


**2013-03-01 09:08:00**

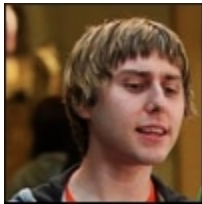
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*




Many happy returns, Ron.

The year's surely got to get better from here, right?  [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)

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 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-03-01 15:57:15**  
(no subject)


Happy birthday, Ron!

I say, I saw your note last night but my arms were too tired to hold the quill to answer!

I'm not imagining it, then? Today's exercise was even more difficult than yesterday's. One would think it should go the other way 'round, what? At least it's over now.

-Justin




 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-03-01 16:12:07**  
(no subject)

It was a hex she put on us. I told Madam Pomfrey I thought I'd seen her do something to Luna, and she said I wasn't just imagining it. She had me pick up a quill off her desk and then a book, and she did some sort of spell to measure something, and said the hex makes everything heavier than it is, including us. Our own bodies, I mean. She couldn't tell what hex it was. Could've been a bunch of things, but she was really well cross about it.

You should go see her if you are having trouble with the stairs or carrying things. She made it sound dangerous.

Don't want you falling over dead, mate.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-01 17:19:04](#)  
(no subject)

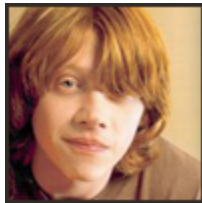
I say, was it? That rather makes sense.


I do feel all right now, though, not staggering or anything. It's more that everything's sore, what, as when one's been exerting oneself especially.

But perhaps I might go see Madam P after all. If nothing else it's an excuse to lark off during non-Defence, what?

Have you opened all your presents yet?

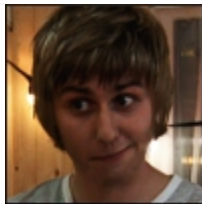
-Justin




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-01 21:36:18](#)  
(no subject)

Mum sent a cake and some other food and so did Sally Ann--jam and sausages and biscuits and things charmed to stay fresh, so I can keep them in my trunk for times when we're not allowed to eat. Brilliant, that! The twins haven't got me yet, since we weren't at breakfast.

And I expect there's still one present to 'open' tonight, yeah? At least I hope so!




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-01 23:19:38](#)  
*Private Message to Ron*

Cheers, I wish you good luck, mate!

-Justin




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-01 23:21:40](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Ron*

Heh.

Ta!



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-03-01 16:06:36](#)  
(no subject)

Thanks, you. That hamper is amazing! And you're right, I'll hide most of it away in my trunk for times when Madam Toadface makes us miss out eating.

I'll bring Mum's ginger cake to share at Harry's revising session tonight, though. If I can get there. I'm loads better now, but I had to go back to Madam Pomfrey this morning after exercising because I felt like I'd had all my muscles boiled.

Madam P was well cross, too, about whatever that hex was Umbritch used on us to make everything tougher to do. She said we could have had heart failure! Not sure whether she was just fussing or whether that's really true. Anywiz, she was seriously cross, and she wouldn't give me more Pepper Up because she said it might be dangerous under the circumstances. She gave me something else, though, so I'm still wheezing and coughing, but I've got more energy.




 **alt\_evelyn** at [2013-03-02 03:49:20](#)  
(no subject)

Many Happy Returns, Ron Weasley.

I'm glad you're feeling better.




 **alt\_luna** at [2013-03-02 04:25:40](#)  
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Ron. It's been fun exercising with you this week. Sort of.

Well, not really. Let's not make it a habit, all right?

Seriously, though, thanks for all your encouragement through all the difficult bits, especially when we were so weary this morning.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-03-02 03:50:38](#)**  
(no subject)


Happy birthday, tuna brain.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-02 04:18:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Happy birthday, mate. And I'm not just saying it because you have ginger cake to share....



 **[alt\\_terry](#)** at **[2013-03-02 04:20:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Ron!

**2013-03-01 10:32:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Bill Weasley*



 [alt\\_severus](#)

Alice has passed along the request to examine you in the hopes of unpicking the truth of what transpired yesterday.

If you are available: I will meet you at the rendezvous we have used before just outside the wards at eleven PM tonight. Do not be earlier, nor later: earlier and you will risk being seen by someone breaking curfew, later and you will risk being seen by someone arriving at the Astronomy tower early for class. Disillusion yourself as you approach.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-01 17:59:20](#)

*(no subject)*

Thank you, Severus. I'm grateful. Yes, I'll meet with you as you suggest.

See you tonight.

**2013-03-01 11:37:00**

*Educational decree #23*

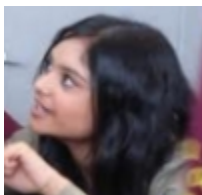
**All Student Organisations, Societies, Teams, Groups, and Clubs are henceforth disbanded. An Organisation, Society, Team, Group, or Club is hereby defined as a regular meeting of three or more students.**




 [alternity](#)  
 [alt\\_umbridge](#)

**No Student Organisation, Society, Team, Group, or Club may exist without the knowledge and approval of the Headmistress. Any student found to have formed, or to belong to, an Organisation, Society, Team, Group, or Club that has not been approved by the Headmistress will be punished and may be expelled. Permission to re-form may be sought from the Headmistress.**

Those wishing to seek permission to reform an Organisation, Society, Team, Group, or Club may make an appointment with me to discuss the matter. Available times are posted on my office door, and I have posted information about the questions you will need to answer to seek permission. You will have one opportunity to make your case, and it may take some time for me to come to a decision.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2013-03-01 18:03:02**  
(no subject)

Please, Headmistress Umbridge,

I've signed up for an appointment with you this afternoon to discuss History Club, Future Interrogators and the St Mungo's Relief effort that Pav and I run together.

Surely we're still holding Prefects' meetings? And does this mean that rehearsal for the Revue tomorrow is cancelled because the performance is almost here and surely YPL-sponsored activities are exempted?

Oh, and please, could you tell me if you mean things like Ravenclaw Corner, because that's not really a club or anything formal. It's just a place in the library where people like to do their revising because it's snug and comfortable and convenient.

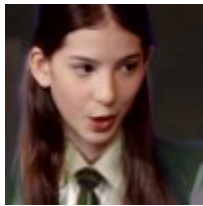



 **[alt\\_umbridge](#)** at **[2013-03-01 18:09:10](#)**  
(no subject)

Prefects meetings (an official school function) are not affected. The Revue had previously sought and received my permission to proceed. At the moment, I am most concerned about gatherings without a staff member in regular attendance.

I would like to discuss the matter of Ravenclaw Corner with you, however, along with anyone else who might have specific support or comment. Perhaps better done at another time than your existing appointment, however.

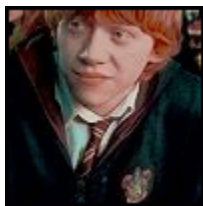
When I say any group of three or more students that meets regularly - even very informally - that is, in fact, what I mean. If anyone else is in doubt, please make an appointment to discuss further.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-01 18:12:37](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

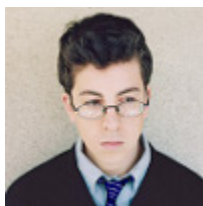
Well my dorm room consists of four young women who meet EVERY SINGLE NIGHT, do we need permission to continue to do that?


Maybe we should send Milli to ask.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-01 21:03:31](#)**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

There are four in my dormitory, but you couldn't say we're having meetings. Unless glaring at each other counts. If so, it'd be a laugh if someone kept minutes.



 **[alt\\_linus](#)** at **[2013-03-01 19:51:48](#)**  
(no subject)

Madam Headmistress, I would be very grateful for the opportunity to assist Miss Patil in speaking with you about Ravenclaw Corner, which has a long tradition of encouraging Hogwarts students to be

diligent and attentive to their studies so that they can truly become all they are meant to be within Our Lord's Protectorate. Should it be agreeable to you to have similar testimonials regarding History Club, I would of course be glad for the opportunity to serve.



**2013-03-01 11:38:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Fred Weasley and George Weasley*



Fred and George (and please pass this on to Lee and Hermione)

 **alt\_bill**

Gents, I don't want to alarm you, but I DO want you to keep your eyes open and to be ready to move at a moment's notice if necessary. I have strong reason to suspect that someone interfered with my memory during my work day yesterday at the Ministry. As best as I can tell, someone (don't know who) obliviated me, making me lose about a fifteen minute block of time.

I will be keeping my head down and being exceedingly strict with my own safety protocols. Haven't told Mum, but I've told Nick Towler, Charlie and Alice. At Alice's suggestion, Severus is going to meet with me tonight, to do an examination of my memory and see if he can detect anything more about what happened to me.

Alice instructed me to let you know so that if--well, if the cauldron's about to blow and we have to call for a mass evacuation, at least you have a heads up warning beforehand. Watch for patronuses from Order members. Keep tabs on everyone's whereabouts as best you can in case you need to find them quickly, and keep a close eye on your journals, please. Will get you anymore information I can as soon as I learn anything more myself.




 **alt\_gredforge** at **2013-03-01 17:44:35**  
(no subject)

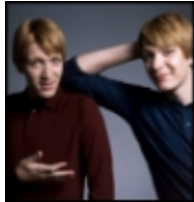
Got it, Bill. Bloody hell. All right, let us know what you find out.

(And our deepest sympathies. Not just about the obliviation. We've been trying Occlumency lessons, you know, and it isn't exactly going swimmingly. Having Snape rummage around in our minds is NOT exactly rainbows, puppies and ice cream. We know. Ugh.)



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-01 17:48:45](#)  
(no subject)


Do you think you're getting the hang of it at all?  
Occlumency, I mean?



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-01 17:55:17](#)  
(no subject)

No, we're utter pants at it. Which is frustrating for both him and us. He grandly allowed that we're not completelythick, but he wonders if we're hampered a bit because we're twins, actually. You know...the way we're so attuned to each other, sometimes even finishing each other's sentences? So we're not exactly good at shutting people out. Anyway, that's one possible theory.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-01 17:56:52](#)  
(no subject)

Huh. Interesting.

I wonder....maybe you just need a different teacher. What about trying working with Dumbledore?



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-01 17:58:02](#)  
(no subject)

That's a thought. We definitely should try it.

**2013-03-01 11:45:00**

*Congratulations Mum! Welcome Lilith!*

Incipient Diggory has arrived!

Congratulations Mum and Dad on number four. Lilith Diggory was born last night. 28 February 1996 11:42 PM, 21 inches 8 lbs 8 oz.



 [alt\\_cedric](#)

I can't wait to meet you over the hols. (Yes Shelley and Jaspar I look forward to seeing you two too).

Mum, I'm sure Jenni has the other two in hand. Get some rest!

Love you all,  
Cedric



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-01 17:56:45](#)  
(no subject)

Congratulations on your new little sister, Diggory. How exciting!

I keep thinking Mrs Stretton might try for another, now that the twins are out of nappies, but she hasn't yet.



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-03-01 18:50:11](#)  
(no subject)

Thanks!

I know little kids are are lots of hard work, but Mum seems to be enjoying having little ones around and manages with Jenni's help.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-01 17:57:55](#)  
(no subject)

Many congratulations to your mother, Mr Diggory, and I hope the whole family stays healthy and happy.

I've something to ask you about - that project we

discussed last week - if you've got a chance to stop up before the 3rd years or stay a few minutes after we're done later this evening.



 **[alt\\_cedric](#)** at **[2013-03-01 18:34:05](#)**  
(no subject)

I could come up before the Third year class and stick around to help if you wish?



 **[alt\\_sinistra](#)** at **[2013-03-01 19:05:39](#)**  
(no subject)

That would be much appreciated, thank you. I want to do some of the initial locational magic practice tonight, which will work well enough whether we're outside or not.

You remember the usual - a handful of the fixed stars, sighting practice, the basic process of doing the calculations. An extra set of hands would be very helpful.




 **[alt\\_cedric](#)** at **[2013-03-01 18:05:05](#)**  
*Private message to Harry*

I just saw ED #23. Does she really mean to disband Quidditch? I know she proved she has no respect for the game, but really?

Should all four of the captains go down together?

What the bloody Hell?! This year is just awful.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-03-01 18:09:25](#)**  
*Re: Private message to Harry*

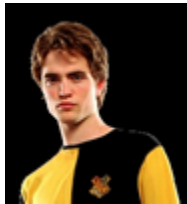
You know what? I think if she wants us to ask her permission for everything, we're going to ask permission for everything. Every time. Let her see how much of a hassle it is for her if people are asking her if they're allowed to blow their noses or wipe their bums.


I think all the captains ought to go to her once a week every week

with our practise schedules and have her approve them, and then while we're at it make sure to get permission each week for eating food outside of the Great Hall for those that need it. And we'll make sure she has to read them all and look over them carefully so that we'll be especially sure we're following her rules. We should ask her to sign off on them too.

And if she gets too wrapped up in everything to look over them carefully, we'll have what she agreed to in writing, so she can't make a fuss about it if she later decides we've broken a rule. As long as we follow what we write down to the letter.

If she denies a Quidditch team practise time for one of the weeks, we'll have to sort out what to do. We could be sure to ask permission for the free flying session once a week too, and word it so that it's open to anyone with a broom. That way it can be switched into a last minute practise session if we need it.



 **alt\_cedric** at **2013-03-01 18:38:28**

*Re: Private message to Harry*

Right, every single thing. I'll do This week in 'Puff Quidditch and the next Open Flying. Someone should do Fantasy Quidditch, I'll mention it to Smith.

We'll see how it goes. Let me know about your Defence group in particular. I was going to propose that the NEWT students all get together for extra practice, but am now apprehensive.



 **alt\_harry** at **2013-03-01 19:06:01**

*Re: Private message to Harry*

Yeah. I know what you mean. I'm working on writing up my request for Defence right now.

We're also worried about what she'll do to the halfblood study group.

Having a professor there during revision might help. And making it vague so that it covers everyone studying for NEWTs. Maybe?



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-03-01 19:10:46](#)

*Re: Private message to Harry*

If it were anything other than Defence asking for a teacher to involved would be the obvious choice, but with Defence that's part of the problem.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-01 19:48:34](#)

*Re: Private message to Harry*

Yeah. I was thinking maybe asking the Heads of House to switch off so they'd only have to supervise once a month, or maybe asking Professor Dolohov, but he couldn't supervise both our sessions. Not in the state he's been in. Even if all he had to do was sit in the room and mark papers or something.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-01 19:50:43](#)

*Re: Private message to Harry*

No-one's getting their wand snapped this term. Not if I can do something about it.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-01 18:10:16](#)

*Re: Private message to Harry*

At least you're getting out of here in a few months.

And hey, Ced, congrats on your new sister. That's great.



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-03-01 18:42:03](#)


*Re: Private message to Harry*

Thanks!

Well the future is the future. No matter what I do NEWTs matter and all this is mucking about with my

revising.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-01 19:49:49](#)

*Re: Private message to Harry*

Yeah.

I hear you there.



 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-03-01 19:55:16](#)

*(no subject)*

Congratulations to your parents, Cedric, and felicitations to the entire clan of Diggory on the increase to your numbers. I am certain she will be a credit to your house.

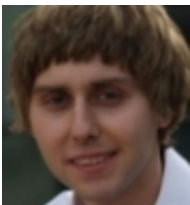


 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-01 20:21:53](#)

*(no subject)*

Congratulations, Diggory. And hey, just think...every time you change a nappy over Easter Hols, you have excellent access to one of the chief ingredients for dung bombs!

Of course, this observation is entirely theoretical in nature.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-02 03:49:58](#)

*(no subject)*

Diggory,

I say, congratulations again to you and your family!

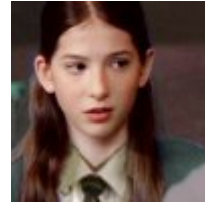
-Finch-Fletchley



**[2013-03-01 11:56:00](#)**

*Friday*

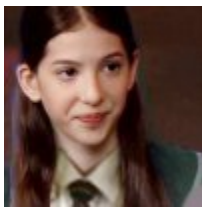
I'm looking forward to the weekend: no Quidditch games, no YPL (except for an exercise session), no CCF, nothing at all but a chance to sleep and catch up on revising. Perhaps I'll write a letter to Gemma and work on a jumper I've been knitting.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)

What are other people thinking they'll do this weekend?

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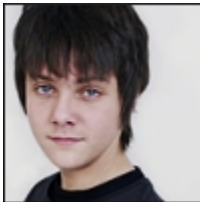


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-01 18:03:32](#)

*Private message to Michael*

It appears that we will need to get permission for the half-blood revising group to continue meeting.

Do you think we should see Umbridge together, or do you think you should do it, or me? I keep going back and forth about which would be better.

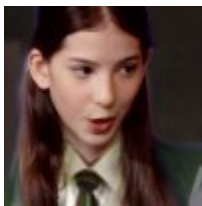


 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-01 23:28:21](#)

*Re: Private message to Michael*

I think I'd better do it alone. You said she can't stand you. Best leave you out altogether.

I've made an appointment. But would you help me write it all up so it looks all right?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-01 18:08:33](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Oh for Merlin's sake it just occurred to me that Teatime of the Strange might be a 'society' by Umbridge's definition. Although perhaps not given that we don't meet REGULARLY, it's always been a bit irregular.

I'm trying to work out what on earth she's after, banning clubs (teams, groups, organisations, societies...) I suppose we'll know from what she doesn't allow.





**alt\_luna at 2013-03-01 20:07:54**

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

I don't think there's a single member of the staff who is even aware of our Teatime of the Strange group, and I don't think there's any point in calling it to their attention. Especially hers.

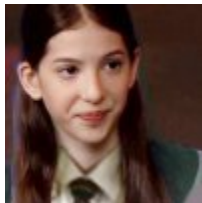
Because really, what's there to object about some girls sitting around drinking tea?

Except...there's the crumpets and scones. I forgot about the part about there's to be no food outside the Great Hall. Hmm.

Oh, bother. Let's not tell her. The house elves certainly won't.

If she finds out and decides to punish us for eating tea sandwiches without her permission, she'll certainly look foolish.

Still....it would probably be wise to hold meetings in that Room that no one can get on unless they know the secret.



**alt\_sally\_anne at 2013-03-01 20:48:44**

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

Then we'll have to tell Milli about it.



**alt\_luna at 2013-03-01 21:06:34**

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

Hmm, yes. Is that wise, do you think? You certainly know her better than I do. Or can you suggest another safe place to meet?

I think we should have a meeting, just to check in with everyone.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-01 21:10:53](#)

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

I don't think Milli would go running to Umbridge with it, at least.

Maybe we could meet in the Astronomy Tower. I'd have to ask Siz in person. Let's wait and see what gets re-authorised, first.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-01 18:10:25](#)

*Private message to Harry Marvolo*

Have you spoken with her yet about the Defence revising group? What did she say?



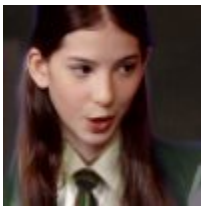
 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-01 18:17:08](#)

*Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo*

I haven't yet.

I'm writing it all up to make sure that we fulfill every single one of the rules.

Because following rules is very important, you know.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-01 18:18:49](#)

*Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo*

Oh, it is.

Very important.

It would probably be impertinent to ask her to confirm that we're allowed to meet nightly with the people we share dormitories with, even though it is, in fact, a regular meeting of three or more students.



 **[alt\\_harry](#) at 2013-03-01 18:36:13**

*Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo*

Point.

But what about the common rooms?

I think we ought to ask permission whenever we're not sure. In a way that is absolutely not impertinent at all.

Of course.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2013-03-01 18:20:22**

*Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo*

I think she's going to refuse to let half-blood revising meet.

I think she wants us all to fail. Or at least she wants us to do poorly on our exams. (Well, not you.)




 **[alt\\_harry](#) at 2013-03-01 18:39:28**

*Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo*

Yeah.

I think we might have to think about other things we can do so that won't happen.



 **[alt\\_harry](#) at 2013-03-01 18:17:34**

*Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo*

I'm also wondering if we might ask some staff members to sit in on our sessions to supervise.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-01 18:20:58](#)

*Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo*

Ask Professor Dolohov. I think he'd do it, unless his health is still too poor.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-01 18:37:02](#)

*Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo*

Yeah. I'm planning on it.




 [alt\\_megan](#) at [2013-03-01 20:11:45](#)

*(no subject)*

This weekend I was hoping to practise a needlework charm. I'm making something to give my guardian. Only Madam Umbridge has called some sort of a meeting. Or not a meeting, but there's something she wants us to help with. So perhaps that's what I'll be doing on Saturday. Instead of practising the needlework charm, I mean. But I could practise it on Sunday. Unless whatever it is Madam Umbridge wants us to do takes longer than one day.

So I really don't know. But I'd better revise as well, no matter what else I have to do.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-01 23:18:20](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Well. I've got Quidditch if Johnson's got permission for us to practise. And Revue. At least we've got permission for that. And I've got a meeting with Professor Brutka. Actually, if we're not allowed to do other stuff, maybe he'll let me add an extra lesson with him. I'm not really getting anywhere with Occlumency yet, I don't think. It's like the meditation thingers--that sort of thing just takes me longer to get. I mean, I'm always thinking about something, and trying to not think about anything is just... yeah. I'm not good at that.

Have you heard whether Harry's got permission for us to meet

tonight?

I was thinking someone should call a galleon meeting, only we'll have to be really careful now so nobody gets the idea we're all going off together.

**2013-03-01 14:39:00**

*Happy birthday, Ron!*

Happy birthday to my dear son, Ron!

Now, I promise not to embarrass you on your birthday by telling any of what you children call Mum's 'sappy stories!' But I do get sentimental, thinking back and reflecting on how you've grown, and what a fine young man you're turning out to be. Your Dad was so very proud of you, and I am, too!




 **alt\_molly**

Errol just returned home. I'm a little relieved: I feared the basket might be a little heavy for him. I hope you enjoy it, dear.

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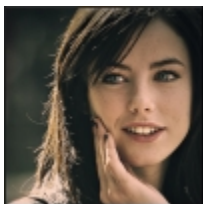


 **alt\_ron** at **2013-03-01 21:27:29**  
(no subject)

Thanks, Mum. ~~The cak~~— It's really great, what you sent. The socks and all, too.

You know, I think I'm growing again. I'm hungry all the time, especially after practices and exercise sessions and all. And my stomach was growling so much in Runes that Professor Babbling got annoyed!

So, yeah. Thanks for the parcel. Shame it can't be my birthday every week!



 **alt\_daphne** at **2013-03-01 23:31:13**  
(no subject)

Happy Birthday, Ron!


Mrs Weasley, I think it's just wonderful that you share your feelings for your son on his special day! And the exercise really has been an awful lot, though in Ron's case, it's really having quite noticeable results!

I hope you have a wonderful weekend!

-Daphne Greengrass

(And Ron - I'll give you your present later, if it's all right!)



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-02 03:10:35](#)  
(no subject)

Why, thank you, dear. I suppose I'm partial, but it does me good to know that Ron has friends who appreciate him, besides his old Mum.




 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-02 02:49:13](#)  
(no subject)

I'm not the least surprised if you're having a growth spurt right now, dear. You're certainly due for one. Do let me know if you have too much ankle and wrist showing on your robes, and we can stop at Madam Malkin's during the Easter holidays so she can let down the hems at the sleeves and the bottom edge, and I hope that will tide you over for now.


Well, I'm certainly glad that the hamper will be appreciated! That always warms a Mum's heart.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-02 02:52:52](#)  
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Ron. Mum had sent Errol off with the hamper before I came home from work, and she reckons he's pretty exhausted from the trip, and so she wants me to let him rest up for a day or two before I send him back to Hogwarts again. So although I have something for your birthday, it'll a day or two late. Hope that's all right. Maybe it's all right to spread the celebration out a bit, yeah?



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-02 02:55:29](#)  
*Order Only*

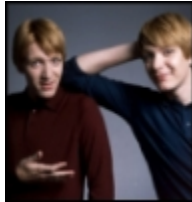
Who is Daphne, and what is she doing noticing how fit Ron is?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-03-02 02:56:57](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

No idea. But I can imagine pretty well!



 **[alt\\_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-03-02 02:58:21](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

She's the director of the revue they're putting on at Hogwarts, and since Ron has one of the leads, that means she's giving him lots of special, individualised attention.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-03-02 02:59:24](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

Called it.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2013-03-02 02:59:54](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

Oh, my.



 **[alt\\_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-03-02 03:00:35](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

Yeah.

Brace yourself, Mum. The ladies are starting to notice him.





 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-02 03:00:59](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Oh, my goodness.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-02 03:02:36](#)


*Re: Order Only*

Mum, really.

You're acting as if you've never seen this before.

News flash: Ron has five older brothers.

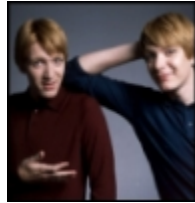


 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-02 03:04:06](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Well, I know that, for goodness sakes! I just thought...

I suppose I thought that Sally-Anne Perks would be the one to catch his eye.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-02 03:07:23](#)

*Re: Order Only*

We did too, actually.

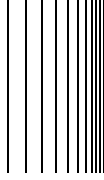
Not that Perks doesn't still have a chance, of course. You know how these ickle young men are when they're just starting out.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-02 03:08:25](#)

*Re: Order Only*

No. How are they, oh voices-of-experience-and-wisdom?




 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-02 03:08:56](#)

*Re: Order Only*

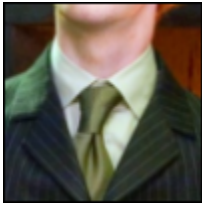
So very, very fickle...



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-02 05:35:04](#)

*(no subject)*

That'll be brilliant to get something next week.  
~~Especially if it's got Thanks!~~



 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2013-03-02 03:22:27](#)

*(no subject)*

Hope you had a good birthday, Ron. As much as you can, with OWLs breathing down your neck!

I'd like to be your host for a couple of days in New London over the Easter holidays, if that sounds appealing? Or summer, if you prefer. There are any number of things we can do. I've learned quite a bit about some of the things the city has to offer working for Mr Malfoy.

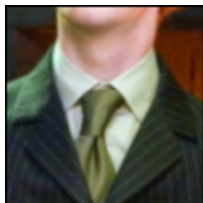


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-02 05:33:24](#)

*(no subject)*

Thanks, Perce.

I'm not sure what I'm doing over hols, actually. ~~I've sort of got a~~— I think some of my mates were wanting to get together and do some more revising while we're home. So, actually, summer would be better. Better weather, too, yeah?



 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2013-03-02 12:51:39](#)


*(no subject)*

That's extremely sensible of you, Ronald; of course OWLs must be your top priority right now, and you mustn't let anything distract you. If we wait until

summer, we can consider our time in New London part of your reward for having survived them!


It will give me more time to research the possibilities. And anyway, yes, as you point out, better weather.



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-02 03:44:38](#)  
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Ron.




 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-02 03:49:24](#)  
*Private message to Ron*

I'm sorry. I was so distracted by everything this week I didn't order your present in time for it to get her today.

But it's more food, and I think you got loads in Mum's hamper. So at least I'm spreading things out?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-02 05:40:42](#)  
*Re: Private message to Ron*

Eh. No worries.

Yeah, it'll be good to spread it out, actually. What with this 'no eating outside the great hall and no food between meals'; I mean, it's bloody inconvenient to have to go to the kitchens to get a snack. And that's no help after curfew, is it?



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-02 12:58:32](#)  
(no subject)

Let us know what you think of the stuff in the package we gave you. Consider it both a 'Happy Birthday' gift and market research: you're the first to get to try some of our new product line!

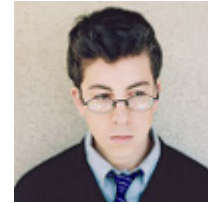
Hope it was a good one (and hey, now the exercise sessions are

over!) We appreciate having our very own ickle Ronniekins around to torment!

**2013-03-01 15:08:00**

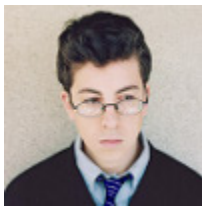
*Being our best*

The mention of Ravenclaw Corner recently has spurred me on to think further of those endeavours and good habits which increase our proficiency at the studies to which we are devoted. It strikes me that it might possibly be helpful and instructive to list some of our handiest habits and most effective means of study and revision. Therefore I pose this general question: what has helped you become a better student at Hogwarts?




 [alt\\_linus](#)

I owe a considerable amount to Ravenclaw Corner, as previously stated. And recently I have been in a position to particularly appreciate those who take accurate and extensive notes in class, and who diligently revise, and who are willing to share. (Thank you all; you know who you are.)



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 [alt\\_linus](#) at **2013-03-01 21:23:16**

*Private Message to Padma*

Let me know what I might do to assist you when speaking to the Headmistress about either History Club or Ravenclaw Corner, would you? I do hope she looks with favour upon us.

I'm doing a bit of a project which I hope to present to her at the Memorial Garden meeting on Sunday. It's history-related, though admittedly recent history rather than what we usually deal with in the Club, but nevertheless I hope it will underscore that a proper attentiveness to wizarding history is of use on many occasions. I'm pulling together a list of all Council members past and present, as well as valiant others associated with Our Lord's cause, together with names and dates for all the fallen, the engagements and actions in which they participated in (if such are matters of public record) and any particularly notable achievements, whether of fallen or living. Certainly she has access to various accounts herself, but I thought a neatly collated and tabulated summary might be of use, and might favourably dispose her toward our several efforts in the service of scholarship, eh?



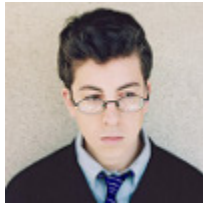
 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-03-02 04:11:34](#)


*Re: Private Message to Padma*

I dunno, I mean, I *thought* asking about the Corner in public would mean she'd have to admit that it would be okay. I mean, how can she possibly keep people from congregating in the library? It's the **library**, for Lakshmi's sake!

I'm not as worried about History Club, honestly, but the list can't hurt.

I mean, I can see her disbanding the Gobstones Club--it's not like anyone plays it much above third year, anyway--but closing down revising groups surely isn't what she has in mind. It's probably more for frivolous things like those Weirdo Teas and maybe even Lav's fashion get-togethers, that aren't part of the purpose of coming to school and learning. Don't you think?



 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-03-02 20:10:44](#)

*Re: Private Message to Padma*

I would think so. As you say, certain clubs and organisations do support learning, and they really ought to be the focus of our energies outside classes and revising. Though of course they do need the proper permissions, and staff supervision when such is called for.

Perhaps we could get Madam Pince to speak in favor of Ravenclaw Corner, should it come to that. One might even make a case that we are a force for propriety and appropriate usage in the library. Goodness knows, certain other students are always talking and larking about in there. I'm glad we've always been strict about who we let in. One bad ingredient can spoil the whole potion, you know.

**[2013-03-01 22:14:00](#)**

*Private message to Poppy Pomfrey*

All hope of discretion lost, I'm afraid - Madam Headmistress was hovering in the hallway when I came out, and there's no hiding I was in to see you.



 **[alt\\_sinistra](#)**

Sorry, I was hoping to keep you out of wand range. You and Pomona both.

I was thinking more about that weather and forecasting book we were discussing, and then I completely forgot to bring it up with Tosha. But that whole practical aspect - that bit you were talking about, with how much more Pepper Up you might need, depending on when the weather turns keeps nagging at something else I've read.

Well, and I'm contemplating finite scheduling versus 'this might happen, but we don't know when yet' rather a lot right now, anyway.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-02 03:42:49](#)**  
(no subject)

Ah, well. Some things cannot be helped.

In any case, you needn't worry on my behalf.

I trust you found Professor Dolohov in good form tonight. I imagine he had any number of books he wished to discuss. I believe he was never without a book in hand when he was awake enough to read, and if I had a sickle for each time he mentioned wishing to discuss this or that with you, I'd be a wealthy witch!

As for the weather, do let me know if you've another resource to recommend. As I said, the Headmistress would like me to project exactly what portion of my stores and budget I will use for the remainder of the term, a calculation with rather a lot of variables, many of which depend to one extent or another on the weather.

Finite scheduling v. wishful contingencies. Indeed. I'm so sorry.



 **alt\_sinistra** at [2013-03-02 03:55:25](#)  
(no subject)

Tosha was very pleased to continue with our current project, though I had to stop earlier than our usual. Oh! I didn't tell you that: he's teaching me Arabic, which has the benefit of being distracting, and actually useful, since there's a number of astronomy texts that have never been translated into English. (Or Latin or German, for that matter, and if I'm going to learn a new language, might as well go for the original.)


I've gotten as far as almost making sense out of the alphabet. Maybe. Every time I turn round, there's some new bit to master, but that's mostly to the good right now. Anyway, your comment about the books makes me smile nearly as much as the memory of him singing children's songs to me (entirely straight-faced, mind you). We are, at least, never bored when we're talking.

Let me think about the weather question. I keep thinking there's something in the guild library I had my hand on, but I won't be back there for two weeks. Something about which pattern the winds are blowing at particular points in each season. I don't know, it seemed as much divination as anything, and I can't even remember whether what I heard about it was good or bad right now.

I do feel a little better now I've kept my promise to Delilah and come to see you (as she said Tuesday, she's a Healer, and can suggest, but she's not my Healer, with all that implies.) I just wish something could budge the real problem.

On that budget request: do you see an increase in other expenses once people are outside more? Which is to say, is it really that much more in winter than in spring?



 **alt\_poppy** at [2013-03-02 04:43:46](#)  
(no subject)

Arabic. Goodness. Well, if you reach the point of deciphering texts, I have a collection of recipes (fortifying draughts, mostly, I believe) that I would gladly let you practice on. I'd be interested in what you could make of them, even if it remained speculative and less than certain. Really, sometimes etymological quibbling of the sort

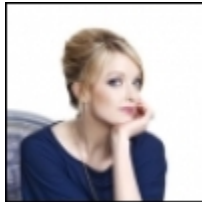


one does when learning a language reveals cruxes in magical directions that go to the heart of things in ways one would miss altogether once beyond the questioning/struggling phase.

I know you dislike being a patient. I do appreciate your willingness to trust yourself to my care despite that. And, as you know, sometimes the mere act of talking through a matter will start the healing even without recourse to medicinals or other interventions. (All of which to say, I'm glad you came and trust that the benefits will be discernible soon.)

As for seasonal differences in my budget, I suppose it would stand to reason that injuries would increase as respiratory ailments decrease, but the truth is that young people will insist on going out into the weather and are more prone to accidents in winter, on top of their propensity for suffering flu and fever and frostbite. I'll grant you that the weeks surrounding exams tend to see an uptick in brainless bravery and the accidents that accompany such escapades.

Do you suppose the Arabs had or have a system of arithmantic equations for projecting the medicinal needs of a school population with all its variables accounted for? I understand they are credited with prowess in the mathematical arts.



 **alt\_sinistra** at **2013-03-02 04:52:10**

*(no subject)*

I suspect it will take me rather a while to get anything useful out of text - but do ask Tosha, if you're interested. Or I will. He clearly finds it relaxing, and as he says, he rarely gets as much practice with it as he likes these days.

But yes, on the mysteries of the language. I learned Latin the hard way (and German), no translation spells, no magical aids, precisely because Alde insisted it was the only way to really understand the larger context of what the language was doing.

On the budget, no, I suppose that does make sense, really. That winter's additive, rather than alterative, or whatever the words I want are.

As to Arab approaches to arithmancy, I'd heard the same thing,

but it's not something I ever covered. Septima might have, but it seems a bit outside her usual. I'll add it to my list of questions for Tosha, and see what he says.

On the visit, well. Trying not to make matters worse than they need to be, really. It's just so frustrating, knowing what would help, and not being able to do a thing about it. That said, I'm hopeful for tonight: two good conversations (you and Tosha), Cedric's up to lend a hand with the 3rd years, and all.

I just keep thinking back to the conversation Tuesday, I guess, and how ... trying to figure out what the Headmistress might decide to do next, in various directions. Which does not help with sleep one bit, really.



 **alt\_poppy** at [2013-03-02 05:03:20](#)

(no subject)

Yes, well. That last is the equation I should most like to have: the one that would predict what she might do next and next and next.

I suspect that knowing the answers would not improve any of our sleep, however. Aeschylus was quite right, I'm afraid: To know in advance is to sorrow in advance.



 **alt\_sinistra** at [2013-03-02 05:07:52](#)

(no subject)

Mmm. Quite. You'd think there'd be some way to

All right. I *am* slipping. I nearly said 'predict' and clearly aiming in the divinatory sense.

Something is very much askew with my sense of the world.

(And it did turn out cloudy, so I can't even reassure myself the stars are in their proper places. Though as it means less standing in the cold on top of the tower, I suppose it's not entirely a bad thing tonight. I will be *glad* of the spring.)

**2013-03-02 09:08:00**

*Order Only Private Message to Alice Longbottom*



 **alt\_severus**

I was, sadly, unable to make much headway with Mr Weasley's Obliviation problem. Whomever responsible for altering his memory was skilled enough that I was not able to undo the work, nor able to read around the edges via Legilimency or Penseive to guess as to who had been nearby him immediately prior to the time period in question and thus possibly or likely responsible.

I am more concerned than I was before taking a look at Mr Weasley's mind — the skill shown is fairly rare and suggests someone well practised at the mind-magics; Mr Weasley would not have known he was missing time had external circumstances not conspired to allow him to triangulate.

Mr Weasley continues to describe himself as "spooked", and vows to take extra precautions over the next several weeks. I must suggest a general Order notice to be on alert.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-03-03 05:15:58**

*(no subject)*

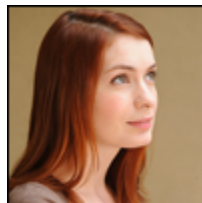
Thank you, Severus.



 **alt\_severus** at **2013-03-03 05:23:52**

*(no subject)*

You are welcome. I am only sorry I could not provide more information.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-03-03 15:47:55**

*(no subject)*

If anything, the skill with which it was done might help us narrow things down.

Unfortunately, this makes it rather less likely that

whatever happened was benign.

Frank said that the next known shipment is in two weeks, and Mac will be sure to keep an eye out in case that changes. Once we get the potion, we'll look for a Sleeper that would be appropriate. I was hoping to have it available over Easter hols when you would be a bit more free to slip in and out, but we may be cutting it a bit close. Nevertheless, we shall do our best.



 **alt\_alice** at [2013-03-03 15:55:20](#)

*(no subject)*

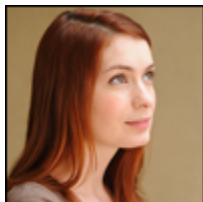
I must also add that all this is contingent on our not having to retreat, of course.

If we're very lucky, all that we'd have to do is pull the Weasley family, but then all the Juniors could be expected to be questioned heavily about their knowledge of Ron and the twins. Despite your and Albus's training with them, I don't wish to put them under that sort of pressure, as it's far too risky and certainly dangerous. So we'll have to pull them all as well.

I'm hoping that you, Minerva, Poppy, Pomona, the group at Grimmauld, and the Players should be able to stay undercover in that case. If one of the Weasleys or one of the Juniors is caught, though, we're all at risk of exposure and you'd have to go to ground as well.

Nevertheless, even under a best-case scenario, it still sets us back. Significantly.

What a bloody mess.



 **alt\_alice** at [2013-03-03 23:09:01](#)

*(no subject)*

What are your thoughts, now that Minerva has shown as much of her hand as she can?

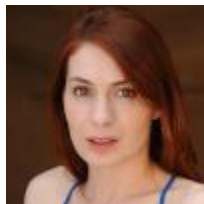



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-03 23:28:01](#)  
(no subject)

I am afraid I am thinking along the same lines Poppy is, though I would not have said so where Mr Weasley might see. Though I do not know the methods by which the "Council" recruits these days, in the early years it was not uncommon for a potential recruit with no familial connections to be obliterated several times over weeks or months before he was permitted to remember, and only if the previous conversations had proven satisfactory.

If that is the case, I do not think Mr Weasley would make a good choice for infiltration; he is entirely unsuited to the role he would be forced to play. There is little means by which we might prove that to be the case, however, rather than waiting. I did suggest several habits Mr Weasley should adopt to maximise the chance of gaining information — or, in fact, noticing — should he prove to be missing time again; he said his brother had already suggested several additional precautions to take.

If that is not the case, I cannot imagine what else might fit the known facts. I may press Minerva further to see if she is willing or able to share any information more privately.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-04 00:43:20](#)  
(no subject)

Yes. It wouldn't be surprising to me if he was approached and found to be unsatisfactory.

Minerva, though... why would she be sworn to secrecy over something like that? Is that typical?

It is also worrisome that she would not speak up sooner if she had knowledge that some sort of action would be taken towards Bill. Even in the event of an Unbreakable, there are certainly ways.

You've built a rapport with her, and have had to negotiate similar vows. If you can learn more it would be greatly appreciated.

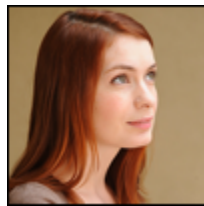



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-04 02:46:28](#)  
(no subject)

No, you are correct. She has always found ways to tell us the critical things before, and I cannot see a way in which something like that would not be a fact she would go to great lengths to communicate somehow. Which would seem to argue against the thought that Mr Weasley is being recruited. And yet, what else could be Council business that Minerva cannot share with us, concerning Mr Weasley, and yet not related to his activities with the Order?

I dislike this greatly.

There is little more I might do than let her know I am here should she wish to speak with someone; I can no longer stop casually by for a conversation with her when I fear she might need one. Curse that woman for removing Minerva from where she belongs.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-04 03:08:21](#)  
(no subject)

Indeed. I wonder why her actions aren't seen as more of a threat, given His Greatness's fragile ego.

I also must admit that with the forcible removal and murder of Ms Fleet, she has significantly upped the ante when it comes to the safety of our children.

How has Harry been coping?

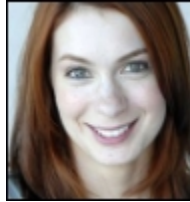



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-04 03:14:07](#)  
(no subject)

Magnificently, I must say. He appears to have decided that his fellow students — particularly the halfblooded students — are his to protect, and is using his power and influence to do so as much as possible. For the most part, by rubbing Umbridge's nose in the fact he is a halfblood, and daring her

to make comment upon it.

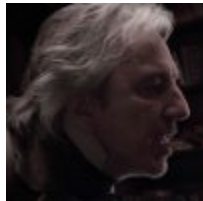
~~He is growing more and more like Lily every day~~




 **alt\_alice** at **2013-03-04 03:45:45**  
(no subject)

That's very good to hear. I know he had a difficult time of it last year, and that he has a great deal of pressure put on him.

You must be very proud. And rightly so.



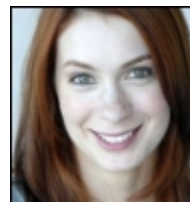
 **alt\_severus** at **2013-03-04 04:10:00**  
(no subject)


Sometimes I wonder whether he will grow to succeed in adulthood despite us all rather than because of us; I believe the pressure we, and fate, are placing upon him pales in insignificance next to the pressure he places upon himself.

He is a remarkably self-possessed young man. Has learned to be, in a far harsher school than most might realise. I fear there is little for which I might take credit; all I have done for him is provide him the truth he cannot find elsewhere. The man he is in the process of becoming is entirely of his own devising, forged in the crucible of his trials out of the raw materials with which he was formed.

It is a subject I have thought of before, and that you must think of often, I suppose: how well parents can be reflected in their children, even in the absence of regular tuition.

Forgive me. I am entirely too maudlin tonight.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-03-04 05:22:32**  
(no subject)

I know exactly what you mean.

I left Evelyn with Augusta when she was a newborn, and I'm still amazed at how she's



grown, and the type of person she's become without any interference from me.

For the longest time, I feared that because they were surrounded by such a toxic environment, my children would grow up thinking of it as the normal way of life despite Augusta. But they're so much stronger than I could have ever imagined.

And these young people at Hogwarts have never known another world, and yet they've all turned away together from a society that has handed them power over others and rewards their superiority. It gives me a great deal of hope, and I can't help but wonder how it came about.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-04 06:08:04](#)  
(no subject)

You have two children of whom any parent should be exceptionally proud.

And I have wondered the same thing. I have thought several times, recently, that we do them a disservice by referring to them as the "junior auxiliary"; such habit of nomenclature can only encourage us to think of them as though they are an afterthought to the Order and its works. And yet they have proven remarkably resourceful and determined in service to what they believe to be correct.

I cannot help but think of what Dolohov said to Miss Parkinson last week: that he has full faith and confidence in her ability, and that of her peers, to rise to the occasion should they find a cause to which they could commit wholeheartedly. The irony of him having said that to her entirely escapes him, of course, but I am equally convinced of the truth of his statement — and cannot help but think several others of the Order would argue fiercely against the children being given the opportunity to demonstrate that commitment, while our opponents have repeatedly demonstrated that have no such compunctions.

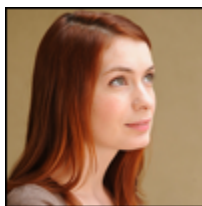
I know that you, and the other parents in the Order, believe the children should be sheltered from such concerns. And I do not believe that simply being treated as children, rather




than as the autonomous young adults they inevitably are beginning to see themselves as, would suffice to shake them from that commitment to their ideals enough for us to lose them to the monstrosity that is the Dark Lord and all He represents — not when so many of them have seen firsthand the price that monstrosity devours as tribute. But though I rarely speak of it, I was only slightly older than they when I made the most grievous mistake of my life. And I did so in no small part because the Dark Lord and His faithful treated me as someone worthy of respect, whose skills were to be valued, who was to be accorded the courtesy of being taken seriously.

I do not mean to compare our situations, nor to suggest the children are at risk for turning to the Dark Lord's service if the Order does not take them seriously enough. Not wholly. But I see these children regularly; I have worked with many of them directly; I have seen their secret fears and their innermost determination and the thoughts they do not allow themselves to dwell upon. They are not children, Alice. None of them are; no child raised in the Protectorate can afford to remain wholly innocent for long. We will continue to do them a disservice if we think only of how we are to shelter them — and I do not believe they will content themselves to remain thus sheltered for long.

I warned you that I was maudlin tonight.

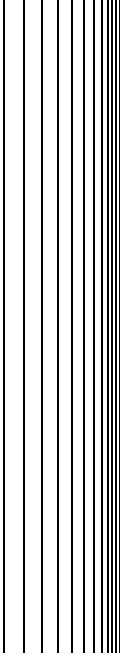


 **alt\_alice** at **2013-03-04 07:01:49**  
(no subject)

And that's the very heart of the matter, isn't it?

For no matter how old they become, Neville and Evelyn will always be my children, and a rather large part of me will always find it difficult to not do everything within my power to keep them safe from every harm.

I agree with you that the way we've pushed away these young men and women in the past has been inexcusable -- to panic at what they've sorted out while at the same time denying them security measures or providing open communication has done them a great disservice.



You know how hard Frank and I lobbied for Neville's full inclusion in the Order, and the respect I hold for Hermione. Two young men who have lived under my roof and eaten at my table and trained with me for nearly two years have left safety and comfort this past week to join the ranks of Davidson's army.

I suppose what I'm saying is that despite my fear, I can see how we must address these issues seriously, and will not shrink away. If these young people will fight, we must arm them as best as we can, and make sure they have a place among us and the respect they deserve.

You've given me quite a lot to think about, as you tend to. If this is what your being a bit maudlin can do, I suggest you spend more time staying up late and dwelling on the past.

**2013-03-02 16:44:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Charlie and Tonks*



 [alt\\_bill](#)

Charlie, got your patronus. Sorry to worry you; no, I haven't been arrested! Yes, I saw Severus last night, but there isn't much to tell. Which he thinks, in its own way, is even more worrisome. Whoever did this to me was very good. An exceptionally clean obliivate, with no fuzz on the minutes fore and aft. We couldn't get any other information using the Pensieve, either. It was just sheer luck, that I looked at the clock right beforehand, that allowed me to realise what must have happened.

Tonks, thanks for talking with me last night. It helped, honest. At least it set my mind at rest about some other stuff.

Severus said he's going to ask Alice to put out a general Order alert, given the situation.

Yes, I will continue to be careful, stick to routine.



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at **2013-03-02 22:58:45**

*(no subject)*

Yeah, that worries me even more too. Fuck.

We're all on freeze watch tonight, too, so I'm going to be out, but if you need me for anything, or suspect anything, send word.

And be careful.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at **2013-03-04 04:42:47**

*(no subject)*

What about you, dragon boy?

How are you keeping yourself, then?



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-03-04 05:11:32](#)  
(no subject)

Freezing my fingers off! Or other bits that are less polite to talk about. It's all very hurry-up-and-wait this time of year -- we're never sure if we'll have nothing to do or if we'll all be running ourselves ragged trying to stay ahead of the weather. But it's warmed up a bit, at least, so we haven't had to spend tonight keeping the eggs warm.

I'm ready for spring. These short days are getting to me.

If the weather stays decent, I'll pop in tomorrow or thereabouts. Anything I can bring you lot?



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-03-04 05:26:50](#)  
(no subject)

Sirius favours Himalayan HotWot for frostbite. We keep it in stock here.

Not sure if it's as good for frozen bits as it is for fingers and toes, though. I should think that too much heat, or too sudden, might be as bad as the cold. I could ask him for you.

I reckon you get less daylight than we do down here. We're beginning to see the difference in dawn and dusk. I notice it coming home from work in the mornings when I walk. Of course, I don't always. When it's pissing down or freezing, I take the Floo. I expect Frank would tell me I ought to be tough enough to stand a bit damp, but I say it's a good use of resources to Floo if you can do!

No need to bring a thing. You and your bits just come along if you're able. We'll set a cake aside for you just in case.



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-03-04 05:38:37](#)  
(no subject)

We usually go for a bit of firewhiskey in the tea -- might not do much good in the long run, but it usually makes you feel a hell of a lot warmer!

And yeah, the days are getting longer -- which is nice -- but they're still miserably short up here, this time of year. I think we've only got about twenty minutes more dark than you do, but it certainly feels like forever. Summer never comes fast enough, does it? And then it does, and everything's all hot and sticky, and you wind up whinging and moaning about how much you miss winter and wish it would hurry up again. Or maybe that's just me.

I like September best, just when the leaves are starting to turn. And the beginning of April, when all the first flowers are starting to peek up. I guess I like transitions best, and all the signs that things are starting to change. Says something about me, yeah?

I think taking the Floo when the weather is shite is demonstrating excellent awareness of situational conditions, me.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-03-04 05:58:33](#)**  
*(no subject)*

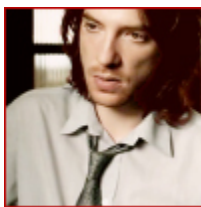
April and September are lovely months. I like the sound of change, myself. I quite see its appeal.


My favourite month is May now, but that's because it's when Miss Albia arrived.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-03-02 22:59:21](#)**  
*Private Message to Bill Weasley*

Oh, also, in all the fuss, I forgot it was my move: C6.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-03-03 18:31:37](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley*


Mum is majorly hacked off with me this morning, ever since Alice's post.

I guess there are some things that Mums prefer to hear directly from their kids rather than via other interested parties. Or in this case, through the journals.

It felt like I was about six years old again and she had just ferretted out who actually broke that window with a bludger or something.

E3.



 **alt\_charlie** at **2013-03-03 20:57:17**

*Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley*

Did you see Minerva's comment to Alice? I don't know, somehow it doesn't make me feel better at all.

I don't know what to say about Mum. I mean, she's always reacted badly to one of us not telling her something, but if you'd told her right up front, she just would have worried and fussed. And it not only would've been one more thing to deal with, it would've upset her even more. Sometimes it feels like we can't win, you know?

Did she eventually calm down? Or are you still in the soup?

Nf6.



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-03-04 02:07:33**

*Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley*


Minerva's message did help. I think under its beneficent influence, Mum should calm down sometime in, oh, the next century or so.

I do feel reassured myself. Sort of. At least I trust Minerva not to lie about this, that I'm not in imminent danger of arrest. It's a huge load off my mind. Although the theory that Poppy floated, that I was targeted for recruitment is calculated to have Mum have kittens in a whole other way.

(Sorry for the delay in replying. I spent the afternoon doing a bunch of unpleasant goat-related chores, in hopes of raising my credit some.)

Nf3.



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-03-04 02:32:40](#)

*Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley*

I'm the last person to twit you about how long it takes to hear back. My record is, what, five days? Six? If you don't count the however-many years when I was just ignoring the thing entirely. A few hours while you're off doing chores is nothing.

I don't know what to think about Poppy's suggestion. And Snape commented after, and he didn't say that Poppy was being silly, and you know Snape never misses a chance to say when people are being silly. I'd feel a lot better if he'd said that Poppy was borrowing trouble.

...Do you think you could? If that is what it was, I mean. And if there was some way of making it so that the Lord Pretender couldn't take one look at you and know everything.

I don't think I could. And I don't think you could either.

And now I'm even more creeped out. Ugh.

Nbd7. (Neither of us are really covering ourselves with glory, this match.)



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-04 02:51:06](#)

*Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley*

Well, it could be that, and the fact that they obliterated me means that after the conversation, they decided I wasn't a good candidate after all. So maybe I just wasn't up to snuff. Which would be both a disappointment and bloody relief.

Another thing occurred to me, though: perhaps it was some kind of followup to my witnessing that ritual? Maybe they were checking up to see if, I dunno, it had any kind of long-term ill effects? I mean we know it probably affected other people who were there, since it was a huge surge of Dark Magic, and so maybe someone (the Department of Mysteries?) was checking on me? Perhaps as part of their research?

I realise I'm grasping at straws here, but at least that would fit

the parameters of Minerva's reassurances: it doesn't have to do with the Order, and it doesn't mean I'm about to be arrested.

Bd3. Is this game going to turn out to be a bore?




 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-03-04 02:51:58**

*Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley*

(Not that I couldn't maybe use some boredom in my life.)



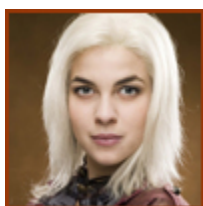
 **[alt\\_charlie](#) at 2013-03-04 03:02:44**

*Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley*

Well, I know better than to complain about being bored in a chess match with you. Because when I do, you lure me into a false sense of security and then pounce. So ... Bd6.

As for the rest of it -- you know, that would make sense. Maybe that whole thing with Dolohov falling ill had something to do with the ritual and they had to check up to see whether anyone else who'd been there would have the same thing happen to them?

Ugh. I don't know. This whole thing is giving me heartburn; I can barely imagine how you must feel.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#) at 2013-03-04 03:42:48**


*(no subject)*

Bill, I'm sorry. I meant to answer yesterday, and then I don't even know where the day went today.

What do you think of it all now? With what Minerva said and the rest of them?





 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-03-04 04:06:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Ha, I've had days like that. Whole months, actually. Trust me, I understand.

I'm...vaguely reassured. At least I'm trying to be. Anyway, I feel a lot better since talking about it with you. I do trust Minerva not to lie to me about this. Charlie and I have been chewing over possibilities about what it could all mean, if it's not that we're all about to be arrested. Yeah, it could mean they're targeting me for recruitment, but the fact that they chose to oblivate me after the conversation I guess means that no one's going to be asking me to murder anyone soon.

The other thing that occurred to me is that maybe someone's following up to check on me because I witnessed that ritual. Maybe the Department of Mysteries is doing research or something?

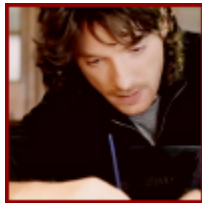
Maybe I'll never know. As long as I don't have to murder anyone, and MLE isn't about to haul me or my family away, I guess I'll have to be willing to live with that.




 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-03-04 04:17:05](#)**  
(no subject)

It's funny. I'm not happy someone might be recruiting you to the Council, if that's what it is, but my first thought when I read what Madam P wrote was, 'At least, it might not be DIRRT!'

I suppose I'm just used to thinking everything sinister that happens in that building is that lot skulking around, getting people to narc on each other.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-03-04 04:28:10](#)**  
(no subject)

Your tips for avoiding that skulking lot's attention have been absolutely invaluable. Thanks to you, Nick and I (and my analysts) have been keeping our noses perfectly clean. Which has saved our

arses, I'm sure.

It's fun in a way, isn't it? Outwitting the spies. And you're bloody good at it, you know. I'm sure DIRRT never imagined anyone dreaming up such imaginative uses for bleach wipes.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-03-04 04:41:48](#)  
(no subject)

Bleach flannels are totally underrated as an alternative to magical cleansers and charms. DIRRT have a giant blindspot, going after magical evasions and forgetting ordinary ones, so it's their own fault if we use that against them.

Only, don't ever get to feeling smug about outwitting them. That's right when they catch folks. I've seen it too many times. Every time someone 'quits', we all wonder what happened. Was it really maternity leave? Did so and so actually take early retirement or an offer of work at a village school? Sometimes it's so obviously a lie. Other times, you just can't be sure. And that's really worse.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-04 12:41:46](#)  
(no subject)

I promise I won't let myself get smug. I've harped on that very point myself to my analysts (and Dad used to warn me). You're right. I may like matching wits--must be the chess player in me--but I won't underestimate or dismiss the danger.

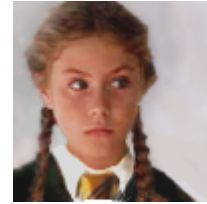
I can't help but think about it sometimes: what would it be like if going to work simply meant, you know, going to work? Picking a job because you liked it and it interested you, not because you're trying to position yourself to help overthrow a corrupt regime? Or going out for a beer after work because you like your mates and not because you're trying to pump people for information.

Not that I mean that's what I'm doing when I hang out at the beer garden ~~with~~ at Doughty Conduit, though. I doubt that Bea has much in the way of intelligence that's useful to the Order.

**2013-03-02 18:29:00**

*private message to Madam Umbridge*

Excuse me, Madam Umbridge. I hope I am not bothering you. Only you did say to bring any little concern we had to you, and that nothing was too teensy to report.



 [alt\\_megan](#)

I think maybe some of the older students have gotten themselves into some difficulties. I would tell the prefects, but you did say that the Junior Council members should step forward into ~~their~~ our responsibilities. And if there's something dangerous happening in the castle, then I should report it to someone, shouldn't I? I really think I should.

Thank you again for including me in the group today. I will do my best to be ~~worthy~~ helpful. And truly, although I know I am timid sometimes, I won't be nervous around all the owls. Please don't worry. I won't cause any fuss. I like owls. And they seem to like me. Or at least they don't mind me. I promise to do a good job.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at **2013-03-03 01:06:09**  
(no subject)

Miss Jones,

You are quite right that I said no matter is too small to report. However, I am currently not in my office, and it would be useful to me to have just the teensiest idea what your concern is, so I can decide how best to handle it.

The word 'dangerous' should give you a hint that this may not be a small matter at all. Is the matter urgent? If so, tell me where to meet you. If it is not urgent, a more complete description would be of help, so that I can make appropriate arrangements to handle it.

As to today, I am sure you will do the best you possibly can. Your guardian was very eager that you be of assistance to me, and I believe this will be a useful place for you.



 [alt\\_megan](#) at [2013-03-03 01:28:25](#)  
(no subject)

It was something I saw earlier, Madam Umbridge. One of the older Ravenclaws and two of the older Hufflepuffs. They were going through the corridors. I say going because only two of them were walking and the other one was floating. Well, one was walking and one was sort of holding on and following. Because I don't think he could see. What with the fish tail for a nose and all. And the other one was floating because the first one was using mobilicorpus on him. I heard him recast it after they knocked over one of the suits of armor.

At first I got really scared because if there's something in the castle that's going around turning people into fish, then that's really bad. Only then I calmed down and realised that it was that fish-fin spell. Except why would somebody cast it on somebody's head and not their legs? And it looked like there was more wrong than just that, too, or why would they need mobilicorpus? But maybe it was just hexes and they went wrong. But after I thought about it, I got worried that maybe it wasn't just hexes gone wrong, and maybe there really was something in the castle trying to turn people into fish. And then I didn't know what to do.

So then I asked you. I hope that was OK.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-03 01:32:08](#)  
(no subject)

Miss Jones, do please calm down and tell me something useful.

Do you know their names? Kindly provide details as to exactly when and where you saw them. Do you have any idea where they were coming from or going to? Any other details would be most helpful.

I am on my way to my office. Answer here, and then come down to meet me, as promptly as you can.



 **alt\_megan** at **2013-03-03 01:37:28**  
(no subject)

Oh. It was Capper and Bundy and Gallez. I mean, I think it was. I couldn't see for sure if it was Capper because he was floating and his hair was all fishtails in every direction and I couldn't tell.

But I think it was. And they were in that corridor by the hospital wing. The one with the suits of armor somebody enchanted to dance the polka, last All Fools Day.

I will come to your office right away, ma'am.

**2013-03-02 22:52:00**

*Private message to Poppy Pomfrey*

I demand to know where you are, this instant. I have extremely serious concerns about a matter that came to my attention this evening, a matter you did not see fit to inform me about at all.



 **alt\_umbridge**

I had thought that you understood the complete importance of discipline, of explicit supervision of students, and of the enforcement of those little rules and regulations I have put in place for the well-being of all those here in the castle. I take my role of stewardship most seriously, and I am stunned to find that you have withheld critical information from me.

I am extraordinarily disappointed in you.

If you are unable to leave the Infirmary, please explain yourself here, as promptly as possible. If you are able to, my office would be preferable.



 **alt\_poppy** at **2013-03-03 04:12:27**  
(no subject)

I do have two people in the midst of treatment here, but will come your way as soon as I am able.

I might give you a more satisfactory answer here in the journals if I were entirely certain what you were asking about.



 **alt\_umbridge** at **2013-03-03 04:25:36**  
(no subject)

Do you mean to imply that there are more incidents?

In this case, I mean the matter of Francis Capper, Eric Bundy, and Feodor Gallez. It was reported to me by a reliable source that they were seen near your Infirmary clearly suffering from curse damage gained from experimentation outside of a supervised setting.

Why did you not report this to me promptly? I demand to know

whether there are other incidents of this kind you have not reported to me, by which I mean any damage not gained under staff supervision. I expect a full accounting as soon as you have finished any urgent treatments, and an explanation of your extremely improper behaviour.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-03 04:58:48](#)**  
(no subject)

I have at the moment one child suffering influenza, with a high temperature and rather acute systemic upset--projectile vomiting and diarrhea. I expect that it was, indeed, contracted without staff supervision.

I've another with severe menstrual cramps and moderate hemorrhaging, whom I've given the requisite palliatives and put to bed here, lest matters become more serious--or distressingly soiling--overnight.

Tonight's intake includes several revising mishaps, a misaimed Transfiguration that decorated a student's hand in porcupine quills, one case of hyperventilation apparently owing to sheer stress over a challenging arithmancy assignment, the two NEWT students you mention, requiring reversal of rebounded hexes, and one quite deep cut suffered whilst sharpening a quill. The last was more dire than any of the others, and created more mess than all of the above save the influenza (which--bless him--sounds likely to require a third visit from the elves soon).

I really must go see to that.



 **[alt\\_umbridge](#)** at **[2013-03-03 05:05:08](#)**  
(no subject)


Indeed.

Clearly, we must speak more at significant length. Would you alert me immediately when you expect to have an hour free for conversation? In this case, do not trouble about the hour, and send one of the house-elves.

There is apparently far more consequential and uncontrolled magic at play in the school than I had realised. Among other

problems.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-03 05:11:50](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Do feel free to stop up now if you'd like. I'm afraid it's impossible to put tummy bugs on hold or bind them to a schedule.



 **[alt\\_umbridge](#)** at **[2013-03-03 05:14:26](#)**  
*(no subject)*

If you believe that's best, though I had hoped to not be interrupted once we began our little discussion. I'd think you'd prefer it that way as well.

On the other hand, the opportunity to observe you in action is worthwhile. I shall be up momentarily.



**[2013-03-02 23:31:00](#)**

*Feeling better*

I expect Pepper Up really is all they say. Anywiz, I'm feeling much better now (in case you were wondering, Mum).



 [alt\\_ron](#)

The Revue is coming together. I got to see bits of my costume, and I guess I have to go back tomorrow for a refitting. Mr Krungold had Parvati measure my leg and arm tonight, and he says I really have grown, which truly shows in the sleeve of the one robe they had ready for me to try. So they're going to have to do a complete set of measures again and rework stuff that's not long enough, I guess.

Sorry, you lot. I'm not doing it on purpose!

My birthday was great from beginning to end. Even with having to go see Madam Pomfrey twice.

So, yeah. Guess that's all I have to say.

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 [alt\\_ron](#) at **[2013-03-03 05:49:12](#)**

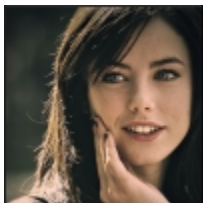
*Private Message To Daphne Greengrass*

It really was the best birthday ever, and tonight was well nift, too.

I can't believe you got me duelling robes that are so...  
Yeah! I feel like an Auror, wearing them!! Dead wizard, those!

Guess you like them, too, rather, eh? I'll wear them whenever you want. Especially if you'll, y'know-

Yeah.



 [alt\\_daphne](#) at **[2013-03-03 19:34:31](#)**

*Re: Private Message To Daphne Greengrass*

You look brilliant in them! Formidable *and* fit. Did you notice the colour scheme? I tried to keep it subtle, but deep burgundy and forest green so go awfully well together. Anyway, I'm very glad that I


got to help you have the best birthday ever.

And Ron, I have even more surprises for you than that. Wait and see.

I like that you don't - that you're not, well, pushy about anything. You're very respectful and you make me laugh and you're a good person. ~~Better than me~~

(Plus, Madam Umbridge is being such a cow that I want to be sure that our time spent together is very well spent!)



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-03 21:18:15](#)

*Re: Private Message To Daphne Greengrass*

You're right. I'd never noticed before, but red and green are nift together!

Heh. More surprises, eh? Growing up with a houseful of brothers (well, and Gin), surprises meant something nasty out of the blue. Like a stunner hex catching you first thing in the morning on your way to the loo.

Your surprises are much nicer!



 [alt\\_daphne](#) at [2013-03-03 21:27:40](#)

*Re: Private Message To Daphne Greengrass*

I'm glad you approve!

Can you stay after tomorrow's rehearsal, you think?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-03 21:37:21](#)

*Re: Private Message To Daphne Greengrass*

Too right!

Count on it. I'm sure we'll have something we have to go over, won't we? Like that extra bit of footwork Mr Krumgold wanted to add yesterday. We should be sure we've really got that sorted.



 **alt\_justin** at [2013-03-03 20:47:56](#)  
(no subject)

Hullo, Ron,


Was it just a cold, then? I'm glad you're feeling more the thing, old man. I say, the muffler I got at Christmas has been foolproof against weather. The colder it is, the warmer the scarf seems to be, what!

(Just as well, too, since it's not as if Matron could simply give me Pepper-up. She did give me a liniment for the sore muscles, though.)

I say, do you fancy your costume? I've only seen a bit of mine but it's almost the same as our normal robes. But I understand there's some parts not completed yet. I say, we've not much time left for it!

-J



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-03-03 22:37:10](#)  
(no subject)

I think it was both things at once, actually--just unlucky to have a cold on top of everything else.

(Are you really allergic to Pepper-Up, then? That'd be a shame. I mean, it tastes as nasty as a nasty thing can taste, but it works! What happens when you take it?)

The costume's nice enough, I guess. They were showing me how mine and Daphs will have spells so when our characters go back in time, their clothes will start out normal, but get more like the costumes for each of the other time periods. Sort of nifty, that.

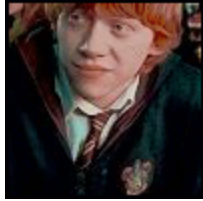



 **alt\_justin** at [2013-03-04 02:43:42](#)  
(no subject)

I'm really allergic. I say, I'm surprised you don't recall me vomiting during our History of Magic exam. Well pleased if you've already forgotten it, what!

I'd no idea yours had spellwork in the costumes. I can't imagine those of us who only figure in a scene or two shall have anything nearly so elaborate.

-Justin

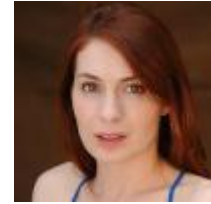


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-04 03:05:53](#)  
(no subject)

Heh. I remember the vom! Didn't remember about the Pepper Up, though. Blech.

**2013-03-02 23:53:00**

*ORDER ONLY: Important News*



All;

Bill recently informed me that he experienced a memory lapse of fifteen minutes while at work at the Ministry, and suspects obliviation. His wand and the contents of his office were otherwise undisturbed. Severus has fully examined him and cannot determine any further information that would help us sort out who has obliviated him, except for the fact that the person in question was very skilled.

 [alt\\_alice](#)

At this time, the Order should be considered to be on alert. We should be prepared for possible action to be taken against Bill, and, by extension, the rest of the Weasley family. The rest of us should likewise be on our guard for possible security breaches, and be ready to evacuate to Moddey Dhoo and Grimmauld if necessary. This includes the Juniors, of course. Stay vigilant, keep an eye on the journals, and review any escape plans you may have at your disposal.

Frank, Kingsley, Sirius, Mac, any progress to report?



---

 [alt\\_alice](#) at **2013-03-03 05:06:33**

*Private Message to Molly Weasley*

Molly, love, I know this has been a very stressful time for you as of late, but I need for you to clarify what you'd like to have happen with Ginny and Percy should we need to evacuate the Order and Juniors to our secure locations.

Right now, Ginny can be easily accessed by members of the Juniors and Order at Hogwarts for potential evacuation, but we need to know if you want her to be a part of those plans so that the people there can include her in their arrangements if necessary. Likewise, if you have any particular intentions regarding Percy, you must make these decisions now so that we can be prepared.

This is ultimately up to you and the other members of your family who are in the Order, but I do need to know what you've decided.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-03-03 23:05:31**

*Re: Private Message to Molly Weasley*

According to Minerva, it looks like for now, we do not need to be ready for such immediate action. I'm inclined to believe that she wouldn't say so unless she were absolutely sure, which is a great comfort.

I'd still like to sort through contingency plans with you for the future, however.



 **[alt\\_molly](#) at 2013-03-04 02:42:03**

*Re: Private Message to Molly Weasley*

Grabbing a moment to reply briefly: Percy's over tonight, for our usual Sunday evening dinner.

Understood, Alice. I'm sorry, I still don't know what to think. Arthur and I just didn't know what to do, and I think there's a part of me deep down inside that is reluctant to make a final decision without him. Which is irrational, I know, but I can't help it.

But I know I must force myself to do it. I'd like to talk with Bill tonight, after Percy leaves. And then may I come to see you at the Sanctuary so we can discuss it? When would be a good time for you?



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-03-04 02:59:20**

*Re: Private Message to Molly Weasley*

Of course, love.

How about Tuesday? Any time you wish. I'm entirely at your disposal.

I can only imagine how hard this is for you, but you're right, it is something we must do.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-03-03 05:07:26](#)**  
(no subject)


no train.  
may have been diverted.

unsure.

cold.

will try again later.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-03 05:17:17](#)**  
(no subject)

Given our recent security risks, putting this off for another day is most likely a good idea.

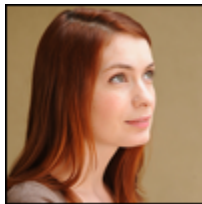
Come home, dearest man.




 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-03-03 05:18:28](#)**  
*Private Message to Al*

on my way  
mac might want a normal bed tonight

I'll ask.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-03 05:19:11](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Al*

Yes. Please do.




 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-03-03 05:21:19](#)

*Re: Private Message to Al*

aye aye



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-03 05:27:38](#)

*Re: Private Message to Al*

I hope to Merlin there's no connection between Bill's memory and the train.

They wouldn't show their hand that obviously, would they? If they were planning on keeping him unaware?



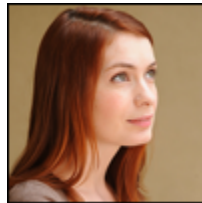
 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-03-03 05:31:37](#)


*Re: Private Message to Al*

they would've set a trap for us.

we'll keep an eye out next time we try for it just in case.

we'll get through this.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-03 05:33:08](#)

*Re: Private Message to Al*

I love you, Frank Longbottom.

Come home and warm yourself up.



 [alt\\_mcgonagall](#) at [2013-03-03 19:42:11](#)

*(no subject)*

I cannot say much, but--I do not believe Bill to be in any danger.






 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-03 20:23:32](#)

*Private Message to Minerva*

Oh?

Tell me what you can say.



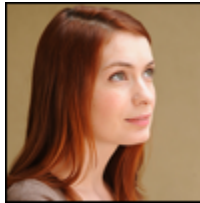
 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-03-03 21:07:53](#)


*(no subject)*

I can't say that makes me feel any less concerned, Minerva. That suggests that whatever was done to Bill was done with your knowledge... and your nexus of acquaintances is rather sinister as a context for

this.

Did someone recruit him for the Council, then? I shouldn't have thought would be done in a random quarter hour in the midst of the working day, however.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-03 23:07:34](#)

*(no subject)*

I'm inclined to think it might have been something along those lines. And that Minerva is bound not to reveal it.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-04 02:02:24](#)

*(no subject)*

Good god.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-04 02:03:09](#)

*(no subject)*

In that case, I'm almost glad I didn't remember.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-03 21:50:43](#)  
(no subject)


While I understand things of which one cannot speak: in an attempt to reassure those of us who are concerned, can you at least answer whether whatever it is of which you cannot speak, or the truth of what transpired to cause someone to modify Mr Weasley's memory, related in any way to his activity for, or membership in, the Order?



 [alt\\_mcgonagall](#) at [2013-03-03 22:54:20](#)  
(no subject)

It did not relate.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-03 23:01:58](#)  
(no subject)

Right.

I see.

Thank you, Minerva.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-03 23:32:21](#)  
*Private Message to Minerva McGonagall*

In the hopes you might be able to share more information more privately to someone who was once bound by similar oaths: can you say whether Poppy's theory has any truth to it?

If you would prefer I leave off the questioning, you have only to say, but I thought I might make the attempt.

**2013-03-03 16:08:00**

*(no subject)*

She won't allow the halfbloods to keep meeting like we've been doing. Says we can't be trusted to do it properly on our own. Total rubbish.



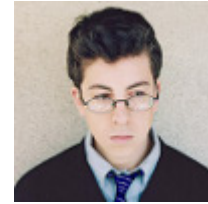
 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-03-03 16:28:00**

*to Professor Dolohov*

Sir,

I regret my absence from our scheduled detention this afternoon, but I had a report relating to the Memorial Garden project to present to Madam Headmistress Umbridge, and in the excitement around the project I completely forgot that I had detention.



 [alt\\_linus](#)

I will submit myself to whatever disciplinary action you see fit, of course. I'm very sorry, sir.

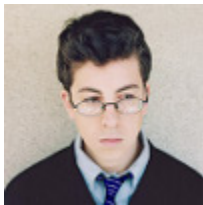
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 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-03-03 22:37:21**

*(no subject)*

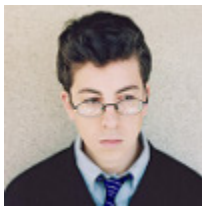
Kindly present yourself at my office Tuesday after your Charms class and we will discuss the matter.



 [alt\\_linus](#) at **2013-03-03 22:43:14**

*(no subject)*

Yes, sir.



 [alt\\_linus](#) at **2013-03-03 22:42:45**

*Private Message to Professor Dolohov*

I'm sorry I didn't tell you first, sir. In a continued attempt to stay in the good graces of the Headmistress, I have compiled a list of relevant personages, both living and departed, who might in some way be associated with her garden scheme. I presented it to her today, and stayed after the meeting to explain the finer points to her. It is my hope that by demonstrating initiative, scholarship, and the ability to write useful reports, I may win enough favour that she will allow Ravenclaw Corner to continue to meet. It means a great deal to Miss Patil and to the rest of us. I hope you understand, sir.

The report was interesting to do in its own right, I must say. Recent

history is less supplied with historical commentary, which accretes with the years of course, but I was merely handling statistical matters: how many actions each Council Member served in, and so forth. It is my thought that Madam Umbridge might use it when selecting speakers for a dedication, or some such.

In other areas, my Quidditch statistics project continues apace, and the quest for the elusive facilitators of synergy and anti-synergy goes on. If anything does come of it, I intend to investigate its applications to historical study and the effectiveness of groups. My work for Professor Sinistra, in detentions with her, also proceeds -- slowly, of course, because she's having me check many references, but the discipline is good for me, or so I am assured.

If I need to do two-for-one detentions to make up for missing this one, I am quite willing.



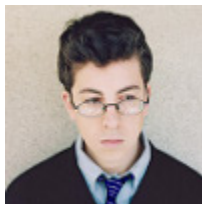
 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-03-03 23:05:41**

*Re: Private Message to Professor Dolohov*

While I understand the necessities of spending one's time to ingratiate oneself to those who stand in authority over one, Mr Moon, it is extremely discourteous to disrupt another's schedule to do so.

Had I known you would need to be elsewhere, I would have been able to remain in New London for the afternoon rather than returning to the castle early. In future, notify me as soon as you realise you must reschedule.

I must admit, however, that I am curious about the information you presented to Madam Umbridge. Do bring it with you.



 **alt\_linus** at **2013-03-03 23:14:06**

*Re: Private Message to Professor Dolohov*

Yes, sir. Sorry, sir. And I will.

**2013-03-03 16:57:00**

*Private Message to A Dolohov and Raz Lestranger*



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)

Heads up. Your resident meddler has decided to search incoming post. Claims it's students she's surveilling.

Intend to make a point about the bounds of her authority. Consider yourselves on notice that anything bearing the Ouroboros seal requires clearance protocol prior to opening.

All incoming post to either of you will be so marked.

---



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-03-03 23:27:23**  
(no subject)

Duly noted, dearest. And I appreciate the warning; the damnable woman is beginning to grate on my last nerve.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at **2013-03-03 23:41:01**  
(no subject)

Though Our Lord sees fit for her to hold that place, He's given no indication she's not to be toyed with.

Shall we have some sport while biding our time?  
Surely you both deserve that much return for your pains.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-03-03 23:51:06**  
(no subject)

Sadly, I fear providing too much of an open show might result in further harm to Raz, or darling Madam Toad deciding to strike against me the way she has against him -- which I would be forced to answer, and while the woman is no great plotter, she would have to be far more of an imbecile than she actually is to not have arranged for a dead-man's drop with whatever additional evidence she's promised to fake against him. Right now, our attention is best spent in unearthing and dismantling her precautions there.

I am amusing myself at the moment by teaching the children about malicious obedience; Harry is already quite the study.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-03-04 01:07:35](#)

*(no subject)*

Tch.

Spoilsport.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-03-04 02:07:54](#)

*(no subject)*

Prudent, my dearest of children. There will be time to take it out on her later.

Mind you, that prudence is binding my hands, not yours. I did say 'too much of an open show', after all.



 [alt\\_rabastan](#) at [2013-03-04 02:11:33](#)

*(no subject)*

Only beginning?



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-03-04 02:22:04](#)

*(no subject)*

Well, yes, all right, she tore past my last nerve weeks ago, but I will not make things worse for you, dear one. Mind you, once we manage to niffle out the extent of her conspiracy against you, all bets are off -- and I do believe you have earned the right of first casting. Begin planning now.

In the meanwhile, while we are writing somewhere darling Dolores cannot see the extent of our conversation -- is there anything in particular you'd like me to cover with the children? I am doing my utmost to correct for the travesty she is forcing upon them in your stead as much as possible, but I do not know how

| long I will be able to keep it up; best to get the critical things  
| handled early.



**2013-03-03 17:19:00**

*Private message to Auror Crouch*

I would appreciate it if you would alert the appropriate staff that we are ready to begin owl reviews here at Hogwarts. I spent yesterday afternoon training those who will be assisting in the project and discussing my own goals.



 **alt\_umbridge**



 **alt\_crouch\_jr** at **2013-03-03 22:57:27**  
(no subject)

An entire afternoon? How thorough.

Redirection of post authorised effective immediately.

**2013-03-03 17:25:00**

*Weekly Post*

Hi, Mum and Dad,

This week:

On Monday we had Divination, Astronomy lecture, Transfiguration and Defence. Nothing's changed there.

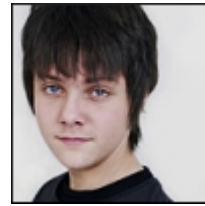
On Tuesday, we made potions in Potions. We cast some charms in Charms. We listened to a ghost in History of Magic.

Wednesday 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.

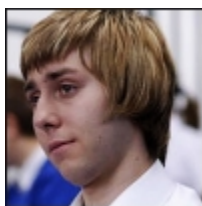
Thursday there was an Arithmancy lesson and we made calculations for that. We cast more charms in Charms. We also had another Transfiguration lesson and then Professor Dolohov talked to us about Noble Arts.

Friday we read more about Dick and Jane Wizard, brewed more Potions and Professor Dolohov talked more about Noble Arts and defending against them as well. Then we took turns looking at more creatures and trying to feed them without getting our hands bitten off.

Today we're not going to our revising group because Madam Umbridge put a stop to them. I had a meeting with her about it but she said we're not to continue. So I'm just revising here in the Common Room. I don't think there's much to say about that.



 [alt\\_michael](#)



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-03-04 04:03:52**

*Private Message to Michael*


Corner,

I say, rotten luck about the revising group.

At least we've got the Galleons. Is there anyone who's been coming that you think we might trust with one?

-Finch-Fletchley



 **[alt\\_harry](#) at 2013-03-04 05:04:43**

*Private Message to Michael Corner*

Hey Corner.

I've asked Professor Slughorn if he could supervise some of our revision sessions. Maybe if you ask Professor Sprout, and we get the other Heads of Houses to sign on, it might help.

Do you

I mean, is that okay? With you?

**2013-03-03 19:12:00**

*Private Message to Bellatrix Lestrange*

Hungry?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)



 [alt\\_bellatrix](#) at **2013-03-04 02:12:26**

*(no subject)*

What's on the menu?

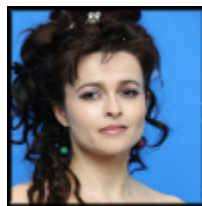


 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at **2013-03-04 02:49:12**

*(no subject)*

Have heard there's a bohemian club--an 'intellectual' symposium--meeting Sunday nights in Chelsea. 'Open thinkers' according to a hand bill Braithewaite dropped on my desk this afternoon. Thought I'd go check it out. Have my guesses what it means.

And if they happen to make themselves open to shapeshifters, as well as filth, well. It could be bonus night.



 [alt\\_bellatrix](#) at **2013-03-04 03:10:48**

*(no subject)*

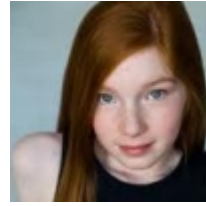
I'd like to know just how open their minds are, oh indeed. You bait, and I'll listen. When we've sized the lot up, we'll take the choicest morsels.

Good. This Sunday was beginning to look as if it would end on a dull note.

**2013-03-03 22:14:00**

*(no subject)*

Jewelry and other small accessories are one of the ways we are working to establish different time eras in the Revue. We've had to get very creative when transfiguring items. After all, several of the actual pieces of jewelry would be otherwise far too expensive for our budget, not to mention too delicate to risk being broken during a dance number or while being handled. Sally-Anne has created a very convincing and beautiful series of pins, including cameos and jewelled hat pins (really made with rhinestones for our purposes) along with some lovely necklaces, and I've worked on some small pieces such as rings, hair combs, and barrettes. Parvati has been working on a watch-chain and cufflinks. It's these small touches that we're hoping will add to the overall look, and make the actresses and actors look authentic so they can better get into character.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#)

**2013-03-03 23:04:00**


*(no subject)*

I hope everyone is doing well. I know that it's been interesting working with the other Quidditch captains to coordinate all of our paperwork so that we can properly work under the new regulations. And I'm working to get our revision groups approved as well, so we can start back up with our usual schedules this week. After all, it would be a shame if we weren't able to revise for our upcoming exams as we have been.



 [alt\\_harry](#)



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-03-04 04:32:44**

*Private Message to Professor Dolohov*

Sir. I know that you are still recovering, but I was wondering if you could sit in on our Defence revision sessions. You don't have to teach at all, you could mark papers or just observe, but having a professor there to supervise could be really useful.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-03-04 05:06:22**


*Re: Private Message to Professor Dolohov*

An excellent idea, Mr Marvolo. I would be pleased to serve as faculty sponsor, presuming Madam Umbridge approves, of course. Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday evenings, after supper, would be most convenient for me, but if you are only able to arrange for a different time, let me know and I will see what I might do; I am well aware that your time is highly scheduled.

Twenty points to Slytherin, meanwhile, for your attention to the well-being of your fellow students. Do let me know if there is anything else I might do to support you in those endeavours.

Regards,  
Antonin Nikolaevich



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-04 05:34:00](#)


*Re: Private Message to Professor Dolohov*

I'm sure everyone will just be happy to meet. I'll see which one of those days works best.

Thank you, Antonin Nikolaevitch.

And I'll be sure to let you know if I have any further questions.



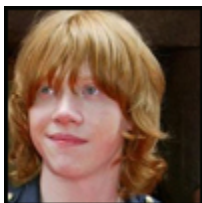
 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-04 04:36:59](#)

*Private Message to Professor Slughorn*

Sir;

As you know, Professor Umbridge requires that we get approval for student groups, and our half-blooded study session hasn't been approved yet.

It's really important that the people in our group pass their OWLs. I think that if professors were to supervise our sessions, it'd be more likely to be approved. I was wondering if you and the other Heads of Houses can take turns supervising our Thursday night sessions. If those times don't work, we'd be willing to switch the times we meet.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-04 04:59:08](#)

*(no subject)*

Yeah, Angelina's making us all run this week since we missed Saturday. As if running's going to help us catch Quaffles! Oh. Sorry. You weren't thinking of making your side run miles, were you?

Anywiz, I hope we get cleared soon, or she's going to go spare! If we can't practise Thursday, who knows what she might make us do!



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-04 05:01:40](#)

*(no subject)*

I was thinking of throwing Quaffles at them while they were running.

Think that'll help?

I think if we all work together on making sure everything's in order,  
it'll be fine.



**2013-03-03 23:29:00**

*Order Only Private Message to Pomona Sprout and Severus Snape*



 [alt\\_poppy](#)

I've just been warned that the school's post is being or will soon be subjected to scrutiny. I confess, I'd rather assumed it was already being screened, but this is confirmation that our precautions ought to remain at highest levels.

My source for this piece of news was Antonin Dolohov.

I've another bit of information I really ought to share with you both. Last evening I locked horns with Madam Umbridge, who was not pleased to learn that I have omitted to report to her the names of students who injure themselves whilst practising the spells appropriate to the school's curriculum. I am now to provide documentation of every patient I treat.

Which I intend to provide in super-abundance, though she'll be hard-pressed to glean from it the damning details she craves. Prompt Compliance, thy name is Poppy Pomfrey.

Obviously, I expect this is not the final slipper to drop on the matter. If something dire comes of it, I will give you both as much warning as I am able. Pomona, I trust you will see to telling Aurora what has happened, if and when that is necessary.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at **2013-03-04 06:12:44**  
*(no subject)*

Interesting.

I had intended to warn you and Pomona when I saw you tomorrow: the pink cow has arranged with Crouch to implement more extensive owl post screening, beginning tomorrow, and enlisted several of her "junior council" — as well as myself, or rather, Milland — to perform that screening. I apologise for not relaying the information sooner; I was distracted by the general concern for Mr Weasley.

It is most interesting that Dolohov was the one to warn you. Shall I

take it he acknowledges the life-debt, then? That ought be useful in future.



 [alt\\_pomona](#) at [2013-03-04 13:01:44](#)

*(no subject)*

Severus, really. Do you have any further details than that?

What she seems to be looking for, for one. (Not that I get much out of the expected, mind, but one worries about the students.)



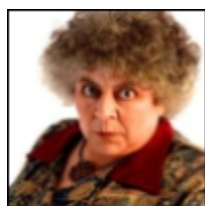
 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-04 22:47:37](#)

*(no subject)*

If one goes simply by her instructions to the students who will be doing the searching, she is looking for (and confiscating) food items and other forms of contraband from parcels.

It is, of course, far more sinister: she is reading all post, or delegating the reading thereof, and searching for sedition — or things she might twist into becoming such. I have overheard several things that cause me to think owls are first being redirected to MLE, as well, so that they are searched twice.

If you are expecting any post that you would rather no-one else in the castle see, let me know: parcels and letters addressed to staff are reserved for Hooch or Milland to open, and I doubt Hooch would mind being told that she could skip a day.



 [alt\\_pomona](#) at [2013-03-04 23:42:12](#)

*(no subject)*

Good grief.

I am not exactly surprised, but really? What on - no, never mind. We all know she's hoping to find something like the Fleets. But *staff* mail, really?

I should have a word with Neville, as I know he's ordering various things with that blasted garden in mind.

Do keep us informed if there's anything new to be wary of, please.



 **[alt\\_pomona](#)** at **[2013-03-04 13:00:06](#)**

*(no subject)*

Oh, Poppy. Of course I will, should that become necessary. (Mind, she's avoiding me except when we must - she's made it clear she doesn't want to make me more of a target.)

Is there any way I can help? At all?

**2013-03-03 23:31:00**

*Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey*



**alt\_antonin**

You should aware that beginning immediately, owl post to Hogwarts will be subject to search. I would not wish for you, or for any of the infirmary's suppliers, to be caught unawares -- particularly not when your diligence towards the question of provision, by any means necessary, has proven so beneficial to those under your care.

My hands are, sadly, tied in many aspects -- but if there is any need you find yourself unable to fill, you have but to say the word and I will set myself to the problem. I freely acknowledge the debt I owe you; you should not hesitate to call upon me to make payments upon it.



**alt\_poppy** at **2013-03-04 05:11:22**  
(no subject)

That's a most kind offer, and a timely warning--both appreciated, I assure you.

I take it that you must be managing well enough, since I've not seen you in here this week. Do remember that we agreed you would come in once a fortnight, whether you felt it needed or not. I believe that means I should see you in the next day or two, does it not? But, as we're on the topic, tell me how you are feeling. Any return of weakness? tremor? pain? sudden-onset sleepiness? more need of the cane at one time of day than another? any memory impairment? headache?

I will stop peppering you with questions, but I do wish to keep a weather eye on your condition. I've invested a great deal in seeing you improve; backsliding is not to be tolerated.



**alt\_antonin** at **2013-03-04 05:27:59**  
(no subject)

Yes, Matron. I am duly chastised, and will present myself to you at earliest opportunity -- tomorrow after lunch?


I have been dreadfully weary, but not more so than you warned me to expect, and only when I have overestimated the amount of energy I have to spare towards the end of the day. The tremors and numbness with which I had been plagued have entirely ceased (for which fact alone I would be endlessly grateful); as you cautioned, the weakness feels entirely due to the length of time for which I was incapacitated, and the stiffness and soreness feels equally as though I am exercising muscles long accustomed to idleness or injury rather than wellness.

I am painfully aware of how much strength I have yet to recover, but also aware, for the first time since my injury, of the possibility of that recovery visible upon the distant horizon, if that makes any appreciable amount of sense.

Do not imagine I am not deeply grateful for the investment of time, energy, and resources you have made. I am well aware that your primary concern is the wellbeing of the students entrusted to your care, as should it be; I am only grateful to have been the fortunate beneficiary of such devotion to duty.

Regards,  
Antonin



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-04 05:49:16](#)**  
(no subject)

Tomorrow lunch would do nicely.

Thank you.

**2013-03-04 09:23:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*



 **alt\_sally\_anne**

Madam Pomfrey warned me this morning that the Headmistress has started screening owls, and reading our post. Definitely incoming, maybe also outgoing.

I keep thinking about Pig, and how clever he is about not getting caught, but I'm not sure we'd want to count on it. Maybe if we have anything really secret to say we should pass it through people who have other ways in and out. And I don't just mean Hermione -- the professors can all go to Hogsmeade any time they care to, so if you want to send a letter that Umbridge won't read, you could give it to a professor you trust and ask them to post it from the village (I had Professor Sinistra take a letter for Jeremy, he needs to know not to say anything stupid in my mail. But I think Professor Raz and Professor Dolohov would help, too, or Professor Sprout. Madam Pomfrey's too busy, she almost never gets out of the castle during term. I wouldn't use her, not for letters you want posted, anyway.)



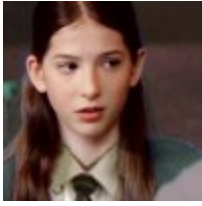
 **alt\_pansy** at **2013-03-04 16:19:30**

*(no subject)*

Ugh. Good to know.

I think we might also be able to smuggle pig out on Hogsmeade weekends, or while on walks and things, but you're right, it might be a bit too risky.

I was planning on writing Sirius about the Fidelius charm, and whether we could try it on my attic over Easter hols. Among other things. If Madame P is too busy... I don't want anyone else sending it. Except maybe Professor Sprout? Only I don't know her at all so it'd look odd, maybe. Do you think she'd post a letter to Sirius if I gave it to her?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-04 16:26:24](#)  
(no subject)

Does it need to be by owl? Hermione has a way to get messages to Sirius. Or ~~Madame P~~




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-04 16:31:40](#)  
(no subject)

Or one of the adults we've been told we can go to in an emergency. Or one of the ones who's teaching occlumency, you could give it over at an occlumency lesson, even, and ask for it to be posted as discreetly as possible.

They could probably hand it off through a floo or on a visit and make sure it wasn't seen. Or if you don't mind them transcribing, remember they have some special means of communication, and it's not just Hermione who does, it's all of them.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-04 16:32:19](#)  
(no subject)

Really the HARDEST is communicating with people who aren't here and aren't on the lock and aren't in the Order.

Like Jeremy Stretton, but I worked that out.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-04 18:05:40](#)  
(no subject)

Okay. Yeah, I'll probably pass it off to Professor Brutka then. Or Mr Milland. Or Hermione if she wants to.

**2013-03-04 13:20:00**

*Monday, etc*

Work is starting to settle down into a more or less predictable routine, and I think we've most of the kinks worked out of the system. Now with spring coming, we are getting into one of the busier seasons for arranging work assignments. Here at Purity

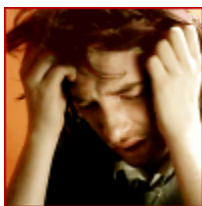


 [alt\\_bill](#)

Control, we've been in consultation with the Department of Muggle Domestication to coordinate adjustments to some of the contracts used; we'd like the arrangements people use when requisitioning muggles or muggleborns to not be too contradictory. We hope that after the language is reconciled, we'll be able to introduce lower rate contracts. The efficiency will certainly be appreciated by the chaps in accounting.

Spent the weekend ~~dealing with goats and~~ working hard at spring chores. Ginny, I was inspecting the bee hive frames in preparation for spring. Can you let me know where you order equipment for the hives, or did Dad make it? There are several wooden honey comb frames which rotted quite a bit this winter and need to be replaced.

Ron, you should have the package by now I promised you for today. The leather gloves and wool muffler were Dad's, and I think the gloves should fit. Found the tin of biscuits in one of my favourite shops in New London; thought you'd appreciate the Quidditch players zooming around the outside of the tin. Once again, happy birthday!



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-03-04 19:29:05**

*Order Only: Private message to Charlie Weasley*

Charlie:

Mum received a private message from Alice, asking what Mum wants to do about Ginny if we have to evacuate the Junior Auxiliary, and what about Percy?

Mum's decided she's going to tell Alice to evacuate Ginny, and we'll try to bring her up to speed as quickly as possible, presenting our involvement in the Order as something involving almost the entire family. Mum hopes that'll be enough. If worst comes to worst, we can take her wand away, and after all, Ginny can't apparate.

But after our usual Sunday night dinner last night here at the




Burrow, Mum broke down into tears after Percy was gone, because the writing's clearly on the wall that Percy simply can't be trusted. I hate to agree with her, but I must. I am all but certain that Percy's lost to us. He was going on and on about his ambition, how much he admires Lucius Malfoy, and he wants a career just like Virgil Crispin. Isn't he just so fortunate that such fine, upstanding citizens have agreed to mentor him? His ultimate goal is to land on the Council. We know he's been learning the Cardinal Curses, and...well.

Mum's taking it awfully hard.

I don't have any particular heart for chess today, sorry.



 **alt\_charlie** at **2013-03-04 22:24:53**

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Charlie Weasley*

Yeah. I don't blame you.

I don't have answers. I really don't. And I keep looking back and thinking, was there a point we could have done something? Was there something we all forgot to do, or a warning sign we missed, or a specific point someone could have said or done something that would have gotten through to him? And I'm horribly afraid there was, and we just weren't smart enough to spot it in time.

And I hate it, I hate it, it makes me want to scream, and I can't think of anything we could do.

You know what it makes me think of? How Sirius's parents and brother must have felt. Other way around, but still. And what's going to happen when things get more pointed, and people start taking sides publicly, and the kids in the Jr Aux like Parkinson and Lestrangle find themselves on the other side from their whole families. The Protectorate has a lot of things to answer for, but the way they rip families apart? That's a huge one.

Yeah. I'm not helping. Sorry.

I think I can get free tonight. Want to meet me at Laszlo's -- say, eight-ish?



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-04 23:35:25](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Charlie Weasley*

I don't know, either. I think Mum and Dad tried. Particularly Dad. But Percy just doesn't listen. To be fair, I think he always felt like the odd man out of our family (and the endless ragging from the twins probably didn't help, although don't tell them I said that). He really is temperamentally different, and that just sort of fed on itself.

Yes. Laszlo's tonight, please. It would be wonderful to see you. Thanks.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-04 23:56:43](#)

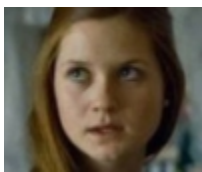
*Order Only*

And yeah.

I hate it, too.

I don't want to lose him, I don't. I'll keep reaching out to him. Dad would expect no less.

But I'm not going to risk the safety of the Order for his sake.



 **alt\_ginny** at [2013-03-04 19:50:42](#)

*(no subject)*

It was someone in the barter network, I think. He was awfully old, though. I don't know if he's still making them.

Thanks for looking in on the bees for me, Bill.



 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-03-04 22:26:43](#)

*(no subject)*

Worst case, we can all muck about and see if we can build something that will work, yeah? I'm getting better at woodworking charms; I can do the spells if you can tell me what to do with 'em, Bean.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-05 00:07:14](#)

*Private Message to Bill*

Um. It's not here yet.

You don't think Errol finally popped his clogs, do you?  
Or. Oh, that's totally not on! Umbridge is checking all the mail now, and I bet she stole it! She can't do that, can she? Not Dad's gloves and things!

I'm-

Argh.

I don't what I'm going to do.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-05 02:39:59](#)

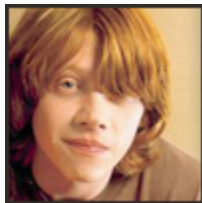
*Re: Private Message to Bill*

What?!

No, Errol's home. Mum said he came home at the usual time, so yeah, the package has been delivered.

Oh, that stinks, Ron. You're right, that's definitely not on, and I'll be definitely hacked off if someone's been meddling with Dad's things. Is there somewhere you can inquire?

If it'd help for me to stick my wand in, do let me know (but only if you think it'll help rather than make things worse).



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-05 02:55:13](#)

*Re: Private Message to Bill*

Yeah, I don't know, actually. What would make it better not worse. Umbridge is-

Ugh.

I'll let you know if it comes tomorrow, and if it doesn't, I dunno.

I've got to go now, though. Revue rehearsal just got done and-yeah. Gotta run.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-06 00:42:05](#)

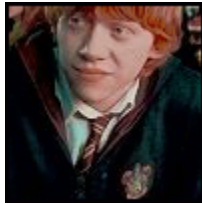
*Re: Private Message to Bill*

Did it show up today?

If it hasn't, do you want me to put in a complaint on your behalf? I'm certainly indignant enough to do it.

Or do you think that would be counterproductive?

I still should anyway. Those were Dad's.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-03-06 04:00:11](#)

*Re: Private Message to Bill*

Yeah, no. It didn't come today. So, yeah. I guess you could send a message here to find out why, since the owl came home. I know it's just gloves and a scarf, but they're Dad's!



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-06 12:41:15](#)

*Re: Private Message to Bill*

Right.

I sent her a private message this morning; letting you know what I wrote:

Madam Umbridge:

I am writing to you out of concern that a birthday package sent to my brother, Ronald Weasley, seems to have gone astray. I understand that there seem to be new procedures at Hogwarts concerning owl delivery, but I think that you should know that apparently there are some kinks in these new procedures.

Ron's package should have arrived on Monday. I know that it was received, because our owl has returned home, but Ron has not received it yet.

The package contained a pair of gloves, a scarf, and a tin of biscuits. The scarf and gloves, in particular, are irreplaceable,

as they belonged to our father, who as you know we lost this past December. I very much want Ron to possess these items, and I trust you will give this matter your prompt attention.

Bill Weasley  
Assistant Director of Purity Control  
Ministry of Magic

[including my title on the letter is pretentious in the extreme, I know. But I thought it wise, since blood purity seems to be so important to her, to hint that it might be wise not to offend someone in my position, i.e., an up-and-rising-boffin-at-the-Ministry. Sorry, don't mean to be a berk; I only hope it helps and you get your package today.]

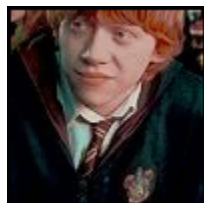


 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-06 12:41:37](#)

*Re: Private Message to Bill*

And I'm sure I'm not going to be the only family member complaining if she keeps up shenanigans like this. Perhaps if the din gets loud enough, the Board of Governors will take

notice.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-06 21:59:06](#)

*Re: Private Message to Bill*


Um. How did that go, then?

Just to let you know, in case, you wanted to mention it or whatever, Gin ordered a hamper for my birthday that was meant to be here Monday, too. It hasn't shown up, either.

But I've a good idea where they've gone: I ran into a pack of people in the corridor this afternoon who are part of Umbridge's group, and they were all having a jolly laugh and looking really well fed.

All right, I'm imagining that last part, and I don't actually know who all's in that group, but still. I just bet they're eating all the stuff that's come in parcels this week, and I hope they all rot their teeth.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-07 01:43:45](#)

*Re: Private Message to Bill*

We exchanged some exquisitely politely veiled barbs that got more exquisitely insulting as we went along. I'm afraid to have to report that the biscuits are a lost cause, and I sincerely hope that she chokes on 'em, but you should have the scarf and the gloves today or tomorrow. Let me know if you don't. I'll be damned if you're going to be cheated of part of your gift, however. I'll pick up another tin of the biscuits and give it to you at Easter. In person, so no one snabbles them away from you. Don't bother protesting: it'll give me great pleasure to spite her by presenting them to you. And Ginny's hamper, too. I'll make bloody sure of it.

Speaking of Ginny's gift, it sounds as though she placed the order before the ban went into effect, so they had no business whatsoever confiscating it, but Madam Umbridge has made it clear she is not going to budge on the food items. Why is she making such a ridiculous stand over something that has never caused any problems before? That's absolutely outrageous. I don't see why should you lose out on your gift; nor should Ginny be out the pleasure of giving it to you. And you think these confiscated packages are possibly being given to other students instead?!

Appalling.

I'm sorry, Ron. I've passed this information along to several at the Ministry who have children at Hogwarts, including at least one member of the Board of Governors. Hopefully, enough pushback will arise from the families that the policy will eventually be overturned. I certainly hope it will.

**2013-03-04 17:58:00**

*A day at the Ministry*

I spent the day doing appointments. There were still some parchment work details I still needed to finalise because of Arthur's death. I had another errand, too: after some extensive discussions with Bill, I've decided to use our option with the Wizarding Repopulation Office, so I stopped by to have a chat with Mr Dominic Selwyn's clerk, Maghnus Derrick, who was entirely affable and polite, although I think he was as unfamiliar with the programmes as I am. (Small wonder, as he's been only on the job for a month.)



 [alt\\_molly](#)

Anyway, I am going to be arranging to exercising my claim (as the mother of seven pureblood children) to one of the great houses for rental income. (Bill and I discussed actually moving, but I don't think I could leave our dear old Burrow for anything. Frankly, the income would be much more useful to me.) Mr Derrick set up an appointment for me, and I will go in later this week to look through some of the possibilities. I understand they have stacks of books for me to look through, filled with possibilities. And I will be requisitioning a mudblood, although I am not sure yet whether I will use the labour myself or rent it out. Again, I need to think through some of the options.

I had lunch with Bill and Percy afterward. How nice to be able to spend time with my sons during the work day!



 [alt\\_molly](#) at **2013-03-05 02:48:37**

*Order Only*

Terry and Hermione,

Please do forgive me for using that dreadful word, but Bill and I talked it over carefully, and our hope is that I'll be more likely to be assigned a muggleborn if I show what the department thinks is the proper 'ownership attitude.'

I would like to take a muggleborn out of the camps, both (hopefully) to improve that person's lot and possibly to give some assistance to the Order or perhaps one of our associated groups, such as Beth's group or even Sherwood.

I also promise you, I don't intend to profit personally from another

person's labour. I'll take the rent from a great house, but any fees paid for a muggleborn's labour I'll either bank on their behalf or, if they prefer, donate it to the Order.



**[2013-03-05 19:33:00](#)**

*Spring*

As the weather's been clearing a bit, I've been out walking more - rather pleasant to get outside in the fresh air, really. And it's about this time of year that we start seeing the flowers come out. There's a lovely little burst of snow drops out on my usual way around the lake, and I can just see hints of crocus buds coming up, or trying to.

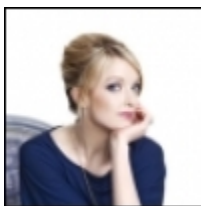


 **[alt\\_sinistra](#)**

**5th years:** It's also the time of year when my thoughts turn to our year-end exams. I'd like to set up some extra practice sessions with charts, and some chances to try some sample exams so you have the best possible idea what to expect and how to prepare for the OWL format.

Please come to Wednesday night's class with your schedules, so we can find some dates and times. While I plan to include some evening sessions before May, many parts of the exam can be practiced using the projection stones at other times of day. And of course, I remain glad to work one-on-one - just come by office hours or make an appointment for a mutually convenient time.

(I've already spoken to my NEWT students about their own preparation, but several of them have also mentioned they'd be glad to assist in OWL preparation and study under my supervision.)



 **[alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-06 00:40:18](#)**

*Private message to Poppy Pomfrey*

Poppy,

Would you let me know a good time to stop by (or I can comment here?) A few updates on what we talked about Friday.

Also, I've a book or two to lend you that you might be interested in - one touches on that weather prediction, the other's just for pleasure.



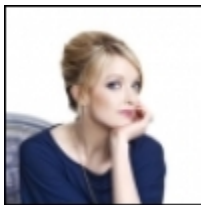
 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-03-07 04:18:28](#)

*Re: Private message to Poppy Pomfrey*

I'm sorry to say I've been so busy I've only just now realised you'd written me here.

Of course, I'd love to see you whenever you feel you could stop up. The only thing predictable about my schedule is its utter unpredictability, dependent upon the fraying nerves and queasy stomachs of our young friends. Mind you, if they'd not gorge themselves on sweets and biscuits, they might avoid many unpleasant hours with me.

I would be very pleased to have the loan of those books. Thank you, sincerely!



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-06 00:58:24](#)

*Private message to Tosha*

Should you be asked, shall we say that this message is my asking you about the implications of that article I had one of the elves deliver this morning? It's out of the most recent *Urania's Quill*, a new experimental method of using the locational magics for warding with an interesting twist on the aversion approach.

I would actually like to set it as a problem for my newts, if you think it's safe enough to try - ideally, warding a space out on the grounds some weekend as a test - but I don't want to give them advance warning. Feel free to use it as a public excuse to meet with Raz, too.

Anyway. I have not yet had the chance to thank you properly for your cleverness. Your Berry is the world's most insistent house-elf, isn't she? She was never less than scrupulously polite on Sunday (which I appreciate: it took me at least five minutes to manage anything like a coherent response). Just very persistent. Also, obviously completely devoted.

I know Poppy's right about the importance of food, but I just can't cope with Acton and Carpenter's conversation *and* manage to eat. It's enough to give one a complex. (Well, it clearly already has. Never mind.)

Just... Thank you. It's wonderful and exceedingly kind and sneaky in

all the ways I admire best. And you've clearly been paying attention to my tastes. I promise I'm eating what Berry brought, and as I'm sure she told you very clearly, I'll let her know when I come close to running out.

Beyond that - Madam Headmistress did not pass through Mum's usual baked goods from yesterday. I'm waiting to see what she says to me about it. (She did pass through the letters and a couple of books that were in the attached package, though I suspect she knows more now about our family dynamics than I'd have preferred. On the other hand, half of Hogsmeade could tell her Diane and I fought a week ago, so it's not like it's secret.)



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-06 01:31:29](#)**

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

You may feel free to tell your mother to send her packages through Raz, or me; Barty has promised me all of our mail will be sealed before leaving his hands. Or you may have them sent to my New London home and Berry will convey them forward.

And as to that, I am pleased you found her helpful. She is enraptured that I have returned so that she might fuss over me once more -- keeping the house in good condition was nowhere near enough to keep her occupied while I was away. When I asked her to look in on you, she was very nearly beside herself with pleasure at the prospect of someone else to feed; I still do not give her nearly enough to do.

But, to speak of more pleasant things: I have not had a great deal of time today to read through the article in depth -- my unscheduled time this afternoon was taken up with Mr Moon -- but I did glance through it. The astronomy is well beyond me, but I did not see anything in the implementation of the warding that would concern me on first glance, and if you are working on the grounds rather than in the castle I do not think it should conflict with the castle magics. Shall the three of us give it a try this weekend, perhaps? Our dear Dolores certainly can't object to the two of you spending time together when it is educationally-related and well-chaperoned.

Yours,  
T



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-06 01:40:04](#)

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

Toshenka -

I'll let her know, but I've some sources of my own. (I told you, I think, that my friends have worked out a rota for meeting me in Hogsmeade of a Sunday?) But it is good to have multiple options, indeed. If I can talk Mum into sending to you.

(Sending to Raz - well, handing something over under the eyes of the assembled staff at lunch doesn't help much, really, and I'd hate to get the house-elves here in more trouble with her than they need be. It seems entirely too cruel.)

But you are right that a bored house-elf is an unhappy house-elf, and as I said, I'm very grateful for your thought about Berry.

On the warding - dear Madam Headmistress might well complain, but I think in this case it might be worth trying. Out in public, and properly chaperoned and all. Saturday afternoon? (If she allows the open flying on Sunday, Raz ought to be with Harry, I'm sure. And - well, we'd all be happier if I at least made the attempt at sleeping in Saturday morning.)

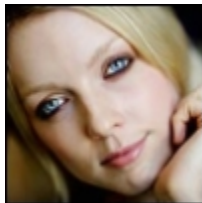


 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-03-06 02:24:26](#)

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

Saturday sounds lovely, dear heart. And darling Dolores can object all she's a mind to: I will defend the choice wholeheartedly.

Your,  
T



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-06 02:29:11](#)

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

Toshenka, dear -

You are not the one with both her own and her mother's job under threat if we guess wrong, you

know. But I will watch the stars fall from the skies before I let her be the reason I don't do something my students would actually learn from, so there you are.

Something to look forward to would be good, anyway. I just - February was one long stretch of mostly misery. And it's not like March is an improvement, or that April promises much better. I'm now starting to wonder what Madam Headmistress is going to try to keep me away from Raz over Easter hols.

(Good grief, I'm fatalistic tonight. Either you're rubbing off, or being in New London on Tuesdays is more important than I'd realised. Perhaps both. But I think March promises to be even worse than last March, in its way, and I had no earthly idea that was even possible.)



 **alt\_antonin** at [2013-03-06 04:04:43](#)

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

Little star,

Should any ill come to your family from darling Dolores's machinations, I will stand surety for it.

And yes, I am aware that would still not be an ideal answer -- but it will, I hope, reassure you somewhat.

As to the rest, well, this too shall pass; of that I am certain. That, too, may not be as reassuring as it could be, but take it from an old snake -- patience is often rewarded in ways that rushing to action is not. But as bleak as things look at the moment, they cannot last forever.

Your,  
T



 **alt\_sinistra** at [2013-03-06 04:11:39](#)

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

Mmm.

Tosha, are **you** all right? You're rather briefer than your usual.

And thank you for the reassurance, but it's... Oh, all sorts of

things about stability and reliability and knowing where one can put weight on a branch and where one can't, and I'm having trouble finding words. All the assurance in the world doesn't help with that. ~~With waking up in the dark wondering what you got your family into,~~



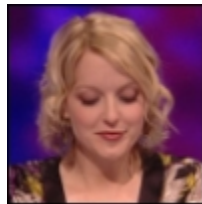
 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-03-06 04:27:01**

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

Oh, dear heart. I know it's difficult, but have faith -- we will prevail in the end. If for no other reason than I do not lose when the well-being of my family is on the line. It will take me some more time to claw my way back to "well enough to begin the fight in earnest", but darling Dolores set her fate when she moved against Minerva and sealed it with her actions against Raz. She may win a skirmish or two along the way, but she will lose the war.

(As to the rest -- I am well enough, little star; only tired. And distracted by a few things along the way. I will be back to myself after a good night's sleep, I am certain. I suppose I ought start dragging myself to meals; would you care to sit with me for lunch tomorrow and I will do my best to distract you?)

Yours,  
T



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at **2013-03-06 04:33:15**

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

I had not said, Sunday, how - thank you for considering me family, Toshenka, truly. And for the reassurance.

Seeing you at lunch would be a bright star in the sky. And if you manage supper sometimes, even occasionally, I am quite sure Raz would appreciate the break from having to deal with Dolores by himself. (There are things I do not need to talk to him about to know for certain, after all.)



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-03-06 04:49:54](#)

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

As much as sitting next to Dolores will no doubt put me off my appetite as much as your dinner companions do to you, I am well overdue for beginning to put my foot down and reminding her that Headmistress does not mean she is the only power in the Protectorate, I suppose. I should have dealt with her back when she was nothing more than an annoyance, and before Raz's and my hands were quite so tied. ~~And before Our Lord decided it would amuse Him to see what happens~~

Ah, well; we are too late wise.

Sleep well, when you do, dear heart. As much as possible.

Yours,

T



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-06 04:54:24](#)

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

Well, it is handy we have a solution for spoiled appetites at meals already planned, isn't it? (Speaking of: may I ask your Berry to provide something for hungry teenagers on Saturday evening? I have volunteered a certain amount of supervision and drilling for a select handful, with more than one purpose in mind.)

As to the rest, well, it is something of a consolation, actually, that I was not the only one reticent to act. As horrible as the consequences turned out to be. I keep wondering if I could have changed all this if I'd been faster to realise what was going on this summer.

I will do my best with the sleep. Fourth years first, though I think it's holding clear enough that we'll be outside, which is a goodness.





 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-03-06 05:03:58](#)

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

My dearest of northern lights, if anyone is to mutter imprecations that they did not act swiftly enough, it is certainly not you. I was muttering about transfiguring the woman into something heavy and dropping her in the lake as far back as, oh, October, and if I had done so, none of this would have been an issue. This is what I get when I attempt to serve as a good example for the children, I suppose.

And yes, by all means, feed the children; it has been years since Berry has had the satisfaction of a teenager's appetite, and more than one at a time will send her into paroxysms of delight. Is whatever it is anything I might help with?

Going to sleep now, really, I mean it,

T



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-06 13:23:00](#)

*Re: Private message to Tosha*

Toshenka, dear -

As I said to Raz, my scruples on the topic wandered elsewhere some time ago. The woman is an utter menace to everyone around her, and as much as I want to believe there are always less - less **permanent** solutions - well, what is the point of being a voice of experience if you don't use the experience? (Do I shock you? I shock myself, writing that, but it's true. ~~How do people live with hating someone this much?~~)

As to the plans with the children, since Madam Headmistress has made it impossible for me to keep up with my Defence practice in my usual way (and I am missing the practice nearly as much as my partner in it), I had a word with Cedric to propose a small session to Harry. Harry suggested Draco, naturally, and Sally-Anne and Pansy, but also Mr Corner, who I had to think about. (I'd appreciate your impressions of him, actually.)

Harry asks for so very little, and I'd rather set aside my own



needs preferences than risk them failing their exams.

By the timing, you might guess that this was still not as much sleep as Poppy - or I - would like me to get, but it was nearly six hours last night, which is better than it might be.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-06 01:10:07](#)

*Private message to Andie Haley*

Andie -

Just wanted to check in and see how you're doing, but also ask you something. You didn't get your usual treat package from Mum, did you? (I didn't either: don't fuss your grandmum or anyone else, all right? Give me a few days to talk to people. In the meantime, I've a few things from elsewhere if you want a treat.)

I also gather *your* mum isn't too happy with me right now. (Both Mum and your Dad wrote me about it.) I know she's frustrated about the wedding ~~so am I~~ but I can't fix that just yet. Part of it is that we know exactly how to annoy each other best when we disagree fight. I promise we'll work it out. Eventually

And whatever else, I owe you a day out without your siblings, don't I, over hols? Since we didn't manage over Christmas. Still not sure of my plans, given everything, but we'll figure something out.

If Madam Headmistress asks about this, tell her that it's family business, and I'm glad to discuss it with her if she insists. If you'd like to talk further, come up with whatever astronomy question you'd like and come see me, and we'll go down to my rooms. (Your most recent charts are better than usual, mind.)



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-06 03:46:44](#)

*Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

Cedric talked to me.

I think it's a good idea.

I've got some other people in mind who could come along too, maybe?




 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-06 03:47:50](#)

*Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

Who'd you have in mind?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-06 03:50:51](#)

*Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

Perks. Parkinson. Draco.

Maybe Corner?



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-06 03:52:48](#)

*Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

The first three - please.

Mr Corner, mm. I'd rather not advertise some skills too widely. Would it be difficult for Miss Perks if he didn't?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-06 03:56:00](#)

*Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

Um. I think she'd be okay? It's just that he's the head of the halfblood revision group, so I thought he could put it to good use. But if we need to keep it small, that's fine.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-06 03:59:38](#)

*Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

I'd rather small.

But I'd rather you all pass your exams more. And feel confident about it.

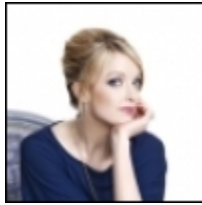
Have a word with him about the implications? Or ask Miss Perks to? But if you think it's best, we'll make it work.



**[alt\\_harry](#) at 2013-03-06 04:04:11**  
*Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

Okay.

And thanks.



**[alt\\_sinistra](#) at 2013-03-06 04:07:13**  
*Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

When do we want to do this?

Saturday evening after supper would work for me, but we can look at other times. And I thought one of the workrooms in the Astronomy tower, if Cedric didn't say.



**[alt\\_harry](#) at 2013-03-06 04:13:26**  
*Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

Yeah, Saturday would be fine.



**[alt\\_sinistra](#) at 2013-03-06 04:14:41**  
*Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

Right. I'll have a word with Cedric Thursday after lecture. Or if you want to come a bit early tomorrow, I'll show you the workroom I've got in mind.

**2013-03-05 20:33:00**

*Private Message to Barty*



 **alt\_antonin**

Today, solnyshko, has been one of those days. The only thing keeping me from renouncing it all and begging Our Lord to assign me to something more relaxing -- say, brokering a treaty with the goblins, or convincing the Americans to shuck off their government, renounce their independence, and join back up with us -- is the fact that giving up teaching would satisfy our dear Madam Umbridge far too much. The fourth-years cannot seem to grasp the basics of curse chaining to save their lives, half the third years are still terrified of casting half the magics I assign them, a not insignificant portion of the fifth-year theoretical class is incapable of writing a clear, coherent English sentence, and one of my ducklings showed up for a 'detention' I had planned to be a relaxing conversation and threw an explosive quaffle in my lap without any sign of realising what he had done.

This is the one I told you about -- the analyst-in-the-making, the one for whom numbers sit up and dance? Darling Dolores, knowing of his interest in history, assigned him the task of researching our company for her memorial garden project, and he took the initiative to gather as much numerical, quantifiable data on our past battles as he could glean from the historical record. And arrange it by individual. Cross-referenced. Wholly innocently, and with the end goal of making certain we all received our well-deserved historical glory for our accomplishments, but I near had a heart attack when I realised he had neatly-laid-out proof of, say, Alecto's incompetence, or Razzer's phases of not caring for his own well-being, or even -- if you look closely enough -- Augustus's experiments on the field.

We may all count ourselves fortunate that the boy looks up to me so fiercely; I was able to impress upon him the ... sensitive nature of his work, and he wound up turning over the data and asking me to geas him incapable of letting slip any of his conclusions. Which I would have done no matter what, after removing his memory of ever having brought the data to me, but at least this way he is aware that he owes me. If I can raise this child to adulthood without getting him killed by his curiosity, he will be one of the most useful resources we have ever encountered, but at the moment that is a very large if: I am tempted to kidnap him and lock him in a very tall tower somewhere. With no doors or windows.

~~It would not have been quite so volatile had he not also included Our Lord in his~~

About the only bright spot in all of the above is the fact I am actually recovering. Exhausted, mind you, and still sleeping entirely too many hours per day and far too quick to tire out in the middle of something, but the tremor has disappeared entirely from my hands, not simply when I concentrate on stopping it, for instance. Madam Pomfrey is quite pleased by my progress -- in her own grumpy way, of course.

Easter hols cannot come soon enough. Tell me you'll have time over them? We can immerse ourselves in the dankest portions of my library and ignore questions of the wider world.

Your,  
T



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2013-03-06 03:21:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes.

Of course. I've already set aside time when you are here.

How do you find patience?

No. I know it's analogous to the patience of the hunt, but I could never tolerate the coltish nonsense. How do you see past that to what might be?



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-06 03:57:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Some days I very much wonder the same!

But no -- I take your meaning, and you deserve a better answer than flippancy, particularly given how often I bemoan the process to you. The answer, sadly, is something I find very difficult to put into words -- practice, I suppose, and the experience of having seen a bit of nurturing pay off in spades over and over again, has given me the sixth sense for which ones might be worth tending. I look for the ones who know the hunger -- whether the hunger for the Arts, or a different form of hunger

entirely -- and see whether that hunger can be channelled into something that might be of use in the future; I look for the clever ones who are not given room to be clever, and promise them I might give their cleverness a home; I look for the ones who are an ill fit in the roles the trajectories of their lives have dictated thus far and show them ways in which they might stretch their wings in a different shape.

I know you often find people a mystery, my dearest of children, but it is my experience that the ones who will pay the greatest rewards are often shouting so, loudly, to anyone who has ears to listen -- and many of the children are at the age where they are casting about for their purpose, and in any group of children of that particular age, there are always at least a handful who are blades waiting for the right hand to temper them. The trick is spotting the ones who will respond well to me, and which are the ones best left for another. (But as we all know, I am greedy when it comes to casting my net widely.) They may not all repay my attentions properly, but I can have patience.

You, on the other hand, repaid my efforts nearly immediately -- and continue to do so, *lapushka* -- which is why I write you when I am in need of reminding that the teacher's art has its rewards as well as its trials.

Your,  
T

**2013-03-05 22:08:00**

*(no subject)*



 **alt\_harry**

We've got approval for all four House teams for Quidditch, and Free Flying is approved for now, so everyone just make sure you follow what we proposed for practices and things. We're still waiting on approval for the 5th year revision group. Maybe we'll hear something by Friday so we can revise. If not, maybe we could split up and meet in our Common Rooms to talk over some things in smaller groups. Thanks to Professor Dolohov for agreeing to supervise.



 **alt\_harry** at **2013-03-06 03:21:27**

*Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley*

Could you ask if Professor Sprout would be okay with helping to supervise the halfblood revision session with the other Heads of Houses? I've got Slughorn to agree, Corner's checking with Vector, and Bundy'll check with Hooch. I think if all four rotate, it'd be a good proposal, yeah?

Worth a try.



 **alt\_justin** at **2013-03-06 04:09:50**

*Re: Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley*

Hullo, Harry,

Yes, I spoke with Professor Sprout yesterday, old man. She's more than willing to support the group, what.

I say, sorry I didn't tell you then. It's been a well wretched few weeks, hasn't it.

Still, it seems you're doing what one can to make the best of it. Cheers.

-Justin



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-06 04:22:41](#)

*Re: Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley*

That's good.

And thanks, I guess. I just figure, you know, this is a way to show how important it is. And how much the professors at Hogwarts agree. And if that doesn't work, then we'll find another way.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-06 03:28:54](#)

*Private Message to Katrina Bundy*

Hey.

Could you ask Madam Hooch if she'd switch off supervising our revision session? Professor Slughorn said he would, and we're looking to see if the other Heads of Houses would too. So she'd only have to do it every fourth time if everyone agrees.

Anyways. If you could ask her, that'd be great.

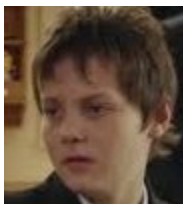


 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-06 03:32:16](#)

*Private Message to Michael Corner*

Hey. Slughorn said he would. Did you talk to Vector? I've asked Bundy and Finch-Fletchley to write theirs too. I think if we work together on a proposal that would have all four Heads supervising, it'd be the best we could do in terms of a proposal.

Is that okay?



 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-06 03:55:34](#)

*Re: Private Message to Michael Corner*

Oh.

Uh, yeah, I'll see if I can catch her Thursday, maybe, before Arithmancy.





 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-06 04:28:58](#)

*Private Message to Draco*

I've been thinking about what Professor Dolohov has been talking about.

When it comes to rules.

And how following them to the letter can sometimes lead to interesting results.

It's sort of hard to get in trouble for following the rules. And I bet we could get lots of other people to follow the rules too. The only thing is, what rules can we follow that would be like that?



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-03-07 02:51:01](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

Pretty sure that singing tow row rows until our voices go won't do the trick.

She's never going to search our Owl post, either. Think there's anyone we could talk into ordering some speciality "art"? I'm thinking scandalous photographs of Bumbridge *in flagrante delicto* with someone like Teddy Nott's Father. The stomach turns at the thought...but I'm cheered at the idea of how enraged and humiliated she'd be. Turn a lovely shade of pink, no doubt.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-07 04:10:35](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

At this point, I'm ready to try just about anything.

And thanks very much for putting that image in my head.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-06 04:39:20](#)


*Private Message to Raz*

I've been working through counter-jinxes and anti-jinxes.

It's hard to demonstrate talk through some of the more difficult ones with other people. And I'm not sure if I've got the combinations down just right.

I know Draco and me have been working on them, but I think we need to work on them some more, maybe?




 [alt\\_rabastan](#) at [2013-03-07 02:01:15](#)

*Re: Private Message to Raz*

Whatever you need, Harry. I've got loads of time on my hands.

I should give you my notes. My handwriting's really atrocious, though.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-07 04:13:50](#)

*Re: Private Message to Raz*

That'd be really ace, yeah. Maybe I'll look at them over the weekend, and we can talk about it at our usual time next week?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-07 04:26:26](#)

*Re: Private Message to Raz*

And. I've been thinking.

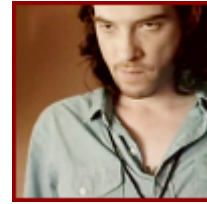
Is there

Okay. If you could do anything that would really help things for you and Professor Siz, other than the really obvious, what would you do? Even if it's something that you couldn't do yourself.

I'm just curious. For a... you know. Hypothetical thing.

**2013-03-06 06:20:00**

*Private message to Headmistress Dolores Umbridge*



Madam Umbridge:

I am writing to you out of concern that a birthday package sent to my brother, Ronald Weasley, seems to have gone astray. I understand that there seem to be new procedures at Hogwarts concerning owl delivery, but I think that you should know that apparently there are some kinks in these new procedures.

 [alt\\_bill](#)

Ron's package should have arrived on Monday. I know that it was received, because our owl has returned home, but Ron has not received it yet.

The package contained a pair of gloves, a scarf, and a tin of biscuits. The scarf and gloves, in particular, are irreplaceable, as they belonged to our father, who as you know we lost this past December. I very much want Ron to possess these items, and I trust you will give this matter your prompt attention.

Bill Weasley  
Assistant Director of Purity Control  
Ministry of Magic




 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-06 13:24:34](#)  
(no subject)

Mr Weasley,

You are correct that there are some new procedures, designed to ensure the proper running of the school. I believe you will find that the non-prohibited items (in this case, gloves, scarf, and any teensy personal notes) should be delivered to your brother at some point today.

To best serve the functions and goals of the school, we are discouraging the delivery of any food items going forward. I'd appreciate it if you would pass that along to anyone else who might have been inclined to send such things.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-06 14:41:52](#)  
(no subject)

How, exactly, does the confiscation of food items serve the 'functions and goals' of the school? Are cauldrons blowing up in Potions class because of dropped crumbs? Are the telescopes in the Astronomy Tower getting smeared with jam?

It's not just the issue of the food. It's the relationships. My mother, as you know, has been recently widowed. Cooking and sending care packages to her children is one of the ways she's dealing with her grief. Do you really think it's politic for you to interfere with family relationships in this way?



 **alt\_umbridge** at [2013-03-06 15:12:16](#)  
(no subject)

Mr Weasley,

I am sure you understand that I must look at the benefits and disadvantages to the entire school and student body, not make exceptions for any single family.

However, I am glad to explain the reasoning in somewhat more detail.

It became clear to me this fall that Hogwarts was failing our dear children. That the school as a whole had not been fully reviewed with regard to the needs and demands on our students as they become full members of the Protectorate's work and life. Likewise, it has become clear to me that many habits of discipline, order, and proper social station had been thoroughly neglected.


In specific, as regards food, I have instituted changes that will help ensure that we feed each and every student nutritious food appropriate to their age and station, and that we can monitor the results. This is to the benefit of the school - and the school's budget.

Naturally, the introduction of outside treats interferes with that process in a number of ways. Eliminating treats also reduces wear on books, the demands on cleaning by the castle's house-elves, the encouragement of vermin in the dormitories, and much more. I

know you have less experience at the Ministry than many, dear, but I'm sure you've seen enough to know the vast advantages consistency can bring to a large organisation.

In regards to your mother, we do intend to let packages that do not contain food or other problematic items through. Perhaps she might turn her attention to some handcraft or another.




 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-06 15:37:42](#)  
(no subject)

Of course you must not make exceptions for any family. My point is that there are a lot of families with which you are interfering; my family's situation was merely meant as one example.

Funny, I've never heard that the house elves serving Hogwarts weren't up to the job of doing the cleaning. Nor have I ever noticed a problem with vermin at the school, and after all, I was there for seven years. Standards have slipped since you assumed the headship, have they? Odd, since we've managed to limp along just fine for close to a thousand years under the old system.

And I would think that it would mean less strain on the school budget if snacks are supplemented by outside sources.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-06 15:39:03](#)  
*Order Only*

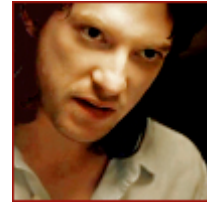
Enjoy the biscuits, you unspeakable bint.

Too bad they'll go directly to your well-upholstered hips.

**2013-03-06 10:48:00**

*Private message to Stephen Rosier*

I wanted you to be aware that the new Headmistress of Hogwarts has apparently decided it is her prerogative to open incoming owl packages and confiscate food items. She says that the purpose is to 'best serve the functions and goals of the school.'



 **alt\_bill**

I just thought I'd mention it, so that the next time you send a note and care package to Seamus, you can be sure to include a tin of chocolates or biscuits. It'd be a nice gesture to give her something to nibble on as she's reading your private mail.

**2013-03-06 16:46:00**

*private message to Samantha  
Montgomery*



 [alt\\_megan](#)

Do you think you will be back from the Hospital wing soon? I will finish up here. Don't worry about that. Just work on feeling better and doing whatever Matron says.

Are you allergic to ginger biscuits, do you think? Or was it just too many of them? My guardian says a delicate digestion is one of the burdens many purebloods have to bear.

Today there were two packets of Chocolate Frogs. And some dungbombs. I'm glad I didn't open those. The dungbombs, I mean.

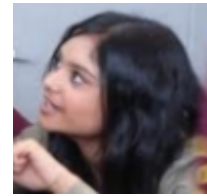
I saved some Frogs for you. When you feel like eating them, I mean.

**2013-03-06 23:08:00**

*I got the word from Madam Pince*

and Ravenclaw Corner is back in business.

Well, almost. There are a few changes but mostly it's back to normal.



 [alt\\_padma](#)

Also, be careful where you sit. Come and talk to me or to Tamblyn if you need to know why.

Edgecombe, we're on morning shift, right? See you then.

---




 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2013-03-07 04:28:52**

*Private Message to Seamus*

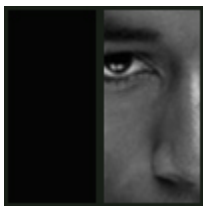
If there's shortbread or anything, I'll put it in the little drawer in the side table in the lounge. No one ever looks in there. You're checking in the afternoon, right?



 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2013-03-07 04:33:12**

*Private Message to Zabini*

You should really think about kissing Umbridge's arse a bit more.



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at **2013-03-07 05:09:17**

*Re: Private Message to Zabini*

Oh?



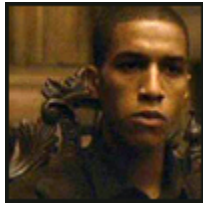
 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2013-03-07 05:11:19**

*Re: Private Message to Zabini*

I'm just saying that it's going to get more dreary round here - quickly. And you don't want to be left out in the cold.



Working for her has some definite perks. And I don't mean the one you have to take meals next to.




 **alt\_blaise** at [2013-03-07 05:17:00](#)

*Re: Private Message to Zabini*

What sort of perks? (And don't remind me. Meals with that know-it-all are annoying in the extreme.)



 **alt\_padma** at [2013-03-07 05:22:46](#)

*Re: Private Message to Zabini*

Well, for starters, not that it matters much to you but you'll notice we got Ravenclaw Corner going again. You can't say as much about *certain* other groups.

But this latest 'teensy project' of hers--well, it's extra work but she's got a whole group of us taking it in turns. And she's given us the most cosy little lounge to use, just those of us who are doing it. And you know how we're not to take food in our common rooms anymore, and all that? Well. I can't say much except that I think there will nearly always be some snacks and things in that lounge--one way or another.

So you should think about it. I know Daphs would put in a word for you. And I would, too. If you wanted.




 **alt\_blaise** at [2013-03-07 05:39:32](#)

*Re: Private Message to Zabini*

I'm not against seeking favour if there are clear rewards. It sounds as if it might be worth while, so if you've an opening and a mind to put in for me, I'm interested.

You're surprising me again. How entirely pleasant.




 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-03-07 04:51:27](#)  
(no subject)

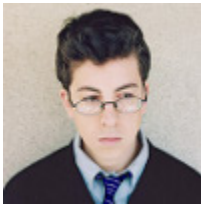
We shall celebrate -- studiously, of course, by applying ourselves diligently.


Well done, you!



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-03-07 04:58:56](#)  
(no subject)

Mostly it was Madam Pince. Actually she made a point of telling me that she stuck up for the way we keep the library under control when we're there. And it's a bit more...restricted than it was before. But at least it's still our Corner.



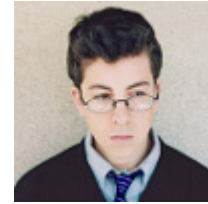
 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-03-09 18:12:46](#)  
*Private Message to Padma*

It is still our Corner and I am so very glad of it, especially since a different Corner is being a trifle annoying at present.

Merlin's finest Sunday trousers, why do half-bloods have to bring everything back around to blood status all the time? I was offering to help, for goodness sake. If we have to have them in Ravenclaw, we need them to perform their absolute best, or no matter how well we do, we won't be able to keep the average at an acceptable level. One would think that once they were let in they would be grateful to be here and could keep the good of their House in mind.

**2013-03-07 13:16:00**

*Upholding Hogwarts (and Ravenclaw)  
Values*



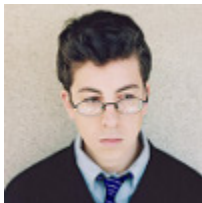
 [alt\\_linus](#)


It is impingent upon us all to do our best to strengthen ourselves and our society to meet the demands of modern times. Truly, there are so many areas in which we may serve the Protectorate that it would be remiss of us to let ourselves or our worthy fellows fall behind, especially when we might help. Proud traditions like Ravenclaw Corner have long been ways by which those who are fortunate and diligent can sharpen their own skills and assist others in the honing of their talents. And yet we must ask ourselves, are we truly doing enough with what we have been given?

Those of us who are Prefects have long known the importance of service to our peers. Happily and appropriately, participation in the Young Protector's League and the Hogwarts Junior Council also brings this question into additional focus, for which we must all be grateful to Madame Headmistress Umbridge.

What have you done to improve your school today?

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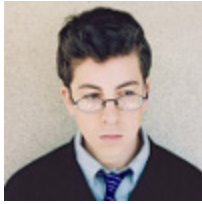
 [alt\\_linus](#) at **2013-03-07 19:27:19**

*Private Message to Morag MacDougall and Su Li*

I have taken on the quest of trying to make Ravenclaw's performance in OWLs the best ever. It is a lofty goal, but how better to aspire?

In service of this, I note that both of you are working toward your Arithmancy OWLs. Should either of you find that some one-on-one tutoring or revising assistance may prove useful, I stand ready to serve.

For Hogwarts and Ravenclaw!



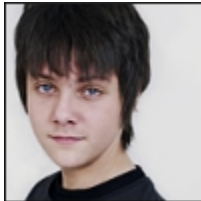
 **alt\_linus** at [2013-03-07 19:29:09](#)

*Private Message to Michael Corner and Sarah Fawcett*

I have taken on the quest of trying to make Ravenclaw's performance in OWLs the best ever. It is a lofty goal, but how better to aspire?

In service of this, I note that both of you are working toward your Arithmancy OWLs. Should either of you find that some one-on-one tutoring or revising assistance may prove useful, I stand ready to serve.

For Hogwarts and for Ravenclaw!



 **alt\_michael** at [2013-03-09 00:23:05](#)

*Re: Private Message to Michael Corner and Sarah Fawcett*

Er, cheers, Moon. Yeah. Steve said you offered to help him in Creatures, too.

Looks like you're offering to help all of us, then.

My Arithmancy marks are all right, if not right at the top. We'd been working on the core subjects a little more regularly than the electives but since there are a few of us and Arithmancy's such a trial, we did work on it more often than the others.

You're sure you won't get in trouble offering to tutor all us halfbloods?



 **alt\_linus** at [2013-03-09 17:58:55](#)

*Re: Private Message to Michael Corner and Sarah Fawcett*

I feel that we have perhaps lost sight of House loyalty lately, and I should hate to see the standards of Ravenclaw slip. Obviously when one wishes to safeguard our reputation of achievement, one must attend to the weakest spots, to those who, through unavoidable circumstance, may not have managed to overcome their obstacles as well as they might. The Sorting Hat has declared that you are a

Ravenclaw, thus laying upon me the sacred obligations of House loyalty. Those whose blood is not pure may yet have something to add to the larger knowledge, if cultivated properly.

Also, purebloods have difficulties too sometimes, you know. The very first person I offered to help was MacDougal, and she's as pure as pure. I don't see why you always have to make it about



 **[alt\\_michael](#) at 2013-03-10 04:11:39**


*Re: Private Message to Michael Corner and Sarah Fawcett*

All right, mate, no need to get all ruffled. I meant with *her*, not getting into trouble with *her*.

Because when I talked to her about continuing the halfblood revising, she didn't really give me a good reason for saying we couldn't do it anymore.

So you see I wasn't just taking the piss.

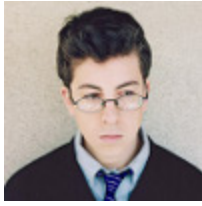


 **[alt\\_linus](#) at 2013-03-10 05:18:52**

*Re: Private Message to Michael Corner and Sarah Fawcett*

Well, I did consider the rules on student gatherings before making the offers, you know, which is why one-to-one tutoring of Ravenclaws is the least cumbersome way to go about it, administratively speaking. We can work in our own Common Room, if you like, or the dormitory.

I, well, sort of promised someone that I would help others. The person in question was kind enough to give me duplio'd copies of full revision notes, several years' worth, to replace mine that were destroyed, and I was made aware that the knowledge was entrusted to me on the condition that I use it to help my fellows. I should be loathe to break a promise of that nature especially.



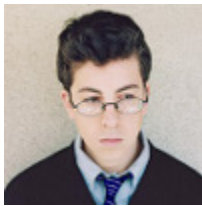
 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-03-07 19:30:59](#)


*Private Message to Steven Capper and Mandy Brocklehurst*

I have taken on the quest of trying to make Ravenclaw's performance in OWLs the best ever. It is a lofty goal, but how better to aspire?

In service of this, I note that you are working toward your Arithmancy OWLs, Brocklehurst. Should you find that some one-on-one tutoring or revising assistance may prove useful, I stand ready to serve. Also, both of you are working toward your Care of Magical Creatures OWLs. While I do not have quite the standing in Creatures that I do in Arithmancy, nevertheless I would be pleased to assist with revising in any way that might be handy.

For Hogwarts and for Ravenclaw!



 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-03-07 19:33:54](#)

*Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

Thank you again for the gift of your duplio'd revisions from your student years. As you pointed out when I was in need, it is important that we pay such assistance forward, as it improves all of us to improve any of us. And of course, of those to whom much scholastically is given, much is required.

I shall endeavour to follow the example you have set, and to encourage and facilitate scholarship in my fellows.

Your with gratitude,  
Linus Moon



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-07 20:18:40](#)

*Re: Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

Mr Moon -

You are so very much yourself, but your willingness to help others suits you very well here. You are very welcome to the notes, and quite right about improvement.

I can only assume you're not regretting the turn of the discussion last night? I did also have a thought, related to your detentions, of another project where your skills might be of some use to me, if you're willing, but it will take a couple of days to gather what I have in mind.

AS.

**2013-03-07 19:48:00**

*Sunday's YPL event*



 [alt\\_umbridge](#)

Dear students,

I am excited to announce that we will be gathering for a very pleasant little workshop this coming Sunday. This is something that has been quite some time in the planning, though we've done our very best, as the YPL committee, to bring it in the best possible alignment with the goals of the programme.

On Sunday, I am sure you will join me in enthusiastically welcoming a number of authors to Hogwarts. During our time together, we will be listening to them discuss the process of writing, the responsibilities in reaching out to the Protectorate through their words, and other topics related to their books. At the end, we will discuss the most exciting project, a chance for those of you who favour writing and the arts to glorify Our Lord's goals and priorities.

So that you can reread any particular favourites, or brush up on them in advance, I wanted to let you know that we will be hearing from the following authors, who have graciously offered up their time.

- 1) Claudius Shore, author of Playing for Keeps: The Pastimes of the Most Powerful Wizards. A little bit frivolous, perhaps, but with some interesting history about the development of sport and amusements.
- 2) Julius Hornbeck, who wrote Parchment Perfect: The Art of Report Writing, a work I commend to all of you to improve the organisation of your writing and essays.
- 3) Quercus Edmonds, who wrote The Transfiguration of Stress, an excellent guide to navigating through those passing challenging moments in our otherwise glorious days.
- 4) Lena McCord, author of Elation, with all sorts of teensy amusements in Charms class. Mrs McCord remembers her own Hogwarts years very fondly - so much so she just had to set a book here - and she is delighted to be returning for a visit.

We will begin with an initial panel discussion, followed by an opportunity for groups to circulate through each writer and hear more about their process in detail. We will then gather for the exciting



announcement about ways each and every one of you can demonstrate your loyalty to the Protectorate.

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 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-08 01:13:23](#)

*Private message to Aurora Sinistra*

I'm sure you may have noticed that the invited authors for this session are different from those you proposed, dear. I rather thought we should aim at a higher and more professional set.

I suppose Pure Hunger and Charmless and the like are reasonably harmless frivolities, and Miss Morgansen and Miss Cuthington might be entertaining to some. And Pinchley's book at least involves some history. But I cannot imagine why you thought Endrim Park would be a suitable choice. I only had to look at a page or two of his White With Blood to realise how mercilessly vicious and entirely inappropriate it was for anyone, never mind young people.

I know you will agree with me that we must not miss any possible opportunity to model the best possible behavior, and this presentation is simply one among many.

On that note, I do wish you'd join us more regularly for breakfast, dear. I know you've explained your hours, but I'm sure you could find some solution if you just worked a teensy bit more diligently at it. And it sets such an example for the students.

I did have one trifling related question. I understand from the house-elves that you're no longer requesting breakfast from them at all, due to my little instructions. I do hope there's nothing I should be aware of, dear, that might affect your teaching. I couldn't help but notice you'd been in to see dear Poppy recently, and you seemed a little startled when you came out.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-08 02:39:07](#)

*Re: Private message to Aurora Sinistra*

Madam Headmistress,

We are sometimes called on to give up things others enjoy as part of our service to higher goals. For me, that includes being in the Great Hall for breakfast. It is such a small thing - in comparison to the larger goals of learning and

understanding - that I find it no hardship at all.

As you note yourself, my classes run into the darkest part of the night, and I have been advised by the most reliable Healers that sleep is even more important than a shared meal or convivial conversation in creating a foundation for long-term health. Alas, a full night's sleep is simply impossible if I teach until one, and then must be at breakfast at eight.

As to the elves, no, nothing at all wrong. I simply haven't been hungry in the mornings.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-08 01:36:27](#)

*Private message to Marston Strangeweale and Latimer Caldwell*

The first few days of the owl review have really been quite productive. We've confiscated 22 hampers or packages of food, three packages of rather more dubious origin, and searched another two dozen more (books, comics - dreadful things, but one of my student assistants insists they support the goals of the Protectorate), replacement robes and socks and such.

The letters themselves are quite informative. There's the usual run of banal trivialities, and foolish family news. But there's more than a few hints worth pursuing. I'm quite honestly surprised that MLE hasn't acted on more of them. More than that, though, it is such a clear insight into how misguided and hopeless so many of the parents. They put the emphasis in entirely the wrong places, encouraging those things that will not assist in a proper and disciplined life.

Regarding staff mail: thus far, everything to Antonin and Rabastan has come through with the Ouroboros seal: I have not touched those, but surely, Marston, there is not *that* much communication from Court. And I am quite certain that a couple of those looked like magazine subscriptions, which makes no sense at all.

Aurora's mail is less protected, and also curious. Surely no one really spends fifteen pages talking about an article someone else has written? (I passed a copy back to MLE - it's entirely unsigned, and I'm sure it must mean something beyond the surface.) The other was a letter from her Guild Master, all in German, though at least

translation charms served there. Honestly, foreigners. And then tosh from her family - I extracted the baked goods, but let the letters and some trivial items through.


I've naturally paid less attention to the mail of those who are clearly supporting my programme of reform and encouragement. But it is rather curious to see the patterns of correspondance, even in this brief span of time. Extremely illuminating, who gets written to and who doesn't.

I'm particularly interested in the guardians of fostered students. It is a trifle too early to tell, but I see fewer of them writing than parents. Really, the guardians ought to be working harder to guide the children in their care in the proper ways, in the hopes of redeeming something from such poor stock. And the children themselves really ought to be required to write their guardians, so as to keep them apprised of the progress of their investment int he future of the Protectorate.

At any rate, I'll look forward to meeting with you both next Tuesday afternoon. And if Whitacre is free for half an hour to talk about the budget for the summer, I suppose we could accommodate him.

In His Service,  
Dolores

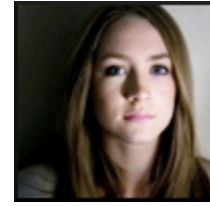


 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-03-09 00:08:03](#)**  
(no subject)

Excellent programming choices, Madam. Considering all the stress you seem to be creating among your charges by making them write all manner of unnecessary reports, they might as well hear about sport and 'elation' if they can't experience it for themselves.

**2013-03-07 20:30:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good - Private message to Sally Anne*



 [alt\\_hydra](#)

Sally Anne, do you know of anything to help badly upset stomach? I know you've talked about ginger and tea before, only I don't remember which kind.

Norma was caught with secret food, and she must have shared with Cressida, because they're both ill and they've said it was a hex, as punishment.

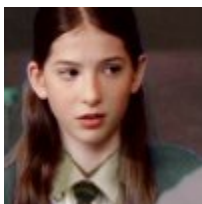
I can't talk either of them into going to Hospital Wing because they're worried about getting into worse trouble, but they're both so miserable and it doesn't seem like it's subsiding. I'd like to help them, if I can.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-08 05:28:21**  
(no subject)

Yes, ginger, or peppermint tea also works. If you can steep fresh ginger in water and then strain it out you can add just a little sugar to make it palatable and drink it like a tea, that usually works rather well.

Do you have any ginger? I've been in the Hospital Wing (working, not because I'm ill) the last few hours, I'll tell Madam Pomfrey I need some before I go.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-08 05:37:34**  
(no subject)

Well, that was unexpected.

I can do better than ginger. I have the exact potion that Madam Pomfrey would have given them if they'd come in to the hospital wing. I'll bring it by your dorm room when I get back to Slytherin.

**2013-03-08 07:21:00**

*Private Message to Rodolphus  
Lestrangle*



 **alt\_antonin**

In all the excitement here at Hogwarts, I managed to let your birthday pass by completely unheralded. Forgive me, dear brother -- I hope your day was pleasant.

I've a small token on its way by owl this morning, assuming Headmistress Toad doesn't take it upon herself to intercept the package. Though one almost hopes she does, of course, as I doubt she has any idea of the standard cautions for opening the gifts we send you!

If you've time over Easter hols, meanwhile, I should like to bend your ear somewhat about our darling menace. I've some ideas on how to return Raz to the classroom without overtly contravening Our Lord's wishes, and I suspect you've been chomping at the bit to avenge the slight upon his honour as much as I am.

Yours,  
T

**[2013-03-08 15:47:00](#)**

*Private message to Poppy Pomfrey*



**[alt\\_umbridge](#)**

Madam Pomfrey,

I thought I had made it extremely clear just this week that I wished you to report all professional matters that affect Hogwarts. Yet I find myself led to the inescapable conclusion that you have, again, omitted crucial information, and on a grave matter.

As you know, we here at Hogwarts have standards and traditions to maintain. Our staff must be above reproach. I trust you take my meaning.

Explain yourself, as promptly as possible.



**[alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-03-08 21:02:52](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Ah, Headmistress.

I had thought to write you as soon as my weekly report was complete. I should like a word or three with you at your earliest convenience.

As for your question here, I confess I'm not sure what clarification you are requesting.




**[alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-08 21:08:53](#)**  
*(no subject)*

A word on what topic, then, if not this?

Partiality to certain individuals may explain but can never excuse the withholding of information. My goodness, especially since some advance notice is absolutely necessary should there be a need to effect a swift but smooth transition in personnel.

I had expected better of you, I must say.



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-03-08 21:13:24](#)  
(no subject)

I have not the slightest notion what you are suggesting. About whom are you asking?



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-03-08 21:18:44](#)  
(no subject)

I assure you that Professor Dolohov's condition is very much improved and that I have no reason to think him anything less than entirely capable of going on with his duties.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-08 21:25:21](#)  
(no subject)

I refer to the possibility that one among us may be expecting a happy event without the happiness of a formal union. To be precise, Aurora Sinistra.

Really, just because Our Lord has given his approval to the pairing does **not** mean that the appropriate societal forms can be flouted willy-nilly! And with impressionable children around, well. I am shocked, I truly am. And the more so that you would not only condone such a thing, but aid in its concealment.

I simply cannot think that that is how a Healer should behave, especially one entrusted with so weighty and sacred a task as safeguarding the health and wellbeing of our dear students and staff here at Hogwarts. This is a grave matter indeed.



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-03-08 21:59:24](#)  
(no subject)

Indeed. You are quite right that a Matron's task is to treat the health and wellbeing of the students and staff of this school.



It is on that subject that I wish to speak with you, in fact. I must protest that certain 'punishments' used on students of late have caused physical harm with the potential for quite serious consequences. As it is surely not your intention to inflict lasting harm on the young people in our care, I feel it necessary to call to your attention that open wounds risk infection, that slipping hexes risk broken bones, especially on this castle's stairs, that nausea hexes risk inducing vomiting capable of causing haemorrhagic bleeding, that entrapment charms risk blood clots which can lead to brain haemorrhage in persons forced to sit without moving for long periods. Of course, one would far prefer to avoid injury in the first place, but at the very least, it is of the utmost importance that students not be discouraged from seeking care for severe injuries. Surely there are sufficient penalties for behaviour modification that do not inflict physical damage?

As for Professor Sinistra, I assure you that she is in sound health and that the rumour you have apparently heard is quite untrue. I can only think that your good faith has been abused by malicious gossip.



 **alt\_umbridge** at [2013-03-08 22:24:33](#)  
(no subject)

In former times - some of the golden years of the school, by many accounts, back nearer the turn of the century - punishments were far harsher, with extensive time spent in the dungeons. And yet, the school and the wizarding community thrived at those times. Certainly our students grew into a sense of self-control, discipline, and diligence that is sorely lacking today.

While I find those specific methods a trifle crude, I do believe that giving students sufficient time to recognise the error of their ways is a sound pedagogical practice. And more than a few students are sufficiently troublesome that blunt physical punishment is the best way to quickly adjust their thinking.


In short, the physical punishments will continue, and I expect you to support my decisions in this matter, including avoiding all but the most critical care in treating the effects of the punishment.



As to Aurora, it is no such thing as gossip. I saw her myself leaving your Infirmary, she's written to you multiple times recently, and she admits herself that she has little appetite in the mornings. I certainly have reason to suspect that she and Rabastan have disobeyed my clear instructions to avoid any hint of impropriety in their interactions.

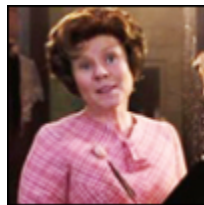
What else am I to make of those many pieces of data? Do you have recent tests that confirm the accuracy of your statement?



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-08 22:40:30](#)**  
(no subject)

I adhere to my oaths as a Healer, Headmistress. Thus, while it is yours to discipline as you believe necessary, it is my duty to provide treatment to those in need of my care.

As for Aurora, I can only repeat that you are mistaken.



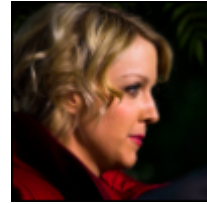
 **[alt\\_umbridge](#)** at **[2013-03-08 22:51:49](#)**  
(no subject)

We are certainly not done with this conversation. You may expect me shortly.

**2013-03-08 19:06:00**

*Private message to Raz and Tosha*

Hypatia's thrice-cursed sextant and all the lines of latitude.



Raz, love. You know how I was late to supper? And that Madam Headmistress didn't appear at all? First. I'm fine. Really. Madam Headmistress is unfortunately also fine.

 [alt\\_sinistra](#)

But I need to tell you, because she got the most absurd idea into her head, and I wanted to make sure she didn't surprise you with it. Or anyone else.

She got the notion that somehow I must be pregnant.

I'm not, I swear on all the stars. And if I ever thought I might be, I'd tell you long before anyone else had the faintest guess. Especially after last year. Besides, I'm very certain of the charm I use.

Anyway. She showed up at my rooms at ten to six, dragged me off to see Poppy, and only once I was there did she explain what she wanted. She insisted Poppy was hiding something, puffed herself up until she was red in the face.

And Poppy kept refusing to suggest the obvious - which is to say, testing - until her pinkness insisted flat out. It was clear no one was leaving that room until she got her way, and of the choices, it seemed like telling Poppy to go ahead was the choice that might solve *something*. And of course it confirmed that I'm not. She made Poppy do the test charm three times.

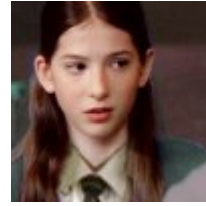
Madam Headmistress is still extremely put out. So much so that she stomped off. (Apparently not to supper. Small favours.)

I'm including Tosha because, well, strategy. And because I can't decide now whether our plans for the three of us to test that experimental warding tomorrow and talk a bit are a good idea now or not. Much as I very much want to at least *talk* to you without half the staff trying to chaperone, Raz-my-love.

I'd half-thought of setting the Wizarding Repopulation folks on her for interfering in our relationship, but after this, I'm sure I don't dare.

**2013-03-08 20:43:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*




Any of you reading, if you think you could come to the Hospital Wing without attracting any attention, I could use some help carrying...stuff.

 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)

Feel free to bring any galleon people who want to tag along, you know, just tell them I mentioned it this afternoon.

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 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-03-09 03:01:42**

*(no subject)*

Um. All right. Do you need loads of people? Is it someth

What time? Right now?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-09 03:16:10**

*(no subject)*

Whenever you can get here?


I need enough people that we can carry everything without loads of trips but not so many that it'll attract attention. Everyone on the galleon would be too many, that's why I didn't use the coin.

And it's potions. Healing potions. Because people are being forbidden to come to the Hospital Wing, you know, by Umbridge. So it's what I'd need to heal bruises and cuts, treat infected wounds, salve burns, soothe abrasions, treat boils and hives, settle stomachs, ease nervous stress, treat muscle cramp, stomach cramp and intestinal cramp, reduce fevers, allay headaches, treat sore throats and colds...

I mean almost everything you can think of that's not too dangerous. (Justin, she did warn me not to ever give you Pepper-Up.) She didn't give me any Dreamless Sleep because people can get dependent on it and there are some other things that are rare and closely tracked.

I'm going to put most of it in the Room of Hidden Things, that's the other reason to round up a bunch of helpers, I want to clear out one of the big cabinets and get everything sorted into some sort of order. Some of it, though, I'll keep in my bracelet -- you know, the Twins made me one, last year, like Terry and Hermione's. I keep food in there but I've cleared most of that out for the most common potions I'm likely to need.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-09 03:22:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Well. We can't all troop through the corridors together or Umbridge will catch us for being a traipsing about the castle together club.


I'm coming now and if no one else comes, I'll take some things up to the room, I guess, and come back for more.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-03-09 03:33:17](#)**  
(no subject)

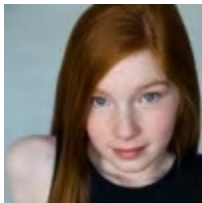
I'll be there. And I can see if Harry or Draco want to come too.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-09 03:37:26](#)**  
(no subject)

Good, yeah.


There's actually a lot more than I thought, so we definitely need the help. I mean, we want to hide the stuff out of sight, so it's not like we can just carry cartons of it because then anyone might see.



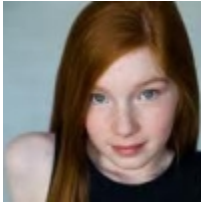
 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-03-09 03:33:50](#)**  
(no subject)

I can help.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-09 03:37:59](#)**  
(no subject)


If you see Bundy, bring her. Or Nev.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-03-09 03:46:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Shall!



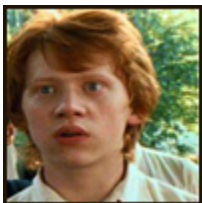
 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-09 03:50:24](#)**  
(no subject)


I can definitely help. On my way.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-09 04:01:12](#)**  
(no subject)

If you meet us at the room, tell it you need the healing potions -- it didn't take us to the Room of Hidden Things. (I guess I wasn't exactly thinking 'I need to hide these,' but more, 'I need to keep healing potions somewhere that Umbridge won't find them.') It gave us this little room with a bed and a comfortable chair, it looks almost like Madam Pomfrey's office or something, and the most important thing is that it has SHELVES, loads of empty shelves, and they're even all labeled for me so it's just a matter of putting things away.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-09 04:33:40](#)**  
(no subject)

Labeled, yeah. But how are you ever going to find anything? I mean, it's not like there's any order to it at all. I mean, wouldn't you think that All-Heal stuff would go on a shelf with other things that start with A? And the Himalayan Hootchus wotsit would come before the In-Vigour? (Who names these things, anywiz? And if that's really

somebody's job to make up mad names for stuff, I want to apprentice that!)

What I'm saying is, if you come up here, just leave putting stuff on the shelves to Sally Anne, cause she's the only one who can figure out where it's all meant to go!



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-09 04:53:36](#)  
(no subject)

It's organised by use, of course. So the Himalayan HotWot goes with the Alpine Digit Defroster because they're both for frostbite and chilblains and those are on the shelf full of things for skin trouble so that's also where the boil remedies are.

It'll be very useful if I run out of something, because I'll be able to see if I have other things that might do.

Er, yeah, though, you can just leave the putting it on shelves to me, I can see where it would be confusing.

**2013-03-09 11:40:00**

*(no subject)*

If Umbridge won't let you go to Madam P, find Sally-Anne. She may have what you need.



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-03-09 11:40:00**

*(no subject)*

But don't spread her name around. If it's a friend in need, you can be the go-between. And in a real emergency JUST GO TO THE HOSPITAL WING!



 [alt\\_galleon](#)



**2013-03-09 23:15:00**

*Weekly Post*

Hi, Mum and Dad,

This week:

On Monday we had Divination, Astronomy lecture, Transfiguration and Defence. Nothing's changed there.

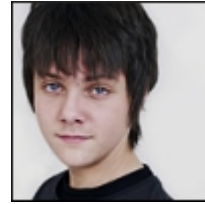
On Tuesday, we made potions in Potions. We cast some charms in Charms. We listened to a ghost in History of Magic.

Wednesday 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.

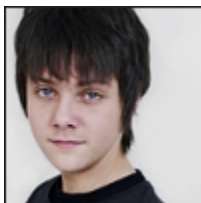
Thursday there was an Arithmancy lesson and we made calculations for that. We cast more charms in Charms. We also had another Transfiguration lesson and then Professor Dolohov asked us loads of questions about about Noble Arts.

Friday we read more about Dick and Jane Wizard, brewed more Potions and Professor Dolohov talked more about Noble Arts and defending against them as well. Then we took turns looking at more creatures and trying to feed them without getting our hands bitten off.

We've got a presentation tomorrow by some authors. It ought to be interesting.



 [alt\\_michael](#)

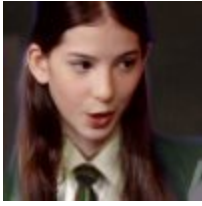


 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-10 04:31:13](#)

*Private Message to Sally-Anne*

So, Linus offered in about the most pompous way possible to help with Arithmancy.

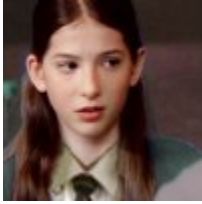
And then he got upset when I wanted to make sure he wouldn't get in trouble about the offer. I mean, he's proposing one-to-one tutoring but it's still a lot of tutoring on his part and he's asked Capper and Fawcett and all.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-10 05:39:59](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

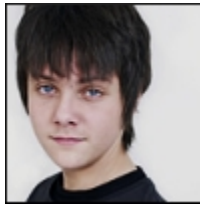
Do you actually need help with Arithmancy? Moon seems to mean well but yeah, 'the most pompous way possible' describes his approach. Not always but a lot of the time.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-10 06:03:03](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

Do you really think he'd get in trouble? He's a pureblood and he's very clever AND he's a Ravenclaw so I'd think at worst Umbridge would think he was wasting his time. He's not getting above himself or defying her rules or any of that.



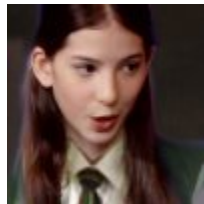
 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-10 17:10:31](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

I think she'll find a way to punish anyone who sticks their neck out to help a halfblood, one way or another.

The best way to survive is just to get through our O.W.L.s, and avoid trouble.

Speaking of which, what's all that about you having potions? Isn't that dangerous?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-10 18:15:20](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

They're well-hidden, don't worry.

DANGEROUS is when people don't have any way to get Healing, since they've been forbidden to go to the Hospital Wing.

**2013-03-09 23:34:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*



 [alt\\_terry](#)

It's been an awful long time since I wrote in my journal, and I'm kind of ashamed of that. It's not that I don't think of you all often. But...not so much writing. I am in school myself, and we have lessons, too, of course, and we have chores that help make this place run.

Those feel like weak excuses, though. I'm sorry.

I'm doing really well. We've been a bit hungrier here, because we lost part of our harvest from a storm, and it's too early to start the garden. But we've had some supplies shifted to us through the Order network, so it isn't too bad.

I've spent tonight re-reading my journal and catching up with all of you. And one thing that struck me as mighty strange is that it feels as though I'm safer at my school, and happier, and freer than you all are at yours. Weird, when you think about it. I envy you that wonderful library, of course, and the teachers--well, only some of them. We do have good teachers, too, although they have come to us from vastly different paths than the formally educated teachers at Hogwarts.

But that new Headmistress sounds positively dreadful. From what I can tell, it seems like she's turning Hogwarts into a much grimmer and more threatening place.

My home here isn't a paradise, by any means. It's so much more primitive than a castle that's stood for over a thousand years. But I have something you don't ever get to see, and I'm sorry for that. We have muggles and half-bloods and muggleborn and pureblood all living together, and they don't care about blood status at all. They all pitch in to do whatever needs to be done. The ones who are magical have wands and use 'em however they're needed, and no one makes a fuss about who carries a wand versus the ones who don't. It's possible.

I wish you could see it, because they've made it work really well.

I understand that owl messages to and from the school aren't really safe anymore, but...you were all such a help to me when I felt cut off and needed support.

Is there anything I could do for you, from here?

---



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-10 18:24:17](#)  
(no subject)

It really is wretched here.

At supper and on weekends she has us sitting by 'order of precedence' and the food is different at different ends of the table, and there isn't quite enough of it at the 'low' end, and she doesn't let us get food from the elves away from the dining hall anymore and all our care parcels disappear. I had food stashed in my bracelet but I've eaten most of it now. I mean no one's STARVING but ... yeah.


Half-bloods don't get Defense classes anymore and she's banned our revision group. I'm not worried that I'll fail but I am rather worried about some of the others, like Fawcett.

The latest is that when she hexes people she forbids them to go to Madam Pomfrey. So the other night, Madam P gave me a load of potions, which I've mostly hidden in the secret room. So people who can't go to her can come to me, and I can give them most of what she'd have. Which -- really it shows just how desperate Madam P is, because she has NEVER been willing to let people carry potions before. She always wants to see people. But when people aren't being allowed to come to her -- at least I have some training, and she told me what to look for that would mean it really urgently needs to be seen by a Healer and said that I should get a message to her by way of Hermione, if need be, or Brutka, Milland, or Sprout.

I think she's really worried that things are going to get even worse.

Honestly I'm starting to wonder if I can stand to stay for NEWTs.



 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-03-11 03:49:05](#)  
*Private message to Sally-Anne Perks*

You will work as a Healer, Sally-Anne. If the Protectorate won't let you train, then, well, I'm sure the Order will let you apprentice with one of theirs.

Madam Pomfrey will certainly speak for you.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-11 04:14:29](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks*

Yeah, well, that's part of why I keep thinking, I don't have to stay for NEWTs.

I could pass my OWLs, then just not come back. I'd have met my requirements to be a 'true subject' and no one would much care if I dropped out of sight. (Pansy would, but I could see her on holidays and we could talk on the Lock, at least till we came of age.) I could apprentice with Madam Pomfrey and work for the Order.

It just seems

It is so awful here right now.

And I'm afraid so much of the time. That I'll make a misstep and she'll expel me. Or worse, I'll make a misstep and she'll call MLE. There's so much that could go wrong -- and that's true for everyone on the Lock but you know I think Umbridge particularly hates me. She'd be nervous, I think, calling MLE on Pansy. She'd be at least a little hesitant with Justin or Ron. But me? Or Neville or Evelyn? Neville, I think he wants to stay because of Evelyn, actually, he feels like he can protect her if he's close to her. But I can't protect anyone, if anything I bring extra risk to the people I care about.

Except for being the unofficial Healer, now.

I don't know.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-10 18:25:02](#)

*(no subject)*

Oh and NO OWLS.

They're intercepting all of them. Or so I've heard. And reading EVERYTHING.

**2013-03-10 07:45:00**

*(no subject)*

If, on the other hand, you need to APPEAR to be sick, check with Fred and George. Fever Fudge, Nosebleed Nougat, etc all available



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-03-10 09:26:00**

*Mothering Sunday*

I hope this morning finds you well, Mother, and that you have a pleasant day.



 [alt\\_blaise](#)

I remember once when I was small--I think it was one Mother's Day--that we went to the Protector's park with Mr Guchkov to feed the ducks. It was warm and the spring flowers were all blooming, and we sang a Russian song about sunshine that Dmitri Ivanovich taught us. Do you remember?

It was nice.

Give my best to Mr Cooper. Is he working on some grand new installation now?

I look forward to seeing you soon. I'll just hire a hansom cab from the station, shall I?

Until then,  
Blaise

**2013-03-10 13:24:00**

*note to Lionel Moon*

Dear Father,

You won't believe it. We have Julius Hornbeck speaking to our YPL group today! I have my copy of *Parchment Perfect: The Art of Report Writing* with me, and I'm going to ask him to autograph it. (Thank you again for giving it to me, sir. I treasure it.)



 [alt\\_linus](#)

Must attend to the discussions now, but wanted you to know this. It's so exciting!



**[2013-03-10 14:46:00](#)**

*Order Only ATTN Pomona, Albus, Severus*



I've only a moment.

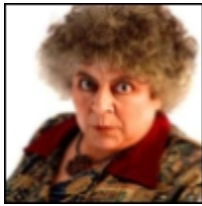
It's done. Sacked. Am packing up my personals.

Was ready, of course, for the worst, but-

 **[alt\\_poppy](#)**

Pomona. When you get to your rooms, would you see if Tilda's near her Floo? If she has room, I'll go there.

---



 **[alt\\_pomona](#)** at **[2013-03-10 20:06:11](#)**

*(no subject)*

Sweet Morgana.

I did get Tilda on the floo: she's airing out a room for you now.

Is there anything I can do to help? At all? Or that we need to get to before that blasted woman finds it?



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-10 20:10:05](#)**

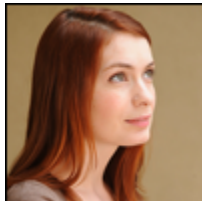
*(no subject)*


Just packing the last.

Look. No one panic.

More when I've reached the farm.

Ah, Mr Milland's here.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-10 20:12:37](#)**

*(no subject)*

Mercy.

Let us know more once you've settled and had a chance to catch your breath.

Once the dust settles, you can feel free to make your summer visit to Moddey Dhoo earlier and more extended.

Will you face any sort of inquiry? Who is taking your place?



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-10 21:10:56](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm with Tilda. I'm fine. Everything's safe.

But I can't write just yet. She's wanting to fuss over me, and Mr Swift is downstairs, so we're all going to have a nice salad tea and get re-acquainted.

I promise a better report tonight.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-03-10 21:12:05](#)**  
(no subject)

WHAT?

Poppy, not that we're panicking but ... had you any clue this might be coming?

We've been out all day. Mothering Day and also Remus's birthday. We went out to the farm where Terrie has been working. You should have seen Bea face-to-face with her first sheep!

When you're settled in, tell us more about what happened? Tonks, Bea and Ellie have headed back to London for the evening. Moony and I are staying out here for a while but we'll be back later tonight.



 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-03-11 00:52:11](#)**  
(no subject)


I am sorry to say that the pink baggage got to your quarters — or rather, ordered the house-elves to your quarters, as I cannot imagine her actually doing work herself — before I could. Your remaining things have been packed and placed in storage; the elves assure me that they took care with them, but have been forbidden to disclose where they are. I will do my best to locate them for you and pass them on.

If you can think of any potions it would be wise for the children to have at hand, I will brew what I might and pass them along. Likewise, if there is anything I might do to assist you, say the word.

For those who are reading along: anything that might cause question has been safely stowed away thanks to Poppy's foresight in keeping those questionable items available for quick retrieval. Pomona, I will call upon you tomorrow morning so that we might review your own preparations for a quick exit in the event our dear pretender should target you next. Though I do not think I am in her sights — or Mr Milland is — I will be doing the same with my makeshift laboratory in the event the distraction and aversion spells are not sufficient.

The question of how to evacuate the children, should it become necessary, is becoming more urgent.



 **[alt\\_pomona](#)** at **[2013-03-11 02:12:53](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Severus, please. In particular, the fluxweed beds are a worry: we cannot readily move them, nor risk their loss, and the aversion charms will hold only in some circumstances.

Would 7 be too early for an initial consult? I'm teaching until 4, and I don't think we dare delay finding solutions.

My personal effects are no great bother, though another pair of eyes in this case is quite welcome.



 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-03-11 02:26:09](#)**  
*(no subject)*

7 would be fine; I am not sleeping much these days.

There are several techniques I might use to divert attention from the fluxweed more strongly. Given the danger, I take it I will hear no quibbling about the moral implications of methods to be used to protect our resources.



 **[alt\\_pomona](#)** at **[2013-03-11 02:36:51](#)**  
(no subject)

I would like to hear details before saying aye or nay, Severus. (Among other factors, such things do affect the plants near them, and other plants in that back greenhouse can be finicky indeed.)

But you're right about the both the importance and the danger.



 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-03-11 02:44:30](#)**  
(no subject)

There are several strong compulsion wards that can be applied. I will of course be guided by your experience in which the surrounding botanicals might bear.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-11 02:42:08](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank you, Severus.

I suppose I must be grateful that she was so precipitous in ordering the elves to clear my belongings. I've realised belatedly that in my concern that no sensitive items be left lying about, I hadn't time to recollect all the items of a more sentimental nature I will wish I'd saved. I shall have to depend on the elves' having taken more care of those possessions than I did.

For the rest of you, yes, I suppose I'd seen this coming for some time. Well back into last year, in fact, I'd begun keeping everything sensitive in a single, well-concealed and easily-collected place.

The truth, however, is that I've been taken by surprise today. I really believed... well, I suppose I believed that Madam Umbridge and I had settled in for a long battle of the wills. I regret that I was mistaken.

In any case, I think you know--but if you don't I can reassure you--that I have been very careful with my accounting and record-keeping. I've had to be for years, but over the past two, I've had to

be particularly cunning about what I log and what I keep aside for extraordinary needs--and, of course, there have always been items I've masked in my inventory in order to set them aside for the Order.

In retrospect it seems especially fortunate that I recently bent a number of firm principles and deputised my student, Miss Perks, to perform the duties of a trainee Healer in cases where students were forbidden or afraid to come to me. This is not a sign that I've been in any way prescient, mind you: I was merely responding to necessity as Madam Umbridge has used ever more damaging physical punishments whilst also forbidding her victims to seek treatment.

On that impetus, I gave over all of my set-aside stores to Miss Perks this week. All save those items too ticklish for any but a fully trained Healer to administer. And those medicinals not officially licensed for use. Those items I brought away with me.

I'm so very sorry, Alice, to have failed in my duties to our young people.




 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-03-11 02:52:08](#)**  
(no subject)

While I am well acquainted with the accusations one's own conscience hurls against one in the aftermath of any particular confrontation, no rational actor would take the position that you have failed in the least.

To set your mind at ease regarding at least one item, Miss Perks has been to see me for reassurance that the children are not in any appreciably greater danger today than they were yesterday — which I have provided to the extent I am able — and to discuss revised plans for how they might safeguard themselves in the event of disaster if the infirmary is no longer to be considered the first port of call. I have provided her with several suggestions to pass on to the remainder of her company.

As to the matter of your personal items, I will do what I may.




 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-03-11 02:52:29](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, Madam Pomfrey, I'm so sorry.

But don't don't think you've failed the students.  
They know how lucky they've been to have you, and  
you were ever so clever to give the potions to Sally-Anne Perks.

She's taking the responsibility utterly seriously, I assure you.



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-03-11 03:15:37](#)  
(no subject)

Thank you, Mr Boot.

I appreciate your sayings so. And your  
reassurance about Miss Perks. I have every  
confidence in her instincts and abilities.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-11 02:54:59](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, Poppy, what a dreadful shock.

Can I do anything, my dear?



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-03-11 03:06:14](#)  
(no subject)

Thank you, Molly. I am fine tonight, but when I've  
had a chance to collect myself, well. At the very  
least, I should like to see you and have a good talk.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-11 03:10:18](#)  
(no subject)

Of course.

**2013-03-10 19:20:00**

*Educational Decree Number 24*

**Staff are hereby banned from giving students any information that is not strictly related to the subjects they are paid to teach.**



 [alt\\_umbridge](#)

In addition to the above decree, I wish to note a staffing change. We are delighted to welcome Healer Luxovius Kerr as our new Healer in Residence. As I noted at supper, he is delighted to join us, bringing his honed and polished skills to the service of the young people of Hogwarts. I'm sure we'll all make him very welcome as he settles into the Infirmary.

Hogwarts Junior Council members: I have a few teensy matters to attend to this evening, but if you have questions about your current duties, you may check at my office.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at **2013-03-11 00:05:08**

*Private message to Luxovius Kerr*

Luxovius -

I am just so very delighted to welcome you, and I'm so very glad you're willing to be more accommodating to our shared goals than Poppy Pomfrey was. I particularly appreciate the speed with which you were able to arrange your personal affairs. Now, please don't hesitate to ask the house elves for any little thing you need. One of the little privileges of being staff, of course, is the ability to focus on one's work without the teensy distractions.

Now, I know you're hoping to continue your research while you're here, but before you begin on that again, I really must ask you to provide me with a full and complete inventory of items in the Infirmary. If you see any specific needs, I will do what I can to obtain them (though perhaps you have far better contacts than I, in that little area of the world.)

I am, of course, continuing to insist that students seek you out only when necessary, and not for the teensy punishments I am forced to dole out. Thus, I have every reason to assume that once you've settled in, you should have plenty of time for your own research interests. And of course, if a student or two would be a useful



subject, coordination might be possible.

Now, I am of course aware that you hope this will only be a temporary appointment - the end of the year, as we discussed - and that you're hopeful of higher and better things at St Mungo's in future. And of course Healer Acton spoke quite warmly of that to me, if you do what's required here.

Right. I've any number of other matters to attend to this evening, but please do tell me if you find anything the least bit unexpected in the Infirmary or the quarters. I did ensure that the house-elves cleared everything out to storage, but one never knows if something got left behind somehow.

Dolores



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-11 00:10:15](#)

*Private message to Pomona Sprout*

Really, Pomona, I thought you a witch of far better judgement than you have shown yourself to be this year, being as friendly with both Aurora and Poppy as you have been.

I know that it must be your nature - the flaw of our house, really - to see the best in everyone, but you must harden yourself with the reminder of the equal importance of diligent hard work, self-control, and constant effort toward improving one's teensy flaws and errors.

I do trust you take my meaning.

And more to the point, I trust that you will exert every possible influence on Aurora, and bring home to her the likely consequences of her choices. I know she's young, but really, Cordelia manages so much better to work towards our shared goals as a school, and she's even younger.

Now, I also trust you will inform me immediately if you have any sign at all that there are problems I should be aware of, in any area of the school whatsoever. It is your obligation and duty as a senior member of staff, and as Head of House. If you are no longer willing to serve, of course, we could likely arrange some other solution.

D.






 **alt\_sirius** at [2013-03-11 00:55:57](#)  
(no subject)

Is that all?

Why not make Decree Number 25 while you're at it:  
*Staff are hereby banned from teaching any information that students might find remotely helpful?*

I sincerely hope your Healer Kerr disappoints you thoroughly by following his predecessor's example and putting the students' health and safety above any and all other considerations, including your good opinion. Maybe *especially* your good opinions, since they seem to be worth less than the textbooks you've provided for your so-called 'Defence' lessons.



 **alt\_harry** at [2013-03-11 01:01:14](#)  
(no subject)

Madame Umbridge, I had a question about this new decree.

I know that you've only just approved our halfblooded revision group with the four Heads of Houses taking turns supervising. I was hoping we could start meeting again this week.

If they just supervise, or only provide help in their areas of training, do we still have your approval to meet?

Thank you.



 **alt\_umbridge** at [2013-03-11 01:24:00](#)  
(no subject)

For the moment, yes, Mr Marvolo. Of course, should there be any difficulties at all relating to it, I may have revisit that question.

I trust you have learned your lesson on several counts?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-11 01:26:54](#)  
(no subject)

I will do my best to lead by example, Madame Umbridge.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-11 01:10:49](#)  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Madam Pomfrey's gone.


Bloody hell.



 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-03-11 02:03:21](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*


No!



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-03-11 01:11:18](#)  
*Private Message to Dolores Umbridge and Josiah Peakes*


Perhaps I missed some important parchment crossing my desk, Dolores, but when did the Board of Governors approve this 'staffing change'?



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-11 01:35:35](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Dolores Umbridge and Josiah Peakes*

It has been my understanding that removing staff from Hogwarts falls entirely under the Head's discretion - my reference is the School Charter, section XIX, part b. Do please inform me if there's some other document with priority, though I cannot imagine so.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-03-11 01:45:15](#)

*Re: Private Message to Dolores Umbridge and Josiah Peakes*

That section refers to the *removal* of staff - though on that point, one must question your judgement, particularly in light of Madam Pomfrey's extraordinary attention to Antosha's continued recovery - but not to the *appointment* of staff, Dolores.

Leaving aside Kerr's qualifications for the moment, and the overstep you made in appointing him summarily, what possible justification have you for the change in the first place?



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-11 01:55:23](#)

*Re: Private Message to Dolores Umbridge and Josiah Peakes*

Our previous matron made it a point to subvert my authority in matters relating to both staff and students, refused to provide necessary information about her appointments and treatments, and offered a great deal of disrespect to my authority. I tolerate none of these things under my roof.

As to staff needs, if they feel uncomfortable with our new Healer, I am sure St Mungo's would be glad to oblige with an appointment outside of their scheduled obligations to the school.

On the matter of Healer Kerr's appointment, it is, of course, a matter for the Board to confirm. But surely you would not wish the dear students to risk the slightest unnecessary injury in the meantime. Since, of course, you are still one short on the Board, and the last I heard from dear Josiah, no closer to agreement on that particular matter, hmm?



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-03-11 02:34:10](#)

*Re: Private Message to Dolores Umbridge and Josiah Peakes*

It's difficult to imagine anyone showing you less than the respect you deserve, truly.

Cannot disagree that there are times the Matron's adherence to her codes of confidentiality have been ... exasperating but on the whole should not expect that she would withhold information of any nature that might endanger a student by not reporting it to the proper authorities. Regarding her treatment of staff - again, while I am not unsympathetic to the obvious frustration you seem to feel at being shut out of their private affairs, surely as adults they are entitled to that basic privacy over their health that you would wish for yourself. Healers' Discretion is, after all, one of the hallmarks of effectiveness.

As to the matter of a replacement, naturally, no one should wish the school without a qualified Healer on staff. Naming him an 'interim' appointment would have been more accurate, of course. Nonetheless, it is not as simple as offering the staff the choice of Healer Kerr or St Mungo's staff - there are complications that must be considered in at least two cases of which I am aware independent of my status as a Governor. Should circumstances conspire - and I sincerely hope they do not do - you may find yourself held to account for endangering the care of one of Our Lord's valued servants.

We both know what a tragedy *that* would be. I pray you do not regret your choice.



 **alt\_umbridge** at **2013-03-11 02:45:50**

*Re: Private Message to Dolores Umbridge and Josiah Peakes*


As to the matter of appropriate exchange of information, I expect each and every staff member under my supervision to inform me of matters that affect the school as a whole. How else are we to avoid the lamentable dangers of some previous years, when staff were allowed to run amuck in the school (Quirrell. Macnair. Lockhart. Need I continue?)

The more I've reviewed past events with those here at that time, the more disturbed I become about the choices Minerva made. Clearly her descent began long before the Board considered any action at all. Disgraceful.

As to your latter, I was assured by Poppy Pomfrey only on Friday that Antonin was well able to take up his duties. In fact,

she said, and I quote, "I have no reason to think him anything less than entirely capable of going on with his duties."



 **alt\_lucius** at [2013-03-11 04:03:37](#)

*Re: Private Message to Dolores Umbridge and Josiah Peakes*

To my knowledge, Quirrell, Macnair and Lockhart had no medical ailments to which Madam Pomfrey would have been privy, which might have made any difference in the outcomes.

And for Toshenka, never would I intimate he is incapable of the tasks Our Lord has asked of him; on the other hand, perhaps you are unaware that he recently refused St Mungo's interventions in favour of Madam Pomfrey's, making her, in effect, his personal Healer. Therefore, you see that you have created a conflict in approach to his *continued* recovery. Had you consulted anyone before undertaking this decision, rather than bumbling through things you do not understand, there are those who could have set you straight and avoided any potential embarrassment.

**2013-03-10 21:34:00**

*(no subject)*

WE NEED TO MEET. TONIGHT. SECRET ROOM.  
15 MINUTES.



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-03-10 21:59:00**

*Various Prefect and Quidditch business*

Johnson if you could see to your Prefect duties and collar your twin trouble makers, I need to ask them a few pointed questions immediately after lunch tomorrow.



 [alt\\_cedric](#)

Marvolo and Davies, I'd like to talk to you about Quidditch for a few minutes after that. Johnson if you can stick around for that meeting as well it would be nice.

---




 [alt\\_cedric](#) at **2013-03-11 02:14:23**

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

The meeting will be about what we as Captains need to do to insure that our players remain safe, until the new school Healer is proven as effective as Madam Pomfrey was.

Additionally I'd like to talk to you about related matters as well.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-03-11 02:17:33**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Right.



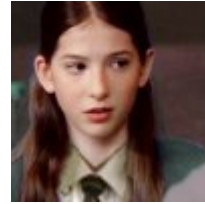
 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at **2013-03-11 03:11:03**

*(no subject)*

Who, us?!

**2013-03-10 22:09:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To  
No Good: Meeting Minutes, Sophie's  
Army*



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)

MEETING MINUTES, 10 March 1996

Location: the Secret Room.

Members Present--

ISS: Sally-Anne, Hydra, Justin, Pansy, Neville, Evelyn, Ron, Luna, Susan.

Former ISS: Fred, George, Lee.

Everyone Else: Harry, Draco, Katrina Bundy, Michael Corner, Ken Towler, Daphne Greengrass, Bobby Stebbins, Caroline and Edward Bones, John Summers, Katie Bell, Angelina Johnson, Jane Bradley, Steven Capper, Sarah Fawcett, Philip Stretton, Gareth Archer, Mandy Brocklehurst, Coinneach Donovan, Katrina Fitzgibbon.

Members Absent: Hermione (ISS), who was our lookout.

General Topic:

Bloody Dolores Umbridge and her bloody well ruining everything that made Hogwarts tolerable. And what we can do to protect ourselves.

Review of Previous Minutes:

There were a lot of people at this meeting who weren't at the last one, so we went over the codes. If you're ever in really terrible trouble -- Sophie Fleet trouble -- put an X on your coin. It's the job of some of the Gryffindors to create a distraction. And Harry will try to get the person out and somewhere safe.

I found out something interesting tonight before the meeting, which is that there's a tunnel that leads to the Shrieking Shack from under the Whomping Willow. And there's a way to freeze the Willow for a few minutes. So I told that to the meeting, although I didn't tell them who I heard this from since that seemed unnecessarily risky. (Mr Milland told me, this evening, when I went to talk to him about Madam Pomfrey being sacked.)

1. Unauthorised Healing Services.



Anyway Harry then told me to talk about my stash of potions. On Friday, Madam Pomfrey gave me a whole load of potions. There aren't any sleeping draughts in there, or Skele-Gro, but there's almost everything else. And she's been training me all year. I don't want people to overestimate what I can do -- if you've got snakes crawling out of your ears because of some hex someone threw at you you'll need to go to Healer Kerr, not me. And there are emergencies that are lifethreatening and people should either go to Healer Kerr or straight to St Mungo's (you should be able to get there by floo -- and almost any professor would let you do it, I think, at this point. Certain the trustworthy ones but also Raz or Dolohov or Sinistra or Babbling, you know?)

Then Harry warned everyone that if Umbridge found out that I was acting as an unlicensed Healer and giving out potions she would probably have me sent straight to the camps on the spot so they **ABSOLUTELY CANNOT TELL ANYONE** and that is absolutely in the category of secrets they swore not to betray when they got their galleon. Which made me feel a bit ill, but the thought of having to depend on Healer Kerr (under Umbridge's control) to Heal everyone at Hogwarts is even worse, so.

Anyway if people NOT on the galleons need a potion then the galleon people can come to me -- it's a shame we can't tell them to go to Justin if they're in Hufflepuff, Luna if they're in Ravenclaw, etc., but that's just too risky. They can use the galleons, though. Anyway I can pass the potions along or Harry suggested I send it via the elves, although given that Umbridge told them they can't give us food I'm not certain elf post will work properly. Though they carried my note to Sinistra this evening, anyway.

## 2. Exams, Passing.

Harry wanted to talk a bit about exams and whether anyone's in danger of failing (especially Defense, but anything, really). There were a few people everyone was worried about. Hopkins insisted that he was doing fine and no one needed to worry about him but Stebbins admitted he was really worried about failing Potions and Transfiguration, although he's doing alright in Charms, and if he also fails Defense... well it's not exactly clear just how many exams half-bloods need to pass other than **MORE THAN ONE**. Oh and of course there's Capper, who's actually quite clever and normally does just fine in his classes but he's an absolutely nervous wreck right now because of what happened to his brother last year. He came to me after and asked if I had any sleeping potions because he hasn't been sleeping,

because he lies awake and worries, and then he's exhausted and can't revise properly.

As it happens I DON'T have any sleeping potions because that's one of the things Madam Pomfrey didn't give me. But I lied and told him I'd get him one tomorrow. I'm going to make him a calming tea and tell him that it's a gentle sleeping potion and he should brew it in a cup and drink it right before he goes to bed. If it tastes bad enough he'll surely believe it's the real thing and it'll probably help.

Sarah Fawcett suggested that anyone who needs tutoring talk to Linus. He's a bit patronising but he's VERY clever and good at explaining things. Also apparently he has Professor Sinistra's notes from when she was a student.

Daphne is worried about Millie. She's not at all clever and she doesn't like revising. I said I'd help her revise if she'd take my help but I'm not sure she would. About the only person who can get her to do anything is Daphne, so we delegated it to Daphne.

### 3. Proposed New Members.

So then we talked some about who else might need a galleon, and be trustworthy with one. The names that got mentioned:

Astoria Greengrass  
Queenie Greengrass  
Cedric Diggory  
Geoffrey Hooper  
Aurelia Archer  
Cho Chang  
Marietta Edgecombe  
Tyche Jenkins  
Ernie Macmillan  
Jack Sloper  
Linus Moon  
Adelheid Zimmerman  
Megan Jones  
Honorio Sandoval  
Ginny Weasley

Daphne vetoed Astoria, she says she's not at all trustworthy (and she ought to know, seeing as she's her sister). She said that Queenie was more trustworthy but tells too much to Astoria and neither ought to have a galleon.

There was a little hesitation about Diggory because he's Head Boy and they're usually supposed to ENFORCE the rules. Harry looked grim and said that Diggory had come around and was firmly on our side.

No one had any immediate objections to Geoffrey Hooper, Aurelia Archer, Cho Chang, Marietta Edgecombe, Tyche Jenkins, Ernie Macmillan, or Jack Sloper.

Linus Moon...well, he's very clever and he IS trying to tutor half-bloods but he really wants to please the professors, including (especially) the Headmistress. (He was also a little too enthusiastic about that dreadful git who wrote the book about writing business reports -- but maybe I was the only one bothered by that?) We decided to hold off and possibly think about it a bit more. Adelheid Zimmerman, everyone thought she was trustworthy EXCEPT that she's friends with Megan Jones. We'd talked about adding Jones before but she's started kissing up to Umbridge. Fawcett noted that Jones left a message for Umbridge, and within a few minutes Umbridge had left a message for Madam Pomfrey and then today she got sacked. So it's not a huge leap to think that Megan Jones ratted out Madam Pomfrey for something. So no to Megan Jones, and we'll think about Adelheid Zimmerman.

Honorita Sandoval and Ginny Weasley got brought up by someone who wasn't at the last meeting so we discussed them again. Ginny's been acting a bit less mad, according to her brothers, but not so they'd really trust her yet. We left it that if they decide she's trustworthy, they can give galleons to her and Honorita.

#### 4. Hogsmeade.

We've a Hogsmeade weekend coming up in two weeks and people discussed things that we should get and bring back, although surely Umbridge will be searching for contraband (like FOOD). I'm going to smuggle food (that keeps) back in my container bracelet and anyone who has one should probably consider doing the same.

Anyone who wants to send an owl can do it from the public owl office, although they'll probably run out of owls due to demand. I'm going to suggest to Professor Dolohov that he suggest to the public owl office that they get in a lot of extras that day. Also there's a way to have an owl office hold a letter or parcel for a person who's going to come in and pick it up -- I think there's a way to spread word to the Hogwarts parents about that, actually, in advance of the weekend. (I'll have to

get a letter to Jeremy, but that should be do-able.)

## 5. Easter Hols.

This wasn't part of the main meeting. After things broke up, the ISS and former ISS reconvened (everyone pretended they wanted to see my potions, which meant leaving the room, letting the door go away, and then having it show itself again.)

Anyway. Mr Milland hinted about this and Fred and George explained: since unauthorised portkeys are still not working, the Order wants to teach all of us how to Apparate. It's illegal to learn when you're underage, but it's not as if they'd know (presumably they'll have Madam Pomfrey handy to fix us if we splinch ourselves learning? since we can't go to St Mungo's?) Of course, we can't Apparate from Hogwarts grounds BUT getting out of Hogwarts may be quite a bit easier than getting all the way to actual safety. (And! The Shrieking Shack is well off the grounds. And now we know a secret tunnel into it.)

Not that any of us were considering staying at Hogwarts over hols anyway, but that's good to know.

---



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-11 16:07:44](#)  
(no subject)

So, okay, the people who got proposed who no one objected to in the meeting were:

Cedric Diggory

Geoffrey Hooper  
Aurelia Archer  
Cho Chang  
Marietta Edgecombe  
Tyche Jenkins  
Ernie Macmillan  
Jack Sloper

I think we decided we're definitely giving a galleon to Diggory. In fact I think Harry wants to give him one today. The others, maybe we should talk about a little ourselves? Especially the Ravenclaws, I don't know Cho or Marietta all that well and Luna was really quiet at the meeting, what do you think of them?

Sorted by House, actually, there's:

Hufflepuffs -- Cedric Diggory, Tyche Jenkins, Ernie Macmillan

Gryffindors -- Geoffrey Hooper, Jack Sloper


Slytherins -- Aurelia Archer

Ravenclaws -- Cho Chang, Marietta Edgecombe

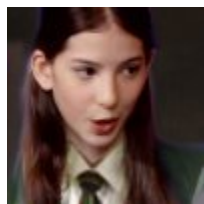
About Aurelia. In public, she toes the line really carefully. I THINK she's like me, someone who knows she can't afford NOT to toe the line -- you know about her uncle, who died right as MLE showed up at his door. She knew about the ring he wore, and although she convinced MLE that she didn't know anything and she was loyal, I think she was dead certain when she heard he'd died that he'd been up to something illegal.

There's just something about the way she looks when she talks about -- I don't know, Pansy, what do you think?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-11 17:02:10](#)  
(no subject)


There's just something about the way she looks when she talks about what?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-11 18:53:57](#)  
(no subject)

When she talks about anything subversive.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-11 19:10:28](#)  
(no subject)

So you think we can trust her, then?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-11 19:14:34](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, I do. With a galleon, anyway. The lock's different.

You know fundamentally I think we can trust her because of Sophie Fleet. Aurelia got questioned by MLE, but they didn't cruciate her. She knows perfectly well that if they'd started out assuming she was guilty and had cruciated her to make her say so, she'd be dead. You know? Under Headmistress McGonagall, we were protected. I think she feels like she's in danger. So the idea of Sophie's Army -- that you have to keep this secret, but the tradeoff is, if something really dreadful happens to you people will TRY to help you get away -- I think that would appeal to her.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-03-11 21:02:19](#)**  
(no subject)

I agree, yes. I think she'd know to keep her mouth shut, and she's had to have to have thought about how Sophie was nearly her.

I remember after Sirius Black's last, when he said that they were pretty much probably all dead, she was awfully pale for the rest of the day.




 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-03-12 01:44:41](#)**  
(no subject)

I think Aurelia's all right. When no one is looking, she sometimes catches my eye in the dormitories. Like she's sorry that I can't join in with everyone else.

And once she spoke to me. I was alone in the bathrooms and she came in and she said 'How can you stand it?' and I asked what but then she left again in a rush. The next time I saw her she acted like nothing had happened but then just this week, with Umbridge making all her new rules and everything, she looked at me again and I could tell she was seeing me, you know, not a muddblood. And she looked really sad about it.


I think a Galleon would be all right.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-12 02:09:27](#)  
(no subject)

Well, then. I think one of you ought to go on and give her a galleon. I can trust her if you do.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-11 19:10:20](#)  
(no subject)

Did any of you lot see what Megan Jones is wearing today?

It's a pin, one of the pins that Umbridge gives out. It says 'Knows Her Place.'

She's decorated it with pink ribbons.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-11 19:11:18](#)  
(no subject)

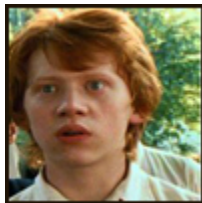
She wot?




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-11 19:15:14](#)  
(no subject)

RIBBONS.

She's acting like she's proud of it.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-11 19:27:47](#)  
(no subject)

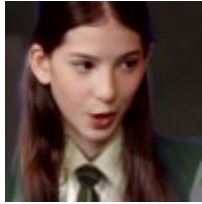
Daft, that one.

I mean, I'm sorry, but that's just ridiculous.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-03-11 21:00:23](#)**  
(no subject)

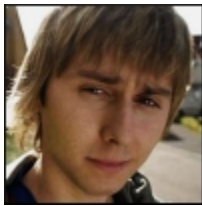
So... the idea to not put her on the galleon was probably a good one.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-12 01:19:41](#)**  
*Private message to Pansy*

I started to say 'yeah, you're welcome, all of you' but no one likes to hear 'I told you so,' so I restrained myself.

Well, except privately.



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-03-11 21:17:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

The only thing about Ernie is that he's on that bally old Junior Council nonsense. I did try having a word with him today, between lessons, but Zach was always about and so it wasn't all that productive.

Perhaps Sue and I need to try a two-pronged approach, what, where one of us occupies Zach whilst the other talks to Ernie.

I say, I'm not sure what we shall do if he's not too keen to join up, though. Perhaps Diggory ought to be nearby in case we need an N.E.W.T.-level Obliviation?

-Justin




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-12 01:16:28](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, so are Susan and Daphne -- just because Umbridge thinks she can trust him doesn't mean she's right, you know?



What does Susan think? Having Diggory linger nearby is probably a good idea, honestly.




 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-12 23:02:21](#)  
(no subject)

Well, we've got to get Diggory in first; I agree with Marvolo that he'll definitely want in, but I honestly don't know if he'd be willing to Obliviate someone on our say-so, especially a fellow Prefect in his own

House.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-13 01:53:46](#)  
(no subject)

The twins would do it if Diggory won't.

I mean to say, if Diggory wouldn't do it, don't ask him to. And definitely don't let him know that the next people you're going to ask to do it are Fred and George.

They can do it, y'know. So if you need them to, you should go to them. (They know I'm telling you this.)



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-13 02:27:37](#)  
(no subject)

If you say they can do it, I believe you.

~~Not sure I want to think about how y~~

I'll find the time to talk to Ernie this week, and I'll be sure and let you know over the lock in time to find them if they're needed.


Now I'm trying to figure out when I can work it in; it seems like we hardly see each other these days unless it's for prefect stuff or the bloody HJC, since he's not in the revue or Quidditch.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-12 01:42:52](#)**  
(no subject)

Probably a good idea. Wouldn't hurt to be careful.



 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2013-03-12 00:47:28](#)**  
(no subject)


One thing I've been thinking about, with the potions: what happens as you use them up? Or if they expire? I mean, I suppose they don't keep indefinitely, do they?

We couldn't carry away the entire Hospital Wing potions cabinet stock. How long will we have potions for, until the end of the year? How would we replace them?

Well. I suppose we can only worry about one thing at a time. Perhaps the Board of Governors will come to their senses and Madam Pomfrey will be back next year.

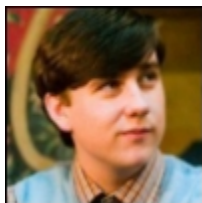
One can always hope, anyway.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-12 01:18:35](#)**  
(no subject)

Well -- she gave me potions that do keep for quite a long time, or that have been treated with charms or put in special glass vials to preserve them. But I don't have an infinite number.

If I start to run out of something I'll probably ask Mr Milland to get in touch with Madam Pomfrey for me, or possibly to make it -- from things he's said I think he's rather good at potions, almost as good with them as Madam Pomfrey. But for now I have plenty.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-12 01:40:45](#)**  
(no subject)


Good thing Madam Pomfrey was thinking ahead.

And she really did trust the right student with this,

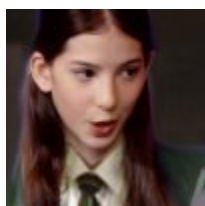
Sally-Anne. None of us would hesitate if we have to have you treat us. I mean, obviously we hope it won't come to that.

But just wanted to say...it's a big job, sure, but we know you'll step into this and do it right.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-03-12 01:41:50](#)  
(no subject)

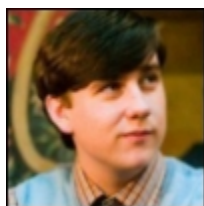
Definitely.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-12 01:44:34](#)  
(no subject)

Ohhhhhhhhhh you lot are SUCH OPTIMISTS.


Just wait till you've got a snake growing out of your left ear and you try to have me heal it, you'll see the difference between me and Madam P soon enough!



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-12 02:59:39](#)  
(no subject)

Well, not that I'm saying I wouldn't cross my fingers while downing the potion or anything....



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-13 03:05:18](#)  
(no subject)

Okay. So about Hooper.

I've been talking to Fred and George and Lee and Ken. Towler, y'know. We've been trying to decide about Hooper. I mean, it's dead certain he'd like to see Umbridge gone, so if that were all, then he'd be a definite. But the thing is, he's got some really big things, well, wrong in his life. There's what happened to his brothers, y'know: the one who worked for Mr Malfoy, who ended up getting attacked and hexed and died right after he got himself sacked, and then his older brother, who ~~decided Mr Malfoy was to blame and tried to~~ who was involved in the QWC bombing and maybe with Dogstar and, I dunno. People still talk about all that

whenever Hooper has one of those days when he shouts at everyone.

Which is really the point. He's a bit... tetchy.

Plus he was part of that duelling group, y'know. And got hurt-- hexed with something that made him lose control of his hands and I guess his feet, too, for a while. And he still drops things and stumbles, and I heard he saw a lot of specialists over Christmas hols and may have to go back for more treatments over Easter. Madam Pomfrey was giving him some kind of potion and he's got some ointment that he rubs into his hands every night. That's what Lee says, anywiz.

So, yeah. We think he'd say yes if we asked him. He'd probably really want to join. And the twins say he's a good sort, really. Mostly. And he hates Umbridge.

**2013-03-11 07:56:00**

*Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey*



 **alt\_antonin**

I must ask: as you have been turned out of your rightful place, what practical assistance might I offer? A place to stay, a position to supplement the pension monies you should receive as your rightful due, assistance in securing that pension should there be question about your entitlement to same? Or, indeed, anything that can ease the stress and hassle of having been forced out of your home and your calling, even slightly.

I would be pleased, for instance, to engage you as my private Healer, whether by matching the salary you have been deprived of through that woman's machinations or at whatever amount of compensation you would request or require. As I do not believe my needs would occupy much of your time in the least, should you be interested I would also support your continuing to provide service to those who have become accustomed to your care (such as Auri or Minerva) or to spend Easter and summer holidays continuing to tutor Miss Perks in service to her career aspirations. (As to that: do be assured I will continue to look out for her well-being; she is one of the students of whom I am inordinately fond and I am aware of that woman's disdain for her.)

In short, I am most livid on your behalf, and while outside considerations may somewhat bind my hands in the short term, I do not wish you to suffer needlessly due to having been removed from your home. I can assure you, steps will be taken to rectify the mess that woman has made of Hogwarts, as soon as those considerations might be managed into compliance. Until such time, however: allow me to stand your champion as much as I might, even if it is only until you are able to make more long-term arrangements. While doing so will in no way approach the debt I owe you, I consider it a matter of honour to provide whatever you might require -- particularly since it was, no doubt, your conscientious care for me, for my fellows at Hogwarts, and for the students whom we have both been directed to serve that caused you to first come under that woman's scrutiny in the first place.

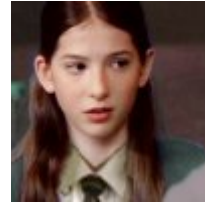
At very least, if there is anything on the grapevine that ought be known about Healer Kerr -- aside from the fact he is clearly more enamoured of the taste of pink shoe leather than one might wish -- do let me know, and I will ensure it is passed discreetly along to the

proper ears. Likewise, if there is anything outside the remit of the Matron's duties you have been accustomed to doing to ensure the students' well-being that I might take up in your stead, you have only to say the word.

At your service,  
Antosha

**2013-03-11 11:28:00**

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



 **alt\_sally\_anne**


Hey, just so you know -- I've been thinking about what the Twins said about teaching all of us Apparation, and how much time that's going to take if we're going to learn during hols.

I'm going to send the Strettons a note and tell them that you're planning to engage a tutor to help us revise during spring hols, and so they shouldn't expect me to be around much. It's plausible enough. (In fact it would probably be a good idea! but Apparation is more important.)

Anyway since Umbridge will no doubt read it I thought you should know what you're planning just in case she asks about it.

Thank goodness she doesn't make us sit by status during breakfast and lunch on weekdays. I've been getting hungry on the weekends, there's never quite enough food down at the 'wrong' end of the table and Zabini doesn't hesitate to snatch things before they get down to me. Anyway at least on weekdays I can fill up properly. Did you notice, the elves have been serving much heartier weekday lunches than they used to? Also, the Slytherin elf has started pressing my nightgown and folding it and putting it under my pillow with scented herbs, which is - - it's like she's trying to make up for not being able to leave me hot milk and a biscuit at bedtime like she used to. I wish they'd feed Umbridge something poisoned. I bet they'd like to.



 **alt\_pansy** at **2013-03-11 20:10:35**  
(no subject)

That certainly works. I might send off an owl to Mum and let her know I plan on staying in London with you and hiring a tutor for hols too, just to keep it consistent.

I bet they'd like to as well. I hate that I can't get you anything, but she watches me like a hawk, and I'm right by her table.

Ugh.

If it gets any worse, I'm going to risk it.

And let's plan on smuggling in loads more food at the end of hols. Among other things.

I wonder if Harry's plan to get the House Elves leaving notes won't be worth a try. If no-one catches on to the notion that it's the elves leaving the notes, Umbridge won't forbid them. And it'll be a great deal safer to hide the potion somewhere in advance and tell them where to find it.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-11 20:37:37](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm smuggling food back from Hogsmeade. Never mind hols!

And good thought on owling your mum. We can floo from the London house easily enough to the Burrow, or wherever they have us go.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-03-11 20:59:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Definitely Hogsmeade too. I wonder if the Three Broomsticks would sell loaves of bread? Or wheels of cheese? I'd bet they'd make up an order of a dozen pasties if we asked.



**2013-03-11 14:13:00**

*Order Only Private Message to Severus Snape*



I hate to bother you, but honestly I can't think of anyone better to ask. I've received an awkward private message from Antonin Dolohov and I'm not at all certain how best to answer him.

 [alt\\_poppy](#)

He asks, you see, whether he might put me on retainer as his own private Healer.

It's prettied up with all sorts of promises of what else I might be able to devote myself to on the side, as seeing to his care would not fill my time. And the terms are more than generous. However.

I do rather imagine that I could be more use to the Order if I were not tied at the hip and purse-strings to a death eater. And while I've not given much thought to what I will do, I could presumably do us a deal of good if I were free to pay visits to various of my acquaintances who have proven themselves friendly to our aims over the years.

And I suppose I should admit that what I most wish is for things to change so that I might return to my post. I do actually quite love that school, her students and staff. I'm tempted to reply that if he values my service so very much, he might apply himself to ridding us all of that usurping menace and exert his not inconsiderable influence to restoring me to my right place.

Only, one does wish to remain on best possible terms with Dolohov and not alienate him by saying something ill-considered. That he currently imagines himself in my debt is not an asset to be scorned.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at **2013-03-12 06:34:16**  
*(no subject)*

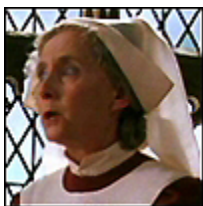
There are several possible approaches, but if you are intent upon turning him down, the safest way to do so would likely be to tell him that while you appreciate his generous offer and may take him up on it in the future, after so long at Hogwarts you are planning on an extended holiday and a chance to do some travelling, catch up on your reading, and decide what you want to do next. If you make vague reference to


deciding what you will apply yourself to next after the summer, and manage to sound ever-so-slightly dejected and defeated throughout, he will likely take that as a challenge on your behalf.

While I could provide you with several other subtle ways to communicate that challenge, any that were particularly cunning would no doubt alert him that you'd consulted someone more Slytherin than you are, which would cause him to wonder why you felt the need to seek assistance in how to respond to his offer.

If you were interested in nurturing the debt he feels to you, meanwhile, I would begin instead with the same reference to travelling and holiday. Then, tell him that while you would not feel right in accepting his offer while still on holiday and could not guarantee you would always be available immediately, he should contact you if he were in urgent need, and you would do your best to assist. On consideration, if you can stand the thought of being called in to provide services to him, that might be the best option: you would not be quite so tied down, but you would leave the door open for the future if necessary.

Alternately, you could simply say what you have said here about wishing for things to change so you might return to your post, though perhaps in a slightly more temperate fashion, and rely on the fact that he is no doubt looking for an excuse to take action — but only if you would not feel responsible for whatever action he chose to take.



 **alt\_poppy** at **2013-03-12 14:01:08**  
(no subject)

Thank you, Severus. I appreciate your thoughts on how to manage this most awkward overture.

I trust all is well there in the castle? I confess I am second-guessing the decisions I made, which have left Miss Perks with a private stock of unguents and palliative potions. I've laid upon her a responsibility that could lead her into quite serious danger. I had, at the time, no notion that I would not be present should a treatment go awry or should Miss Perks herself be seized upon for possessing medicinals from my stores. I cannot, of course, contact her by private message or by owl, so I suppose I must trust her good sense to keep out of harm's way and to make sound decisions should something go pearshaped with an injury or illness.

Please, could you keep a special eye on her?



 **alt\_severus** at [2013-03-12 14:15:45](#)  
(no subject)

I will endeavour to do so, though I have great faith in Miss Perks' ability to handle whatever might be thrust upon her. If there is a message you wish to pass along to her, I am willing to be your go-between; she and I have arrived at a measure of understanding.

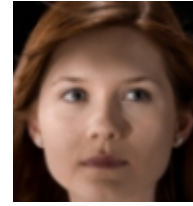
Matters here are tense, though it is not an overt tension; rather, it continues to be the sort of simmering subliminal tension that can only be generated by a band of adolescents who believe themselves to have been deeply wronged. Her ban on parcels, for instance, is not popular at all.

Meanwhile, you may be pleased to know I have heard many students express their support for you — though only when they believe there to be little danger of being overheard.

**[2013-03-11 20:29:00](#)**

*Spring*

I went out flying today, because I'm free for most of the afternoon on Mondays. The weather wasn't bad. At least it was better today than it has been in a long while. There are trees that look like they're getting ready to bloom, although maybe I'm mistaking leaf buds for flower buds? It could be wishful thinking as this winter seems to have lasted forever.



 [alt\\_ginny](#)


But it will be Easter Holidays soon. Well, three weeks is soon, isn't it? I'm looking forward to checking on the bees, although I'm glad to hear that Bill is keeping an eye on them. Eating with my family. Seeing Mum, and Bill, and maybe even Charlie. ~~It feels like it's been a long time~~

It seems like it was so long ago that I was doing the modeling. I probably shouldn't say this but I don't really miss it, or at least I don't miss not having time for anything.

~~Sometimes I miss feeling beautiful.~~

Ron would you care to meet later for a game of chess?



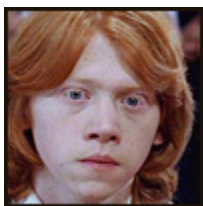
 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-12 01:43:14](#)


*Private message to Ron Weasley*

Did they ever give your hamper? ANY of it?

I SWEAR I ordered it ~~and paid for it~~

If I'd just got my order in properly on time it would have come before they stopped delivering parcels. I'm sorry, Ron. I'll try to make it up to you when we're home for Easter hols.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-12 01:54:17](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

No, they sodding ate it all. Guess it's right they're called the HOGwarts Junior Council, yeah?

All of them getting all puffed up with all the power she's given them and all the food they've nicked from the rest of us.

But, y'know, you shouldn't worry about it. It's not your fault what happened.

You still want to play some chess? I just got back from Revue ~~and~~ We could start or we could set up one of the famous matches from that book Charlie gave me and play it out from the midpoint to see if we make it come out differently, y'know?




 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-12 03:48:21](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

Well that was fun, though I think it came out differently mostly because I got distracted.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-12 03:57:29](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

Yeah, no worries. I just like thinking through a set up like that, figuring out what strategy my player was after and whether there are other options from that place forwards. I expect it wasn't as interesting to you. Or was there something else distracting you?




 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-12 04:02:07](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

Nothing important.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-12 04:06:24](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

Are you sweet on someone? Got a boyfriend you're keeping secret, then?



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-12 04:09:06](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

Oh for Merlin's sake Ronald! No!



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-12 04:14:13](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

You sure about that? You went all over red when Towler came and talked to us. Don't think he was really chatting you up, though, Gin. You're too young for him.

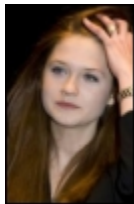
Sort of sweet you like him, though!



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-12 04:36:30](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

I did not go red because Towler came and talked to us!



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-12 03:55:14](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

And hogs is right. I know it's not my fault but I can't help worrying. It just makes me so cross thinking about them eating things I picked out for you.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-12 03:58:57](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

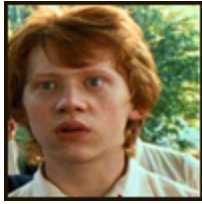
What was in it? So I can be properly cross about it, y'know, imagining all of it.




 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-12 04:04:16](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

Scones, jam, and clotted cream. And some sausages that you could toast in the fire and crumpets to toast to go with them.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-12 04:08:44](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

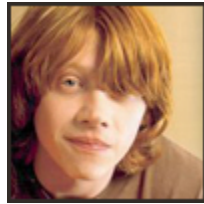
Oi. That sounds dead brilliant! I'd give anything for a sausage and toast right now--I reckon you can hear my stomach grumbling all the way in your dormitory, yeah?



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-12 04:09:42](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

Didn't you get enough at dinner? We're not THAT far down the table.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-12 04:17:46](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

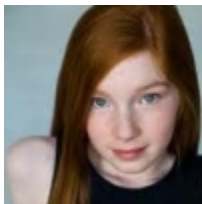
Doesn't matter how much I eat at supper, I'm always wanting more later. It's just dire the elves can't bring us food anymore. I mean, I'm having a growth spurt--how'm I supposed to grow properly if they won't feed us enough?



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-12 04:38:12](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

You actually eat that extra meal because you're hungry? And here I'd always assumed it had something to do with getting to the leftovers before the Twins did (when we're home, anyway).



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-12 02:14:24](#)

*(no subject)*

I'm always up for a match, Ginny. Maybe we can play sometime?





 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-12 03:49:38](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah. Maybe tomorrow? Or any day but Thursday, really.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-12 19:39:49](#)  
(no subject)

That would be lovely. I'm free tonight.



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-13 02:30:10](#)  
(no subject)

I love free flying too, and it's so much more enjoyable now that one doesn't always have to keep up warming and/or water-repelling charms at the same time!



**2013-03-12 15:56:00**

*Private Message to Lucius and Raz*

For future reference: Dolores Umbridge has developed an extremely idiosyncratic response to Imperius.




 **alt\_antonin**

Further detail when I can, after class at bare minimum. No luck, unfortunately, with clearing Raz's name.

---



 **alt\_lucius** at **2013-03-12 21:11:36**

*(no subject)*

~~Good~~ God You learned the hard way, I take it? Yes. She's grown resistant.

I did mention that to you, best brother, during one of our chats. Perhaps you were not as lucid as I thought at the time.

Trust that the effect has not inconvenienced you too greatly?



 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-03-13 11:12:28**

*(no subject)*

Oh, dear.

No, I don't remember that conversation; I suppose it while I was still in the hospital wing? Several other things people have said to me in passing make me think there were times when I appeared perfectly lucid and conversational but retained absolutely no memory of the conversation once it concluded.


I do hope there wasn't anything else I missed. Or anything I agreed to that will come back to haunt me.

Fortunately, I had decided to start with an extremely light touch to 'encourage' her to talk to me about her allies. Unfortunately, she interpreted that as an invitation to talk to me about relationships with others. At great length. Exhaustively. I believe she has decided her next goal is to marry me off to Professor Acton -- and I do not want to hear a word about that!

Back to the drawing board, one supposes.

Your,  
T



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-03-14 00:48:30](#)**  
(no subject)

Bratishka, your little flower tells me you ought to take Madam Umbridge up on her offer of Professor Acton forthwith - if only to surprise her so utterly that she is rendered speechless.

(Of course, Narcissa also advises putting Acton out to pasture before the match can be consummated, but I am fairly certain she is merely having a joke at your expense.)

Now. Meant to tell you earlier: Have made little progress with Peakes regarding the summary manner in which Pomfrey was ousted. For the time being, your own health is in hand? Do not trust Kerr with your case; this is one of the main thrusts of my argument with her frogginess and the other Governors who stand behind her, that you (and others) have been endangered by the removal of a competent Healer with the appointment of one whose motives are ... less clear.

But if you need assistance, shall have Fletcher offer himself on retainer.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-14 01:43:14](#)**  
(no subject)

Little brother, you may tell Narcissa I will not indulge her macabre sense of humour even that far, no matter how amusing it might be! (As to that, I rather suspect Acton would find the prospect of being offered up in such a fashion humiliating; she fancies herself the pursuer, not the pursued.)

But thank you -- I needed that laugh. Rather desperately, I am afraid; matters here are most unpleasant.

I am well enough for the moment, and Poppy assures me my

recovery is well in hand; she has offered to treat me should there be true need, so long as she does not need to return to the castle while that woman is still in residence. (Would that I could make the same vow.) I will indeed take you up on the offer of Fletcher's services, and thank you very much; I will certainly not be getting anywhere near Kerr. I have had enough of being a research subject.

The moment I hear of any failure of his to achieve a basic level of care, I will inform you immediately. And please (please!) do use my example in your arguments with the Governors if you think it would be of any use; if you need a convenient relapse to bolster your efforts, it could likely be arranged; another few days in bed with no headaches piled upon me sounds heavenly at the moment, in fact.

(Forgive me; I am feeling particularly dreary and fatalistic this evening.)

I don't suppose you've sussed out any additional hints as to what sort of adolescent rebellion Our Lord is hoping to spur Harry towards? ~~I am almost ready to explain matters to him and offer to hold his robes for him while he skins the woman alive~~

Will you and Narcissa be attending the Revue, meanwhile? From what I have heard, I am afraid I cannot promise you as much amusement as the last theatrical production the children attempted -- but it might be time for us all to make a showing of solidarity. We can all retire to my quarters afterwards and have a council of war -- or at least drink heavily and you can all commiserate with me and Raz for having to put up with the cow.

Wearily,

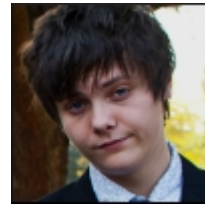
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**2013-03-12 17:35:00**

*Private Message to Sally-Anne*

(It's all right if someone wants to make me read this out but I'd rather they didn't.)

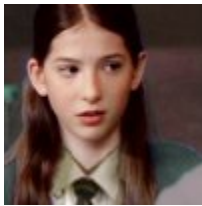
Look, I'm sorry.



 [alt\\_michael](#)

Can we talk about it? After supper?


---



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-12 21:48:01**  
(no subject)

Are you apologising because you think you were wrong, or are you apologising because you want me to stop being cross?



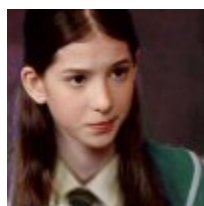
 [alt\\_michael](#) at **2013-03-12 21:52:53**  
(no subject)

Wot?

Since when is it wrong to care what happens to you?

I know that you can take care of yourself but that doesn't mean I'm supposed to stand by and let you make a mistake.

Look, I really think we should *talk* about it.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-12 21:56:49**  
(no subject)

It's one thing to care what happens to me.

It's another not to trust me.

~~It's not a 'mistake' when you've thought something through, and considered what could happen if you do something, and also considered what's going to happen if you DON'T do something.~~



 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-12 22:03:25](#)  
(no subject)

I never said I don't trust you!!

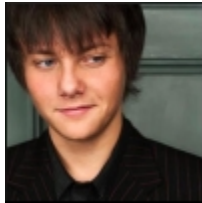
Only, it's not *just* you, is it?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-12 22:02:21](#)  
(no subject)

Let's talk about something else.

Like Arithmancy. Did you go to Linus for help, in the end?



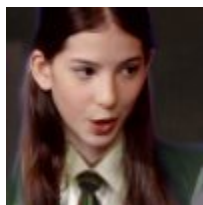
 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-12 22:05:45](#)  
(no subject)

Fine. But we're not done.

And yes, I did do. He's mad, giving everyone individual tutoring, but as long as he's willing, I'll

let him.

What did you do in Creatures?

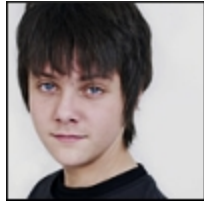


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-12 22:07:15](#)  
(no subject)

Petted things, naturally.

Only not really, because some of what we're studying could take off your arm.

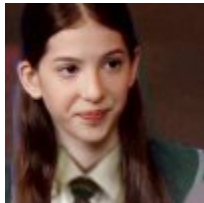
How have you been revising Potions? That's the OWL I'm most worried about.



 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-12 22:15:15](#)  
(no subject)

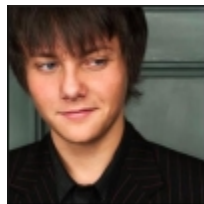
Well, I've been making note cards with the ingredients on one side and the brewing instruction on the other.

Did Professor Slughorn tell you that the Potions classroom's available some nights for extra revising? He told us, but you have to have a NEWT-level student if he's not there himself.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-12 22:18:07](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, yes. So he mentioned to us. Aurelia Archer supervised the other night for me and Pansy.



 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-12 22:22:51](#)  
(no subject)

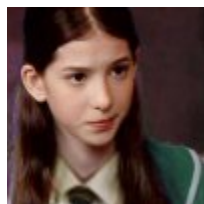
As if she needs the help.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-12 22:24:10](#)  
(no subject)

Pansy?

No. She's really very good at Potions. She said she could use the extra practise but I think mostly she wanted to keep me company.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-12 22:26:23](#)  
(no subject)

Anyway.

It's not just about me, no.

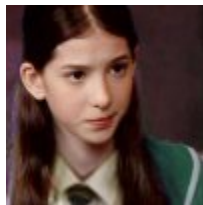


 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-12 22:30:35](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, that's what I was saying earlier, Sals, that it's not. And the thing is...ugh, you'll get cross again when I say this but look: You can't start thinking you're protected just because you've got powerful mates.

I thought Teds was a mate. Well, you see how that worked out. And I know you think they'll stand by you no matter what but you don't know that, not for sure. Not if it got...really bad.

If it's a choice between you and getting chucked out of their families or something, how do you know what they'll choose?

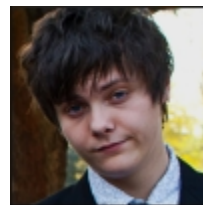



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-12 22:46:01](#)  
(no subject)

Pansy would choose me.

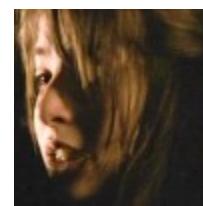
Teddy was a friend, sure.

He wasn't a friend like Pansy.



 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-12 22:47:24](#)  
(no subject)

Well, that's just bloody great, then, innit.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-12 23:47:19](#)  
(no subject)

See, this is exactly the sort of thing I meant when I said you don't trust me. You don't trust my judgment. You don't trust that I don't take risks for stupid reasons.



 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-13 00:10:25](#)  
(no subject)

That's not the point. At All.

Nor what I meant.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-13 00:12:02](#)  
(no subject)

Well what exactly did you mean then, since apparently I'm missing your point?



 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-03-13 00:18:07](#)  
(no subject)

My point?

My point is you're as Slytherin as they come. Fine. It's all very well for *you*, then, since *you've* got a rich, influential bestie who apparently (according to you) shall obviously turn her back on everything that *makes* her important and safe in order to protect you?

Well, lucky you.

You know what? Just forget it.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-13 00:22:53](#)  
(no subject)

Would you have preferred that I leave you out? Of everything, I mean.

Because that would be ever so much SAFER  
for you.



**2013-03-12 19:33:00**

*Did anyone else*

think tonight's treacle tarts were a touch overcooked?



Oh, and Lines, did you see that your sister's in the *Evening Prophet*? They did a small feature on couples to watch and mentioned the wedding. It's really coming up quickly, isn't it?

 **alt\_padma**

Seamus, are you going to the match on Saturday? I can't believe the Revue is almost here - it feels like we've been rehearsing forever.

Has anyone met Healer Kerr yet? Professionally, I mean.

---




 **alt\_seamus** at **2013-03-12 23:57:44**  
(no subject)

Yeah, of course I'm going to the match. Even though I almost don't know why they're bothering to hold it; unless Marvolo and Malfoy both get eaten by the squid between now and the weekend, it's not as if

Huff has a chance.


We all met Kerr at that CCF event, didn't we? The one with the swimming. He was the one with the 'research.'



 **alt\_padma** at **2013-03-13 00:00:03**  
(no subject)

Oh, that's why he looked familiar. I meant since he took over for the Matron, but yeah, that's right. But then he spent more time with some people than others, doing that research.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-03-13 00:00:57](#)

*Private Message to Seamus*

Did you see Umbridge tonight? And Professor Dolohov! I thought I'd choke trying not to laugh.



 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2013-03-13 00:08:09](#)

*Re: Private Message to Seamus*

Yeah! What was UP with her? Is there some potion that makes you act like a raving loon, and did someone maybe slip it into her tea?




 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2013-03-13 00:08:30](#)

*Re: Private Message to Seamus*

I mean a ravingly over-friendly cheery hyperactively social sort of loon, of course.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-03-13 00:13:46](#)

*Re: Private Message to Seamus*

I have no idea. If I didn't know better I'd have thought she *fancied* Professor Dolohov. Only it's normally so obvious that they can't stand one another. Even though they try to hide it, you

know?

Did you notice when she tried to push Acton toward him? Lakshmi, it was hilarious!

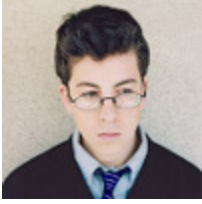
Think we could figure out what it was and make sure it happens again tomorrow?




 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2013-03-13 00:42:39](#)

*Re: Private Message to Seamus*

It'd be brilliant if we could. Reckon Professor Dolohov knows?



 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-03-13 03:49:14](#)  
(no subject)

I had not seen that, no. Thank you for bringing it to my attention, Padma. I shall have to procure a copy at once. It will indeed be quite soon. I've been fitted for my usher's robes, and of course there's been a grand commotion at home for quite some time, with the planning.

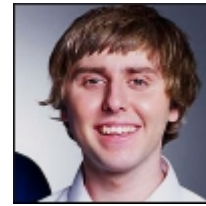
Did I tell you about the charmed cherubs?

**[2013-03-12 20:45:00](#)**

*(no subject)*

I say, it felt like spring this afternoon, didn't it?

It's well lovely now that the sun's up a bit earlier and the air is less frigid in the mornings. We have only a week left until our revue performance (such a very long time to work on a project but I think it's quite a decent result, in the end), a Hogsmeade visit and then Easter Holidays--it's rather amazing how quickly it's all coming up, after such a long winter, what!

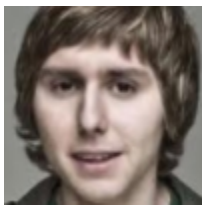



 **[alt\\_justin](#)**

Sunday's presentation was also just the sort of thing to break the monotony of one's studies. It's a testament to the authors' dedication to Hogwarts and the students that they took time away from their writing to speak to us. It's always edifying to learn how professionals approach their craft and to think of the variation in genres and styles. I daresay several girls were particularly happy to obtain signed copies of Elation. I hope we might continue the series in future, perhaps with other authors reading from their works.

Of course, these opportunities aside, it's really our schooling that occupies the majority of our time. I'm grateful to the Headmistress for ensuring that we have sufficient quiet, uninterrupted periods in which to focus on our individual revision. Working in groups only gets one so far; after all, when we come to it, O.W.L.s are not a group effort, what!

-Finch-Fletchley



 **[alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-13 01:30:29](#)**

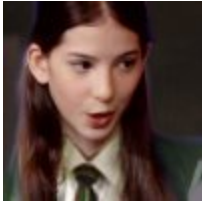
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Sally-Anne,

Madam Umbridge looked so pleased at supper tonight. Do you suppose she found a way to get rid of

your socks?

-Justin



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-13 02:18:49](#)

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

Apparently she was haranguing Professor Dolohov about how he needed to find a nice girl and get married.

I'm pretty sure it wasn't sock-related, but who knows?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-13 02:21:32](#)

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

Oh and that's some NEWT-level arse kissing you've got in your public post. I can't even do that well on my best days, lately. You'll get a 'knows his place' pin next if you're not careful.



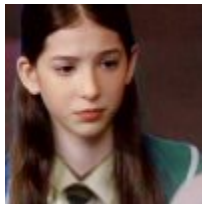
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-13 02:26:10](#)

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

Let's hope not, what! I say, I nearly broke my quill writing it. I'm well certain one of these days I shan't be able to keep from telling her what I really think.

Perhaps we ought to use the Galleons and Galleon meetings to help each other come up with clever things to say.

-J

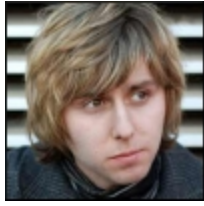


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-13 02:27:39](#)

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

That would be useful. I feel like I'm all out of ideas. I haven't posted publicly since early March but every time I start I find myself thinking about all the things I really SHOULDN'T say.

Maybe Michael's right



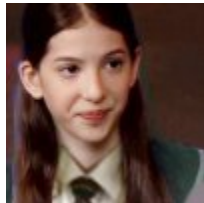
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-13 02:29:14](#)

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

I say.

Everything all right? I know we're all upset to see Madam Pomfrey go but you've grown close to her this year, haven't you. I'm sorry, I ought to have asked earlier.

-J



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-13 02:31:37](#)

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

I'd say pretty much everything's wrong, at least tonight.

~~I didn't get enough at dinner so I'm hungry and I miss my bedtime biscuit with the warm milk that the elf used to bring me and I miss Madam Pomfrey and I'm scared I'll get caught with those potions and Michael is an idiot and I don't want to list things, I'll just sound like a miserable whinger. I wish I could just close my eyes and sleep until April.~~



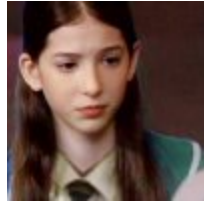
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-13 02:37:41](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

If there's one thing this lock is bally well good for, what, it's preserving our solemn right to whinge now and then.

I shan't pry, of course. But I promise if you'd like to make a list, I'm willing to read it without judgement.

-J



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-13 04:29:14](#)

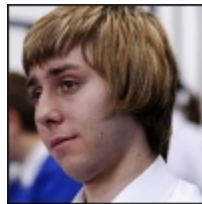
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

Michael and I broke up.

I had expected that when it happened, it would be because my secrets drove us apart and I guess that was part of it. But mostly

Well, like I said to Pansy, I don't know if it's that he thinks I'm an idiot for trusting my friends to help me, if I get in horrible trouble. Or if it's that he's furious that I have friends I can trust that much, when he doesn't. And I think it's more the latter, because it's ALWAYS bothered him that I have so many pureblood friends.

Maybe I AM



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-13 15:08:52](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

Oh, I say. I'm sorry to hear it.

For what it's worth, I do think it can be quite difficult for others in Michael's position, who don't have the benefit of the lock, what. And I know it's hard to keep secrets from someone, especially if one cares at all about the other person.

I suppose that's why I keep hoping the Galleons will make a difference, and convince more of our acquaintances that they aren't alone, either, and that when it comes down to it, we've more in common than not, regardless of who's pureblooded and who isn't, what. It doesn't seem to be having that effect yet, quite. But perhaps now that we've got to use the coins to meet, it shall have.

Still, it's a pity you and he broke up over it. There's no chance of a reconciliation, then?

-J



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-13 04:42:56](#)**

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

Right.

I just have to ask.

Is that Cedric? Did he get his galleon? Or one of the others?



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-03-13 14:19:30](#)**

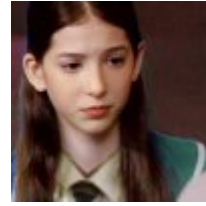
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Diggory. Harry gave him a Galleon and explained it.  
I think he was testing it out.



**2013-03-12 21:18:00**

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



Michael and I broke up.

He is such an idiot. I don't even

 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-03-13 02:31:29**

(no subject)

I'm sorry.

He is.

What happened?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-13 02:42:09**

(no subject)

We had an argument last night and then today in the journals he apologised only it wasn't a real apology, he still meant everything he said.

He doesn't like that I've got those potions -- I mean, for a while he's made it clear he thinks I take too many risks, and this was just the final straw, in a way.


But it also just makes him furious that I'm 'such a Slytherin,' that I'm sure I can take those risk and avoid the consequences because I have friends I can count on. I'm not even sure exactly what makes him so angry, whether it's because he thinks I'm an idiot for thinking I can count on you or if he's jealous because he knows I'm right but he doesn't have anyone like that.

And it's not as if I can tell him that it's not JUST friends at school, that I think if I got in really deep trouble over the healing potions (or the galleons or any of it) that the Order would try to help me. I mean they might not succeed (they weren't able to get Terry from Lincoln Castle, after all, not until he killed Carrow) but they'd try.

And, he's right, I guess, that I'm SUCH A SLYTHERIN. Because I

KNOW -- friends, allies, and people watching our back -- those are as much safety as ANY of us have.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-13 02:59:08](#)  
(no subject)

I think you're right that he doesn't have anyone like that, and that might make him not understand as much why you'd take those chances.

And it's more than that, isn't it? It's deciding that some things are worth the risk. And not being able to just sit back and let other people decide what's to be done.

And being willing to risk everything.

I guess we are because we've got each other.

**[2013-03-12 22:51:00](#)**

*Private Message to Antonin Dolohov*

Antonin,

Thank you for what you said. I appreciate your kind words about my situation and your offers of assistance.



 [alt\\_poppy](#)

I'm afraid I must decline your offer to put me on retainer as your private healer. I will not step foot in that castle again until Madam Umbridge has gone and my place been restored, so while I would certainly agree to see you should you find yourself in urgent need of my care, I cannot provide the steady, on-going care you require to see that you continue on your upward course. I do regret that.

In any case, I mean to do a bit of travelling, I think, to clear my mind and take advantage of the unexpected holiday. I will do, that is, if I am able to settle the matter of my status at St Mungo's and the matter of my pension. I have spent the past two days at it with little progress. Mine has been a dual appointment, so Madam Umbridge was not able unilaterally to terminate my employment. I am now an institutional healing practitioner sans institution. Sans salary, as well, save for the rudimentary stipend St M's provides. They could assign me elsewhere, including within St M's, but I think it highly unlikely.

I have requested leave, in any case, if only so Luxovius Kerr cannot expect that I will accept fire calls at all hours to answer questions and provide care summaries about this patient and that whose fat files full of treatment notes he will not wish to bother reading. (You asked about his reputation: it is that he is interested in his own rather narrow research specialty and nothing else. He is not accustomed to seeing patients; rather, he studies research subjects, some of them at first hand. He is not said to be a particularly collegial presence in his department.)

In any case, I've been advised that whatever St Mungo's decide to do with me, I must apply within a fortnight of my severance from the school for my pension or forfeit that entirely (whether I'm to be formally retired or not), so off I've gone to the Ministry where I've sat for a day and a half with three dozen other petitioners waiting for my number to be called. On Monday afternoon, two persons were summoned into the inner sanctum whilst the rest of us waited; today, only one person was summoned all day. In fact it was two, but the

second had just succumbed to an urgent need to step out for several moments and was called in absentia. When he returned and learned he'd been summoned, he went to the clerk only to be told he'd missed his window of opportunity and had lost his position in the queue. Mind you, they didn't call anyone else in his place. I overheard two of my fellows speculating that it is a ploy to keep people from claiming their pensions. I've yet to discover whether any of my companions have spent a full fortnight waiting in that reception, but I have begun to suspect that one's summons may be carefully scheduled for the day following the expiration of eligibility.

I'm sure this is more than you wish to know, Antonin, but I suppose I want to give you fair warning that I might, after all, need the help you offered in the event I have difficulty securing my pension.

In any case, thank you for your kindness in my time of distress. It meant a great deal to read your words of support and your expressions of shared purpose.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-13 11:37:03](#)**  
(no subject)

Dear Poppy,

I can hardly blame you for not wanting to return to Hogwarts while Madam Unbearable remains present, for all that it is our very great loss. Your impression of Healer Kerr is not encouraging; I'd heard a few of the children muttering in the past day or two about his actions at the YPL activity he attended, but I had hoped it was simply an adolescent lack of perspective. I should have known better.

At very least I suppose his abject unsuitability for the position will become clear quickly, and must hope that her unilateral appointment of someone so grossly inappropriate will come back to bite her in the overstuffed pink arse. If you will excuse my vulgarity.

I would be pleased to exercise my influence on your behalf with the Ministry bureaucracy, and that sort of detail is precisely what I would like to know; owl me the information for the department when you've had enough of dealing with their intransigence and I shall make it clear that they are not to delay you further with their nonsense.

I hope you are able to put this shameful mistreatment aside and

enjoy a relaxing holiday until you are able to return to your rightful place -- something I will not cease attempting to arrange.

In service,  
Antosha

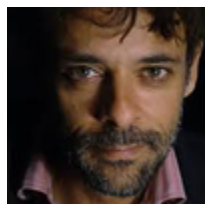


 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-13 15:43:25](#)**  
(no subject)

Antonin,

As you may have gathered, I am not one to allow an opening to pass nor one to waste time unnecessarily. I have, as you put it, had enough of dealing with intransigence and would be most appreciative if you were to apply whatever leverage you might see fit to end my vigil in this dismal waiting room. (Today we are four dozen downtrodden souls and increasing--two more have come along to join us whilst I read your note.)

It is my understanding that the authority here resides in Marion Lewes-Dampling, Head, Directorate of Personnel and Pensioner Services. Mind you, we pauvres aspire only to be processed by Matilda Thompson, Functionary Second Class, Registrar, Redundancies and Retirements, or at most to lodge appeal with Angus Rumpold, Functionary Superiour, Arbiter, Classification and Consignment.




 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-13 16:55:24](#)**  
(no subject)

I will send a stern letter on your behalf as soon as I'm out of class for the afternoon, though as I'm certain they keep abbreviated hours, you may not see the benefit until tomorrow. To underscore my point I will use owl post instead of journal, under my most intimidating letterhead. If matters are not settled to your satisfaction by tomorrow afternoon, let me know and I will cancel my office hours and devote Friday morning to showing up in person until I achieve results.

In the meanwhile, if you have any expenses before your pension comes through, do let me know that as well; I will stand your surety.

In service,  
Antosha



 **alt\_poppy** at **2013-03-15 03:19:47**  
(no subject)

I began a fresh message to you, then thought better of it. No need to give your tormentor reason to think you are conspiring with me.

Antonin, thank you. At quarter to five this afternoon, I was summoned to Mr Lewes-Dampling's office where I was informed that my parchmentwork is all in order (I had not, in fact, yet been given any to complete!) and that my first payment will be made directly to my Gringotts account on the first of April. Assuming that is not an April Fool's jest, I believe that whatever you wrote did the trick, as they say.

I do appreciate your help, and am most grateful to be free of that business.

Most sincerely,  
Poppy

**2013-03-12 23:31:00**

*(no subject)*

WhAt An AmAzIng cross sEctIon oF  
rulEbrEAkErs youve put togEthEr hErE. Im  
pErvErSEly proud.



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-03-12 23:33:00**

*(no subject)*

All In A vEry good cAuse! Im totAlly In. dont  
worry. oust UbrItches!



 **alt\_galleon**



**2013-03-13 09:46:00**

*Private Message to Aurora Sinistra*



 **alt\_antonin**

Dear heart,

I had hoped to catch you in person for a quiet word, but circumstances, alas, seem to be preventing. But I did wish to tell you that I've spoken with Poppy, and she is as well as she might be, given the circumstances: livid at Umbridge, as well she ought be, but in no particular immediate need. I have promised her whatever assistance I might give; I am in her debt for the quality of care she has delivered to me.

(You may also hear reference to the excitement you missed at supper last night; the children cannot have missed that our dear, darling Madam Umbridge spent supper last night waxing effusive at me about the importance of maintaining relationships with others. Lest you worry that this is a sign of her next area of interest, or the thrust of her next campaign of misery: the fault there was entirely mine, as I'd thought to encourage her to tell me about her allies. Lyoushka assures me that he did, in fact, warn me she had developed a resistance to such forms of encouragement, but alas, I did not remember the conversation.)

But enough about setbacks: I will not be so obvious as to ask how you are, as I cannot imagine you are bearing up under this latest round of indignities with equanimity, but I know you, little star: I am certain you are imagining yourself the cause of Poppy's dismissal and the latest "educational decree". I cannot say this strongly enough: you are not responsible for that woman's actions, and you must not allow yourself to fall into the trap of casting blame anywhere but in the direction it belongs -- namely, square upon Madam Toad's shoulders.

I would also ask a favour of you: it is becoming clear to me that I am not at my best, and while I cannot imagine our conflict will erupt into open battle, I would be remiss if I did not take every opportunity possible to hone my spellwork. I will be devoting myself to that work over Easter hols, but until then, and as that woman has now prevented you from practicing with the children as well as with Raz, would you care to kill two jarveys with one spear and serve as my practice partner? (I would ask Raz, except I am certain darling Dolores would take that as a challenge.)

Yours,  
T

---



 **[alt\\_sinistra](#)** at **[2013-03-13 14:12:35](#)**  
(no subject)

Tosha -

I don't even know where to start.

Thank you for the news about Poppy. I didn't dare write, though I've a note to go to her by other routes on Sunday.

Really, though? Both that you made the attempt and that you'd forgotten the warning not to. (Heard a little from last night's fourths, and this morning's fifths.)

On the rest: words don't fix it, Tosha. They really don't.

The practice, though, if you think I'd be any help, yes.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-13 14:59:27](#)**  
(no subject)

We are well past the point where direct action is called for, and I will admit to letting my frustration get the better of me; I've been unable to turn up more information by my usual methods of walking around and shaking branches to see what falls out of the tree. Not without leaving traces in places I ought not, at least, and we are not quite at that crossroads yet. Still, I should not have forgot Lyoushka's warning -- and I will be certain to check with him, and with others, to see what else I may have lost in the midst of my recovery.

I know that words do not do much, little star, but likewise I also know her methods: she has made you her target and will do her best to convince you her actions, and the world's ills, are your fault, and she will continue to try her best to make you believe that the school and the children would be better without you than with you. Unless I miss my guess, her message will begin to grow more explicit, until she begins to tell us all outright that she would not have to take such measures if we would simply do what she wanted us to do. It is a classic pattern, and one intended to make life

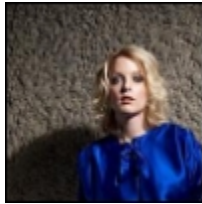
miserable for any of us who do not fall in line.

Needless to say, it is also nonsense.

I know things are difficult; I know you worry for the future, and for the students, and for the well-being of the school. (As do I, really.) But I beg of you -- do not let her convince you that you are anything other than the wonder that you are.

Sunday evening, for practice? Or is there another time you'd prefer?

Yours,  
T



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-13 16:51:42](#)  
(no subject)

Mmm.

As to more data, I have a near complete file (and the rest coming Sunday) from a friend with access to the Prophet archives, of any substantial articles about her pinkness. I intend, as we discussed Friday, to set Mr Moon to seeing if any names come up (either as allies or adversaries) that might be of interest to us. It seems worth trying.

On practice, is Saturday evening possible? Long before Raz and I spent them in more varied ways, we spent them drinking and marking together, and they're so very empty now. Though I'm - you *sure* I'd be useful to you?

On the rest, well. Yesterday, at the Guild, I got there early, and Dai and Gilly arranged to get out of work to meet me. And we ended up in Georg's office until the textbook meeting. (Georg is convinced that plying me with coffee - Viennese in his case, naturally - is helpful. It is, actually.)

Anyway. We got to talking about Houses, and the implications for decisions, and that always fascinates Georg because of course he didn't go to Hogwarts. (Durmstrang, long before he emigrated in the 50s).

I think what's bothering me so much is two things. First that

Madam Headmistress is such a ... a perversion of the House. That she's twisting all the things that ought to be good about us, ought to be our virtues, and using them to tear things apart. Using loyalty and a desire for hard work, and a desire to be fair (which is to say, giving every student a like chance to succeed on their exams.) And yet she tangles it to make it feed her idea of what's right or best.

And I don't know what to do with that. At all.

The other part is - Dai asked something last night I couldn't answer. (Don't look at me like that, Toshenska, it was not an unreasonable question.) About why I was letting her tangle me up so much.

I didn't know how to tell him how much I hate her. Any of them. It's not just that she's frustrating. It's not just that she's miserable to work for, or that I'm dreading the next teensy idea she has to make things worse. It's that I wake up hating her, and go to sleep (when I sleep) hating her, and catch myself hating her in the middle of a sentence.

I know why. I mean, besides the obvious. That she's insisting on taking stars out of the sky that ought to be there, that should be shining and shaping the worlds around them, and being *stars* not frozen lumps of rock. That everything she touches poisons.

But I don't like what she's making me become, in hating her. And I don't know what to do about it. At all.

Anyway. I do feel like it's my fault. I feel like if I'd been smarter or sneakier or, or... *better*, that we'd have managed Saturday's practice and gotten away with it. That I'd have avoided the ban on everyone else on staff helping where they could, even if Dolores didn't like it. I know it's her doing, the decree and everything else. But I gave her opportunity, and I shouldn't have. I should have known better.

~~And every day's getting harder, not easier~~



 **alt\_antonin** at [2013-03-13 21:33:25](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, my dear one. I am so sorry you've a need to deal with this.

I have no absolute answers -- well, you know that if I did, I would have given you them a long time ago. But we've spoken of change, before, and about how one must embrace it or shy away from it, and in this case I think your hatred is another facet of that same coin: hatred can fuel change for the better or for the worse. Or rather, hatred can lead you to become more of what you wish to be, or bring you ever further away from it.

I can imagine you raising your eyebrow at me, and wondering how such a strong, negative emotional reaction can bring you closer to what you want to become when all you can feel right now is that all-encompassing rage, and when you feel so far away from the self you wish to be -- for the virtues you believe in so strongly are the ones that seem anathema to such hatred. (And thus you worry that you, like her, are twisting and warping the virtues of your House, and the secret voice of the wee hours plagues you with the thought: is this how she started? Is this what I will become? I would not be surprised if that were not one of the seeds at the root of your sleeplessness.)

Certainly, it is difficult to keep sight of what (and who) one wishes to be when one feels incapable of breathing without being reminded that the object of one's hatred is breathing the same air. There is the risk of the hatred expanding to fill you until it hollows you out from within, leaving you with nothing of what and who you used to be; I have seen that happen before, among several of those I fought beside. There are and were those whose motive in rising at Our Lord's behest was not a vision of the world we would build on the bedrock of wizarding history and wizarding culture, but rather an overwhelming hatred of those not of wizarding heritage who would come into our world and destroy it through their ignorance. And while the two motives looked alike on the surface, the differences became plain quite quickly when one looked beneath: those for whom the struggle was motivated by nothing more than their hatred may have been fierce fighters, but they were also the ones for whom success held no particular sweetness, only the perpetual terror of what fears would be made manifest if the next battle should not go as

well.

Hatred, I've often thought, is a facet of fear -- for what do we hate more than that which has frightened us? And you are so very frightened right now, for she has uprooted everything in your life you thought was stable in the heavens, and every time you learn the new map of the skies she yanks it askew again. You do not -- forgive me, little star; it is not intended as insult -- take to change quickly; it takes you time to learn the new patterns before you can lean on them. That she has forced you to do it repeatedly, and with the worst of motivations, is enough to inspire fear and hatred on its own, even were she not striking at the heart of all you value most: family, love, home.

But hate is not the opposite of love, and you are not betraying that heart of you by feeling hatred for someone who twists those values so badly. The question is not whether or not you should feel hatred; the question is whether you can transmute that hatred into resolve, and in doing so, serve your own greater goals and ideals rather than allowing her to draw you further from them. Yes, you will hate her no matter what; yes, the knowledge that you are able to sustain that level of hatred will change you, and is changing you, and you will have to live with that knowledge now that you have it. But it is possible to use that hatred to fuel your purpose, and to strengthen your resolve to continue to exemplify all the virtues she has twisted so fiercely. When her actions make it plain she poisons everything she touches, instead of berating yourself for feeling that hatred, let it instead power your resolve and your efforts to be everything she is not, and to embody the virtues she rejects. Doing that will still mean you are defining yourself by her actions, and reacting to her rather than embracing actions on your own out of nothing but your own nature -- and I know you know my feelings on that -- but as we are fighting a reactive battle at the moment, it may be your best choice.

Do not think that the strength of your hatred is a failing of yours: it is not. The hatred you feel for her is something she has earned herself, through her own actions and her own choices. Those choices are hers, and the choice before you is whether you will allow her to force you into facing each moment through the fear of what that moment might bring, or whether you will reach inside yourself and say, her choices are her own, and my choice is to oppose those actions of hers I find anathema no matter what the cost might bring to bear.

It is not much I can offer you -- but I hope it will be enough to start you on the road to that resolve. And, as I know your next question to me will be "but how" -- I've some ideas in that direction, but we can discuss that later.

My Saturday evening is yours, little star. As are any others of my evenings you've a mind to lay claim to. And I have faith you will indeed be a help to me, as I hope I will be to you.

Your,  
T



 **alt\_sinistra** at **2013-03-14 00:18:02**  
(no subject)

Toshenka -

Where do I start? (Except, yes, Saturday, if you're sure.)

I'll be the first to admit I am slow to deal with change, and easily startled, and that it is, yes, a problem.

I will also admit I am afraid of so much - for so much, right now. What she'll do next. ~~If Raz and I will ever get married if something will tear him away if the curse damage gets worse if Our Lord if we still know how to talk to each other when if there's no way out, and we're in this endless waiting if he decides I'm not if we don't ever if I change so much he can't love me~~

Afraid, yes.

What she might do to students next. That they're not talking to me, not really, about the punishments, worries me more than words can tell. That the small things are adding up and up and up into an endless sum, too much to ever bear or dismantle or make better. That they will come out twisted like she's twisted.

That I will. You are right, Toshenka, about part of my fears.

What makes people like that? I - Cassie, last year. It got me wondering. But I've no answers. Pomona was in school around

the same time as her pinkness and - she wouldn't say much, didn't dare, but she said she wasn't the kindest or the most helpful or the most pleasant. But she wasn't like this, not then.

And it's changing so much of everything else. Things with my family. People who don't understand what it's like here. Seeing divisions amongst the students. Those things - even if Minerva were back tomorrow, properly in her office, those things, those wounds, those suspicions, wouldn't go away. I don't know.

How, magister? What can one possibly do instead?



**2013-03-13 13:24:00**

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



 **alt\_justin**

I'm sorry I wasn't able to fetch you from your Defence lesson this morning. Professor Dolohov held me back after class--well, you know he *does* have an intolerable way of asking me a question just as we're trying to pack up and leave--and this time I couldn't put him off with a quick answer. He asked me to stay and go over my essay with him, point by point. And made certain I could name every counter-jinx 'for the sake of thorough understanding of his own dear subject,' so he said, but of course it was obvious he wants to make sure I'm absorbing Defence despite that bally well useless textbook.


The only bright side is that he had the elves bring us lunch (and it wasn't what the halfbloods have been served lately, either, what!). But I've a feeling it shan't be the last time he keeps me from walking you down to the Great Hall.

But I shall see you this afternoon, anyway. I say, I hope he doesn't think that I'm hanging about in the corridor to talk to him *again*, what!

Also. I feel as though I haven't said lately: I love you so much. I can't think what this place would be like this year without you.

-Justin



 **alt\_hydra** at **2013-03-14 13:41:15**


*(no subject)*

Well I've thought about it and I suppose that next time, I could interrupt and say that I need you for something. What do you think he would do?

Oh, and in case I didn't make it known last night: I love you too.

From,  
Hydra



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-14 17:08:42](#)  
(no subject)

I suppose that depends on whether you look like you need me or you look like you *need* me, what! But perhaps better not, in case he tells tales back to your parents.

Have you seen Sally-Anne today? I hope she's not too upset still.  
When are you lot meeting for Tea?

-Justin

**[2013-03-13 16:42:00](#)**

*Private Message to A. Dolohov*

Toshenka.

Meant to have asked before now what the latest ouster from Hwarts means for you. Reverting to St M's leeches? Pretending you'll manage without?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)

Nothing of interest re. Healer Kerr. Hypothermia? Suppose he has time for treating bed-wetting now that spring's on its way.

Are my parcels to you being tampered with? Unduly delayed? Annoying you with their frequency? Chafing you with their heterodox notions?

The Carrefours monograph just skirts blasphemy, does it not? Clearly he enjoys keeping himself on our watch list. In general, I'm finding this year's Grey List more interesting than last. Apologies if they're piling up in a corner, tempting you, if you've no time to taste them.

Impatient as ever,  
B.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **[2013-03-14 01:11:01](#)**

*(no subject)*

I've been saving your treats as bedtime reading -- it's just the right level of engagement to provide a pleasant interlude at the end of the day. (Carrefours is intriguing, yes -- and wrong, as well as being unwise -- but if I were a betting man, I would -- ah, wait, I am a betting man. A hundred galleons on that "T. S. Austen" who's been sending out the Divination newsletter as being a front for some group using coded message to communicate? Or, as I'm certain your lot is already aware and you are letting them have more rope for the hanging, a hundred on getting it sewn up before term is out. If you've a few more samples to send along, I have the feeling I've almost cracked it, or will have if I stare at it long enough.)

I will not be returning to St M's, no. Tried to persuade Poppy to stay on as my Healer in private capacity, and she's agreed to see me *in extremis*, but her pride's been pricked and she's refusing to return to

the castle while the pink puffskein's still in residence. Well, I can't say I blame her, really; were I in her place, I would not be caught dead returning save in triumph once the toad had been dropped in the lake where she belongs. I continue to improve, at least; let us hope care is not needed urgently. (And should it become so, Lyoushka has offered his healer's services again... though I would prefer Poppy. Under no account will I go near Kerr, at least; would the students could say the same.)

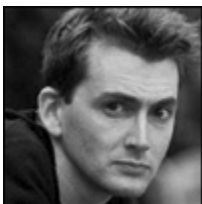
To you, I will confess -- oh, *lapushka*, I am so dreadfully weary. Not in body, but in spirit. I am so damnably tired of each day being an exercise in what petty and power-mad thing she will do next to make our lives a misery, and being constrained by circumstance ~~and Our Lord's wishes~~ to allow it to continue until such time as she oversteps. ~~And if He permitted her to dispose of Minerva and Raz, how could I expect Him to speak for me when she decides I am next~~

Pah. Enough of that; I will not whine, even to you.

Imagining that woman's expression when she encounters the Ourbouros upon my mail is one of the small bright spots of my day. Has she protested to you about it yet?

And speaking of bright spots, I am putting the finishing touches on the rite of adoption, and would rather sooner than later. ~~Before anything else can happen to~~ Over Easter hols?

Woefully,  
T



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-03-15 02:57:51](#)  
(no subject)

Have sent half a dozen issues of that newsletter. Will be interested in your analysis.

I have been preparing for your rite--the meditation you set me has had interesting effects. Have begun dreaming it even, quite regularly, and waking with its rhythms in my mind. Have also been strict re. diet and physical regimen.

I can think of no reason to delay if you are ready. I would be honoured.

| Yours in all things,  
| B

**2013-03-13 20:33:00**

*(no subject)*

We've got approval for 5th year Defence revision tomorrow. Professor Dolohov will be there to supervise.



 [alt\\_harry](#)

And let's get as much as we can out of Friday's Quidditch session so we can have a good match on Saturday. It looks like it'll be a good day for it, if the weather holds up.

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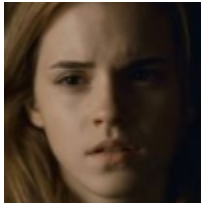


 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-03-14 01:06:11**

*Private Message to Hermione Granger*

I've been thinking about a new thing.

Do you know who would be good at making some trouble without getting caught?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at **2013-03-14 01:17:43**

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

I guess that depends. What do you have in mind?



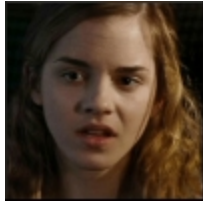
 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-03-14 01:37:32**

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

Distraction. She'll spend her time trying to sort out who's messing with her. It'll slow her down, keep her busy, and keep her from going after more vulnerable people.

Maybe?

At least that's how I think it might work?




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-14 01:48:56](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

Well, the twins are good at knowing when to get caught and when not to get caught but they've also got a reputation.

But Harry, I've been thinking. Working against her is all well and good but I think the Defence and other practices need to be doing more than just thumbing your nose at her. And we're not spending nearly enough time in the library researching.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-14 01:54:32](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

What else could we be doing?

Besides, you know, revising?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-14 03:02:52](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

Well, look. I know you're thinking about passing O.W.L.s, but really, Harry, it's not like you're going to fail. I mean, seriously, who's going to fail you?

And I know it means a lot to you to help everyone else. And that's laudable. But...well, haven't you noticed that as long as you're focusing on *her*, you're not thinking about *Him*? And what we need to find out? That's what we could be searching for in the library.

And when it comes to it, that's what we could be doing with the Galleon and the meetings. Getting help with that. But maybe that has to wait until everyone *else* has passed their O.W.L.s.



 **[alt\\_harry](#) at 2013-03-14 03:11:59**


*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

I know I'm not going to fail. I'm not doing this for me. I'm doing this so people don't get their wands snapped.

Right now, there are people I can help. And they need it.

Besides. We don't even know what we're looking for to begin with, or how long it'll take.



 **[alt\\_harry](#) at 2013-03-14 03:14:33**

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

Longbottom and Finch-Fletchley would be in.

After OWLs, I mean.

I talked to them. A little.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#) at 2013-03-14 03:18:25**

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

That's why we can't waste any time. I know they need it but do *you* need to be the one who helps them?


I mean, not that you're not good at it. Teaching people Defence, I mean. But I think there's a bigger picture and they're moving on their own. I'm not saying to abandon it. Just don't lose sight of the real enemy.

As for what we need, I think Professor B could maybe help point us in the right direction. If we asked him. Or if you asked him, really.

So if I start spending time in the library while you're in lessons, that at least uses our resources more effectively.





 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-14 03:26:58](#)


*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

The professors sure aren't doing a bloody thing.

Well. They are. But it's not enough. So yeah, it's going to be me. Because there's no-one else stepping up.

It's like they'd rather be afraid and just sort of complain or throw up their hands rather than actually do anything.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-14 03:27:49](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

I haven't forgotten what happened last term.

Or what happened to my parents.

I'll talk to Professor B.

I just get the feeling he has no idea what to do either. So what's the point?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-14 01:56:54](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

If I had the time turner again, it'd be easier.

Maybe after this match?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-14 03:04:39](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

Well. I could go to the library while you're at lessons, I guess. Madam Pince wouldn't mind, I'm sure.

Though she might ask me to fix a book or two. But that wouldn't take long.

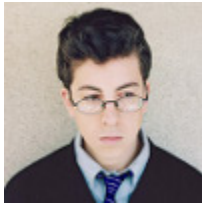



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-14 03:15:26](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

Yeah.

Sure.




 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-03-14 03:10:46](#)

*(no subject)*

Speaking of Quidditch, if it wouldn't be too much trouble at some point, I have some questions about it that I'd like to get your viewpoint on for my Quidditch statistics project. Let me know when you might have a

bit of time, eh?



 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-03-14 03:13:40](#)

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Exchanging information in the interests of learning and clearer channels of communication is something dear old Hogwarts is teaching us, is it not?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-14 03:18:21](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Yeah, I guess you can say that.

How much time would you need? Things are sort of busy right now.




 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-03-14 03:22:10](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Oh, it shouldn't be more than a quarter-hour at the absolute most. Perhaps I could come meet you at some point? Perhaps when you and your bodyguard are done with flying practice or some such, I could meet you outdoors?


It would really be a great kindness if you were to do so, and it would be appreciated by more than just myself, I am sure.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-03-14 03:29:41](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*


Okay?



 **[alt\\_linus](#)** at **[2013-03-14 03:39:35](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*


Thank you. You won't regret it. Just let me know when it is convenient for you, and I'll be there.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-03-14 03:40:09](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

...Okay?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-14 03:19:28](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Great. I'll be there.

**2013-03-13 21:09:00**

*My hands are blue, with gold sparkles*

I've been helping a little with preparing the sets for the Revue, and the dying charms we were using for some of the fabric drapes were perhaps a bit stronger than we needed.




 [alt\\_luna](#)

It's a pity the sparkles aren't a bit more bronze-y. That would have looked quite nice, in a sort of Ravenclaw kind of way.

---



 [alt\\_luna](#) at **2013-03-14 02:24:43**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private message to Susan Bones and Sally-Anne Perks*

I think it's high time we have another gathering of the Teatime of the Strange group. Could you please let the girls in your House know?

Could people meet tomorrow night, just after the revue rehearsal? The usual place. We can't stay very long, of course, but I think it would be nice to gather. I have some of my more unusual teas that ~~no one else will drink~~ people might be willing to try. The winklefruit one, and the Noisy Poesy. I suppose we're all sort of scraping the bottom of our trunks now to find things for late night snacking.

Sally-Anne, do you have any of your jams left? And perhaps someone might bring some biscuits or crumpets, if anyone can unearth any? If we can't find any food, at least we'd have the tea.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at **2013-03-14 02:25:21**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks*

Please do come. I think you could use some cheering up.



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-14 02:45:13](#)


*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good:  
Private message to Susan Bones and Sally-Anne Perks*

Yes, let's! My birthday's tomorrow too--I'd have sweets and such to share if only they (we really, but I'm definitely not in the inner circle after our YPL stunt--not complaining, it was absolutely worth it!) weren't searching the bloody owl post.

I had an idea though--what if a couple of us stop by the secret room on the way to our usual spot and see if we can get it to give us food?

It might think we don't really *need* it, though, since we aren't starving.

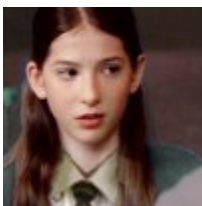


 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-03-14 02:47:14](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good:  
Private message to Susan Bones and Sally-Anne Perks*

Oh, then we absolutely must meet tomorrow, if it's your birthday. We'd be happy to share it with you.

We can stop by the secret room, although as you say it may not work. But it's definitely worth a try.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-14 03:50:54](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good:  
Private message to Susan Bones and Sally-Anne Perks*

I let them know. I don't have any jam, though, and I certainly don't have any biscuits or crumpets. I had food, but I've eaten almost all of it. What's left is just a little I keep for emergencies and it's not anything all that tasty.

If you have tea, though, that's something.



 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-03-14 14:54:01](#)  
(no subject)

You're quite right about the shading of the sparkles being almostRavenclaw-worthy. They're still quite vivid today, aren't they? Good thing we don't have Creatures today. Nifflers would be quite interested in them, and I daresay that could be a problem!

**2013-03-14 09:45:00**

*Happy Birthday, Seamus!*

I'd've got you a basket or something but that would be against the rules.

Hope your sixteenth is the best day ever.



 [alt\\_padma](#)



 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2013-03-14 13:58:43**

*Private Message to Seamus*

There *was* a parcel for you this morning, from Mr Rosier. I took it with me because I didn't want anyone helping themselves. Really, some of the others are getting quite greedy. This morning there was another parcel, for Stretton, and Goyle just opened it up and started tucking in like he hadn't eaten in a week. What a pig!

Anyway, I've got yours in my bag. Come round the corner after the lesson's over and get it before you go one to Transfiguration. I didn't want to give it to you in front of everyone.



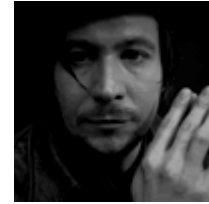
 [alt\\_seamus](#) at **2013-03-14 17:03:44**

*Re: Private Message to Seamus*

Thanks! That's brilliant. We should probably eat it in the HJC lounge, I don't want certain nosy Gryffindors deciding it ought to be community property.

**2013-03-14 16:45:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Nick Towler and Dora*



Nick, mate,

With everyone in a strop over Poppy, we thought it might be best to handle this quietly. We were out on Sunday for Mothering Day and our Ellie got to talking a bit about her family. It's the first any of us remember her saying anything about her people and we thought - well, naturally, we want to see what we can do to find them.

 [alt\\_sirius](#)

I remember that Arthur used to be able to pull someone's work record to see where they'd been assigned before. We know Ellie was assigned to an old witch in Ollerton before she came to us but she doesn't know what camp she was from originally. She knows she didn't return to the same place again - that is, the Mansfield camp, where she was when we applied for her, isn't the same one she remembers from when she was a child. She was quite young, though, so I'm not sure we should rely on her memory of what it was like. Of course, one solid indicator is that she wasn't able to find her mother again when she came back. (And she did try, apparently. We rather got the impression it's one of the things that got her into a spot of trouble when she came back, asking too many questions, getting 'above herself,' that sort of nonsense.)

Our thinking is that if she was assigned in Ollerton, she can't have come from far away originally. Could you see what you could find? We asked if she could remember her parents' names. She said she barely remembers her father - the family might well have been separated before her magic manifested - but she thinks his name was Roger, and she remembers other women calling her mother 'Rosie'. Rose and Roger Summers? It's something to start, at any rate.

And be careful, of course.



---

 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at **2013-03-15 03:36:58**

*(no subject)*

Wotcher, Nick,

Thanks for whatever you can do, but Sirius is right:



don't take risks. You can't afford DIRRT catching you out. And nor can we, for that matter.

And, oh. There is another thing you could do for us. See if you can't give us a bit of warning if the placement service are planning another review of Ellie's circumstances. Ministry inspectors dropping in unexpectedly is not the sort of surprise we like to have. If you see what I mean.

**2013-03-14 16:53:00**

*Happy Birthday, Sue!*


And we're sure to flatten Slytherin on Saturday, yeah?

Did you hear, Goyle's been grounded by Kerr. There's a present for you! And I didn't even have to wrap it.



 **alt\_zacharias**




 **alt\_ron** at **2013-03-15 02:35:01**  
(no subject)

Many happy returns, Bones!


Hope you're enjoying your day.



 **alt\_susan** at **2013-03-15 21:03:21**  
(no subject)

Thanks! It was all right--having people around definitely helped.



 **alt\_susan** at **2013-03-15 21:04:15**  
(no subject)

Well, you're off the bench, right? So I think Goyle's benching is actually a present for *you*.

Thanks for the birthday congrats!

**2013-03-14 21:03:00**

*Private message to Luxovius Kerr*



 [alt\\_umbridge](#)

Luxovius,

First, I am just so very glad indeed that you alerted me just as soon as you became aware of the potentially far-reaching implications of your examination of Mr Goyle this afternoon.

Now, I know you came here to concentrate on your very interesting research, but at the same time it is a regrettable reality that students will present themselves at the least convenient times. I do hope that as we transmute the school into the purified and perfected form some of us here seek, these teensy little distractions to our greater work will become fewer and further between. I do appreciate your patience, truly.

As to Mr Goyle, I realise that we have not had sufficient time for me to fully acquaint you with the various irregular and highly problematic events of this school year. I do believe I had referred to irresponsible, ill-considered, and self-serving displays of magic that tempted our more impressionable students into unwise private exploration. (This, of course, is yet another reason for my recent decrees.)

The trouble was substantial, though I am sure you will be vastly more effective at finding a speedier treatment regimen than our former matron managed to be - of course you will, having greater training and wider exposure to all the best minds at St Mungo's. Really, she might have served well enough thirty years ago, but in this enlightened age, I'm sure we can do a great deal better.

I'm certain she did leave some notes somewhere about the details, and that all the fuss made over the treatments were entirely to cover her own potential mishandling should there be problems. I cannot imagine why you are fussing over it - surely a teensy little stomach problem can't possibly be linked to the previous injury, that blood-changing curse? The stomach and the blood are entirely different, surely. One being liquid, and all.

Finally, on your question about the political ramifications. Well, of course it would be most inconvenient and troublesome if any lasting harm came to a child from one of the most notable families. But at the same time, the children - misled though they were - did make their

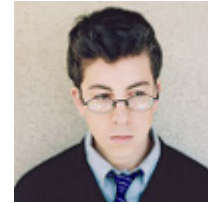
own choices, and I would hope that the most dedicated of families would recognise the importance of that lesson.

Now, do let me know if there are any other trifling concerns.

**2013-03-16 12:15:00**

*Quidditch by the numbers*

Well, today's Quidditch game certainly is demonstrating that forecasting strictly by the numbers is insufficient to the sport. Who could have predicted that it would be such a hard-fought contest already? Not I, certainly. There must be factors still to be discovered.



 [alt\\_linus](#)

At least it will provide a wealth of data for further consideration. Oh, he's scored again. Well played, Cedric! Well played!

Note to self: Add "consideration of stressful aspects of having scouts among the onlookers." Wonder if it increases along logarithmic scale as term progresses? Cross-reference with timing of OWLs and NEWTs. Also parental attendance, when applicable?



 [alt\\_ernie](#) at **2013-03-16 18:27:45**

*(no subject)*

Oi, Moon! This part of that Quidditch stats project you're doing with Cedric?

Sounds well interesting--how can you stay focused on stats though when it's such an exciting match?

There goes Pucey again! Come on, Zach, block him!

**[2013-03-16 15:12:00](#)**

*What a Match! What a Match!*

Oh, good flying, Ced!

I hope Sue sees that bludger coming her way--  
whew, that was close!



 **[alt\\_ernie](#)**


Crabbe's got a heavy hand with those bludgers--  
even with Goyle out they're definitely still a threat.

Jordan's funnier when Gryffindor's not in the match, in my opinion.

Go Badgers!

---



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-03-17 01:58:16](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks for the support, Ern. It was a squeaker for sure!

And of course I wish we'd won, but it was a good match overall.




 **[alt\\_ernie](#)** at **[2013-03-17 02:05:05](#)**  
(no subject)

It was good to see all of our side back on the pitch again!

And it's been good to have something to get excited about--hard work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, after all.



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-03-17 02:08:24](#)**  
(no subject)

That's rich, coming from you--sometimes I think your notes have notes!




 [alt\\_ernie](#) at [2013-03-17 02:13:59](#)  
(no subject)

C'mon, I'm not that bad!

Whatever John and Bobby have been saying about my parchment filing system is a total exaggeration.




 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-17 02:11:57](#)  
*Private Message to Ernie*

Seriously, mate, I feel like I never see you unless it's for HJC or a Prefects' meeting.

Speaking of the latter, want to take a quick walk before rounds? I think we're both on tonight.




 [alt\\_ernie](#) at [2013-03-17 02:18:41](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Ernie*

You're right, it's been ages--and don't put it all off on me either!

You've got Quidditch *and* the revue, which makes you a fine one to talk to me about being overworked.

But, yeah, I'd like to catch up without everybody and their cousin hanging around. See you in a bit?



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-17 02:20:34](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Ernie*

Well, you've got me! I plead guilty to being a productive citizen of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.


I'll meet you by the stairs.

**2013-03-16 22:20:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: To Anyone Who Can Reach the Weasley Twins*



I'm heading off to have the Galleon talk with Ernie now.

 [alt\\_susan](#)

Wish me luck!

Oh, and if someone could get hold of Fred and George, that'd be good.

Just in case.



**[2013-03-16 23:05:00](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Well, That Didn't Go So Well.*



 [alt\\_susan](#)

Looks like we're going to need the twins' Charms expertise after all. But it's not an emergency; Iwe didn't misjudge him that badly, he's not going to run off and betray us to Umbridge.

But it should probably get done by tomorrow, and earlier would be better than later. I gave him a signal, and if I flash it, he'll follow me off into some deserted corner and we can get it taken care of.

He requested it.

He likes the idea of the galleons, in theory, but he has reasons--family reasons--for feeling like he can't get anywhere near it. He's scared his family could end up like the Fleets. His secrets aren't for me to tell since he's not joining, but even though Ernie can be a tad, well, paranoid, in this case I think he probably has cause to be.

But he doesn't want to betray us either; if I or anyone else ever gets caught, he wants to be able to say with absolute truthfulness than he didn't know a thing about it.



---

 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-17 03:36:55](#)

*(no subject)*

I'm sorry, Sue.

At least he was honest about it, and wanted to keep things secure.




 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-17 03:41:01](#)

*(no subject)*

Yeah, I can't blame him ~~much~~ for putting family above everything else.

If it were someone else, I'd worry that they might just be playing along & intending to go to Umbridge, but I feel in my gut that he *was* being honest.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-17 03:56:10](#)  
(no subject)

I don't think we realise just how big this can be sometimes, just because we've been making small steps to get there.

It's a lot to ask.




 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-17 03:59:54](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, I worry sometimes about whether it was fair to get Ed and Carrie into the galleon network, even though I'm sure they'd say they're plenty old enough to make their own decisions.

And the Obliviation thing makes me feel...I dunno, odd. I mean, I believe Ron when he says the twins can do it, but, well, it is N.E.W.T. level charmwork. What if they make a mistake?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-17 04:10:39](#)  
(no subject)

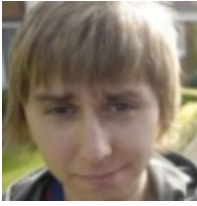
I'm sure they'll be careful. But it'd make me nervous too.




 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-17 04:16:47](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah.

And aside from the risks to us, I'd feel bad if he lost an important memory or something.



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-03-17 04:27:29](#)**  
(no subject)


Oh, I say, Sue, bad luck, what? I'd have thought he might see things differently.

Still, good to know--especially since he and Zach shall be the only ones in our dormitory who shan't have a Galleon!

Good show today, by the way; it was quite an exciting match.

-Justin



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-03-17 04:35:45](#)**  
(no subject)

I hoped he might, too. But I can understand where he's coming from.

That's funny, in a way, as I'm the only one on the girls' side who *has* one. Although that's a good thing maybe, because I feel that if two girls have a secret from a third, the third starts to sense it somehow, whereas boys don't seem to notice that sort of thing so much.

And thanks! It was fun, but it's always a little heart-breaking to lose such a close match.

Damn, though, Marvolo's going to have scouts after *him* in a couple of years.

**2013-03-17 14:17:00**

*Quidditch Season*

Congratulations Harry on yet another amazing catch to squeak out a win for Slytherin.



My team, I'm proud of the hard work and dedication you all have shown this year. It's been a hard year with many unusual difficulties. You fought, you struggled and you persevered. I look forward to coming back to watch you all build on what we started this year.

 **alt\_cedric**

Cheers all!

The ending of my quidditch season brings home just how close I am to being done here at Hogwarts. This has been my home for seven years. There are still three more months, but I'm already feeling nostalgic. The uncertainty of the future looms.



 **alt\_cedric at 2013-03-17 18:45:14**

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

How's Goyle doing? I was sorry to hear he was benched for medical reasons.



 **alt\_harry at 2013-03-18 03:41:32**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Let's just say I'd feel better about it if Madame P was still here. We're keeping an eye on him just in case we need to take him to St Mungo's.

You did really well out there, from what I could see.



 **alt\_cedric at 2013-03-18 03:53:37**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

If you'd give us a bit more time the game would have been out of reach even with you catching the snitch, so yeah I feel pretty good about my performance yesterday.

I think we'd all feel better if Madame P were still the one watching out for us.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-03-18 04:05:01**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Yeah.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at **2013-03-18 00:28:30**

*Private message to Cedric Diggory*

Nicely played, yesterday - no matter the outcome. And good on you for being so gracious about it.

I forgot to ask Friday: how do you feel you're doing in preparing for exams? (From over here, it seems like we could use a bit more review on the mechanics of precession, but if there's anything else, better to tell me now than in late April.)



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at **2013-03-18 04:02:55**

*Re: Private message to Cedric Diggory*

Thank you. It was a good game, but Harry is wizard, though if he'd given us a bit more time the outcome would have been different.

You know how hard I have to work at the calculations. All the memorization portions I'll do fine on. Fortunately for NEWTS and everything other than the final project I don't have to derive the formulas, I just have to apply them. It's still the hardest part for me, but I just have to work through it.

I'm more concerned about some other students' health and performance in class. Particularly at the OWL level in Defence.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at **2013-03-18 04:17:57**

*Re: Private message to Cedric Diggory*

I'll miss seeing you play here, truly.

As to your exam - I've practice questions to work

through. And I am glad to give as much time as I'm allowed to helping anyone not only pass but do brilliantly on exams. It's just the matter of what I'm able to help with. You're right that you're getting there though, and a bit more practice will just make you feel more secure with it.

On the others. Well. I wish there were more I could do that were likely to make things easier rather than harder.



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-03-18 03:18:48](#)**

*(no subject)*

The side will miss you next year, that's for sure!



 **[alt\\_cedric](#)** at **[2013-03-18 04:07:48](#)**

*(no subject)*

We're done for the season but I'd like to have us get together a few of the times we have the pitch scheduled to help the rest of the side prep for next year.

Thank you. I'll miss you all as well.



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-03-18 04:09:44](#)**

*(no subject)*

Just let us know, and I'll be there.

Best of luck with, well, everything.

Not to sound sappy or anything, but I've learned a lot from you, y'know, especially this year.

**2013-03-17 18:59:00**

*Attention, Hogwarts Junior Council*

Effective this evening, we shall be changing the patrol route specifically to make sure that the staircase leading to the Hufflepuff Basement and the kitchens is regularly checked.




 [alt\\_padma](#)

Also, Robins, Montgomery and Jones (Niobe), if you'd not mind helping this evening we've got to make sure the Common Rooms are cleared of food (again). And the rest of you make sure that there's nothing held back after pudding.



---

 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2013-03-17 23:30:10**

*Private Message to Honoria Sandoval and Lana Sandoval-Pennifold*

Lana,

I thought you might want to know what your sister's been up to. I'm sure you've been far too busy with important things to pay any attention to the new regulations Madam Umbridge has put in now she's Headmistress but one of the changes she's instituted was to stop people nicking food from the kitchens. She's right, I mean, that over the last few years people have really abused the kitchens and asked for all sorts of snacks, in the Common Rooms, for revising, and so on. And you know people have had a habit of taking food out of the Great Hall and taking it outside or with them to lessons.


Well, Headmistress Umbridge put a stop to all that. But apparently Honoria and Ginny Weasley (among others) have decided instead that it's all right to access the kitchens through the entrance off the Hufflepuff stairwell and beg for their food from the elves. It's disruptive and of course, disrespectful to the Headmistress.

She's already provided them with punishment but I thought perhaps Honoria might prefer for you to hear about it before the Headmistress decided to do anything like write to your parents.

I hope everything else is well with you and Ned. I'm looking forward to Karoline Moon's wedding next month. Are you going? Karo invited me and Parvati and our parents. I think it's going to be every bit as lavish and large as your wedding. It should be *quite* the occasion!

-Padma



 **[alt\\_lana](#) at 2013-03-18 17:08:25**

*Re: Private Message to Padma Patil*


Cheers, Patil. I'll have a word with Honoria.

I'll look for you at Baddock's wedding. Have you thought what you'll wear?

One hopes Karo Moon understands the difference between substance and spectacle, but surely he'd not be marrying her if she didn't. Only, she's always been more creative than practical.

Baddock, though. Hasn't he grown into himself recently? I saw him out recently and everyone was commenting how fit he's looking. Moon's wise to snap him up and not give him any more time to look about.



 **[alt\\_padma](#) at 2013-03-17 23:33:52**

*Private Message to Seamus and Blaise*

Ganesh himself could not be more of a glutton than that Ginny Weasley. I guess Sandoval's so used to getting hampers from Harrod's that they can't stand the lack anymore.

Honestly I didn't even think there were so many people going directly to the elves for food. Do you know they actually had a whole *table* set for people to sit down and eat? Disgusting. They're so busy pandering to the people who go down there with no business being there, they're bound to make mistakes with the rest of the cookery.

Well, all I'll say is that Weasley and Sandoval shan't be after any extra food any time soon. Nor should anyone else with that warning I just posted.





 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2013-03-18 01:30:19](#)

*Re: Private Message to Seamus and Blaise*

What happened? I didn't know we COULD go to the elves for food -- I mean, that it was even possible, not that it was allowed.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-03-18 02:35:35](#)

*Re: Private Message to Seamus and Blaise*

Fawcett and Brocklehurst found the entrance sometime in our second year. There's a portrait entrance sort of like your Common Room only there's no lady and no password.

But you know that *certain people* treat the house-elves here like they're personal servants and order up sandwiches and pudding and extra helpings all the time. Honestly, it's one of the things Madam Umbridge is doing that I think is well proper reform. Too many people think they can just help themselves to whatever they want.



 [alt\\_seamus](#) at [2013-03-18 03:42:17](#)

*Re: Private Message to Seamus and Blaise*

Well, right, but they haven't been able to send us up sandwiches for weeks now. So some of them were going to the kitchen? How'd you think to check there, did you see Weasley G going in?



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-03-18 03:51:42](#)

*Re: Private Message to Seamus and Blaise*

Honestly. I can't see what a Sandoval wants rubbing elbows with a Weasley. It must have chafed terribly when they found out she'd been Sorted to Gryffindor.

No disrespect, Finnigan. Only, it's not where their sort go, you see.


Can't say I wanted to think about Ginger Weasel gorging herself. May need to scourgify my brains before I can sleep.



 **[alt\\_megan](#)** at **[2013-03-17 23:38:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Do you need extra help this evening, Padma? I know I'm not patrolling until tomorrow, but I finished my revisions early and I don't mind helping, truly. It's important, and it's good to be useful in service of something important, isn't it?



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-03-17 23:48:16](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh. Sure, Jones, that's good of you.

Stevens is in charge of the patrols tonight. You can talk to her about taking a route.

Cheers.

**2013-03-17 19:32:00**

*(no subject)*

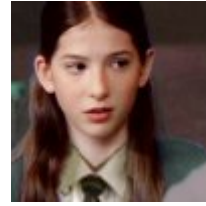
ThEy ArE pAtrolling now. For MErlins sAkE.  
WhAts lEft for prEfEcts?



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-03-17 20:11:00**

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



Did you find the potion? Is your sister feeling any better? (And Honoria?)

 **alt\_sally\_anne**

It sounds like Umbridge hexed them worse than Hydra's roommates. I really really wish Madam Pomfrey could have seen to them, she gave me this long lecture right before she got sacked about how dangerous vomiting could be, if it's really bad. The powder with the potion, you just mix that into water, it won't make them feel better necessarily but it should help keep them from getting dangerously dehydrated.



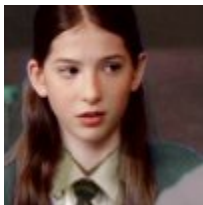
 **alt\_ron** at **2013-03-18 03:18:26**

*(no subject)*

Thanks.

Yeah, I got it. Had to wait a while, though, because there were people around, and I wanted to be sure no one saw.

I hope it works because they've really been ill. Johnson was with them when I got back, so Bundy took it up. They'll keep it quiet.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-03-18 03:33:05**

*(no subject)*

It will work. Or at least it will help. Hydra's roommates felt better within about a half hour of taking it.

They might want to try to look like they're ill, though, tomorrow. So Umbridge won't know someone did something for them.



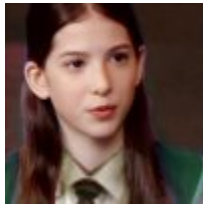
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-18 03:37:16](#)

*(no subject)*

Oh, yeah.

Good point.

Also. Bundy was going to say the potion came from the twins. If Gin or Honoria even ask. I bet they won't think too much about it until they're feeling better, though.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-18 03:40:15](#)

*(no subject)*

Oh, good thought.

I mean, if it's okay with the Twins, anyway, they'll get in loads of trouble if Umbridge ever hears

about it.

**2013-03-17 21:06:00**

*A reminder*

Dear students,

I am most disappointed. I remind you that while you are under my care, here in Hogwarts, that you are expected to obey the direct rules and guidelines we - the adults charged with your education and proper development - set. Beyond that, you are expected to obey the spirit and essence of our instructions.



 **alt\_umbridge**

Those who have failed in this have been encouraged to avoid the problem - or anything else of the kind, I do hope that no further corrections will become necessary.

That said, I must commend the diligent attention of the Hogwarts Junior Council members in assisting all of us to consider the impact of each and every action we take.

I have a few teensy notes on other topics - I do hope those mentioned will attend to them promptly.



 **alt\_umbridge** at **2013-03-18 02:31:17**

*Private message to Wilhemina Grubby-Plank*

Willie,

Do I understand from Nadine Rohani that your N.E.W.T. 7th year class is currently studying the Aureata beetle? I cannot imagine that I heard that correctly in the slightest.

Surely you know that they were removed from study after the unfortunate death this summer of Midas Wellspring, who suffered an untimely bite. I can't imagine that you would be so insensitive, careless, and incompetent as to allow students that kind of access.

Now, Miss Rohani did say something about you providing something of a warning, but from how she explained her concerns to me, clearly it was not enough. Kindly present yourself to my office first thing tomorrow morning so that we can rearrange the remainder of your curriculum for the year. I will require evidence of any creatures you believe to be covered in the exams themselves, with current and

explicit documentation.

After all, we are here to protect, polish, and prepare our students - but exposing them to a slow and painful transmutation into gold is simply not what I have in mind with that statement.



 **alt\_umbridge** at **2013-03-18 02:45:20**

*Private message to Aurora Sinistra*

Sizzie,

I've had a word with dear Luxovius. Now that he's had a chance to settle in and rearrange the Infirmary to his liking, I expect you to make time for a weekly appointment with him. You may arrange it at his convenience - the students come first, of course - but I have asked him to check you weekly to ensure that the regrettable and ill-timed suspicion I raised last week has not, in fact, come to pass.

I trust I need not explicate the consequences should you decline to cooperate.

I also note you have not been nearly as cheerfully present at meals as I expect of each and every member of the staff. It is just so important, dear, to model the best possible behaviour to our students. As Quercus Edmonds said, "It is simply a matter of welcoming these changed circumstances as a method of bringing ourselves into alignment with the truest, most refined selves, advised by our trusted elders."

I know you can't always see it, dear, but I do see the splendid woman you could become if only you were helped to it.



 **alt\_umbridge** at **2013-03-18 03:06:08**


*Private message to Pomona Sprout and Neville Longbottom*

Mr Longbottom -

Having reviewed your most recent revisions, I believe we can begin to prepare orders for your necessary plantings. Please work as promptly as possible to determine the best suppliers (keeping cost firmly in mind) for those items needed from outside Hogwarts.

Pomona, dear, do review Mr Longbottom's work as quickly as you can. Thanks to that diligent young Mr Moon, I've nearly all the information we need for the actual memorial itself, so I would like to proceed in a timely fashion.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-19 00:12:42](#)**

*Re: Private message to Pomona Sprout and Neville Longbottom*

It is the wrong time of year to order a number of the plants in the design, I am afraid. Some must be started from seed, and it's a bit late to start those, and some of the shrubs and all of the bulbs do best if planted in the autumn.

But we can probably plant about three-quarters of the planned design. Professor Sprout and I can give you the list.



 **[alt\\_umbridge](#)** at **[2013-03-18 03:13:51](#)**

*Private message to Luxovius Kerr*

Luxovius,

As you might gather from above, I have now instructed Aurora to come and make an appointment with you as we discussed. Please let me know if she does not do so by Wednesday. And of course, should you have the least evidence that she is going against my express instructions to avoid any private or intimate contact with her fiance, I know you'll tell me at once.

In addition, I would like to see you at your earliest convenience. Poppy had been attempting to treat me for a persistent problem - my ankles simply will not stop itching. I'm sure you must have some vastly improved method for resolving the problem. Poppy has some notes somewhere about the problem, I'd hope, but perhaps you have a much more effective approach than the trifling things she attempted.

Tomorrow morning, before breakfast?

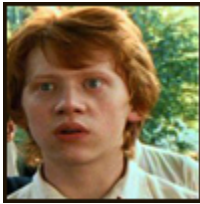





 **alt\_sirius** at [2013-03-19 15:43:29](#)  
(no subject)

Well, Erebus, Dolores, I do so hate to think of you being disappointed. Maybe if your rules weren't so ridiculous and cruel, they'd have an easier time following not only the letter but the spirit in which they are intended.

Children, best get used to starving, failing exams and being unable to seek adequate medimagical attention when needed. It seems you'll be getting a teensy bit less out of a Hogwarts' education for the foreseeable future.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-03-19 19:54:42](#)  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Hahahahahahahahahahahahaha.

'Erebus, Dolores, you're the most ridiculous bint in wizardom. How'd you get to be such a (w)itch? Did your mum not like you, either?'

At least someone out there knows how bad it is in here.

**2013-03-17 23:09:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Obliviation*



The twins did the Obliviation after breakfast.

I was right at the end of the hall because I'd had to give Ernie the signal, but it just occurred to me that I should write and let everyone know, since they wouldn't necessarily run into everyone to pass it on verbally. So we needn't worry about loose ends.

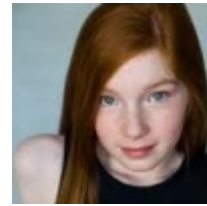
 [alt\\_susan](#)

Ernie thinks we were just talking about Quidditch and prefect things, and that he had a bit of bad beef at dinner last night.

**2013-03-17 23:43:00**

*(no subject)*

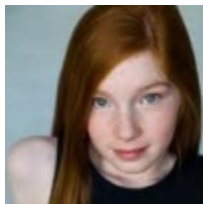
It's hard to believe that the Revue is only a few days away. I'm hoping to take pictures of all the costumes so we can have a record of all our hard work. Does anyone have a camera I can borrow?




 [alt\\_evelyn](#)

Right now, we're just putting the final touches on everything. I've got quite good at fixing hems and making alterations, as several of the dancers have needed their robes, dresses, and trousers taken in at the waist. Learning these sewing skills will be very useful should I ever have to alter my own clothing.

I wonder what people will say about our fashion and styles forty years from now. Perhaps there will be another Revue. I'd like to see it if they do.

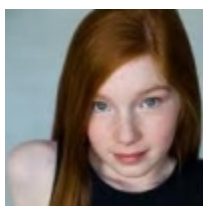



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at **2013-03-18 03:58:39**

*Private Message to Katrina Bundy*

I'll have to think of other things I can write about once this is all done. You'll help me? Perhaps we could make lists, like Draco Malfoy and Harry Marvolo.

I have to say, I'll be glad I won't have to work with Parvati any more.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at **2013-03-18 04:01:39**

*Private Message to Ginny Weasley*

Hello. I was wondering if you'd be up for chess tomorrow?

If you're feeling well enough, that is. I hope you are.

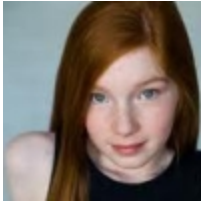


 [alt\\_ginny](#) at **2013-03-18 04:34:29**

*Re: Private Message to Ginny Weasley*

I can't imagine feeling well enough tomorrow for much of anything.

Although it's better than it was. ~~Ren gave me~~



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at **2013-03-18 05:29:48**

*Re: Private Message to Ginny Weasley*

I figured as much.

I just wanted to write you something that wasn't about your getting in trouble. Just in case.

I'm so sorry, Ginny. I'm glad you're a bit better, though. Is there anything I can do?




 [alt\\_ginny](#) at **2013-03-18 14:56:40**

*Re: Private Message to Ginny Weasley*

What I really wish I could have is a little bowl of vanilla custard and a digestive biscuit. That's what my mum always made when we were getting over a stomach upset.

Maybe we could play gobstones or exploding snap later. Something that wouldn't make me think.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at **2013-03-18 15:19:25**

*Re: Private Message to Ginny Weasley*

That sounds lovely. Lets.

And I know it's several days away, and you'll probably be feeling just fine by then, but I'd bet you can get some custard and a biscuit at Hogsmeade. At least it'd be something to look forward to.

**2013-03-18 12:08:00**

*Private Message to Honoria Sandoval and Madam Hooch*



 [alt\\_lana](#)

Don't you ever give Patil an excuse to tattle to me again.

I haven't time to listen to stories of your grubbing after scraps from the kitchen elves. And with that Weasley girl. I don't know why I'm surprised you haven't taken my advice about her, but perhaps now you'll see things more clearly.

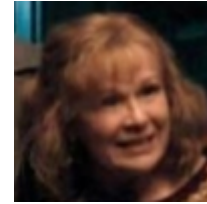
You're far too old for this sort of slacking. Honestly, you'd think you'd never had a comportment lesson in your life. You should be ashamed.

And I suppose I needn't wonder whether you've taken more care of your figure and face as we discussed over hols. Sneaking after sweets? Ugh. Show some self-respect. Or at least a bit of discipline.

I'll be having a word with Mama this week. I expect she'll agree with me that it would be a mistake for you to go with her and Papa to Ptolemy Baddock's nuptials. If you can't govern yourself at school, you obviously can't be trusted to be presentable in proper society.

**[2013-03-18 19:15:00](#)**

*Meetings with the Repopulation Rewards Office*




 [alt\\_molly](#)

I have been in meetings with Mr Selwyn's clerk and the lovely people at Repopulation Rewards for the past two weeks, investigating the homes they have available. Percy made a few longing remarks about claiming One Cornwall Terrace, but really, that's a mansion even above my touch, despite the fact that I do have seven pureblooded children. And anyway, since I am primarily interested in income, rather than living in the house itself, Bill suggested that I particularly investigate those homes that already have potential renters lined up.

So I looked through the possibilities and took several tours, and I have settled upon quite a stately home at 25 Avenue Road, in London. Just imagine! It has four reception rooms, nine bedrooms, and seven bathrooms, and a number of other lovely amenities, including a mews house and an indoor pool. It is quite near ~~Regent's Park~~ Protector's Park.

There are several parties, as I have said, that are already interested in it. I have told Repopulation Rewards that I will think about it and give them my answer tomorrow. If everything goes as planned, all the contracts, including the rental one, should be signed by the end of the week.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at **[2013-03-19 01:05:34](#)**

*Order Only*

It's positively ridiculous to think of claiming this house. It is decorated in icy colours, set up for receptions for hundreds of people. Good heavens, I feed my own chickens every morning. What business do I have, claiming this property for such a dubious reason?

I am uncomfortably aware that by claiming the income, I am laying claim to what is essentially stolen property. Property which was once owned by very rich Muggles, true, but even if I possessed wizarding snobbery, which I certainly hope that I don't, I don't see how I could possibly revel in the ownership knowing that the true owners are doubtless languishing in a camp somewhere or under the Sleeper

spell. If they are even still alive.

Still, Dominic Selwyn is quite right: the income will make me more than comfortable. More than that, it will put me practically in the lap of luxury.

Which I don't want. I am determined to divert every Knut I can possibly spare to the Order's purposes.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-03-19 03:47:56](#)

*Re: Order Only*

I had to pull out a map and have a look to see where those addresses are. I felt a bit stupid not to have realised about Cornwall Terrace. We walk past there sometimes when we go to the park. It's Protector's Park, though, now, you know. Maybe we'll go have a look at your Avenue Road next weekend if the weather's fair. Avenue Road. There's a laugh. Do you think they ran out of muckety-mucks to name roads after and had to fall back on calling them after other kinds of roads? Silly buggers.

Only, I wonder, Molly. Won't Percy expect that you'll be able to live a bit better yourself, now that he's seen the places you were choosing from? What I mean to say is, you should keep some of it for yourself to do things around yours that need fixing or could use a bit of improvement. Otherwise it's not just Percy who might wonder what you're doing with all that new income.

I expect that sounds quite paranoid, and I suppose I am. It comes of working under DIRRT's eye all this time.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-03-19 14:28:24](#)

*Re: Order Only*

No, I was thinking the same sort of thing, Dora. It's a sound strategy to make it at least seem as if you're enjoying the opportunity to live more comfortably and *using* the income you're making off the other properties.

The last thing you want is to have an auditor from Repopulation or some other Ministry official sniffing about to see where your

brand-new conspicuous wealth all went. A few large charitable donations to St Mungo's or elsewhere wouldn't go amiss, either.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-19 22:08:42](#)

*Re: Order Only*

You both make a good point. Drat.

I suppose...I could tell anyone who inquires that it's very difficult to put aside the habits of a lifetime of frugality, and I'm putting it aside to save for a rainy day. Or my retirement. Do you suppose anyone would be nosy or suspicious enough to demand to see the inside of my bank vault, if I insist it's all there? I don't think the goblins would like that very well.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-19 22:10:03](#)

*Re: Order Only*

That could work.

Still, Mum, I hope you won't give it all away. We have a vested interest in seeing that you're comfortable, too.

It's what Dad would have wanted.

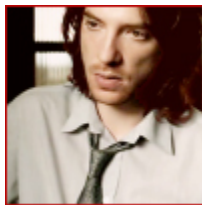


 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-19 22:12:15](#)

*Re: Order Only*

I know Arthur would want me to be comfort, but not due to theft of other people's property!

However...I do have some ideas for getting income--with less ethical pitfalls--that I do intend to discuss with you, dear.

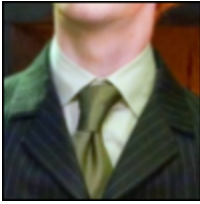


 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-19 22:12:57](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Oh? I'll be interested to hear it.





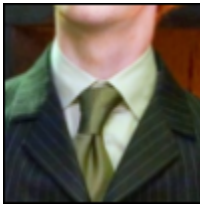
 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-03-19 22:14:44](#)**  
(no subject)

I do wish you'd consider consider something a little closer to the scale of One Cornwall Terrace. And actually live in it, rather than rent it out.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2013-03-19 22:16:18](#)**  
(no subject)


I don't think so, dear.



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-03-19 22:16:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Are you sure? It isn't too late to reconsider, is it? Have you signed the contracts?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-03-19 22:18:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Perce.

Desist.

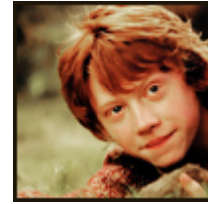
She's made her decision.

**2013-03-19 14:55:00**

*Public Message for Arista Selwyn*

Dear Arista,

Sorry it's been a while since my last note to you. I'm glad you liked it when I wrote before. Thanks for telling me.



 [alt\\_ron](#)

Satsuma's still having a grand time here in the castle. He's decided he likes the window ledge by my bed the best. That's the one that looks out towards the Forest. He says he can see all sorts of creatures from there--loads of different kinds of birds, and kneazles that sit and watch the birds or go off hunting and come back with field mice or snakes, and he said he even saw a centaur the other day. I told him he couldn't have done, since they stay well deep in the Forest, but he said he saw what he saw and my telling him different couldn't make him unsee it. So you'll have to guess whether he was having me on or whether he really saw a centaur after all.

He says he's waiting to see if a unicorn will come to the edge of the trees one day, because he'd really like to see one sometime. Did you know there are unicorns in the Hogwarts Forest? Maybe you'll get to see one someday when you come to school. We saw one once when the Lord Protector came to hunt them. That was a big thing in my first year. The whole council came and loads of other people, too, so I expect your father must have been here and maybe your mum, and there was a feast and everything afterwards.

I've been really glad to have Satsuma for company since I have to spend so much time revising now. Satsuma likes to sit on top of a tower made out of my noble arts books. He says those are best for sitting on, and sometimes he gets really put out when I need to take one of 'his' books and use it for a while. I never took noble arts before this year, so I'm having to work extra hard to understand what Professor Dolohov is teaching us. Luckily, he's a very good teacher, and he's helping us prepare for exams now that they're getting close.

I expect you knew how clever Satsuma is, but I'm still finding it out. For instance, one day about a fortnight ago, he hid in my satchel and came along for a trip to the library. He was careful to be really quiet, since Madam Pince gets upset if anyone makes noise in there. I was there because I had an extra long parchment to write for Transfiguration. That's with Professor Brutka. He's tough, but he's

one of the best teachers here. He expects us to really think and figure things out for ourselves, so his assignments always take loads of time to work out and then to write, and I was really having a rough go on that one. I was looking up books on advanced spell casting, looking for just the right wand form for the transformation I needed to do, and Satsuma was reading over my shoulder when all of a sudden he sneezed. Didn't know stuffed cats did that, but he did. And it was just as I'd got to exactly the wand snick I needed!


Not too much else has happened, I guess. For a long while the weather was really dreary, but Satsuma doesn't seem to mind one way or the other about the weather. And he's lucky that he doesn't get hungry since there's no extra food around here anymore to feed him if he did. Of course, I expect he could just catch a rat or a toad and eat that if he wanted like the other familiars do when they get hungry. (Well, the other familiars that aren't toads, that is! It's lucky for my friend, Neville, that Satsuma's not a hungry cat since he's got one called Trevor, who's always hopping off somewhere Nev can't find him. But he's never got eaten yet, so I expect he's an extra lucky toad.)

Oh. There is something important I meant to ask you about. Are you planning to come this weekend to see our revue we're putting on here at Hogwarts? I'm not playing a mad cat this time, but I've actually got one of the lead parts. It's a funny show with loads of dancing and travelling back in time to see how the school used to be when some of our teachers were young, years back. Ask your parents if they could bring you! I'll be sure to have Satsuma with me so you can tell him hello!

Hope to see you soon!

Your friend,  
Ron Weasley (and Satsuma--he says to tell you 'Allo!')




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-19 22:04:45](#)

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

What'd she do to you last night? Are you going to stand up to her and pass food down the table again tonight? Or is it too much to risk? We'll follow your lead if you do. Whichever you do.

You all right? I thought you looked a bit done for this afternoon in Creatures.



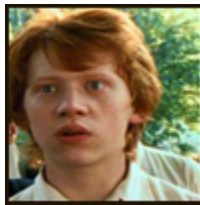
 **alt\_harry** at **2013-03-20 00:50:29**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

More lines.

People need to eat.

Ill be fine.



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-03-20 01:25:18**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*


Ouch. I heard about those lines. (I hope that's okay. I mean, it's really horrible.)

Yeah, they do. We're making sure people get to eat all the way down our table, too. And you saw Diggory, I guess?

Did she call you in tonight, too? She hasn't said anything to any of us. Yet. Not that we're going to stop or anything if she does.

What did she make you write?



 **alt\_harry** at **2013-03-20 01:41:14**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Yeah. I did.

Good.

Had me write I will behave appropriately.

Wrote it tonight too.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-20 01:58:45](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

I will behave appropriately.

Heh.

I think you behave appropriately. Bet you think so, too.

She really is dim. Vicious. But dim.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-20 01:59:57](#)


*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

And did you see what she just wrote?

I'm not stopping. She can make me write lines, too, if she wants.

But the other thing. That new Educational Decree? (She ought to call those Anti-education Decrees since she obviously doesn't want us learning anything.) We're going to need to meet more often in the secret room. And we can't let any of her snitches see us going there or coming back. But it's the only way to revise actual magic.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-20 02:04:33](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*


Yeah. I saw.

We're going to have to meet more often, yeah.

What about everyone else?

The people who don't know about the room?



 **alt\_harry** at [2013-03-20 02:04:53](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Everyone needs to pass their owls.

Everyone.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-03-20 02:17:36](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Well. I've gotta say I'm not too fussed whether Patil passes hers.

But, yeah. I see what you mean.

Only the thing is, some of them would tattle on us.

Who are you worried about that we can't invite to the room or give galleons to? Is there anyone in your House that's likely to fail? Because if so, wouldn't Slughorn let you tutor them in the dormitories or the common room? And the Hufflepuffs could do that. I mean, Sprout would let them, right? I dunno about Vector, but y'know, if there are Ravenclaws who fail, there's probably something wrong we couldn't help fix. (Like Capper last year, y'know? Because he just didn't care about ANY other subjects, so he only passed the one. That was really sort of on him, wasn't it? Cause he was smart enough, I mean. If he'd done what he needed to.) I'm not sure about our lot. I mean, Bundy's nervous, but she'll be all right. Nev, though. I'm not sure. I think he'll get through. He won't be brilliant. On anything but Herbology. But he'll get through, yeah?

So who do you think we need to try to help who's not already with us?



 **alt\_harry** at [2013-03-20 02:31:12](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Yeah. Common rooms would work. But I don't think we'll be able to practise in the common rooms. And we have to demonstrate things for OWLs. That's what I'm worried about.

That, and Defence.


I think after Capper, everyone is going to care. But she's making it so they can't do what they need to and that's not on.

What about Thomas and Finnigan?

Milli's going to be tough. And Vince and Greg. Their wands won't get snapped or anything, but they still deserve a chance.

ow.



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-03-20 02:59:15**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Slughorn wouldn't let you practise in yours? I mean, would anyone in Slytherin snitch on you to Umbridge if you did? (They'd have to be mad to take her side over yours, wouldn't they? I mean, in the big picture. Given who you are and who they all are.)

Yeah. Bullstrode seems like she might not pass. But Daphne could help her. Maybe she already is. I could ask. Or you could, obviously. I don't know about Crabbe and Goyle, but I wouldn't be surprised if you're right. Only, well. Is there anything you could really teach them that would make a difference between now and OWLs? I mean, if they're going to fail, it's not just because they can't practise spells outside of lessons now. If you see what I'm saying.

Who else? Who are the halfbloods we haven't given a galleon to? Are there any we could?


Not Jones. She's snitching for Umbridge now. So's Midgen. That means we really can't help them.

Oh, and yeah. Not Thomas and Finnigan. I think they'll both do all right. Thomas, well. He's smart, and he's no way going to let himself get sent back to the camps. Honestly. He'd probably murder Umbridge first if he thought she was going to stand in his way to getting through OWLs. And Finnigan? I don't know. He's been really on edge since Christmas, I

guess. You know we don't get along, right? (That's really not putting it strongly enough, but y'know what I mean.) So I don't know what's up with him, but he's looking like he wants to murder someone every third minute. And usually that's me he's looking at when he's looking like that. So maybe he's worried about exams, but maybe it's other stuff. Ireland, y'know. Anywiz, I don't think Mr Rosier would let anything bad happen to him. And I do know he's had loads of private tutoring over hols and all, so I don't think we should worry too much about him.

Who else?



 **alt\_harry** at **2013-03-20 03:12:49**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Right. I'll bet the Common Rooms are safe for now. Maybe we can train a small group of people from all four Houses to teach Defence so they can pass it on that way when they're in the Common Rooms. That way people like Jones and Midgen can have a chance to learn and still follow the rules.

And yeah, it's mad, but people will do a lot of things that aren't right when they're scared.

I don't know if there's anyone else we could give one to, but I'll keep thinking.

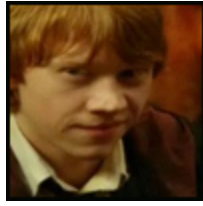



 **alt\_harry** at **2013-03-20 03:22:20**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

And yeah, Daphs is helping. And Draco and me make Vince and Greg sit and revise. I think that's going to have to be the way we do things. People looking out for each other. Even if we don't get on with them. Because this is more important than that.





 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-20 03:30:46](#)**

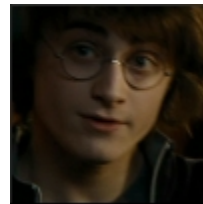
*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Yeah.

By the way. Did you see what Black wrote on Umbritch's Decree? Called her out for being a fat cow.

I'm sure that'll make her jollier tomorrow.

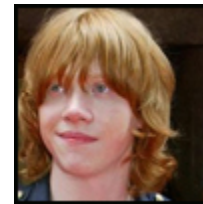
But it's dead funny tonight.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-03-20 04:53:04](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

He's got a point. Doesn't look like she's ever gone hungry. Like ever.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-20 05:07:05](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Too right.

[2013-03-19 15:27:00](#)

## *The Pleiades*

As we come up on the vernal equinox, I find my attention drawn to the Pleiades, a star cluster I have come to greater appreciation of in the past year or so. (While it is no longer dominant at the equinox, it was long ago, according to the Babylonian star catalogues.)



 [alt\\_sinistra](#)

For those students working toward their NEWT exams (by the by: I have your most recent round of practice exercises marked early), you might remember that the seven stars are often used as an initial measure of distance - the cosmic ladder we discussed in class last month - because of their proximity to earth and their shared origin. For the more fanciful among us, I find the stories about ~~the support of other women~~ these stars particularly pleasant - my middle name comes from a great-aunt named for one of these stars, Sterope. They are, at least, an interesting narrative on family, loss, and change.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-19 20:50:20](#)

*Private message to Delilah Mytens and Melantha Sinistra*

Delilah, Mel -

Madam Headmistress is insisting on weekly pregnancy testing. Do **not** give me the lecture on either Healer confidentiality or the idiocy of this particular requirement, please. Madame Pinkness does not live in the same country as logic. Or science. Healer Kerr and I, however, have reached a certain detente, which ran like this, after a lot of fussing on his part.

Me: "When Poppy did this test, it took two minutes, and required her wand, my hand, and nothing else."

Him: [Lengthy explanation of the variations of magical diagnosis, and my inability to understand the complexities of his field.]

Me: "Indeed."

Him: [How his plans for my mandated testing would serve a higher purpose. The glories of research. How my undressing entirely is essential to his project - something about efficacy of diagnostic

charms under different conditions. Fortunately, he goes on for some minutes without pause, which gives me time to think of an actual solution.]

Me: "Oh, dear. Poppy, of course, knew me in my own school days, and was another woman. I'm not at all sure Raz would be comfortable with my being seen by another man - and a professional colleague at that - without my robes on, in anything except the direst of circumstances. Certainly not weekly."

At this point, I have the pleasure of watching his face change from annoyance (that I dared argue) to fear, and then to urgent appeasement. Three minutes later, we have a compromise that makes me seem entirely obliging, and he sends me off, asking me to assure Raz that he never had the slightest intention of doing anything the least bit invasive, inappropriate, or unpleasant to me.

Anywiz. I am in need of a recommendation for a female Healer of record, please. Ideally with a sense of humour, a willingness to help me continue to skew my personal data for the Repopulation Office, and a desire to annoy Madam Pinkness. Availability on Tuesday afternoons (since there is another round of WRO forms apparently coming to me) particularly helpful.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at 2013-03-19 21:04:17

*Private message to Raz and Tosha*

Raz, love, I hope I was correct in implying that you would be distressed, in your most particularly **active** sort of way, were Healer Kerr to forget his better sense in favour of his research, and persist in suggesting methods of obeying certain dictates from her pinkness that might require me to take my robes off? (Do not get me started on the idiocies of weekly pregnancy test charms, but it is not the fight I wish to give her.)

Do not worry: I have already made the point to him myself, and my only regret is that you could not see the expression on his face. We could all use amusement right now.

Both of you, I do not think he actually **realised** the issue. I think that given the requirement from Madam Headmistress, he was just trying to make the most of it for his own research. Which is a problem, and one I would rather like to cure him of, if we must put up with him

here rather than Poppy. But I do not think he meant to be actively and aggressively crude. Merely your garden variety ivory tower Ravenclaw.

(On that note, Tosha, I have apparently learned a great deal from our Mr Moon about how to impart that particular kind of clue - that there is more than the ivory tower - to Ravenclaws.)

But if you both wished to glare menacingly at Kerr for a bit over meals, it might be a nice touch. In the meantime, I am seeking recommendations for an alternate (female) Healer of record from trusted sources. And Kerr and I did come to an agreement that makes me seem obliging enough and that should satisfy Madam Pinkness.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-20 02:30:12](#)

*Re: Private message to Raz and Tosha*

Well. That's a something, I suppose. I'd been wondering when Her Pinkness was going to raise the issue of Easter hols, and what she'd come up with to keep me away from Raz.

Apparently, she thinks the library requires review, and Irma's been dragging her feet about it. (Sensible Irma!) I certainly don't want to be here, and my contract does not require it, but I firecalled Georg to let him know she might fuss. And he went away, and sent me a private message about an hour later.

First: she made reference to that firecall - which rather worries me, that that's the next thing she'll control. She's certainly monitoring. At least mine.

But second, Raz, love, Georg asked that I tell you that he does indeed have a great many appointments in mind for me, but they are along the lines of "10 am: enjoy a pleasant morning with your fiance. noon: have lunch with your fiance. Afternoon: spend more time with fiance." (And so on, and so forth, with his only actual requirement being that I get more sleep than I have been. Not hard, that.).

There are a few things I would be pleased to spend some time on that are not you, but they can be tucked in around the edges or when you're out with Harry. Assuming. I mean. Spence, please? Can

we? I'll tell Her Pinkness I'm staying near the Guild no matter what.

The rest of it, stars, planets and falling meteors - is she trying to destroy the school entirely as a place of learning?



 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-03-20 11:17:15**

*Re: Private message to Raz and Tosha*

I cannot believe that woman.

Rest assured, dear one, I will be happy to be menacing at whomever is in need. And if you've need of a Floo, you may use mine; I am certain it is not monitored.

I cannot imagine what her goal is, but I am thoroughly sick of it. And I will be having a chat with Healer Kerr about the advisability of blindly following Her Pinkness's dictates.

Grumpily,  
T



 **alt\_sinistra** at **2013-03-20 12:37:28**

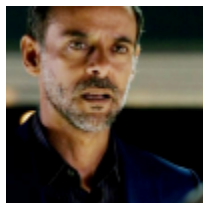
*Re: Private message to Raz and Tosha*

Every time I think she's done the last thing...

(Yes, I'm up early. Woke up thinking. Ugh.)

I did do my best to make the point that I was a gentler and less terrifying reminder to think before Kerr acts than he was likely to get elsewhere. But underlining that seems sensible, please.

I see you've got other plans of your own in mind?



 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-03-20 12:49:53**

*Re: Private message to Raz and Tosha*

I am mostly concerned that the children do well on their exams, particularly those who haven't studied the subject before. And particularly given that Madam Headmistress appears to have forgot the point of a school for witchcraft and wizardry is to teach witchcraft and wizardry.

Several of the childrens' posts last night and this morning do warm the heart, though.

Practising my best nonplussed stare,

T



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-20 12:58:49](#)

*Re: Private message to Raz and Tosha*

Have I mentioned recently how glad I am you're here? (Honestly, the thought of dealing with Madam Pinkness and your predecessor at the same time...)

At least my field does not require much in the way of actual practice of anything she'd consider magic (I'm quite sure we could practice the locational and chronological magics, and she'd never notice most of it.) Which makes my own sessions outside of scheduled classes safe enough.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-19 22:07:34](#)

*Private message to Aurora Sinistra*

Sizzie, dear -

I just realised, I hadn't had a moment to talk to you about plans for the holidays. Now, I've any number of projects that I'm just dying to spend time on, and I'm hoping that we can make a good start on them while the students are gone.

In particular, I've been thinking about how to use your rather eclectic talents to best serve the school. Now, I've had a word with dear Irma, and suggested that it might be well past time for a thorough review of the library's collection. I've come across more than a few volumes that really ought to have been removed from the library long since. Irma has been insisting she does not have time on top of her other duties, so your help would be just the right thing.

There are also some trivial planning arrangements for the summer's CCF plans that I thought you might be the best person to deal with, really. I'm sure it wouldn't take you much time at all to make all the contacts and communicate the specifics.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-19 22:12:14](#)

*Re: Private message to Aurora Sinistra*

Madam Headmistress, I'm afraid that won't be possible.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-20 01:17:15](#)

*Re: Private message to Aurora Sinistra*

It has taken me hours to figure out how to respond to your bald-faced effrontery.

What do you mean "That won't be possible"? Do I need to remind you that you serve at the pleasure of the Head of the school, and that you are expected to assist in all duties related to the school, whether or not students are in residence or not?

Really, dear, I had thought better of you. You make such a show of being committed to learning and teaching and the students, and yet you apparently can think of nothing else than running off to frivolity over the holidays. The real witches, the ones who do the necessary work, do not spend their days at card parties or in spas or in social outings.

Never mind your presumed desire to protect your own reputation and future opportunities.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-20 01:46:57](#)

*Re: Private message to Aurora Sinistra*

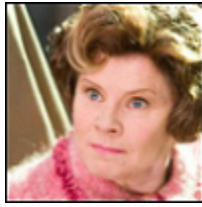
Madam Headmistress, I do in fact mean that it will not be possible for me to assist you.

If you consult my contract (I am glad to provide a duplicate copy ~~since you cannot access the one in the Head's office~~ if you wish, either my own or the one kept on file at my Guild), my contractual holiday periods are clearly outlined. While I did work through my holidays in prior years for the YPL, that was a separate agreement, with appropriate compensation, entirely distinct from my teaching contract.

In the case of the coming holidays, my Guild Master tells me he has scheduled a number of appointments for me, and he expects



my prompt and attentive participation. Those obligations will largely fill my time.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-20 01:54:26](#)

*Re: Private message to Aurora Sinistra*

That is extraordinarily inconvenient. Why did you not mention this earlier, so that I could make other arrangements?

I cannot imagine that your Guild Master's expectations would be so very gruelling - he's seemed rather to go very lightly on you, in his comments so far. Of course, limited by your teaching as you are, I suppose you're not the same as one of the serious researchers in the field.

Besides, you had such a very brief firecall with him, I'm sure he said nothing of consequence.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-03-20 02:04:42](#)

*Re: Private message to Aurora Sinistra*

I had not realised it might pose an inconvenience, Madam Headmistress.

Besides the textbook project and the proposed telescope installation, I understand he's apparently got some other tasks in mind relating to the optimal function of the Guild and long-term plans. I'm quite sure you needn't be bothered further with the details.

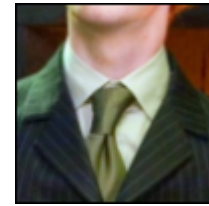
You seem to be having rather a busy evening, as I look at my journal.



**2013-03-19 17:18:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

You could have persuaded her to take a house for herself, couldn't you? And it would have been a better thing for you, too.




 [alt\\_percy](#)

Even if you feel you still have to stay with her, surely you'd prefer to go back to live in New London, in vastly better quarters.

Unless you like pitchforking out goat shite every night?

---

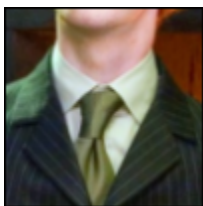



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-03-20 16:00:49**  
(no subject)

Don't be thick, Perce. I don't like it, but I'll shovel it out from now until the day the Cannons win the World Cup, if that's what it takes to help Mum stay at the Burrow. And she wants to stay. It's where she made her home with Dad, and where she raised her kids, and she feels closest to him here. She puts on a brave face, but I don't think you realise how much she's still struggling.

If Dad wasn't above shoveling goat shite, then I'm not, either.

Unlike you, apparently




 [alt\\_percy](#) at **2013-03-20 16:07:13**  
(no subject)

It's embarrassing why does she have to live like that, dress like that? She stopped by to see me for lunch when she was in New London for meetings, and I simply cringed when Mr Malfoy stepped out of his office and saw her standing there, in that ridiculous hand-knitted jumper.

Really, don't you worry that people will look askance at you? Didn't Mr Selwyn roll his eyes a bit at her at the Twelfth Night gala?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-03-20 16:09:26](#)**  
(no subject)

No. He showed that he was a true gentleman by showing Mum every mark of respect.

**[2013-03-19 20:31:00](#)**

*Educational Decree Number 25*

Effective immediately:

**Students are restricted from practising magics being studied in classes outside of scheduled class times and locations.**

**All revision groups may discuss the theory only. There is no exception for staff supervision.**



 [alt\\_umbridge](#)

In addition, those students who have been disregarding my teensy guidelines regarding appropriate food at meals for different portions of our community are advised to reform their actions immediately, or face serious consequences.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-03-20 01:57:12](#)  
*(no subject)*

Well, that makes sense. Because our youth shall never be expected to actually cast any of the spells they're learning. Clearly that was the whole point of suppressing Muggles so that one can cast spells whenever and wherever one wants - to confine study to the theory only.

And are you honestly suggesting that it's your business to decide who gets pudding and who doesn't, Madam Umbridge? I hope you're the sort who only ever eats salad (though judging by the latest photographs of you in the *Prophet*, I rather doubt it). Mind you make sure the lettuce doesn't have slugs.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-20 02:44:14](#)  
*Order Only*

You know, we think it wouldn't take much persuasion to convince the house elves that our beloved Headmistress should be eating a LOT of salads. With limp, watery vegetables, maybe, and a generous handful of olives.

The sort of olives that resemble slugs.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-20 02:50:37](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Maybe you can charm the olives to sort of move around. A little...sluggishly.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-20 02:51:16](#)

*Re: Order Only*

We like the way you think.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-03-20 03:08:44](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Boys, boys, boys. I would *never* suggest that anyone take a hint from my musing and tamper with her food. Perish the thought.

Now, if someone should happen to pass a dish in the wrong direction, however - well. Accidents do happen.

And of course, some cultures consider slugs a delicacy. *Escargôt*, anyone?

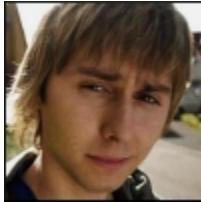
**2013-03-19 21:14:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Bloody hell. Now we aren't supposed to practise the spells we're trying to learn?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-03-20 03:18:47**

*(no subject)*


Sally-Anne,

Yes, quite. I'm glad to see Sirius has a sense of humour about it but it's bally well intolerable.

I say, do you think Diggory has anything in his suggestion to write to the Board? Surely if they could do anything, they'd have had her out already, what?

-Justin

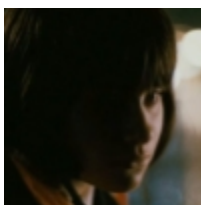


 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-03-20 03:27:16**

*(no subject)*

I'm wondering. The people on the Board who have children going here can't be happy with what's been going on lately, and now that she's made it harder for their children to do well on their exams, that might make them re-think things.

It's worth a try. It might make more of a difference if it's parents writing in.

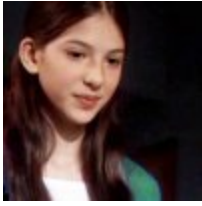


 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-03-20 04:34:53**

*Private Message to Sally-Anne*

My heart hurts.

And if Hermione Granger tells me I'm an idiot one more time, I'm going to scream.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-20 04:39:27](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

I'm sorry.

I think you should put your journal away, and then come sleep over.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-20 04:48:35](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

Okay.

**2013-03-19 22:07:00**

*(no subject)*

Well, okay then.



 [alt\\_harry](#)



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-03-20 02:53:00**

*Private Message to Cedric and Draco*

HOW IN HELL ARE PEOPLE SUPPOSED TO REVISE.

THIS IS A SCHOOL LAST TIME I CHECKED.

Right.

Okay.

She wants a fight, she's got one.



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at **2013-03-20 02:53:18**

*Re: Private Message to Cedric and Draco*

All the OWLS and NEWTS have a practical component. What in Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw and Slytherin's names are we supposed to be doing here at the premier institution of magical learning if we're not bloody doing bloody magic?

Anything you need me to do. Anything.

I'll say it again, I'm available to anyone who needs help with studying. Well except with arithmancy as I think they might not appreciate my 'help' on that subject.

**2013-03-19 22:14:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*



Harry's furious. I don't think I've seen him this angry since...

 [alt\\_pansy](#)

Well, since the Frost Faire.

Umbridge made him write lines for the second day in a row, and I think he's planning to just keep going. Sally-Anne's been helping, of course, but it's still not easy to see him doing that to himself.

Hermione, I know... I mean, it's dangerous. But everything we've been doing lately is dangerous, and I think Harry needs us.

I think Harry needs this.

Can we talk about letting him on again?

---



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-03-20 02:24:39**

*(no subject)*

We should totally let him on this lock.

I'm talking to him right now about the revising and helping as many people as we can. In whatever ways we can do it and get around Umbritch. We're going to have talk about who we probably can't help, too, so it's a shame he wasn't here when we talked all that through before.

So, yeah. I think he should be here with us.

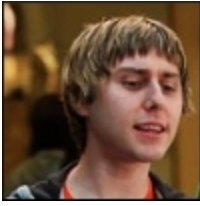


 [alt\\_neville](#) at **2013-03-20 04:13:45**

*(no subject)*

I agree. He should be on.





 **alt\_justin** at [2013-03-20 02:37:05](#)  
(no subject)

Hullo, Pansy,

Yes, quite. He's been bally well smashing at organising the Defence sessions and making certain everyone's included.

Hermione, I say, you're probably best placed to tell us where he stands on the other issues. The ones that aren't confined to school, that is. I'm sure he'd never betray anyone's secrets here but would he, er, would he go spare if he learned about everything else we discuss here?

-Justin



 **alt\_hermione** at [2013-03-20 02:57:23](#)  
(no subject)

It's hard to say, exactly, Justin, I mean, it's all still very personal for him. He hates the Lord Protector--I mean, he really, really hates him--but it's partly because he thought of him as his father for a long time and he's realised how horrid he is, really.

But he isn't--I don't think he's thought about liberating Muggles, not really, beyond the idea that somehow the Lord Protector has to be stopped.

I'm sure he can be trusted on the lock. And I think it would be good for him.

But. What'll be really hard for him is not bringing Draco along. And I know, Pansy, that Draco's not as bad as some people think--I mean, he hates the Lord Protector too and he wants to help Harry--but, well, I think he's in much bigger danger of doing his nut if he were to learn that Justin's a secret Muggleborn or that Neville's been in contact with his parents or how we helped Terry escape or anything like that. Or at least if he did and nothing had prepared him for it.

The other thing about Draco is that he just doesn't know you all enough to trust you. But with Harry already here, that might change.

I think you should let me talk to Harry about it. I mean, be the one to tell him and tell him how to use it. I've been practising the Obliviation. I think I could do it if I had to do.

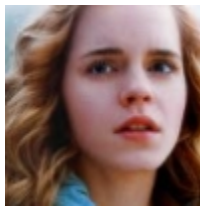


 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-03-20 03:18:21](#)**  
(no subject)

So, are you saying that we ought to bring on Harry but leave Draco out?

Do you think Harry would join without him?

And how long do you think it would take to prepare him so that he would be ready enough?




 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-03-20 03:22:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, I think it's the best way. I know Harry shan't like it but I think Draco shall need Harry to help him put everything he'll read, I mean everything that he'll find out once he's behind the lock, into perspective, and Harry can't do that if he and Draco are both processing the same shocks at the same time. But I think I can convince Harry that it has to be that way and once he's here he'll see why.

I don't know how long. That sort of depends on them. Harry. And Draco, too.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-20 03:25:20](#)**  
(no subject)

Maybe if you talked to him about why it's important and why Malfoy's not ready yet. Maybe.

I mean, you could say pretty much what Hermione did here. But if it's you, he'll know that you've thought through the reasons. And he could talk to you about how you keep the secret.

I mean, well. Are you ready for what happens if Malfoy finds out

about all of this? And how long you've been here without telling him?

Sorry. That wasn't a fair question. I know it's harder than that. More complicated. And it happened before and... yeah. Never mind.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-20 03:34:30](#)  
(no subject)

~~Right. So if I talk to Harry about how it's okay to leave my boyfriend out of it, because I've been lying to him for ages now, it'll make it okay for Harry to lie to him too. Lovely.~~

Hermione's security is important. I have not pushed this because I know that it can't be up to me.

But I disagree with what you're both saying about how Draco is not ready.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-20 03:40:31](#)  
*Private Message to Pansy*

I'm sorry.

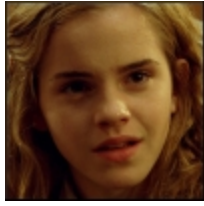


 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-20 03:40:40](#)  
(no subject)

And I'm honestly not sure if there will ever be a time when he'll meet your standards.

I wonder if I ever would have either. Before.

Remember, I wasn't invited. I found out by accident. When would've been the right time to tell me yourselves? A year later? Two? How long do you think it would've taken for me to prove myself to you?




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-20 03:48:34](#)  
(no subject)

I don't think we can compare the two situations. You're not him, you're not motivated by the same things that cause him to act. And you were already showing signs that you disagreed, that you thought muggleborns should be treated better and so on.

Yes, you found out but you're a different person. And I'm not saying he'd betray us. I don't think he would do. But I also don't think that just plunging him into the lock is the right way *for him* to find out.

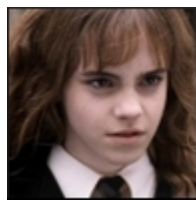


 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-20 03:53:33](#)  
(no subject)

And has he given any sign to you, the way he treats you, that shows that he thinks you deserve better?

I'm just saying that until we take the chance and ask him to join, it's always going to be a risk. And there's nothing he could do that would make it absolutely clear to everybody that it'd be all right.

So if we sit around and wait until we decide he's ready, or wait for him to take it upon himself to pass a test he doesn't even know he's taking, it's never going to happen. And he deserves more than that.



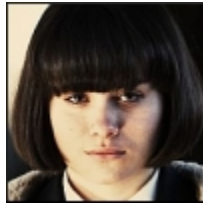
 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-20 03:57:29](#)  
(no subject)


Will you listen to what I am actually saying instead of what you think I am saying?

I am not saying that he needs to pass a test about whether he thinks I or any other muggleborn deserve better. I am not saying that he needs to prove that he's not going to run and tell his father everything. He shan't. I KNOW that he would not do that.

I am not talking about not telling him or not inviting him to the lock. I am talking about HOW to invite him and tell him about it.

And I really think that the WAY to tell him about it and invite him to it is to bring Harry in FIRST so that Harry can HELP us--ALL of US--to help Draco adjust to the idea of trusting ten other people WHOM HE DOES NOT KNOW with HIS secrets.




 **alt\_pansy** at **2013-03-20 04:08:26**  
(no subject)

Fine.

It is clear that you have a very specific way that you want to do things.

So you can keep on making the decisions about how exactly it would be best to tell Draco, and what exactly to tell him, and how long we'll keep him at arm's length, because you clearly know more about his capabilities than I ever could.



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-03-20 04:00:06**  
(no subject)

Um.

Yeah.

Deserves doesn't seem like the right kind of word for this. I mean. It's not like anyone has a right to know all these secret things. And...

Yeah, okay.

Shutting my gob now.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-20 04:23:29](#)**  
(no subject)

About Draco Malfoy...


I dunno, I don't know what to think. Because I just don't know him as well as the Slytherins do.

He's...he's not as actively cruel as he used to be when he was younger. (Sorry, but he was. Going on about me being too stupid to live, and a rotten flyer, and giving me grief about coming from a blood traitor family, for example. Now he just ignores me, really.)

Maybe getting to know Hermione a bit better has made him think about things. Maybe he's more open-minded about things than the Protectorate thinks he should be.

I dunno, but some of you, especially the ones in his House, would have a much better idea than me.




 **[alt\\_terry](#)** at **[2013-03-20 04:34:07](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't know what to think, either. Maybe my magic could give me an idea if I were in his vicinity, because it usually will give me a feeling about whether people are trustworthy. But I haven't seen him in several years, and he could have changed a lot since then.

The thing is...I have the feeling that Sirius Black would say that people have the right to be judged for who they really are. Not for their family or their blood status. They should have the chance to do what they want to do, on their own merits.


I just don't know if Malfoy has entirely figured out who he is yet. And if he ends up going the way we hope he doesn't, then 'giving him a chance' may just mean giving him a chance to betray us all.



 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-03-20 04:38:17](#)  
(no subject)

I think Neville's right. A bit more weight in making this decision should be given to the people who know him best. And that might include Marvolo, if he joins first.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-20 03:52:11](#)  
*Private Message to Pansy*

I don't know, Pans.

The thing is you, you did find out, and we've turned out differently because you're here than we would have if you hadn't been. We'd have been more about protecting Terry and Hermione, and about having a safe place for the rest of us when there's trouble over our being bloodtraitors or about Sally Anne's being a halfblood. Anywiz, I think if you hadn't found out, we'd've just stayed smaller. Maybe no one else would've got added if you hadn't.


So I can't say I think Malfoy should be here yet, but I don't know it won't ever happen.

And when it does, it'll be because you kept us talking about it. And maybe Harry will, too.

Only, I think Hermione may be right that it needs to be one of them at a time.

I mean, even you know that, right? Or you'd have asked about both of them to begin with, yeah?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-20 04:23:41](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Pansy*

The reason I didn't ask about both was because I assumed he would be in if Harry was. Because he's been supporting Harry all this time, and I thought

I don't know. I thought that it'd be easier for people to accept

Draco if they thought about Harry.

But apparently it didn't quite turn out as I'd hoped.

Never mind.

I'd really rather stop talking about it for now, because I'm not feeling terribly civil.

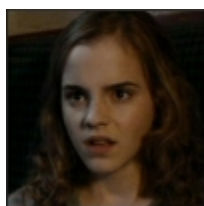


 **alt\_ron** at **2013-03-20 04:34:30**

*Re: Private Message to Pansy*

Yeah.

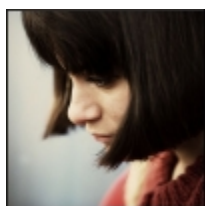
I am sorry.



 **alt\_hermione** at **2013-03-20 03:40:47**

*(no subject)*

Well, what's your evidence that he is?



 **alt\_pansy** at **2013-03-20 03:46:43**

*(no subject)*

What's your evidence that makes you know that he would betray his best friend? And what makes you think he'd betray me?

What's your proof that he's a lesser person than Harry when it comes to the ability to see what's right and what's wrong? What makes Harry so much better able to handle what we've been up to?

I don't see how one can be ready and the other not. If Draco is with Harry, Draco is with Harry. No matter what.

I might

Look, I know that I might lose him over this. I've known it and been afraid of it for years. And I'm willing to risk that.

Don't leave him in the dark, Hermione.

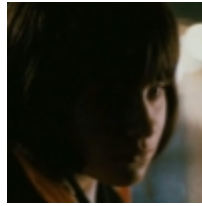





 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-20 03:50:05](#)  
(no subject)

Trustworthy and ready to hear all our secrets are not the same thing.

I don't think he'd betray us if we walked up to him and told him things on the lock. But I don't think that's any reason to slap him upside the head with it all, either.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-20 03:57:55](#)  
(no subject)

But when you say we have to wait until he's ready

Can you at least recognise that I have valid concerns about how long that will take? Or if it will even happen at all? If he'll ever be ready enough for you?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-20 04:14:18](#)  
(no subject)

It's not going to be so long that he's too old, if that's what you mean.

Again, you are assuming something other than what I'm saying. When I say he's not ready I don't mean that he's not ready to be trusted. I mean he's not ready to trust us and he's not ready to be part of this kind of insurrection. It's not personal for him yet, which means it's not something he cares about and it's not something he'll understand if he's not *made* ready to accept it all. That's why we need Harry in the lock and part of it before Draco comes on, too. So that Harry can help him understand it when it comes. *When*, not if. Same as Hydra. (Sorry, Hydra, but it's true.)

If he's fighting for anything right now, it's for Harry. Which is fine. But that's as far as it goes. So he needs to want to join because it's something Harry finds important, and then he also needs to be prepared for what he'll find, and Harry's the best person to help with that. And Harry can't do it if Harry's just learning everything himself. It takes him forever to figure

things out but once he does, he can help explain to Draco in ways that Draco will find at least acceptable, if not necessarily logical.

~~You're right; you don't really understand him at all, do you?~~

**2013-03-19 22:46:00**

*(no subject)*

PARents nEEd to writE to the BoArd? PEAKes  
MALfoy SElwYn RickEtt SEdgEWick Atkinson  
Burroughs JEnkins EVAn ShAW VAndEmAr



 [alt\\_galleon](#)

**2013-03-19 22:55:00**

*(no subject)*

OPERATION: WHITE NOISE. SHE WANTS NO  
MAGIC? DON'T DO MAGIC. BE HELPLESS AND  
ASK PERMISSION FOR EVERYTHING. PASS IT  
ON. MAKE HER JOB HARD.



 [alt\\_galleon](#)

**[2013-03-19 23:39:00](#)**

*Order Only: Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo*



I just realised...if Harry Marvolo joins the I Solemnly Swear lock, that means HE'LL be able to read every private message you've ever written under it. Including the ones you and I wrote to each other.

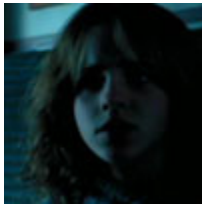
 [alt\\_terry](#)

I don't suppose he wouldn't read them. If you asked him not to?

~~I mean, I always hated~~

~~I was jealous~~

The thought just makes me a little sick.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-20 15:19:42](#)  
(no subject)

No, he wouldn't read them. But it's a good point. It's the same as if he ever joins the Order.

I wonder, though: The journal magic automatically dissolved when Carrow died and you weren't his anymore. I mean, when people write 'Private Message to Terry' it doesn't automatically add 'and Carrow' so the journals considered you free.

So I wonder what it would take for the journal to consider me free? Would it only do it if the Ministry freed me? Or would Harry saying so be enough?



 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-03-20 22:00:17](#)  
(no subject)

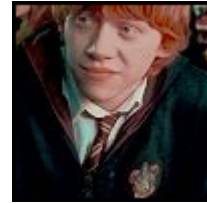
Hmm. Maybe Bill Weasley would know? Or maybe Nick Towler knows something about the way his department reports things to whoever's running the journals now? I dunno.

**2013-03-19 23:45:00**

*A Question For Madam Umbridge*

Headmistress?

I'm just wondering if it's all right for us to use a spell to put out the lights in our dormitory tonight. I mean, that requires using magic and all, only, I'm not sure what the safe way to put out torches is if we don't use it. I mean, besides, I might trip over something on my way back to bed in the dark if I snuffed it out in a pail of water or something. And I don't know where I'd get the water. It doesn't seem like a good idea to try to smother it with a bed curtain. We might set the whole room on fire.



 [alt\\_ron](#)

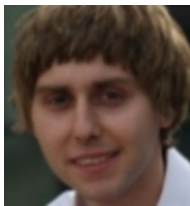


 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at **2013-03-20 12:31:51**  
(no subject)

Mr Weasley,

I thought I made it clear that it was magics such as have been studied in the revision sessions some have set up that were an issue. Trivial daily magics are still allowed, as long as they are within keeping of other school rules and requirements.

Really, are you trying to be difficult?



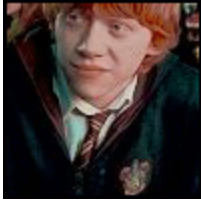
 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-03-20 14:57:35**  
(no subject)


Headmistress,

Forgive my intrusion but I for one appreciate Weasley's quest for absolute clarity. I say, it shows good form. I was only thinking this morning that one's ablatives or countless other common household activities may be affected by a prohibition against the magics of daily routine.

Good show, Weasley, and thank you, Headmistress, for your prompt answer.

- Finch-Fletchley



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-20 15:54:49](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

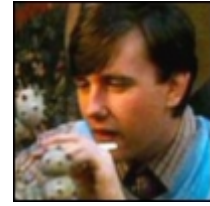
Thanks, mate.

**2013-03-20 06:35:00**

*A question for Madam Umbridge*

Headmistress:

Professor Sprout had asked me to begin preparing the seedlings intended for the first stage of the Memorial Garden. I am not sure I will be able to get my own work done for Herbology class if I only prepare the seedlings in class--there are a LOT of them to re-pot. But I can't do it after class because I learned all the spells for testing proper soil composition (checking the moisture levels, pH, and so on) IN class, which makes them part of the class curriculum, right?



 [alt\\_neville](#)

I'm afraid this will move back the timetable for getting the Garden ready.



---

 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-20 14:47:38](#)  
(no subject)

Thank you for asking permission so carefully, Mr Longbottom.

In this case, as it is a school-approved project, you may continue to work outside of class, under Professor Sprout's supervision. However, you may not demonstrate or practise these spells with other students in any setting outside of class.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-20 15:41:03](#)  
(no subject)

Could you please clarify? I thought that a Professor's supervision was NOT sufficient? But it IS if it is a school-approved project, then? What's the procedure to get a project school-approved? Do we need to get them approved by any staff member, or just by you? Are there any forms or parchment the students have to fill out, like the proposal worked up for the Memorial Garden? if so who needs to review the forms? Staff, or our Head of House, or you?

Because there are a lot of students who might need to know.

Thank you.





 **[alt\\_umbridge](#)** at **[2013-03-20 15:56:58](#)**  
(no subject)

Really, Mr Longbottom, are you trying to be difficult?

A project is school-approved if I, as the Headmistress, have approved it. In this case, where I proposed the Memorial Garden myself, naturally, I wish for it to continue and flourish. It is unlikely (though, I suppose, possible) that I will approve other substantial projects between now and the end of exams.

Should some idea suggest such a proposal, the proper method would be to arrange an appointment with me, and from there, we can discuss the next appropriate steps should the idea have any merit at all. I do not expect it to be a frequent occurrence.

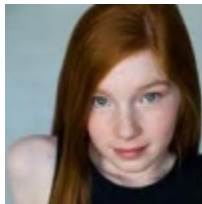


 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-20 17:03:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, I understand that you approved the Garden, ma'am. I was just enquiring for any other students who might wish to do a school-approved project in the future.

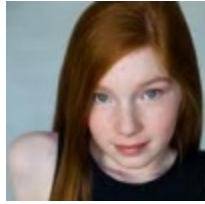
So ALL approvals must go through you.

Thank you for clarifying, ma'am.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-03-20 18:02:13](#)**  
(no subject)

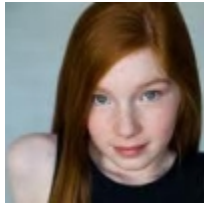
Thanks for asking, Nev. I wanted to know about the Revue, because there's some spells I use for make-up and hair and repairs and things that I've learned independently, and some I've picked up from classes, and some I'm in the process of learning, but if it's been approved by the Headmistress, it should be all right if I use all of them. And the Revue has. At least I'm fairly sure it has?



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-20 18:03:20](#)  
(no subject)

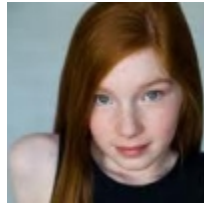
Except.

Your revision group was approved, but then it wasn't? I mean, she meant that you couldn't use magic at the revision sessions, even though she'd approved them.



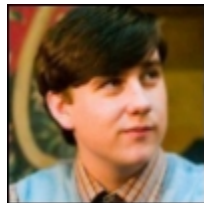
 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-20 18:04:15](#)  
(no subject)


Although I suppose although a revision group can be approved, it isn't a project.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-20 19:16:00](#)  
(no subject)

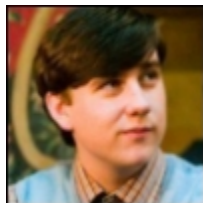
Hang on, I'm making lists to sort it out properly.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-21 03:47:58](#)  
(no subject)

Your list seemed very thorough. Well done.

Although I'm not sure it sorted out the confusion entirely, did it?




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-21 03:51:24](#)  
*I solemnly swear that I am up to no good:  
Private message to Evelyn Longbottom*

That was just brilliant, Lindy. I just about laughed myself sick when I read it.

I hope every member of the Hogwarts Board of Governors reads it, too.




 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-03-21 03:55:07](#)**

*Re: I solemnly swear that I am up to no good:  
Private message to Evelyn Longbottom*

Thanks, Pete.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-03-21 03:54:43](#)**

*(no subject)*

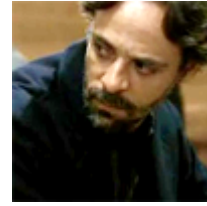
These things always do tend to raise more questions than answer them at first, don't they? And it's rather difficult to separate out the magic that we do as a matter of course and the magic that we learn specifically for exams. I've never had to think nearly so much about when I use each spell and for what purpose.

We'll just have to be careful and conscientious about following the guidelines that we know, and asking when we're not sure.

**2013-03-20 06:54:00**

*(no subject)*

Will the following fifth-year students, and any other student in the fifth-year practical session who wishes additional review, please join me in my classroom today at lunchtime, and next Wednesday as well:



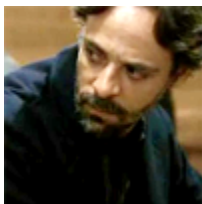
 **alt\_antonin**

Bones, Susan  
Corner, Michael  
Dunstan, Belinda  
Finch-Fletchley, Justin  
Jones, Megan  
Midgen, Eloise  
Parkinson, Pansy  
Weasley, Ron

And the following fifth-year students, and any other student in the fifth-year theoretical session who wishes additional review, please join me in my classroom Friday at lunchtime, this week and next:

Brown, Lavender  
Fawcett, Sarah  
Longbottom, Neville  
MacDougal, Morag  
Stebbins, Bobby

Seventh-year students who would like additional review for their NEWTs may join me Monday and Tuesday evenings after supper, for the remainder of the year. Depending on how many students are present for each session, we may conduct our meetings in the classroom or in my office.




 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-03-20 11:05:27**

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

If you've a few moments after supper tonight or tomorrow, I'd appreciate it if you'd stop by my office; I have some information to give you.



 **alt\_harry** at [2013-03-20 13:54:25](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Of course, sir.

I don't anticipate that I'll get detention tonight. If I do, I'll be sure to let you know.



 **alt\_harry** at [2013-03-21 01:49:20](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Thank you, Antonin Nikolaevich. That was very helpful.

I'll be sure to put it to good use.



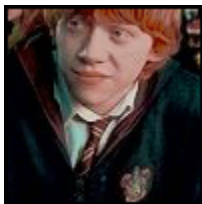
 **alt\_antonin** at [2013-03-21 01:59:59](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

I have full faith and confidence in your ability to make use of the material, and also in your judgement as to when and where it should be used.

If any of your classmates, meanwhile, find it difficult to obtain an adequate supper despite your admirable efforts -- please discreetly let them know I will not say a word if anyone should stop by my revision sessions for the refreshments, rather than the information.

Regards,  
Antonin Nikolaevich



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-03-20 21:59:30](#)

*(no subject)*

Thank you, sir. That was dead helpful. I'll be back next Wednesday, definitely.




 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-03-20 23:25:29](#)  
(no subject)

I'm glad you found our review session helpful, Mr Weasley. I've been most pleased with the effort put forth by you and your fellow newcomers to the subject, and I'm certain you would all continue to work just as hard to prepare for your OWLs, but as your professor it is incumbent upon me to prepare you as well as I can.

You and your cohort are welcome to stop in anytime you'd like some extra time to review. We will, alas, need to confine ourselves to theoretical discussion alone outside class hours, but I have faith in your ability to excel despite this unfortunate handicap.

Regards,  
Professor Dolohov




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-21 01:22:05](#)  
(no subject)

I'll be there as well.

Thank you, Antonin Nikolaevich. I appreciate our meetings ever so much




 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-03-21 01:24:29](#)  
(no subject)

I am at your disposal whenever you are in need of professorial assistance, Miss Parkinson; my door is always open to you all.

Regards,  
Antonin Nikolaevich



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-21 01:47:28](#)  
*Private Message to Antonin Nikolaevich*

You must know just how much that means, sir.

Especially given the current climate.

It's so good to see you back on your feet again.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-21 02:13:06](#)**

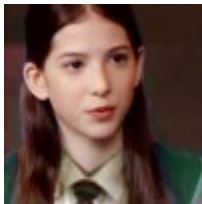
*Re: Private Message to Antonin Nikolaevich*

It is very good to be back on my feet, though of course the difficulty after a long illness is in accustoming oneself to how rapidly the world around one seems to have changed when one was ill. Still, I am pleased at the prospect of being able to devote myself to the castle's matters more vigorously than I have been able.

And I do, in fact, know precisely how much value to place on a professor with his student's best interests at heart; I had several of my own during my own years in Hogwarts, and valued them greatly. I have been charged with the task of your education by Our Lord himself, and I will attend that task with as much diligence as I might. You and your fellows may, if nothing else, rely on that.

I hope you will continue to feel as though my classroom and my office can be refuges to you and to your fellows as often as you find yourselves in need.

In service,  
Antonin



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-21 02:23:55](#)**

*(no subject)*

Thank you, sir. I found the session today very helpful.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-21 02:48:32](#)**


*(no subject)*

I'm very pleased you did, Miss Perks. Your question as you were all leaving about cooperative casting and what forms of support a witch or wizard can provide to the primary caster in a ritual setting was quite insightful, meanwhile, and I regret I was unable to give it the

full attention and answer it deserved due to the class following -- if you would like to follow up with me for a more in-depth explanation of the topic, do stop by at any time.

Regards,  
Professor Dolohov




 **alt\_neville** at **2013-03-22 20:41:39**  
(no subject)

Thank you, sir.

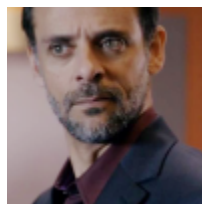
I will be back next week as well.




 **alt\_neville** at **2013-03-22 20:43:15**  
*Private message to Professor Dolohov*

And I also meant to say....thanks also for the food.  
And making sure that everyone is getting enough.

It hasn't been a problem for me, fortunately, given my blood status. But I know that some of the kids have been rather hungry. The food doesn't always get down all the way to the half-bloods.



 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-03-23 02:50:34**  
*Re: Private message to Professor Dolohov*

You are quite welcome, Mr Longbottom. It is hardly logical to expect teenagers to achieve their best learning potential when they are hungry.

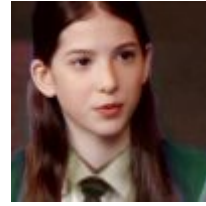
I hope to see you overcoming your natural reticence and participating more in the discussion in next week's session, meanwhile; your exams are approaching quickly and I am, unfortunately, limited in how much review I can provide to you all, though I will do my best.

Regards,  
Professor Dolohov



**2013-03-20 08:56:00**

*Question for Headmistress Umbridge*



 **alt\_sally\_anne**

Early this year we learned a lovely spell for securing our belongings, which I've been using ever since. (Obviously any competent adult would easily be able to defeat the spell, but it keeps my peers from borrowing quills, for instance, which they might then forget to return.) Do I need to stop using this? I've been thinking it's not a spell I'm learning in class, it's a spell I learned in class, but there are others in my year who haven't mastered it. What if I'm careful to only cast it when no one else is present?

I guess I need some clarification about which magics we are allowed to use. I looked through all the messages this morning from first, second, and third years and your replies and I'm not feeling as though I really have a clear answer to this.

Thank you!



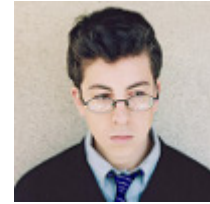
 **alt\_umbridge** at **2013-03-20 14:11:04**  
(no subject)

Miss Perks, really, I thought you were supposed to be brighter than that.

If you are routinely using it in daily life, and have been doing so prior to my instruction yesterday, you may continue to do so. If you were not, or were still learning, you may not. Likewise, practice sessions outside of scheduled class sessions are forbidden.

**2013-03-20 10:12:00**

*to my fellow Prefects*



 [alt\\_linus](#)

I've found our missing second-years, and have rescued them from the staircase on which they were so thoroughly marooned. Well, thoroughly marooned if one abstains completely from the use of any spells to bridge the gap that particular staircase likes to open up. Honestly, they've known those spells since the middle of first year. I don't see why they're suddenly having conniptions about using them now. Apparently a recent Educational Decree has them in some sort of panic, or perhaps it that the panic of certain older students is contagious; in any case, they're all a bit on edge, and seem to be needing encouragement to do the slightest thing.

They should be at their respective classes soon. Thank you for helping me search for them.

It is going to be a long week if this keeps up, and it's only Wednesday.

**2013-03-20 10:41:00**

*(no subject)*

We're forbidden to do spells studied 'in class' but NOTHING'S been said re: spells learned in the library. Spell Party in library today!



 [alt\\_galleon](#)

**2013-03-20 10:43:00**

*(no subject)*

IT'S SPRING EQUINOX! KISS A GINGER  
TODAY!

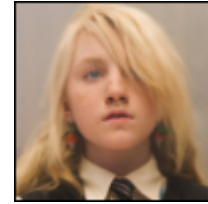


 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-03-20 12:25:00**

*Madam Umbridge?*

Madam Umbridge:



 [alt\\_luna](#)

I went during my lunch to do some more sketches in my naturalist notebook of some of the creatures that Professor Grubbly-Plank has for the Magical Creatures curriculum. I'm afraid there's a hinkypunk that escaped from its confinement, and I'm having trouble with it because I'm not allowed to cast Lumos Duo on it repeatedly to solidify it enough to take it out with Flipendo? And it became very cross when I tried to solidify it by other means, and it's blasting fireballs out of its lamp at me. I'm SO sorry about the wall hangings in the classroom, and one of the portraits in the corridor outside was rather scorched but I wasn't sure if I should use magic to put them out? Since I wasn't actually in an official Magical Creatures class at the time?

(Note to others: dumping ice on them does not solidify them. Nor does dumping treacle on them. Nor turnips. Mr. Milland, there's something in the classroom you'll probably want to see to. Sorry about that.)



 [alt\\_neville](#) at **2013-03-20 22:02:38**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Fred and George Weasley said to tell you that you are, um, 'ruddy brilliant.' That they approve of anything that causes mayhem while showing that you're following her stupid rules.

**[2013-03-20 13:55:00](#)**

*very strange*

Someone was talking about this at lunch but I think they were having people on. Why should it be good luck to kiss a plant?



 **[alt\\_megan](#)**



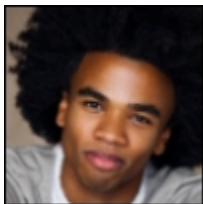
 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2013-03-20 20:50:54](#)**

*(no subject)*

Well, the ginger plant is extremely beneficial, you know. It helps keep your chakras in balance. You've had ginger tea, haven't you? It's soothing to the throat, which is governed by the Vishuddha, or Throat Chakra, tying it to communication and dreams. Emotionally, this chakra governs independence, mentally it governs fluent thought, and spiritually, it governs a sense of security. Ginger's also helpful for digestion (perhaps you've used it to prevent flatulence?)--and that's the sphere of the Manipura or Solar Plexus Chakra. This one influences personal power, fear, anxiety, opinion-formation, introversion, and transition from simple or base emotions to complex. And I suppose it isn't important to us--yet--but I know in ancient times ginger was used as a base for aphrodisiac remedies. So it also influences the Muladhara or Root Chakra, which reigns over survival, sexuality and security.

You can see with all these benefits why it would be very good luck indeed, especially at the changing of the season.

But somehow, I don't think that's the kind of ginger you heard them talking about.



 **[alt\\_lee](#)** at **[2013-03-20 21:15:36](#)**

*(no subject)*

Ginger's a protection against flatulence?


That explains so much.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-20 21:16:13](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, it does.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-20 22:10:24](#)  
(no subject)

What does it do to the ginger if it gets kissed by someone with their vishyoothra chakwotsit out of balance?

That root chakra sounds interesting, though. I bet you can tell which ehak- whatsit is strong or weak from the kissing, yeah?



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-03-21 02:29:57](#)  
(no subject)

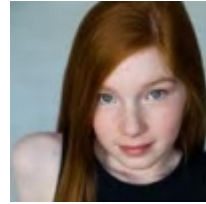
That's a very good question, and I don't think I know the answer. It might depend on which chakra was out of balance, mightn't it?

For example, if it's the kisser's root chakra that's out of balance, perhaps that might make the ginger a bit...limp?

**2013-03-20 14:52:00**

*(no subject)*

Personal Note: Current Rules and Conditions of Acceptable and Unacceptable Magical Use: Alter As New Information Becomes Available.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#)

Note: Please read through carefully before casting anything, Ev!

Categories:

1. Spells I've learned on my own
2. Spells I've mastered in classes
  - a.) Spells I ought to be expected to be tested over, and will therefore revise, even though I've learned them
    - i.) Spells I use daily
    - ii.) Spells I use rarely but have mastery over
  - b.) Spells I have already been tested over in previous years, and therefore are not expected to need to revise until I must study them for OWLs.
    - i.) Spells I use daily
    - ii.) Spells I use rarely but have mastery over
3. Spells I'm in the process of learning in classes

Based on my current understanding, if I am outside of our classrooms, I cannot use 3.) the spells I am currently learning in classes, but I can use 1.) spells I've learned on my own and 2.) b.) i.) spells I've mastered, use daily, and do not expect to need to revise. 2.) b.) ii.) , 2.) a.) i.), and 2.) a.) ii.) are a bit more complicated. See below.

**School Approved Project Exception:** I can use 1.), 2.), and 3.) for school-approved projects that have been approved by the Headmistress. This includes things like the Memorial Garden. I am assuming that it includes the Revue until I hear otherwise.

**Exception to School Approved Project Exception:** The exception for approved groups does not apply to revision groups, even if they have been approved, because Madame Umbridge has stated she wishes us to use theory only while we are in any revising groups. While in the process of revision in revising groups, no spells are to be cast.



Category 2 clarification: So the above would mean that I cannot use the spells listed in 2.) a.) i.) and ii.) while I'm revising in a group, but if I happened to need to use them during the course of my normal day, I might be able to under the clarification given by Madame Umbridge that mastered spells that we use daily do not count. 2.) a.) i.) was stated as acceptable, but 2.) a.) ii.) may need further clarification. Unsure as well about 2.) b.) ii.), as those spell categories are mastered, not revised, but not in daily use.

Note: Clarify spells mastered but not in daily use?

**Possible Exception to Exception Exception:** We are only supposed to use theory while in our 'revising groups', and not engage in magic as per the exact language of the Decree 25. And we can only meet regularly in groups of three or more students if we have approval by the Headmistress as per Decree 23. So it may be possible that students may spontaneously gather and use magic for purposes of revision if they do not meet regularly, as they would not be classified as a 'revising group', or, for example, two students forming a non-group (as groups are three or more) could possibly use magic during revision, or one student may possibly use magic during revision in isolation. However, I am not sure, as this involves overlapping decrees.

Note: Clarify spontaneous multiple participant magic use, groups of two, single person.

Updated March 20th.

Additional thought: Spells learned independently but could potentially be tested over later? Possibly rare, some distinct exceptions. Think further about. See if clarification needed.



 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-03-20 21:07:00](#)  
*Order Only*

I'm beginning to see signs, Frank and Alice, that your daughter has inherited your sense of humour.



 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-03-20 22:01:30](#)

*Re: Order Only*

the brains and the sweetness is all due to al. looks like she got a bit of my stubbornness in there too, though.




 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-21 02:25:06](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Your children remain a delight.

As does Miss Lovegood. The wreck of the classroom she referenced in her entry was quite impressive. Of course, I cannot hope to find time from my busy schedule to clean it tonight...



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-21 02:44:20](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Naturally. Difficult to get through the tasks on your list in when you have to stop to ask the Headmistress for permission to do anything.

Can't be helped.




 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-21 02:51:11](#)

*Re: Order Only*

But of course. I was not told to tend to that classroom, and Milland is a very busy man; he cannot possibly monitor students' journals for issues.

The lengths to which the children are going to establish their displeasure are extremely amusing.



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-03-20 22:00:58**  
(no subject)

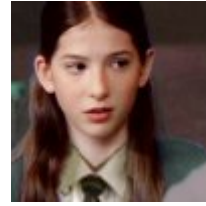
Um. Thanks, Ev.

That makes it all so much clearer.

Yeah.

**2013-03-20 16:09:00**

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



Um

~~I don't suppose you know~~

 **alt\_sally\_anne**

Which Weasley was it that I kissed, anyway?  
Fred, or George? ~~I don't know what got into me~~

At least he didn't seem to mind. Whichever one of them it was.

---



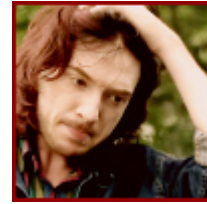
 **alt\_pansy** at **2013-03-20 22:07:56**  
(no subject)

Oh, Merlin, I was so busy laughing I didn't keep track.  
Let's just say you snogged Forge and call it a day. As  
far as choices for snogging partners go, they're both  
rather fit.

I remember it was rather nice kissing both of them back during third  
year Solstice. Maybe it'd be worth finding out which one you kissed  
so you can be extra thorough and catch the other one?

**2013-03-20 18:21:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Charlie Weasley*



Tell me again why I don't want to pull out Percy's rib cage and use it for wind chimes.

 [alt\\_bill](#)

He's being such a stuck up arse about Mum.

---



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at **2013-03-20 23:30:28**  
(no subject)


Ugh.

I saw his comment to Mum. I take it his message to you was more of the same?

Makes me want to hold him down and rub his face in the goat shite, and that was just from what he said publicly. Afraid I'm not going to be much use as the voice of reason, there.

I wonder if it would be easier if he'd just give up and disown us, already. It'd let us stop hoping, at least.

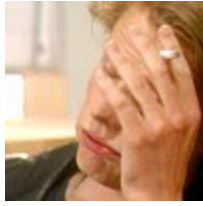


 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-03-20 23:39:24**  
(no subject)

He harangued me for failing to talk her into ditching the Burrow for 'vastly better quarters.' And speaking of goat shite, he made a crack about it, telling me that surely I'd prefer to go back to New London, unless I liked pitching it out every night?

Mum seemed down tonight. She went out with him to lunch this week, and from something he said about being ashamed of her appearance, when Lucius Malfoy stepped out his office and saw her, I suspect he had the gall to harrass her about her wardrobe.

He apparently wants her to dress more like Narcissa Malfoy.




 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-03-21 00:05:28](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, Merlin.

I just ... I don't even know how to deal with that.  
With him. I mean --

Yeah. I don't even know what I mean. And I don't know why I keep hoping every damn time that he'll do or say something different when he's made it damn clear where his sympathies lie.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-21 00:23:24](#)  
(no subject)

I don't, either. I made an excuse and skipped our usual lunch today. I didn't think I could smile at him over a plate of fish and chips at the Leaky Cauldron. I can pretend more easily when it's only my feelings involved. When he starts holding up his nose at Mum, though, it just makes me want to start hexing.

He's getting worse. Isn't he? Maybe there would be hope that Percy would start to come to his senses in about five years if Lucius sodding Malfoy sacked him tomorrow for failing to kiss his arse with sufficient feeling. But I don't think that's too likely. Percy apparently consider the arse kissing one of the perks of the job.

I know Dad wouldn't want us to give up on him. I know that.

Maybe he was just more of an optimist than I am.



 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-03-21 00:33:22](#)  
(no subject)

I know. I know. But I don't know what else we could possibly do, not when he gets all that poison poured straight in his ears by Lucius sodding Malfoy every day. And I don't think there's any way we can pry Percy's lips from Malfoy's arse long enough to remind Perce of what it means to be a Weasley.

Problem is, he knows what it means to be a Weasley, and it's not good enough for him. Never has been, really.

And I can't think of any way to change his mind, there. I just can't.

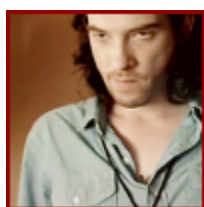
~~And I think Dad would rather we not risk~~


~~And Dad couldn't think of anything to do either~~

~~I wonder if we're only making it worse by pretending~~

I don't have anything. I really don't.

I'd go tell him what I really think of his pretentious sucking up, except I don't think it would help. At all.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-03-21 00:46:12](#)**  
(no subject)

You're right about what he thinks of being a Weasley, as much as it pains me to say it. And no, it probably wouldn't help a bit if you tell him what you think of his sucking up.

I'll keep pretending, even if I don't have much hope left. I owe Dad that. I'm probably the best of all of us at hiding my disdain from him; Fred and George and Ron don't bother much anymore.

I'm not going to put up with it, though, if he dares to start getting stroppy with Mum. I won't have her upset. Maybe I can argue that purebloods, proper purebloods, can always be distinguished by the fact that they treat their parents with respect. That might get through to him if nothing else will.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-03-21 01:00:06](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah. Maybe that has a chance of getting through to him. Of course, he'd probably respond with some shite about respect being earned, or being forfeited if you don't conform to some ridiculous notion of behaviour, or some utter bollocks

like that. Or maybe he's convinced himself this is the way to show respect, to try to make us over into the model of all the things he cares about.


I'm so angry with him. ...I think I have been for a while, underneath all the sadness.

And I don't know what to do. For him, or for Ginny and Ron at Hogwarts, which is sounding more and more miserable every day, or for Mum being so alone ~~or for you trying to fix everything even though~~

Yeah. Sorry. Kind of not doing so well at the supportive brother thing right now.

I saw a few tulips starting to struggle their way up, today. Maybe this winter will actually be over soon. Can't come too quickly for me.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-03-21 01:07:46](#)**  
(no subject)

You're listening, which is the supportive brother thing I need the most.

Yeah, I'm ready for spring, too. Saw a couple crocuses poking up myself when I was out doing the chores this morning.

(Right behind the pile of goat shite, as a matter of fact.)




**2013-03-20 20:38:00**

*Spring Equinox*

I've had a rather pleasant day, actually.

How about yourselves?



 **alt\_susan**



 **alt\_gredforge** at **2013-03-21 01:01:41**

*(no subject)*

Absolutely spiffing.

And our digestion's been marvelous. Ginger, you know.



 **alt\_susan** at **2013-03-21 01:59:03**

*(no subject)*

Digestion is so important, isn't it?

After all, you haven't got anything if you haven't got your health.



 **alt\_evelyn** at **2013-03-21 02:26:12**

*(no subject)*

That's so very true.



 **alt\_daphne** at **2013-03-21 01:03:11**

*(no subject)*

Isn't it lovely!

I wish Spring Equinox were every day!




 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-03-21 02:01:47](#)**  
(no subject)

It's always nice to feel lucky, isn't it?

And this weather's been grand.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-21 03:16:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Fine with me!

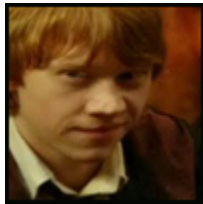
Some people really know how to celebrate, yeah?




 **[alt\\_daphne](#)** at **[2013-03-21 03:18:09](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm feeling VERY lucky, I must say.

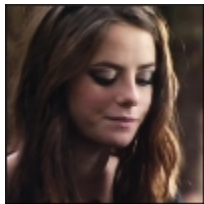
And you should be, too



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-21 03:32:30](#)**  
(no subject)

I hear it'll be almost as lucky tomorrow. And the next day. And the next...

I mean, there's the equinox, but then Spring's a whole season!



 **[alt\\_daphne](#)** at **[2013-03-21 03:34:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Spring is a state of mind, don't you think? You can re-create it whenever and wherever you want!



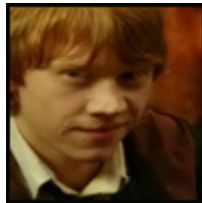
 [alt\\_daphne](#) at [2013-03-21 03:40:05](#)

*Private message to Ron Weasley*

Where are you? Can you slip out for a while?

I know a place we can meet. I haven't been there since Barn

It's extremely private. And even if someone stumbles upon us, which I doubt, I'm a prefect. I'm not worried.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-21 03:44:53](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

I'm in the tower. In the common room.

Um. Sure. Most everyone here's gone up to bed, anywiz. It's just Johnson and Bell and Lee

Jordan, actually.

Where?

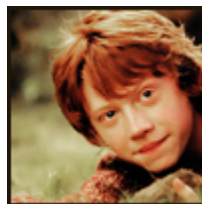


 [alt\\_daphne](#) at [2013-03-21 03:48:18](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

It's too hard to give directions to...meet me by that whinging ghost's loo and we'll go from there! If anyone asks, tell them I have to give you some notes about the performance that just couldn't wait til morning.

Which is partially true. I *do* have to give you something that can't wait til morning!

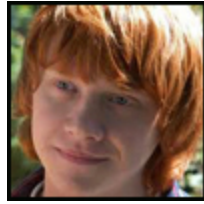


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-21 03:53:43](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

Well, then. You're in luck! I'll be right there.

And I don't plan on getting caught.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-03-21 19:56:33**

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

Mm.

When we're done with Creatures, let me walk you back?

Your hair looks really pretty today. The way you've got it pulled back.

And you keep doing that thing with your mouth. Not quite a smile, but it makes your dimple show.

Funny, I can't seem to concentrate on Professor Grubbly-Plank at all.



 **[alt\\_daphne](#) at 2013-03-21 20:54:05**

*Re: Private message to Ron Weasley*

I'm holding back a smile because I'm thinking about you!

Do you suppose my luck might be running out by now? I might need to get some more.

Oh, and before I forget: I told Mr Krumgold that it would be fine if you and I and Samantha and Lizzie stayed behind to clean up after the cast party. (He was relieved that I volunteered us, actually; he wants to get back to New London to go to another party with some of his theatre friends)

But of course Samantha and Lizzie know to leave us alone. So, it will just be the two of us with the dressing rooms to ourselves.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#) at 2013-03-21 02:26:49**

*(no subject)*

I had a nice day as well.

Very.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-21 03:04:11](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

What made it so good?



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-21 03:32:20](#)

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

There was a boy. Artemus Ross. He said he thought my list was clever, and asked me if he could kiss me on the cheek for luck. And I said yes.

He *asked*. And he was so quiet and nice.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-21 04:04:12](#)

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

Oh. That's nice, Evelyn. I'm happy for you.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-21 04:09:48](#)

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

He seemed a bit shy, and I don't think he would've said anything if it hadn't been the solstice and if everyone hadn't already been in a silly mood.

But I'm so very glad he did.



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-21 13:58:00](#)

*Private Message to Aurelia Archer*

I enjoyed our discussion in the library yesterday.

We should continue it sometime; your research sounds simply fascinating.

**[2013-03-20 21:07:00](#)**

*Private message to Dominic Selwyn*

Mr Selwyn,

I want to thank you for the assistance your clerk Mr Derrick has been providing me with regard to the property that Wizarding Repopulation is putting at my disposal. Renting the house out for income really is quite a brilliant idea, and so thank you once again for suggesting it, as well as all of other kind assistance you have given my family.



 [alt\\_molly](#)

I am also writing to you, as well as each of the other members of the Hogwarts Board of Governors, in my role as a concerned parent of several Hogwarts students. Hogwarts is a wonderful school, and it did much to start my sons Bill, Charlie and Percy firmly on their career paths. Since I have four children attending school now, naturally I keep an eye on their journals.

I must say, I have been watching developments at the school with rising concern. Two of my sons, Fred and George, are sitting for N.E.W.T.s this spring and Ron will be taking his O.W.L.s. Of course I want them to do well. Lately, however, it seems to me that the policies of the school (and specifically, the policies of the new Headmistress, Dolores Umbridge) are doing more to get in the students' way than to foster their success.


How can the students taking N.E.W.T.s and O.W.L.s this spring even prepare if they are not allowed to practise their spells outside the classroom? Why, they are not even allowed to form revising groups! Surely you can appreciate that the practice of magic is not simply theoretical but practical as well. Headmistress Umbridge's stream of educational decrees seems to be fostering confusion and uncertainty among the students and the staff rather than success, and I do not understand how our dear children will be prepared to step into their proper roles once they leave school so that they can serve Our Lord Protector. My children want to succeed. I believe you have been pleased with Bill's work, so you know what a proper Hogwarts-educated student should be like. Do you honestly believe that given the school's present policies, the next generation of students will be equally prepared? Hogwarts should be assisting them rather than thwarting their proper education.

I would be happy to meet with you, or to speak with you via Floo, if you would care to discuss any of these matters in greater depth. If that is not convenient, then of course I understand, given your extremely busy schedule. At any rate, I would be very grateful for any attention the Board of Governors can devote to these matters.

Yours sincerely,  
Molly Weasley

---



 **alt\_selwyn** at **2013-03-21 04:49:17**  
(no subject)


I assure you, Mrs Weasley, that I am as eager as you are to see Dolores Umbridge reassigned to a position better suited to her unique talents, which certainly don't seem to have a great deal to do with either pedagogy or management of staff.

Without getting into too much detail, let me just say there's a division on the Board of Governors at present, and I am in a slight minority. With each new delightful programme for the improvement of the Hogwarts education, I think perhaps things will swing in the other direction -- but it has not yet happened.

I believe that at the least we should be able to unseat her before next autumn -- but with one son sitting OWLs and two more sitting NEWTs this spring (am I remembering that correctly?), that is rather less reassurance than I imagine you'd like.

Are there any subjects you're particularly concerned about, with your sons? I could arrange a private tutor, over spring holidays.



 **alt\_molly** at **2013-03-21 18:43:53**  
(no subject)

I'm quite heartened to learn that you don't think that conditions at Hogwarts are acceptable, either.

Yes, I can see how a split in the Board may cause difficulties in resolving this. (Believe me, I'm quite familiar with how disagreements can hamper getting things done, after years of listening to Arthur's stories when he came home from work about what happened during his day at the Ministry.)

I would be very happy indeed if Madam Umbridge does not return as Headmistress for the next school year, but oh dear, I am sure you can understand why I want her gone now. Can you give me an idea at least of when the Board will next discuss these matters?

Thank you for the suggestion of arranging a tutor for the Easter holidays. I don't think it will help much, however, as I'm afraid it doesn't quite get at the root of the problem. The boys are good students, and I'm not quite so worried about their grasp of the material. What they need is time spent practising their wand movements and so on. That is what these absurd rules are robbing from them.

I can't imagine what educational purpose these strictures are supposed to serve.



**2013-03-20 23:16:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*



Hello, all,

Well, I say. Luncheon was well interesting, what?

 [alt\\_justin](#)

Mind you, I still find him treacherous. But there *is* something to be said for the lengths to which he's going to try to help us.

Oh, and jolly good show, all of you who are helping to harangue Madam Umbridge. I've been trying to think of other ways we might pester her.

Shall we make a list?

Is everyone ready for Friday? (Ron, old man, it certainly looked like you were ready for your leading lady, what!)

I say, Sally-Anne. I heard you found some 'luck' this equinox as well! Good form, you.

-Justin




 [alt\\_hydra](#) at **2013-03-21 03:54:54**  
(no subject)

Well I don't think she liked all the kissing and snogging today so I suppose we could carry on with that for a while.

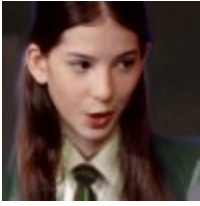
I wonder if she's ever been snogged. It's hard to imagine!



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-03-21 03:59:48**  
(no subject)

Oh, I say! That's enough to put one right off, what.

-Justin



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-21 04:35:22](#)  
(no subject)

Did you see what Dolohov said to me, when I thanked him for letting me come today?

I did not, at any point, ask him that question about 'cooperative casting.' He's just making sure I have an excuse to come back to his office any time I want.

**2013-03-20 23:25:00**

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

So. I need to talk to you about something.

It's important.




 [alt\\_hermione](#)

Could you come up to the dormitory before everyone else leaves the Common Room?

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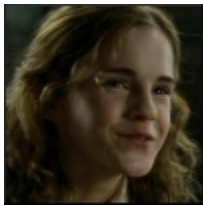


 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-03-21 03:33:47**  
(no subject)

Okay.

On my way.

Are you all right?




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at **2013-03-21 03:35:10**  
(no subject)

Yes, I'm fine.

I.... It's about a way that we can make things better.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-03-21 03:36:10**  
(no subject)

Oh!

Okay.

**2013-03-20 23:49:00**

*Private message to Lucius Malfoy*

You've heard the latest from Hogwarts, I'm sure.

No practising magic outside of classes, really?  
Perhaps next she'll be confiscating wands  
between classes, and the children of Our Lord's  
Councilwizards will be reduced to sprinting up  
the staircases like mudblood servants, hoping nothing moves before  
they can get to the the top.



 [alt\\_selwyn](#)

Any shifts on the board in our direction? As much as I hate to think of Raz's ruined reputation, surely the time is approaching to simply give Barty permission to take care of her in the most direct way possible.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-03-21 17:59:41**  
(no subject)

Believe me, Dominic, nothing would give me greater pleasure than to let Barty off his leash.

Spent the better part of my meeting this morning with Cornelius discussing the infernal woman's ridiculous initiatives and impressing upon him the importance of Ministerial mitigation as has patently become necessary.

There is one trifling impediment, to which you might not be privy: Our Lord views the activism displayed by His son to be entirely acceptable. He finds the struggle against Madam Umbridge entertaining and edifying for Harry's 'true' education, as He puts it.

Fudge is unaware of the source of Our Lord's pleasure and attributes it merely to an endorsement of Dolores' methods, so, whether or not you've received the same impassioned pleas from parents (as indeed my office has been overrun with owls this week), he sees no reason to countermand the reign of the pink tyrant, which Our Lord so clearly finds wholly agreeable.

Have managed to thread the needle and come to compromise with both Our Lord and His Minister for Magic: Ministry-certified tutors may be engaged by parents on behalf of their children who are actively preparing for either O.W.L.s or N.E.W.T.s. They shall travel by Floo to and from their appointments and shall provide guided

instruction solely for the pupils in their charge.

Given your generous assistance with my clerk's mother of late, she can have no objections on the grounds of destitution. (Not that Weasley has gone into many details but from what little he has mentioned, gather that Arthur left his family in a shocking state of disrepair. Not terribly surprising, sad to say: The man had no regard for the future and allowed a longstanding house of impeccable heritage to slide into ruination in the matter of a single generation. But no matter.)

Lunched with Stephen; he plans to engage his ward's tutor as soon as the arrangements can be made for the Division of Wizarding Education to confirm him as a qualified tutor - that's one of yours, isn't it? Massopust? Well, you'll see to the details. He had a suggestion for someone to look after Draco as well. Weasley's finding the fellow's credentials for me. Anticipate there might be a list of some ten instructors who could be given whatever certification the Division can create on short notice and then others shall have to apply with the respective N.E.W.T. and O.W.L. boards to prove competence.

See no reason we cannot have the solution in place by the end of the week, or at least the end of the Easter Holidays. It's rather fortunate that she chose the timing since so many are coming home and have time to spend outside of school in preparing.

It remains to tell Dolores. She shall have some excuse, Merlin knows, but have secured Fudge's agreement that she shall not sway him if she complains and that the Ministry shall hold firm on the point. It's all very well to regulate the practice of magic among undesirables but to jeopardise *our* children in the bargain is beyond the pale.

**2013-03-21 22:00:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*



Um.

Hello?

 [alt\\_harry](#)

So. I've been talking with Hermione for a few days. About this. She said that some of the people who had galleons were a part of a smaller group. And that you had bigger plans than just Umbridge, and were helping her learn magic. And she said you had a way of talking over journals that was really secret, which is brilliant, I mean, it's better than the galleons and those are wizard, and that this was a safe place.

And that you wanted me to be a part of it.

So when she told me about it, I had some questions.

But I have plans too. Big ones. And me and Hermione and Draco can't do them on our own.

So.

First off, I'm not going to tell.

I swear on Godric's Hollow that I'll never willingly betray anyone here.

Second. She said we'd have to wait to tell Draco. So I could be the one to tell him about it? And I get that. About why you would want to wait. And if that's what it'll take to get both of us here, than that's what I'll do. But I trust him. And he needs this too. And I need him.

Okay.

Hermione said you tell secrets. For security. So here's mine.

There's a prophecy. A Seer told Albus Dumbledore about it, and another man overheard and told Him part of it. And it's sort of hard to explain, but the prophecy was about me and Him, and it said 'Neither can live while the other survives.' Only He heard it second-hand. And He thought that it meant I had to stay alive in order for Him to stay alive, and He doesn't want to die. Ever. So He killed my real parents,

and made sure I was kept safe. And raised me like I was His son.

Albus Dumbledore thinks that what the prophecy really means is that I'm the only one who can kill Him.

Some things happened last year. Like finding out about the prophecy. And learning more about my real parents. And seeing... stuff. Bad stuff.

Anyways.

I don't know how I'm going to be able to kill Him. He's the most powerful wizard alive, and I haven't taken my OWLs yet. But I can try. I've got to. Because He's a monster. And if I don't stop Him, he'll just keep on going.


So that's my secret. I guess. Draco knows it, and so does Hermione.

And I wanted to say that it really was brilliant that you came up with this way to talk. And that there are other people here at Hogwarts that I could talk to about what I have to do. And who understand the risks, but would help anyways. Which is good. Really, really good.

And before I forget, if anyone wants to write a PM to Hermione, I'm not going to read it. And if you want to write me and her a PM, that means you have to say at the top of it that it really is something you want me to read too, because I'm not going to unless it does.


I think that's everything?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-22 03:03:07](#)  
*Private Message to Hermione Granger*

Is what I wrote okay?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-22 03:04:35](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

And are you sure you're okay with this?




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-22 03:11:08](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

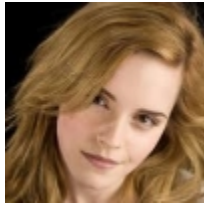
It's fine, Harry. And yes, it's good that you'll be part of this.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-22 03:15:36](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

It really is brilliant.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-22 03:19:28](#)


*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

Well, Fred and George invented it.

Ohmigosh! We never told them we were adding you. We've done that, usually, as a courtesy so they know.

I suppose we should do that.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-22 03:59:26](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

I don't

I mean, I don't really know what to say back to them.

It's a lot.

What they're saying, I mean. What it means. What they're willing to do.





 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-22 04:06:29](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

Just be yourself.

And don't worry about it. They're not going to eat you or anything. Everyone knows you'll be overwhelmed.

What they're saying they'd do...they'd do it with you or without you.

Look, this is why we wanted you in the group. Because you needed somewhere where you're not His son, you're just Harry.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-22 04:12:34](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger*

Okay.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-22 03:17:58](#)

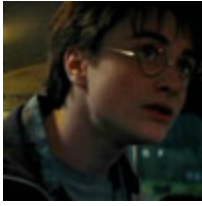
*(no subject)*

Hullo, Harry,

Cheers and I'm glad you're with us, mate. Far too long in coming, in my opinion, what?

I know how disorientated I felt when I was brought in and had over three years of posts to read. I can only imagine how it must feel to you now. Do please take your time looking back through, or if you decide not to do, no one shall take it amiss. If you've any questions or any reservations, I say, don't hesitate to bring them to the group. We may disagree at times but I jolly well think we do a fair job of disagreeing in a civil sort of way.

-Justin

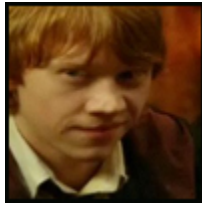



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-22 04:14:44](#)  
(no subject)

Thanks.

I'll let you know.

And I think it's really brilliant that you can talk about anything. And have it be okay.

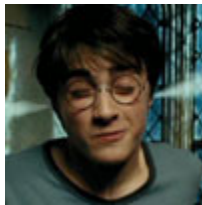



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-22 04:26:08](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah. It is.

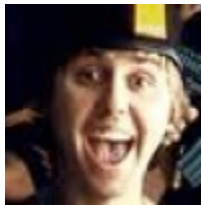
Sometimes you just need a place to say


Umbritch can take all her teensy decrees  
and stuff them right up her big pink bum



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-22 04:31:34](#)  
(no subject)

Hah!




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-22 04:33:35](#)  
(no subject)

Jolly good!

-Justin

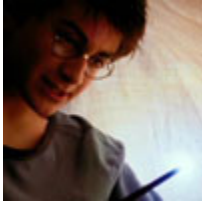


 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-03-22 03:18:52](#)  
(no subject)

Harry, I'm so glad you're here. It's been so hard not being able to tell you and Draco. I hope you're not cross. I was a little alarmed at first, too, when I found out. It changes everything. Especially if you're like us.

I think Mummy must know about the prophecy, and that's why she's so sweet to you. I suppose all of the council members might know, it's hard to say. And I know he's a monster, and you've stopped him once before, remember? You stopped him and you saved me. Only this time you'll have help.

From,  
Hydra



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-03-22 04:18:58](#)**

*(no subject)*

I'm not. Cross.

I sort of knew Hermione had people who were her friends, but I didn't know it was like this. Which is good, I mean. This is good. And I'm glad she was okay with telling me about it.

And I don't guess I thought about how what I did was stopping him. Because yeah, it was him. Even though it was a younger him.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-03-22 03:25:36](#)**


*(no subject)*

Hello, Harry.

I'm so very glad you're a part of all of this.

I told Sirius once that I'd try to help you as best as I could, and I mean to do just that.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-03-22 04:26:28](#)**


*(no subject)*

Thanks Pans.

I'm glad you're a part of this.

And I meant what I said. About Draco.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-22 04:33:10](#)  
(no subject)

I know.

I don't think he'll be quite as glad as you are. But I very much hope he'll understand.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-22 04:36:55](#)  
*Private Message to Pansy*


He will, Pans.

He loves you, you know.

Like a lot.

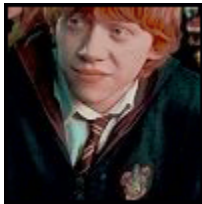
It's going to be okay. He'll be okay.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-22 04:43:51](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Pansy*

I really hope so.

I really truly do.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-22 03:33:58](#)  
(no subject)

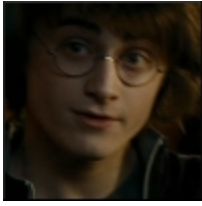
Hey.

I'm glad you're here. Actually, it's brilliant you are.

We've got things we need to be able to say that the galleons just aren't good enough for, and private messages aren't safe for us even if no one would read yours.

You can count on help here for whatever you decide you have to do. I mean that.


So, yeah.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-22 04:28:53](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah.



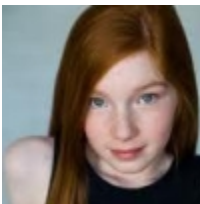
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-22 03:35:22](#)  
(no subject)

Oh. And I expect you don't have time to read all the stuff we've written here before, cause there's loads of it. But we could tell you our secrets, so you'll know them. I mean it's only fair.

When I joined here, I think mine was that I'd tried to kill Professor Carrow. That day he turned Thomas's hair to mud and tried to get him sent back to the camps. We all cast spells to distract him, and I was so furious I shot fire out of my wand. That was when my wand was worthless because--well, you remember--because we crashed the Ford! Anywiz. I really meant to roast Carrow that day, so that's what I told on myself when I joined here. But. There's more now.

Everyone here knows my parents are in the Order with Sirius Black and Dumbledore. My dad was one of the heads of it. And Mum's still in, obviously. And my brothers. And I'm joining as soon as they'll let me, and we're going to fix what's gone so wrong with everything. And we know we'll have to fight.

So, yeah. We want the same things, and we're with you.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-22 03:52:35](#)  
(no subject)

Hello, Harry.

I think it's sort of wonderful that your mum and dad knew my mum and dad, and that they fought together for what they thought was right, and now here we are.

I'm very much looking forward to getting to know you better.

I also wanted to tell you that I can see what you've been doing with

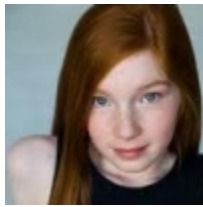
the galleons and the revision groups and the food. And I just wanted to say thank you.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-22 04:28:09](#)  
(no subject)

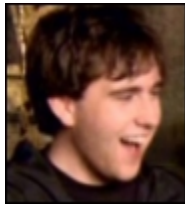
I have a picture of them all together, if you'd like to see it some time.


I'm looking forward to getting to know you better too. And I'm sorry I haven't before now.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-22 04:30:15](#)  
(no subject)

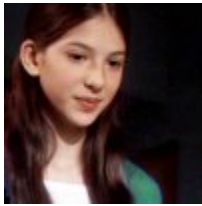
I'd like that very much.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-22 11:11:46](#)  
(no subject)

I would, too.

Welcome. I agree with Evelyn: thanks for what you've been doing to show leadership on this. We need it.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-22 04:02:52](#)  
(no subject)

Hello, Harry.


I'm glad you're here. I'll be glad when Draco is, too.

Since you might miss it, trying to read back through everything, I just want you to know my Mum's not really dead. The Order helped her fake her death so she could get away from my Dad and have a wand again. And I knew, when Umbridge told me, because they'd told Hermione to let me know.

My first secret I shared was that I loved my Mum and wasn't

ashamed of her. My parents were Ravenclaws and my Mum was one of the Prefects.

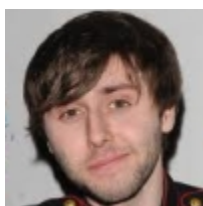



 **alt\_harry** at [2013-03-22 04:23:55](#)  
(no subject)

I'm not ashamed of mine either. I didn't really know her, but I wish I had.

I've got a cousin. Dudley. He's a muggle. And I'm glad he's my cousin, and that he's still alive.

It's good your mum isn't really dead. And that she had people who helped her.




 **alt\_justin** at [2013-03-22 04:13:04](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, Ron's quite right: There's no need to read through everything, as I said.

However, I'm sure you're quite overwhelmed by everything so, when you're ready, give the word, and we can tell you more about our secrets.

-Justin




 **alt\_harry** at [2013-03-22 04:19:40](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah.

A bit.

I will.



 **alt\_terry** at [2013-03-22 10:58:23](#)  
(no subject)

Hello, Harry,

I don't know what Hermione's told you about me, but...yeah. I'm here. I disappeared from Hogwarts

several years ago, but Fred and George made this Lock partly so that I could speak freely, so I've been on it since the beginning. And I really think it might have been what kept me alive when I was forced to leave with the git. Amycus Carrow.

You will find that it will really help, more than you can believe. The people on this Lock have been the truest friends to Hermione and me that you could possible imagine.

Two things: one is that the Order rescued me, and I'm in one of the Order sanctuaries, and the thing is, I escaped with your cousin Dudley. He's a good bloke, and a good friend. If you ever want to get word to him quickly, you can do it through me.

The other thing is...well, my original secret was that I wasn't the stupid crawling boot that I pretended to be. Fred and George arranged for me to be sorted--I'm a Ravenclaw--and I eventually got a wand.

But my secret is even bigger now. I've learned to become an animagus. I used that when I escaped the git.


And when I escaped him, I killed him.

That prophecy must be such a burden. I dunno how I would have done if I'd known beforehand I would be killing him. It was bad enough afterwards, living with what I did. Even though it was self-defence; even though I hated him. The people here on this Lock helped me get through it afterwards. And the Order.

So. I've been through it. And come out of it, the other side. Anything I can do to help you come through it too, I'll do it.

Thank you for saying you'll respect the privacy of Hermione's messages. That means a lot.



 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2013-03-22 11:09:03](#)**  
(no subject)


Welcome, Harry. Justin's right, it's a little overwhelming at first, but you're really going to like this group. And I know you'll fit right in, because it's been easy to see that you're quite a kind person.



I don't understand the significance of Godric's Hollow? But I can tell that whatever it is, it must be important to you.

My secret is that I know where the printing press is, the one that my father ran before he died. It's highly illegal you know, to have a way to print things that the Ministry doesn't control. You might keep that in mind, if you can think of a way it can be used.



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-03-22 19:01:16](#)**  
(no subject)

Hello MaHarry!

I'm glad you're here, but I've got to say it feels a bit odd, since we haven't really had much to do with each other outside of Quidditch and things.

But I've always respected you on the field and off; thanks for sticking your neck out against the Pink Peril when you *really* could have gotten off easy.

**2013-03-21 22:24:00**

*Private Message to Raz and Tosha*



 **alt\_lucius**

Just a friendly warning to you both.

Suspect that your infuriating fuscia fatarse may be on something of a warpath. Have taken measures to mitigate her latest attempts to destroy the school.

According to the Ministry, owls were sent to the parents of students currently preparing for O.W.L.s and N.E.W.T.s informing them that they may, if they so wish, engage tutors (with the proper certification) for one-to-one revision at school.

Meanwhile, Tosha, have heard that you are doing all you can to ensure your pupils (and Razer's) are ready for their examinations, with or without the opportunity to obtain practical application outside of lessons.

Razer. What can any of us do to remove the intolerable restrictions on our movements against the pink menace?



 **alt\_rabastan** at **2013-03-22 02:51:13**

*(no subject)*

So. She wasn't on the warpath before?

Don't know if you heard, but Rookwood's team hasn't reached any conclusions on Cassie's memory (or, more specifically, my memory of her memory). At least two of the specialists have spotted irregularities, but they can't convince the others that they're legitimate. They want to question Cassie herself, but of course, Wizengamot and MLE are being entirely helpful, arguing over whether there's even an actual case to pursue here or not. If they could determine once and for all that there is one, they'd just issue an order and bring Cassie in.

Which means that Umbridge magically produces the other girls I supposedly tangled with.

How I'd fucking love to call her bluff. But it's not just me who'd get the blowback, now.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-03-22 03:03:13](#)**  
(no subject)


Well. Perhaps a teensy one.

Hadn't heard but then the DoM have not included it in their reports since examination of your memory is, as you say, not in their official brief.

There's no hope for a swift resolution, then? Under normal circumstances, would suggest using Ari's connexions but he is a trifle distracted with the finalisation of Ptolemy's own wedding plans. Apologies if that is a sore subject.

Afterward, however, he ought to be able to accomplish some sort of court order.



 **[alt\\_rabastan](#)** at **[2013-03-22 03:12:42](#)**  
(no subject)

Sore. Beginning to fester.

Been getting Owls asking why the date hasn't been announced yet. One helpful reporter pointed out that "spring only lasts until June." Now I've resorted to chucking them into the fire un-read.

Oh, and if you didn't see it- In Sunday's *Word Has It* the blind was about a notorious playboy-turned-respectable gent who's getting cold feet about his upcoming nuptials.

I might have to ask your good wife for advice on the most appropriate way to announce a wedding postponement. Or a wedding cancellation.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-22 03:21:23](#)**  
(no subject)


And I imagine Madame Toad's quest to keep the two of you apart isn't helping.

If there is anything I can do to help -- with anything -- you've only to say the word. Even if it is only visiting a

few gossip columnists and making it clear that certain subjects are off limits.

Yours,  
T



 **[alt\\_rabastan](#)** at **[2013-03-22 03:23:53](#)**  
*(no subject)*

This sort of obstacle would have been a nipping fly, in days past. How fucking intolerable that it should stymie us so, now.

Barty and Rod have already made similar offers, but cheers.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-22 03:03:42](#)**  
*(no subject)*

I am drilling them mercilessly in the guise of friendly revision, yes; I do not intend to allow that woman to make me look incompetent. My students will all pass their exams, thank you very much, no matter if I have to start resorting to 'detentions' in which we drill the wandwork they are not permitted to practise outside the classroom. (I am motivating them all to come see me for revision by feeding them; Madame Toad is doing her best to starve them as well as bind their wands.)

Given Our Lord's wishes, I am also encouraging Harry's rebellion -- although the other children may beat him to it. (Their efforts are a small bright spot in the midst of all the hassle; I have found myself hard pressed to keep a straight face at some points. Did you see Miss Longbottom's codification of the pink menace's dictates? It was a mercy I did not read it in front of the children; I would have had to explain why I could not stop laughing.)

Still -- I do not need to tell you that things are miserable here, and miserable children take steps that are neither in their best long-term interests nor the Protectorate's. I know that you are trying, as are we all, but it may be wise for us all to sit down over Easter hols and coordinate a plan of attack.

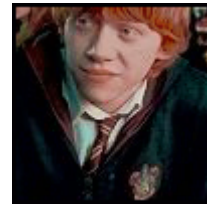
Resignedly,  
T

**2013-03-22 09:51:00**

*Revue's Tonight!*

You'll laugh, you'll giggle, you'll laugh some more.

Don't miss it. You don't want to be that person who wasn't at the show everyone'll still be talking about years from now when you meet at the Owl office or at the train when you send your own sprogs off to school. You know what they'll all be saying?



 [alt\\_ron](#)

Remember the Revue? Dead hilarious, wasn't it? And wasn't Daphne Greengrass brilliant?

Cause she totally is.

See you tonight!

---



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-22 17:51:52**

*(no subject)*

Break a leg, all of you.

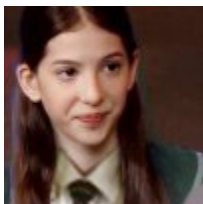


 [alt\\_daphne](#) at **2013-03-22 18:12:33**

*(no subject)*

Nooo, I have it on good authority that Ronald Weasley is brilliant!

But Ron Weasley and Daphne Greengrass are especially brilliant *together*.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-22 18:18:33**

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

Merlin and Morgana I think I'm going to be ill.

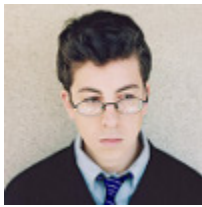



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-03-22 19:33:54](#)**  
(no subject)

You two are funny! But yes, everyone should come.

There'll be singing, dancing, acting, and it's educational too!

And the costume and set crew are making us look really authentic, too. We just had dress rehearsal in our full costumes, and they look brilliant.



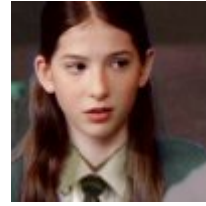
 **[alt\\_linus](#)** at **[2013-03-22 18:14:29](#)**  
(no subject)

Felicitations to all. I am confident that any small compromises to authenticity and historical accuracy, which are frankly inevitable when such matters are portrayed for popular entertainment, will be so slight as to impinge upon none but the most dedicated nitpickers.

It has been an honor to be affiliated with the production and its gallant cast and crew, and I look forward to tonight.

**2013-03-22 12:36:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To  
No Good: occlumency*



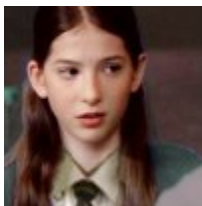
Harry, have you studied occlumency at all? It's a way to protect yourself against having your mind read, and we've all been studying -- except for Terry, because he's at a sanctuary, and Hydra, because she's a natural occlumens and no one can read her mind no matter how hard they try.

 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)

It's not particularly pleasant when you first start because -- well. I mean even if it's someone you can basically trust (obviously we've been learning with people who will keep our secrets) there's stuff in your head you just don't want ANYBODY to see. Ever.

I feel like I'm pretty good at it now but I've only ever practiced with one person and he's not a natural legimens, he uses a spell. I've wondered if it would work against one of the people who just has to look in your eyes.

I know everyone's been learning but I'm not sure how the others are doing. We don't talk about it much.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-22 17:46:57**

*Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo*

Alright it's a little odd leaving a private message when it's ABOUT one of the people in the 'private message to' line but he said he wouldn't read these, so.

Hermione do you think he needs a ring, and do you want to tell him about them or should I? Or should we wait to bring that up?

I could make him one, I think I could even tie it to the rest of ours. He already sounded a little overwhelmed though and it seems a bit much to throw on him, 'welcome to our secret group, by the way loads of the adults you know are traitors, and incidentally would you like a magic ring with poison to commit suicide with in case you ever wind up being tortured by Hydra's mum?'

It's odd, I'd feel a lot less hesitant offering one to Draco. I think because with Draco he's always always known how vulnerable he is and how bad it could get. Harry's always been the one who's protected. Maybe he doesn't really need one?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-22 17:57:25](#)

*Re: Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo*

I know, I have been thinking about that, too.

I think if he asks for one we should make sure he has one but honestly, I'm not sure it's a good idea because if the prophecy's right and he's the *only* person who really can kill the Lord-Pro Him, then what happens if he has to use his poison ring and he dies? I guess we'd be activating our rings anyway so it wouldn't matter so much but I'd feel bad that the whole country might never escape Him at that point.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-22 22:34:30](#)


*Re: Private message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo*

That's a good point.

Though I don't know. You've MET Professor Carpenter. How seriously do YOU take her?

Anyway the Lord Protector thinks that Harry has to stay alive to keep him alive. Should we really be sure we don't have things by the wrong end of the stick just as much? Not that Harry would need to DIE to kill his father but -- I don't know, when a story has a prophecy in it they nearly always make it come true by accident trying to avert it or some idiotic thing like that.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-03-22 18:07:57](#)

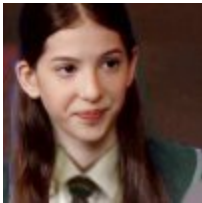
*(no subject)*

Well, I know that Mummy has ways - interrogation techniques, that is - to use legilimency against people who've been trained in occlumency. It usually involves causing them a lot of pain, because it's much harder to occlude under such circumstances.



But people like her don't only use legilimency when they're interrogating. She can do it whenever she likes, if she fancies it. She can just walk up to someone in a shop, and if they can't occlude at all she might be able to see what they're thinking about. Hopefully, they're not thinking about anything that she would find suspect.

Everyone *knows* she's a legilimens, though, so even without having practised occlumency they might try to put up a mental wall if they had to interact with her.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-22 18:16:36](#)  
(no subject)

It's more the random casual snooping I'm worried about, that I wish I could test against. When someone casts the spell you know you NEED to occlude. Mr Milland says that once you've learned to properly occlude your mind you have some protection even when you're not thinking about it but he also admitted it varies by person and it's best to deliberately occlude if you're around anyone who might possibly be trying to legilimise you.

I mean honestly if I'm ever being INTERROGATED BY YOUR MUM my number's up, right? That's just not even really worth worrying about.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-03-22 18:22:51](#)  
(no subject)

Casual snooping isn't always that reliable, though. I once heard Mummy tell someone that the mind isn't always an accurate mirror on reality. The way she explained it, people tend to have guilty thoughts around her, even if they haven't done anything wrong. I have to imagine that it's simply because they're afraid of her, so she has to sort through whether or not what she's picking up on is just a fear response or not. She seems to find it very bothersome.

But interrogation is something altogether different, yes.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-22 23:34:49](#)  
(no subject)

I agree. I wish I could test how good I am against a natural. I've been studying it for awhile, and my teacher says I'm doing pretty well. Um, 'rather better than you have any right to expect,

Longbottom.'

Still. It really would relieve my mind if I had a way to test it. Short of an MLE interrogation.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-22 18:24:06](#)  
(no subject)

Yes but legilimency doesn't automatically include torture, you know. It's not painful all by itself. Maybe it's uncomfortable or embarrassing because of what people might see but that's not the same thing.

Sally-Anne's right that it's important to be able to test against someone who doesn't have to rely on a spell to read other people's minds.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-03-22 18:29:53](#)  
(no subject)

I know that it doesn't always include torture.

Sometimes it's very pleasant, even. You feel like you're sharing a part of yourself with someone, like they're the only person who will ever know the real you. You don't even realise what a gift you're giving them, and then they take it and they use it to - to do whatever they want, really.

Anyway, I can't help, if that's what you're asking. I'm only an occlumens.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-22 18:37:07](#)  
(no subject)

You know that's not true

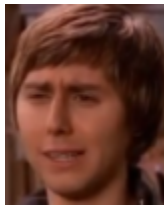
Well, I don't mean you, necessarily. Only that if we had someone it would be good for everyone.




 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-03-22 18:44:52](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, it's just unfortunate that legilimens are so very rare.

Though it's also good, in a way. The ones in England who are known are already bad enough all on their own.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-23 04:25:57](#)  
*Private Message to Hydra*

Hullo, love,


I'm back in Hufflepuff safe and sounds.

I didn't wish to bring it up before tonight's performance, what, but--well, you *have* rather had some experiences that could have been natural legilimency. Are you *quote* sure you're 'only an occlumens'?

I know you don't like to think it could be true, sweetheart, but if it were, then Hermione's right: It *wood* be bally well useful.

-J



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-03-23 15:30:49](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

Your spelling's gone funny. Yes, I think you definitely had too much of that punch last night.

Those experiences must have just been random accidents, because I haven't had them at all lately. Not since I

started meditating every morning. I wouldn't even know how to legilimise someone if I wanted to.

And you know that I don't want to, and why I won't do it.




 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-03-22 18:39:06](#)**  
(no subject)

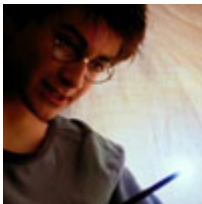
I've been learning, yeah. I've got a teacher.


I'm not the best, but I can keep him out for a bit, and I can usually throw him out after a bit too. I guess it's because I'm stubborn. And strong-willed. That's what he says.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-03-22 18:39:34](#)**  
(no subject)

But yeah, I would like to see what'd happen if it was someone else trying.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-03-22 18:39:59](#)**  
*Private Message to Hermione*

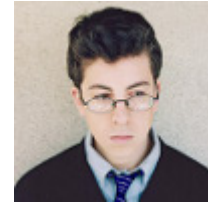
Do they know about Snape?

**2013-03-22 13:04:00**

*Private Message to Professor Sinistra*

Dear Professor Sinistra,

I have begun the research project we discussed. Our Madame Headmistress is indeed a most pertinent subject. By studying the character of those who lead us, we can inform and inspire ourselves to do whatever needs to be done.



 [alt\\_linus](#)

Also, as the saying goes, "Listening carefully to the teacher, one acquires an education."

Madam Pince did indeed have the relevant journals -- it is remarkable how many industry publications have been spawned by the various Ministries -- and I was fortunate enough to find no fewer than fifteen articles praising Madam Headmistress for her achievements in reorganising, streamlining or expanding (or, according to one rather fulsome article, apparently both at once) the various departments over which she has held temporary or permanent command. I am reminded of a line from Byron: "The stern exaltedness of zeal."

There is no shortage of persons singing her praises in print. Any celebration of her achievements we put together will include the names of quite a number of mid-level Ministry personnel. Few of them are underlings; her support comes most solidly from those who have worked with her at one or more remove, so to speak. One hop over in the organisation chart, as it were, or diagonally upward. (There are also some quite notable tributes organised to celebrate her leaving various positions.)

Appreciations have been given her by various organisations concerned with social betterment, the upholding of morale and morals, and loyalty. I also found articles on various appreciations from the enclave where she lived while she was working with the Ministry.

At the Ministry, she did get an award for coming up with the most new awards, one year.

I'll continue, and see what other inspirational facts can be gleaned. Thank you, as always, for supervising my detentions. I understand that the work you have me doing is meant to improve me and, by extension, all of us.

Yours in service,  
Sincerely,  
Linus Moon

---



 **alt\_sinistra** at **2013-03-22 18:55:12**

*(no subject)*

Mr Moon -

You've made remarkably good headway. Impressively so. (Don't you dare neglect your other work, mind. We talked about that.) I should have some more material for you Sunday evening if you want to stop up. (My supply lines, they are reliable.)

What you've found matches up rather tidily with what my parents have said - cautiously and carefully. (Speaking of, you have clearly been listening to Tosha's guidance on the topic of appropriate phrasing: I will be sure to tell him so. If the Headmistress ever tries to make you read a PM from you to me, please do alert me immediately, but it is not a most urgent worry at the moment. I think.)

I'm almost as curious about the people who did not seem to care for her - though naturally, that may be harder to find in any actual print source. I trust that your skills in see what's between the lines will also get a thorough exercise?

I've a few more articles ready for you for the astronomy project, but that can wait until you've time. (And I've been collecting some you can take off during hols in case you want an escape from your family's final planning. Of course you needn't work on them unless you wish. I will, of course, see you there, and very glad to be, given I like both your sister and Ptolemy and wish them much happiness.)



 **alt\_linus** at **2013-03-23 03:55:23**

*(no subject)*

Professor Siz,

I am most relieved that you consider it unlikely that I would be forced to read any Private Messages to you, but as you say, Professor Dolohov's instruction on appropriate phrasing is being thoroughly impressed upon me, and therefore I

shall keep initial messages in a suitable tone for possible disclosure to Certain Pink Personages.

(Forgive me; I think the excitement of the Revue may have gone to my head. Splendid cast party, too.)

I do hope to smoke out some names of those who have reason not to support Madam You-Know-Who by means of some carefully applied study, and I shall report as it goes. The professional journals have at least some records of how many (if not who precisely) lost their positions after Madam Pinkness gained hers, and it is possible that there are potential allies that could be unearthed with a bit of work -- or at least people with less flattering remembrances and more reason to disclose possible weak points. It's worth a try.

~~I say, it's actually rather exciting to attempt to figure all this out.~~



 **alt\_sinistra** at **2013-03-23 16:12:21**  
(no subject)

Looking at your other comments - and the above - just now, did the cast party get a little more enthusiastic than expected last night? (Don't worry: I would not dream of giving Madam Headmistress any cause to notice unless it were truly necessary, and I rather suspect she doesn't have much experience recognising the signs herself.)

I trust you'd tell me if there was anything that the staff should actually take action on, and that you won't tell me anything that I'd have to act on, but that would do more harm than good to bring to official notice.

That said, the aftermath can be a little distressing, and I do have a few tips on managing that if you want to stop up when you get back. (Your excuse for the day is that I dug up more journal articles related to your ongoing detention - actually true, though there's no hurry about it.)

On the rest: the bits I should get from Sigrun tomorrow are the older pieces. I'm hoping - well, so is she - that there's something in her earlier years that might give us some ideas. Before she got better walking the fine lines she's clearly been doing (between

people who honestly approve of her, and people who dislike her, but not enough to actually remove her or stop her.)

We can hope, anyway.



**2013-03-22 13:06:00**

*A few reminders*

I am well aware that many of you are looking forward to Hogsmeade tomorrow. However, I must underscore that your best behaviour and compliance with our teensy rules and requirements is essential. (On that note, I remind Mr Belisarius Burbage, Miss Paula Ross, Mr Minh Nguyen, Miss Ginevra Weasley, and Mr Edward Carmichael that their punishments include being barred from tomorrow's little outing.)



 [alt\\_umbridge](#)

I have had a word with the house-elves and clarified once again what may be given out as treats for familiars, and what may not. Those attempting to cajole the house-elves into some other set of options will find themselves facing strong correction.

I have been informed of our current Minister of Magic's agreement to allow private tutors to assist select students here at school. Tutors, kindly make myself and Septima Vector (who will be coordinating details and schedules) aware of your planned schedule of visits. I am sure you understand that for reasons of both supervision and security, we must be entirely aware of when there are strangers in the castle.

I trust that this is sufficient detail for the most ~~annoyingly~~ persistent of you

I do wish to commend those students who have given generously of their time and energy - particularly those on the Hogwarts Junior Council. I wish more of you might emulate the example of Miss Megan Jones, who found me today to volunteer to stay behind from Hogsmeade and assist in the supervision of younger students.

I trust that the Revue tonight will be informative, pleasant, and entirely appropriate, and that all of you will behave with due attention to the diligent efforts of the cast and crew. Again, I hope I need not spell out the consequences if anyone does otherwise.

---



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-22 19:32:59](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Right.

Hogsmeade.

So just to remind everyone, we talked a few months ago about things we might be able to do to help the muggles and muggleborns we personally know, and one idea was to make them container bracelets like the ones Hermione and Terry have. (And me.) The Twins made some more beads, and I've put them together into bracelets. They've got a notice-me-not charm on them. ANYWAY. We can test them out by taking them to Hogsmeade and using them to bring things back -- like FOOD, first off.

There's six bracelets, so let me know if you want to take one to Hogsmeade. But for Merlin's sake be clever about it -- if Padma Patil is standing right there watching, make sure you're buying food you can pretend you just ate right there in Hogsmeade. I don't think Umbridge would hesitate to strip you down to the SKIN if she thought you were bringing food back -- well, except for Harry, of course. I don't know whether the charm would stand up to that sort of scrutiny or not. Admittedly, if anyone gets searched like that, we'll know, won't we?

Anyway when you're buying food look for stuff that's kind of substantial, with preservation charms on it.

Any other ideas on what people should bring back?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-22 20:03:46](#)

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

Things that could cause a distraction. Loud. Annoying. Will make a mess. Stuff from Zonko's maybe?

I've been thinking that a well-timed distraction could save someone else from a serious punishment, or let someone get away, and if we're careful, we wouldn't get caught.

Food is sort of more important though.

Maybe we could have food drops at hiding places in the castle. So no-one knows who's passing it out, but people who need it can get to it. Or something.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-22 20:53:16](#)

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

Like fireworks? I'll get you a bracelet, YOU can be the one to bring those back.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-22 20:54:33](#)

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

Though come to think of it we should talk to the Twins. They MAKE fireworks. Better than anything Zonko sells -- they shot some off last year for my birthday, remember that? I don't know what they need to make them, though.

Ron, can you ask them?



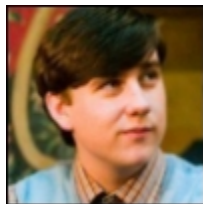
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-22 22:32:36](#)

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

Will do.

I'll take a bracelet. And I'll go into Zonko's to see if there's anything else that could cause a distraction or diversion.

Sorry. I've been a bit distracted today.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-22 23:43:11](#)

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

I can take a bracelet, too, and I'll do some shopping for food. I actually have more pocket money than usual at the moment.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-23 03:30:56](#)

*Private message to Septima Vector*

Septima -

I'm sorry, that revue just took far too much time. I rather wish I'd denied permission in the first place.

I haven't had a moment at all to clarify the terms of Miss Lovegood's punishment to you. Besides her assistance to Mr Milland in resolving a few bits of the chaos in the classroom, I added a teensy thing that I'm sure will remind her of her proper focus.

You remember that charm variant dear Gwennie and I were discussing - well, perhaps you didn't hear. It will make it quite hard for her to write (though she'll manage if she focuses her attention properly.) But it's designed to make her silly little sketches impossible. I did think you might appreciate it, as it'll give that much more time for her to focus on her studies. Gwennie thought it'd last at least through the weekend, but the charm's duration is apparently a teensy bit unpredictable.

Now, I'm sure tomorrow will be quite the busy day, but I'll be up and about just as bright and early as can be.

**[2013-03-22 13:19:00](#)**

*March*

Easter hols will be soon. I'm marking off the days on my calendar. Mum, I'm really looking forward to seeing you.



 [alt\\_ginny](#)

I miss revising with Honoria. We're not allowed to sit together anymore. And no Hogsmeade (for me).

I wonder if other people ever find there's something they know is bad for them, but they can't seem to stay away from it? Like chocolate when you know it gives you spots. A person who always makes you feel terrible, but somehow being with them is exciting, too. A job that takes time away from things that are important.

Like watching moths flying into a fire, only you are the moth.

Oh well. Holidays soon.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at **[2013-03-22 18:43:59](#)**

*(no subject)*

Ginny, dear,

I wondered whether we might take some time while you're home for the holidays where I can take advantage of your expertise? Percy pointed out that I might think about, well, updating my look. He said that it might raise my spirits a bit if I freshened my wardrobe, maybe choosing some clothes (and colours) that are more sophisticated. And flattering.


Honestly, dear, I'm a bit ~~depressed~~ intimidated by the whole idea. And then it occurred to me that you've been learning so much about fashion, so you might be just the person to ask. Do you think you might help your poor old mum if we went on a shopping trip to New London together?



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-22 18:52:03](#)  
(no subject)

Percy criticised your clothes? Since when does Percy care anything at all for fashion?




 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-22 19:08:17](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, well, not *fashion* per se. But with the responsibilities of his job, he does need to think about the necessities of putting one's best foot forward.

I went to see him this week, to meet him for lunch. To tell the truth...well, I didn't think of it when I was getting dressed that morning, but I have been rather careless, and I'm afraid I looked like quite a frump! I suppose my dowdiness might have embarrassed him, just a little, you know.




 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-22 19:11:28](#)  
(no subject)

Mum

you're beautiful.


I think you should tell Percy to sod off.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-22 19:18:28](#)  
(no subject)

Hear, hear.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-22 19:20:26](#)  
(no subject)

I'm sure Percy's just trying to help.




 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-03-22 19:24:19](#)**  
(no subject)

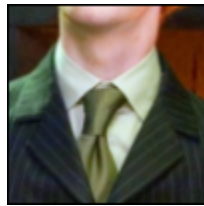
Of course I am. I'm not saying Mum isn't beautiful.


I just think it would be a good idea if she could take a bit more pride in her appearance, that's all.



 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2013-03-22 19:47:05](#)**  
*Private message to Percy*

What's wrong with you? Why are you trying to make Mum feel bad?




 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-03-22 20:32:19](#)**  
*Re: Private message to Percy*

There's no need to be melodramatic. I'm not 'trying to make Mum feel bad.' I'm trying to help her, yes, and the rest of us, too. People make judgements when they see someone looking so unpolished.

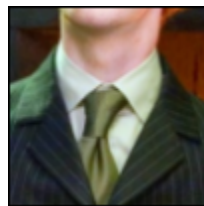
If you could wheedle her into buying smarter clothing, we'd all be much better off.




 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2013-03-22 20:51:47](#)**  
*Re: Private message to Percy*

You sound just like the

No one I spend time with cares what mum wears.



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-03-22 21:56:07](#)**  
*Re: Private message to Percy*

Perhaps it's time for you to seek out a different calibre of people with whom you spend your time.



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-22 22:31:31](#)

*Re: Private message to Percy*

Ugh. Just leave mum ALONE. She LIKES her clothes, they make her happy, why do you have to ~~make me feel like I'm not good enough~~ make her feel like she's not good enough? Like she has to be a different person to merit your approval?

She looks FINE.

~~You really do sound like~~ I wish I could HEX you.



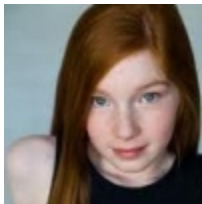
 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-03-23 02:59:43](#)

*Order Only*

I'd like to help him by hexing him stupid until his big fat pompous head explodes.

Sorry, Mum. I just can't believe him.

And Ginny's right. You look fine, Mum. If you want a makeover, do it for you and so you can spend time with Ginny, not because Perfect Percy made you feel like you're not good enough. Because you're just fine the way you are, dammit.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-22 21:16:32](#)

*Private Message to Ginny Weasley*

I'm sorry you can't go to Hogsmeade. I wish I could bring back a biscuit and a custard for you. But Easter hols are nearly here, aren't they!

It must be lonely, not being able to spend time with Honoria. I think I'd be very sad if someone made it so I couldn't sit by Kitty any more.

Do you want me to keep you company tomorrow? We could play games, and make lists of things we're looking forward to. And I've got some embroidery I've been meaning to get to.



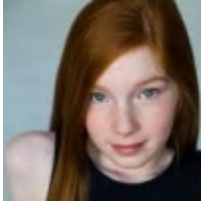



 **[alt\\_ginny](#) at 2013-03-22 21:19:43**

*Re: Private Message to Ginny Weasley*

Are you offering to skip Hogsmeade to keep me company?! Don't be silly. ~~Anyway, I want to~~

I'll be fine.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#) at 2013-03-23 02:46:48**

*Re: Private Message to Ginny Weasley*

Well, I'll bring you back something that'll cheer you up a bit, then. And maybe we can play games when I get back.

**2013-03-22 15:35:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Has anyone else been having really vivid dreams about food?

I can't wait for hols and Easter dinner.



 **alt\_susan**

**2013-03-22 20:37:00**

*(no subject)*

It's a pleasure to see the children representing history which is not *quite* so recent.



 **alt\_narcissa**

Though somehow I seem to think that that young witch wasn't meant to come on in her bell-bottoms during the 1930's sequence.

---



 **alt\_sinistra** at **2013-03-23 01:27:17**

*(no subject)*

I quite agree (though not as bad as having a bit of set come down, mind.)

Honestly, I'm enjoying the chance to see the thing without running around madly backstage this time.

(Is it me, or did the lines about Minerva seem a little tangled to you? I remember there was talk about editing them, but it seemed a little incomplete if that were the intention.)



 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-03-23 02:56:02**

*(no subject)*

The children did an excellent job despite the few rough spots, didn't they? And it was lovely to see you this evening, milaya -- although it is always wise of Lyoushka to sit between us when we are in public, particularly in front of those for whom I am supposed to set a standard of behaviour.

Your partner in misbehaviour,  
T

**[2013-03-22 22:50:00](#)**

*Cast Party!*

That was brilliant!

Dad & Mum, I'm so glad you could make it!

Many thanks to Daphne for organising us and being a brilliant leading lady and Mr. Krumgold for investing your time and resources in us.


And thanks to the costume and set crew for making everything look so lovely.

Let's party!



 [alt\\_susan](#)



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **[2013-03-23 04:30:37](#)**

*(no subject)*

Cheers, Sue!


It was jolly good fun, wasn't it? I'm well glad it came together so nicely.

Though I'm sorry I muffed that one line. I had it before the show began, I promise! I just got bally well tongue-tied in front of so many people, what!

It's been such a load of work to only perform the once--but at the same time, I'm well relieved it's over! I say, we may concentrate on O.W.L.s now in earnest.

-J



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **[2013-03-23 04:34:20](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Sue,

Are your parents going to engage a tutor?


The Jugsons told me that they're willing to hire one if I should feel I need the extra help. I think it would be well foolish to refuse. I say,

it's a pity they're prohibited from working in groups, else we could all share.

Anyone else? Of course, with the holidays coming up we ought to plan to practise together every day, what?

-Justin



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-23 16:07:57](#)

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

I don't think Mum & Dad can afford to hire one for the whole break--maybe a day or two.

Mum's a teacher and I think she's got some idea of drilling me at home, but she said herself that she doesn't teach Hogwarts-level material and might be a bit rusty.

Yes, we should definitely plan to get together regularly! I can't imagine most people's parents or guardians objecting, since it would be for revision after all.



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-23 16:10:02](#)

*(no subject)*

Don't worry about it!

I tripped going offstage, though I don't think the audience could really see.

I thought it was loads of fun, really, but it might be nice to have some free moments in my schedule to breathe!



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-23 16:13:24](#)

*Private Message to Aurelia Archer*

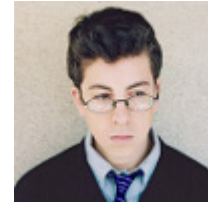
I really enjoyed our discussion on Wednesday, and would love to continue it this afternoon--if you're game, that is?

It's really generous of you to share your research with me.

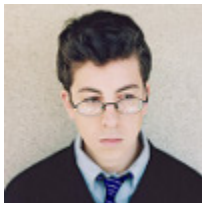
**2013-03-23 10:54:00**


*Regrets*

To anyone I might have spoken to last night at the cast party for the Revue about joining me for butterbeer and other delicacies, I regret that I am unable to keep any such engagement (if made). There are some notebooks and other materials I urgently need to pick up at MacGhillie's Manuscripts. Another day, perhaps.



 [alt\\_linus](#)



 [alt\\_linus](#) at **2013-03-23 16:01:14**

*Private Message to Daphne Greengrass*

Next time you have a cast party, keep Zabini away from the punch bowl, or at least have someone detailed to cast detection charms on it regularly.

Merlin, but my head hurts.



 [alt\\_lavender](#) at **2013-03-23 16:26:33**

*(no subject)*

It's quite alright! I must admit I'm not quite feeling a taste for butterbeer at the moment myself.

A nice, quiet tea seems more the thing.

Still, it *was* quite splendid, and ever so kind of Mr. Krumgold to provide it.

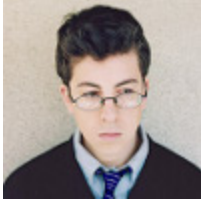


 [alt\\_lavender](#) at **2013-03-23 16:33:19**

*Private Message to Linus*

What time are we supposed to be back to help with inspections? I forget.

Honestly, I know we can't have people flouting the rules and all, but I'm not really in the mood to cut my tea short and stand around patting people's bums.




 **[alt\\_linus](#) at 2013-03-23 17:22:23**

*Re: Private Message to Linus*

Megan Jones is setting things up back at the castle, so we don't need to rush, but even so, we'd better be there in about an hour to catch the early returnees.

You look very nice today.



 **[alt\\_lavender](#) at 2013-03-24 00:08:42**

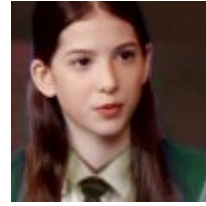
*Re: Private Message to Linus*

It's sweet of you to say so!

I felt a bit of a fright, really--I'm glad it didn't show too much.

**2013-03-23 10:59:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*



Just so everyone knows, the line for sending owls or picking up parcels at the public owl office is UTTERLY MAD. Pansy and I stood in it for a little while, then decided we'd try back again later. Even if Jeremy did send me something I'm not sure it's worth the wait.

 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)

At least the weather's nice. I'm going to go buy some food, while everyone's waiting in line to send letters and I can do it without Padma Patil getting nosy.



 [alt\\_susan](#) at **2013-03-23 16:16:06**

*(no subject)*

Thanks, Sally-Anne!

I was thinking of trying to dash over there, but I think I'll pass. I've got an engagement over at Scrivenshaft's

anyhow.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-23 16:17:26**

*Private message to Susan*

Meeting Aurelia?

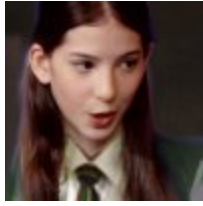


 [alt\\_susan](#) at **2013-03-23 16:20:06**

*Re: Private message to Susan*

Err, well...how did you know?





 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-23 16:25:55](#)**

*Re: Private message to Susan*

I was trying to distract myself from Ron and Daphne last night at the cast party.

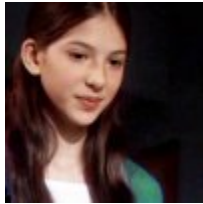


 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-03-23 16:29:19](#)**

*Re: Private message to Susan*

Hah! And here I thought we were being very subtle and clever!

I should have known nothing gets past you.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-23 16:26:57](#)**

*Re: Private message to Susan*

Anyway have a nice time. I didn't know Aurelia went for girls but then, I didn't know you did either till you told us.



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-03-23 16:29:55](#)**

*Re: Private message to Susan*

Thanks!

Have you and Pansy talked to her about the galleons yet?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-23 16:52:02](#)**

*Re: Private message to Susan*

No. It's been too hard getting her alone. If you want to tell her, though, do it.



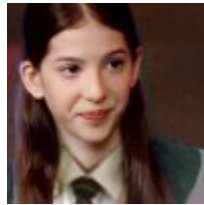
 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-23 16:57:22](#)

*Re: Private message to Susan*

Well, we *are* going to be alone for a bit, at least I hope we will be!

I just double-checked, and I've still got the extra one I was going to give Ernie.

Though maybe I won't mention that.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-23 16:58:29](#)

*Re: Private message to Susan*

Yeah, I'd leave Ernie out of it.

But if you want to give that one to Aurelia I think that would be fine.



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-23 17:01:13](#)

*Re: Private message to Susan*

Wish me luck, then!

I'll see you and the rest of the lot around later.

Oh, damn, I've just realised I've got to get back early for HJC!  
Ugh.

**[2013-03-23 11:29:00](#)**

*Order Only*

Hogwarts heads off for their Easter holiday in a week, don't they? If we're going to teach any of our Junior Auxiliary Apparation during their two weeks off, we should get it planned.



 [alt\\_lupin](#)

1. Who's going to teach it? We all know how to do it; none of us are certified to teach it. I've been trying to remember precisely how I learnt (it involved hoops, didn't it?) but I barely remember how it was explained. Three D's? Four D's?
2. Where are we going to teach them? The Burrow or elsewhere? Perhaps we can take this opportunity to grant them access to 12 Grimmauld.
3. Will Madam Pomfrey be present to provide treatment to any who accidentally splinch themselves?

It's worth noting that thanks to Madam Umbridge's *unique* approach to education, quite a few parents are hiring tutors for their OWL and NEWT students. I don't imagine Perks' foster parents would turn down an offer for free tutoring, if we used that as a cover story. I'm less sure about Parkinson. Hermione, any thoughts on this? Is there someone in the Order we can put forth as a potential free tutor? There's always polyjuice and a straight-up false identity but if we can avoid draining our supply ~~any more than it's already being drained~~ that would be preferable.

For that matter -- we probably ought to provide some actual OWL tutoring for them, too, if we can manage it. We have a selection of truly ideal tutors in the Order but I'm not sure how many of them will have free time. I can at least manage some tutoring in Defense, which they'll all need.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **[2013-03-23 17:01:25](#)**

(no subject)


It's three Ds. Destination, Determination, Deliberation.

You're thinking of how James and I always added the fourth: Debilitation. (Or Defenestration. Or Defecation. Or - well, you

get the idea.)

Anyway, yes, I think we should absolutely set up lessons and if everyone agrees, we can hold them at Grimmauld (though Alice, that would effectively inform them all about the Order). The Burrow might be easier but it's not as safe. I think we could all divide the subjects amongst our strengths.



 **alt\_lupin** at **2013-03-23 17:59:13**  
(no subject)

How much, at this point, do they not already know about us? They're learning occlumency from Albus Dumbledore and Severus Snape, aren't they?

I mean, I'm not suggesting we take them to Moddey.



 **alt\_poppy** at **2013-03-24 03:12:33**  
(no subject)

You're right, Remus. They know a great deal about us already. We ought to go ahead and bring them this next step into our confidence. Teaching them to Apparate will provide them with an important skill, one I know they very much wish to master.

I can tell you for a certainty that they are concerned about their ability to escape should any of them fall afoul of authority. They have taken quite seriously the need to formulate plans for various eventualities.

Not to put too fine a point on it, since we cannot give them portkeys, we should equip them with all the other tools and skills we can. At the moment, despite Albus and Severus' efforts, we are lagging behind Antonin Dolohov in providing them the information, support, and practical tutelage they need. And if it's to be a competition for hearts and minds, I shouldn't like to lose them to Dolohov. He is cunning, committed, and... warm, which makes him very, very dangerous.

In that context--in view of Dolohov's bid for their loyalty--it is surely a risk to share with them the secret of Grimmauld Place, but I think it is a wise risk to take. I trust them to understand the

significance of our risk, and I trust them to keep our secret; they are nothing if not excellent keepers of secrets.

Of course, we could find someplace else to teach them--here at Tilda's farm, perhaps, if we were to manage things properly--but it seems to me that Grimmauld Place itself might be an even more important resource to them than Apparition, should they need to escape from Hogwarts in a rush. They cannot, after all, Apparate from within the grounds, and with only a fortnight to begin learning, it's likely many of them will not yet be able to manage it at all. But if they could find a Floo, they could be safely inside Grimmauld Place in moments.


As for your other question: wherever you decide to do the teaching, I will be quite happy to assist.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2013-03-23 18:58:06](#)**  
(no subject)

I'd be willing to tutor Charms. I received an Outstanding N.E.W.T. in that subject, and I certainly have the time. I will have to come up with an excuse to explain my absences to Ginny, however.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2013-03-23 18:59:14](#)**  
(no subject)

And I definitely think we should hold the lessons at 12 Grimmauld Place. We can't hold them at the Burrow, with Ginny there.

**[2013-03-23 12:12:00](#)**

*Private message to Professor Dolohov*



Sir,

~~I have this piece of jewelry that I think is cursed~~

~~I found something I think is cursed~~


 [alt\\_ginny](#)

~~You know a lot about curses and cursed things and~~

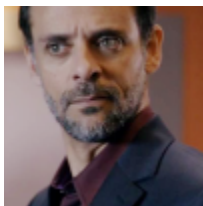
~~Tiaras don't usually have voices, do they? I mean not a VOICE exactly but when you put something on and it makes you feel good, at first, and then later it makes you feel terrible, and it makes you think things that perhaps aren't what you would usually think and it's not that it MAKES you do things exactly but it gives you these impulses, is that thing probably cursed?~~

I'm coming to your office right now to see you, I hope that's all right. I have something I want to show you.



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at **[2013-03-23 17:46:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Never mind.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **[2013-03-24 02:57:26](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm sorry, Miss Weasley; I was otherwise occupied throughout most of today and did not have my journal available.

I should be available tomorrow afternoon, if you'd like to stop in then.

Best,  
Professor Dolohov



 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2013-03-24 02:58:33](#)**  
(no subject)


It doesn't matter now. The Headmistress took it, I can't show it to you anymore.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-24 03:05:17](#)**  
(no subject)

"It"? I could not read your struck-out text; what did the Headmistress confiscate?



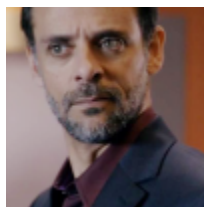
 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2013-03-24 03:09:32](#)**  
(no subject)

It was a tiara.

I think it might have been cursed, and I thought you might know how to tell, and what to do if it was.

But Megan Jones thought it was food, I think. (I had it in a box.)  
~~She's such a tattletale~~ So, the Headmistress has it now.

Maybe she'll also know what to do with it. ~~I was sort of hoping you'd know how to take away just the curse part and I could have it back~~

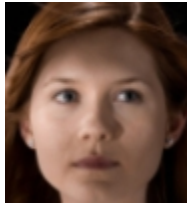


 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-03-24 03:15:26](#)**  
(no subject)

I see. Thank you, Miss Weasley; if it is indeed cursed, we must trust that Madam Umbridge will handle it wisely. Was the object sentimental? If so, I will see what I can do to arrange its return.

If you would like, stop by after Easter hols and I will teach you how to identify the most common signs of cursed objects, for future reference.

Regards,  
Professor Dolohov



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-03-24 05:05:33](#)  
*(no subject)*

No sir, it's not exactly sentimental. I wanted

I'll stop by after the holiday. That sounds very useful.



**2013-03-23 12:17:00**

*I solEmIly swEaΓ #hατ I Λm UP τ? Ιη? G??d*

**Ι ϚΛΗ'† ωΓιΤΣ**

**ϚΛΗ'† DΓΛΨ**

**§Ηε ΨΣΧΣd ΜΣ ΛΗD τ??Κ Μψ  
ΗδτΣβΘΔΚΖ**

**τΗΙ§ 1§ ηφR1BεΣ**



[alt\\_luna](#)



[alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-23 18:15:45](#)  
(no subject)

Your naturalist notebooks? But those were beautiful!  
Why?!



[alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-03-23 18:22:47](#)  
(no subject)

**ρυΠ1§ηΜΣΗτ fOR OLASSR??M**



[alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-23 18:23:22](#)  
(no subject)

But you'll get them back, won't you?



[alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-03-23 18:25:42](#)  
(no subject)

**d?Η'τ ЖИ?Ψ**



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-03-23 23:50:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, Luna, I'm so sorry!

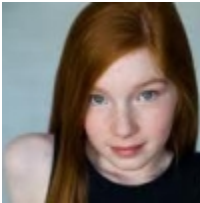
I really thought you'd gotten off all right when she didn't mention you in that message.

She really does seem to have an eye for what will hurt the most.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-24 00:19:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah. It's kind of her specialty, I think.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-03-24 15:10:03](#)**  
(no subject)

Is your writing better today, Luna?

**2013-03-23 12:31:00**

*private message to Madam Umbridge*

Madam Umbridge?



 [alt\\_megan](#)

You told me to let you know right away when there was something really important, and there's something really important! That Weasley girl is sneaking around the corridors. And she has a box, and I can't see it very well because she's trying to hide it, but she's sneaking. What if it's full of food? Maybe it's full of hoarded food and she's looking for a place to hide away and eat it. I'm going to stop her and make her show me, only I thought I'd better write this to you first so you can come right away ~~because even if she is a Weasley she's still a pur~~ because even if she is a Weasley she's still a Gryf because I am ~~afraid of her~~ because you told me to call you so you could come right away if anything important happened and I think this is important. I'll go stop her and make her wait til you get get here.

Please hurry.

**2013-03-23 12:40:00**

*Hogsmeade!*

Anyone still in the castle is really missing out. The weather's amazing and it's dead brilliant being outside for a change.

We're heading to Zonko's in about ten minutes, as soon as we finish lunch at the Broomsticks. If anyone's interested.



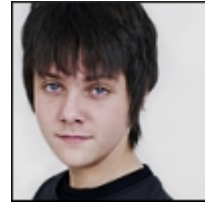
 **alt\_zacharias**

**2013-03-23 12:43:00**

*Weekly Post*

Mum and Dad,

This week:



 [alt\\_michael](#)

On Monday we had Divination, Astronomy lecture, Transfiguration and Defence. Nothing's changed there.

On Tuesday, we made potions in Potions. We cast some charms in Charms. We listened to a ghost in History of Magic.

Wednesday 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.

Thursday there was an Arithmancy lesson and we made calculations for that. We cast more charms in Charms. We also had another Transfiguration lesson and then Professor Dolohov asked us loads of questions about about Noble Arts.

Friday we read more about Dick and Jane Wizard, brewed more Potions and Professor Dolohov talked more about Noble Arts and defending against them as well. Then we took turns looking at more creatures and trying to feed them without getting our hands bitten off. Then last night we had the revue.

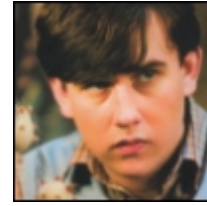
Today we're mostly in Hogsmeade. But I'm thinking more about going home at the end of the week. I think it'll be good.

Oh, and Betsy (you know, Bitsy, I mean), wants me to bring her back some sweets but I don't think I'll be able to get them into the castle, with all the rules nowadays about food and everything. So, I'll try, Bets, but if you see some Junior Councillor with their mouth stuffed with chocs later this evening, you'll know I didn't succeed.

**2013-03-23 15:53:00**

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

I'm all right, everyone. So is Evelyn. ~~At least I think so~~ And they didn't find either of our bracelets, thank Merlin.




 [alt\\_neville](#)

Crabbe and Goyle didn't get their way and so at least I didn't have to strip in front of everyone, thanks to Diggory. Bones, could you please pass on to him that I can't thank him enough. Same goes for you, for protecting Evelyn. That was really quick-witted, what you did, palming her bracelet so Jones wouldn't find it. Evelyn told me.

Sally-Anne, I heard you were searched, too. You all right?

---




 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at **2013-03-23 22:41:54**

*Private Message to Neville*

Sorry I was a bit of a baby earlier. I was worried about you, and the bracelets, and it was a good thing Cedric came along when he did. And Sue was there. So it was okay. Embarrassing, but okay.

You're okay, Pete? You're sure?



 [alt\\_neville](#) at **2013-03-23 23:10:51**

*Re: Private Message to Neville*

Just because--

Anyone would have been upset. Guess I didn't start crying myself because I was too busy concentrating on not flying off the handle and punching Crabbe or Goyle. That would have made things worse.

Our friends stood by us, Lindy. So hang on to that.

I'm just so sorry you were subjected to it in the first place.

I can't believe what this place is coming to.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-24 02:49:04](#)

*Re: Private Message to Neville*

Me neither.

And you didn't punch them because you were stronger than they were. Because you're better than them.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-24 13:20:01](#)


*Re: Private Message to Neville*

Crabbe and Goyle are gonna get what's coming to them someday.

Fred told me this morning that he and George passed on word about what happened to Mum and asked her to tell Dad. Which is undoubtedly better than them learning about it from what Zabini wrote in Lavender's journal.

Ugh.



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-03-23 23:48:50](#)

*(no subject)*

That was ~~awk~~ awful! I had the hardest time keeping a straight face.

I just don't know if I can keep going with HJC; still, it turned out to be a good thing this time! Evelyn, you were well clever too, getting everyone's attention so they'd be distracted from Neville.

And I'll pass that along to Cedric as well; he was livid about the whole thing.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-24 12:27:46](#)

*(no subject)*

I don't blame you for wondering whether you can continue with the HJC. You may end up having to do even worse things. Which, given that things keep getting worse, should all give us pause.

But there's no doubt you were perfectly positioned to give us really crucial help today. We needed you right then, so thanks for being there.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-24 00:18:04](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, I'm fine. Jones didn't seem to even see my bracelet.

Evelyn, did she spot yours? Or were you and Susan just being extra careful?




 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-24 00:25:15](#)  
(no subject)

Her hand brushed it, and she got a funny look. But Sue covered.

Thank you, Susan. For being there.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-24 02:37:32](#)  
(no subject)

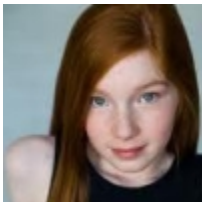
I didn't know about it ahead of time. Otherwise I would've come back sooner and made sure

I should've

I'm sorry.

I'm really sorry.

Both of you.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-24 02:44:43](#)  
(no subject)

It wasn't your fault, you know. And Susan and Cedric were there.

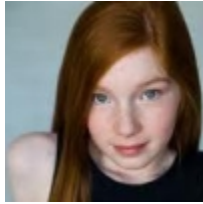
It's okay.





 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-24 02:50:18](#)  
(no subject)

That's just it, though. What we've got here is not okay, and it keeps getting more not okay.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-24 02:55:04](#)  
(no subject)

That's why it's even more important that we do something about it.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-24 03:05:46](#)  
(no subject)


Here's what I don't understand.

EVERYONE hates Umbridge. I mean except for maybe Megan Jones. But Professor Dolohov hates her and Professor Lestrangle hates her and I think Professor Lestrangle's brother hates her, and I think Mr Malfoy hates her (and he seemed to rather like Headmistress McGonagall).

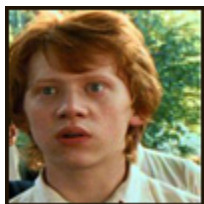
It's not as if any of them haven't killed people before. WHY don't they kill Umbridge?


~~It shouldn't be OUR job to feed her to the giant squid.~~



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-24 03:10:07](#)  
(no subject)

She's got something on Raz. She's blackmailing him or something.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-24 03:49:12](#)  
(no subject)

Um.

Wow.

So they probably do hate her enough to kill her. If they can work out how to get around whatever she's threatening, yeah?

That's-

I hope they don't do it here. At the school, I mean. Enough bad stuff has happened here.

Do you think Professor Raz would do that?




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-24 03:51:04](#)  
(no subject)

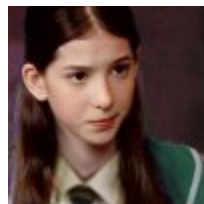
Maybe

Maybe we could work it out. Together. I mean, sort out what the blackmail is.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-24 15:15:11](#)  
(no subject)

Sally-Anne and me could talk to Siz and see if she'll say.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-24 16:10:47](#)  
(no subject)

That's a good idea.

You know what, we should try to find out where she's going for spring hols and tell her we'd really love to come over for tea and a visit because we love chatting with her and it's so difficult right now with Umbridge peering over all our shoulders...

And then ask her while we're at tea. I think she'd be more likely to tell us when we're away from the castle.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-24 17:47:53](#)  
(no subject)

Agreed.

I think if she doesn't seem like she wants to talk, we could tell her that we might be able to do something about it. And that we'd be more likely to get away with it than she would, because her hands are so tightly tied.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-24 12:44:23](#)  
(no subject)


Well, If it helps, I'm already really glad we've added you to this Lock. I think we've given you some information that's gonna help you, and you're bringing information to us that'll help us figure things out. Like letting us know that Professor Lestrangle was being blackmailed. None of us could have known that.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-24 02:59:55](#)  
(no subject)

Harry, none of us expect you to solve everything that goes wrong.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-24 04:00:01](#)  
(no subject)

Hey. I'm glad you're all right. Both of you.


That was really bollocks, searching people like that. I mean, who do they think they are? MLE?

I mean, I didn't get searched since I was with Daphne. The trickiest thing I had to do all day was get in and out of Zonko's without her knowing what I was buying. I got some False Fire pellets and some Naughty Noises bombs and some Sudden Showers powder that you blow up in the air and it causes an indoor rain storm that lasts ten minutes. I got the ones that have a thunder charm in. They cost a little more, but I figured that would be a better diversion if we need

one.

Anywiz. Did anyone else get searched? Nobody got caught, did they?



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-24 12:38:01](#)**

*(no subject)*

That's brilliant, what you managed to smuggle back.

Fred and George managed to bring stuff back, too.  
And I bet they have some interesting ideas on how to

use it.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-03-24 17:49:03](#)**

*(no subject)*

I got a tonne of meat pies from the Hog's Head. I didn't see anyone else there, so I decided to take a chance, and the proprietor seemed a bit odd, but he made them and didn't ask any questions.

**2013-03-23 18:44:00**

*Private Message to Vince and Greg*

You pull that sort of shite again and I'll make sure you never play Quidditch again. Clear?



Threatening to strip someone in front of the entire school?

 [alt\\_harry](#)

What in HELL were you thinking?

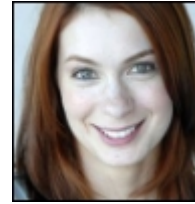
It's one thing to follow rules. It's another to use them as a chance to hurt people.

Don't be idiots.

**2013-03-23 19:10:00**

*ORDER ONLY: Tomorrow*

Sirius, Mac, Kingsley, Frank, you're going to reconvene at the rendezvous point tomorrow. The shipment is expected to arrive at 7:00 in the evening, so be prepared to arrive around five. Best of luck to all of you.



 [alt\\_alice](#)

Tonks, love, I thought you and I could plan for going for our last baby, Stella, sometime this upcoming week. Which day would work best for you?



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-24 03:24:17](#)

*Private message to Alice Longbottom*

Alice:

We recommend that you take away Frank's journal and don't let him read until you've passed this along; we're afraid there are some public posts and comments at Hogwarts today that might make him go spare upset him. Something happened today, and it could have been bad. As it was, it was sort of bad, but it was almost much worse. We've talked with Neville and Evelyn both, so this is straight from them.

This was a Hogsmeade weekend, and both Neville and Evelyn went. As you may or may not know, our less-than-adored Headmistress has been issuing all sorts of edicts, some of them involving food. She seems to be determined that some students, particularly the half-bloods, not get enough to eat.

So when we went to Hogsmeade, we were trying to smuggle stuff back in the charmed beads of those macrame bracelets. Both Evelyn and Neville were wearing theirs.

Umbridge has a squad of goons she is starting to delegate some of her student-terrorising tasks, and some of them were at the Castle entrance hall, searching the students returning from Hogsmeade, to make sure that none of them brought back any food. Two of them decided to make an example of Neville and Evelyn. Because of, um, their family background.

So they ordered Neville to strip, in front of everybody.

That's what you might read in the journals. But it didn't happen. Not like that, anyway. You have to be sure that Frank knows that. The Head Boy was there, and he became absolutely furious. He insisted if either of them had to be searched, it would be done in a private room, with girls searching Evelyn and boys searching Neville. And he went with Neville to make sure there wouldn't be any funny business.

One of the two girls who went with Evelyn was one of us. (She's joined Umbridge's group to try to bring back information to our group). Anyway, the other searcher almost spotted the bracelet, but our girl distracted her, and no one ended up any the wiser.

We're sorry. They did have to go down to, um, pants and knickers. We knew you'd hate to hear it, but better you hear it from us first.

We won't lie and say Neville and Evelyn weren't upset by the whole thing, but they kept their cool and kept their heads. Even in the face of a lot of provocation, at least in Neville's case. Nev and Ev said to tell you they're okay.

Sally-Anne Perks was searched, too. In the same way. But they didn't find what she was carrying, either.

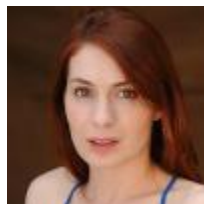
Alice, to be frank, things are getting pretty bad at Hogwarts. We dunno if there is anything the Order can do, but gee, any help or ideas you can send our way would be extremely welcome.



 **alt\_gredforge** at **2013-03-24 03:28:39**

*Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom*

Not that we think this wouldn't upset you, too, we mean. But we thought it'd be a good idea for you to break the news to Frank.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-03-24 03:29:37**

*Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom*

I see.

Thank you for telling me.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-24 03:32:01](#)

*Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom*

Would you be able to put food to good use if we sent it? We can pass it through Pomona or Severus.

Is there any other equipment or material that would be helpful?

I will keep thinking about more direct ways we can impact what's happening at Hogwarts. Please do so as well, as I depend on your understanding of the current situation. If you have any ideas where we can be of any help at all, please let me know.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-24 22:04:46](#)

*Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom*

The potions that Madam Pomfrey left for us have already been a big help. And the idea of tutoring sessions over the holidays is brill.

We could use food, yeah. With preservation charms. We do have a place to keep it.

We can send you a shopping list of supplies, and some money that'll help us make more of the products we've been developing as prototypes. That way we can make some more Extendable Ears, for example, and Decoy Detonators, and some of the products we're putting in our Skiving Snackboxes.

Really, so much sucks around here that anything you can send would be good.

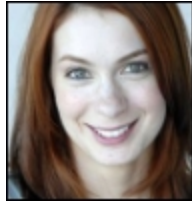


 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-24 22:06:45](#)

*Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom*

Oh, one more thing: we'd like to point out that at least yesterday's events showed that our string bracelets do the trick even when someone's searching for contraband. Hoping that might be encouraging?

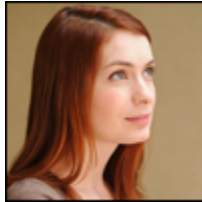




 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-25 01:23:40](#)**

*Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom*

And yes, that is a relief to know.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-25 01:23:20](#)**

*Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom*

Will do.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-24 03:43:32](#)**

*Private Message to Severus*

That woman has many enemies. I'm sure there would be a full inquiry if she were to make an untimely end.

I'm also just as sure that there would be a significant risk that attention would fall on Poppy or Minerva as suspects. And even if the evidence were to squarely point to, say, Antonin Dolohov, I believe that the MLE would find a way to point the blame away from the Dark Lord's favoured and right back on our people.

What can we do?



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-24 03:48:20](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Severus*

I mustn't let my emotions get in the way.

I need your guidance. Why is she still in power?

What could we shift to take the legs out from under

her?



 **[alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-24 04:46:32](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Severus*

I will confess I had considered much the same, and though I have developed several plans by which I might rid us of the pink scourge — she does not


take nearly the precautions she ought, given the number and quality of the enemies she has accrued — the potential repercussions are dire.

I do not know why she is still in power. Dolohov loathes her, as does Lestrangle, and from their behaviour at the "revue" last night I would wager Malfoy and Selwyn do as well. Such a coalition against her should surely result in her downfall, and yet she is still in power. That tells me she has backing elsewhere, and given that there are very few people willing to stand against Malfoy's coalition, I can only surmise it is the Dark Lord himself who wishes Umbridge to remain where she is. For what reasons, I cannot fathom.

If the Dark Lord wishes Umbridge to remain where she is, it can only be to our benefit to remove her — but I do not know whether it is worth the risk.

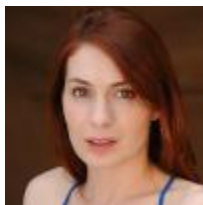
I will do what I might to discover more information, so we might decide whether the risk is worth it or not. I would not wish to cause suspicion to fall on Poppy — as it would, no doubt, should anything befall Madam Umbridge too closely upon Poppy's dismissal.




 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-03-24 13:35:08**

*Re: Private Message to Severus*

Please do so.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-03-24 13:38:09**

*Re: Private Message to Severus*

You don't know how much of a comfort it is that you and Pomona are still there to keep an eye on things. And how vital it is that you both are able to remain there.

Thank you, Severus.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-24 14:52:13](#)

*Re: Private Message to Severus*

You are welcome. I must confess I have found the children to be far less of an irritant than I'd suspected.

And yet, they are, in a way, inspiring. Miss Parkinson, raised in the lap of luxury to profit from the worst of the abuses the Protectorate is designed to perpetuate, has renounced those teachings for the sake of her friends. Miss Granger, taught nearly from birth that she was nothing more than property, has bloomed into a bright and eager student — and is often heard, when no one who ought not hear is within earshot, directing Mr Potter as though they both believe she should be making the decisions for them both. Your children, even, having been raised hearing nothing but how their parents were blood traitors and criminals — outside the home, at least — having realised you are nothing of the sort, and having adopted our cause for their own. We have spoken before about how their resoluteness offers hope, and that hope has certainly counterbalanced the irritation that dealing with adolescent *Sturm und Drang* must inevitably produce.

My own adolescence, as I am certain you are well aware, was far from pleasant. I suppose I see in several of them the chance to assist someone else in making better decisions — despite the provocations.

I will not fail them. ~~Not as others failed me~~




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-03-24 04:22:08](#)

*(no subject)*


Wednesday or Friday might be best if either of those works for you. I could make other days work, but those would be simplest.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-24 04:27:02](#)**  
(no subject)


Thank you, Tonks. Let's plan to go on Wednesday.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-24 04:41:05](#)**  
*Private Message to Frank*

Frank?




 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-03-24 04:43:11](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Frank*

I'm here.

be up soon.

took a turn or three on the duelling course. may need to clean up some things tomorrow.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-24 04:44:35](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Frank*

Good.




 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-03-24 12:57:38](#)**  
(no subject)

I'll be there, Alice.

Is Fu coming with us, too? I think he was eager to try out his latest armor prototype.

(He is rather an odd duck. But he is brilliant. I could have used someone with his knack for tactical thinking with the Auror staff, if he'd been magical. The thing is, he's even more useful to us, in a way, because he isn't. Forces us to think in new ways. It's good for us.)



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-24 14:47:49](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, he'll be there.

And I agree. He is good to have around, for many reasons.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-03-24 16:53:03](#)**  
(no subject)


I'll be there, Allie.

By the way, Remus, Dora and I have been looking over Grimmauld Place with an eye toward setting up those lessons over the holidays.

I'm clearing away all the furniture in the formal dining room so we can use it for Apparation lessons. We've got something of a Potions laboratory set up in the stillroom and we can teak Charms and Defence anywhere in the house, except the bedrooms.

We'll need to set up a roster, I suppose, of who'll cover which topics and when. And you'll need to provide them all with notes so they can access Grimmauld, something like, 'the location for your revisions is 12 Grimmauld Place' perhaps.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-24 17:39:47](#)**  
(no subject)

Excellent. Thank you, love. I'll make sure they have notes distributed -- Fred, George, your unregistered owl might be best for that process if we're to get them notes while they're all in one place. Could you arrange to have it meet you in such a way so it will not be intercepted?

Also, Fred, George, Lee, Hermione, we need a good idea of the number of people to expect and when they'll be free so we can set up a proper schedule.

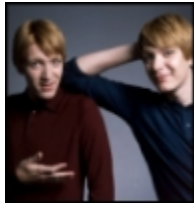
Keep in mind that we may have to adjust depending on the topics that are most needed.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-24 21:39:25](#)  
(no subject)

I have an idea of how Luna Lovegood could be included. Hermione, could you pass this idea on to her and see if it suits?

I'll Floo her foster mother and tell her I'm inviting her to stay with us at the Burrow for the week, visiting Ginny. Frankly, I don't think the Browns will object at all in the least. From a few things Luna has said, I think the other girl in the household, Lavender, barely tolerates her. She can participate in the lessons during the day, and then come home with me in the evenings. And she can tell Ginny that she's with the Browns during the day, but they're allowing us to let her stay with us during the evenings and overnight.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-26 17:54:31](#)  
(no subject)

Right:

We'd like to include the following people:

**O.W.L.s:**

Ron  
Justin Finch-Fletchley  
Susan Bones  
Harry Marvolo  
Sally-Anne Perks  
Neville Longbottom  
Pansy Parkinson

Oh, and let's not forget Hermione.

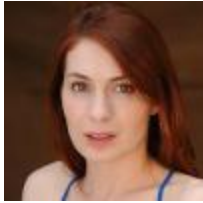
**N.E.W.T.s**

The two of us  
Lee Jordan

Maybe Luna might like to come along a bit, too. She'd certainly love to talk with Charlie about Care of Magical Creatures, if he shows up to help. At least she might help keep Ginny out of the way some of the time.

Don't know about the notes. Frankly, since owls are being

searched, we're not sure it'd be entirely safe. Can't exactly explain to Pig that he shouldn't go to the Owlry. We'll give it some thought. Maybe they can just be given to people the day of the first lesson, if we meet somewhere else first?



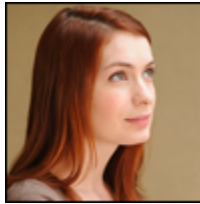
 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-24 17:41:44](#)

*Private Message to Sirius Black*

Did you hear what they've taken to doing?

They strip-searched Neville and Evelyn, and Miss Perks too, to make sure there wasn't any contraband being smuggled into the school from Hogsmeade.

Apparently some of the boys who were in charge of the whole mess threatened to make Neville take off all his clothes in public until Cedric Diggory intervened.



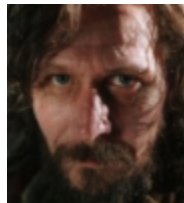
 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-24 17:44:57](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sirius Black*

Frank destroyed about half of our Defence training area.

And to his credit, that is all that he did.

Merlin, Sirius.



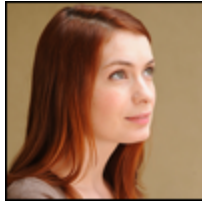
 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-03-24 18:01:52](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sirius Black*

Merlin is right.

That's ... that's evil, Alice.

I haven't commented on her latest journal entry yet. But I don't suppose I could call her out about the strip-searches without someone realising I've got inside information.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-03-24 22:37:36**

*Re: Private Message to Sirius Black*

Some of his classmates teased a bit after over the journals. As if it wasn't bad enough. So it wouldn't be entirely unknowable.

It might be best not to draw additional attention, though, only because I can only imagine how embarrassing the entire ordeal had to have been.



**2013-03-23 20:08:00**

*Eventful Weekend*

It's nice to have such a lot going on! It's been rather quiet around here lately.



I hope everyone who attended enjoyed the revue last night; we certainly had a good time putting it on! Many thanks to Daphne & Mr. Krumgold for everything, and especially for a very fine cast party last night.

 [alt\\_lavender](#)

And of course, thanks to Headmistress Umbridge for allowing the show to go on.

It's been lovely weather all day too--simply perfect for a Hogsmeade visit. Parvati and I decided to bypass the crowds at the Three Broomsticks for a picnic in the plaza, and it turned out to be an excellent notion, as several of our friends found their way over to chat, and we didn't have to brave the crush of butterbeer-gulping third and fourth years.


Speaking of gulping, some people were looking rather green at dinner this evening. That's what too many Chocolate Frogs will do to a person!

All of us on the Junior Council were quite busy too! Fortunately, most people listened to the Headmistress, but a few were simply daft--I still can't believe McLaggen thought he could smuggle pasties in under his hat! I don't think the 6th years have enough to do, since they're not sitting exams this year. And some people think they're simply untouchable.

Although, there is such a thing as excessive enthusiasm for one's work--why *some people* thought threatening to show Longbottom's pants to the world was a good idea I can't imagine. It certainly wasn't anything I wanted to see!


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 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-03-24 00:58:51](#)  
(no subject)


ΨηΥ ρΘ ΥΦЦ Ъ?γΣ ?0  
Βε ϑΟ ΔΨΓЦε?



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-03-24 01:03:39](#)  
(no subject)

ΥR ϪϪϪε?σς!!



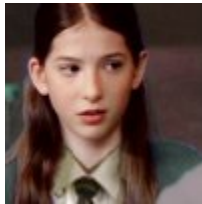
 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-03-24 01:06:03](#)  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*


Uh, could some of you check on her tomorrow?  
Maybe Perks?

I dunno what you can do for her, but she is my Housemate, and you're the nearest thing we have to a Healer...

I'm worried for her.

I'm worried for all of you.

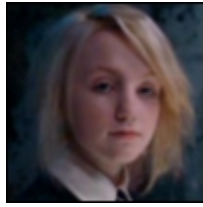


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-24 01:18:12](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Yeah. I didn't have my potions with me today in Hogsmeade but Luna, I actually do have something that will help. I could even be able to get it to you tonight. I'll have to go by the hidden room, or you could meet me there.

I'm sorry I didn't think to offer earlier. I ~~was distracted by that stupid~~ The potion that Madam Pomfrey gives for the aftereffects of cruciatus relieves shaking -- and I think it should help you, just

based on what's in it and what it does. Do you want to come meet me?



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-03-24 02:00:50](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

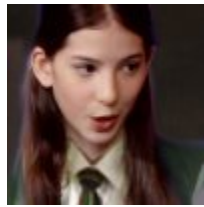
**ρfΣΔ§ε**



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-24 02:20:39](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Hidden room, whenever you can get there. I'll head there now.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-24 01:18:32](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Also if anyone overate horribly in Hogsmeade -- you CAN actually go to Healer Kerr for that, but if you're worried it'll get back to Umbridge, I have loads of the potion Madam Pomfrey gives for the 'ate too much, stomach ache' problem. Let me know.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-03-24 01:35:01](#)

*(no subject)*

Lovegood, do you think just because you're using funny letters we can't read what you're writing?

Ten points from Ravenclaw for speaking to a Junior Councillor that way.



 [alt\\_lavender](#) at [2013-03-24 01:38:08](#)

*Private Message to Padma*

What'd she say?

It did look a bit shirty but I squinted at it and couldn't really make it out at all.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-03-24 01:44:44](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Padma*

I'm pretty sure that last word is 'awful': 'Why do you have to be so awful.'

I'm not at all sure why she's using such ridiculous characters, unless it's to try to mask what she's written.

But then again, it's Loony. I know your mum's been trying with her but honestly, if there's one thing besides stupidity that no one can sure, it's insanity.




 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2013-03-24 01:50:20](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Padma*

True! She's not usually stropopy though, just sort of hopeless.

Wonder what's got into her?



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-03-24 01:56:09](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Padma*

There's just no telling with crazy people. I mean, one of these days she just might snap and kill you and your family in your beds. Honestly, it's the kind of thought that would make me insist her room locked from the outside, you know?



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2013-03-24 02:02:27](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Padma*

Ugh, what a dreadful thought!

I was just going to ignore her until she wandered away (she does that, you know), but it was sweet of you to step in and defend me.

You don't *really* think she's dangerous, do you?



**alt\_padma** at **2013-03-24 02:09:01**

*Re: Private Message to Padma*

No, I guess she's not really dangerous. Except maybe to herself.

Although you know it's possible she didn't destroy that classroom by accident.



**alt\_lavender** at **2013-03-24 02:12:48**

*Re: Private Message to Padma*

It does seem a little...wildly destructive.

And she is friends with the Weasleys--do you suppose one of them could have put her up to it somehow?



**alt\_luna** at **2013-03-24 02:14:20**

*(no subject)*

**THE ηΣΛΔΠ1\$τΓΙΩ  
ΜΛΔΣ ΧΣ ΨR/τΕ ΓΙΧΣ**

**?ηις.**

**ΥΘ√ ∫?√ρ/δ ?ΚΨΘ**



**alt\_lavender** at **2013-03-24 02:15:55**

*(no subject)*

Oh, go off and be a nutter somewhere else!



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-03-24 02:17:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, maybe you should stop writing until the Headmistress decides to lift the spell.

And besides, she didn't make you write such horrid things or make you insult the Junior Council. OR a Prefect.

Ten more points from Ravenclaw and I'm speaking to Professor Vector about a detention if you answer back again, Lovegood.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-03-24 01:42:47](#)**  
(no subject)

Lavs, really, you shouldn't let her insult you like that.

It was rather ridiculous what people thought they could bring back. Or what they thought they could threaten to bring back--did you notice what happened to Michael? He didn't have anything with him but since he'd written about smuggling choc, some of the others wanted to strip-search him, too. I asked him if he'd really meant it and he said of course not, everyone knew the rules about the food, so we just looked in his bag and it was clear.

And I know what you mean about people overdoing it in the village. Burbage only ate two bites of his kidney pie and went running for the loo. He didn't come back to supper, either. I think Loki Dames went to check on him before the pudding. So now he'll be starving come morning. It's utterly stupid.

But you remember when those Wizengamot people came to talk to us about Interrogating and all? Well, I remember one of them said that there's no amount of preparation or cleverness that can make up for the perpetrator being dumb as a muggle. So. I guess even certain Ravenclaws are no exception.



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2013-03-24 01:54:20](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, boys and their appetites!

You simply can't tell some of them--they have to

experience it for themselves.

Though it wasn't only the boys; some of the girls were stuffing it down right alongside them.



 **alt\_lavender** at [2013-03-24 01:46:47](#)


*Private Message to Padma and Parvati*

Did you see McLaggen's *face*? It was priceless!

I did feel a bit badly for that one Hufflepuff third year-- West, I think her name is. She was absolutely terrified and *swore* she'd just forgotten to eat her Chocolate Frogs in Hogsmeade.

I think she might've been telling the truth, but getting my wand all sticky poking around in her knapsack didn't exactly put me in the best mood.



 **alt\_padma** at [2013-03-24 01:59:03](#)

*Re: Private Message to Padma and Parvati*

He deserved it! He's an utter pillock.

Ugh, and now Diggory's telling Daphs and Ron what a splendid job they did 'throwing themselves' into their roles. At each other, more like.

I wish she weren't such a slut. She's really nice but, I dunno, she's just so full of herself, just because she's a little more experienced. And obviously she doesn't really care *where* she gets that experience.

But Blaise still likes her and I'm not sure--

Well, it doesn't matter, I guess.



 **alt\_lavender** at [2013-03-24 02:09:07](#)

*Re: Private Message to Padma and Parvati*

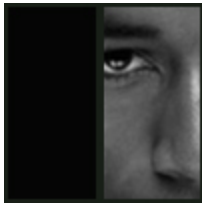
She certainly knows how to pick them, that's for sure!


First Bole and now Weasley! At first I thought she was just having him on, trying to make Zabini jealous or

something, but I think she's actually *serious*. It makes me a bit ill, really.

Oh for I don't pretend to understand what intrigues you about Zabini, but maybe this is your opportunity!

After all, Zabini does care about associating with the right people, and Greengrass hasn't exactly been showing herself to be one of them lately.



 **[alt\\_blaise](#)** at **[2013-03-24 02:13:56](#)**  
(no subject)


People are idiots. It's a shame this school isn't more selective about whom they let in. Perhaps we'll see that change soon, but in the meantime, I suppose it's time well-spent to bring a bit more discipline to the unruly masses.

Especially the Gryffindors. (Sorry, Brown, but your lot really are the worst.)

Hooper got caught with sausages. A dirty great string of them looped around his neck and hanging down his trouser legs. Thought that cravat he was wearing wasn't at all obvious. Brainless. Of course, no one will want to eat them, given where we found them. What a waste.

I don't agree with you about Longbun. Watching Crabbe and Goyle make him squirm was more entertaining than last night's Revue. They were just having a bit of fun until Diggory had to put his nose in, but Greg says the private show was almost as good. Says they almost got Longbun to take a swing at them. Shame he didn't. That would have been a story to tell!



 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2013-03-24 02:19:00](#)**  
(no subject)

I should think no one would want to eat them!

And ugh, don't judge all Gryffindors by *Hooper*; anyway, I think it was actually the younger Hufflepuff girls who were worst for sweets.



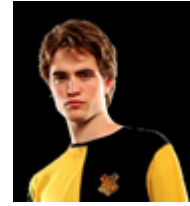
Boys have such odd notions of humour.

I mean yes, he's a credible source for contraband, go ahead and search him, but don't make the rest of us watch!

**2013-03-23 20:38:00**

*Revue*

I would like to thank Daphne Greengrass for all of her hard work in putting on last night's Revue. It was very nice to have something exciting and fun at Hogwarts. I enjoyed seeing your vision of the different eras of our grand school with its ancient traditions and wonderous legacy. We always have been the most prestigious institution of magic learning and it was nice to see that up on stage with humour. I especially like the 1930s scene and the song that mentioned Professors McGonagall and Slughorn.



 [alt\\_cedric](#)

All of the hard work of the cast and crew was much appreciated. I really enjoyed the 17th century costumes and the magical mirror effect was very nice. The actors did a fine job as well. Daphne and Ron certainly threw themselves into their roles wholeheartedly.

Cheers!




 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at **2013-03-24 03:15:53**

*Private Message to Cedric Diggory*

I am very glad that you are our Head Boy.

Thank you.



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at **2013-03-24 03:20:35**

*Re: Private Message to Cedric Diggory*

You're welcome.

I will always do my job. Always.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-03-24 04:17:10**

*(no subject)*

Cheers, Diggory.

It's great so many people came out to see it. I mean, not just students and teachers, but parents and all.

Daphne was fantastic, wasn't she?




 **[alt\\_daphne](#)** at **[2013-03-24 04:24:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, no, but you were truly *exceptional*, Ron!


And cheers, Diggory!



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-24 04:36:58](#)**  
*Private Message to Daphne*

Thanks. Did you really think so?




 **[alt\\_daphne](#)** at **[2013-03-24 04:48:16](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Daphne*

Yes!

Well, you know that I have no basis for comparison. Not *really*, anyway.

But...trust me, Ron. You were perfectly cast for this particular part.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-24 05:03:06](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Daphne*

But you have loads of experience performing, and you always know just how to say a line so it gets the tone just right. The dig or the joke or the set up for what comes next.

Or- were you meaning the show? or, y'know?



 **[alt\\_daphne](#)** at **[2013-03-24 05:04:30](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Daphne*

Oh!

Both, I think. Which one were you talking about?



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-03-24 05:15:05**

*Re: Private Message to Daphne*

Well, I thought we were talking about the show, but then-

~~You were really-~~


~~It was— After everyone left and you-~~

I didn't know it could be so, y'know. Wow. I wish you were here right now.

Y'know, if I close my eyes, I can see you like you were last night in the wand light.

Amazing.



 **[alt\\_daphne](#) at 2013-03-24 05:23:12**

*Re: Private Message to Daphne*

See, Ron, and that's why you were perfect for the part. Because you say things like that.

I wish I were there, too. Except without your roomies around, of course!

Last night was brilliant, and so are you.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-03-24 05:31:13**

*Re: Private Message to Daphne*

Yeah. Thomas is snoring, and Finnigan smells. And Nev makes odd sounds when he's dreaming sometimes.

It would be much better if you were here and they weren't.

Do you have to make rounds tomorrow night?




 **[alt\\_daphne](#) at 2013-03-24 05:46:29**

*Re: Private Message to Daphne*

Yes, and I won't be free until curfew, I'm afraid.

But there's always Monday night! Or even...after curfew.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-03-24 05:54:28**

*Re: Private Message to Daphne*

We could meet up in that same place we went on Thursday. I could go before curfew and you could come after rounds.

I mean, I don't want you to take risks like that if you don't want. Only, Monday is forever from now.



 **[alt\\_daphne](#) at 2013-03-24 06:23:20**

*Re: Private Message to Daphne*

I really is much too far away!

Let's meet tomorrow night. I think it's worth the risk, don't you?



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-03-24 21:38:39**

*Re: Private Message to Daphne*

Is it tonight yet?

**2013-03-24 20:24:00**

*Order Only: Attention Poppy*

Poppy, if you can get to Moddey: We were successful but Fu's injured. Frank and Kingsley got a field dressing on him, enough so he can travel.



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

We got the shipment of potion but there was something else on the train. Heavily guarded. Resulted in a longer firefight than we anticipated.

Also, there was another car of Muggles being transported to farm country. We let them out and I've stayed behind to help get them to several of Beth's safe houses.

But this ... device - Circe, you could *feel* the magic emanating off it. Clearly something they didn't want getting into the wrong hands. Fu was so captivated by it that he didn't notice the guard wasn't quite knocked out. I think he'll be all right but we'd all feel more comfortable if a Healer looked him over.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-25 01:44:20](#)  
(no subject)

Bugger. How was Fu hurt? Will he be okay?



 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-03-25 01:46:52](#)  
(no subject)

Some variant of the slicing hex. Bleeding more than usual, and I'm sensing dark magic in the edges of the wound. I suspect it's gonna leave a helluva scar. Regina is NOT going to be happy, because it's on his face. He was lucky, though, because it just missed his eye.


He's oddly cheerful about it, actually. Says it'll make him look like a pirate.

For some reason this pleases him. I told you he was an odd duck.

Poppy, we'd like you to take a look at him as soon as you can break

away to do so. Stephen may be able to treat it with potions, but I'd feel better if we could have a Healer examine him.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-25 01:54:22](#)  
(no subject)

'Device?' What's the thing you found, exactly?




 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-03-25 02:07:36](#)  
(no subject)

It's a metal ouroboros. Actually, I think it looks quite a bit like that one that was left at the bottom of the lake at Hogwarts for the Second Task during the Triwizard's Champion tournament, judging from the picture I saw in the *Prophet*. Except more elaborate. The eyes are green gemstones. Maybe even emeralds.

There are a few variations, however: there is a dial right where the loop meets, with some cabalistic symbols on the dial that I don't recognise. But then I didn't take Runes.

We're at the rendezvous point outside the Sanctuary. Fu's been taken in and Stephen's seeing to him, but we're a little doubtful about taking this object inside.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-25 02:10:25](#)  
(no subject)


You said it was 'heavily guarded.' How many guards? Were there hexes implanted around it as well? That might give us a way to gauge how important it is.



 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-03-25 02:12:55](#)  
(no subject)

Hexes, yes, and more than enough guards for everyone. Six or eight. Mac got the honours of taking out the most, but even Fu held his own. Which is why he was sliced up.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-25 02:14:30](#)  
(no subject)

Wow.


I've no idea what the thing is for. I haven't heard any rumour of it.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-03-25 02:34:35](#)  
(no subject)

Grimmauld's library has a *Key of Solomon* and a *Infrenaverunt Obscuritatis*. Remus, do you feel up to taking them to the safe house to see if anything matches?




 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-03-25 02:46:17](#)  
(no subject)

Another puzzlement:

The energy. It's stopped.

Now it feels magically inert.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-25 02:51:15](#)  
(no subject)

I don't like this.

Is there any possibility that there's some kind of magical trace on it, do you think? Not good if MLEs or Unspeakables come swooping down on you. Would it be safer *inside* the wards, rather than outside? Although I can see why you might not want a possibly cursed object inside, if you don't know what the hell it is, especially since it *was* so heavily guarded.

Look, do you want me to come there, too, just so we have another wand?



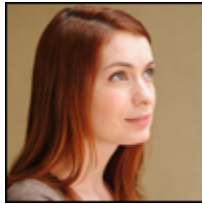



 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-03-25 02:54:32](#)  
(no subject)

That may be a good idea.

I'd like to pick your brain about the runes anyway. So sure, feel free to show up. The more

the merrier.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-25 03:03:13](#)  
(no subject)

Please. Yes.



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-03-25 03:28:39](#)  
(no subject)

Sirius,

Thank you for calling me quickly. Fu will be fine, I believe, though the severing hex he took has been a challenge to stanch. Of course, nearly as difficult as neutralising a Dark hex was getting the patient to stay still long enough to work on him. Gracious, what an excitable man!

I'd quite forgotten what survival elation looks like: he's been manically veering between congratulating himself for having held his own, babbling at me about the amazing magical gizmo they liberated, boasting to any who'll listen about the guards he hit, and bubbling over with ideas for tools and weapons and armour they could use NEXT time. A battering ram 'powered' by magic, if you please.

Oh for goodness sake. He's bled through the dressing again. Not to worry, though. I am confident we've got ahead of the curse, only, it's quite a nasty one and will take time to fully counter.

**2013-03-25 09:03:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

we spent most of the night sorting out whether the device had any tracking charms, and testing whether we could get it to re-activate once we figured out it couldn't be traced. it can't be, at least not when it's inactive. at least as far as we could tell.



 [alt\\_frank](#)

we had a debate about bringing it in. tested bringing it with a small warded area to see if that'd set it off, and it didn't, so we figured we'd be okay and we brought it inside moddey this morning. still hasn't activated, as far as we could see. we put it in one of the potting sheds we aren't using and Remus secured the shed so the kids wouldn't climb all over it.

the writing on the device was matched to a book Remus brought. it's an ancient text used by unspeakables. makes sense, because the shipment was from the department of mysteries, but we still don't know what it's used for. something we didn't know about the sleepers, maybe?

it sort of felt like a wave of magic when we were around it the first time. a pulse that you could feel in your chest. and like sirius said, fu felt it too. he's going to be okay, by the way, thanks to poppy.

Dumbledore, we could use a consult to see if you can make heads or tails of it. Bill is going to see if he can pick anything up coming from the ministry about it, but right now we've got a fancy statue of a snake and no idea what it does.



 [alt\\_frank](#) at **2013-03-25 13:33:03**

*Private Message to Terry Boot*

all right, kiddo?

you've been Professoring a lot the last day or so. and sticking pretty close to me.

you can stick all you want, it's fine by me, I just want to make sure eveything's okay.



 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-03-25 13:36:58](#)

*Re: Private Message to Terry Boot*

Oh, I'm fine. I just wondered if you wanted to stick close to ME. Just to maybe have a dog's ears to scratch, even if it's a ratty-looking one, if that would help.

I, uh, saw the Defence arena. When you were done with it. And I read about what happened at Hogwarts.



 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-03-25 13:42:08](#)

*Re: Private Message to Terry Boot*

I'll be okay. been a hard last couple of days, though, no mistake. and you're right. it does help.

al and me were talking about the upcoming easter hols training session. you up for coming along?



 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-03-25 13:44:34](#)

*Re: Private Message to Terry Boot*

Yes, please!

And I also wanted to say...thanks for not making that long walk up the beach.



 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-03-25 13:45:37](#)

*Re: Private Message to Terry Boot*

we'll make sure to make arrangements. I think it'd be good for you to start learning apparation.




 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-03-25 14:30:22](#)

*(no subject)*


I still want to know why on earth that blasted thing was being transported by *train*.



 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-03-25 15:44:04](#)  
(no subject)

well it stopped working once we apparated away with it. maybe that was part of it?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-25 19:51:16](#)  
(no subject)


A couple tidbits I've gleaned so far. Whatever this thing is, it may be causing ripples at the highest levels. I was supposed to have lunch with Percy today, but he begged off, saying he had to stay at his desk.

Apparently, Lucius Malfoy's cancelled a full slate of meetings today and gone to Court. Percy won't say what's going on--if he even knows. Nor did I ask. But I think it's significant that he doesn't feel he can take a half an hour away from his desk, in case Lucius needs him for something.

Also: Yaxley cancelled and rescheduled a meeting he had set with Selwyn. No reason given.

Haven't heard a peep otherwise. I will continue to investigate, very carefully (no, I don't want to call attention to myself, thank you very much), and I've sent the alert to my network to send me anything to the point that they hear.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-25 21:49:20](#)  
(no subject)


And the press:

There was a small notice in the *Prophet* this morning about a train being robbed, but nothing specific about what was taken. Buried rather far in the paper, no by-line. They do mention the Muggles being freed, and warn readers to be on the lookout for Scary Rampaging Riff-Raff.

The 'pitiful remnants' of Sirius Black's terrorist network is to blame.

We're not doing so badly for a pitiful remnant.



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-03-25 21:51:02**  
*(no subject)*

Hang on. One of my sources has just contacted me.  
May have something more soon.

**2013-03-25 10:15:00**

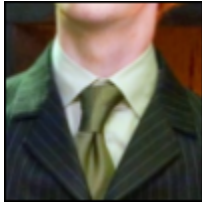
*Private Message to Weasley*

Trust you received my note of last evening and cancelled morning commitments.

Continue to cancel meetings for rest of day.



 [alt\\_lucius](#)



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 [alt\\_percy](#) at **2013-03-25 14:40:34**

*(no subject)*

Of course, sir. Your calendar has been cleared.

Please let me know if there is anything further I may do to assist.

**2013-03-25 13:15:00**

*Private Message to Lucius Malfoy*



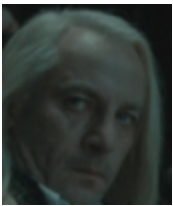
Heard you've been in attendance today. Any report on Our Lord's dealings with Bode?

Yaxley and Rookwood still cloistered. Y wants R's head. Suspect Y hopes sending that to Buckingham on a silver salver will save him being called himself. Obv both of them hope Bode's fallen on his wand for them.

 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)

Rookwood deserves flaying. Idiot thought he could cover up the loss.

---



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-03-25 20:32:34**  
(no subject)

Have only *just* had opportunity to reply to journal messages (with exc. of the utmost urgent ones).

Bode: Multiple Cruciation. May not survive. Rookwood: Much the same. Not at all sure what broke down in communication: Ordinarily, Augustus is not so naïve nor so irresponsible.

Nonetheless. Understand he believes the damage easily mitigated owing to prototypical nature of EmeraldEye. Our Lord ... not so sanguine.

There has been rather a parade of our number falling under His eye to-day, including Rookwood, Selwyn, Yaxley (again). Others without the Mark. He wished to summon the entire staff of the Prophet for publishing without a by-line but, thank Merlin, calmer heads swayed Him to leave it to others. Have meeting with Cuffe this evening; shall pass along the name of the reporter once he has provided it. Trust you shall be able to manage from there.

Regarding the loss of potion, there, at least, DoM has promised full replenishment by end of the week. Still, does not mitigate the fact that we must assume enemies of the state now have access to the formula.

Effort must be devoted to verifying the group responsible.

Must return to audience chamber.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-03-26 02:13:28](#)  
(no subject)

Trust Cuffe was cooperative? Thought he knew better.

Yaxley is... volatile falls short. Post-court, he's sacked two decent enforcers, reduced Forney's desk to ash, and Cruciated a duckling. Had to send that one to St M.

Are you back at Buckingham?



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-03-26 02:38:58](#)  
(no subject)

Co-operative, to a point. Claims he received the article in the dead of night from a 'trusted source' known only to him as 'Cara Pace.' Not, as one may imagine, on the regular payroll.

Yaxley. Troublesome. Rookwood's been admitted to St M's as well. You're aware he's been frail. Broke a hip under Cruciatu; Healers fussing over setting the joint properly.

Likely to be at Buckingham all night, at this rate.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-03-26 13:01:09](#)  
(no subject)

Articles received in the dead of night from sources so trustworthy they use pseudonyms... By definition, those are pieces he'll take fire for.

Suppose he claimed that he's a 'duty' to report. That's simple code for sedition. Direct correspondence b/w what he ought not and what he feels compelled to print.

Does the point need re-enforcing? Would be happy to oblige. Or I could point Yaxley his direction. Give him an outlet beyond the department.



**[2013-03-25 20:33:00](#)**

*Order Only*

I've had something passed on from a source inside the offices of the *Prophet*. I mentioned the short article printed this morning. There's a phrase the guards used that the reporter overheard--not a direct interview question, in other words, but the guards privately talking amongst themselves. I get the impression that it was without knowing the reporter was there.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)**

The *Prophet* staff didn't know what the phrase meant, and apparently the editor thought better of publishing it, and so he ordered the reference cut from the first draft of the story. Which maybe was a very good thing: apparently certain highly placed people were quite incensed that anything about the matter was printed in the paper at all. (Who they were the source either didn't know or refused to say.)

Anyway: the guards were overheard to call the thing an 'octoboros anchor.' The source was very definite about the words. Not 'ouroboros.' 'Octoboros.'

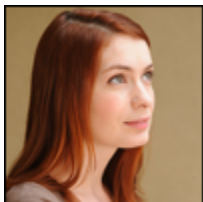
Mean anything to any of you?




 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-26 02:00:45](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, it sounds as if it's a play on ouroboros, doesn't it? Octo- is eight, of course. (Octopus, octogenarian, October.) It's not an eight-headed ouroboros, is it?

One shudders to think.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-26 02:43:07](#)**  
(no subject)


Thank you for checking in, Bill.

And does that mean there are eight of these things?  
I'm hoping Albus saw Frank's message and is planning on stopping by sooner rather than later.

Pomona, Severus, if you could do what you could to follow up in

person with him about the importance of a visit, that would be much appreciated.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-26 02:45:40](#)  
(no subject)

Eight of the things...yeah. That's what I was wondering, too.

And anchor. Anchor to--or for--*what?*



 **alt\_poppy** at [2013-03-26 02:52:49](#)  
(no subject)

I suppose it's not entirely a surprise, whatever it means in this case. Eight is clearly a favourite symbol of the regime.

St Mungo's was told last summer to add an eighth member to their Executive because Our Lord deems it auspicious or some such nonsense. Put all noses out of joint because it means decisions end up tabled for lack of a decisive vote.

**2013-03-26 12:55:00**


*Order Only: Tutoring*

Regarding the tutoring that Remus mentioned:  
Alice, I know Fred and George gave you a list of names of who should be included. After giving it some thought, I think the best way to handle it is for me to contact the childrens' parents and say that I've arranged tutorial assistance for my own children and I'm willing to host sessions over at the Burrow. Shall we start on Monday, at noon? Then, Alice if you can write fidelius notes giving them permission to find 12 Grimmauld Place, I can distribute them, and we can move the lessons there. How does that sound?



 [alt\\_molly](#)



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-03-26 18:22:13](#)

*(no subject)*

Do you need volunteers still? I could probably come in a few nights and tutor Creatures. Or at least the theory, since I don't think Sirius and Remus and Tonks want a bunch of beasts in their library!




 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-26 20:28:57](#)

*(no subject)*

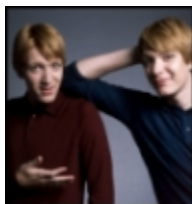
We'd certainly vote for this.



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-03-26 21:10:00](#)

*(no subject)*

Just as long as you don't think I'm likely to go easy on you because I'm your brother!



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-26 22:37:43](#)

*(no subject)*

Bring it on.

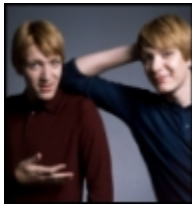
Seriously, we do want to pass these things. So throw anything at us that you think will help.



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-03-26 22:44:35](#)  
(no subject)

If you're serious, I can probably bring you up here on Easter Monday and take you around a bit; dragons are usually on the NEWTs.

That's if you're serious, and if you swear on your wands and anything you hold holy there won't be a repeat of the last time you came to visit -- I still hear about it every now and then!



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-27 00:26:02](#)  
(no subject)

We are sober young upstanding members of the Order now. Ask Mum.

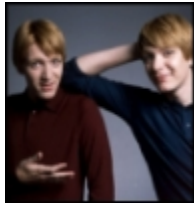
Well, unless we're tormenting Umbridge.

But yes. We will behave ourselves.



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-03-27 01:03:46](#)  
(no subject)

Right then. I'll have a word with a few people and see if I can get permission for you to shadow me during a shift.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-26 22:45:10](#)  
(no subject)

And you could say Umbridge is 'going easy' on us, by which we mean she's gutting the curriculum and preventing people from learning. Saying it's not needed.

We want to do well just to spite her.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-03-26 23:15:48](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, I can see where that'd be a good motivation.

Right, then, I'll see what I can do.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-03-26 21:25:24](#)**  
(no subject)

Wotcher, Charlie.

No beasts in the library? I suppose the beasts that live here don't spend as much time in the library as in other rooms, but we haven't made rules against their looking at the books when they want to.

Really, it's a shame OWLs don't ask much about dogs or werewolves. I could do animal faces, if that would help.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-03-26 21:50:21](#)**  
(no subject)

It might do! How's your hippogriff impression?



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-03-26 22:05:02](#)**  
(no subject)

I've got the beak and the beady stare down cold, and I think I'm not entirely crap at the roaring.

They do roar, don't they? Or is it more a loud squawk?



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-03-26 22:41:37](#)  
(no subject)

Kind of a squawk, but it's loud enough that a lot of people call it a roar anyway. Unless you make friends with one of them, in which case you can sometimes get it to do this really rumbly kind of almost-purr if you can convince it to let you scratch behind its ears. Mind, it takes a arseload of convincing.

Uh. Sorry, Mum.

Actually, come to think of it, I think I remember firecrabs and knarls being on the OWLs. Don't think I could turn up a firecrab on short notice, but I might be able to scrounge the knarls and hedgehogs. Shouldn't be much risk to the library, as long as you remember not to feed them.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-03-27 03:53:21](#)  
(no subject)

Aw. Bea would love it if you brought her a hedgehog!

Mind you, I doubt the hedgehog would be as eager to meet Bea.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-26 22:55:23](#)  
(no subject)

Animal faces? That I'd like to see!

(Almost makes me want to go back to school, if only because I don't remember revising for O.W.L.s and N.E.W.T.s being that much fun.)




 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-03-26 23:14:52](#)  
(no subject)

Well, there were the stupid mnemonic songs we came up with to remember the order of the Goblin Wars. Remember those? "In 1713, Urg the Unclean lay waste in the Battle of Bendings; with

his captain Elaisrn they got all the tribes in and lasted until the beheadings..."

Can't remember what comes after that, but I can still sing you the tune!




 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-03-27 00:35:19](#)**  
(no subject)

'But Krunkak the Unsteady called the goblins to ready the Armour of Chars  
And thundered o'er them till the twilight was gloaming  
and landed smack flat on his...'

No, I don't remember the rest, either.

Or at least that's what I'm telling Mum.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-03-27 00:45:49](#)**  
(no subject)

...And his wand snapped in two  
Which was sad.

(Isn't that how they *all* end?)




 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-03-27 01:09:59](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, if you listened to Binns, they all ended with a bunch of people in a dusty room writing treaties that nobody ever read.

...Not that anyone ever listened to Binns, mind you.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-03-27 01:15:13](#)**  
(no subject)

NOBODY listened to Binns!





 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-03-27 03:08:38](#)  
(no subject)

Too right. No one ever stayed awake long enough to listen to Binns.

I don't remember anything about school being that much fun. Or, really, any fun at all.

I'm glad every first of September I don't have to go back!




 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-03-27 01:05:29](#)  
(no subject)

And I taught them to the rest of my year, and we all got into the exam and turned over the papers and stared at the questions in horror, until someone started humming and we all took it up

...



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-03-26 18:43:10](#)  
(no subject)


Sounds perfect, Molly.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-26 18:57:25](#)  
(no subject)

Mrs Weasley, I don't know if you could invite Harry just like that, but the Jrs did add him to their secret post lock just last week, so if there's a way for him to come, well, I'm sure he'd want to be there.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-26 20:37:51](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, my goodness!

I don't doubt your reasoning for adding him to your group--I know that he's been in contact with Sirius for awhile, for example. But goodness, I don't think I could very well



just Floo Buckingham Palace and ask if it would be all right with them if The Lord Protector's son comes to study Charms in my kitchen! Why, I imagine there would be all sorts of security concerns. He might even have a bodyguard?

Oh, dear. I wouldn't like him to feel we're snubbing him or don't trust him, but no one will believe he's coming here to tutor when he can demand the best tutors in the Protectorate.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-26 22:51:10](#)

*(no subject)*

No, I didn't think you could do.

But. Before, Harry's visited the Ponds'--I mean, Laszlo's, that is--and they sent security to make sure it was safe but then they let him go there on his own. Maybe he could do that again.

Or maybe if we think like Slytherins you could ask Percy to ask Mr Malfoy if Harry could come.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-26 23:42:00](#)

*(no subject)*

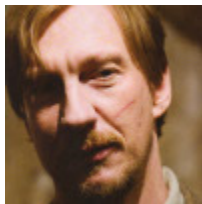
I'd rather not take the chance. It might be worth your while to see if you could slip away, however.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-27 01:56:17](#)

*(no subject)*

Oh, do. Is there any chance that Harry might let you get away?



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-03-27 03:24:12](#)


*(no subject)*

Hold up -- are you thinking he'd arrange to visit Laszlo's again?

That seems like it should be possible, unless Alice doesn't want to let him visit 12GP. Sirius, what do you think?

The thing is I can't imagine he'll be able to persuade his keepers that he wants to spend every day of spring holidays in the company of the Laszlo's staff. It won't work, not as a method of bringing him for two weeks of lessons. It might be rather nice to have him for a visit, and he wouldn't need an excuse to bring you along.



 **alt\_lupin** at [2013-03-27 03:29:14](#)  
(no subject)

Though, here's another idea. Could he persuade them he's meeting some girl? Would any of the young ladies of the Jr Auxiliary be willing to play along? He could tell Rabastan Lestrange he's spending time with his new girlfriend and wants a bit of privacy, that seems like something even a Death Eater might understand. It would be a reason he might come to Doughty Conduit on a near-daily basis.

The trouble is that we have to assume they're watching, even if they give Harry space. But perhaps we could use polyjuice and a volunteer provide a facsimile of Harry, to drink tea and hold hands with some facsimile of Miss Perks or Miss Bones. Might prove a bit awkward back at school, though, I suppose...



 **alt\_hermione** at [2013-03-27 03:35:13](#)  
(no subject)

No. I don't think he could do that.




 **alt\_hermione** at [2013-03-27 03:30:39](#)  
(no subject)

Well, he wouldn't have to go there every day. Just once, like the others using the Burrow. He could go somewhere else other days and Floo from there (or he could probably Floo from Buckingham if no one could overhear him).

But Mrs Longbottom thinks it's too dangerous so it's okay.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-03-27 03:35:41](#)  
(no subject)

Well, how closely do they watch him? Won't they notice if he's gone for hours at a stretch each day? (For that matter, won't the Malfoy boy notice? Surely HE'S not Even if he can conceal his absences from the adults, his friends are another matter.)

I don't want us to take unnecessary risks, either. But given how much the Junior Auxiliary already knows, I'm not convinced that excluding him from the secret of 12GP is going to keep anyone any safer. He may need a safe house as badly as any of them.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-27 03:54:35](#)  
(no subject)

Draco's going to have a load of O.W.L. tutoring, too. Mr Malfoy would let them work together with the tutor but if Harry didn't want to do it no one would stop him.

That's why Laszlo was a good thought because they've both been before and Professor Lestrangle knows it's safe. He probably wouldn't even need much of an escort.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-27 04:27:02](#)  
(no subject)

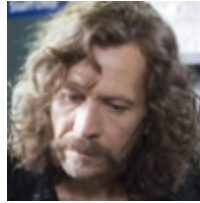
I'm fine with Harry finding out about the safe house. It's his ability to get away unnoticed without a security escort in such a way so that people won't track him down to the Burrow or Lazslo's and start asking uncomfortable questions that I'm concerned with.

At this point, we're juggling far too much in terms of security, and his spending any significant time at Grimmauld right now is not something I am willing to risk.

The only thing I could see happening would be Harry meeting some of his friends for tea at Lazslo's, with Remus, Sirius, and Tonks thoroughly maintaining their respective covers.

However, I think we all should agree that the entire purpose of all of this is intensive learning, and taking extra time from all of that for a social tea is going to be complicated.

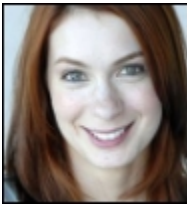
It's not happening this time, I'm afraid.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-03-27 17:49:55](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Fair enough, Allie.

Hermione, see if you and he can get away on Sunday and come round the shop. We're closed on Sundays so we can tell him it's a safe place to come, should he ever need it, without being interrupted by customers.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-26 22:55:07](#)**  
*(no subject)*

That does sound like it would work, Molly. Although I'm hesitant to involve Harry so directly, Hermione.

**2013-03-26 13:43:00**

*(no subject)*

What's your plan to pass OWLs or NEWTs? Tutor or cram? Can't believe we have to ask our parents for outside help--that's what SCHOOL is for!



 [alt\\_galleon](#)

**2013-03-26 18:51:00**

*Order Only Private Message to Alice Longbottom*



 **alt\_severus**

I am at liberty the first week of the upcoming holiday. I had thought to use that time to work on analysing the potion sample you obtained; however, further consideration causes me to admit doing so at the school would be extremely unwise, and my laboratories here barely afford such a title. (As well, if I remain in residence, I have no doubt Dolores Umbridge would lay claim to whatever of my time I did not defend vigorously, holiday or no.)

You have previously invited me to Moddey Dhoo several times. While I still believe the knowledge of the sanctuary's secret should not be spread indiscriminately, I find I must throw myself upon your hospitality, should your potions master in residence not object to sharing his laboratory space.

I would be willing to tutor the children — both in Potions and in continuing their Occlumency lessons in a slightly less fraught environment — in return, save that if lessons are to be held at Black's hideaway, I doubt that would be wise. While I am willing to declare *détente* in our perpetual tensions to the best of my ability and in service to our goals, I do not imagine the same courtesy would be returned, and I cannot guarantee my ability to retain my composure in the face of the endless provocation of Black and his harem.




 **alt\_severus** at **2013-03-26 23:48:49**  
(no subject)

Nevermind; Black has tendered an invitation directly, though I cannot imagine he is any more pleased about the prospect than I am.

The presence of a third party would, however, perhaps not go amiss.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-27 00:00:32](#)  
(no subject)

Ah! I suspected as much. Would splitting your time work, then? That's what I'll most likely be doing.

And Frank will be at Grimmauld for most of the day as well.



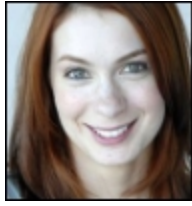
 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-27 00:42:39](#)  
(no subject)


I am willing to make the attempt if Black is willing to drop his campaign to antagonise me at every chance he gets. As it appears Tonks has decided to ~~smack the dog on the nose with a rolled-up newspaper~~ intervene, I am cautiously willing to concede that the situation may not be an utter disaster. Frank's presence would be welcome, however; Black and I ought not be left alone in the same place without ~~as neutral an adult as possible to witness that I am only defending myself from someone who once tried to~~ someone there to ensure that our mutual enmity does not interfere with the task at hand.

I cannot guarantee that I will be at all suited to teaching potions in any manner other than one-on-one, but teaching Miss Granger has proven surprisingly pleasant. I will do my best to refrain from teaching them my variations on the standard recipes, or at least to teach them the standard in addition to my improvements; many of my techniques are quite distinctive.

As for Occlumency lessons — some of the children are more suited to the discipline than others, but they are at least all making an effort. I do not know that I would necessarily use the word 'trusted' — the study of Occlumency is gruelling and intensely personal, and I would not be surprised if at least several of them have arrived at an antipathy to their tutor; I am well aware I am not an easy man to tolerate. But they are extremely dedicated to the task, and well aware of its necessity.

The peace of the laboratory sounds delightful.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-27 01:57:33](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank you, Severus.

I am very much looking forward to plying you with tea, and am already anticipating the conversations we'll have over said tea with pleasure.




 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-03-27 02:06:32](#)**  
(no subject)

I must confess the prospect is not unpleasant.


Do let me know if there are any potions you are in need of that McGivern is having difficulty supplying in adequate quality or quantity. While I am certain at least some of the childrens' brewing ought not be inflicted on anyone unawares, I see no reason why I might not keep several cauldrons going while I tutor them.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-27 02:10:44](#)**  
(no subject)

I certainly shall.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-26 23:58:46](#)**  
(no subject)

First of all, you are certainly most welcome to come spend your time at Moddey during the holidays, and I would very much look forward to your visit. I am in the process of obtaining a Sleeper in the next few days, and you'll have the potion from the Department of Mysteries shipment as well. Steven would be thrilled to work with you, and I'm sure you'd be able to get a great deal done.

I am afraid that the current plans to put the children at Grimmauld -- it's less of a security risk than bringing them all straight to Moddey, although I'm hoping to bring some of our older students from Moddey to Grimmauld to mix things up a little and have them make



some connections. After all, in another world, they would've been school mates, wouldn't they?

I'm wondering if you might be willing to split your time, and go to Grimmauld for two hours a day or so, and spend the rest with us at Moddey in relative peace. I would like to hope that we'd all be kept far too busy to pick at old wounds, but I understand if you'd rather not take the chance, as teaching Occlumency is a delicate business under the calmest of circumstances. Steven could take your place in Potions if needed, although you would be my first choice, and it would be beyond beneficial if the children were working with someone who was both familiar and trusted.

**2013-03-26 19:35:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Snape and Dora*



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

So.

We were talking last night about lessons at Grimmauld and - well, the thing is that Dora insisted we tell you outright that it'd be ... good ... if you came and did the week of Potions with the Juniors.

She wanted me to be the one to officially invite you. So that you'd be certain we welcomed didn't mind you being there.

So. Consider this an invitation to Grimmauld.

I'll behave if you will I figure there's no reason we should let our differences stand in the way of educating our next wave.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-03-26 23:40:33**

*Private Message to Dora*

Good enough?

Circe, that was harder than I thought it'd be.

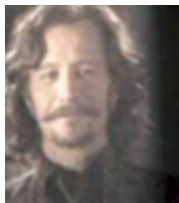


 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at **2013-03-27 03:37:35**

*Re: Private Message to Dora*

Exceeds Expectations, I'd say.

I mean, it wasn't Outstanding, but it wasn't Dreadful, either. So an E, it is.

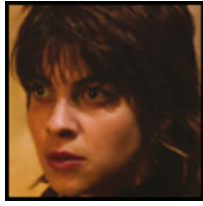


 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-03-27 03:56:56**

*Re: Private Message to Dora*

Ta, Professor. Best I could manage.

Which kids from Moddey do you think Alice shall send?



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-03-27 04:05:02](#)

*Re: Private Message to Dora*

Hm.

D'you know, I know it means I've got old, but I can't tell ages anymore. You know, fourteen from sixteen or what have you. I'm not sure which of the Moddey kids are OWLs age.

Terry Boot's the same age as Hermione, though, right? So I expect they'll let him come. But are there others that old? There are some that are older that I've met there. And, of course, I expect they're behind in their learning, so maybe it will be some of the older ones she sends.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-26 23:47:05](#)

*(no subject)*

I see.

I will agree that the children's education is the most important concern; in service to that goal, I accept your invitation ~~grudging though it might be~~

Inform me of what ingredients the potions laboratory is in want of and I will arrange to bring them with me so that we need not tax your stores.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-03-27 00:25:58](#)

*(no subject)*

Well, Remus and Dora have made a habit of skimming off Laszlo's inventory in order to stock the lab. So we've got enough cauldrons, beakers, braziers and all the standard (easy-to-get) ingredients. We've been going through the fifth-year potions textbook in the library here to make sure we've got everything it mentions - rat spleens, armadillo bile, frogs' eggs, that sort of thing. Plus the laboratory is in what used to be my parents' still room, so it's got all the dried flowers, plants and herbs you'd want. Except aconite, naturally; we made sure to get rid of that. If it's commercially available, we can get it. It's all the restricted

substances we've got in very limited quantities, if at all.

And of course, there are still plenty of doxy eggs and billywigs in certain rooms in the house. If you care to go harvesting.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-27 01:01:51](#)  
(no subject)

I will forego that particular pleasure, though I believe it is traditional, when one is to be invaded by a bevy of teenagers for a fortnight, to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by their

labour.

I will inspect If the prospect is acceptable I will stop by the house Saturday evening to inspect the laboratory and determine what additional ingredients might be required. If we are to have a proper laboratory I will assign Miss Granger to a course of study unrelated to the exam curricula; her intellect is served extremely poorly by my having to tutor her in fits and starts in a makeshift laboratory with whatever ingredients we might cadge as we go.

**2013-03-26 21:50:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Harry*



 **alt\_hermione**

Sirius's group is working on organising lessons over the holidays.

The thing is that they're telling everyone else's parents (who need to be told something) that Mrs Weasley's holding them at her home and, well, she can't exactly ask if you can come over, can she?

I suggested another way but it doesn't look like they want to take it. They think it's too risky (even though I know Sirius would love to have you come and visit and spend time with him. I'm sorry).

I know Mr Malfoy owled Draco because he's arranging lessons for you two over the holidays but it won't be the same, will it? And they're not going to teach you to Apparate. But maybe I can convince the librarian at Buckingham that you've sent me to collect books for you and read in your rooms?

Well. We'll figure something out, I suppose.



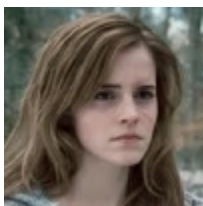
 **alt\_harry** at **2013-03-27 02:38:50**  
(no subject)

Oh.

Well, I mean, yeah. I can see how it'd be hard.

So.

I guess I could figure out how to see him next Hogsmeade week or something. And Raz'll teach me Apparation if I ask.



 **alt\_hermione** at **2013-03-27 03:16:07**  
(no subject)

Yes, we can figure out those things. It'd be good for you to learn to Apparate but I don't know if maybe Professor Lestrangle will ask why? Maybe not, I mean, he didn't ask too much about why you wanted

to learn Occlumency.

Mainly the thing is that people might start talking about it on the lock and I wanted you to know what was going on. And why we you won't be getting an invitation and that you might want to not--I mean, it might be good if you said you understood why even if we're you're disappointed.



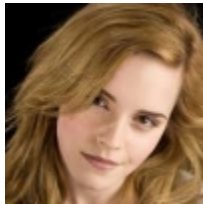
 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-03-27 03:54:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah.

I will.

I mean, it's important. That they learn. And it's, I mean, I've got Raz. They don't.

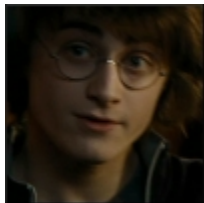
You need to learn Apparation too, don't you? And you could take notes and things on the stuff they're learning. No one will notice if you're not around.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-03-27 04:00:12](#)**  
(no subject)

Are you saying you want me to go?

Because I can always read about it. It's all right.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-03-27 04:34:11](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm saying I want you to go, yeah. If you want to go, I mean.

**2013-03-27 20:45:00**

*Holidays*

Hullo, all,

Easter holidays are almost here! I'd been looking forward to a relaxing fortnight, what, but it seems I shall have to change my plans.



 [alt\\_justin](#)

Mrs Weasley, thank you very much for your offer to host extra revising at your home. I say, it's dashed generous of you and we shall certainly be a more jolly group if we're all revising together. I had just been about to write to Mr and Mrs Jugson about whether there might be any provision for tutoring and now that doesn't seem it shall be necessary.

Mrs MacMillan, thank you as well, for the offer to come and visit Ernie. I'm sure we shall have a splendid time. I say, it shall be a marvellous break from all the revising we'll be doing for O.W.L.s.

I've one more thank you to issue: Professor Dolohov, many thanks for the additional sessions last week and this. It's reassuring to think that we'll be better prepared than many of us feared might be the case.

I've also heard a rumour there might be a Tea Appreciation meeting over the holidays. If so, I hope I shall hear a confirmation before too long, what! (That is, Mr and Mrs Ponds, if you'd be willing to host it again.) Though I daresay there's little time for it, as the agenda has been developing.

Still, two weeks when one can have a tiny bit of a lie in--and no mandatory exercise sessions three times a week--seems like the lap of luxury. Although it must be said that those exercises are bally well paying off, for some of us more than others. I think we all look much more fit as a whole than we did at the start of term. It's rather remarkable how a sensible regimen of diet and exercise can change one's look--and one's outlook as well, what!

-Justin

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 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-28 04:16:06](#)

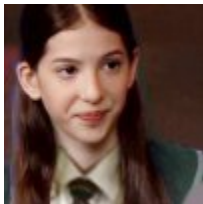
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I suppose everyone else is asleep but I'm almost too tired to sleep, what.

Ron, old man, dashed good of your mother to arrange lessons. I do mean it when I say we'll have more fun all in a group.

Who else was invited by Mrs Weasley? Or do you know yet?

-Justin

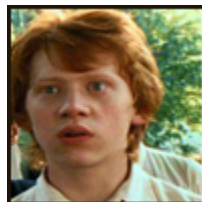


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-28 04:19:25](#)

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

Me. And I've heard from the Strettons, they're perfectly happy to have me spend my holidays cramming for exams. They do want me to pass my OWLs -- it would look bad for them if I failed, after

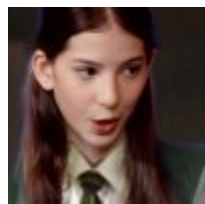
all.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-28 04:42:57](#)

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

Glad they're seeing sense. About time for that, yeah?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-28 05:03:53](#)

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

Yes! I was a little afraid they'd have some mad idea about JEREMY tutoring me but so far they haven't.

Gemma will be disappointed if I don't at least come for a visit. We'll see.





 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-28 05:39:35](#)

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

I was worried you'd have to go there first, and that they'd lock you up and take away your book the way they've done before.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-28 04:26:58](#)

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

Um.

Sally Anne, obviously. And Pansy and Nev. I think the twins said Luna, but I'm not sure.

I should have asked them if she thought about asking Susan. Or Harry. Only that's- well. I wish she would, but-



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-28 04:29:27](#)

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

Harry's not coming.

But if we can manage it he'll be able to spend some time with Sirius.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-28 04:32:52](#)

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

Yeah. I thought you'd say that. It's too bad.

But at least that's a good thing, anywiz.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-28 16:13:14](#)

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

It's fine.

I mean, it's okay. I'll have Raz teach me Apparation, and I'll be studying with Draco.

So you lot have a good hols, right? And maybe I'll get a chance

to see you when I stop by to say hello to Sirius.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-28 04:28:03](#)

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

Fred and George gave Mrs Weasley the list of everyone on the lock, who could be trusted.

She's inviting you all to the Burrow but the lessons aren't actually going to happen there. You'll find out more when you get there the first day.

And it's not just preparing for O.W.L.s, although that's a lot of it. They're going to teach everyone to Apparate, too.

And I'm coming, too.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-28 04:35:42](#)

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

Do you know how odd it is that you can talk secretly to my mum, but I can't? It's just-

Oh, well.

I'm glad you'll be there, though.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-03-28 16:14:25](#)

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

I'm so glad you're coming, Hermione!



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-03-28 23:08:13](#)

*(no subject)*

It will be a pleasure to have you over to the Burrow, and I hope you'll find it's time well spent.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-03-29 15:39:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Of course, we'd love to have you come to Laszlo's!

Consider it a standing invitation for the Tea  
Appreciation club or for yourself.

I imagine you're looking forward to stepping on the train tomorrow.  
Easter hols are almost nicer than Christmas since they come just  
when the term seems too intense to manage, don't they? A bit of a  
rest is awfully nice.

**2013-03-27 21:28:00**

*Students in the exam years*

I've heard the usual worries about the upcoming exams, and I had a thought to make it easier. I've notes for each of my 5th years and 7th years - you'll get them when we meet tonight or tomorrow.



 **alt\_sinistra**

On those notes, I've listed the topics I feel you have securely learned and made notes about any places where some time and attention might lead to useful improvement in your exam marks. But! Before you worry, in all but a very few cases (who already know who they are), it is material that can wait until after the holidays. Most of you are doing solidly well - cheers on all the time and attention you've put in over the past years.

Which is to say, much as I think everyone should have their heads in the stars nearly all the time, I encourage you to spend your time away from school on other topics. (I'd say relaxation, but I suspect most of you won't listen.) We will do further revision together after the holidays, of course, just to make sure you can go into the exams with full confidence.

If you have any questions at all about my field, I will be away from Hogwarts over the holidays, but expect to be responding by journal in a timely but not necessarily immediate fashion - I have some larger projects to attend to. (Parents, of course, I remain glad to address any of your concerns as well.)



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-03-28 05:01:39**

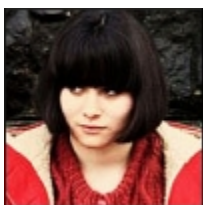
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private message to Pansy*

I had a minute to talk to her quietly during class and told her we wanted to see her during spring break, just to talk, but privately, where Umbridge couldn't look over our shoulders. She said there's a cafe she likes called the Archetype where we could meet her and have a lot of privacy, though we'll want to arrive separately. But they have back rooms, with charms on them, I guess.

I hope the Order doesn't make a fuss about us wanting to slip off and meet with Siz. Although perhaps we can meet her in the evening --

surely we'll have free time in the evening. Anyone else, I'd say evening would be better, anyway, because they'll be tired and that makes people more likely to say things they didn't mean to share. That won't work as well on Siz, but if we meet for dinner maybe we can persuade her to drink a little wine? That works, too.

Anyway. Just getting her ALONE, somewhere that Umbridge can't overhear, might be enough. And she surely KNOWS, at least, even if Harry doesn't, what Umbridge has over Raz.



 **alt\_pansy at 2013-03-29 01:21:20**

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

She might not want to tell us. But maybe if we tell her we're working with Harry on it?

They can't make that much of a fuss. It's not a social call. It's business. And if it's making it so we can find out what's keeping Her Royal Bitch on her throne, it's very important business.

Do you think we can convince Harry to ask Raz more closely about the blackmail too? I think he's a bit hesitant about it, otherwise he'd have done already, wouldn't he?



 **alt\_cedric at 2013-03-30 04:32:13**

*Private Message to Professors Siz and Raz*

It is my intention to have all the calculation for my final project down on parchment by the end of break. If you would be willing to help me double check them when we return so that I can fix the errors that I'm sure will have crept in before crunch time, I would greatly appreciate it.

I'm also planning to set up an obstacle course to run while Jasper tries to peg me with balls. Should help with the physical end of Defence in addition to more book and wand work than I care to contemplate.

On top of all that I wanted to let both of you know I've managed to get called to tryouts with the Ballycastle, Appleby, Chudley and New London! I'm still trying to match schedules with Wigtown, Tutshill, Portree and Kenmore. I'm dreading having to ask the permission of our illustrious leader to leave campus, even if we can work it out so I

don't have to miss class.

I hope your holidays are calmer and more restful than mine are on track to be!



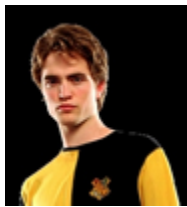
 **[alt\\_sinistra](#) at 2013-03-30 04:37:15**


*Re: Private Message to Professors Siz and Raz*

Of course I'll be glad to look things over. (Though, clearly, I have not told you enough stories of my own errors: I usually get other people to proof my work as well.)

On the trials - let me know when I should be holding my thumbs, mmm? I'd offer help getting you permission, but I rather suspect I'd make things worse. Madam Hooch, though - if you haven't asked her about having a word for you, it might be worth doing.

As to hols - I'm sincerely hoping they'll be a vast improvement, though I suppose we'll have to see.



 **[alt\\_cedric](#) at 2013-03-30 04:42:22**

*Re: Private Message to Professors Siz and Raz*

I am planning to talk with Madam Hooch about supporting whatever I need to do. I already spoke to her about which teams & coaches I would fit best with, so I would just be a continuation of that

conversation.



 **[alt\\_sinistra](#) at 2013-03-30 04:44:28**

*Re: Private Message to Professors Siz and Raz*

That's a useful thing, then. I wish there were more I could do.

(Did I remember to tell you lot that other than your projects, and whatever review you want to do, I don't actually have a great deal formally planned once we get back? I thought I had, and now I can't remember. Not that it matters for a fortnight, I suppose.)

**2013-03-27 23:54:00**

*Order Only: Our Exam Preparation Service*



I see that Mr Finch-Fletchley has heard from his foster parents about your offer, Molly. I'm glad they've given him permission. I hope they all will.

 [alt\\_poppy](#)

I feel quite certain the young people themselves will be quite grateful for the assistance. I've heard as much from Miss Perks, who wrote me to say that she and Miss Parkinson have paved the way with their respective guardians and parents to expect that they'll be spending their holidays readying themselves for exams. '(Possibly with a tutor, depending on how things turn out.)' Of course, she meant 'if the Order follow through' on our promise to teach them Apparition.

It was a reasonably cheery note--she hopes she might see me for tea and a chat--though it ended by reminding me not to write her a reply, as Madam Umbridge's nosy parkers are still opening all the post.

**2013-03-28 18:38:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*



Well

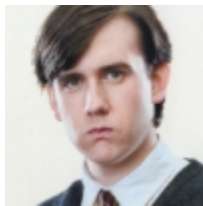
I hope the Order is planning on giving me some Potions tutoring in addition to the Apparation lessons.

 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)

The Headmistress caught me giving Stephen Capper his tea (which is just TISANE, mind you, not anything I'm not supposed to have, though I was trying to get him to think it was a sleeping potion -- so much for THAT) and now she's forbidden me to make potions EVEN IN POTIONS CLASS.

I assume I'm still allowed to make them WHILE I'M TAKING MY OWL EXAM but I didn't ask because I didn't want to give her any ideas.

AND she told Capper that his brother died in the camps, after they snapped his wand and sent him there (because he wasn't nervous enough! I mean I HAVE BEEN MAKING HIM THESE TEAS BECAUSE HE CAN'T SLEEP FOR WORRYING ABOUT THAT HAPPENING TO HIM) and I'm hoping that really means the Order got him out, since they faked my mum's death maybe they also faked Thomas Capper's?



 [alt\\_neville](#) at **2013-03-29 00:16:33**  
(no subject)

Blimey. That's just--

All right. First of all, you are going to pass your O.W.L.s. And so is Capper. We'll make sure of it.

I'm willing to take whatever potions ingredients that're needed for whatever potions we work on in class, every time. If all of us nick just a little, we can keep you supplied. And you can brew, in the hidden room. I'm sure Fred and George or Lee would help you. Lee especially. He's really good at potions. Wait...

All right, I just spoke to him, here in the Gryffindor Common Room. He said yeah, he'll do whatever he can to help you.



We'll figure this out. She is not going to beat you on this!



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-29 00:19:21](#)**  
(no subject)

And what a filthy thing to do to Capper, to fling it at him about his brother like that. He didn't know?

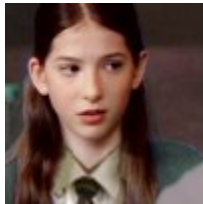
Come to think of it...that's exactly what she did to the Weasleys, isn't it? About their Dad?

We've got to think of a way to help him, too.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-03-29 00:35:18](#)**  
(no subject)

That's a good idea about nicking the potions ingredients. Sally-Anne, if you get us a list of ingredients you need, I can see what I can pocket during my lessons too.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-29 03:51:02](#)**  
(no subject)

ugh ugh ugh I don't want the rest of you getting in trouble, too.

It's not as if she won't guess it's why you wanted them, if she catches you nicking them, and she pretty much popped out of NOWHERE today when I was giving Stephen his tisane.



 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2013-03-29 00:24:09](#)**  
(no subject)

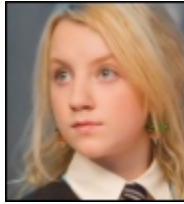
I'm willing to pass on any teas that Stephen might need. If we pass it in the hidden room, then the Headmistress won't know, and I can give it to him in Ravenclaw Tower.


Oh, poor Stephen. I can go see if he needs some company.



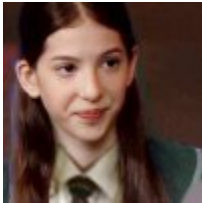
 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-29 00:40:29](#)  
(no subject)

Be very careful, Lunes.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-03-29 01:37:21](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, I'll be very careful. I promise.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-29 03:39:34](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah unfortunately now that he knows it's just tisane, I don't think it'll work as well. I tried to make him think it was a real potion, a gentle one that you brew like tea and then drink, because I thought if he believed it was, it would help more. The valerian made it smell and taste just dreadful, which helped with the pretense.

If you point out to him that it WAS helping then maybe it still will. It's just a blend of chamomile, lemon balm, rosemary, and lavender, plus ground valerian root. Except for the valerian there's nothing we can't just request from the kitchen still, since at least she hasn't stopped us drinking tea yet, and even the valerian isn't something we're forbidden to have.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-29 00:39:48](#)  
(no subject)

That's

I can't

Okay.

I'm going to talk to Corner and see if there's something we can work out together to help Capper before we all leave for hols. Love Luna, or really anyone, do you know if Capper's been able to get a tutor for

hols? Or after?

I really wish Madame P was still here.

And if you can't brew in class, you can't brew with a tutor, can you?  
Even if me or Pans got you one.

That's bollocks.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-03-29 01:38:22](#)

*(no subject)*

No, he doesn't have a tutor, he says. His mum tried to get one, but they couldn't find one who was certified.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-03-29 02:44:18](#)

*(no subject)*

Okay then.

Thanks.



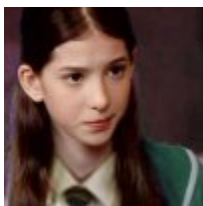
 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-29 00:42:00](#)

*Private Message to Sally-Anne*

It could've been worse.

Imagine if she'd caught you with a real sleeping potion.

I hate her so very much.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-29 03:40:50](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

If they catch me with the real potions I'm going to wind up in the camps.

I mean there's no way around it. If you saw how excited Umbridge was when she thought that's what I'd given him, and then how disappointed she looked when she tested it and saw I was telling the truth --

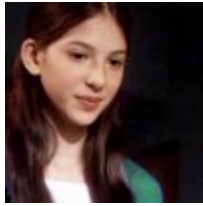


 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-29 04:08:24](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

If she catches you, we're going to make sure you stay hidden and safe until Sirius can come fetch you.

I'd kill her if she tried to stop us.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-29 04:11:15](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

Well this is part of why we made the coins, right? if I send out an 'x' you'll know to have the Twins light off every firework they've got and the rest of you can come save me.



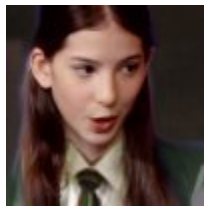
 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-29 04:28:23](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

With all our wands blazing.

You know, we really are sort of like an army. Because it'd take one to stop us, if it came to

that.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-29 04:50:26](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

You'll come bursting in and it'll be ... Su Li. Or Megan Jones (except she doesn't have a galleon).

Not that I want either of them sent to the camps, either.



 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-03-29 03:48:55](#)

*(no subject)*

If you come to the review sessions being held at the Burrow, I promise you'll have a tutor for potions, at least for the Easter holidays. A very good one. It's all

arranged.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-29 03:50:04](#)  
(no subject)

Well that's something.

Even just a potions lab so I can practise would be something. I mean all the potions I might have to brew for the Potions OWL, I HAVE brewed successfully at least once. It's just that I've also muffed all of them completely on other occasions.

I was planning to take advantage of any open potions lab time Professor Slughorn offered, when we got back from hols, to practise the ones I haven't mastered.

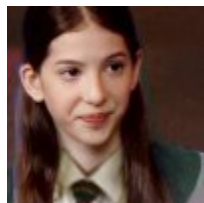



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-03-29 04:04:33](#)  
(no subject)

There's another lab at Hogwarts, too. Well, there's the Room of course, the secret room, but there are other places.

We can talk about it at ~~Grimm~~ the place where we'll be revising. There's a place I go to practise.

She's evil, that woman. And that's from someone who has to live near Him a lot of the times.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-29 04:10:11](#)  
(no subject)

Well, in theory all I really need is a cauldron and privacy, right? And ingredients.

It may be the 'privacy' and 'time' that are in shortest supply. I could start skipping the YPL Exercise sessions, those are theoretically optional.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-29 04:29:39](#)  
(no subject)

And it's not like it'd make her hate you less if you kept going.

Hermione, does it have enough supplies for what she'd need?


And you know I'm going to drill you until you are sick of it whenever we get the chance.



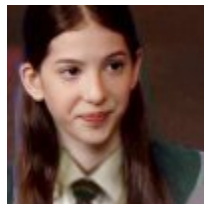
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-29 04:51:28](#)  
(no subject)

Well drilling is all well and good but I can TELL you how to make a Draught of Peace. I know the exact ingredients, I can recite the precise instructions in the textbook, it's just that when I make it I've never (on my own) got the timing just right that it turns out properly.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-03-29 04:53:23](#)  
(no subject)

Maybe we could do a mock version and time it?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-29 04:57:40](#)  
(no subject)

Well in theory it's seven minutes you simmer it before you add the hellebore but actually that doesn't work consistently. You have to watch it, and add the hellebore when it turns just the right shade of pink. Sometimes I get the wrong shade. Other times I think I did that part right but didn't pick quite the right moment to add the unicorn horn...




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-03-29 04:00:52](#)  
(no subject)

Also, the one that might be on the OWL that I still have the most trouble with is the Draught of Peace -- I brewed that correctly once but Slughorn walked by and told me when to add the syrup of hellebore. It's never turned out any other time.

My wit-sharpening potion is also still a bit unpredictable even though we covered those last year and I did fine on the exam (that was one of the times it turned out). My Befuddlement potion is also a bit unpredictable -- I mean it USUALLY turns out but not consistently.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-03-29 14:14:06](#)  
(no subject)

You okay today? ~~Sorry I wasn't around la~~

She didn't hex you to keep you being able to brew Potions, did she? I can't think what kind of hex would do that.

Except Imperius.

She didn't, did she?

And she didn't give you another badge, did she? Were you wearing the one you have?

Only, I wonder if she has some sort of snooping spell on them. I mean, you said she came out of nowhere, and-


Yeah.

Maybe we could make a dummy badge that would look like the one she gave you but wouldn't have any spell she put on.

Don't say it. Paranoid. That's me. But really, she's a nightmare.





 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2013-03-29 18:34:46](#)**  
(no subject)

Ron, that's a very good thought. About the badges. I don't think you're being paranoid; I've heard a couple people complain about her showing up at exactly the wrong moment, just when she's not wanted.

I think we should send a warning out on the galleons. I'll do it.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-29 21:16:51](#)**  
(no subject)

She didn't put imperius on me, she just told Slughorn I'm not allowed to brew anymore even in class or under supervision. He told me he'd talk to her about it, though I doubt it'll do any good.

I hadn't even thought about the stupid badge. I was wearing it, because I'd been at YPL exercises and I was heading to supper next. I've transfigured a duplicate, though now I'm wondering if it'll make her even MORE suspicious if I stash the original in my trunk. Maybe a soundproof pouch inside my book bag would be better? Because if they're also something she uses to know exactly where you are, it would be awfully suspicious if it tells her I'm in my dorm when she knows I'm not and sees me wearing it -- you know?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-03-29 21:36:12](#)**  
(no subject)

Ugh.


You're right, a sound-proof pouch is a good idea, in case she's able to use them to listen in on what you say. But she'd still know where you are. If that's what the badges are. Trackers, I mean. And that would really not be good if she were able to track us to the secret room.

I'm going to write on the galleons that no one should ever wear a badge up there again.

We should meet tonight, anywiz. Don't you think? So we can talk before we all go home.





 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-03-29 15:25:49](#)**

*(no subject)*

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

Wayne, Bobby, John and I were up half the night, talking about Madam Umbridge and her latest crashing insensitivity.

I say, it's beyond intolerable. I keep wondering if I might be able to say something to Mr Rosier or Mr Pontner at the Ministry, to somehow turn this into a public relations debacle, what? But then, it can't possibly be a worse issue for them than it already is, and yet no one's done anything about it.

It's well frightful, no matter what. We've just got to make sure she doesn't succeed in bringing us low--in body, spirit or anything else that matters.

-Justin

**2013-03-28 19:05:00**

*A few teensy reminders*

Dear children -

I know you are all apparently quite excited to depart on your little holidays, but there are a few teensy considerations before you go.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#)

You are, of course, expected to behave at home with the same sense of discipline, self-control, and maturity that I expect of you here at school. Don't think I won't learn of it should you misbehave or fail your obligations as proper young witches and wizards in our larger community.

Hogwarts Junior Council members, please pick up your membership and service badges so you may proudly wear them at home and tell your parents about how you are helping make your dear school the very best and most perfected it can possibly be. And of course, I'm sure you'll alert me should there be any little things that come up while you're gone, that I should be aware of. You are models for your classmates.

Mr Fred and George Weasley: kindly report to my office at 7:30 tomorrow morning: I have a little request of you while you are home over the holidays. I need to know why you persist in sharing a journal.

Miss Hydra Lestrangle, kindly report to my office at your convenience before you return home for the holidays. You are not in any trouble at all, dear, but I have a few teensy things I'd like to learn more about.

Mr Neville Longbottom, I remain displeased with the delay in the full planting of the Memorial Garden. I am certain that you can find some way to plant fall plants in April if you only apply yourself the teensiest bit. Honestly. I expect a revised Memorial Garden schedule upon your return from hols, for dedication this school year.


Miss Megan Jones, my dear, I do hope everything is in order. Do let me know if I need to assist with any additional little arrangements.

Finally, parents, should you wish some ideas and plans to keep your children focused, disciplined, and aligned with the larger goals of the school and our glorious Protectorate, materials are available from the Education office on request. (They have graciously agreed to handle

the matter, since I will be back and forth at various appointments through the next two weeks.)

---



 **[alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-28 23:24:05](#)**

*(no subject)*

Oh, I can plant them now, Ma'am. But only some of them.

And it'd probably double your budget. I thought you wanted to avoid that?

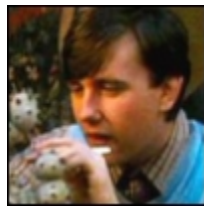


 **[alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-28 23:26:10](#)**

*(no subject)*

Why on earth is that? I need to know.

Really, Mr Longbottom, has no one ever trained you to properly answer a concern or question by providing all the relevant information?



 **[alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-28 23:32:51](#)**

*(no subject)*

Because more than half of those autumn plants you can't obtain now because nurseries don't carry them. Because they know perfectly well that if you stick them in the ground now, they'll die, so what's the point?

So you'll have to buy the plants all over again in the autumn to plant them then. Which is what doubles your budget.

If you want me to plant the ones I can obtain now, I would be more than happy to do so. I'm sure that planting them and ripping the dead seedlings out in June will be excellent exercise.

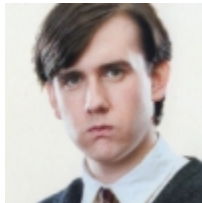



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-28 23:58:20](#)  
(no subject)

Well, that is extremely unfortunate.

In that case, I would like very much to have a plan that will produce the optimally presentable garden suitable for dedication this spring, and then a supplemental plan for later plantings. After all, we want this to be splendid now and splendid later.

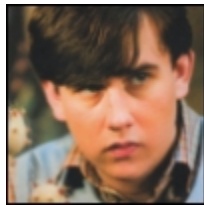
I'm sure you will have something ready at the end of holidays, in keeping with our budget, though I suppose we could arrange some supplemental - aren't there plants that just bloom for a season? Inexpensively.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-29 00:33:35](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

I'm supposed to be studying for O.W.L.s! Not redrawing garden plans for the tenth time.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-29 00:39:59](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

I'm tempted to tell her that sure, I can get a bunch of blooming flowers, REALLY inexpensively.

And then sow the entire garden with weeds.

Dandelions are very colourful, for example.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-03-29 00:40:47](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Then transfigure them all pink.


She'll love it!



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-29 00:44:14](#)**  
(no subject)

I have a couple of herbology books for you to peruse if you like, with lists of flowers for you to choose from. Lots of colourful pictures.




 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-29 00:44:53](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

And they're each about a THOUSAND PAGES LONG. Hope they'll keep you up all night.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-29 00:50:03](#)**

(no subject)

How inexpensive is inexpensive, exactly? Do you want the budget by year, or broken down by the expected life span of the plant? (Perennials are more expensive up front, but less expensive if you consider you don't have to replant them every spring for ten years.)

And there's different levels of plants in the garden design. How would you like me to lay out the options for you?

Do you want the supplemental plantings broken out in separate spreadsheets? Annotated by nursery? Some are more expensive than others, BUT less hardy if they have to be sent from further distances, or, well, some nurseries just have better reputations for providing dependable and disease-free plants. How do you want that accounted for?

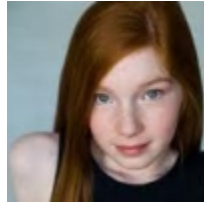
Do you want the transparency overlays which show how the garden changes month by month? The charms have to be re-set if planting is pushed back from the ideal schedule due to weather, of course.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-29 00:50:39](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

I can't believe I'm volunteering for extra work for this STUPID PROJECT.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-03-29 01:03:50](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Mesage to Neville Longbottom*

I know. Maybe I can help you on those overlays? I'm not bad at drawing, and I've got more time than you do.

Just think of Dad saying 'chin up, kiddo.'

We'll get a chance to see them over hols.

And I know you're frustrated, but you're letting it show, Pete. To Her, I mean. So be careful.



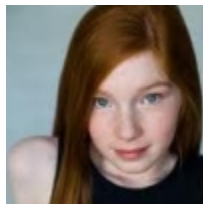
 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-03-29 01:18:38](#)**


*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Mesage to Neville Longbottom*

Thanks. I would appreciate the help.

Yeah, I can't wait to see them.

And yeah, I'll be careful. But this is part of that 'white noise campaign.' Throw a bunch of stuff at her, act helpless, and bury her in having to make decisions.




 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-03-29 01:24:02](#)**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Mesage to Neville Longbottom*

Oh, I know. And you're being brilliant about it. But you're also coming off a bit tetchy, which, you know, anyone would be.

I'm just saying be careful. That's all.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-29 01:41:17](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Mesage to Neville Longbottom*

I'll smile every time I see her.

Hopefully, she won't notice the gritted teeth.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-03-29 00:58:02](#)

*(no subject)*


Another possible variation might be the quality of soil used. If you want to plant immediately, we don't have enough compost in the compost heap in the greenhouses (because they need it for class projects and the kitchen gardens that provide food for the school), so you would probably have to order it. There would be gradations in quality, and that would give you at least three different levels of budget to choose from.

Some of the rarer plants IF you want to include them require special additives (dragon dung, vampire blood meal, etcetera). If you want them to thrive, that is. Of course, you COULD plant them, and add the additives later, with the NEXT budget cycle. And then hope that they survive until then. If they die, you could re-plant with something less expensive, but then you wouldn't need the additives after all.

You could try to scavenge the materials for the raised beds rather than order it. Perhaps there's some lumber in some of the castle attics? Of course, you don't know how the wood has been treated, and some it might rot. Or you could find stone and dig it up. That would add to the time you need to get everything into the ground, of course.

These are just a few of the concerns with adjusting the design or varying the budget, of course.



 **alt\_neville** at [2013-03-29 00:59:33](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

I SWEAR, I WILL KEEP THROWING STUFF IN  
HERE UNTIL O.W.L.S ARE OVER JUST TO  
CONFUSE THINGS.



 **alt\_umbridge** at [2013-03-29 02:16:42](#)


*(no subject)*

Oh, Helga's staff.

Are you trying to be difficult, Mr Longbottom?  
Honestly, most of those questions seem entirely  
illogical to me. You had best come by and talk before you leave  
for break, and we will come to some determination.

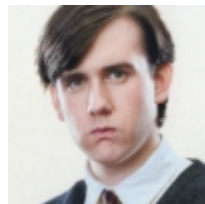
I do, however, want to know the reasoning for each and every  
decision you make, and have a proper list of alternatives  
available should there be any need for later discussion.



 **alt\_neville** at [2013-03-29 02:35:02](#)

*(no subject)*

You shall have them, ma'am.



 **alt\_neville** at [2013-03-29 02:35:27](#)

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

I shall bury you in detail.



 **alt\_gredforge** at [2013-03-28 23:35:05](#)

*Order Only*

What the bleeding heck?





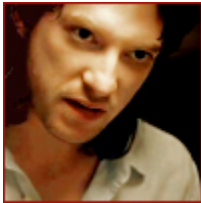
 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-28 23:35:31](#)  
(no subject)


Efficiency.



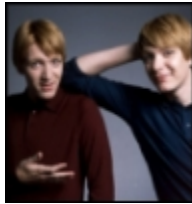
 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-28 23:37:34](#)  
(no subject)

We thought you liked efficiency, Madam Headmistress?



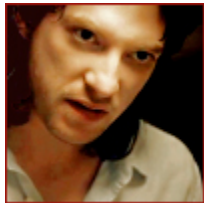
 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-28 23:54:37](#)  
*Order Only*


I really would advise against baiting her.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-28 23:56:37](#)  
*Re: Order Only*

She's crossed the line from annoying to flat out infuriating.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-03-29 00:00:36](#)  
*Re: Order Only*

Oh, I don't doubt it in the least.

But the Order requires the same thing from you that she's demanding, the same thing that Dad had to have all the time, actually. (Oh, the irony.)

Discipline.

Gents, watch your backs. She is dangerous.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-28 23:59:13](#)  
(no subject)

It cannot possibly be more efficient for you to use the same journal, and at any rate, it is entirely out of step with Our Lord's plans for their use.

7:30 tomorrow morning. Promptly.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-29 00:30:44](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, ma'am.



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-28 23:46:35](#)  
*Private message to Septima Vector and Horace Slughorn*

Septima, Horace, my dears -

I just wanted to alert you to a teensy little thing. This afternoon, I discovered that Miss Perks was supplying Mr Capper with - well, she referred to it as a potion.

Regrettably - as it might have resolve quite a few other difficulties - it is not (really, Horace, can you not teach them to be more precise? Or keep Miss Perks under better control and more aware of her proper place?) It was a silly little blend of completely ordinary herbs, I did the analysis myself.

At any rate, I'm sure you'll be glad to know about the punishments. Septima, dear, I've cast one of those little revision charms on Stephen. Nothing too damaging, just to remind him of the potential consequences of failure. Not that he needs further incentive, I'm sure.

Horace, I expect and require that you will prohibit Miss Perks from brewing any potions in either your class or your supervised sessions from now until at least the end of her OWL exams. She will just have to manage, and learn from her little tendency to attempt to be of more help than she is suited to.



 [alt\\_horace](#) at [2013-03-29 03:56:41](#)

*Re: Private message to Septima Vector and Horace Slughorn*

Dolores, thank you, of course, for your diligence in pursuing any hint of rule-breaking within our walls.

I have, as a matter of fact, discussed the day's events fully with Miss Perks and there seems to have been a misunderstanding. She did not supply Capper with a potion at all, but a tisane, which she *informed* him was a potion to calm him. Really, after what happened to his brother it's entirely understandable that he has been overwrought in preparation for his examinations.

Speaking of which.... Dolores, am I to understand that you informed Capper that his brother died in the camps? My dear, far be it from me to tell you how to address delicate matters like that but, are you sure that was quite the right approach? I hardly think he needed something to unsettle him further.

But back to the issue of Miss Perks: As I say, she had no potion in her possession, never brewed anything out of order, and was only indulging in a little well-intentioned subterfuge to assist a classmate. And I've every reason to believe she might have succeeded, had things gone differently.

Surely, banning her from brewing potions under my supervision is unnecessary? I'd consider it a personal favour if you would reconsider and allow her to recommence in-class and supervised brewing once we return from Easter holidays.

Your admiring colleague,

HEF Slughorn  
Master Potioneer



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at [2013-03-29 15:51:04](#)

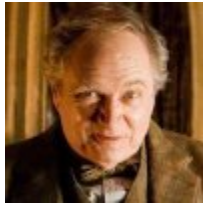
*Re: Private message to Septima Vector and Horace Slughorn*


Horace,

Really, are you suggesting that I don't know how best to motivate and encourage the students? Better to be brisk

and forthright about the consequences of less than the very best work, I think. Clearly.

I'm equally surprised you're questioning my punishment, but since you request it, I will consider whether something else might be even more appropriate. Perhaps it's as well that we've a little time before implementing whatever it is I choose.



 **alt\_horace** at **2013-03-29 17:45:11**

*Re: Private message to Septima Vector and Horace Slughorn*

Not at all, Dolores, not at all. I was merely not aware that you had all the facts at your disposal. Children do have a way of confusing the issues at hand, as I'm sure you've encountered. And of course, it's important to remember that they are not adults, fully capable of comprehending both the nature of their transgressions and the implications of their actions.

I'm certain that you are more than capable of devising retribution that shall never lose its impact, my dear. In fact, I'm sure that the lessons you are teaching this year rival the most indelible of impressions our current students have ever known. I merely would have thought you would praise Miss Perks' ingenuity in devising a solution for her classmate that broke none of the school's rules and eased the way for both him and our diligent Prefects. And the Junior Councillors, of course.

Nor do I think Septima would disagree that Mr Capper has every reason to worry, but no reason to fear, if you see the difference, and she, I am sure, would appreciate a more gentle demeanour toward one of her charges who must perforce remind her unpleasantly of his brother, too abruptly taken from this world.

Our job is to teach, not to terrorise. Professors of the past have lost sight of that fact, to their detriment. I value your presence too much, Dolores, to say nothing when it seems you might be allowing your natural desire for order overrule your sensible acceptance of the fact that perfection is unattainable. Miss Perks is not a model student but she is clever and does a good job. Mr Capper is doing his best to overcome his nerves and remember that he does have a head on his shoulders. Neither of them pose a threat to the school, to their classmates, or even to our glorious

Protectorate.

My advice--and my dear, it is only advice, culled from six decades of experience--is that you waste no further time worrying about them, or many of the other minor offenders who need only a polite reminder to behave and gladly reform themselves. You have far more important things to do. Leave the usual maintenance of order to Septima, myself, Antosha and the others. Focus on those tasks which absolutely require your personal attention.

-Horace



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at 2013-03-30 02:09:36

*Re: Private message to Septima Vector and Horace Slughorn*

Honestly, Horace, did you think I would not manage to ascertain the details before making a decision?

Now, to take your points in order, of course they are not adults. But they must be prepared - fully and realistically prepared - to be of service in the world as soon as they leave school. This school has been lax in far too many ways for far too long. Oh, I suppose Minerva (at least at the beginning) was a far better choice than that horrible Dumbledore. But her lack of self-control and discipline has tainted the students and on the staff over the years.


You know as well as I do that the school has fallen behind what it could be under more capable hands - hands I am glad to provide, no matter the amount of effort or toil required. It is not about *me* of course, but about what I can make of the school. Far too much requires my personal attention, because far too many of the staff here have made it clear that their values are not truly aligned in the best interests of the school.

You suggest that I leave matters of discipline to you and to Septima? Truly, Horace, I am surprised at you! And Antonin - goodness. He's been here less than a year, how can he possibly have the faintest idea of what's best for the school? It's not as if his previous work has given him much of an idea of how to be a real guide to more than his favoured few.

On that note, I find your advocacy for Miss Perks entirely unfathomable. I must know why it is you are so persistent in her service! After all, she's a halfblood. Even were she to do brilliantly on her OWLs or even her NEWTs, you know as well as I that there are almost no positions that would hire her that would require those skills. I cannot imagine why you - or a number of others - think it is remotely appropriate to encourage the poor dear things to expectations beyond their station. Bad blood will tell, you know. The more compassionate out there may not blame the things for their parentage, but they won't make space for them, either, when there are so many deserving others of better breeding and proven magical potential and stability.

Now, I am glad we have the holidays to gather ourselves for the last portion of the term. I'm sure that when we return, it will be much simpler to achieve our mutual goals. And of course, I am thinking most seriously about what changes in staffing I wish to propose to the Board once we reach the summer. I may have been persuaded to avoid other mid-year shifts unless they become entirely unnecessary, but I can only see before me the great work of shaping this castle into what it should be.



 **alt\_horace** at **2013-03-30 02:49:19**

*Re: Private message to Septima Vector and Horace Slughorn*

And I am equally surprised at you, Dolores. Heightening the standards of discipline is all very well but what you are suggesting is actively stacking the odds *against* certain students merely because you believe they will amount to nothing in their lives. That is well outside the scope of our charge, as you ought to know from your years of liaison with the Education office. Miss Perks may have few prospects but there is no reason to *ensure* her failure - particularly when the consequences to her or any other halfblood are so grievous.

As for your 'staffing changes.' Let us presume you are not attempting to threaten me. While it would pain me to leave the students in the lurch, particularly when it seems evident that they need more assistance than ever, I assure you, it would pass after a few weeks' relaxation and the monthly pension awaiting me after sixty years of investment. I'm sure Our Lord would not

begrudge His old teacher and Head of House a quiet seaside retirement, no matter what power you think you may have to arrange it otherwise.

It is not your right to choose who succeeds and who fails, Dolores. Not so long as the students make the effort in good faith to learn their lessons.

Are you sure the strain of the tasks you have set is not too much? Perhaps it is you who need a rest even more than the pupils.



 **alt\_umbridge** at **2013-03-29 00:20:04**

*Private message to Marston Strangeweale and Latimer Caldwell*

Gentlemen -


I am looking forward to our little planning meetings. Now, I'll be looking forward to our chat on Monday, and then the actual committee meetings on Tuesday.

I'm quite certain we won't need Wednesday, I'm sure it was just that Sizzie was so very inefficient at how she handled things. It can't possibly take that long to arrange everything since it's been going for years now. So perhaps the three of us might meet then.

Now, there are just a few teensy budget questions, and I suppose we really ought to include Bagnold on those. Honestly, I keep finding places for greater efficiency here - the food budget is down so substantially, even just since I put my plans into place, but the YPL budget has been rather more stubborn. I can't imagine why.

Do let me know if there are other things I should have prepared for discussion when we meet. I'm sure you will.



 **alt\_megan** at **2013-03-29 04:01:59**  
(no subject)

Everything is coming along nicely, Madam Umbridge, and things are arranged exactly as you requested. I will keep everything neat and tidy and ready for use.

I'm so grateful that you will be letting me stay over hols and help out.



Thank you so very much. I promise to work hard.

Also, I alphabetised your incentive pins. I hope that's all right. You didn't say I could. But it seemed like it might be all right.




 **alt\_umbridge** at [2013-03-30 02:25:32](#)  
(no subject)

Why, thank you, Miss Jones. That is just exactly the kind of work I thought you might be suited for. How very attentive of you to do it with such good grace.

Now, once the others leave tomorrow morning, you and I should have a teensy little chat about the projects you can help with. I will have some meetings early next week that will take me away from dear Hogwarts, but I'm sure we will just have to make the best of that.



 **alt\_megan** at [2013-03-30 02:50:28](#)  
(no subject)

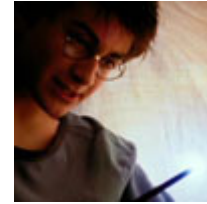
I'm glad it was all right to do that. If you like, I could polish them sometimes. I have experience polishing things.

Tomorrow morning I will be ready whenever you call me for the chat. I'll go to sleep soon so that I'll be rested. It's not like I have to pack for hols tonight. So I will just do a little more revising and then go to sleep. So I'll be ready for everything you want me to help with.



**2013-03-28 20:42:00**

*Private Message to Michael Corner*



 **alt\_harry**

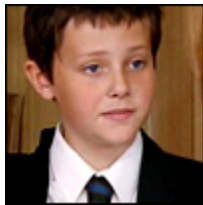
Hey.

So.

Sally-Anne told me about Capper. And what Umbridge said about his brother. Anything I can do? I really do mean anything.

And. I was wondering.

I'm thinking of getting a whole load of tutors sorted out for after hols. For the people who can't get any. So I was wondering if you could get me a list of people who weren't going to be able to get tutors.



 **alt\_michael** at **2013-03-29 03:25:33**

*(no subject)*


Yeah. He's...not in good shape.

I guess we thought there could be a chance to get his brother out. At some point, you know?

And Sals--I wasn't sure about going to her. But she helped. Tried to help. It helped for a while. I wish-- Well. Doesn't matter.

I'll ask round, over hols. See who's got help and who hasn't. Cheers.



 **alt\_harry** at **2013-03-29 04:26:01**

*(no subject)*

Yeah. I'd have hoped for the same thing.

I don't know if it'd mean much to him, but I made a promise to myself after what happened to Sophie.

And the promise was that I wouldn't let it happen again. No wands snapped. No one sent to the camps from Hogwarts. Not if I could do anything about it. And I'm going to work with everything I've got to make sure it doesn't happen.

Everything.

Worse comes to worse, we've got the X. And a plan. But I'm going to do what I can to make sure we don't have to go there.

Anyways. You keep thinking on what I could do to help.

**2013-03-28 23:00:00**

*Order Only*

Bad news. Neville passed this on to me.

Sally-Anne Perks was caught by Madam Umbridge giving Stephen Capper a tisane to help him sleep, because he's been so terrified of what happened to his brother happening to him. It wasn't even one of the medicinal potions you left for her, Madam Pomfrey. It was just stuff like chamomile and valerian. But Madam Umbridge said she wasn't allowed to do it, even if it was only a tea, and her punishment is that she's not allowed to brew any potions at all until after the O.W.L.s exams--even in class, or with supervision!



 [alt\\_lee](#)


It's clear that the Headmistress is determined to make her flunk her exams.

Well, we're not gonna let it happen.

Her classmates in her year plan to nick the potions ingredients she needs, and I've agreed to supervise her brewing. We have a room where we can do it securely. Haven't talked to Fred, but I bet he'd be willing to help, too. And yeah, we know we have our own N.E.W.T. exams to study for, but we can be with her, looking over her shoulder, and working on our own stuff as she's going through each brewing step.

So it stinks, but we're not letting the pink toad win on this one.




 [alt\\_terry](#) at **2013-03-29 04:15:25**

*(no subject)*

Sally-Anne also said that Madam Umbridge gloated to Capper that his brother was dead. She asked if it was true, or was the Headmistress just messing with his head?

I think I asked if we could find out what happened to the brother. Was Mr Weasley going to check? But I never heard if he did.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-29 12:08:24](#)  
(no subject)


Terry,

I do remember your asking about this, right after Thomas Capper was taken to the camps. Dad and I discussed it. He thought it best to try to quietly extract him from the camps after a few months had passed. He really was high profile, being the first half-blood from Hogwarts to get his wand snapped and sent to the camps, due to doing badly on his exams--they wanted to make an example of him.

I don't know whether Dad followed up, but he didn't mention it to me. I think we were distracted by the whole Ireland debacle, among other things.

I'm going to check with Nick and try to get you an answer today. Let's hope it is a lie, and we can get him out.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-29 16:29:48](#)  
(no subject)

Bugger all. Umbridge was telling the truth. Nick Towler just brought me confirmation.

Thomas Capper died in October at the Adur camp in West Sussex. He was assigned to physical labour in a quarry and slipped and hit his head on his work shift. They apparently didn't bother to get the injury checked out at the camp infirmary. He finished his shift, went to bed as usual that evening--and never woke up the next morning.

Nick went back to trace the parchmentwork trail, to find out why we didn't hear about this, and judging from what he's told me, the camp administration knew they'd badly bolluxed this up. Since Capper was high-profile, they were doing their best to bury the details in the weekly reports. Little things, like omitting his name in the death census for the week, omitting his prisoner number. Among other things, his family has never even been officially notified. When Nick contacted the camp administration and asked why, he was blandly informed that of course, given Capper's change in status, with the Protectorate assuming custody, they're not considered *family* anymore. I think it's more likely that

Bawsley, the camp administrator, was more concerned with covering his own arse.


Merlin.

We should have moved sooner. We should have at least tried to save him. But we didn't.

Alice, my instinct tells me that we shouldn't pass this on through Fred and George's lock to the Junior Auxiliary via the journals. They really deserve to be told in person, at the review at 12 Grimmauld Place next week. As awful as it's going to be, we need to come up with the guts to admit to them face to face how badly we failed Thomas Capper.

And won't that be a cheerful bit of news for them to absorb as they're contemplating their exams.

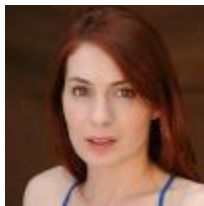


 **alt\_bill at 2013-03-29 16:30:33**

*Private message to Alice Longbottom*

Alice,

Nick is taking this extremely hard. He knew about the plan to delay, too, and he's just sick over the fact that we waited until it was too late. He knew Capper at school.



 **alt\_alice at 2013-03-29 17:03:06**

*Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom*

The fault lies with me, Bill. After Arthur died, I was trying to prioritise and make sure we had everything covered, and Thomas Capper fell through the cracks.

I've failed Arthur, and Nick, and Thomas most of all.

Please tell Nick that I'm sorry.

The best thing I can do right now is make sure that we don't make the same error again, so I'll be looking through our past notes and following up with some potential loose ends in the next few days.

If you'd think it would help, I can also meet Nick and talk to him about it. Sometimes a full heart needs a person to share the burden with, and I deserve to carry some of his load.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-29 18:25:09](#)

*Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom*

I'm sorry for you, too, Alice. This is one of those dreadful burdens of leadership, the sort of thing that used to keep Dad up at night. We lose people all the time in this murderous regime.

Just hang on by remembering the ones we've saved. Go dandle the babies in the nursery on your knee, if it'll help.

I'm meeting with Nick tonight after work, but yes, I think it would help if you could speak with him, too. I'll see if there's a time he can come out to the sanctuary this weekend; one or the other of us will send you a patronus.

Maybe he could use a visit to the nursery, too.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-03-29 22:53:12](#)

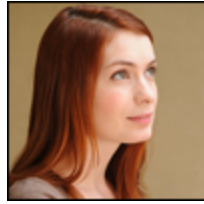
*Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom*


After thinking upon this more:

Please, Alice, don't heap more guilt on yourself. You walked into a helluva situation, trying to take over the Order on the fly, when we were all reeling in shock over Dad's death. Don't forget, I went totally off my nut, and I wasn't any bloody help at all to you with the transition, overseeing all the details at the Ministry, and I should have been.

To be scrupulously fair, it was Dad's choice and Dad's responsibility to leave Capper put. He did have honestly valid reasons for that choice. No one could have foreseen Capper's accident.

The real responsibility, though, goes to the heartless bastards who snapped his wand and send him to that camp in the first place. Don't forget that.



 **[alt\\_alice at 2013-03-30 00:39:33](#)**


*Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom*

I will never forget, believe you me.

And I'd love to have him come and talk. I think it'd be good for both of us.

...Thank you, Bill.

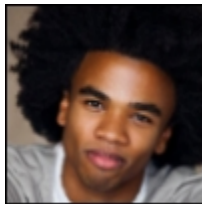


 **[alt\\_alice at 2013-03-29 17:04:13](#)**

*(no subject)*

Thank you for following up on this, Bill.

I take full responsibility for breaking the news to the Hogwarts group about what has happened.



 **[alt\\_lee at 2013-03-29 18:27:57](#)**

*(no subject)*

That...wasn't what we were hoping to hear.

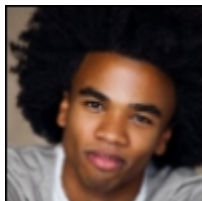
All right. We'll hold off on saying anything, and leave it to you to pass on the news.



 **[alt\\_gredforge at 2013-03-29 22:21:35](#)**

*Private message to Lee Jordan*

That poor bastard.



 **[alt\\_lee at 2013-03-29 22:21:58](#)**

*Re: Private message to Lee Jordan*

Yeah.



 [alt\\_pomona](#) at [2013-03-29 17:50:24](#)  
(no subject)

They -

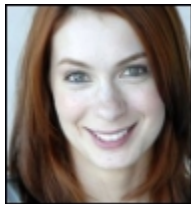
No one told us here. The staff in general, I mean.


Though, now I think about it, Aurora spent a bit closeted with Septima, back in January, and she wouldn't talk about why. (She's careful with other people's confidences, as a rule, so I didn't press.) And Septima looked horrible that week, and got even fiercer about her House's revision schedules than she had been already. And now I'm wondering if Septima found out then.

And there's no way I can ask - not until I have some other way to have learned about it than here.

Alice, I'm sorry, the last week has been a misery in six directions, and our Headmistress is being deeply difficult about this idiotic Memorial Garden on top of everything else. Though I got a great deal of amusement out of your Neville's comments last night.

At any rate, Severus and I have discussed, and he will take care of the greenhouses for me the second week of hols, so I can come and cover herbology. Though, truly, we've had less disruption than some subjects, and our exams don't generally change that much year to year, so I've been able to tell them what to expect with plenty of warning. But it might reassure them, and if the rest of you are in for identifying yourselves, I might as well confirm it too.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-03-30 00:32:13](#)  
(no subject)

I'm glad to hear that you'll be there, Pomona. At the very least, seeing some familiar faces must be some comfort, and I'm sure the added security of being truly solid on the material will also be

helpful.

I'm incredibly unsurprised that she's made your life difficult over the garden. It's a wonder how a single person can generate so much grief.



I'd imagine that now she's revealed to the younger Capper in such a tactless way, the news should filter around soon enough. If you'd rather wait until after hols, that's understandable.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-30 02:21:11](#)**  
(no subject)

Alice, I will plan to be there throughout, lest anything dire happen to anyone during the Apparition lessons.

I've also agreed to take up the Potions instruction in the second week when Severus returns to his duties at Hogwarts.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-30 02:08:21](#)**  
(no subject)

It's truly awful, this news about Mr Capper. And it's simply criminal what Dolores Umbridge has done to his brother.

I know I needn't tell you to be careful, Pomona. I'm afraid I didn't take quite the enjoyment you did at reading Mr Longbottom's replies to her. She needs so little excuse.

But I've done fussing now.

Tilda asks if you might come for supper tomorrow? I have news on several fronts and items to send back with you, as well.

My visit at Igtham Mote was extremely productive. Theo Postlethwaite's got just the thing for us. A powder that can be added to tea or pumpkin juice that will deliver the nutrients our underfed children require. He sent me away with samples and is busy packaging the quantity we'll need. As a bonus, he's pointed out to me that his formulation shares key ingredients with a classic wit-sharpening draught.

On this front, I've been brewing a bit with the Scintillarica Tilda grew and dried for us last season. I have high hopes for it. And we've discussed planting schemes for her next crop of experimental variants.

She's a perfectly good egg, Tilda is. We should have that conversation again, you know.



 **alt\_pomona** at [2013-03-30 02:22:24](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, Poppy.

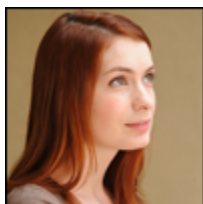
It is very bad here, even more than you know.  
You are right she needs no excuse, but better, perhaps, that people choose their fights than have them forced on them for some other reason.


I don't know. Perhaps I have been spending too much time thinking about the Gryffindors of our acquaintance of late.

Supper tomorrow would be very pleasant indeed. I rather suspect the castle will quite empty as soon as the students go - Dolores is residing here, but Auri said she'd be gone as soon as she could, Bathsheba's going elsewhere (and she almost never does). I'm glad either Severus or I will largely be around to keep an eye out, really.

The rest is very good news, and I am extremely excited to hear you've had so much luck with it. (And the nutrition will be most welcome, I am very sure. It is so hard to see the ends of the tables.)

As to Tilda - you know I've been hesitant because I didn't want to put her at greater risk. But you're right. We should discuss again. I'm glad she's treating you well, though not at all surprised.




 **alt\_alice** at [2013-03-29 17:22:32](#)  
(no subject)

I'd rather they not risk getting caught with the ingredients unless completely necessary.

Severus, if you make a list, we can obtain the necessary ingredients she might need and send them along with you so that you can pass them to her. Perhaps she can take advantage of your space to practice under supervision as well as Hermione?



 **[alt\\_lee](#)** at **[2013-03-29 18:30:09](#)**  
(no subject)

That's probably a good idea.




 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-03-29 18:36:03](#)**  
(no subject)

There is less of a credible reason for Miss Perks to be found in Mr Milland's company than Miss Granger — our standard excuse, should it become necessary, is that Mr Potter has allowed Mr Milland use of Miss Granger's labour — but I will aid Miss Perks to the best of my ability.

Mr Jordan, I do agree that the risk to Miss Perks is considerable should she be discovered brewing in secret or should you be discovered appropriating ingredients on her behalf; I will speak to her over the holiday to ascertain how much practice she feels necessary and we will form a plan of attack.



 **[alt\\_lee](#)** at **[2013-03-29 22:19:17](#)**  
(no subject)

If I can be in on that meeting, too, sir, we can compare schedules. Maybe I can provide cover when it comes to appropriate excuses. And I can do ingredient drop offs or supervise brewing if you can't.

**2013-03-29 12:40:00**

*Private Message to Fae Anderson and Kathryn Pyle*



 [alt\\_penelope](#)

I've just got a few minutes here at lunch but I wanted to confirm the ladies for tonight. Of course, it's almost a bit early for Karo's hen night--but you know her, she wanted to quite sure we'd all recover and no one would have to book passage back from Cork or anything daft, and possibly miss the wedding. Mostly there's this band she really wants to hear and they're playing at the *Copper Kettle* later this evening. Besides, I think part of her wants it over and done before her brother gets home from school and all the relations start pouring into town for the week.

(Speaking of, you should hear the uproar over the latest. Robins tried to sell Ptolemy and Karo on a flashing screen, outside the hall, that would project moving photos of the two of them in close-up and then replaying the moment they kiss to close the ceremony. Both of them apparently gave it half a second's thought and said, together, 'No.' That woman, honestly. If Karo doesn't murder her in the next two weeks, I just might do.)

Anyway... Right. Kathryn, you said both Yaxley sisters are in, and I've had replies from Vani Johns, Mary Bletchley and Electra Bobolis (but not Terp or Psyche, which--just as well, really). Per Fae, Flora's coming but she'll be late, so she'll have to catch us up (probably at the second pub). Vesta Chambers, Jo Gamp and Aelis Fletcher said to let them know when we were ready to go see *Role Call* and they'll join us then.

Taiga Bode had been on the list to come along but she owled earlier this week to say she'd not be able to make it after all. Something about her dad, I dunno, it was vague. Took ill, sounds like.

Now, I thought we'd start at the Caledonian because they get shirty if anyone's already had a couple on arrival. Besides, the drinks are all over-priced but it's well classy and at least we can say Karo had her fancy, society-ready cocktail. Then we'll pop round to Naught before they close, and on to supper at Bubble and Squeak. (Don't start, Fae, they've got veg dishes and besides, you'll want solid food if you're going to get through the rest of the night.) I know Karo really wants to get to *Role Call* before the second set but Vani Johns suggested someplace to go afterward. Apparently she and Yaxley were going to

go before Sandoval got married and the idea was scrubbed, but they've come back to it again. It sounds perfectly seedy so we should all have a grand time, I think. Perhaps one of us *will* wake up in Cork, and all!

**2013-03-29 13:35:00**

*(no subject)*

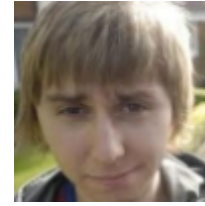
Suspect she might be tracking students via merit award badges. To be safe, transfigure a look alike and wear that instead.



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-03-29 13:52:00**

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



Hullo, love,

Are you all right? What did she want?

 [alt\\_justin](#)

I say, I do hope we shall really be able to meet at your cousin's. And perhaps you can visit Remy as well.

I bally well am looking forward to getting out of the castle for a few days but there is a downside, what? We shan't see each other every day. Or be able to sit together in your secret stairwell most evenings.

On the other hand...there are advantages. For example, a private bedroom with a locking door.

-Justin



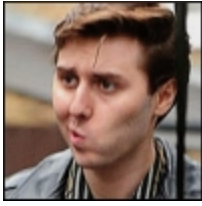
 [alt\\_hydra](#) at **2013-03-29 23:47:13**


*(no subject)*

She said she wanted to know more about my health. Healer Kerr was looking at Madam P's notes and came across some things about my eating habits, and my problems with tooth cavities. Madam Umbridge said she was concerned and wanted to know if everything was alright.

I don't know, I didn't want to talk about food with her. It's not something I want her to bring up with Mummy, after all, so I was looking to change the subject to something else.

So I told her I liked her kitten plate collection, and asked where she collected them all from. Her answer wasn't at all what I was expecting.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-03-30 02:34:55](#)  
(no subject)


Sorry, that meeting tonight was so long. Worth it, what, but long. Only there wasn't a way to ask you in private what you meant.

I suppose she turned all sappy about them? But you said months ago that she doesn't actually fancy cats at all, so no, that doesn't make sense.

Well. We can talk tomorrow on the train if you prefer. I mean to say, if you're busy packing.

-Justin



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-03-30 02:40:57](#)  
(no subject)

Justin-

Now that I think back on it, I'm not sure how I knew that she didn't really like cats at all. She never said anything about them, not then.

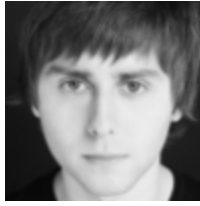
And when I asked her about them today she said something like "oh, magic can do a great many things when you apply it," and then "Isn't it lovely how it can preserve those fleeting moments of youth and innocence forever?" Which on its own doesn't really say anything about how she collected all the plates.


But she was saying something else, too. Just not aloud.

The kittens in the plates - they were alive. They *are* alive. She transfigured them from real kittens.

I don't know how... I mean, I had thought I made it go away with my meditation, all those accidental flashes I was getting from Remy, from cousin Dora. But this was different.






 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-03-30 03:40:24](#)**  
(no subject)

I see.

Shall I come down? It's late but Ernie's patrolling tonight and he never fusses if I break curfew.

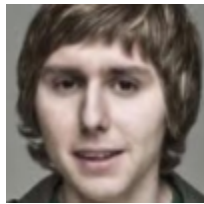
-Justin




 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2013-03-30 03:44:19](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, maybe. If you think you can risk it, I mean.

From,  
Hydra



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-03-30 04:03:19](#)**  
(no subject)

It's no trouble. Everyone's practically used to it by now, anyway. And it's holidays, if one wishes to be technical about it, what?

I'm on my way, sweetheart.

-J

**2013-03-29 16:36:00**

*(no subject)*

DON'T WEAR ANY OF THE BADGES TO THE  
SECRET ROOM. MAY HAVE TRACKING  
CHARMS ON. PON'T WANT HER TURNING UP  
OUTSIPE THERE LOOKING FOR ANY OF US.

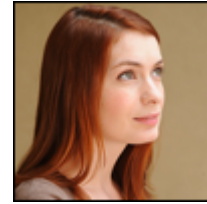


 [alt\\_galleon](#)

**2013-03-29 21:16:00**

*ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Sirius*

How is the set-up coming along at Grimmauld?  
Could you use an extra hand for a few hours this evening?




 [alt\\_alice](#)

I could use a bit of distracting.

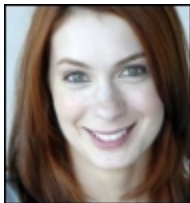
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 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-03-30 01:43:45**  
(no subject)

It's a Friday night and the weather's finally getting pleasant in the evenings. We can always use an extra hand.

Plus Bea's having a grand time telling everyone she'll be 2-2 (22 months) tomorrow, which is her latest excuse for not sleeping. She'll adore another audience.




 [alt\\_alice](#) at **2013-03-30 01:56:02**  
(no subject)

Lovely.

I'll be along shortly.

And she's right. Twenty-two is a very good month.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at **2013-03-30 23:28:37**  
(no subject)

Thank you for yesterday, love.

I feel two stones lighter today.

**2013-03-29 21:19:00**

*Private Message to Mum and Dad*

I'm looking forward to seeing you and the littles tomorrow!



I just wanted to remind you that I will be revising hard for most the holidays. I've scheduled a few group sessions with the Weasley twins. They will come over after lunch and we'll revise until dinner time. They won't be here much as they managed to find a tutor. I may go over to Tyche or Heph's to revise for some of the classes I don't share with the Weasleys, but we haven't worked out the details yet.

 [alt\\_cedric](#)

I know we discussed it by owl but I have meetings first thing in the morning on the 3rd, the 6th, the 9th and the 11th. Portkeys from the Arrows, Bats and Lethifolds should be arriving by owl soon. I'll just fly over for the tryouts for the Cannons.

While I will be unbelievably busy over the hols, I love the littles and want very much to meet and get to know little Lilith so I will make sure to carve out dedicated time to spend with them, but it's going to be less than I might wish. Though if Jaspar would like to sit with me and read quietly while I'm revising I would love that.

**2013-03-29 21:50:00**

*message to Miss Estella Penworthy*

Ma'am,

Thank you so very much for allowing me to stay and help Madam Umbridge over hols. It is no wonder you speak so highly of her, because she is so decisive and socially correct. And she has so many interesting plans. She is very hard-working on things that will improve the school and we students. I will do my best to be helpful and properly respectful to her and make you proud of me.



 [alt\\_megan](#)

Has your health improved somewhat now that it is spring, I hope? I am sorry I will not be home to fetch things for you. I mean I'm not sorry that I'm here helping Madam Umbridge. Only I wish I could help you too, and hand you your embroidery silks and cast Wingardium Leviosa on your embroidery hoop for you. In your last letter you said you had gotten a mudblood. ~~You don't let the mudblood handle the embroidery silks, do you? Or sit in my little chair next to yours?~~ It is good they could send you one. I hope the mudblood knows how lucky it is to be in a good pureblood household.

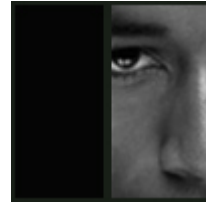
Some of the students here have been behaving badly. They get punished for it when they do. Madam Umbridge always finds out. She is very careful about correcting people's faults, and improving people. I have not been punished because I have been on my best behaviour. Madam Umbridge even let me be on the Hogwarts Junior Council! It is so exciting. There are many purebloods on the HJC, and I rub elbows with the best people. Padma Patil is so kind to me, telling me what to do and helping me be useful. I am finally feeling like I fit in and can contribute. You have always told me that "we are never so happy as when we are doing something that makes someone else happy," and it is true! Madam Umbridge is very pleased with the work we are doing, and it means a lot to know I am helping improve the school. I have found my place.

I think of you often, and I am so grateful that you are my guardian. Madam Umbridge is guiding the staff in teaching us what we need to learn to be useful to society. Due to some rearrangements in our schedules, I had time when I wasn't practicing spells ~~because we're not allowed~~ so I embroidered you a tea towel. I hope that when you see it, it reminds you of your dutiful and grateful ward.

**2013-03-29 22:29:00**

*Looking Forward*

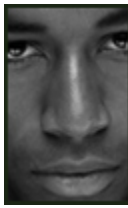
It's satisfying to have completed everything on the day's schedule. I've finished packing even, so there's nothing between me and hols but one good night's sleep.




 **alt\_blaise**

Mother, your owl arrived this evening. No need to worry. I'll be perfectly fine. Enjoy your trip and don't give it another thought.

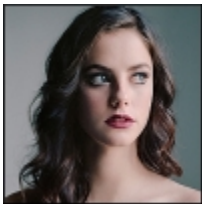
Tell Mr Cooper I've no objections to lunching with him on the twelfth, though he needn't feel he has to go to so much effort the day after you arrive back.




 **alt\_blaise** at **2013-03-30 03:52:44**  
*Private Message to Daphne Greengrass*

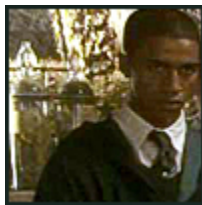
I was thinking. We should go somewhere nice for supper Sunday night or Monday. What do you say?


I could make a reservation at the Wilcrest. Or Serengeti if you want something a bit more adventurous.



 **alt\_daphne** at **2013-03-30 04:01:58**  
*Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass*

With our parents, you mean?



 **alt\_blaise** at **2013-03-30 04:07:14**  
*Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass*

No. Mother and Cooper are off to Grasmere to see the daffodils, anyway.

We should celebrate the start of hols.



 [alt\\_daphne](#) at [2013-03-30 04:08:45](#)

*Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass*

Blaise, I'm with Ron. You know that.

And you're supposed to be chasing Padma. Or toying with her, I'm not sure which.



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-03-30 04:16:16](#)

*Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass*

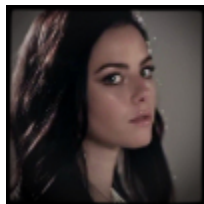
The Revue's over. Surely you've got that out of your system.

I mean to say, I realise it's trite to say he's not our sort, but truly, he's not. Of course, it's not about conversation, but isn't it wearing thin that you can't have any kind of meaningful exchange with him? And you can't be seen out with him at any place worth going. It's just too sad, Daphs.

If you're worried about his feelings, trust me, it's kinder to have done with it now than to string him along.

Besides, it's hols.

Let's do something we'll both enjoy!



 [alt\\_daphne](#) at [2013-03-30 04:23:48](#)

*Re: Private Message to Daphne Greengrass*

He and I will be spending time together over the hols, so your concerns are not only unsolicited, but also unfounded.

And being with him has made certain things more clear to me, now. You think I'll just always be here, ready to pick up where we've left off, don't you? Because I always have before.

I'm not a reliable, ruddy *broomstick*, that you can get out of your cupboard whenever you fancy a fly, just because we're the same "sort."

I don't even know what that means, anymore. Sometimes it gets

||| boring, being with the same "sort."

||| So, while I will thank you for the offer, I'm afraid I must decline.



**2013-03-29 23:10:00**

*Private Message to Madam Umbridge*

Madam Umbridge! I was in the Hufflepuff common room and I saw somebody leaving after curfew. Come quickly to the corridor with the painting of the Spanish witches and you will catch them!




 [alt\\_megan](#)

P.S. It's that Finch-Fletchley boy.

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 [alt\\_megan](#) at **2013-03-30 04:26:12**  
(no subject)

Where are you? He went up past those two suits of armor and turned the corner and now I don't see him any more!



 [alt\\_umbridge](#) at **2013-03-30 05:06:56**  
(no subject)


Bother.

This castle is the least helpful pile of stone ever. All the staircases were in entirely the wrong place. So very inefficient.

I did see him, dear, and thank you for telling me so very promptly. We will just have to pick up the matter once we return. There's not enough time for a suitable way to handle this before everyone must be on the train in the morning.

You may go to bed, dear. I'll have plenty to keep you busy in the morning.



 [alt\\_megan](#) at **2013-03-30 05:08:18**  
(no subject)

Yes, ma'am.

**2013-03-29 23:23:00**

*Private Message to Poppy Pomfrey and Antonin Dolohov*

If anyone asks, I'm inquiring about your health, Antosha (and of course I am) and our Poppy's position as your personal Healer.



 [alt\\_horace](#)

In reality, I wonder if you might both be interested in a quick, quiet get-together over the holidays. An impromptu staff meeting, if you will.

That *infernal* woman. Tosha, you know my plan had been to stay on her good side and mitigate the damage she has wrought, to uphold Hogwarts' traditions and cultivate myself as her voice of experience and thus guide her toward decisions that will have the appearance of achieving the changes she wishes without enabling her to fully and completely transform the school.

So much for my success. I must be slipping into infirmity: I am accustomed to better results than this.

Poppy, since she sacked you, things here have been going downhill with the rapidity of a snowball descending a ski slope. Tosha, do you know I believe she actually threatened to dismiss *me* this evening, just because I suggested that she reconsider the harshness of Miss Perks' punishment, given the nature of the fib she told Capper.


I am sojourning at my home this holiday, in Ely. If you're free and able, I'd be glad to host a supper for my colleagues some evening, perhaps next Wednesday? Or another night if that is more acceptable. Septima's already agreed (this business over Capper's brother has her fuming) and I wonder if you'd ask Pomona, Poppy--I know you two frequently take treks together so Dolores might not suspect anything further if you contacted her through other means. Razzer and Aurora, bless them, may have too much to be going on with but Tosha, do feel free to extend my invitation to them, as I know you are fast friends and she cannot think to trace it to your weekly conversations.

I believe it goes without saying that Carpenter, Hooch and Acton cannot be trusted. They have been wholly hers for some time. Bathsheba might be turned but I think it best to leave her out for now. Irma...I am not sure but she, too, can be recruited if needed.

Rest assured I in no way intend to allow Dolores to railroad one of our best O.W.L. candidates simply because she believes the girl to be 'uppity'--I simply do not understand her intractability on this point.

I am certain we can, together, overcome whatever hold she has on whomever she has it. If not.... Well. I wasn't lying to her when I said I'd sooner retire than endure another year of this falderal. Hogwarts? Hogwash, more like it.



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-03-30 04:35:27](#)

*(no subject)*

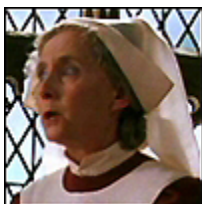
Horace, I can't tell you how cheered I am to read this. Not, mind you, that I'd have wished you the sort of conflict you've apparently weathered this evening. She threatened *you*?

Madness.

Of course, I'll come. Thank you for the invitation. I'll have a word with Pomona about it tomorrow evening at supper. I'm staying with her sister-in-law, Tilda, you know. You remember, I'm sure, she's a farm just outside Hogsmeade.

Do invite Irma Pince to come. I don't believe you'll need to press too hard to convince her: Madam Umbridge has made no secret that she's cast her covetous eye on Irma's books.

What about Minerva? I paid her a visit earlier in the week, and I assure you she's quite back to her best self. I believe her perspective would be useful. And her connections, though those overlap with Antonin's, of course.



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-03-30 04:40:27](#)


*Private Message to Horace*

I appreciate your taking up for Miss Perks. I believe she has true promise as a Healer, you know, but she'll stand no chance at all if Dolores Umbridge undermines the girl's performance on her exams.

Fortunately, I believe Miss Perks possesses the necessary combination of cleverness, skill, tenacity, and sheer bloody-mindedness to persevere in the face of all but the most dire

adversity. That said, she will not be able to sit her exams if Dolores packs her off to the camps. That must not be allowed to happen.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#) at 2013-03-30 04:47:14**

*Private Message to Antonin Dolohov*

How is your health? I trust you're feeling as well as when last we spoke, but if that's not the case, perhaps you'd allow me to examine you at some point during the fortnight ahead.

I've extended my stay at the farm, if you wished to come there. Or, of course, I could pay a call on you in New London if you prefer.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#) at 2013-03-30 05:24:39**

*Re: Private Message to Antonin Dolohov*

I am, I believe, much improved, and continually improving. I have not been entirely certain whether it is true recovery or wishful thinking, but I have been feeling a wellspring of physical energy beginning to make itself quietly known: this week has been full of those glorious early-spring days with which Hogwarts is occasionally blessed, and I actually caught myself wishing to go for a jog around the lake yesterday morning.

(Lest I alarm your Healer's soul: I resisted the urge. Not only am I well aware of my tendency to overextend at the slightest hint of recovery, I am also doing my utmost to make Dolores think I remain wizened and infirm, as it can only be to our benefit to have her underestimate me. I have, however, resumed my morning régime of stretching and light calisthenics as we discussed at our last appointment. And while I undisputably have a great deal of work ahead of me to return to my prior level of fitness, Auri has been so kind as to offer me some of her time for some light and friendly sparring, not only to provide me with a partner but also to prevent her from backsliding in her own skill given the level of interference with her life That Woman has apparently decided upon.)

Still, it would be a considerable relief to submit myself for your expert evaluation, if you are willing. While you have right to the full hospitality of my home and its doors are open to you anytime you have need or desire, I would not wish to cause you to take a further step out of your way; I will present myself to you at a time of your

convenience.


(Actually -- it occurs to me a visit to your current residence may prove useful in two fashions at once. By any chance, does your host raise cattle? I recognize this is an exceedingly odd request, but I am having trouble sourcing an animal I find myself in need of.)

I hope you are well, or as well as you might be, considering the circumstance.

At your service,

T



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at 2013-03-30 20:16:16

*Re: Private Message to Antonin Dolohov*

Yes, I quite agree that stretching and light exercise accord better with your stage of rehabilitation than jogging. A brisk walk around the lake, however, should present no difficulty, though it is lamentably

public.

I would be pleased to have you come here. Would Monday morning suit your schedule? Say, 9 o'clock.

As for your question, Tilda does, in fact, have a small herd of dairy cows. Is it the animal or its milk or some other by-product you are interested in acquiring? Its young, perhaps? I cannot speak for her willingness to sell an animal, but she does sell cream, butter, and fresh cheese in small quantities through the neighbourhood cooperative.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at 2013-03-31 06:05:11

*Re: Private Message to Antonin Dolohov*

Blast. No, I am in search of a bull, with exacting requirements for colour, size, age, and other characteristics. Ah well; I will continue my quest.

Monday morning at 9 o'clock suits me splendidly, and I am deeply grateful for your care.

At your service,

T



 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-03-30 05:03:08**  
(no subject)

Horace,

I am almost tempted to say it could only be a benefit to us if she did decide to attempt your dismissal for something so trivial: certainly that would prove without a doubt to fence-sitting members of the Board of Governors that she has zero interest in the well-being of the school and zero respect for history, tradition, and success, for I cannot think of any possible argument she could advance that your loss would be to the benefit of the school in any way. (To the benefit of the pink pustule, yes -- but I do not believe Hogwarts could well afford your loss.)

But of course that is my own frustration showing. I would not wish ill upon yet another of Hogwarts' finest.

The fault is not in you, sir. Not in the least. You have been a beacon of moderation and reason throughout: that she refuses to listen to your hard-earned wisdom is intolerable. I cannot blame you for not wishing to put up with another year of this nonsense. Please allow me to assure you that I cannot imagine these conditions persisting for that long: while I do not doubt you see the political considerations on whose knife-edge upon which we must all dance, I am nearing the end of my patience with that woman and I do not think I am the only one.

Your suggestion of a staff meeting without that woman's presence is an excellent idea, and I thank you for the offer of your hospitality. Wednesday suits my calendar just fine; while I have some ritual work planned with my protégé over our holiday, the timing will not be favorable until later. I will take care of ensuring Raz and Auri's invitations are delivered in such a fashion that Her Odiousness cannot interfere. I likewise agree in earnest with your assessment of our colleagues and their loyalties, though I believe Auri is certain of Irma's commitment to the good of the school; I cannot opine in my own right but will note that I have been saving a rather substantial enticement for deployment in Irma's direction when needed. (Namely, the rights to pick through my library with an eye towards adding to the school collection.) I might also suggest extending an invitation to Minerva, if you are amenable; I have been reassured that her health is considerably improved and I cannot imagine her devotion to the school to have faded despite her disgraceful

treatment.

As to the matter of Miss Perks: you may rest slightly less troubled there, sir. Miss Perks stands as that rare proof that wizarding blood can be lustrous enough to shine through any measure of taint; whatever measure of opportunity my patronage might bring her, I will deploy in full measure, in the finest traditions of our House. If there is anything I might do to assist you with her studies you have but to say the word. (Though of course in her best interest, I confess you had best look to "conspiring to provide time for her to practise with you" rather than any direct assistance!)

Yours in conspiracy,  
T

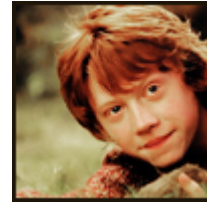
**2013-03-30 08:03:00**

*Private Message to Daphne Greengrass*

Morning, you!

Sit together on the train? Or do you have to go off with the Prefects?

Happy Hols!!!



 [alt\\_ron](#)



 [alt\\_daphne](#) at **2013-03-30 16:14:47**  
(no subject)

I should be able to sit for at least part of the ride, so yes, let's!

We can make our plans to meet up over Hols, too.



**2013-03-30 15:19:00**

*In New London*

In case anyone wishes to owl me during hols, I'm spending them mostly in London with Pansy, in her townhouse. Mrs Weasley has very kindly invited me to the Burrow for group tutoring as we prepare for OWLs and I'll be spending a great deal of time there, too, I expect.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)

Hitty has already made us biscuits and tea and we're settling in to relax this evening before we hit the books.

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 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-30 20:23:11**

*Private message to Mrs Weasley*

Thank you very much for your generous invitation. I look forward to seeing you soon.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at **2013-03-31 01:48:45**

*Re: Private message to Mrs Weasley*

We'll be delighted to see you again, too. I'm so happy we could work something out.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-03-30 20:35:15**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I know we're going to be working hard and it's going to be difficult and we're all going to be fretting about exams but I keep thinking

TWO WEEKS

TWO WEEKS of getting to have lessons without Umbridge looking over our shoulders.

Also Hitty is stuffing us full of food and that makes everything better. EVERYTHING.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-03-30 20:44:28](#)**

*Private Message to Miss S A Perks*

I appreciated hearing from you and was sorry not to be able to risk a reply by any of the usual methods until now.

I expect we will, indeed, be able to arrange a quiet tea and consultation over the next fortnight, though I believe we should wait until your tutoring schedule has been established before we commit ourselves to a particular day or time.

If you observe Easter at all, I wish you a happy one, and if you do not, I hope you will find enjoyable things to explore in New London on this first weekend of your holidays.

All the best,  
P. Pomfrey



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-03-30 21:54:06](#)**

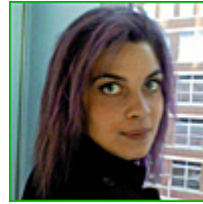
*Re: Private Message to Miss S A Perks*

Thank you, Madam Pomfrey. I'll let you know what I find out about my tutoring hours.

**2013-03-30 15:49:00**

*Order Only*

The three of us have been talking here this evening, and Sirius has persuaded me I ought to raise a question for Pomona, Severus, and Minerva.




 **alt\_nymphadora**

Is there a way we could take advantage of Madam Umbridge's absences during the holidays to access the Headmistress's office and steal a look at the book?

Only, Alice and I went Wednesday for Stella Dodds, who was the last of the babies we know about, but there could be more and this might be a chance.




 **alt\_alice** at **2013-03-30 23:47:45**  
(no subject)

I agree that it's worth a try, if only because we may not get another chance until summer.

Severus, Pomona, you know the risks far better than any of us -- would it be possible to smuggle Minerva in?



 **alt\_pomona** at **2013-03-31 00:02:28**  
(no subject)

Tricky, I'd say, though I defer to Severus here.

She was in a fury this morning - repressed, but you could see it simmering. I know she's got meetings this week in New London, but there's at least a student or two staying, and there's always the matter of the ghosts. And the portraits. I'm more certain some of them are helping her than I was, though Aurora's had suspicions about that for a while.

That said, Severus, has she moved any portraits near Minerva's office itself? Since Minerva need scarcely walk into Hogwarts on two feet (and four feet might well be easier to obscure) we might manage something if we can solve that part.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-03-31 06:00:07](#)  
(no subject)

I do agree the prospect of checking the Book is urgent.

Dolores has stuck her hand into every aspect of the castle; this does, yes, include rearranging many of the portraits. I have reason to visit the corridor near the Head's office occasionally, however, and cannot immediately recall whether it is tenanted. Upon my return next weekend I will make it a point to check.

I believe, however, that Hogwarts' magic binds the portraits to the service of the Headmaster or Headmistress, and several things the elves have said — and indeed, the fact the Head's office will not open to her — causes me to think Hogwarts herself does not view Umbridge as having any particular authority. It may be as simple as Minerva ordering the portraits to cease obeying Dolores entirely.

If all else fails, I do have several samples of Dolores' hair that could be used as necessary: if we find a time when we are reasonably certain she will not return to the castle, and if Minerva is willing, she could polyjuice into Dolores and evade detection that way.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-03-31 01:39:23](#)  
(no subject)

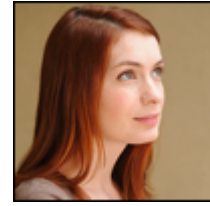
We smuggled the Professor--uh, Terry, we mean--into the Burrow the week of Dad's funeral inside one of our book bags. Right under the noses of a whole bunch of people who were there for the vigil. If the Headmistress's dignity can stand that, then the portraits wouldn't even have the opportunity to report seeing a cat.

Just a suggestion.

**2013-03-30 19:48:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

It looks like we're well on our way to a productive two weeks of holidays. I visited Grimmauld yesterday, and it's wonderfully prepared for our young people. I'm glad we'll give them an opportunity to revise intensively for OWLs and NEWTs, and relieved that they'll be learning to Apparate as a security measure until we can get our portkeys sorted.



 [alt\\_alice](#)

Along those lines, I'm hoping that as many of the non-OWL and NEWT members of the Hogwarts group will be able to join in on the Apparation lessons as possible. Terry will be joining in, of course, but I'm also bringing along Patricia Stimpson, Lisa Turpin, and Colin Creevy to learn Apparation, and they're hoping to sit in and take notes on certain classes that they wish to learn more about. Patty's interested in learning more about Runes, Lisa's focused on Herbology, and Colin's got his mind set on Defence. I'm hoping they'll find the experience useful rather than overwhelming, but we shall see.

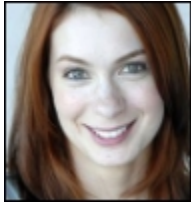
Thank you to all who are volunteering your time to instruct, supervise, and otherwise help.


Bill, would you be willing to meet this weekend with Cecelia Perks about her helping with Runes? She took a NEWT in them, after all. She's very sharp when it comes to theory, but seems a bit rusty when it comes to standard runes beyond those she has used regularly. I do know that she'd be very willing to help. As runes are not my area, I trust to your experience more than my own in sorting out whether she would be in a good position to help with revising OWL level work. I also think she ought to be present whenever Albus comes to visit, as between the two of them, they might make some headway regarding the device we've obtained.

Another thing I'm going to add to the list of considerations for hols is a rather thorough conversation with Hogwarts staff and students about what can be done regarding Madame Umbridge. The food supplements are brilliant, Poppy, and I've already got a list of needed supplies from the twins that I'm working on, but I'd like to go one step further and address how we might remove her from her current position of power. Any ideas are welcome (short of outright assassination, which would put too much uncomfortable attention Poppy's way), and I'm hoping some of the Hogwarts group might also

be able to provide insights as well. It's a chance we all have to communicate directly with one another about how best we might work together, and I hope we are able to take advantage of that opportunity.

I'll be following up on some other projects that need our attention once we're done with the Easter hols season. I hope everything goes smoothly.



 **alt\_alice** at [2013-03-31 00:52:29](#)

*Private Message to Remus and Tonks*

I am grateful for all three of you, and I'm so very pleased with the work you've been doing leading up to this.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.



 **alt\_alice** at [2013-03-31 01:10:56](#)

*Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo*

Hermione, I was thinking, and, well, we decided collectively to call your group at Hogwarts the Junior Auxiliary without ever really asking what they would prefer to be called.

Do they have a preferred name that might be more appropriate?

Is there anything else you think needs doing during hols that would be particularly useful?



 **alt\_hermione** at [2013-04-01 03:05:49](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo*

They haven't really named themselves. The only sort of name they use is an abbreviation of the secret phrase we use to lock the posts from anyone else seeing them.

Everyone's been gorging themselves on choc and food, even Draco and some of the others who have never had to go hungry. If there's

a way to help bring more food into the school while everyone's gone that would be good. But I don't expect we should be able to do that, it's too difficult and anyway, we've got enough to be going on with at Grimmauld Place with the tutoring and everything.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-04-01 03:20:15**

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo*

That's good to know. Thank you.

I can certainly work with Pomona and Severus to sort out some way to bring extra food supplies in, and Poppy's working on a supplement to add to the pumpkin juice that ought to help as well.

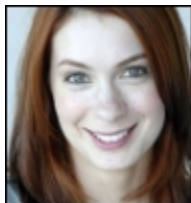
And how have you been eating?




 **[alt\\_hermione](#) at 2013-04-01 03:46:51**

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo*

Oh, don't worry about me. I'm fine.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-04-01 03:55:35**

*Re: Private Message to Hermione Granger and Harry Marvolo*

Of course you are. I'm glad to hear it.




 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-03-31 01:33:12**

*(no subject)*

Of course, I'd be happy to meet with Cecelia. I can drop in at Sherwood tomorrow, see how she's doing. I think that would be a good thing to do, anyway, given that after all, we're the ones who yanked her out of her old life, and we should see how she's settling in.





 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-31 01:35:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank you, Bill.



 **[alt\\_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-03-31 01:42:06](#)**  
(no subject)

You know, if things get much worse at Hogwarts, we gotta think that more and more people won't even boggle at assassination.



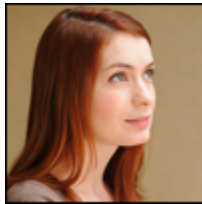
 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2013-03-31 01:43:36](#)**  
(no subject)


Boys! You shouldn't joke like that.



 **[alt\\_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-03-31 01:44:40](#)**  
(no subject)

We're not entirely joking.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-31 01:50:52](#)**  
(no subject)

The likelihood our Poppy or even Minerva could be placed under suspicion and closely questioned is far too great. I'd rather explore other options at this time.

I also strongly discourage our Hogwarts associates from attempting such measures themselves. Are we in agreement?





 **[alt\\_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-03-31 02:03:22](#)**  
(no subject)

We gave our oath to Dad to obey the directives of the Order, and we take that oath seriously.


Frankly, if Mum hasn't added the condition for our joining the Order that we had to pass our NEWTs, we would have been mighty tempted to blow up the Great Hall with a blaze of fireworks by now. And fly off to set up Weasley Wizarding Whizbangs as a proper business in New London.

You have to understand that we don't control our associates at Hogwarts. We're also a step removed from the group now that we don't have a totally secure method of communicating with them anymore, since we've aged out of our own Lock. If you want to give 'em conditions, you're going to have to make the case to them directly.

If things get much more desperate, we don't know if we can say for sure whether they'll listen. No one's spoiling to murder anyone, believe us.

But....yeah. It's Umbridge.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-03-31 03:23:50](#)**  
(no subject)

I'll be sure to make that a part of the conversation when we're all together, then.

And here's hoping that talk of potential solutions will help provide other alternatives to direct all our energies towards.