you to do. We Gryffindors tend to blurt things out impulsively instead and then deal with the consequences, come what may.

We'll stand by you, either way. And if you do, tell us if they're being gits about it. We'll knock their heads together for you.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-10 12:45:47](#)
(no subject)

I'll think about it. That's the only good thing I can think of about my mum being dead.

The git was never able to use her against me like that.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-10 12:47:41](#)
(no subject)

You should talk to Frank. Or Alice. Maybe that would help you decide. And yeah, maybe they'll be chagrined that you heard, but maybe it's a good thing for you to talk about

with them.

It's okay to talk to people who are looking out for you, Terry.

[2013-01-10 06:38:00](#)

Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey



 **[alt_antonin](#)**

I woke having dreamt of our discussion of the other night, which generally means my subconscious has identified something my conscious mind has missed and is trying to get through to me by whatever means necessary.

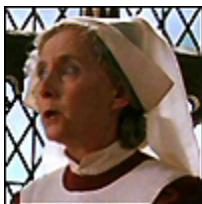
If you will indulge me -- when you said that St M's wanted more regular data on my progress from you -- you said it was "your team of Healers" making a request. By that, did you mean the request arrived under Healer Kosta or Healer Allthorpe's seals, or was the parchment unsealed and signed "on behalf" by one or more of their juniors?


I do not necessarily begrudge them the data if it will lead to faster recovery or to others in my position receiving better care in the future, but some of what is being requested seems -- well, "intrusive and irrelevant" is as good a term as any. My suspicions are beginning to stir.

If you were in my shoes, would you accede to their request? Given that I do wish to advance the state of knowledge where possible, but not by sacrificing too much of my privacy, my convenience, or your time and effort that should belong to the students.

I also must ask: if I decline to cooperate with the monitoring they have requested from you, will that reflect badly upon you? Please be honest: I am aware you are a very dear friend of Auri's and for her sake I would not want to cause you grief.

Regards,
Antonin



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-10 16:11:46](#)**
(no subject)

You're quite right it was signed on behalf of your principal carers. Kosta and Althorpe were copy recipients, but the signature is 'Able Main, JHA' (Journeyman of Healing Arts). I've had a look at the seal, as well, and find that it is the generic St M's staff seal.

You infer that you are a being mined as a subject by some junior

staffer expanding his research portfolio? It could be. Or it may simply be that K & A have pushed off their correspondence onto junior staff in order to preserve time for their own researches.

Either way, you are quite right to guess that you are being studied. I can tell you that of late St M's have been under considerable pressure to show substantial evidence of 'productivity'. Apparently the Ministry crave notable breakthroughs; understandably, the Minister wishes our Protectorate to lead all nations in advancing the frontiers of magic.

It's a noble goal. At least in so far as it provides incentive for advancements in the state of knowledge. (I'm rather less concerned about diplomatic bragging rights, though I suppose that might hold more sway in your considerations?)

I agree that they are asking for quite a lot, some of it quite invasive (in all senses), and much of it with no clear relevance to direct treatment of your injuries. On top of that, they've asked for blanket permission for whatever further studies they might wish to introduce at some later point.

That last, at least, I would refuse if I myself were the patient. They ought to have to ask permission at each stage. (Imagine if they should decide that conclusive results demanded a post-mortem examination? One does not wish to have given blanket permission for whatever mad thing they might wish to do next. I am only half joking.)

I believe, too, that you would be well within your rights to enquire about the studies in which you are being used as a specimen. You are well-placed to press for information. As a fellow academician.

As for your last question, I believe it is immaterial what effect your cooperation or refusal might have on my relations with St Mungo's. Treatment decisions ought not be influenced by such extraneous matters. It runs counter to my oath to allow that sort of self-consideration to interfere. And in any case, it's quite impossible to guess whether it would have any effect at all, for good or ill, so we may rule that matter out of bounds.



 **alt_poppy** at **2013-01-10 18:26:01**
(no subject)

Antonin.

I realise that today is a particularly busy one for you, and I am not wishing to add the following to today's agenda; however, I would like to put a proposal to you when you have the time to consider it.

This is related to a student in whose development I believe we share an interest.

(I do not expect a reply until you are at leisure.)



 **alt_antonin** at **2013-01-10 22:18:21**
(no subject)

Poppy --

Thank you. Your perspective is invaluable in assisting me to evaluate their requests and I greatly appreciate the time you have taken to explain that perspective. I must think further on the merits of cooperation -- I do, in fact, sympathise with a desire to make one's mark on one's field of study, but (quite justifiably, I suppose) am wary of attempts to do so should they override my own primary goal, that being the restoration of my good health as much as is possible.

Your advice regarding blanket consent is quite sound, and likewise appreciated -- once I have a moment to recover from this hellacious day, I will write to them to refuse that blanket consent and request more information regarding the purpose to which this data, if collected, will be put.


I hope I did not offend with my extraneous considerations. It is not that I doubt your dedication to upholding your healer's oath; it is only that I have heard in passing of the difficulties you have had in the past with certain of St M's staff, and I would not wish to exacerbate those difficulties needlessly. If you would be blamed for my refusal, I would not necessarily accede -- but it would be a factor in my deliberations.

In regards to your followup, meanwhile: if (as I suspect) you mean

Miss Perks, who has told me of her interest in pursuing your profession, there is very little I would wish to deny if I could be of some small use in her education. Today is, yes, not the day for it (and I am to be plagued with further visitations tomorrow as well), but shall I stop by for tea on Saturday afternoon so we can discuss?

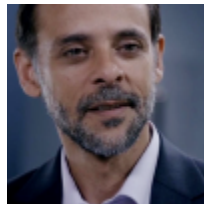
Regards,
Antonin



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-10 22:51:16](#)

(no subject)

Saturday would do nicely. Half-three or thereabouts?



 [alt_antonin](#) at [2013-01-10 22:56:28](#)

(no subject)

That sounds lovely. Do allow me to bring the refreshment. (Auri, damn her, has got me addicted to the products provided by her café -- so much so that I have arranged for a biweekly delivery for the staff room to sweeten the tempers of certain people throughout our meeting.)

Regards,
Antonin



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-10 23:10:25](#)

(no subject)

I have to agree with you about the quality of their wares. If I didn't know Aurora so well, I'd suspect them of blending a craving compulsion into everything they bake, but she wouldn't patronise the place if they did.

I look forward to Saturday.



 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2013-01-11 02:07:53](#)**
(no subject)

If one might not rely on Auri's scruples, one might at least trust in my paranoia: the precautions I regularly take would catch any such compulsion. Alas, we can only blame the talent of the baker.

I will see you on Saturday -- unless certain august personages attempt to hijack my time for the third day running.

Regards,
A

2013-01-10 08:09:00

Looking forward to the YPL project this weekend



Helping out village schools! What a grand idea.

Classes are going well. It's good to be back at school. Have been humming tow-row-row between classes -- what an excellent idea.

 [alt_seamus](#)



 [alt_seamus](#) at **2013-01-10 14:11:10**

Private message to Padma

Can we meet?

Privately. I want to

I need to tell you about something.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2013-01-10 14:54:43**

Re: Private message to Padma

Let's get our lunch and go eat somewhere. I've got things to tell you, too.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2013-01-11 01:47:16**

Private Message to Seamus

Are you okay?

I don't know whether to be disappointed or relieved that Longbum's back to his usual tricks. I can't believe he'd treat you that way--as if he has any high ground to stand on or as if what you did wasn't for a much bigger cause than just saving your own skin.

I wish there were a way to let more people know. Not just so it would explain if you have more nightmares or if you get upset in lessons, either. But because, in a way, you're really a hero. I hope the Irish, at least, know that you probably saved all *their* hides, too.

And don't worry about my thing. I actually sort of understand why

she made us read what we wrote and why she set me that essay, as an example. I mean, I *did* realise that I'd sent a Private Message right after she challenged us not to do, but I thought since I'd also posted non-private ones both before and after, it would be all right to have *one* little PM in there. And when I looked back over my journal, wow, she's right. There are *loads* of PMs to you and Lines and Daphs and Lav. Of course, some of those are Prefect business. But still. She really does have sort of a point.

It was just irritating to get any sort of detention.

But yours...Seamus, I'm so glad you said something! Because you've just been...sort of quiet lately and that's just not like you. Subdued, I guess, is the word for it. And I figured it had to do with what happened. But like I said, it's done and you were so brave, and no one--NO ONE--could ever, ever doubt your loyalty or your fitness to serve Our Lord. Ever.

And if Dungbottom doesn't understand that.... Well, it's just clearer and clearer that the stain of a blood-traitor doesn't wash off in a single generation. That's all.



 [alt_seamus at 2013-01-11 15:58:27](#)

Re: Private Message to Seamus

I'm feeling more okay, yeah.

Longbottom -- well. Today he's bending over backward to be friendly and solicitous. The thing is, it wasn't anything he SAID. It was the look in his eyes, when I told him.

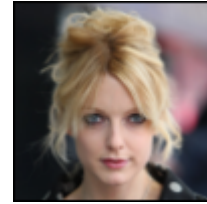
If they ever caught HIS mother, they might make Longbottom execute her to prove he's loyal. And he's more than a little squeamish (I mean, he's in Theoretical for Dark Arts) plus honestly he's just not very good at very much (except for Herbology) so casting a killing curse is probably beyond him. Anyway. I don't think it's about me, in the end.

But I'm really glad I have you, and not just Longbottom, to talk to about this stuff, Padma. You're the best friend I've ever had.

Thank you. For everything.

2013-01-10 10:15:00

Private message to Chloe Selwyn and Narcissa Malfoy



 **alt_sinistra**

I thought I should check before sending out a few other invitations, but would you both be free one of the next few Tuesdays? I'm free any time on the afternoon of the 22nd, or if next week isn't too soon, I'm free until 5 (when I've a meeting at the Astronomy Guild I can't rearrange.)

I've heard excellent things about the Owlery's high tea, just never had the chance myself. Or if there's somewhere else we should try, do suggest, please.

At any rate, it would be lovely to be able to chat properly without the complexities of the holidays overwhelming everything.



 **alt_narcissa** at **2013-01-11 02:32:55**
(no subject)

Aurora,

I see Chloe's answered; the 22nd works perfectly for me, as well. Shall it just be the three of us or is this merely the first pass at a convenient date?

Owlery would be lovely, I should think. If they can't accommodate, Katyenka sets a beautiful table, as well.

It's true I don't know which is worse: The press of the holidays or the fact that it seems everyone waits until the 2nd of January to inundate everyone else with even *more* tasks to complete!



 **alt_sinistra** at **2013-01-11 04:09:05**
(no subject)

Narcissa -

First pass at a date, since I especially wanted to be sure both you and Chloe would be able to come. I thought I might also try Pandora and Mariah, as you'd mentioned. I'd be glad to add one or two more, too, if there's anyone else you'd

particularly suggest.

(I'll admit here I'm a little uncertain whether Yvaine would feel comfortable, given matters with Darius last summer, and Charles this past fall. Not that I had a large part in either situation, but I'd hate to presume on her good will.)

I'm just sorry it took me so long to sort out dates. I don't have any marking this week, but something always seems to fill the time. And then I've had Tosha up in my office (for the first time), as Dolores observed his classes today, and he wanted the chance for some discussion afterwards.

And now, it's time for me to set up for my own evening class. I do hope you and Lucius are well, and I'm glad to say everyone here is settling in well.

2013-01-10 11:09:00

Order Only: Private Message to Severus Snape



 **alt_mcgonagall**

It occurred to me, while digging through my appointment book (woefully neglected, as you know)—

I forgot your birthday, Severus. And after what you have done for me, too.



 **alt_severus** at **2013-01-10 18:00:41**

(no subject)

Think nothing of it. I have never been one to celebrate birthdays and holidays; I have never seen the need.

As well, do not feel you owe me any obligation in the matter of my recent assistance. I am ... painfully aware that my conduct in the weeks and months after excusing myself from the hospitality of Azkaban were considered alienating by many. Though I was unable to appreciate it as such at the time, you were kind to me then, despite having little reason to be. I am content to repay the debt now in what little way I might.

[2013-01-10 11:12:00](#)

private message to poppy pomfrey


I have given the matter some more thought, and however negative an effect tobacco-smoking may have on my health, it cannot be as bad as the effects of the *Contravinum* potion when I absentmindedly reach for a drink.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)**

Therefore, no further discussion of the matter will be necessary.



 **[alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-10 22:43:20](#)**

(no subject)

As you're not asking permission, I presume you've gone ahead with this.

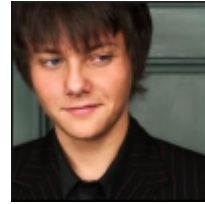
I shall be interested to hear how much satisfaction you found in the tobacco. It will make an interesting addition to my notes on the *Contravinum*'s effects. Not that the potion will interfere in any direct way with your smoking. Nonetheless, I expect that your experience will not be entirely what you recall from days of yore.

And you may rest assured, we will be discussing this matter further. If only because one does not wish you to pop your clogs having suffered an asthmatic attack whilst climbing the north stairs. It would upset the children, you know. (hem, hem)

[2013-01-10 21:54:00](#)

Halfblood OWLs Revising

Okay, we've heard from everyone and we've looked over the schedules.



 **[alt_michael](#)**

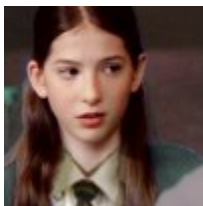
Revising will be Thursdays after supper until curfew and also every other Saturday evening. We might add in Sundays later, but not while Sally-Anne's got Quidditch practice.


We'll start this Saturday. I think we'll find out what subjects people want most to focus on and from there we'll decide how to divide up the sessions. Sound good?



 **[alt_michael](#)** at **[2013-01-11 03:09:28](#)**
Private Message to Sally-Anne

I *still* don't understand why you said F-F could come along. I know he's technically a half-blood but not really and honestly, he's such a toff. I mean, he's a nice enough bloke but I thought the whole point was so no one would be in the group who isn't--well. So everyone has the same amount of risk.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-11 04:51:58](#)**
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

You know he doesn't actually KNOW what they'll do to him if he fails his exams. They never said.

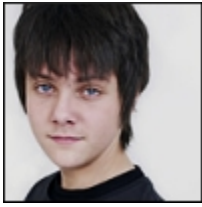


 **[alt_umbridge](#)** at **[2013-01-11 03:14:43](#)**
(no subject)

It is so very good of you, Mr Corner, to do what you can to help others in your challenging position. And to take my little guidance on finding ways to include everyone else as much as possible, as well.

Now, I do hope that even if Miss Perks is not available, you'll consider meeting on Sundays as well. After all, the whole can benefit by each teensy part becoming that much stronger and more focused

on the common good.



 **alt_michael** at [2013-01-11 03:18:53](#)
(no subject)

Thank you for noticing, Madam Umbridge.

Yes, I think we will meet on some Sundays, but you see since we have YPL on some Sundays and then the Slytherins have their practice 5-7, she wouldn't have time to eat if we went straight on to revising. And we wouldn't want to be out too late, as we need our rest for Monday's lessons, you see. And as it was my idea and Sally-Anne's, it would hardly be respectful to revise when she can't be there.

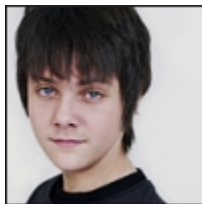
Besides, she'll probably be helping to lead a lot of the time, as she's one of the more clever of us.

But as we get closer to the exams and especially when her commitment to the side is less, we'll probably meet most Sundays. If we need it.



 **alt_umbridge** at [2013-01-11 03:20:43](#)
(no subject)

Indeed. Thank you for such a clear explanation, Mr Corner. Quite enlightening.



 **alt_michael** at [2013-01-11 03:22:44](#)
(no subject)

You're very welcome, Madam Umbridge.

Now if you'll excuse me, I should really go back to doing my homework.

2013-01-10 22:52:00

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



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

So

okay

this is really, really grim, but it's something I've been thinking about. (I mean, I've been thinking about it for a while but more ~~since Bill~~ lately.)

I keep thinking about what would happen if I got caught. If someone like Auror LeStrange even got suspicious. About anything, really, because if she took a look in my head -- I can't do occlumency. I mean I've done the exercises in the books but you really can't know you're doing it right if you don't work with someone who can do legilimency, so Neville saying he'll talk to his 'tutor' and get advice --

Yeah, anyway. Bellatrix LeStrange could just look in my head and see everything I want to hide. Everything.

And then

you know sometimes I wonder if I were a Gryffindor if I'd be braver and tougher or if I were a different sort of Slytherin if I'd be better at lying to myself about this kind of thing but here it is: if they tortured me I would eventually tell them everything. I want to believe that I wouldn't or I'd be clever enough to tell them loads of lies and get them to believe it. But I'm pretty sure eventually I would tell them absolutely everything because when I got to the end surely they would kill me and it would be over.

I'd rather die than betray any of you.

There are poisons that act quickly. If I carried poison with me, then if I ever WERE taken in for questioning I could swallow it before they could stop me and then I'd just be dead. And I wouldn't be able to betray anyone.

Is it utterly mad that I'm thinking about this? ~~that I can't stop thinking about this~~ Have you thought about this at all?

Is there some better option I'm just missing?



 **alt_ron** at [2013-01-11 05:09:35](#)

(no subject)

I've thought about it, yeah.

Do you remember about Mr Archer? He worked at the Ministry, and he did that. Took poison. I don't know why, though, but I guess he figured he was going to be questioned by MLE and I think he must have had stuff he didn't want them to find out. Someone said... I think... that they reckoned he might've done it because he hoped it would go better for his family that way. But I don't think he was even living with them anymore. He was Gareth's father. Only, he never talks about it.

So, yeah. I've thought about it. I think, really, it could be a really brave thing. To go ahead and do it.

But the thing is, you'd have to do it before you really knew how things would turn out. What if they'd picked you up because they wanted to ask you questions about your neighbour who was writing graffiti on walls around New London? If you killed yourself when they showed up on your doorstep, you'd never find out that they didn't really suspect you of anything at all.

And that would be...

awful.

So, yeah.



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2013-01-11 05:18:54](#)

(no subject)

Yeah. I remember about Mr Archer. He was Aurelia's uncle and they were really close, actually. He wasn't living with his family but he exchanged letters with Aurelia for years because they were both Slytherins and they were the only Snakes in the family.

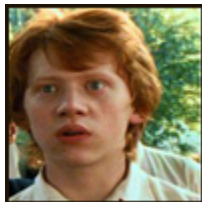
What Aurelia told me once was that he had a ring, and it was actually a cursed object that he had used on HIMSELF. It looked like a snake, coiled around the finger, and the idea was that you could trick someone into putting it on, and then if they took it off without your permission it would bite them, and if anyone else tried to take it off it would bite them, and if you ever told it to bite them it would bite them (and it had poison in the fangs so if it bit them, they'd die).

Only, he wore it HIMSELF and when Aurelia asked why he laughed and said it was safer that way. And at the time, she thought he meant that it was a way to keep anyone else from accidentally putting it on, but when he died...

Yeah.

I was thinking I could probably make a ring like that. Or a whole set, and link them like the Galleons, so if one got used everyone else would know to run.

You're right, though, about how MLE might not want anything important. The thing about having something like this is I think I'd actually be better at staying calm and talking my way out. Although I'd feel a lot better about it if I knew ANY occlumency.



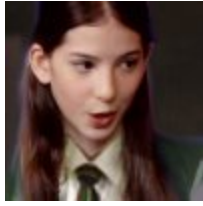
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 05:26:50](#)

(no subject)

Huh. So it is true, then. After I wrote all that, I started wondering if, y'know, it maybe was one of those stories that got sort of- more dramatic as people told it around. Cause Gareth never said more to me about it than that his father didn't live with them. I heard the rest from other people.

But if Aurelia told you, then- yeah.

So, wait. How would linked rings work? If one got used, all the others would activate, too? I'm not sure I want to drop dead because MLE decides they want to ask Luna a load of questions about why she keeps talking about Pricklebacked Pyewhackers or whatever. Know what I mean?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 05:30:41](#)
(no subject)

oh god no, THAT's not what I was thinking.

I was thinking that if one person got picked up by MLE and used the ring, everyone else's ring would turn cold. And NOT activate.

Bloody hell what a thought. All of us just keeling over in class, simultaneously.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 05:32:58](#)
(no subject)

Well. If we could schedule it so it happened BEFORE we all spend loads of time studying for OWLs, that'd be one thing. Just. I don't want to go through all that and have it happen the day after exams are done. Know what I mean?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 05:35:01](#)
(no subject)

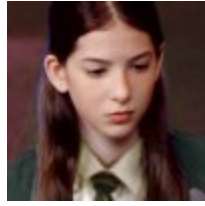
OH MY GOD HOW CAN YOU JOKE ABOUT THIS?

If we're planning on it before OWL results come back then we don't have to worry about revising at ALL, right?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 05:37:20](#)
(no subject)

Well, y'know. Either we get all grim about it. Or laugh. I guess.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 05:43:28](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

Laughing's better.


I just

Thinking about this is terrifying. Last night I lay awake thinking about all the things we know.

And I thought about the time Sandoval cruciated me. And how long I could hold out if they wanted me to name names.

I don't ever want to betray you.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 05:45:25](#)
(no subject)

Thanks.

I don't ever want you to, either.

Or, y'know, get Crucitated. Cause next time it'll be someone who can do it better than the Head Girl, probably.

Ugh.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 05:48:46](#)
(no subject)

Yeah

'next time'

ugh



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 05:33:53](#)
(no subject)


And yeah, about Archer

The story got around Slytherin, too. What I heard was that MLE came to his office and he said something like, 'that's it, then' and then just dropped over dead.

There were people who thought MLE killed him and were covering it up for some reason. And there were people who thought he'd killed himself. And there were people who thought the whole story was rubbish and MLE was probably not involved at all.

I didn't know what to think, until Aurelia told me about the ring. Which was this year, actually, I was working on Dark Arts homework and we were talking about cursed objects. And THEN I knew.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 05:47:16](#)
(no subject)

So. You think you could make them?

A set of rings?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 05:52:43](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I do.


I'd need to know how many people wanted them.

I'd need some metal. I think I'd want to do a little reading on the best metal but maybe silver? or possibly steel. Not gold. Which is convenient as gold is expensive.

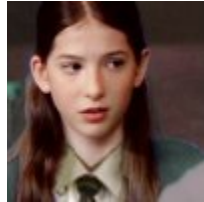
I think I'd want a little bit of blood from everyone up front and it would be mixed in with the metal, that's how the rings would 'know' if someone used theirs.

And I'd need the poison to put in them.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 05:57:09](#)
(no subject)

How would you test whether they work?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 06:01:40](#)
(no subject)

I think I could make the rings first, and put the poison in second. So we could put them on, without poison, and test them out.

Or, I could make an extra and not put any poison in that one and test with that.

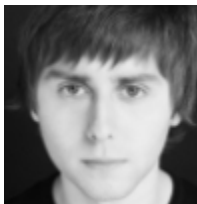
Or, we could give one to Dolores Umbridge and let it bite her and see what happens.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 06:03:12](#)
(no subject)

Hahaha.

Um. I know it's wrong, but that's the funniest thing I've heard today.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-11 05:32:28](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

Yes, I thought about it quite a bit when I was deciding whether or not to stay here. In my case, if they discovered what I am, they'd want to know who's helped me fool everyone, what.

And poison's probably the easiest, what. I say, it's just a matter of taking it into one's system. Whereas slitting one's wrists or hanging oneself, that takes some determination, if you follow me. But any of those might not be possible, if the Aurors took one into custody quickly enough or kept one detained without access to a knife or

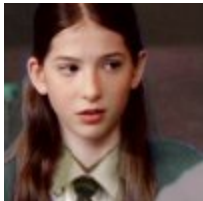
rope or something similar. I suppose one could carry them round in a bead on a bracelet, what!

Muggles have a phrase 'death by cop,' meaning that it's someone who intends to die but forces the authorities to commit the act instead of doing it himself. I've thought about that, as well, what, going berserk and essentially trying to take as many of the enemy with one as possible.

If it's any consolation, I do believe the meditations help to keep one's thoughts focused and blank, when needed.

But I think we ought to all be learning Occlumency.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 05:40:07](#)
(no subject)


Right, I'd thought about that too, actually.

Only the thing is MLE trains their Aurors to expect that, don't you think? It's not as if their only option is the killing curse. They can disarm you or use petrificus totallis. And if you tried to fight them they'll KNOW you have something to hide.

The thing about poison is that it's easy to hide and to always have with you. It's possible to kill yourself with your own wand but I wouldn't want to count on it.

I completely agree about Occlumency. But you know the other thing is that even if there was someone here who could teach it, it would have to be someone we could trust, because the only way to really learn it is to have someone try over and over to get in your head and see if they succeed.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 05:43:38](#)
(no subject)

Can Madam Pomfrey read minds, do you think?

Only, she always seems to know more than you tell her when there's something wrong.

And now you know you can trust her.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-11 05:45:05](#)**
(no subject)

That's a good question. I don't THINK she does legilimency, I think she's mostly just a very good guesser.

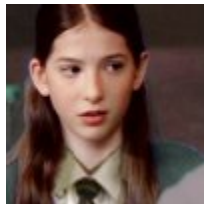
I was thinking I might ask her about poisons. I could ask her about legilimency first.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-11 05:54:51](#)**
(no subject)

Ask her both things. She'll definitely know about poisons, right?


And antidotes. Actually, you should ask her about poisons that don't have antidotes. Because I bet MLE have them just for this sort of thing. Bezoars, y'know. You don't want to go to this trouble and then wake up and find out that as soon as you fell over, they stuck a bezoar down your throat and brought you back.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-11 05:56:20](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know if there are any poisons that can't be counteracted with bezoars but if it was fast-acting enough they might not be able to get a bezoar in you fast enough.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-11 06:09:11](#)**
(no subject)

Well, you can ask her.

That sort of thing, she'll think you're asking because it's a Healing topic, right?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 06:11:00](#)
(no subject)

She might guess, though. She DOES sometimes seem like she reads minds.


I don't think she'd refuse to answer, though. So there's that.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 06:12:53](#)
(no subject)

Maybe they teach that in the Healers programme.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-11 05:47:39](#)
(no subject)

Well, one never knows what they'd take away, what? The wand would be first, I should think, once one's caught. People do run, or fight, for loads of reasons if they're frightened, though. Not necessarily because they're guilty. But I agree, it's the sort of distinction I fear would be lost on someone like Bellatrix Lestrangle. Or Mr Crouch.

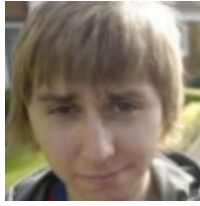
There's a spell, isn't there? To try to penetrate another's mind? I say, someone could learn it, if one were willing to do. It might be a crude substitute for the natural talent, what, but it would give us a sense of our ability.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 05:49:24](#)
(no subject)

IS there a spell? I thought you had to have the natural talent to use it.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-11 05:53:44](#)
(no subject)

Yes, there's a spell. It's not as effective.

I've been...reading up on it, a bit, recently.

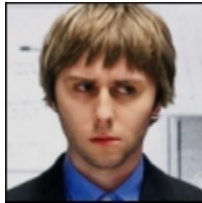
-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 05:58:23](#)
(no subject)

Huh.

Well, let's meet, then. You can try it on me. First without me trying to shield at all, just to see if you can find something out, if it's working at all. Then with me trying to do occlumency and we'll see how it works then.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-11 06:03:29](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I can't do the spell. I've only read that there is one.


And I, er, don't think it would be good if I did try it, actually.

But I'll show you the reference.

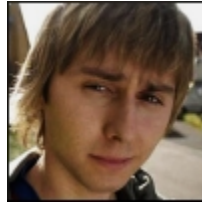
I've just realised everyone else answered your other post. I've not had time to even think about our collective skills, what! Perhaps tomorrow there will be more room to breathe-- between the homework and the play and all the rest, it's bally well miraculous we don't all fall over in exhaustion!


-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 06:06:56](#)
(no subject)

You don't think we could learn the spell if we tried, all of us?



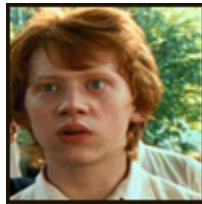
 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-11 06:09:24](#)
(no subject)


Ron,

You could try it, certainly. If we could find the actual spell.

I say, I think it's best that *I* don't learn it.


-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 06:11:21](#)
(no subject)

Why?




 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-11 06:16:47](#)
(no subject)

It's, er, complicated.

But let's say that when one's girlfriend is a natural Occlumens, trying to learn Legilimency is not precisely a wise move.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 05:40:40](#)
(no subject)

I agree.

About Occlumency. And about the meditations, actually. Now that I get how to do them.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 06:16:54](#)
(no subject)

So okay.

Do you think I can bring this up with everyone else?
To offer them rings if they want them?

I don't want anyone to feel like they HAVE to take one.

But we're probably not the only ones who worry.

On the other hand I'm worried some people will be upset I brought it up.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-11 06:23:36](#)
(no subject)

I say, it's a pity we can't make portkeys instead of
poison rings.

-Justin

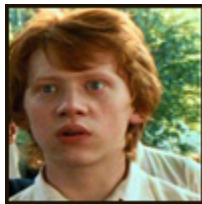



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 06:24:53](#)
(no subject)

Oh, that would be brilliant, wouldn't it?

I don't think ANYBODY can make portkeys right
now. Except for the Department of Magical

Transportation.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 06:26:50](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, and when they're done with reissuing all of
them, what do you bet no Portkey will work once
MLE have hold of you?

That's what I'd do if it were me. And, well. If I could figure out the magic to make it work.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 06:28:41](#)
(no subject)

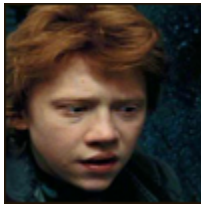
Yeah. What was it they said, a 'safe place in London' is where they all go now?


I bet it wouldn't be particularly safe if you were Sirius Black.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 06:32:02](#)
(no subject)

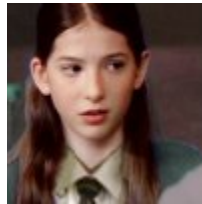
Exactly.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 06:24:06](#)
(no subject)

Um.

I think I'd talk to people one at a time, maybe? Or two at a time if you want to do it this way. Maybe you should talk to Pans next, yeah?

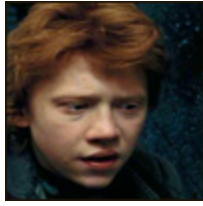



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 06:25:32](#)
(no subject)

Okay.

That's a good idea.

I'll see what she says and then maybe you can talk to Neville or Evelyn?




 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 06:30:09](#)
(no subject)

I don't know if that'd be a good idea, really.

See. I think Nev's going to be one of the hardest to convince. And- I don't think I'm the one who could convince him. I don't know who could, actually. Luna, maybe. Or Susan. Actually, I think she'd have the best shot.

And it would be a really bad idea for me to talk to Evelyn about this unless Neville would never find out I had. He really wouldn't like it if I did.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 06:32:44](#)
(no subject)

Hmm, okay.

Well, I'll talk to Pansy and Susan, then, and see what they think.

At least Neville's got someone to teach him occlumency. And I'd believe that he'd hold out under cruciatus until, well. Until he couldn't answer questions anymore anyway. The main reason to give him a ring would be to warn him that someone else had been taken for questioning and had used it, so that he could run, maybe.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 06:35:01](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. I think that's what I'd tell him. Him and Evelyn, actually. Maybe you could give them a choice of whether theirs had poison in them at all or just worked to signal if someone else used theirs. Do you think it could work that way?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 06:40:29](#)
(no subject)

Oh, yeah. That shouldn't be hard. I mean, if I can do this at ALL I should be able to make two that are just for the warning.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-11 06:34:48](#)
(no subject)

Justin, do you want to see what Hydra thinks? At least she doesn't have to worry about legitimacy.

And Luna. I don't know who ought to talk to

Luna.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-11 06:35:44](#)
(no subject)

I could.

2013-01-11 09:12:00

Back at it

All right, you lot. So far I'm impressed with how you've returned to school and immediately got back into the swift pace of things. You must not have had very much fun on your hols.



 [alt_rabastan](#)

Pre-Owl level Duelling Club will resume on Tuesday. Same rules apply as last time- and I mean it.

Now I've heard some grumbling from various quarters about certain new rules and restrictions about the use of Private Messages in the journals, and I do have a couple things to say on the matter.

First, would it kill you to be friendly? Nothing wrong with saying Hi to the rest of the school, in addition to your nearest and dearest.

Second, I suppose I must be getting old, because all I can think about was how we didn't have this kind of magic when I was a student, and how hard we would have been to control if we had. Which is to say- it's understanding that there's a temptation to use the journals for private gossip and the like. One of the professors we had back in my day tried to keep us from passing notes in class, to no avail. Eventually, he started making us read the notes out loud when he caught us, but that only inspired us to start writing more notes, especially ones filled with unflattering things about him. Eventually he gave up and started ignore the note-passing and, funnily enough, it lost some of its appeal and we sent fewer notes.

Just before NEWTs, I asked that professor why he stopped concerning himself, and he said "I came to my senses and realised that all my attention on the matter was doing nothing more than making you far more effective note-passers. And a little more rude, besides."

A lesson there for all of us, I think.

2013-01-11 11:25:00

Order Only

So. Portkeys.

I went down to the Ministry yesterday to fill out the paperwork to get a portkey for Ellie. It's entirely legitimate, after all: as our muggleborn servant, she may use registered portkeys in the fulfillment of her duties. I brought an item for them to use, and they sent it into a back room while I filled out the paperwork.



 [alt_lupin](#)

What I saw suggests that not only have they made it impossible for anyone outside their office to create a portkey, but they may have a way to log automatically each time a portkey is used. Not, I imagine, that anyone looks at the logs -- unless they're trying to find somebody.

We could give Ellie's portkey to Hermione, and in an emergency she could use it to come to our shop and then floo to 12GP. But if MLE knew she'd used a portkey, they would be able to look at the log and if they knew when she'd used it, they would know exactly where she went. It would mean that we would all have to flee with her, because MLE would be fast on her heels. If one of us was out....it would be ugly.

Bill, have you been able to find out where the existing portkeys go? Perhaps someone who is NOT a wanted criminal might test one and see what happens?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-11 21:12:00](#)
(no subject)

Maybe we could do the test? We have a reputation for pranking, and if MLE gets hot and bothered about it, it could all be written off as youthful hijinks?




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-11 21:24:36](#)
(no subject)

No, lads, thanks.

We don't need you leaving the school without permission, either.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-11 21:25:21](#)**
(no subject)

Thanks for your willingness to volunteer, but **NO**. Seriously, let me take another day or two to poke around and ask some quiet questions before we do anything to draw MLE attention.

Because they ARE paying attention. You'll note the stories that have run in the *Prophet* the last few days about various criminals and malcontents: a black marketeer, an embezzler, a rapist, someone smuggling exotic magical animals...all of them were mentioned as having been using unregistered portkeys. So something fishy is going on. Let me dig for information some more before we risk any little jaunts by portkey.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-13 02:32:23](#)**
(no subject)

So now we know what happens to unregistered portkeys, and that the use of registered portkeys may be monitored.

Bill, is there any workaround you know of? How are they funneling people to the MLE prisons? If we can sort that out, perhaps we can figure out what we could do to stay off the map.

Also, we need to know more details about whether they actually can monitor portkey use, and what sort of information they could get. Would any logs show the person who used it, or the person who it was given to? I have a feeling that even if they could keep records, it wouldn't show that Hermione had used the portkey, only that the portkey assigned to the Ponds had been used, but we ought to check and see.

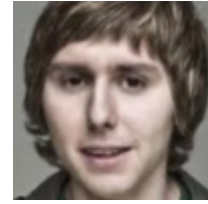
I think that until we get this sorted out, Frank, the twins, Lee, and Hermione need to work on a contingency plan for the Jr Aux as a stopgap. And yes, Remus, I do think that using Ellie's portkey is a good start for Hermione -- and that she's perhaps the most immediately vulnerable, especially when she's at Buckingham.

2013-01-11 18:16:00

Fridays

Hullo, all,

We've survived our first week back! I say, I quite like Fridays this year as we're done that hour early. (Mondays are not so friendly, what?)



 [alt_justin](#)

It's also pleasant to see the days lengthening again, even if it's just a smidgen into the evening. That extra sliver of light through the windows does wonders for the mood and the constitution.

Daphne, Ron and Honoria: Remy and I thought perhaps we could all meet this weekend to go over the song? I've never heard it and Remy's none too sure of the rhythm. I say, it's that swing beat, isn't it, jolly hard to put into one's head. I just don't wish to learn it incorrectly and then have to spend time relearning it the right way round, what?

And, Remy, Alfie and I received a hamper from the Jugsons and we'll bring it to rehearsal tomorrow for sharing. (And thank you, Mr and Mrs Jugson, for the final taste of the holidays. I'm sure it shall help us readjust to being back at school.)

-Justin



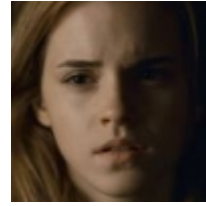
 [alt_daphne](#) at **2013-01-12 03:40:23**
(no subject)

F-F,

I can't speak for Weasley or Sandoval, but I would be available to meet before rehearsal on Saturday, or Saturday or Sunday night, if that works better.

2013-01-11 21:55:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Hydra (and Harry)



 **alt_hermione**

I have sort of a favour to ask. And ordinarily I would ask Sally-Anne but something happened earlier tonight and--well, it's not a good time to tell her something like this.

I've been working on a project. Harry and Draco were given a set of boxes for Christmas (your mother gave them, actually) and then Draco discovered an older set of the same kind of box. They have a translocative spell on them so if you put something in one box it teleports to the other box in the set. We've been trying to connect them all so that you can send from any one box to any of the other three.

Since just after Christmas I've made sure that the boxes your mother gave them don't have any tracking spells or anything, so they're safe and no one knows when they're being used or what's being sent through them. And then, the set that Draco and Harry already had? Well, they belonged to Sirius and his brother, which is where Draco got them (Regulus gave them to Harry and Draco), and it turned out that they carved their initials on the bottoms of the cubes. It's really interesting because that carving effectively made that box unlike any other, it made it unique instead of just half of a matched pair. We carved new initials in the other boxes and there's a charm I found, it's really, really complicated but it gives the box its own magical signature, sort of, and I thought if we cast it on each one of the boxes, it would link the magical signature to the individual 'address' or 'name' of the box.

Well. The reason I'm telling you all this is because Draco wanted to work with me tonight so I had to keep my wand hidden. And he was having trouble executing the wand motion in the right way and also timing the incantation (it's a really, really complicated spell). And I...well, I'm upset about the same thing Sally-Anne's upset about, I mean, I'm fine, we're both okay but I was a bit frustrated and Draco just wasn't getting the knack of it. And I--reached out and tried to put my hand around his hand to *show* him the movement.

I can't believe I actually tried to touch him. It was just that he was really very close to getting it right and he only needed a fraction of

the motion to be different and I just knew it would have worked.

But anyway, the point is that I forgot and I touched him and he--he jerked his hand away really fast. And he snapped at me and told me off and stomped away.


And I feel bad that he was so disgusted but I suppose it's no worse than the time you jumped away, remember? Probably for the same reasons. But I was just as glad he left, to be honest, because it meant I could pull out my own wand and do the spell properly.

Which I did. And it worked.

But sooner or later, Draco's going to want to come back and work on this again, and since he might already suspect that I've been practising wand movement, I have to have a reason the boxes have been put under the spell. It's complicated but it's *too* bad. So if he asks, would it be all right if I tell him that you were the one who cast the charm?

The spell's *positus peculiaris* and I can show you how to do it if you like.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-12 05:17:23](#)**
(no subject)

I hope that Sally Anne's all right. You don't have to tell me what happened.

I knew Draco was working on something because I heard him talking about it with Harry on Boxing Day, but that sounds brilliant. The boxes, I mean. I suppose he just means for he and Harry and maybe you and Pansy to use them?

And oh, I don't know what to think about him jerking away. I don't want to believe that he was disgusted but I suppose one never knows. (I wasn't disgusted by you, I was just afraid for a moment because Mummy said my hair would fall out if I touched a 'mudblood!')

He might have been more cross because it seemed, for that moment, like you knew more about Charms work than he does. Which was probably a bit of a shock, because Draco does well in Charms. Or he might have been suspicious, like you said.

Yes, it's all right if you tell him I did the Charm. But you'd better explain it to me and show me, because he'll probably want to know why I could do a Charm that he couldn't.

(Also, I hope I understand it.)

From,
Hydra




 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-12 05:22:09](#)**
(no subject)

Okay, I'll show it to you. Good. Thanks, I mean.

It's probably too late to show you tonight. Maybe in the morning? I'm sure you'll understand it, it's not that difficult.

I think if we can get these all working, we could get more of the boxes so other people will have them. I don't know if that's Draco's plan but that's certainly my plan!



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-12 05:25:17](#)**
(no subject)

Did you think brewing polyjuice potion was difficult? Or not that difficult?

No - don't answer that.

I would definitely like to have a box, and I'm sure the others would, too. Do you think it would be possible to make our own? Or would they have to be made by a special expert?

Anytime in the morning should be fine.

From,
Hydra

[2013-01-12 15:11:00](#)

First Week Back!

It has really flown by!

We've had our first rehearsals for the spring revue, and I'm really excited about singing the part of Agnes! We're still in the early stages though--no pun intended! Mr Krumgold had a lot of notes for me, so I have a lot to work on. I just keep reminding myself that he wouldn't have chosen me for the part if he didn't think I could do it.



 **[alt_susan](#)**

In some ways, though, I think the people who have the hardest job are going to be our costumers and stagewizards. They're making us look like real Hogwarts students from different eras, and Greengrass and Moon are putting a lot of effort into making everything look authentic!

And of course, all of us in O.W.L. year this year are already starting to think about our exams in the spring. I'm trying to think about them just enough that to be diligent in my revising and not so much that I start to panic!

Our YPL project in the village schools should be interesting, although I suppose there won't be time to paint murals or anything like that, which would be wizard. My mum owled me to say that she thought a group might be coming to her school in New London, even though it's not technically a village.




 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-13 03:17:27](#)**

(no subject)

You already sound wonderful in rehearsal, Sue. I think it'll be brilliant.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-14 02:32:19](#)**


(no subject)

Thanks, Pansy.

How was your YPL project?

I feel good about what we got done, but I feel even better now that I've had some dinner and a hot shower!




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-14 03:16:15](#)
(no subject)

It was fun! I got to help reorganise the books in the library and repair some of them.


I'm sure that the work you put in was very much appreciated, Sue.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-14 03:18:09](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

She really is a giant pink arse.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-14 04:47:41](#)
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Truth!

2013-01-12 16:35:00

Private Message to Amanda Froissart



 **alt_lucius**

Dearest Sister,

Was quite pleased to receive your letter of last week; forgive the delay in answering but no matter the day or time set aside this week to reply, some other, more pressing business intruded.

To begin, then: Glad you and Étienne enjoyed your holiday in Morocco. The ability to travel the world is one luxury we quite look forward to indulging again. But as you correctly point out, those hopes have taken a step backward recently.

Not sure exactly what you expect of me, however. Our diplomatic endeavours do not seem to have had much result. And if your husband's aspirations, as you report, do not seem to lie in politics to the extent you believed before marrying, then, my dear, it would seem it is you who must take a choice. You may either attempt to change his leanings and shape his ambitions back in the direction you think more advantageous to you both or you must reconcile yourself to his revised plan.

Given the news you had to share, you do have at least one more reason to press for an improvement to your circumstances and his ability to support your growing family.

(About *that*, at least, Narcissa and I could not be happier for you! Though Narcissa warns that June and July are a miserable time for the final months (though not as bad as August). And it's just as well that your husband's obligations to Beauxbatons will be lower in the summertime, so that you may both become accustomed to the inevitable changes that will come.)

In any event, believe when we all spoke last year, Étienne considered that the path to political success led through the Headmaster's post. Surely it would follow that he has no immediate wish to abandon the school for more a more direct approach? Am disappointed that he did not use his experiences here in England to better effect, in arguing for the law to change. But not sure how my 'speaking to him' would exhort him to the sort of action you seem to wish he would undertake. If anything, the thought of his child should have led him to conclude the immediate need for the assertion of those same rights which he

saw in action here.

Nonetheless, it is probable that in order to achieve true results, more negotiation is needed. Shall speak to Pontner about additional effort with the French delegation. Your husband's student has fully integrated to English life but perhaps his account is still worth some credit with the French Parliament.

For our part, we are all well. Draco is still near the top of his class (not as high as I would like but certainly at a respectable level) and continues to receive glowing reports from all his professors. He has loaded his timetable with extra-curricular pursuits, in addition to his Prefecture and the YPL responsibilities, but wisely has opted for a small, supporting rôle in an upcoming theatrical performance rather than a leading one. (Have made it clear that if his marks slip he must choose to withdraw, since I doubt he wishes to drop Quidditch, especially as Harry has assumed the Captaincy.)

Narcissa, as ever, dazzles the entire country with her perfection. Her editor approached me before the holidays with a request for a new venture. Sponsored by *Witch Weekly*, she is to design a new line of foundations which will be sold to witches in intimate trunk shows in the home. She is delighted, particularly as it provides the benefits of her knowledge of fashion and attraction without requiring the exhaustive regimen of an active model. She plans to integrate a number of active-wear components for the witch who is, as she puts it, 'in need of maintenance but unwilling to sacrifice style.' Whatever that means. At any rate, she is pleased.

You'll be amused to know she decided it's high time I sat for a new portrait for the gallery. No idea when one shall find the time.

Oh, and yes: Antonin Nikolaevich has been as much like his old self as you remember. Perhaps moreso! Shall pass on to him your fondest remembrances. You could write him yourself, if you are not too shy. He remembers you and would be happy to hear from you - and no doubt would pass on an endless array of questions to compare teaching methods with those of his colleagues on the continent! (Can only wish that it were not injury which necessitated his return to British soil - for he is even more suited to teaching than he was to diplomacy, and that, my dear, is saying quite a lot.)

You mentioned that Mother has been talking of spending time in

Vienna. Knowing her, there's some ulterior motive. What is it, has she said? (Suspect it's her fascination with Amelie Imberkopf's work on harmonic magic. Or has she some other reason for sudden wanderlust?) Believe you are correct and that, whatever her plans, she shall return when the time comes to welcome her new grandchild.

Well. At least you may say without fear that you shall never want for anything, regardless of whether Étienne decides to take an active interest in the political arena or remains content to shepherd young minds into the world. (Given the stabilising influence teaching seems to have had on the Razzier, the quiet life of a professor may not be so horrible a prospect - even if it is not what you bargained for long-term.) You know you have but to ask it and, if it is in my power, it shall be done.

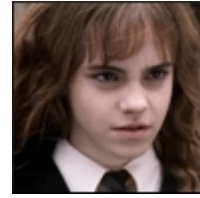
Cannot think we shall be able to join you but if it is possible, shall endeavour. (Another item for Pontner to consider!) Meanwhile, warm regards to all, provided that you keep for yourself a large portion of affection from,

Your loving Brother,

Lucius

[2013-01-12 16:42:00](#)

Order Only: The Portkeys



 **[alt_hermione](#)**

I thought you might like to know that unregistered Portkeys go to a dungeon in MLE and the people who use them are questioned by MLE representatives before they're released. People with legitimate portkeys that just weren't turned in are being given new ones before they go.


I figured, since my portkey's no good anymore, I'd give it to someone who deserved to be sent on an unscheduled trip. So I did.

And he just came back and was telling people in Slytherin about his adventure. His father had to come to MLE to vouch for him.

So Fred, George, it's a really good thing you didn't try it.

Oh, and Mr Snape, if you have a minute I want to show you something.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2013-01-12 21:54:30](#)**

(no subject)

Mm.

Who was the deserving individual?



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-12 21:55:28](#)**

(no subject)

Yes. It wasn't Draco, was it?



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-12 21:58:16](#)**

(no subject)


No, it wasn't Draco.

And it's fine, the person just thinks someone gave him an old discarded portkey as a prank.

Which it was.


But I was kinda hoping he'd have been in more trouble than just getting a fine for not having turned it in sooner.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-12 22:02:18](#)
(no subject)

Well, it honestly wasn't his. It's probably just as well they didn't go to any particular effort to work out whose it was.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-12 22:03:01](#)
Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo

What did he do?

To deserve the trip, I mean.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-12 22:07:28](#)
Re: Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo


Remember what happened a couple of years ago with that boy? The one who didn't think he needed to keep his hands to himself?

It was him. He hasn't changed a bit.

Oh, I'm all right, though. Don't worry about that.

You could tell Sirius and Miss Tonks. I just don't want Mrs Weasley to know, or Terry. It would upset them too much.



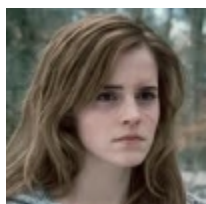
 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-12 22:10:24](#)
Re: Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo

I see.

Minerva could probably find another cantrip --

one less likely to go off unexpectedly and hurt someone you cared for.

I'm not saying that you can't take care of yourself -- just wondering if you'd prefer prevention to revenge, no matter how well-timed (and useful, even).



 **[alt_hermione](#) at 2013-01-12 22:16:22**

Re: Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo

Thank you. It wasn't me, is what I meant, but it's all right. If we need someone to handle it I can have Harry talk to Professor Ra someone.



 **[alt_severus](#) at 2013-01-12 23:04:09**

(no subject)

Of course I have time for you. I had planned to be in what passes for my laboratory for the remainder of the evening; if you are unable to make your way there without any chance of being seen, let me know and I will make alternate arrangements.



 **[alt_hermione](#) at 2013-01-12 23:08:56**

(no subject)

Oh, all right, good. It might be better to meet in Mr Milland's office, though. He has woodworking tools in that one cupboard and your laboratory doesn't.



 **[alt_severus](#) at 2013-01-12 23:37:03**

(no subject)

I see you have learnt my lessons on how to properly catch someone's interest.

I will be at a point where I might stop in another hour or so; I will meet you then.




 **[alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-13 01:43:34](#)**
(no subject)

Hermione Granger, you sly fox.

Good on you. We did hear the rumour at dinner.

We think you made an excellent choice on a person worthy of taking that little jaunt.




 **[alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-13 01:47:25](#)**
(no subject)

Not to mention that you've given us some vital information. Well done.


And damn. If we can't make unregistered portkeys now, and it looks like we can't, that's going to certainly bollux some things up for us. Including evacuation and emergency procedures.



 **[alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-13 02:25:08](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, thank you, Hermione.



 **[alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-13 02:54:10](#)**
Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo

Hermione, as we discussed at our last meeting, if you could work with the twins and Lee to sort out some potential safety plans for those of you at Hogwarts, Frank can review what you have and add some suggestions. Have you had a chance to talk to the rest of your group yet?

Also, I've been reviewing our minutes and what's happened in the last month, and I'd just like to say

Well, I'd like to apologise for how much we've let you down. I must admit to being part of the problem -- Frank and I have felt rather... muzzled about the whole thing. Because it involves our own children

-- we'd suspected Neville was a part of it for ages, at least. And I think sometimes we get so concerned that our own feelings would impede our decisions that we've left it in the hands of other people instead of speaking up, and that's not been working very well. Bill handled things very badly. We've been underestimating you as a group for far too long while at the same time hand-wringing about what you know and leaving you without any support or security.

I think we could stand to acknowledge that Poppy, Pomona, and Minerva are all known by your group as members of our organization, and I think that can certainly work into any security plans. Whereas it might not be wise to completely reveal the identity of Mr Milland, it might also be worthwhile to let your group know that he is also trustworthy.

I think it's very wise of you to want to separate out a bit, and I understand your impulse to have the group at Hogwarts develop ideas and plans on their own. I hope that you'll understand that I want us to provide you any support that we can, and keep the lines of communication open. Right now, I'd just like to talk with you a bit about what you need the most, and how we can help provide it.

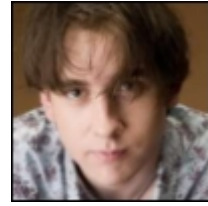
Also, I'd like to ask your advice about what you think we could do to approach this better in the future.

I respect your opinion, Hermione, and I respect what you've done at Hogwarts.

[2013-01-12 19:59:00](#)

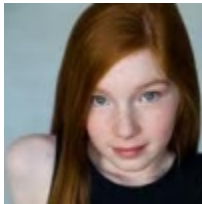
Weekend

It's a sign that OWLs are coming up that people in fifth year are sitting in the Common Room revising and working on essays on a Saturday night, I guess. I finished up a star chart before dinner, and since then I've been working on practical Transfiguration drills with Katrina Bundy.



 **[alt_neville](#)**

I'd much rather be playing Exploding Snap.



 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-01-13 02:11:17](#)**

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

Where were you last night? I thought we were due for a chess match.

If you're too busy revising, that's fine. We can play later. And I know how nervous Kitty is about OWLs.

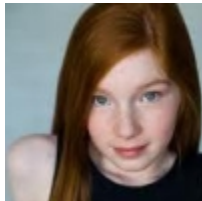


 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2013-01-13 02:13:12](#)**

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

Oh--oh, blast. I forgot. I forgot we'd agreed to play a match, and so I didn't tell you I had to be somewhere else.

I'm really sorry.



 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-01-13 02:14:48](#)**

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

Oh, that's fine, Nev. I'm not angry. I just wondered what you'd got up to. Where did you have to be?



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2013-01-13 02:16:30](#)**

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

Uh. I had detention.

With Professor Dolohov.

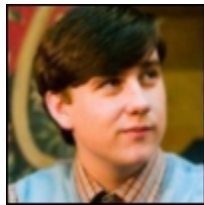



 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-01-13 02:24:05](#)**

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

Was it

Was it about the parchment? What happened?



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2013-01-13 02:28:40](#)**

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

Oh, no. No, it wasn't. At least, the parchment didn't come at all. No, he asked me to his office to discuss something else. Uh, never mind what.

But he--That is, I--

Hmm. It's a little hard to explain.

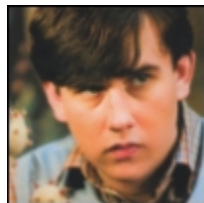


 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-01-13 02:37:01](#)**

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

Try.

Did you make him angry?



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2013-01-13 02:52:37](#)**

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

Oh, blimey, Evelyn. I'm in the suds with him now.

He's interested in me all of a sudden. Really, really interested in me. He's barely paid attention to me in class up until now. I guess my plan to make him think I was dense was working well enough. But now it's like--I kept my occlumency shields up as hard as I could, but he acted like I was some sort of bug he wanted to pin to a board. We were talking, and, I dunno, sort of fencing, I guess. Finally, he sat back and he said, 'Mr Longbottom, satisfy my curiosity: is it that you do not like me, or that you are afraid of me?' Because I guess he decided he wasn't satisfied with the half-arsed answers I've been giving him anymore. So I told him I didn't know enough about him to have any opinion (a total lie, of course, after what Mum and Dad told us, but I could hardly say I wanted nothing to do with him). So I just said I was wary of the Arts.


So he asked me why. Which was, I guess, a reasonable question. Except I didn't want to answer it. It has to do with Mum and Dad, and with everything I've been taught, and I just--I couldn't. I don't even know entirely why. I don't know if I was totally brave, or totally a coward, but I refused to answer it. I just sat there. And he got this look in his eye, and he just sat there and waited. So I got stubborn and decided to wait him out.

We sat there and stared at each other for, I swear, five minutes, until he started laughing and told me I had detention for 'letting my stubbornness overrule my common sense.'

So now I have to come to see him on Monday and Friday nights for the next two weeks. Blimey, he's right, what an idiot I was! A stubborn Gryffindor idiot. Anyway last night was the first night.

I was hoping he'd want me to do lines or something, but no such luck. He wants me to talk to him.



 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **2013-01-13 02:57:54**

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

All right.


Well, I think you're right, it was being stubborn that did it.

It could be worse. He could've been really, truly angry with you.

Still. That's not good.

I'd talk to Mr Milland, and see what he has to say.




 **alt_neville** at **2013-01-13 03:07:43**

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

That's a good idea. It'll give him a chance to tell me I'm a stubborn idiot, too.

Do you still want a game of chess? I don't think I can face any more Transfiguration exercises.




 **alt_evelyn** at **2013-01-13 03:12:10**

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

Of course he will! And after he's through huffing and puffing at you, he'll tell you something useful.

And I'd love one.



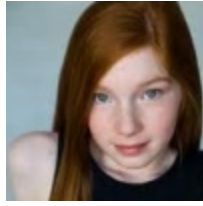
 **alt_neville** at **2013-01-13 03:16:39**


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

Good.

And we can talk. You can tell me how you've been sleeping.

Have you asked Katrina Bundy what she thinks of the galleons? I thought I could talk with her about it, but since we were in the Common Room, I think she was a little nervous about us being overheard. Which was probably sensible of her.



 **[alt_evelyn](#) at 2013-01-13 03:21:32**


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

We talked some about it. The messages over hols surprised her a bit, I think. And she still hasn't written any of her own.

I'm glad she has one, though.

And I've been sleeping okay. I'll be sleeping better once we get our portkeys, though.



 **[alt_neville](#) at 2013-01-13 03:22:21**

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

We both will.

All right, I'm in the Common Room. Bring the board down, and we'll set it up.

2013-01-12 20:52:00

First week!

Our first week back at Hogwarts is nearly done! I think the reality of OWLs has definitely set in, and it's certainly going to be a busy few months leading up to it. I know everyone in our class will work hard, and will make Hogwarts proud. I've been thinking about what Madame Umbridge and Professor Raz have been talking about lately with the journals. They make an excellent point. These journals are certainly a wonderful gift, and when we got the chance to write to some of our close friends, well, I can see how it just got to be almost something that we depended on with the consequences of excluding others and isolating ourselves-- I know that I, for one, have been using the Private Messages quite a bit lately. I looked, and the last time I wrote something that everyone could read was back in December, nearly a month ago. It's been good to see what my classmates have been up to, and to be able to talk to them over their public posts, and I'm glad we've had the chance to learn a valuable lesson about the importance of transparency and communication from Madame Umbridge.



 [alt_pansy](#)

Anyways, it's been wonderful seeing everyone back at Hogwarts again, and I for one am looking forward to a busy term.

2013-01-12 23:48:00

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

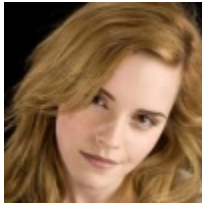


 **alt_sally_anne**

Hermione.

You slipped a portkey in Letchley's pocket, didn't you.

YOU ARE BRILLIANT.



 **alt_hermione** at **2013-01-13 05:54:11**
(no subject)

I needed to know where the old portkeys went.

Now we do.

But now we've got a problem. Because that was how I was to get away, if ever there were a big problem and it looked like I was about to be sent back to the camps or killed or something. With the portkeys all changed so they go direct to MLE, that's no good. It's worse than no good.

I know you're working on those rings (and yes, I think they're a good idea) but we also need to talk, all of us, about how we might get away short of all committing suicide.

(By the way, are you okay? I should have asked you last night.)



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2013-01-13 05:58:52**
(no subject)

I'm all for options other than suicide for getting away, if you can think of any.

I mean, if I have some warning I'll go to Madam Pomfrey and see if she can think of anything. But the problem is you don't always have a warning, do you? A portkey would have been good (although do anti-apparation wards stop portkey use? I don't know that much about them).

We could meet in the secret room and talk it over. Sometime this week, maybe.



 **alt_hermione** at **2013-01-13 06:08:21**
(no subject)

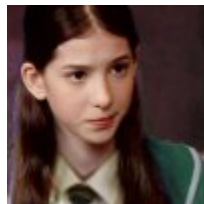
It's not just Madam Pomfrey. Professor Sprout and Professor McGonagall would also help us and Mr Milland is sort of a friend.

Only if we possibly can, I think I'd rather come up with ways to protect ourselves all on our own. The Order hasn't really done much and loads of times even when they try, they can't get there in time.

But they do have a bunch of safe places and that's where the portkeys go. I bet we could make Pansy's house into a safehouse for us, if we tried. Or we could see if we can find out how to create an unregistered portkey that doesn't go to MLE, I think it's just a matter of deciphering what the adjustments to the calculations need to be. You see something happened over the holidays and it changed all the equations. If we can figure out what changed then we can recalculate. Or if someone can find out the new equations directly from Magical Transportation, that would make it easier. But of course the Ministry will guard that secret very closely now, so that nobody can make new portkeys.

There's an Anti-Apparation ward around Hogwarts, so no, that doesn't interfere with portkeys at all. Or the Floo.

I think we should all assemble bolt bags like we made for Terry, too.



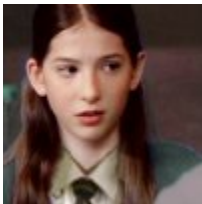
 **alt_sally_anne** at **2013-01-13 06:18:16**
(no subject)

What makes something a safehouse? Because Pansy's mother can go to that house, she just doesn't very often. So if we used, say, a Fidelius Charm (if we could even pull that off) she'd notice that when she tried to go she couldn't go to it.

Maybe we could put a Fidelius Charm on just part of it. There's an attic where Pansy's mum NEVER goes. That's still assuming

we could do a Fidelius Charm, though.

Bolt bags are a really good idea. I've been thinking about things I could put in my bracelet, other than food (and poison). Everyone on the Lock ought to have one of those bracelets, with a notice-me-not charm. We could keep our bolt bag in there.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-13 06:00:11](#)**
(no subject)

And yeah....Letchley.

Well. This was the first time he actually came into the girls' changing area. I mean I took as long as I did getting dressed because before he waited for me to come out and I thought if I was slow, he'd get bored.

I don't know. He says stuff but at least he hasn't touched me. Recently. Has he tried anything with you?



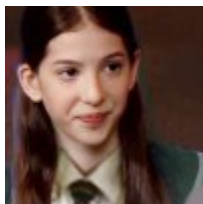
 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-13 06:11:57](#)**
(no subject)

So he's been back at it for a while?

You could tell Harry. It's his responsibility as Captain. Or I could do, if you don't want anyone to think you're grassing.

He leers at me now and then and once just before hols he blocked my path in the corridor outside Harry's dormitory. I kept thinking how easy it would have been to pull my wand out from its hiding place and how much trouble I'd have been in if I had done.

But you can get Hydra to teach you that bollock-buster hex.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-13 06:20:48](#)**
(no subject)

I DON'T want anyone to think I'm grassing. He's benched for one game but Harry might bench him for more, or kick him off the team, even, and people would blame me. It would get around. It

always does, especially in Slytherin House (I suppose everyone thinks their house is gossippy but you know I think Slytherin really is worse than the rest for that.)

If he actually put a hand on me I'd use that bollock-buster hex but he hasn't touched me and if HE grassed and said he was just talking to me and I hexed him that way -- I think I'd be the one in trouble.

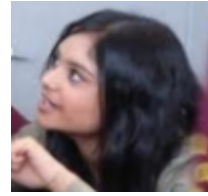
2013-01-13 15:50:00

Group Three

You should be making your final passes through the classrooms.

Remember that the chairs need to be put on the desks in each room and the books need to be organised by hand, not using the shelving spell.

When you're finished, please assemble back in Mrs Bones' classroom and we'll all go home from there.

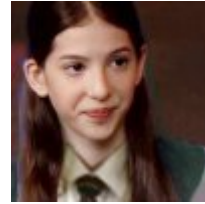


 **alt_padma**

2013-01-13 15:59:00

YPL service project

My group visited a school where recent Hogwarts graduate Shivani Johns teaches.



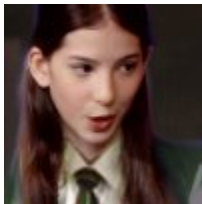
She took over fairly recently, I think, and her predecessor was old and had some difficulty keeping up with the work. The whole school needed to be painted and also we patched a hole in the roof. Also, some places where the furniture hadn't been moved in about a century that needed a good cleaning -- we noticed those when we moved the furniture to paint.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

It was good to feel really useful. We certainly appreciated Miss Johns coming in on her day off to work with us, and we hope that she finds the fresh paint and no-longer-leaking roof make it worthwhile!

I wonder if anyone wound up at the school I used to attend? The teacher when I went there was Miss Dixton. (She might have retired, however. I'm not sure.)

What sorts of work did the other groups find was needed?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-13 22:18:40**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Shivani Johns likes half-bloods nearly as much as her old mate, Lana Sandoval does.

She acted like anything we cleaned was likely going to be contaminated when we were done with it, was furious that she had to come in on her day off, and didn't say thank you.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-13 22:44:35**

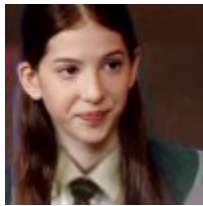
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Ugh. Sandoval has a friend who went into teaching? Wonder why she's not doing something, y'know. Easier.

The place we went needed books repaired and a few things fixed, but mostly just a lot of cleaning up. We had fun looking at some of

books. I'd forgotten all about 'A is for Accio! B is for Boggart'. Funnily enough, Goyle knew a song for that, and we all got going. That's why I told Umbridge he should have a 'Works Hard' badge. Not that he was much help when we went outside to see if we could fix the steps. And he was hopeless at the window washing charm.

It's lucky you lot have Quidditch now. Think how long Umbridge might have kept us sitting around 'debriefing' otherwise?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-13 22:52:15](#)

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

I don't know. Maybe she likes very young children? She certainly didn't like us.

It sounds like your work was easier than ours. We had to fix something on the roof but we didn't have a ladder. We wound up stacking desks and then I climbed up on top to get at the hole.

And yeah, thank goodness for Quidditch. I'll see you at dinner.



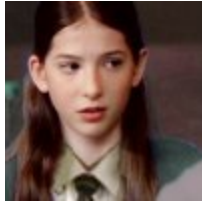
 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-14 02:09:59](#)

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

I remember you saying something once about how your village school was fairly horrid, and now that I've met Miss Dixton, well, I can just about imagine.

She worked us really hard, lots of really mucky jobs outdoors, with this kind of snifty look on our face while she watched us so we didn't miss a spot. And she glared every time one of us had to go to the loo!

It sounds like your lot had some rough jobs too-- though that's sort of funny that you got sent to Johns' school. I think I'd feel a bit odd having to treat someone like a adult when you can remember seeing them eating dinner in the Great Hall.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-14 02:14:48](#)

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

Yeah, that part was weird.

I'm just glad I didn't have to go back to see Miss Dixon. Either she'd have been horrid to me like she was when I was little, OR she'd have been all fake-friendly (which would have almost have been worse).

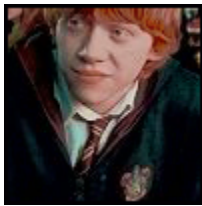


 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-14 03:11:17](#)

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

We just shelved books and did some dusting.

I'm sorry you lot had it rough. I wonder *who* made sure of that.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-13 23:08:57](#)

(no subject)

Yeah. We had a good time, my group.

The teacher where we went was a nice ol' witch, who'd made biscuits and brought along pumpkin juice for us, and thanked us for what we were doing.

Celia Thompson got talking with her and found out that the floo in her office didn't open properly so the fire was always smoky and mostly she just tried to make do with warming charms, so we got together and figured out how to fix that for her. And she was so happy about that. It was nice.

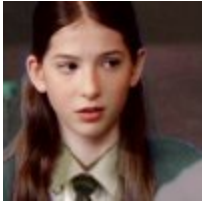


 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-14 02:03:54](#)

(no subject)

Miss Dixon? Yeah, she's still there, because that's where our group went.

We worked pretty hard, and definitely got a lot done.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-14 02:07:03](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I hope she was decent to you.

She was a horrible teacher back when I was in primary.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-14 02:15:54](#)

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

It's funny, she was being pretty awful to us overall, but all of a sudden she started being quite pleasant--but only to me.

It was dead odd. She even offered me some tea, and a couple of dry little biscuits. I did my best to do a polite dodge, but I'm not sure she bought it. And honestly, it was hard to pass it up, since we didn't have anything else all day.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-14 03:14:29](#)

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

Why do you think she changed?



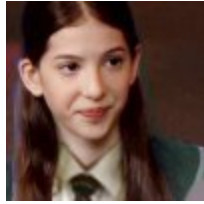
 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-14 04:59:19](#)

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

You know, I wasn't sure at the time; all I noticed was how odd it was.

But now that I think about it, a few of us had been talking Quidditch, just to pass the time, and I mentioned Dad had got a deal on my broom because one of the Cannons' players didn't want it any more.

She let us have a break not too long after that, and that's when she mentioned the tea.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-14 05:04:19](#)

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

Hembridge probably told her you were a bunch of half-blood nobodies.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-14 05:15:29](#)

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

~~This is awkward~~ I sometimes forget that people think that way, that not having been in fostering makes me a little more pure or whatnot.

It's still weird, though. I mean every once in a while someone will make a big fuss over me because of Dad's job specifically, but usually it's old-man Cannons fans who want to offer me a toffee as if I'm five and have a gab about how much the team means to them, not pinched old-lady schoolteachers. That's probably why I didn't twig to it right away.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-14 03:15:01](#)

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

And no lunch! Ugh.

Hembridge really is the worst.



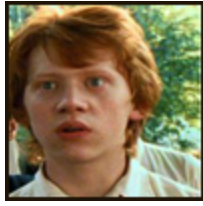
 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-14 05:01:43](#)

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

Do you think she specifically *told* them not to feed us? Or just assigned us to the sort of people who could be counted on not to?

I don't suppose it really matters, since we'd turn out hungry and worn to bits either way.

YPL wasn't like this before. I know I'm stating the obvious, but...



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-14 03:26:38](#)

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

They didn't give you anything to eat all day?

Oi!

That'd've been bad with our group. We had Jimmy Peakes and Stratus Cuthbert, who are stringy but eat like they've got suction charms on their gullets. And that's me saying that! Plus we had Goyle. If there hadn't been any food, just think what he'd have been like by half-twelve! As it was, I had to head him off after he'd finished his, because I swear he was on his way to scare a couple of the littler girls into giving him theirs.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-14 05:05:09](#)

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

Congratulations! You escaped the dreadful fate of a lunchless Goyle!

It's a good thing the girls had you around to protect them.

But yeah, the food situation was just generally not on at all.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-14 03:29:50](#)

(no subject)

Bones, we were at your mum's school. It was in really good repair, actually. We just had to clean and reorganise all the books and art supplies and things.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-14 04:49:27](#)

(no subject)

She's always been very proud of her school, and I'm sure she appreciated the help!

2013-01-13 21:51:00

(no subject)

We had a good practise today. Everyone's work over hols has really paid off.

Nice work, everyone.

And repairing the school today was good. It was nice to really be able to help people who needed it.



 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_harry](#) at **2013-01-14 02:57:59**

Private Message to Draco

Almost forgot to put something down this week. Hope Bum doesn't get a stick up her arse about it.

I think we need more time than we'll get.

Perks seems to catch on fast, and she's really responsive, which was something you were worried about.

If Croaker and Derwent don't start working harder, though, we're not going to stand a chance.

What do you think we can do about them?




 [alt_draco](#) at **2013-01-14 05:21:08**

Re: Private Message to Draco

I wasn't worried about Perks not being responsive; I was worried because of the chaser dynamic. You're a seeker so you're always solo, but chasers, they fly together long enough and they have a dynamic - they can anticipate the other's next moves. It's like legitimacy for quidditch.

Anyway, she'll do fine. As for Croaker and Derwent... *Imperius?*



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-14 05:32:30](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

Well, yeah. Can't get a proper dynamic going in a few weeks, though, so the best we can hope for is someone who'll pay attention.

I'm honestly thinking about it. Or at the very least hitting them with bludgers a few times so they'll know what it'll feel like for the rest of their teammates if their aim stays as sloppy as it has been.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-14 04:26:29](#)

Private message to Harry Marvolo


Could you do me a favour?

Could you ... I don't know, just keep an eye on Bletchley after practices?

He's been doing this thing -- well, he came into the changing area the other day, and it was only Granger walking in that scared him off. And today I thought I'd change really quickly and get out and he was waiting and followed me into the castle.

Please don't tell anyone I told you. I don't want you to bench him more or anything, I just don't ever want to be alone with him.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-14 04:48:17](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

That's really not on.

Really.

If we weren't holding our side together with spellotape right now, he'd be done. If he does anything like that again, he will be.

I'll keep an eye out.

Do you want me to

I could say something to him?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-14 04:56:53](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

Maybe? If you just kept an eye on him that would probably be enough.

Or made sure someone else was there. You or anyone. Well, although Hermione came in and that got him to knock it off, I don't think it would work to just have her come and stay with me, he's not exactly intimidated by her, if you know what I mean.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-14 05:11:06](#)

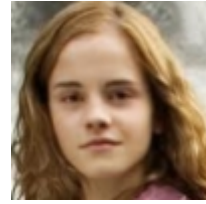
Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

Right.

I'll be there.

2013-01-13 23:35:00

Private Message to Harry Marvolo and Draco Malfoy



 **alt_hermione**

I made some progress today while you were gone.

We can't make the boxes any bigger than their maximum size. I tried that and it didn't work right.

But I think it might be possible to construct another set of boxes that's bigger and put the same runes and spells and things on them, and they might link up.

We need better wood, though. I think the closer the new ones are to the old ones, the easier it will be.



 **alt_hermione** at **2013-01-14 04:40:17**

Private Message to Harry

Harry,

I noticed Sally-Anne wrote to you. I don't know what she was writing about but I hope it was about

Bletchley.

You should do something about him. Maybe Professor Lestrangle can frighten him or something. Or take him off the side completely.



 **alt_harry** at **2013-01-14 04:50:45**

Re: Private Message to Harry

It was.

I'm thinking of telling Raz, yeah.

And if he even just looks at her funny again, he's off. I'll make sure he knows it too.



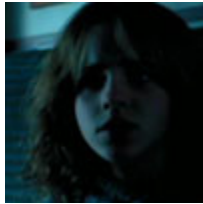
 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-14 04:53:14](#)

Re: Private Message to Harry

Has he

...you know?

to you?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-14 04:57:08](#)

Re: Private Message to Harry

Not recently but when I interrupted his threats to Sally-Anne he just said, 'What are you looking at, Mudblood?' and then he said that if I didn't leave he'd find me while you're in lessons and make sure I kept my mouth shut. Or 'otherwise occupied.'

But Harry. Sally-Anne's really, really worried that if someone comes after him, he'll think she peached on him. So whatever you do, it didn't come from her.

All right?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-14 05:08:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Harry

Right.


So what would I say, then? If I did say anything?
Because he might think it came from you, yeah?

Which could be bad? Or could we

I don't know

I could catch him doing it myself?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-14 05:13:38](#)

Re: Private Message to Harry

She said that if I was there, it'd help. So I'll stick around and make sure he takes off.

Which is a start.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-14 05:14:37](#)

Re: Private Message to Harry

Well, I'm not volunteering.

And I don't think she is, either.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-14 05:21:16](#)

Re: Private Message to Harry

Oh.

Right.

No.

Sorry.

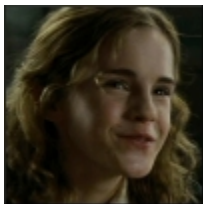


 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-14 04:51:36](#)

(no subject)

Where can you buy wood?

Like is there a store that sells it?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-14 05:34:03](#)

(no subject)

I don't know.

Maybe there are.

You might ask Ollivander's how they get wood. We don't need wand-quality but something better than old crates, definitely.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-14 05:15:27](#)
(no subject)

Would it work to transfigure something into a smaller size so that it fits in the box, and then send it through. That is, would it still be intact after the journey, and would it be possible to transfigure it back to its

original size.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-14 05:25:59](#)
(no subject)

No, not very well. It depends on what it is. A book works all right if you shrink it and then send it but I tried with a clock and now it thinks it's 5:04 every twenty-five minutes. (Er, we owe Crabbe a new alarm clock.)

Also, plants won't go through. Alive, anyway. I sent a jar of dried arrowroot and that was all right, though.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-14 05:33:55](#)
(no subject)

Maybe it was because it was in a jar?

We should try out live plants in jars.

And clocks in jars.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-14 05:36:59](#)
(no subject)

How did you

Crabbe wakes himself up with his own snoring. He'll be fine.

2013-01-14 00:34:00

YPL day

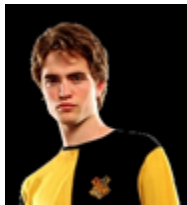
Well, I think we all had fun today, or as much fun as cleaning can ever be.




 **alt_cedric**

I led them all in many rousing rounds of quidditch fan chants. It almost made up for missing Open Flying. Though if I find out who taught firsties the ... umm... shall we say 'alternate' lyrics to Holyhead Rules the Roost, I'll have some choice words for them. Chanting really makes repetitive work go faster. It's so nice to be of service to others who are less fortunate and need assistance.

I hope everyone is looking forward to the Slytherin vs Ravenclaw match next weekend.



 **alt_cedric at 2013-01-14 05:49:20**

Private Message to Fred and George

Mates,
When we get the chance in our very, very busy schedules, I really would like to discuss post Hogwarts plans.

You know that I hope to play Quidditch, but I know I'm enough on the bubble to be making back up plans.



 **alt_gredforge at 2013-01-14 16:54:44**

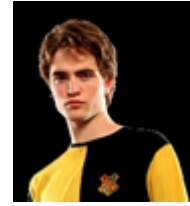
Re: Private Message to Fred and George

Sure, we'd be available to talk over possibilities. How about we touch base in the Great Hall at the beginning of the dinner hour, and we'll set a time for when and where we can sit down for a discussion.

2013-01-14 00:49:00

Private Message to Professor Siz

Have you reset the wards to the workroom in the tower? I might need to talk the twins in private in the near future and wanted to know if they could still get in. I know that Ms Calderwood's return is a big concern so wanted to check.



 [alt_cedric](#)



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2013-01-14 20:19:20**
(no subject)

Cedric -

Sorry, had three different things hit my desk this morning I wasn't expecting, and it's taken me a little while to dig out.

I did reset the wards, but I reset them after lunch so that you, Fred, and George Weasley can all get in again. It's possible I may want some work space for Linus Moon (he's doing some work relating to his detentions for me) - I can set that up elsewhere, if necessary, but it'd be easier to keep it to the one room. (And thank you for your concern, there.)

You settling into term again all right?



 [alt_cedric](#) at **2013-01-15 00:54:41**
(no subject)

Thank you.

So far yes. Yesterday was interesting, I'm not quite sure of the purpose of having the kids perform those task when the elves are perfectly capable of taking care of the castle. Menial, repetitive tasks are one thing if assigned as a part of detention, but as a 'character-building exercise' it seems, I'm not sure, a bit shallow I guess.

I could not believe the words coming out of some of their mouths when we were doing the chants. They clearly had no idea what they were saying. You know how groups get when one person is leading a big group cheer, everyone just sort of follows along which means

I'm still not entirely clear on who it was who started it. It was a particularly unpleasant set of verses to the Harpies post goal cheer. I've heard it in the stands when the Harpies are playing a side with chunks of fans who are less pleasant, but they tend to get hushed up pretty quickly by the ref.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2013-01-15 01:13:39](#)**
(no subject)

Mmm. I didn't see most of it. (Don't know if you saw - I couldn't tell if that was your group down the end of the first floor hallway or not - but my brother came visiting.)

I do think there's something in the practice of service to the community. (Well, as you do as a prefect, and any number of people do in other ways. The YPL counsellors, the Revue planning, people organising study groups.) But I think you're right that it works best if it's something where someone can learn while doing, not just do.

As to the language, well. Want me to bring it up at staff meeting? Or do you want to keep an eye out for a week or two and see if there's more information about who. (I've not heard the one you mean directly, but I've heard Raz on the general topic of that kind of language in cheers more than once.)

While I'm writing: you free at midnight on Friday? I could use an extra set of hands with the third years, just to make sure they're getting what I want in the more in-depth observation notes I'm asking for this term. If not, no worries, but I thought I'd ask you first.



 **[alt_cedric](#)** at **[2013-01-15 01:33:20](#)**
(no subject)

Oh service to the community I understand, what the groups out in the village school were doing sounds great, but dusting and moping hallways doesn't seem as meaty.

No I don't think it needs to be taken up at the staff meeting, if I thought they really knew what they were saying about professional women it would be a different story or if I had

reason to think someone taught it to them deliberately. Don't tell Professor Raz, but I suspect a family of Falcon fans with a particularly salty father.

Sure I'll make my way up the astronomy tower early on Friday. I'd love to help out.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-15 01:41:33](#)

(no subject)

It doesn't, no. The argument I heard for that was that well, the first and second years don't really know as many charms and such, and couldn't be nearly as much help.

As far as the language, he's well aware of the reputation the Falcons had. (Well, heard more than a few stories from him about contributing to that reputation in one way and another.) Do let me know if it keeps up, though? That kind of language about women, well. Repeating things carelessly is one thing, but I'd hate to see it be a larger problem, you know?

Excellent, on Friday. I'll do my best to make sure you're more help than dusting and mopping. (Though explaining the same thing six times over has its own challenges, I suppose.)

[2013-01-14 00:54:00](#)

Private Message to Professor Raz




 **[alt_cedric](#)**

Could we talk about Quidditch? Specifically what you think my chances of going pro are. If you have any advice about my final two games of the year for impressing the scouts (I'm not asking to for an advantage over Slytherin! Just in relation to the scouts) or if you think I'd have a better chance at open try outs. Is there someone still working inside the game you might recommend I write to?

I also wanted to find a time to get a bit more practice in on the most recent assignment. Something seems to not work right for me, I don't know if it's wand work, the incantation or something else, but I feel fuzzyheaded after casting it which I'm sure is not an acceptable side effect for a spell cast mid duel. Let me know if you just want me to show up at your next office hours or if you'd rather I come by some other time.



 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2013-01-14 16:56:06](#)**
(no subject)

It's been said that I'm always up for talking about quidditch. But yeah, if you're considering that route, then we should talk. Specifically about clocking some pitch time as something other than seeker- chaser is what I'd recommend. Seeker is a highly specialised position and while I realise you're the best at it in your House, I think your build is a bit too strapping for a professional. Most teams like to have a deep bench on the chaser side, and while you might have to sit there until you prove yourself, I think you have the skills and dedication to get a scout's attention.

There's probably other things we should talk about, like the lifestyle and temptations other things that go along with being a pro. Different teams have different things that they're known for, different reputations, and we want to make sure that you end up somewhere where you'll fit in and feel comfortable.

As for the assignment, come along to my hours today, if you have time, and we'll go over that, too. My guess is that you're over-doing it on the wrist movement, which is easily corrected.




 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-15 01:53:26](#)
(no subject)

I was afraid you'd say that about seeker. I love the position so much. Chaser. I'll have to think carefully about that. Particularly if it would be fair to bench someone to promote my career.

I would be happy to discuss other stuff with you, but I suspect I know some of what you have to say on the other topics. I had a big taste of the ups and downs of fame last year with the TriWizard. And I saw what happened with Hewett. I know, in my head, about that sort of danger though I doubt anyone really knows how they'll respond to extreme stress until they are thrown in the deep end.

I'll come to your office hours tomorrow and we can work on the wand motions. If there aren't too many other students who need help we can talk quidditch.



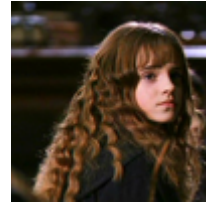
 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-15 04:31:17](#)
(no subject)

You could always talk to your team. Maybe one of them would be willing to sacrifice their position this year for the sake of your career (bribery might help, too, though don't tell anyone I said that).

If you can't get any pitch time this year, your other option might be to spend a season on a non-professional league, see if you can build up your skills and get noticed.

[2013-01-14 13:12:00](#)

Order Only: Private Message to George Weasley and Harry Marvolo



George, if you can share this with Lee and Fred, I'd appreciate it.

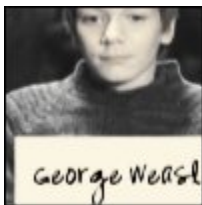
 [alt_hermione](#)

Mrs Longbottom asked me to work on escape strategies for the Juniors. Sally-Anne and I were talking this weekend and actually she's designing rings like the one Mr Archer wore. You wouldn't know unless you read back to when he died, but he always had a little snake ring and it was filled with poison and he could activate it to poison himself if MLE ever tried to question him, which is how he died.

Well, she's working on them but that's an absolute last resort because no one honestly *wants* to get poisoned and die! But without reliable portkeys we will need to think of something else.

I didn't mention the Map when we were talking about our assets and I noticed you didn't either. I think that's probably good. I mean, really it's Harry's more than mine but even so, it's not something I necessarily want the ISS crowd to know we have because they might want to use it all the time.

But I was thinking, maybe we should work on clearing out one or two of the caved-in tunnels so we have another way out of the castle if we need it?



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-15 02:00:23](#)
(no subject)

The poison rings are a grim idea, but we see the sense in them. But definitely, we want some other options. Let's hope the Order gets the portkey situation figured out quickly.

Yeah, let's keep the Map to ourselves for the time being. Lee knows about it too, of course. It's a very good tool to have in our arsenal.

That's an excellent idea about the tunnels. If we do clear them out, we should probably put some other protections on the entrances so only our lot can find them, though. We have some ideas about that.

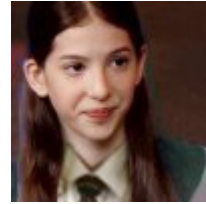
About making more bracelets for everyone in the group: we can teach anyone who wants to learn them the charms for the storage beads.

Is there a time you can meet with us, maybe, and we can grab a few minutes to talk about security measures. Because Alice is right, and we should definitely put our heads together on this.

We know how to get into the kitchens. You can get in there easily, as a servant, right? We can meet there if you just set a time that works for you. Or let us know if you have an alternative suggestion.

2013-01-14 18:46:00

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To
No Good: Safety Planning*



Right, then.

I was thinking about trying to get everyone together in the secret room to talk about this but between quidditch and the revue and everything else, trying to work out a time when everyone can be there is just ridiculous. And this probably shouldn't wait until March.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

We need to talk about ways to get away, if we have to. Hermione had a portkey, but apparently all portkeys now go to an MLE dungeon. If you go there by accident they'll (probably) let you go but if you're trying to get away from them it won't do.

Things Hermione suggested when we talked about it last night:

* We can go to Madam Pomfrey, Professor Sprout, or Headmistress McGonagall if we need help (can I just note that the Headmistress is rather difficult to get to? unless someone knows the password to her office, and that's only good as long as she doesn't change it). Mr Milland is 'sort of a friend,' I don't know if that means 'go to him as a last resort' or 'he's friendly but not terribly helpful' or what.

* Maybe we could turn part of Pansy's house in London into a safehouse? I'm not sure what would be involved but there's an attic that her mum NEVER goes into and she'd never notice if she stopped being able to get into it. If we could cast the Fidelius Charm -- but you know, the Fidelius Charm is really, really hard. I don't know if we could cast it or not. And it takes a long time, I think, it's not like casting 'lumos' or something. There's also the whole matter of getting there without a portkey. (Though we could floo to Pansy's house and then run up to the attic as fast as we could.)

* Hermione also thought maybe she could work out how to adjust the calculations to make a portkey that works. I don't know the first thing about making portkeys, actually! ... but if Hermione does, that's brilliant.

* And, she suggested we all make bolt bags like we made for Terry. Fred and George are making everyone beads for container bracelets, like the ones Terry and Hermione have. I have one already and I'm

thinking about things to add to it. I can't remember what all was in Terry's bag, but everyone could at least nick a blanket and put that in, and some food with preservation charms, and some water. A spare set of robes, but better if they're not Hogwarts school robes (because those are awfully distinctive and they'll attract attention if it's, you know, term time.)

Other ideas? Someone should talk to Fred and George (and Lee) -- that was a good reason to try to meet in the secret room, but I just didn't want to risk wait.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-15 01:07:36](#)
(no subject)

I also just made a suggestion to George, Fred and Lee. There are some secret tunnels out of the castle, mostly they go to places in Hogsmeade, but most of them are caved in. We could work on unblocking one or two of them.

Actually I might go to Mr Milland before I'd go to the Headmistress, only because you're right, she's hard to get to and sometimes she can't do much. But there are extra protections on her office, so there's that. Madam Pomfrey could always hide you in the hospital wing and tell people you've got some terrible fatal disease and she would do, too, if you needed to hide, she'd stall like anything to help you get away.

But I think we need to plan for the times when there isn't time to even get to a grown-up.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-15 01:45:00](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

Yes, it's bally well difficult to get us all in the same place, what! I'm rather glad I've brought homework to rehearsal. I say, I do wish Daphne were a little more organised about the schedule; I can't think we're all needed just to sit and wait, what?

But I've been thinking about the options. In any situation, one has three choices: One can run, one can hide or one can fight.

Could one hide in the secret room? Perhaps we ought to think about stocking that, so that one could stay there indefinitely. And there are other places, such as the cave near the village, and the Shack that you lot found third year. Might those serve as temporary shelters or hiding places?

-Justin

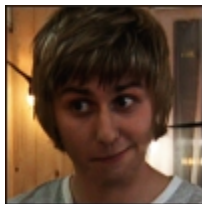


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 01:53:24](#)
(no subject)

Well, there's also 'try to talk your way out' -- is that a form of hiding, would you say?

I'm not even sure what would happen to food if you left it in the secret room -- the room itself changes every time you go in. It's never made food, though.

Anywhere off the grounds could serve at least for a little while, because it would take them time to find us. The Forbidden Forest would be a good place if we could find the amiable Giant before the giant spiders ate us...okay, so never mind, it's not a very good place.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-15 01:59:24](#)
(no subject)

Oh, yes. I thought we were talking about what would happen once it's clear that talking is useless. Clearly one would try that, before concluding that there's no escaping discovery.

No, I think the caves or the Forest ought only to be a very temporary sort of shelter. One shouldn't like to live out of doors indefinitely, even with all the survival charms and skills we've been learning.

I think, if one could get to New London, there are plenty of homes and buildings that have been abandoned, what? We could make one of those a safehouse. I don't know what the Fidelius involves, either, but perhaps one could find out.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 02:10:22](#)
(no subject)

Oh, New London doesn't have a lot of abandoned properties -- they're either occupied or they've been removed, at this point.

Outlying areas, on the other hand -- there was a whole abandoned muggle village, near where I grew up. But those wouldn't have the floo. We could floo straight to Pansy's house and wouldn't need anyone to apparate us.


About the Fidelius -- Professor Dolohov has books on absolutely everything and given that he spent today talking about cooperative magic and ritual magic and all that, I could ask him about the Fidelius Charm without it being the least bit suspicious.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-15 02:25:38](#)
(no subject)

My place would have Hitty, who could get us food fairly easily, and yes, it's easily accessible through floo so we could get there quickly.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-15 02:32:28](#)
(no subject)

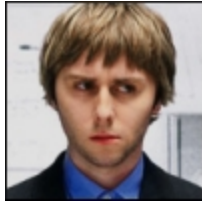
We could read up on it, see how tricky it is. If we prepare enough, we can try to do the attic over Easter hols.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 02:46:52](#)
(no subject)

Could Hitty serve as a secret-keeper, if we were able to cast the Fidelius?

Something to look into, maybe.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-15 02:36:22](#)**
(no subject)

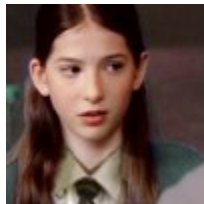
Sorry, you mean New London proper. Yes. I was thinking further into the old city.

The thing about Pansy's house is that it's known to be hers, what. So it would do well if she's not the one who's compromised but very poorly if it were her or anyone known to be a close associate of hers.

But how does the Fidelius Charm work? I mean to say, the attic might become impenetrable but would the entire house do? And there could still be a watch on the square where the house is, couldn't there be?

Not meaning to be difficult, what, just--playing the devil's advocate. I'm sure it's lovely and convenient and comfortable. But if the point is to make sure that it's safe, we'd need to ensure that it can't be linked back to anyone who would use it as a haven.

-J




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-15 02:49:29](#)**
(no subject)

Well, it's true people would come look in the house, if (say) it was me who'd disappeared.

But -- as I understand it, the Fidelius charm makes whatever's under it kind of disappear. And it's not like it's a big empty space; anyone looking won't notice it's not there.

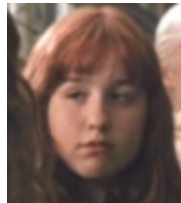
If we put the whole house under the Fidelius charm, people would come looking and find the house missing and say 'oh! it must be under the Fidelius charm!' and that wouldn't do at all. But if we put just the east attic under the Fidelius charm, people wouldn't even notice that part of the house was missing. If that's even possible, which it might not be, I'm not sure.




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-15 03:31:00](#)**
(no subject)

Um. There was a whole thing about the Fidelius Charm in one of the Phineas Phelps books, and they couldn't do it at all because it takes a really powerful master of Charms to cast it.

It's just a book, though, so I guess they could have made that up to make the story more suspenseful.




 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-15 03:50:54](#)**
(no subject)

Do you think the twins could do it?

They're pretty snitch at Charms.

Maybe they could practise at least?



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:04:20](#)**
(no subject)

You know, Fred and George are really clever and they can do loads of advanced stuff, but they actually can't do everything. We can't always count on them being able to just whip stuff up that no one else can.

Actually. You should have seen this summer, there was this time they were helping with supper, and they were using sending charms to get everything on the table, only they flung the knives across the room so fast, they nearly killed us! Me and Ginny, I mean. Luckily we've got good reflexes.

So, I don't know. Maybe they could learn it, but I don't think we should plan our whole escape strategy around them doing that.

I'll ask them, though.




 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-15 04:16:04](#)
(no subject)

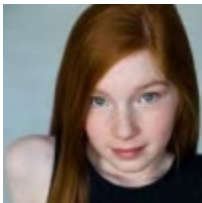
Yikes! I see your point--especially since they're not on the lock anymore and might not be able to get word to us, or us to them. Short of the r er, things.


But I figure we might as well toss up as many ideas as we can, even if we decide they won't work. I mean, you can never be sure what play is going to get the Quaffle past the Keeper, yeah?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-15 03:24:47](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, there are loads of little abandoned villages in Devon, too. And the twins and Lee and I have done loads of exploring there.

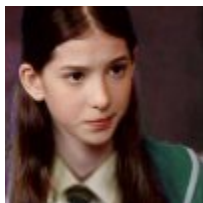


 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-15 02:20:58](#)
(no subject)

But I don't think we'd have to stay there forever.

I mean, I know we want to do some things on our own, but they have to have a place. The Order, I mean. Where they keep all those people safe.

So maybe being able to get to a safe place and having enough supplies to stay put until we're able to go to where they are might be the thing.

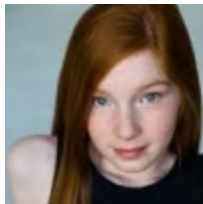


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 02:24:51](#)
(no subject)

Well, the easiest way to ensure we have supplies is to stash them in bracelets. Because if we stock the secret room full of sandwiches with preservation charms but then we can't get to that corridor and wind up hiding in the supply closet in Professor Binns' classroom, they won't do us a lot of good.

Though really even if we have NOTHING, going without food for a week won't kill you (going without water might, but as long as you have your wand you can get water). None of us would be happy about it, but we could survive it.

It's the getting away to a safe place that's the hard part.

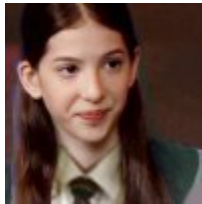



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-15 02:29:45](#)
(no subject)

Yes. So food in bracelets, and then maybe one plan if we can get to a floo, and another if we can't.

Like the tunnels. Or the secret room. Or a place in the Forbidden Forest.


What about the Shrieking Shack?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 03:15:37](#)
(no subject)

Wouldn't they check the Shrieking Shack? It seems almost obvious. I mean people talk about ghosts and so on but everyone goes there at least once, usually on their first Hogsmeade weekend.

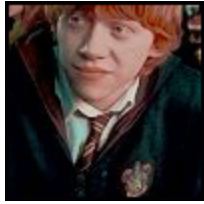



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-15 03:31:00](#)
(no subject)

This might be utterly ridiculous, but what about our brooms?

People often don't think to look up.

There's not much that can do true invisibility outside of a cloak, but maybe Disillusionment charms would make us blend with the sky?




 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-15 03:34:50](#)
(no subject)

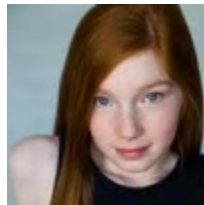
That's an excellent idea, Sue.

I could fly right out of the Tower if I needed to. Excellent.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-15 03:42:54](#)
(no subject)

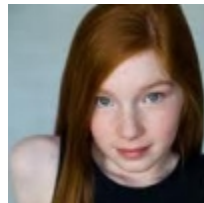
I mean, there are obviously limitations to them-- we can't carry them everywhere, for one, and *Accio* only goes so far.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-15 04:12:30](#)
(no subject)

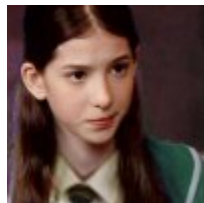
So maybe there ought to be three plans. A floo plan, a broom plan, and a can't get to either plan.

The floo plan could get us to Pansy's, the broom plan could get us to a village somewhere where we could hide out properly for at least a few days, and the can't get to either plan would be some place close by at Hogwarts.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-15 04:15:15](#)
(no subject)

Although we'd have to work on the Fidelius charm first for the floo plan to work, and even then it might be tricky. But it's still worth trying.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 04:18:07](#)
(no subject)

Harder to fly out of Slytherin, but it'll work for the rest of you, and it's still a good thought.

What all is near here? Not in Hogsmeade, not in the Forbidden Forest?




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-15 04:24:12](#)
(no subject)

Well, the giant-person lives somewhere in the Forbidden Forest, so going to him might be safer than just the forest in general.

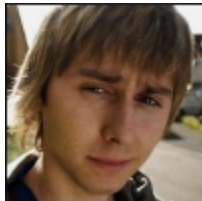
Are there any abandoned Muggle villages in short flying distance? We ought to check a survey map.




 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-15 04:30:03](#)
(no subject)

I could look while I'm out flying solo, and no one would think it suspicious, since I go out alone all the time.

Unless Umbridge finds a way to forbid solo flying, of course.



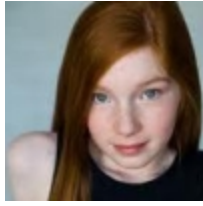
 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-15 02:40:45](#)
(no subject)

Hullo, Evelyn,

I say, *do* they have a single safe place? They can all Apparate, can't they? (Though.... Sirius has taken me side-along but he detests Apparation, what? It makes him violently sick.)

But you're quite right that we should have a rendezvous in mind, eventually. New London strikes me as too close to the Ministry, in its way. I say, perhaps the key is choosing a place well removed from anywhere.

-Justin



 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:14:19](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not sure. But they have loads of babies, which means they have a place or several places that are safe enough for them. And food to feed them with, and adults to care for them, I'd imagine.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2013-01-15 02:40:37](#)**
(no subject)

All right. Evelyn and me have something to say.


Way back when I joined the lock, my blackmail secret was that my parents were on the run. Actually, everyone found that out anyway in the end. But we've had a bigger secret than that, and we have received permission to tell you all.

We've been in touch with our parents since we started at Hogwarts. We've even seen them, during the summers. They couldn't tell us very much. Well, hardly anything, really, not for a long time. We knew they were with a secret group, but we had no idea what the group was or what they did until Hermione told us.

Anyway. The fact that we had contact with wanted blood traitors was real dangerous. Obviously. So the two of us have had evacuation portkeys for awhile. Now, of course, they don't work, but Mum and Dad are trying to figure out a way around the problem. We think that if they get us new ones, they might get them for you all, too.

Oh, and when we were trying to figure out what we should put into that knapsack for Terry, before he was rescued, my Dad sent me a letter with a bunch of suggestions. I can dig that out; it has a lot of good ideas for the bolt bags.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2013-01-15 02:47:36](#)**
(no subject)

Now I guess you understand why I wanted Evelyn on the Lock so badly.

This has been a hard secret to keep from you all.

Glad we don't need to do it anymore.

Oh...and Sally-Anne, I think you saw my Dad once. He was watching us when we went to Blackpool for my birthday, and I think you noticed him following us. Remember?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 03:18:33](#)
(no subject)

That was your Dad?


Was he at least in disguise?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-15 03:29:33](#)
(no subject)

Yes, it was. He wasn't polyjuiced, but he was disguised a bit with a glamour that altered his features some. And he added a beard and a hat. He doesn't usually have the beard.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-15 03:04:17](#)
Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Ron Weasley

Maybe you see now why I was all right with the idea of poison rings--yes, Sally-Anne, Ron talked to me about it. We've had this hanging over our heads for years now, and we've had to think about that, the fear that we could betray someone we really cared about. Except that in our case, it was our parents.

When I face a boggart, it shows my fear that I'll betray them somehow. I suspected it, and we actually tested it last summer, and...yeah. There was no way I could let that get out publicly.

That's why I skipped the boggart lesson third year. And that's why I crashed my broom at the CCF trials, because I knew there would be

another boggart as part of the test.

This is also why we've been studying Occlumency.



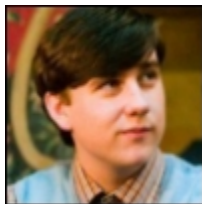
 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-15 03:20:26**


Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Ron Weasley

Ah.

I can understand why you didn't want anyone to see that boggart. Although

So they gave you a portkey and found someone to teach you occlumency to keep you and Evelyn safe?



 **[alt_neville](#) at 2013-01-15 03:30:25**

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Ron Weasley

Yeah.

We have no idea where the portkey was going to take us. Somewhere safe; that was all we knew.

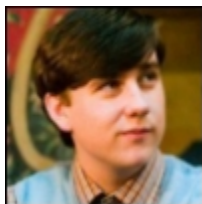


 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-15 03:42:21**

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Ron Weasley

You're lucky, really.

Your parents looked out for you-




 **[alt_neville](#) at 2013-01-15 03:52:19**

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Ron Weasley

Well, yours did, too. Didn't they? I mean, after all what was that stuff your dad told you about the patronuses about? They were planning for your evacuation, too.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-15 03:53:31](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Ron Weasley

Maybe the difference was that your parents weren't know to be traitors, but mine were. I dunno.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-15 03:58:12](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Ron Weasley

What was the patronus going to say? 'Run!' It's not like I can Apparate.

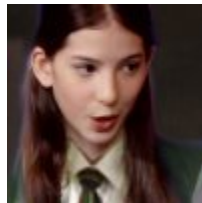


 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-15 04:23:31](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Ron Weasley

Well, I don't know what they would have instructed you to do, but obviously they thought about it, if he explained you should watch for a patronus. Maybe they would be telling you who was going to be apparating to YOU, to whisk you away. I dunno.

And after all, isn't knowing about your safety and whereabouts what your Mum keeps that clock in your living room for?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 04:25:04](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Ron Weasley

No one can apparate into OR out of Hogwarts.



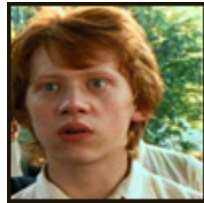
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-15 04:30:22](#)

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Ron Weasley

Yeah. She has the clock. It means that whenever it says something nerve-wracking, she paces up and down and drops her tea cup.

I dunno what they'd do, but it sure seems that a Portkey would be a better way out of Hogwarts than someone Apparating to Hogsmeade and running up here to find us, cause then we'd have to run back out before we could get away. I figure we'd be six kinds of dead before that worked.

Or, y'know. Already in MLE's interrogation rooms.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-15 04:31:31**

Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks and Ron Weasley

That's why I think the rings are a good idea.



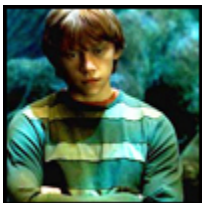
 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-15 03:21:50**


Private message to Ron

Ron

Did YOU have a portkey? Or just

How long



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-15 03:40:29**

Re: Private message to Ron

No.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-15 04:15:33**

Re: Private message to Ron

Bloody
hell



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:20:16](#)**

Re: Private message to Ron

Yeah.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-15 03:37:35](#)**

Private Message to Sally-Anne

I don't mind saying that I still find the thought of the rings terrifying, even though I understand the need for them.

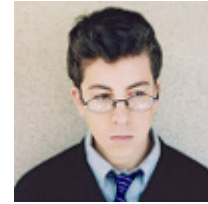
Because being captured by MLE or the Aurors and forced to betray everyone or being used against my family somehow would be *more* terrifying, and I'm not under any illusion that I'm not the weakest link, here.

It's still hitting me that I'm a member of a *highly illegal revolutionary organisation*. I mean, obviously I knew that when I was invited and agreed to sign on, but things keep happening to make it sink in deeper, if you know what I mean?

2013-01-14 19:56:00


Appreciation

One of the things we at Hogwarts are most fortunate to have is a librarian who keeps us in the latest books and periodicals, as well as stocking the classics of our wizarding heritage. It's likely that none of us truly realise how fortunate we are to have the resources we have here. Our instructors also lead us to tomes and lore which are truly useful and rewarding of deep study. I for one am grateful.



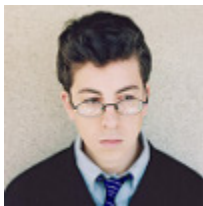
 [alt_linus](#)




 [alt_cedric](#) at **2013-01-15 02:12:40**

(no subject)

How goes The Project? Or is this about something else?



 [alt_linus](#) at **2013-01-15 03:20:32**

(no subject)

The Project goes well, if by "well" one means "opens into ever more complexity." I've been dealing with the issue of signal to noise, or as some call it, actuality to glamour. It certainly is a good thing there are so many statistics, but knowing which ones signify, much less how they relate and whether there are underlying aspects still to be described and quantified, is a fine challenge.

Quidditch is ever so much more complicated, as a system, than I had realised. I mean, the culture and practice of Quidditch, not the game itself. Quite fascinating, really.

I will have many questions for you soon. I believe I'm beginning to get a grasp of the locations of my main swaths of ignorance, as it were.

2013-01-14 20:06:00

Order Only: Astronomers

I'm following up on our discussion at the Order meeting regarding astronomers who might be able to review the memory of the star positions the night of the rite and use them to pinpoint the site location. Albus gave us several names to investigate, and my analysts and I have checked them out, but we're running into difficulties.



 [alt_bill](#)

Grace Merriweather, we've discovered, died during the so-called 'Black's paralysis' epidemic three years ago. Chelsea Burris, Albus assured us, was particularly brilliant, but apparently the Protectorate discovered that, too. We've had several strong hints that she has joined the Department of Mysteries. Not a good security risk, to say the least. Gawain Caddock left the Observatory at Trinity Saint David and disappeared. May have tried to get out right when the wards were going up and subsequently come to grief, may have joined a revolutionary group. May have thrown a promising astronomical career over and moved to a small village to concentrate on raising roses, for all we know. No idea. At any rate, no one can find him. Angus Gillespie, a half-blood, was caught in an clandestine affair with a muggle, and that ended HIS academic career. He resigned his post in disgrace and was sent to the camps. Dai Jones...I dunno. I'm still trying to get more information on him, but one of my analysts had a gut level impression that some of his friends are, as she put it, 'more prone to action than we might like.' Anyone know anything else about him?

I think we need to at least look at the possibility of approaching Professor Sinistra. It's certainly not risk-free. But it may be our best option. Poppy, Pomona, what do you think? At least at Hogwarts, you could have Albus or Severus loitering nearby to do the obliviation, if she reacts badly.

Thoughts?



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2013-01-15 02:53:18](#)
(no subject)

Dai Jones was one of my badgers, same year as Auri. They were near inseparable at school, but it's been...

Well. He has about the same opinion of her Raz that the rest of you do.

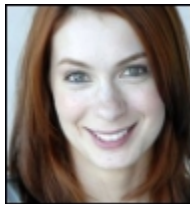
Anyway, I know he had a bad time of it after the epidemic - lost his job, got a far less pleasant one in New London, I gather he's doing much less astronomy these days. I'd not be over surprised if your analyst was right, though, knowing a bit of his family history.


I'd rather Aurora. Give her the chance. It might tell us more about what matters most to her, and much as I hate to ~~abuse~~ use her trust, that might be very useful down the road.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-15 03:50:35](#)
(no subject)

I agree. We need to try with Aurora sooner or later, and this is a good reason to do it now.



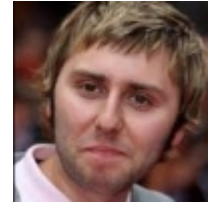
 [alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-15 03:52:16](#)
(no subject)

That settles it, then.

I know you will take all necessary precaution. Please let us know once you've talked to her.

2013-01-14 20:09:00

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



Hullo,

I say, this waiting round at rehearsals is bally well disorganised, what? I'm well glad I brought homework.

 [alt_justin](#)

(It wasn't too bad, today. Dark Arts. I even managed to answer a question on paired spellcasting and amplified magical effects without stammering. Professor Dolohov plans one of his 'informal luncheons' at the end of the week. I was thinking perhaps next week I should go and see who else turns up.)

Sally-Anne's post reminds me: I was supposed to ask you about whether you'd like a failsafe, in case things go horribly wrong. She's making a series of rings and--well, it's not a very pleasant thought but she plans to fill them with poison. If activated, the rings will 'notify' everyone else that someone's ring has, er, done its job, if you follow me. I say, I think there's an option to receive a ring that will notify without any poison in it. Because we've been thinking about--well, about someone trying to question us, what. And since none of us are an Occlumens it's bally well unlikely we'd be able to keep all our secrets for very long. Well, I say, I was supposed to ask you if you'd like one. If you do, tell Sally-Anne. I think we're trying to keep it quiet in case the discussion upsets others.

You'll understand I didn't wish to ruin our other conversation with talk about that, what! I've been thinking about that, a little more. Where and how. Have you found out anything your end? From Pansy or anyone else? I do think the 9th will be the ideal time, when everyone else has gone to Hogsmeade. Do you suppose the Divination Tower might be private enough? It's supposedly quite cosy. Only neither of us take Divination so we've no reason to be there, if anyone should try to stop us heading up there.

Does everyone in Slytherin go to the village?

-Justin



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:09:12](#)**
(no subject)

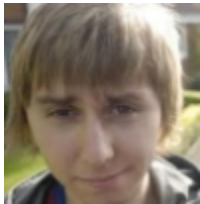
I'm probably the person who needs a failsafe the most.


So yes, I'll tell her that I'd like one. Well, I won't like it, but I want one.

I haven't talked to Pansy about anything, yet. I suppose I need to just work up to it. And I've never heard about people going to the Divination Tower... oh, if only I was friendly with more of the sixth and seventh years. The only thing I've ever heard is that boys can't get up into the girls' dormitories, not ever.

Most people do go, yes. Except perhaps the seventh years when it gets closer to NEWTS and they need every free minute for studying.

From,
Hydra

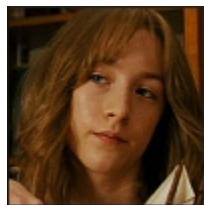


 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:14:58](#)**
(no subject)

Boys can't get into the girls' dormitories? Any of them? Why, what happens? Does it work the other way as well? I mean to say, a girl going into a boys' room?

I suppose I could ask some of the 6th-years but they'd all know just why I want to know, what?

-Justin




 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:24:48](#)**
(no subject)

I think it depends on what House you're in, or perhaps what mood the castle is in. I've heard that walls can pop up, blocking off the stairs, or sometimes the stairs just disappear, or turn into a steep hill so that anyone climbing them slides down. But I've never heard that about girls going into boys dormitories, and -

Well, Hermione goes to Harry's dorm. I know that she does. So it must not apply to girls.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-15 04:29:23](#)
(no subject)

Good point.... Of course, she's technically not a student but on the other hand the Sorting Hat Sorted her so perhaps the castle does consider her one.


Well. If girls can come into boys' dormitories, then it's just a matter of getting you into mine. Though that might be difficult if people aren't all in Hogsmeade.

Dash it. There's got to be a way.

But we've also got a few weeks to think it out.

-Justin

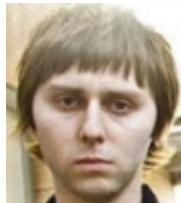



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-15 04:32:49](#)
(no subject)

Maybe they'll all decide to go to Hogsmeade?

You're right, though. We can't count on it.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-15 04:35:35](#)
(no subject)

No.

I'll have to smuggle you in, that's all.

But for now I think it's time to finish up some reading and go to

bed.

I say, all those replies on Sally-Anne's posts about secret ways out and safety and our skills is enough to make one's head spin.

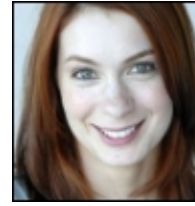
Sweet dreams, love. (Here's to the day when we don't *have* to sneak about, what!)

-Justin

2013-01-14 21:33:00

ORDER ONLY

I've been making lists and talking things over with Arabella and Frank, and I've got a few things that I need to follow up on properly to make sure they don't fall by the wayside. I'd also like to set up some meetings as well.



 [alt_alice](#)

Sirius, Molly, what is the latest information we have on Mrs Perks? I know she doesn't want to stay in her current situation, and I want to know what the next step is for her. Should we approach her prepared to extract her from her home and send her to Sherwood? If so, I'd need to check with Sherwood to make sure they have the ability to take her on, and we'd need to have a plan in place to take her out safely and surreptitiously.

Bill, we need to move forward on the portkeys. From what I can see, we have a few barriers to making new ones: the first is that we aren't certain about the adjustments that we'd have to make to be sure that the new portkeys would work as they ought. The second is that even if we do make our own, we still would need to test and make sure that these new unregistered portkeys couldn't be tracked, and wouldn't dump the users into the dungeons of the Ministry. Do you see anything else we'd need to find out for certain? Remus, if you haven't already, you can send Ellie's portkey to Hermione as a temporary safety measure.


Poppy and Minerva, could you please check the book to see if there are any more names we need to track down?

And Sirius, please let us know as soon as you have made a set of the galleons based off of Hermione's original design so we can test their usability with Muggles, and start distributing them to our contacts in the camps.

Kingsley, you and the rest of the Players are ready to begin re-contacting the parents of Moddey Dhoo, yes? If you'll pass along the camp names for your next planned visits to Nick and Bill, they can work on the needed paperwork.

I'm sure I'll have more once I get further along in my list-making. Please bear with me as I get my footing.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2013-01-15 03:05:47**

Private Message to Moody

Moody, what's next on your list?

Back to Ireland?

You could track down Mr Finnegan if you do go back there -- which would be very potentially useful. What else do you think would be the most useful? Let's have a sit-down and sort it out.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2013-01-15 03:22:06**

Private Message to Severus

Severus, a few things.

First of all, I had a few questions about the Sleepers, and your current line of research into that area. First of all, where I can see how we might need to eventually wake up the Sleepers, I can also see how doing so prematurely might present several challenges -- not the least of which is food and shelter -- and I don't intend to provide the MLE with target practise or cannon fodder.

So with that in mind... what are your thoughts about moving forward on this project right now? If you have specific reasoning why it's important to prioritise Sleepers, I'd like to hear them, so that I can factor that in when sorting out where to direct our energies right now, and why.

Also, what precisely would you need to continue with your work in that area? You mentioned a few weeks ago that you needed access to additional materials in order to progress in your study of the Sleepers, and I'd like to know what they might be.

I'd also like to ask you to focus some of your energies on the spells associated with the wards, and more specifically how we might reverse them, especially as we now have access to the memory of the rite to put wards up around Ireland.

I'd also like to once again extend an invitation for you to come to Moddey Dhoo for a visit, perhaps over Easter hols. It's entirely up to you, but you would be welcome.

Lastly, how is your current polyjuice supply?

Is there anything else that you think would be important to focus on at this time that I'm missing? Is there anything you want to be doing right now that you haven't had the chance to?



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-15 04:45:33](#)

Re: Private Message to Severus

I am willing to direct my energies to whatever long-term project is most likely to achieve our goals.

That having been said: One of the greatest difficulties we will likely encounter once we have overthrown the Dark Lord is that of keeping the ground we have gained. I do not think we will have sufficient manpower amongst ourselves to hold against a determined effort to retain control, even once the Dark Lord is no longer a consideration. And whilst we can hope a majority of the wizarding populace might view the disposal of the Dark Lord as the equivalent of a bucket of cold water to the face that will awaken them from their torpor of complicity in the worst of this régime's abuses, we cannot, nor should we, count upon it. Scrupling about 'cannon fodder' aside, having additional foot soldiers will be necessary in the coming conflict and among the Sleepers are thousands of police and military who could be awoken and trusted to fight, or able to assist us with strategy or tactics. I am not proposing we wake them all at once, but the ability to wake a subset of them may prove crucial.

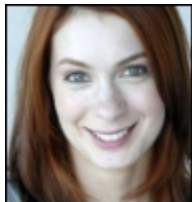
The problem is also a difficult one, and I cannot estimate how much time will be needed to solve it. The more time I spend on it now, the more quickly I will be able to solve the problem when it becomes necessary. Waking the Sleepers in whole or in part would be best done before the wards are fully broken: I cannot imagine that the remainder of the world will not react by immediately moving to treat us as a hostile and dangerous nation of enemies, and it would be most wise to first set our own house in order and present to the world a stable and solid foundation. That having been said: yes, I am also willing to turn my attention to the wards; however, I do not know how far Albus has progressed and he is ... difficult to pin down on the topic.

I have reached a point in my research into the Sleepers where -- barring a research-grade Potions laboratory and unlimited

resources, along with one or more volunteers to undergo experimentation -- access to an actual person under influence of the potion would be most helpful. A sample of the potion would also be of use -- ideally, large enough to perform multiple analyses of its components. I might be able to make further progress should I find access to a library containing sufficient resources on Dark potions: I have more than once been stymied by lack of access to texts I know I have once read but have not been able to recall given the intervening years. I will attempt to make a book-list.

I have been vigilant about minimising my Polyjuice usage as much as possible: I do not remain under disguise if I am both alone and able to categorically rule out the chance of being observed. The difficulty is less in obtaining ingredients, although that is obviously a concern, and more in finding a sufficiently guarded place to do the brewing. My current supply should suffice for at least the next several months.

I will visit over Easter, presuming you will have me. As to what I would like to be doing that I am not currently: given that the juniors clearly do not view waiting for induction into the Order as an option, I believe it would be criminally negligent for us to not provide them all with the sort of tutoring I have been providing to your offspring and to Miss Granger.



 **alt_alice** at **2013-01-15 05:38:38**

Re: Private Message to Severus

Thank you for your considered reply, Severus. You've given me a great deal to think over. I'd certainly like to revisit your ideas about potential responses once the wards come down during your Easter visit, when we can have a proper sit-down.

As far as your last, yes, I can see a great deal of value in tutoring all of the Juniors. I appreciate your offering to do so. It is entirely up to you, but in the interest of preserving polyjuice, I don't think you need to maintain your cover in front of them, unless you decide it is necessary of course.

I see your point in being selective about the sort of people we might wake up - and hopefully some of Fu Lee's work will make them less likely to be completely overwhelmed. I also agree that if it is a potentially lengthy process to sort out, and it might be

necessary to implement quickly in order to turn a tide, then it is well worth your while to continue to work on your research now as opposed to putting it off. The logistics of feeding and arming a Muggle army is rather daunting, even if it were for a short burst of activity, but that's another thing we might start to prepare for sooner rather than later. If you need access to a Sleeper, I shall do my best to make that happen.

I must ask – what is the degree of risk to the person you'd be experimenting with?

When it comes to the wards... I would rather not rely completely on Albus. I know it might be frustrating, but it might be worth pinning him down long enough to determine which part he's working on so you don't have too much redundancy. And if you can't do that much, then be sure to share with him if you've had any breakthroughs on your own, if you can, in case it helps him on his end of things.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-15 06:13:34](#)

Re: Private Message to Severus

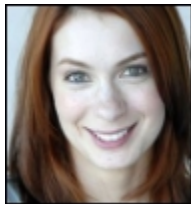
As it happens, I am loath to enlist more conspirators into the truth of my impersonation here unless it is utterly necessary. I had thought to appear to them as someone they would not recognise, but will reluctantly concede that appearing as myself would also suffice, so long as I am careful not to refer to those lessons while in my alternate persona. Do be aware, however, that doing so will impart information, perhaps more than you might wish: if they are able to identify that the wanted fugitive Severus Snape is in collaboration with the Order, they will be able to draw several conclusions. As Miss Granger reminds us, they are more intelligent than we might credit.

Regardless, I will arrange matters with her to begin providing them tuition.

At this point I cannot estimate risk to a research subject. I will do my best to minimise it, but I cannot guarantee there will be none. The most significant risk, I believe, will be in arranging for long-term care of the individual if my attempts do not suffice. Depending on the risk, I would suggest beginning by obtaining a volume of the potion sufficient to withstand analysis, and working

from there; however, I am aware that the facilities are heavily guarded and repeat incursions may not be possible.

I will do what I might with research into the rite that extended the wards over Ireland, though in that, again, I am hampered by lack of proper resources.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2013-01-15 15:11:29**

Re: Private Message to Severus

Once you make your book list, we'll see what we can do in terms of tracking down sources here. If not, Aleks might be able to get his hands on some of what you need, as long as he has enough time to work carefully.

And if you make a list of any other essential resources, I will attempt to prioritise them on the next smuggling run.

Where exactly is the potion stored? Mac, Kingsley, and Frank can sort out potential logistics of breaking in.

As we'd take on the task of providing care at Moddey should it be necessary, might you explain further about the potential need for long term care? What might that entail? What level of care? I understand if you wouldn't be sure, but if you have an idea of it, I must factor that in.

And it is entirely your choice whether you decide to share your identity with the Juniors. I only wanted to make sure you knew that the decision was yours to make, and that it was one potential option.



 **[alt_severus](#) at 2013-01-16 00:01:36**

Re: Private Message to Severus

Allow me to say that it is excellent to see someone taking stock of all aspects of the Order's operations and attempting to formulate some sort of proactive pathway to victory rather than remaining reactive. It is a long-overdue development.


I will provide you with a list of what I am most in need of.

I had previously discussed the Sleeper barracks with Arthur; the security around them is apparently quite daunting, particularly after the plot of several years ago to wake a group. To gain entrance will no doubt be extremely difficult. I am operating under the assumption that the potion is manufactured at the Department of Mysteries and transported to the barracks as necessary, but I am not entirely certain. (The barracks will undoubtedly be an easier target than the Department of Mysteries, however.)

If we are able to obtain custody of one of the Sleepers, and I am unable to reverse the effects of the potion, the most likely outcome would be that the individual would sicken and die over time without benefit of the potion's sustaining qualities. If that does not happen, the individual would be in need of the same long-term treatment as any other comatose patient would be.

I am aware this prospect will not sit well upon the ethical codes of several of our company -- but I believe it to be necessary, now or eventually.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2013-01-16 05:36:18**
Re: Private Message to Severus

Perhaps hitting the transport might be a possibility?

Frank and the others will have to look it over and see what they can come up with.


I appreciate your candour about the potential costs.

We cannot get consent, which is a hard truth indeed. I'll talk with Minerva about it to see if we might present a united front. I know when you say this is the only way you can make progress, and that this is a necessary risk, that you do not come to those conclusions lightly.

There is a difference between the hard necessity of what it is that we must do, and all the messiness that entails, and losing sight altogether of our principles and our purpose. From where I stand, we must try our best to keep moving forward, and keep faith that the Poppy Pomfreys among us will keep us from going too far astray.

||||| Thank you, Severus.



 **alt_alice at 2013-01-15 03:30:48**


Private Message to Molly

Molly, love, I wanted to touch base with you about your thoughts regarding working at Laszlo's, and wanted to suggest keeping as involved as possible in the bartering network. I know you're no longer in charge, but if you show you're still committed to it, and it does more poorly without you in the primary position, there might be enough support for you to be reinstated. The work you do with them really has been invaluable, and I wouldn't like to close that door altogether.

How have you been keeping, now that school's started again?

If you can manage to get away for a few days without Percy becoming suspicious, you're welcome to come here and get away from the Burrow for a bit.



 **alt_molly at 2013-01-15 04:04:19**

Re: Private Message to Molly

I will certainly keep my hand in as much with the barter network as much as I can. As for Laszlo's, I can't even think of it for awhile yet. I think once the garden's in. But I'm still answering sympathy cards, and trying to get all the parchmentwork taken care of and...well, Bill's been a help and Selwyn's been a help (ugh, I know). But I just need...I just need a few months first. I will talk with Remus, Sirius and Tonks about it further, and perhaps I can start adding hours in March or April.

But I would like to come to Moddey Dhoo. It would be such a relief to see you. Would next week work, in the middle of the week? Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, say? Percy never comes around midweek.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2013-01-15 04:34:40**

Re: Private Message to Molly

It's no immediate rush, so you can take the time you need, of course. We can revisit it in a few months and see what you think about it then. And keep in mind that if you end up deciding you'd rather not, that's more than all right. I'd just want you to give it a thought.

And we'd love to have you, dearest. Next week would be wonderful.



 **[alt_sirius](#) at 2013-01-15 03:33:23**

(no subject)

Other than that Molly got Cecilia Perks a wand, no, I haven't heard any more.


I'm working on the coins. They're tricky, even with Hermione's explanation. For one thing, this version won't have a blood spell on it. I think we'd do better with a classic Protean pyramid: A master coin that, when transfigured, changes the corresponding message on all the other coins. That's the only way Muggles will be able to read it. But we'd be able to change the message on the coin as often as we like.

I can also make sets that communicate by the same method, only slaving pairs so that when one is transfigured, the other changes as well.

In both those cases the thing to change, of course, is the lettering round the edge.

Anything more complicated and Muggles won't be able to use them. We shall also have to charm them so that they don't attract attention but that's relatively easy.




 [alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-15 03:47:54](#)
(no subject)

That all sounds very promising.

How do you think we might give them a way to get us word in return, though?


If it's not possible, it's a little less than ideal, but being able to get word to a large number of people very quickly would be incredibly useful regardless.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-15 15:57:15](#)
(no subject)

I thought we were going to make them buttons, not coins.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-15 19:30:17](#)
(no subject)

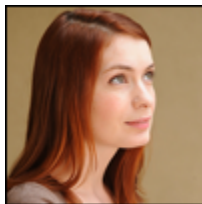
Blast.


Aren't you just the clever one.

But yeah, buttons would be less conspicuous. That's why we decided that, isn't it.

Hm. With a little modification.... There might be a way as well to enable a rudimentary two-way communication while we're at it.

Back to the workroom.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-15 19:46:13](#)
(no subject)

We could set up a a... oh, what's the word? A moose code? And someone could press it in a pattern to make words. Fu Lee mentioned it the other day.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2013-01-15 20:08:46](#)**
(no subject)

morse, I think.


might not work if many people try it at once.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2013-01-15 03:37:58](#)**
(no subject)

Alice, I was planning on going to Cecilia Perks' home again tomorrow to speak with her again. I understand Leo has a job that will keep him away for much of the day. I will give you a report once I've spoken with her.



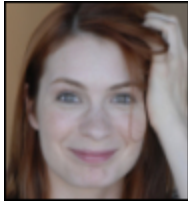
 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-15 03:40:31](#)**
Private Message to Mac


Now that we've safely launched our refugees and thoroughly sorted the goods from the train heist, what do you think would be a good next step for you? I've suggested Moody go to Ireland to try and track down Mr Finnegan and re-establish his connections up there, and for Severus to work on bringing down the Irish wards. He's also interested in continuing his research on Sleepers, and may need to go into the field.

I would imagine that you could help significantly with either of those particular options. Would there be something you would particularly want to work on instead?

I'd also like to personally thank you for stepping up and offering to work in a more direct capacity to bring down the wards if it should come to that. Know that if it ever should, I would do everything that I could to help you do what must be done.

Lastly, a request -- I know you have a knack when it comes to magical creatures, and Melli is always on the lookout for core materials. Any specimens you could send her way would be very much appreciated.




 **[alt_alice](#) at 2013-01-15 03:50:12**

Private Message to Remus

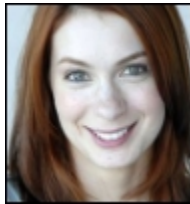
Don't think I haven't forgotten about tea. What day works best for you? I'd very much like to come down for a chat.



 **[alt_lupin](#) at 2013-01-15 15:15:04**

Re: Private Message to Remus

Friday? Or any day, really.




 **[alt_alice](#) at 2013-01-15 16:27:45**

Re: Private Message to Remus

Friday would be lovely.



 **[alt_frank](#) at 2013-01-15 03:57:16**

(no subject)

while we're getting things done, tonks, you up for a training session this weekend?

once the paperwork from towler gets through, we'll head out to the camps.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#) at 2013-01-15 06:31:43**

(no subject)

Aye, aye, Cap'n. Ready for action.

Have to confess, though. I went running in Regent's Park (Protector's Park, don't you know) on Sunday, and I'm sore now. Ouch. But I'm starting to see the difference from all our work, and that's a bit o all right!




 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2013-01-15 20:09:05](#)**
(no subject)

ta, tonks


see you then.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2013-01-15 03:57:59](#)**
Private Message to Al


that's my general.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-15 03:59:24](#)**
Re: Private Message to Al

It's quite a lot to sort through, isn't it?

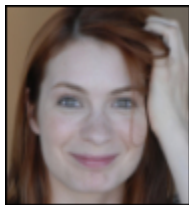



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:02:27](#)**
Re: Private Message to Al

yeah.

proud of you.


come on up to bed, love.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:03:06](#)**
Re: Private Message to Al


If you insist.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:14:00](#)**
(no subject)


Sorry, Alice. I've been rather buried since going back to work, so I haven't been able to devote as much time to researching the portkey problem as I would like. I hope to have a report for you in a day or two.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:35:22](#)**
(no subject)


Understandable, Bill. Just get it to me as soon as it's done.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:16:12](#)**
(no subject)


I've already sent the camp names to Nick, Alice, and we've received the first bonafides back from the forgers already. Caradoc and I are starting the visits on Thursday.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-15 04:35:44](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Kingsley.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-15 14:45:09](#)**
Private Message to Minerva

Minerva;

I very much would like to meet with you so that we can sort out the next step to all of this. Severus is coming up over Easter hols to visit, and if you'd like to come up during that time as well, we'd gladly host you. At this point, I'm just treading water a bit with the projects Arthur was working on, and I'd really appreciate a chance to sit down and chat about the next logical step.

Also, Severus would like access to a Sleeper for research. I'm sure he's mentioned as much to you. I think that if he's to move forward, this would be a necessary step. What are your thoughts?



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2013-01-17 18:49:48](#)

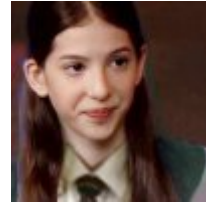
Re: Private Message to Minerva

Regarding Easter hols: I would be very grateful, but I am not certain that I shall be able to come. It is likely that I will be required in New London for Death Eater events, since I have cried off from too many of late; also, it would be difficult to explain my location. "A walking tour of the south part of our Lord Protector's dominions" may be a believable excuse for Poppy, but not for me. Allow me to see what I can do.

As for accessing Sleepers, I imagine that it should be easy enough. I feel as though perhaps I should have some moral qualms, but we may as well treat the Sleepers as though they were already dead, and nothing worse can happen to them: they certainly will die eventually if the Lord Protector's dominion continues. The matter should be as simple as finding an appropriate village and levitating one out.

2013-01-14 22:26:00

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To
No Good: Safety Planning Part II*



Because all the replies were getting hard to read.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-15 04:38:00**

Private message to Neville Longbottom and Ron Weasley

And here is a new place for Neville to explain why it somehow made sense to the grownups who we're supposed to trust, want to join, and turn to in a dire emergency, that he needed a portkey, and Evelyn. (And Hermione.)

BUT NOT RON. (Or any of the rest of us.)



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-15 04:41:10**

Re: Private message to Neville Longbottom and Ron Weasley

Um-

I guess it's not Nev's fault. Only, I wish-

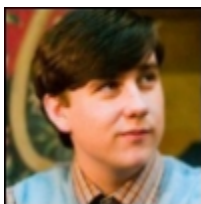
yeah.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-15 04:42:21**

Re: Private message to Neville Longbottom and Ron Weasley

No, it isn't Neville's fault.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2013-01-15 04:49:07**

Re: Private message to Neville Longbottom and Ron Weasley

Look. There is not much I can say here without looking like an eejit. I don't have any idea why Ron

doesn't have a portkey and Evelyn and I do. (A non-working portkey now of course, so I guess we're in the same fix as you are now.) Except I don't think it's because his parents didn't think about it or don't care. But what do I know? We've all been kept in the dark!

I just know my Mum and Dad hated like poison keeping stuff from us. And they worried about us all the time. And we worried about them.

Knowing that they were involved in illegal stuff the past few years wasn't any easier.

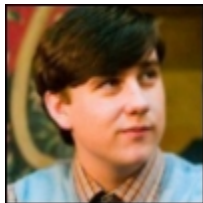
And I'm sorry, Ron. I'm really sorry, honest. I don't understand it any better than you do. But then I haven't understood anything that my parents have been involved with for a long, long time. So I guess I'm used to it.



 **alt_ron at 2013-01-15 04:52:47**

Re: Private message to Neville Longbottom and Ron Weasley

At least you can ask your Dad questions if there's stuff you don't understand.



 **alt_neville at 2013-01-15 04:55:38**

Re: Private message to Neville Longbottom and Ron Weasley

Sure. And some of it he would even answer.

But other stuff he would say me he couldn't tell me. And then go to the river and kick stones into the water so hard he'd hurt his foot.

And I only got to see him one week a year.



 **alt_neville at 2013-01-15 04:56:30**

Re: Private message to Neville Longbottom and Ron Weasley

At least you had your parents, growing up.



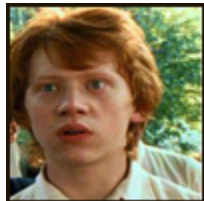
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 04:58:04](#)


Re: Private message to Neville Longbottom and Ron Weasley

NEVILLE, HIS FATHER IS DEAD.

AT LEAST YOUR FATHER IS STILL ALIVE.

~~JUST SHUT IT BEFORE I COME TO GRYFFINDOR TOWER TO
HEX YOU~~



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-15 05:01:37](#)

Re: Private message to Neville Longbottom and Ron Weasley

Um. Yeah.

Not even going to answer that.



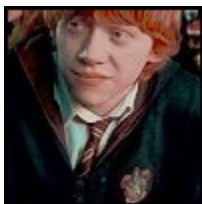
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 04:57:22](#)

Re: Private message to Neville Longbottom and Ron Weasley

~~That's an awfully convenient way to be able to
respond to a question like, 'why~~

~~Neville, did it ever EVEN OCCUR to you to ask them for~~

~~Ugh.~~



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-15 04:38:32](#)

(no subject)

So. What have we decided?

The rings are a good idea.

We should get to the secret room if we can if there's an emergency.
Or Floo or fly. And meet somewhere, but we don't know where, yet.

And we need bracelets with the hold-all charms. For food and stuff.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-15 04:45:52](#)
(no subject)

I just mentioned that I can scout around from the air for abandoned villages or other things that might be useful around Hogwarts.

Pansy, does the giant-person live in a particular place in the forest, or just sort of roam about?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-15 05:40:18](#)
(no subject)

You know, I'm not sure. I could send him an owl and see if I can get him to meet with us, though, so we can ask.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-16 03:07:10](#)
(no subject)

He accepts owls? That's good to know.

I think it's worth trying, because it might make the Forest a viable enough route to risk the spiders.

I can't believe I just wrote that sentence.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 06:07:27](#)
(no subject)

I'll talk to Fred and George about learning how to make the beads. The bracelets are dead easy.

Everyone (here) needs to get me a little bit of their blood for that other project.


Scouting a place we could fly to is a good idea. In the meantime, if we DO have to go to the secret room, whoever gets there first should be sure to tell it that it needs to be impossible for MLE or Umbridge to find but let in all the students who need it, and we probably need to word it that way because Fred, George, and Lee aren't on the Lock anymore but they might need to come.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-15 13:15:12](#)
(no subject)

Rings? What rings?




 [alt_luna](#) at [2013-01-15 13:16:28](#)
(no subject)

They're just a plan we're working out to help us escape if we need to, Terry. If someone official comes asking questions about the Order.

Happy birthday, by the way!




 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-15 13:16:52](#)
(no subject)

Oh. Good idea.


Thanks!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 15:09:53](#)
Private message to Ron

Nice one, tuna brain.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-15 04:41:49](#)
Private message to Ron

You know what I think?

I think it was because your mum knew they couldn't trust Percy.


And then after he left school she couldn't admit that YOU didn't have a portkey because THEY couldn't face leaving Percy behind, so she just pretended to herself that it was really because you didn't really need one.

But you did. You needed one every bit as much as Neville and Evelyn, maybe more.

I'm sorry, I'm really really angry right now and I probably shouldn't say anything because it's your parents I'm angry at and maybe

Ugh.



 **alt_ron at 2013-01-15 04:50:05**

Re: Private message to Ron

Yeah.

I don't know that I'm angry. I'm just-

I thought I was getting better with it- about Dad. But this-

I want him to be here to tell me what his plan was, y'know? Cause it wasn't Mum looking at the clock, and then jumping up and saving us if she saw the hand shift to Mortal Peril.

And what about you? I mean, I wouldn't even have let them take me if they didn't find you and take you, too.

I won't. No matter what.



 **alt_sally_anne at 2013-01-15 04:53:52**

Re: Private message to Ron


I know. I --

Neville would have just gone, I think.

You'd have come for me and Pansy.

Maybe that's why they didn't



 [alt_ron at 2013-01-15 04:55:57](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Yeah. I wouldn't leave without either of you.



 [alt_justin at 2013-01-15 04:51:23](#)

Private Message to Ron

Ron,

I've no idea what to say. I'm sure you're well shocked by all that news about the Portkeys. I'm sure there's an explanation, though I can't say what it might be. I'm sorry, my head's been bally well spinning lately with all this new information.

If you'd like someone to listen, of course, at your service.

-Justin



 [alt_ron at 2013-01-15 04:55:12](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Thanks, mate.

Want to go for a walk by the lake tomorrow? I wouldn't mind talking about other stuff, too.



 [alt_justin at 2013-01-15 04:57:23](#)

Re: Private Message to Ron

Of course.

I think I'm finally adjusting to the weather, even! Or else it's this new muffler Hydra's given me.

But absolutely, old man.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-15 06:08:16**

Re: Private Message to Ron

Well, we could go somewhere indoors, too. It's just harder to get away from everyone. And Mr Milland wouldn't like it if he caught us throwing rocks at the walls or down the staircases...



 [alt_justin](#) at **2013-01-15 16:10:37**

Re: Private Message to Ron

No, nor would the paintings, I trust!

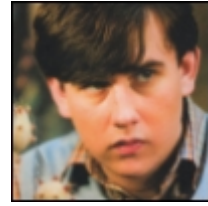
If you don't mind going round Hydra's Defence lesson after Noble Arts, we can walk her to lunch, make up some sandwiches and strike out, all right?

Otherwise shall I just meet you outside?

-Justin

2013-01-14 22:58:00

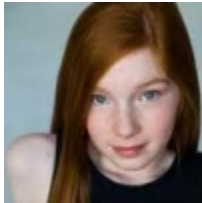
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private message to Evelyn Longbottom



 [alt_neville](#)

You didn't see all the private message that Sally-Anne and Ron and I exchanged, but...well.

That didn't go well.




 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-15 05:43:10](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry, Pete.

Are they angry at us for having portkeys?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-15 05:56:27](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

And I said something to Ron that I didn't mean to be-
-anyway, it came out sounding cruel. But I didn't
mean it that way at all!

Bloody hell.

I'm going to the greenhouses. Ron doesn't need to see my stupid
face around the dormitory tonight, or tomorrow morning. If I get
detention for being out after curfew, then I guess it's no more than
what I deserve.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-15 06:49:23](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

Okay.

Mum did say she'd try and get them for everyone.

I don't guess

Well, I don't know. You always kept so quiet about your friends, and what they were up to, even I didn't know any of it until I joined the Lock. So maybe mum and dad just didn't know that they were doing things that might mean they'd need a portkey too. Until lately, I guess.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-15 06:52:54](#)
(no subject)

Maybe you can give him a proper apology later.

Even if you didn't mean to hurt him, it sounds like you did.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-15 06:54:37](#)
(no subject)

I love you, Pete.

We did what mum and dad asked us to do.

And we're working to make sure everyone's safe now. Not just us.

It'll be okay.

2013-01-15 01:13:00

Order Only: Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo



 **alt_severus**

It is past time that someone begins providing your fellow conspirators with lessons in how to protect yourselves.

It is similarly unwise that they know of my alternate identity save in the event of true disaster. I regret that I must further burden you with secrecy, and with the task of performing as go-between; however, if you are willing to serve as such, I will ask you to bring to them the offer, without specifying too closely who is making it.

Gathering in larger groups will be difficult to accomplish, to say nothing of the difficulty of teaching skills in Occlumency on anything other than a one-on-one basis. (After we have had the chance to evaluate each other, I will decide whether to reveal myself to them; as unwise as it is to spread knowledge of that secret further, the pretext of detention would undoubtedly be easier to uphold.) At the same time, you are all likely quite fed up with being dictated to.

I propose that you collectively decide who is most in need of lessons immediately and most likely to be able to teach at least the basics to the others. Once you have done so, I will attempt to find a suitable location for the lessons that will neither run the risk of being overheard, nor give away the connection between myself and Milland.



 **alt_hermione** at **2013-01-15 13:20:46**
(no subject)

I'm a little confused. Do you want me to tell them that they could get lessons from Milland or Snape? I was planning to say Milland but if you can't teach them while disguised then I'll say that I can get them lessons and not say who from, but they'll just ask questions like how can we trust this person if you can't say who it is.

And if the lessons are in the guise of a detention but they're expecting Snape, won't they figure it out that you're Milland?

So I think just sticking to Milland is better unless you need me to lie

more, which is fine, I just need to know which lie so it's the same one.



 **alt_severus** at **2013-01-15 19:54:31**

(no subject)

The issue with Milland is that I am attempting to minimise my polyjuice use; as Madam Pomfrey constantly reminds me, the supply is not infinite. I am reluctant to enlist more people into the secret of Milland's identity without it being utterly necessary. I had thought to arrange a clandestine meeting for at least the first session without the excuse of detention, and decide from there how to proceed.

You may be correct, however, that such an arrangement would be needlessly complicated and invite further questioning and mistrust.

Allow me to think further on this. In the meantime: make the offer to your fellows, being comfortably vague about the identity of the tutor, and see what they say.

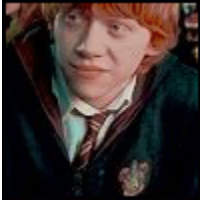
2013-01-15 08:21:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Happy Birthday, Terry!



 [alt_hermione](#)



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-15 14:44:37**

(no subject)

Yeah, Happy Birthday, mate!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-15 15:02:31**

(no subject)

Today's your birthday?! Is it really your birthday or did you Happy birthday!



 [alt_justin](#) at **2013-01-15 15:57:53**

(no subject)

Terry,

Happy birthday, old man. I hope you have a jolly well smashing day.

-Justin



 [alt_neville](#) at **2013-01-15 16:55:01**

(no subject)

Happy birthday, mate.



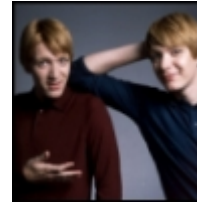
 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2013-01-15 16:56:35](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you everyone. It's definitely the best birthday I've ever had, so far

2013-01-15 10:57:00

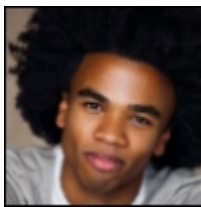
Order Only: HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Happy birthday to our Professor. (The one with four paws and a tail, that is!)



Wish we could be with you, mate, but at the last Order meeting we gave the folks at Moddey Dhoo strict instructions to make sure your birthday's memorable. In a good way! You should get an owl from us today, if it hasn't already arrived.

 [alt_gredforge](#)



 [alt_lee](#) at [2013-01-15 17:05:03](#)

(no subject)

Happy birthday, Terry! What do they do to celebrate birthdays at the sanctuary?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-15 17:07:23](#)

(no subject)

There's generally an announcement at dinner, and they serve pudding, and sing 'Happy Birthday.' Which will be more than I've ever had before.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-15 17:09:07](#)

(no subject)

Thanks, Fred and George. It's definitely a special one. My first birthday after becoming free.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-15 19:27:10](#)

(no subject)

Happy birthday, kiddo. Glad we finally got you away - far too late, and shame on us. But there will be many better years to come.

2013-01-15 14:01:00

Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey

I find myself feeling rather poorly today, and do not believe it is simply overwork, nor the recurrence of my curse damage: my magic has been behaving quite erratically all morning and the fatigue is of entirely different type.



 **alt_antonin**

I am hesitant to call St M's; at very least I would like to rule out the obvious explanations and at the moment I trust you more than I trust them. Might I stop in after my last class and have you take a look?

Regards,
A



 **alt_poppy** at **2013-01-15 19:51:29**
(no subject)

Of course. Do not hesitate to come in. Or summon me by elf or by fire if you feel unable to make the trip. I will certainly come to you.

I mislike the idea of your magic's having gone erratic.

I'm certain you do, too.



 **alt_antonin** at **2013-01-15 19:59:10**
(no subject)

'Mislike' is quite the understatement.

I am free now until four, when I am teaching. I do hate to ask you to inconvenience yourself, but at the moment, the thought of a trip to your domain is growing ever more daunting. I am in my office; if you would be willing to make the visit, I will be in your debt.


Regards,
A



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-15 20:04:00](#)**
(no subject)

I shall be there directly.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-15 20:57:06](#)**
(no subject)

Antonin,

I do respect your wish to meet with your final group, but I must repeat that you are not to push yourself beyond your limits. This is not a moment for testing what the body can withstand.

If you've not called for me before then, I shall return and meet you at your rooms immediately following that lesson. (I trust your students will think to call me if you are unable.)



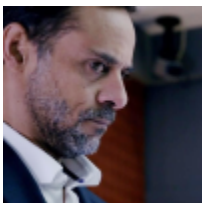
 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2013-01-15 21:04:24](#)**
(no subject)

Recent evidence to the contrary, there are indeed some things that I will not attempt to stubborn my way through, and this is certainly one of them.

I do not wish to deprive the children of their lessons due to my weakness -- I have lost enough time with them already, last term -- but I will return to my rooms immediately after and let you know I have done so; you have my word.

And thank you. The chocolate is already helping.

--T



 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2013-01-15 22:18:19](#)**
(no subject)


I have managed to make my way back to my rooms, and will not be bestirring myself again for the rest of the evening. I am feeling much improved from where

I was a few hours ago, so if you'd prefer to wait until after supper, I do not believe the delay will do me much harm.

I've set my wards to allow you passage, though, for whenever you would like to stop by.

--T



 **alt_poppy** at **2013-01-15 22:26:40**

(no subject)

On my way.

The more sleep you get, the better, but I have taken the liberty of asking the elves to deliver a tray to your rooms. I believe we could allow you to dine before taking this evening dose of restorative. You won't want anything but your pillow after you've had it.

2013-01-15 14:02:00

Recent and upcoming plans

I want to thank all the boys and girls who helped out so willingly on Sunday. Our first and second years put in a great deal of work sprucing up Hogwarts itself, and our older YPL students offered their wands in service of ten different village schools.



 [alt_umbridge](#)

You will be glad, most of you, that I have heard back sufficiently complimentary things, though of course I have a few teensy additions to the comments made on Sunday for a few of you. Let us ever strive for improvement, children.

Parents, our little newsletters home will be resuming next week, and I think you will be so very excited about the questions and conversation starters we're providing this issue. I also draw your attention to the short articles on our upcoming class topics, and on a forthcoming survey on the skills, topics, and values you wish to see our programme focus on.

Finally, would the following students please come to the civics classroom (two doors down from my office) at 7pm on Thursday.

Aurelia Archer, Jane Bradley, Vince Crabbe, Loki Dames, Cedric Diggory, Geoff Hooper, Tyche Jenkins, Lee Jordan, Melinda Pennifold, and Nadine Rohani.

Ogden Begy, Katie Bell, Hephestus Bobolis, Cassandra Calderwood, Cho Chang, Marietta Edgcomb, Niobe Jones, Samantha Montgomery, Demelza Robins and Elizabeth Stevens.

Susan Bones, Lavender Brown, Gregory Goyle, Daphne Greengrass, Megan Jones, Ernie MacMillan, Morag McDougal, Eloise Midgen, Linus Moon, Teddy Nott Jr., Padma Patil, Parvati Patil, Zachary Smith, Dean Thomas, and Blaise Zabini.



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-15 19:25:00](#)

Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle and Aurora Sinistra

I'd hoped to catch you in person, but I've not managed in the past several days, so I do hope you don't mind the less personal approach. I do think that what I'm about to say is another example of how we should all strive to be aware of how our actions affect others.

Rabastan, Aurora, I know that your wedding day is rapidly approaching, and that you are eager to start a family full of darling little cherubs and raise them in the best service of the Protectorate. But I have noticed, my dears, that you currently spend regular time together in private. Overnight, in fact. And where I have noticed, I am certain our dear students are also more than aware.

Likewise, I know that Aurora, you were staying at Spencer House itself over the holidays. (And now I think back on it, over the summer, as well.) My dear, did you not think at all about what that might suggest to younger and more impressionable minds?

Now, I am certain you wish to avoid any problems (with me or with others), so I am asking you once, as adults, to put off any further improper behaviour. Your wedding is so very soon, and I am sure you can both muster the necessary self-control somehow, for just a very few weeks.

I am certain that you can reassure me that your behaviour from this point on will be both wiser and more appropriate, can't you? Because I am so very concerned for the both of you, and of course for the impressionable children whom the Lord Protector has entrusted to our joint care.

Rabastan, I am looking forward to my opportunity to observe your classes on Wednesday. I'd like to talk further after the last class, about some of my observations and a few other matters, as well.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-15 22:18:14](#)

Re: Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle and Aurora Sinistra

Hullo Dolores,

The headmistress hasn't made me aware that that's a problem with anything I or my fiancée do in the castle during the hours that we're not teaching. Is that a report that she's assigned to you, specifically?



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-15 22:43:07](#)

Re: Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle and Aurora Sinistra

Rabastan -

Dear Minerva has so very much she's trying to manage that of course I'm glad to lend a hand wherever it might be needed. After all, my remit here is in part to look at the entire scope of how we educate and encourage the Protectorate's young people to be their best and brightest selves. Of course they look up to you and to Aurora as models.

Now, I do hope you will give the matter serious consideration, and I'm sure you'll come to the right decisions going forward.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-16 00:20:35](#)

Re: Private message to Rabastan Lestrangle and Aurora Sinistra

I take my position as model to the students quite seriously, which is why I'm pleased that I can present myself to them as a reformed rake who is soon to be a happily married man. Now, if the children have seen anything improper pass between myself and Rory in the past, then I don't think they'll be fooled by a sudden correction in the next few weeks, eh? The topic of discretion is worth taking to heart, however, and I'll see to it that no student witnesses any improper behaviour between now and our vows.

Always nice of you to think of us, Dolores.



 **alt_umbridge** at **2013-01-15 19:34:08**

Private message to Aurora Sinistra

Aurora, dear,

I must also raise a delicate matter, and I do hope you'll be entirely truthful and honest with me, as I want only the best for you.

A wizard's public face and his private face can be so very different. I know you've not the greatest experience out in the world. If by any chance he is pressuring you into the slightest thing you do not wish to do, I am sure you know I would be glad to help any way I can.

It is such a regrettable reality that all our magic has not yet found a way to have the joys of family and children without the necessary physical acts. Now, I know that you've heard more than a bit from the Wizarding Repopulation Office, and of course you've your own mother and sisters and aunts. But if you'd like introductions to older and wiser witches who have managed their wizards and their needs deftly, I would be glad to oblige.

I would so hate for you to come to any distress over the necessary commitments and obligations of your upcoming marriage. And of course, I must encourage you, in the strongest possible terms, to have an eye to your own reputation, as I've already noted today.

My door is always open to you, my dear. At any time of the day or night.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2013-01-15 23:04:48**

Re: Private message to Aurora Sinistra

Dolores -

I am so very fortunate in the number of people - yourself included - who've been so giving with their time and advice. I do give your comments the attention they should have, and of course Raz and I will discuss it.

I'm afraid I've got another commitment momentarily, but I wanted to let you know I'll be making time for a more complete response to your concerns once I'm back from New London later this evening.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-16 04:05:08](#)

Re: Private message to Aurora Sinistra

Dolores -

I admit, I am struggling with how to answer this. Let me begin with the simple part. I am extremely happy with Raz and with his behaviour to me, both in public and in private. He has always had every possible care for me, and I have no concerns at all on that front.

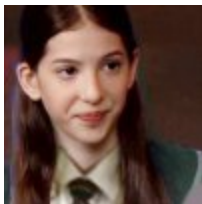
The reality is that we live in a complex environment. We continue to review our behaviour in public, and especially where students might see, but we equally know that we need space and time on our own to build a strong relationship for the future.

Hogwarts affords us very little privacy and many interruptions in public spaces. And yet, we need to mark assignments (more enjoyable with company), discuss details of the wedding (tedious to most others), and assist each other with various professional tasks where a second wand or a sounding board is helpful.

Simply put, we do not always wish students or even colleagues to overhear every detail of these conversations. And between his schedule and mine - and especially his commitments to Mr Marvolo's security - the time we do have is often quite limited, so we cannot simply walk to Hogsmeade or apparate to some other location. Thus, if we wish a private conversation, our best choice is naturally our own rooms. Likewise, we make both use of our own rooms for similar conversations with colleagues from time to time.

I also wonder - well, as you have said yourself, the Wizarding Repopulation Office fervently wishes as many as possible to form families, bear and raise children, that the Protectorate might thrive and grow. In a few years, our current students will be encouraged to do just that. Surely, giving them at least one model for how mature adults conduct themselves cannot but be a positive thing?

In short, I will discuss further with him, but I hope that he and I, between us, have addressed your concerns for the moment. And of course, this is, as he says, a very short-term consideration, soon to pass after we marry.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-16 02:03:25](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

What'd you do to hack her off, Susan? Did you get a pin for it?



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-16 03:12:22](#)

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

Honestly, I haven't got the foggiest.

Maybe Miss Dixton said something to her about me, because I turned down the tea and biscuits on Sunday--that's all I can think of.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-16 02:22:24](#)

(no subject)

Madam Umbridge,

Of course we're all happy to come but will you need us a long time? Only because there's a rehearsal at the same time, so if we're not going to be able to get there we should tell Mr Krumgold.



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-16 02:34:55](#)


(no subject)

Miss Patil -

I had thought the Revue rehearsals were on Wednesday, not Thursday. At any rate, I do not expect it to be a long meeting, perhaps half an hour.

I do expect the attendance of those I've named, but I anticipate that Professor Carpenter and Mr Krumgold would be able to make use of those not involved in the available time.



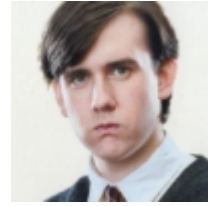
 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-16 02:36:18](#)
(no subject)

Oh! You're right. I'm sorry, I was looking at the wrong date in my planner.

Well, that's all right then.

2013-01-15 16:10:00


I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Ron Weasley and Sally-Anne Perks



 **alt_neville**

I've been thinking. I want to apologise in person, too. Can we talk somewhere we won't be overheard? We could go for a walk by the lake-- except it's cold, I know, so feel free to suggest something better. I figure we can all three meet; that way you can both have a crack at hexing me. More efficient to get it all over with at once, yeah?



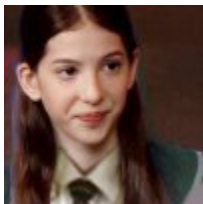
 **alt_ron** at **2013-01-15 22:33:04**
(no subject)

Nev.

I don't want to hex you. I know you didn't mean it.

You were mad to run off out to the greenhouses last night, mind you, but I get that, too.

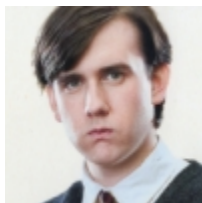
I think it would be good to meet, though. If Sally Anne doesn't have her revision tinger to go to.




 **alt_sally_anne** at **2013-01-15 23:45:19**
(no subject)

No, that's Thursdays.

I'll meet.



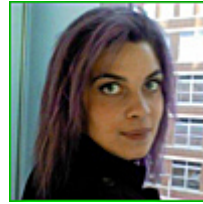
 **alt_neville** at **2013-01-15 23:50:09**
(no subject)

All right. We'll find you in the Great Hall at dinner and we can figure out where we can go.

[2013-01-15 16:47:00](#)

Order Only

Sorry to the blokes: I'd make this a private message, only I want to address it to more than two.



 **[alt_nymphadora](#)**

Alice, Molly, Madam P?

I've just been reading up on toilet training, and...

Surely we're not really meant to use compulsions on Bea to get her to see what she's meant to do? I thought it was just nonsense when I read those pamphlets, but I picked up two books on my way from work this morning, and that's all they recommend, either.

What on earth?



 **[alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-15 23:46:29](#)**

(no subject)

Gracious, no.

If she's old enough to understand what she needs to do to avoid a wet nappy, and old enough to be able to tell someone when she's ready to visit the loo, then she'll be fine. She may go at it at her own pace rather than yours, which means there may be two steps forward and one back, and some positive reinforcement in the form of an extra hug and a kiss when everything goes according to plan wouldn't hurt matters at all.

Honestly. Compulsions? On toddlers? I can't imagine.



 **[alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-16 02:24:47](#)**

(no subject)

How utterly absurd!

Don't pay attention to such claptrap, dear. The whole point of toilet learning is to teach a child to recognise and heed her own body's signals. She certainly can't do that if her will is being constantly overborne by parents who are too impatient to clean up messes.

Frankly, I think compulsion spells will just make the whole process take longer! Not to mention that it just set up future battles.

You may have to clean up more accidents if you pitch the books, but she'll learn much better and you'll all be happier.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-16 02:55:08](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Molly. Can you recommend anything we can do or what we should read?

The trouble is none of us have any idea about this sort of thing.

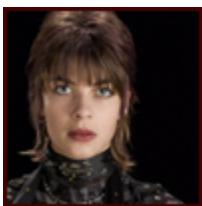


 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-17 00:52:26](#)
(no subject)

I know that it seems overwhelming, but children do manage to learn this (although some don't manage to stay dry at night for awhile. If that's the case, don't be discouraged). The trick, I've found, is to praise and reward her more for her successes than call attention to her failures, or worse, scold her. If she has an accident, be as matter of fact as you can, and just say, 'I know you'll manage next time.' Some simply are a bit more organised at a young age than others, or perhaps more fastidious--Percy was one of those. But all children get there eventually.

You might try something like a reward chart, that's charmed to display a star when she has a success. Simple, I know, but sometimes the simplest things can be surprisingly successful.

You're an excellent mum, dear, and I know you'll get through this.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-16 02:53:42](#)
(no subject)


Well, she's old enough to tell us when she needs changing, but I don't know whether she would grasp the other side of things--preventing the situation, I

mean. What age should we expect? The pamphlets and the books all say the earlier the better, and suggest we could have begun any time after her first birthday. But she's twenty months now!

We wouldn't even be thinking of it if they didn't keep sending us those things. [A Sudden Leap Forward](#). [Nappies No More](#). [Ex-Changing: Putting Pooley Pants in the Past](#). [Waste Not: The Practical Efficiencies of Toilet Training](#). I'm not making this up, I promise.

And they all make it seem we've failed her by waiting so long to begin.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-16 04:11:46](#)**
(no subject)

We normally start encouraging training around twenty-four months, but it varies from child to child. The boys always take just a bit longer to get the hang of things, and some children are eager to start early.

We don't have a book here, but you can certainly talk to Jacinda about her experiences when you come to train this weekend, as she's seen her share by now.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-16 03:19:21](#)**
(no subject)

I'm afraid my own experience of that is very far in the past, and, generally speaking, Hogwarts students do not require this sort of training.

Mind you, there are potions that can help if she really has difficulty discerning when she needs to urinate or if she develops a problem with bedwetting. (I keep a supply of Eupatoria Pliny's Dry Dreams on hand here because I do have frequent need of it, especially at start of term with the first-years.)

The one other tip I could offer is to use a quick colouration charm to turn the water a vivid blue, so Bea may enjoy turning the colour green when she adds her own yellow-coloured fluid to the blue. My Rue found that a most engaging game when it was time for her toilet training to begin.



 **alt_sirius** at [2013-01-16 04:08:07](#)
(no subject)

I keep telling you she'll be fine, when she's ready for it. I think it's too early to worry too much yet.

2013-01-15 18:02:00

Never a typical Tuesday

I've had a very pleasant - if rather busy - afternoon in New London that seems to have had a little of everything. A bookstore, a committee meeting, several necessary conversations and errands.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

Though it does seem that things multiply - just a few moments now for a few quick comments, and then I've other appointments, and yet more on my list once I get back to Hogwarts tonight. I'd not change any of it for the world, though - busy as I am, they're nearly all things I consider so very important.

My NEWT students: I do in fact have the articles various of you requested from the Guild library: please come see me during office hours to collect.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at **2013-01-15 23:14:48**

Private message to Raz and Tosha

That *woman*. That nasty small-minded prying horrible prudish woman.

Tosha: she wrote to both me and Raz to - she says suggest - that we were setting a poor example for the darling students by so clearly spending private time together. And could we reassure her that our behavior would be wiser in future. (Yes, Dolores: we will be wiser about not giving you any hint of what we're doing.)

Raz, dearest, I am leaving that for you to answer, because the one just to me is going to take all my attention tonight. I'll show you next I can (you too, Tosha, if you'd like) because I cannot bear the idea of copying it out.

In short, she pretty much implies that Raz must be forcing his physical affections on me because of course no sensible witch would enjoy or encourage that sort of thing, and offers any bit of help she might be with that. Ugh, ugh, ugh, ugh. The thought. She'd be the last person I'd ask, I think. ~~I'd ask Bellatrix first.~~

And yet - Raz, love, I think we need to be very cautious. Several

people have had a word in my ear today about how she's clearly got more support than they'd have thought, about whatever she's aiming for. (And Campanella just got here and handed me notes for you about the upcoming CCF event. She's not pleased, but apparently she's been overruled on various pieces.)

Back before nine, but the Guild textbook committee produced more work, and I have to rummage in Alcor's old notes a bit. (So, up in my office.) I'm failing to be surprised, even though it'll be useful eventually.



 **[alt_antonin](#) at 2013-01-15 23:23:25**

Re: Private message to Raz and Tosha

It never rains but it pours.

I am spending the evening in my quarters under Poppy's stern but careful care (she has brought me a tray and a potion and is intimating that I will not be fit for much other than sleep once I take it) but let us speak tomorrow, or whenever I am feeling more like myself. I am beginning to think it might be time to attempt more firm measures.

(Before you ask -- I am not drastically unwell -- simply exhausted for no discernable reason. Poppy is taking quite good care of me.)

--T



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2013-01-15 23:31:48**

Re: Private message to Raz and Tosha

Fixed stars in their places.

Poppy is a very good woman, and an even better Healer. I'm glad she's there.

I will hold my box of pastries rather than stopping by when I get back, and I will bring back something for Poppy, as well. (Tamsin has asked after you, and she promises they're going to try the beignet recipe in the next week or two.)

Right. Delilah and Sigrun are finally here: won't see my journal for a bit or I'll owe forfeits.

2013-01-15 19:28:00

Order Only: Cecilia Perks

I managed to meet with Cecilia Perks today alone, and she has finally come to a decision to accept our help and throw her lot in with the Sherwood band.

I think receiving her own wand really helped tip the balance in her mind. Accepting being stuck under Leo's control just isn't bearable for her any more, now that she has the power in her hands again to do her own spells and charms. She is insistent that her death must be faked so that Leo will have no idea she has escaped ('he won't miss me,' she said bitterly, which quite broke my heart), but she hopes that her daughter will be allowed to know the truth.



 [alt_molly](#)

To be blunt, I'm afraid we need a body, recently deceased, one that we can transfigure into her semblance.

Any ideas?




 [alt_bill](#) at **2013-01-16 02:10:03**

(no subject)

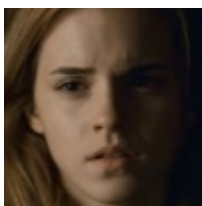
You know, Mum, usually people have the opposite problem when it comes to bodies. Trying to get rid of them, rather than trying to produce one.



 [alt_molly](#) at **2013-01-16 02:12:03**

(no subject)

Perhaps I prefer not following the crowd, then!



 [alt_hermione](#) at **2013-01-16 02:19:45**

(no subject)

Couldn't you transfigure a dead animal? Mr Shacklebolt did that once, didn't he, to help Davidson escape MLE.




 [alt_frank](#) at [2013-01-16 02:42:26](#)
(no subject)

harder to fool a husband.

we could do things that'd make it tougher to recognise basic features, but it'd need to be convincing, and it's easier to transfigure details when you have a person to start with.




 [alt_frank](#) at [2013-01-16 02:45:26](#)
(no subject)

family tomb.


might do some old-fashioned grave robbing, molly. some of the larger private farms might have their own graveyards, and they'd be easier to get to than the camps. less likely to have protective wards than a



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2013-01-16 04:15:35](#)
(no subject)

Problem with that is that the body probably wouldn't be very, uh, fresh. Which could be a problem.



 [alt_lee](#) at [2013-01-16 04:15:59](#)
(no subject)

Ick.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2013-01-16 04:17:28](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

Molly, let me talk with Davidson and Turner. They have quite a network of information established in several of the camps now, and it could be that one of their informants in one might work in an infirmary, or with records detail. They might have some ideas.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2013-01-16 05:38:16](#)**
(no subject)

might be a security risk if we hover around waiting for a new addition, too.

damn, this is morbid.

2013-01-16 09:39:00

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



 [alt_hydra](#)

I was trying to come up with a reason to post publicly, and then write you a private message, but then I remembered the lock. I don't know what I was thinking - only that Madam Umbridge must have me feeling more anxious than usual.

But, Hello. I wanted to ask you - that is, I have a bit of a personal question. If you're not comfortable answering, then you needn't do so. I will understand completely. But you're the only older student I'm friends with who also has had a long-term boyfriend, you see. So...

Where do you and Draco go when you want to be alone? And what do you do to ensure that you don't get caught? Justin and I have a stairwell that no one knows about. I learned about it my first year, from someone who assured me that it was a place in the castle that everyone has forgot about. And so far, no one has stumbled upon us. But it is a little bit cramped, and it doesn't really feel safe enough for being really, *really* alone. If you see what I mean.


The only idea we've had is to have him sneak me into his dorm room, somehow, maybe on a Hogsmeade day when everyone's gone. But then he'll have to get me through the Hufflepuff common room unnoticed, and that seems unlikely.

So I'm trying to find out where other students go for complete privacy, but no one really says. It makes sense, since they don't want to get caught. Or have their spaces stolen by some other couple.

Again, I'm sorry for the personal questions. But if you have any ideas to share, I would welcome them.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-17 04:12:29](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry I haven't got back to you sooner.

Sometimes Draco and I go up in the Astronomy tower to snog a bit or look at the stars, because I know when Professor Siz tends to have it open, and there are some corners that are a little more out of the way that people don't tend to be. We tried to use the secret room once, but it didn't work when it was just the two of us. And there's that room that Regulus showed you and me, that one time we had tea together. That tends to be out of the way. We play guitar there when we don't want to bother anyone. And we've used an imperturbable charm on empty classrooms or the Potions storeroom when we want privacy so that we can properly talk, or just be alone for a bit.


But we don't

Well, we don't tend to need to be really, really alone.

~~Not that I don't want I wish sometimes~~

I do know that sneaking through someone else's common room is probably a really bad idea, though.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-17 04:15:47](#)
(no subject)

Harry's invisibility cloak might be a way to get through the common room, but your going into his dormitory room might set off alarms or something, I honestly don't know.

And getting caught in a staircase is probably not as bad as getting caught in a boy's bedroom.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-17 04:23:02](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I see.

Yes, I'm not sure that any of those spots would be

good for having complete privacy.

I hope you know that I wasn't assuming anything about you (or Draco) because of anything you did, or anything that I heard about you. It was just something that occurred to me as a possibility. That you two might have know of a spot. But that's all right that you don't.

Harry's got an invisibility cloak? I mean, I suppose I've heard him mention it, but it makes you really, truly invisible?



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2013-01-17 04:46:55](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, it's fine. I mean, we do go off on our own often enough, and we have been dating for over a year now. So it's not like we haven't had the chance.

Honestly, I wish sometimes that Professor Dolohov had never taught us those meditating exercises. Because it seems like whenever we're together and he

you know

he'll just stop all of a sudden and go off to meditate. It's not like he isn't enjoying himself. I mean, that part's fairly obvious, but he doesn't want to be improper or forward or take advantage, when honestly, I wouldn't mind. At all. And whenever I try to show him that I don't mind, he'll break off and claim he needs to get himself under control. Especially lately. And I was hoping to have some time alone during hols, to... you know... not meditate, but with Mr Weasley dying like that it felt wrong somehow, and we haven't been able to really spend time together alone since.

Sorry. It's just a bit... frustrating sometimes.

And yeah, Harry's got a brilliant cloak. I'm not sure he'd let you borrow it, but if you're willing to take that big a risk, I guess it wouldn't hurt to ask?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-17 04:54:12](#)
(no subject)


Whenever you're together and he starts to...
enjoy himself? Is that what you mean?

I'm not sure what to think. I mean, Justin's never
ever pushed me to do anything I didn't want to do, but when I've
made it clear that I wouldn't mind taking things further, he
seemed really happy about it. Sometimes he'll say "are you
sure?" but he's never said "oh no, we shouldn't."

Have you told Draco that you want to be "improper?"

It's odd, I didn't really figure him for being especially old-
fashioned, which is probably obvious now, seeing as I've brought
the topic up with you.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-17 05:11:33](#)
(no subject)

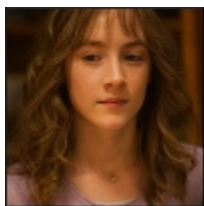
Yes.


And I think I might have to. Tell him, I mean.

I know that tradition is important to him, of course, but I think
it's more than that. I think it's more about respect, and the way
he treats me is his way of showing me he truly cares about me
and loves me. ~~Because his parents~~

Anyways. I suppose I'll just have to tell him that there are all
sorts of other ways of being respectful, and that if I want very
much to be taken advantage of, it's really not taking advantage
at all.

I'm sorry I couldn't be more helpful.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-17 05:16:23](#)
(no subject)

If that's what you want, then I hope you can
convince him. If I can be of any help, or Justin -

No, never mind, Draco would hate that. I'll never let him know you said a word to me about it, don't worry!

And I'll think about the cloak. It feels a bit wrong to ask to borrow it for *that* sort of thing, but it would be very safe.

[2013-01-16 10:09:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Professor Dolohov looks awful today.

I mean. Whoa.



 [alt_ron](#)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-16 16:30:48](#)

(no subject)

Madam Pomfrey had to go up to his rooms last night. I guess he's not doing well at all.

~~Does he look like he has the same thing as Alecto~~

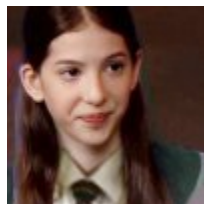


 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-16 17:30:56](#)

(no subject)

Did Madam P tell you that?

What did you cross out?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-16 18:13:16](#)

(no subject)

She didn't, but I heard someone talking and I know she had something urgent going on yesterday, so...

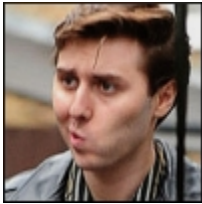
I crossed out something about Alecto Carrow. She looked sick. And then sicker. And then she died. I was perfectly happy to have Alecto Carrow drop over dead but what if there's something poisonous in that office? That made her sick, and now it's making him sick? I LIKE Professor Dolohov even if he killed someone from the Order and did a Dark Rite and all the rest, he's clever and interesting and a good source of information, I just wouldn't ever tell him anything about THIS, you know? Or my opinions on certain things.




 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-16 16:41:10](#)
(no subject)

He was looking awfully peaky during the theoretical class yesterday, too. Looked ready to topple the one time he stood up. So he taught the rest of the class sitting down instead of moving around, like he usually

does.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-16 16:49:58](#)
(no subject)


Neville,

Yes, he's been fairly glued to his desk all morning.

And you're right, Ron, he's looking pale. I say, do you think it's a relapse?

-Justin




 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-16 17:05:21](#)
(no subject)

Dunno.

He never looked this bad before. Not just tired but... sort of hollow?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-16 19:19:13](#)
(no subject)

I just saw the galleon, as well. About the Dark Rite.

I'm not saying that there isn't a connection, but my parents looked fine over the hols. The same as usual, I mean, and they were both at the Dark Rite. Professor Dolohov was more involved with it, though. They were talking about how he was revitalised and glowing, afterward. But maybe after that wears off, you're worse off than you were before.

2013-01-16 12:36:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



Occlumency.

I've been authorised by someone (actually, two someones) who are willing to teach people who want to learn.


 **alt_hermione**

The tricky part is that they wish to remain anonymous for the time being. I mean, that is, you'll find out more about them as you go, I suppose, but they told me to make the offer and depending on how many people want to learn, they'll figure out who's going to go where for lessons.

I've already told one of them that almost everyone wants lessons, though. Well, everyone who isn't already learning it, right? (Or who can already do it.)

But if you don't actually want lessons, let me know. I think they'll find you, but I'm not sure how you'll know they're the ones who are going to teach you. I guess because no one else would know about it.



 **alt_ron** at **2013-01-16 17:45:16**
(no subject)

I want to learn.



 **alt_hermione** at **2013-01-16 17:50:00**
(no subject)

I know. I mean, I thought so. I mean, I had you down already.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-16 18:09:09](#)
(no subject)

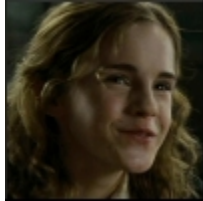
Yeah me too.

But you probably had me down already too.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-16 18:11:02](#)
(no subject)


Maybe there should be a pass phrase. Just so we know it's definitely not a trap. Like 'Sinbad sent me' or 'the owl flies at midnight' or 'I'm not with MLE.'



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-16 23:51:52](#)
(no subject)

Oh! I'll suggest something like that. ~~But I don't think he'll mention Sinbad.~~



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-16 17:55:37](#)
Private Message to Hermione and Marvolo

Hello, Hermione,

I say, was that your Galleon, just now? I don't know else who might have known anything about Dolohov, except Harry or Draco and it doesn't seem the sort of message they'd write.

In any event, yes, I *do* think it's best if I learn the basics of Occlumency, only. I say, I've not wanted to discuss it with Hydra everyone but--well. It could be misconstrued, let us say.

Can you not tell us anything about the people who've made the offer? Order members, I presume? Are they here at the school or have they a way of getting here unnoticed?

-Justin



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-16 18:18:24](#)

Re: Private Message to Hermione and Marvolo

Yes, that was me. I'm trying not to sound like myself, though, is it working?

And yes, I thought you might. Honestly, I would recommend it for you even if you didn't want to do it because you've got so much to lose if anyone should happen to find out anything about your real background, and honestly, if you and Hydra really mean to stay together there's going to be *sometime* you'll see her mother.

But that's not what you meant, is it? By 'misconstrue.' You don't want Hydra to think that you want to learn so that you can hide things from her. Is that it? Do you think she's a Legilimens as well?

Because she asked me some questions a while ago and I answered them and then she said she didn't want to be a legilimens, ever, but of course if she is then that's not her choice, is it? But I thought at the time, maybe it was because she was starting to be able to hear things.

I didn't want to say anything more, though, because it seemed to upset her that she might be one.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-16 18:28:00](#)

Re: Private Message to Hermione and Marvolo

No, it doesn't sound like you, particularly. It's just that I can't think who else would know about dark rites, who would write that about him.

As for the other...you really are bally well clever, what. Yes. I know she would recognise that I'm protecting us both by learning, it's just a...sore subject at present.


I think she is one and you're jolly well correct, she *hates* the idea of it. I can't seem to convince her it would be useful to us to have someone who can try to read our minds while we're trying to block the intrusion, what.

I'm not sure why she's so dead set against the idea of it, particularly when I remind her that she can learn not to pry.

Perhaps she's afraid of becoming like her mother. I say, that's about the last thing I'd expect to happen, what, but fears aren't necessarily rational, *n'est-ce pas*?


-Justin



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2013-01-16 19:24:42](#)**
(no subject)

I would like to learn as well.



 **[alt_terry](#)** at **[2013-01-16 19:27:41](#)**
Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo


Who are the two teaching? I mean, I suppose the first is Mr Snape. But who's the second one?



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-16 19:46:18](#)**
(no subject)

I dunno if I'll be any good at it, but I'd like to at least try.



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-16 20:07:58](#)**
(no subject)

I'm glad you all want to learn. I think it's a good idea.

Though, one thing that I've heard is that it's more difficult for some people than others. There are some people who can never really learn to do it proper. It doesn't mean that they're bad at magic, it's just that some are more predisposed to the mind arts than others.

Hermione, is Harry still learning occlumency from somebody? I've talked to him before, about how it makes you feel safer, but it hasn't come up in a while. It's probably a good idea for him to definitely learn it. Maybe Draco, too.

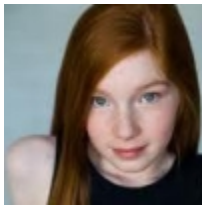



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-16 23:59:31](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, he's already learning, and Draco, though I don't know if someone else might be a better teacher for it than the person who's been helping them.

~~You should~~

And yes, we should talk about what to do if some people can't do it very well.



 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-01-16 20:39:35](#)**
Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo

I'll just keep on as I have been.

I mean, if he needs to change things up for the sake of everyone else joining, so we need to meet somewhere else or something, that's fine.

I'm glad we don't have to keep quiet about learning it anymore. To the rest of the group, I mean. I hope Sally-Anne and Ron don't stay angry about the portkeys, though.

2013-01-16 12:47:00

(no subject)

Dolohov was fine but now he's worse than he was before. He performed a dark rite over the holidays. Related? You decide.



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-16 14:13:00

Order Only: Private Message to Moony and Dora



 [alt_sirius](#)


I've got a visitor here in the workroom. Dora, were you trying to nap with her? She gave you the slip again, love.

And she's quite insistent that 'Da' and *only* 'Da' can ... Dora, does 'Eed' mean 'read' or 'pee' these days?

Well. She's quite insistent about it.

She's not doing the wet nappy dance so probably 'read,' I think. In which case, 'Da,' you're wanted to read to her again. Probably the book about the baby goose? That seems to be the favourite this month.



 [alt_sirius](#) at **2013-01-16 20:19:57**
(no subject)

Update: The voices I give the characters are entirely inadequate, to judge from the reaction, but nonetheless sufficed to get her calmed down enough to play for a little while with those singing blocks of


hers.

Now I shall be singing *waddle, waddle, quack, quack, quack; and the rain ran right off his back back back* the rest of the day. Week. Year.

(She's also saying *back, back, back* to her toy bunny.)


We'll be upstairs until Dora wakes up. I don't want a stray happy shriek to wake up that blasted portrait.



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2013-01-17 04:52:38**
(no subject)

I think my favourite of her current tricks is when she says 'ta' because she wants something. She's thanking us in advance!




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-17 05:08:18](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, that one's funny. Less so when she tosses away what you've handed her and says 'Bah!'


But truly, Remus, I didn't know whether to be cross or impressed that she made it all the way down three flights without anyone noticing. We're going to have to start locking her into rooms if she keeps this up.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-17 05:09:48](#)
(no subject)

We could at least set some sort of ward that would tell us if she's at large.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-17 05:12:32](#)
(no subject)

Bell on the cat. Yeah.

[2013-01-16 18:42:00](#)

Rehearsals continue apace!

Well we've almost come up on our second completed week of rehearsals, and I just wanted to say, on behalf of myself, Mr Krumgold, and Professor Carpenter, that we're so very impressed with how dedicated the cast and crew are, particularly in light of a rather busy term here at Hogwarts.

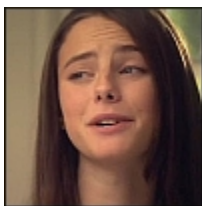


 [alt_daphne](#)

(And no, Mr Krumgold really didn't mean to yell at ~~Jugson~~ certain persons for taking too long to come back from the loo, he's just really very particular about keeping to the schedule that he's drawn out for the afternoon)

In light of everyone's solid good work, I have decided that I will award a weekly "super star" to the actor, actress, and/or crew member who's done the most outstanding job in rehearsals, whether that be by showing excellent dedication, exceptional talent, or impressive improvements. ~~It'll help me to meet the public post quota~~

For this week's award, I'd like to congratulate Samantha and Lizzie for already having memorised their entire routine. Girls, I already gave instructions to a castle elf to deliver both of you a little star-shaped tin of toffees that I ordered in my weekly hamper from New London. *Bon Appetit!*



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-17 01:55:20](#)

Private message to Astoria Greengrass

Smith? Really?

Well, do go on. You always have been rather desperate for any of my cast-offs, so it only goes to

follow.



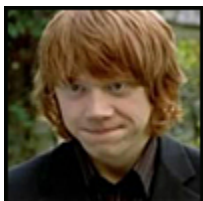
 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-17 02:34:19](#)

Private message to Ron Weasley

Don't think I haven't noticed *exactly* what you're up to.

And I found a good play that demonstrates dramatic irony. *Much Ado About Nothing*. Well, all of Shakespeare makes excellent use of the concept, but I think *Much Ado About Nothing* gives the sort of example that Gerald envisions, as evidenced by the characters of Beatrice and Benedick.

I suppose I can just give it to you in the Great Hall tomorrow, unless you think you'd want to start reading it tonight.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-17 03:52:11**

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Um. Tonight?

No, really. Tomorrow will be soon e- fine.

And what do you mean you noticed I'm up to something?

Seriously. If you wouldn't try dragging me around on the turns. I'm the one that's meant to be leading, yeah?



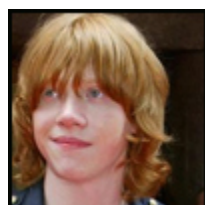
 **[alt_daphne](#) at 2013-01-17 04:05:13**

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Don't play daft with me.

I mean the silly faces you pull, and the way you sort of mince around when we dance. That's why I've got to lead, to remind you to stop mucking about.

And you do just fine when we've rehearsed alone, so I don't know why you can't be the same way during the group rehearsals. Or are you one of those boys who doesn't want other people to know that he's actually got talent at something like dance?



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-17 04:24:22**

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Oh, so you noticed my talent, then? About time.

You're over-thinking the rest of it. I mean 'one of those boys'? Seriously, I'm just an ordinary bloke.

With a bit of a bossy dance partner.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-17 04:29:18](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

I have never once said that you are not talented or have done anything to discourage you. So I don't know why you're trying to discourage me.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-17 05:00:30](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

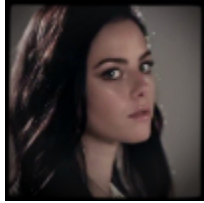
Discourage you?

I'm not. I think you're an ace dancer, actually.

And you're good at teaching it. When it's not rehearsal. Only, when it is, you're... well, you get all serious.

I didn't mean-

Don't mind me.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-17 05:04:19](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Maybe I wouldn't be so serious if you didn't act so silly.

Or - fine.

If I say that I *will* be less serious, do you think you could be a little moreso?



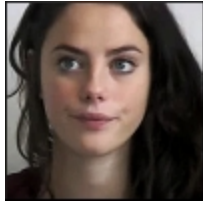
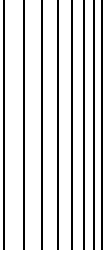
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-17 05:14:24](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

I mean, it's not like I'm being completely daf

Yeah, okay.

Only



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-17 05:18:26](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Good then. Thank you, Ron.

And I'm not that serious. Not always.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-17 02:53:13](#)

(no subject)

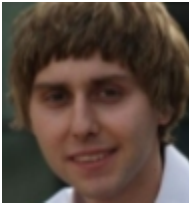
Good on Samantha and Lizzie!



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-17 04:00:11](#)

(no subject)

Seconded! Or, is that Thirded? Heh.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-17 03:04:39](#)

(no subject)

Daphne,

I say, good show to offer a little extra incentive!

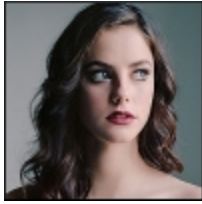
-Justin



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-17 04:00:30](#)

(no subject)

Cheers, F-F! Glad to meet with your approval.



 **[alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-17 06:13:56](#)**

Private message to Lizzie Stevens

Well, I think I've finally set Weasley straight. I had to compromise, of course. The girl always does, doesn't she?

I mean, by and large I trust Gerald when it comes to his opinion on all things theatre, but I don't always know if I agree with his theories about 'method acting' and life imitating art (or art imitating life, as it were). He says that I would be too 'familiar' with Blaise or Draco as the lead, and that he wanted the feeling of strangers who had an unspoken - well, it was an entirely too long-winded explanation, but I was hoping that once rehearsals started, everything he said would fall into place and make sense to me, and it hasn't yet. It's like Weasley is two different people; he's fine when we're working one-on-one. He seems to try really hard, in fact. But then when we're in a group he wants to cut up and have fun and make everyone have a laugh.

Imagine if I went out for his quidditch team and was really ace on a broom, but I showed up to the practices and fuffed off doing whirly-whatsits in the air! Mercy me, I'd be hanged from the Whomping Willow, I think.

Anyway, I'm up too late by now. Enjoy the toffees!

[2013-01-16 20:53:00](#)

Rehearsals, classes, all the rest

The Revue is fun but I'm not sure what I was thinking, getting into something like this when OWLs are coming up. It's taking up a lot of time. I've been sleeping less, to make up for it.




 **[alt_seamus](#)**

My classes are going well but I'm a bit concerned about Professor Dolohov; he didn't look well at all in class today. Professor, if there's anything any of us can do for you, please let us know!

I'm looking forward to the CCF exercise, weekend after next; should be a change of pace and an interesting challenge.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2013-01-17 03:10:29](#)**

Private Message to Seamus

Trying to make sure you get a public post in?

What do you imagine she wants that group for tomorrow?

(I can't believe I thought we had rehearsal! Maybe I was just anxious to avoid all that pink.)




 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2013-01-17 04:13:01](#)**

Re: Private Message to Seamus

That obvious, huh?

I have no idea what she wants all of you for. Do you think you're in trouble? Because I can't think of anything you've done to cross her.



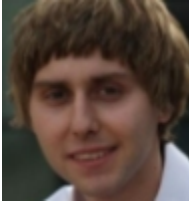
 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2013-01-17 04:16:12](#)**

Re: Private Message to Seamus

I don't think so. I mean, she said it might take half an hour. That doesn't sound like a detention.

And I don't think anyone *else* has done, either.

(Although I think Smith's a total knob. Is he completely mental, writing a PM after all that?)



 **alt_justin** at **2013-01-17 03:21:10**

(no subject)

Hello, Seamus,

Yes, it's quite a lot, isn't it. Though I'm finding (at least so far) that there's ample time to get homework done during rehearsals. I expect that might change as we get further along, what!

-Justin



 **alt_antonin** at **2013-01-17 13:08:00**

(no subject)

Your concern is very much appreciated, Mr Finnigan. I can assure you, I am not doing as poorly as I might look -- only tired.

The best you and your classmates might do to help is to apply yourselves to your classwork as much as possible -- which you are already doing, rather well.

2013-01-16 21:20:00

Private Message to Ron Weasley

Good on ya, mate. Particularly the part where you kept knocking Daphs off-balance. Keep her on her toes, I say.



 [alt_zacharias](#)

Listen, I was picking up my bag from the corner where I'd left it at rehearsal, and you'll never guess what I found on the floor.

It was a piece of parchment, all drawn over with little hearts and things. And the interesting part was it had your name all over it. Well, not just your name, eh?


Someone's got quite a crush on you. Here's a sample:

Mr and Mrs Ron Weasley
Mr and Mrs Ronald Weasley
Mrs Evelyn Weasley
Madam Evelyn Weasley
Mrs Evelyn Longbottom-Weasley
Mr and Mrs Ron and Evie Weasley
Mr and Mrs Ronald and Evelyn Weasley
Mr Ron and Mrs Evelyn Weasley
Ron B. and Evelyn M. Weasley
Mr Ronald B and Mrs Evelyn M Weasley
Mrs Evelyn M. Weasley
Mrs E. M. Weasley
Evelyn M. L. Weasley
Evelyn Marie Longbottom Weasley

Well. You get the idea. Too funny, hey?

Anyway. Thought you ought to know. *Privately*, of course.



 **alt_ron** at [2013-01-17 03:44:03](#)
(no subject)

...

Uhhhm.

Uh-oh.




 **alt_zacharias** at [2013-01-17 20:32:05](#)
(no subject)

Sorry, mate. Thought she'd got it out of her system but apparently it's still not safe to post a personal note.

Guess that'll teach me to try to keep anything private, eh?

Funny thing, though, I was sure I could cut to the end right after the first few lines and spare some of the pain. No idea why I just kept right on reading.



 **alt_ron** at [2013-01-17 22:02:26](#)
(no subject)

No idea, eh? No idea why you just went straight on making a complete meal of it.

You're a total wanker, Smith.

Don't get in my road any time soon or you'll wish you hadn't.

2013-01-17 00:58:00

Private Message to Raz

I've a favor to ask you, old friend. Do you have time over lunch or after classes to stop by and give my space (and me) a quick going-over to rule out the possibility of curse influence on my latest health disaster?



 **alt_antonin**

I would not usually ask -- I've checked already myself, and my protections on my space -- and my person -- are paranoid enough I do not believe something could get by without noticing -- but it is indisputable that I did not start worsening again until our return to Hogwarts, though likely coincidence. And Barty, bless him, is fussing at me, and it would ease his mind.

If you don't have the time (it is, after all, Thursday) do not worry -- I've no doubt Barty will be storming the castle on Saturday under cover of Quidditch to pick apart every inch of my environment.



 **alt_rabastan** at **2013-01-17 17:22:03**

(no subject)

I'm at your service, old friend.

You sure you don't want Rod to come have a look? I know he already took the ~~plaque~~ quite a few objects of note when he was last here, but there may have been something he missed.



 **alt_antonin** at **2013-01-17 19:13:09**

(no subject)

I honestly don't expect to find anything -- particularly after that afternoon of exploration -- and I don't think it's worth bestirring Rod. I've checked six ways to Sunday myself, of course, but Barty's ~~being a mother hen~~ worried I might have been 'encouraged' to miss things, and you know how he gets when he's worried. An extra pair of eyes may convince him to hold off invading. (Until the weekend, at least.)

(I would rather you for this than Rod anyway; he is a specialist of

great experience, true, but you are more used to looking at the whole defensive picture.)

I will be in class with the Ravenclaw fifths until five, but if you'd like to come by earlier, you're already keyed into my office wards -- they're the same sequence I've always used.

Thank you; I owe you. (And then we can be rude about Dolores. Remind me to show you her 'evaluation' of my class, so you can be braced to receive your own. To summarise: "Why are you teaching what you're teaching, and can you demonstrate you are qualified to do so? Also, please explain these half-dozen things that are blatantly obvious to anyone who has studied the subject for more than five minutes and justify every pedagogical choice you have ever made." I amused myself in my response.)

In your debt,
T

2013-01-17 08:00:00

Private Message to Barty and Lucius



 **alt_antonin**

Before you come across the children fretting and likewise fret at me: I am feeling poorly, and plagued by a host of new and interesting symptoms, but I am under the Matron's most diligent care. (Before one of you suggest St M's rather than Matron: I do not wish to make accusations, but at this point I am more confident that Madam Pomfrey will have her patient's best interests in mind; it is nothing concrete and nothing I can make a complaint over, but the more I think about it, the more I realise my team at St M's is showing more interest in research possibility than patient improvement. At very least I will be confirming their advice with her from now on.)

I am most vexed: I was not expecting the rite's restorative effects to last much longer, but this is a rather more dramatic reversal than I had been expecting. So much so that I spent lunchtime yesterday checking self and environment for curses that might have made it past my protections. (Verdict: nothing. I suppose it would have been too easy an answer.)

I am eating, sleeping, resting, and minimising my effort expended, and with luck this will just be a temporary setback; I will keep you both posted. (And please do reassure Narcissa!)

Meanwhile: Lyoushka, Dolores is growing more insufferable, and behaving as though she is utterly convinced of her mandate to stick her nose into everything --mandate from whom, I remain uncertain. Remind me to show you the list of "helpful" questions she sent me after observing my classes last week. (And the response I wrote her, which was -- if I do say so myself -- a masterwork of subtle insult wreathed in effusive flattery.) I still do not know what her game is, and I am keeping an eye on her, but you may wish to do so as well.

Barty -- *solnyshko*, I have not forgot your birthday next week. How would you like to celebrate?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-17 13:56:20](#)
(no subject)

I can be there in half a minute.

Or on Kosta's doorstep if that's the better first step.
What have they done to you?

What do you need?




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-17 14:04:47](#)
Private Message to Toshenska

Are you certain you've checked everything? If you are already so far within a curse's sway, your senses may not be sufficient to find the agent.

I don't mean to doubt, Toshenska. But I'd feel better if I made the search myself.

Aware, however, that my crashing through the doors of the school would create a stir and might not serve your interests in other negotiations. (With students. With comrades. With adversaries.)



 [alt_antonin](#) at [2013-01-17 14:17:07](#)
Re: Private Message to Toshenska

Oh, darling.

It's not necessary; Poppy is taking excellent care of me, and we are hoping that rest (and rest, and rest, and rest -- I have slept twelve hours a night all week and took a nap over lunch yesterday to allow myself to face the rest of the day) will do the trick. I am able to keep to teaching my classes, for instance; I only need minimise the effort I expend.

Hold your wand until I've more than suspicion -- it might be nothing and I may be imagining it all; I have never been susceptible to post-rite paranoia before, but who knows how things might have changed recently? If I do find more than suspicion I will cheer you on as you make your displeasure known.

I have checked everything I could imagine, my dearest of hounds,

and my protections on office, quarters, and classroom alike are as paranoid as I could make them; I do believe they would have alerted for anything likely to cause this. But if it would make you feel better, I will ask Raz for a second opinion. Or, yes, you; if matters have not improved, there is a Quidditch game scheduled this Saturday and your presence would not be as noticeable then.

(The damnable gossip rags will no doubt notice no matter how much we attempt discretion. Perhaps we should go in the other direction: you bring flowers, I will swoon at the sight of you.)

Your,
T



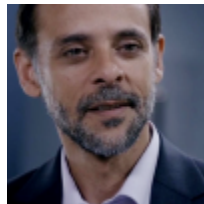
 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-17 15:40:51](#)

Re: Private Message to Toshenska

Discretion be damned. As far as gossip goes. Policy, another matter altogether.

Will hold off, but ready.

Will have that matron's skin if she fails you.



 [alt_antonin](#) at [2013-01-17 16:05:45](#)

Re: Private Message to Toshenska

Beloved, do we need to have the discussion again about how the time to intimidate people is after it's clear that they're not giving you their best effort? She is very good at what she does, and is providing excellent care. (Whilst quietly harumphing at me for the fact I am insisting on continuing to teach unless I worsen, but sitting at my desk and lecturing is little effort, and at least takes my mind off things.)

But for all I fuss about the overprotectiveness -- and I will continue to fuss about the overprotectiveness, particularly given the perils of your profession while I am ensconced in this nice safe castle -- I will say: it is very nice to know that you are there, and that you are worried.

And as you may have seen, I have messaged Razzer to ask him to stop in and check things over. So you may at least be assured that

I am taking all reasonable precautions.

Your,
T



 **alt_lucius** at **2013-01-17 17:56:14**
(no subject)

Tosha,

Have been in meetings all morning but anxious to answer your notice.

First, regarding St M's: What sorts of demands are they making on you and Madam Pomfrey? And who is directing their inquiries? Should you require it, can have Armenius Fletcher look into the matter through St M's; as you know he is intimately familiar with curse effects and their long-term management. Could send him up to see you there and consult with Matron as well.

Second, regarding Dolores: Please do send a copy of the list she gave you (and your response; should like to see it). Cannot presently move against Caldwell or Strangeweale without attracting unwelcome attention - however, shall endeavour to obtain knowledge of their plans through Fudge. Blast. Had I seen this before meeting with him this morning, could have added to agenda. As it is, cannot turn back again to-day, particularly after requiring private conversation with his Undersecretary on an entirely personal matter.

Am aware that she has designs on the Governors as well: Will have Weasley bring them in for discussions prior to next week's Board meeting.

Regarding that: Reserve your evening next Thursday and dine with me when I am there. In your rooms, if you are not up to a trip to the village, though should not be surprised if a few better meals would make a considerable difference to your overall health. We can strategise.



 [alt_antonin](#) at [2013-01-17 19:27:10](#)
(no subject)

The juniors are in search of data, data, data. Some of which is baffling. (I have been asked, for instance, to have Madam Pomfrey measure my eyelashes weekly and report the results. Apparently this is partially indicative of the efficacy rates of one of the experimental potions they are trying.) Poppy has called some of their requests sensible, some silly, and some invasive; we've gone over the list and she's advised me on which to agree with, which to reject.

A second second opinion, however, might be helpful; let us see what the next few days bring.

Shall forward you Dolores's teensy-little-suggestions and my response (I do not want to hear a word mocking the length; it is entirely for my own amusement and if she is going to invent her own busywork I will snow her under with it). Am not at all surprised she found Strangeweale a kindred spirit (he was tedious at Hogwarts, tedious after Hogwarts, and tedious throughout the War; unsurprised he is still tedious in a way that appeals to Dolores's own tediousness.)

Which Governors' terms are expiring this year? Do you have anyone in mind to be replaced? I am willing to lend my skills to the quest. (Would suggest, actually, trying to get some younger voices on the board -- not immediately out of school, but young enough that the bulk of their adulthood has been lived under Our Lord's benevolence. Someone like the eldest Weasley, or one of the Pennifold-Sandoval pair, or -- oh, you take my thrust.)

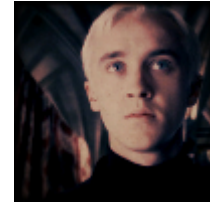
I would be delighted to dine with you on Thursday if I am well enough. The Hogwarts elves are perfectly willing to serve me in my rooms -- and I do get what passes for the pick of the table, I believe; I have made efforts to establish myself with them as appreciative of their efforts -- but if you would prefer something less institutional I will make arrangements to have the evening catered.

At your service in plotting and planning, as in all things,

T

2013-01-17 09:47:00

A note of interest



 [alt_draco](#)

It becomes infinitely more difficult to think of interesting topics to write about when one is told that they must post interesting topics on a weekly basis. It also has the unfortunate side-effect of making one ponder all sorts of peculiar things about rules and obedience and their limits versus their usefulness. I think there might well be a way to proof the outcome using arithmancy, but I haven't yet had time to try.

But I'm hardly one to disobey rules. However, it might be a good communal activity if we all put our heads together and thought of a list of topics that we can easily access, should some of us find ourselves floundering for something to write about, but remain eager to put our best selves forward. This should at least hold us over until we receive the essay prompts that have been promised to us.

Topics

- 1) Make a list of things to write about (this is today's topic)
- 2) What's happening in the world of quidditch? (a bit predictable, but acceptable for those who are grasping)
- 3) New London: What are its best and worst parts? (especially useful for those of you condemned to the country)
- 4) Ghosts: a menace to wizarding society, or sage mentors with much wisdom to offer? (Professor Binns excluded, of course)
- 5) Upcoming seasonal fashions (and are the hem-lengths on women's robes becoming rather scandalous?)
- 6) On that note: what sort of colours and/or clothing styles should one avoid if they have a rather unfortunate body shape? (I may not need this advice, but I feel I can provide it)
- 7) Aside from service, what are the virtues one ought to most foster in him or herself? (and is it ever wise to nurture a vice?)
- 8) Which creature is more useful: kneazle or owl? (or, for those who are concerned: which makes for better company?)
- 9) What should the title of the new Weird Sisters album be? (And when will they ever release it?)
- 10) And so on...

Well then, what other topics would the rest of you lot add to the list?

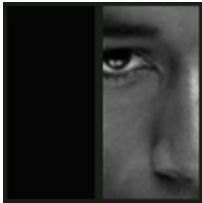


 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-17 17:28:24](#)

Private message to Blaise and Harry

See how the cow likes that. I've taken the mickey out of her idiotic "assigned topics" idea before she's even launched it.

Blaise, I want a report on what goes on at that meeting tonight, yeah?



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2013-01-17 22:18:35](#)

Re: Private message to Blaise and Harry

I can't imagine what she'll have to say that will be worth listening.

Given that she wouldn't know a Manticore if it mocked her to her face.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-18 02:28:33](#)

Re: Private message to Blaise and Harry

Well? What went on then?



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2013-01-18 05:51:16](#)

Re: Private message to Blaise and Harry


She's starting a new organisation of people who can model proper behaviour and snitch to her about people who don't rise to her standards.

Interesting whom she asked and whom she didn't. I assume it is not entirely a compliment that Teds and I are the ones from our set. More to do with her notions of which of us she could control, don't you think?

I'll do it, of course, and that means I'll have your back. Assuming she selects me. But she will, of course. She needs one of us to give it the right standing. (I don't know if she'll take Teddy, but if she does it won't be for that reason.)


Of course, I could be wrong, giving her that much credit. Did you see her list? She thought Vince was a seventh year. Honestly.



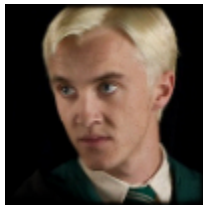
 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-17 17:29:17](#)
Private message to Granger (and Harry)


Well? Did you get the books or what?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-17 18:09:38](#)
Re: Private message to Granger (and Harry)

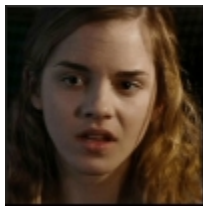
Yes, of course I did. And I shall be. Careful, I mean.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-17 18:15:36](#)
Re: Private message to Granger (and Harry)

Say something, next time. I was starting to think that someone saw me leave them in your cubby and took them.

Which wouldn't look particularly good for you, or for me.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-17 18:42:34](#)
Re: Private message to Granger (and Harry)

Why would anyone

If you're worried about people rooting through my cubby then you could set the example and not go in there, yourself. It's hard enough that there's no lock

It would have been just as easy to tell me you'd left something for me to take care of on your sidetable. Or Harry's.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-17 18:55:55](#)

Re: Private message to Granger (and Harry)

Still finding problems with the way I do things, I see.

And, at that particular moment, I wasn't in the mood to talk to you and let you know that there was something I'd left for you on my sidetable.

If you don't want the books then just give them back. Put them on my *sidetable*. I'll find time to read them myself.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-17 20:20:20](#)

Re: Private message to Granger (and Harry)

I wasn't finding problems. I was offering suggestions, since you said you were worried someone might see you.

And I didn't say I didn't want them, either.

Is something wrong? I mean, are you upset about something?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-17 20:37:49](#)

Re: Private message to Granger (and Harry)

No, I'm fine.

If the books don't help, let me know. I'll find something else.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-17 17:33:59](#)

Private message to Pansy

6) A fat arse ought to avoid anything pink and fluffy, wouldn't you say?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-17 17:34:13](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

Also black and yellow. Midgen looks like a massive bumblebee.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-17 20:54:23](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

Oh, I agree. Pastel makes fat people look like puddings. Or tacky armchairs.

I'd bet Midgen would be chuffed to know you'd spent time thinking about her. She is rather unfortunate, isn't she?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-17 20:56:27](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

And I shall have to pick one of your inspired topics in my next post, just to demonstrate how effective they are at generating words on a page for certain puddings to read.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-18 02:29:50](#)

Re: Private message to Pansy

I don't think I'll fancy a bite of pudding for a while now, you know.

And it's true that I do spend hours thinking about Midgen. Millie, too. If only they knew the degree of my obsession (second only to pudding).




 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-17 17:41:10](#)

(no subject)

Greatest professional keeper of the '80s. I know the correct answer is obvious but I suspect there are some poor misguided fans devoted to one particular team that would disagree.

Greatest seeker of the century. There are endless variations on the theme.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-17 18:13:15](#)
(no subject)

We might ought to wait four years to discuss the last, because by then the answer will be Harry.

2013-01-17 10:51:00

The wider world

I feel as though I have been mewed up in Hogwarts for the longest time, although of course I have been to New London. I believe the problem is a lack of congenial company. I have not paid court to Our Lord in far too long, and I have not seen my old friends in a more casual way for longer.



 **alt_mcgonagall**

Perhaps I should plan a fete. I have never been good at parties, however. Perhaps, Lucius, you might be willing to take tea with me when you are at Hogwarts?



 **alt_lucius** at **2013-01-17 19:11:54**
(no subject)

Thursday next is shaping up to be quite a long day at Hogwarts for me. I had planned to dine with Tosha. But naturally, if you wish private conference, should be happy to oblige.




 **alt_lucius** at **2013-01-17 19:13:41**
Private Message to Minerva McGonagall

In fact, it might be all to the good were we to confer prior to the meeting proper.

Have instructed Weasley to arrange individual appointments with the other Governors. Though there is precious little time. Dolores is up to something, I fear.

Any clue as to what her aims are?



 **alt_mcgonagall** at **2013-01-17 19:23:24**
Re: Private Message to Minerva McGonagall

Would it?

I have no strong sense of her specific aims, apart from power at all costs, although I would put little past her. Tosha is attempting to penetrate her shell—I have little

hope of out-slithering a Snake.

I cannot stand that woman (as well you know) and I believe my distaste has meant that I ignored her for far too long. I hope I can count on you to support me against her, should it become necessary at the meeting? I do not think that whatever she is up to can be good.



 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2013-01-17 19:28:49](#)**
(no subject)

I would be quite honored if Minerva were to join us.

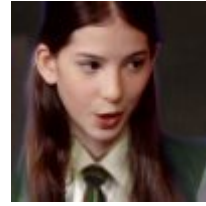


 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2013-01-17 19:32:34](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Tosha.

2013-01-17 13:55:00

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



Do you think Evelyn REALLY wrote all of that out or do you think Zach was taking the mickey?

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

She looked like she wanted to die, right there, but she had this look -- complete shock? total outrage? that made me think she hadn't actually written the note.

Zach, now.

HE didn't look the LEAST bit embarrassed when he strutted up there to read it to everyone.

I don't know. She really was mooning over him the other night at rehearsal.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-17 20:49:36](#)
(no subject)

Mooning? I didn't know she could talk enough to be able to moon.

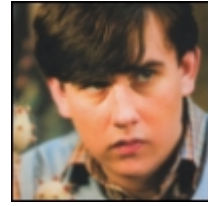
If she didn't write it, whoever did went through enough trouble to sort out middle names and nicknames and things.

And Zach's a complete arse for writing a PM to Ron about it regardless.

I felt mortified just being in the same room as her. Ugh. And Hembridge! Smirking the whole time.

2013-01-17 14:13:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private message to Evelyn Longbottom



alt_neville

That was a perfectly foul thing to do.

Look. I have no idea if you wrote that note or not; that's not important. So I'm not going to force a confidence if you don't want to tell me. But you didn't need to be humiliated that way in front of everyone. That's just wrong.

Talk to me or not, as you choose, Lindy. But I'm available, if you want to find me after classes and just be with me tonight. Study in the library. Play chess. Whatever.



alt_evelyn at 2013-01-17 23:09:24
(no subject)

I didn't. Write it. I just want to be alone right now.

Please try to make sure he knows that I didn't.

I just hope

I hope we can still be friends.

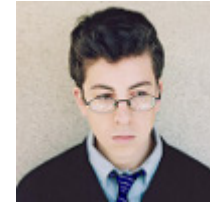
Oh, bugger.

2013-01-17 14:22:00

To Professor Vector

Esteemed Professor,

I have completed all of the additional problem sets you were kind enough to give me at the beginning of the week, and will be happy to check my accuracy whenever you would like me to pick up the answer key. May I say also that I am exceedingly grateful that you have seen fit to resume the practise of giving me them as a reward for performance in class? I regret my extracurricular actions which occasioned falling from your good graces for a time, and will strive to remain worthy of your pedagogical labours.



 [alt_linus](#)

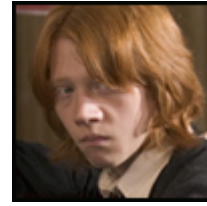
My own project, the one involving Quidditch statistics and group dynamics and individual performance, is proving most daunting, but in an interesting sort of way. So many variables! I am, however, suspecting that a purely Arithmantical approach may not be sufficient -- though it is, of course a necessary foundation. I may have some questions on that, at your leisure.

By the by, my Father presented me with a subscription to Arithmantica Arcana at the holidays, and the brain-stretchers there are splendid. One from the most recent issue was related to the matters of last week's lessons; I should be pleased to share it if it might be of any use to you in quiz and review planning.

Yours sincerely,
Linus Moon

2013-01-17 16:21:00

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



 [alt_ron](#)

I don't know if either of you'll see Ev, but if you do, would you tell her I'm not cross?


Only, it's bloody awkward.

You've no idea how badly I want to hex Smith right now.

What colour red did I turn?

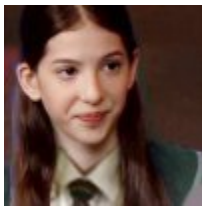
Ugh.



 [alt_susan](#) at **2013-01-18 01:07:02**
(no subject)

I haven't run into her in person, but I went ahead and sent her a PM under the lock.

It was well rude of Zach (and I'll be happy to give him a piece of my mind) but I think this is the sort of thing where people will take the mick for a couple of days and then forget about it.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-18 02:02:17**
(no subject)

I left her a message, too.

Smith would well deserve it, if you did hex him.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-18 02:37:59](#)**
(no subject)

Zach's a mate, and I can see why he might want to take the piss out of Ron, honestly.

But doing it at the expense of a younger girl is just mean. I almost wrote him a PM, before I remembered not to.

2013-01-17 17:58:00

(no subject)

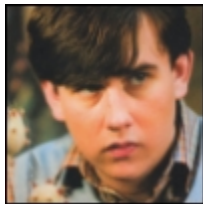
I didn't write that stupid note.


I have never drawn hearts on anything in my life.

For what it's worth.



 **alt_evelyn**



 **alt_neville** at **2013-01-17 23:10:40**

(no subject)

I believe you.

That's true, you haven't.

For what that's worth.

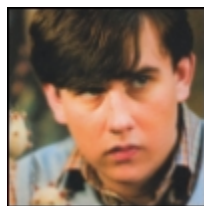



 **alt_neville** at **2013-01-17 23:13:52**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private message to Evelyn Longbottom

So do you have any theories, about who would try to embarrass you like that? Could it be Smith? Or is there someone else hacked off at you? Could even be

a girl.




 **alt_neville** at **2013-01-17 23:15:44**

Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private message to Evelyn Longbottom

Or...blimey.

Could it have been McLaggen? Is he looking to make trouble for you again?



 **alt_evelyn** at **2013-01-17 23:51:54**

Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private message to Evelyn Longbottom

I don't write PMs unless they're under the lock, but I guess people might've seen us playing chess and jumped to conclusions. The only person who's

been hacked off has been Sally-Anne, and she'd never, and now she's probably MORE hacked off and

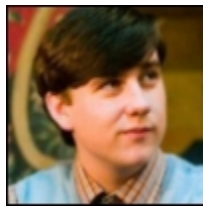
While she and Parvati Patil and me were working on making a skirt, I guess I was talking a bit with Sally-Anne about how Ron wasn't getting to play as much chess lately because of rehearsal, but that his practising was paying off.


But like I said, she'd never.

I don't know.

Maybe it's someone who's angry at Ron instead?

I'd just rather get obliterated and forget the entire thing ever happened.



 **alt_neville at 2013-01-18 00:31:38**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good:
Private message to Evelyn Longbottom*


It doesn't sound like something Sally-Anne would ever do, no.

And I don't see why Parvati Patil would have heard you and taken it into her head to scribble down something like that. In hopes that Smith would find it and write a PM about it that gets read aloud to the whole school? That doesn't make a lick of sense.

Well, maybe we'll learn something that will help us put the clues together to figure out who might have done this, and why. Meanwhile, don't worry about Ron. I'll talk to him and make him see you had nothing to do with it.

I'm sorry, Evelyn.



 **[alt_evelyn](#) at 2013-01-17 23:52:48**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good:
Private message to Evelyn Longbottom*

I hate this.



 **[alt_evelyn](#) at 2013-01-18 00:00:13**

Private Message to Kitty Bundy

Oh, Bun, I'm just going to die.

And we were getting on so well, and I know you liked to tease me about it, but

It's not like I'd have stood a chance anyways. And now, well. I'll just be glad if we can go back to being friends.

Thank you for believing me. And for listing all those things you wanted to do to Zacharias Smith. It did make me smile, honest.

Sit with me at breakfast?

You were wondering what it'd take for me to write properly in this thing. Hah.



 **[alt_justin](#) at 2013-01-18 00:38:39**

Private Message to Evelyn Longbottom

Evelyn,

I'm sure it doesn't count for much, what, but I've told Smith that it was dashed rude of him and not on at all.

And I'm sure you've no use for any excuse he might have to offer but he told me something well interesting. He swears he really *did* find a scrap of parchment with all those bally well silly inscriptions. And that he thought--well, it's still inexcusable, and I've told him so, but he thought that if he wrote a Private Message to Ron, she might make him read it aloud, but he had planned just to read one or two of them to embarrass Ron, as revenge for the way Ron goaded him on Daphne's post last week. I know it sounds callous, what, but he never thought about how it might embarrass *you*. I've told him he needs to apologise to you both, what. Only I've also told him to take Ron at his

word and give him a wide berth just for a while.

I do think he meant no harm to you (though it doesn't forgive his dashed intolerable behaviour toward Ron, either). And if he does pluck up the courage to apologise, I hope he'll not make a mess of that. He's not a bad sort, really. Just a bit of a lout at times.

Oh, but I was saying: He swears that he meant to read just enough to embarrass Ron but that something seemed to force him to continue straight through to the end. I say, I bally well know he's got no common sense at times but I believe him. He had no reason to lie to me about it. (As for writing those jolly ridiculous names--well, let's say that I don't expect he's that imaginative on his own, what!)

In any event, I'm heartily sorry you've been used ill in this. And if you did *not* write the paper, then *someone* did.

-Justin



 [alt_evelyn](#) at 2013-01-18 01:42:23

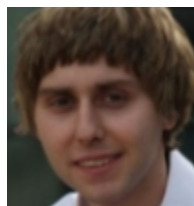
Re: Private Message to Evelyn Longbottom

There's no 'if' about it. I didn't write it.

And you're saying he wrote it out hoping it'd get read in front of everyone. On purpose.

Even if I had, even if that really was what I felt wrote, it's still

Thank you for telling me. I'd really rather he not make an effort to pretend to be sorry, if it's all the same to you.



 [alt_justin](#) at 2013-01-18 01:53:33


Re: Private Message to Evelyn Longbottom

No, of course you didn't, I didn't mean it like that. I simply meant, as a point of logic. *Given* that you didn't write it; *therefore* someone else did do.

And it's not that he's pretending to feel sorry for how it affected you, either. He *is* sorry. He's an ass but he has no reason to wish you particular harm. That's why he owes it to you to apologise face to face, as a gentleman should do.

-Justin



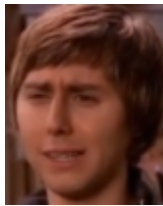
 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-18 02:00:05](#)

Re: Private Message to Evelyn Longbottom

When I was Sorted, before you got here, there was an article that had come out just a few weeks before about my mum and dad, that they were still alive and working with Sirius Black.

And when they called my name, some people booed. And everyone just stared. Like I was behind glass at a zoo.

I just wanted to turn invisible. And I tried so hard to. Because I'd do anything to not get stared at like that again. And today I was behind the glass all over again. And Zacharias Smith will never know what that is like.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-18 02:21:08](#)

Re: Private Message to Evelyn Longbottom

Oh, I think everyone feels singled out like that, now and then. The trick is to bear up under it without making it look as if it bothers one.

You've done nothing wrong. I say, he's the one who ought to be ashamed.

Which is likely why he's too embarrassed to admit how abashed he is, what. But if he *should* come and apologise, I hope you'll give him a chance to say so.

-Justin



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-18 01:04:06](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Evelyn Longbottom

Ron's definitely not cross, at least not at *you*, if that helps at all.

And I believe you--you're a very a cautious person from everything

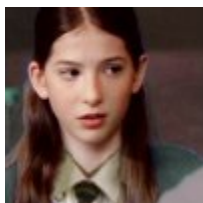
I've seen, and would never leave something like that lying around even if you did fancy Ron a bit.



 **[alt_evelyn](#) at 2013-01-18 01:32:58**

Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Evelyn Longbottom

It does. A little, anyways. Thank you.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-18 02:00:53**

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

Ron said to say he's not cross, just so you know. Not with you, anyway. (Smith, on the other hand...)

And just so you know, I didn't write it, either. It might have been Patil, though. (Parvati, I mean.)



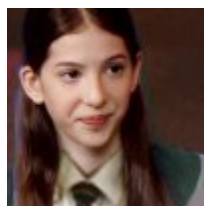
 **[alt_evelyn](#) at 2013-01-18 02:11:37**

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

Of course you didn't. You wouldn't.

I'm so sorry. About the portkeys, and saying those things at rehearsal to you. It was silly of me. And thoughtless. And I was just

Just trying to talk. That's all.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-18 02:23:51**

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

Don't be silly.

I'm not angry at YOU about the portkeys.

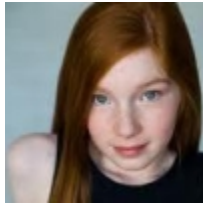
And I don't mind talking about Ron. He HAS got a lot better at dancing with all the practice. And it's always funny to see him baiting Daphne.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-18 02:24:53](#)

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

Wait. Did Neville make you think that I was angry at YOU?



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-18 03:13:09](#)

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

I asked if you were angry at us because of the portkeys and he said yes.

And he was worked up because he'd said something really awful to Ron that he didn't mean. So I can see how he might've been thinking about that when he answered.

It's good to know that you aren't.



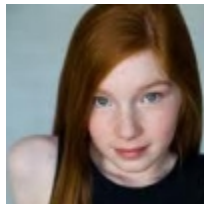
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-18 04:25:38](#)

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

Well, Neville did say something utterly stupid. But that was Neville, not you.

And I wasn't angry at you about the portkeys either. I wasn't even really angry at Neville. Mostly I was angry at the Weasleys -- Ron's parents, and Bill and Charlie too, for that matter.

Because Ron's never had one. He's never had anything.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-18 08:50:17](#)

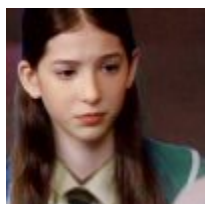
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:
Private message to Evelyn*

He does have very good friends, though.

Which counts for quite a lot, I think.

And it's good that we've been sorting out ways to stay safe. At

the twelfth night street festival, when the portkeys stopped working, it was like my brain shut off and I didn't know what to do. And all I could think was that someone shut it down on purpose so they could set off a bomb, and that my mum and dad couldn't help me anymore, and I know it wasn't rational at all, but it was very frightening. So having plans are definitely good.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-18 04:32:45](#)

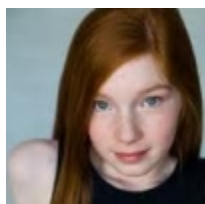
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:
Private message to Evelyn*

And I suppose it was unfair to be cross with Neville but he kept defending them and saying that surely they had a plan but they didn't. Or at least, they couldn't have had anything as good as 'here's a portkey, keep it close by, use it if you absolutely have to get away.' Because that's a pretty BRILLIANT escape plan, really.

I don't blame them for not giving something like that to me and Pansy. We're not anyone's children, in the Order. They've never exactly trusted Pansy, I mean the Lock didn't even trust Pansy until she figured things out on her own and then they had to.

But RON? He's Molly and Arthur Weasley's SON and they were BOTH doing illegal things AND so were Charlie and Bill so really even though your parents were fugitives and all of them aren't, really, that's twice as many people who could get caught.

I think it was because Mrs Weasley couldn't face the thought that they couldn't possibly give a portkey to Percy or even Ginny. Giving one to Ron would have felt like a betrayal of two of her children and NOT giving one to Ron didn't feel like a betrayal of anyone. Even though it was.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-18 08:45:51](#)

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

I was talking with Neville about the whole thing, and I think that for the longest while, they probably didn't know enough about what you all were doing to really think that you needed one. Because Neville kept quiet about the lock things to mum and dad, and even me, and I had no idea that you knew so much and were doing so

many things.

I think mum and dad were afraid that the MLE would try and use us somehow. To try and get to them. Which is why they wanted us to be able to get away. They told us that it was a one way trip, that if we ever were to use them we could both of us never go back. You're right that it would be the best way to escape if any of Ron's family were to get caught, though. And that they probably should've spent more time on that, and less time worrying about things they weren't able to change.

And now mum's said they'd be working on fixing up portkeys for everyone under the lock as soon as they figure it out. So there's that, at least.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-18 15:12:19](#)

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

It was in September of my fourth year that Hermione passed questions from us to Sirius Black. And they knew we'd helped her hide her wand, and it was finding out about the wands that made us realise there had to be an organisation, and Hermione had to know the people involved, and it was well before that that we knew she was somehow in touch with Sirius Black.

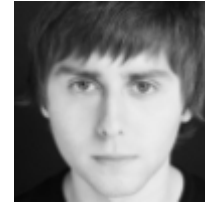
That was over a year ago.

And yes, MLE might try to use you and Neville against your parents but they'd use Ron against his family as well, if anyone in his family got caught.

Anyway. It's nice that they decided to get us all portkeys, if they can work out a way to get us portkeys that don't go to MLE's dungeon.

2013-01-17 19:56:00

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



Hullo,

All right, there, old man?

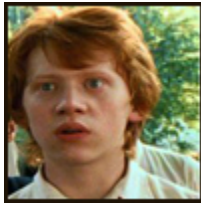
 [alt_justin](#)


I've told Smith it was shockingly not on. And that he'd best take you at your word and avoid further confrontation.

When you've cooled off a bit, what, he did have something to say for himself that I jolly well believe bears examination.

I say, not to excuse his dashed poor behaviour, of course. Or his bally well awful timing, what!

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-18 01:53:41**
(no subject)

Thanks.

I can't think what he could say that would be worth considering. Unless he's admitting he wrote the PM because he knew she'd have him read it out loud.

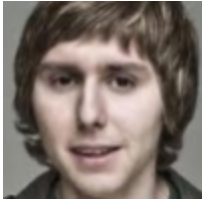
Ugh.


I mean, yeah, it's not the worst thing ever, I guess. And it would've been hilarious if it'd been Midgen writing about Malfoy or something. So, yeah. I know. Still bloody embarrassing.

And. The thing is-

I wish it hadn't been Evelyn. Because, y'know, it could be true and that makes everything really-

Yeah. Don't know what to say to her now.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-18 02:02:49](#)
(no subject)

In point of fact, he did have a feeling he'd have to read it aloud. He mentioned that he thought it would be a fitting revenge for the way you needled him about Daphne last week. (I've told him he's a git, and he agreed, at least.)

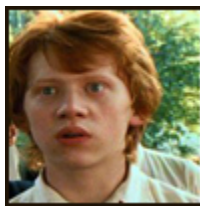
I say, it's not really a mark in his favour, but he said he wasn't thinking about what it would do to Evelyn. And he says he really did find a paper--and I bally well believe him about that, what. For one thing, I hardly think he's creative enough to have thought of the whole thing on his own, what.


But I also well believe Evelyn when she says she didn't write it. I think someone made sure Smith would see it.

Which is the other interesting thing he had to say for himself: He claims he meant, even when he was writing to you, to only read a few lines, enough to embarrass you, and then stop. But once he started reading, what, he says he was unable to stop.

I say, I can't think why he'd lie about it. Well, I mean to say, one *can* think why he'd lie, what, but I don't believe he was playing me false.

-Justin




 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-18 03:48:59](#)
(no subject)

What do you think he means about not being able to stop? He said that to me, as well.

I mean, it sounds like the way you'd talk about Imperius or some compulsion, anywiz. Only... does that mean whoever wrote the bloody thing to begin with--the paper Smith copied out, I mean--put a compulsion on it so he'd write me about it? But that's way too complicated. I mean, it's that 'lex parsimoniae' tinger Dolohov's taught us about, isn't it? It's bloody unlikely someone faked that list and put a compulsion on the paper to make Smith pick it up and copy it out in his journal as a PM that would get him caught so he'd have to read it, but also make him have to read all of it and not leave any out.

So I don't know.



 **alt_justin** at **2013-01-18 03:58:44**
(no subject)

Hm.

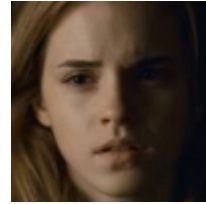
He didn't mention anything about feeling compelled to write to you, so, no, I don't think that was it.

If I had to hazard a guess, what, I'd say someone hexed him just as he was about to start reading.

-Justin

2013-01-17 20:35:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Hydra and Harry



 **alt_hermione**

Hydra?

I was reading in my cubby (but it's difficult because every time anyone walks through the corridor I worry they'll see) and I thought I saw you go by.

Are you all right? Only usually you're revising or off with Justin in the evenings.

I mean, if that was you and not Cressida Bode.

Is.... Is everything okay?



 **alt_hydra** at **2013-01-18 01:47:44**

(no subject)

Not really.

What makes you think something's wrong, though?

Only I felt like leaving the library just now. I suppose

Justin will ask why I went back early later and I'll have to tell him.



 **alt_hermione** at **2013-01-18 01:55:35**

(no subject)

Well, like I said. Usually you don't hide in your dormitories.

But then why did you say you're not really all right?



 **alt_hydra** at **2013-01-18 02:01:18**

(no subject)

Because of what I heard in the library. I didn't want to, and I don't know how. I just did.

I was working at a table with my arithmancy group, and I suppose I was fiddling with my quill. I don't know, I wasn't

thinking about it much. But then I heard someone say that "Lestrangle has -" well, something rude. About how my hands were "busy" with my quill and isn't Finch-Fletchley lucky.

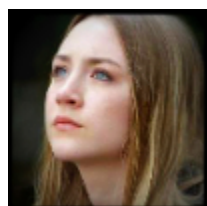
But no one would say that sort of thing in the library. Not out loud where I could hear it.


So either I'm mad and hearing things, or. I'm hearing things.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-18 02:06:49](#)
(no subject)

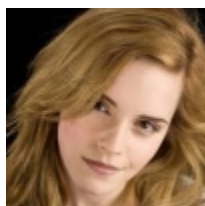
Do you think maybe you did hear it but it wasn't out loud?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-18 02:16:12](#)
(no subject)

Yes. Because it wasn't as if I heard it with my ears. It was something else.

I can't be a legilimens, I just can't. I don't know what to do.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-18 02:23:39](#)
(no subject)

But, you are. I mean, if you are, then you just are.

And pretending you're not isn't going to make it go away.

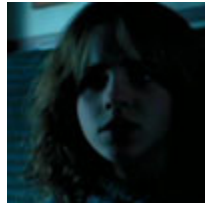
Anyways, we *need* someone who can really tell us if we're occluding right or not. So why is it such a horrible thing?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-18 02:26:59](#)
(no subject)

You already know two people who can help with occlumency. You said you did.

Have you ever had it done to you? Legilimency? If you had you would never ask me to do it to anyone else.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-18 02:36:02](#)
(no subject)

Well, we do, but at least one isn't a natural legilimens, though.

And yes, the person who's teaching me has used the spell kind, to work on it.

It's frustrating when you find yourself thinking thoughts you don't want them to see but it's not like being Cruciated or anything. It doesn't *hurt*.

But I can only imagine what it would be like to have someone root through your brain who didn't care what they saw. Or who was looking for something incriminating.

She did, didn't she? Your mother. She helped herself to your private thoughts.

I'm sorry.

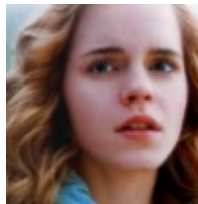


 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-18 02:42:15](#)
(no subject)

But it does hurt. I'd rather be cruciated.

And it was more than just helping herself. She

So I can't. Even if I am one, I won't do it. I just won't. If everyone hates me and wants me to leave the lock that's fine. I'll go. But I won't do it.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-18 02:55:15](#)
(no subject)

Hydra, have you...read anything about Legilimency? Natural legilimency?

No one's going to make you leave the lock,

anyway.

What did she *do* to you?

I'm--I'm sorry, you probably don't want to talk about it.


Would you--would it help to talk to Justin?



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-18 02:56:55](#)**
(no subject)

Or maybe Madam Pomfrey?



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-18 03:02:26](#)**
(no subject)

I'd rather not talk about it, if you please.

With anyone.

He thinks I'm strong, you know.

I'd rather not that he find out about all those ugly things.

Not because I think it will change the way he feels, but - I'd rather not trouble anyone.



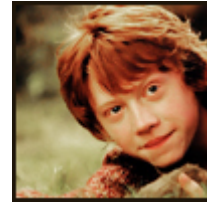
 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-18 03:06:16](#)**
(no subject)

You sound like he did that time he almost died.

But I guess I understand not wanting to talk about it. I really do.

2013-01-17 23:28:00

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good
Private Message to Evelyn Longbottom*



Hey, Evyls.

Smith's a git, but it's going to be all right, yeah?

 [alt_ron](#)

I was going to just not say anything, because I figure you wish I wouldn't, but- that doesn't seem right.

And we totally have to play chess tomorrow. Just to show people we don't care what they think. All right, then?

Trust me. I have loads of experience not letting brothers have the satisfaction.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at **2013-01-18 09:10:02**
(no subject)

All right.


And I know it'll come as a terrible disappointment to you, but I'm not really planning on marrying anyone at the moment. Just so you know. Probably won't sort that out for another year at least. I haven't even picked out colours or anything. Or bridesmaids.

That was possibly the most embarrassed I've ever been.

I don't care what Justin says, Smith is an utter arse.

Thank you. For believing me.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-18 14:45:14**
(no subject)

Um.

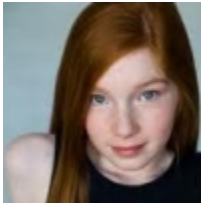
So you didn't actually write it?



 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-01-18 17:04:38](#)**
(no subject)

No!

eejit.




 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-01-18 17:08:14](#)**
(no subject)

I was just joking earlier. About the colours.


I figure if everyone else can laugh about it, we might as well too.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-18 20:45:58](#)**
(no subject)

Oh.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-18 20:47:03](#)**
(no subject)

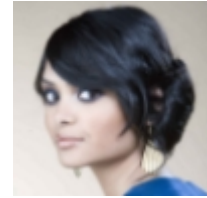
Ohhh. Yeah.

Ha.

2013-01-17 23:45:00

I probably should be sleeping but

this evening's meeting was actually pretty interesting. Thank you again, Madam Umbridge, for organising it and for thinking of all of us.



 **alt_padma**

I think it's a really important opportunity to help make a meaningful contribution to the school and even the Protectorate. I know loads of us have been thinking for some time about how we can make a difference, even though we're still students and some of us haven't passed our O.W.L.s yet.

But there are ways, and the programme Madam Umbridge has in mind is a good avenue for it.




 **alt_seamus** at **2013-01-18 04:54:20**

Private message to Padma

So what all happened at the meeting? What did she want?



 **alt_padma** at **2013-01-18 05:05:32**

Re: Private message to Padma

She's determined that we're not going to have enough time to revise for O.W.L.s, is what she wanted.

She has this notion that about half of the 35 of us might make good spies for her. But it also means we can report who's acting like a blood-traitor and who's behaving in ways she approves of. Also, we can recommend people to help and she'll consider it. So if you want on, we can make sure it happens.

Diggory wanted to know how it's different from being a Prefect and she didn't really answer, but obviously it's that Prefects serve the school, while the Hogwarts' Junior Council will actually be helping *her*. Which if you ask me is probably more useful than slaving away so some old pinched drunk keeps ignoring traitors all over the school.

And the other reason to get you on the Junior Council as fast as we

can is that I bet anything she'll want everyone to start reading private comments next. Unless you're one of her particular favourites. In which case we can always say we're discussing Council business just like the real Council can always do whatever they please.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2013-01-18 05:08:34](#)


Re: Private message to Padma

Well, on one hand I probably ought to be spending my time revising for OWLs.

On the other, you make a good point about PMs. And someone actually DOING SOMETHING about the blood traitors and subversives is a refreshing idea even if I don't much care for kitten plates.

If you think she'll have me, go ahead and suggest me. I'm not sure how she gets on with Mr Rosier, though. She didn't invite Malfoy to the meeting, did she? I don't think Mr Malfoy cares for her at all.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-18 05:12:56](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

I think she doesn't get on well with any of the real Council but I also think they can't really fault us for falling in line with her. Especially if it means we'll actually be able to change the way things are around here.

She didn't invite Malfoy and she didn't invite *Porkinson* either. Of course, the tricky part will be not offending them (or any of the others) but we've already been doing that dance for four years, more or less.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2013-01-18 05:25:15](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Maybe we'll be able to get *Porkinson* in trouble. Again. That would make losing some revision time worth it.

Or Perks. I'll say this for Umbridge, at least she hasn't fallen for Perks' arse-kissing.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-18 05:42:26](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Tell me about it. I don't know *what* all the other professors see in that cow.

And now Michael's taken up with her and he's all about this halfblood revising group. Only they didn't even ask you if you were interested, did they?

I don't know whether that means you should be flattered they forgot you're half-blooded or if it means they're intimidated by someone who's sure to pass all his exams.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2013-01-18 05:44:38](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

No, they didn't. I got the distinct impression I wasn't wanted.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-18 05:47:47](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Michael's such an idiot.

Come and revise with us, then. If you like.

(I mean, he'll get over this weird attraction to Smirks and he'll want to come crawling back to the Corner, but that's his lookout.)



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2013-01-18 05:10:35](#)


Re: Private message to Padma

By the way.

Jeremy Jugson. Do you know him at all?

Do you think he's ... um. Light on his feet, I guess? If you know what I mean.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-18 05:19:14](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Jugson? Lestrangle's cousin? (Convenient, isn't it, that she's his cousin and Finch-Fletchley is his foster-brother. Whose idea was that?)

Er. Well, honestly, I think he's lighter than you are. But I can't tell if that's because he fancies other boys too or because he's just as dramatic as Daphne.

I mean, have you noticed that he and Mr Krumgold have some similar mannerisms? Like, when Mr Krumgold calls everyone to order, it's sort of the same thing that Remy does when he's practising his routine.

Why?



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2013-01-18 05:28:47](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

At rehearsal the other night I thought Jugson had his eye on Finch-Fletchley.

I told him if he wanted people to think he has his eye on Honoria Sandoval, he might want to turn toward her when they came backstage, rather than him. He said he didn't know what I was talking about.

You're the one who spotted Evgeni for me, so I wanted to know what YOU thought.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-18 05:39:16](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Honestly, I think Remy is probably the type who'd try anything once. I also think he's probably not a very discreet person when it comes to whatever he wants to do.

Actually, now I'm remembering that survey that the third-years did last year, the one that copied mine from two years before? Didn't that list Remy Jugson as 'sluttiest' or something?

So if you think you might fancy him, be careful. If you don't want everyone to know about it, I mean. He'd probably snog you, though, or loads more besides, if you asked.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2013-01-18 05:45:35](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

That's a good point about him not being able to keep his mouth shut about anything.

I'll have to think about that.

It's been a while since I've had anyone to snog, though.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-18 05:48:43](#)

Re: Private message to Padma

Mind you, he might actually like the idea that it's meant to be--what's the word?--*clandestine*.

You'd just have to present it to him in the right light.

2013-01-18 09:12:00

Order Only

Bill, any progress on portkeys? Hermione, I don't know if you caught this, but I went to the Ministry last week and got a portkey, ostensibly for Ellie, that comes here, to the tea shop.




 [alt_lupin](#)

It's not ideal, but it's better than nothing. Pomona, can one of us floo to you, and have you pass it along, or would that attract the wrong sort of attention?

Also, Hermione -- if you haven't already, do let your friends know that Mrs Perks has decided to leave Mr Perks, and we'll be faking her death when the opportunity presents itself. Sally-Anne Perks might get word that her mother's died -- she should know it's a lie.




 [alt_pomona](#) at [2013-01-18 20:25:07](#)
(no subject)

I don't trust what Dolores is monitoring, but if you can come up with some kind of excuse, that would do. I don't suppose you've any seeds in stock you'd like me to look at or something of the kind?

And then we can find some excuse for Hermione to stop by.


I should be around tonight or tomorrow morning, or tomorrow evening. Avoid Sunday, please - I've invited Aurora down for tea in the afternoon. Severus, Poppy, and I have talked through some different approaches, but who knows how that will go when it comes to it.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-19 00:59:21](#)
(no subject)


Do please let us know how it goes, and how quickly she thinks she might be able to get us the information.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-19 00:59:51](#)**
(no subject)

And good luck.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-19 00:57:48](#)**
(no subject)

We aren't going to be able to make our own portkeys without the Ministry's say-so anymore. I'm afraid that your portkey for Ellie is Hermione's best option right now. A warning, though: I'm advised that the new portkey trips are now logged. That would track her journey from Hogwarts to Laszlo's. Which certainly makes things easy for the MLE, if they're pursuing her. And difficult for us.

The encryption code needed is a dead secret. Very convenient for them, isn't it? EVERY portkey has to be registered--no exceptions. Oh, people have been trying to get around this, sure. Some have taken their new Ministry-issued portkeys and attempted to reverse engineer them, hoping to transfer the Ministry encryption to their old unregistered portkeys, but it's no good. The first few who tried ended up paying the MLE a surprise visit. I'm sure you find this as discouraging as I do.

I'll keep banging my head against the wall trying to find a solution--Merlin knows my head is hard enough--but I have a bad feeling that this may be a problem we aren't going to find a way around.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2013-01-19 01:31:44](#)**
(no subject)

It seems to me that our best shot might be trying to arrange for someone trustworthy to find a job working for the Department of Magical Transportation. Do we have anyone with a likely set of qualifications?

2013-01-18 18:57:00

*Private Message to Bartemius Crouch, Jr
and Lucius Malfoy*



I am apprised of the fact that, in lieu of next-of-kin, you would wish to know that Antonin Dolohov is in my care, having suffered a not insignificant setback to his recovery.

 [alt_poppy](#)

I am in consultation with his specialist team from St Mungo's, but for the present, at least, they have advised that it is best to keep him here in the infirmary. Should you have any questions I will be happy to speak with you by Floo, as, I am certain, would Healer Kosta at St Mungo's.

At the present time, Professor Dolohov is resting quietly.

I trust one of you will know the best way to reach Our Lord to inform Him if you deem that the proper course of action.

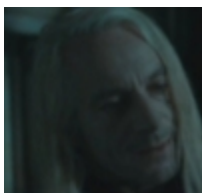


 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2013-01-19 01:26:02**
(no subject)

What?!

Expect me directly.

Be ready to explain yourself fully. How can this have happened?



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2013-01-19 14:42:00**
(no subject)

Has there been any change from last night?

And has Fletcher arrived yet? Told him last night to make his visit and Toshenka's recovery his topmost priority. Particularly if your report from last evening indicates, as I think it might do, any hint of mummery on the part of those over-eager pups Kosta has entrusted with Tosha's care.

Thank you, again, for your extensive efforts on his part. Well aware that his condition is outside your ordinary brief. Suspect that between myself and Barty you have had as trying a time managing

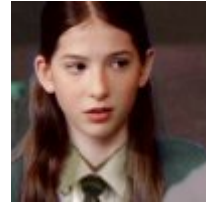
the demand for answers as the patient himself. However, the information you were able to report via Floo last night was sufficient to notify Our Lord and provide some answers to His questions.

Rest assured, He is most interested in Antonin Nikolaevich's health, and shall require regular updates henceforth.

Since Tosha's condition is of utmost concern to myself, you are fortunate therefore that such reports may be made directly to me or Barty (if he has not left the bedside). We shall be in constant contact with each other, I suspect, while this relapse is reversed.

2013-01-18 19:41:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



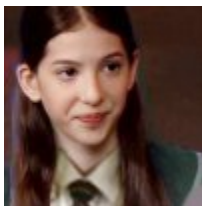
Professor Dolohov is really, really ill.

He didn't show up for class this afternoon and I went to get Madam Pomfrey. And she sent us all on our way but when I came to the Hospital Wing this evening he was off in a corner with the curtains pulled all round his bed and he looks like he's dying terrible.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

And now Auror Crouch is here and he's been shouting at Madam Pomfrey. I'm done sorting out the herbs she wanted me to work on and I kind of need something new to do but I'm not going anywhere near Auror Crouch, he scares me. He wants to know how this happened and why she didn't do something and why they didn't call in St Mungo's on Wednesday and has anyone checked the Dark Arts office again for cursed artifacts (I guess they asked Professor Raz to look -- I'm glad, actually, I'd been wondering about that too) and why didn't they call Auror Crouch here earlier and could someone get Professor Raz...

Madam Pomfrey's a lot calmer about this than I would be.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-19 02:31:48**
(no subject)

He's FINALLY gone.

Madam Pomfrey suggested that if he wanted to double-check Professor Dolohov's office (and classroom and living quarters) for curses, poisons, etc. himself she would be grateful for his expert assistance and he took off to do that.

Professor Dolohov still looks awful.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-19 02:37:49](#)**
(no subject)

I told you Dolohov looked awful yesterday. I'm not surprised he ended up there.

Has Madam P said what's wrong with him?

Or how long it might take him to get well?

I mean,—

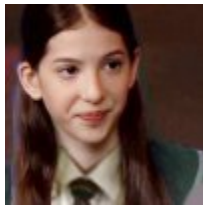


 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-19 05:01:33](#)**
(no subject)

She hasn't said what's wrong with him. Actually she's being a lot more careful about that sort of thing than she usually is, making sure that the door's shut when St Mungo's fire-calls her and so

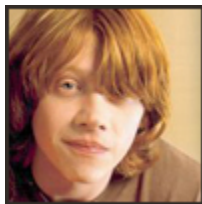
on.


I can tell you that he is taking A LOT of potions, though.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-19 05:02:15](#)**
(no subject)

And apparently Professor Dolohov didn't trust the people at St M's and thought Madam P was doing a lot better by him. THAT I got from her conversation with Auror Crouch.




 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-19 05:09:31](#)**
(no subject)

Good on Madam P.

I think.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-19 15:29:56](#)**
(no subject)

Hello, Sally-Anne,

I say, we've quite the run of bad luck with Professors, what?

Do you think Madam Pomfrey shall be able to help him recover? I don't imagine she would last long if she doesn't. I should worry more about that than about him, if you follow me.

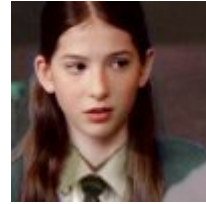
-Justin

2013-01-19 10:31:00

Hurray

It's the weekend!

Saturdays are great. Not that I don't like my classes but who doesn't like a weekend?



 [alt_sally_anne](#)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-19 16:54:21**

(no subject)

And quidditch.

Everyone likes quidditch.

I think I'm going to be ill.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-19 16:55:28**

Private message to Harry Marvolo and Pansy Parkinson

Harry, Pansy told me I need to tell you this. Or she would.

I was at the Hospital Wing last night because I'm doing an apprenticeship with Madam Pomfrey. I was there until quite late but Bletchley turned up while I was walking back to Slytherin. He'd been waiting for me and I was scared. I cast a self-defense hex but he countered it and then he said that he was a Dark Arts NEWT and what did I really think I'd be able to do to him. I cast an impediment jinx and ran back to Slytherin and when he caught up with me in the Common Room he whispered that he'd done as he liked to Agnes Wright last year and no one cared, and no one would care what he did to me.

And then Pansy came out of our dorm and he looked at her and laughed and said 'no one who matters, anyway.'

Anyway Pansy said I needed to tell you. Even though it didn't happen at quidditch practice. I don't even know who else to tell or what Pansy thinks you can do about it. And maybe it'll stop, anyway, when the regular Chasers are back and I'm off the team.

But there Pansy, I told him, okay?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-19 17:06:43**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Just don't make me tell Ron. Okay? There's just no way that will end well.



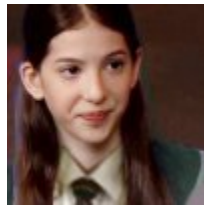
 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2013-01-19 17:22:43**

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

Okay.

If you do go tell anyone else, like Harry suggested, I could go with.

And he might be able to disarm you, but I'd like to see him face you, me, and Harry.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-19 17:27:28**

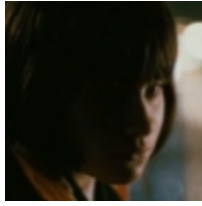
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Yeah.

I just hate having to put other people out. You know? It's coming home from the Hospital Wing I'm going to need someone, and who wants to tromp all the way up to Madam P's at almost midnight just to make sure I have someone with me? And if YOU came up by yourself, Letchley might go after YOU.

Ugh.

At least he won't be around next year. I mean the problem with telling an adult is, what if they did with him what they did with Cassie? Kicked him out for exactly one year?



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-19 17:55:40](#)

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

I don't know what they would do. I think it'd be worse if they didn't do anything.

But it's not putting people out if they want to keep you safe. Honest.

And you deserve to feel safe.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-19 17:18:25](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Pansy Parkinson

Okay.

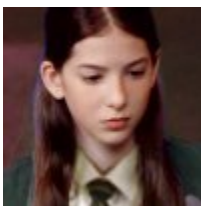
He's off the team. I'll tell him in person, and I know you don't want to, but we ought to let a teacher know too just in case because he may be hacked off with me, but he might try to do something to you because of it.

If professor Dolohov weren't so sick, I'd say tell him. But maybe you ought to tell Slughorn or Siz?

And I can walk with you. To the pitch and back. And to class. Or wherever. You know, if you want.

...I care.

I'm sorry.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-19 17:25:06](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Pansy Parkinson

Thanks.


I don't

I did actually think about going to Professor Dolohov and how if he weren't so sick, he probably could do something. And would.

Professor Slughorn, it's not that he doesn't care but I don't think he exactly understands how things are for girls. It might be worth talking to Siz, though. ~~I don't want~~

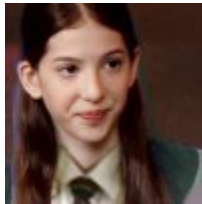
Between classes there are always enough people around that it's not a problem but lately with the apprenticeship I'm at the Hospital Wing late at night. It made it really easy for him to find me alone.



 **[alt_harry](#) at 2013-01-19 17:52:30**

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Pansy Parkinson

Okay. So Pansy and me can walk with you when you go to the hospital wing. Or we can walk with you there, and Madame Pomfrey can walk you back if she's not doing other stuff.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-19 18:00:20**

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Pansy Parkinson

She's usually pretty busy.

~~That's sort of the problem, you know?~~

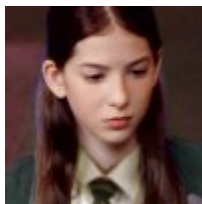


 **[alt_harry](#) at 2013-01-19 18:04:46**

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Pansy Parkinson

I can talk to Raz about it. see if he could help.

And if we need to walk you back, we'll walk you back.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-19 18:08:44**

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo and Pansy Parkinson

You can talk to Professor Raz about it if you want. ~~I don't know if he'd~~

That might help.

2013-01-19 11:14:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good




Okay. I'm going to try to forget all the wretched stuff

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Luna gets a pass (and Terry) but the rest of you had better be cheering for Slytherin today.




 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-19 18:17:04**

(no subject)

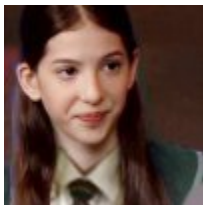
You'll be great. Just go out and fly!



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-19 23:32:54**

(no subject)

You were brilliant. Especially at dodging bludgers. I mean, that's the roughest thing, anyway, and today more than ever, yeah?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-20 00:33:09**

(no subject)

Thanks.

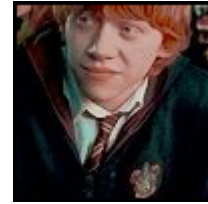
I felt like I was spending way too much time out of formation, but I didn't want to get knocked off my broom, either.

2013-01-19 13:01:00

Match Is ON!

Nice of the rain to let up a little.

Especially for all the replacement flyers out there.



 [alt_ron](#)



 [alt_hydra](#) at **2013-01-19 19:03:33**

(no subject)

Both teams seem a little more, well, raggedy than usual. Especially ours But that's only to be expected.



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-19 19:13:50**

(no subject)

Yeah.

I think Derwent and Croaker could use a bit of dance training and they'd be smoother in those formations they're meant to be flying. Maybe Harry should think about getting Daphne to help them out!

(Um. I'm only kidding, Johnson. Not really trying to help out another side!)




 [alt_daphne](#) at **2013-01-19 19:23:36**

(no subject)

Heh, you know, Weasley, that's not a half-bad idea at all. Glad you have so much faith in my abilities as an instructor.

Harry, when you read this later, I'd be happy to give the team dance lessons!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-19 19:26:37](#)
(no subject)

Well. You're the best dance instructor I've had.
And I have so much experience!

Heh.




 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-19 19:30:35](#)
(no subject)

Soon enough you'll be ready to give the
Gryffindor team dance lessons. ~~If you can keep~~

But do you think they'll ever forgive you?



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-19 19:38:28](#)
(no subject)

Not sure I'll ever forgive myself, actually.

The twins are over here talking about
choreographing a ballet on brooms. With me in a
tutu.

They're calling it The Bludger's Waltz.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-19 19:42:49](#)
(no subject)


That sounds horrid!

You in a tutu, I mean.

The idea of a ballet on brooms titled *The Bludger's Waltz*, on
the other hand, is well amusing.

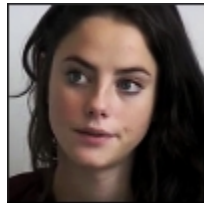
It's possible we're already watching it, though!



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-19 19:50:19](#)**
(no subject)

Too right about that.

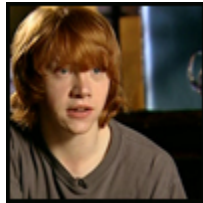
Peakes can't seem to hit one to save himself, but that may be better than your blokes who keep aiming for their own Chasers. Do you think Derwent understands that it's the blue robes he's meant to be knocking black and blue?




 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2013-01-19 19:58:29](#)**
(no subject)

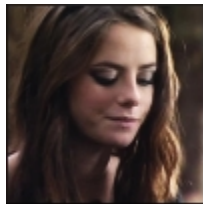
Yes, I've noticed that Sally Anne and Draco, especially, keep having to fly out of formation to avoid the bludgers.

Definitely not a waltz.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-19 20:07:24](#)**
(no subject)

I think I understand what Mr Krumgold means when he tells us we're meant to be keeping an eye on what everyone else is doing all the time, not just our own steps and turns. If he'd just said it's like Quidditch formations, I'd have understood straight off.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2013-01-19 20:21:43](#)**
(no subject)

Mr Krumgold really isn't a quidditcher type, Ron.

2013-01-19 13:26:00

More Exciting Than They Mean To Be

I haven't seen so many near falls off racing brooms since that last Gryffindor match when Weasley nearly launched himself off his and through the goal hoops. Four separate times.



 [alt_ernie](#)



 [alt_eloise](#) at [2013-01-19 19:43:37](#)

(no subject)

Hehe!! Good one, Erns!!

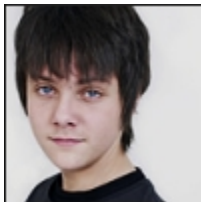


 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-19 19:44:33](#)

(no subject)

That was before I took up dance.

Now I'll know how to keep my eyes on the fixed point and hold a graceful line as I soar through the hoops.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-19 22:32:26](#)

(no subject)

Sally-Anne did all right, though, for a first match. Even if it was too quick a game for her to score.

[2013-01-19 13:54:00](#)

Order Only

I'm snatching a brief moment of quiet to tell you that I have a bit of a situation here on the ward.



 [alt_poppy](#)

Antonin Dolohov has suffered a relapse of the curse injuries that forced his retirement from 'diplomacy', and when I say 'relapse', I mean that he is entirely incapacitated and has had only scattered intervals of consciousness since he was found in his rooms yesterday afternoon. He had not been seen since sometime the previous day, and the elves report that he had not requested any meals.

I do wish that if these Councilwizards are to join us on the staff, they would take better care of themselves. It's the same thing again as when Rabastan Lestrangle was cursed. Only this time it is not Auror Lestrangle, but Auror Crouch keeping vigil at the bedside and 'overseeing' my work.

(Aurora Sinistra put it to me that 'if we tell Auror Crouch that 'Tosha' is ill, he'll be here in a heartbeat. If we don't tell him 'Tosha' is ill and he finds out later, he will storm in here one heartbeat after finding out, extremely annoyed he wasn't informed. Which would you prefer?' Not much of a choice, really.)

In any case, he's not my only guest. Armenius Fletcher (High Muckety-Muck and Healer to Our Lord's Nearest) arrived this morning first thing and is making his own assessment of the situation. I gather from his conversations with them, that we will shortly have the whole of Dolohov's specialist team here for a proper dressing down.

I intend to keep out of the middle of that if there is any chance of it. Not that I wish any of them ill, but it would not be inconvenient were there an injury or two brought up from the Quidditch match to occupy me.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2013-01-19 21:17:41](#)
(no subject)

Aurora did have rather a point. (She had a word along that line in my ear at lunch.)

It could be worse, I suppose - it could be one of the Carrows again, and you having to body bind the one to stay put, and the other foully looming.

Anyrate. Can I be of help? I watched part of the match, but it was miserable enough I came back in. I could arrange to brush up against something in the greenhouses that requires treatment, much as it hurts my professional dignity.

And - does this mean we should put off tomorrow's conversation? I'd much rather have you there, and I think we need you. But if you're not sure you can get away without notice, well.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-19 21:26:32](#)
(no subject)

Let me hold you in reserve? I've no wish to bruise your professional dignity unless it's truly necessary.

As for tomorrow's conversation with Aurora, let's wait and see. I shouldn't like to defer that, and who knows? Dolohov could have been whisked off to St Mungo's by then--or, well. One never knows what difference a day might make in a situation like this one.



 [alt_pomona](#) at [2013-01-19 21:49:20](#)
(no subject)

Right. You know where I am if you need a distraction.

And as to the rest. Well. True enough. And it's not like Aurora and I can't occupy ourself in conversation. We'd just need to know in time for Severus to be in place in advance.



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2013-01-19 22:27:11](#)**
(no subject)

I am at your disposal.




 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2013-01-19 21:39:56](#)**
(no subject)

I had wondered what was going on.

It is unsurprising that Crouch came running; out of all Dolohov's students, Crouch most clung to him, and was ever the favourite. Be careful: although Crouch may appear to be entirely taken up with Dolohov's illness, he sees more than he might give sign of. Be unimpeachable.

As to the rest -- I hesitate to say such, particularly when I have just finished telling you to take extra care and particularly since I know what your answer will be: however, I must point out that given the power struggle you are trying your utmost to stay out of the middle of, and given that too many potioneers spoil the brew, we may be in a perfect situation to rid ourselves of one of the Council. I doubt you would countenance outright action, but the same end may be able to be achieved simply by being slightly less diligent in your calling than you usually are. If your infirmary is to be invaded by outsiders -- perhaps you ought not mention anything they might be missing, and let Dolohov live or die by their care.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-19 22:03:02](#)**
(no subject)

My first impulse is to caution strongly against doing anything (or *not* doing anything) that could put you under any more unwanted scrutiny than you already are, Poppy.

If he were to die, there would no doubt be a full inquiry and you would be thoroughly questioned.

He is vulnerable, and were he to not recover, we would have rid ourselves of an influential (and still formidable) enemy. That is true.

I'm just not sure it's something you could get away with unscathed, even if you'd be willing.



 **alt_poppy** at [2013-01-19 22:19:38](#)
(no subject)

Severus, let me assure you that if his specialists should happen to fatally mismanage his care, I will not interfere. Likely I will not be allowed close enough to have opportunity.


I cannot promise the same should he reach that pass on my own watch. For the reasons you and Alice both evince, I should need to do my utmost to see him through. And in accordance with my oath.



 **alt_severus** at [2013-01-19 22:21:36](#)
(no subject)

I am sorry that you must consider such matters.



 **alt_sirius** at [2013-01-19 22:20:59](#)
(no subject)


Fletcher is rather an old-school Healer. Is he Crouch's own? Or Malfoy's?

Perhaps we could contrive for something to happen to Malfoy requiring Fletcher to divide his attentions between Scotland and Wiltshire. Heh.

But I agree with everyone else: you can't possibly be seen to take anything less than absolute care with his recovery. Although if this Fletcher bloke is really all that high up, perhaps *he'll* listen to you about the lack of potions ingredients like cinnibaris!

I suppose it would be too much to hope that you could convince him that Dolohov is well beyond your skills and he'd best assume full responsibility? That might be the best option, especially if you doubt that he *will* recover.



 **alt_poppy** at **2013-01-19 22:35:56**

(no subject)

Lucius Malfoy sent Fletcher to us. And, yes, he is 'old-school'. As am I, rather.

I'm afraid I cannot guess whether Dolohov will succumb or pull through. He has managed to complicate my position, however: in his first interval of consciousness after Fletcher arrived, he explained very clearly that he has placed himself in my care and does not trust the St Mungo's team to place his interests foremost.

You may guess how that sat with Fletcher.

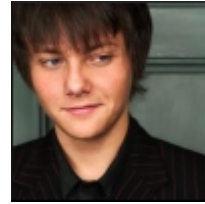
2013-01-19 15:32:00

Well done, Sally-Anne

It was a really quick match, but you did all right.

And even though Ravenclaw won (which was pretty much a foregone conclusion), you didn't let your side down and that's what's important.

Well. That and a Ravenclaw win, of course.



 **alt_michael**



 **alt_pansy** at **2013-01-19 22:56:02**

(no subject)

Ha ha.

It really was brilliant seeing her in uniform, though. Nicely done, Sally-Anne! And I think Slytherin had a good showing, considering.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2013-01-20 00:34:17**

(no subject)

Thanks.



 **alt_susan** at **2013-01-21 01:20:13**

(no subject)

Yeah, good flying, you!

2013-01-19 15:43:00

Well done, Slytherin!

Considering the changes to the roster, there can be no shame in today's outcome. Well done, everyone, truly, and particularly to our Captain.



 **alt_horace**

Harry, it was a strategically wise decision to end things when you did, lad. As it is, Ravenclaw may have won the match but we remain in a leading position for the Cup.

Speaking of changes in the roster, Harry, I wonder if you might come and see me after supper this evening? I heard that you took a decision or two following the match, that will naturally affect the side going forward.

On a non-sporting note, N.E.W.T.-level students, the Potions classroom shall be open to your use every Monday between now and your examinations for supervised practice. O.W.L. students in Slytherin and Ravenclaw may use the classroom on alternate Tuesdays beginning 5 February, and Hufflepuffs and Gryffindors may use the classroom on alternate Sundays beginning 3 February, should you wish for additional brewing opportunities. I've posted the rota on the door for reference.

Finally, there shall be a House meeting tomorrow at noon.



 **alt_harry** at **2013-01-19 22:58:00**
(no subject)

Yes, sir, I'll come by.



 **alt_umbridge** at **2013-01-20 01:47:20**
Private message to Horace Slughorn

Horace -

By now, I'm sure Miss Perks has stopped by to see you. If she has not, I'd appreciate you letting me know as soon as possible, but I feel certain she'll have done as she was

told.


I would certainly appreciate anything more about the matter you can share, as more details about student dynamics can only be a help to me.

Now, I did have a number of fascinating little chats with most of the Board members who were here today. I feel certain that we'll be seeing some rapid progress towards a teensy number of the goals you and I have discussed in the near future. I've appointments to speak to several on Wednesday, and of course, if there's anything I can bring up on your behalf, I'd be glad to do so.

Tea on Monday, to discuss this matter and anything else that comes up? Or will you need to be supervising students? (So good of you to put yourself out for their studying, really.)

Dolores



 **alt_horace** at **2013-01-20 17:00:38**
Re: Private message to Horace Slughorn

Dolores,

Forgive me for replying this morning, rather than last night, but given that you were wise enough to send Miss Perks directly to me, I'm sure you understand that my evening was rather occupied following through.

You were absolutely right to have her come to me without delay--without *further* delay, I should say, for it seems on discussion with her that Mr Bletchley has been playing havoc for some time already. How I do wish our young ladies would be more forthcoming about these problems. It's no surprise to me that Miles has always had a... rather licentious attitude toward the fairer sex. His father was cut from the same cloth, in his way. Shame, when these boys believe it their due to experience the joys of growing up and neglect to think of the young witch's reputation or safety in the pursuit of indulging their own prurient phantasies.

Given Miss Perks' testimony and also that of Mr Marvolo, whom I had asked to speak to me on the related matter of Mr Bletchley's termination from the Quidditch side, naturally, I could not ignore this situation. I contacted Miss Wright, who with some tearful

embarrassment corroborated the tale, and then reached Lawrence, Miles' father, at home. I invited him to come through by Floo so we could catch up and chat. Once I assured myself that I had his cooperation, I had Miles join us. You understand that often the authority of a teacher must be reinforced by the comparative dominion of the parent.

Naturally, Miles claimed that his actions were entirely invited by the witches in question; I can assure you that while I am no Healer or MLE officer, the experience of 60 years of teaching has made me an excellent judge of when one of my pupils is embroidering the truth.

Between the two of us we impressed upon Mr Bletchley the error of his ways and have ensured that if he again attempts to press his attentions on an unwilling partner, he shall find himself unable to, er, complete his act. (Lawrence went further, as I had primed him to do, stressing the undesirable complications that might arise should he taint himself by using inferior stock, regardless of the temptation or the unfortunate presumption that such actions could have no lasting consequences. I leave such judgements to the parents, of course: If Lawrence has come to understand the dangers in terms of miscegenation rather than respect, who am I to disabuse him.)

In any event, the matter should be resolved; I have further reminded Miles of Mr Bole's fate last year and promised him that if he should seek any other form of retaliation against any of his victims, he shall not only be expelled, but I shall personally take the matter to MLE.

And of course, it only drives home the point we discussed over supper recently: To wit, the need for all of us here on the staff to communicate and cooperate effectively in order to maintain discipline and order. Again, my sincere thanks for your astute and quick action in bringing this matter to my attention.

Tea tomorrow will be a trifle difficult. However I should be happy to invite you to my office for a nightcap, if you wish. I do want to pop in to the Hospital Wing this afternoon to see how Antonin Nikolaevich is doing. Another worry to add to the pile.

Yours sincerely,

HEF Slughorn



 [alt_umbridge](#) at 2013-01-20 18:54:59

Re: Private message to Horace Slughorn

Horace -

Oh, goodness. I had no idea you'd act on it so swiftly. And I certainly had not expected to complicate your evening as thoroughly as it appears I did.

I suppose these difficult situations do come up. And I must admit, the thought crossed my mind that perhaps Miss Perks wished to get Mr Bletchley in trouble for some petty reason of her own. But naturally, I defer to your judgement (especially after speaking to Miss Wright). And of course, Lawrence Bletchley is quite right about the dangers of inappropriate liaisons, whatever the cause.

At any rate, it is most reassuring to have someone with your deep experience of the school at hand, able to act decisively when necessary. And I do quite agree that it simply reinforces the need for clear and direct communication of any teensy difficulties.

I would love to speak tonight, as tomorrow would be a problem for you. I have mentioned, I know, that part of my remit is to provide an independent perspective on the function of the school and how well it is fulfilling the goals of the Board and the Protectorate as a whole. I do believe the Board are considering a number of matters, and I would very much like to see you on the proper foot in ensuing discussions. I'm speaking to various others of the staff, of course, but you have by far the longest reach among former students, and I'd particularly value your insight.

You've always done so much for the school and your students, and this episode simply shows your continuing commitment, I'm sure. As to Antonin, quite. Do let me know when you're available afterwards, and I am at your disposal for a chat.

Dolores

2013-01-19 18:22:00

Slytherin/Ravenclaw Quidditch


Well played all. It was exciting and instructive to see the players who make up the future of quidditch here at Hogwarts get time on the pitch in front of everyone.



 **alt_cedric**

Hufflepuff quidditchers, if you have any interest in securing my recommendation to Professor Sprout as my successor in the captaincy, please give me a written analysis of today's game before our practice next Saturday. Focus on the players you think are likely to be starters next year (tell me why you think they are likely starters as well. Did Harry make the right choice to catch the snitch when he did? Did Ms Chang's play force him to make the losing catch? How would you decide between Mr Crabbe & Mr Goyle and Mr Derwent & Mr Croaker for the beater positions? How would you prepare our side to play either of the teams of likely starters you identified? and any other pertinent analysis you might wish to make. I like to see this analysis in writing before our practice session next Saturday.



 **alt_susan** at **2013-01-20 23:13:04**
(no subject)

Sounds interesting!

I don't think I'd want to try for captain, since it's just my first year on the side, but I'm sort of tempted to do the analysis just for fun.

Well, and to clear my mind from thinking about O.W.L.s!

2013-01-19 19:31:00


*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To
No Good*



Bugger.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-20 03:42:11**
(no subject)

What's the matter?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-20 03:45:56**
(no subject)

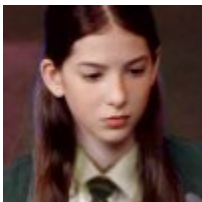
Well you saw Umbridge tried to make me read my
PM at dinner.

Harry interrupted but I still had to read it in her
office. and to Slughorn. Actually talking to Slughorn wasn't as bad
as I thought it would be, although -- well.

I'm just

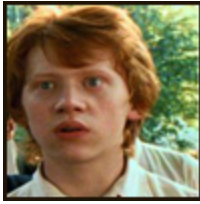
this whole thing

ugh



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-20 03:46:12**
Private message to Ron

It's Letchley. Again.



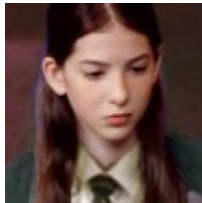
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-20 03:53:38](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Oh.

No. That's so not on.

Wait. So what did the PM have to do with it? I thought that was about Quidditch. I mean Harry was so 'it's private between us' and all.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-20 03:56:31](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Maybe that's what everyone will think. That would be good, actually.

No. It was about Bletchley. When I came out of the Hospital Wing last night he was waiting for me on the way back to Slytherin.

He didn't, I mean I was able to get away from him. But it was awful scary and Pansy saw and she ~~made me~~ wanted me to tell Harry about it. I'd already told him I didn't ever want to be alone with Bletchley after quidditch practice, there was this day he followed me in -- anyway.

That's what the PM was about.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-20 03:57:41](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

And I think Madam Umbridge thought I'd done what Zach did. Wrote a PM so everyone -- so I'd HAVE to read it out loud.

She thought I was lying.

But I think Professor Slughorn believed me. He acted like he was taking it seriously, at least.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-20 04:05:47](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

She thought you'd lie about that?

She is so-

She's a menace. I cannot even believe her!

All right. Look.

There's got to be something we can do to make sure Letchley can't ever catch you alone. Until they send him down or whatever they're going to do to him.

Wait. When do you work with Madam P again?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-20 04:14:30](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

I'm there right now.

Pansy and Harry walked me here.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-20 04:20:25](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

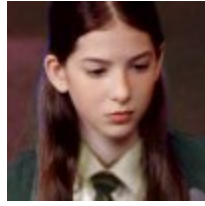
When do you get done?

Are they still there with you?

If not, then-

No, actually, look. Even if Pansy's still there with you, I'm coming to walk you back. It's safer that way.

Should I come down there now?



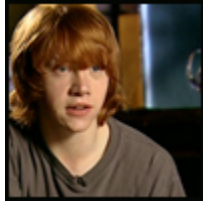
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-20 04:22:50](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

They're not, actually, they had things to do.
~~Harry said he could walk me home again but~~

You don't need to come now. I'm done at fifteen minutes before curfew -- but you'll need time to get back to Gryffindor. Come a half hour before curfew. Madam P won't mind me leaving a little early.

And thank you.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-20 04:27:48](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

No worries.

I'll be there.

How're things in the hospital wing tonight? Dolohov still there? Anything else interesting?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-20 04:38:48](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

Oh yeah, Dolohov's still here. He's been awake a few times but only really briefly.

There's this pack of five Healers that came from St Mungo's plus this Healer who I guess knows Mr Malfoy who is about 210 years old, I think, he's ANCIENT. Healer Fletcher.

They went through all of Dolohov's records. He got cursed -- I guess we knew that? -- last year on the continent. Fletcher's been acting like Head Inquisitor demanding that the St Mungo's Healers explain every last detail of the care he's been getting (like, 'HEALER SMITH, why PRECISELY did you decide to give your patient the Diddlytoodle Elixir in place of the Whangjobber Potion? And having made THAT decision, why did you THEN decide to take him OFF the Diddlytoodle Elixir?')

And then he demanded that they all come into Madam P's work room and I couldn't overhear as well but I could tell he was shouting at them and then he sent them all back to St Mungo's and said they should return in the morning.

And since then he's been acting like Madam P is his personal assistant and HE is the Healer In Charge on the premises although right now he's off in her workroom doing some test on his blood or maybe actually his urine, I'm not sure, and oh ALSO this whole time Auror Crouch has been sitting in a corner glaring at absolutely everyone, including me, anytime I pass through the room.

So yeah. Interesting night.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-20 04:40:57](#)

Re: Private message to Ron

OH AND ALSO

this was sort of funny

LINUS MOON turned up.

He had detention with Professor Dolohov tonight. Actually it was sort of sweet, he brought a book to read to him. Which I'm sure Dolohov would have liked, actually, if he'd been awake enough to hear it but not strong enough to read to himself.

He got packed off back to Ravenclaw and I think Madam P was a little irritated that he'd thought this was a good idea. Which is a little unfair (how was Moon supposed to know he's in no shape to appreciate someone reading to him?) but I think she's having an extremely stressful evening.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-20 04:45:37](#)

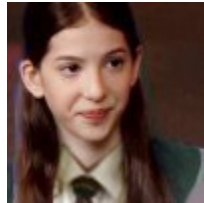
Re: Private message to Ron


Heh. Moon. What a goose.

Must have been interesting, though, to see all those Healers trying to figure out what's

wrong with Professor Dolohov.

Do you think he's getting any better?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-20 04:49:27](#)
Re: Private message to Ron

Is IS interesting.


But no. I don't think he's getting any better. He's not getting any worse, either, at least.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-20 04:46:59](#)
Re: Private message to Ron

Oh. And. Promise me you'll never make anyone take Diddlytoodle Elixir. That sounds wretched.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-20 04:50:27](#)
Re: Private message to Ron

That wasn't the real name! Only I couldn't remember what the real name was.

Anyway I can guarantee you if I get to be a Healer I'll make people take wretched potions. That's practically the main part of the job, as far as I can tell. Or maybe it's just school matrons who do it that way.



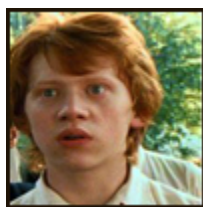
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-20 04:52:24](#)
Re: Private message to Ron

Did you know there's a potion you can give people to stop them wetting the bed?

I had no idea. Apparently it even tastes good, unlike most of the rest of what she gives out.

(I haven't seen who she gives it to and I wouldn't tell anyway, even if it were Letchley. That would be wrong. But she had me go through the potions she gives out a lot and make a

bunch of notes on what they were and then she had me look to see how much she had of everything.)



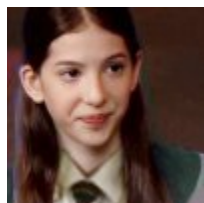
 **[alt_ron at 2013-01-20 05:05:51](#)**

Re: Private message to Ron

Oh.

Oooops.

I'm on my way! Tell Madam P not to send you off till I get there, yeah?



 **[alt_sally_anne at 2013-01-20 05:11:12](#)**

Re: Private message to Ron

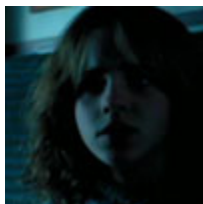
Oh, she won't, she's busy with Dolohov, actually.

He woke up, a little, and wanted to talk to her. And to Auror Crouch.

I guess he doesn't trust the Healers from St Mungo's or even Healer Fletcher particularly because he told her, 'YOU are my Healer. None of the others. I trust YOU.' And then he turned to Auror Crouch and said something in Russian (or whatever it is he speaks) and then said, 'SHE is my Healer, and YOU I will trust to ensure the rest don't interfere with her!'

And then he passed out cold again and now Auror Crouch is following Madam P around like ... I don't even know. Like a really, really annoying incredibly intimidating crup, maybe?

Anyway she's far too distracted to chuck me out.



 **[alt_hermione at 2013-01-20 03:55:32](#)**

Private Message to Sally-Anne and Harry

Harry said he cut Letch from the side and was planning to tell Professor Slughorn why, anyway.

What do you think Professor Slughorn will do? Do you

think Letch might come after you again?

We should get Evelyn's portkey and smuggle it into his pocket again. Just in case.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-20 03:59:34](#)**

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Harry

Yeah. I don't know what Professor Slughorn will do, actually, he seemed to think he could 'take care of it' but I'm not sure what he has in mind.

I like the idea of sending him back to the MLE dungeon but won't they just let him go again? then he'll be twice as cross and he's already going to be REALLY REALLY REALLY CROSS I mean I got him kicked off the side AND Slughorn's angry at him AND ... yeah.

I don't know.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-20 04:02:52](#)**

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Harry

We could pin a note to it. Something he can't see until he gets there. Something that will send him away?

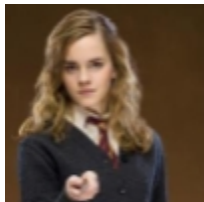
We could say that he's a spy for DogStar.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-20 04:15:26](#)**

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Harry

They might give him veritaserum and they'll for SURE think I did it once they realise it was all a lie.

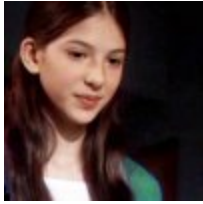
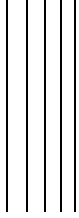



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-20 04:18:38](#)**

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Harry

Then it has to be something he can't lie about.

Which, as it happens, we know what he's done in the past.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-20 04:24:55](#)**
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Harry

Right. I even have a name. Agnes Wright, last year, apparently.

2013-01-20 19:11:00

Order Only: Astronomers



 [alt_severus](#)

Poppy, Pomona, and I have spoken with Sinistra and she has provided a result: to the best of her ability to gauge such matters, the rite took place on the southern portion of the Outer Hebrides. The imprecisions inherent in the information available to her mean she was unable to be as accurate as she might like -- clearly the cause of some frustration. Her first-pass approximation was the isle of Barra; she then asked whether there were any additional distinguishing features of the site that might provide additional clues. When she was told of the standing stone, she consulted her atlas of such features and revised her answer slightly southward to the site of Beinn Ruilibreac on Vatersay, but was clear that measure of specificity could only be provided by cross-reference and not by calculation.

She provided a full accounting of her methods and results for someone to verify her work (and confirmed the verification, though not the initial calculation, should be within the capacity of anyone who took an astronomy NEWT and has not forgot everything they learnt), but was clear that anyone of her Guild, or who knew her work -- including, most likely, many students of Hogwarts in the past decade or so -- seeing those notes would know she had provided them. (The promise she enacted in tender for her help was that we would not share that evidence of her assistance 'with anyone who would use that against me, against Raz, or against those we're responsible for', which Poppy and Pomona acceded to on behalf of the Order as a whole; in service to the keeping of that promise I have transcribed Sinistra's notes and diagrams, checked the copies thrice over for accuracy, and burnt the originals so at least they are no longer in her own hand, though the style of her work is apparently also sufficiently identifying. Those copies are locked in my most secure cupboard until I might hand them over.)

She requested Obliviation at the conclusion of our discussion, which I provided.

I will add my subjective observations of the conversation and the additional information we received below, and encourage Poppy and Pomona to do the same if they are able.



 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2013-01-21 00:30:53](#)**
(no subject)

She *requested* Obliviation?

What exactly had you told her?



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-21 01:19:49](#)**
(no subject)

Remus, I told Aurora at the outset that what we wished to speak with her about was something sensitive with which we were not entirely certain she would feel she could help. I endeavoured to be as frank as I could--in part because I was relatively certain that even the portion of the memory we were intending to show her would allow her to work out what event we were attempting to learn about. I felt sure she knew enough about it that there was a good chance she'd guess. And, indeed, that was true.

I told her that we were asking strictly for her assistance as an astronomer skilled in locational calculations and that we would not ask her to betray Rabastan's confidence in any way. Beyond that I said: 'We are asking because this knowledge could do a great deal of real good, and we both--Pomona and I--believe it's of the utmost importance that we learn what we can. Enough to take a great risk here because we trust you and your fundamental good will towards us'.

She was, quite reasonably, struck speechless by the nature and manner of the request. I believe. In any case, she hesitated for long enough that I offered that we could arrange to Obliviate her so that she would not remember any of our conversation. And that proved to be the sticking point.

So, yes. I made the offer pre-emptively, and when we had finished, she requested that we Obliviate her as we had offered to do.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-21 01:05:51](#)
(no subject)

Sinistra's reactions in general were more interesting than the information she was able to give. When first presented with the question of whether she would assist, in most general terms, she would not say yes or no immediately: she did not even speak until after she had been offered Obliviation such that she would not remember the request had even been made, should she not feel able to help. I was watching unobserved; I do not know if Poppy or Pomona saw the look on her face, but that was the moment she realised the weight of the matter, and that matters were far more serious than a simple navigational calculation.

Rather than succumbing to a fit of the moral vapours, she asked two questions: whether the request we had of her related to the long-term good of the students and the school, and whether we could Obliviate her after she had provided that help. (Her exact phrasing being, 'I do not want to betray you in any way.' The tone in which she said it made it quite clear she feared involuntary or forced disclosure; logical, when one is marrying into a family that includes Bellatrix Lestrange.) I thought it most interesting that she immediately leapt to the conclusion we were speaking of matters treasonous: further conversation made it clear to me such thoughts were not new to her and that she is far less in charity with the Dark Lord's régime than might appear from her public seeming.

Once I made my presence known, to assure her we were capable of removing her memory of the conversation after it was complete, she did recognise me, and seemed wary but not unwilling to continue. She did ask whether we were responsible for, or found ourselves in charity with, the more violent actions of groups such as Dogstar and the IMA. Her willingness to accept Poppy and Pomona's assurances in that matter should indicate at least some measure of the trust she places in them; this may prove useful in future. On that thrust: when requesting Sinistra's help, Poppy was explicit that she was not asking Sinistra to betray Rabastan Lestrange's confidences nor seeking to exploit Sinistra's newly-achieved august social connections, and that our need of her expertise was a one-time appeal to Sinistra's professional skill and expertise. Once Sinistra had satisfied herself we were not seeking the violent overthrow of the Dark Lord, and that our overall goal was to restore a more equitable society for all, she coöperated fully and freely with our requests -- and provided Poppy

and Pomona with a parchment upon which she had written a message to herself, to serve as proof to herself that the bearer of said message was trustworthy, should we be in need of her skills in the future in service to our stated aims.

(She was candid about the quote's source and the meaning -- a reference to Chinese astronomy that apparently holds personal meaning -- and encouraged us to verify its provenance, but of course we cannot be certain of that personal meaning and cannot be certain it is not a coded message to warn herself against its bearer rather than a positive identification. By the tenor of the conversation I do not believe her capable of such deception; she seemed entirely forthright in her wariness of the Dark Lord and His methods. But we cannot be certain.)

Once the memory had been viewed and she provided her results, we spoke further; I wished to see what other information she might be willing to give. That proved to be surprisingly more than I might have expected; she was clearly puzzling through what she felt she could and could not disclose, but just as clearly, her loyalties are more complex than one might think. (She was also visibly vexed that no-one had hinted to her of a resistance to the Dark Lord's régime that did not follow the example of the more militant insurgents, and outright stated there are others who share her opinions there, and who disapprove of current conditions but do not know any meaningful way to enact change.) Of note:

№ 1. She admitted the Council is aware that the Dark Lord is 'very unpredictable' and that at least several of them believe this is not in the best interests of the Protectorate. While she was scrupulous about not speculating as to motive or identifying any of the Council members of whom she was speaking, the knowledge we already have, through Minerva, makes me think Malfoy and Selwyn, at very least, might be wavering in their devotions. Quite possibly others.

№ 2. She did not once speak of Rabastan Lestrangle's loyalties at all; the absence was telling. By what she said and did not say, she did reveal, without realising she had done so, that she and Lestrangle discuss many matters frequently and openly with each other, but do not discuss the issues of their respective loyalties. From how carefully she was choosing her words, it is clear she believes Lestrangle has been ill-treated by his master; I could not guess whether Lestrangle might agree or whether it is her perception alone. There may be a way to exploit that.

№ 3. She explicitly stated her primary loyalties were to Hogwarts and to the safety and wellbeing of the students -- over and above her loyalties to Lestrage, even. If matters should come to a head in the future, I believe she could easily be persuaded to be of use to our operations, even without knowledge of what those operations and goals might be, if things are presented to her in such light. (Minerva, I also believe in the sincerity of her desire to be of assistance to you in your confrontations with Dolores Umbridge, whom she clearly not only despises but feels is a danger to the students.)

№ 4. She willingly and without much prompting related several instances of the Council's concern at the Dark Lord's actions -- Malfoy, Selwyn, and Crouch conspiring behind the scenes and in the heat of the moment to redirect the Dark Lord's insanity at last year's Frost Faire games, for instance, and the tale Minerva told us about His retribution after the New London explosion. Sinistra did not go into any detail beyond the barest of fact, but cross-referencing from Minerva's information and from the interactions overheard at the rite, I would wager Malfoy in particular is finding his loyalties to the Dark Lord sorely tested these days. I am certain there is no way to exploit that, as Malfoy goes where the winds of power blow, but if those winds of power should shift decisively enough in future, we will almost certainly be able to rely on, and possibly exploit, Malfoy's desire to land on his feet.

№ 5. She was explicit that she and Dolohov talk frequently and in depth as well, and that Dolohov is often candid with her; she said she trusts him to tell her the truth, though he is open that there are things he cannot tell her. I would not wish to rely on her ability to gauge truthfulness; as we all know, Antonin Dolohov is capable of lying undetected to persons far more able to perceive falsehood than Sinistra is. We should, however, keep in mind that she, at least, believes Dolohov willing to speak openly with her: she spoke of discussions they have had about Dolores Umbridge, for instance -- there was quite the tangent about Umbridge's goals and motives, which are apparently confounding Lestrage and Dolohov and which they discuss frequently -- but also intimated that Dolohov is willing to answer questions she asks him about the reality of the Dark Lord's service. I cannot think of any way that might be useful to us in future; I am certain Sinistra would be unwilling to serve as conduit for information and I am certain Dolohov would spot any attempt to impersonate her. But again, it is something to keep in mind.

Related to that last point, something I did not consciously note at the time but is interesting in retrospect: Sinistra did say that 'Tosha' had


not told her much detail of the rite, and that she had not pushed him to tell her -- implying that had she done so, he might have -- but he did say they had made changes to the rite at the last minute, and those changes were 'something more in keeping with her values and priorities than the original plan would have been'. She did not seem to question that statement, which says she not only believes Dolohov understands her values, but that she trusts his evaluation thereof.

Combining that with Minerva's information that the boy originally stood hostage for his family's good behaviour, this not only makes me wonder what that 'something else' might have been -- and why the change to the rite was made, at last minute and apparently to great trouble -- but also makes me wonder whether, in their haste to make those changes, they may have made a mistake we might exploit.

Alice has asked me to turn my attention to solving the problem of this rite and its implication for the wards; now that we have a location, tentative though it might be, I plan to make an expedition at soonest opportunity. Macnair: if you are amenable, I would be most appreciative if you were able to accompany me.

I will also observe that Sinistra's point about there being a network of anti-Protectorate sentiment waiting to be tapped may be a sign we have shrouded ourselves too far in secrecy. If there indeed are others who would respond well to a message of sedition without violence, we should consider making sure that message begins falling on fertile ground.



 **alt_pomona** at **2013-01-21 01:40:30**
(no subject)

Severus, I don't have a great deal to add to your very precise assessment, except to add my agreement to the notion of finding ways to get our message planted in some potentially fertile fields.

The stones in our way are obvious, but I think we should at least ponder how to begin tilling, so to speak.

And as for Aurora, I trust that if it comes time to have this talk again, she shan't be too put out. She always *has* been a practical soul, when her head's not in the stars.




 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-21 01:50:40](#)
(no subject)

Quite.

That Sinistra's first and most immediate question was whether we were allied with groups such as the IMA and Dogstar -- despite her trust in you and Poppy -- was extremely telling. If we have failed to give the general populace an alternate model of resistance such that even someone inclined to think upon you with charity immediately assumes you are allied with that lot upon hearing that you oppose the Dark Lord...

Your reassurance to her worked in this case, but how can we generalise that to the population at large?




 [alt_pomona](#) at [2013-01-21 01:59:06](#)
(no subject)

That's the puzzler, to be sure, since in Aurora's case I leant rather heavily on our years of friendship (and a bit of mentorship on my part) and common House affiliation.

And she's had ample time to watch me going about my duties as Head of House; that likely lent some weight to my words about acting on behalf of our students. Which is just the sort of thing that wouldn't wash with people beyond a close circle.

But the House affiliation thing might have some promise--that is to say, each of us could think about what sorts of appeals might reach those with whom we spend our schooldays.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-21 05:05:08](#)
(no subject)

My word. What an extremely informative session you managed to have with her. I am impressed. Well done, all of you.

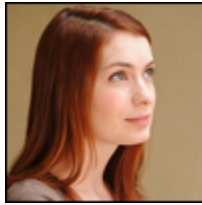
I can come along on any expedition to scout the location she has given you, in case it helps us verify the information. I realise the


rest of you who viewed the memory saw a picture of the site, though, so my presence may not be necessary, but I'm willing.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2013-01-21 06:08:58](#)
(no subject)

Dumbledore mentioned at the meeting that he wanted to go along to inspect the site, once we had a location, too.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-21 18:02:42](#)
(no subject)


Yes. And the sooner we visit the site, the better.

Severus and Mac, if you could accompany Albus, that would be preferable. Kingsley and Frank can process the scene as well.

Bill, if you would be willing to come along, your presence might prove helpful.

Would tonight be too soon?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-21 23:35:20](#)
(no subject)

Tonight is fine.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-21 04:01:25](#)
(no subject)


Severus?



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-21 04:03:47](#)
(no subject)

Yes?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-21 04:07:20](#)
(no subject)

I-

Never mind.

Something's come up.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-21 04:27:50](#)
(no subject)

Do you need help with something?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-21 04:28:30](#)
(no subject)

No.

It's done.

And no undoing it.

I feel quite ill.




 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-21 04:36:43](#)
(no subject)

Poppy, there are several things you could mean by that dire pronouncement and I do not dare to guess which of the many variations you might have arrived at.

What have you done? And are you in need of someone to dispose of a body, or someone to arrange for there to be one?



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-21 04:42:36](#)
(no subject)

Ha.

Oh.

Oh, dear.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-21 04:45:01](#)
(no subject)

No.

I'm sorry. I-

No. There is no body. And I hope I've seen to it there will not be one.

But-

I've done more than pass over an opportunity.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-21 04:49:04](#)
(no subject)

'Oh, dear' indeed.

You would not be so distraught were the problem with any patient other than Dolohov. I shall take it there was a crisis.

Do you need someone else there to distract the interlopers from looking too closely at you? I can invent an excuse for Milland to seek treatment.



 **alt_poppy** at [2013-01-21 05:07:39](#)
(no subject)

The interlopers, thank Paracelsus, are gone.

But this mess was entirely of their making, confound it. I've spent the evening sorting through the files and charts they left behind (incomplete, of course--none of them expected I'd be capable of sorting out what they'd done).

And Fletcher--to his credit, he sorted through the hash Kosta's lot have made of the treatment and decided his own alternative treatment--Fletcher left me with detailed instructions about what to do with the draught he's concocted, but after he'd left, wouldn't you know, Dolohov began to slip.

The new draught is not a gentle thing and the transition from one course to this new one, well--

I followed instructions to the letter, but when it was time for the second dose, that caused an immediate crisis.



 **alt_severus** at [2013-01-21 05:15:33](#)
(no subject)

I see.

I take it that in the heat of the moment you could not countenance the thought of waiting for Fletcher to take charge of the matter?

I suppose it is understandable.



 **alt_poppy** at [2013-01-21 05:21:17](#)
(no subject)

Fletcher couldn't be reached.

I suppose he went to his club for supper and a drink. He'd a right to think he'd earned it.

Severus-

I made a choice I'm not proud of. (Afraid I'll be quite ashamed of myself when I'm more clear-headed than I feel at the moment.)

He was at the point of death, and I had two phials of Cinnabaris here.

Now I have only one.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-21 05:23:52](#)**
(no subject)

Oh.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-21 05:24:18](#)**
(no subject)


Well



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-21 05:24:48](#)**
(no subject)

Bugger.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-21 05:25:40](#)**
(no subject)

Quite.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-21 05:26:29](#)
(no subject)

You WHAT

Poppy, if there is any way that potion may be traced to you or that the other healers will be able to tell you have used that potion upon him we must get you out of this castle at once.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-21 05:36:28](#)
(no subject)

I don't expect them back.

And as far as Crouch knows, it was merely a very rocky transition from the old regimen to Fletcher's. I do not believe he has anyway of knowing that I used anything unauthorised, and in any case, what I did use made the difference, so at the moment he seems inclined to credit me with all.

As for Fletcher, I hope to be able to report tomorrow that his prescription has shown real merit. I've read his notes, and I think it ought, in fact, to be a sound course. (It would have been better for Dolohov if Fletcher had had care of him from the start.) Only, it came too late and proved a rough mercy.

At any rate, I'm prepared to brave it out.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-21 05:40:06](#)
(no subject)

I pray that you are correct. For Mr Weasley's sake, as well as your own.

What's done is done, I suppose.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-21 05:46:04](#)**
(no subject)

Yes. You're quite right. I've taken a risk with Charlie's safety as well as my own.

Let us hope there is not a need for a post mortem in the next 48 hours.

In any case, it was not merely a Cinnabaris vitalis draught I gave him. Perhaps the companion dose of Le Mort's Elixir Asthmaticum would confound analysis.

Though-


Well, as I'm coming clean entirely, I will confess there is one person who knows perfectly well what I gave him.



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2013-01-21 05:54:48](#)**
(no subject)

I fear to ask, but: Who is that?



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-21 05:59:11](#)**
(no subject)

He was conscious. Dying and aware he was dying, gasping for breath-

But capable of recognising what I poured in the glass for him. I have little doubt that he knew. It was clear when he met my eye.

Perhaps the crisis will leave him with no memory of the event, but I shan't count on that.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-21 06:01:59](#)
(no subject)

...I see.

The evening did lack only that, yes.



 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-21 06:32:51](#)
(no subject)

I don't understand how you could

He killed my


You said you weren't going to

How could you save him when no one could save my father

I've tried and tried to write something here and I can't make it come out the way it ought.

Just try and get word to me as quickly as possible if I'll have to make a run for it.




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-21 06:38:53](#)
(no subject)

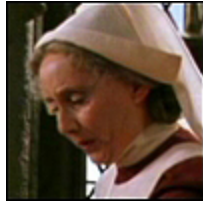
I am equally at loss what to say in answer to you.


Except to promise that I will give you whatever notice I can if there is reason to fear an inquiry.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-21 05:44:13](#)
(no subject)

Poppy, you didn't! Not for him!



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-21 05:52:22](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry, Molly.


You are quite entitled to be distressed.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-21 05:54:57](#)
(no subject)


he murdered my brothers...



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-21 05:56:22](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Mum....




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-21 05:59:48](#)
(no subject)

Yes.

And I'm afraid that the most I can say for myself is that I have declined to commit murder by omitting care it was in my power to give.

I realise that's no consolation to you.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-21 04:51:52](#)
(no subject)

What exactly did you do, Poppy?




 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-21 05:08:45](#)**
(no subject)

Followed orders and very nearly killed my patient.

And then broke all protocol, violated commonsense, and seem to have saved his life.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-21 05:16:57](#)**
(no subject)


Remus.

I've done something rash, I'm afraid.

It seemed, in the moment, that I should do my utmost to save him.

But I confess I may have been motivated more by Crouch's looming presence than by true faithfulness to my Healer's oath. And, certainly, I've not put my oath to the Order foremost.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-21 05:21:21](#)**
(no subject)

Steady on, Poppy. It's preferable to the alternative, which is that he should die on your watch and then Crouch or anyone else take it into their heads that you're to blame.

Still, bugger all, I can see why you'd feel torn in two.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-21 05:22:41](#)**
(no subject)

Ah, Sirius.

The worst of it is what I did to save him.

2013-01-20 21:09:00

*Private Message to Mafalda Hopkirk
and Ned Pennifold*

Will not be in tomorrow.

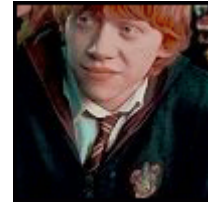
P: Clear obligations through Tuesday a.m.
(don't reschedule until you hear further)



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

2013-01-20 23:10:00

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



 [alt_ron](#)

So I should come at the same time tonight, right?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-21 05:14:04**

(no subject)

Oh!

Sorry, I should have written.

No. I went for my shift but Auror Crouch apparently didn't want me there (in fact, I think he'd have been rather happier if Madam Pomfrey had closed down the entire infirmary except for Professor Dolohov) so she sent me back to Slytherin. Harry and Pansy walked me back again.

Thank you, though.

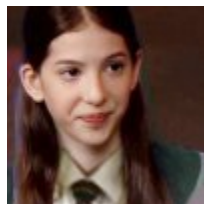


 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-21 05:27:10**

(no subject)

Oh.

He made you leave? Ugh.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **2013-01-21 05:29:51**

(no subject)

Yeah. He seemed even crosser tonight than he did last night. I don't know if that means that Dolohov is doing worse, or just that Auror Crouch has barely slept or eaten because he's so worried (that would make even a nice person a little tense, I think).



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-21 05:39:28](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'm glad you don't have to be there with a cross Crouch. That could be fatal!

Yeah, I know. That would be funnier if it weren't quite so true.

Say. Does Daphne know he's here?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 05:46:28](#)
(no subject)

Yes, it really would.

And NO. She's been so busy with the Revue we haven't chatted much recently. And I don't think very many people even know he's here -- well, unless they were in the hospital wing. Maybe she HAS heard.

2013-01-21 09:28:00

Best foot forward

Let us all begin the new week bright and chipper and cheerful! Take the time today to remind someone how to be their best possible self in service to the school and to our glorious Protectorate.



 **alt_umbridge**

Those students who have been selected to be of particular assistance to the school should have received notes this morning.

I am also delighted to note we are rolling out our little daily essay project. Each evening at supper, beginning tonight, one of you children, selected at random, will receive a note with two possible essay choices. If selected, you are expected to post your essay (on one of the indicated topics) to your journal the following day. Failure to do so without excellent cause will result in additional opportunities to improve yourself.

CCF students:

We will be occupied all day next Sunday in activities designed to test your limits of understanding, knowledge, and skill. I am sure you will all do as splendidly as your respective abilities allow. As with last year, a great deal of the exercise will be about how you handle the unexpected, so we are providing very little detail in advance to anyone not directly involved in planning the activities.

The following CCF students should please stop by my office for some additional information at their earliest opportunity: Marvolo, Moon, Patil, Smith, Zabini, Greengrass, MacMillan.



 **alt_umbridge** at **2013-01-21 14:47:11**

Private message to Poppy Pomfrey

Poppy -

To reassure you that you will not be overly burdened - especially as you are still, I am sure, dealing with Antonin's care - I wanted to be sure to tell you that Luxovius Kerr will be present to assist on Sunday. As you may remember, he was a great help with last year's outdoor CCF activity and then became the Healer's representative to the YPL Committee this fall. And I'm sure we're both delighted to welcome him here to Hogwarts.

I believe he may be in touch to confirm available supplies in case of need, but he will also be conducting some simple research studies, already fully approved by St Mungo's. I am confident you will give him every possible assistance, but he assures me that his demands on you will likely be very minimal other than perhaps a little treatment space if necessary.

I'm sure plenty of others have offered their assistance regarding Antonin's needs, and that I can instead turn my attention to other demands.

D.



 **[alt_umbridge](#)** at **[2013-01-21 15:11:14](#)**

Private message to Marston Strangeweale and Latimer Caldwell

Gentlemen -

I do abhor this waiting. Regrettably for our purposes, Minerva has been rather more attentive to her duty the past week or two than months previously. Nonetheless, one must press forward. I had brief conversations with a number of the Board this weekend (I suppose that Quidditch must be useful for something) and will be following up with a number of parties on Wednesday when I am in New London.

I am glad you did not give any credence to the trivial concerns raised by Auror Wright. I am sure she does know her job, but really, the years that the YPL has been running, there have been few notable problems, and nearly all of them can be laid at the feet of the students involved, or Aurora's poor judgement in grouping.

Naturally, when we're working solely with the CCF, each and every one of them selected by the best possible methods devised by Ministry specialists, I am certain that the additional fussing suggested in the past will be entirely unnecessary.

Now, should I plan on time with both of you on Wednesday, or are we set given the need to wait for a suitable reason? Do alert my clerk at the Ministry if you'd prefer a teensy chat.

Dolores



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-21 17:05:02](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Hello, all,

I wonder if we went to our Professors and protested the idea that these essays are mandatory, if that might make a difference? She's not a proper teacher, after all; the CCF and YPL are meant to be additional activities that enhance our studies, not detract from them, what?

I say, this business of 'if one doesn't complete the assignment, one shall receive further opportunities'--that sounds to me like a detention. Anyone else?

I've been trying all morning to think of a way to suggest that she could be her best self by attempting to improve the Council's attitudes but haven't hit the right tone. It always comes out far too rude.

Perhaps I'm simply not feeling charitable enough this morning.

-Justin



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 18:48:57](#)

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

I got one of her essay assignments.

I get to choose between 'the benefits to halfbloods of having a defined role in society that does not place them under undue strain or stress' and 'praise for the blood purity laws.'



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-21 18:55:16](#)

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

Is this "opportunity" actually a punishment in disguise?

It doesn't sound as if you were chosen at random to me.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 19:08:06](#)

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

It's not much of a disguise.

The reason she made me read my PM to Harry the other day was that she said it was obvious that I'd posted the briefest possible public note in the hopes that I could get away with writing a private note underneath (that was before she decided I'd written the note because I was hoping to have to read it aloud... I don't understand her at all. It's very frustrating.)

Anyway. She hinted she'd be giving me an 'opportunity' to make up for it by giving me some 'helpful ideas' for a public post I could make and of course this is it.

Whatever. I got it done while eating lunch. Hearing Sophie Fleet have to read HER PM out loud reminded me to get it done early. I guess no one better PM their mum with anything they don't want the whole school to know, right?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-21 19:15:49](#)

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

I think I could PM my Mum and she'd leave it alone.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-21 20:54:03](#)

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

Yeah. I expect you could.

I wonder, though, if you could PM your cousin Dora or whether she'd make you read that out. I guess we're just going to have use owls more now to write people when we don't want everyone in the world to see what we say to them.

Actually.

Do you think that's it? Maybe Madam Umbridge has some connection with... I dunno, owl breeders or owl post offices or something... and she wants to make us go back to using owls so

they don't lose all their business. I mean, the Ministry does all sorts of complicated things like that to help businesses sometimes. Sometimes it's completely daft what they think up.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-21 21:00:05](#)

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

Owls can be so slow, by comparison, though. Good for packages and things, but not as good as the journals for passing along messages. Madam Umbridge seems to write a lot of private messages herself, especially to people like Mr Strangeweale. If she wanted to promote use of owls I'd think she'd not do that quite so much.

I will probably still send Dora private messages, but I'll be more careful about what I say from now on.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-22 05:09:05](#)

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

Well, Professor ~~Gr~~ Great-Aunt Mina's the only owl breeder I know and I'm pretty sure she's not conspiring with Umbridge.

But I could ask next time we have tea, just in case!



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 19:09:19](#)

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

And GO RAZ, I wish he'd hex that miserable cow.

Or curse her.

Not, as Professor Dolohov reminds us every chance he gets, there's necessarily any substantive difference between a hex, a jinx, and a curse, but 'curse' still sounds nastier and I am all for nasty (JUST SO LONG AS IT'S NOT ONE OF THE CARDINALS OF COURSE I DON'T WISH THAT ON ANYONE) when it comes to Hembridge.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-21 20:46:15](#)

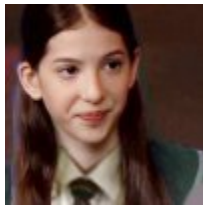
Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I'd be happier about what Professor Raz said if he hadn't pointed out that some of us have only written about the Quidditch, and not a very long thing, either.

I didn't write at all the first week. I mean, after I had to go in and read her the PM I wrote to Arista Selwyn, I expect I'm lucky she didn't assign me an essay topic like she did you. Well, not the same one, obviously, but-

I'd better figure out what to write about, though, or she will do.

I was thinking about writing Arista another note about her cat, actually. An open one, though. Is that just daft?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 19:13:07](#)

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

And you know, I really wish I'd been able to keep her from hating me.

I TRIED. Honestly. But all the things that usually persuade adults to like me (unless they're, like, the Carrows) didn't work with her at ALL.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-21 19:20:33](#)


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

I don't know, I feel like Raz isn't taking her as seriously as he ought to. I mean, Madam Umbridge took the YPL away from Siz, so he knows that she has quite a lot of power, from somewhere. Maybe the whole point is to make it seem as if he doesn't take her seriously, when in actuality he does.

Maybe he's trying to diminish her? Psychologically, I mean. I don't know.

I'm sorry that she hates you (though it might say good things about you). She seems to ignore me, mostly.



 **alt_rabastan** at [2013-01-21 18:39:32](#)
(no subject)

Dolores,

I think it's fantastic that you're giving the students such a wide range of opportunities to improve and be their best possible selves. In my relatively short time as an educator, that's one of the things that's brought me the most pleasure- helping students to reach their potential.

But also as an educator, I have to say that too many 'opportunities' may end you up with some very thin effort. Not because the students don't care, but because they simply don't have the time to balance homework, studying, CCF and YPL activities, *and* additional essay assignments.

I think we've already seen some examples of that thin effort at work in the recent recommendation that all students make a public post to their journals once a week. Unless, of course, a series of posts that read "Go Slytherin!" and "Blimey, it's cold out today," and "anyone else feel off after eating those turnips?" were the sort of thing you'd had in mind?



 **alt_umbridge** at [2013-01-21 19:39:04](#)
(no subject)

Rabastan -

Oh, I have heard so very many stories about your willingness to engage with your students, yes. Many of them, I agree, remarkably helpful in one way or another.

However, it has been clear to me, in my observations so far, that our dear students are capable of offering their very best to the Protectorate. Here, we house them, we feed them, house-elves handle all the necessary tasks besides keeping a student's own things tidy.

What we ask of our students in return is to devote their time, their energy, their engagement, to continuous improvement. Certainly I'd agree that asking a student for an additional essay a week might be, perhaps, too much. (And yet, if it saw a substantial improvement in their writing skills - something I have discussed with Antonin and

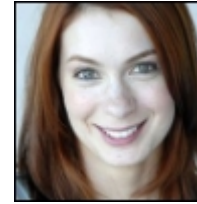
Aurora in the recent past - would it not be worth every effort?)

But in this case, I am asking them for an essay perhaps once a year, since we have a number of students, and only so many days of term. Surely that is a small thing, while yet allowing us as a community a greater opportunity for learning and growth. I am certain that once students get into practice - just like exercising muscles long-unused - they will find these little tasks go more smoothly, and we may move away from the banal to the more productive.

2013-01-21 11:51:00

ORDER ONLY

Well done, Poppy, Pomona, and Severus. I do agree that it's worth our while to continue working with Aurora Sinistra as a potential asset.



 [alt_alice](#)

Let's collect whatever information we can. I'd rather we not hold off. Tonight, or tomorrow if possible?

Kingsley, Frank, Severus, Bill, I'd prefer you to go and process the scene. And Mac too. We'll coordinate with Albus and tell him when you're planning on a rendezvous. He knows where the site is now, and if he wishes to work alone, he certainly can.



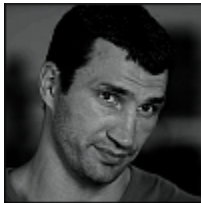
 [alt_alice](#) at **2013-01-21 17:12:48**

Private Message to Mac and Sirius

I've been giving thought to the point Severus raised about there being a very specific assumption that people jump to when they hear of counter action against the Protectorate: the IMA. Dogstar. Bombs

and fear.

I want to think about how we might change that conversation.



 [alt_macnair](#) at **2013-01-21 18:15:51**

Re: Private Message to Mac and Sirius

Dunno, but never underestimate the power of a good myth.

Sirius has a bit of that kind of following, being the phantom that MLE can't squash, but he's just one bloke - the people need to know that there's a bigger group out there associated with him, and they need to know something of the work they've done: Moddey Dhoo, smuggling, the babes, and the rest of it.

But you can't tell them too much or MLE will start sniffing around.

So, make a story out of it. Sirius Black has followers, the followers have a plan (maybe call it a "plan for peace," yeah?). Will you stand up to join them and help them, when the time comes?

Yeah. Could be a rubbish idea, though.



alt_alice at 2013-01-21 19:00:31

Re: Private Message to Mac and Sirius

I think it's worth a try.

It would be difficult to talk about a larger movement without compromising anyone, but making it about a movement, that's exactly what I had in mind.

What do you think, Sirius?



alt_sirius at 2013-01-22 03:22:26

Re: Private Message to Mac and Sirius

Won't deny, it's frustrating that the Grim Truth tracts can only go so far.

I've been careful not to mention the sorts of things that would bring MLE straight to our doorsteps but perhaps it's time I included some practical suggestions. Of course, anything I write becomes a recipe for MLE to follow to catch traitors.

So I'm up for it, if we can think how to go about it and not get anyone arrested or killed.



alt_alice at 2013-01-21 17:40:00

Private Message to Poppy

Poppy;

What is done is done.

Right now, from what I gather, we must be concerned with a few things, some more immediate than others. The first is that Antonin Dolohov may be aware that you are in possession of Cinnabaris, which could expose you, and possibly Charlie should there be an inquiry.

From what I can understand, it may be obscured in any bloodwork

due to the other potions regimen he is currently on, and would not show unless he were to expire, and there were a thorough post mortem in the next two days. Is that right?

If so, right now, it's contained to only Dolohov, who may not have seen it clearly. And even if he did, I am loathe to admit it, but the man owes you a life debt. And he clearly trusts you.

Please let me know if he says anything, absolutely anything to you about the matter.



 **[alt_poppy](#) at 2013-01-21 21:28:39**

Re: Private Message to Poppy

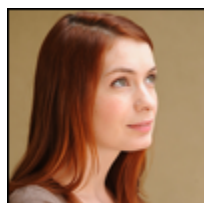
Thank you, Alice.

I feel quite ill about it. And the thought that I have Dolohov in my debt does not make that... any more palatable.

At the moment, he's quite unable to communicate, but he is alive.

Crouch, however, has been, well- grateful might be an overstatement. Appreciative. In a reserved, ungenerous sort of way. I am to understand, however, that he considers himself in my debt, as well.

I'm disinclined to place too much hope on that currency.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2013-01-22 02:26:29**


Re: Private Message to Poppy

Take heart, Poppy.

From what I can see, each of your limited options were deeply flawed, dangerous, and ethically questionable in their own ways. I cannot put myself in your place and presume that I would know exactly what to do, and that it would've been a better decision.

This is sometimes a messy business. And although I don't agree with the decision you made, I respect the person who made it.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-21 20:30:17](#)
(no subject)

the Burrow.

Gentlemen: I am at your disposal for whatever time and date you name, at your convenience. I can accompany you any evening or night the next two weeks. Simply send a floo message (or a patronus) to




 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-21 21:48:29](#)
(no subject)

Our dear Madam Umbridge has breezed in and laid claim to most of Milland's free time for the rest of the week; apparently I am to assist her outside staff in setting up the obstacles for this weekend's event. Interspersed with my usual duties, mind you: that woman feels work is something that happens to other people.


To that end, if I am to accompany you, our expedition will need to be late enough that I will not be missed. I agree with Alice that tonight is best: the rest of you lot arrange your timing, and I will join you as soon as I am able to evade our resident menace.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-21 23:11:11](#)
(no subject)

We will meet you at the rendezvous point outside of sanctuary. Come as soon as you can. We'll be waiting.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-21 20:37:11](#)
Private message to Alice Longbottom

A word of warning: Mum won't harp on it in the journals, Alice, and I suppose it isn't a surprise to you, but she's extremely upset about Poppy's decision. She would be livid if she weren't so hurt and bewildered about it. I'm livid enough for both of us.

I mean, I know Poppy has an oath. But Merlin, Charlie really stuck his neck out to get her that dragon's blood, and his gift went to benefit Antonin Dolohov?

This may have broken Mum's friendship with Poppy for awhile.

I think it's going to take me a while to forgive her, too.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2013-01-21 21:53:38**

Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom

Thank you for telling me, Bill.

I can only imagine the sort of pressure that Poppy found herself under last night, from her duty to the Order, her oath as a Healer, and the extraordinary amount of scrutiny she found herself under from all sides. She had a decision to make, quickly, and she made it.

I am no Healer. I would have made a different decision. And I know that she is second guessing herself heartily right now.

We must all deal with any consequences that will result from her actions -- just as we would have were she to have made the choice to not give him the potion. If he were to have died due to her inaction, it would've exposed her to a full inquiry and possibly led to her losing her position at Hogwarts.

I can see how you and Molly both would be hurt by her actions. I only hope you can both talk to her about it, and not judge her too harshly.



 **[alt_bill](#) at 2013-01-21 22:23:57**

Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom

You make a fair point about the difficulty of decisions made under time pressure and under scrutiny. I know the difficulty of that making type of decision myself. So did Dad. And neither of us operated under the type of oath that Poppy swore for her profession.

I don't know. I think it would be best if both Mum and I let the Weasley temper cool off awhile before we attempt approaching her about it. We'll work with her if we must. But I'm afraid it's going to be strained for awhile.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-22 02:07:22](#)**

Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom

That sounds prudent, yes.

2013-01-21 12:22:00

(no subject)

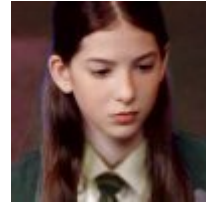
Perks: Your essay left out the part where the Lord Protector and his 'son' are both halfbloods.



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-21 12:49:00

On the generosity of reasonable expectations



 **alt_sally_anne**

My assigned topic is, 'the benefits to halfbloods of having a defined role in society that does not place them under undue strain or stress.'

Hogwarts, of course, is a highly stressful environment quite a lot of the time. We all have quite a few demands on our time: the required classes, our elective classes, YPL, CCF, any opportunities we have volunteered for or have been made available to us (such as the Revue), not to mention of course revising for OWLs.

Of course, when you are a half-blood, the expectations are somewhat different. We are not expected to be as successful at magic as our pureblood peers: thus, if we struggle in a subject, we are not letting down our families, but merely performing to the level that would be expected, given our impure ancestry. I am grateful at all times for the understanding nature of many of my professors here at Hogwarts; it is rare that any of them shame me when my work is inadequate, but merely point me in a better direction.

When we leave Hogwarts and move on to find our profession or calling -- we may have fewer things to choose from, and think how much easier it makes things for us! Those of us in fostering can sometimes use the connections of our foster families; I believe the Strettons think someday they might find a place for me on their estates, where they manage several thousand muggles usefully employed in agriculture, cloth production, and various other tasks that are helpful to the Protectorate and wizardkind.

I recognise that I am profoundly fortunate when compared to many other wizards and witches: though my place is humble, I have one, and I am grateful to live in a society that has a place for me.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 19:02:57](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

This would have been more fun if I'd felt like I could get away with more sarcasm.

For the record:

I am one of the best students in every one of my classes other than Potions. And I'm not terrible at Potions, I just wouldn't say I'm one of the best.

The Strettons totally think I'm going to stay on after Hogwarts and work for them and they can kiss my arse.

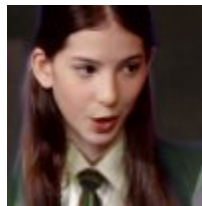
It is, however, true that I am profoundly fortunate when compared to many other wizards and witches. Let me name a few: Hermione Granger. Terry Boot. Maureen. Maggie. Dennis.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-21 19:27:45](#)

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

I can't believe you could even stand writing that. Umbridge is such a horrible, evil bint.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 19:30:16](#)

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

Because refusing would make it worse.

I figured if I humiliated myself enough, she'll be satisfied and leave me alone.

So I thought, 'how would Megan Jones write this?' and went from there.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-22 03:21:04](#)

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


Ugh. I'm so sorry.

And I feel like I should stick up for Megs, but

yeah...I think she might really think that way.

And it just makes me sad.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-21 20:26:52](#)

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

I know it isn't easy to mouth the rubbish they expect you to say. But you did a good job. I totally understand that you had to do it.

And all of us on this lock know it's complete and utter lies. And a good number of people who aren't on the lock know it as well.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-21 21:03:28](#)

(no subject)

How thought-provoking.

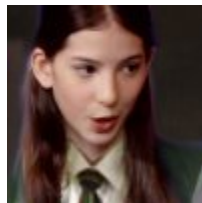
Madam Umbridge, I'm much looking forward to reading more essays of this kind.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-21 21:20:54](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I may sick up all over my journal.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 21:50:17](#)

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

I think he's being sarcastic.

It can be hard to tell sometimes, though.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2013-01-21 21:59:09](#)


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

He is.

He loathes her.

I'm also fairly sure he wrote the latest galleon message.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-21 22:01:31](#)

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

Well, that means the galleon messages are working the way we wanted them to, doesn't it? They've given him something eye-opening to

think about.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 22:03:13](#)

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

Wait, the last one -- 'Really? Are you mad? Who told you this?' or whatever it was -- that was me.

Do you mean the one BEFORE it, about how the Lord Protector and Harry are both half-bloods? That was Draco?

How did he even find out? About the LP, I mean. Harry, you just have to go digging in the archives, it's not really a very well kept secret.



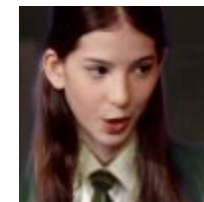
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-21 22:03:27](#)

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

Sarcastic or not, it's nauseating.

Ugh.

How can he do that with a straight face?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 22:05:35](#)

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

We take special lessons in that sort of thing when we're Sorted into Slytherin.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-21 22:06:55](#)

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

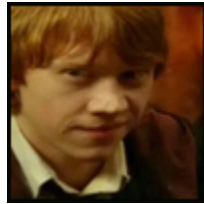
Well. That explains EVERYTHING.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 22:08:03](#)

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

Are you telling me you lot don't get dragon-slaying lessons? Because if not maybe you should raise that with the Headmistress.

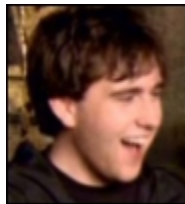



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-21 22:09:32](#)

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

Yeah.

I'll put that top of my list for things to bring up with her next time she has me up for tea.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-21 22:18:54](#)

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

You mean you haven't had the dragon-slaying lessons yet, Ron? That's what you get for skipping House meetings! I'll have you know that Evelyn and me are right at the top of the dragon-slayers list. (Don't tell your brother Charlie).



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-21 22:04:43](#)

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

Should he be telling people that? About the Lord Protector.

I didn't even know he knew. I thought *I* was the only one who knew.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 22:05:59](#)

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

It's really TRUE?

How did you find out?



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-21 22:10:34](#)

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

Because of Tom. He told me things about himself, so I would trust him, I suppose ~~unless he didn't mean to tell me and I was~~

And then he showed me other things, that were meant to frighten me, later on.

He was an orphan and a halfblood, and then when he grew up, he changed his name to Lord Voldemort.

I don't have any idea how Draco knows, though. Unless Harry - well, he got rid of Tom, but I don't know what they talked about, I was sort of unconscious.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-21 22:18:32](#)

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

I guess I'd always just assumed that the Lord Protector was a pureblood and that's why he's so convinced that purebloods are better but

that was a lie

I don't know why this is so shocking to me. They lie about everything. Why wouldn't they lie about this? but

~~I guess I would have thought that a half-blood wouldn't~~



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-21 22:23:19](#)

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

Why would anyone think he's anything but a pureblood?

I don't know if they're lying. I think most people don't know. And if they do know, they also know that he would kill them if they went around making it public. That's why I didn't really tell any of you, I didn't think it was the sort of thing that was safe to know. But it's too late now...

He really is the Heir of Slytherin, though.

I wish I didn't know so much about him.



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-21 22:56:41](#)

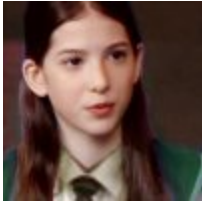
(no subject)

Miss Perks -

I wished to acknowledge that I'd seen your effort. I regret that matters of substance will likely be taking my time this evening, so cannot provide more detailed comment at the moment.

However, there are more than a few teensy places where someone from a better background would, I am sure, have expressed her points more clearly. Just because one does not have the advantages of unassailable blood purity does not mean one ought to slack one's efforts. On the contrary! And of course, there are a number of points you would do well to develop at greater length (and I would encourage you to do so.)

To help you make these necessary improvements, I would be glad to take some time with you to review these, and see if we can't bring some teensy bit of advancement your skills. Half-seven on Wednesday, for half an hour. I will be expecting you, unless you have an obligation with a professor that cannot be altered.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 01:17:37](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Madam Umbridge. Unfortunately, I am working with Professor Sinistra that evening on a project on locational magics that must be done at a particular time of day.

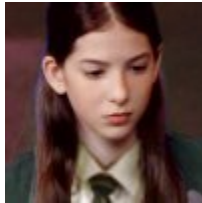
If you would be generous enough to consider an early morning appointment, I am available before breakfast any morning that is convenient for you.



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-22 15:55:26](#)
(no subject)

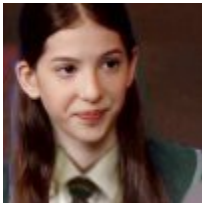
Well, that is inconvenient, isn't it.


Thursday morning at seven, then.



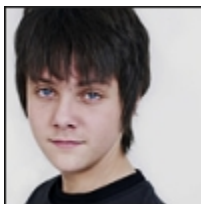
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 15:57:09](#)
(no subject)

Yes ma'am. Thank you. I'll look forward to it.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 01:18:00](#)
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

And I think you meant TO your skills, you careless, miserable cow.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-22 03:31:04](#)
(no subject)

I think it's interesting to hear what a halfblood in fostering thinks about career futures, compared to one who is lucky enough to live at home. I know when I first learned about my true heritage, one of the things I thought about was whether I would have problems assuming my parents' business or following in their professions. I don't think my father would allow anyone to stop us if he wanted to leave the

shop to me, you know, but I'm not sure that's really what I want to do. Although it might be easier than trying to become, say, a Potioneer or work at the Ministry or something.

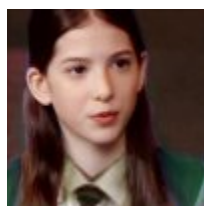
Anyway. At least you've got your essay sorted out and done, and you shan't have to worry about writing another one for a while!



 **[alt_michael](#) at 2013-01-22 03:31:55**

Private Message to Sally-Anne

Hey, are you free this evening? I'm finishing up in the library and I thought I'd come find you. We never got a chance to properly celebrate your first Quidditch match.

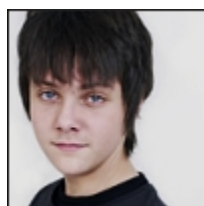


 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-22 03:35:06**

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Oh! ...I'm sorry, I'm in the Hospital Wing, you know how I'm doing that apprenticeship with Madam Pomfrey? I'm working for her tonight.

Maybe tomorrow afternoon?



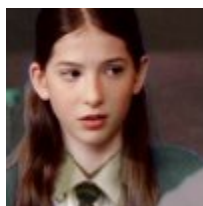
 **[alt_michael](#) at 2013-01-22 03:38:09**

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Oh.

Well, should I come up and get you before curfew? I could pretend to be gallant like Finch-Fletchley is with his girlfriend and escort you home.

And yeah, tomorrow, okay. I'm free starting at 4:00.

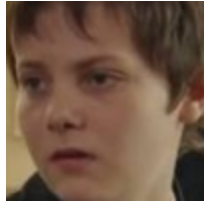


 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-22 03:39:26**

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

No, it's okay. You don't need to do that.

I'd love to see you tomorrow, though.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-22 03:43:54](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Why not?

It wouldn't be because you've already got someone walking you home, would it?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 03:48:08](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Oh for Merlin's sake, Michael.

YES, I already have someone walking me home. It would be complicated to tell him not to come.

RON HAS BEEN MY FRIEND SINCE FIRST YEAR, and he offered, as did Harry, actually, but Harry made it sound like -- well. Harry and Pansy walked me here and Ron's going to walk me home.

We haven't seen each other much lately, like you said, and when I wrote Harry a PM to tell him what was going on -- which was that Miles Bletchley had followed me home the night before -- I wound up having to read that to Umbridge and then to Slughorn and

I'm sorry, I guess.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-22 03:53:17](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Wait, what? What about Miles Bletchley?

He's been bothering you? I mean--he's been harassing you? Since when??

And why does RON WEASLEY know about it and you've not told me anything at all?

I thought--Well. Obviously. I see. I guess that shows me, doesn't it.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 03:58:05](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Miles Bletchley has been harassing me since -- second year? third year? off and on, but he started up again when I started coming to quidditch practices.

I didn't tell ANYONE, actually, but Pansy saw something and made me tell Harry. And I was upset, after Umbridge made me read my PM, and that's when Ron found out (and also Hydra Lestrangle and Susan Bones, in fact).

I don't even know what you're on about. That shows you what? That I have friends who want to help keep me safe? That having Umbridge looking over our shoulders at our PMs all the times makes it harder to tell you what's going on with me? It sure does show you that.



 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-22 04:06:49](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Yeah, it shows me that it didn't even occur to you that I might want to know if some other bloke's sniffing round trying to make your life a hell.

Also it shows me that the others are right about you. I mean, have you *listened* to yourself lately? Weasley, Parkinson, Marvolo, Lestrangle, even Bones--first off, I've never really understood how you've become so close to them all but, do you even have any mates who aren't purebloods or trying to convince everyone they are, like Bones?

Capper was right. I was daft to try and get involved with someone who puts on airs like this.

I'm sorry you're having problems with Letchley but it sounds like you've got enough *friends* to help you with it and all.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 04:11:37](#)

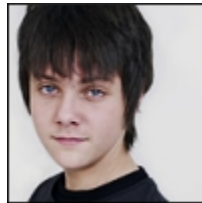
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Oh get BENT Michael.

I am in SLYTHERIN HOUSE. OBVIOUSLY most of my friends are purebloods.

Although for the record, Harry is a half-blood -- you can actually see his ~~real~~ original parents in the old annuals in the library. His mum was a muggleborn, just like mine.

And I don't know where you get off saying that Susan wants to convince everyone she's a pureblood. You didn't even KNOW you weren't a pureblood until second year!



 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-22 04:15:09](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Marvolo may be technically halfblood but that was not my point.

Not at all.

2013-01-21 14:32:00

Madam Umbridge?

So sorry to disturb you. I am sure you are very busy with your preparations for all of our events. I do just have one tiny question to ask of you. I would have made this private, but given the stipulation on private messages, I didn't really know if I should or not.



 [alt_dean](#)

This concerns my guardian Mr Peakes. That past couple of weeks we have been communicating via owl. I prefer that *all* my messages to him remain private. And while I certainly don't mind sending him owls, it is better for both of us to communicate through the journals. So I suppose I am asking if you would be so kind to allow all of my communications home to be private? It would be very much appreciated.

Dean Thomas.



 [alt_umbridge](#) at **2013-01-21 22:44:47**
(no subject)

Mr Thomas -

There must, I believe, be two portions to my answer, the specific and the general.

In the first case, your guardian and I have extensively discussed my goals and plans in this matter, and I am sure that he will advise you on the best solution in your specific situation.

In the more general case, the limitations of the journal system mean that, say, were your guardian to address a message to you (rather than you to him), I regrettably cannot see whether you reply, nor how extensive the conversation might be. And because I am aware that on occasion some parents or guardians might find it necessary to deal with matters of discipline or family expectation with their children, it is less likely I would intervene in such a case without other cause.

But I would like to draw your attention - and the attention of others reading, as I am sure they are - to the larger question. I am glad to have the opportunity to point out that we here at Hogwarts live in community with one another, and that it is by engaging with others in

the community that we can learn, grow, and become our best possible selves in service to the Protectorate.

And in order for that to work most fully, we must be willing to open ourselves to the scrutiny of our peers and our professors, to lay open our failings and lacks. And then we must listen, sincerely and without resentment, to their advice.

In short, I would encourage all to contemplate the idea that privacy is a privilege, earned through scrupulous attention to proper action and thought, and through unblemished service to the ideals of your highest self, the school, and Our Lord's work. For all those who have not yet improved themselves, teensy but repeated corrections may well be in order, as well as other opportunities for learning and growth.

2013-01-21 14:39:00

Finishing one notebook, beginning another

One of the pleasures of the new year for me each year is cracking open my new naturalist field notebook for the year (I always buy a new one over the Christmas hols at Flourish and Blotts). I spent the weekend reading over last year's book, writing up the year end observations and transferring over my notes about what I particularly hoped to observe this year. I keep a running total creatures list each year. Last year I recorded observing twelve new creatures (although to be fair, I'm not sure it's entirely fair to include the Darbyshire Hexkork I included on the list from last summer, because to be honest, I just saw their tracks, not the creature itself).




 [alt_luna](#)

I do think my artwork is loads better than when I started my notebooks five years ago. I'm using more colours in my pen and ink drawings, and that makes looking back over my notes much more fun, too.

Professor Grubbly-Plank says that my notebooks are 'very idiosyncratic and unusual.'




 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-01-22 04:39:30**
(no subject)

Huh.

That's great, I guess, that you're still keeping notebooks like that, Lunes.

What's a Hexkork? Something 'idiosyncratic and unusual' it sounds like.



 [alt_luna](#) at **2013-01-22 13:03:44**
(no subject)

Oh, they're very cunning creatures, and quite shy. They multiply wherever there has been an equal exchange of magic, so they're attracted to duels. I found their tracks in some dust along the wall of one of the classrooms.

2013-01-21 15:57:00

(no subject)

WHAT? The LP is half? Is this really true? How do you know?



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-21 17:00:00

(no subject)

ITS TRU HIS NAM IS TOM RIDDLE AND HIS
DAD WAS MUG GLE

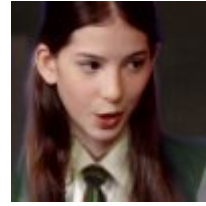


 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-21 20:01:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


So, you know how Madam Umbridge made Sophie Fleet read her PM to her mum today at lunch?



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Her MUM is on the Board of Governors. AND I heard she firecalled Madam Umbridge this afternoon and gave her a piece of her mind. Maybe the Governors WILL do something about her (finally!)



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2013-01-22 02:46:40**
(no subject)

That's very good to hear. It's about time, too.



 [alt_neville](#) at **2013-01-22 03:06:20**
(no subject)

Did you see what she wrote to Dean Thomas, when he asked that question about whether he can exchange private messages with his guardian? 'Privacy is a privilege' she said. Which I guess means it's a privilege that she gets to dole out, apparently.

Honestly, the sooner the Board of Governors gets rid of her, the better.




 [alt_susan](#) at **2013-01-22 03:31:20**
(no subject)

I saw. Thomas can be an arse, but good on him for asking--he at least got her to say right out what she intends with the whole business.

And yeah, that's creepy, because if it's a privilege she can give or take away, then *nothing* is really private. Which I guess is the point.

I felt really bad for Sophie too.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-22 03:14:44](#)
(no subject)

That's dead wizard.

Maybe tomorrow breakfast the Headmistress will make an announcement that she's been sacked and sent back to... wherever evil bints like that go when they get packed off for being horrible.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 03:16:56](#)
(no subject)

Where's the coldest, wretchedest bit of the Protectorate that isn't Azkaban? She can go there.

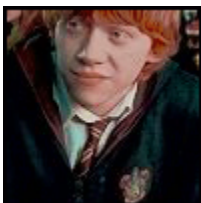
By the way I'm at the Hospital Wing tonight. Sebastian had climbed into the pocket of my apron (I have this apron I wear when I'm here) and gone to sleep, I didn't notice he was here until he started trembling. You know what set him off? Auror Crouch. Even my RAT is scared of Auror Crouch.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 03:19:23](#)
(no subject)

Dear Sebastian: get a grip. Auror Crouch was actually far scarier last night and the night before! You just weren't here to see.

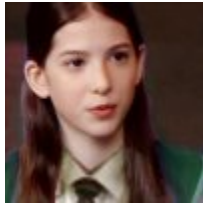
Professor Dolohov looks a lot better. I mean, he's still falling asleep in the middle of sentences but he's not looking like he's going to die. Madam Pomfrey really can heal almost anything.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-22 03:22:55](#)
(no subject)

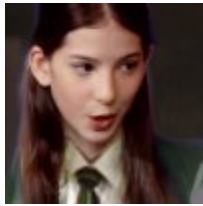
Heh. Smart rat.

So. Do you think we'll be having DA next week? I mean, when you say he looks better... how much better is that?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 03:23:43](#)
(no subject)

Maybe? It's hard to tell. He does look a LOT better even though he's still really tired.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 04:18:24](#)
(no subject)

So, Umbridge just turned up in the hospital wing to get Auror Crouch.


She said he was needed for some teensy weensy official MLE business.

The good news: he's not sitting in the hospital wing, glowering at everyone!

The other good news: if she's wasting his time, he'll probably curse her for being annoying!

The best news of all: if she gives him any teensy ideas for personal improvement, the Board of Governors won't have to sack Umbridge because NO ONE WILL EVER FIND HER BODY.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-22 05:39:59](#)
(no subject)

Like his mum.

I heard they never found Mrs Crouch's body. Don't know if that's true, but it's a good story.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-22 03:22:28**

Private message to Ron

Anyway, if you could meet me again a half hour before curfew...that would be brilliant. Professor Slughorn said something to Bletchley and he's actually been avoiding me. But this also means he knows for CERTAIN it's my fault he got kicked off the side.

Did you see Hembridge telling me I needed to come in on Wednesday evening? I don't know what SHE has against private messages. I told her I was doing something with Siz, because I knew Siz would back me up, and I didn't want Letchley or any of his close friends to be able to read in my journal EXACTLY where I'll be some evening. I told her I'd meet her in the morning, instead, because I am at least very certain that Letchley won't be dragging himself out of bed to come after me. Way too much trouble.



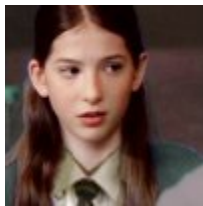
 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-22 03:26:19**

Re: Private message to Ron

Yeah, of course. I was just going to ask about Bletchley, too. I'm glad he hasn't done anything. Yet.

But don't stop looking out for what he might do.

And Umbridge. I don't understand why the Headmistress lets her just do anything she wants like this. I mean, it's mad what she's putting her nose in.

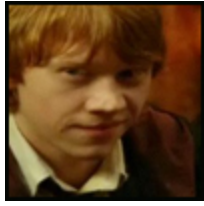


 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-22 03:28:18**

Re: Private message to Ron

Maybe she's using the Imperius curse on the Headmistress.

Or blackmail.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-22 03:57:32**

Re: Private message to Ron

Ooooh. That could totally be it. Blackmail, I mean. That seems more like Umbritch than Imperius. Takes less, y'know, actual magic.

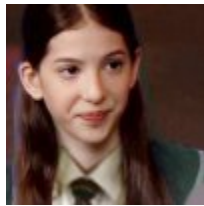
I wonder what she's got to use against the Headmistress?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-22 04:00:31**

Re: Private message to Ron

Just so long as it's not anything about the Wand Smugglers.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-22 04:01:59**

Re: Private message to Ron

Or maybe it's her drinking.

Actually that could also be why she doesn't do anything about Umbridge.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-22 04:13:16**

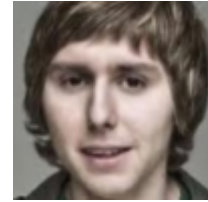
Re: Private message to Ron

Except everyone knows about her drinking. I mean, to blackmail someone it's got to be something they really want to keep secret.

At least that's how it always works in stuff I've read.

2013-01-21 21:15:00

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



Hullo, love,

Are you all right? I say, that's more than you've said about Tom in over a year.

 [alt_justin](#)

It's well wretched Sally-Anne had to write that odious essay, and with everything she's juggling between Quidditch and Madam Pomfrey and that awful Bletchley fellow.

I'm starting to dread what sort of 'random' essay topic Madam Umbridge might assign me, what. Though if one doesn't have to worry about Dark Arts anymore, one might be able to summon the brain-power to create the right sort of message for her.

Would you like to meet? I can always tell them I'm off to the hospital wing. No one's going to check on that with Auror Crouch louring up there, what?

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at **2013-01-22 04:39:43**
(no subject)

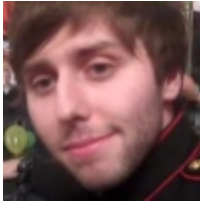
I was just surprised to see that anyone other than I knew that he was a halfblood. Especially Draco. And that he would say anything about it.

I suppose he's been in my thoughts a bit more than usual lately, too. I wish that he wasn't.

Why do you think Madam Umbridge will give you an essay topic? She singled out Sally Anne as part of a punishment, it really wasn't random at all.

She might ask that you write to tell everyone how fantastic the Protectorate is, and how degenerate France was.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-22 04:48:12](#)
(no subject)

Well, it sounds as if she's eventually going to force everyone to write on some topic or other. Supposedly it's random but you're bally well right, that wasn't a random assignment for Sally-Anne at all. Which I suppose means we shall be able to tell by what she assigns and when whether she's favouring one or not, what!

I'm surprised Draco would volunteer that information, as well, considering that he doesn't know everyone on the Galleon all that well. He strikes me as a very close-lipped person.

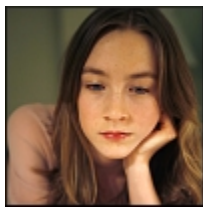
And yes, I know you were bally well shocked to see it; I can't imagine you volunteering that sort of information otherwise, what? I mean to say, you've barely told me much more than the minimum and I know you've said you've told me more than anyone else ever.

Which is why I thought, perhaps now, having said something, you might be regretting having done?

But *why* has he been on your mind more lately? It's not.... I say, you're not having second thoughts about us, er, moving forward, what? Because of trusting him only to have him betray you? Or...because of anything else he might have done to convince you he cared about you?

Because if you're worried about my feelings changing, they shan't. And if you *are* thinking maybe we'd best wait, after all, well--that's all right. I just want to make sure it's for your own reasons, not because of him.

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-22 05:04:42](#)
(no subject)

Draco - yes, he is. He's *my* cousin and I still don't know where he stands on a good deal of things. Pansy seems to have some confidence that his attitude about the Protectorate is more like ours than it seems, though sometimes I get the feeling she's a little more confident about Harry in that regard.

And I think I never had those Slytherin Sarcasm lessons Sally Anne was telling Ron about, because I can never tell when Draco is being sarcastic, either.

I suppose he's been on my mind because - well, I had a dream about him the other night. That's part of it. I haven't had that happen in a long time, not since the Dementors were here. And then, the other day I got to thinking about how I never had any skills in occlumency until after what happened with the diary. I was so silly at the time, I thought it was something 'special' he'd left behind for me, as a sort of gift. And I still wanted him to *like* me, even after everything he did. I was so pathetic.

Now I'm wondering if I might not have ever developed occlumency or, if he hadn't come over me like that.

But no, my thinking about him hasn't anything to do with you, or us. It's just a part of me, of my past, that doesn't really ever go away, even if it isn't usually at the surface. I'm sorry to trouble you with any of it.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-22 05:11:19](#)

(no subject)

What sort of dream, love?

I don't mind, you know. You can tell me anything, or nothing. But I want to know, even if it's bad or embarrassing or jolly shameful, so that you don't have to live with it all on your own. You know I shan't judge you ill for it, no matter what.

You weren't pathetic, Dux. You were lonely.

-J



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-22 05:21:22](#)**
(no subject)

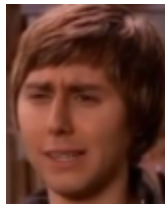
The dream - well, he wasn't just a voice or a vision from the diary, he was real. And he came to me and said that he was so pleased with me. I asked him what he meant and he said that I'd done well, and that I was well on my way to being just like him.


And in my dream I was so happy, just like I was every time he said something nice to me when I was eleven. But then I started to feel afraid - I think that was the present-day me getting upset, maybe. And I woke up and I was sitting at my desk, which is where I used to sit and write in the diary.

I haven't walked in my sleep in a long time, either.

So besides all that, it looks as if in my dreams I'm still eleven, and still lonely. But I want that part of me to just be gone forever, and I'm bothered that it's not.

From,
Hydra



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-22 05:32:38](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I can help you on the loneliness end, what?

I've read somewhere that the secret to defeating a dream is to acknowledge that one is dreaming but to then force the dream to change in some way. So perhaps your getting upset was something like that. If there's a next time, what, you might try pulling that bollock-busting hex on him, or some other spell, as if he were a Boggart and not a spectre from the past.

I...don't know if he's ever going to be gone, forever, Dux. I wish he were, too, and that you could truly be rid of him. But I think we've simply got to learn how to send him back whenever he does come calling, what.

And there's also the possibility that it's not really the memory of him, it's that he's come to represent things that worry you.

If that's the case, then you need to work out what's worrying you so you can bally well face that, instead of waiting for your subconscious to come out as Tom.

-J



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-22 05:38:50](#)
(no subject)

I woke up before I really fully realised it was a dream, but next time - well, honestly, I'd rather there not be a next time even if it means missing my chance to cast the bollock-busting

hex on him.


No, I know he won't be gone forever, but it doesn't stop me from wishing that he was. It's not sensible at all but I can't seem to stop myself.

And yes, I suppose he might be some manifestation of my subconscious.

I think I'll sleep better if I do some of those meditation exercises before bed tonight.

From,
Hydra

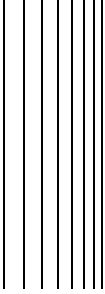


 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-22 05:41:31](#)
(no subject)

I say, that's a good idea, those meditation exercises. They do create quite a sense of calm.

Sweet dreams, Dux.

-J



 **alt_hydra** at **2013-01-22 05:43:41**
(no subject)

Goodnight, Justin. I hope that they are.

From,
Hydra

2013-01-21 22:33:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good



 **alt_susan**

Maybe the Board of Governors really *will* sack Umbridge tomorrow and I won't have to worry about this, but just in case...

I almost forgot to tell everyone that Umbridge wasn't actually cross with me when she called me to her office last week--she wanted to recruit me to this model student association or whatever she's calling it.


I said something vague about being really busy with Prefect duties and Quidditch and OWLs, but I'd do what I could.

I could make more of an effort though, if anyone thinks it would be good to have someone on the ISS in the group.

Only, I get the feeling that it's meant to be about getting people in trouble who don't tow Umbridge's line...and I'd hate doing that.

I suppose I could make sure to say only really minor things that no sane person would think worth the trouble. But somehow I get the feeling that Umbridge's ideas of what's punishment-worthy might be a lot different that say, the Headmistress. But then, I don't think the Headmistress would be trying to organise people to grass on each other to begin with.



 **alt_luna** at **2013-01-22 04:06:10**
(no subject)

Well.

This might be an opportunity for you to learn a bit about what it might be like to be a spy.

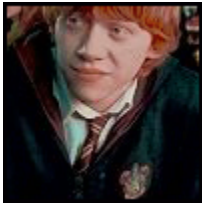
Who else has she asked to be in this model student association, did she say? Maybe the sorts of people she's asked might give you an idea of the sorts of things you might be asked to do?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 04:23:22](#)
(no subject)

It does seem like it might be useful to know what she's up to.

But yeah. I don't know what you'd have to do, to stay in. It might be pretty awful.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-22 04:37:03](#)
(no subject)

I agree.

We don't know it would be useful, but we can bloody well guess it'll be awful.

I wouldn't blame you if you didn't do it.

I mean, if you even have a choice, really.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-22 04:42:46](#)
(no subject)


I *don't* know who else she asked--I'm assuming that it was at least some of the people she told to come by her office in that message.

But some of them might have been people she really *was* cross with, for not writing any public messages or something.

Hembridge said something about the chosen students getting notes, so maybe I can just wait and see if I get a note.

If I don't, then I won't worry about it. If I do...I'm not sure if it's the kind of offer you really *can* say no to.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-22 14:45:36](#)
(no subject)

Sue,

If joining her little army means participating in that

sort of Inquisition, I don't see how you can do it. Even if you thought you'd be able to mitigate what happens to others--I've a bad feeling about it.

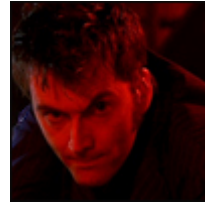
I'm not sure how long you could keep up the charade. And the consequences if you're caught letting others off easily--Well. I say, we've just seen what happens, what.

Let's talk about it tonight in the Sett. Perhaps we can find out who else is on her short list and see if there's any way to convince them to undermine her without getting you into hot water, in the process.

-Justin

2013-01-22 03:16:00

Private Message to C Yaxley and K Myddleton



Yaxley. Want confirmation of arrests. Want reports from Truncheon as confessions obtained. By Floo/Umbridge/Hogwarts. Direct. Bypass HeadM.

 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Myddleton. Want you, Stauncher, Fracas, and Crannock. Hogwarts ASAP. Dolores Umbridge's office. Wake caretaker if you need escort. If S, F, or C unavailable, substitute. Must project authority, zeal, force. No ducklings. Four at least.

[2013-01-22 08:15:00](#)

In the Aftermath


I just want those of you in the younger years to know that your prefects will be standing by to discuss today's incident with you during lunch and after our lessons.



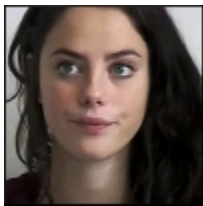
 **[alt_daphne](#)**

Queenie - I'll be able to see you after rehearsals, but until then, that's what the prefects in Hufflepuff house are there for, alright?



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-22 15:22:48](#)**
(no subject)

I'll do my best to look out for your sister, Greengrass.




 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2013-01-22 15:25:53](#)**
(no subject)

It's alright, Bones. I think she'll need to be made of sterner stuff if she wants to - well, grow up proper.

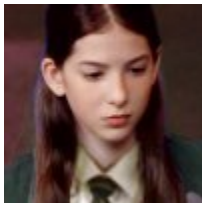
But thanks.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-22 15:30:10](#)**
(no subject)

Don't mention it.

The first time something startling happens here is always difficult.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-22 15:27:07](#)**
Private message to Daphne

I really feel like I could do with a hug and some reassurance from Siobhan Calderwood right about now. Shame I'm not a firstie anymore.

Have you seen Cassie? Is she okay, do you think?



 **[alt_daphne](#) at 2013-01-22 15:32:44**

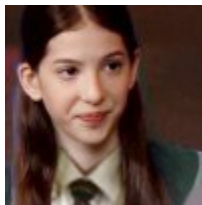
Re: Private message to Daphne

Siobhan was lovely, wasn't she?

And before today Cassie seemed to be doing...better. She was rather upbeat about everything, despite coming back to school in 'disgrace,' as they say. Madam Umbridge seems to be giving her lots of support, as well - though I can't say I really understand why.

She looked panicked this morning, though. Melinda went to her - did you see?

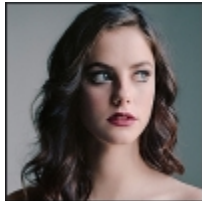
I can't believe that I ever used to fancy Barty Crouch.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-22 15:37:42**

Re: Private message to Daphne

I didn't see Melinda. I didn't see much of anything, I was too -- well.



 **[alt_daphne](#) at 2013-01-22 15:48:48**

Re: Private message to Daphne

She just went to be close to her, I think. Maybe she said something to remind her that people would be looking at her, just to see how she was reacting, because after that Cassie looked more calm. A forced sort of calm, but still.

I suppose I found it easier to look at Cassie than to look at Sophie Fleet.

By the way - your essay yesterday was a nice bit of acting. If I knew you had such skills I would have pushed you harder to try out for the Revue.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 15:52:16](#)

Re: Private message to Daphne

Thanks, but playing Alecto Carrow at the last minute was terrifying. Making costumes means I can be involved without any risk of having to be in the spotlight EVER.

Anyway Umbridge wants me to come in and meet with her. Just ~~like~~ For 'a teensy bit of improvement.' So it wasn't good ENOUGH, I guess.



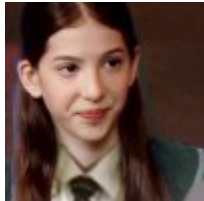
 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-22 15:57:28](#)

Re: Private message to Daphne

She seems to like me - except I don't think she really does, she's just decided I'm acceptable, for some reason or another. I can't say it's flattering but I'm hardly one to waste an

advantage!

However, I don't think I stand a chance of convincing her to leave off on you, unfortunately.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 16:03:47](#)

Re: Private message to Daphne

No, and I wouldn't bother trying, if I were you. Waste of effort and a potential risk -- so save your influence for those things where it might actually help. Did she ask you to join that

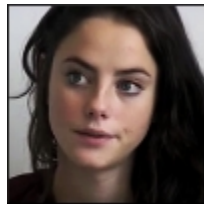
'Model Student Association' or whatever?


I really tried to get her to like me (or at least to find me quietly unobjectionable) but the things that work with most adults didn't work with her, at least not coming from me.

By the way.

I'm trying to pass this along to prefects I know. You know Auror Crouch is IN the Hospital Wing right now (he's sitting with Professor Dolohov; I'm not sure whether he even ever sleeps). But, if you get a pot of ginger tea, a pot of chamomile

tea, and a jar of honey, you can mix the teas together and sweeten them with a bit of honey (more than you'd normally like) and that should settle stomachs and nerves and since the elves have ginger, chamomile, and honey, you can just get all of this from the kitchens, you don't have to go to the Hospital Wing for it.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-22 16:12:06](#)

Re: Private message to Daphne

Oh, it's alright. I wasn't going to try - like you said, risk and wasted effort! And yes, Madam Umbridge did ask me to join. ~~And~~ Blaise I could tell her that I already have too many obligations, but I think that it might be a good idea - after today, especially - to keep up with what her plans for the school and student body are.

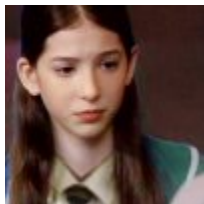
I think Draco's very cross that he's been left out of everything. He's not used to that, and it would explain why he's been ever so moody. More than usual, even!



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-22 16:18:18](#)

Re: Private message to Daphne

Oh, and thanks for the tip about the tea. I'll see if I can go by the kitchens before rehearsal...



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 15:53:54](#)

Re: Private message to Daphne

And I wasn't looking at Sophie Fleet, either. Mostly I looked at the wall behind her. ~~And held~~ Pansy's



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-22 15:38:10](#)

(no subject)

Echoing your words, Daphs. Find me at lunch, yeah?

Though what you say about your little sister needing

to be made of sterner stuff is probably good advice for anyone who finds that they've been shaken by today's events.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-22 15:50:25](#)
(no subject)

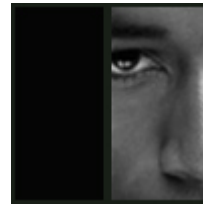
Yes, Draco. See you at lunch.

2013-01-22 08:23:00

Appalling

How can people be so ridiculously stupid?


When do you suppose they'll let us go on to first lessons?



 [alt_blaise](#)

Note to self: remember to make an appointment with Professor Vector. No chance of catching her before the lesson now.



 [alt_justin](#) at **2013-01-22 14:37:20**
(no subject)


Zabini,

Yes, I was just thinking something similar. Shocking, how some people behave.

At this rate, we almost might as well have been given a free period until the second lesson.


-Finch-Fletchley



 [alt_blaise](#) at **2013-01-22 14:44:49**
(no subject)

Yes, and second lesson today is Charms, but I find I can't now remember any of what I read last night. It wasn't half complex, that assignment.



 [alt_justin](#) at **2013-01-22 14:48:42**
(no subject)

Perhaps one ought to write an essay on improving one's concentration by undergoing distasteful exercises at random times of day.

Or one might become one's best possible self by practising the art of dining next door to a slaughterhouse. It toughens the constitution.

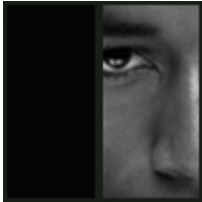
-F-F



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-22 14:39:51](#)
(no subject)

Well, I suppose if it had to be done, it had to be done.
But I wish it hadn't had to be done just after
breakfast.

What did you want to talk to Vector about? Maybe I could answer and
you wouldn't need to make an appointment with her.

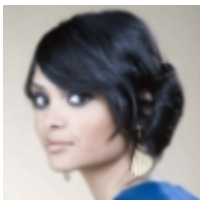



 [alt_blaise](#) at [2013-01-22 14:47:23](#)
(no subject)

Quite.

I rather wish if they were going to do it, they'd done
it before I ate anything.

I always think it best to put questions about assignments directly to
the teacher. Cheers.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-22 15:01:51](#)
(no subject)

You had a question about this week's assignment?
Huh. I thought it was pretty self-explanatory.

But then you tend to find reasons to hang behind
and talk to the professors, I've noticed. Maybe you *do* need to
work on some concentration charms, like F-F suggested, so you
don't miss the little details that make the homework clearer.

Or maybe Arithmancy's just too difficult for you. They say it is, for
some.

2013-01-22 09:20:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good




Sue, if you and Ernie need any help later, do let me know.

 [alt_justin](#)

Auror Crouch is nothing like his mentor, what? Or I say, nothing like him externally. I've a feeling they're much more alike than it seems, only that Professor Dolohov is more sociable when he's not Cruciating people.




 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-22 14:27:37](#)
(no subject)

Oh Merlin.

Can't talk now; we've got to get the little ones off to lessons before it really sinks in what they've seen.


I just want to hide, myself, but I can't.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-22 14:32:56](#)
(no subject)

And yes, anything you can do would be a help.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-22 14:33:28](#)
(no subject)

I don't see how anyone's going to learn anything at all today.


What the bleeding heck?



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-22 14:45:18](#)
(no subject)

What is it? What's happened?



 **alt_ron** at [2013-01-22 14:51:53](#)
(no subject)

They

MLE are here. They arrested a third year

Sophie Fleet. Her mum's a governor of the school. They've arrested them all, I guess.

For treason

Sophie wrote something in her journal

private message

and Umbridge made her read it and then

Auror Crouch has just finished

torturing her to say she's a traitor and her family are and

they snapped her wand.



 **alt_hermione** at [2013-01-22 14:56:20](#)
(no subject)

It's just horrible, Terry.

He tortured her in front of everyone--well, that's nothing new, I mean, everyone has seen someone Cruciated--but it's the way he did it. He staged a whole interrogation and you could just tell that he was really *enjoying* the chance to show off his 'skills' to everyone. And SHE stood there with this smug little look on her face like Sophie Fleet *deserved* everything that was being done to her and--and she was crying and she peed herself and you could tell she'd never been Cruciated before.

And everyone just stood there.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-22 15:12:06](#)
(no subject)


Is there anything the Order can do, Hermione?
Can they help the Fleets?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-22 15:18:26](#)
(no subject)

I've asked but I don't know. There's probably not a lot of time.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-22 19:35:02](#)
(no subject)

How terrible. I'm so sorry.

What...what did she do that was supposedly traitorous? Could you tell from what was said?



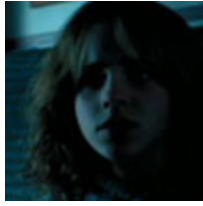
 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 15:04:41](#)
(no subject)

Yesterday Sophie had to read a PM at lunch to her mum. It wasn't anything treasonous at all, just a little embarrassing, like she was homesick.

And I heard yesterday evening Mrs Fleet called Umbridge and shouted at her. Mrs Fleet is was a governor so I thought maybe

Anyway I guess she made Sophie come in in the evening and read loads more of her PMs and there was this one that sounded sort of treasonous where her mum said 'don't say this in the journal, keep it to personal conversations' and Auror Crouch asked her what they'd said in personal conversations and

oh my god, that was why she came to the hospital wing last night. Umbridge I mean, to get Auror Crouch



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-22 15:08:31](#)
(no subject)

She did? Does Madam Pomfrey know?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-22 15:10:11](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I see, you told us last night. Sorry. I was working on something.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 15:15:43](#)
(no subject)

I didn't think anything of it. I don't think Madam Pomfrey did either.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-22 14:51:50](#)
(no subject)

Merlin



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-22 15:11:56](#)
(no subject)


We've finally got everyone organised and sent off. I'm hiding in the loo writing this before going to lessons myself.

Everyone's too shell-shocked right now to cry, except some of the first years who were sniffing quietly.

Thalia West was dead green, and I kind of shuffled her off to the loo when it looked like she might be sick. 's why I'm here.

I wish I dared send her to Madame Pomfrey, but I don't. For several reasons.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-22 15:13:49](#)
(no subject)

Sophie was one of her best friends. And I don't have a damn thing reassuring to tell her.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-22 15:30:56](#)
(no subject)

I'm sorry, Susan.

I don't have any classes with them today.




 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-22 15:33:08](#)
(no subject)

But please tell me if there's anything I can do to help.

At all.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-22 15:34:11](#)
(no subject)


Thanks, Evelyn. I'd almost forgotten you were in the same year.



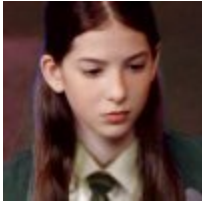
 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-22 19:38:38](#)
(no subject)

You mean she was just a third year?!



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-22 19:58:15](#)
(no subject)

Yes.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-22 15:15:01](#)**
(no subject)

Yeah now that he's done with Sophie I imagine Auror Crouch is back in the hospital wing.

If you ask the elves for a pot of ginger tea and a pot of chamomile tea you can mix them together and it should settle people's stomachs and nerves both. And those you can get from the kitchen.

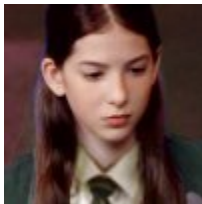


 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-22 15:19:41](#)**
(no subject)

Thanks, I'll do that. And I'll ask them to be ready to make up some more for tonight.

I think most of the professors will be understanding about lateness, but I worry that Umbridge will notice the ones who seem most upset, and not in a good way.

Thank Merlin the Carrows aren't around any more.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-22 17:56:22](#)**
(no subject)

so this seems like a good time to mention:

the rings are ready. or almost ready.

we should meet some evening this week in the secret room. Maybe on Wednesday, while we're waiting until the Astronomy Practical starts. the magic to link them will work best if we can all be there at the same time.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2013-01-22 23:55:28](#)**
(no subject)

It's clear we need them. ~~As much as I hate the idea~~

I can make myself available Wednesday night.

2013-01-22 09:29:00

Order Only

By now you have no doubt heard about the Hogwarts situation- I was not even informed until this morning. "We didn't wish to worry you, Minerva, with your health so delicate of late." Am fighting to learn more, but no one seems to be at their Floo. Composing Howlers, but how much can they ever do?




 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

Any information that can be uncovered will help me: to be seen as having "little birds" that give me information will only help my reputation, with the Inner Circle. But I must be careful to cast this as anger at La Umbridge's impinging on my territory, not sympathy to traitors.

Oh, if I had my mouth, I would bite!



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2013-01-22 18:06:36**

(no subject)

Minerva.

Life is unpredictable.

Don't take this the wrong way, but -- check the book today. Please. As ~~Alice asked you to, over a week ago~~ Tell us if there are any new names.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at **2013-01-23 02:07:25**

(no subject)

New names:


Joseph Samuel
Catherine Quirk

Colin Neilson-Crisp
Adriaan Deklerk
Farhana Rahman
Stella Dodds
Martin Kimber-Lane

Bartemius Peplow

I do not take it the wrong way. There is no other way I could possibly perceive the situation than the way you are implying it might be. Apologies can not




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-23 02:56:00](#)**
(no subject)

Bill, could you and Nick get to work on the paperwork for these right away?

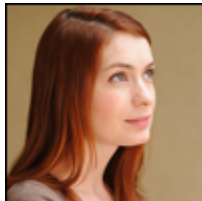
Thank you, Minerva.




 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-23 03:25:14](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, of course.

(Don't we have another kid at the Sanctuary with the last name of Peplow?)



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-23 03:30:33](#)**
(no subject)

Yes.

Trixie. Formally Bellatrix. I seem to recall her parents were a bit difficult.




 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-23 03:35:06](#)**
(no subject)

Bellatrix.

And now Bartemius?

They cannot be serious.



 **[alt_frank](#)** at **[2013-01-23 03:46:48](#)**
(no subject)

that's a bloody understatement.




 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2013-01-23 03:34:56](#)**
(no subject)

Bellatrix.

I recall the to-do.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-22 21:57:55](#)**
(no subject)

Minerva;

If you can, I'd like to know more about the source of this. Is it a political move by Umbridge? Was there any actual "treason" at work here? What was so damning?

Is Auror Crouch in her pocket?

Will all the children's private messages be put to similar levels of scrutiny?

I suppose this is one moment to be more than a little grateful for the method created by the twins -- the Juniors won't be caught in this particular trap -- but I can imagine there'll be more than a few students and parents in a panic over this, and Merlin knows they'd have to keep it to themselves.



 **[alt_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2013-01-23 02:22:43](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I have spent most of the day attempting to get to the bottom of it, and I have sussed the matter out as well as ever I will be able to, I imagine.

No actual "treason," only a scapegoat, as Severus has said in his report a few journal-entries up. I do not know Crouch's angle, but it

surely is comprised by a combination of vicious power-enjoyment and simple scheming. Dolores is a cunning toad who, it seems, is well able to offer others what they most desire, and to offer excellent little slippery lies to assist in salving one's conscience.


The private messages, I fear, are no longer even nominally private. We must be careful. Fortunately, I do not think that Dolores is interested in making meals of messages more than a few months back—even Death Eaters have little indiscretions from the early days of the journal project, and it would be most impolitic to make her cohort too uncomfortable.

The larger issue is that I am certain, now, that the hammer is going to fall upon me. I have been absent too long, and while the castle runs itself well enough, Dolores has been eating my power-base away from the inside out. I believe that she will make an attempt to take over the Headmistress' position very soon.

I do not believe the castle will accept her as the Head—but nevertheless, we have the true and the false Books to think of. I believe the best course of action will be to hide or destroy the false Book upon my leaving the castle; the Governors have checked the Book recently, and so it might buy us a few precious months. In best circumstances, they might not even flip backwards—luckily, a new page started this month—and so we might eke a few more months yet out of it, until they realise that there are many more Mudbloods than the year before.

I am putting my affairs in order here, so as to be ready to leave as soon as the axe falls. Fortunately, I have been very moderate in obvious treasons within the Headmistress' quarters; even if the castle decides it prefers a sociopath to a sot, she will not find enough to entirely roust me from power. And I believe that the Board of Governors will recognize their mistake with her quickly enough—if I am careful, and do not return to my old ways, I believe I might be able to effect a triumphal return to the castle, eventually.




 [alt_frank](#) at [2013-01-23 02:43:38](#)
(no subject)

didn't know it had got as bad as all that.

be careful, min.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-23 02:48:42](#)
(no subject)

Goodness.

If that's the way the potion's brewing, we must prepare as best as we can.

Hiding the book might be preferable, if you think the castle would help you. It's a risk, but it would take a long time to create another book that would pass inspection. Should time be a factor, however, please put your safety first. I'd rather you destroy it than expose yourself.

And as Frank said, please be careful.



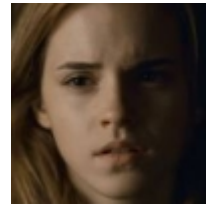
 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2013-01-23 02:58:46](#)
(no subject)

I may be able to take the false book with me, if it comes to that. It is not as carefully warded as the real one is, and I can Transfigure it and pack it as some innocuous bric-a-brac.

[2013-01-22 10:10:00](#)

Order Only: Sophie Fleet

There's a third-year girl named Sophie Fleet and her mum's on the Board of Governors. But Madam Umbridge had Auror Crouch torture her and they snapped her wand this morning, and I guess she and her mother are going to be sent to the camps.



 [alt_hermione](#)

Mr Weasley--I mean, Bill--is there any way to stop them getting there? Mr Longbottom or Mr Shackbolt?

Only Mrs Fleet was a Governor and she might know things that could help, if she were given an opportunity to help us.

People should know that Umbridge is a terror. I mean, the Carrows were horrid but, I don't know, somehow she's worse.

Sirius, could you say something? Something about how it's worse to try to control people's thoughts or feelings? 'Privacy is a privilege' is what she told Dean Thomas (and everyone else) but that's not true. That's how they want people to treat mudbloods and it's not how it ought to be for anyone.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-22 15:18:47](#)

(no subject)

What? This happened at Hogwarts? Minerva, why

I imagine that getting them now is going to be too difficult; they'll be watched too closely. Later, there might be a chance.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-22 15:25:24](#)

(no subject)

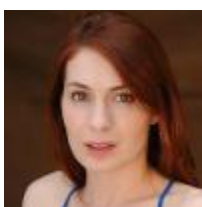
Yes, here in the Great Hall just this morning.


Auror Crouch has been here for a few days, because of Professor Dolohov. And one of the Juniors mentioned that Madam Umbridge came and got him out of the hospital wing last night, but she didn't think anything was strange

about that, for one thing because it meant he wasn't there to glower at everyone.

I guess it turns out she came to get him because she'd been asking Sophie questions and she discovered that Sophie and her mother didn't agree with the Protectorate, or not completely. At breakfast, during his questioning, Auror Crouch made Sophie reveal that she'd exchanged private messages with her mother that 'made it clear' she had treasonous thoughts and that her mother sympathised and wasn't as loyal to the Lord Protector as someone with their blood and status ought to have been.

Which means she can force anyone to read private messages. Only I don't think she'd ever force Harry or Draco to do that, because if she did.... Well, please, can you send me that portkey as soon as possible?

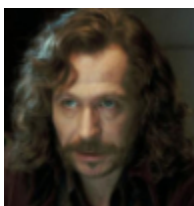



 **alt_alice** at [2013-01-22 15:22:13](#)
(no subject)

That's awful.

No doubt they'll be heavily guarded on their way there -- the MLE might anticipate that some of their friends would attempt to prevent this, and would take measures to make sure everything was secure and quickly done.

We'll see if we can't sort out which camp they've been taken to. With luck, we may have contacts there who can keep an eye on them until we can gain entry.



 **alt_sirius** at [2013-01-22 15:30:30](#)
(no subject)

Son of a wight.


Yeah. Allie's right, Hermione, I don't think we'll be able to spirit them away just now but we'll look for them.

(Bill, Kingsley and Frank all went to the ritual site last night, too, so they may be unavailable for a rescue right away, at any rate. Maybe Dora and I could try if we knew where they were going, but without exact information it would be impossible to get in and out quickly

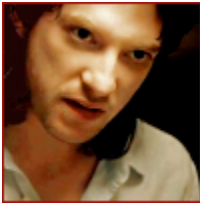
enough.)


I'll work on something, though. I have to warn you, I've not a lot of faith in a single Grim Truth changing anything but - well. Perhaps it could at least rattle their chains.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2013-01-22 22:00:22](#)**
(no subject)

As I said to Minerva -- I have no doubt that many of Hogwarts' students will be terrified for their own safety tonight, as will their parents. They will not be able to voice their fears, but you can.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-22 15:50:27](#)**
(no subject)

Bloody hell.

Selwyn had a meeting scheduled with me this morning, which he just cancelled--said he had to deal with 'this Fleet matter.' I'll try to find out what I can, but it might take awhile. Or perhaps Nick can learn something. We'll pass on anything we find out.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2013-01-22 19:44:36](#)**
(no subject)

My word, Hermione.

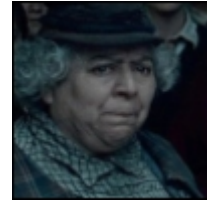
I...I don't even know what to say.

[2013-01-22 10:17:00](#)

Private message to Aurora

Auri -

Sit down first. And read this before you teach. I wanted you - hearing this jumbled would be even worse.



 **[alt_pomona](#)**

This morning, we were at breakfast, and at the tail end, in came Dolores and Auror Crouch, with Sophie Fleet between them, obviously terrified. And four other people, all MLE. Auror Crouch asked her questions. A few she answered quickly, but others, she wouldn't, and then he used Crucio to make her answer.

And then he announced, clear as day, that he'd been in consultation with MLE. That they'd arrested her mother, that's Maribel Fleet who's on the Board, and that they'd be snapping her wand and Sophie's and sending them to the camps. For subversive conversations.

And then he Cruciated her again, snapped her wand, and two people dragged her off. ~~Still screaming.~~

I've not the faintest what most of the staff think of it. I was stunned, and then I was lending a hand with students, didn't get a chance to talk. Poppy only knew that Dolores had come to fetch Auror Crouch last night, from his vigil over Antonin.

The sett, well. It was so sudden, this, and so shocking, and more than a few of them were positively green, or worse. I know you said you've appointments you can't break in New London, but maybe when you get back, you might stop by the sett and check in, or with me. Or both.

Anything would be a help, really.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2013-01-22 15:47:33](#)**
(no subject)

Hypatia's blood and bones. Of all the things. And Miss Fleet always seemed very quiet to me, not the kind to... And her *mother*.

Right. Moment. Let me think through.

I can't cancel this afternoon - I'm meeting Narcissa, Chloe Selwyn, Pandora Baddock, and Mariah Pyle for tea. Though the first two of those might... Right. I've flooded Narcissa's assistant, to see if she might have a bit more time, just the two of us, since, well.

But I'll be back by seven or so. And I'll see if I can catch Raz for five minutes on his way to lunch and my way out and see what he says.

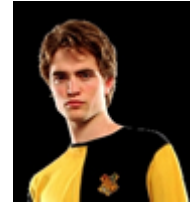
I don't know. Between Tosha and this, and - well, I had nightmares about last January and what happened after the CCF event last night, though really that's nothing in the grand scheme of things.

Do take care of yourself, and I'll come by soon as I'm back. And I'll collect some things in New London that might be a help.

[2013-01-22 11:57:00](#)

Today's events

Hufflepuff Prefects, we're having a meeting immediately after dinner. This will be somewhat short as some of us need to get off to Quidditch practice. The RSs will lead warm ups until we arrive.




 [alt_cedric](#)

I will be either in the library or the Hufflepuff common room all day until supper, if any prefects or students need me.

I've said it before and I will say it again. The prefects are here to help students with any problems they are having. Dealing with the necessary loss of someone you considered a friend can be traumatic. If anyone needs to talk through the friendly deception of traitors, we are available. If anyone has any memories of the traitor Fleet that they might feel they ought to report to the authorities, please come to me and I will pass this along to the proper authorities at a time convenient to them rather than a stream of students interrupting their important work.

Also please keep frivolous visits to the infirmary to a minimum as Professor Dolohov is still convalescing. Of course true medical emergencies should still report promptly.



 [alt_cedric](#) at **[2013-01-22 17:45:29](#)**

Private Message to Madam Pomfrey

How would you like the Hufflepuff prefects to deal with anyone who feels they need a sleep aid potion tonight? Send them to the infirmary or have a prefect pick up the number of draughts requested?



 [alt_poppy](#) at **[2013-01-22 22:21:00](#)**

Re: Private Message to Madam Pomfrey

Thank you for thinking to ask, Mr Diggory. I always prefer to see a patient before prescribing anything. Even sleep draughts may work harm if given in the wrong situation or at the wrong dosage. I am afraid I really cannot dispense multiple doses to a Prefect for reapportionment.

I have, today, increased the privacy and screening of my examining area in order to provide more of a buffer to insure Professor Dolohov may rest undisturbed by the comings and goings of other patients, so there need be little concern on that score.

If there are students for whom the trip up to the hospital wing seems... unnecessary, I recommend asking the elves for a pot of chamomile or ginger tea or a mixture of the two, depending upon the young person's tolerance of ginger. A plate of their wholesome ginger biscuits would not go amiss, either.

Assure the Prefects and your fellow Head Student that my door is open to you and to the students in your charge at all hours as needed.



 **[alt_cedric](#)** at **[2013-01-22 22:24:45](#)**

Re: Private Message to Madam Pomfrey

Dashing off to Quidditch. I will try to get a pot of tea up the common room as soon as possible and will make sure the people who need care are sent your way.

If there are specific complaints later I will make sure things are taken care of.



 **[alt_cedric](#)** at **[2013-01-22 17:48:43](#)**

Private Message to Auror Crouch

If anyone does come to me with any information about the traitors, would you like me to tell you or a different Auror? Also when and how?

I hope I did not overstep my bounds, but I didn't want random students bothering you while you are here for Professor Dolohov.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2013-01-22 19:37:26](#)**

Private message to Cedric Diggory

I'm in New London at the moment - a couple of appointments I couldn't put off. And I wanted to catch Raz before I left, and didn't get a chance to find you.

Look, can you ask one of the Prefects to be handy around seven? I stopped by a few shops here, and picked up a little of whatever might be helpful. Nothing really medicinal, just the things that might soothe nerves or fears or help people calm down. (A few teas, several varieties of calming pastilles, some hot cocoa, and a very small amount of medicinal chocolate in case someone needs it urgently. Also a lot of gingersnaps from my favourite bakery.)

Anyway, I'd like to hand it off as soon as I get back, and then Pomona and I want to talk. But I'll be available until class if there's a need. Or after, if there's something late at night.

I won't see my journal for a bit, but I'll check before I head back if you think of anything specific it would be good to have on hand.

-S.



 **alt_cedric** at **2013-01-22 19:57:35**

Re: Private message to Cedric Diggory

At seven I'll be racing from the pitch to NEWT duelling, but I'll make sure someone is waiting in the sett all evening. Whichever prefect is there will be able to take whatever parcels. I think it might be best if we make sure someone is up and available all night. With this morning's confession and everyone reconciling what they thought they knew yesterday, with what was demonstrated to be true today it has the potential to be a grim night.

I asked above how Madam Pomfrey wants to handle requests for any of the various sleeping potions and we'll see what she says. I know she has her hands full.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2013-01-23 00:08:22**

Re: Private message to Cedric Diggory

On my way back to Hogwarts momentarily. I'll try and stop by at the tail end of duelling club - it'll depend how long Pomona and I talk, but, well, Raz and I should talk too.

As far as tonight, I hate to say it, but I think that's smart.

Look, I'm certainly handy until at least half-one, and by journal after that if you need me. And I'll check with Pomona, but unless she tells you otherwise, assume she'll be up and about well before breakfast. (Of course, it is always 3am that's the worst for most people, and also the hardest to cover, isn't it?)

Thanks, as always, for your care of others.



 **alt_cedric** at **2013-01-23 01:16:12**

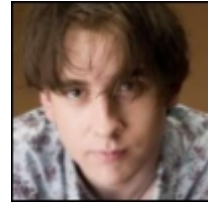
Re: Private message to Cedric Diggory

I'm at duelling club (on the sidelines obviously) so I don't know how the sett is doing yet, but I see Susan and Megan's conversation so it sounds like the tea got there.

If the others aren't up for a rota through the night I'll just sleep in one of the comfy chairs next to the fire in the common room so anyone can find me easily and immediately.

[2013-01-22 13:39:00](#)


I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Evelyn Longbottom



 **[alt_neville](#)**

You all right?



 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-01-22 20:15:10](#)**

(no subject)

We study Charms together sometimes, me and Sophie and Thalia and Paula.

She's quiet. And sweet.

That ridiculous letter seems so silly now. I feel terrible for putting up as big a fuss as I did. It was just a letter.

I want our portkeys so badly.

It's probably good I don't have one, though, because I'd want to use it right away. I just... I don't want to be here any more.



 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-01-22 20:51:58](#)**

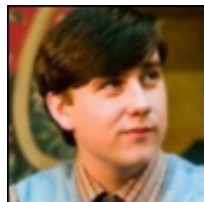
(no subject)

He apologised, you know. Smith.

He was actually rather nice about it, considering. And he gave me the letter so I could see who wrote

it.

So you needn't be angry with him any more.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2013-01-22 23:33:12](#)**

(no subject)

Oh, I needn't be angry with him, maybe, but I still am. One thing's for sure, though: after what happened today, he'll probably think twice about getting cute with trying to get someone in trouble

by writing a private message. Along with everyone else.

I want our portkeys, too. More than that, though. I thought today for the first time that maybe what I want is just to give up on Hogwarts entirely. I mean, I know Mum and Dad want us to get our education, and that's why we're here. But maybe...maybe I'd rather get the sort of education Terry's getting. Even if it's not Hogwarts. Just so we could be with Mum and Dad, and we wouldn't have to do all this pretending.

I'm probably mad. We have no idea what sorts of dangers they deal with every day. Maybe what they have to deal with is a thousand times worse.

Oh, bloody hell. I meant to comfort you, and instead I'm talking like a lunatic. Never mind. Today shook up everyone, I guess.

About the letter: do you recognise the handwriting? Did whoever wrote it try to imitate your handwriting? That might indicate whether or not they know you pretty well.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-23 00:17:01](#)

(no subject)

It's not mad.

Not after what happened today.

We've got more to think about than just us, though. If the two of us just up and disappear, they'll talk to Ron for sure. And that'd mean they'd be on to everyone else too. So if we wanted to go, it'd have to be all of us, I think.

Maybe we can talk some with everyone about leaving for good this summer? That'd give us time to plan out something more than just an escape. We could tell mum and dad, see if we can make them understand.

If Umbridge is still around next term, I'm not coming back.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-23 00:31:22](#)
(no subject)

I agree. If Umbridge is around next term, I think we need to think about it. If we give it some thought over the summer, surely we can think of a way to disappear without causing trouble for

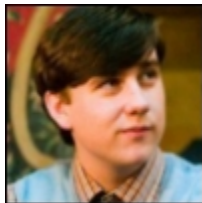
the others.




 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2013-01-23 00:22:41](#)
(no subject)

And I'm not sure, but I think one of the Patils wrote it. Parvati has been working on costumes and make up with me, so I thought it might be her, and I looked at some of her entries and there were some things that matched up. But Padma's handwriting is very similar, so it's hard to tell.

I'd rather not start a row with Parvati, though, because we've got a few weeks yet to work on things for the Revue, and it's going to be awkward enough already knowing what she might've done. I'd rather just leave well enough alone.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-23 00:30:20](#)
(no subject)

The Patils. Blimey. But why?

What am I saying? It's because we're blood traitors, obviously.

Either one of them would be nasty enough to do it, the spiteful cows.

Keep your distance from them. Both of them. I'll think about it, and maybe--

Anyway. Keep your distance.

[2013-01-22 17:02:00](#)

to-day, and being constructive




 **[alt_megan](#)**

It was a very scary day today. I mean, it's not scary that Auror Crouch and Madam Umbridge are catching ~~people who~~ traitors to the Protectorate. Of course I don't mean that. But it's daunting to see Aurors and MLE in their full might. Which I guess is good, because the Protectorate being strong is good, right? So it's maybe a good kind of scared.

I have read other students talking about how singing the YPL Anthem is useful for calming and organizing their thoughts on busy days, and I wonder if anyone might want to get together during free time this evening to sing it through. Because it has been a very, very busy day.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-22 23:30:50](#)**
(no subject)

Good idea, Megs. Cedric said at the Prefects' meeting that we could have some calming tea and other things set out for the younger ones tonight.

Maybe we could teach it to them and have a bit of a sing-along?



 **[alt_megan](#)** at **[2013-01-23 00:11:25](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, thank you, Susan! That is a very good idea. Yes, let's do.

And calming tea is good. For everyone. Because we can set an example for the younger ones by having some ourselves, couldn't we?




 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-23 00:38:19](#)**
(no subject)

Absolutely.

We should certainly set a good example, especially where tea's involved.



 **[alt_eloise](#)** at **[2013-01-23 02:03:33](#)**
(no subject)

Normally I would find it exciting to see Aurors at work, catching traitors like that, but I don't like the idea of it being any of our classmates!! I suppose traitors can be everywhere, though.

Ooh, am I too late for the sing-a-long!! Oh, I'll hurry, but don't wait for me, I'll be there soon, really!!

2013-01-22 17:16:00


Private message to Lucius Malfoy

What exactly was it that Maribel did? Have you heard the details?



 [alt_selwyn](#)



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2013-01-23 04:05:22**
(no subject)

Have you been spending half the day on this as well?


Narcissa sent me word directly after her tea with Raz's intended and your Chloe, wanting to know if the news were true.

Contacted Barty, since he has been close to Hogwarts lately on an - unrelated matter. He confirmed that the girl and Maribel, as well, appeared to have engaged in treason.

Received urgent message from Lawrence in the middle of our supper plans. MLE adamant that the family's affairs be combed in detail. It would seem that Maribel had opened a vault of which Lawrence was unaware, to what purpose he claimed not to know.

Then checked with Claudius, who told me Truncheon has turned his attention to Maribel's account. Have not heard his conclusions yet.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **2013-01-23 05:02:22**
(no subject)

The entire day, really.

To hear Aurora Sinistra tell it (according to Chloe), the girl was caught in some minor indiscretion by Dolores, who then summoned Barty to torture her until she confessed to treason, at which point her wand was snapped.




 **alt_lucius** at [2013-01-23 04:07:00](#)
(no subject)

Under the circumstances cannot blame Barty for his quick action; do wish he had thought to contact us at the time rather than work solely with Dolores.

You realise that this shall make Minerva look even less competent.



 **alt_selwyn** at [2013-01-23 05:03:35](#)
(no subject)

I don't know, Lucius, I'm inclined to think we CAN blame Barty for his quick action. This was a thirteen-year-old girl, not a Dogstar bomb builder. What exactly did he imagine to be the risk of delay?

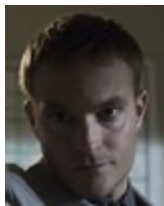


 **alt_lucius** at [2013-01-23 05:10:20](#)
(no subject)

Ah, no - I mean that it would seem there is more beneath the surface. Of course he ought to have used more restraint.

Believe his own nerves have been more frayed than usual. We had rather a scare with Antonin this week. He is on the mend, according to Armenius Fletcher, but he is still weak.

Do not think I have not considered Dolores might be behind *that*, as well.



 **alt_selwyn** at [2013-01-23 05:13:21](#)
(no subject)

If you can turn up any evidence of THAT, do by all means turn it over to Barty at your earliest convenience. It would solve the Dolores problem rather thoroughly, I think.




 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2013-01-23 05:05:10](#)

(no subject)

And yes, DOLORES. This entire incident plays directly into whatever she's planning; I fear she already had a majority of Governors in her pocket and Fleet was one of the few on our side.

I'm not sure I quite suspect Dolores of framing Maribel for treason but she certainly had personal motives to assume the worst.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2013-01-23 05:17:56](#)

(no subject)

Indeed. Have been trying to realign said Governors all week. Weasley's efforts to get Peakes, Evan, Sedgewick, &c, for meetings disappointingly unsuccessful. Had planned to insist on at least

Peakes taking my meeting to-morrow. Now with this

Timing is entirely suspect.

Merlin, what a fucking headache.

2013-01-22 18:23:00

*Private message to Dolores
Umbridge*



 **alt_mcgonagall**

You have not proffered an apology, of course, so I cannot say I "accept your apology," despite having thought carefully about your words at supper—but I may ask, there are no other surprises planned for breakfast to-morrow morning, are there?

I have had enough weepy Hufflepuffs in my office already for the entire quarter.



 **alt_umbridge** at **2013-01-23 03:07:47**
(no subject)

Minnie,

I certainly do not feel the need to apologise for putting the good of the Protectorate before even the good of the school.

However, no, I certainly anticipate no such surprises tomorrow. You may unruffle your fur and send whatever Hufflepuffs cannot bear up down to their own common room. Surely Pomona can see to them if someone must.

I do feel I must ask - have any of the staff expressed any sentiment about this morning that I should be aware of?



 **alt_mcgonagall** at **2013-01-23 03:37:41**
(no subject)

The Protectorate is not the issue, a fact of which you are well aware.

The staff feels quite as one might expect-shocked that such a sweet girl proved a traitor to our Lord, hopeful that the hard lesson Will be instructive to the other students.



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-23 03:46:09](#)
(no subject)

Minnie, I'm most surprised. The Protectorate - Our Lord's Glorious Protectorate - is always the issue.

Still, I suppose I had not entirely considered the full range of impact it might have on the students. And yet, once it was placed into MLE hands, truly, they made a number of the crucial decisions.

Now, we do have a staff meeting on Wednesday, and I'd like to request just a few teensy minutes on the agenda, if I may, for one little thing and another.

2013-01-22 18:41:00

Order Only: Report

I had hoped to bring this report earlier, but as you have already been told, today has been a most trying day.




 [alt_severus](#)

Unfortunately I do not have any significant news. The location information was correct and we were able to find the precise site of the ritual. It had rained at least once between then and now -- the lingering magical energies in the area were considerably dampened from what must have been their original power, a fact I believe Weasley found comforting -- but the menhir and its enclosure appear to have been protected enough, by geography or magical residue, that the rain did not destroy all traces of evidence: we were able to obtain adequate samples of soil containing both blood and potion and I will work to isolate and identify each component in hopes something might prove useful.

It was not clear in the memory of the rite due to the circumstances and the limited amount of exploration Weasley was permitted at the time, but the location indeed contains more ancient ruins than only the menhir: at ground level it is not obvious, but when one climbs the adjacent rock face, one can see the area contains not only a standing stone, but the remnants of an earthwork circle. I would need to view the memory again to be utterly confident, but I believe the circle inscribed by the participants in the rite was overlaid precisely upon those remnants.

Upon returning to the castle I encountered Crouch, who seemed suspicious of my absence; I invented a fictitious set of duties around the edges of the grounds, which was enough to mollify him. He did not inform me that MLE would be arriving in the castle any more than he informed Minerva, though I discovered later (at four in the morning) he had instructed his reinforcements to wake me when they arrived. As Milland should have been told just as Minerva should have, I suspect we are once again enmeshed in petty power politics: distasteful though it will be, I will spend the next several weeks attempting to ingratiate myself with Umbridge so we might at least be forewarned of future situations such as this.



 **alt_alice** at [2013-01-23 01:06:50](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Severus. And the rest of you as well.
Please let me know if you find anything more.

I'd also like to know a great deal more about Dolores Umbridge. She has stopped becoming annoying, and started becoming dangerous. Why the Fleets? What is she planning?



 **alt_severus** at [2013-01-23 01:27:47](#)
(no subject)

As to that, I cannot be certain, but I have my suspicions: you have of course noticed she has been on a crusade against the use of private messages.

Yesterday at lunch, she called Miss Fleet to task for sending her mother a private message and forced her to read it aloud, as she has done to others; that message was fairly innocuous. Student gossip has it Miss Fleet complained to her mother, likely thinking her mother's position on the Board of Governors would cause Umbridge grief, and Madam Fleet then called Umbridge yesterday afternoon to take her to task, after which Umbridge summoned Miss Fleet to compel her to read back further in her conversations with her mother.

Unfortunately for the family, those messages apparently contained some references to 'seditious' conversation taking place in person, rather than in the journals -- as we were all so memorably shown this morning. (I am certain Crouch's torture of the girl was entirely staged: he would not risk information of which he did not approve being publicly spoken and the girl's responses and reactions were being carefully controlled.)

In short, it appears Miss Fleet was in the wrong place at the wrong time and Madam Fleet thought her position would protect her.

Sinistra had a great deal to say about the topic of Umbridge on Sunday: I will return and relate the gist when I've a moment spare, as it is more involved.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-23 08:40:55](#)
(no subject)

I apologise for my delay in returning to this. The useful and directly-applicable pieces of information Sinistra shared, regarding Umbridge, can be boiled down to:

№ 1. Umbridge is allied with, at very least, two of the three members of the YPL oversight committee: Marston Strangeweale and Latimer Caldwell. Her relationship with Whitacre is less certain, but as Sinistra says, Whitacre is inclined to look favourably on anyone who turns in reports on time and remains within budget.

№ 2. The situations allowing Umbridge to displace Sinistra from leadership of the YPL were at least in part manufactured by the late and entirely unlamented Healer Stint, who likewise appeared to be conspiring with Umbridge either accidentally or deliberately.

№ 3. Since accepting leadership of the YPL, Umbridge has been attempting to consolidate her influence among the staff (something I have observed as well). Sinistra found it particularly notable that while Minerva, Lestrangle, and Dolohov were called to Ireland, Umbridge's interactions with Vector, Hooch, and Acton at supper became more familiar in a way Sinistra could not place but says made her 'wary'.

№ 4. Sinistra, Lestrangle, and Dolohov have apparently been discussing the matter of Umbridge, and stand united in their dislike of her. Lestrangle and Dolohov in particular have been attempting to unpick Umbridge's motivations for much of the year. Sinistra at least believes both Lestrangle and Dolohov will favour Minerva in the coming power struggle, and believes Umbridge to be fully aware of that fact. (In that light, the timing of Dolohov's illness seems suspiciously convenient. As upset as many of our company might be with Poppy's precipitous actions to restore Dolohov's good health, it may prove felicitous in the long run: in this case, the enemy of our enemy, loathsome though he might be, may prove to be our ally.) It is a pity, I suppose, that we cannot simply give that lot reason to take care of the problem for us.

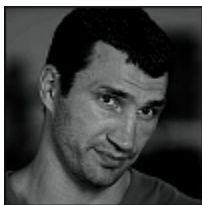
№ 5. Unrelated to Umbridge, but of note and that I will attempt to share with the children if there is some unimpeachable way to do so: Sinistra has been told by Auror Wright, the current liaison to the

YPL committee and a friend of hers, that this weekend's upcoming event is likely to be difficult and the students should be 'prepared for anything'.

№ 6. Details of the behind-the-scenes YPL discussions, and reading between the lines in what Sinistra did and did not say, make me think at least part of the debate about whom should lead the programme involves a dispute about what the children should be taught and encouraged to do, and how much opportunity was provided for halfblood children. Given that, and Umbridge's targetting of several capable halfblooded students, Miss Perks in particular, it is likely Umbridge will be making significant issue of blood status and blood purity at Hogwarts.

Sinistra did provide some small measure of more-highly-placed gossip: summarising, she characterised Caldwell as having flourished under Umbridge at the Ministry and quite firmly attached to Strangeweale now, but unlikely to rise further without more well-placed Council patronage. Strangeweale, she spoke of as 'feeling about for a niche and never quite finding it'. Umbridge, of course, was displaced from power at the Ministry during the inaccurately-named 'Black's Paralysis' episode several years back. I am inclined to think this is all an attempt for them, and Umbridge, to claw their way back into the Dark Lord's favour, using Hogwarts as stepping-stone.

I am loathe to countenance the possibility but I believe Minerva may be right in her assessment of the situation: it is unlikely she will be able to hold her position for much longer in the face of Umbridge's determined assault.



 **[alt_macnair](#)** at **[2013-01-23 02:50:51](#)**
(no subject)

Went back and checked my old maps. That stone is Cuithe Heillanish, as I thought. Certain to be the site of a ley line, then.

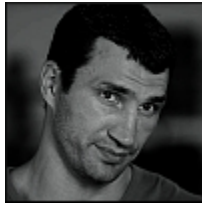
Intriguing spot for the rite, on a ley line. Can increase magical potency but also has risk of great unpredictability.



 [alt_severus](#) at [2013-01-23 08:45:51](#)
(no subject)

Interesting.

I have never been much good at the implication of those old magics; I will attempt to corner Albus and cudgel information out of him, as I believe he has made a study of such. Can you guess as to where that line might run?



 [alt_macnair](#) at [2013-01-23 14:46:55](#)
(no subject)

That'd be the one that goes through Ireland.

2013-01-22 20:15:00

(no subject)

SOPHIE FLEET DIDNT DO ANYTHING WRONG.
SHE ISNT THE ENEMY. SHES A STUDENT AT
HOGWARTS WHO WROTE HER MUM.
UMBRIDGE HAS GONE TOO FAR.



 [alt_galleon](#)

2013-01-22 22:38:00

Order Only: Private Message to Remus

Have you packed in yet?

I think I've got a draft worth reading (finally). Unless you're too knackered? I'd like to finish it tonight if I can do.




 [alt_sirius](#)

It's not very fiery but I think it hits the strong points.


There's a section - I want to make sure it gets to what Alice and I were talking about, the manifesto of sorts.



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2013-01-23 05:43:13**
(no subject)

I'm still up. I don't mind taking a look.



 [alt_lupin](#) at **2013-01-23 05:55:59**
(no subject)

(I find it hilarious that you don't want to be in the room while I read this thing you're planning to show to the entire Protectorate.)

Okay. I think this is really good. The one thing is, I keep thinking about how Aurora Sinistra immediately wanted to know if Pomona and Poppy were with Dogstar, because that's the one ORGANISATION she's actually heard of. I wonder if we should make up a name for the organisation -- I mean obviously you wouldn't want to say, 'I'm with the Order of the Phoenix,' but we could be the Siblinghood of East Chelsea in public if only that didn't lack for a certain gravitas.

You could say that these are the things the Siblinghood stands for. Rather than just you. It might be a good thing if people had a sense that there was a MOVEMENT out there. Of course, that means MLE would also have that sense...but surely it wouldn't tell them any more than they already know, provided you didn't go listing out our major projects. Because surely they suspect you have allies, but you could also just as easily be lying.

I suppose we should discuss that with the full Order before you go putting it in a Grim Truth, even under an assumed identity.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-23 06:01:59](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I've already got a mandate for that sort of thing. The impression that we're a bit more organised than the loose collection of baby-snatchers, wand-smugglers and (if we're honest) hand-wringers we are. I mean, that's just exactly what Alice wants me to go ahead and do.

You don't think 'those who join me' gets to that enough? Right. How about The Society for the Correction of Unwarranted Muggle-enslavement?




 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2013-01-23 06:03:43](#)**
(no subject)

I think that still has a gravitas problem.

Maybe we should ask Dora. She's the reason I figured it had better be 'Siblinghood' and not 'Brotherhood' (there was a Brotherhood of the Something Or Other in the comics we used to read, wasn't there?)




 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2013-01-23 06:04:50](#)**
(no subject)

And 'those who join me' suggests you're trying to form an organisation. I think it would be good to make it clear this organisation exists.

Maybe some play on the idea of a Council.




 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-23 06:07:11](#)**
(no subject)

Right. That still has the problem that getting input from the others takes time. Time we don't have if I want to strike while the bludger is in the air.

And the reason I don't like you being in the room is you always snatch the parchment away to scribble on it. This way I can scribble on my own copy and you can on yours.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-23 06:09:08](#)
(no subject)

Well, if you don't think you can put that bit in without asking everyone else in the Order, then by all means leave it out.


I think you should get this up tonight, one way or the other (and then come to bed).



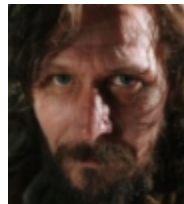
 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-23 06:13:33](#)
(no subject)


Also - the rights. I do think I should add something about the right not to get blown up. Not sure how to phrase it with the proper 'gravitas' so that's on you, if you're so clever.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-23 06:16:39](#)
(no subject)

'The right to go about one's business without fear of becoming the victim of random violence'




 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-23 06:21:58](#)
(no subject)

Almost.

'...without fear of or resorting to random violence' - that makes it clearer that we're not the ones perpetrating the acts.


All right. I think that'll do.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-23 06:06:10](#)
(no subject)


Society for the Restoration of Human Rights.
Organisation for Democracy
Organisation for Freedom and Equality



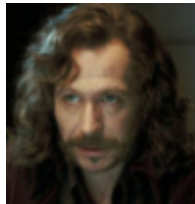
 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-23 06:08:20](#)
(no subject)


Perhaps I can allude to an organisation without naming it for just now.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-23 06:09:50](#)
(no subject)

Do you think the whole Order needs to agree to a false name? Or is it just that you don't like any of my ideas and want to get this posted so you can go to bed?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-23 06:17:36](#)
(no subject)

I think if I go ahead and choose a name so I can get this posted, we'll wake up tomorrow hating it.

Or everyone else will do. And then we shall be stuck with it forever.

Can you imagine being stuck calling ourselves 'The Rebel Alliance' only to remember that's the name of the heroes in that film Lily made us all go see? Or that we'd decided on something Dora thinks is rubbish?




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-23 06:18:41](#)
(no subject)

I had completely forgotten that movie.


It's a shame, because 'The Rebel Alliance' wouldn't be half bad. But you raise a good point. Forget the name, put it up, and come to bed.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-23 06:09:16](#)
(no subject)


Those all sound American, Moony.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-23 06:10:45](#)
(no subject)

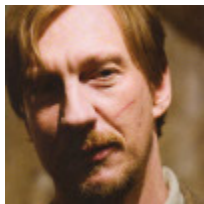
No they don't. It would be the 'OrganiZZZZZZation for whatever' if it were American.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-23 06:11:47](#)
(no subject)

Right, then, make it the People's Council. Then we'd sound Soviet.

Or wait, there aren't Soviets anymore, are there? That was one of the things that changed after the wards went up? It's remarkably hard to remember some of this.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-23 06:17:34](#)
(no subject)

Liberty, Equality, Fraternity.

Then we'd sound French.

Doubtless your protege would approve.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-23 06:19:57](#)**
(no subject)

Hah-bloody-hah.

Actually the French are doing better than we are at the moment. Aleks mentioned that law proposal got voted down.




 **[alt_lupin](#)** at **[2013-01-23 06:22:26](#)**
(no subject)

Good for them.

Imagine if we'd had the chance to put any of this business to a vote.



 **[alt_sirius](#)** at **[2013-01-23 06:24:22](#)**
(no subject)

That's a whole other Grim Truth topic.

2013-01-22 23:09:00

(no subject)

What happened to Sophie could happen to anyone. Who wouldn't confess to treason if Crouch cruciated them for long enough?



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-22 23:26:00

Grim Truth 23 January, 1996



 [altermity](#)
 [alt_sirius](#)

Greetings, British Wizarding World!

I have wondered from time to time whether our chats are really doing any good. Whether the points I try to make are falling on deaf ears or whether some of my reminders of life before the Protectorate can even reach those younger people who have never known what it was like to live in a free nation.

Because make no mistake, the country's wards are more like prison walls than protective garden hedgerows. They may keep the rest of the world from tearing down the illusion of wizarding supremacy but they also - and primarily - serve to keep captive a people who are oppressed and brutalised by their cagers.

I do not just mean muggles or muggleborn, although Merlin knows they are sorely tried by the abuses they receive. Over the last two days, in particular, we've seen the dangers of a government and of leaders who truly believe themselves above reproach, who truly think that they and they alone can decide what is right to think and believe, who truly disregard the personal freedom - obligation - to call the question, to doubt.

Sophie Fleet is a thirteen-year-old girl who until yesterday was a typical Hogwarts student. Without cause, she was forced to read in public a message she had written to her mother. She was then called before Ministry staff, including one of the most contemptible members of the Aurors, to reveal the content of messages she and her mother had exchanged over several months. Because she expressed a twinge of doubt regarding the motives and methods of the Protectorate, she was put to the question under physical torture until she 'confessed' to treason.

This morning, before the entire school, her wand was snapped and she and her mother are both being sent to the camps, where other members of her family may soon follow.

All because she dared to voice a dissenting opinion.

Because no teenager has *ever* expressed frustration with her life, the lives of others, the world, the universe, the unfairness of teachers, the

arbitrary nature of fate, the evil of enemies (or even friends), the decisions of parents or the shortcomings of the future. Imagine if you will the improbability of a teen finding fault with the status quo.

My point is that if this young witch could be tortured and coerced into a confession when she had done nothing but mildly observe that life sometimes doesn't work the way one wishes, or that her teachers seemed to wish her ill, then think what might happen to anyone who dares disagree. Hundreds of years ago, muggles persecuted each other on suspicion of witchcraft and thousands of young girls, some as young as Sophie, were tortured until they invented stories of deeds that even wizards cannot achieve. All because they were desperate to make the pain stop.

Friends, we've taken one step closer to that benighted point of view today. Not even your children's *thoughts* are safe from intrusion.

Privacy is not a 'privilege' as Dolores Umbridge would have it: It is a basic right to which all people - muggle, squib or magical - have a claim. Here are some other basic rights I and those who fight alongside me also uphold:

The right to learn to use magic if one is born with the ability, regardless of bloodline;
The right to liberty and the freedom to choose where and how one makes one's living;
The right to contact with one's loved ones, be they muggle, squib or magical;
The right to think and speak freely in agreement with or dissent from authority without fear of reprisal;
The right to conduct one's business without inflicting or becoming the victim of random violence;
The right to live peacefully and without fear of government detention, arrest or attack without just cause;
The right to food, clothing, shelter, healing care and education for all, regardless of magical birthright;
The right to fair pay in exchange for labour, goods or services rendered for all people, by mutual agreement of both labourer and beneficiary.

If you find that this list represents many of the things the Protectorate lacks, then you know the Grim Truth: You are not a citizen, but a prisoner; not a patriot, but an activist; not a collaborator, but a revolutionary.

My allies and I were once like you, isolated and unsure how to fight against what seemed an unstoppable and growing mass of dark wizards. We found each other and have for years been working together quietly, slowly, carefully, but steadily, to reverse the course this country has blindly taken over the last fifteen years. Here is how:

When you read this, if you agree, find one person you trust. Agree to meet that person the next day and introduce that person to a second person who also agrees. Now there are four of you. And so on. Take that step, just that one, and you will find more allies than you knew existed. Together, action becomes not only possible but imperative.

2013-01-23 00:36:00

(no subject)

We're damn lucky Umbridge wasn't around when we were younger. We had to be careful, but we still got to be kids.



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-23 07:53:00

Private message to Barty

Tell me this, Barty.

If you look beyond all the treasonous blasphemy that pours forth from dead man Black's screed, would you say that therein lies an accurate description of the events that took place at Hogwarts yesterday morn?



 [alt_bellatrix](#)




 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2013-01-23 15:03:22**
(no subject)

Too accurate.

Am at Marlborough. Could meet wherever convenient to you.

Entirely at your disposal. For as long as necessary.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at **2013-01-23 15:20:52**
(no subject)

I wondered.

There are several descriptions of the event from various student journals, but Black's provides such a striking and crisp narrative, one wonders how he pieced it together from so many scattered reports.

We must keep Hogwarts in our grasp as a possible haven for subversives. Much as it pains me to give that insufferable cow any accolades whatsoever, she should be encouraged to carry on, and report to MLE with anything suspicious. Might be good for you and I to make regular appearances, as time allows.

Meanwhile, we need to go hunting.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-23 15:33:49](#)
(no subject)


Agree. Yes there were reports but none that dared describe more than bits and pieces and most oblique.

Striking and crisp is right.

Agree re. Umbridge as a useful (and so willing) tool. However. Has own agenda. And blindspots. One of us needs to have a conversation with Rabastan. Want him to turn a more active eye on what is before him.

Meet me at NL26. By eleven? One more firecall to dept., then free.



 [alt_bellatrix](#) at [2013-01-23 15:47:40](#)
(no subject)

We can let her believe that her agenda is her own while turning it to ours. Best use of a dim hufflepuff.

I'm not the one to talk to Raz - Rod is. Knows the best ways to get under that one's skin. I'll have word with him about it tonight.

NL26, eleven sharp.

2013-01-23 09:09:00

Private Message to Barty and Claudius

Just received an owl from my former clerk, Virgil Crispin. He's been asked to go to the Fleet home.




 **alt_lucius**

Barty, you've not uncovered any evidence implicating him in this sordid business? Cannot believe he would be so foolish but ... stranger things have happened.

Or is there some other force in play? Just Monday we were speaking of his ambitions.



 **alt_crouch_jr** at **2013-01-23 19:47:04**
(no subject)

Apologies. Gather you've had your answer already. Can confirm all associated tasks compete.

Crispin exceeded expectations. Your mentoring paid rich fruit.



 **alt_lucius** at **2013-01-23 23:03:11**
(no subject)

Yes, besides Claudius' answer, Crispin came here directly the deed was done. We shared a drink to mark his success.

Hear you have quit the constant vigil in Scotland. Fletcher believes the worst is past. Your assessment? We ought to meet soon to discuss the school in more detail. Have you plans this evening?



 **alt_crouch_jr** at **2013-01-24 05:22:25**
(no subject)

Must apologise again. Only seeing this now. Bella and I have been in the field.

Could meet now or at your convenience tomorrow. Will be engaged tomorrow as today, but if we set a time, I'll arrange to be there.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2013-01-24 05:29:08](#)
(no subject)

Now is likely best; still trying to catch one or two of the others before the meeting and cannot guarantee where that shall best occur.

At this hour Meet me at the Admiralty House. Unless you prefer Marlborough.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-24 05:32:57](#)
(no subject)

Admiralty is fine.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2013-01-24 05:31:31](#)
(no subject)

As for T, he is recovering. Slowly. Fletcher's recommendations and the Matron's care reversed his decline. When lucid, he's distressed to have caused bother. Came away when he was strong enough to insist. Not wise to vex him at any time, but seemed particularly unwise under the circumstances.

2013-01-23 09:11:00

Private message to Lucius Malfoy

Just got word from Our Lord.

They're all to be executed. All, not merely the girl and her mother. There's an older boy who finished school...I'm not sure when. And an eight-year-old.



 [alt_selwyn](#)

My orders are to execute the youngest.

Yours?



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2013-01-23 15:25:01**

(no subject)

What?

All of them?

For what reason?

(Clearly, no, was not info--



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **2013-01-23 15:29:40**

(no subject)

All of them.

I wasn't given a reason.

Do you think I should ask for one?



 [alt_lucius](#) at **2013-01-23 15:31:59**

(no subject)

Yes. Just received the confirmation of execution orders from Yaxley. Bella and Barty have the honour of the others. (Bella presumably because she has been champing at her bit; Barty in acknowledgement of his 'quick and decisive' response to Dolores fucking Umbridge. Blast.)

Court this after-noon, as well. Mordred's Mercy.

No. Best you steel yourself, Dominic, and simply do as told.



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2013-01-23 15:41:40](#)**
(no subject)

I keep thinking about your niece.

The worst sort of traitors, for parents. But moved to a decent home...she's lived a respectable enough life, I think.

~~Has magical blood become so cheap, then~~

I've asked Bella to let me know when they're done -- when they won't need the boy anymore.




 **[alt_lucius](#)** at **[2013-01-23 15:57:12](#)**
(no subject)

My n Oh. Narcissa's, you mean.

Perhaps it's a lesson in some form of rehabilitation but to me it speaks more of the volatility of station: In one generation, an entire branch of Narcissa's family has entirely lost all its former value in heritage and dignity. Though in her case, it's an open question whether the blame falls entirely on her own mongrel nature or the inability of Barty's father and mother to instill the best values, or more likely, the combination of the two factors.

I ... take it you attempted to argue for clemency on the part of the younger children?




 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2013-01-23 16:01:40](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, yes. I'm sorry; I meant Narcissa's niece.

I would not have said that I *argued*, precisely, but --

Well. I have my orders; it's time to carry them out.



 **alt_lucius** at [2013-01-23 16:05:22](#)
(no subject)

Come by for a drink after, should you need one.




 **alt_lucius** at [2013-01-23 16:09:33](#)
(no subject)

Just received an owl from my former clerk - he's been told to come to Fleet's house as well.

Tell me he has not been mixed up in this affair.



 **alt_selwyn** at [2013-01-23 16:13:56](#)
(no subject)

Not to my knowledge.

He's been clerking for Mr Fleet, yes? Surely if they suspected Crispin of involvement, he would have been seized upon, not merely invited to drop by.



 **alt_lucius** at [2013-01-23 16:19:48](#)
(no subject)

Not clerking but works in his office, yes.

Now that my initial shock has passed, believe I know the cause. Ah, Yaxley has just confirmed.

Related to matters Crispin and I spoke of only Monday, in fact. Morgana, hadn't expected anything to move that quickly.

Though even in that - should have been notified prior to the decision. Double blast.

2013-01-23 09:14:00

Private message to Barty Crouch, Jr and Bellatrix Lestrange

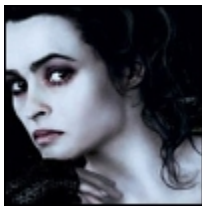
Received word from Our Lord this morning that the Fleet family is to be excised, 'root and branch.'



 [alt_selwyn](#)

I'm sure your people will be allowed to complete interrogations first, however. Do you know how much longer you'll want with them?

My orders are to handle the youngest.




 [alt_bellatrix](#) at **2013-01-23 15:30:25**
(no subject)

The boy might prove useful yet for extracting more information from the parents.

longer. However, I don't believe he'll be needed for much



 [alt_selwyn](#) at **2013-01-23 15:38:02**
(no subject)

When should I come? Is he still at the house, or MLE headquarters, or...?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2013-01-23 15:58:34**
(no subject)

Believe you could dispose of it. Currently at the Fleet residence under guard.

The parents can be manipulated without its actual presence. Truncheon confident.

Recommend doing directly what is ordered, in any case. No good comes of allowing oneself time to soften towards the young.



 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2013-01-23 16:00:11](#)**
(no subject)

I'm sure you're right.

I'll be there in a few minutes.

2013-01-23 10:53:00

can't believe it's only Wednesday

It really feels like it ought to be Friday. Or at least Thursday.



I don't know about the rest of you, but I'm really looking forward to the CCF exercise this weekend. Should be nice to forget about classes, OWLs, and all the rest and just immerse myself in whatever Madam Umbridge has planned for us.

 [alt_seamus](#)

I'm also looking forward to Friday's class with Professor Lestrangle, as I heard we're going to be learning the Patronus Charm. That's the only known defence against a lethifold! (Also Dementors, ~~but presumably none of us have to fear~~ but lethifolds are more unpredictably found.)




 [alt_seamus](#) at **2013-01-23 17:02:34**

Private message to Padma

Still can't quite believe what happened yesterday. With Fleet. ~~I didn't~~ Fortunately I have nothing to fear, because I have nothing to hide.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2013-01-23 17:10:07**

Re: Private message to Padma

I know. It makes it all the more important for us to make sure people are paying attention and behaving properly.

It's a little hard to believe how easily someone can stray off the right path.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2013-01-23 22:14:53**


(no subject)

I've heard Patronuses are one of the hardest things on the OWL.

How long do you think it'll take to produce a corporeal one?


And what form do you think everyone's will take?



 [alt_linus](#) at [2013-01-23 23:20:18](#)
(no subject)

I should be pleased if mine took the form of any of the animals favored by Byron. It is quite the list: bear, dog, wolf, horse, eagle, cat, crow, falcon, peacock, fox, Egyptian crane.... I should even be honoured if it take the form of a goose, in remembrance of those geese saved from the slaughter by Byron in Genoa.



 [alt_lavender](#) at [2013-01-24 01:01:22](#)
(no subject)

I should like a butterfly myself, or perhaps a swan.

Swans are as fierce as they are beautiful, you know.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-24 02:31:03](#)
(no subject)

Yeah - be ready, because it definitely isn't easy. I've been practising it since 3rd year and still haven't produced a fully corporeal one yet. But then, I haven't actually tried at any point in the recent past.

Finding the right sort of cheerful memory can be more challenging than one would think.

Harry's done it before, though.

2013-01-23 12:27:00

Order Only: The entire Fleet family has been killed



Dominic Selwyn just told me over Firewhiskey in his office. He needed it, the bastard.

 [alt_bill](#)

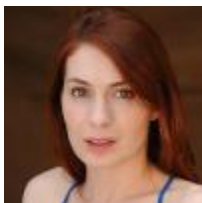
Our Glorious Lord Protector, in His infinite wisdom, decreed that the entire family had to be wiped out, 'root and branch.'


Two parents, three children. Selwyn says that Barty Crouch and Bellatrix Lestrange killed the parents. Virgil Crispin was assigned the task of offing the oldest son, Herbert, who has just recently left Hogwarts. Apparently, Crispin's ambitions have been noted, and this was part of his initiation into rising higher in the ranks.

Selwyn apparently tried to argue that the younger ones should be spared, put into fostering. But I gather the Lord Protector wasn't particularly inclined to be merciful. So Selwyn was ordered to take out Sophie and her younger brother Justin. It sounds like he didn't have much stomach for it. He told the boy it was all a misunderstanding, and he'd be with his parents soon. Gave him some cocoa with a sleeping potion in it, and then murdered him in his sleep. A kid of about eight. And about Sophie, he said that it was a bit easier. She was expecting the worst, he thought. He wasn't there to cruciate her, but just to end it and it came as 'almost a relief.'

Bloody hell.


Sirius, you can't say anything about this as an addendum to the Grim Truth or anything. This is secret for now, although the news may leak out eventually when none of them show up to the camp.



 [alt_alice](#) at **2013-01-23 19:06:21**
(no subject)

I see.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-23 19:06:59](#)
(no subject)

I agree, we ought to keep this under wraps for now.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-23 19:12:57](#)
(no subject)

Merlin, Bill.


Are you okay?



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-23 19:40:41](#)
(no subject)


Not really, no. I have to hold it together anyway. Selwyn's gone home, and I'm covering for him. I need to work with Nick Towler on that list of the baby names, too.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-23 19:44:24](#)
Private message to Remus Lupin

And I want to talk to Dad so badly, too.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-23 20:41:26](#)
Re: Private message to Remus Lupin

Oh, Bill.

I'm so sorry.

Do you want to come by here, when you're done at work? You could have a drink -- or a cup of tea. Talk it through with any of us, not that we're a substitute for your father, of course. But it's something.

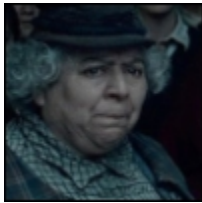


 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-23 21:21:56](#)**

Re: Private message to Remus Lupin

I will do that. I'd be grateful to talk with you. Tea might be a better idea than a drink, though. I think that Firewhiskey I had with Selwyn was about all the liquor I should have for today.

Sometimes numbness is a good idea, but I don't want it to become too easy of a habit. Frank warned me about that.



 **[alt_pomona](#)** at **[2013-01-23 20:37:13](#)**

(no subject)

She. Oh.

There's no words.

Poppy. I cannot be at the staff meeting tonight. There is no way I can look at *her*. What excuse can I best give to stay away? (Medical, I assume. Headache from lack of sleep is not so far from the truth.)

I'll be in Greenhouse 4. Indefinitely.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-23 21:23:52](#)**

(no subject)

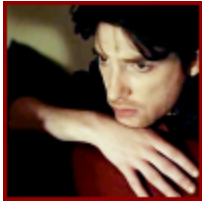
Pomona, I'm so very sorry. I wish I had better news for you.




 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-23 21:20:23](#)**

(no subject)

We shan't tell any of the Juniors, either. Though I really wish we could do.



 **alt_bill** at **2013-01-23 21:28:08**
(no subject)

I think that would be wisest, Hermione. I'm sorry, but I'm afraid the shock of such terrible news would make it difficult for them to keep it to themselves. Selwyn warned me not to speak of it, and I can't let it be known that I've let out news that I've been warned to keep confidential.

2013-01-23 17:03:00

Remember, all Ravenclaws

I just wanted to remind any Ravenclaws that we are available in the Corner for any support you might need. Whenever a betrayal like this hits, even when it is outside our House, there are questions. Loyalty is something that knows no House boundaries.

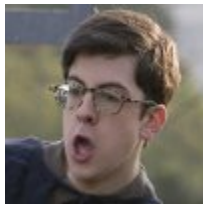



 [alt_padma](#)

CCF members particularly, we will have a brief meeting after supper to brainstorm for Sunday. I think a little attention to the virtues of the Protector might help as we prepare ourselves for any challenge we might face.

I want to stress that all CCF members are welcome, not just Ravenclaws.

And finally, there's a signup in place to read to Professor Dolohov as he recovers. I am sure we all want to show our support for the Professor as he rests and recovers. At the same time, we know it's hard to balance everything so we thought taking turns would be fair. See me if you want to sign up for a shift.



 [alt_linus](#) at **2013-01-23 22:46:29**
(no subject)

Padma, while your concern is of course laudable, I assure you that Professor Dolohov is in no condition to be read to yet. Where you got the idea that a rota of readers would be at all helpful to him in his current state is beyond me.

~~The Matron threw me out the other night, so there's no way that you lot~~

I'm sure we all want Professor Dolohov to recover fully and completely. Which at this point, I am told, requires that we give him the peace in which to do so.

I'm sure he'll be well enough to resume teaching and my detentions soon enough.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2013-01-23 22:49:47](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, it's not that big a deal. I asked Haruman and he says that a healthy balance of visits to rest is helpful for the spirit and engaging the mind aids speedy recovery. We shan't make them long shifts, of course.

2013-01-23 17:10:00

Order Only: Private message to Charlie Weasley



 **alt_bill**

There was a little more about that meeting with Selwyn that I didn't say to the Order as a whole.

He was talking about Virgil Crispin. Percy's bleeding role-model, the ever-perfect Crispin, you know.

Selwyn said that Crispin had expressed an ambition to join Our Lord's inner circle, and killing Herbert Fleet was his test. Or his duty, or his privilege, or maybe all three. And then he gave me this crooked smile and asked if I were ambitious.

I swear, I could feel the hair rising on the back of my neck. It was as if-as if I was on the other side of that Moment that Dad and I always talked about, when we would sound out people, to see if they're prospects for the Order. Except Selwyn was sounding me out for something completely different. Maybe I'm wrong. Maybe this is just the first probe. Maybe I'm not a good candidate anyway. I'm probably not. I'm the son of the regrettable Arthur Weasley, and my parents are suspected of having blood traitorous sympathies.

But for a moment there...bloody hell. I could almost see it, you know? Having a prospect like that dangling in front of my nose. Or maybe just a hint it might be offered in the future. A chance to be a part of the Inner Circle, and maybe the chance to bring back information, real information that could give the Order a chance, that could maybe cut a few years out of our feared timeline of throwing off these fucking psychopaths.

All I would have to do would be to convince them I'd be happy to become a psychopath myself. To get in, I might have to do murder.

Dad had to do stuff he hated.

But MURDER? What could possibly justify that?

(And we were worried about Percy going bad....)

This is the choice that Minerva faced, isn't it? And yes, her information is crucial. But look what a mess she is now.

I knew I had to say something, but I was so afraid of getting it wrong,

and closing the door for good. So I said that he must have been ambitious. Did it worked out as well as he had hoped?

The only answer he had to that was a bitter laugh.

I thought it wouldn't be quite believable if I seemed too eager. So I said that I wasn't sure if I could do what he and Crispin had done. It must be normal to have doubts; how did he overcome them?

He told me (in the flattest, deadest voice imaginable) that all that he could do was to trust that Our Lord's wisdom was surely greater than his.

I told him I want to serve the Protectorate. And I was glad for the opportunity he had given me, with the Assistant Director job. And I knew that to rise to the top might take a kind of determination, of fortitude--all right, ruthlessness--that was rare. I'd like to keep the possibilities open.

He asked me, 'You wish to serve the Protectorate? Or the Protector?'

The only answer I could think of for that was, 'aren't they one and the same?' Which led to him giving me an ironic little salute with his glass of Firewhiskey.

I don't know how I did. I don't think I've hopelessly bolluxed up any future possibilities.

I'm just not sure I want to face them.

I wish I could talk with Dad.

P.S. I've been thinking about Ron. It feels even more urgent to write to him and far more impossible. With Dolores Umbridge on the prowl, pouncing on anyone writing a Private message, it seems much too dangerous now. And I'm not sure sending an owl would be secure enough.



 [alt_charlie](#) at [2013-01-24 01:10:52](#)
(no subject)

Merlin's manky pants.

I don't even know what to say. It sounds as though you made the right answers to leave the door open without being too committal, but who the fuck knows? Who knows what he was looking for?


I don't know. I don't know if I could do it, if I were you. Or if I think you could do it, without losing yourself like Minerva has. You're right it would be an incredible opportunity -- but you'd have to pay a pretty fucking big cost for it.

You'd need to be damn fucking good at Occlumency before you could even try, though. So it's not like you could do anything soon.

You should talk to Minerva, now that she's more herself. And Macnair, or Snape: they'd be more able to tell you what kind of things you'd be getting yourself into. Snape at least seems to think it'd be possible for someone to do it without falling to bits, from what he's said -- I don't know if I'd trust his assessment, since he at least joined up with that lot willingly at first, but maybe you should talk to him and see why he thinks that.

And yeah, I wish I could talk to Dad too. I miss him so fucking much. It's odd: I've gone longer without talking to him or to Mom in the past, when I get caught up with something. But this time, knowing I can't anymore makes all the difference.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2013-01-24 01:40:22](#)
(no subject)

I'm at Laszlo's tonight; I'll talk with them there, too. Just as a sounding board.


I just don't know. I don't think I can do murder. And that may be the rock bottom price.



 **[alt_charlie](#)** at **[2013-01-24 01:42:14](#)**
(no subject)

I don't think there's any 'may be' about it.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2013-01-24 02:10:38](#)**
(no subject)

Ugh.

Well...at least Selwyn thinks I'm keeping my options open. Maybe I can still impress him as being willing and useful, short of doing something quite so reprehensible. There's still a lot of scope of what I can do for the Order, as long as he has me marked out as a young man on the rise.

(And I'm trying not to shudder at the idea of having a conversation like this with Ron in about five or six years time. I'm sort of surprised that Dad's hair wasn't completely white by the time he died from worrying over us.)

2013-01-23 19:13:00

Rehearsals, Week Three

Thank you, everyone, for showing up to rehearsal even though



I suppose it wasn't productive as it ought to have been, under usual circumstances, but it was nice to just sit around and chat for a bit and nibble on biscuits before we picked up with the routines and the songs. There's been quite an improvement from some of you since Saturday. I can tell that you've been practising in your free time, and it's most certainly paid off.

 [alt_daphne](#)

Justin, Susan, - and Zach. You're this week's super stars. Your toffees should be waiting for you when you return to your dorm.



 [alt_daphne](#) at **2013-01-24 02:38:25**

Private message to Zacharias Smith

I am sorry about Sophie, Smith. Whether it was deserved or not isn't for me to say, but either way, it's an all together unpleasant happening.

I hope we can be civil to one another now. I'd like to be.



 [alt_zacharias](#) at **2013-01-24 03:58:34**

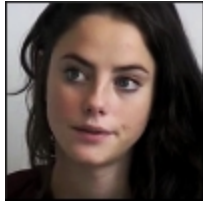
Re: Private message to Zacharias Smith

Yeah, all right. I just hope things don't continue on this way in Hufflepuff. At this rate they'll be picking off the firsties as they come through the doors.

Queenie's doing all right, though? I mean, from what Sue's said.

Just--do us a favour, right, and next time you want to use a bloke to get under Zabini's skin, just tell him that's your game, hey? I mean, I'd've snogged you either way but it would've been nice to know up front what you were after.

Oh, and tell Tors that she's got a chance with Baz Kendall if she's still interested.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-24 04:13:12](#)

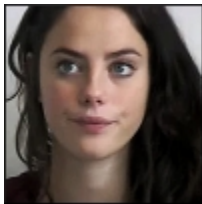
Re: Private message to Zacharias Smith

Of course you would have snogged me either way.

Only I'm done with that. If Blaise doesn't know what he wants then I'll leave him be to figure it out.

"Tors" and I don't really give one another sisterly advice, but I'm sure she'll figure it out, sooner or later.

Anyway, I hope things get better, too. In Hufflepuff.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-24 02:44:13](#)

(no subject)

Weasley, I meant to ask during our meeting, but have you had any chance at all to read *Much Ado About Nothing* yet?

You've haven't brought it up. I know there's been a lot on, though.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-24 04:43:34](#)

(no subject)

Um.

Yeah, y'know, I did try reading the first scene, but mostly I couldn't understand the things they said to each other. I mean, I could tell they were taking the piss a lot, but not what they were really talking about.

And, actually, now I can't really remember much of it. I guess I'll try again.

I bet it's funnier when it's acted out. I mean, like the revue is. The lines aren't all that when you just read the script, but it got loads funnier as people've worked out how to do their parts.

D'you think we could read it together? I thought about asking Pansy cause I know she thinks Shakespeare is dead clever, but I haven't had the right chance.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2013-01-24 04:48:46](#)**
(no subject)


You couldn't -

Oh. You've never seen Shakespeare before, then?
Because the thing of it is, his characters don't speak like we do, it's mostly poetry, with lots of metaphor and allusion, and then a good measure of wit and comedy, too.

It can be confusing, the first time you encounter it.

But were you able to get a sense of how Beatrice and Benedick are similar Dolly and Guy? Even a little?



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-24 03:15:55](#)**
(no subject)


Thanks, Daphne. It was really rather nice to be absorbed in music for awhile.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2013-01-24 03:21:25](#)**
(no subject)

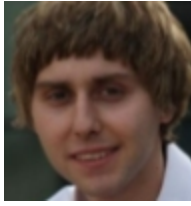
I know what you mean. I feel that way about singing, too. Well, maybe a little more about dance than singing. Both, really.




 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-24 04:38:32](#)**
(no subject)

For me, the other's flying. Or writing sometimes.

Not dancing, though! I always worry I'll get the steps wrong, or step on someone's feet.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-24 03:38:22](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, Daphne.

I say, it's in times of trial that one takes the full measure of one's friends, isn't it. And I think, as Susan said, there's something to the notion of keeping busy and coming together in one's community. I say, that's likely a very Hufflepuff manner of thinking, what, but I believe it holds true for all.

-Justin



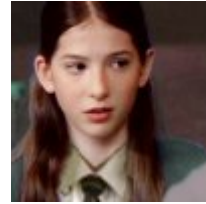
 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-24 03:41:43](#)
(no subject)

Yes - perhaps it's a Slytherin manner of thinking, too. Or, more likely, it's just the Hogwarts way.

[2013-01-23 20:26:00](#)

Astronomy

I find that the evening we stay up late for Astronomy is usually a very productive time to get homework done. I think it helps that I have this long, uninterrupted time and don't have to think, 'should I leave off and go to bed?' since I have to stay up late anyway.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)**

It's awfully chilly out tonight.

I don't even know what to say about yesterday other than thank you to all the people who try to keep us safe. I think all of us really do appreciate all your work and efforts. I know that sometimes you might not be planning to work (you might be visiting a sick friend, for instance) but when you're called you go and do your best. Sometimes, probably, no one even hears about it, but other times it makes all the difference in the world.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-24 02:33:46](#)**

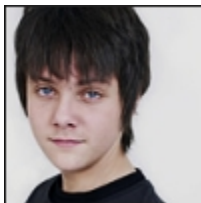
Private message to Michael Corner

Michael, I'm sorry I didn't tell you what was going on.

I should have thought of you. As someone I could ask. I didn't, because I guess -- you're someone I have fun with, and I wanted you to think of me that way, too. Not as someone pathetic who needs protection. And I didn't want to be a bother because I HATE being a bother.

But I should have at least told you what was going on, because you could have offered, and it -- Yeah. Anyway.

I'm sorry.



 **[alt_michael](#)** at **[2013-01-24 04:14:45](#)**

Re: Private message to Michael Corner

~~I can't make up my mind whether you're apologising because of Fleet or if you're apologising because you don't think of me as someone who would care enough to protect you.~~

Uh. Okay.

For the record, it doesn't make you un-fun because some prat's trying to mess about with you.

I mean, if he went after Bitsy like that.... Well, I'd've wanted to be bothered.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 04:16:49](#)

Re: Private message to Michael Corner

Well, yeah, but Bitsy's your sister.

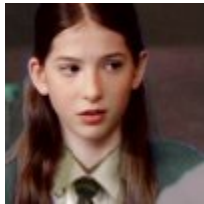


 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-24 04:19:34](#)

Re: Private message to Michael Corner

Yeah, and you're my *girlfriend*. Or I thought you were.

Maybe you are. I dunno.

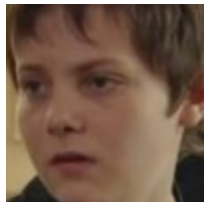


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 04:23:45](#)

Re: Private message to Michael Corner

Well, if Bitsy had a boyfriend

I don't know either.

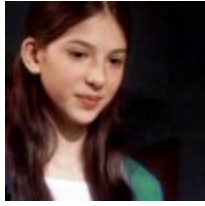


 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-24 04:36:39](#)

Re: Private message to Michael Corner

Well. What does that mean?

Do you want to be?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 04:38:16](#)

Re: Private message to Michael Corner

Yeah.

If you're not still cross.

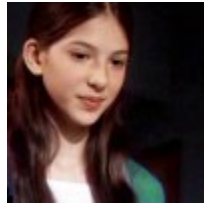


 [alt_michael](#) at [2013-01-24 04:39:14](#)

Re: Private message to Michael Corner

I guess I'm not all that cross.

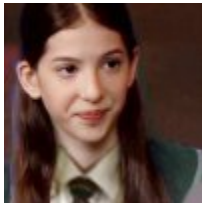
So can I walk you home after Astronomy, then?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 04:45:16](#)

Re: Private message to Michael Corner

Definitely.

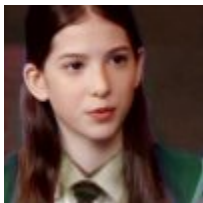


 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 02:35:44](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

So don't forget, we're meeting in the secret room tonight -- I think we said ten.

Everyone has to be there to do the linking spell.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 02:38:14](#)

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

Well, except -- Hermione, if you can't make it, I can make one or two work without the owner there. I think.

But the more people don't make it, the harder it'll be (plus, you won't get to try it out before I ~~put the poison~~ make them fully functional).

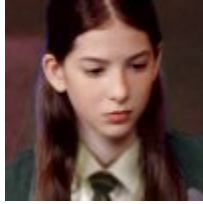


 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-24 03:50:27](#)

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

So these rings...Luna said something about how they could help you escape if you needed to? How do they do that? I thought portkeys weren't

working.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 03:59:58](#)

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

Well

yeah.

so the escape is that they're to kill ourselves, if we have to. In case what happened to Sophie Fleet happens to one of us.

Because you don't always know you're in trouble until it's too late to get away. Sophie didn't. And most of us don't know occlumancy, and even if we did, there's still veritaserum and cruciatus. And we know so much, Terry. ~~I don't know if they realise~~

Anyway I knew I didn't want to betray any of my friends so I decided to make something for myself. And then I talked it over with a few others and they thought it was a good idea and then we talked it over with the rest.

Fred and George and Lee, too. Because. They don't have portkeys either.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-24 04:18:24](#)

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

You--

That--

ALL OF YOU? ALL of you will have poison rings? Suicide rings?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 04:19:25](#)

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

Everyone wanted one.

So yeah.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-24 04:22:27](#)

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

Oh, Sally-Anne.

I think...



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-24 04:22:36](#)

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

Merlin.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-24 04:26:27](#)

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

It's the right decision.

Of course it is. Ugh, when I read that, I yelled out loud, I was so shocked. But of course it's what you all have to do. I understand your reasoning, I do. I just--

Merlin, I wish you didn't have to resort to this!

The Order talked, at the last meeting, about getting you help. With Occlumency. So that will lower the risk for all of you. And they will do everything they can to help you if you ever get into a tight spot, of course they will.

I hope by--by everything--that you'll never, never, never have to use them.

And I'm so...well. So proud of you, that you've been careful

and cautious enough to get them ready. And bloody impressed.

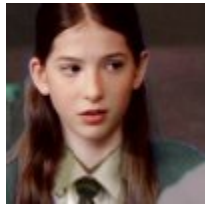


 **[alt_terry](#) at 2013-01-24 04:30:58**

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

Do you think...do you think you could make one and send it to me, too? I wouldn't have to wear it, as long as I'm here. But I might not always be. I might end up having to go out for missions for the Order, once I'm older. It would be reassuring. If I had an out.

I hope that the portkey problem gets solved, and I'll never need it. But in case it doesn't...I'd be proud to wear a ring like all the rest of you.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-24 04:40:45**

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

You aren't going to need it soon, are you?

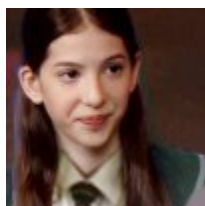


 **[alt_terry](#) at 2013-01-24 04:45:18**

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

I'm not sure. I've been thinking of applying to move at least part of the time to another location, which is much less secure. But I'd need to talk to some people first, and think about it more.

But that wouldn't be right away. I'd have several weeks lead time.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-24 04:44:56**

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

Because it would be a lot easier to wait, and try to set up a meeting this summer? Or

maybe spring hols, if there's time. If the Twins could pick you up and bring you somewhere.

Because

1. I'd need some of your blood to make the ring
2. There's a spell you have to cast on it to make it work properly and I'd want to show you, not try to explain in a letter
3. I'd want you to be able to test it out so you knew the spell had it working
4. Which means I couldn't give it to you with the venom IN it and getting the venom in is tricky.

Anyway this would all be easy enough if I were going to see you in person.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-24 04:46:10](#)

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

Spring hols would probably be fine. And it would be good to see you again, too. Thanks, Sally-Anne.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 04:48:36](#)

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

Would you maybe prefer a bracelet? Dogs don't exactly have fingers but they do have wrists, and the rings self-adjust, so you could have one that worked whether you were in dog form or human form.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-24 05:00:00](#)

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

Hadn't thought of that. But sure, another bracelet's an excellent idea.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2013-01-24 05:18:19**

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

And it's a warning too. So if someone uses it, everyone else's rings will let them know, so they can run.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-24 15:02:05**

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

Hey. Remind me. I have something I've got to tell you. There wasn't time last night and anywiz too many people.

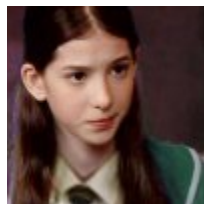
I'm off to Transfig now, but maybe at lunch? Hurry and eat, then meet me by the Odvar the Oily?



 **[alt_pansy](#) at 2013-01-24 15:22:11**

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

Sure. I'll be there.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-24 04:15:09**

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

And please don't tell their parents, Terry. Or their brothers. Not unless they say it's okay.

Hermione knows, obviously, since she's going to have one. Also Madam Pomfrey because she helped me research poisons ~~plus she wanted~~

I suppose Madam Pomfrey might decide to tell people's parents but I don't think she will.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-24 04:27:07](#)

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

No. No, I agree. They have the right to tell them themselves, if they want to do so.

Don't worry. I'll keep the secret.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 04:46:48](#)

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

Michael wants to walk me home from Astronomy.

Also, you know, I saw Letchley yesterday and he actually RAN AWAY WHEN HE SAW ME. I don't know what Slughorn did but I think it might have actually worked.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-24 07:02:55](#)

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

I don't see wha —Why do y
I hope whatever Slughorn said keeps working,
yeah? Only, don't count on it? Better to be safe,

y'know.

So. Does that mean you don't want me to walk you places now?
Cause I don't mind, only I guess you want

Whatever.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-24 02:49:27](#)

(no subject)

There is something about the quiet late at night when most other people have finished for the day, isn't there? I get much of my best work done between nine and eleven.

Really, though, I'm writing about the chill. It is extremely brisk out there, so I've already asked the house-elves to make sure to have

some warm tea when we come back in, and the fire in my office is going strong if anyone needs to stop in and warm up.

The wind's up, too, so we may not stay out terribly long: it'll rather depend on whether we can take notes and discuss without the pages blowing off.

2013-01-23 22:21:00

(no subject)

I know it's been a few days since our match, but I wanted to say good on Slytherin for performing under difficult circumstances. Crabbe, Goyle, Pucey, welcome back to the side. We currently have an opening for reserve Keeper -- Derwent, Croaker, Perks, you're welcome to try out for it, just let me know if you're interested. And all three of you should plan on trying out next term, too.



 [alt_harry](#)

My Father gave us the ability to use Private Messages as a gift. As you all know, we shouldn't take these gifts for granted. I'm grateful to Madame Umbridge for making the safety and well-being of all the students of Hogwarts her top priority, and for reminding us that our privacy is a privilege.

It's a lesson I'm sure none of us will ever forget.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2013-01-24 03:45:23**

Private Message to Cedric

Can we talk? Soon?

I'm s

I'm sorry. About what happened.



 [alt_cedric](#) at **2013-01-24 04:02:10**

Re: Private Message to Cedric

Sure. Go flying after YPL exercises tomorrow? If you just want to sit and talk, I still have the room in the astronomy tower and could get Professor Siz to add you back to the wards.

It was a hard thing to see.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-24 04:46:14](#)


Re: Private Message to Cedric

Yeah. It was.

Tomorrow works.

We should probably talk first. Maybe flying later if there's enough time?




 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-24 04:51:14](#)

Re: Private Message to Cedric

ok I'll talk to her about adding you back on. Anyone else or just the two of us?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-24 05:05:35](#)

Re: Private Message to Cedric

Just the two of us, yeah?



 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-25 15:46:08](#)

Re: Private Message to Cedric

Thanks for the meeting. It was interesting. Also nice to actually talk to someone who seems to share similar feelings. I hope we can figure out something solid to actually do about it though.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-25 16:13:10](#)

Re: Private Message to Cedric

Agreed.

I think if we really work on coming up with something we can do, it'll be better than sitting around and worrying about what she'll pull next.

And if we both bring on a second person we trust who agrees, there'd be four of us.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 03:45:52](#)

Private message to Harry Marvolo

Thank you so much for the encouragement, but I think I will focus on OWLs for the rest of this term. Maybe I'll try out again in the autumn, though?

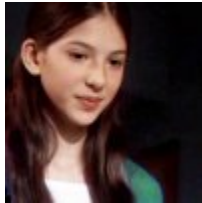


 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-24 03:49:07](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

That's fine. We'll have some openings next term, so it'd be worth your while.

And you did good work up there.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 04:09:07](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

Thank you.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-24 05:14:19](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

And.

I know you're not on the side any more.

But you know that if you ever want someone to walk places with, or, you know, just talk or something, you just have to say.

I made a promise to Victor that I'd keep an eye out for you. And I sort of didn't do a good job with that. Obviously. So. I'm sorry I let you both down. And I'll try to be a better friend.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-24 03:52:57](#)

Private message to Harry

Well done. Sounds sincere and loyal, but an undertone there that would prompt those who know you best to read between the lines.

Derwent and Croaker were a disaster - you're too charitable. But I suppose that's where I get to come in, hey?



 **[alt_harry](#) at 2013-01-24 03:56:36**

Re: Private message to Harry

Thanks. I just thought about what you'd say.

I think Derwent won't be nearly as idiotic if we get him away from Croaker. And he's got awful aim, but he wasn't bad at making contact with Bludgers. Maybe he can catch a quaffle. Maybe.

Croaker's definitely worn his last set of quidditch robes, though.

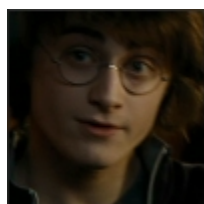



 **[alt_draco](#) at 2013-01-24 04:02:27**

Re: Private message to Harry

You were pretending to be me? How flattering. We should colour-charm your hair.

Crabbe and Goyle are still the best we've got. They might share a brain, but it appears to be an advantage when they're bludgering things together.



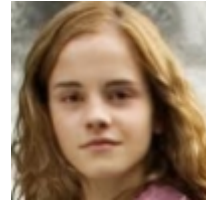
 **[alt_harry](#) at 2013-01-24 04:59:32**

Re: Private message to Harry

I have a feeling that I'd look absolutely ridiculous blond.

[2013-01-23 23:45:00](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good




Sally-Anne, these are brilliant. Are you sure the reservoir will hold enough?

 **[alt_hermione](#)**

Has everyone tested them already?



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-24 05:05:18](#)**
(no subject)

I can't get mine to work. It won't bite me, no matter what. Do we know that squirrels have big enough teeth?

Maybe the spellwork didn't hold.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-24 05:12:42](#)**
(no subject)


Yours is a squirrel? That's interesting. Well, it doesn't really matter if they do or not but I think Sally-Anne must have made all of them with sharp enough teeth, though, right? Otherwise what would

be the point?

Do you think your ring can tell that you want it to bite? Maybe we need to change the way you activate yours.

Are you in your dormitory? Alone?



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-24 05:20:59](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know. Do you think maybe it can't tell? Because I'm an occlumens?

I'm in my dormitory but Norma and Cressida are here. I have my bed curtains shut tight, though.




 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-24 05:24:50](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not sure. I mean, being an Occlumens isn't supposed to affect non-verbal casting but in this case, you're trying to communicate non-verbally with something that has a specialised brain of a sort. So it could be that you need to really focus your thoughts to direct the ring--at least at first, maybe.

I was thinking I could come in and try casting a spell so that if you tap it a certain way you could then signal it somehow. But not if the others are still awake or if they might wake up. And you certainly can't come up here to my cubby.

Maybe we should look at it tomorrow, when Sally-Anne can have a look as well.

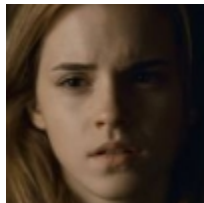


 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2013-01-24 05:27:41](#)**
(no subject)

Bother. I don't know if I'll be able to really focus my thoughts on directing the ring if I'm ever being tortured.

And I might not be able to tap it, either, if I'm bound. I'm not bound now, of course, just imagining the sort of scenario where these might be used.

I suppose it's best to look at it tomorrow.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-24 05:33:19](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, I didn't mean that you'd have to do that all the time. Only that to start it off, until it gets to know you, you might have to, er, think really hard at it, that sort of thing.

And no, tapping it isn't ideal at all. It would just be a last resort. Or maybe a first step in a two-step process, where the tap gets its attention and then there's something else. But that gets to be unsafe because the way Sally-Anne set it up is meant to

prevent a misunderstanding.

I think we'd better all look at it together. (The little fangs do pinch a bit but it's not bad.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-24 05:09:47](#)
(no subject)

Yes, we all tested our up in the secret room before Astronomy practical. You can test yours, it doesn't have venom in it yet and I warned everyone not to worry if they felt someone else test it tonight.

The poisons are all really strong, it doesn't take very much. I picked three -- any squeamish people who'd rather not know the details should stop reading here. The thing about poisons is that some are very fast, some are very sure, some give you a painless death and some don't ever lose their potency but there aren't any poisons that do EVERYTHING all at once.

So there's one poison that will render you unconscious in the blink of an eye and dead within five minutes.

There's one that will kill you in five seconds BUT normally it's not a painless death. But with the first poison it will be.

And there's one that causes death within two minutes -- that one's also not painless or nearly as fast as we want, but it's very sure (apparently bezoars don't usually work) plus that venom stays good for at least a century. The other venoms should be replaced once every year or two because they lose potency. Which I can show you how to do, it's a little bit fiddly but not terribly difficult, and the Twins know where to get the poisons.

2013-01-24 10:43:00

Order Only: Portkeys



 [alt_lupin](#)

So, we were able to get a portkey registered to us that's allegedly for Ellie. It comes into the shop; Hermione, if you use it, I would request that you IMMEDIATELY floo to 12GP, taking the portkey with you. We've set up a ward on the floo to let us know if you've used it (we didn't dare make any alterations to the portkey) so we'll have some warning before MLE shows up.

Which they probably will, unless they don't know what time you left. What we know about the portkey logs: they register each time a portkey is used. So if they know, for instance, that you used at portkey at 10:45 in the morning, they'll be able to look in the logs and narrow it down to a relatively limited number of registered portkeys. We believe that at least some of the time, the logs also say where the portkey was used from -- which would allow them to instantly pinpoint us.

Our plan, if this happens, is to claim that the portkey was recently stolen. (And hope we're not questioned by a legilimens.)

I passed Hermione's portkey to Pomona last night through the floo, along with a selection of exotic seeds that we can say she ordered from us a while back. Pomona should be able to get the portkey to Hermione shortly.

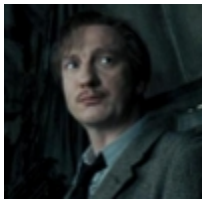
Which leaves the rest of the Juniors. I'm not sure precisely how many more portkeys we will ultimately need -- eleven? Fred and George, can you confirm a number? -- but I don't think we can plan on being able to make our own anytime soon.

Molly and Bill, I think you might each be able to request one that goes to the Burrow for those occasions when you might be overcome with grief and not up to apparating. Those can be passed along once you've gotten and tested them. You might also be able to request portkeys for Ron and Ginny, on the grounds that they might need to portkeys home from the platform on school holidays, with their mum needing to find a job to support herself.

We might also consider whether we can manufacture excuses for any of the Junior Auxiliary to have portkeys that move them within

Hogwarts. For instance, Poppy might be able to request one that would bring Miss Perks to the hospital wing on the grounds of her apprenticeship -- theoretically, if a fellow student were seriously ill or injured, Miss Perks could use it to move both of them straight to Madam Pomfrey. She might also use it to evade questioning, come to the hospital wing, and escape by floo -- but, since she had it for a legitimate reason, hopefully no one would suspect Poppy of involvement. (Or is that option too risky?)

Can anyone else think of a plausible reason to request a portkey?



 **alt_lupin** at **2013-01-24 17:09:47**

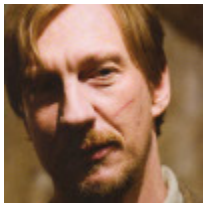
Private message to Padfoot and Dora


I've carefully avoided the most difficult question of all, did you notice?

Priorities.

Obviously Hermione needed one as quickly as we could get it to her. She's far more at risk than any of the rest.

But who next? I'm sure Frank and Alice will want the next two to go to Neville and Evelyn, but I'm not convinced they shouldn't go to the Twins and Lee (we could probably get away with giving just one to the Twins on the assumption that one can get the other out). Or Justin and Ron. Or Sally-Anne and Pansy. Or Hydra Lestrange -- I can't believe I'm even suggesting that, but from what we know that THEY know of our secrets... and even if she's the most perfect occlumens who's ever walked the earth, I would not for one second think that Bellatrix Lestrange would balk at cruciating her daughter for information.



 **alt_lupin** at **2013-01-24 17:13:44**

Re: Private message to Padfoot and Dora

Also, if Molly requests portkeys for Ron and Ginny -- one can simply go to Ron, of course.

But if we give the other to anyone other than Ginny, we would potentially be sacrificing Ginny. She certainly won't know anything about the portkey she was supposed to have, and won't be able to say, 'oh, it must have been stolen out of my trunk!' She won't know anything, when they come to ask.

Which they will.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-24 23:29:48](#)

Re: Private message to Padfoot and Dora

I'd be inclined to say Justin, Hydra and Pansy next. The thing about the twins is that they had the Map for a time. If they can get away, and get Ron or Neville and Evelyn away, they can get past the anti-Apparition line and Apparate.

And as far as Ginny, I would assume that if Molly gets one, it would go to her. Whether or not she's loyal to the Protectorate, fourteen is too young to give her up as a lost cause. Even if they need to bind and gag her and drag her alongside through the forest until she can be reprogrammed.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-25 00:00:16](#)

Re: Private message to Padfoot and Dora

Honestly, it might just be easier to teach them all to apparate. I've never heard of anyone actually getting caught apparating without a license, have you? It's mostly just that not everyone can manage to learn it that keeps some folks from using it. Or it makes them ill, like it does Sirius, but that's rather rare, isn't it?

The thing is, I don't think they have a way of logging where you go by apparating.

Only, I think there's going to be trouble with getting enough Portkeys. Stop the presses: I finally learned something useful at the Ministry! But I should write it where everyone can read, so hang on and I'll do that.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-25 00:02:25](#)

Re: Private message to Padfoot and Dora

And you're right, they'd have to get outside the wards, but it would give them a better chance.

I expect they'd all be able to learn it, don't you, especially with the sort of incentive they've got.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-25 05:46:40](#)

Re: Private message to Padfoot and Dora

That's really an excellent idea, teaching them to apparate.

Maybe a project for spring hols. Or summer, if they can't manage it yet in April.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-25 00:13:47](#)

Re: Private message to Padfoot and Dora

You've got the makings of a true lawbreaker, Dora. Cheers.

I wonder how well Occlumency and Apparition go together.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-25 01:59:54](#)

(no subject)

I think we may have a problem getting approval for some of those. Only, I overheard some of the night Transport staffers talking on their break, and they were laughing at some of the applications that were coming in and being turned down. And some were actually mad, you know, like the one asking for a portkey so the family owl could bring post back from Scotland more quickly or the one they said made a case for needing a portkey to the Ministry because some witch in Accounting doesn't like to arrive by Floo in the atrium along with everyone else. But it also sounded like they have orders to turn down pretty much any application that is not really obviously a daily need (for kids going to primary schools or people off the Floo getting to work) and anything that's not easy to verify or that doesn't add up. (I guess someone claimed he needed to have a perpetual use portkey for his 'family holiday' to Suffolk in June, and it turned out the address was his mistress's flat.)

So I wonder if they wouldn't say no to a request for a portkey home from the train platform because there's a public Floo and the

Weasleys are on the network, see? And I don't know about telling them that grief could keep you from apparating, Molly. It might work, but it might not. I suppose it's worth finding out. Maybe better to try finding a job somewhere off the Floo for a bit and apply for a commuter's portkey, though, you see? Once you had it, you could quit if you wanted and the portkey would still be good.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2013-01-25 02:00:53](#)**
(no subject)

A Portkey for an owl?

Remus, I'm sorry to say that using Portkeys to transport the injured is a dreadful idea, and one I hope they'd know enough to turn down. At any rate, I'd be struck from licensure if anyone at St Mungo's found I'd authorized such a thing. I'm not opposed to requesting a Portkey that could be given to Miss Perks; in fact, I believe she ought to be high on our priority list to receive one we might have to give. She knows and guesses more than the rest of them put together, and it is truly in our interest to make her safety a top concern.




 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-01-25 03:37:09](#)**
(no subject)

There are thirteen of us Juniors at Hogwarts, including Hermione, the two of us and Lee. And of course, we two and Lee can apparate.

There may be others who don't know as much as us juniors, but who are participating in, er, subversive conversations, with Hermione's coins. And we have a feeling that number may yet grow. They'd not be a danger to the Order if they were questioned--they don't know the sorts of things that we do. But they could be in danger on their own account. Because they're starting to question things.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2013-01-25 03:45:59](#)**
(no subject)

It's a good thought about requesting a portkey for Ron and Ginny. I suppose it can't hurt to try.

And of course, we should remind the juniors that

several of the children can use the same portkey at once, if it's a situation where everyone needs to evacuate. Arthur had already given our children instructions to obey if we ever sent a patronus message. If they could find each other quickly--perhaps their coins could be used to arrange a meeting place--they could evacuate several people with each portkey. Not ideal, obviously, but perhaps it would serve in a desperate situation.

[2013-01-24 21:16:00](#)

Thinking About Home

Hiya, Mum.

I know I could send an owl, but I dunno, I just felt like writing tonight, and I like the idea you might see it right away.



 [alt_ron](#)

I'm keeping busy and working hard at my assignments. We had a YPL activity where we went and helped fix things at a school, and our next thing is a day-long CCF exercise that ought to be challenging. I guess it's good we have these activities that keep us from spending all our time sitting with our noses in our books because that would be dull, wouldn't it?

I think I may go to bed early tonight because I've stayed up late a lot this week.

Hope you are well. I miss you.

Your favourite son,
Ronald



 [alt_daphne](#) at **[2013-01-25 04:18:15](#)**

Private message to Ron Weasley

Did you write this so you'd meet the one-journal-entry-per-week requirement?

It's rather sweet, in a way ~~and sad~~

But look, if you want to read Shakespeare together I'm not just going to explain everything to you, if that's what you were hoping for. You have to hold up your end, see?

But otherwise I would be amenable.

Though not tonight, since you're retiring early, and frankly, so should I.



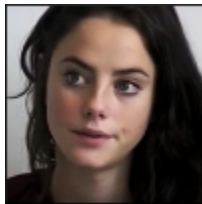
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-25 04:29:33](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

I guess it's pretty obvious, but yeah. If Madam Umbritch wants to read all our post, she might as well. It's not as if I say anything very interesting when I write home. I reckon my mum likes to hear from us, though. Especially

I should have told her about the Revue. Next week, I guess. Gives me something to talk about then.

Anywiz, yeah. I do want to read the Shakespeare, and of course I'll try. But, um. It's not all schmoopy, is it? Only, I opened it up today and started reading just where I opened it, and that Benedick chap was reading this really terrible poem he'd been trying to write. I mean, that's just meant for laughs, isn't it?



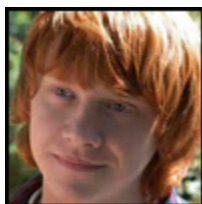
 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-25 04:40:15](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

No more obvious than my "weekly super star" awards, really.

You call her Madam Umbritch? That's funny, Draco calls her *Bumbridge*, and then just yesterday I heard someone change it to *Bumbitch*. I just stick with Umbridge because I don't want to accidentally say something else to her face. Also, I don't really want to think about her bum in any context.

Schmoopy? It's a comedy, which means it's always going to end with a happy couple, but it's not meant to be drenched in sop. Mostly, it's intended as entertaining and funny. Benedick's terrible at writing poems because he's not a romantic hero, like Claudio is (Claudio is an *arse*, you know). He's just an "ordinary bloke," as you yourself might say, with a talent for wit.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-25 04:48:25](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

A talent for wit. Well, that's all right, then.

Do you think you'd have time tomorrow to read some of it and see if I can get what makes it funny said out loud?

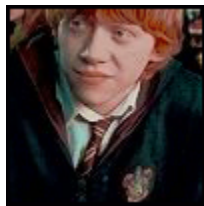



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-25 04:51:11](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Well, after supper, or?

I mean, yes, I have time.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-25 04:58:43](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Good. We could meet up after supper, then. In that disused classroom at the end of the Transfiguration corridor, maybe?



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-25 05:22:24](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Alright.

See you there.

(Don't forget your script, and the Shakespeare!)



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-25 05:50:36](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Um. So did you see Harry's message about the Dark Arts group starting again? Tomorrow. Should we maybe go to that first and then see if there's time after for Shakespeare? I mean, I guess it's up to you. I did say I'd do this first, and I do want to do it. Only, maybe we shouldn't miss the other, you know?



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-25 05:57:57](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Our studies really ought to come first, it's true.

We could do Shakespeare after, but it might be

getting late, and you've stayed up late all week, so, I suppose that's your call.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-25 06:26:10](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

I don't mind if you don't.

And, heh. So much for going to bed early tonight. Oh, well.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2013-01-25 08:08:41](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

I'm sure it'll be fine.

See you at Harry's Dark Arts group!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-25 04:54:03](#)

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Oh, and we call her Umbritch because of the way she's always stopping to scratch at her ankles when we're out doing exercises. It just- sort of got to be a thing.

I think I wish you hadn't told me what Malfoy calls her. It's funny, but, well. Ew.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-25 21:00:48](#)

(no subject)

How lovely to hear from you, dear. I'm so glad that you're participating in YPL and CCF; I know how much you've enjoyed them.

I miss you, too. It seems that I'm missing all of you even more than usual this winter. The Burrow is so very quiet ~~without your father~~ and I haven't been keeping as busy as I usually do, because I don't have as many tasks with the barter network as I've had in the past. It makes time hang rather heavy on my hands, I'm afraid. I'm starting to plan the spring garden, ordering seeds from owl catalogs and so forth...I'm sure I'll feel a bit more like myself when the planting is in

full swing.

I've been toying with the idea of getting a job. Perhaps it might do me good to try something new.

You're a dear to write to your old Mum. Oh, and congratulations for landing your role in the revue! How very exciting! When will the performance be?

Love,
Mum

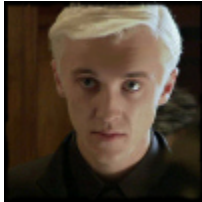
2013-01-24 22:49:00

Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Harry Marvolo

Mr Malfoy, I think I found that thing you were looking for.



 [alt_hermione](#)



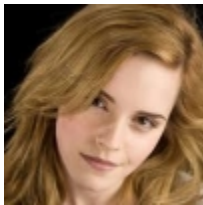
 [alt_draco](#) at **2013-01-25 03:56:58**

(no subject)

You really think Bumbridge will make any of us read aloud private messages with Harry's name on them? Well, I suppose one never knows. If that happens we're all done for.

Bit odd how I don't worry about it as much as I used to, though.

Anyway, what have you got?



 [alt_hermione](#) at **2013-01-25 04:01:59**

(no subject)

I'm just being careful.

Five and Six. Well, maybe just Five. But I think it's easier when they're in pairs, that seems to be the secret.

Did Mr Malfoy see you this evening? Oh, and I meant to ask if you and Mrs Malfoy had a good visit on Monday.



 [alt_draco](#) at **2013-01-25 04:14:50**

(no subject)

Always better to be careful.

Six would be good. I wonder what is a plausible number to aim for, for the finalised product. And then there's to think about how to best use them. Not for the mere passing of sweets during class, but something bigger. Might end up having to use them for notes at this rate, especially since Father seems concerned that Bumbridge has even more madness

planned.

He was suspicious about how everything's been going her way lately, too - first Dolohov gets ill, then one of the Governors gets sent to the camps. Convenient, yeah? Whether you'd care to believe it or not, he wants her sacked as badly as we do.

There was this sort of *sentimental* air about him, too, what with the trying to give me an awkward, one-armed hug before we said goodbye. Not typically one for hugs is our Mr Malfoy.

I'm not sure why you're asking after my parents, though. And Mrs Malfoy wasn't at the castle on Monday.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-25 04:36:16](#)
(no subject)

I think it's very suspicious too, but I don't think she had anything to do with Professor Dolohov falling ill. I mean, I could imagine she'd get in horrible trouble if anyone could prove it. But it was probably just that he relapsed.

As for your father wanting to see you, I think it's probably not too surprising because of what happened to the Fleets. That he might be more demonstrative than usual.


But your mother *was* here Monday. I saw her walking up from the village around mid-day. Maybe she went to see Professor Dolohov in the hospital wing?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-25 04:41:13](#)
(no subject)

I think she's just taking advantage. Bum, I mean. Throwing her weight around while everyone else is too busy covering for Professor Dolohov.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-25 04:51:56](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, and she weighs a tonne, lucky for us.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-25 04:45:56](#)
(no subject)

Bit late for demonstrations now, that's all. Not that it's entirely unappreciated, I guess.

She was -

If she was here, I'm sure she said it was to see Professor Dolohov, but no doubt it was really to check in on loverboy Crouch.

Bloody ugh.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-25 04:51:46](#)
(no subject)

Well, I mean, you've *got* a father and he may not be good at showing it but he does care about you. And what happens to you. Which is more than some people can say.

Wait.

What?

What do you mean about Auror Crouch?

Auror Crouch and **Mrs Malfoy**? *Really?*




 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-25 05:04:24](#)
(no subject)

Look Granger, I love my Father and all, and I do think he did the best he could, since you seem concerned, but he's far from perfect. And let's not forget that his hair would probably fall out if he knew that I was conspiring with you on something magical that...that Harry needs - or conspiring on anything at all.

And I shouldn't have said anything about Crouch. Harry and Pansy already know about my suspicions, I guess I just forgot that you don't, too.

Forget I said anything.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-25 05:08:33](#)
(no subject)

I don't think I'm the one you need to tell about whether your father's perfect. ~~I know far too much~~

I was just surprised, is all. That you suspected anything. But it's just that you suspect, right, not that it's really what you think it might be?

Wasn't Monday Auror Crouch's birthday, too? I mean, maybe that's why she came to visit him here.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-25 05:17:32](#)
(no subject)

That was my point, really.

Unfortunately, what were once just suspicions have been verified as reality.

I have no idea when his birthday is. How do *you* know? If I'd known, I would have baked him a cake.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-25 05:26:25](#)
(no subject)

I never said he was perfect. I just--I just think it's never too late. To try to show someone you love them. That's all.

And I remembered because of the year Daphne sent him a present.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-25 05:39:53](#)
(no subject)


Try to have less of a freakishly sharp memory. It's spooky.

And who said it was too late?

~~I know you don't have~~

I get what you're saying, though.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-25 04:41:55](#)
(no subject)

Yeah.

You could say that again.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-25 04:46:46](#)
(no subject)

Say what again?

That we'll be done for?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-25 04:52:26](#)
(no subject)

I guess it wouldn't be as bad as all that for you and me. I mean, we'd probably get in trouble.

Lots.

Hermione, though

Yeah.

You really think she won't? Bum, I mean? She made Sally-Anne read hers.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-25 04:58:21](#)
(no subject)

Well if she does, like Draco says, we're all in big trouble.

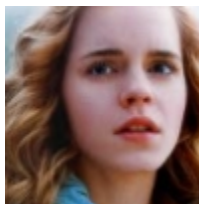
What did Diggory have to say?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-25 05:15:08](#)
(no subject)

He was angry. Doesn't like Bum, which, you know, not surprising.


He said he doesn't want to let what happened to Sophie Fleet happen again, and he wasn't sure what could be done, but you could tell that if we came up with something, he'd at least listen. And would keep it to himself.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-25 15:33:07](#)
(no subject)

Do you think we should give him a coin? Or would he get all prefecty on you if you did?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-25 16:09:40](#)
(no subject)

He'd get prefecty, I think.

He was going on about how all this stuff with her picking students to do things for her through the CCF was undermining prefects, and her discipline things were messing with the system at the school, so I think he's all about rules -- but Hogwarts rules. So if we go to him with stuff that'll be bad for Bum, but will help out prefects (or at least not really shove it in their faces), I think he'd be for it.

[2013-01-24 23:57:00](#)

(no subject)


So, I've been thinking of starting up the 5th year Dark Arts study group again. Anyone interested? It worked out all right last time to have people from both Practical and Theoretical there, and we could work on some of the readings and things together. Let's say 7:00 tomorrow night in the classroom we used last time for anyone that can make it. Does that work for everyone?



 [alt_harry](#)


And on Sunday I was thinking we could lead study sessions for some of the younger years. If anyone wants to help out with that, just let me know and I can come up with a schedule or something.



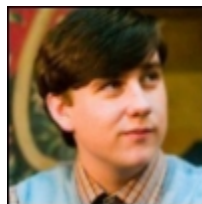
 [alt_hermione](#) at **[2013-01-25 05:12:52](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good


Listen, I think it's important that as many of you come as can, tomorrow.



 [alt_hermione](#) at **[2013-01-25 05:13:28](#)**
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:
Private message to Neville and Harry*

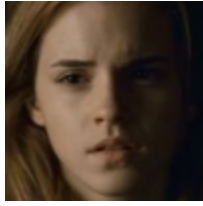
And Neville, Harry wanted me to ask if you'd stay a little while afterward.



 [alt_neville](#) at **[2013-01-25 12:58:19](#)**
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:
Private message to Neville and Harry*

Really? Okay, I guess.

Uh, do you know what he wants to talk with me about?



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-25 15:17:31](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:
Private message to Neville and Harry*

He didn't say but my guess would be it has to do with Sirius and your parents and what we can all do about things.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-25 05:29:12](#)

Private Message to Justin

I know you're busy with the revue and everything, but if you're free on Sunday night, I'm hoping to get people from other Houses to help so everyone will come, not just Slytherins.

If you can't, is there someone else in your House who can?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-25 15:45:44](#)

Re: Private Message to Justin

Hello, Harry,

Yes, of course, old man. I've just been talking about it with Ernie and the others and we'd be happy to come.

Have you a plan in mind for the session, to keep it productive?

-Justin



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-25 16:05:10](#)

Re: Private Message to Justin

Well, I was going to look over some of their books to see what they're studying, and then help answer questions they have about the latest stuff, and just sort of see where they might have problems.

Because it's not like Professor Dolohov is up for loads of firsties asking him questions, and if it's stuff we already know, we could help out that way.

And we could go over the chapters they're supposed to be reading

now, and talk about it. Sort of like we did in our study group. I think just talking really helps sometimes.

I don't want to do any demonstrations or spellwork, not without supervision, but I figure it'll still be useful.

Anything in particular you think we could do?



 **[alt_harry](#) at 2013-01-25 16:05:57**

Re: Private Message to Justin

Also, if you get a chance, I'd like to talk with you sometime about a dog that we both know.



 **[alt_harry](#) at 2013-01-25 05:30:18**

Private Message to Ron

Hey. Are you free on Sunday night? I figure if we've got people from all the Houses, the younger years will be more likely to show.



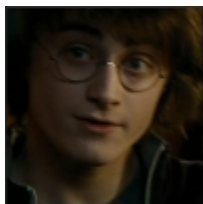
 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-25 05:38:19**

Re: Private Message to Ron

I just answered down below. Thing is, I told Daphne I'd meet her so she can help me figure out how my character's supposed to get on with hers in the Revue. Or not get on but really want to. Or something. It's complicated.

I'll see if she minds, though if we do this first.

Any wiz, yeah, I can talk it up with the younger ones if you want, and I'll come next week for sure.



 **[alt_harry](#) at 2013-01-25 05:43:13**

Re: Private Message to Ron

Thanks. And if you need to work on Revue stuff, that's fine. I know how Daphs can get.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-25 05:32:01](#)

Private Message to Padma

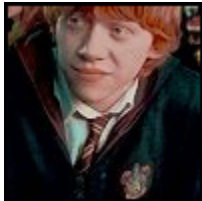
Padma, I know you've got all sorts of stuff going on all the time, but if you want to help out on Sunday night, I've asked people from the other Houses too. Anyways. Just let me know.



 [alt_padma](#) at [2013-01-25 15:43:41](#)

Re: Private Message to Padma

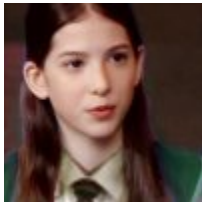
Okay. I'm sure we can figure something out.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-25 05:33:53](#)

(no subject)

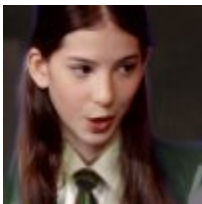
I want to come, but I have something else tomorrow evening. If I'd known you were going to start this again, well. I'll see if I can work it out, but next week for sure. If you think you'll do it again then.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-25 17:11:40](#)

Private message to Harry

Sounds like a great idea, Harry. I'll be there.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-25 17:12:16](#)

Re: Private message to Harry

I could have made that public but I'm trying to see if there's any pattern to what I have to read in public? Best to test it out with things I don't mind reading.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2013-01-25 18:01:43](#)**

Re: Private message to Harry

Yeah. Doesn't hurt to be careful.


2013-01-25 10:24:00

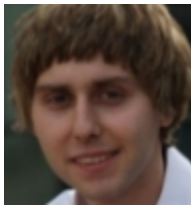
Happy Birthday Eloise!

Have a great day!

And be sure to come to the Common Room after lessons--Megs and I will have some tea and biscuits to share!



 **alt_susan**



 **alt_justin** at **2013-01-25 16:42:40**

(no subject)

Hello, Susan,

Yes, quite! Happy birthday, Eloise.

-Justin



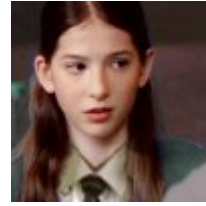
 **alt_eloise** at **2013-01-25 18:42:14**

(no subject)

Oooh, thank you!!

2013-01-25 10:58:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Hydra, did you ever get your ring working? Sorry I didn't come look at it on Wednesday - I had to meet with Umbridge at 7 a.m. on Thursday to listen to her thoughts on all the ways I could improve my essay so after Astronomy I just went straight to bed. And then last night I thought I'd come find you after halfblood revision but first I thought I'd lie down for just a minute and the next thing I knew it was morning. (That hardly ever happens to me! I think maybe I haven't been getting enough sleep.)

Anyway. This evening is Harry's Dark Arts group plus I'm supposed to go to the Hospital Wing to work for Madam Pomfrey, but I am NOT busy during Slytherin Quidditch practice anymore so if you're free I could meet you then to look at it.

Here's the thing. The charm I had you cast was supposed to give it access to your thoughts, but you are such a very strong occlumens I guess it didn't work. You should still be able to talk to it out loud, and if you try doing that and also thinking very hard at it, you might be able to train it to pick up your thoughts enough to make it work.

Alternately, we could re-do the spell so instead of listening to your thoughts it picks up on PHYSICAL intentions and you could activate it with the silent spell (THAT worked, I saw that part work) and then you could trigger it to bite you by doing something physical and if you were in a full-body bind, TRYING to do the thing would still trigger it to bite you (does that make sense? If not we could meet and I could show you what I mean.)

(Sorry not to make this a PM but I wanted everyone to know that if they feel their ring go cold they know it's just you DID get it working and not that anyone's died.)



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-25 19:03:20](#)
(no subject)

I'm free during quidditch practice.

And no, I still haven't gotten it to work. I suppose I'm willing to try anything, really. This is the first time that being an natural occlumens has seemed inconvenient, though.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-25 19:12:28](#)
(no subject)

I suppose everything has a trade-off.

Hermione, if you're free during quidditch practice could you come take a look too? You might have ideas that I didn't.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-25 20:41:39](#)
(no subject)

Oh.

Yes, I can meet then. Once Harry's started things.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-25 19:42:10](#)
(no subject)

Hullo,

I didn't realise you were having trouble with yours.

I say, Sally-Anne, do you think it shall work eventually?

-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-25 19:55:02](#)
(no subject)

Oh yeah.

We can come up with something. It just may not work quite the same as everyone else's. My ring

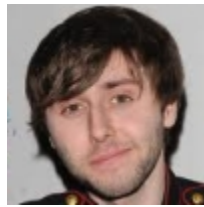
can talk back to me if I activate it; I don't know if that will work with Hydra's.



 **[alt_hydra](#) at 2013-01-25 20:20:37**
(no subject)

You didn't see what I wrote in Hermione's journal entry?

Yes, I've been having difficulties. It doesn't respond even a little.




 **[alt_justin](#) at 2013-01-25 20:28:44**
(no subject)

Sorry, no, but I have done now. I've been preoccupied with this dashed tricky assignment Professor Vector gave us for this week.

-Justin




 **[alt_justin](#) at 2013-01-25 20:39:48**
Private Message to Hydra

Sorry. It's not that I'm trying not to pay attention to you, Dux. Only sometimes I don't want to feel like I'm...looking over your shoulder, if you follow me.

Shall I let you know when Harry's revision group has finished this evening? Secret stairwell?

-J



 **[alt_hydra](#) at 2013-01-25 21:19:06**
Re: Private Message to Hydra

Oh, that's all right. I just thought you might've seen it.

I'm not giving up or anything, but we may want to prepare for the possibility that the ring won't be an option for me.

And yes, let me know.

I still need to think of a way to ask Harry if I might borrow his cloak.

From,
Hydra



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-25 19:16:38](#)

(no subject)

Hey, also

If anyone spots Sebastian, he was missing on Thursday morning. I thought for sure he'd turn up but he didn't. I'm not really worried yet, because he does go exploring every now and then (and the Slytherin cats and kneazles are all very well-mannered about other pets -- he just needs to steer clear of Teddy) but I'm surprised he wasn't back this morning.

I ought to put this up in public but I'm afraid Umbridge would be a bint about it, so the lot of you just keep your eyes open alright?



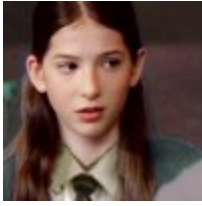
 [alt_hermione](#) at [2013-01-25 21:02:21](#)


Private Message to Sally-Anne and Harry Marvolo

Let me ask you something.

~~If sometime you were talking with Pansy and she said something that--that gave you information~~

No. Nevermind.




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-25 21:03:54](#)**
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Harry Marvolo

What?

You can ask me whatever you want, you know.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2013-01-25 21:52:53](#)**
Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Harry Marvolo

No.

It's--I sort of know the answer.

2013-01-25 17:31:00

Patronus?

Oh, dear. That was odd.

Did anyone else see it? When we were in class?
Probably no one else did, because of course everyone was working on their own, but -- I don't think I imagined it.




 **alt_megan**

It looked like Tiggy-Winkle. At the Protectorate Zoological Gardens, in the display of Mammals of the Protectorate.

It was only there for a moment, though. So I might have imagined it.




 **alt_linus** at **2013-01-26 00:00:17**
(no subject)

Erinaceus europaeus? Your Patronus is a hedgehog?

Quite.



 **alt_megan** at **2013-01-26 00:02:34**
(no subject)

That's not bad, is it?



 **alt_cedric** at **2013-01-26 01:44:59**
(no subject)

If you could tell what it looked like on your first day of trying cast a Patronus that's REALLY GOOD.

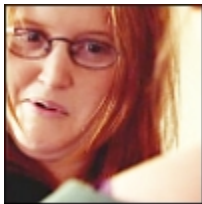
Congratulations, you must be using a wiznift good memory.




 **[alt_megan](#)** at **[2013-01-26 04:52:03](#)**
(no subject)

Oh! It's a very good one. I was a little girl, and ~~my father took me to~~ I was taken to the Protectorate Zoological Gardens, into the exhibit house with the Mammals of the Protectorate. And there was a darkened room, because some of them are nocturnal, which meant they would sleep in the daytime. So they kept the room dark, but there was a magical glow that let you see even so. And there was a hedgehog in one display. A little sign said his name was Tiggy-Winkle. And he was sitting there, and he wasn't afraid. He was curious and nice. And he looked right at me! It was like he was greeting me. And I just sat and looked at him and he looked at me. It was the nicest day.

I wonder if Tiggy-Winkle is still there at the Protectorate Zoological Gardens. I haven't been since ~~because my guardian says animals are untidy and smell bad~~ because it has not been convenient to go.



 **[alt_eloise](#)** at **[2013-01-26 01:57:49](#)**
(no subject)

I saw it!! I definitely saw it. I couldn't get anything to happen at all when I tried, though!!

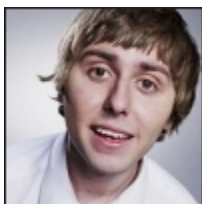
Professor Raz's patronus was so powerful looking ooh it gave me the shivers!!




 **[alt_megan](#)** at **[2013-01-26 04:53:31](#)**
(no subject)

You did? Oh, brilliant! Thank you!

You'll get yours, I know you will.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-26 02:25:28](#)**
(no subject)

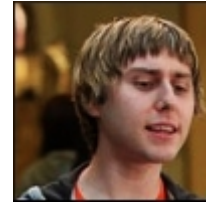
I say, well done, Megs!

I've only managed a vague sort of silver mist so far, what?

-Justin

2013-01-25 21:25:00

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



 **alt_justin**

Hydra,

I'm on my way down to the dungeons.

Sorry that took longer than I expected, what?

I say, I seem to be apologising rather a lot lately.

-J



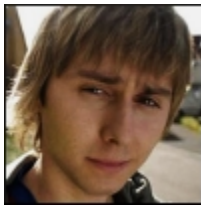
 **alt_hydra** at **2013-01-26 02:32:15**


(no subject)

You've always been a little prone to apolgising, I think. But I like that about you.

How was the Dark Arts?

From,
Hydra



 **alt_justin** at **2013-01-26 02:39:51**

(no subject)


Beg pardon? I'm sure I don't know what you mean.

Dark Arts was jolly good, actually. We've been working on the more recent reading sections and the meditations. I think Harry's quite right not to encourage any practical magic without the Professor but examining the theory can be bally well interesting.

He, er, also told me that he wants to speak about a dog we know. But I noticed Neville hanging back afterward, and though I did wonder about that, he saw me and waved me on, what. Besides, I'd told you I'd come down, so I left them to it.

-J

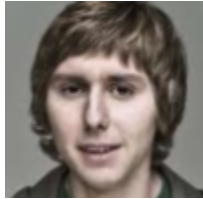



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2013-01-26 02:54:01](#)
(no subject)

Oh, a dog.

Do you suppose he might want to talk about more than Dark Arts with Neville, too?

From,
Hydra



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-26 02:56:21](#)
(no subject)

No idea.

But I'm almost to the turning so we can talk about it in person if you like.

Later.

-J

[2013-01-26 12:11:00](#)

Exciting Announcement!

Attention all 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year girls!

You are invited to join myself and Parvati Patil for a Tea & Fashion party tomorrow afternoon at 3:00.




 [alternity](#)
 [alt_lavender](#)

Professor Carpenter will be hosting us in the Divination Tower and sharing her expertise as a *Witch Weekly* columnist!

Parvati and I will be doing makeovers and demonstrating basic hair and accessorizing charms, and sharing some designs from Mrs. Patil's new spring line for younger witches.

We hope you will join us for an entertaining afternoon.




 [alt_eloise](#) at [2013-01-26 18:09:03](#)
(no subject)

Why is it only firsties, secondies, and thirdies??

Why not forthies and fifthies, too??

Only, if you're going to provide service to others then it might be worthwhile to not be so exclusive.




 [alt_lavender](#) at [2013-01-26 18:58:13](#)
(no subject)

Professor Carpenter thought it would be helpful to find a way to entertain the younger girls while the castle was somewhat emptied out due to YPL activities, and as a prefect, I had to agree.

I assumed that most of the older students would be occupied, but you're certainly welcome to join the younger girls if you wish.



 **alt_eloise** at **2013-01-26 20:23:12**
(no subject)

Oh, no thank you. I shall be quite occupied!!

2013-01-27 14:21:00

watching the CCF



 **alt_megan**


The CCF are certainly busy today with their tasks. Did anyone else see that big stone come hopping out of the Forest? None of the others hopped. It all looked very exciting. And then they all went into the lake. The CCF, not the big stones. And now they're mostly out again, I think. It's hard to tell, because they went behind those ice walls.

I would hate to have to go in the lake today, as it is very cold. Both my guardian and I are susceptible to cold.

There was just a burst of multicolored sparks from somewhere among the ice walls. Some spells are so pretty.

I am watching from the window with the carved arch with acorns on it, the one with the good view toward the lake. If anyone wants to join me, they are welcome to. But they don't have to. But it's interesting to watch.



 **alt_megan** at **2013-01-27 21:46:35**
(no subject)

The big stones look nice, all decorated with whatever it was they hung on them. I see an Ouroborous, but the other bits are too small to make out from here.



 **alt_umbridge** at **2013-01-28 01:05:22**
(no subject)

I hope you had an interesting afternoon watching, Miss Jones.

(And have you thought further about the opportunity I offered? I do think you could be a help.)



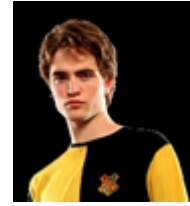
 **[alt_megan](#)** at **[2013-01-28 01:13:16](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, yes, thank you, Madam Umbridge. I will join. It is very kind of you to take notice of me. And of course I want to help the school and my fellow students.

[2013-01-27 15:33:00](#)

CCF Trials

It is always exciting to watch people competing by pushing themselves to the limit. Some of our best and brightest are out there racing in the bitter cold. I sure hope they were all paying attention last year when Mr Marvolo and I had to dive into that cold, cold lake. I can say that this time around I'm quite happy to be standing around with my hat, coat, gloves and warming charms while enjoying the view. Not being one of those out striving I can stand back and admire the beautiful and well-proportioned scenery and birds as a backdrop to the contest. Whatever they are doing in the maze sure is noisy, peel after peel of sound rolling out of there.



 **[alt_cedric](#)**

I have to agree with Megan watching a standing stone hop out of the woods was amusing. I'm also very glad the our resident wonder the Squid did not decide to get involved today. It's good to watch our fellow students powering through obstacles without qualms or hesitations.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2013-01-27 21:15:37](#)**
(no subject)

I've been glancing out my window as well - though it's hard to see as much from up in my office. (The menhir bouncing along, yes - whose idea was that?)

I can't help but think back to last year, as well.

Of course, the CCF training has always been designed to prepare those students involved to deal with all manner of challenge, and I'm sure everyone will do splendidly. And I'm sure the committee has carefully designed each task to provide the right balance of challenge and learning.



 **[alt_cedric](#)** at **[2013-01-27 21:22:57](#)**
(no subject)

They have some very nice observing charms set up down here, so we can see a more of the action. It's wizard to see continued application of the spells

developed last year for the Triwizard Tournament. I hope that they can be added to Quidditch venues as they make the action more accessible even to those relegated to the cheap seats.

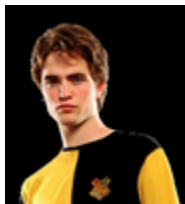


 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-27 21:37:52](#)
(no subject)

Oh, I'm glad they're developing that further. I'd seen a mention in the latest *Journal of Modern Magical Theory and Experiment* of a summary paper in the next issue. And I believe *Visionary Charms* is considering a special issue next fall on improvements in related charms.

What's the clarity like? I know they had some challenges with the image becoming blurry at the edges unless the angles are perfect, and the methods I used with the projection stones for the same problem apparently don't work in this case.

Goodness. I just caught that other flare of sparks. I do hope it's nothing urgent. And it looks like, what I can see from here, that some of them are finishing. Or is there something after that maze?



 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-27 21:48:11](#)
(no subject)

I'll have to take a look at those articles, well at least the *Visionary Charms* one, as I'm sure Professor Vector has told you I suspect I couldn't make handle or head of the *Theory* paper.

There is occasional blurring around the edges and it gets... fuzzy I guess would be a good word, when particularly intense magic, like one of the Cardinals, is used near the observation end.

I'm seen some slip and falls, some of them look very, very cold but nobody seems to have been seriously injured at this point.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-27 22:00:38](#)
(no subject)

Come by sometime we've both got time, and I can talk you through what's out so far? (Actually, I know the authors of one of the forthcoming articles, and could request a draft, too: we were talking about it at the Astronomy Guild meeting last night and I know they're nearly done with the write-up.)

The Cardinals, really? Though I suppose that makes sense, on the charm side, that it would affect things. And I did hear mention they'd be allowed.

Is the cold very bad?



 [alt_megan](#) at [2013-01-27 21:49:36](#)
(no subject)

Oh dear! Yes, it is certainly good that the Squid did not get involved!

Everyone did make it out of the lake all right, didn't they? I didn't see.



 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-27 21:53:37](#)
(no subject)

I think everyone is accounted for, there certainly hasn't been any undo commotion from the healers or the few aurors that are here. Those that went in look rather cold though.



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-28 00:45:35](#)
(no subject)

I am so glad that you showed a proper interest in the activity to come out and watch. Do feel free to give appropriate feedback to any of the students for whom it might be appropriate, though of course I would like to know what you share.

One teensy correction - surely, you want to put your best foot forward in public writing - that it should be peel, above.



alt_cedric at **2013-01-28 02:04:20**
(no subject)

Several students failed in casting specific spells. Some succeeded on second tries, others tried other more creative, less brute force approaches. Both of those paths have merit, but in dangerous, high stress combat or near combat situations casting a spell which you are insufficiently proficient with is often worse than casting nothing at all. Clearly they felt pressure to push beyond their comfort zones in spell choice. Not knowing exactly what instructions they were given I can't say whether I think those were at fault or if the students simply responded poorly to the high stress situation with physical impediments (I saw at least one failed cast that was clearly due to wand hand shaking so badly from the cold). All of my comments would be on that theme.

Since his arrival here, each year in Defence Professor Raz has lectured strenuously on proper spell choice and the incredible amount of repetitive practice it takes to make the proper response instinctual. You don't get the necessary level instinctual response without it. For example fifth years just haven't cast the Cardinals enough to make them a good choice in anything other than a pure learning environment. Maybe in the future he could be brought in before such events to give a short lecture on the topic tailored to the tasks at hand?

I'm sorry to have displayed poor word choice in public. I must only plead that homonyms make things hard and I was working without my normal support of a dictionary to check out those sorts of things. I know 'peel' was there on the page and I stared at it. Then I stared at 'peel' some more and just couldn't decide if 'peal' or 'peel' was more fit. Once I start looking at things like that they turn 'round and 'round in my head 'till I don't know if they look better coming or going and decide to pick up the first choice. In the end that's a generous way of saying it really is ~~breast~~ best if I work with a dictionary when witting up potion assays or other written essays.




 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-28 02:11:09](#)
(no subject)

Indeed, Mr Diggory. I am certain our students will take your experienced advice to heart.


As to the comments on Professor Lestrangle, I do certainly intend to discuss various matters in more detail with him in the near future. You are quite right that one's choices can be greatly influenced by one's past experience.



 [alt_linus](#) at [2013-01-28 01:39:26](#)
(no subject)

It just occurred to me that if they leave those menhirs there for a sufficient number of centuries with the proper rituals, they may actually be able to coax a ley line into being. The nearest other standing stones being where they are, I believe that would put the prospective ley line either under the Quidditch pitch or the kitchens. I am not certain whether ley lines would have a deleterious or salubrious effect on the food. The effect on Quidditch... well. I am given to understand that ley lines have a definite effect on brooms, and it would definitely complicate the calculations in my on-going project to add yet another variable, so I'd just as soon that they didn't.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-28 03:21:45](#)
(no subject)

It was a walk down memory lane, that's for certain.



 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-28 18:02:18](#)
(no subject)

Even just watching it certainly was. I hope your dreams were filled with dancing fluffy bunnies not the cold, pressing dark mine were last night.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-28 22:31:40](#)

Private Message to Cedric


Yeah. No bunnies, I'm afraid. Nothing but murky cold water ~~and Him~~ all night long.

Have you written Fleur or Victor?

I was thinking about them.

Maybe I should. Just to say hello.



 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-28 23:11:24](#)


Re: Private Message to Cedric

You know, I haven't. I think that sounds like a good idea, though I haven't sent an owl outside the Protectorate before.

I'm still trying to think of what to say to Raz. I didn't intend to poke at her with this post, but I ended up there anyway.

Do you want to say something to him about our meeting last week? I think we both trust him.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-29 05:30:54](#)

Re: Private Message to Cedric

Maybe we could each write something and send off our letters at the same time. It'd save on owls.

And yeah, we can talk to Raz tomorrow.

2013-01-27 16:44:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

I don't think I've ever been so cold and miserable in my life.

I hate Dolores Umbridge. Hate her. HATE HER.



 [alt_sally_anne](#)



 [alt_luna](#) at [2013-01-28 02:29:46](#)

(no subject)

I've finally stopped sneezing. It took awhile. Ugh. Why did we have to go into the lake in January?

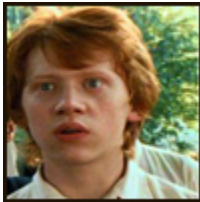


 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-28 02:51:26](#)

(no subject)

And oh, sweet Morgana, that debriefing session!

It was nice of Marvolo to show some solidarity, but I just wanted it to *end* so I could find a hot bath and a warm fire.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-28 04:16:58](#)

(no subject)

We had to go into the lake because she doesn't have a single original idea anywhere in her head.

I mean, hello. Second Task?

And third was a maze?

I suppose we're lucky we didn't have to fight dragons. But, of course, we didn't because that would have taken actual work for her to set up.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-28 04:20:53](#)
(no subject)

Thank goodness for that, because if anyone had got eaten by a dragon I don't think she'd have minded.

Unless it was Patil, or Finnigan, or one of the others she likes.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-28 04:18:25](#)
(no subject)

Are you okay?

You looked awful after.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-28 04:21:23](#)
(no subject)

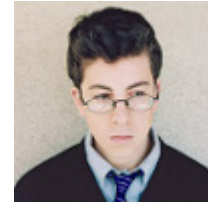
Not really

It was better once I warmed up a bit.

2013-01-27 17:22:00

question for Professor Dolohov

(Please pardon the public nature of this inquiry, but I must follow the directives recently given in matters of communication through the journals.)



 [alt_linus](#)

Sir, my thanks again for the time you have taken (and will in the future be taking) to supervise my detentions, and my renewed apologies for the necessity of same. I would not trouble you during your convalescence except to report briefly upon an instance of magic usage that I hope believe falls within the brief of your directives to me. (I am reporting as promptly as possible after the CCF event and a modicum of supper sufficient to forestall collapse from hunger or any ill effects from exposure to the cold.)

I have scrupulously refrained from casting anything (outside of class, anywiz) that is not from the book of applied protections, wards, and practical basic defence which you were so kind to bestow upon me and to which you directed me to limit myself. (Your forbearance in not binding my magic as you bound several of my unfortunate colleagues in the recent joint intemperateness is, again and ever, the subject of my most humble gratitude.) However, I neglected to ask for clarification regarding the use of magic in CCF activities. Therefore, when confronted with numerous tasks this afternoon requiring quick and effective magical action, I made judgement as best I could as to what to use.

The lake tasks required warming and water-breathing magics, and the general snow and ice conditions required protection from the elements and, again, warming charms; these were clearly prudent and absolutely necessary. In the task requiring us to subdue and get past the hostile Muggles, I selected a body-bind from the basic self-defence array in the book, as you have not yet given me permission to use any large spells on my own initiative. It turned out to be for the best, as my team was able to cast the body-bind swiftly; I hardly think we would have managed any of the Cardinals with such alacrity, so it was all to the good in any case.

The only point on which I have some question is the spell we used to transport the menhir from the Forbidden Forest to the side of the lake. Members of my team first attempted to shrink the menhir, thinking that we could perhaps pick it up and carry it out of the

Forest. However, the spells did not have the desired effect, and while the menhir got approximately twenty percent smaller, it seemed to gain significantly in weight. We were stumped until I recalled the propulsion charm you spoke of in *Theoretical Magic*, the one certain magical engineers are working to adapt for powering large devices. I managed to cast something at least partially effective, though rather than lofting our menhir in one graceful swoop to its designated resting place, it, er, hopped. But we got it there.

I do hope it is acceptable and satisfactory to have used this in performance of our requested duties in CCF.

Also, please accept my good wishes for your continued recovery. Professor Siz has been supervising my regular detentions with her as before, and I have been studying the book you gave me (and making notes) at the times I would normally be reporting to your office.

Yours sincerely,
Linus Moon



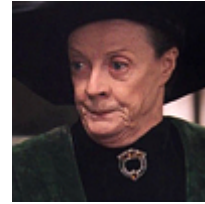
 **alt_umbridge** at **2013-01-28 01:01:54**
(no subject)

Goodness, Mr Moon. If you had concerns about the limitations of your agreements, I do wish you had asked this afternoon.

I am certain that Professor Dolohov never meant for you to apply those kinds of restrictions in an appropriate and fully supervised activity. In future if you have such worries, please do bring them up as promptly as possible.

2013-01-27 17:55:00

*Attention Hogwarts Governors - A
Formal Complaint*



This letter regards the CCF activities that students undertook today, under the direction of Dolores Umbridge.

 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

Students were asked to perform dangerous tasks with little or no security and safety precautions. More than this, the tasks were clearly chosen to create psychological distress for particular students. While I believe, as everyone does, that "stretching" is important in developing students' mental and physical abilities, this afternoon's requirements were utterly unreasonable. What is more, the students were required to be actively cruel to Muggles placed as obstacles in their path. An upright wizard would not beat a horse, a Krup, or any other semi-intelligent animal; Muggles are no different. We degrade our children by asking them to torment uncomprehending living beings, even potentially dangerous beings such as Muggles.

Madam Umbridge refused to explain her plans to any staff members, and her mandate is such that it would have been difficult to moderate her actions in any case.

As Headmistress of this school, I am lodging a formal complaint against Madam Umbridge. I request that her assignment to Hogwarts be reconsidered.




 [alt_molly](#) at **2013-01-28 02:39:30**

Order only

Oh, Minerva. That children at Hogwarts should be required to do such things. As part of their education! ~~It would break Arthur's~~ Were any of the Muggles badly hurt?

I hope the Board of Governors will listen, for goodness sakes.




 **[alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-28 03:32:14](#)**
ORDER ONLY

Minerva, I suppose we ought to be prepared in case your attempt doesn't go in your favour -- I'm positive that we'll be able to get to the children in our most recent list, so in case you must exit in a hurry, please prepare the book accordingly.

And do be careful, please.

I must admit, I'm very glad that Neville was not part of this exercise today.



 **[alt_lucius](#) at [2013-01-28 17:03:48](#)**
Private Message to Minerva McGonagall and Dominic Selwyn

If your purpose was to set a kneazle among the snidgets, you have certainly succeeded.

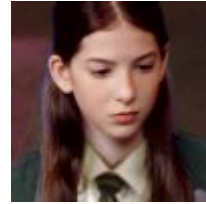
Believe the infernal woman has been practising her own form of control over the other members of the Governors - and given the conversations I have had since last week, grow more convinced she went after young Fleet with the specific hope that she might uncover an embarrassment sufficient to depose Maribel from our ranks. (Though as it turns out, that was much more successful than any of us expected, for it seems Maribel *had* established a private vault with the express purpose of supporting the Crimson Company. Most infuriating!) And as you are well aware, with Maribel gone and no time to plant a replacement, the Governors stand evenly divided with Peakes as the deciding vote.

Rest assured I am doing what I can to swing the balance in opposition to Dolores and her self-serving agenda. Dominic and I have nominated a replacement who is beyond reproach - however am not confident we can force the Board to induct him with due haste.

2013-01-27 19:30:00

CCF activity today

So today the CCF was split into teams and we had a bunch of tasks we needed to complete.



 **alt_sally_anne**

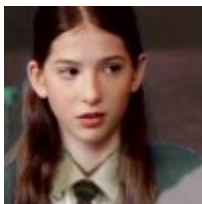
First we needed to find a standing stone; then we had to move it; then we had to dive into the lake (we had three minutes to prepare ourselves with warming and water-breathing charms and so on) and retrieve an ourborous from under the water (it was tangled up in ropes we had to un-knot); then we had to solve a maze. (One of the obstacles in the maze was a group of angry muggles.) While we were moving the standing stone we encountered some centaurs (I think that was Luna's favourite part) and thestrals.

It was very challenging and very cold. I think I've only just stopped shivering.

I was on a team with Padma Patil, Luna Lovegood, Cressida Bode, and Efflivia Stevens.

We learn and do such interesting things in CCF.

Later in the week I will be meeting with Madam Umbridge. Also, I will be meeting Professor Sinistra for more work on locational magic; I should probably find out precisely when she wants me to come.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2013-01-28 01:37:04**

Private message to Professor Sinistra

I know you want me to come in again for more work on locational magic, but I'm not sure which day or time I'm required. Please let me know.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2013-01-28 01:46:30**

Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

When would you like to be required? I'm glad to oblige for anything even vaguely plausible.

It looked exceedingly brisk out there today. You all

right now you've had a chance to get inside and warm up?



alt_sally_anne at 2013-01-28 01:49:24

Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

I don't really need to be required (I mean, Thursday morning would be brilliant but I don't expect you'd be awake at seven in the morning). I just wanted something that wouldn't matter, if she had me read

it out loud.

My real question is -- How bad would it be (for me, for my goals) if I got thrown out of CCF altogether? Do you think she WOULD throw me out? I know you said I can't quit -- that it would look bad -- but what if

I just don't know

Padma wanted me to use the Imperius Curse on the muggles and I didn't, that's why Umbridge said I have to come in to meet with her for more 'self improvement.' Do you think the Headmistress will be able to get rid of her? I guess -- a week ago I would have been thrilled by what she said (the Headmistress, I mean) and now all I can think about is Governor Fleet.

And it was horrid outside, I'm feeling a bit better now but still -- well it's not the cold, anyway, that's still bothering me. I think I may go to Madam Pomfrey later to get something to help me sleep.



alt_sinistra at 2013-01-28 01:59:17

Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

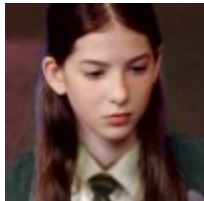
Clever of you, not that I expected otherwise. And no, before breakfast is only plausible with me if it involves staying up all night first. Which we can scarcely arrange casually midweek.

On the rest. Hypatia's astrolabe, you never ask the easy ones. Again, not a surprise.

I think it's even more so than when we talked this fall. And that getting thrown out might be worse than quitting, unless it was an utterly unimpeachable reason. And I can't think of any of those - extremely serious injury, for example - that wouldn't also affect your exam results.

As to the rest, I - well. I was watching Madam Umbridge, over holidays. Her talking to people. She has the ear of a number of those with power, and in different places than the Headmistress does. And seeing the comments tonight, well. I'm not sure what to think.

I think stopping in to see Madam Pomfrey would be very sensible. I may do that myself



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-28 02:01:08**

Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

Right.

I was afraid of that.

Thanks for the honesty, anyway.



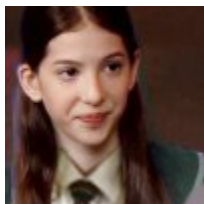
 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2013-01-28 02:06:49**

Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

Honesty, I'll give you in the fullest measure I can.

Look, I'll keep thinking.

And you let me know if you need an reason to be occupied. Or anyone else I can justify it for.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at 2013-01-28 02:19:25**


Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

Look, it's really kind of you to offer, but if it's 'must meet with Professor Siz' too often you KNOW she'll check. And if I'm not there, we'll both be in trouble. And it's mostly other things

I'd want an excuse to be doing -- like sleeping, for instance, on Thursday morning.

I'll just keep trying to get her to lose interest in me.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2013-01-28 02:30:00](#)**
Re: Private message to Professor Sinistra

She will. And I apologise for forgetting that of course you'd know how to manage subtlety far better than I. On that front and a hundred others.

Just, open offer.

And the rest of your professors would be quite annoyed if you suddenly became less than you could in your classes.

I honestly don't know what would make her lose interest. She's very changeable sometimes, but not in the directions one expects.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-28 02:00:09](#)**
I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Padma wanted me and Luna to use the Imperius Curse on the muggles to make them move out of the way (well, to be more specific she wanted us to use it on their leader and have him tell the rest to calm down and get out of our way, I think).

Anyway when I realised there were muggles I remembered what Sirius Black said in response to my owl last summer, after CCF, when I asked about the things they wanted us to do to muggles. He said I should try to imagine, if this person were a friend or a person I cared about, what would they want me to do? Because in some circumstances it's okay to do something you know is wrong to protect yourself but he thought I ought to be strong enough to survive a few 'schoolyard taunts' and that I might lose the respect of my friends if I took the easy way out.

It would have been an easier decision to make if Padma had wanted me to cast cruciatus because for one thing I don't think I actually could. ~~Not on a stranger, anyway~~ But I remembered Terry saying he

hated being put under Imperius even more than he hated being cruciated and so I told Padma it wasn't going to work that way (she wanted me and Luna to combine efforts and -- you know I don't think it WOULD work properly that way. Especially not with Luna being one of the casters. No offense, Luna.) I used body-bind and levitated them out of the way.

Anyway now I'm in trouble although I guess I won't find out how much until Thursday. And maybe the Headmistress will succeed in getting her thrown out? I don't want to get my hopes up after Fleet though.

Pansy, I heard Finnigan used cruciatus. True? I bet Ernie didn't tell him to do that, but he disobeyed HIS leader by being awful and that made what he did okay, as far as Umbridge was concerned.



 **alt_pansy** at **2013-01-28 02:42:14**

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

He did. Before Macmillan could say anything. The whole thing was awful. By the time we got to the maze, Macmillan was so cold he just sort of stood there staring, because he just refused to use even a towel to dry off. Even when Seamus used the curse, he just sort of took ages to sort out what had happened.

And I yelled at Seamus for just jumping ahead and doing something like that, but I don't see him or me getting in trouble.

Ugh.

Ugh ugh ugh.




 **alt_susan** at **2013-01-28 03:24:53**

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

Ugh.

Honestly, I was worried about something like that with Zabini, but he didn't seem to mind when I jumped in with the body-binds.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2013-01-28 02:53:24](#)


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

No offence taken.

I think I understand what Terry means, about wanting to resist when someone is trying to convince you to act as horribly as them. I don't want to do the cardinal curses precisely because she thinks they're such a good thing.

That was quite an unpleasant way to spend a Sunday afternoon.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-28 05:58:41](#)

Private Message to Sally-Anne

Hello.



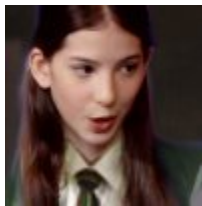
 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-28 06:02:01](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Bumbridge is an idiot.

You know that already. Anyways.

Sorry about today.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-28 14:12:11](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Thanks.

What did she say after you called yourself a half-blood?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-28 16:05:45](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Garbage.

She thought I was hacked off because of the essay she assigned you, and said that of course it didn't

apply to me because I had so many more opportunities and expectations.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-28 16:19:30](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

It's funny. You get treated as a pureblood even though you're a half-blood. Luna gets treated as a half-blood even though she's a pureblood. I mean she got reclassified officially but it was because her father got sick during Black's the paralysis and when he got it, they thought purebloods were immune. Except they weren't, and they had to admit that in the end. So it wasn't any sort of proof that Luna wasn't a pureblood, really, but --

~~Have you always known? That you were a half-blood? Or~~



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-29 03:08:56](#)

Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne

Yeah.

And blood didn't make any difference with Sophie Fleet either.

It's all one giant lie.

2013-01-27 19:33:00

Strength in Unity



 [alt_umbridge](#)

Today, we presented our CCF students with three major tasks, modelled loosely on the tasks of last year's thrilling Triwizard Tournament, and brought together by the inspirational motto of "Strength in Unity" and the words of our dear YPL pledge. Seven of our most promising 5th years led the teams, competing against each other to ever better themselves.

As is always the case, a great deal of planning and effort went into coordinating today's activities, and everything planned was approved by the YPL committee, consulting experts, and the oversight board. I'm sure any questions may be addressed through the proper channels.

Healer Kerr (one of the YPL committee), brought several assistant Healers with him. He assures me the data he collected from our students will be extremely helpful in a variety of applications, and I just know that each and every CCF member was delighted to contribute to the larger body of knowledge.

Our first task took us to the edges of the Forbidden Forest. Students called upon orienteering and map skills they have learned previously to locate a menhir (standing stone) and move it to a designated lakeside location. More than one group encountered the thestrals resident there, and I understand another group had a thankfully brief interaction with the barbarous centaurs.

Our second task involved going into the lake, working together to untie a large rope knotted into a complex pattern, and bringing back an ourborous, the symbol of our glorious Protectorate.

Our final task took place in a maze of ice and snow, designed to challenge our students to find solutions to a variety of problems and demands. Each solution granted a word from the YPL pledge and students raced back to the menhirs to affix them in final form.

Once all groups were finished, we gathered to discuss together what worked well and what failed and all the teensy ways students might improve. I do have a few small notes I'd like to make public. I would like to praise Miss (Daphne) Greengrass, Mr (Ernest) MacMillan, Mr

Moon (most creative), Miss (Padma) Patil, Mr Smith, Mr Zabini.

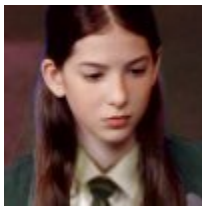
Mr Finnigan: I was particularly impressed with your quick action in the maze, and wished to commend you again to the larger public. I'd like to speak to you about some additional opportunities to develop your skills. I expect my next few days to be a trifle busy, but let's arrange a chance to chat on Thursday or Friday?

Mr Marvolo: I would be interested in hearing your reasoning regarding the seating choices in our debriefing this afternoon. (This would, dear boys and girls, be a suitable reason to use a private message in response, by way of illustration. I am aware there have been questions.)

Miss Perks: I would like you to report for additional conversation about your actions on Thursday morning at the same time as last week. There are a number of areas for potential improvement, particularly willingness to follow instructions given by legitimate authority (in this case, your team leader.)

I would encourage all students to use the comments below to share more about their experience and learn from their errors in judgement - and where relevant, their successes.

Finally, I thank Professors Acton, Brutka, Grubbly-Plank and Sprout for their assistance with some of the specific tasks. Likewise, I must commend the crew from Magical Sports and Games for their work creating the actual maze, as well as Director Rhombus-Wells from the department of Muggle Domestication for providing the Muggles used in the exercise. I also thank Aurors Wright, Gupta, Marks, and Peel for their assistance.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-28 01:27:00](#)
(no subject)

Yes, Madam Umbridge. I will see you on Thursday morning.



 [alt_seamus](#) at [2013-01-28 01:30:13](#)

Private message to Madam Umbridge

Ma'am, I hope this is an acceptable time to use a private message. I appreciate your commendation but I'm a bit worried that the Headmistress is angry at me, given what she said about cruelty and muggles. Do you think I should be concerned about my decisions during the exercise?



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-28 01:37:46](#)

Re: Private message to Madam Umbridge

A most appropriate time, Mr Finnigan.

I am certain that the Headmistress will come to understand the reasons for a number of choices in due course, and that you need not worry yourself over the matter. I thought you acted quite properly, given the instructions. The lingering distaste for certain practical magics is a problem the Protectorate is still addressing, even when they are the most efficient way forward.

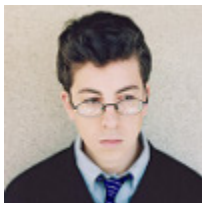
While I am writing, I should reassure you - on reflection, I would like to talk to you about including you in my plans for school improvement. Perhaps Miss Patil mentioned something of the kind? At any rate, I would like to talk at the end of the week about what that might involve, and whether you would be interested.




 [alt_seamus](#) at [2013-01-28 02:03:12](#)

Re: Private message to Madam Umbridge

Yes, Padma told me about it. Thank you, ma'am, I'd be very interested in hearing more.



 [alt_linus](#) at [2013-01-28 01:32:02](#)

(no subject)

My gratitude for your kind mention, Madam Umbridge. May I suggest a member of my team who deserves commendation for his measured and effective response to a minor ~~altercation~~ bit of confusion amongst my team members? Finch-Fletchley was johnny-

on-the-spot when Donovan was having some difficulty due to duMaurier being sadly affected by the chilling cold of the previous task. Quite helpful, really. We would have had considerably more difficulty in the maze if it weren't for him.




 **[alt_umbridge](#)** at **[2013-01-28 01:41:08](#)**
(no subject)

Quite correct of you to give credit to your team, Mr Moon. I will make sure to follow up with the other parties in due course.

I thought your solution regarding the menhir intriguing, but do speak promptly to Mr Milland about whether he needs assistance repairing the divots in the ground, if you would.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2013-01-28 21:10:38](#)**
(no subject)


Linus,

Cheers. It really was no trouble, what. (I only wish the other efforts had had better results.)

I'm well glad you chose to avoid the Cardinals, as well. Not that they don't have their uses but I do think they ought to be held as a last resort, when all other efforts have failed one, what?

-Finch-Fletchley



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2013-01-28 02:23:39](#)**
(no subject)

Of course, Madame Umbridge.

I noticed the way you'd seated everyone, and I just thought that I should to go with the rest of the halfblooded students. After all, we do have a defined role in society.

And when you asked if I'd rather take a place closer to the fire, I saw that there were lots of students who were worse off than I was, so I figured I'd give someone else a chance to warm up. Especially since you made it clear that casting warming charms would've been a

distraction during your debriefing. Healer Kerr's assistant was so particular about whether we'd used drying charms or towels after the lake that there were several people who might've thought they shouldn't use them, because they were still obviously very wet and cold, and that would've made it hard for them to pay full attention to your inspiring speech.

Which would've been such a shame.

I'm confused about why you thought I might want to keep my reasons private, though. I certainly wish to demonstrate the very best of the Protectorate's welcoming and affirming ideas, and I tried to act in the spirit of the YPL anthem.



 **alt_umbridge** at [2013-01-28 02:48:54](#)
(no subject)

Goodness, Mr Marvolo. I had no idea that you'd expect that that particular instruction would apply to you.

Though, I suppose that you were right we should get on with things after a long afternoon, and it was very considerate of you to think of others before yourself. Even though I am sure they would have given you every due deference.

I do have just a teensy other question, but perhaps that is better asked in private as well.



 **alt_umbridge** at [2013-01-28 02:57:20](#)
Private message to Harry Marvolo


Mr Marvolo -

It does just occur to me. You can't have imagined that the essay I assigned to Miss Perks had the least bearing on you? What applies to someone like her certainly does not apply to someone with your advantages and with your kind of future before you. The best someone like Miss Perks can hope for is far less than the least expected of you, dear boy.

Now, I do hope you'll come to me if you have any little questions like this in the future. There's really no need to air them uncomfortably in public. You've more than earned the right to

discuss your concerns more privately, should it be needed. Public correction is so very necessary sometimes, but I'm sure you won't require it of me.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-28 03:13:03](#)

Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo

That's very good to know.

I'll be sure to keep your advice in mind.

It's very kind of you to not judge me for my inferior birth.



 [alt_luna](#) at [2013-01-28 02:26:29](#)

(no subject)

Why, the centaurs weren't barbarous at all! I was actually extremely glad to have the opportunity to speak with them.

[2013-01-27 21:43:00](#)

Well...

...that was certainly briskly stimulating.

Not to mention invigorating, rather like the energy one gets from a very cold shower.



 **[alt_susan](#)**



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-28 03:13:09](#)**

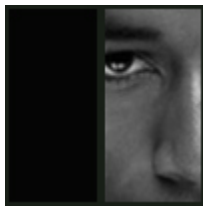
Private Message to Christophanus Clarriker

Don't be so hard on yourself, Clarriker.

Maybe be a bit more careful next time, but slipping on a bit of stone is just the sort of accident that could happen to anyone. And you really stepped up for us on the lake task, even though I know you were in pain.

Speaking of which, I hope you went up to see Madame Pomfrey after our debriefing.

She doesn't bite, you know.



 **[alt_blaize](#)** at **[2013-01-28 05:14:38](#)**

(no subject)

Well done, Bones. Good show.

We might have had first overall if Clarriker had been able to keep his feet under him, but that wasn't nearly as disruptive as Cuthbert's panicking down in the lake. Were you able to get out of him what caused that? Surely he didn't fail to get his breathing charms properly cast? Embarrassment to Ravenclaw if that was it after we spent time on just exactly that over the summer.



 **[alt_susan](#)** at **[2013-01-28 20:37:25](#)**

(no subject)

Same to you, Zabini.

I haven't had a chance to talk to Cuthbert, but Clarriker and I talked last night and he had some

insights.



 **[alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-28 20:42:08](#)**

Private Message to Blaise Zabini

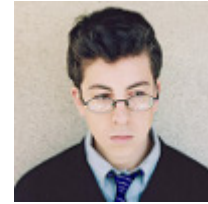
At least according to Clarriker, Cuthbert was in a really bad swimming accident the summer before 1st year and almost drowned.

He thinks Cuthbert lost control of his Bubble-Head Charm for a second and that's why he lost the plot.

2013-01-28 10:53:00

Private Message to Padma

Um. If you go into my satchel to borrow quills or parchment or anything, be extra-careful not to touch any of my revisions notebooks. There's a charm on them. I've figured out how to not set it off myself, but not how to make it so you won't.




 [alt_linus](#)

It's this wiz-nift charm that I learned from Professor Siz. If anyone touches the item in question, their hair turns bright purple for a number of hours. Anyone but myself, that is, so far. I'm told that it's brilliantly useful as a method of detecting whether someone's been poking around at one's belongings or rattling one's doorknob. And with Inglebee and that lot still cross about getting their magic bound, some manner of safeguarding seems only prudent. I have to renew it every day, because I don't know how to set it permanently, but it's not terribly difficult once one knows the trick of it.


I just didn't want you to be surprised, though.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2013-01-28 21:29:58**
(no subject)

Okay. I don't know why I'd just go diving into your bag but that does sound like a nift charm. Would you show me?



 [alt_linus](#) at **2013-01-28 23:43:19**
(no subject)

Well, you might get a sudden craving for Turkish Delight.

Seriously, you know that I carry a few extra of those quills you like, ever since the day yours broke and you didn't have a spare. I do try to be a gentleman, and my Father taught me that a gentleman always has a spare clean handkerchief and a few other things that might be of use to the ladies with whom he has the good fortune to be acquainted.

I would be happy to teach you the charm as long soon as Professor Dolohov approves of the endeavour. You know that I don't want to

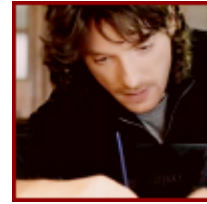
make my string of detentions last past the end of the school year, and usurping the prerogatives of instruction is something I should be very hesitant to appear to do. He continues to improve, from what I have heard, and no doubt there will be an opportunity to ask him soon enough.

And for all that it is, as you say, unlikely that you would need to fish about in my satchel for something, it seemed remiss not to warn you just in case. I hardly think that surprise purple hair is the sort of unexpected present I'd want to give you, after all.

2013-01-28 10:57:00

Order Only: The newest crop of babies

Kingsley, Frank and Tonks: Nick has managed to track down six of the eight families so far:



Joseph Samuel is in a camp in the outskirts of New London. Parents are David and Mari Samuel.

 [alt_bill](#)

Adriaan Deklerk is in Bristol. Parents are Cornelia and Hendrik Deklerk. (Hendrik is an immigrant, originally from South Africa.)

Catherine Quirk, Abbotskerswell in Devon. Parents are Andrea and Paul Quirk.

Martin Kimber-Lane, at Worthing in West Sussex. Parents are Nicola Lane and Ian Kimber.

Colin Neilson-Crisp, Purbeck in Dorset. The parentage is a little confusing: parents listed are Emma Crisp and Julie Neilson, but a third name appeared squeezed in on the census form below Julie's name: Reginald West. Seems to have been added magically.

Bartemius Peploe, Maldon in Essex. Parents are Jeremy and Mary Peploe. Remember them?

Still working on the last two. I'm sending Alice the parchmentwork which I obtained from my forgers for getting into the camps, and you can divvy up the extractions amongst yourselves. Note: one of the sites, Abbotskerswell in Devon, where Catherine Quirk is located, is also the camp where Jane Briden's parents live (we fetched Jane last March). That might be a good opportunity for a followup/networking visit with Jane's parents.

Frank: I believe you and Dad tackled the Peploe family last time. It might be wisest for you to go in again since you're familiar with the situation. Of course, since they were obliterated last time, they won't remember you. This is difficult, because given what happened with Trixie, we know that they won't be amenable to persuasion. I think that if we want to save young Bartemius, we must resign ourselves to kidnapping him without the parents' permission, because they'll outright kill him when his magic manifests, if they don't try to kill one another. I do think it's the ethical thing to do.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-28 17:42:31](#)
(no subject)

I'd say there's an obvious (to me, at least) explanation for Colin's parentage, but not why the father's name was added magically rather than simply written in or left off.

Peploe. I don't remember the Peploes -- oh. Little Bellatrix's parents, weren't they.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-28 17:43:35](#)
(no subject)

And I'd like to register my opinion in this instance as pro-kidnapping.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-28 22:51:04](#)
(no subject)

Second.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2013-01-28 22:54:02](#)
(no subject)

hear hear



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-28 23:12:33](#)
(no subject)

Do any of these look especially good to you, Frank?

I think the one in Purbeck might be a job for Alice and me. Colin's mums might respond better to a couple of witches. Or not. That's just a guess on my part, but it's worth a try, anywiz.

I'm game for any of them, especially if we could combine with some of our other camp business. You've got that list. Have a look, yeah, and tell us what you think?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-29 01:32:45](#)
(no subject)

Either that, or a job for me and Sirius. Purbeck, I mean.

Probably best if the two of you try first.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2013-01-29 01:50:13](#)
(no subject)

I agree. Whisk the kid away, definitely.

If only so we can see the namesakes of Sirius, Bellatrix and Barty playing together in the nursery. And it'll be good for Bart to be with his sister.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-28 23:13:39](#)
(no subject)

We could go for the one here in New London any time, really.

What do you say, Mr Ponds?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-29 01:33:17](#)
(no subject)

Full Moon was last night, so I've got no unbreakable plans anytime soon. Name the hour.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2013-01-29 01:48:20](#)
(no subject)

I can do Abbotskerwell and West Sussex, Alice. Anyone want to partner with me? Or I can take Benjy. Let me know.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-29 02:00:27](#)
(no subject)

Could I possibly partner with you, Kingsley?



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2013-01-29 02:03:02](#)
(no subject)

My goodness, Molly.

Are you sure?



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-29 02:09:28](#)
(no subject)

Well, I...


I'm not sure, I'll admit. But I'd like to try. Since I've been pulled from the barter network administration, all this idleness is enough to make me run positively mad. I don't want to simply sit around the Burrow with too much time to think. And I'm really quite good talking to other parents, you know.



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2013-01-29 02:10:27](#)
(no subject)

I know you are.



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-29 02:14:19](#)
(no subject)

And it would help to think I'm carrying on Arthur's work. I have a very good idea of what to expect. He often described the meetings to me in quite a bit of detail. And you really could use someone else, with eight babies to do, couldn't you?

Please, Kingsley?



 [alt_kingsley](#) at [2013-01-29 02:18:28](#)
(no subject)

Let's do Catherine Quirk, then. I've been at that camp before, and the administration is not too prickly, so there'll be a minimum of surprises.

How about we meet at the rendez-vous point tomorrow morning at 10:00?




 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-29 02:19:22](#)
(no subject)

I can do that.

Thank you, Kingsley.




 [alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-29 04:39:46](#)
(no subject)

Bill and Nick, thank you for sorting out the paperwork for the rescues. Molly, Kingsley, let me know how your first trip together goes. Thank you, Molly, your stepping up is appreciated. And if you're able to talk to the Bridens while you're in Devon, that would be excellent.

The Pelpoes will be dangerous, and unfortunately, the greatest danger would be towards their own child. This new birth is right on the heels of Trixie's, and I believe that they may try again next year, which is yet another factor to consider. It's unpleasant to think of, but I agree that taking the child from them without their permission would be safest for all involved. Sirius, if you're free, could you go with Frank? If not, I'll ask Stephen.

I'm willing to go with Tonks to the Neilson-Crisps.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-29 16:34:13](#)
(no subject)

Yes, of course. Whenever, wherever.

I'll have an update on the buttons shortly. Just want to test something before I declare progress out loud.

[2013-01-28 14:02:00](#)

Private message to Harry Marvolo and Cedric Diggory



 **[alt_rabastan](#)**


Wish I could include Draco on this, too. Harry - pass it along?

I appreciate that you're questioning Madam Umbridge and standing up for yourselves and your fellow students. However, I've set a bit of a poor example to you by not bothering to hide the majority of my feelings for the woman, her methods, and her interference here at the castle.

I can tell you that I'm trying to find out more about what her intentions are, and where her authority comes from, but I fear that getting that answer will mean confirming that we are, in fact, stuck with her until her meddling has run its course. I only hope that it doesn't take a serious incident to have her removed.

Until then, try not to expose your throats too much. She may wear pink and speak to you like children, but she's not as innocuous as she looks or sounds. Step lightly, but do what you can to help your peers and classmates who might fall under her wand.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2013-01-28 21:47:55](#)**
(no subject)

Right.

Okay.

I just

Sorry. Yeah. You're right. I'll back down.

If she tries to pull any other student out of the school like that, though, I don't think I'll be able to just sit and watch it happen. But I'll try to do what I can to keep things from getting to that point again.

I'm sort of awful at, you know, being subtle. But I'll try.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-28 21:48:19](#)
(no subject)

And I'll pass it along, yeah.




 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-28 22:07:45](#)
(no subject)

It isn't always easy to back down, I know. So here's some advice: you have to choose your moment carefully. That thing about sitting with the halfbloods - a good moment, because it said more than words ever could. And your peers took note, and they won't forget it. ~~Though your Father~~

And yet: the follow up explanation you gave makes it absolutely clear that you did it in the spirit of defiance, whereas it may have been better to keep her wondering about your motivations.

Think about it like seeking. Sometimes you've got to fly in the wrong direction if you want to beat the other guy (or girl) to the snitch.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-28 22:28:24](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. I can see that.

She just can't let something well enough alone sometimes, and after all that stuff with the maze and the lake I just

I sort of lost my temper and stopped thinking.

So I'll try harder next time not to do that. Even though she makes it really hard not to.



 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-29 03:23:24](#)
(no subject)


Yesterday I honestly wasn't trying to poke at her. I tried to answer her questions honestly and in the most constructive way possible. Her response indicated that I was completely unclear in my meaning or she had utterly misread what I had intended to say. At the time I was writing I was more worried about Auror-P someone else and let my words get away from me.

However, after reading this earlier today I reread everything I posted yesterday. I can see how it could be read as criticizing her, when what I had intended was stating facts, referring the day of the Second Task and ... since we're being honest here a certain amount of innuendo not directed at her in the slightest.

Aside from all of that, I am aware that despite how appallingly out of touch with reality she may sometimes seem, idiots don't become Minister of Magic, therefore she must just be looking at things from a different point of view. Dad told just enough stories about what the Ministry was like while she was in charge that I know she can be very dangerous to cross. My dad was discreet, and I don't know names but I read between the lines that people were sacked and had careers ruined in incredibly cruel ways. I've cautioned other students to not taunt her. It has been sobering to think that people might think that's what I intended yesterday.

Harry and I are two of the most important student leaders, and we're aware of it. How should we respond when she upsets ancient school traditions with her Model Student Association or rewrites school rules with one announcement in her journal which everyone might not have read? Even though she's been looking better, before yesterday the Headmistress hadn't done anything about her, Professor Vector did not put her foot down. What are we supposed to do? I think it might be good to sit down and talk about this at more length. Would you be willing to talk about this tomorrow evening if I came by at the end Duelling Club? Harry could stay then if he wants to talk as well.




 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-29 03:41:33](#)
(no subject)

I know you weren't taunting her, Cedric. You're too diplomatic for that. In your case, it was the suggestion that I be brought in for a lecture next time that caught my eye. As you know, ~~Ror~~ Professor Sinistra has been forced out of the YPL programme altogether, and I fear that any suggestion that *I* be more involved may be taken as encroachment on Umbridge's territory. I'm not sure that she quite has the ~~stones~~ nerve to dismantle my work here as much as she has Professor Sinistra's, but she's good at crimping things up, as you might have noticed.

You're asking good, clever questions about how you and Harry ought to respond to her overhaul. You are, as you point out, both leaders at the school and I think there are ways to communicate your concerns while minimising risk. What I will tell you now is that as I see it, her Model Student Association is a fairly transparent attempt to create divisions within the student body. She's creating a new hierarchy wherein her favourites will be held up as role models and rewarded. However, there's more of you than them- don't forget that.

Talking more in person is a good idea. See you tomorrow evening.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-29 03:55:07](#)
(no subject)

Right.


I'll be there.



 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-29 17:39:15](#)
(no subject)

Well that changes tonight's conversation.




 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-30 00:31:39](#)
(no subject)

Yeah-

Look, I'm afraid I'm not going to be able to meet with you (or Harry) tonight.


You could say something's come up.



 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-30 01:04:05](#)
(no subject)

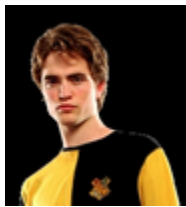
Could we reschedule for later this week? With today's changes this conversation has become immensely more important.




 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-30 01:06:46](#)
(no subject)

Right now- I really can't say.

Cedric, I don't mean to put you off, but I have a crisis on my hands. Forgive me, alright?




 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-30 01:11:28](#)
(no subject)

Ok. I'm sorry to hear there's another crisis going on.

Harry, can you still meet? I think at least the two of us should meet anyway. Same place as last time?



 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-30 01:18:22](#)
Private Message to Harry

What. The. Bloody. Hell.

The Headmistress was a drunk, we all knew it even if we didn't say anything. Vector just picked up the slack. But to sack her for protesting the endangerment of students. I repeat, What. The. Bloody. Hell.

And above all to replace her with that, that, that child endangering, ignorant, purity zealot. Something beyond the school is going on here. This is like last year all over again, crap from outside the school imposed on our education. Do you dare ask someone what is going on?

I had a perfectly horrid conversation with her, but I knew I had to have it. She doesn't seem to be after me... yet. But I'm so so so not going to be able to stand by if she expands the shite she's been imposing in YPL/CCF to the whole school.

WHAT. THE. BLOODY. FLIPPING. HELL.

Let's meet so I can rage at another human being then we can figure out what to do.

2013-01-28 21:53:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good
Private Message to Ron Weasley



Remember.

Cross right. Right foot first.

Quarter turn.

Touch her arm

and then point to portrait with left hand.

 [alt_ron](#)

Um.

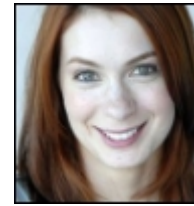
Yeah.

2013-01-28 23:40:00

ORDER ONLY

I'm just following up on a variety of projects here.

Sirius, your last Grim Truth was inspired. Thank you. I think we definitely need to follow up with it, and it's a wonderful start to putting a name and face on what we do, and putting it in terms of a movement instead of just an idea. How are those buttons looking? I'm interested to see what you've been able to come up with, and the sooner we can start testing them in the camps the better.



 [alt_alice](#)

Hermione, Lee, Fred, George, I'd like an update on what you've been able to sort out in terms of safety protocol with the Juniors.

And I agree with Remus that it's worth looking into additional reasons to gain access to legitimate portkeys while we sort out what it would take to make our own, even if applications are turned down, it's worth it to try. Does anyone have other ideas in mind in terms of what we can do in the meantime? (In addition to what the Juniors might've come up with, of course.)

Severus, have you had any influx of new students seeking to learn Occlumency?

Kingsley, is there any forward movement on Mrs Perks and our plans with her? I know we need a body, and should we learn of one, would have to move very quickly, but please let me know once you learn of anything. And if we need to cast our net a bit wider.


Sirius, Remus, Tonks, I wanted to follow up on Beth and her network. What's the latest news with her? I'd like to start talking more directly about what we can provide her group, even if it might risk your cover a bit -- perhaps under guise of the black market work you've been looking into? Would two or three unregistered wands open some doors with her?

Lastly, Frank, Mac, Kingsley, I'd like you to start an operation to gain access to the potion used on the Sleepers. The Sleeper barracks are rather thoroughly guarded, but the potion might be accessible while in transport from the Department of Mysteries. Mac, I'd like you to collect some surveillance on the site so we can move forward with a plan. Frank, Kingsley, you can work with the babies for now, and once

Mac has had a chance to gather information, we'll all see what we can put together.

If anyone else has anything that they've noticed needs doing, please speak up.



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2013-01-29 12:58:43](#)**
(no subject)

I have had the first lesson with Miss Perks, and shall continue to work to determine which others are best suited by my method of instruction and which should go to Albus. I believe they all wish to learn, or at least to attempt the learning.

Miss Perks found the process disturbing and frustrating, but did not allow the frustration to get the better of her. She will never be a true master of the subject, but it will almost certainly be possible to coach her to the point where she will no longer be in quite as much danger.

Unfortunately, life here has been rather busy this week, but we are doing our best.



 **[alt_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-01-29 17:10:26](#)**
(no subject)

Yes. I've been in touch with Davidson's network. They have contacts with the mortuary detail at two different camps, and when a body becomes available, they can get me a message quickly. To be frank, we're simply waiting for someone of approximately the right age and the right gender to die: the transfiguration into Cecelia's form will be easier if we start with someone roughly similar in body type, age, size, etcetera. They have deaths every week, so I hope to hear something soon.

Molly's come with me to try to extract Catherine Quirk--I'm quickly scribbling this as we're waiting for a camp administrator to finish processing our admission parchment work. We have a stop to visit Jane's parents, and then we hope we'll be on our way to Moddey Dhoo with Catherine by early afternoon. Then I'll turn my attention to the project you suggest.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-29 17:11:59](#)
(no subject)

We've been thinking about ways to get the Juniors out, without portkeys, since that door may be closed for a long while yet. Dora suggested we teach them to apparate, possibly over spring hols. It's a tricky skill and some of them may not be able to learn that quickly, but even a few could apparate the others, if they could get off Hogwarts grounds -- which might be quite a bit easier than getting to a fire they could floo from, in a crisis.

Where exactly do we want them to go, assuming they can find a way to get there? Should we have Alice inform them of the existence of 12GP, or designate some other safehouse as a rendezvous point? It shouldn't be here -- that's where Hermione's portkey goes, and we can expect it won't be safe. The Burrow could also be risky, if it's any of the Weasleys trying to get away.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-01-29 19:35:18](#)
(no subject)

Right, we have a report for you.

We've talked about three plans: a Floo plan, a broom plan, and a can't use either one plan. For flooing, we've talked about Professor Sprout's office, the Hospital Wing (which is good, because if they claim to be sick, students can go there anytime, even after curfew....and we have a little product we're developing that can make a student convincingly sick, in a pinch.) Also we talked about the Headmistress's office, although THAT'S obviously out, and we need to talk about that because Headmistress Umbridge? The flipping heck? Less good options, but maybe still possible, are Brutka or Milland's offices. The thing is, we need a place to Floo TO. The kids don't really have access to a place that's secure, so we hope you'll give us permission to Floo to 12 Grimmauld place or another safe house.

Then there's the broom plan. Maybe not so practical if we're in a big hurry, because students don't generally carry their brooms around. Works best if we're in our dorms (except for Slytherins, who are stuck underground) and at night.

If we can't Floo or use brooms, well, we know of some hidden

passageways out of the school. A couple are tunnels that need to be cleared out. We'll work on that over the next few weekends. We do think it'd be an excellent idea to give this crew some apparition lessons, maybe over the spring hols.

We have ways of coordinating information and sending out an alarm if we need to evacuate (Hermione's coins, among other things). We've also arranged for us all to get one of those string bracelets that Hermione's and Terry have, for emergency bug out supplies....food under preservation charms, books on emergency medicine, bare bones camping stuff and so on. Any ideas on what else we can include?

Our biggest need, as we see it, is a place to evacuate to.

And to get rid of Umbridge.

2013-01-29 09:06:00

Order Only

Well, and I am gone.

More on the subject later.

The book is safe, or safe as it can be,
hidden at Hogwarts, and the false one too.
My house in London, however, is full of people who are "helping me."



 **alt_mcgonagall**



 **alt_poppy** at **2013-01-29 14:29:20**

(no subject)

Minerva,

As soon as you are at liberty to do so, let me know
and I will hand your medicinals through the Floo. I
cannot believe they would not even permit your Healer access to
provide for your needs.

I'm very glad you've been able to write this much, but do, please,
check in again to let us know you... can.



 **alt_mcgonagall** at **2013-01-29 15:01:48**

(no subject)

You may do that.

You do not want to know how I am stealing time to
write this, but they would hardly prevent my Healer
to speak to me.

You may have gotten the wrong idea. No Ministry goons attend
me—it's all kindly ladies seeking to help my "transition out of the
working world."

Drat. Unless I claim a stomach ailment, I do believe I must go.




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-29 15:05:00](#)
(no subject)

Kindly ladies?


Beg pardon?



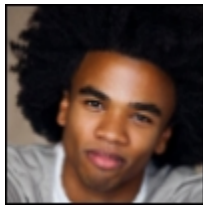
 [alt_lupin](#) at [2013-01-29 17:13:36](#)
(no subject)


Who's been left in charge? Septima Vector?



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-29 20:03:30](#)
(no subject)

You wish



 [alt_lee](#) at [2013-01-29 21:17:53](#)
(no subject)

It's that utter cow, Dolores Umbridge. She made the most unbelievably smug speech at lunchtime to 'all the dear boys and girls,' all about how she had the support of 'the entire staff' and the Board of

Governors.

Headmistress, we have to get you back.

The half-bloods are especially worried. Afraid, even. There's muttering that Umbridge will find ways to expel every last one of them so they can go work as janitors or something. She's made it clear she doesn't have much use for people who aren't pure bloods.



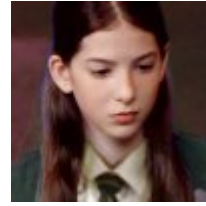
 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2013-01-29 21:44:53](#)
(no subject)

Even cleaning jobs aren't easy to come by.

One reason I've not pitched in the one I have.

[2013-01-29 11:35:00](#)

*A hearty welcome to our new
Headmistress*



I am sure that everyone was very interested
by today's announcement.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

I look forward to seeing where Headmistress
Umbridge leads our school.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at **[2013-01-29 17:36:42](#)**

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

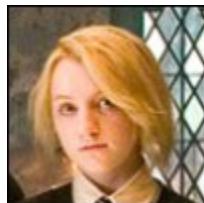
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 [alt_susan](#) at **[2013-01-29 18:26:59](#)**

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

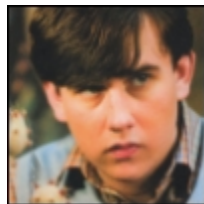
This is going to be *dire*.




 [alt_luna](#) at **[2013-01-29 19:55:22](#)**

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

Ghastly.



 [alt_neville](#) at **[2013-01-29 19:59:09](#)**

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

Appalling.

We need to do something.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-29 21:42:12](#)


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

Yeah, that worked really well for Sophie Fleet and her mum.

If you've got any specific ideas feel free

Like what?

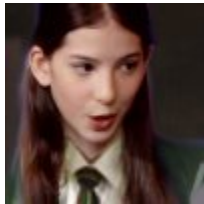


 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-29 22:03:01](#)

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

Feed her to the squid.

I hear the lake is invigorating this time of year.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-29 22:59:00](#)

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

That's probably why she cancelled dueling club.

She knows how many of us would actually rather like to kill her.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-30 01:40:09](#)

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

There are loads of people who are unhappy about this. Very hacked off and clever people.

I don't have an answer now. But you can bet that a lot of people are going to be putting their heads together on this. Not just us, not just the kids carrying the galleons.

Although. It might be a reason to give galleons to more people. Especially since most people can't use private messages safely much anymore.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-30 01:41:06](#)

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

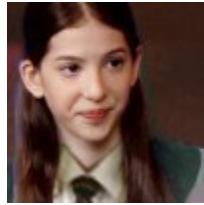
Who else do you want to give a galleon to?



 [alt_luna](#) at [2013-01-30 01:44:24](#)

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

Other half-bloods, certainly; they need the protection of being able to speak freely anonymously. But not just them, either. Because we need all the students pulling together, treating each other as if blood status doesn't matter. Because it shouldn't.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-30 01:53:05](#)

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

Well. Of the other Slytherins in my year I could see giving one to Daphne except I don't think we could really trust Blaise and I don't think we could give one to Daphne and NOT Blaise. I couldn't really see giving one to Milli, even though she's one of the other half-bloods -- she's utterly dense, I just don't know if she's reliable. There's no way I'd give one to Teddy, Vince, or Greg. Draco and Harry already have them.

Daphne's one of the 'model students' but she doesn't like Umbridge at all. She just knows that if someone loathsome but powerful likes you, it's certainly going to be to your advantage if they continue to like you. Blaise, though -- I just don't think we can chance Blaise finding out that Hermione also has a coin.



 [alt_susan](#) at [2013-01-30 04:34:21](#)

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

Hmmm...I'd like my brother Ed to have one, but I worry that he's too much of a hothead.

||||| Thinking about Hufflepuff, I could sound out Ernie a bit. Or
even Cedric.

2013-01-29 14:00:00

(no subject)

Cooperate? With HER? NO WAY!!!



 **alt_galleon**

2013-01-29 14:09:00

Hogwarts, a new era

Parents of the Protectorate,

I am delighted to announce that last night, our distinguished Board of Governors asked me to step into the role of Headmistress here at darling old Hogwarts. Of course, I was most glad to offer my wand and service to the task, and at lunch took great pleasure in making the announcement to our dear students.



 [alernity](#)
 [alt_umbridge](#)

It can be so worrisome to parents when their little ones are away at school. Our children are our future, and it can be difficult to entrust their care to staff who may not know them as we do. And of course one hopes they are exposed to only the best moral influences and role models. Be assured that I take your concerns very seriously, and that I will do my absolute best to see that every child worthy of Hogwarts receives an education fitting to their talents and position. You need have no fear for your most precious treasures!

Over the past months, I have been engaged in deep and wide-ranging conversations with members of the Board, the Ministry staff concerned with education, and with other experts in a variety of fields. I have spent time observing the Hogwarts staff in the classroom, listening to their comments on all matter of topics, and I feel ready and able to take on this greatest challenge of shaping the minds and hearts of the Protectorate's young people.

I certainly have a great many ideas for improvements in all areas of the school. Nothing will escape close attention, from our curriculum to matters of budget and upkeep. I am so delighted to be working with others who have the best interests of the Protectorate at heart.

Now that does mean that there will be changes over the coming weeks. Some will be internal to the school, but others, I am sure, will receive a broader announcement. For those with questions, I will obviously be quite busy with many things, but I do assure you I'll read everything asked, and respond when necessary.



 **[alt_cedric](#)** at **[2013-01-29 19:10:30](#)**
(no subject)

As Head Boy let me welcome you to the staff of this wonderful institution. I'm sure this era will be full of new beginnings and very instructive educational opportunities.

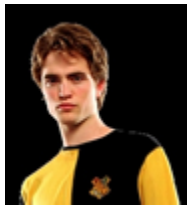
Melinda and I will be happy to give you the first slot on the Prefects Meeting agenda tomorrow.




 **[alt_umbridge](#)** at **[2013-01-29 19:13:56](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Mr Diggory.

I'm sure I won't need too terribly much time with the Prefects, and of course I appreciate being given priority. There are just so many things to do over the next few days.



 **[alt_cedric](#)** at **[2013-01-29 19:21:08](#)**
(no subject)

If you need something from me in my capacity as Head Boy or from the prefects in general, please let me know and I can come up to your new office.

While I have a great deal of revising to do on Tuesdays during the day my time is not scheduled until after dinner.



 **[alt_umbridge](#)** at **[2013-01-29 19:34:19](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, I'm quite content in my current office for the time being. Much closer to the centre of things.


I've appointments at four and thereafter, but if you were to stop by at half-three, I'd have a few teensy tasks you could in fact help with.



 [alt_cedric](#) at [2013-01-29 19:36:03](#)
(no subject)

I'll be there at half-three. Note that I have quidditch and class commitments all evening.



 [alt_sirius](#) at [2013-01-29 19:41:53](#)
(no subject)

Charming.

I'm sure parents throughout the nation are thrilled to know that Hogwarts' administration has passed to someone so qualified. I know my parents always felt that school should be more demanding of its students.

Though you could hardly improve on the body count of the last few years, I know you'll make up for it in pointless humiliation and asininely stupid delineation along criteria that do not make the slightest bit of difference. After all, the children are our *future!* Let's give them something they can carry all their lives and into the next generation, shall we? *Scars.*



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-29 19:42:58](#)
Private message to Aurora Sinistra

Aurora, dear:

I understand that you had some teensy matter of business in New London (something about a meeting at your little Guild?).

Please return in time to meet in my office promptly at eight. I would ask that you speak to no one here until you and I have a chance to chat directly. You and I both know it's so easy for misunderstandings to grow through comments and gossip.

I would also like to discuss the purpose of your visits to New London in general at some point, and which of them are supporting your professional commitments as opposed to your personal pleasure. We must all chip in and work very hard if we are to build the best possible future for our dear students, of course.

[2013-01-29 17:32:00](#)

Private message to Lucius Malfoy and Dominic Selwyn.



 **[alt_rabastan](#)**

What in merry fucking Erebus-

I've just been sacked. From teaching. By Fathead Dolores Umbridge. So has Minerva.

Not to mentioned accused of carrying on *inappropriate relations with a student!* And until the "matter is resolved," I can remain in the castle only as Harry's security, so long as I keep to "minimal student contact."

Why wasn't I warned? What the bloody crackers is going on?




 **[alt_selwyn](#)** at **[2013-01-30 02:07:57](#)**
(no subject)

With Fleet gone, she had a slim majority, and moved before we could get a replacement on the board. ~~Damn~~ Peakes

If she turns up dead, I can assure you that neither Lucius or I will be asking any awkward questions.

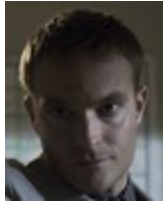


 **[alt_rabastan](#)** at **[2013-01-30 02:15:15](#)**
(no subject)

And where was my warning?

I can't kill her- and don't bloody give Rod any ideas. She's blackmailing me ~~you nonee~~, claiming that I was carrying on with Cassandra Calderwood when she was barely of age. And she's got proof. Or what passes for it.


And she made it quite clear that if I raised any fuss, or if anything happened to "waylay" her investigation, my name won't ever be cleared.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2013-01-30 02:16:57](#)
(no subject)

I had no idea she had plans to move against you, or I assure you I'd have let you know.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-30 02:20:43](#)
(no subject)

No, I mean why wasn't I warned that Fleet's spot was absorbed, rather than filled with one of ours.

Am I missing something or did we win a war once?


This is a fucking disaster. And I don't just mean what's happening to me, though I admit that's pretty much my biggest concern at the moment.



 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2013-01-30 02:24:15](#)
(no subject)

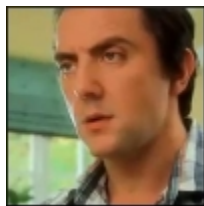
I thought Lucius was in touch with you. I was hounding Peakes, trying to get one of our candidates put on the board as an interim appointment.




 [alt_selwyn](#) at [2013-01-30 02:25:02](#)
(no subject)

Wasn't Cassandra Calderwood the one who attempted to curse Aurora, last year? She's saying you had an inappropriate relationship with HER?

How is this considered even remotely credible?




 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-30 02:34:49](#)
(no subject)

Yes, that's the one.

Umbridge has one of Cassandra's memories, and offered me her pensieve to view it for myself.

It shows the two of us... enjoying ourselves together in some kind of romantic boudoir. No place I've ever seen before, and no memory that I myself remember being a part of.



 **alt_lucius** at [2013-01-30 05:13:19](#)
(no subject)

As Dominic says, we were preoccupied by the urgency of replacing Fleet with an acceptable Governor. (Peakes stalled, for reasons that now are patently clear!)

Did tell Minerva of our efforts but clearly she was distracted by her own predicament and did not pass it along.


Rather wish that she had not quit the castle so precipitously after being deposed. Dolores may have duped half the Board into supplanting Minerva but she did not have the authority to push her out of the grounds. Could have had an opportunity to repair some of the damage. Particularly once Antosha is back on his feet. As it stands, see no alternative but to feign acceptance of her 'promotion.'

In terms of the accusations against you - has Miss Calderwood's memory been examined? Surely it must be counterfeit but, Raz. In all honesty: Is there any possibility it is a memory of Letitia's that has been supplied to her sister?

Regardless, sure that shall be sorted in a matter of time. Only hope she has not sunk her cloven hooves into the school's very roots by that turn of the wheel. Meanwhile, it is my sad duty to report that we cannot look to Our Lord for much in the way of support. Not that He has any more regard for Dolores than we have but because he seems to believe that the defiance Harry has exhibited towards her is a sign that the boy's energy may yet be funnelled in what He deems 'positive' directions. (Apparently He has been expecting Harry to exhibit teenage aggression and is all too willing to allow Dolores to volunteer as its object.)

Suppose the only bright spot in *that* is that Harry need not fear Our Lord's retribution should he choose finally to inspire through leadership - provided, of course, that he upholds the proper values in such efforts.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-30 14:55:33](#)
(no subject)

Examined by anyone beyond Dolores herself? Not to my knowledge. She claimed to have "evidence" of its authenticity but was cagey about what, exactly, that evidence was.

It's not Letitia- like I said, I've no memory of this place or moment. If anyone wants to examine it they'll have to get it from Dolores herself. Though I suppose it's my memory too, now that I've seen it. Shite.

~~Dolores represents the Protectorate and He wants her as the object of~~

I can't say that I see the sense in that plan whatsoever.

You say with confidence that this will be sorted in a matter of time, but you didn't see her confidence, Lucius. The look of satisfaction on her smug face. She believes she has all the cards now, and maybe she does.

2013-01-30 09:17:00

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good



First she took over YPL and CCF and made them horrid.

 [alt_sally_anne](#)

Then she took over as Headmistress.

Now she's fired Professor Lestrangle and taken over teaching THAT or, you know, 'providing revision materials' or some such rot and having Madam Hooch do 'drills' and UGH we are going to learn NOTHING.

And Professor Dolohov is still sick (at least if he were better ~~we~~ some of us could go to him for extra help in Defence, he's really quite good at both).


How are ANY of us supposed to pass our OWLs? At least she hasn't taken over Charms or Transfiguration or Potions. Yet.

Anyway. I've been so distracted by everything (first that horrid CCF thing on Sunday, then Madam Umbridge taking over) I forgot to tell all of you about something that happened on Saturday. There IS someone at the school who's going to teach us occlumency. Actually, there are two people. One of them found me on Saturday (there was a pass-phrase, Hermione arranged it. 'Extraordinary how potent cheap music is.')

They won't be able to meet with us very often and it will take some time to get round to all of us who need lessons ~~and weren't already~~ but he taught me some exercises that he said I should teach everyone else to get started with (and then when you meet with him he can tell you all the things you're doing wrong, at least that's what he did with me).

~~Occlumency lessons are kind of horrid.~~ Mr S is a little abrupt. But he said he thinks I'll be able to learn how to do it. So that's something. ~~And he was also~~



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-30 23:41:14](#)
(no subject)

You had Defence today, right? How did that go? Or did they cancel?


About the other thing, occlumency, yeah. I guess there's no reason not to say, is there? I'm going to study with Professor Brutka. Which you'd think would be nift, only, well-

He called me into his office after supper on Tuesday and showed me why I really need to learn to guard my thoughts. I mean, on Tuesday. All I could think about was Sophie Fleet and Auror Crouch and those other Aurors and Crucio and how much I hate all of it, and he knew everything I was thinking. It was- yeah. It was awful. I mean, he was nice about it and talked to me about what I would need to do to learn. Only, it was creepy. I mean, I couldn't feel anything when he did it. And he didn't have to do anything besides look at me.

Have you ever noticed his eyes?

Really disturbing when you do.

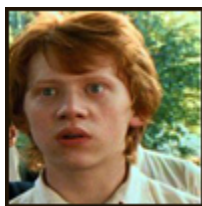



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-31 03:11:55](#)
(no subject)

Don't get discouraged.

I've been studying it for awhile. Me and Evelyn both.

It does get easier.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-01-31 03:27:01](#)
(no subject)


I just- I guess I thought you'd feel something when it happens, only when Brutka does it, if you didn't know he was going to, you wouldn't know at all. And that's-

I mean, it could happen anytime, could have happened-

That's just dead creepy.


So you can block it now? Both of you?



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-31 12:55:06](#)
(no subject)


For a little bit of time, yeah. Not for long: about five or ten minutes. But that's maybe enough to convince a legilimens checking casually that there's nothing there, and I'm continuing to work to keep making it longer. It helps if you keep as calm as possible. The meditation exercises help with that.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-31 13:11:27](#)
(no subject)

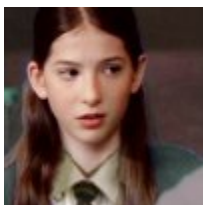
And as for the creepiness...it helps when you can start to do it, you know? It gives you a sense of power, of satisfaction, of control, when you can block it. That you decide that your mind is your own, and you're not letting anyone in.



 [alt_neville](#) at [2013-01-31 13:15:01](#)
(no subject)

I keep my occlumency shields up all the time in Dark Arts class. Not that I think he's going to try to read my mind anymore. I was afraid he was a legilimens at first, but now I don't think now that he is at all. But it's a way to practise the discipline of keeping them up, and anyway, just in case...

Besides. It makes me a little distracted, and it suited my purposes to ~~be a little less afraid~~ let him think I was sorta dense.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-31 03:54:19](#)
(no subject)


I had Defence today. Hooch came and we did some review and some drills but nothing we hadn't done before, and we didn't work at all on the Patronus

Charm.

Mr S -- well there were certain memories I didn't want him looking at and when he realised that he backed off, you know, but -- yeah.

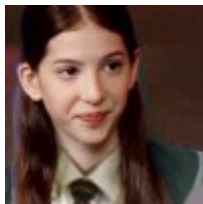
I'd never noticed Professor Brutka's eyes. I wonder if he's been reading my mind all along? I know it's harder to read your mind if you don't meet people's eyes so mostly I don't, I look at their nose or the spot right under their eyes instead of straight into their eyes. I figure it's safer that way.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-31 04:13:01](#)**
(no subject)

Maybe Hooch can't do it. The Patronus, I mean. It's dead difficult, but I really wanted to learn it. I mean, if the Order use it to send messages. Well, that'd be good to be able to do.

Or, y'know, if we ever have to fight off Dementors. Which. I don't even really want to think about. If I never saw another of those, it'd be perfectly fine with me.



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2013-01-31 04:30:50](#)**
(no subject)

Too right about Dementors.

Can't most of the adults do them? I mean it's difficult but you're expected to be able to do it for your NEWT, aren't you? It's also the only way to defend against a lethifold. Fortunately they're rare.

[2013-01-30 09:44:00](#)

(no subject)

Our revision group is still going on Friday night for any 5th year who's interested.

We'll be going over Dark Arts.


And Defence.

The usual place.



 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_harry](#) at **[2013-01-30 14:50:19](#)**


Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

WHAT INCONSISTENCIES?

HE'S THE BEST BLOODY TEACHER WE'VE EVER HAD IN DEFENCE

I HATE HER



 [alt_draco](#) at **[2013-01-30 15:09:54](#)**

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

This school is her Kingdom and we are her Subjects. Apparently.

Nothing from Father. Not that he was really ever able to do anything about the Carrows, either.

I almost think they were better. Horrid, yeah, but at least they didn't grow all over everything like a horrible mould. Their nastiness was limited to their own classrooms.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-30 16:03:39](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

Agreed.




 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-30 16:34:55](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

I see you wrote to him, Raz. What did he say?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-01-30 16:45:45](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

That she says he seduced a student, but it's a lie.

And that you and Hydra can come to tutoring.

And hang on I'll just copy out this last bit. He says 'I was wrong to tell you to back down before. You have more leeway than you think. Use it, be clever about it, and get your closest friends to help.'

So yeah. Not backing down any more.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2013-01-30 16:53:28](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

It is true that she doesn't seem to know what to do when you stand up to her. She just ignores me, and then sees to it that I'm not leading any groups in CCF.

You don't reckon... he wouldn't seduce a student, would he? I mean, yeah, I don't think he'd lie to you, but he really was a dog. You should hear the stories Father tells.



alt_harry at 2013-01-30 18:59:41
Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

I mean, he could be trying to keep me from something, but I really don't think he would when it comes to that sort of stuff.

If he says it isn't true, I believe him.

And I think when it comes to leeway, he was meaning more Him than her. What He'd think.



alt_sally_anne at 2013-01-30 15:16:41
(no subject)

That sounds great.



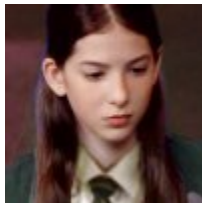
alt_sally_anne at 2013-01-30 15:17:20
Private message to Harry

Is it true you know how to cast the Patronus charm?



alt_harry at 2013-01-30 15:54:04
Re: Private message to Harry

Yes. I can.




alt_sally_anne at 2013-01-30 15:55:56
Re: Private message to Harry

Do you think you could teach me how to do it?

We got started in Defence last week but I didn't even get silver mist. It's a really hard spell.



 [alt_harry at 2013-01-30 16:02:00](#)

Re: Private message to Harry

Sure.

Yeah.

Maybe we can do that on Friday. And you know if you want to learn more on your own, we can do that too.



 [alt_sally_anne at 2013-01-30 16:24:51](#)

Re: Private message to Harry

Yes.



 [alt_harry at 2013-01-30 16:07:57](#)

Private Message to Cedric

Right.

Okay.

This is officially Not On.

At All.

I can't

I need to go flying. Tonight? On the course. And we need to talk more. Lots more. But right now I just want to blow something up.




 [alt_cedric at 2013-01-30 17:44:44](#)

Re: Private Message to Cedric

Yes to flying. After the Prefects meeting and we'll know what she wants to say to us there.

I'm right there with you in wanting to blow something up, because it looks like one of my NEWT scores just blew up.



 **[alt_harry](#) at 2013-01-30 19:03:53**

Re: Private Message to Cedric

Okay.

Yeah.


I don't know.

I really don't.

But there's got to be a way to get taught without getting taught. If you know what I mean. And because we're friends and all, it wouldn't be weird for us to hang out or whatever, and Raz will be there as a bodyguard and maybe that'd be something.

I'm going to pass along whatever I can to my year. Things he's taught me, I mean. You could do the same to yours. And we can all try to keep the younger years on top of things.



 **[alt_cedric](#) at 2013-01-30 19:21:23**

Re: Private Message to Cedric

A study group sounds like a good idea. I'll give it a week or two before I say anything. I don't want to get labelled a 'problem' We'll see how much of a time sink her "revision material and lecture notes" will be for the NEWT students.

We are at least at the point that we know a huge portion of we we need for the test and as long as access to the library doesn't get cut of we can do all the studying we need. It's the practical side I'm worried about. I don't see any provision in what she just said for actual duelling defence practice. Which scares me for the practical portion of the exam.

Defence class is about to start I'll see whether we get Umbridge or Hooch and let you know what it's like. Who did you have this morning?



 **[alt_harry](#) at 2013-01-30 16:12:16**

Private Message to Raz

It's bollocks.

You're the best Defence professor we've ever had, and whatever she says you've done is a lie.

I hate this. And her.

What can I do?



 **[alt_rabastan](#) at 2013-01-30 16:21:57**

Re: Private Message to Raz

I would have warned you, but I was blind-sided.

I'm telling you what she's accused me of in case rumours start, which they're bound to.

She says I had inappropriate relations with a student. That's a lie. In my past I've made some foolish decisions with it comes to women, but none of them involved seducing a student, not ever.

I'm still here for you, and you can still come for me for your private training sessions. Maybe Draco and Hydra, too- Hydra's family, and Draco practically. You can teach them what I teach you, and pass along what you've already learnt.

And- I was wrong to tell you to back down before. You have more leeway that you think. Use it, be clever about it, and get your closest friends to help.



 **[alt_harry](#) at 2013-01-30 16:29:30**

Re: Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Hermione Granger

Right.

Good to know. Can't say I'm good at clever, but I've got some friends who are.

And I'm here for you too, you know.



alt_harry at 2013-01-30 16:16:44

Private Message to Professor Dolohov

Antonin Nikolaevich;

I was wondering if I could stop by and talk to you about how we can get the most out of our study sessions? Just so I make sure we cover the stuff that we need to. And the session with the lower years went pretty well. They had a lot of questions, but we sorted out most of it. And I took notes. I could bring them with.

I'd like to talk about some other things too.

But if you're not feeling up for it, that's okay.

-Harry

2013-01-30 14:37:00

Order Only: Abbotskerswell



 [alt_molly](#)

Now that it's over, I have to admit that I was rather nervous about going with Kingsley yesterday to speak with Catherine Quirk's parents. I've never done anything like that before! But everything went rather well. They were quite shocked to learn that their daughter had magical abilities, and didn't seem inclined to believe us at first. The letters from the children and Colin's sketches, however, were as effective as always. In the end they were persuaded, and now Catherine is at Moddey Dhoo. She's a dear little girl, I must say. Delights in trying to stuff her feet into her mouth.

We also used the opportunity to see Jane Briden's parents for a follow up visit. They were delighted to see us, and peppered us with questions about Jane. The mother, Miranda, said several times what a comfort the magical sketch of Jane we left with them was 'so we know what our girl looks like as she grows.' Miranda had made a little quilt for Jane, hoping that someone from Moddey Dhoo would come back to see them, and so she pressed it on us to take back to give to her daughter, and of course, we said that we would. This was the first visit to Jane's family, and I think it was a huge source of relief and reassurance to them, that the Order did keep its promise and come back, and we had Alice's report and the nursery notes to pass on to them.

Kingsley explained that another reason we are visiting the parents is so that we can tap them for connections and resources. The sanctuary needs support, yes, but more than that, we want the parents to be a part of working toward our larger goals, undoing the harm that the Protectorate has done, especially toward muggles and muggleborns. 'Will you be working to bring the Protectorate down, then?' the father asked. Kingsley hesitated, and replied 'yes.'

'Good,' the father said grimly.

They were eager to do anything in their power to assist us, although it's clear they are quite poor. They gave us several barrels of cider which we shrank down and took with us (they work in the cider industry). We'll keep half for the Sanctuary and send half to Sherwood. But more than that, they provided several names of relatives who work in possibly key locations in camps in Devon. Kingsley will follow up with those in the next several weeks.

Alice: I don't want to impose if you have particular private plans with Frank tomorrow. But if it wouldn't be an imposition, do you think I could come out to the Sanctuary tomorrow morning? I'd love to be there to help celebrate your birthday and--oh, I just really need to hold some babies.

Poppy and Pomona: how are things at Hogwarts? Do you know whether Dolores Umbridge taken over Minerva's office? I'm particularly worried about the Book.



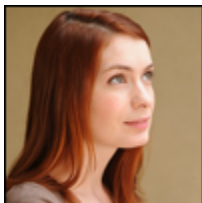
 [alt_poppy](#) at [2013-01-30 23:21:59](#)
(no subject)


Molly,

I'm so pleased that your experience in that camp was so positive. Quite sad, I'm sure, but also satisfying to know that we've helped move those children to safety.

Things here are less satisfactory, as you've gathered. I do have one piece of good news, however: according to Umbridge herself, whom I overheard at breakfast, fussing to Septima Vector and Gwendolyn Acton, she is unable to enter the Headmistress's office. And it is not that she lacks Minerva's password; she knew that, and Vector has tried it, as well. Apparently they've tried everything any of them can think, and nothing has budged the door.

It's the castle's own magic, I feel sure. Presumably it does not acknowledge Umbridge's right to enter. That's a comfort. A small one, but a comfort nonetheless.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2013-01-31 14:17:49](#)
(no subject)

Of course, dearest. I look forward to seeing you.

2013-01-30 18:00:00

Private Message to Dolores Umbridge

Belated as they may be, allow me to offer my congratulations on your ascent. Who could ever have realised that even the briefest exposure to dozens of shining, cherubic faces, all smiling adoringly and hanging on your every word, should utterly convince you that a life in their service would suit you to the ground. Am sure that they are as pleased by your leadership as you are pleased to bear the full responsibility, now, for their futures. Certain you shall find this new post at least as challenging as managing the Ministry - but no less rewarding.



 **alt_lucius**

Do forgive that this comes late in the week, as I said, but there are some of us who are still running a country, not a country school.

As you should remember, one of my duties as both a Governor and one of the Board's representatives to Our Lord's Council is to maintain close communication with the Headmistress. So it seems we shall be conferring again on a regular basis, though am afraid it shall have to be by owl or journal, most of the time: You will recall that my business affairs keep me in New London most of the time, when they do not require me to travel to the corners of Our Lord's glorious realm.

However, there is one notable exception to that condition, when it shall be my happy lot to visit in person: Each quarter, as you know, the Council monitors the recorded instances of magical births among those with no such birthright. That time is fast approaching.

Now that you have doubtless established yourself in the tower, thought it would be prudent for the two of us to review the book, as well as go over a few small matters of protocol which - no doubt - Minerva did not have time to impart to you before her departure.

Monday next? Shall have my clerk inform you of the time.



 **alt_umbridge** at **2013-01-31 02:06:21**
(no subject)

Lucius -

So kind of you to finally have a moment to write, I'm sure.

It is rather a pity that it would be impossible to move Hogwarts far nearer New London and the centre of the Protectorate, really. I do admit that while children are not the audience I would have preferred for my skills, they do present an interesting challenge, and of course a critical resource for Our Lord's future plans.

As to Monday, that will be quite inconvenient for more than one reason. As I am sure you have heard by now, I am assuming (along with Rolanda Hooch, for the more physical drills) instruction in the Defence classes. I plan to spend time next week setting them along the proper track with reading and other materials heretofore neglected in their curriculum.

At any rate, I could not dream of taking time away from their sessions for a meeting with you, and of course my other hours will be filled with a wide range of important tasks. The following week might do, if necessary.

Beyond that, I'm sure you know that this castle has more than its share of quirks and challenges. It pains me to share that the Head's office is not yet responding properly to my due authority and new role. I have, as you may have seen, messaged dear Minnie about any little tips she might have. Given the delay in gaining what I am sure will be eventual access, I have not been able to arrange things to my preference. I am certain she'll be forthcoming in due course.



 **alt_umbridge** at [2013-01-31 16:47:54](#)
(no subject)

I have since heard back from the *former* Headmistress. She is being exceedingly unhelpful, but has confirmed that the passwords were not changed.

I will certainly give the matter further attention, but apparently, the castle has been prone to certain stubborn difficulties in the past. It may take some time to resolve.



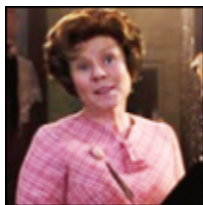
 [alt_lucius](#) at [2013-01-31 17:25:47](#)
(no subject)

Minerva? Unhelpful? After all you have done to help her, how surprising. Indeed, as I said at the Board meeting (multiple ones, in fact), I have never known Professor McGonagall to be anything but professional in her conduct toward her colleagues. Shall not here discuss her personal ailments, which have admittedly resulted in inconsistencies in the execution of her duties.

But, be that as it may, it must be quite unnerving to be met with resistance on the part of stone walls and wooden doors, particularly when you have been accepted with universal accolade on the part of the staff and students. No doubt your diligent effort will succeed in the end. It does present rather a problem, however, in that while the office is impenetrable, the book is unavailable as well. Of course, there may be a solution to that problem from my perspective. Cannot see how it would resolve *your* ongoing difficulties but am sure you shall sort it in time.

But as to our meeting: Monday it shall be, Dolores. I have no time to re-arrange other commitments and there is a degree of urgency to our discussion, so that you may properly orient to your directives from Board and Council before you implement changes that shall merely require reversing.

If you find yourself pressed for time, you might put Razzer back in his classroom - where he belongs - and save yourself that trouble, in the bargain.



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-31 20:08:45](#)
(no subject)

If it must be Monday, I suppose I will manage it somehow. It is most inconvenient, however. And confusing to the dear children.

As to your last, I cannot imagine you are suggesting that, given the gravity of the accusation against him. I would be more than glad to provide access to the corroborative proof (both via pensieve and via a written statement from Miss Calderwood), of course, since you are persisting in visiting anyway.

I am sure your personal loyalties must make it difficult for you to accept his egregious errors in judgement and professionalism, but I had thought you a wizard of greater sense, especially given your notable concern for Miss Parkinson. Young witches rely on their elders for a great deal of protection and care, and I will take every possible precaution in that regard.

As to the office, I am certain some solution will be found, but it may take some time. This is the problem with entirely inadequate documentation about the castle magics, and it is a subject no one has taken much interest in in years, as I understand it. (I have, of course, asked Irma for assistance, but she said she would have to prepare several volumes for circulation again.)

2013-01-30 19:23:00

*Private message to Minerva
McGonagall*



 **alt_umbridge**

Minnie, a few teensy matters as I begin to set things to rights.

- I had suspected that the Castle had fallen into disarray and needed a firm hand, but really, the Head's office is being most stubborn. I had thought I knew the password, and Septima, of course, was certain, but the entry is refusing to respond.

Had you this kind of difficulty when you took over for the previous (and traitorous) former Headmaster? I assume it is a simple matter of exerting one's will over the castle, but it would be easier for everyone, I am sure, if you shared whatever information you have. I'm sure you would have mentioned if you'd changed the password, Minnie, dear. Though perhaps it slipped your mind?

- I was reminded by one of the staff of the existence of keys that allow entry even into warded spaces. Mr Milland, however, was not certain of their entire powers. Would you know whether they make it obvious to others that the wards have been broken? Or, indeed, any other information about their use that might be of assistance there? I would hate to *accidentally* affect something, of course.

- Related, I am given to understand by Lucius Malfoy that he visits quarterly to check a book of student names, to determine the mudbloods who should be removed to proper environs. I presume that the book is in the Head's office, but can you describe precisely where? It was exactly this kind of thing I was hoping for when I asked about any matters relating solely to the Head.

- I would like full access to the budget figures. Septima has many of them, but she does not have the projected figures for the coming year. Before I bother dear Albertus Vandemar for copies, it would be ever so much easier if you shared where they were.

Finally, I suppose I must thank you for making this transition smoother than it might be. There were those who discussed the possibility with me who were certain you would dig in your claws. I do so appreciate that you didn't, dear, and hope that you find some sense of peace in whatever it is you'll be doing with yourself now.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2013-01-31 15:18:34](#)
(no subject)

As it is no longer my duty to assist at Hogwarts, I believe I will allow you to work these matters out for yourself.

However, I can certainly tell you that I did not change any passwords, nor did I have trouble when I ascended to the Headmistressship. Perhaps there is something about your personal magical signature that the castle does not find propense.



 [alt_umbridge](#) at [2013-01-31 16:46:12](#)
(no subject)

I had hoped you'd be more forthcoming - for the good of the students, at the very least.

The confirmation of the password is something, I suppose.

2013-01-30 19:51:00

Rehearsals, Week Four!

What an incredibly productive rehearsal! All of the routines and solos and bits are really starting to come together, I must say, and from what I've glimpsed of the costumes and set production, our Revue will be extremely professional looking!



 **alt_daphne**

Oh. Yes, I know that there's been a lot of sudden changes around the Castle, but I must say that everyone coped extraordinarily well, despite that!

And then - yes - the super star of the week is Ron Weasley, who's really come into his own, I must say. In terms of dancing, that is!

But really, everyone's doing really, really well! I'm very proud of us.



 **alt_daphne** at **2013-01-31 03:18:45**

Private message to Ron Weasley

Hello!

You were good today. I mean - it's really coming together, don't you think? The steps and the timing and the turns. And reading Shakespeare has helped, I think, because your line delivery... yes, it had more of that dramatic irony that we were talking about.

So shall I have your tin of toffees sent up by the elves, or shall I give them to you in person?



 **alt_ron** at **2013-01-31 03:35:09**

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

You really think so? I mean, I thought it felt right-better, I mean, but I wasn't sure I could really tell, you know?

I'm glad you thought so!

Maybe there was a star danced, y'know, like Beatrice said, and

that's what made it all come together tonight!

I think you have to give the toffees in person or it doesn't count.



 **[alt_daphne](#) at 2013-01-31 03:48:33**

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

I could definitely tell.

And yes, a star danced, and under that- yes, exactly. It's quite something to see you quoting Shakespeare, you know.

Oh, and I didn't give anyone else their toffees in person.

But for you, I'd like to make an exception.



 **[alt_ron](#) at 2013-01-31 04:08:04**

Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Well, Shakespeare's... memorable.

And that's excellent about the toffees. When and where should I meet you? You're not at the library tonight or anything, are you? I could walk you back.



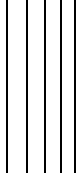
 **[alt_daphne](#) at 2013-01-31 04:23:42**


Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

Actually, I'm just getting ready to leave the divination tower - Mr Krumgold wanted me to pass a message along to Professor Carpenter, since he had to get back to New London early.

You're lucky I have the toffees with me. I was going to hand them off to an elf on the way back.

I should be able to meet you at the bottom of the steps if you hurry.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2013-01-31 04:25:38](#)**
Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

On my way!

2013-01-30 20:31:00

Private message to Rory

Love, we need to talk. It's been almost a whole day, and you haven't-



 **alt_rabastan**


I don't know what she told you... no, in fact I do. But you have to hear my side of it. Please.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2013-01-31 03:38:35**
(no subject)

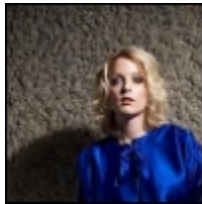
I don't even know what to say.



 **alt_rabastan** at **2013-01-31 04:24:37**
(no subject)

Well that's a start. Of sorts.

Can we talk? Without using these things, I mean.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2013-01-31 04:29:47**
(no subject)

I have to teach soon. Till two.

And.

She said a lot of things last night. That she'd be - "paying attention" if we met. In private.

Made a lot of other things clear.

She *showed* me. A tiny bit, at the very end.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-31 04:40:26](#)
(no subject)

That's what I was afraid of.

It's not real- you know that it isn't. I don't know if it's the product of Cassie's delusions, or entirely manufactured, or what, but it isn't real.

But I'm sorry you had to see it.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-31 04:52:21](#)
(no subject)

It isn't just that. It's other things she said, too.


Part of me knows you tell me the truth.

A lot of me is terrified.

And there's other things.

I can't be fair right now. I can't think straight. I don't want to do the wrong thing.



 [alt_rabastan](#) at [2013-01-31 04:55:55](#)
(no subject)

Right then.

It's just- I'm the one who's been sacked, and whose name is being dangled over a cauldron of mud. Just in case you were wondering how I was doing.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2013-01-31 05:14:35](#)
(no subject)

Don't

I hate this.

It all comes out wrong.

||||| Talking will make it worse. Right now. I'm sorry.
||||| I'm sorry about so much.

2013-01-30 22:19:00

Private message to Raz


I've just received news that I sincerely hope is not true, brother.



 **alt_rodolphus**

If it is, I've a very special plaque with Dolores' name on it. Just say when and where you want it hanged.



 **alt_rabastan** at **2013-01-31 05:23:15**
(no subject)

It is true. The part about my being sacked and blackmailed.

The part about me seducing a student? Not true.

A part of me sorely wishes I could take you up on your offer, but no- you absolutely must stay out of it. And your toys, too.


Swear that you will.



 **alt_rodolphus** at **2013-01-31 05:25:25**
(no subject)

Swear to it? Now that's no fun at all.



 **alt_rabastan** at **2013-01-31 05:35:38**
(no subject)

And it's non-negotiable, too.



 **alt_rodolphus** at **2013-01-31 05:37:31**
(no subject)

For now. Just say the word when you change your mind.

2013-01-30 23:21:00

Private Message to Raz Lestrage

What in Hades is going on at that school?

Plan to be back there tomorrow.

Will bring pink rat poison along. Shall I administer it or do you want the satisfaction yourself?



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)



 [alt_rabastan](#) at **2013-01-31 05:41:09**

(no subject)

Bloody Erebus, not you, too.

The last thing I need is anyone trying to kill her before my name's been cleared. So...restrain yourself, if you please.

Appreciate the sentiment, though.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2013-01-31 06:08:54**

(no subject)

Has you caught, does she?

Still bringing poison, but I'll leave it with you.

Let you choose the auspicious moment.

[2013-01-31 10:19:00](#)

Thank-yous

My greatest appreciation to the ladies of New London, who have been so solicitous in making sure that I am well, safe, and resting.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#)

I realise that I was rather sharp with you all last night. You are, upon reflection, correct that I have been overtired of late. I will certainly submit to whatever you think is best for my recuperation—and I am most sorry to have to send you back the wine. Perhaps I can make it up somehow.



 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2013-01-31 15:29:34](#)

Order Only

Seized by ladies of the second circle upon my exit from Hogwarts, all solicitous and all deeply concerned with ensuring that my home was made ready for me "after so long at Hogwarts." Every room has been aired, every corner cleaned. Fortunately, none of them questioned the idea that I might have private rooms not open to their nosing.

Eventually I winkled it out of one of them: the Dark Lord himself made a suggestion that I had "not been around other women enough of late." This was enough, it seems, to cause the outpouring, although it noticeably did not include Narcissa Malfoy or any of what might be termed the "top rank" of ladies who lunch.

I am afraid I was rather terse after ten or twelve of them had paraded through. Poppy, you did not see the half of it. After a good night's rest, however, I have come to see that aloofness will do no good. I will exert myself to appear more "natural" and friendly, and we shall see what it brings.

But there is more interesting, and better, news than this. La Umbridge has found herself incapable of entering the Head's office. I did not attempt to bar her (that would have been suspicious indeed) and so it must be the castle itself keeping her out. Another layer of protection for the hidden books! Fortunately, no-one will begrudge me refusing to work with her: one thing I did glean from the ladies is that there is a great number of differing opinions among the loyal of New London, and my ejection from Hogwarts is by no means the

unanimous decision Dolores would like her students to believe.
(Lucius has said the same, but it is one thing to hear from a Slytherin and another from a dithering and fanciful Hufflepuff.)



 [alt_molly](#) at [2013-01-31 17:03:43](#)

Re: Order Only

Oh, that is excellent news, that the castle is safeguarding your office.

Take heart, Minerva. If there is a day that the crowd thins out, let me know, and I would be more than happy to come visit you.



 [alt_terry](#) at [2013-01-31 17:24:09](#)

Re: Order Only: Private message to Minerva McGonagall

Dear Headmistress:

(For you are still the Headmistress of Hogwarts, and I'm dead chuffed that the castle agrees and is protecting your authority. AND protecting other muggleborns like me by keeping the Book safely locked up.)

I am so sorry that you have been pulled out of Hogwarts, and I hope with all my heart that it's just a temporary measure. I want very much for you not to feel too sad about it, and that's why I'm writing to thank you. I am so grateful to you for what you did for me. You saved me from Amycus Carrow for a year. You were the first to show me that a witch or wizard in authority could actually be kind. You taught me, not caring about how dangerous it was, and you have no idea what a difference it made for me.

I also want to thank you for all the other children at Moddey Dhoo that you personally helped to save. I couldn't be saved from the git, and I know you feel badly about that, but please realise that I understand why it wasn't possible. But when I see the difference between my experience and theirs, I'm struck all the more by what an incredible thing the Order is doing for children like me. They are growing up happy and educated and innocent and free. You helped do that, and you should be very proud.

I know I am a free wizard, and nobody's slave. But still, if I could--

although I know I can't because it's not safe, what with all the other people around you now--I would be happy to come back to serve you for awhile. Not as a mudblood, but because I am your friend, who is very grateful for all that I owe you. But because I cannot, I will just say that if there is anything else I can do to repay my debt to you, will you please let me know? I wish you a quick and easy recovery from the hard time you've had lately.

Yours,
Terry Boot

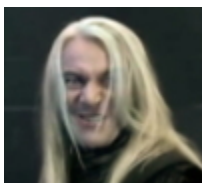


 [alt_mcgonagall](#) at [2013-02-01 14:57:49](#)

Re: Order Only: Private message to Minerva McGonagall

While I appreciate the sentiment behind your offer, young man, I would not accept your offer of service, even given willingly. It has a symbolism that I do not like.

In any case, I shall inform you when I see an opportunity for you to pay your debt. I appreciate that it would be intolerable for me to tell you that you owed me nothing, but I ask you to consider that perhaps I have as much to atone for as any other who has benefitted from the Lord Protector's reign.



 [alt_lucius](#) at [2013-01-31 17:51:49](#)

Private Message to Minerva McGonagall

Have you changed the password, then, and told no one? Should not blame you in the slightest had you done.

The damnable pink scow thinks to dictate to me when she shall and shall not take my visit. And then has the temerity to blame usurping Rizzer's lessons as the reason she is 'pressed for time'?!

Believe me, should like nothing better than to never accept a cup of tea from her pudgy fingers again - but there are larger considerations.

That the Office has sealed itself (if it truly has done) is not strictly speaking an impediment. Assume that if so, giving up the password to another makes no difference - otherwise Vector or Carpenter or

one of that lot should have opened the doors to her before this. However, wonder if you would consent to accompanying me when necessary to gain access to the book and any other sundries you might wish to obtain whilst there on my authority.

Wouldn't it be delicious to go, open your office, disappear inside and leave her peeping at the keyhole whilst we conducted our business? We'd have to throw in a hearty laugh or two once in a while so she can hear that we are still deep in consultation.

This will be temporary, am sure of that. She cannot begin to comprehend the complexities of the school, nor the necessary diplomacy involved in balancing parents against curriculum.

Cannot pretend that you have not exposed your weaknesses, Minerva - and perhaps that is part of Our Lord's lack of opposition to Dolores' appropriation of your title. To be sure, she has grown so desperate for a return to her former power that she seems content to terrorise children to get it in any measure. More to the point, has Fudge convinced of her unimpeachable credentials for the task; otherwise might have an avenue to success with him by the suggestion that from Hogwarts she means to regain *his* job once more.

At any rate, Dominic and I have no end of resources yet to bring to this. May take us time (one does not wish to burn too much capital all in one place, as it were) but believe me, she shall regret her presumptions.



 **alt_mcgonagall** at **2013-02-01 14:54:16**


Re: Private Message to Minerva McGonagall

I have not changed the password—though I wish I had, I had no sense of what the reaction would be to such petulance. I have been doing some reading: I believe that the castle is reacting to defend itself, and furthermore that until it feels the crisis has passed, it will allow only myself and my accompanied guests to enter the room.

As for the office, we may certainly make a trip there, if you think you can stem Umbridge's tide of rage at the thought, and prevent her from entering with us (I do not have any sense of whether the castle will accept her as my guest, or whether it would keep her out, and I do not wish to allow her in if it is at all possible; petty I have been called and petty I shall now be), There are certain

magical objects there that I would hate to lose access to, and, of course, the book is of utmost concern.



 **alt_lucius** at [2013-02-01 15:11:07](#)

Re: Private Message to Minerva McGonagall

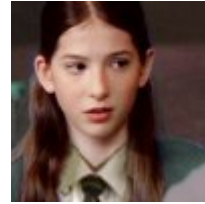
Well, have never believed that the prohibition against magic in the corridors applies to fully qualified wizards. She might try to force her way in - if she knew about the visit. You have friends on the staff, still, I believe.

Moreover, were she to encounter the open door, as a Governor, could not deny her access; but should your wand happen to slip, would not be able to say with certainty whether it had been an accident or a deliberate act of defiance.

[2013-01-31 10:53:00](#)

Today

Last night was a very late night (Astronomy) and today was a very early morning.



It's been very chilly outside and I used a lot of warming charms during observation. It still felt really good to come back inside. The elves had warmed up our beds for us and left me a cup of warm milk to drink and a biscuit, so I had my snack and went right to bed.

 **[alt_sally_anne](#)**

In Creatures, Professor Grubbly-Plank took a break from the things we'd been learning to talk some about the Forest, since several of us had seen creatures in there that we had questions about, on Sunday. Apparently the colony of Acromantulae is well-documented at this point but they're not sure how it got there -- giant spiders are native to Borneo and don't actually much care for the climate in Scotland. We also discussed Thestrals, Centaurs, and Unicorns (although no one saw any unicorns on Sunday, so far as I know). We were talking about the giant squid when we ran out of time.



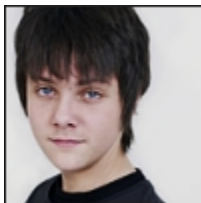
 **[alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-31 21:35:30](#)**

Private message to Michael

Are we meeting tonight for half-blood revising? I can't remember if it's this week or next week.

I am so tired. Ugh. ~~Madam~~ Headmistress Umbridge made me come in to her office this morning at seven to talk about my lapses during the CCF exercise. Of course we had Astronomy last night. I almost put my head down on my desk and napped during History of Magic.

Anyway I'll see you this evening, maybe?



 **[alt_michael](#) at [2013-02-01 00:43:02](#)**

Re: Private message to Michael

Yeah, we're here. But if you're knackered, don't worry about it tonight.

You reminded me I have to do my post for the week, too. Bugger.



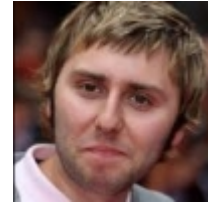
 **alt_michael at 2013-02-01 00:44:13**

Re: Private message to Michael

And she's so...horrid. I can't--well, I *can* believe it but Merlin, she's a menace.

2013-01-31 15:25:00

(no subject)



 [alt_justin](#)

Enter and meet Ron and Daphne center.

('...and I'm Brotherton. Can you help?')

('Oh, I'm sure we can, somehow!')

'What are you doing here, in the castle?'

('We went through a portrait and somehow also through time!')

'Oh, really? Name's Rutherford, by the way. And this is Dashel (don't mind him, he's a bit of a wag) and the lovely young witch there is Clemmy.'

('...it like where you come from?')

SONG (dance after 2nd chorus)

'That's very interesting! To think that the world has changed so much from our lives now! Why, I bet that some of us are probably teaching at Hogwarts now! Say, what about Miss McGonagall? You know, she plays Quidditch for Gryffindor. I think she's quite the studious type.'
(Indeed! She's our Headmistress and she's ever so good at it. She taught Transfigurations for a while, as well.)

(Lizzie, Daphs and Ron have lines and then:

'You don't think so, do you?')

'No, not at all. Besides, Dolly's nothing compared to you! But it's so interesting to hear about the future!'

(Remy does his bit. Ron and I feed the lines as straight-men. 'Who?' 'What?' 'I don't know. How?' etc.)

('...tell us which way to the statue of Barnabas the Barmy? We're all turned round.')

'Oh, yes, of course. It's just two floors up, take the staircase when it moves to the left, go right through the next corridor and it's outside Professor Piedmont's office.'

('Who?')

'Professor Piedmont. Do you not have him for Defence?'

('No.')

'Oh, well, I suppose, with no more muggles to worry about, perhaps you don't need to take Defence at all! But it always pays to be prepared.'

SONG

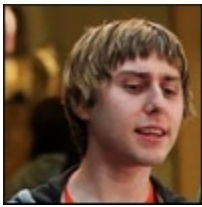
('Anyway, we really have to be going on, now. Where's that turning?')
'It's probably easier if we show you....' (Exeunt.)



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-01-31 21:36:25](#)

I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good

Are they going to rewrite the bit about Headmistress McGonagall?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2013-01-31 21:49:50](#)

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


Hullo, Sally-Anne,

I've no idea but I wanted it on the record, what?

Besides, it was something to do during History of Magic. And I say, it takes care of my 'public post' this week without having to say anything substantive.

-Justin



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-02-01 03:27:32](#)

(no subject)

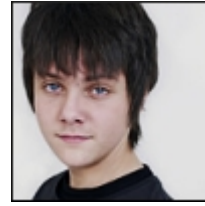
We're all getting better at it, wouldn't you say?

2013-01-31 19:45:00

(no subject)

Hi, Mum and Dad.

Here's a rundown for the week:



 [alt_michael](#)

On Monday we had Divination, Astronomy lecture, Transfiguration and Defence.

Headmistress Umbridge observed in Transfiguration and she asked a load of questions and interrupted Professor Brutka a lot. (Dad, you would have called it 'kibbitzing' but I don't think she knows that word, so I don't think she would have called it that. Professor Brutka didn't get the slightest bit upset, though, but by the end of the lesson it was hard to remember what he said at the start of it. I hope my notes make more sense!) We exercised and then there was some revising and a revue rehearsal.

On Tuesday, we made potions in Potions. We cast some charms in Charms. We listened to a ghost in History of Magic. We didn't have Duelling Club because Professor Raz wasn't able to run it. Maybe there will be a newsletter telling you why not.

Yesterday we went back to Divination to see if anything we predicted on Monday came true. Then we did some gardening in Herbology and some animal husbandry in Care of Magical Creatures. And we had another revue rehearsal. And then there was Astronomy at midnight.

Today there was an Arithmancy lesson and we made calculations for that. We cast more charms in Charms. Professor Binns talked some more (actually I think he might have told us about the same goblin battle, but it's hard to tell because after a while they all sound alike). We had more Transfiguration only it wasn't about anything that Professor Brutka taught on Monday, only it made a lot more sense because he wasn't getting interrupted every other sentence. Actually I think a lot of my notes from Monday are the answers to the questions that Headmistress Umbridge asked him. So if you want to know where he taught in Canada I can probably tell you.

We also had a Noble Arts lesson but Professor Dolohov is still not back in the classroom so we have loads of reading assignments and we sort of all talked through the chapter. And there's been more exercising and revising tonight.

Tomorrow I expect we'll brew some more potions and pet some more creatures but I think we'll probably have to read more during Defence and Noble Arts. At least it's a Friday.

2013-01-31 20:21:00


Well...

January's almost over.



 [alt_luna](#)



 [alt_neville](#) at **2013-02-01 03:05:59**

(no subject)

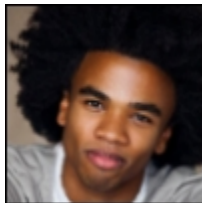
Yes. And soon it will be February.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2013-02-01 03:06:35**

(no subject)

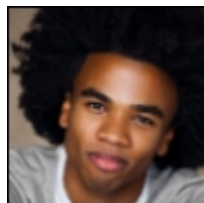
And then March. Amazing how that happens.



 [alt_lee](#) at **2013-02-01 03:07:08**

Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley

And after that, April!




 [alt_lee](#) at **2013-02-01 03:07:56**

Order Only

With a little luck, she'll make me come up and read that last Private Message in front of the entire school.




 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-02-01 03:14:36**

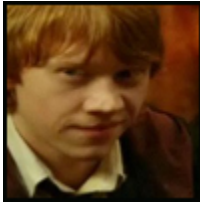
(no subject)


Are you counting down the hours? Or minutes?



 [alt_luna](#) at [2013-02-01 03:29:47](#)
(no subject)


If I wait long enough, I can count down the seconds.



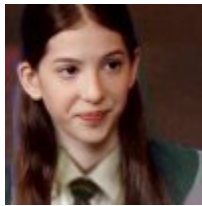
 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-02-01 04:17:42](#)
(no subject)

Well, if you don't mind big numbers, I guess you could start that now!



 [alt_luna](#) at [2013-02-01 04:50:49](#)
(no subject)

4320, 4319, 4318, 4317....



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2013-02-01 15:22:51](#)
(no subject)

I hate February.

I'm going to pretend it's January 32nd for as long as I can.



 [alt_gredforge](#) at [2013-02-01 15:36:45](#)
(no subject)

You know that verse that helps you remember how many days there are in every month, don't you?

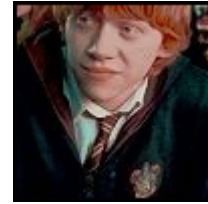
30 days hath September
April, June and November
All the rest have 31
Except for February alone
Which has 867.

2013-01-31 21:29:00

Public Message to Arista Selwyn

Dear Arista,

Headmistress Umbridge said if I wanted to write to you, I shouldn't use a private message because people want to know what I say. Seems sort of funny that anyone would care what I've got to say, but I wouldn't want to argue about something like that.



 [alt_ron](#)

Anywiz, I thought you'd want to know that Satsuma is doing well and enjoying his new life here at school. He wanted me to tell you a few things about what he's doing here because he thought you'd be curious about Hogwarts and about what he's getting up to!

For the first week, he spent all his time in my dormitory, which is at the top of one of the highest towers. Every day, he sat on a different window seat and looked out. One day, he looked out towards the lake and Hogsmeade, way off in the distance. The next day, it was the Quidditch pitch, and he told me all about the drills the Hufflepuffs were running during their practice. Another day, he looked out over the lawns and the greenhouses, and said he could see Professor Sprout's students coming and going all day. And then on Friday, he was looking out towards the Forbidden Forest, and he said he got to watch loads of interesting birds circling around and around over it.

After that week, though, Satsuma decided he wanted to see more of the castle, so one day he stowed away in my satchel and came along to the great hall for breakfast. I don't think anyone saw him, but he peeked out and said he could see everyone's knees under the table. He thought that was dead funny. Oh, and he really liked it when the owl post arrived. I don't know if he'd ever seen that many owls before, ever, but he was really keen to watch them swooping down with people's parcels and letters. He said breakfast smelled off, though. The kippers were transfigured, I guess, which I never knew. I reckon a cat can tell about that, though. Even a stuffed one.

And then this week one day, he hid in my satchel again when it was time for Astronomy practical. I think he wanted to see the stars and be outside, only it was a really dire night what with its drizzling and being so cold, so he snuggled down inside my bag and I didn't even know he was there until I got back afterwards and found him curled up all sound asleep. I don't blame him, really: that's a super late night

when we have Astronomy. Only, I guess cats like to be awake in the night for hunting, don't they? I think Satsuma's different, though. He must have been used to sleeping when you slept, don't you think?

I hope you are having a good term at school and that you aren't missing Satsuma too much. He asked me to tell you he misses you, but that he's glad to be here at Hogwarts where there are loads of real cats and kneazles to make friends with. Maybe I can tell you about some of his new friends next time I write.

Keep well until then.

Your friend,
Ron Weasley

2013-01-31 21:53:00

(no subject)

SHES GONE TOO FAR. WE NEED A PLAN. WE
NEED TO TALK IN PERSON. SUNDAY NIGHT
WORK?



 **alt_galleon**

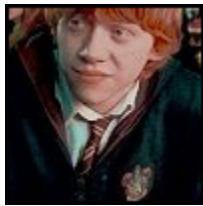
2013-01-31 21:59:00


(no subject)

- 1) This list works
- 2) Not the Cannons' best year
- 3) Restaurants, Parties
- 4) Menaces
- 5) Pink (no)
- 6) Light colours
- 7) Inner strength (depends on the vice)
- 8) owl (kneazle)
- 9) Dangerous Kitten (not soon enough)
- 10) And on.



 [alt_harry](#)



 [alt_ron](#) at **2013-02-01 05:26:32**

Private Message to Harry Marvolo

That some kind of poem, then?

Didn't know you went in for that sort of thing.

So. Revision group again tomorrow, and I know we're not going to do any practical spellwork for Dark Arts, but do you think we can for Defence? Not duelling, just proper defensive spells, you know? Only, we've just started learning the Patronus, and I think that one's important. I mean, since we all know what Dementors are like, I think we'd all like to be able to cast that, yeah? So I was wondering if you thought we could work on that without anyone getting cross. I mean Hooch didn't say anything at all about working on it, did she? But no one's said we can't, right?

Or I guess we could just study the theory and talk through the wandwork, if you think we can't practise at all.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2013-02-01 14:46:59**

Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo

Thought I'd make a list of Draco's list.

You know, to have something to write.

And yeah, Sally-Anne mentioned the Patronus too. I think it's

different than duelling, right? I mean, until we get told we can't, yeah, we should practise as much as we can. And if we get told not to, we'll just have to practise somewhere else.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-02-01 14:29:10](#)

(no subject)

You know... Dangerous Kitten would be a great name for a band. Not sure about the others. I mean, Inner Strength could be alright, but sort of, I dunno, too trying to be serious. I think you could combine numbers 5 and 4 and have a good band name, too, because no one expects those to go together, yeah? That's how loads of band names work, yeah? Like the Violent Meek. Or Blinding Bunnies. Um. I guess that one depends how you think about it, though. Craven Cream, though, that's one. I always thought they spelled it Cravin' when I just heard them on the wireless, but then I saw an advert and realised what they're really called.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-02-01 14:48:17](#)

(no subject)

I was thinking that could be the name of the new Weird Sisters album, but yeah. Violent Meek really is a good name.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2013-02-01 14:50:12](#)

(no subject)

Do they have a new album out? Have you heard it?

Is it any good, this one?



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-02-01 16:09:29](#)

(no subject)

I don't think they've had anything out for a while, but I hope they put one out soon. It was ace to see them at the Yule Ball last year.

I just got what you said about 4 and 5. Pink Menaces. It'd totally work as a band name.

2013-01-31 22:28:00

Hufflepuff Quidditch

Normally I know that our practices are relatively open, but at our next practice, no spectators. No taunting, no tale-carrying.



 **alt_cedric**

Team:

We're cross training. Everyone will be playing different positions. We'll be swapping through. It's time to think about what the rest of the team is doing instead of just our own jobs.

We want to avoid certain mistakes we saw in the Slytherin/Ravenclaw game.




 **alt_cedric** at **2013-02-01 04:08:16**
(no subject)

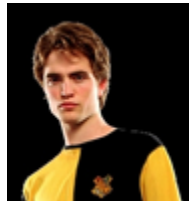
Oh and if anyone thinks they are sneaking in to watch, when I catch you and I will you'll wish a giant had sat on you.

You've been warned.



 **alt_harry** at **2013-02-01 04:23:18**
(no subject)

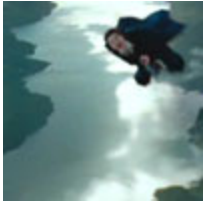
Sounds like an interesting challenge.




 **alt_cedric** at **2013-02-01 04:32:54**
(no subject)

You know I can catch you on a broom. You wouldn't want us to lock up a hundred and fifty feet up... would you?

I don't think either of us really wants to take an unexpected dive into the lake in this weather in our quidditch leathers.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2013-02-01 04:36:37](#)
(no subject)

Point. I figure one dive in the lake a week is my limit.

2013-01-31 23:42:00

(no subject)

I'M Not SurE it's SAFE to stand up against her, though. SHE could send US to the Camps if she caught us. IF she Wanted to do.



 **alt_galleon**