

**2013-07-01 08:02:00**

*Private Message to Percy Weasley*

What have we said about not interrupting when I am in Court?

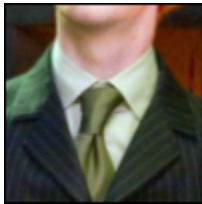


**alt\_lucius**

Luckily, had a moment when I could step away - only to find there were also urgent messages from Crispin, Ned and Ptolemy.

What the hell's going on?

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**alt\_percy** at **2013-07-01 15:06:37**

*(no subject)*

It is urgent, I assure you.

They've all been sent down to Personnel. Mr Massopust is back in Communications.



**alt\_lucius** at **2013-07-01 15:10:02**

*(no subject)*

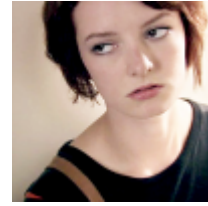
**WHAT?**

Have they contacted anyone in - Does Barty -

Oh, nevermind. I'll go to the Ministry myself, as soon as possible.

**2013-07-01 09:15:00**

*Private message to Auror Skander Gauge*



 **alt\_rachel**

The first wave of reshuffling hit this morning. Corax Mulciber sent nearly everyone in Communications down to Personnel for re-assignment (he didn't sack them, which is interesting). That included Ned Pennifold, Ptolemy Baddock, and Virgil Crispin. (All of them are allies of Lucius Malfoy; it's not terribly surprising Mulciber wanted them in less sensitive positions.)

He's put Massopust back in charge of Education and Public Information, Plympton back in charge of Wizarding Communication. Along with some of the rest of the people who were replaced last month. I'm still trying to sort out names. He was particularly urgent about getting people on Journal Monitoring -- he pulled up some underlings, gave them a list of names to watch for, and set them at it.

I'll be down to give the rest of my report in person this afternoon.

**2013-07-01 10:17:00**

*Private Message to Mordant Travers*

Your log says you're out.

Need you in.

Hopkirk's office. **ASAP**



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

**2013-07-01 10:23:00**

*Private message to Cadmus Mulciber*

Right, Malfoy's people are out and mine are in.

I gave them a list of words and names. Currently looking at Lucius Malfoy, Rodolphus Lestrangle, Rabastan Lestrangle, Bellatrix Lestrangle, Aurora Sinistra, Stephen Rosier, Marston Strangeweale, Augustus Rookwood, David Brutka, Minerva McGonagall, Antonin Dolohov. Also old entries from Rosa Parkinson, we'll see if those rumours about her and Lucius were ever true. Oh, and Narcissa's.



 [alt\\_corax](#)

We also found Malfoy's list of instructions -- it included the instruction to read Strangeweale's journal, but to ignore Pansy Parkinson's (of course, the Malfoy scion is off-limits, too). Makes me curious what we'd find in Pansy Parkinson's journal (or Draco Malfoy's!) but let's get through the meat first.

**2013-07-01 11:26:00**

*Private message to Lucius Malfoy*

Auror Gauge instructed me to send you the following notification:




Canis Mortus Est.

 [alt\\_rachel](#)

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 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-07-01 16:29:12**

*(no subject)*

And you are ...?




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-07-01 16:33:09**

*(no subject)*

Auror Rachel Lamont, from Malfeasance Elimination. I'm currently investigating in Protectorate Affairs, in the wake of former Director Selwyn's treasonous activities. Working down the hall from Corax Mulciber, but not under him.

I report to Auror Skander Gauge, in MLE.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-07-01 16:52:23**

*(no subject)*

I see. And Gauge sent you to me?

Trust you know that messages are not ... completely secure at present.

An elf will bring you instruction where to meet.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-07-01 17:10:18**

*(no subject)*

I know exactly who is currently monitoring messages and I am trusting that they are aware that any concerns or complaints about my actions,

private messages, decisions, or behaviour should be taken to Skander Gauge (Head of MEU) or Mafalda Hopkirk (Head of the Auror Division).

I await your elf, Mr Malfoy.

**2013-07-01 14:51:00**

*Private Message to Mafalda Hopkirk  
and Lucius Malfoy*



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

DONE



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-07-01 19:59:09](#)

*(no subject)*

Excellent.

Fallout?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-01 20:00:37](#)

*(no subject)*

Massopust wet himself.

Is that what you meant?



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-07-01 20:14:07](#)

*(no subject)*

Amusing, but no.

Am on my way to see Fudge. Any other squawks  
that needs silencing?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-01 20:24:45](#)

*(no subject)*

Fudge has been fuming in Hopkirk's fire off and  
on the past hour.

And Bella's just had to pry Cadmus out of there.  
Apparently he wants Mafalda (and Bella) to believe that Corax  
was off-script today and that he himself was in no way behind it.

Naturally.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-07-01 20:33:47](#)**  
(no subject)

Fudge is easily defused.

As for Cadmus, that fucking bastard ... let him think he has them convinced. No need for him to look over his shoulder unnecessarily.

How long until we require actual evidence? Met with an Auror assigned to Protectorate Affairs by Gauge - he specifically told her to offer her services to-day. If he has thrown in to us, she may be useful.

Lamont. Know anything about her?



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2013-07-01 20:55:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Gauge is reliable. We can count on his help.

And Lamont is reasonably good. Thorough. Sharp eye for detail. Creative when that's called for. Young, but solid instincts, adheres to protocol.

Best equipped trainee I've had, actually. Though maybe that's hindsight: Lamont looked good in comparison with the one that followed.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-07-01 21:11:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes. From our brief meeting it seemed she could take direction and would not fuss too badly.

Creative may be necessary but confident we can find enough wherever we need it to guarantee Azkaban.

Who was her successor - nevermind. Don't really care all that much.


Another thing. Need to speak to Ptolemy about ignoring my



instruction to destroy the notes given a month ago. Lamont reported that Mulciber had them targetting which journals to read. Not surprising, of course. But Narcissa's was one.

As you interrogate, kindly make sure her privacy is still inviolate.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-01 21:21:20](#)  
(no subject)

Yes. Using that angle in interrogation. Threats to Narcissa Malfoy's privacy are a priority in this department. Abuse of journals to threaten members of the Council. Abuse of journals to endanger Our Lord's most cherished servants and their families.

Will make that point with Baddock. Interviewing Crispin, Pennifold this afternoon, too, for whatever they might tell us about the coup they faced this morning.

Open to further suggestions re. chargeable offences, but have a list sufficient for the Wizengamot should they call for them sooner than later. Expect updates from Lamont as she has success.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-07-01 21:29:34](#)  
(no subject)

Excellent.

**[2013-07-01 14:53:00](#)**

*Order Only*

There's a gargantuan power struggle going on here today in the Department of Education and Public Information. The prize, apparently, is who gets to monitor private messages in the journals. Mulciber overhauled Communications, sending Lucius Malfoy's hand-picked people packing off to personnel, and he yanked Marcus Massopust from Transportation and put him back in his old position running Education and Public Information, with Plympton running Communications again. New staff were seated at the desks and immediately put to work. Mulciber was delighted with the success of his manoeuvre; he directed me to order in lunch for his new minions who would be very, very busy picking through old private journal entries for anything interesting. Mind you, Mulciber himself went off to lunch with his brother. Presumably to gloat and strategise.




 [alt\\_bill](#)

While he was out, Barty Crouch and Bellatrix Lestrange came marching in, arresting people right and left, and announcing that journal monitoring is now under the Aurors' jurisdiction.

Mulciber came back from his victory lunch to find empty desks and is now beside himself with rage.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-01 20:25:24](#)  
(no subject)

He was so livid when he saw that all his people were gone that he unleashed a volley of curses, and one blew up the tea trolley. The tea trolley girl quit on the spot.

After that he withdrew to his office, closed the door, and no one's heard a peep.

And no one's knocking.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-07-01 20:33:00](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Goodness. Keep your head down and your eyes open.

farm?  
Sirius, might we take advantage of the goings on at the Ministry and start making our move on Terrie's



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-07-01 21:38:43](#)**  
*(no subject)*

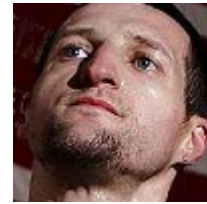
I'd say the same as Alice but add, 'watch your back.'

**2013-07-01 14:59:00**

*Private message to Cadmus Mulciber*

We need to meet again. Tonight, at the Hall.

You'd better be right about Yaxley.



 [alt\\_corax](#)

**2013-07-01 15:29:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

Dodging the curses so far this afternoon?


Right now I'm mostly just hoping that Mulciber remembers he's not supposed to take his irritation out on ME. (You lot are fair game, though. Sorry!)



 [alt\\_rachel](#)

Have you re-done the organisational charts yet? I need to see them when they're done. Though I'm starting to feel like what I really need is a score card.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-07-01 21:58:24**  
(no subject)

I've emerged unscathed so far, although I'm really starting to regret that I never went out for Quidditch at Hogwarts like the rest of my siblings did. It might have honed my ability to dodge.

I did re-do the organisational charts and sent them out for duplication, only to have my hard work overthrown by events this early afternoon, when Aurors Crouch and LeStrange scrambled the personnel lists yet again. I'll have to do them over once more. Wasn't able to finish them by the end of the day because my afternoon was overtaken by meetings and urgent requests for information and decisions. Especially since my boss didn't make himself available for the rest of the afternoon.

A score card would be handy, yes. Or better yet, a foe glass that would show who's about to hex me at any given moment.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-07-01 22:03:13**  
(no subject)

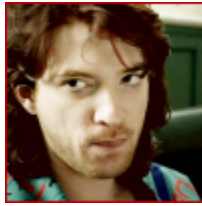
You could just hang a picture of Corax Mulciber on your door, and *pretend* it was that sort of foe glass.




 **alt\_rachel** at [2013-07-01 22:04:30](#)  
(no subject)

And I may not be able to make it tomorrow night, we'll see. Today looks like it's going to be long. Tomorrow might end up being long, too.

You used to work for Massopust, didn't you? What can you tell me about him? Be un-diplomatic.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-02 01:38:39](#)  
(no subject)

My goodness, is that how you get your suspects to yield up their secrets? By exhorting them to be un-diplomatic? And does that work for you? Sorry, but if I'm going to survive the riptides of my new position, I have to be careful about flapping my lips about my coworkers and former bosses.

I can tell you, diplomatically, that Marcus Massopust is regarded as a competent manager, perhaps occasionally a touch irritable, who is diligent about running his department in accordance with Protectorate values. (The ministry's weekly departmental newsletter has noted that at least once Our Lord was heard to have praised his work in Court.) He is for the most part adroit at dealing with the press. Diligent about seeking out information and then values keeping strong control over it once he has it. He is particular about the personnel in his department, and will not hesitate to move people if they are not doing work up to his standards.

Mentoring is perhaps not his forte. He would doubtless not be pleased to hear that you are asking me about him.

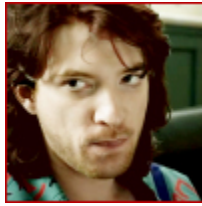
(If you inform me that he continues to be a target of official investigation, of course, that's different, and I will in that case demonstrate my willingness to fully cooperate with MLE by telling you some un-diplomatic things. Is he still under arrest?)




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-02 01:44:36](#)  
(no subject)

It works for me a lot more often than you'd expect, considering that my job title is not exactly a state secret.

As it happens, he IS still under arrest. And likely to remain that way for a while. So spill.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-02 01:48:49](#)  
(no subject)

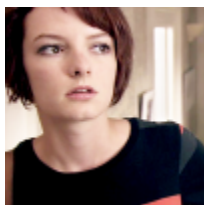
In that case: Marcus Massopust is hungry for any information he can get, both about possible enemies of the state and about his rivals at the Ministry and even his allies, and he occasionally resorts to dodgy means to obtain it. He is quite a control freak, and can get unbelievably tetchy when things don't work out as he expects them to. He is not above inserting puff pieces about himself in the Ministry newsletter. Tight-fisted when it comes to budgeting, which is to the Protectorate's benefit, of course, albeit irritating to his employees.


Finds the rise of his subordinates threatening, and he will at times try to sabotage those he fears may be promoted above him. As I know from personal experience, so you should take what I say with a grain of salt, I suppose.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-02 01:51:09](#)  
(no subject)

I hope that was helpful.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-02 02:09:47](#)  
(no subject)

That was actually quite helpful. Thank you.




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-02 02:30:22](#)**  
(no subject)

I could tell from the information I found in his office that he hadn't got on well with you.

I figured you'd probably know why.



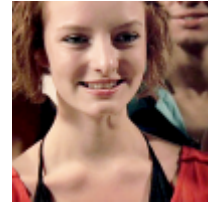
 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-02 03:53:12](#)**  
(no subject)

It probably sounds rather arrogant for me to say 'jealousy,' but I do sincerely believe that was the root of the problem. It was a shame, really. I would have liked to have had him as a mentor, and I didn't covet his position, but he didn't believe that, and he did his best to keep me at arm's length.



**2013-07-01 15:41:00**

*Private message to Lana Sandoval-Pennifold*



 **alt\_rachel**

I'd say I hope you were having a less interesting day than me, but I'm pretty sure we're having the SAME interesting day. Unless you're out in the field -- are you? If you're here, you know this already, but journal monitoring (for the private messages, anyway) has been moved into the Auror division. WHERE IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN FROM THE START. That leak to the gossip rags would never have happened if it had been us, just for starters.

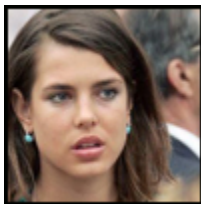
Auror Crouch and Auror Lestrangle came in while Mulciber was at lunch and hauled all his hand-picked people off to MLE for questioning.


You should have seen

1. The look on Plympton's face when he stood up and saw Auror Lestrangle.
2. The look on Mulciber's face when he got back.

Admittedly I didn't get much of a chance to admire the second. The fact that he is not my boss and has no authority to curse me does not necessarily mean that he won't, so I took a quick look and got out of his way.

I'm supposed to try to find anything interesting I can about Plympton, Massopust and the rest.



 **alt\_lana** at **2013-07-01 21:43:49**  
(no subject)

The interesting bit started with a message from Ned this morning after he was sacked. From Director of Wizarding Communications to Redundancy without having had a proper breakfast, even. (He thinks he needs to reduce. Not my fault if he likes the elf's cooking a bit too much.)


Anywiz, Ned's luckier than Plympton: I'd say that an afternoon in the Interrogation dungeons is bit more of a come-down than Ned's

morning in Personnel.

I would give anything to have seen Mulciber's face when he found they'd cleaned out his little cabal in Comms. Actually, I'm really sorry I wasn't there to see Aurors C and L rounding them all up. It was a sad little parade when it made its way down here.

Suppose they sealed off the department for you. Have you found anything useful, then?




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-01 21:53:19](#)**  
(no subject)

Personally, I would take a morning in Personnel over an afternoon in Interrogation, unless I'm one of the ones holding a wand. Not, I imagine, that it was how Ned was hoping to start the day.

They did seal off the department. Let's see, I found Corax Mulciber's list of whose messages he especially wanted them looking at. I passed that along straight away. Also, I found a lot of leftover sandwiches and someone's half-finished note to his wife. They just weren't in there long enough to leave all that much. I'm starting on Plympton's old office now, to see if there's anything there.



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2013-07-01 23:09:48](#)**  
(no subject)

Say. Do you have to work through?


Ned's just out of a meeting and we were saying we should pick up supper somewhere. You could come with unless your orders are not to leave until you've found the last shred of useful evidence in there.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-01 23:29:30](#)**  
(no subject)

I could take a break for a bit. Have you left already? I could come meet you.



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2013-07-01 23:40:18](#)**  
(no subject)

We're still here, actually. Ned came out of one meeting and promptly got pulled in with Travers and Revanche to talk about what role he could have now that they've brought the journals under our roof.

But they've tabled it until tomorrow now so they can pull Starling in with them.


We were thinking of heading to Bubble & Squeak. Unless you just hate it there. If so, name your place. We're game.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-01 23:43:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Haven't been there. My mum makes something she calls 'Bubble and Squeak' with all the leftovers we didn't much care to eat the first time. I've been afraid to try it. If you say it's good, I'll give it a go.




 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2013-07-01 23:49:29](#)**  
(no subject)

Ah. That does sound unpleasant.

I don't think anything at B&S has been leftover from other meals. But it is... casual food. Bangers and mash. Meat pies. Salad. That sort of thing.

Ned says he fancies going to Mandalay. He likes the orange chicken. Does that sound better to you?

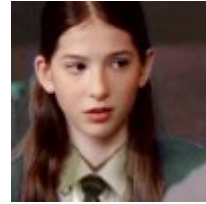


 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-01 23:56:03](#)**  
(no subject)

Mandalay sounds perfect. I'll meet you by the fountain.

**2013-07-01 19:21:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Mr Snape*



 **alt\_sally\_anne**

I apologise in advance for how completely creepy this topic is, but it was already kind of on my mind and then Justin pointed out that if Bill still worked in his old job he might have wound up arrested and questioned by MLE. and now I'm REALLY wondering...

Do the adults in the Order think at all about what might happen if they were ever arrested? Do they all carry poison and just never talk about it?

I mean if Bill got arrested with the whole Wizarding Communications department hopefully he'd have been able to keep his head down and blame his boss and get out without too much trouble. Of course he's terrible at occlumency, you said, but they don't have all that many legilimens in MLE so probably they wouldn't waste their time on the underlings.

But. It shows how easily someone could get caught even if they hadn't made a mistake, you know?

Are they all such Gryffindors they think they could hold out indefinitely no matter what MLE did to them?



 **alt\_severus** at **2013-07-02 01:29:40**  
(no subject)

I believe I have established already that you are welcome to inquire about any topic that is concerning you. Should I have been improperly explicit: do not censor yourself purely out of concern that a topic is 'creepy'. In matters such as these, it is better to ask, on the off chance you have thought of something that no one else has, than to keep silent out of fear for how you will be perceived.

I do not know the details of the precautions the others in the Order have taken; it is a matter left up to each individual and it is safest for each of us to remain ignorant of the range of arrangements our fellows rely upon, as what we do not know we cannot betray,


inadvertently or deliberately. The matter has been discussed before, however, and those who are at risk have made what preparations they see fit. I cannot say what choices Mr Weasley has made, but I will suggest to Alice that she have a word with him about his precautions to determine whether they are sufficient.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-02 01:39:57](#)  
(no subject)

I suppose it makes sense not to know.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-07-02 02:03:27](#)  
(no subject)

The Order, in general, shares information at a rate most covert organisations would find dangerously open. It is an unfortunate side effect of one of our greatest advantages — the instantaneous, wholly-secure informational channel represented by the journals and the Order Only lock — and the tactical advantage that informational channel provides is sufficient enough that the downsides must simply be lived with. However, that does not mean we cannot practise informational discipline when the opportunity to do so arises.

That having been said, Alice is sensible enough to recognise the need for precautions for those in risky situations, and able enough to approach that topic both delicately and firmly with those whose nature leaves them with a sense of their own immortality. As it happens, I am working with Mr Weasley this evening, but I have learnt to leave such discussions in Alice's hands rather than assaying them myself.

And now, if you will excuse me, our break time is over. I would be happy to continue the conversation at a later date, however.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-02 02:14:37](#)  
(no subject)

Okay.

Do you think there are people in the Order who could use rings like the ones I made? Because you could tell Alice Mrs Longbottom about them, and she could ask people. I could make another set.

I don't want to just offer them to the whole Order, my mum would have kneazles. And probably also Mrs Weasley.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-02 02:15:04](#)  
(no subject)

I mean you know about the rings right?

I thought about them often enough when you were teaching me occlumency, I just sort of assumed.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-07-02 04:28:18](#)  
(no subject)

I am aware, yes; however, a proper teacher of Occlumency does not bring up the secrets he has seen unless his student brings them up first.


I suspect you are correct in your assessment of the vapours to which certain members of the Order would succumb should they be aware that their children have been considering the most effective means of suicide, particularly as I do not think it would be a long leap to contemplating your expedition into the Department of Mysteries. I must advise you against mentioning the precautions you have taken.

**2013-07-01 19:47:00**

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



Ron,

Has your brother come home yet? Is he all right? It sounds as if he at least escaped unscathed this time, what? Of course I'm sure he's well shaken, given that they could have taken him to MLE for questioning.  [alt\\_justin](#)

Imagine, if he'd still been back in Communications, they would have done. I say, jolly lucky for him!

Harry, I was thinking perhaps instead of Tea Appreciation tomorrow, we might fly toward the farm where Sirius's friend lives. Mrs Longbottom said she wanted to mobilise to take it. Even if the Order decide not to try now, if things at the Ministry seem to have calmed down, we ought to go for reconnaissance, what?

There's something else, though: Remember the parcels Maggie's been receiving? Hydra talked to Ms Tonks about them and the last time we were at Doughty Conduit, what, she said that no one at Laszlo's has been sending them (as far as she knows). But she *did* tell me that Mr Macnair, the one who used to be Creatures professor and is now somewhat allied to the Order, believes that Maggie is his sister.

I say, I've been trying to talk to her alone since Ms Tonks told me that. But she's been bally well impossible to catch by herself. It's almost as if after that incident with the Jugsons, she's extra-careful not to be alone with me.

I say, you don't think she still thinks I've got a crush, what? That would be well ridiculous.

How was everyone else's weekend?

-Justin

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 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-02 00:10:49](#)  
(no subject)

Mr Macnair is a pureblood, isn't he? How'd his sister wind up being classified as a muggleborn?

Do you think someone else might have better luck? A girl, say. Pansy or I could come for a visit (or we both could, and one of us could keep Remy out of the way).



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-02 02:13:07](#)  
(no subject)

Or maybe if Harry came to visit and brought me, I could find time alone with her.

Does Ms Tonks know how she got reclassified? I mean, maybe Mr Macnair said it was because of him?

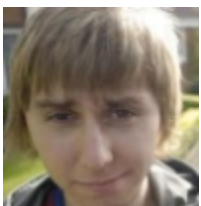
I wonder why he hasn't tried to get her out. Free her, I mean.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-02 02:41:40](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah I know.

I mean it wouldn't even be all that hard to get her away from the Jugsons.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-02 03:20:43](#)  
(no subject)

Hermione,

Cheers, that might well work!

I did ask her before, what, but she said that she's well comfortable and that the Jugsons are loads better than some places. Which is no doubt true! but of course, she thought she was speaking to one of her overlords, what, and may certainly have been colouring her reply.

I'm not sure if she'd have a similar worry speaking to the servant



of the Lord Protector's son, what? But it might be worth a try.

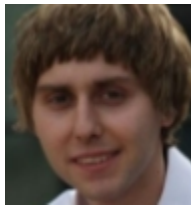
-Justin



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-03 21:21:35](#)

*Private message to Justin*

I've been thinking about it, and I could - but I probably shouldn't. I mean, not if there are other ways of finding out. It's not as if it's a life or death situation, I don't think.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-03 22:12:42](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

No, love, I'd never ask that. There are loads of options, what?

-Justin

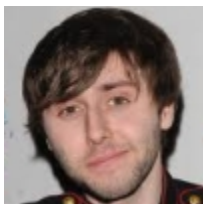


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-02 03:36:54](#)

*(no subject)*

Say. sorry about that, I was out. I think Bill's home, but he was in his room already when I got here. Reading, I think. There's a light on under his door. So he can't be too badly off, yeah?

You're dead right about flying. We should totally do that reconnaissance run tomorrow. I'll bring my broom. Are we meeting at Laszlo's, then, and Flooing to someplace less conspicuous for our start? Or meeting somewhere else?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-02 03:47:16](#)

*(no subject)*

Ron,

Let's meet at Laszlo's, yes. Sirius can perhaps tell us more about where to go to start out nearby, what?

Do tell Bill I hope he feels less shaken in the morning.

| -Justin

**2013-07-01 22:38:00**

*Private Message to B Lestrangle and L Malfoy*



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

Just out of Hopkirk's office. Travers and I have been redirecting Yaxley for her. Attempting to redirect. He's worrying the damned bone he's got hold of. Beyond furious we've grabbed the journals for ourselves. Says it's a basic enforcement task and should be his.

Hopkirk is doing what she's best at: not budging. Have now shifted him out of our domain, he can go rant at his own clerk. Or go home and try it on there. Have convinced him no one here is going to listen to another word from him tonight.



---

 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-07-02 03:58:59**  
(no subject)

So, he's gone completely mad, then?

The truly maddening thing is that if Scrimgeour had listened in the first place, journals would have been in the hands of the Aurors all along.

Have heard a few other complaints but nothing too disastrous. Believe (for the most part) that others are much more at ease knowing that the journals are in the best hands now.

Get some rest, Barty. Merlin, Cadmus had best not encounter me at the club or in the square anytime soon.

**2013-07-02 10:26:00**

*Private Message to Auror Lamont*



 [alt\\_lucius](#)

Ms Lamont,

Wondered if you have made any progress in the investigation to which you were assigned yesterday. If you could be so kind as to remit your discoveries directly to myself or Auror Crouch, copied to Auror Gauge, of course, that would be appropriate in this case. You may be aware that I do, on occasion, work with MLE as a consulting member of the Council, so you need have no fear that you are violating protocol to report outside your chain of command.

Auror Crouch spoke highly (for him) of your abilities. I trust we shall not be disappointed. Thus far, your services have been most satisfactory. Pray continue with similar diligence and - I believe the word Barty used was 'creativity' - and there should be no cause for concern.

In fact ... I wish to thank you for the spirit with which you assisted to bring the journals under MLE so swiftly. I realise that you were given little choice in the request by your superior; however, one may choose to serve at the minimum required or one may go beyond what is asked. Do not take that as an insult: Suspect you are hardly the type who would or could shirk your duty, or Barty would not have praised you even remotely. It is only by way of observing that not all persons put in your position yesterday would have thrown themselves into the task with full commitment.

As I said, I would welcome the opportunity to thank you, as well as to receive further reports. Might you be interested in tea, either Wednesday or Friday this week? I can promise you better fare than the Ministry canteen, though that is perhaps too easy a promise to make.

Do let me know and send along any other information you have acquired regarding the charges against Massopust, Plympton and the others under arrest.

Yours in service to the Protectorate,

Lucius S. Malfoy, &c.

---




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-02 16:25:19](#)  
(no subject)

I chatted yesterday evening with one of Massopust's former subordinates, who mentioned that Massopust was hungry for information -- on subordinates and superiors, enemies and allies, anything he could get. I'd found some of what he meant down in the office in Transportation, but this convinced me I'd missed something in his new office so I searched it again. There was a filing cabinet -- shrunk down, and under a charm to make it inconspicuous. The top drawer contained a collection of information. Some of it was worthy blackmail material, like apparently Plympton was taking kickbacks from some of the ruder gossip magazines, that's how they were getting away with some of what they'd printed. Much of the rest was just trash, but obsessively-saved and carefully-catalogued trash. I got through it all in a few hours, and sent it along to my colleagues with the useful bits marked.

I never did get the bottom drawer open but I'm sure someone in MLE will be able to. I gave a full report to Auror Gauge -- I'm sure he passed it to Auror Crouch, but I'll make sure Auror Crouch gets the next one right away. Or you, if you'd prefer.

Anyway. I didn't get much sleep last night but I think it was worth it. I'm just about done at this point and I expect I'll have got sleep by Wednesday, so -- yes, tea sounds very nice.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-02 16:25:56](#)  
(no subject)

I suppose I should have asked where you're planning on taking me for tea. 'Better than the canteen' covers rather a lot of ground.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-07-02 16:31:37](#)  
(no subject)

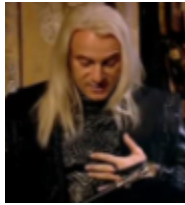
Particularly in the case of the Ministry canteen.

Have you a favourite spot? Where would you like to go?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-02 16:39:11](#)  
(no subject)

How about Coriander? It's quiet. Good for conversations. And they have both good tea, and good food.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-07-02 16:42:43](#)  
(no subject)

Splendid choice.

I'll have my clerk book us in. Would five o'clock be too late?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-02 16:44:39](#)  
(no subject)

Not if we're having food.

I'll see you there.

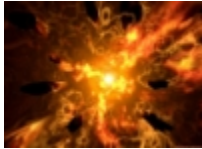
**2013-07-02 21:20:00**

*Order Only*

I can APPARATE!



 [alt\\_terry](#)



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-07-03 02:56:45](#)

*(no subject)*

Huzzah! Well done, Professor!



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-07-03 02:58:19](#)

*(no subject)*

Wonderful!




 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-07-03 02:59:01](#)

*(no subject)*

Congratulations, son. I didn't think it would be long.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-07-03 02:59:27](#)

*(no subject)*

That's very exciting!



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-03 03:05:16](#)

*(no subject)*

~~Bloody hell, EVERYONE IS GOING TO LEARN THIS BEFORE ME~~

Congratulations!



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-03 03:12:50](#)  
(no subject)


Congratulations, Terry!



 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-07-03 03:16:40](#)  
(no subject)

well done, kiddo.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-03 03:16:41](#)  
(no subject)

Terry,

Oh, I say, well done! Jolly good show, old chap!

(It's really quite a shock, the first few times, what? And then it seems like the simplest thing, as if one could never remember not knowing how. It's bally well brilliant to be able to pop one place to the next, though. And bally well unfortunate one has to pretend not to know how, at least for a while.)

Still, you have that advantage over us: You've no need to pretend anything, ever again, what!

-Justin

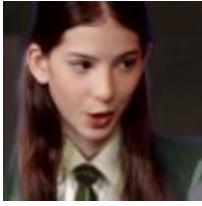


 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-07-03 03:28:55](#)  
(no subject)

That's brilliant.

It also makes me want to work even harder to figure it out myself.






 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-03 03:33:32](#)  
(no subject)


We can have a club. The 'Still Can't Bloody Apparate' club.



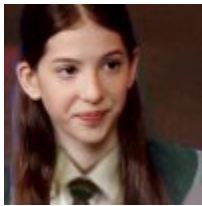
 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-07-03 11:55:52](#)  
(no subject)

Who else are members? You, me...has Pansy apparated yet?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-07-03 13:27:11](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, I have.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-03 03:36:02](#)  
*Private message to Madam Pomfrey*

Right. I really want to work on this. But I really don't feel comfortable even trying unless I know you're available to come put me back together if I splinch myself.

Are you available this summer at all? I don't think I need to be AT THE BURROW or anything like that though it would probably be good to have someone with me who can call you if it's my writing hand I leave behind.

**2013-07-02 22:15:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Bill Weasley*



Will you be all right tonight?

If you want company, come to our room. You can take one of the beds and one of us can kip on the floor.

 [alt\\_gredforge](#)



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-07-03 03:19:30**

*(no subject)*

Thanks.

Don't take it wrong, but I think I'd prefer being alone. But I'll be all right.

Thanks for the Quidditch drills afterward. I think it helped. As much as anything could.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at **2013-07-03 03:20:05**

*(no subject)*

You gonna tell Charlie?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-07-03 03:20:59**

*(no subject)*

I haven't decided yet.

Maybe.


Eventually, probably, yeah.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-07-03 03:22:45](#)  
(no subject)

We can tell him for you, if you need us to.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-03 03:24:01](#)  
(no subject)

I can do it myself, if it's going to be done. But thanks.



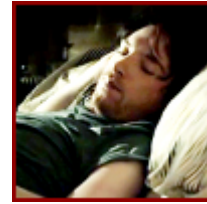
 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-07-03 03:25:20](#)  
(no subject)

Sleep well.

We promise not to dump any buckets of water on you tomorrow morning.

**2013-07-03 03:17:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Charlie Weasley*



 [alt\\_bill](#)

Charlie?



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-07-04 12:46:12](#)

*(no subject)*

Ugh, sorry I wasn't around last night when you wrote. We've got a bad strain of Ridgeback flu going back and forth between us and the dragons, and just about everyone's either puking up their toenails or taking care of the dragons who are.

You all right?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-04 14:04:59](#)

*(no subject)*

Oh, bloody hell. This isn't the right time to bring this up, then.

Except I have to. The reason I was writing to you in the middle of the night was because--

Now I'm screwing up my nerve to say it.

Charlie. I've cast two of the cardinal curses.




 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-07-04 14:09:47](#)

*(no subject)*

No, it's all right. Told you, I'm here for you on this when you need me.

That bad, then?



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-04 14:22:15](#)  
(no subject)

Not...not bad. Because it wasn't Mulciber. Which makes it even sicker in a way.

I decided I had to learn how to do it. Because I just--I was afraid of trying it for real for the first time with Mulciber standing right there and a victim on the floor in front of me. I have to do them if I'm going to stay in this job, and if I have to, I figured it would be better to be taught how to, er, do them right. So I would have control. I figured Mulciber wouldn't be patient with any fumbling around. I wasn't going to ask Percy to help, so I asked an auror who's just been assigned to work with Mulciber, too. Rachel Lamont, from the Malfeasance Elimination unit, with MLE. I figured she could at least tell me as much as the Aurors are taught in their training, and she would be professional about it.

Um. Is it all right if I tell you about it?  
I think I need to.




 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-07-04 14:25:49](#)  
(no subject)

Ugh. That's good thinking, but it must have been awful to have to make yourself do it.

And yeah, it's all right to talk about it, if you need to. I'm not going to turn up my nose at you.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-04 14:45:14](#)  
(no subject)

Thanks.

Well.

She suggested she could supply a victim for the Cruciatus curse, merciful God--I don't know if she meant a prisoner or what. So I said we could use a goat instead. And then she suggested it might make a lot of noise, which could upset the neighbours. So I decided to do it at the fishing hole, figuring it

was private. I had hoped to use the goat for Imperio, too, but she said that casting it on a human was different, and I figured that was closer to the conditions--oh hell. I'm babbling.

So I asked the twins. They didn't hesitate; they said yes right away.

I brought her there. We just sat and talked for awhile first, eating takeaway curry. She told me about her training for awhile. I think she was trying to make me less nervous about the whole thing. Then I went to get Fred and George and the goat.

We started out with Imperius. She said it's actually a harder spell, but maybe since I was obviously uncomfortable about the whole thing, the moral thing might be easier, since I was asking permission and everything. She started out by casting it over me, so I could see what it felt like.

I can see what she means, why some people actually like the sensation. It was almost a relief, in a way? Putting all decision-making and responsibility down. I mean, I know it's been done to me before, but Selwyn obliviated me afterward, so I don't remember it. She told me that I could take the opportunity to practise throwing it off. Wasn't able to do so. I just wanted to float.

She had me do a backbend. Weird, never knew I could do that. But she said that was part of the point of why she chose it: Imperius makes you more capable in certain ways because it disconnects you from your own sense of your limitations (not that it makes those limitations disappear mind you. I couldn't have done it if it wasn't in the range of my flexibility. I just never knew it was in the range of my flexibility before).

Then she had me cast it, on George. It took me awhile to figure it out but I did eventually. Only had him do innocuous stuff: put his hands over his head, raise his knee, that sort of thing.


When the spell kicked in, and he got that vague look in his eye and started doing what I ordered him to do...bugger all, Charlie. That's when I felt it.

Shite, it felt so good. Almost like...like sexual release. I mean, I felt like the sickest bugger, getting off like that on ordering my

baby brother around.

Fuck. I could see myself getting hooked on this. If I'm not very, very careful.



 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-07-04 14:52:55](#)  
(no subject)


Merlin.

Wasn't like after the rite in December, then, was it? I wonder ... I wonder if it's always like that, if it feels so good to cast it for everyone. If maybe that's why they made it Unforgiveable in the first place, because otherwise everyone would...

Don't mind me. Just trying to, I don't know, put it together.

What about the other part, then?



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-04 15:20:46](#)  
(no subject)

I don't know. I think there are some people who have a taste for it. And Percy and I just turned out to be some of the lucky ones. Ugh.

So, yeah, Crucio.

She talked about the mental part, that your mindset is the most important part of casting the spell. Sally-Anne Perks sent me an essay she's written in her Dark Arts class, where she explained that hatred is the primary emotion you draw upon when you're casting it, and anger and contempt are the secondaries. She asked me if there had been any time I'd been angry enough to hurt someone. She didn't ask for any details. Well, that was easy to answer--it was the scene that happened with Ron last December, when I threw him up against a wall and then tried to obliviate him. But I guess it didn't work, because I've felt so much remorse about it, and I've apologised to him. So I told her I needed another approach.

She suggested thinking about Mulciber, to imagine hurting him (I guess she's already twigged to the fact that I really don't like him). When that didn't work, either, she told me to imagine a scenario: I was back in Mulciber's office. I had to cruciate someone. Someone clearly innocent (she actually suggested I imagine it was the tea trolley girl). Or else he would cruciate me. I had to go over it in my mind, playing up the fear and the rage.

My mind was fighting me, I guess. I just didn't want to do it, and that was sort of bolluxing everything up.

So next she told me to imagine that it was Fred and George that Mulciber had at wandpoint and was threatening. That startled me, but I could see her point. I'm more likely to let the rage flow if it's over someone I really care about. She had me stand next to the goat and point my wand at it with my eyes closed. I could feel the emotion starting to well up, and as soon as I realised that, I said the word. But knowing I was on the brink made it all ebb away again.

She told me to substitute another person in my mind that I hated more, if that would help. I played around with imagining Umbridge hexing the twins, but I came back to Mulciber. Maybe I hate him more.

She had me say statements in my mind. *I have the right to make you suffer* was one, I remember. I think that didn't work because I just don't believe it. I could hear Dad's voice in my mind, trying to get in there instead, and I had to shove it out. Then she suggested, *My rage makes me strong*. That worked a little better, and the rage started building, but again, I was a split second too late saying the word or something, and it didn't work.


Then something occurred to me, a statement that felt true. It felt right. I thought as hard as I could, *The Order needs for me to do this*. I thought of Mulciber, and I wrapped it around the rage and I said the word and--and the goat shrieked so loudly I almost dropped my wand.

I had to walk away to pull myself together. I thought of Dad again, and I almost spewed right then and there.



I do not have a taste for Crucio, thank Merlin. Nothing like I do with Imperius.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-04 15:24:22](#)  
(no subject)

I kept myself together as I thanked her and said goodbye, and I took the goat back to the shed. Fred and George were perfect. They took me out to the orchard and we did Beater drills until the light was entirely gone. They gave me the Beater bat, and I hit that fucking Bludger so hard I tore the stitching off.

Then I went to bed and barely slept the entire night.



 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-07-04 15:35:08](#)  
(no subject)

Ugh.

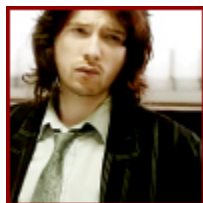
On the one hand, it sounds as though it wasn't as bad as it could have been. I mean, not to belittle what you're feeling, but ... it could have been worse, you know? The Order does need you to do this, or rather, the Order needs you in that position and that position needs you to do this. And if that's the case, it's better that you can, you know what I mean?

On the other hand, over and above the fact that it's Dark sodding magic, if you're this torn up about it, that can't be good for you, either. And if you keep being this shaken by it, Mulciber will notice, and he'll know you're not as gung-ho as he'd expect you to be, and that will make him look more closely at you and that's not a good thing. Or he'll realise how much you hate doing it, and think that's funny, and go out of his way to make you do it as often as possible.

I guess the best thing to do is just to keep your head down and play along, and do what he orders you to do, and try your best to ... I don't know, be elsewhere when he's on a rampage or something, so he doesn't try to get you involved in it. And try to avoid giving him the impression that it makes you sick to do this, but don't make it look like you enjoy it too much,

either. If that's even possible.

What did everyone else say about what you should be doing?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-04 15:55:58](#)**

*(no subject)*

Sirius mentioned a potion, something that dampens the pleasure that the susceptible get from casting dark magic. He's trying to find the formula. That would help a lot. I hope he finds it. Severus gave me some suggestions about purifying actions I can take after performing dark magic, too, and he's given me some books on occlumency.

I talked a long time with Alice and Frank and Kingsley. Terry, too, who has had some similar experiences with sick fucks trying to make you do reprehensible things and so he had some useful advice. And oddly enough, Fu was really helpful. He talked about strategic tactics and diversion: trying to distract Mulciber, to fool him into thinking he can accomplish what he wants without making me cast the curses, while I'm actually secretly working toward my own ends.


He happened to be listening in while I was talking about the essay that Perks sent me, which talked about how empathy is a counter to the cardinal curses. But I need the dark emotions to be able to cast the curses at all. So he gave me a metaphor, something that muggles use to run their power systems. I don't understand it, because he was talking about muggle electcticity--maybe Dad would have grasped the concept better. But there's this thing called 'alternating current,' where the power runs down a cable, and then it reverses and flows in the other direction. I have to learn how to channel the angry dark emotion in order to do the curses--that's what Rachel was teaching me. But then I have to sort of wash it away, overwrite it, heal the damage (and maybe blunt any possible addiction) by flooding myself with empathy. That fits in with what Albus said, about remorse healing the damage caused by dark magic. And it fits with my own experience, how I only started recovering from that rite when I apologised to Ron.

So we figured out that whenever I'm forced to hurt someone,

I can minimise the damage to myself if I go out of my way to be kind to them afterwards. (Of course, I'm going to have to hide the fact that I'm doing this from Mulciber). Fu gave me a collection of books from his library on Buddhism which I'm going to read. Some of it may be applicable to Crucio, in particular: Buddhists talk a lot about suffering, and how to handle it.

I dunno--this may not sound like it makes much sense. I have to do a lot of reading. But at least I have an approach to handling this, which might make me think it's not all entirely hopeless.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-04 16:10:37](#)**  
(no subject)

And I do think I chose rightly to do it this way, yeah. Under controlled conditions, without Mulciber leering at me and someone sobbing on the floor. Actually doing it the first time, under conditions like that would have been much, much worse.

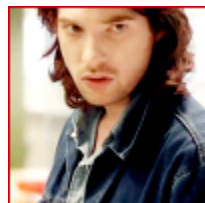
Although it will still obviously suck if I face that in the future.




 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-07-04 15:36:17](#)**  
(no subject)

And no. I'm not judging you.

And if you start coming up with excuses to cast those spells more often, or start enjoying it too much ... I still won't judge you. But I'll stop you.




 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-04 15:57:31](#)**  
(no subject)

That's why I knew I needed to tell you about this in the first place. Even though every instinct I had told me to hide it.


The twins know, obviously. I haven't told Ron or Mum or Percy.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-04 15:59:46](#)  
(no subject)

Well, I haven't told Fred or George about getting off on Imperius. But they know the rest.



 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-07-04 16:16:24](#)  
(no subject)

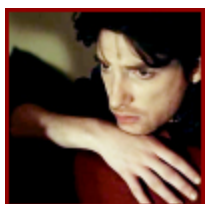
No, that all does make sense. A lot of sense, really. And I mean, I don't know a lot about all this, but I can imagine it's a lot like trying to deal with a sick dragon -- it can't talk to you, so you can't know for sure what it needs, so you have to try different things and wait and see what works and what doesn't. And if you go in there with a solid conviction that you know what's wrong and what will make the dragon get better, you get stuck in a rut of doing the same thing over and over, even when it isn't actually helping -- so you have to wait and see, and look at what's really there instead of what you think should be there or what you've told yourself would be there if it really was what you'd decided ahead of time it was.


Sorry, that sentence was horrible, I'm not at my best right now.

What I'm trying to say, I think, is that you have to be careful that you don't decide ahead of time that casting those spells is going to make you a monster, because if you decide that, part of you is going to believe that and make it happen. And you can't decide ahead of time that having to cast those spells is going to be something life-shattering, or else a part of you is going to make it be -- make you turn and twist things until the fact that you've had to cast the Unforgiveables makes you, well, unforgiveable. But you can't decide that doing it is fine, either, because then you'll treat it like it's no big deal, and you'll become someone for whom it is no big deal. Fine line, yeah?

You're right to not tell Mum, but you were equally right to tell me. In fact, I want you to promise me right now that whenever you have to cast one of them, you tell someone.

Whether it's me, or Alice as the head of the Order, or Sirius or Kingsley or Snape, or even Fu, really -- doesn't really matter. But you have to promise me that you'll tell someone, so we can make sure you aren't tilting too far in one direction or the other.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-04 16:29:31](#)**  
(no subject)

You've hit it spot on, about it being a balancing act. Exactly.

Your suggestion strikes me as extremely sensible. Yes. I should report it each time. Be responsible to someone.


Hmm. I was only able to cast it in the first place by thinking of that statement about the Order. That makes me think I should report it formally to the Order each time. To Alice, as the Head. The fact that she's an ex-Auror herself will make it seem like...like one of Kingsley's post-mortem reports.

Look, this may all be moot if Mulciber drops dead of a heart attack tomorrow, but if it really does descend into the ugly, I hope you can bear with me if I turn to you about the more, um, personally fraught aspects. I mean, maybe it's childish, but I can't quite see myself explaining to Alice how Imperius feels to me like a magical wank.

You'll keep listening? No matter what? I'm sorry, I feel like a contemptible git begging for reassurance like this, but bloody hell, Charlie, I never imagined having to face something like this before.

Anyway. Yes. I promise. I will tell someone. That's wise and brilliant, and I'm grateful for the suggestion.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-04 16:33:49](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank you. You have no idea how much you helped. I'm particularly impressed at your helping me like this if you're ailing, and

dealing with sick dragons and coworkers on top of everything.



 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-07-04 16:40:34](#)  
(no subject)


No, you berk, I've only told you twenty times you can tell me anything, it's not like I mean it or anything.

Sorry, I shouldn't be sarcastic at you, not when you're obviously this torn up about it. But Circe's saggy tits, Bill, if you feel like you can't talk to me about anything and everything, I'm obviously falling down on the job. Yes, I'll listen. It's what I do, isn't it? Family's family.

Now put your journal down, go get some lunch, and stop chewing over this like last night's leftovers. You need to stay sharp while you're there, and I'm sure your new boss frowns on you writing in your journal when you could be anticipating his every whim.

Maybe go find that Auror and ask her to lunch with you. Lunch with a pretty girl makes it hard to mope.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-04 16:45:56](#)  
(no subject)

How did you know that she's pretty?



 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-07-04 16:47:55](#)  
(no subject)

Little brothers know these sorts of things.

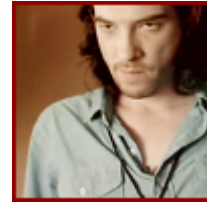
But I didn't know for sure, not until you just told me. Now get!

**2013-07-03 05:57:00**

*Private message to Molly Weasley*

Mum, I'll do the goat shed chores today.

In fact, tell the others to just forget the usual rotation. I'm doing them for the rest of the week.



 [alt\\_bill](#)



 [alt\\_molly](#) at **2013-07-03 11:08:19**

*(no subject)*

Are you sure, dear? I know how much you hate those chores.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-07-03 11:10:09**

*(no subject)*

It's something that I owe.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at **2013-07-03 11:13:00**

*(no subject)*

Are you all right, dear? I thought I heard you getting up several times during the night.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-07-03 11:16:09**

*(no subject)*

I'm fine, Mum.



**2013-07-03 08:54:00**

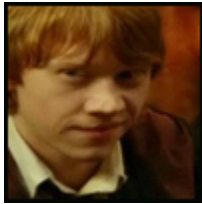
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To  
No Good: Private message to Ron*



 **alt\_sally\_anne**

Are you going to come to help me do the perimeter check again this afternoon?

Because it is a LOT more fun with you.  
Especially



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-07-03 15:40:25**

*(no subject)*

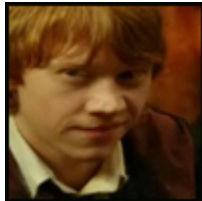
Need help, do you?




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-07-03 15:42:09**

*(no subject)*

Yes. Given how long it took the two of us to get it done the other night, just think how long I'd have been out there if it had just been me.



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-07-03 15:47:01**

*(no subject)*

Um.

You'd have been back in half an hour if I hadn't been there.

Which is why I absolutely need to help you this time, too. Every time. You couldn't possibly do it alone.

Right?





 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-03 15:49:18](#)  
(no subject)

Obviously!

Is your mum going to get worried? She's not, is she? I mean the Strettons probably wouldn't notice for at least a day if I disappeared completely.

**2013-07-03 11:28:00**

*Order Only: Terrie's farm*

Right. Well, our Institute members had a swift cuppa here yesterday, then we let them use the Floo to get to Milton Keynes. (The only hard part there was finding an active grate!) From there they flew toward the coordinates Terrie had supplied for the farm.



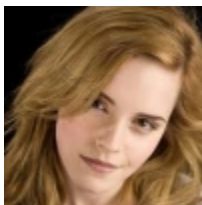
 [alt\\_sirius](#)

Harry, Justin, from what you lot said yesterday you didn't hit any trouble, but you got close enough to see that it was fairly well fortified, yeah?

Terrie did reply to my owl, too, and said she's still working on convincing some of the residents that she's on their side. I've told her to go careful. She's got her little boy to think of, and all. She said in her letter that it's slow going but it's going. She's had to stop letting Beth's people pass through, in the interim, too.

So Alice, I think we'd best keep in touch with her, but let her tell us when things there are ripe for an uprising. She did send me a copy of the new identity papers for someone being transferred, as well as the type of badge they let the overseers use, so we might be able to infiltrate sometime in the next month, before they change the forms again, and see for ourselves. Perhaps an appearance by a bonafide rebel will help impel them to act in concert.

Meanwhile, Bill, how are you feeling, mate? Anytime you want to come by, do.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at **2013-07-03 15:46:14**

*(no subject)*

Harry,

Did your hat work? You didn't say.

Or didn't anybody actually see it?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-03 15:48:11](#)  
(no subject)

Hullo, Hermione,

I say, it worked well enough to send us into fits of laughter, what!

But beyond that, I'm sure no one recognised him.

-Justin



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-07-03 15:54:46](#)  
(no subject)

Goggles are important for flying safety!




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-07-03 15:53:54](#)  
(no subject)

Well, no-one actually came close enough to really see who we were. I think they sorted out we were just kids, so they didn't come over and ask us about what we were doing. Which is good, it means we can do more stuff like that and not get too many questions, as long as we're careful.

But they might have? And I really didn't want Raz to hear that I was off flying when I was supposed to be drinking tea. But it was way easier to get out through Lazslo's than I thought. I mean, once we went inside, it was like they stopped paying any attention, you know? I don't think they even thought I'd use the floo once we were there.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-03 16:16:55](#)  
(no subject)

I'm well enough. Entirely recovered physically, of course. I've found a secure place for stashing that potion at work if I need again. Here's hoping I won't.

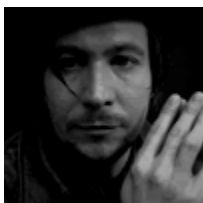
Everyone's been very intent on keeping their heads down. No explosions so far today.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-03 17:06:15](#)

*Private message to Padfoot*

How's work on that potion going? Did you get it transcribed?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-03 17:52:48](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

I think I went wrong somewhere. Either that or great-great-great-aunt Eridania really liked to use chicken feathers in her potions.

I know great-great-aunt Belvina made up a codex, if I can find it. Or else there might be some of my old notes up in the school room. Mother wanted to make sure we could make these old family receipts, you know.

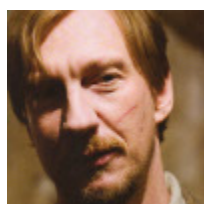
Maybe I mis-transcribed something in that first description. I'll go back through it again.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-03 17:59:26](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

Let me know if you want a second set of eyes to look it over.




 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-03 19:34:09](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

I hesitate to mention this (in fact, I DID hesitate to mention this) but we also have a genuine Potions expert on call.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-07-04 02:20:12**  
(no subject)

That sounds like it would be best, yes. I think perhaps sending in Davidson and someone from Aldrich would help greatly -- especially if she's having trouble convincing the Muggles that she's on their side. And I think you had quite an impact on Aldrich as well when it came to inspiring confidence -- it might help in this case too.

Where are Beth's people going to, I wonder? Are they able to get over into Ireland? Do they scatter and try and make it on their own, or are they gathering a foothold somewhere?

**2013-07-03 22:11:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

So what should we do next? We've got the Distance Flying Club on Friday, don't we? Is there any particular way we should take that would be useful? I mean, I guess just flying around is okay too, because it's good cover for when we do have somewhere important to go.



 [alt\\_harry](#)

I really need to work on Apparation, and I know other people do too. Could we do that at Tea Appreciation next week, maybe?

---



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-04 02:25:18](#)

*(no subject)*

Wherever we go, I hope we can get some ley flying in. I was hoping we'd cross one of them on our way to the farm, but we didn't.

I mean, I want to go wherever we need to. It would just be a bonus if we got to do some ley flying, too.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-04 03:35:43](#)

*(no subject)*

Yeah.

Ley flying is cool.

We can definitely do recon, though. There's hardly anywhere we could go that would be particularly suspicious. We'd just be doing long-distance flying to train for CCF, you know?

(Has anyone heard from CCF yet? They said they were dropping people this year from the programme but who knows, I mean with Umbridge gone...anyway.)



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-04 04:02:34](#)

*Private Message to Sally Anne*

No. Nothing.

Ugh. What if they drop me and keep you?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-04 04:04:10](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

They're not going to do that. They're more likely to drop me and keep you, and Pansy, and the other purebloods.

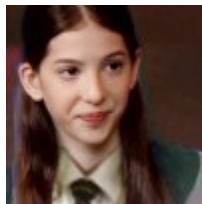


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-04 04:14:50](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

Maybe they'll drop us both.

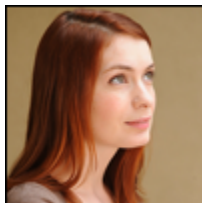
Or maybe they won't have CCF at all. I mean, maybe Umbridge really did muck it up so badly they can't get the details worked out in time for summer. That'd be all right.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-04 04:16:35](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

I suppose. It was sort of fun before Umbridge got hold of it, but we can have the Order help us train now, we don't need it as much for that.



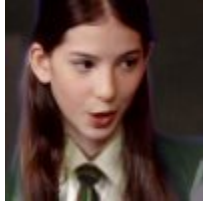
 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-07-04 04:21:18](#)

*(no subject)*

Perhaps you could start surveying for the location of the Octoboros? I'm fairly sure that once one is found, the location of the rest could be extrapolated, but that's from what Cecelia's told me -- it's all one big guess at this point. There's some rather tricky Arithmancy involved, of course, but we'd need to find one first.

Perhaps the railroad the Octoboros we captured was traveling along would be a good start -- I'm not sure if it was headed in a

straight path to its ultimate destination, but if you were to follow the train tracks, perhaps see which route it might have taken to the coast, that would be useful.

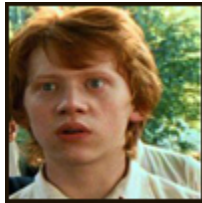


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-04 04:52:09](#)

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

Well it's good to know she's got confidence in us.

Except wait, there's a horcrux out there she didn't ask us to find while we were at it. It has to be around here SOMEWHERE -- it's certainly not going to be outside the wards!



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-04 05:07:04](#)

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

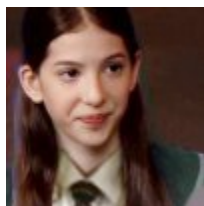
Heh. Yeah.

I mean if it was as simple as flying up the railroad tracks to find where it was headed, they'd have done that already. Wouldn't they?

Do they think the Ministry've put another one wherever the one we captured was meant to go? I haven't read all of-

Oh, who am I kidding, I haven't read much of anything from before.

What do they really know about the one they found? And is that what it's really called or just a name we made up for it?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-04 05:18:20](#)

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

I've read loads and loads but it's impossible to keep track of it all.

I think maybe one of your brother's Analysts found out that's what it was called? But I'm not sure. It came from the Department of Mysteries and maybe it IS that simple, I mean, flying up the railroad tracks. Half the Order adults are fugitives and most of the rest are people like your mum, they



have stuff they have to do most days. We're on holiday, so...we have time, maybe.

Mind you, if they thought it was that important, and that easy, they'd have done it by now.



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-07-04 05:35:22**

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

Well, then. That's easy. We'll fly there on Friday. No problem.

If it's there, they'll think we're brilliant, and if it's not we'll just start looking under cabbage leaves in all the fields we find from now until we leave for school. Or CCF. Whatever. We'll work on it.

**2013-07-03 22:26:00**

*Private Message to Padma Patil*

I suppose it was something I said. Certainly wasn't anything I did. You didn't stay long enough for that.




 [alt\\_blaise](#)

I trust Burton delivered you safely home.

You could at least have let me escort you.

---



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-07-04 03:34:15](#)

*(no subject)*

Why, so you could spend the whole carriage-ride telling me I'm being unreasonable and babyish and trying to convince me to come back?

No, thank you. Your idea of a party is--is *depraved*.

And I'm half an hour late for curfew. You're lucky Pav and I have a system.



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-07-04 03:36:05](#)

*(no subject)*

Of course you have a system. If you didn't have a system, I'd think something was seriously wrong with you both. What's a twin for if not to cover for you?

Maybe she'd like the parties better.

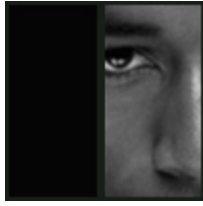


 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-07-04 03:47:25](#)

*(no subject)*

Don't you dare.

It's a wonder Daphs ever tolerated you.




 **[alt\\_blaise](#)** at **[2013-07-04 04:01:13](#)**  
(no subject)

Daphne has impeccable taste. But that's not a conversation you want us to have.

So you'll come on Saturday, won't you? The next one's at mine.

And Tamblyn will be here. Mind you, I think he's bringing Gray, but that doesn't mean you can't look.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-07-04 04:09:59](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, really? She's been with Bole, a certified maniac; then she crushed on that director for the revue, who's a pufta if ever there was one; and then she snogged Ron sodding *Weasley*. Still want to hold up Daphs as a paragon of good taste?

And for your information, I'm not *interested* in Tamblyn. And if Gray comes it's her own lookout. There's more to girls than our... more than what you can *shag*, for Lakshmi's sake!

What on earth makes you think I'd come on Saturday?




 **[alt\\_blaise](#)** at **[2013-07-04 04:13:23](#)**  
(no subject)

Daphne's decisions are entirely her own, and none of your business.

Don't come, then. Suit yourself.

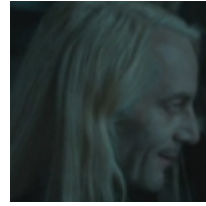


 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-07-04 04:14:03](#)**  
(no subject)

FINE.

**2013-07-04 15:15:00**

*Private Message to Auror Lamont*



Ms Lamont:

Hope you enjoyed dinner yester-day as much as I did. If you were even half as pleased, it would have been time well spent.

 [alt\\_lucius](#)

Occurs to me that we might be well-served to set a regular interval during which you may deliver reports on your findings within Protectorate Affairs. Am sure you agree that a large number of private messages between us might pique Mulciber's interest and put you at greater risk, or interfere with your ability to conduct your primary objectives within the department.

As a proposal for at least one meeting, you expressed a desire to test the fitness course at the Elysian. Although it is not as secure a place to meet as my private town house, we would be able to speak there with relative assurance of confidentiality. One cautions that it would be impractical to make that a regular occurrence, particularly as both Mulcibers also have access to that establishment. The same, unfortunately, could be said for the Ouroboros: While it would be a simple matter to arrange for you to run the course as a guest, it would be foolish to think Mulciber would not discover a standing appointment for that purpose.

Alternatively, judging from your reaction to the meal, one might venture to suggest that a luncheon or tea might be enough to tempt you. There are a number of options if that were to be the solution.

I shall, of course, speak again with Auror Gauge to ensure that he means for your continued co-operation, so that your absence from the office during such periods will meet with no disapproval.

If you are willing to continue, that is. You are, naturally, ideally positioned for the reconnaissance required - but if it has become ... distasteful to you, no one would wish you to engage in activities you might later regret.

Know that should you decline, no further explanation is necessary and no repercussions, professional or otherwise, would befall you. In that case, only *I* should suffer a disappointment which, no doubt, I should regret very much.


Hoping therefore that you look upon this offer with favour, I remain,

Your humble servant,

Lucius Malfoy

---




 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-07-04 20:01:25**  
(no subject)

I would be delighted to meet with you further, Mr Malfoy, though I agree it would be best if Mulciber remains unaware that you're getting information from me. He has many ways he could make my job more difficult.

A regular meal would probably be safest; lunch would work, but I can't be absent for very long without being noticed. Tea might be preferable.

I do hope you'll take me to the Elysian at some point, even if it can't be a regular occurrence.




 **alt\_lucius** at **2013-07-04 23:05:12**  
(no subject)

That is very good news, Ms Lamont. Believe me, the last thing I should like to do is make your work more difficult.

Agreed that an appointment for tea would provide the option to extend as necessary. Given my current obligations, Thursdays would be best for me but if that poses a problem, you have but to say and my clerk will re-arrange my weeks. But let us not delay a full week before we start; are you available Monday next? I've something in the evening but could manage a brief luncheon if you've the time.

I should be most happy to oblige, regarding the Elysian. I've a feeling it would be both educational and gratifying to see your skills in action.

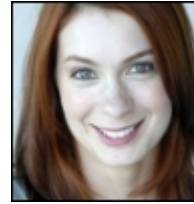


 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-05 04:05:16](#)  
(no subject)

I could arrange time on Monday for lunch, and Thursdays for tea in the future. That would work nicely.

**2013-07-04 21:20:00**

*ORDER ONLY*



 [alt\\_alice](#)

Just following up on a few odds and ends.

First of all, we've had some excellent news -- both our Terry and Colin Creevy have successfully Apparated, and congratulations to them both. I hope the practise session this next week at Grimmauld goes well, and that by the end of summer, we'll have made good progress on that front. Also -- I'm curious -- how many of the Institute can create their own Patronus? It's worth working on, and perhaps Sirius and Remus can demonstrate how we use them to send directed messages. I've been thinking that if anyone still has difficulty producing a Patronus by the end of summer, we might look into providing them in bottles in case of an emergency (it's a fairly clever idea, I must admit).

Minerva, when is the earliest you can access Hogwarts, and the book? Can you perhaps make some excuse to visit there in the next few weeks? I'm anticipating that the list will have gathered quite a few additions, and I want to get started on them sooner rather than later.

Charlie, when can you get away? I'd like for you to come to Moddey to meet with Mac to discuss strategies for making initial contact with the goblins, as well as possibly treating with the centaurs -- now that Hogwarts is empty for the summer, you'd be less likely to be spotted, so it's worth a try. Bill, if you could come along to the meeting to advise us as how to best proceed with the Goblins, it would be much appreciated.

Fred, George, if you can make your excuses, we're ready for you at Moddey for an extended visit. Would this upcoming week be too soon? If not, you can come the week after. Lee, you're welcome to stop by as often as you can get away without too much notice. We're also going to be bringing Neville and Evelyn up to Moddey for a visit, so I want to make sure that the rest of our newer members know that they are welcome as well -- although overnight visits will require some advance notice, and adequate cover for your absence.

Regina Lee and Lisa Turpin are currently preparing for an extended visit to Aldrich to make a survey of their crops, and see where they might be of service. Kingsley, if you could drop in on them, I'd appreciate it -- and perhaps you could provide a more thorough report

of how things are progressing there. We've heard dribs and drabs, but any additional information you could pass along would be useful.

And does anyone have any recent news of Mundungus? We're in need of his Black Market connections now that we can't depend on the shipment from France any more, and he hasn't responded to my attempts to get in touch. Remus, Sirius, Tonks, if you could keep your eyes open for him, that would be useful.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-07-05 02:56:27**

*Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

We've been talking with Uncle Algie, and he's prepared to cover for you for a few days so that you can visit. We were thinking next Friday through Sunday, so you could overlap a bit with the Twins.

Would that work?

We're very much looking forward to having you both.

It will be difficult to have too many overnights, as Polyjuice is a bit dear these days and there's only so much Algie can do, but we might be able to sort out regular visits on certain days of the week over summer where you come by for breakfast and stay through dinner.

It might be a bit tricky to get you to and fro, but once you sort out Apparation, you can certainly come on your own steam.



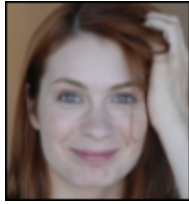
 **alt\_evelyn** at **2013-07-05 14:02:33**

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

This. Is. BRILLIANT!

I wasn't sure if we were allowed to come. I was hoping we would be, of course, but I didn't want to pin everything on it, and I am so very happy that I can't stop smiling.






 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-07-05 15:56:27**

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

There have to be some perks to your being full members of the Order, dearest heart.

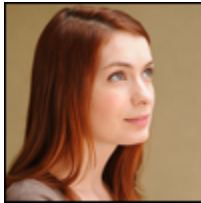


 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2013-07-05 20:25:25**

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

Agreed. I just want to see the Sanctuary so much. I have to admit, as much as I love Gran, I'm finding that the days here this summer seem awfully long and boring.

I really hope I master apparition soon.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-07-05 02:58:11**

*Private Message to Harry*

Harry, I know it can be a bit difficult for you to get away for any length of time, but I wanted to make sure you knew that you would be welcome at Moddey, even if you could only visit for a little while.

And if it doesn't work out for you to come here, I can always bring by Dudley for a visit to Grimmauld when you're planning to be there.



 **[alt\\_harry](#) at 2013-07-06 03:15:14**

*Re: Private Message to Harry*

Yeah. I do want to see him. Maybe bringing him to Grimmauld would be okay?

Are you going to tell him? That you might've found his mum?



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-07-06 04:23:07**

*Re: Private Message to Harry*

We will tell him that we're following a possible lead, yes. It's a fine line between not raising someone's hopes overly much and keeping them entirely in the dark, but I think it'd be good for him to have a bit of hard evidence that we are making an active effort to look for her.

And I'll talk to him about visiting Grimmauld. I'll let you know what he says. Just remember that this news about his mum might mean he'll want very much to talk to you, or it might mean he needs a bit of time to himself. Regardless, I'll try to see if I can't get you two together at least once before the end of hols.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-07-05 03:03:43**

*Private Message to Bill*

Thank you for your report, Bill.

I know this has been a rather difficult week for you, but we'll keep on top of things. I think your idea is a good one, and know that I'll try to help however I can.

Once you've had some time to adjust a bit, I think we ought to revisit your security options, just to see what might need shifting under your new circumstances. And training with Severus to brush up further on your Occlumency would be a good use of your time regardless.



 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-07-05 20:39:26**

*Re: Private Message to Bill*

Thank you, Alice, for your understanding, as well as for the books. *After Imperio* is just as interesting (and useful, I think) as Terry promised me it would be. Thank you for agreeing to receive my reports on the curses going forward. With luck, we won't have many.

Kingsley and I had intended to talk about security last weekend, but the discussion on dark magic theory sort of pre-empted it (although that was certainly valuable, too.) I'll try to pull my thoughts on that

together, and we can touch on that when I come on Thursday to discuss the goblins.




 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-07-05 10:17:34](#)**  
(no subject)

We're a little tight here -- everyone's sick or taking care of someone who is. (Ridgeback flu keeps going back and forth between us and the dragons. I'm lucky enough that I seem to be immune to this strain, but that just means I'm twice as busy.)

If you want Bill to come along, you'll probably want weekend or evening, so you're probably looking at Wednesday or Thursday at least. Sorry, Alice.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-07-05 14:00:55](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm sorry to hear, Charlie.

There's no immediate rush -- I just want to get our feet under us. Thursday would be fine. And if we need to, we can certainly wait until the week after.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-05 20:29:32](#)**  
(no subject)

Thursday works for me, too, barring some crisis at the office. But for now, let's plan on it.



 **[alt\\_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-07-05 20:44:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Brilliant, and thanks. We've cooked up a story (for Ginny and Percy's benefit) that we've been invite to spend the week with a mate from school, with some trips planned to investigate internships.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-07-06 02:18:52](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, and if we didn't say, the coming week works fine.



 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-07-05 20:45:35](#)  
(no subject)

Will do, Alice.

**2013-07-05 20:39:00**

*Order Only*

Frank, I'm back from Chipstead and seeing Irene Young.



For the rest of you: Young's the one who had a list of items for us of things her camp could use to make their lives a bit easier. When we delivered those things several weeks ago, she had thought of two more things they really hoped we'd find for them--dental tools and anti-infective ointments. She hesitated to ask--she was genuinely grateful for what we'd already brought them--and she asked if there were anything they could do for us. Frank and I talked about our hope that they'd be willing to be our eyes and ears in the camp and our contacts if we ever needed them, which she was happy to promise.

 [alt\\_nymphadora](#)

And then I also shared our list of people we've been hoping to locate or hear any report of, and this is the brilliant thing!

Today when I went back to deliver the dental equipment and the ointments, she told me that she'd realised she does know one of the people on the list. Someone called Patty Elliot is there in the camp, but Young knew that's not always been the name she went by. She said this Patty's proper name is actually Petunia.

She also said that 'Patty' seems a bit off character for this woman. That was one reason it came to her--that and the fact that you don't meet too many people called Petunia, at all. Anywiz, this woman's a bit... 'sour' and 'crisp' were the words she used, I think. She's married now to a bloke called Walter Elliot, but that's been since she came to Chipstead, and Young knew she'd had another marriage earlier in life. She didn't know for certain whether Mrs Elliot has any children--she's not had any with Mr Elliot.

I asked Sirius when I got home, and he said the description sounds just like what he'd heard from James Potter about Petunia Dursley. I don't know. The physical description Young gave doesn't really narrow it down--she's apparently on the tallish side of medium height, has greying hair, and is thin and wiry with very correct posture. I mean, that rules out plump, slouchy, young people, but honestly, it's a perfectly reasonable description of an awful lot of women in the camps.

I asked if it would be possible to meet her, and Young thinks it could be arranged, but it would require a bit of planning.

So that's my report. Frank: have you been able to get back to see Margery Birdwhistle again?

---



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-07-06 02:51:37](#)**  
(no subject)

No, I said the description sounds like what James and I used to say about her. Except for the grey hair, of course. If I could get in to the camp as Padfoot, I'd be able to tell if it's her. I don't trust her not to shriek if she sees me, though - the last time we were face to face, she'd just tried to throw her drink into mine.

Can't imagine her going by 'Patty,' though ....




 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-07-06 03:09:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Sorry. I didn't realise you meant you'd met her. Though... was she at their wedding? That makes sense.

I suppose it was just that story about James seeing her- I'm sure it's more amusing in the telling (and if you weren't the one it happened to). Somehow I can't quite feel sorry for her, though.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-07-06 02:57:13](#)**  
(no subject)

brill.

just brill.

nicey done, tonks. it's a good lead.

no wonder we had trouble tracking her down on our end, if she's going by a different name and all.

I stopped by, yeah. since our last meeting, she'd managed to find a muggleborn witch that she seemed to trust well enough, even though she was a bit sniffy about having to depend on one. her name was Doreen Hill. older witch, but sharp, just like birdie. got her a wand, and we all sat down and worked through how to passively ward buildings that could then be tripped in an emergency so they could make safehouses. then we found an isolated corner of the camp and Doreen practised on a shed for a bit. she was rusty, and I'm going to have to check on her work next time we go through, but she'd got most of them by the time we had to head back in. the one that doesn't permit anyone with a wand from entering was the stickiest one.

anyways. showed birdie the samples of the nonlethals from Fu Lee, and gave her a dozen of the disorienting explosives, as well as a bottle of one of steve's poisons and instructions on how to use it. seemed to mollify her a bit. she was also pleased to hear about Aldrich, and asked right away if we had plans to take over a full camp any time soon, and then got sniffy all over when I told her why we couldn't.

so I guess on the whole it went well. ready for another outing next week? I was thinking we could work our way further down the list, give someone else a go.



 **alt\_nymphadora** at **2013-07-06 03:14:02**


*(no subject)*

She's something else, isn't she?

I'm glad she was pleased with the things you've been developing with Fu. I expect she'll have ideas for you next time you see her. Ways of making them better. Or other things that would be more useful once she's had a chance to think how they might use them. And that's what you need: development critique from other people who'll use the stuff.

Next week it is. Honestly, I don't know what I'd do if I didn't have our work to look forward to.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-07-06 03:12:55](#)**

*(no subject)*

You might've found my Aunt?

Really?

Can she come to Moddey Dhoo? If she wants? And can I send along a letter, for when you meet her, maybe?

Does Dudley know? He'll probably wants to send her a letter too. If, you know, it really is her.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-07-06 03:18:56](#)**

*(no subject)*

Wotcher, Harry.

I think we need to be sure it's her before we get anyone's hopes up too much. Dudley's, I mean.

But it might be useful if we had a picture of him. I don't know, Alice. What do you think? If she hasn't seen him in years, it might not help convince her to trust us. Or if she feels guilty for having got separated from him.

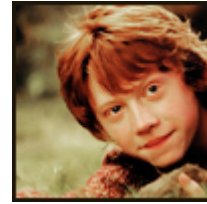
Still, it might be a good thing to have in reserve if it seems right at the time.



**[2013-07-06 18:19:00](#)**

*Order Only*

So, um. I guess I thought someone else was probably going to say what we saw yesterday when we flew up that rail line. But I can at least start telling, and the rest can say if I forget something.



 [alt\\_ron](#)

It took a while to get there, so if we go again sometime, I think we'll start closer. (I mean, there's distance flying and then there's loooooong distance flying, if you know what I mean.

Anywiz, we found the tracks, but then there was a train--it was going the other direction, but we figured it'd be better if they didn't see us and worry about what we might be getting up to, so we veered off from the line for a while. And then when we came back around, we weren't far from the end of the line, but we found something else, then.

There's a really strong ley line out there that runs right up along the tracks starting a couple miles before the end of the line. Well, that sounds wrong. What I mean is, the lines converge there. The ley line runs up from the south before they come together.

Anywiz, the ley line was really easy to pick up, and we followed that a long way. But then it was getting late and we knew we ought to turn around. So we followed for a while and then turned, but we all said we should go back sometime and see where it goes. And if we don't find an octoborous thinger up there (is that how it's spelled?), we'd have a snitch time flying ley because it's such a nift one.

Er. I think that's most of it. We had fun. And maybe it's important what we found, yeah?




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-07 02:07:23](#)  
(no subject)

Well done, Ron - well, all of you!

I'd say you're on to something. If the Octoboros needs to travel by rail, and that particular railway has a ley line across it ....

Yes, I'd say you're truly on to something.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-07-07 02:24:23](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks.

We were thinking we might go back in a couple of weeks. I mean, not before we tick some of the other spots off our list, but it does seem like we could have been on the right track.



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-07-07 02:10:41](#)**  
(no subject)


Ron,

I say, I thought someone else would surely tell everyone, too!

It was well brilliant, feeling the difference flying over the ley line, what. I hope we shan't make two long-distance flights in a week again, though, not for a while! I'm rather out of practice. Although, I say, it's bally well more comfortable than a horse, what, but a good deal colder!

-Justin

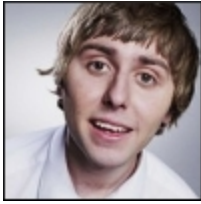


 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-07-07 02:34:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Heh. Yeah, it was a long one, and we didn't give ourselves many days in between.

I think unless something comes up that's really important, we can just stick to Fridays for flying distance, yeah?

Say. You might want to ask if the Jugsons have got any liniment for your legs or back. A broom may seem comfortable while you're flying, but it can still make you dead sore the next day.



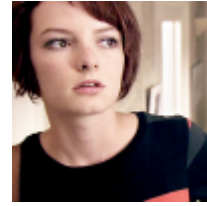
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-07 02:36:59](#)  
(no subject)

Cheers, I'll do that. Yes, it's already starting to twinge.

-Justin

**2013-07-07 17:33:00**

*Private message to Lana Sandoval-Pennifold*



 **alt\_rachel**

Have you ever had someone ask you to play Dark Arts Instructor for them? There's a bloke working as Corax Mulciber's assistant who got told he needed to learn to cast the Cardinals (well, Cruciatus and Imperius -- I doubt he's going to be asked to kill anyone) and he asked me for advice.

I talked him through both Imperius and Cruciatus. For the Cruciatus, he learned on a goat. (Yes, an actual goat, I'm not speaking metaphorically.) It's so odd where people's ethical lines fall, you know? He'd never cast either (he finished school before they introduced an actual Dark Arts curriculum).

Let me just say, he would never, ever make it as an Auror.

Anyway, it got me wondering, were they still doing Cruciatus Day, with your cohort? I know that during my training, some of the Aurors thought the whole exercise was bloody useless and taught us entirely the wrong things, while other said that if they had to go through it, we should, too.

He didn't ask me about how I learned the Killing Curse, but I think he was wondering. I'm not sure what I'll say, if he does ask. I'd prefer to give him an answer he'll like; he's a remarkably useful informant for my current investigation, as it happens. (Scrupulously fair but extremely insightful, do you know the sort? He saved me weeks of work in Communications alone.)



 **alt\_lana** at **2013-07-08 02:28:21**


*(no subject)*

You're being scrupulously careful not to tell me who this bloke is. Any reason for that?

I take it the goat was his idea, not yours. He was too squeamish to try it out on a stand-in? Honestly, I think it shows sounder ethics to try it out on someone who's got an idea what's coming before it gets hit. Not that we ask prisoners to consent. Or Muggles. But a goat? What had it ever done to deserve that?

We definitely had Cruciatus Day. Ugh. We were all basketcases before it. But then, facing Truncheon, who wouldn't be? Although. I've got to say the most memorable part of it all was when Forney demonstrated Crucio ad extremis. You know, she's always so centred, but to watch her give herself over to it. They made their point.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-08 02:51:26](#)  
(no subject)

It's Bill Weasley. You probably overlapped with some of his brothers but I'm embarrassed to admit I've already forgot which ones you'd know. They're all quidditch-playing gingers, I think.

And yes, the goat was his idea. I wasn't going to argue, given that it's not as if there's a muggle camp run as a lending library for people learning curses -- I'd have had to call in a favour. I think he was squeamish, though it's possible he was just reluctant to put me to extra trouble.



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-07-08 03:01:53](#)  
(no subject)


A Weasley? Ugh.

Yes, they're mostly quidditchers. Except for the one who was Head Boy the year after I left school. That one, well, never mind. Not worth describing.

I hope the goat bit him.

Do you mean you think he'd disapprove if you told him you learned the killing curse on animals? A bit rich if he takes that view. Only, it's obviously much crueller to torture an animal than to drop it in its tracks. AK is a mercy, really.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-08 04:14:32](#)  
(no subject)

No, I think he might be a bit unnerved that I learned the Killing Curse while still in school. I was in my 5th year when they introduced Dark

Arts as a subject, so I couldn't take it for OWL and NEWT exams, but they offered it for those who wanted to take it.




 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-07-09 02:25:18](#)  
(no subject)

If he knows you took it, he probably knows what Carrow taught you. His brother, Percy--the one behind me--took private lessons with her, and I think he sat the NEWT.

The exams weren't an option for you, then?



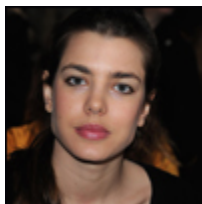
 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-09 02:47:13](#)  
(no subject)


No. Once Professor Carrow arrived, they allowed everyone 5th year and below to take the classes, but they warned us older students we were just taking them for a bit of personal

enrichment.

I had a few dorm mates who thought I was mad, spending time on anything that wouldn't lead to an exam mark, but it definitely impressed MLE when I applied for the Auror programme, so it was well worth it in the end.

Come to think of it if Bill had really made a fuss they'd probably have let him sit in -- he was Head Boy, after all. He probably didn't foresee a need, though!




 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-07-09 03:35:50](#)  
(no subject)

I'd have done the same, even if I couldn't have taken the exams.

That's what separates true students from the ones just in it for Marks. And it was shrewd of you to see what use it would be, having had some instruction. Even though Carrow was terribly narrow in her focus, it served us well in training.

I'm rather jealous of the ones who are taking it now from Antonin Dolohov. I think it's a much richer course.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-09 04:20:18](#)  
(no subject)


Well, for all that my studies were useful, I would never claim Carrow was a particularly gifted teacher. And she left out more than she put in, for all that three years of classes were better than nothing.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-09 01:19:42](#)  
(no subject)

Well, Charlie Weasley was definitely a Quidditcher. I remember him as the main reason Ravenclaw didn't win the Cup my last year. (Gave it up for dragons, apparently.)




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-08 02:55:53](#)  
(no subject)

And I don't think anyone would suggest doing away with the demonstration component, including the part where they cruciate a prisoner beyond the point of no return.

Auror Gauge thinks it's madness to demonstrate it *on trainees*, though -- thinks it encourages precisely the wrong sort of identification, and we lose good people because they can't manage to cast the curse after being on the receiving end (at least, not that same day). He might have a point. I'd say being on the receiving end of a perfect ten-second count was educational simply to reinforce how long those ten seconds feel on the other end of the wand -- a lot of trainees are skeptical when they tell you about the ten-second bursts, you can see it (at least with my cohort; maybe yours was different). I'm not sure what I learned from the trainee circle, other than that I'm not one of the ones who was likely to fail out of Auror Training for that reason.



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-07-08 03:12:02](#)  
(no subject)

Hm. I've heard that, too.

I don't know. It didn't make me sympathise with criminals. We were all able to manage it at least once with a noticeable strike. Most of us were a bit wobbly, I think. And we certainly weren't better at the end of the circle exercise. But I think we did all learn which end of it we'd rather be on!


I had the advantage in my cohort: I'd been Head Girl, so I'd used Crucio already. Stood me in good stead, too. I didn't go into that exercise as the Alpha, but I came out on top because I impressed Truncheon.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-08 04:17:52](#)  
(no subject)

That was new your year, wasn't it? Letting the Head Boy and Head Girl use Crucio. Did you find it helped noticeably with discipline?



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-07-09 03:46:15](#)  
(no subject)

Well, we didn't have to use it twice on the same ones, so in that way, I think it served its purpose.

The trouble is at that age, they don't really think before haring off and pulling outrageous stunts. Like setting free all of the rats we were using for our NEWT Transfig experiments. It was horrid, and certainly earned a sharp lesson, but it's hard to say that the example stopped other idiots from doing whatever impulsive thing popped in their heads.






 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-09 03:59:53](#)  
(no subject)

Eleven and twelve-year-olds are not noted for their self-control, even when the consequences are likely to be dire.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-08 04:31:10](#)  
(no subject)

Mind you, there were times I would have liked to cast it, just as Prefect.

You would think that Ravenclaw House would not be filled with people who think Dungbombs are the cleverest invention ever, wouldn't you? I'm sure SOME of those boys eventually matured. (You could probably attest to it!)



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-07-08 04:02:40](#)  
(no subject)

Did you have anyone get dropped because they failed the cardinals?

We lost one about then, but that wasn't why. He simply thought too much of himself when really he was a serial idiot. Arrogant imbeciles don't last long in training.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-08 04:21:20](#)  
(no subject)

We lost two. One of them failed at the Cardinals but he was failing in other ways, too -- it wasn't the only reason he dropped out.

The other, well. You probably heard the stories. He's the reason Auror Crouch won't take trainees for Intensives any more.



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-07-09 03:50:18](#)  
(no subject)

I've heard the rumours, but Crouch certainly wasn't talking about it. What happened?




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-09 04:18:17](#)  
(no subject)

Let me see if I can remember the details. We were doing the intensives in rotation and I'd had one with Auror Crouch and *I* did fine....and then Andrew MacDougal had *his* intensive with Crouch. You might remember MacDougal, he was in Ravenclaw but a year ahead of me, so he'd have been quite a bit older than you. Anyway, he wasn't actually out with Crouch -- I'm trying to remember who it was. Peel! I was thinking Forney, but I'm fairly sure this was Peel.

But in any case. They were doing surveillance and he thought they'd been spotted. Completely lost his nerve and tried to take out the guard with a curse he *had not* learned *or* practiced in Auror training. He missed his target completely and hit Peel (or Forney). Obviously that gave away the game to the people they were watching for, tipped them off completely, blew the investigation *and* put Peel in St Mungo's.

Now, friendly fire is an occupational hazard for any Auror. If MacDougal had been following instructions; if he hadn't used some completely unauthorized spell; if he hadn't blown the investigation; hell, if he'd hit *Crouch himself* instead of Peel...he might have still washed out of the training programme but perhaps he wouldn't have spent the next eleven months recovering in the Curse Damage ward.



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-07-09 16:21:07](#)  
(no subject)


So that part was true? That Crouch hexed him so badly it took months to recover?

That explains a lot, actually. Crouch was responsible for training him, so you know that made it

personal. MacDougal's lucky he's alive. There are people you do not fail.

Seriously.



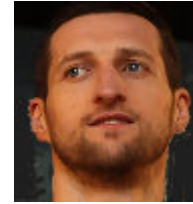
 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-09 18:33:13](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Oh, yes. I've heard rumours that there are bits that still don't work right even now, if you follow my meaning.

You don't want to make Crouch angry. Sometimes failure is inevitable, and he's not one to blame others without reason. But if you fail him because you were an idiot, it's not going to be pretty.

**2013-07-08 20:20:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*



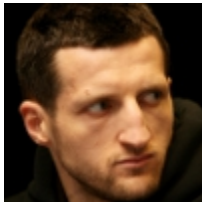
 [alt\\_corax](#)

Right. Why aren't the following departments:

Regulation & Control of Magical Creatures  
Magical Transportation  
Magical Games & Sports  
Administration

under my leadership in Protectorate Affairs? There's clearly some history here. Give me a report on it tomorrow morning.


---



 [alt\\_corax](#) at **2013-07-09 01:58:57**  
(no subject)


Also, the Office for the Regulation for Commercial Enterprise ought to be in Protectorate Affairs. I want an explanation for that one, too.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-07-09 02:15:25**  
(no subject)

Actually, that office is in Protectorate Affairs, although I'll admit that's not easy to discern from looking at the Department listing on the Personnel Roster (I've been thinking of having that chart re-designed so easier to understand).




 [alt\\_corax](#) at **2013-07-09 02:17:48**  
(no subject)

Oh, it is, eh?

Then why wasn't the bloke who runs that office at my Leadership Meeting this afternoon?



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-09 02:27:45](#)  
(no subject)

The notice for that meeting was distributed by memo just this morning, correct? I'm not sure of Boulstridge's schedule--I'll check tomorrow--but it could be that he wasn't in the office to receive it.


He often has meetings outside the Ministry with business leaders as part of his job duties.



 **alt\_corax** at [2013-07-09 02:30:50](#)  
(no subject)


See to it he's here at 10:30, when you bring me your report.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-09 02:42:37](#)  
(no subject)

Will do.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-09 02:13:06](#)  
(no subject)

I need to check some historical records myself first, but I estimate that I can have that pulled together for you by about 10:30 am, if your schedule is open to meet with me then.

**2013-07-08 23:08:00**

*Order Only: Aldrich Town*



 [alt\\_kingsley](#)

I've spent the last couple of days in Aldrich Town, talking to the people there and trying to assess what assistance we can give. First of all, you'll be happy to hear that they've taken their first steps at figuring out how they want to govern themselves. They've elected a mayor, a muggle woman by the name of Clara Mouser, and a town council consisting of six people (one muggleborn, and the rest muggle). One of the first tasks they've set for themselves is drafting a town charter.

Things seem to be running smoothly, for the most part, although that may be partly due to the fact that the euphoria hasn't quite worn off yet. There is some nervousness over the fact that they don't know what MLE makes of the fact that Aldrich Estates has disappeared from the map of the Protectorate. Have you heard anything, Bill?

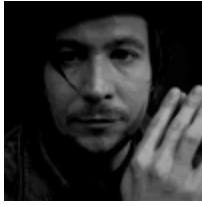
It's a good thing that it's summer, so they have several months to plan ahead concerning their resources. They've raised a couple of barns which will be devoted to winter food storage, although the community certainly will not be self-sufficient by any means, a fact which must be carefully considered and addressed. They asked for my assistance in magically cleaning out/dredging several ponds that they have on the property. The hope is that if we can obtain a source of fish fingerlings, with luck, they can supplement their diets with fish protein.

I sat in on some discussion concerning the marketing of their farm products. It's not as if they can send out their cheeses as usual, stamped 'Aldrich Estates,' and expect to get paid by their former customers without any problem. Who should their customers be now? Their old clientele, as long as they obscure their origins? Other resistance groups, such as Sherwood and Moddey Dhoo and Beth's people? The black market?

I've sent Davidson a list they've provided for me, indicating the most critically needed supplies, and a request for people with certain skill sets: mechanics, a healer, and a schoolteacher. We'll see what Davidson can do.

Two babies have been born there since Freedom Day. It seems a hopeful sign.

---




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-07-09 14:22:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Kingsley, I think there definitely is a black market for their wares. But beyond that, they ought to see if they can simply change their labels a bit and make a name that way. If it's the right clients, not anyone too high up, they could probably fetch a fair value. From what we see round the beer garden, people would love the chance to circumvent the Protectorate's supply streams whenever possible.

What have they got that's mechanical that needs fixing? Obviously they need someone round whenever it breaks down but ... well, they could probably fix it with spells instead of belts and wires and things.

Those babies ... are they Muggles? Not magical? Minerva, have you checked the book recently? If we know their names we can already cross them off the list!



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-07-09 20:03:04](#)**  
(no subject)

They' re talking about designing a new logo. Several new logos, actually, and the decision of which one to use may depend upon the market and customer, which may help obscure where the products' source.

I couldn't give you a technical explanation for the items they need--much of it relates the town's technology--but John Turner assures me that Sherwood has people knowledgeable enough to help, and sources for the parts they need. And yes, magical repairs may be useful, but the residents' determination to rely upon themselves and their own skills is something which should be encouraged, too.

The two newest citizens were born to muggle parents, so they're most likely to be muggles themselves, although of course only examining the book can tell us for sure.



 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-07-10 00:37:04](#)  
(no subject)

At any rate, here's a general list of some of the things they need:

Sand (for transfiguring into glass)

Coal

Salt

Fish to stock the ponds

Medicines

Cloth (cotton and linen--they can produce their own wool, of course)

Candles or other supplies for providing lighting (establishing some beehives would definitely be a good idea)

Soap and other personal care items--toothbrushes and tooth powder and so on

Cleaning supplies

Books and other supplies for starting a school. They're hoping to get a teacher from some of the people at Sherwood, and I think a visit from Judith to talk about her one room school house lesson plans would be valuable in the future.

Regina might visit, too, to advise them about expanding the kitchen gardens to give them a more ready supply of fresh vegetables. Fortunately, they have the citrus, which will help keep scurvy at bay if worst comes to worst, although of course they'd prefer to save their oranges and lemons for market if at all possible.

Another concern they have is that the spells over the equipment at the mill were set in place by the son of the farm's former owner, and of course, he left with the rest of the family. It was an issue of control, I suppose. Accordingly, much of what they need to know in order to maintain and operate the spinning equipment and the looms is rather a mystery.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-10 14:34:35](#)  
(no subject)

Mr Shacklebolt,

I wonder if some of us might be able to help in obtaining the supplies round New London. At any rate, we could spread out the purchasing. That is assuming that



Laszlo's couldn't obtain the supplies easily or without raising suspicion, what?

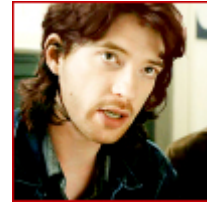
I say, are they looking for spells to work the loom, or people with knowledge? Sally-Anne, would you be able to ask anyone at the Stretton farm to show you their millworks, and perhaps then show your memory of it to someone in the Order who could teach them in Aldrich?

-Justin

**2013-07-09 08:57:00**

*Private message to Martin Boulstridge*

I learned from your coworkers that you are on holiday this week. I sincerely apologise for interrupting your well-deserved holiday like this, but as you missed a meeting yesterday, Corax Mulciber has requested your presence at his office at 10:30 this morning.



 **alt\_bill**

~~Given Mr. Mulciber's~~ I really do think it best for you to comply. I trust you will be able to be on your way immediately afterward.

Once again, my apologies.

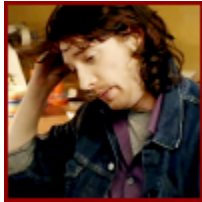
**[2013-07-09 21:19:00](#)**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

Have things turned around for the better with the new position? Are you starting to feel more comfortable with Mr Mulciber?



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

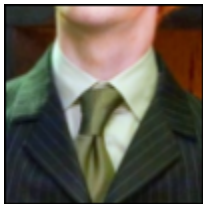


 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-10 02:21:30](#)**

*(no subject)*

To be honest, not yet, really.

And no.

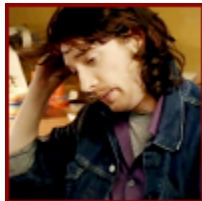


 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-07-10 02:22:56](#)**

*(no subject)*

Oh, my. I am sorry, Bill.

There haven't been any more unfortunate incidents like your second day, have there?

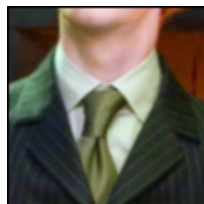


 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-10 02:27:39](#)**

*(no subject)*

'Unfortunate incidents.' That's a euphemism if I've ever heard one.

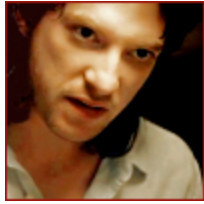
No, I haven't been cruciated again. Yet. Although today I was really afraid I was going to be, or would be forced to cruciate someone else.




 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-07-10 02:31:23](#)**

*(no subject)*

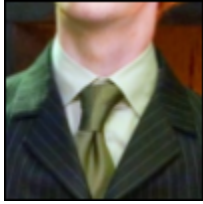
What happened? I can't imagine that you could do anything that would make any boss want to cruciate you ever, much less twice in one month!



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-10 02:33:41](#)**  
(no subject)

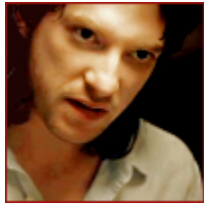
Mmm.


Percy, if I speak to you about this, I do have to ask something from you in return, all right?



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-07-10 02:34:20](#)**  
(no subject)

What do you mean? Anything, of course.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-10 02:43:44](#)**  
(no subject)

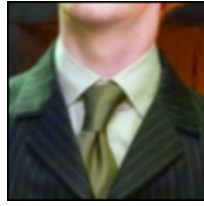
All right, I'll blunt: I absolutely need your discretion.


You've always insisted that Lucius Malfoy's clerk is honour bound to keep his confidences. I can see how you censor yourself when speaking about your boss, and I've always respected that, haven't I? Never pressing you to say anything you're not comfortable saying. And I've never repeated anything you've told me about your job.

I need the same assurance. Corax Mulciber is, I'm starting to realise, a stone cold scary son-of-a-bitch, and I'm extremely wary of what he might do if he thinks I've been talking out of turn, even to my own brother. Moreover, I strongly suspect that there are power struggles going on among some members of the Council. That would make anything I tell you about him of great interest to certain other parties who oppose Mulciber.

I've shown you that you can trust me.

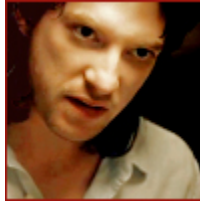
Can I trust you the same way?




 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-07-10 02:46:46](#)**  
(no subject)

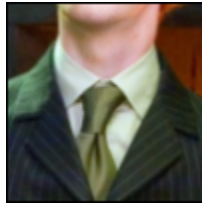
Honestly, Bill.


I'm astonished that you even need to ask. And yes, a little hurt, even.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-10 02:47:25](#)**  
(no subject)


Do you promise, then?



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-07-10 02:47:55](#)**  
(no subject)

Of course I do.

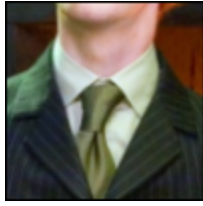


 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-10 03:05:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks for that.

Well. On Monday, Mulciber called a meeting of the division department heads. One of them missed the meeting because he was out this week on holiday. That wasn't a good enough excuse, apparently, and Mulciber ordered me to make him appear in his office this morning.


You wouldn't believe what I had to go through to locate the bloke and drag him back. As it was, we were a half an hour late for the time Mulciber had set. Once we got there, he made us wait outside his office a half an hour more. When we finally walked in and I saw the look on his face, I swear it felt like *deja vu*, and I would have bet anything that I was going to be going through all that again. It looked like the same set up as last time, you see: where I'm ordered to bring in someone that he wants to punish, just to make an example of them.



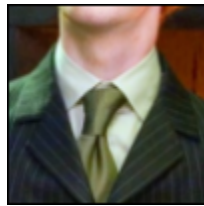
 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-07-10 03:06:37](#)**  
(no subject)


I still don't quite see why he wanted to punish him in the first place.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-10 03:10:11](#)**  
(no subject)


Judging from just a short acquaintance with him, I think it's because he's a sadist, frankly. For some reason, he prefers to keep his subordinates as off-balance and terrorised as possible.



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-07-10 03:11:18](#)**  
(no subject)

But you weren't cruciated at least, you said?

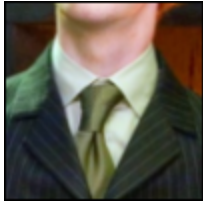


 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-10 03:50:58](#)**  
(no subject)

No, and neither was Martin Boulstridge.

Funny: it wasn't until this afternoon that I realised that the whole thing was a set up. Corax Mulciber knew perfectly well that Boulstridge was out of the office. He let slip that he'd sent the man the meeting notice by owl; everyone else had received it by memorandum. He just wanted an excuse to call somebody--anybody--to the carpet. And once he had him there, he ranted and raved at him, but Boulstridge grovelled so thoroughly that maybe that took all the fun out of it. The wretch did everything but lick Mulciber's boots.

I guess that made Mulciber feel important enough to let us both off the hook.




 **alt\_percy** at [2013-07-10 03:51:30](#)  
(no subject)

That really does sound awful, Bill.

Do you think you would have been able to cruciate the man, if your boss had ordered you to?

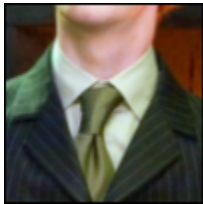


 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-10 03:52:02](#)  
(no subject)

I do.

I learned how to do it this past week, along with Imperio, since Mulciber expects me to know how. I had an Auror who has been temporarily assigned to the office teach me.

Has Mr Malfoy ever required you to perform the cardinal curses?




 **alt\_percy** at [2013-07-10 03:52:28](#)  
(no subject)

He's never asked me to perform Crucio. Frankly, I don't particularly like that spell. It has no...no finesse. Really, it's quite crude, and after all, someone in my position is expected to be skilled enough at dealing with people that it's unnecessary to resort to such techniques.

I've used Imperio, though, of course, and I find it quite useful.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-10 03:52:53](#)  
(no subject)

Have you, now?



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-07-10 03:53:17](#)**  
(no subject)


Well, of course. I mean, I am sure you were aware of Dad's prejudices. But it's so very good for keeping control of ticklish situations, you know?

And really, the more I've used it, the less I worry about the sort of qualms that troubled Dad.

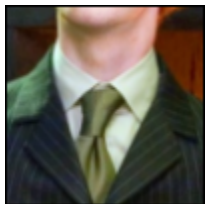
You will, too. I would think you would find it particularly useful for your job, since you have workers you must supervise, particularly if you have the responsibility of keeping someone as demanding as Mr Mulciber happy. It will be quite useful in that respect, won't it?


I'm really glad you've learned how to perform them at least. That was definitely showing foresight. Although I hope that at least with Crucio, the occasions you'll have to use it will be quite rare.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-10 03:53:48](#)**  
(no subject)

I hope that, too.

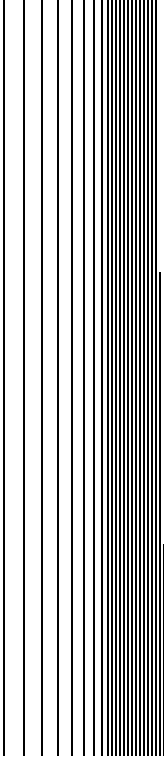



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-07-10 03:54:16](#)**  
(no subject)

It will get better, Bill. I mean, it's bound to. Surely he can see that you're clever and responsible, and he'll see the sense of keeping a good relationship with you.

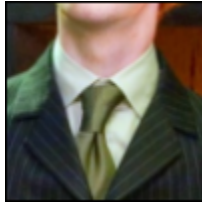
Honestly, he's quite lucky that you're his assistant.





 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-10 03:54:40](#)**  
(no subject)


Ha. His adjutant, you mean.



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-07-10 03:55:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Whatever. He's fortunate to have you.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-10 03:55:41](#)**  
(no subject)

I will do my utmost to impress him with that fact at every opportunity.

**2013-07-09 23:14:00**

*Order Only: the book*

Charles Kass, Hertfordshire.  
Alise Sinclair, New London.  
Mikhail Christiansen, Scarborough,  
Yorkshire.  
Mayuko Kawamoto, Manchester.  
Kathleen Byrne, Killarney.



 **alt\_mcgonagall**

The name 'Charles Kass' seemed familiar. I looked back. He had a brother—several years ago. One we did not succeed in saving. The parents must have reused the name.

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 **alt\_nymphadora** at **2013-07-10 03:56:51**  
(no subject)

What happened with the Kass boy, Minerva? Did the parents refuse? Or did we not find him at all--or come too late? What? It must have been before I was here. In any case, I don't remember at all.



 **alt\_frank** at **2013-07-10 07:06:45**  
(no subject)

died. in the plague.

tried to get to him, but they'd shut down the camp and weren't letting in anyone.



 **alt\_mcgonagall** at **2013-07-10 12:49:40**  
(no subject)

The fact that the parents chose to name their next child Charles surprises me. It seems like something out of another time, when Muggles reproduced and died like mayflies.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-07-10 07:10:12](#)**  
*(no subject)*

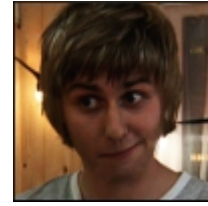
he would've been three this year. same as melania.

**2013-07-10 10:34:00**

*Private Message to Mr and Mrs Ponds*

Mr and Mrs Ponds,

I hope we shan't be intruding on you this afternoon, for tea?



 [alt\\_justin](#)

We're quite looking forward to the gathering. The parties are quite jolly, what, and today's ought to be particularly fine.

I wanted to check and make sure the additional arrangements are all in hand. Please do let me know if you need anything more to be ready. I think most of the participants shall arrive about half-three, if that's all right.

Thank you again and I do hope it stays a surprise.

See you soon,

-Justin Finch-Fletchley



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-07-10 14:44:25**

*Order Only*

Hullo,

I say, sorry to have to write it out like that but Remy said something to his parents about it being Tea day and Hydra's birthday and - well, Mrs Jugson insisted that we've clearly been imposing on your goodwill.

I thought rather than argue it would be best just to let her see that we've asked permission.

But on that note, Tonks, have you and Ellie got everything you need for the cake? And the decorations? I do hope to surprise her. I've already sent her a card so she might not think we'll do anything else.

-Justin



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-10 15:44:57](#)

*Re: Order Only*

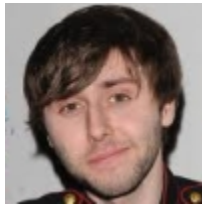
It's all here and ready!

And a bit more than that.

Ellie was making streamers, and Mr Ponds (well, you know) was showing her how to add charms to make them more festive, and then, of course, Bea wanted to help. So we'll have some streamers, but also quite a lot of confetti. Lemonade out of lemons! And it should all be quite jolly.

And do tell the Jugsons that we couldn't be more pleased to have been asked to help celebrate cousin Hydra's birthday. We're quite fond of her, you know, and no pretense about that.

Come along whenever you like. Or were you going to wait and try to come last with Hydra? Ought we think of some signal to tell you that everyone's here?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-10 16:32:36](#)

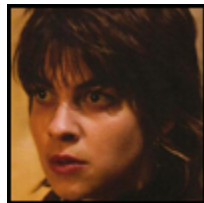
*Re: Order Only*

Cheers, that's brilliant, what! She'll love the confetti.

Remy and I are going to collect her in a little while. I rather suspect Rigel might wish to come along, so we may have Mrs Baylock as well.

We ought to have thought of a signal, dash it. What have you in mind?

-Justin



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-10 16:47:55](#)

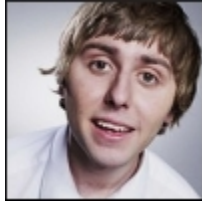
*Re: Order Only*

Well, what if we simply put up the sign that says 'Stepped out. Back in a tick!' until we're ready.

Then we'll send Remus out to act as if he's just

coming back from the post.

He'll let you in, and there we'll all be.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-10 16:49:54](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Jolly good.

See you soon,

-Justin



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-10 16:50:11](#)

*Re: Order Only*

You and anyone who came later than you, that is.

Not sure I have an idea for getting people in past you once you've got here.

But we'll have Ellie keep an eye out for when you get here, and we won't keep you standing on the mat too long.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-10 16:51:46](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Oh, that's all right; when we arrive we'll not wait to surprise her. Anyone arriving afterward can simply come in the back and join, what!

-Justin



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-10 15:48:16](#)

*(no subject)*

We would be very sorry if you didn't come! Bea will have such fun--she loves it when people have parties here!

We've got everything ready for you when you arrive. And if it's not a surprise, it won't have been us that gave it away.

**2013-07-10 13:04:00**

*Private Message to Parthenope York and  
Septima Vector*



 **alt\_antonin**

Ladies,

My apologies for not getting back to you sooner -- I am distracted by research this summer. This note is to follow up on the NEWT class lists for the rising sixths.

I will of course accept Miss Perks into the class. Madam York, Miss Perks' poor performance on the exams, when her work in my class has been so consistently excellent, is yet another proof of my assertion that the exam is outdated, poorly-constructed, and in desperate need of an update. I have submitted the parchmentwork to examine her exam performance and expect to find her performance on everything but the spellwork demonstration to be thoroughly solid. I warned you that the collection of spells you were using for the practical demonstrations were outdated, impractical, and wholly inappropriate for an examination; I trust this year's results will serve as proof I am correct. I expect the examination corpus to be updated by this year's OWLs.

I do also note one omission in the class lists: Mr Finch-Fletchley has been left off the list. I trust this oversight will be corrected immediately.

The number of students continuing into NEWT study from the theoretical class track will not be a problem, though I will need to speak to several of them later in the summer to adequately prepare them for the rigours of the curriculum.

Regards,  
Antonin

**2013-07-10 19:46:00**

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




Happy birthday, Hydra. Were you properly surprised? This afternoon was fun.

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

---



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-11 01:16:38](#)


*(no subject)*

I was!

Though, I did think that something might happen. You are all much too good as friends to forget, but I didn't expect quite so much.

Thank you, everyone.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-07-11 02:05:26](#)

*(no subject)*

It was quite fun! And a worthy occasion for celebration.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-11 02:49:30](#)

*(no subject)*


Glad you had fun.

When we do surprises at my house, they're not usually quite so... pleasant.

And it was nice your brother came along. He's funny! And quite the thing, yeah? I expect at that age it's hard to understand about other people having special days that aren't yours. Ginny was slow to pick that up. Actually, I think she just knew that the baby always gets attention, no matter whose birthday it is, and she totally milked that for all it was worth. For years.






 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-11 03:11:38](#)  
(no subject)

I don't know if it's only his age that makes it hard for him to understand. He's with Mrs Baylock almost all the time and all she ever does is what he wants. I didn't even want them to come along, but Rigel said that he wanted to "go with Hyda" so Mrs Baylock insisted.

But it isn't as if he's horrid about it, so I don't know what to think. He's just a little boy.

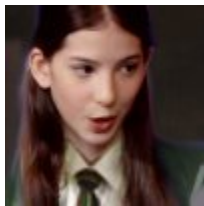
If he didn't have a nanny, and had Mummy looking in on him more, I don't think he would get what he wanted so easily. But perhaps I'm wrong about that.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-11 03:41:39](#)  
(no subject)

Well, I can tell you one thing that would change him is if your mum would have another baby so he wouldn't be youngest anymore.

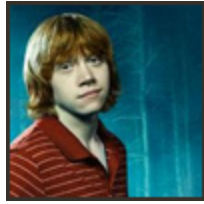
Um. Not that you probably hope that'd happen. Though I think it's probably always best to be oldest, innit?




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-11 03:43:56](#)  
(no subject)

I've heard if you're oldest you get to boss people around and if you're the youngest you get coddled and if you're the one in the middle you get the short end of BOTH sticks.

I'm not sure what you get if you're the sixth out of seven, though, other than a lot of hand-me-downs.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-11 03:46:49](#)  
(no subject)

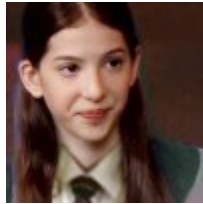
Heh.

Too right. And a lot of people taking the mickey.  
All the bloody time.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-11 03:47:49](#)  
(no subject)


Who would I ever get to boss around?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-11 03:49:15](#)  
(no subject)

Point.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-11 02:51:43](#)  
(no subject)

Happy birthday, love.

Rigel wasn't half the trouble you feared he would be,  
what? I say, I think he was trying to behave himself,  
at least.

Bea was certainly enchanted, though!

Have you decided whether your father's present is better or worse  
than his last?


-Justin



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-11 03:13:23](#)  
(no subject)


The more I think about his present, the more troubled I am. So many unicorns, and we all know what *they* mean. A few years ago I would have loved them, especially the earrings, and thought nothing of it, but now I know better.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-11 03:17:54](#)  
(no subject)


Happy Birthday again, Hydra. Useful that you were born on the same day we all come together to appreciate tea.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-11 03:48:47](#)  
(no subject)

Thank you, Draco, and thanks for coming.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-11 04:12:18](#)  
(no subject)

Draco,

Hydra's quite clever that way, what!

I say, how has your summer been so far? You were rather quiet today.

-Justin

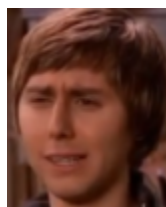



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-11 04:20:06](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, I suppose she is.

You might say that my summer has been like everyone else's, more or less. Sorry for being less

than chatty, but I don't think this weather is agreeing with me. Hot one day, rainy and grey the next. You never know what it'll bring.




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-11 04:29:34](#)  
(no subject)

I say, yes, the weather has been quite uncooperative.

I'm sure anytime you'd care to practise cooling or drying charms, we'd be happy to oblige. Particularly as Hydra and Remy have to start preparing for O.W.L.s.

-Justin

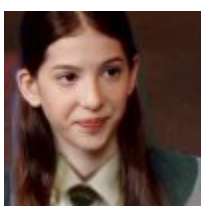



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-11 03:36:48](#)  
*Private Message to Sally Anne*

What's up Malfoy's nose, do you think?

He couldn't have looked more bored, if he'd tried. Obviously, he didn't want to be there. And now he's being rude to Hydra about it.

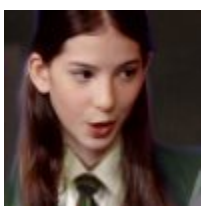
(No, I'm not going to say anything. No point in that.)




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-11 03:38:18](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

I have no idea, and now that he and Pansy have broken up I can't ask Pansy.

Thanks for not getting into it with him, though.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-11 03:39:38](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

I don't think he thinks he's being rude to Hydra, though, I think he's trying to be witty and it's coming across wrong because of the way he was this afternoon. Looking rather like he'd been forced to the party at wand point.

Maybe his parents were cross with him for slumming?



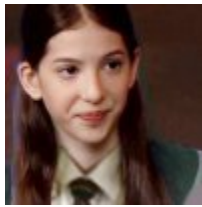
 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-07-11 03:45:20](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

But Tonks is his cousin, right? I mean, I know about her mum and all, but do you really think they gave him grief about going to Hydra's party at their cousin's shop?

Maybe so.

There's no accounting for some people.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-07-11 03:51:44](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

I think Mrs Malfoy is gracious to Tonks occasionally when she thinks about it but tries to have as little to do with her as possible. Though apparently she comes by the shop sometimes to buy things they get in that are hard to find.

So I don't know if they'd have given Draco any trouble about it.

**2013-07-11 13:15:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*



 **alt\_hermione**

Are you going flying tomorrow with the others?


Only, you didn't last week.

You know, if you tell your parents you're with Harry at Buckingham and he tells Broome and Professor Lestrangle he's with you at Kensington or Malfoy Manor, that works for you, as well as for him. And you don't need to sit round yours all the time, then.

It's just that it doesn't have to all be for Harry, you know. You could do some things for yourself, too.

Didn't you enjoy Hydra's party?



 **alt\_draco** at **2013-07-11 22:03:10**  
(no subject)

I don't know, maybe. Depends on the weather.

Thanks for the suggestion, but I can get out of the house with out a lot of elaborate planning, I think.

The party was fine. The cake was nice enough, though it was sort of noisy in there. I had a touch of a headache.

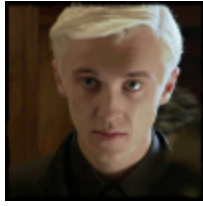
What do you mean, I could do some things for myself?



 **alt\_hermione** at **2013-07-11 22:52:15**  
(no subject)

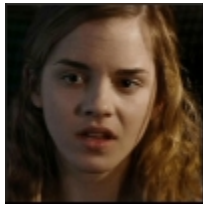
I mean...it doesn't need to all be about what Harry wants. Or needs.

(This would be easier to talk about if it were really private. I mean, I know Harry said he'd never read things that aren't for him but...I don't want to make either of you cross at each other.)



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-11 23:02:27](#)  
(no subject)

Well, why can't it be? Private, I mean. Except for in the journals, there's no spell binding you to Harry. All he would have to do is change your parchment work to read something like "Hermione Granger is the property of Hermione Granger." Or throw it in the fire or something, if it's added drama we're going for. Though the idea of a clear statement has a certain appeal, too.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-11 23:08:04](#)  
(no subject)

Oh.

Well, I don't know. First off, we'd all have to remember to put Harry into any private message that isn't under a lock and he might just forget. And besides, he might get all funny and tell me that I shouldn't stay, that I should go to Moddey or something and pretend I've run away and that's just ridiculous. I mean, I'm not going anywhere, obviously.

But anyway, that's beside the point. We weren't talking about me, we were talking about you.

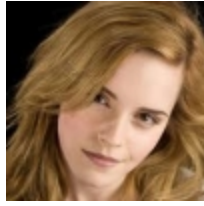


 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-11 23:12:37](#)  
(no subject)

Hermione, who is going to write to you that isn't under one or both of the locks? Aside from Harry, I'm the only one who did, and I'm under both locks now.

But it should be your choice.

Oh, right. Talking about me. I don't know why - weren't you the one who said I was only involved in any of this because of Harry?




 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-07-11 23:27:50](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't know. Someone might do. A teacher, maybe, looking for him, or something like that.

Maybe. I mean, it means a lot. To be free. Really free, I mean, not just sort of free because Harry's too nice to feel comfortable with a slave. But even when Professor McGonagall had charge of me, she was careful not to make me ever think I could be independent, you know, and--well, I don't know. It would be wonderful but...it's also dangerous.

And I did say that but that doesn't mean you can't change it. Just because Harry dragged you into it--and Pansy, I guess--that doesn't mean you can't belong.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-07-11 23:49:28](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah. Remember on the day of the First Task, when you called him "Harry" on the journals and he was going to have to cruciate you as punishment? A punishment ordered by my Father, as you might remember. Yeah, it's dangerous alright - but isn't everything, really?

And that's why I wasn't "dragged" into anything. Because I finally got it - nothing's safe. You might think that your family or saying the right things makes you safe but it doesn't. There's been ample proof of that around us for years, but lucky me, with loving parents and lots of galleons and great clothes, I got to be blind to it for a while. Sometimes I miss being blind. No one else misses it but me.

But at least this will give me some kind of free will. So there's that. I reckon it sounds selfish so you don't have to tell me that it does.

So.. are you trying to tell me that I'm not pulling my weight, or something?





 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-12 00:11:51](#)  
(no subject)

I'm telling you that if you're going to spend your time in the Order or with the ISS behaving like it's a terrible burden then we might as well Obliviate you. You were nearly as grumpy as Mr Snape. (And he's *always* grumpy, even when he's pleased.)


I mean, I understand what you mean, I think. You never had to think about how horrible it is for most people--really think about it, I mean, not just a passing thought.

Draco, are you feeling guilty because you're rich? Or your parents are powerful? Because you don't have to feel that way. And you could help in other ways, if that's what you wanted.

Or...I don't know.

I don't think it's selfish, though, to know and remind yourself that you have choices. It's not always easy to remember that.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-12 00:26:40](#)  
(no subject)

All you ever do is go on about how brill Mr Snape is, so if you can learn to live with grumpy Mr Snape, maybe you can learn to live with grumpy Mr Draco.

It wouldn't be very rational to feel guilty. I can't help what I was born with any more than you can. But I don't belong because of it. You said so yourself.

It was different when we were, you know, all rallying together and going after Umbridge. It felt good. The rescuing Fawcett part, yeah, but even more than that...knowing that I was doing something that would infuriate the Lord Protector. It felt so good that I forgot about what my parents would think about it.

Flying about and looking for stuff, or reading about what Longbottom's Mum and that Kingsley bloke are getting up to -

it doesn't feel the same. It's like my emotions aren't involved enough to make me forget that I'm doing something that goes against my family, or something.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-12 00:37:37](#)  
(no subject)

But you're *not* grumpy, normally. That's the difference.

And people will notice if you're *too* cross all the time.

I don't think your parents would have minded, our stopping Umbridge. Only that they didn't do it sooner. No one liked her, least of all your father or Professors Lestrangle and Dolohov, so they'd probably approve if you and Harry told them it was us. Well. Not that we rescued Fawcett or sent her to Moddey.

And Professor Dolohov...Sally-Anne thinks he knows it was some of us, down in the Department of Mysteries. And he hasn't done anything. I think he approved of us saving Arista Selwyn and her brother.

But planning a revolution can't all be those sorts of things. Sometimes it's normal things. Back before we even had the journals it was years in between messages and that made it sort of exciting.

I think it's the same everywhere, though, isn't it? I mean, if you read other people's journals it's not some major drama every day, it's 'Wish we had lamb tonight' or 'I'm planting parsnips in my garden, Myrna says it's daft to put them between the zinnias but it'll give us something for winter' or 'I've run out of Spell-o-Tape' and honestly, who cares about any of that even if it's your friends saying it?

If it's any consolation, I don't think they expect us to care about what's going on at Aldrich or Sherwood but at least it's there and we can help when they need something like a distraction. Or we can keep our eyes open and help deflect attention even before the Order know anyone's looking in their direction.

Like, with Bill. Now he's working for Mr Mulciber and Mr Mulciber's awful. So maybe we could find out things that would help make his job easier.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-07-12 00:52:35](#)**  
(no subject)

I agree there are some things we've done that my parents might approve of, but there are also things they would disapprove of. Really disapprove of.

Maybe I'm just not good at doing normal things. Not with anyone but you and Harry and Pansy. And maybe Hydra. Except not really Pansy either, anymore.

I'm good at acting, though, and I guess I haven't been, not really. I can do more acting, no problem.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-07-12 00:56:42](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, now you're just being irritating.

The whole point of being in the ISS (and even the Order, for that matter) is not having to act like anything.

I don't want you to act like you're not upset, you prat. I want you to not *be* upset. Which means figuring out what exactly's upsetting you.

I know everyone's new. You've got to give them a chance and get to know them, and then you'll be all right at doing normal things.

Or if you want to look at it your way, I suppose you should pretend to be having fun and sooner or later, you'll be having fun.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-12 01:05:41](#)  
(no subject)

You made it sound like it's how I'm acting that's the problem, not how I'm feeling. I don't know what to do about how I'm feeling.

Maybe you're right, maybe it's just a matter of time.


Harry's taken to all the changes like a grindylow to water, at least.



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

Well. Who was it who said that the Order is mostly made of Gryffindors? Harry's a Gryffindor--I mean, the Hat Sorted him into Gryffindor, really--and so maybe he fits in so well because he's finally with people who are more like him.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-12 01:29:24](#)  
(no subject)


Yeah, maybe.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-12 02:15:30](#)  
(no subject)

You're not jealous, are you?



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-12 02:51:01](#)  
(no subject)

That he gets to fit in with people I don't even necessarily like? Now why would I be jealous of that.

I'm not six anymore.

[2013-07-11 17:31:00](#)

*Game Time*

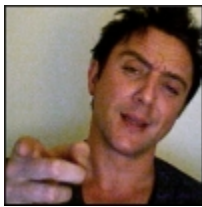
**One hour to game  
time. Come on over!**




 [alt\\_cedric](#)

**The Cannons are fired up and  
aimed at those pesky Falcons!**

---



 [alt\\_rabastan](#) at [2013-07-11 21:58:06](#)  
(no subject)

Oi! The Falcons are not pesky. The Falcons are cool.



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-07-11 22:13:57](#)  
(no subject)

**Today they are.**



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-07-11 23:53:10](#)  
(no subject)

We'll have to miss the gathering this time, mate, but  
count on us for the next one!

Go, Cannons!



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-07-13 13:26:52](#)  
(no subject)

**I look forward to it**

**Sorry you missed today**




 [alt\\_zacharias](#) at [2013-07-12 12:39:12](#)  
(no subject)

That was. BRILLIANT.

Thanks, Ced! Fantastic to see you and WHAT A MATCH, eh?




 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-07-13 13:33:27](#)  
(no subject)

**Yeah it was wizard.**

**~~I couldn't help noticing that Drawlworth completely failed to score again.~~ I wonder what trades the Cannons are going to make in the off season? Looks like they may need a couple or a ref that didn't grow up in Falmouth.**

**Thanks for coming by.**



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-07-12 21:30:40](#)  
(no subject)

I'll be there.



 **[alt\\_zacharias](#)** at **[2013-07-12 23:19:22](#)**  
(no subject)

Next time, you mean?

Mate, the match was yesterday. You've missed it.  
And you missed a fantastic match, too!



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-07-13 00:37:23](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, that's what I meant.

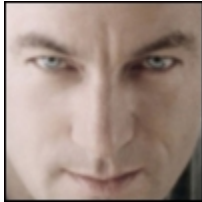
**2013-07-12 11:34:00**


*Private message to Lucius Malfoy*

I'm looking forward to next time.



 [alt\\_rachel](#)



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-07-12 19:07:59**

*(no subject)*

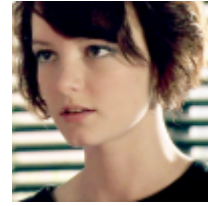
As am I.



**2013-07-12 11:35:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

So have you worked out whether Corax Mulciber doesn't think that anyone should go on holidays ever, or if he just thinks they ought to be at his beck and call even if they are on holiday, or what?




 [alt\\_rachel](#)

Did he actually need anything from that bloke he summoned back?

If you've a free moment today I was hoping you could give me a bit of a summary of what happened with that portkey mess last December, but it's not urgent (I definitely wouldn't summon you back from a holiday over it!)



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-07-14 02:33:16**  
(no subject)

I think that Corax Mulciber is in favour of people going on holidays when he's in favour of people going on holidays. Except when he's not in favour of it. Or on alternate Tuesdays, or on days when he's hexed someone, or during months that include the letter 'R.' Or some other eccentric criteria which is clear only to him.

In other words, I don't have a bloody clue. Which I think is the entire point. He doesn't want people to have a clue.

No, he didn't need anything from Boulstridge that he couldn't have obtained when the man's holiday was over. It looked to me to be nothing but a pure power move.

The portkeys? The official explanation, of course, was that there were 'adjustments made in calibrations to take advantage of the safest methodology.' But I doubt that's the true reason. The two most common competing theories are that either it was 1) an attempt at sabotage by Moira O'Connor (the Director of Magical Transport at the time), in sympathy with the Irish rebels or 2) an attempt by the powers that be (MLE perhaps?) to recalibrate all portkeys to eliminate unauthorised travel.


Frankly, I don't buy either explanation. Moira O'Connor would have to be mad to mess with the portkeys since that would lead straight

back to her--and if she were messing with them, surely it would be for a bigger and more pointed purpose than making a few children get lost returning from the Twelfth Night Festival.

On the other hand, the Ministry was caught so flat-footed when the portkeys malfunctioned (I was on duty that night and saw the confusion firsthand--we had to go to Hogwarts to pull in an Arithmancy expert to find out what the hell was going on) that it was clear to me that that it wasn't an idea that originated within the Ministry. I should hope that your department wouldn't be that incompetent.

Once the situation did arise, mind you, I think that MLE happily took advantage of the opportunity to re-set all new portkeys so only authorised trips could be taken. But I don't think the idea originated with you.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-14 02:49:15](#)  
(no subject)

By 'you' I mean MLE, rather than you personally.

If you personally had the capability of single-handedly pulling off a stunt like that, clearly you're wasted in your present position.




 **alt\_rachel** at [2013-07-14 03:32:36](#)  
(no subject)

Oh yeah, something broke the portkeys, they weren't just 'adjusting everything to serve you better' or whatever they said. Mostly, though, I was wondering what you observed that night, since Selwyn pulled you in to help with the crisis.

I agree with you about O'Connor. If she'd sabotaged them, she'd have vanished before the sabotage turned up. It's possible Selwyn sabotaged them, though, any thoughts on whether he did?



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-07-14 04:35:59](#)  
(no subject)

I was at the Twelfth Night Festival when the Ministry became aware that the portkeys were malfunctioning, but I didn't stick around to observe for very long. I was the one sent to Hogwarts to fetch Professor Vector--they needed an arithmancy expert to try to get at the root of the malfunction.

Still, I'm quite sure that it couldn't possibly have been Selwyn.

Despite taking charge during the crisis (and acting quite competently from all accounts), he was absolutely beside himself because his daughter was missing--although it turns out she hadn't used a portkey but was simply misplaced. Notwithstanding his traitorous opinions, he was a devoted father. I have no doubt that if he had sabotaged the portkeys he would have made sure to have his children safe and sound at home before all the mayhem broke out.

Has MLE determined when the conspiracy against Our Lord began? Because if they were in the throes of plotting in January (which seems reasonable; they must have been setting things up months in advance), surely they wouldn't do anything to draw the Ministry's attention to portkeys? They would have wanted them as an option for escape afterwards, wouldn't they?



 **alt\_rachel** at [2013-07-14 04:46:25](#)  
(no subject)

There are quite a few details that no one has shared with me. But Selwyn's plan doesn't seem to have involved portkeys; he seems to have relied heavily on suborning anyone around him.

**2013-07-12 19:30:00**

*Order Only*



 [alt\\_hydra](#)

I had supper with my family tonight, all of them. Well, not you, Dora (or Bea. Or Sirius). It was Nanella, Pascoal, Uncle Lucius, Aunt Narcissa, Mummy, Daddy, Uncle Raz, Professor Siz, and Draco. It was for my birthday, sort of, only it happened tonight because it was the only evening that everyone was free at the same time.

It was like a lot of family suppers, no one was pretending to be anything they weren't. Well, except for me and for Draco. I tried to pay attention to see if I heard anything that might be useful. I don't know if I did but I'll share it anyway.

First, nobody likes Corax Mulciber. They don't like how he's trying to take control of things, and they also think he's not efficient. Uncle Lucius was able to find out that the man, Boulstridge, that Mr Mulciber called back from his holiday - Mr Mulciber didn't even need him, he just did it because he felt like it, and to show off. Mummy says he's "flashing his cock" instead of doing anything worthwhile.

Mummy also said that Mr Yaxley is unhappy that she and the other Aurors are in charge of monitoring journals now, because he it should be under MLE's control. She said that Yaxley gets more batty every day.

Uncle Lucius was - I think he was panicked, very panicked, when Mr Mulciber tried to take control of the journal monitoring. Mostly because he knew that Mr Mulciber wanted to study Aunt Narcissa's and Draco's journals in particular.

They also talked about Aldrich, a little, because Nanella said something about how she couldn't find any mango stilton (Mummy's favourite) for supper. Mummy wasn't happy that her favourite cheese wasn't served, and it put her in ill spirits. She and Uncle Lucius agreed that the farm must have been taken over by black market opportunists.

And everyone drank a lot of wine.

Well, I don't know if that's helpful, but I thought it might be.

---



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-13 02:05:54](#)

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

Seriously, Hydra? It's one thing to report something vital but don't you reckon that the Order lot know that Auntie Bella and my Father don't like Corax Mulciber? Or that they've got theories about Aldrich? Or that

Yaxley is coming apart at the seams?



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-13 02:11:33](#)

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

They might suspect but it's not the same as having it verified.

Why are you cross?



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-13 02:18:27](#)

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

Because you're turning our private family moments into theatre for the Order.

You didn't have to make it a *story*. Or talk about Father's feelings. Just report the facts dispassionately, if you feel you must report them.

And how do you even know Father was panicked, he didn't say -

Ugh, you *legilimised* him, didn't you?




 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-13 02:18:59](#)

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

Not on purpose! Not really, I mean. It just sort of came through.



 **[alt\\_hydra](#) at 2013-07-13 02:24:25**

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

Don't worry, I won't tell the others that you laughed along with everyone else when Mummy frightened the muggleborn servants from the

room.



 **[alt\\_draco](#) at 2013-07-13 02:24:49**

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

Of course I laughed. It was such an absurdly predictable spectacle from someone like your mother.

And they were going to read my Private Messages. Really. You're sure of that?



 **[alt\\_hydra](#) at 2013-07-13 02:26:11**

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

Your father thinks so, anyway.

Why - what would they find? Did you and Harry talk about the way things are before you were under the lock?




 **[alt\\_draco](#) at 2013-07-13 02:27:03**

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

Of course we did. And with Hermione, too.

Is your mother going to read them?



 **alt\_hydra** at [2013-07-13 02:27:34](#)

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

I don't know. I can't read her mind to find out.



 **alt\_hermione** at [2013-07-13 02:23:49](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Hydra (and Harry)*

Because he's been in a strop since your birthday party at Laszlo's.

Haven't you noticed?

But I can't figure out quite why. I mean, he keeps saying it's not whatever I think it might be.



 **alt\_hydra** at [2013-07-13 02:28:11](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Hydra (and Harry)*

Yes, I've noticed.

Why, what's he saying that it's not?



 **alt\_hermione** at [2013-07-13 02:36:21](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Hydra (and Harry)*

Oh, it's not just one thing. I asked if he was feeling guilty and he said no, and then I asked he felt uncomfortable because he didn't know people so well and he denied that, too. And then I asked if he was jealous because Harry has Gryffindors to be friends with now, and he got shirty about *that*.

Only I think he really is jealous, in a way. Like he thinks Harry doesn't need him to be his friend anymore. Which is just silly, you don't stop being one person's friend just because you have others.



What did he say to you about what's bothering him?



 **[alt\\_hydra](#) at 2013-07-13 02:41:26**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:  
Private Message to Hydra (and Harry)*

He's been odd even before all this. Ever since he broke up with Pansy - maybe even a bit before *that*. And he's meaner than he used to be, have you noticed?

He might be jealous. He might be a lot of things. Right now he's cross with me for turning our family gatherings into "theatre for the order." And he's upset because now he knows his private messages might be read, and he said things he ought not have, to Harry and to you, too.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at 2013-07-13 02:29:55**

*(no subject)*

It's helpful, Hydra. Cheers.

It's a relief to hear that they blame the black market and not anything more organised.

And I'm sure Bill will be very interested in the news about the journals and who's controlling them now, that there's still something of a power struggle over them. It stands to reason; they do represent a huge resource and whomever controls the access to the private messages has a wealth of information at their wandtip.

As for Malfoy - sorry, Draco, your father - being worried about the private messages, did he say why he was so worried about your family's in particular? Draco, he hasn't any idea that you, Harry and Hermione used to talk about me, or other things? I can't believe he did or he'd have acted to protect himself all of you long before now.






 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-13 02:37:21](#)  
(no subject)

I really don't know what my Father has any idea of.

Why don't you ask Hydra to legilimise him. And then you'll know more.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-13 02:44:25](#)  
*Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

Draco!

How could you?




 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-13 02:46:19](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

WHAT?

Family affairs are FAIR GAME or haven't you noticed?




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-13 02:49:52](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

Hydra specifically asked us not to say anything!

Honestly what is *wrong* with you these days?  
Ever since you broke up with Pansy you've been--and you're just--and I didn't think you were even that upset about breaking up with Pansy!

You're just being deliberately foul and there's no reason for it.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-13 02:52:48](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

You're right, you're right. I shouldn't have said anything. Blasted fuck. I can't do anything about it now, can I? No.

Hermione, Auntie Bella could read everything. All of our private messages, all the way back...



**alt\_hermione at 2013-07-13 03:39:35**

*Re: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

Well, but really, would she do that? I mean, why would she give that sort of order?

She'd have to think there's something wrong with you or Harry.

Which is another really good reason not to act like a pillock when you're normally not one.

Like going flying today--that was good. And I think you even had fun doing it.



**alt\_draco at 2013-07-13 03:54:34**

*Re: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

Because she wouldn't be able to resist, or stop herself.

But..you're right. You must be. Harry's the only person, aside from the Lord Protector, that I've never heard her say one bad thing about.

When have I ever not been a pillock? Don't you remember some of the stuff I used to say ~~to you~~ about people like you, about muggleborns?

It's easy not to think when you're flying. That's the good thing about it.



**alt\_hermione at 2013-07-13 04:03:31**

*Re: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

Well, Sirius has already asked so if there's a way to protect the journals, we'll find it.

And if not, you'll just have to make sure that your aunt doesn't think about checking.

Anyway, you said those things before. Before you knew better, I mean.

You're not a pillock to your friends. Usually.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-13 04:13:51](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

I wasn't just saying those things, I believed them.

I'd better apologise to Hydra.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-13 02:46:26](#)

*(no subject)*

Er, all right.

Something tells me it's time for Sinbad to make an appearance in the back ....

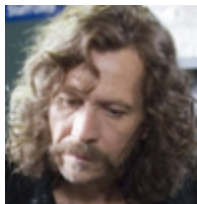


 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-13 02:54:49](#)

*(no subject)*

I'm sorry.

I should have told you. And I *would* have.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-13 02:57:28](#)

*(no subject)*

It's all right, kiddo. No one's cross. I can understand why you'd hesitate to admit something like that.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-13 02:59:43](#)

*(no subject)*

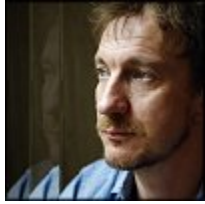
It doesn't make me like Mum my Mother.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-13 03:05:24](#)  
(no subject)

Sweetheart, I don't think you could ever be like your mother if you tried.

(Sorry for ever thinking you were.)



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-13 03:38:47](#)  
(no subject)


I've been thinking about this and I don't think it quite -- you're completely unlike your mother in temperament, that's true enough, and I don't think you ever could have been a second Bella, no matter what unusual talents you possess.

But more than that, you chose the path of compassion toward people born in different circumstances from yourself, and you chose the path of honesty with yourself about what this regime does to people, and you chose the path where you risk your own safety to try to change things.

Everyone -- all of you on the lock made that choice.


And Hydra, that's why we're not worried about you turning into Bella.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-13 03:45:48](#)  
(no subject)

Sometimes I worry about it. Not that I really think I will... only I wasn't happy when I found out I was a legilimens. Not at all.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-13 04:01:33](#)  
*Private message to Hydra*

No. I can understand that.

You're clearly afraid that you'll turn into a monster.

As it happens, I *do* turn into a monster. So I can understand a bit of what you're feeling over this.

(Alas, being able to read minds presumably doesn't vary by the phase of the moon, making it a bit harder to manage simply with detailed planning.)



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-13 04:10:53](#)

*Re: Private message to Hydra*

Yes but then I remind myself that anyone can turn into a monster. It doesn't take a special sort of person to do that.

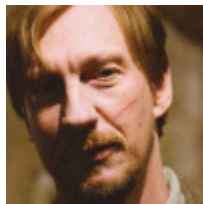
I think you're a very nice person.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-13 04:31:48](#)

*Re: Private message to Hydra*

Why, thank you. I think you are also a very nice person.




 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-13 04:31:59](#)

*Re: Private message to Hydra*

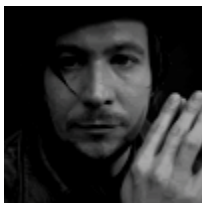
And you are correct: anyone can turn into a monster. People do every day, in the Protectorate.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-14 01:45:52](#)

*(no subject)*

Indeed, I'm very interested in the news concerning the journals, although I'm not sure what we can do about it.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-13 03:08:43](#)


*(no subject)*

Bill, Nick, is there any way to make sure that no one at the Ministry can access Draco's private messages with Hermione and Harry? There's a fair amount of

sensitive information they wrote under the assumption that the PM crew were flunkies who'd been instructed to ignore certain VIPs. But now it's anyone's guess whether the Aurors will decide (or Bella might) to snoop even on their own near and dear.


We can't really afford that.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-14 01:50:16](#)**  
(no subject)

Sirius, I'm not sure there is any way, unfortunately. I need to do some research. I don't think we can go back and put 'Order Only' on those posts retroactively: people have seen the 'Private message' header already, and it would create a whole host of questions if we could make journal entries and comments disappear months later (and I'm not even sure that would work anyway). Unfortunately, I was frozen out of the team at the time that the Private messaging was set up. Massopust was so bloody jealous of me at that point, he didn't want me to get anywhere near the project, for fear I'd get some of the credit. So I wasn't able to put in any of the back door architecture into the spell of the sort that we're using for the Order Only lock.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-07-14 03:26:36](#)**  
(no subject)

Sorry, Bill, I should have been clearer. I wasn't suggesting locking the posts so that they disappear; I was suggesting tampering with the appearance of their private entries so that they are unreadable. I was thinking along the lines of someone metaphorically spilling ink all over any page that starts off with a Private Message heading, so that it's there, but no one looking at it would be able to read what it says.

I'm also aware that it would require a certain amount of skullduggery and sneaking about. But otherwise we have no way to excise what they've written and no guarantee someone on the Auror squad won't arbitrarily decide to find out what the Lord Protector's son and his best friend and servant have to say to one another that's so fascinating it needs all those messages.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-13 04:32:10](#)

*Private Message to Hydra*

Hullo, love,

Sorry I didn't see this earlier. I suppose I can understand Draco worrying about those messages--I say, you'd think Hermione would have known better, what?--but I'm not sure what he was thinking, blurting out your legilimency like that.

Has he apologised?

I hope you enjoyed yourself a little, at least. I'm well sorry it's so difficult to be round that sort of thing now.

-Justin



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-13 04:44:57](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

No, he hasn't. He probably will.

It wasn't terribly enjoyable. I left a lot of things out. Like how Mummy was appalled to see that Nanella has muggleborn servants now, so she terrified them so they'd leave, and then everyone laughed about it. She also has a new shiny silver finger that she keeps tapping on the table and on her wine glass. It's not a nice sound.

And there was more, besides. But I'm rather tired now, and I think I'd rather see you and tell you in person.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-13 04:50:04](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

Yes, of course. Whenever you can manage it. Tomorrow?

I know we were prepared not to see as much of each other over the summer but I say, it's less often than I'd hoped.



Do you think we'll ever...I mean to say, she's still utterly convinced you'll marry Harry, what?

-Justin



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-13 04:57:24](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

Oh, yes, she mentioned that. Because Nanella said I was going to start catching boys' eyes sooner or later. And then Daddy said "much later" and reached out to touch those unicorn earrings, which I was wearing because I knew he expected it. And Auntie Narcissa said boys would be falling all over me, or some such, and Mummy said "so long as they roll over when it's time for her to unite with Harry." But everyone looked exasperated when she said that.

I'm sorry we have to be sneaky. Sort of.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-13 05:06:56](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

Your family, I say. At least we may be grateful no one but your mother seems to cling to her fantasy.

Well, you're right: it's late and we should sleep.

Though I wish--dash it, that's not helpful at all. We just have to sneak about for a little while longer, I suppose. (Though I do agree, there's a certain appeal to sneaking, what!)

I'm sorry. About them. Come tomorrow, can you? And you can tell me all about it and we'll shudder over it together.

Sweet dreams, dearest.

-J





 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#) at 2013-07-13 17:21:51**

*Private Message to Hydra Lestrangle*

How are you today?

I hope we didn't make you wish you hadn't written here. What you told us is really very helpful. It's too bad it's not the sort of family that has this sort of family supper very often. (Must say, though, I don't at all wish I were ever invited!)

Listen, though. I was wondering if you'd like to have supper just the two of us sometime. I understand if that seems too difficult to arrange. I'd say we could make it lunch, but I'm usually either sleeping then or if I'm not, I'm not very brilliant company because I should be. I don't suppose you wake up early in the mornings? We could have breakfast sometime if you do, but I don't think I was ever willingly awake at half-seven when I was in my teens, so I'll be surprised if you say yes to that!



 **[alt\\_hydra](#) at 2013-07-13 18:13:38**

*Re: Private Message to Hydra Lestrangle*

No, nobody made me wish that. I only wish I could have found out more.

I don't mind getting up early; I'm used to not sleeping very much. Only I'll have to think of where to say I'm going - Auntie Narcissa gave me a very smart touring broom for my birthday, so I could always say I was going for an early fly. It would be rude, after all, to not put her gift to good use.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#) at 2013-07-14 03:09:05**

*Re: Private Message to Hydra Lestrangle*

Sounds perfect to me.

I'm off work at half-seven weekdays. We shouldn't go anywhere near the Ministry, of course, but I was thinking if we had a nice morning, we could meet up Primrose Hill. There's a pasty kiosk up there, and the view's incredible.

Or we could meet in a restaurant if you'd rather.

Would Monday suit you? Around eight?



 **alt\_hydra** at **2013-07-14 03:24:18**

*Re: Private Message to Hydra Lestrangle*

I think so, and I'll let you know if it won't work.  
I'm looking forward to it!



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-07-14 01:52:26**

*(no subject)*

Odd to think of myself and Bellatrix Lestrangle being on the same side of any question. But it sounds as if we're in agreement that Corax Mulciber is a total arse.

(I have to admit I laughed aloud at your mum's rather...earthy description of his behaviour.)

**2013-07-13 17:00:00**

*Order Only: Our 'Internship' at Moddey Dhoo*



The week's been dead brilliant.

We've spent the mornings mostly putting our heads together with Fu Lee. What a mentor he is, with the most deliciously twisted ideas. Clever enough that we could see him as a professor at Hogwarts. (Well, if they ever offered a course in something like, say, Muggle Mayhem, that is.) He loves teaching, and he can grab anything, any household object and turn it into a lesson (with Frankie and Jimmy hanging onto his legs at the time, which makes it even funnier).

 [alt\\_gredforge](#)

Did you know that you can extract bomb making materials with heat, potassium chloride, and ordinary household bleach as a base, for example? The things we learn at Moddey Dhoo!

Fu's giving us assignments, setting a course of study for us for the rest of the summer in practical muggle chemistry. We've spent hours with him, talking about his designs for muggle armour and working on our suggested adaptations on two of the prototypes, discussing subjects like the history of trebuchets, and dipping into his library, which has everything from Sun Tzu *The Art of War* to a simply *fascinating* little volume called *The Anarchist's Cookbook*. (Mum, we don't think it contains the sorts of recipes you usually use.)

Afternoons we spend generally helping the kids with chores around the sanctuary, either working in the gardens or goat sheds, or taking a turn out on the boat for fishing runs, usually with whatever crew Terry and Dudley are on that day. Evenings we've been sitting around and talking. Evelyn and Neville are here now--they arrived today--and THAT caused an awful lot of excitement for everyone. All the kids have been dying to meet MR AND MRS LONGBOTTOM'S OWN CHILDREN, and they paraded them all over the sanctuary for a grand tour. It all ended up in the surf down at the boat landing for a spectacular waterfight.

Tonight's an astronomy lesson, or at least that's excuse for a picnic and bonfire down at the beach.

It's going to be difficult to leave and come home again. (No offence, Mum! But cleaning out the goat shed here is a lot more fun.)



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-14 00:15:20](#)  
(no subject)

Sounds brilliant.

Nev and Ev, I hope you're having a good time.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-14 00:16:31](#)  
*Private message to Kingsley Shackbolt*

I want to visit Sherwood. Where my mother is working.

Can I?

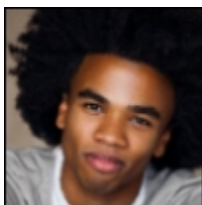
I mean, not NEXT WEEK. But it's much easier to arrange over the summer. The Strettons don't pay any attention to what I'm up to.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-14 03:42:32](#)  
(no subject)

I hope Fu Lee isn't having you try recipes in *The Anarchist Cookbook* without checking them over first - half of them are wrong and could do significant damage if you try.

Does he have a copy of *Improvised Munitions Black Book*? It's hard to find outside of the United States but James had a pen friend in Michigan who helped him get a copy sent via parcel post in the summer of our 4<sup>th</sup> year.



 [alt\\_lee](#) at [2013-07-14 17:39:36](#)  
(no subject)

Wish I could've joined you.

When you're back, next steps on the planning, yeah? My parents are pushing me to figure out what I'm doing with myself. I had a few more ideas, but I dunno which of them make the most sense.

**2013-07-14 13:59:00**

*(no subject)*

Our final meeting in advance of Monday's Daughters of the Protectorate luncheon was held yesterday and I must say I am pleased that this year's class continues to produce a number of qualified young witches. Congratulations to you all, ladies, and I look forward to your inclusion in this prestigious order.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#)

June, I do hope we'll see you tomorrow, regardless of the decision of the committee. I've a young squire to accompany me and I'm rather anxious to show him off. He's nearly as tall as his father now!

Lana, dear, your concerns were noted but I'm sure you'll understand that they were outweighed by other voices.

Fergus, I'd no idea you were planning another installation in the Protector's Park. Of course I shall be delighted to attend. You know, it's probably past time we added to the Kensington pieces - I'd be interested in your opinion on the matter. I was thinking perhaps something for the interior. Sarah Yaxley's had some ideas and I do believe a collaboration might produce fascinating results.



---

 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at **2013-07-14 21:17:24**

*Private message to Narcissa Malfoy*

Narcissa -

It was good to see you on Friday. I apologise again for being so quiet, but I admit I'm still getting used to the different ways families do things. (Only natural, of course.)

I have been thinking about what you said, about putting my name forward for the Daughters of the Protectorate. I honestly hadn't thought in that direction at all. I suppose, there is the quite natural excuse that a number of things were in some disarray the year I left school, and the years before I started teaching were quite tightly structured.

If you don't think I'd look entirely foolish for the asking, I'd love your advice on how best to proceed. I suppose there's no real hurry, but I

thought I ought to mention it now, on the off-chance some moment comes up to discuss it at tomorrow's luncheon.

I do hope you enjoy it, and I'm sure Draco will do you proud.

Aurora



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-07-14 21:36:32](#)

*Re: Private message to Narcissa Malfoy*

Do stop apologising, dear: the important thing is that you were there. I'm sure if you hadn't insisted on making a point of it, none of us would have thought anything of your reticence. Of course it takes time to feel as at home as we all do; after all, we've had years to get used to one another!

As for the DoP, I think it's a splendid sign that you've reconsidered your obligations as a witch of proper breeding and no small means. I'm sure Simonetta would be happy to entertain your application.



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-07-14 21:59:46](#)

*Re: Private message to Narcissa Malfoy*

Family celebrations are so important, really. And especially with everyone's schedules so complicated most of the time.

As to the DoP, I'll work up an owl to Madam Chillicotte for later in the week, once she's past the details for Monday.

Adjusting to being married and the practical implications is rather the work of my summer, really. I am very aware of my obligations, just also cautious of either going about it all wrong or not being able to fulfill what's expected of me.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-15 00:37:00](#)

*(no subject)*

I think it's possible that I'm utterly done growing, Mother, which means that I'll unfortunately never be as tall as Father.

You needn't have splurged on a whole new set of robes for me - the ones I received for my birthday were already well handsome. I do like the cut of these new ones, though. Snappy, you might say.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2013-07-15 00:40:38](#)**  
(no subject)

Nonsense, dear, you deserve new robes for being so attentive to your poor mother this summer.

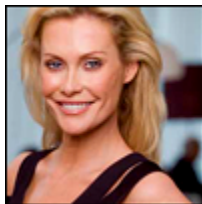
As for growing, you might be as tall as ever - but then again you might still have another spurt or two left. Either way, it was quite a surprise to have to look up at my own child now. And such a handsome face, too.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-07-15 00:45:50](#)**  
(no subject)

I already agreed to escort you; further appeals to my vanity aren't required.

So which of these young witches am I meant to pay special attention to? I need to know which conversational topic to brush up on: fashion; arts and leisure; or, in some cases, the more subtle facets of Dark Arts.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2013-07-15 00:56:44](#)**  
(no subject)


Is it empty flattery for a mother to decide she has raised a perfectly charming son? One might say rather that is a compliment to his parents.

Darling, far be it from me to tell you who you'll enjoy speaking to; I'm sure you have a number of acquaintances already, given that the honourees are all only a year or two older than yourself. Melinda will be there, of course, and Aurelia Archer, Euterpe Bobolis - well, and there are several others from recent years who you'll surely know.

I already know you know how to conduct yourself around

distinguished witches such a Mrs Chillicotte or Madam Millingham-Kennilworthy.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-07-15 01:06:02](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Well since all the witches are special in their own right, I'll go out of my way to pay special and singular attention to each of them. A truly well-rounded wizard ought to be just as adept at discussing the upcoming fall fashion lines as he is debating the best method for conquering an enemy in a duel.

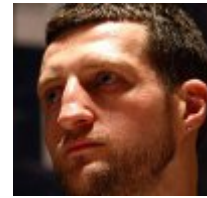
I'll be sure to cause you no disgrace, Mother, and aim to show you a splendid time while I'm at it.



**2013-07-15 10:14:00**

*Private message to Auror Lamont*

I want MLE's report on the June 1 security breach in the Department of Mysteries. You're an Auror, you shouldn't have any problems getting that for me.



 **alt\_corax**

And bring a cup of tea when you come with the report. Also, tell the people at the canteen they need to find a new tea-trolley witch, someone less inclined to hysterics than the last one.


---



 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-07-15 15:20:20**  
(no subject)

I have no idea what you're talking about. I'm fairly sure that's because I'm not SUPPOSED to know what you're talking about.



 **alt\_corax** at **2013-07-15 15:21:25**  
(no subject)

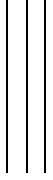
So go to that Hopkirk woman and tell her I need the report. You don't HAVE to know what I'm talking about, you silly girl. They can give you a sealed copy and you can bring it to me. With tea.



 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-07-15 16:19:01**  
(no subject)

They're going to be unhappy that I'm asking, and since this is in the journals, they won't be able to Obliviate me.

I just want it to be clearly understood who's violating security protocols here. This request should never have come to me; it should have gone to Director Yaxley.



 **[alt\\_corax](#)** at **[2013-07-15 16:19:33](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Can't have Yaxley bring me tea.

**2013-07-15 12:25:00**

*Private Message to R Lamont, Auror*

Is 'playing tea witch' in the category of 'other duties as necessary'?



Would suggest a drop or two of veritaserum in that cup. No sense missing the opportunity.

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

Stop in here before you leave the department, would you?

---



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-07-15 17:43:00**

*(no subject)*

I'll be right there, sir.

I'll spike it with veritaserum on your direction, but he's not going to drink it unless I drink first (and possibly not even then).



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at **2013-07-15 17:45:29**

*(no subject)*

Why would he ask you to bring him tea and then refuse to drink it?

If he does, drain it into his aspidistra and tell him to find another tea witch next time he's thirsty.

Think it's more likely he'll make a meal of drinking it after he's made you go to the trouble. Don't you?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-07-15 17:46:52**

*(no subject)*

I guess we'll find out.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-15 17:58:51](#)  
(no subject)

Anything specific you want to know from him, sir?  
Other than who in Mysteries can't keep their gob shut?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-15 18:04:24](#)  
(no subject)

Patience, Lamont.

Prefer to brief in person.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-15 20:03:36](#)  
(no subject)

Bolloxed that up, did you?

Thought you were better at that sort of thing.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-15 20:07:19](#)  
(no subject)

He never had any intention of drinking the tea.

He was after the veritaserum.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-15 20:11:46](#)  
(no subject)

Should have been able to goad him into drinking it. If you'd played him properly.

How long have you been working his department?

Two weeks?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-15 20:13:31](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, sir.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-15 20:20:11](#)  
(no subject)


Learn anything about him today?

Need a strategy for controlling him while letting him think he's pulling your strings.

Where was your error?

Do you have anything to show for it besides experience taking punishment?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-15 20:39:53](#)  
(no subject)

Well.

I learned that he doesn't hesitate to curse Aurors. And I don't just mean cruciatus; he tried a Compulsion hex on me (to try to compel me to leave) while also using the Drought hex (to make me extremely thirsty.)

So.


He doesn't know that Aurors are trained to resist compulsion magics, or he wouldn't have tried that.

He is clever enough to anticipate veritaserum and to try a two-pronged plan, but not clever enough to grab the tea when I set it down on his desk. And he has no self-control, because I don't think he'd intended to use cruciatus when I came in

My error was in failing to anticipate the Drought hex, to either block it or endure it with less distraction. I focused at that

point on ensuring that the veritaserum didn't remain in his hands.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-16 00:04:39](#)  
(no subject)


His brother's an Auror. Of course he doesn't think Aurors are above cursing.

Does he not know that Aurors are trained to resist compulsion magics? Not convinced. Or does he not credit Aurors with skills he hasn't tested? More likely.

Otherwise, a fair reading of Corax. Relishes compelling others--to do his bidding or act against their will. Both give him a rise. Has no impulse control. No patience. Is lazy. And given to tantrums.


Anything you'd add?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 00:40:45](#)  
(no subject)

He wants another tea-trolley witch. If you want another set of eyes on him, we could find someone who's also willing to act as an informant.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-16 02:11:41](#)  
(no subject)

Worth considering.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 15:25:47](#)  
(no subject)

Would you like me to find someone, sir? I have a few ideas.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-15 20:45:20](#)  
(no subject)

Also, apparently he wants veritaserum.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-16 00:06:11](#)  
(no subject)

Interesting strategy for obtaining same.

What do you make of it?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 00:36:50](#)  
(no subject)

His strategy had two outcomes he considered desirable. One was for me to leave the veritaserum, the other was for me to drink it.

Given that there are other ways he could get his hands on veritaserum, I think his goal may have been to compromise me, to control me. So if you want him to think I'm dancing to his tune, arrange for him to lay hands on something that appears to be compromising information about me. Something he would believe he could use to blackmail me with.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 01:09:29](#)  
(no subject)

You'd need to manufacture it, mind you.

I don't engage in compromising activities.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-16 02:10:48](#)  
(no subject)

Of course you don't.

An affair with Yaxley? He won't believe Gauge. More interesting if it's Hopkirk. What do you

say?

Bribe-taking sends the wrong message about what you might be covering over rather than uncovering in his departments.

Letting him think he's discovered that you're impure would compromise you too much. Could be fatal. Another thing to file away about Corax Mulciber. Not wholly rationale on that subject.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 02:22:51](#)  
(no subject)

Hopkirk, but only if she's aware of the plan and agrees.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-07-16 04:09:12](#)  
(no subject)

I'll see to it she agrees.

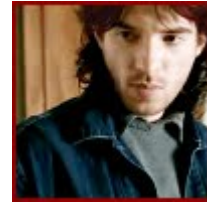


**2013-07-15 13:32:00**

*Private message to Rachel Lamont*

I saw you go into Mulciber's office, and then I heard--

Look, which would be most helpful to you at this point? Tactful privacy, or lemons?



 [alt\\_bill](#)

I can even offer both, if you like. I can leave the lemons just outside your door, if you're back in your own office now.

---




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-15 18:40:48](#)  
(no subject)

I need  
something to


water



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-15 18:42:58](#)  
(no subject)


On my way, with lemons and water.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-15 18:45:53](#)  
(no subject)

Also bringing along a potion that should help.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-15 20:51:07](#)  
(no subject)

Thanks.

For the water, for dispelling the hex, for the potion which worked a lot better than the lemons.

It also took care of the shaking, which has been particularly helpful today.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-16 01:22:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Glad I could help. I'm going to keep a phial of that potion on hand at all times. I assume you'll do the same, now that you know he won't hesitate to use that curse, even on you.

What a bastard.

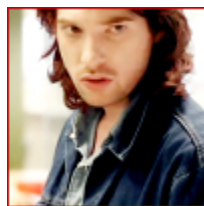
I've been mulling over what he did. Whatever his plan was, he certainly didn't think it out very well. No matter what spell he put on you, I can't believe he assumed you would either abandon a cup of tea laced with veritaserum or drink it yourself. Does he think his spells are that good? Or that you're that stupid?




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-16 01:39:16](#)**  
(no subject)

I think he thinks I'm young, and easily manipulated.

What I don't understand is what he wanted to do with it. Cadmus Mulciber is an Auror; I would think he could lay hands on veritaserum. So maybe Corax was planning to give it to his brother? But it's really not a particularly reliable way to get information out of people, which is why we don't often use it in interrogations... Anyway. I think Corax was hoping for something he could use against me.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-16 01:59:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, I trust he's been disabused of the notion that you're easily manipulated. Although I certainly hope it doesn't mean he'll escalate things for you in other ways.

What he wanted to do with it--yeah. That's a good question, and it certainly gives one pause. I'm not going to be particularly eager to accept any friendly invitations from him to go out for lunch or

for drinks after work. Not that I have anything to hide, but he seems to enjoy violating boundaries, and I'd rather not offer him the sport.

So you think he wants you as a tame Auror in his pocket or something? For information? His brother's in that department anyway. Unless he's on the outs with his brother, or doesn't think he can control him, or he just likes multiple sources?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 02:01:22](#)

*(no subject)*

Maybe there's something in Protectorate Affairs he doesn't want me looking at too closely?

Because yes, if he just wants an Auror on his side, his brother's an Auror. So who knows.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-16 02:29:01](#)

*(no subject)*

He's hardly been here long enough to be protecting anything. At least not yet.

Honestly, he doesn't even know anything about Protectorate Affairs. I wonder why they put someone into the job who has so little familiarity with what the Division is supposed to do.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 02:31:12](#)

*(no subject)*

Yeah, you wouldn't think so, but maybe his private-sector business had dealings with part of PA?

Or maybe it's all just a power play.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 01:43:06](#)  
(no subject)

I mean, I think he wanted to be able to try blackmailing me, either with information he got with the veritaserum OR with the information that I'd left it behind in his office, because I'd have been in real trouble for that, even if it isn't the world's most reliable magical tool.

Or maybe he wanted to use it on someone to get information he wouldn't have to share with Cadmus? I don't know.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-16 02:00:36](#)  
(no subject)

Have you heard anything about that being a method he likes--blackmail?

Merlin. I was planning on keeping my nose clean around him anyway, but this just gives me extra incentive.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 02:02:32](#)  
(no subject)

I run into blackmailers pretty regularly in my investigations so it's possible I just see them behind every tree. I don't actually know if he's got the subtlety to blackmail anyone.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 01:45:52](#)  
(no subject)

Anyway, keeping some of that potion around is a good idea even though I really hope I don't need it.

**2013-07-15 19:10:00**

*High Summer*

It is a singular curiosity that although they have no current obligations to the Young Protectors' League or (as yet) the Cadet Force, we see almost less of Draco and Harry this summer than years past. All to be expected: Given a summer to fly free, as it were, what young men would not indulge their social predilections?



 [alt\\_lucius](#)

Nonetheless, it is a pleasure to enjoy pursuits together, such as running the course at the Elysian and the Ouroboros and taking refreshment afterward. It is most gratifying to see them interact with witches and wizards on equal footing, now they are nearly grown. One cannot help be proud of the way in which they conduct themselves and the company they attract.

We have been particularly glad that the weather is so fine - or so they tell us, when they explain that their long-distance flights are a clever method to escape this heat!

The air of Town, however, wants changing this time of year, so we do plan a holiday, if we can manage it. Narcissa favours the west again, perhaps Cornwall. We still have the brigantine which wants a sea holiday, so that is well-suited to her wishes. We may teach the boys a thing or two about sailing.

That is, assuming that the Ministry and affairs of state permit any time at all out of Town. Have no wish to send them alone but that may become necessary, given days like this one.

Commerce committee ran over-long; this business of the black markets getting out of hand. Unsure what, if anything, Yaxley is even doing to control the rise of prices or the disappearance of particular delicacies. The lack of certain products even disrupted our niece's birthday supper. Most intolerable.

Luncheon with Crispin, as well - and discussion of his options at the Ministry. Naturally his well-deserved induction into Our Lord's Council provides him any number of choices; he has merely to determine where his interests lie.

Once back, was detained by an interminable matter at Rookwood's behest. Tosha, will call on you to-morrow if you are at home, to discuss that trifling business! Should interest you to no end.

Speaking of seeing you, Toshenka, Narcissa hopes you and Barty will join us at the week-end at the Manor.

---




 **alt\_lucius** at **2013-07-15 23:15:53**

*Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Stopped by your office after luncheon to see if you could be tempted to come for a drink this evening; you weren't in. The notice paper and quill you'd mentioned were missing, or I should have left a note.

Have no wish to wait for Thursday. Say you are free and feel the same.



 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-07-16 00:30:53**

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Today?

I -- I'm sorry. I'm feeling really unwell. I went home after work for tea and toast and not much else.

I expect to feel more myself tomorrow.



 **alt\_lucius** at **2013-07-16 00:39:35**

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

What's happened?

Nothing catching, I trust? Surely you've the proper remedies in stock for that sort of thing.

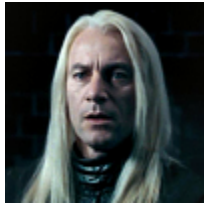



 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-07-16 00:42:09**

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Steer clear of Corax Mulciber and I trust you won't catch the rather unpleasant case of post-cruciatus that put me off my supper.

It was not a good day at work.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-07-16 00:44:27](#)


*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

What?

So much for the protection of your post in MLE.

What was his excuse?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 00:49:14](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

'Clumsiness.'

He'd demanded tea, along with a report on information he's not supposed to have. I went to MLE to talk to Mafalda Hopkirk -- that's why I wasn't around when you stopped by. Auror Crouch wanted to put veritaserum in his tea to see if he spilled anything. Apparently Mulciber had assumed the tea would contain veritaserum, and tried to force me to either leave it on his desk, or drink it myself. I dumped it instead, and he lost his temper.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-07-16 00:53:34](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Barty ought to know better, even if Corax richly deserved some consequence. A classified report? Cheek of the man.

But you are recovering? Have you everything you need to regain your footing?



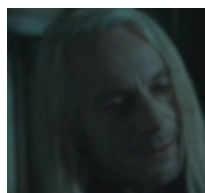
 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 00:58:06](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Asking for a classified report was pretty typical. I'm sure you'll be pleased to hear that Mafalda Hopkirk told him to go piss up a rope.



I'm recovering, yes. I have tea and toast, and I'm hoping to go to bed early and get a good night's sleep.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#) at 2013-07-16 01:12:53**

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Yes, rest and strong tea are the best remedies. Though hot compresses at the base of the spine and back of the neck have always eased the ache, in my experience.

There are those who swear by chocolate, of course. Personally, prefer fresh lemon and a particular potion out of Meribald.

A strong shot of quality bourbon or Scotch - or even firewhiskey, if you have it - might not go amiss, either.

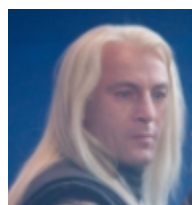


 **[alt\\_rachel](#) at 2013-07-16 01:18:44**

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

I don't have any. The compresses sound nice but possibly like too much work; I'd need to get up.

I've had the tea, at least, and fresh lemons.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#) at 2013-07-16 01:22:19**

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*


Shall leave you to rest, then.

Though if you should find you are still in want of sleep, could dispatch an elf to see to the compresses.

Call if you've need. Will check on you to-morrow.






 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 01:31:01](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Thanks.




 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-07-16 14:52:36](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

How does the patient this morning?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 15:11:08](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Greatly recovered, thank you.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-07-16 15:25:13](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Excellent.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 15:15:59](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

By the way, I should probably let you know, in case it turns into gossip and makes its way back to you:

Auror Crouch concurred with my theory that Corax Mulciber might have been trying to get something he could hold over my head. So, we're going to manufacture something and let him find it. Crouch suggested an affair -- with Hopkirk. I don't actually have to have an affair with her, mind you, that's just what we're going to lead Mulciber to think.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-07-16 15:30:13](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Had no idea your tastes ran so ... plump. Or wrinkled.

Feeling up to a light luncheon? Nothing strenuous, I promise.

Presuming the climate will allow you to step away, that is.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 15:37:10](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

I'm rather in the midst of things at the moment but I am optimistic this particular mess will be fully resolved by lunch time and I would be DELIGHTED to get out of the office for that.

(By the way, I found out where my parchment and quill went, from outside my office. Corax Mulciber couldn't find a quill, so he sent his terrified clerk scurrying around trying to hunt one down. Mine was the first one he spotted, so he simply took it. I think Corax's quills must be running away from him out of pure dislike, because he goes through a truly ridiculous number.)



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-07-16 16:08:24](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

I've flexibility between now and two o'clock. Was thinking of the *Brasserie* - if nothing else, they have salads and small plates that should go well after a diet of tea and toast.

Shall we say half-twelve? Shall you have disentangled by then?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-16 16:58:45](#)

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Perfect timing. Things are almost wrapped up here. I'll see you then.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-07-15 23:16:55](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes and yes, my dearest. Well, I cannot speak for Barty, of course! But like all right-thinking wizards, I am at Narcissa's command.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-07-16 00:10:16](#)**  
(no subject)


Good! Your wisdom is unimpeachable.

Shall call to-morrow morning, then.

And we shall expect you on Friday at your leisure.

(Heard from Sinistra that the N.E.W.T.-level selections were concluded in record time - a goal of hers, so I understand. Trust you are pleased with your students' results?)



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-07-15 23:35:33](#)**  
*Private Message to Pansy Parkinson*

Little Bit,

Heard from Professor Sinistra that your N.E.W.T. lessons have been accepted. As we discussed by owl, your choices appear to be sound, on the whole, and your marks ought not to prevent any profession you attempt, provided that you apply yourself in the two years to come.

Have a proposal for you, if I can arrange it: a brief observership at the Potioneers' Guild. There is an opportunity about to present itself for early August, if my sources are correct. If the idea interests you, let me know.




 **alt\_draco** at [2013-07-16 03:21:40](#)

*Private message to Father*

As soon as the Daughters of the Protectorate luncheon was over I went to the course at Elysian. Bit more crowded than usual. I suppose everyone over-indulged on the weekend.

Anyway, Teddy Nott and I spoke for a bit. He said he missed me, which was an odd sentiment, coming from him. Have to wonder if it's genuine or not. What's your take on the matter?



 **alt\_lucius** at [2013-07-16 03:24:34](#)

*Re: Private message to Father*

Nott?

Was he with his father or alone?

It's true you've found more ... subtle company these last few years. It's possible he meant it.



 **alt\_draco** at [2013-07-16 03:32:45](#)

*Re: Private message to Father*

Not that I saw. Why? Should I avoid entanglements with his father?

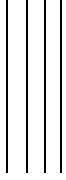
Whether he meant it or not, I've no reason to not spend time with him, I suppose.




 **alt\_lucius** at [2013-07-16 03:35:17](#)

*Re: Private message to Father*

It might be prudent to at least ascertain whether it's your friendship he values or your status.



 **[alt\\_draco](#) at 2013-07-16 03:36:48**

*Re: Private message to Father*

I tend to agree.

**[2013-07-15 20:39:00](#)**

*Order Only: Moddey Dhoo*

It was absolutely amazing. Thank you so much for letting Evelyn and me visit. I don't think you can really know what it meant to us, after not knowing for so many years what Mum and Dad were doing, and then reading all about it and longing to see it...well, it exceeded all our expectations.



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

Everyone was just as friendly to us as they could possibly be. Ev and me were so impressed at the way everything's been set up, and the way people work together, and how happy the kids are.

Honestly, you should all be proud of yourself. I'm dead proud to be a member of a group that's made a place like this possible.



 **[alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-07-16 02:22:34](#)**

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

It really is the coolest place.

My head's still spinning, because we met a lot of people, and four days wasn't long enough to keep everybody straight.

Sarah Fawcett particularly asked me to pass along her hellos to everyone and her thanks again for saving her from Madam Umbridge. She said being there is an adjustment. Well, a huge adjustment; it's a very different sort of place than Hogwarts, of course. But she says the people at Moddey Dhoo obviously care a lot more for her than her foster family ever did. She's been learning to swim, and to fish, and also she's been spending time helping the wandmaker, Melli Ollivander. I think she would like to apprentice with her, although Melli says that's mad, because she's little better than an apprentice herself. One without a master. But anyway, Sarah's quite interested in wandlore, and so she spends a lot of time in Melli's workshop.

I saw Arista and Hector Selwyn, too. Hector's fitting in to Moddey Dhoo more easily than Arista has, maybe because he's younger. Arista's sort of ruffled people's feathers, because of her assumptions from the stuff her parents taught her, about blood purity. She balked

at eating for three days when she learned that Victor (the cook at Moddey Dhoo) was a Muggle, for example: she was afraid his muggle-ness would, I dunno, taint the food somehow. It was a tough weekend for her, too, because yesterday was her father's birthday, and she was awfully sad about that. But my Mum says she's coming around. She's made a couple friends with some of the other girls her age, and I think she's going to be okay.

The Sanctuary's really a beautiful place, even if they live a bit rougher than we do. I spent a lot of time talking with Colin about their Memorial Garden, and working in the greenhouses with Mrs Lee-Wilson. (That reminds me, Susan: I got to see Hannah's tree. It's lovely, and it's taken root really well.) Stayed up late talking with Mum and Dad and Terry each night.

I hope you'll all get to see it soon.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-16 02:42:56](#)

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

That's good to hear about Sarah. And Arista and Hector. ~~Three days she didn't eat? That sort of reminds me of when Hydra~~

Are they going to let the rest of us see it? I'd kind of like to see Sarah and Arista again.

**2013-07-15 21:54:00**

*Order Only: Charles Kass*

Well, we're back from delivering Charles Kass - or rather, Dora just delivered him and got back with all her limbs in place.



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

Which is nearly more than we can say for her at the beginning of the encounter.

All right, there, Dora? You want to tell them your newest foolproof method of gaining trust, or shall I?

---



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at **2013-07-16 02:09:34**  
(no subject)

You can laugh. You weren't the one nearly cut in two by that knife.

Of course, you also weren't the one on her arse on the floor after her best evasive move, so you're perfectly right to laugh.

I must have looked the idiot.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-07-16 02:18:11**  
(no subject)

I think that's what saved us both, actually!


Mind you, Kass had a point. We'd let them down when the first Charles was born. Not for lack of trying.

Doesn't quite forgive him coming after you - but Bill, Kingsley, listen to why he came at her: He said that in the last few months especially, there've been loads of rumours flying round about wizards stealing babies to cook them into potions. And since they lost their first son to that accursed epidemic ('my' plague - Circe, if we can't come up with another name for that charming invention of the Death Eaters'), he probably had every reason to suspect that's why we'd come.



Still. Nick, whatever we can arrange for them, we ought to do it. We *did* fail them and Mrs Kass was right to hold it against us.



 **alt\_lupin** at [2013-07-16 02:40:39](#)  
(no subject)

Makes me wonder if there *are* Dark Wizards using muggle babies for something horrifying, or if it's just a rumour.

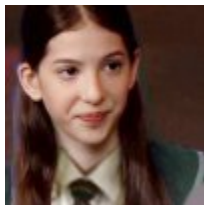


 **alt\_sirius** at [2013-07-16 02:59:11](#)  
(no subject)

Right.

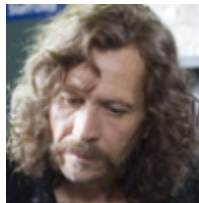
Wouldn't put it past them.


Hang on, that device Harry destroyed. But that was for wizard children, wasn't it? I mean to say, that's why they were planning to use it on Arista Selwyn.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at [2013-07-16 03:02:03](#)  
(no subject)

If it worked on muggle children they wouldn't have conspired with Umbridge to arrange to expel half-bloods. They could get muggle children really easily.



 **alt\_sirius** at [2013-07-16 03:04:39](#)  
(no subject)

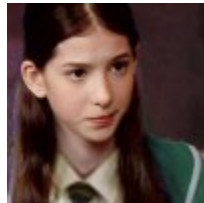
Right - that's what I mean. That device was for children but it was for magical children. So *if* they really are looking for muggle babies, it must be for some fresh malevolence.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-16 03:14:24](#)  
(no subject)

Actually, it was magical babies Kass said that bloke was looking for. Definitely magical, though what the man apparently called them was 'uncanny' and 'strange'.

You were talking to her while he was telling me how many people he'd heard the stories from.



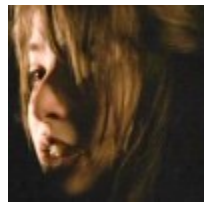
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-16 03:17:10](#)  
(no subject)

Do you know how long ago someone was there looking? I mean was it before Harry wrecked the device or was it more recently?



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-16 03:20:18](#)  
(no subject)

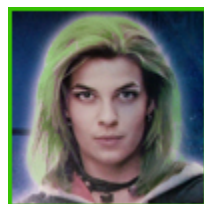
Two or three months ago, he said. So about the same time. Could have been before, maybe.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-16 03:21:20](#)  
(no subject)

Well that's good.

Because if it was last week, that would mean they rebuilt it, wouldn't it.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-16 03:33:05](#)  
(no subject)

It wasn't last week.

But it is terrible not knowing how long it might take them to rebuild. I think we do have to assume they will. Better to be wrong in that direction than hope they won't be able to put it together again and then discover they have done.

It means we can't afford to miss any children, though. And we can't be late in reaching them.




 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-16 15:29:18](#)  
(no subject)

Nick's turned up parents for Mikhail and Mayuko, yes? So we can fetch them as soon as we have the papers for their camps.

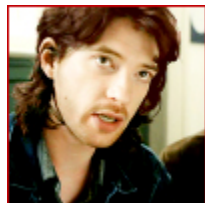
Any luck tracing the one in New London? And what ARE we going to do about the Irish baby -- any word from Moody?




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-16 15:34:07](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, and what's more is that Mikhail turns out to be little Will's brother.

I think Dora and I will try for him together - no knife fights, either. They'll remember me.

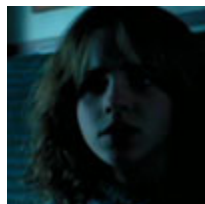


 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-16 16:08:56](#)  
(no subject)

I'm touching base with one of my forgers this afternoon about that parchmentwork; you'll have it very soon.

No luck or leads on the New London baby yet, but Nick'll keep working on it.

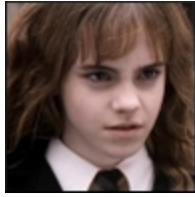
I haven't heard from Moody myself.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-16 03:17:41](#)  
(no subject)

Yes.

I think we have to consider the possibility that they look for muggleborns without the book.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-16 03:16:35](#)  
(no subject)

But Sirius, *you* were there to retrieve a magical baby. Maybe whoever is looking for babies in the camps is looking for magical babies, too.

I mean, do all the Death Eaters and everyone at the Ministry know for sure that the book's the place to find out if there are muggleborns still being born.

Or maybe they do know and they haven't let on that the book's not reliable anymore.



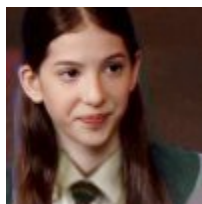
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-16 03:18:39](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, I mean you lot have got ALL the muggleborn babies in the last five years. Isn't that making them at all suspicious, that there aren't ANY being born?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-16 03:31:52](#)  
(no subject)

Malfoy's the one who generally looks at the book and according to Minerva, he's never asked.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-16 03:37:28](#)  
(no subject)

It's Mr Strangeweale who wanted half-bloods.


Do Mr Malfoy and Mr Strangeweale even get on? They certainly don't seem to be close.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-07-16 03:43:13](#)**  
(no subject)

For the record, my father doesn't like Strangeweale, and he had nothing to do with that device.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-07-16 03:49:55](#)**  
(no subject)

Right.

Cheers, then.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-07-16 03:37:11](#)**  
(no subject)

I expect they have reasons for thinking they've succeeded in preventing magical births in the muggle camps.

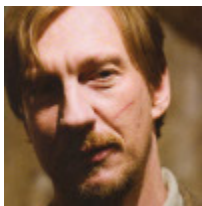
Only, they must be using charms or potions or something to try to prevent that. Experimenting with various things, I'd think. And if they are, then they'd be likely to think that the lack of muggleborn children is a sign that whatever they've been doing works.


I don't know any of that for sure, mind you, but it's my guess.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-07-16 03:02:35](#)**  
(no subject)

I mean realistically speaking, there's not much the muggles could do to stop them.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-07-16 03:22:16](#)**  
*Private message to Sirius*

I'm so glad we let in the teenagers.

They bring such youthful optimism to our conversations, don't you think? Always a ray of sunshine.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-16 03:28:13](#)

*Re: Private message to Sirius*

At least they're contributing.

And I'll bet they *still* have the energy at the end of the night to complain about clothes, music and affairs of the heart.

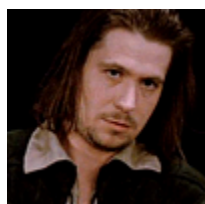


 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-16 03:29:30](#)

*Re: Private message to Sirius*

Youthful energy is wasted on the young.

You and me, we'd APPRECIATE having that energy, if we had it.

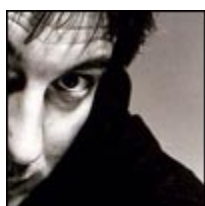


 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-16 03:33:07](#)

*Re: Private message to Sirius*

Speak for yourself, old man. I have plenty of energy.

And if you come to bed I can prove it.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-16 03:39:11](#)

*Re: Private message to Sirius*

I'm a bit worried Dora will be cross if we leave her as the sole representative of the elder generation while all the teenagers lecture us on what we're doing wrong.



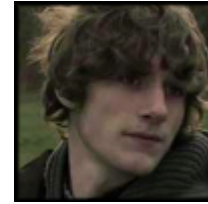
 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-16 03:39:38](#)

*Re: Private message to Sirius*

I suppose we could chance it, though.

**[2013-07-16 12:46:00](#)**

*Order Only: Private message to Mr and Mrs Longbottom*



 [alt\\_terry](#)

I've been thinking, ever since I read Sirius' journal entry about the trouble they had getting Charles Kass.

So I want to ask: would the Order consider letting me going along on these trips to retrieving muggleborn babies? I can talk to the parents about my own experiences. We used a letter once that I wrote, but if I'm actually there, I can answer their questions. I can tell them what it's like being under the control of someone like the git versus what it's like to have a home at Sanctuary.

I can apparate now. I'll follow any safeguards or training you suggest, and I'll obey every order the team leaders give me, I promise.

Please...this is really important to me. I know I'm not of age yet, and you want to keep me safe, but I have a unique experience that I think would really help convince the parents it's okay to trust their kids with you.

Would you consider letting me come along?



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-07-18 03:51:40](#)

*(no subject)*

I've been thinking about this long and hard, and talking it over with Frank, and here's what we've come to.


You're right that it would be potentially useful to be able to share your experiences directly with parents. I appreciate your willingness to be of use, and want to give you the opportunity.

And yes, we want to keep you safe, and your ability to change into the Professor and Apparate are both things that make it more likely that you'd be able to do so -- but that's not all that would be needed to ease my mind. Charles Kass's extraction is just such an example -- a desperate parent wielding a knife can be reasoned with eventually, but those first few moments can be extraordinarily dangerous.

Your defence skills need some work. You would need to train more specifically with a partner, as well as run through some security scenarios with Frank and Kingsley. We can also ask Judith and Regina to help you practise talking to parents as a team.

After you've had a chance to work on those areas for a few weeks, I'll take a look at your progress and determine whether you'd be ready to go out into the field, or would need further training.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-07-18 03:56:05](#)**

*(no subject)*

I'll help you out, kiddo. we'll work on it together.



**[2013-07-16 14:44:00](#)**

*Order Only*

Bugger, bugger, bugger.

My best forger has just been SACKED. Bloody hell, I stopped by to give him the information he needed to prepare parchments for Mikhail and Mayuko, only to find he'd been frog-marched down to Personnel earlier today and booted out the door onto his arse. Twenty years he worked at the Ministry, all up in smoke!



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

I don't think there was anything in his office that could compromise us. Merlin, I hope not. Tonks, could DIRRT have smoked out something about him? Marcellus Mann in Half-blood Affairs. Is there a way for you to find out, safely I mean? I can't believe it; he was always lecturing me about being careful. But--

Nick, keep your eyes peeled and watch your back. I have no idea what the hell is going on, but I'll be sending the security alert out to the entire forger and analyst network.

Mum, I'll be home late. Once I've ascertained that it's safe, I'm going to stop by his home to find out what the ~~fuck~~ happened.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2013-07-17 00:34:43](#)**

*(no subject)*

Oh dear, Bill.

Have you found out anything more?




 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-17 00:36:12](#)**

*(no subject)*

Haven't found Mann yet.

But I did pick up one bit of gossip: that new Auror who's been assigned to Protectorate Affairs had something to do with it. I'm still trying to find out more.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-17 02:56:50](#)**  
(no subject)

Bloody hell. He was sacked for forging. Specifically, Auror Lamont figured out that he's forged his Purity bonafides when she examined his personnel file.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-07-17 04:56:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Bill,

Rotten luck. But he can still forge at home, can't he? Aside from needing to find a living, that is.

Not sure how we can help with that but ....

Perhaps we can still make sure that he has access to the right sorts of papers. So long as he can find another job, it might not be the end of the world.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-07-18 05:04:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Of course DIRRT could be at the bottom of it, but I can't get close to their files. I mean, they drag us in sometimes and set us extra 'cleaning' tasks in this department or that when they're investigating someone, but it would be pure luck if I ever saw or heard anything useful in DIRRT's office.

And it's a warded fortress down there: no one's more paranoid than DIRRT about their secrets.

Sorry. I'll keep my eyes and ears open in case There's anything about your bloke tonight. I'll try to see I'm the one that cleans in Halfblood Affairs.

**2013-07-16 17:34:00**

*Private message to Rachel Lamont*

I understand that Marcellus Mann of Half-blood Affairs is no longer with Half-blood Affairs.



I also understand you had something to do with this.

 [alt\\_bill](#)

Care to explain?

---




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-07-16 22:36:25**  
(no subject)

I really don't see that it's any of your business, Weasley. He didn't work for you; he didn't even work *with* you.

Are you considering hiring him for some position? Because in that case, naturally you would have a reason for needing to know.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-07-17 00:07:14**  
(no subject)

I was considering him for a brand new position, as a matter of fact: Protectorate Affairs Office Elf. Duties include light parchmentwork, stepping in to get cruciated instead of me, fetching tea, and keeping me supplied with lemons.

So tell me: why was he sacked?




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-07-17 00:33:23**  
(no subject)

Because he falsified the paperwork on his blood purity. He's a half-blood, not a pureblood.

I don't recommend sending him into Mulciber's office in your stead unless you dislike him rather a lot.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-17 00:49:39](#)**  
(no subject)

And so you did him a favour by arranging to have him sacked, I suppose!

For falsifying parchmentwork?!

Bloody hell.


Oh, yes, and of course Mulciber would have a fit at the astounding idea that someone who's really a half-blood might have actually been working in Half-blood Affairs!



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-17 00:55:27](#)**  
(no subject)

I had him sacked for lying on his job application. If someone lies about the small things, how can you trust them not to lie about important things?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-17 01:05:37](#)**  
(no subject)


The Ministry of Magic is built on

Could you at least have had the courtesy to notify someone in the Division before hauling our people down to Personnel to get thrown out on their ear? Well, not Mulciber in this case, but someone else? Maybe me, if only because I have to pick up the pieces?

People are shell-shocked enough after what happened with Communications, much less Mulciber's rampages. I'm trying to keep people from quitting here. Do you have any idea how many people I've had crying in my office in the past week?

At this rate, we won't have anyone sticking around to do the bloody work.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-17 01:07:43](#)  
(no subject)

Bugger. Now I suppose Mulciber is going to demand that we investigate the background of every bleeding employee.

Thanks a lot, Lamont.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-17 01:39:42](#)  
(no subject)

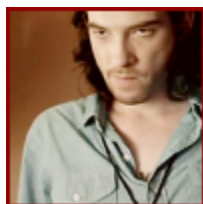
I'll do my best to find all the interesting bits before you get there.


You're not going to be allowed into the files until I'm done with them, anyway. He could be instructing you to hide precisely the sorts of things I'm most interested in (which is not, in any event, secret half-bloods).



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-17 02:06:29](#)  
(no subject)

Don't be daft. As if I'd obey an order from him to hide things from MLE.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-17 02:08:27](#)  
(no subject)

Never mind it being against my principles, he'd probably just take it as a tailor-made excuse to blackmail me. I'm not that thick.

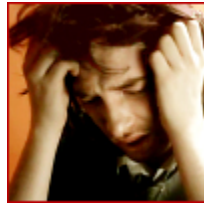



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-17 02:17:07](#)  
(no subject)

Believe it or not, Bill, I am *trying* not to put you into an awkward position between me and your boss.

You seem dead set on finding a way into that position all on your own, though.

In this case, under the circumstances, I wanted him out of the building before Mulciber found out. It didn't occur to me for one minute to let you know about it. First of all, it would have been your job to let Mulciber know immediately. Second of all, if you weren't going to do that, why the hell did you even need to know?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-17 02:26:44](#)**  
(no subject)


Bloody hell.

All right. You're right, okay? I'm being unreasonable. You were just doing your own job.

He's a friend. He's a personal friend that I went for drinks with occasionally. I had no idea he was a half-blood, I swear. I'm angry and I'm taking it out on you because I'm worried about my friend, who has just lost the only job he's had for twenty years. Now that he's outed, he'll probably not be able to find anything else but some shite job, like being a janitor or something.

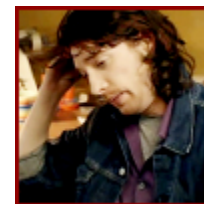
Will he lose his pension?




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-17 02:29:34](#)**  
(no subject)

It's perfectly reasonable to be upset when a friend is fired, no matter what the cause.

I don't know about the pension. He'll need to talk to personnel about that.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-17 02:36:15](#)**  
(no subject)

If they'll even let him in the building again.



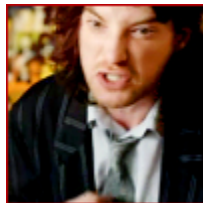
 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-17 01:41:33](#)  
(no subject)


Wait, YOU'RE not secretly impure, are you?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-17 01:42:13](#)  
(no subject)


No, that can't possibly be it. Forget I asked.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-17 01:46:53](#)  
(no subject)

Gladly.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-17 01:46:33](#)  
(no subject)


What, you're not going to tell me to be un-diplomatic? Good god, Lamont, what a question!



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-17 01:52:02](#)  
(no subject)

Well it clearly didn't bother you that Mann's a half-blood.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-17 02:04:33](#)  
(no subject)

Why the hell should I care what someone's blood status is, as long as they can do the work? What, do you expect me to think like Mulciber?






 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-17 02:10:23](#)  
(no subject)

No, but apparently it's really offensive that you might conceivably have a drop of impure blood *yourself*.

I'm sorry! I didn't mean to insult your family.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-07-17 01:38:17](#)  
(no subject)

Given your squeamishness about the Cardinals, I rather thought you'd understand why I wanted him out of the building before Mulciber found out why he'd been fired.

And firecalling you to say 'why hello there Weasley, I'm firing Mr Mann because he lied about being a half-blood but for Merlin's sake don't tell your boss!' puts you in a rather awkward position. Especially if you're asked about it later.

I apologise for my *assumption* that you don't wish either to get cruciated, or to have to cruciate anyone else, any more often than absolutely necessary.

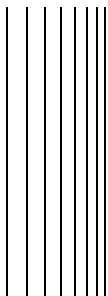


 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-07-17 01:54:19](#)  
(no subject)

I may be a mere civilian, Auror Lamont, but you needn't condescend. Maybe I never expected to get hazard pay for the privilege of pushing parchment at the Ministry of Magic, but I am as perfectly capable of doing my bloody job as you are. Whatever is required of me.

You'd best remember that.





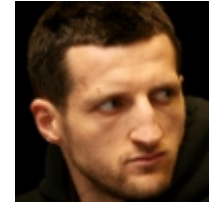
 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-17 01:57:35](#)**  
(no subject)


Your bloody job is whatever Mulciber says it is this week. Did Mulciber add 'Take firecalls about staff members who are about to be sacked' to your list today?

**2013-07-17 08:51:00**


*Private message to Weasley*

Apparently that Auror is going through all the personnel files. I don't want her knowing anything I don't know about my staff. So go through everything when she's done with it and then write me up a summary of anything important.



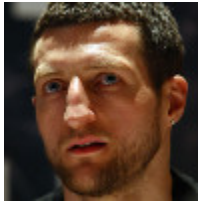
 [alt\\_corax](#)




 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-07-17 14:04:28**  
(no subject)

That may take quite awhile, just so you know.


Could you be somewhat more specific about the type of information you'd like me to report? She's not going to tell me what she's looking for, after all.



 [alt\\_corax](#) at **2013-07-17 14:07:02**  
(no subject)

Obviously, I want the important bits. How am I supposed to know specifically what you might find? The whole point of having you do this is that you should be able to figure it out.



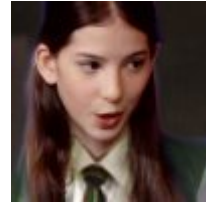
 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-07-17 14:10:17**  
(no subject)

Yes, sir.

**2013-07-17 22:22:00**

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

So the tea was very good today but I have to admit I find it frustrating when we have to actually stay at Doughty Conduit and appreciate tea, instead of going back to 12GP.




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

Justin, did Remy and Alfie seem to have a good time? Because if so, we should try to be more boring the next time they come.

Admittedly my RAT stowed away in my bag so I'm hardly in a position to point fingers at people who bring along the uninvited. I let him have a biscuit, too, which may have been a tactical error. Sebastian is less of a problem along than Remy, though!



---

 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-07-18 03:35:24**  
(no subject)

Hullo, Sally-Anne,

Yes, I'm quite sorry, again, everyone, that they had to come along. I say, Mrs Jugson does have bally well peculiar ideas about what we're meant to be doing 'as a family.' I believe I mentioned that last night we weren't to use our journals at all but instead had an evening of parlour games and entertaining each other, what.

I believe I've made an arrangement with Remy, now, so that next time he and Alfie may go on their own into New London and leave us to it. (I don't think Alfie's at all keen on the ambience at Doughty Conduit, what. And Remy did enjoy himself but not nearly so much as he might like paying a call on, say, Finnigan.)

I say, the well awkward moment for me was when Alfie made that remark about how he'd better things to do than watch all of us 'snog our girlfriends,' or however he put it. Ron, I can only assume he meant you and me, old man!

-Justin



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-18 03:38:35](#)

*Private message to Justin*

I was hoping he'd have that reaction.

I mean, we decided snogging in front of Remy and Alfie might be a public service! (If it made them think, 'next time let's find somewhere else to go.')



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-18 03:56:16](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

I say, you're a credit to the Institute, sacrificing yourselves that way!

-Justin

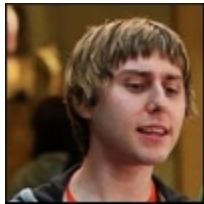


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-18 03:57:39](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

Exactly!

I mean we don't HAVE to snog in front of people so usually we don't. The Strettons don't care where I go or what I get up to.



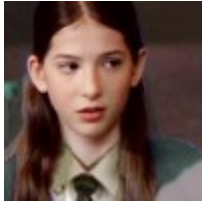
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-18 03:58:33](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

It rather makes me wonder just what Mr Jugson has in mind for when I turn 17 in October. They've been trying so bally well hard to make me feel part of the family I'm not sure whether it's so I shall stay or merely so I shan't feel ill-used when he tells me I shall be on my own.

Either way, what, I don't well relish offending them if I tell them I've no intention of burdening them further. I say, I think they've enjoyed the attention of fostering a notorious defector, if you follow me.

-Justin

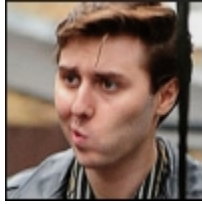



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-18 04:06:11](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

Oh, I'm sure they have.

Are you thinking you'll move out? To a flat of your own, or what?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-18 04:15:04](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

I'm not well certain, just yet. Something I shall need to work out with the Jugsons, I expect. And Sirius.

I've time to decide, though, what!

I say, it's too bad we couldn't all take a house together. Then no one would think much about who comes or goes.

Well, I suppose we ought to get some sleep. Mrs Jugson told us she'd like us to go shopping with her tomorrow morning. One can only imagine what she has in mind.

Good night!

-Justin




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-18 04:18:17](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

A house for all of us would be BRILLIANT.

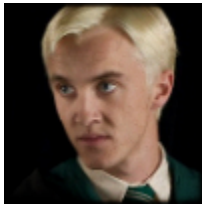
Maybe we could find one that no one cared about, something old and creaky and not in New London. ~~So it wouldn't cost~~ I suppose I'd need to be able to apparate to live there, though.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-07-18 04:31:51](#)**  
(no subject)

That rat is a menace, really. He bit me today. I mean, I was only reaching in to see if you had a quill with you, and he bloody bit me! Couldn't make a scene about it either, could I? Because nobody wants to find out there's a rat in a cafe, do they?

At least Remy and Alfie keep their teeth to themselves!



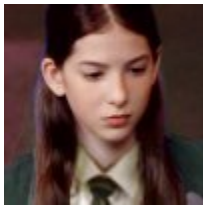
 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-07-18 17:15:27](#)**  
*Private message to Sally Anne*


I've been talking to Daphne - mostly about Avery's social, which I'm escorting her to tomorrow - but somehow in the middle of things, this came out:

*I know a little bit about what you all do. I mean, not really, but I know you do something. And I haven't asked because I'm not sure I want the details. Sally Anne knows that she can ask me for help, if it's needed, and that I won't ever ask for the details. I think we should probably keep it that way.*

What's she mean by that? Does she know as much as she thinks she knows? I don't want to think she's trying to fish around for dirt, because it didn't seem as if she was, but she is noted for her acting abilities.

And then she said that she was lonely.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-07-19 03:08:27](#)**  
*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

Well, all the galleon-holders were in on what happened with Fawcett -- until they weren't anymore. Obviously we got her somewhere safe, but we didn't tell them how, or where, or who, and Daphne isn't thick. She had a pretty good idea that some of us were in on details she wasn't.


We talked about it, once. She also noticed that people disappeared from Siz and Raz's wedding. She doesn't -- I mean, I didn't think she

wanted to know too many details.

I didn't know she was lonely.

Maybe she should come appreciate tea.



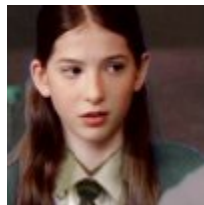
 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-19 03:21:31](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

I'm not sure she wants to know, either.

She also said something about how she knew I wouldn't ever hurt a girl, or anyone else who's weaker than me. I'm not sure if there was something implied there or not.

I could ask her about tea tomorrow, if you like. Oh, but she was concerned with Pansy thinking that she and I were dating, so, if Pansy hears that we are, or any other nonsense like that, would you mind setting it straight?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-19 03:28:19](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

I can tell her, yeah.

I think saying 'you wouldn't ever hurt a girl,' that's probably her thinking about Bole -- that you're not like him.



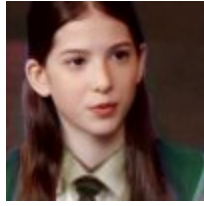
 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-19 03:32:00](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

Ta, I appreciate it.

Bole's a piece of filth.

Blaise might be, too - just not in the same way. I wonder if she knows that.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-19 03:37:10](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

I would love to see Bole run afoul of the wrong person. And I expect he will, eventually. But at least Daphne's shed of him.

As for Zabini -- mostly I just try to stay clear of him. He thinks I'm below contempt and unworthy of our House because I'm not a pureblood. I'm rather curious what he's done to make you wary of him, though? Surely he's always tried to stay on your good side.

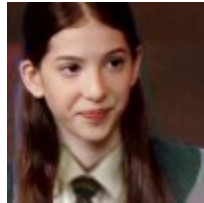


 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-19 03:44:06](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

Since when do people like Bole run afoul of the wrong person? Far as I can tell, they're the types who end up in charge.

Blaise is a complete Slytherin so I expect that when it comes right down to it, he'll bend where the wind goes. I also expect that he has no interest in joining the council. But he's never going to think of people like you and Hermione with anything less than contempt.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-19 03:52:38](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

Bole could date a girl with a father like Hydra's. You'd think he'd have more sense, but I think he likes to run risks, to some extent.

Daphne wasn't exactly powerless. He could have found himself a fostered half-blood if he'd wanted someone with no defenders and he didn't do that -- the game, for him, was convincing someone like Daphne that she had no more power than someone's muggleborn servant.

So yeah. I think he could get himself in trouble sometime. Real trouble.





 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-19 04:15:19](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

Let's hope so.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-19 03:56:28](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

And about Zabini.

It's really odd to hear you talk this way because it wasn't that long ago I'd have said the same about you. Or almost. I might have said that you'd always been kind to me, but that I didn't think you'd ever see Hermione as someone with a right to carry her own wand.

And I was wrong. I didn't know you nearly as well as I thought.

~~When did you change?~~

I don't think Zabini has unknown depths here, though. I think he really is just a snob.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-19 04:16:17](#)

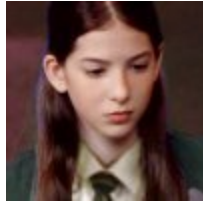
*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

You thought I had unknown depths, did you?

I didn't. Not until Dennis was killed - I think that's when it first started, whether I knew it or not.

So maybe there's hope for Blaise yet, and my others, besides. But I'm inclined to think your assessment of Blaise is correct.

I'm not saying it's been easy, or that there's not certain feelings I don't occasionally struggle with. But once you've seen enough, you can't deny how meaningless it all is - not unless you're an idiot. Or blind.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-19 04:23:40](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

There are people who aren't idiots and who aren't blind, but who decide to close their eyes because it's easier. Or safer. Or because it's too frightening to think about what it means to have been wrong all this time.

But you're right. That there are people you wouldn't expect. And hope for people others might give up on.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-19 03:32:59](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

But -- I mean, maybe you don't like Daphne that way? But I don't know why you WOULDN'T date her. She's pretty, she's fun, she's a nice person. Pansy wouldn't



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-19 03:37:43](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

Sure, I know she's all of those things, but that doesn't mean I want to date her.

I don't think she's going to try to steal Ron back, if that's what you're worried about.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-19 03:43:24](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

Oh, I'm not worried about that.

I'd just like her to be happy.

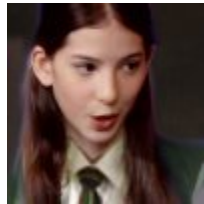
You, too, for that matter.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-19 03:45:03](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

Who says I'm not happy? I wake up singing every day.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-19 03:58:56](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

Well you seemed utterly miserable at Hydra's party.

But maybe you had a headache that day?

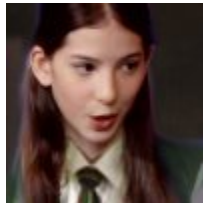


 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-19 04:29:25](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

First Hermione gives me a hard time, now you, too?

I just feel odd there sometimes, that's all. Look, it's like I said above, there's still certain things that are a struggle. Pretending to find Black's jokes hilarious is one of them.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-19 04:36:59](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to give you a hard time about it.

It's a shame Mr Snape couldn't come to the party. He doesn't find Sirius Black the least bit funny; I think he's rather in perfect sympathy with you, actually.

**[2013-07-18 10:17:00](#)**

*Private message to Draco Malfoy*

Hullo, Draco! How are your hols going? It's very quiet here in Belgravia... well, no more quiet than usual, but it seems that way after the excitement of school. You know, with OWLs and all those other things all happening at once near the end.



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

I was wondering: are you planning to attend the social at Avery's tomorrow? Only you haven't been going to them so I wasn't sure...

Well, you probably know that they're boys only, but girls can be invited along as plus ones. Trinc Moran's asked me to be his date, and I'm not sure I fancy that. Lizzie says that Richard told her he's looking for a wife to settle down with. Holda knows how he got the idea that I would make any kind of good wife!

If you *are* planning to attend, might you consider taking me as your date? Only as friends, of course - I don't want Pansy to be cross with me. And I'm sorry to put you out by asking in such a forward way, but I think I'd feel more comfortable with you, because... well, I don't have to say why, do I?

Let me know, won't you?

Fondly,  
Daphne



 **[alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-18 16:34:56](#)**

*(no subject)*

You feel more comfortable with me because I'm better looking than Moran, is that it?

But to answer your question, yes, I was planning to go to Avery's. I'd be more than happy to escort you as my plus one. I hope you're prepared for the talk that's sure to follow, though, as we'll undoubtedly be the most glamorous pairing there. We might even end up in the papers.

Why are you worried about Pansy being cross? We've been broken up for ages, you realise.

You're alright about Weasley and Sally Anne, aren't you?



 [alt\\_daphne](#) at [2013-07-18 16:48:00](#)  
(no subject)


It's true that you are better looking than him, and I know you better, besides. I know that you don't mean it - that you're an actor. You'd never hurt someone, especially a girl. Or anyone else who's weaker.

I know a little bit about what you all do. I mean, not really, but I know you do *something*. And I haven't asked because I'm not sure I want the details. Sally Anne knows that she can ask me for help, if it's needed, and that I won't ever ask for the details. I think we should probably keep it that way.

But it feels a little lonely, at times. And Ron and Sally Anne...well, I'm happy for them, truly. That doesn't mean I want to have to see it with my own eyes just yet. So if you and I *do* get written up in the papers, I'll be sure to tell Pansy we only went as friends. Not because I don't want her to be cross, but because I don't want her to feel hurt.

Well, that all sounds a bit soppy! I liked it better when I was asking you because we'd make a terribly glamorous couple.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-18 16:52:12](#)  
(no subject)

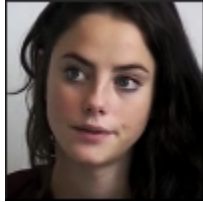
I'd never hurt someone? I wouldn't be so sure about that.

But in the way that you're thinking - probably not.

As for you knowing about "what we do," I haven't the faintest idea what you're talking about. I think we should probably keep it that way.

You're the last person I'd expect to be lonely. Certainly one of the last who deserves it. Consider me at your beck and call for the social.

I really doubt that the papers will be anywhere near there, anyway.




 [alt\\_daphne](#) at [2013-07-18 16:54:59](#)  
(no subject)

Thank you, Draco.

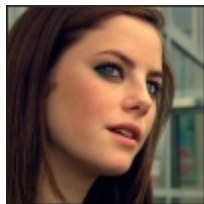
But you know, maybe you really should think about dating again. Samantha keeps asking me about you. She fancies being your girlfriend, I think, but she's too proud to chase you around - except when she's pissed on punch at your birthday party, that is!



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-18 16:57:40](#)  
(no subject)

Samantha can keep fancying about it all she wants, but I don't want her as a girlfriend.

But if she's feeling put out about it I'll be sure to let her know that our time in the storage cupboard together was very instructional.




 [alt\\_daphne](#) at [2013-07-18 17:01:12](#)  
(no subject)

Ha! I knew something happened between the two of you! Samantha was being coy and refused to give details, but I could tell from the face Lizzie was making that something had happened...

Well, if you change your mind, she'd be more than up for it.



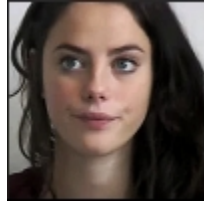
 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-18 17:03:35](#)  
(no subject)

Tricky, Daphs.

I'm not going to change my mind, though. I

already know ~~who~~ she's not the one for me.

I'll come round yours an hour or so before the social starts, say Hello to you parents and such. How does that sound?



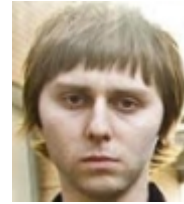
 **[alt\\_daphne](#)** at **[2013-07-18 17:04:20](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Well, if you say so.

That sounds splendid. See you tomorrow!

**[2013-07-18 23:39:00](#)**

*Order Only: Private Message to Mr Macnair*



Dear Mr Macnair,

I apologise that my first occasion to write to you is to alert you to a rather embarrassing set of circumstances, and that I did not take an opportunity to write earlier.

 [alt\\_justin](#)

You see, you might know that I've been placed in fostering with the Jugson family. They have a servant named Maggie, who it seems has been receiving anonymous gifts.

Shortly after I arrived back in New London for the school summer holidays, Mrs Jugson discovered one parcel. Rather than allow her to punish Maggie for something well outside her control, I told them I had sent the packages.

Naturally, I then had to admit to Maggie, privately, that it wasn't me at all. But when I asked Ms Tonks whether she had been sending them, she thought perhaps you had been the source.

I believed she had planned to ask you if you had been Maggie's benefactor but she must not have found the right opportunity.

Sir, did you recently send her another parcel? We managed to keep the Jugsons finding out but it was a near thing.

Ought I to tell her that they're from you? That I know she's not really muggleborn? It's such a terrible risk, but if you've been sending her packages, I wonder if you've been hoping for a way to make yourself known to her.

If you'd prefer I continue to act as if I've no idea who has been providing for her, naturally, I shall oblige. But if it's possible to let her know the truth, would you wish her to know it?

You may not see this for some time but if you do, I hope you'll write and tell me how you would like me to proceed.

Sincerely,



-Justin Finch-Fletchley

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 **alt\_macnair** at [2013-07-19 03:49:32](#)  
(no subject)


What's that?

Oh, you're one of the new ones. And not someone who was one of my students.

Wait, back up a tic. What'd Dora tell you about Maggie and myself?

Is she alright? She's not in trouble, is she?



 **alt\_justin** at [2013-07-19 03:56:22](#)  
(no subject)

Er, yes, I suppose. We've not met, that's well true.

Maggie's not in any trouble, no. I say, we've avoided it. She was very nearly in trouble earlier this summer. I took the credit--or rather, one might say the blame, what--for the parcels she's been receiving. But I'd no idea you were the one sending them until we asked Ms Tonks. You see, I thought perhaps she'd been providing small items to Maggie out of Laszlo's stock, simply due to the fact that I'm fostered with the Jugsons, what.

When we asked--well, that is, when Hydra asked--Ms Tonks told her that Maggie's your sister. So she thought, perhaps, you were sending the presents, what, and she had said she'd take care of telling you to stop.

Only another parcel arrived today. I say, Maggie and I made sure Mrs Jugson doesn't know about it, what.

Maggie knows I'm a friend but I've still not told her there's a way to contact you, nor that you're the source of her care parcels.

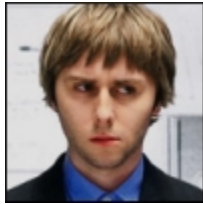
-Justin



 [alt\\_macnair](#) at [2013-07-19 03:58:13](#)  
(no subject)

No, Dora never passed that along, but then I've been out of touch, and not to New London in an age, besides.

Well then, reckon I'll stop sending the parcels.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-19 04:15:42](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, I see. I say, I'm so sorry to be the one, then, or that this is our first chance to speak. Interact, I mean to say.

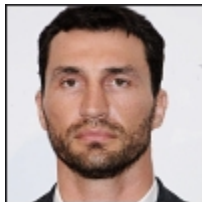
I'm well certain it Ms Tonks merely never found the right moment.


I say. I'm sure this is well awkward for us both, what. I rather think we could manage to hide any other parcels, only...

This is dashed difficult, Mr Macnair, but I think you ought to know that Maggie's jolly well suspicious of the gifts, what. She mentioned before that she's not sure what anyone wants with her. I believe...I believe it might ease her mind to know that her benefactor has no ulterior motive.

I'm so sorry to disturb. Naturally it's none of my affair but--well, I'm rather in the middle of it, nonetheless.

-Justin



 [alt\\_macnair](#) at [2013-07-19 04:20:38](#)  
(no subject)

I don't think it would ease her mind to know they're from me. There's a reason they were anonymous, yeah?

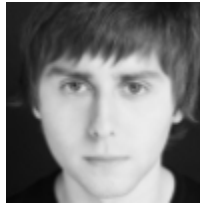
Did she like them, anyway?


Dunno if you should tell her that you know she's not

muggleborn. Depends on if she's happy where she is, and with what she is, but if she's at all like I remember then I'd wager she's not.

What am I saying. Who'd be happy, being a slave.

You know how to cast obliviate?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-19 04:25:10](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, I know how.

I did ask her, once, about her situation. She said that there were worse fates, what, but I tend to agree with you. No one chooses to be another person's property. I rather thought she was merely being careful and not admitting to any desire to flee.

Is there something in particular you'd like me to tell her, then?

-Justin



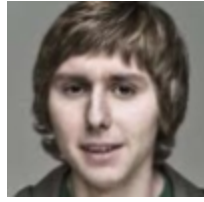
 [alt\\_macnair](#) at [2013-07-19 04:35:59](#)  
(no subject)


I've got an inkling I've gone about this the wrong way. Sorry you ended up in the middle of it.

Tell her you know she's a halfblood, and see how she reacts. What she says.

If that goes over well enough, then tell her that the parcels were from her brother. If it goes pear-shaped, obliviate her.

I'll try to get down to New London soon.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-19 04:38:12](#)  
*(no subject)*

Not at all, sir. It's not anything one could have anticipated.

I'll look for a chance to speak to her.

-Justin

**2013-07-19 21:26:00**

*Private Message to Aurelia Archer*

Got your owl!

The thermos was an absolutely brill gift--those cooling charms have been saving me all week.



 [alt\\_susan](#)

I wanted to write you earlier, but it's been completely mad around here. This trip has been a nightmare, honestly--I'm going to have to restrain myself from jumping for joy when we Portkey this lot back to New London and the waiting arms of their parents tomorrow evening.

I've cursed the name of Umbridge **so many times** this week! With everything else going on, I didn't really pay much attention to what the younger years had been doing in YPL last term, and it turns out that they've learnt **absolutely nothing** about wilderness survival. Marching and singing patriotic songs was a higher priority, apparently, and it's not as if most of their lessons were very practical either. The first day loads of them showed up with packs that were positively stuffed, then whined when they had to carry them, but didn't want to share with the 1 or 2 halfbloods who didn't have nearly as much.

We've had 3 times as many poison oak incidents as last year, not to mention the sprained limbs, the lost orienteering groups we've had to retrieve, and the rained-out tents because someone forgot to put up the waterproofing charms! Macmillan and I have been working together pretty well, fortunately; there's some tension from last term still, but we're both kind of agreeing to pretend it never happened. But with two badgers as senior counselors, we've had to work extra hard to avoid showing favouritism; I understand why that's needed, but I really wish I could spend more time with the kids I think of as *my* former first-years, especially Chelsea Abbott.

Enough of my tales of woe, though. Congratulations on getting into the Daughters of the Protectorate! I know it's not hugely your sort of thing, but at least it'll look good at job interviews and such. And I'm sure you look amazing in your gown.

And anything that makes your mum happy enough to change her mind about letting you get a flat is worth celebrating! I can't wait to see it! And maybe, er, christen it sometime when Octavia's away for the

weekend.

I'm going to sleep for **days** when I get back, but after that, I'd love to make plans.

**2013-07-19 22:16:00**

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



 **alt\_ron**

Hiya.

What are you doing? I'm in my room since Mum seemed in a mood to talk, and I didn't really want to answer a whole load of questions. I think she caught Ginny instead.

Anywiz. I miss you.

Yeah. I know, I just left there--how long ago?--an hour and a half? But, y'know.

I wish I didn't always have to come home.

So what are you doing?




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-07-20 03:33:34**  
(no subject)

I was reading this book I borrowed from Pansy and thinking about this nift pattern for crocheted lace and whether I could use it for Christmas presents this year.

So not much.

Justin was saying yesterday he's thinking about what to do when he comes of age, like in terms of his living arrangements. I could stop going to the Strettons completely, if I wanted, and live in Pansy's flat instead, she's said I could.



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-07-20 03:52:37**  
(no subject)

Crochet, huh? If I'd stayed we could've done something loads better than that!

But, um. About moving to Pansy's--that's what you

want, isn't it?

Only, the way you said it... Are you thinking about doing something else instead?




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-20 03:57:03](#)  
(no subject)

Justin also said it would be fun to get a house together, like all of us together. And I can't decide if that would be brilliant, or a complete disaster.

It would have to be a very large house.

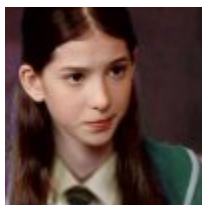


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-20 04:11:46](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, if we did, we'd make it awfully easy for MLE to find all of us if any of us ever got, y'know. I mean, if any of us get arrested, there's a risk we'd all be identified as being part of a treasonous group, and they'd find out who we all are pretty quickly, I'd guess, unless whoever it is uses their ring. But if we all live together, even if MLE didn't get a thing out of whoever it was--i mean, especially if they use the ring to poison themselves--then I bet we'd have enforcers at the door right quick.

That's sort of a dire way to think of it, but yeah. If we didn't live all in one house, they'd at least have to work a bit to find us all and find out who all they're even looking for.

I can see how it would be fun, though. Especially if we had the twins and Lee in with us. You have no idea how mad it is to live with them.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-20 04:23:22](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, that's a good point.

Anyway the other thing is just -- it's really soon. It's been so long I've felt like I would be stuck with the Strettons FOREVER. But I'm turning 17 this spring, it's



not nearly so far away now.

Which is good, because spending spring hols with Pansy (and going to 12GP for lessons) was brilliant.

I might miss Gemma.

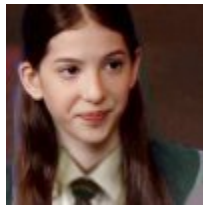
And I need to talk to Maureen.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-20 04:33:30](#)

*(no subject)*

Yeah. I wondered if you were going to say you wanted to stay at the Strettons until you and Jeremy can figure out how to get Maureen away from there. And maybe some of the others. You really think their farms are just too big for the Order to take over?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-20 04:36:01](#)

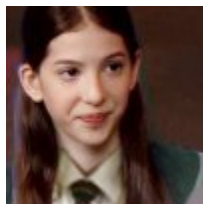
*(no subject)*

Yeah.

Jeremy just makes things complicated.

I am almost positive Maureen will go, if I offer to help her get away and tell her I know a place where she could go.

I just don't know about Jeremy.

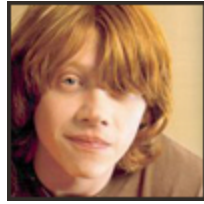



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-20 04:40:17](#)

*(no subject)*

And it's not the size of the estates, it's that MLE might ask me questions about it. There are other farms. Going after the one owned by my foster family right now is a risk that's easy to


avoid.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-07-20 04:45:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Can't argue with that.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-07-20 04:18:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Actually. I don't know. Maybe I just don't want to have so many people around all the time, when it could just be us.

Pansy's different. That'd be okay. But if there were always loads of people all over the house...




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-07-20 04:25:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Well what if it were a really large house? Maybe everyone could have their own flat, almost, but with something like a common room for everyone to gather in? Only it would be a common room where it was all our friends, instead of just your house mates (so you'd never have to see Finnigan and I'd never have to see Zabini.)

But you're right about the security concerns, unfortunately. Sort of spoils the fun of imagining it.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-07-20 04:42:58](#)**  
(no subject)

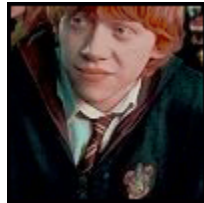
Sorry. I don't know when I started thinking like that--about all the things that could go wrong with everything. In CCF, I guess, but really it was this year with Umbridge and Fleet and Fawcett and that night at Ministry when we didn't think what could go wrong. I mean, I'm glad we did, but I guess the Order are part of what's making me think like that. Mind you, if we could all just move into Grimmauld Place, that'd be brilliant. A totally safe house. And so wizard.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-20 04:46:19](#)  
(no subject)

No, don't apologise. I think that way a lot. It's good to know I'm not just paranoid.

12 GP would be brilliant but it would be awfully crowded considering how many people live there already.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-20 21:23:56](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah. That's what comes of spending so much time with Slytherins. It rubs off.

**2013-07-20 19:59:00**

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

So who of us has been invited to CCF camp? I already know that Harry and I have been, and Daphs told me yesterday that she was in, too.



 [alt\\_draco](#)

I wonder what sort of excitement is in store for us this time around.

Harry, you missed an utterly posh gathering at Avery's yesterday. Plenty of drinks, food, music, and games. No deep topics of conversation whatsoever. It was restful, in a way.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at **2013-07-21 02:12:31**

*Private Message to Draco*

So it was a good date, then? Harry said you were going with Daphne.

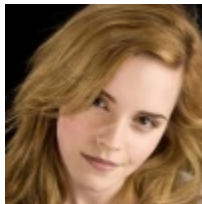


 [alt\\_draco](#) at **2013-07-21 02:15:22**

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

It wasn't a date. I only went with Daphs because she didn't want to go with Moran.

Why, did Harry say it was a date? Because I told him it wasn't.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at **2013-07-21 02:24:51**

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

Why shouldn't it have been a date?

There's nothing wrong with it if you want to date Daphne. I don't think she's a bad sort. Not like Lana Sandoval or some of the others.

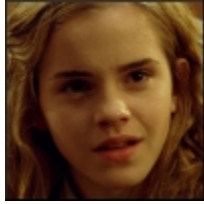


 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-21 02:28:25](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

I don't want to date Daphne but I'm starting to think everyone *else* wants me to.

First Sally Anne, then Harry, now you.

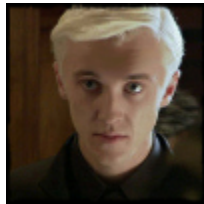


 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-21 02:31:24](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

I didn't say I wanted you to date her. I just said it wouldn't be such a bad thing if you *did* want to do.

Anyway, was it a fun party otherwise?



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-21 02:35:23](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

Of course it wouldn't be a bad thing. Daphs is brilliant.

I don't know. I mean, there's fun in theory, and it had all the trappings of that, and then there's fun in actuality, which it wasn't. Not really. But it appeared to everyone as if I was having quite the smashing time, so no worries on that front.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-21 02:45:54](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

Sorry. I guess even normal things feel strange right now. Ordinarily you'd have found a way to have fun for real. I mean, they're still mates of yours, aren't they?

What was so terrible about it?



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-21 02:59:12](#)

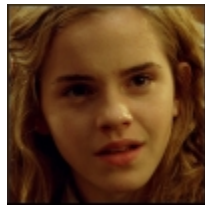
*Re: Private Message to Draco*

Sometimes I'm not sure I've ever had mates, aside from Harry. Even when I used to bash about more regularly with Blaise and Teds and some of the others, it felt more like a social game, of sorts, only I was less aware of it.

Doesn't mean I can't still play it.

There's nothing outright terrible about it. Good food, enough liquor to keep things cheery, decent music, even some interesting conversation. But then when it comes time for the "real fun," you realise that all the pleasant chit-chat you've had is with people who enjoy some rather unsavoury things.

And I don't just mean the stupid "green bottle" games, either.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-21 03:01:42](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

Aren't you lot a little too old for that game?

Oh. No, that's 'Green Ghost' I'm remembering you used to play.

What's a green bottle game, then?



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-21 03:08:33](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

Ha, right. I forgot about Green Ghost. That was what Harry and I played at Buckingham when we were small.

There's a stack of brown bottles on a table, plus two green ones. Someone casts a spell that sends the bottles shuffling and flying around so that a bottle lands in front of each person. The two people who get the green bottles - either they snog, or, if it's two blokes, or two girls, then they get to make each other perform a dare.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-21 03:11:30](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

Oh.

You're right: That sounds incredibly stupid.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-21 03:14:31](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

More or less. Snogging someone that a bottle matched you up with... well, it's just a bit of spectacle, really.

As for the dares, they don't tend to hold back, and some of them have vivid imaginations.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-21 03:16:48](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

So...did you snog Daphne, then?

Sorry. I just had to ask.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-21 03:19:48](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

Believe me, I already know by now that if you want to ask something, you'll ask it.

Why does it matter if I did? Or didn't?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-07-21 03:31:17](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

Can't I be curious without having some nefarious motive?



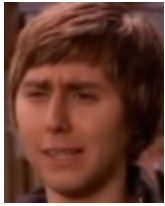
 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-21 03:38:47](#)

*Re: Private Message to Draco*

Yes, I snogged her.

And Antigone Fletcher.

The bottles also tried to pair me up with Melinda, but thankfully cousins aren't expected to follow through.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-21 02:19:22](#)

*(no subject)*

Hullo, Draco,

I received an owl about it, what, but I'm well confused.

It said everyone who was selected had earned top marks *and* was continuing on in both Defence and Noble Arts.

So there must have been some sort of mixup, what. I was thinking of writing back to clear it up but Mrs Jugson's so pleased I hesitate to point out that it's got to be an error.

-Justin



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-21 02:24:36](#)

*(no subject)*

What makes you think there's been a mix-up?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-21 02:25:49](#)


*(no subject)*

Well, I'm not continuing in Noble Arts, you see.

-Justin

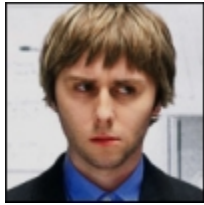




 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-07-21 02:30:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Does Professor Dolohov know that?

Moreover, does he care?



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-07-21 03:03:23](#)**  
(no subject)

I say, what do you mean? I'd imagine he knows; I sent my selections, same as everyone, what.

-Justin




 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-07-21 03:12:08](#)**  
(no subject)

Professor Dolohov visits the Manor sometimes, you know.

He was here yesterday, as it so happens. He was pretty offended that you had decided not to continue, and from what I gathered, he saw to it that you had no choice in the matter.

Seems he didn't see fit to pass this along to you?



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-07-21 03:19:21](#)**  
(no subject)

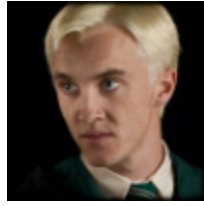
He... Sorry. What?

He enrolled me in his lessons?

Without asking? Without my consent?

I say, that's jolly well not on.


-Justin



 **alt\_draco** at [2013-07-21 03:22:34](#)  
(no subject)

Justin, of the things that Professors do that are Not On around here, that hardly tops the list.



 **alt\_justin** at [2013-07-21 03:27:38](#)  
(no subject)

No, no of course, quite right.

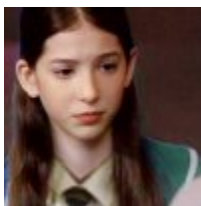
It's simply that I hadn't thought him so dashed rude, even taking into consideration that he's a cold-blooded murderer.

-Justin



 **alt\_draco** at [2013-07-21 03:30:48](#)  
(no subject)

I suppose you could always just not go to lessons, if you want to continue to be stubborn about it. And not show up to CCF besides. But he might not be someone you want to offend again, either.

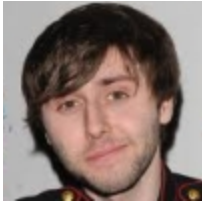


 **alt\_sally\_anne** at [2013-07-22 02:28:18](#)  
(no subject)

I wasn't.

Presumably because I got an 'A' on my Dark Arts OWL.

I really didn't want to do it last summer by the end but it's really annoying to get kicked out, anyway.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-22 02:30:49](#)  
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,

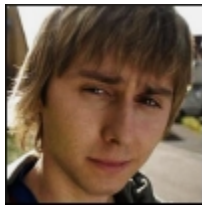
I say, I'm happy to trade places, if you like.


-Justin



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-22 02:37:00](#)  
(no subject)

Why didn't you muff your Dark Arts OWL, then?  
What was your practical?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-22 02:45:37](#)  
(no subject)

I say, I thought I had done. I even debated a point with the examiners. They made me repeat the spell--I thought I'd bally well made certain I wouldn't receive an excellent mark after all that.

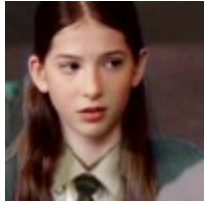
But I got an 'Outstanding' all the same. I suppose arguing with the examiners impressed them, dash it all.

I thought I'd simply not elect to continue, what, but Draco says Professor Dolohov insisted that I be listed on his rolls. Which rather indicates that even had I received a sub-par mark, he might have made the choice for me, regardless.

I say, it's not that I don't think he's a good teacher or even that the subject has no practical application, given our present and future goals. It's just that I thought with enough others taking the lessons, we could manage to learn what we needed without all of us taking them.

Well, and I never expected he would be so jolly well imperious about whom he wanted in his class. There's no doubt he's diabolically persuasive, what, but I've never before found him to be so dashed peremptory!

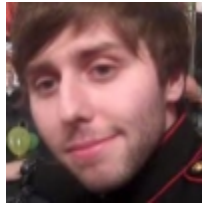
-Justin




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-22 02:48:16](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, it's interesting that he put you in the class when you didn't sign up for it.

Are you going to have to drop something you DID sign up for?



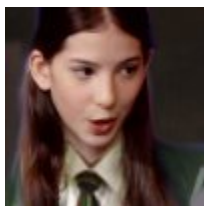
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-22 02:58:33](#)  
(no subject)

I'm not sure I want to withdraw from anything else. Without Dark Arts I was taking seven subjects, so I believe one may be able to withstand the load but it'll be dashed difficult.

As Draco says, one could always refuse to attend lessons but that could lead to worse problems than letting him think he's changed my mind. It might be best to make him think he's won, this time round.

Not before I make the point that he was wrong to take the decision for me, though, what?

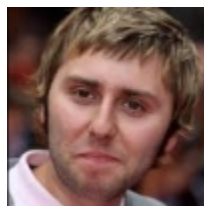
-Justin




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-22 03:02:45](#)  
(no subject)

Wait, you're going to argue with him even though you're planning to go ahead and take the class?

Well, it worked out well enough with the OWL examiners.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-22 03:05:15](#)  
(no subject)


Oh, yes, absolutely. He might suspect something otherwise, what?

You see, we others can behave like Slytherins

when we put our minds to it!

-Justin



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-22 02:45:05](#)

*(no subject)*

It's not as if we won't pass along everything we learn, anyway.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-22 02:46:49](#)

*(no subject)*

There's that.

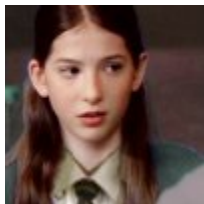
I just hate being left out.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-22 02:48:07](#)

*(no subject)*

Well, you're not the only one of us who is.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-22 02:51:10](#)

*Private message to Draco*

Are you thinking of anyone in particular?



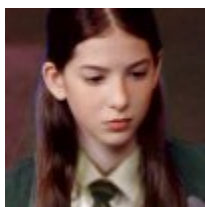
 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-22 02:55:34](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

I just meant that Boot and Hermione don't get to take lessons at all. It's tiresome, really, to see Justin moan so much when he has an opportunity that they'll never have.

I know that Boot and Hermione still get lessons from the Order, and who knows, they might not even take Noble Arts if they had the chance - surely Boot wouldn't. I'm not sure about Hermione.

Well, it's none of my concern if he wants to go on being stubborn about it.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-22 03:00:58](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

I've thought a few times that Hermione would LOVE classes with Professor Dolohov, if she could take them. And his office hours. I mean, whenever I go to his office to ask a question about one thing I wind up talking to him about something completely different but really interesting and then I leave with a stack of books.

Hermione would love that. I think Mr Snape might be a little like this but he's very focused and not especially chatty.



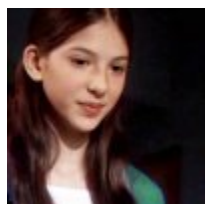
 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-07-22 03:07:17](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

Yeah, I reckon she would. And she wouldn't be able to help being annoyingly impertinent in a way that he would probably find completely amusing.

She thinks Mr Snape is brilliant, even though he's sour. I don't mind his sourness so much, though - he's rather droll in his own way.

Acton would drive her up a wall, though.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-22 03:14:09](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

He would. He would think she was delightful.

You're completely right about Acton. She'd get on well with Babbling, though. And she'd love Vector, from everything I've heard about her from Pansy.

You know she'd be the top student, if she were a student. Padma would have never stood a chance.

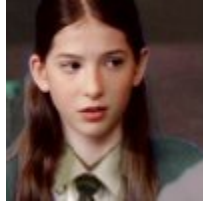


 **[alt\\_draco](#) at 2013-07-22 03:16:04**

*Re: Private message to Draco*

Of course. That's what I told her after OWLs.

Maybe I ought not to have. Suppose it might have made her feel strange. Or left out.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2013-07-22 03:23:45**

*Re: Private message to Draco*

I told her something similar when we worked together on the coins.

She seemed glad to hear it. She said it's hard to know, because she got her wand late, and she doesn't get to work in classes very often -- all of it.



 **[alt\\_draco](#) at 2013-07-22 03:28:20**

*Re: Private message to Draco*

Then I suppose I'll be glad that I said it. Though now that I remember, I said it to Harry, not to her - she could read what I said, though.

Though who knows, she might not have believed me. I reckon it mattered a good deal more, coming from you.

**[2013-07-22 21:05:00](#)**

*Order Only: Daddy's printing press*

This is a secret that the other members of the Institute know about, but I think the Order should know, too.



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

Daddy had two printing presses, a larger one that he used most of the time, and a smaller one, his first press, that he used as backup. The Ministry confiscated the larger press when the *Quibbler* was shut down, but he had the smaller one stored in the back of our garden shed, because he wasn't using it anymore, and they didn't find it. Daddy then buried it, along with the printing plates.

I know where it is buried, and it would be easier for me to get to it now, during the summer months.

Could the Order use a printing press?

---



 **[alt\\_lee](#) at [2013-07-23 13:12:42](#)**

*(no subject)*

What's it take to run one? Space and ink and paper, yeah? Besides the plates and whatever.

I'd still like to see about radio at Aldrich Town, but radio's not going to reach everyone, yeah? And some stuff's better in print, maybe.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-07-23 14:16:11](#)**

*(no subject)*


Luna Lovegood, that's brilliant.

I'm sure we could figure out how to install it at Grimmauld.

The question is how to keep it supplied - materials and content. And what content we ought to produce.






 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-24 16:35:31](#)**  
(no subject)

Sorry, I should have responded to this sooner, but I've been utterly swamped at work.

I think this is an excellent idea, too, and thanks, Luna, for offering us the press. Twelve Grimmauld Place is certainly one possibility. I wonder, though: do we want to write and produce whatever we print with it ourselves, or should we consider enlisting the aid of some of our affiliated groups? Or both? I wonder, for example, whether we might consider placing it at Aldrich Town, along with Lee's proposed radio station? (Lee, do you think you might have any interest in this project, too?)

Distribution of whatever we print will take some careful planning. Perhaps we can enlist the buttonholders to assist us, or at least to offer suggestions?




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-07-24 16:41:14](#)**  
(no subject)

Wherever it is, it should be someplace protected by Fidelius.

I suppose it all depends on what we want to have printed, whether we'd rather retain control ourselves or pass it along to someone else. I'd be a little worried about whether it'll really be a free press if we give it up to an allied location. But then, they probably have the same fear.



 **[alt\\_lee](#)** at **[2013-07-24 17:32:30](#)**  
(no subject)

I would, yeah. Don't know much about printing, but I can learn.


Also, my dad's been pushing me to get a job, and he found one that's a sort of courier thing. Carrying stuff that can't go by floo or needs to be signed for. Irregular hours, too, so my folks won't fuss about when I'm home as much as they have been.

Most of it's real boring, I guess, but maybe there's an option for

distribution there too.

What would we need to make the press work? Besides paper and ink, I mean?



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-07-25 03:15:54](#)  
(no subject)


Paper and ink is all you need for raw materials. You have to set the type for it, which takes a little getting used to--you have to be able to read backwards letters. There's a charm for setting type magically. I've never done it, but I saw Daddy do it all the time, and I *think* I can remember how it's done enough to demonstrate it. Anyway, I can try. Type can be set by hand, of course, but that's much more labourious.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-07-25 03:18:17](#)  
(no subject)


Where's the press hidden? We can come with you to help dig it up or extract it or whatever, once we've figured out where to take it.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-07-25 03:19:29](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, that would be quite kind of you. It's a bit large for me to handle by myself, but if you could help me that would be wonderful. I can show you the hiding place; it's close to our old property.



 [alt\\_lee](#) at [2013-07-25 14:06:13](#)  
(no subject)

Count me in if I can get free.

**2013-07-24 18:35:00**

*Order Only - Private message to Justin Finch-Fletchley*



 [alt\\_macnair](#)

Know it ain't been but less than a week, but have you had a chance to speak with Maggie yet?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-07-25 00:41:12**

*(no subject)*

Mr Macnair,

I'm dreadfully sorry, what, but...you seem to have me at rather a disadvantage. I say, I'm not well certain what you mean. I'm not even certain we've ever conversed before!

What's been less than a week? Speak with Maggie? Was I meant to speak to her about something?

-Finch-Fletchley




 [alt\\_macnair](#) at **2013-07-25 00:46:37**

*(no subject)*

You having me on?

You wrote me on Friday. Go and look at your journal and you'll see it yourself.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-07-25 00:50:35**

*(no subject)*

Oh, gracious.

I say, terribly sorry. I seem to have...hang on.

Dash it. I've just cast *priori incantatem*, what, and it seems the last spell cast by my wand was an Obliviation.

I imagine that means our conversation (if we had it) did not, in fact, go very well.

I'm dashed if I can remember what happened. I say, perhaps my spell backfired?

-Justin

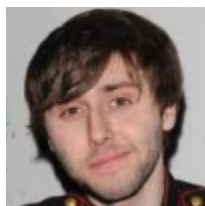



 [alt\\_macnair](#) at [2013-07-25 00:52:57](#)  
(no subject)

No, she obliterated you, no doubt. Guess she didn't want to talk about it.

Well, good. Means she's probably been doin' magic all this time.

You'd best not approach her about it again, I think.

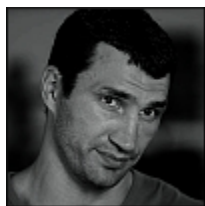


 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-25 00:55:00](#)  
(no subject)

Er, no, of course. Quite right.

I seem to owe you more than one apology, Mr Macnair. One for involving myself in the first place and another for muffing it so completely, what.

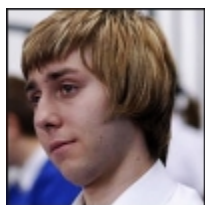
-Justin



 [alt\\_macnair](#) at [2013-07-25 00:59:51](#)  
(no subject)

Alright. Reckon I was better off handling it myself.

She still go along with you to those tea gatherings?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-25 01:06:04](#)  
(no subject)

She might do, yes. Although if she thought--that is, I mean to say, she might not wish to go, if she thinks I mean to expose her secret, what. As it is, I think she's been avoiding me even

more than before.

She might be more likely to go if Remy and Alfie, my foster-brothers, come as well. That rather defeats the purpose, though, as one would have to pretend it's only a gathering to drink tea.

I say, Sally-Anne's already complained about that once. Though one might be able to explain the reason they have to come along, what.

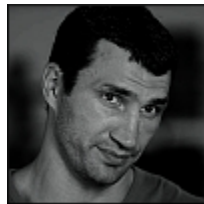
How much notice would you need? I say, if you're thinking to come and catch her while we're here, that is?

-Justin



 [alt\\_macnair](#) at [2013-07-25 01:10:21](#)  
(no subject)


Yeah, that was the idea. It's not as if I can come show my face 'round the Jugsons, or many other places in New London, for that matter.



 [alt\\_macnair](#) at [2013-07-25 01:13:27](#)  
(no subject)

And not much notice, I should think. I'll put a spell on the journal to alert me if you write.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-07-25 01:14:57](#)  
(no subject)

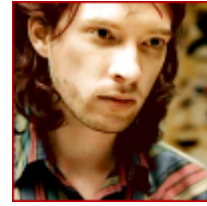
Right. Well, I shall see what can be done to arrange it for next Wednesday.

Cheers.

-Justin

**2013-07-25 16:31:00**

*Order Only: Parchmentwork for muggleborn extractions*




 **alt\_bill**

I've touched base with Marcellus Mann, who is, understandably, quite miserable over the sudden change in his circumstances, but still willing to assist us with forged documents. He has prepared the first couple sets. Sirius, I'm sending you the parchmentwork for Mikhail Christiansen in Scarborough. Could you possibly take that one with Tonks? Kingsley, I'll send you the documents for Mayuko Kawamoto in Manchester; maybe you can pair up with Frank.

Moody, any luck on finding Kathleen Byrne?


Nick hasn't been able to find a location Alise Sinclair. You would think that a baby in New London would be the easiest, but no....



 **alt\_molly** at **2013-07-25 21:40:14**  
(no subject)


It's such a pity about Mr Mann being sacked. Has he started looking for a new position, and has he had any luck? I know you've been worried about him.



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-07-25 21:43:23**  
(no subject)

He hasn't looked much yet. I think he's still in too much shock, and maybe he's a little afraid to find out exactly how much dimmer his prospects are, now that he's been exposed as not being a pureblood.



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-07-25 21:56:23**  
*Private message to Molly Weasley*

Mrs Mann is beside herself with worry, and very angry. Apparently, she didn't know.

They're also paranoid about any investigations DIRRT may decide to launch, now that the truth about his blood status has raised all sorts of suspicions about him. (And yes, Mum,

before you ask: I'm being very careful about how I contact him.)

It's not a particularly happy household right now.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-07-25 22:46:47](#)**

*(no subject)*

Of course we'll go. Glad to do it.

Bill, have the Manns been made to answer questions? I expect they have. And the people who worked with him, too.

Only, I'm wondering if we could get them food and necessities. Is there a way to do that or is it too risky?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-26 02:30:06](#)**

*(no subject)*

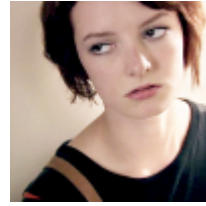
There has been some questioning, yes. I'm keeping my distance for now (we're using a safe drop to communicate and pass the documents).

Financially they're all right for now: they have some savings, and Mrs Mann has a part-time job. But I definitely do want to help him if he's stuck in this position for long. His work for the Order has been superb, and we really do owe him.

**2013-07-26 21:21:00**

*Private message to Mafalda Hopkirk*

This is a message to go along with the evidence that Auror Crouch is manufacturing to suggest to Director Mulciber that I am having an affair with you.



 [alt\\_rachel](#)

While I'm writing, I'll note that I've found very little of interest in the personnel files so far. There are a handful where I've found suspiciously little; I think someone might have cleaned out some evidence at some point in the past. I'm taking a closer look at those -- discreetly, because I don't want to tip anyone off I'm taking a closer look.



**2013-07-26 22:05:00**

*Freedom Day*

Preparation for Freedom Day has consumed most of the week and anticipate will dominate next week's agenda as well.




 **alt\_lucius**

The celebrations this year ought to call to mind those of the Protectorate's fifth anniversary, including a showcase of concerts in the Protector's Park and a series of demonstrations of skill - under controlled conditions only - highlighting the accomplishments of Our Lord's glorious realm. A final concert on the eve of the 31<sup>st</sup> will culminate in Our Lord's presentation to the winners of an essay contest from the village schools, and of course the traditional fireworks.

Once those duties have been discharged, our private holiday arrangements have also been made and we shall proceed for a much-needed rest of our own, before Draco and Harry leave for their CCF programme in August.

Summer is, as always, a somewhat slower time with so many taking holidays but we can take comfort in the knowledge that the newest Director of Protectorate Affairs recognises no such boundary: The necessary business of the nation takes precedence over all other considerations for him!

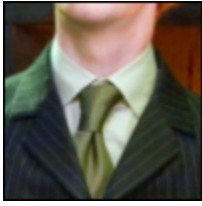


 **alt\_lucius** at **2013-07-27 02:09:57**

*Private Message to Percy Weasley*

See to it that Rookwood has half an hour after Court on Monday.

Also, find out who in Ministry Administration is hiring the tea trolley witches these days. Wish to review the candidates to support Protectorate Affairs' offices.



 **alt\_percy** at [2013-07-29 16:26:49](#)

*Re: Private Message to Percy Weasley*

Mr Rookwood had a short appointment directly after court, but will come to your office immediately afterward.

As for the tea trolley hiring, I will investigate.



 **alt\_lucius** at [2013-07-27 02:10:49](#)

*Private Message to Claudius Yaxley*

No, absolutely not.



 **alt\_lucius** at [2013-07-27 02:21:17](#)

*Private Message to Tosha*

Bratka,

Wednesday's agenda promises to be a tedious affair, start to finish. Take my advice and beg off until at least five o'clock. We shall be at the central bandstand from approximately eleven, more's the pity, but hope to break away for at least a decent interval to take in the carnival (and a much-needed fortification!). Join us for supper and a drink, if you can.

Perhaps you can pick out a new protégé from the cherubs in the village school presentations! The younger one starts grooming, after all ....



 **alt\_lucius** at [2013-07-27 02:24:43](#)

*Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Ms Lamont,

Regarding our conversation about running the course at the Elysian; I am arranging a pass in the near future. Understand that with the additional security measures around Freedom Day, it may not be until the middle of August.

However, I have obtained a pass for the Ouroboros Club so that you may attend as a guest. We have but to fill in the date and arrange to

meet so that you will be afforded every courtesy.

Can assure you from close comparison that the two courses are quite different but either one is exceptional in its way.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-27 02:36:17](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

That sounds delightful. I can certainly wait to visit the Elysian.

I am particularly looking forward to seeing you in action, actually.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-07-27 02:43:16](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

My dear, you have barely begun to see me 'in action.'

But speaking of action ... I returned to St James' Square yesterday and found I was missing a shirt stud.

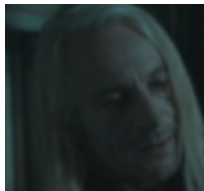
Might it have fallen in your bag? It might still be in the suite but as I mentioned, next Thursday shan't be possible. Will send an elf to look if you've not seen it.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-07-27 02:49:18](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Checked my bag just now and yes, I appear to have it. Do you want to send an elf by my flat, or should I just give it to you the Thursday after next?



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-07-27 02:52:11](#)**

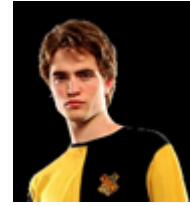
*Re: Private Message to Auror Lamont*

No, no, keep it for now. Next time will do just as well. So long as it's found and not a sign that I need to double my efforts on those courses.

**[2013-07-29 19:39:00](#)**

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

**Thank you again for talking over the weekend. It's nice to talk about life and stuff. I can talk about Quidditch and girls with almost anyone. I've got adults I can talk to about some of it, but other pieces... not a good idea to talk to them about it.**



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

**So thanks again. It really helps to talk out loud about all the bits and pieces to see how they fit together.**

---



**[alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-07-30 02:54:26](#)**  
*(no subject)*

I know what you mean. About not having a lot of people to talk to.

And I've been thinking about what you said about quidditch contracts. In general. The process. I mean, I think what happened before, you know, to Wood, it was really awful and everything, but I think it was mostly just timing that it happened right when he was going out for teams and things, and not because he was. If that makes sense.

Yeah.

Anyways.

I'll see you in a few days, yeah?



**[alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-07-31 21:32:49](#)**  
*(no subject)*

**Many Happy Returns!**

**2013-07-29 21:01:00**

*Order Only Private Message to Remus Lupin*



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#)

Remus. If you see this in the next... well, say, fifteen minutes... If you see this write me back.

It would be useful if you could meet us.

---



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-30 02:07:46](#)

*(no subject)*

Is something wrong?

I can be right there. Scarborough Camp, right?



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-30 02:16:11](#)

*(no subject)*

Right. Yorkshire.

Don't come too close to the camp access road, obviously. There's a lane from the Apparition point.

Use that, but don't make the turning, alright?



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-30 02:17:37](#)

*(no subject)*

So, apparate to the Apparition point, use the lane but stop before it turns, am I understanding you right?

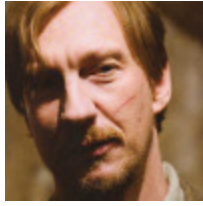
Should I use polyjuice?



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-30 02:19:58](#)

*(no subject)*

Yes. Be safe. Definitely Polyjuice.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-30 02:18:29](#)  
(no subject)

Also, should I bring anything? Are the parents giving you trouble, or do you need a distraction to slip the baby out, or...?




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-30 02:29:24](#)  
(no subject)

We'll explain when we see you. Just come. Or, wait. Bring money. The Christiansens say the night guard on the North gate is known to be corrupt.

That's a last resort, though. We're coming out as soon as I finish writing, so come now and you don't see us in 15 minutes from NOW, then do something. A distraction. Or try buying off the guard?

Never mind. Just come now.



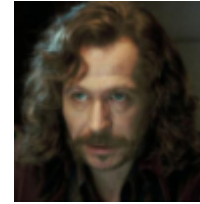
 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-30 02:30:05](#)  
(no subject)

On my way.

**2013-07-29 22:26:00**

*Order Only: Mikhail Christiansen*

Tonks and I went today to see Mikhail Christiansen and his parents.



He's Wil's brother, if you'll recall. They were happy to see us (nice change from the last one!) and we reassured them that Wil's just as healthy as the portrait shows.

 [alt\\_sirius](#)

We had an unusually long time to talk. Turns out both Christiansens have some background as commercial mechanics. Mr Christiansen used to repair cars (we had a splendid chat about engines!) and Mrs Christiansen used to be an electrical engineer.

We had a good opportunity, so we took it, and slipped the whole family out. Aldrich needs mechanics -- they specifically asked for them. Alice, Poppy: Could we bring Wil there and reunite the family?



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at **2013-07-30 03:30:08**

*Private message to Padfoot and Tonks*

Brilliant opportunity, other than the guard I might have had to bribe.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at **2013-07-30 03:32:45**

*Re: Private message to Padfoot and Tonks*

Hush.

We don't need to tell everything. So it was a bit trickier than we're admitting. They do not want to know that. Especially Rudy. But, you know, any of them, really.




 [alt\\_lupin](#) at **2013-07-30 03:33:22**

*Re: Private message to Padfoot and Tonks*

You'll get no argument on that from me!



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-30 03:44:32](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot and Tonks*

Do you think an electrical engineer and a car mechanic will be able to manage a broken loom? This isn't like saying 'oh, you make broomsticks; surely you'll be able to work out how to make

wands,' is it?

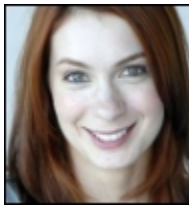



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-30 03:49:43](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot and Tonks*

Is it?

That would be awkward.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-07-30 03:32:13](#)

*(no subject)*

That's excellent news, Sirius.

Poppy, Will is certainly much more stable now that he's had a bit of time at Moddey, and it helps that we're in high summer, but I'd still like your opinion on whether he'd be safe Apparating. If not, Frank can certainly fly him over.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-30 03:36:49](#)


*(no subject)*

Well, we ought to wait at least until we've settled his parents at Aldrich. ~~Assuming they do~~

For that matter, I don't think we know for certain that Aldrich will take the children; they asked for mechanics, not mechanics + two dependents. But we can ask (and if they won't, well, we were going to take the children to Moddey anyway.)





 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-07-30 03:41:16](#)**  
(no subject)

Point taken. If Aldrich gets tetchy about it, we can always wait until the loom breaks down, and ask them again.

We'd be glad to take Mikhail and sort out regular visits from parents if it comes to that.




 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-07-30 03:48:08](#)**  
(no subject)

So they are not there yet?

Where are they? Not at Moddey, I take it.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-07-30 03:54:07](#)**  
(no subject)

No, we didn't take anyone to Moddey. We have them at Doughty Conduit, in one of the nooks we use for Beth's people when they come through. It's rather late to descend on Aldrich. We were thinking someone might pay them a visit tomorrow morning.




 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-07-30 04:00:32](#)**  
(no subject)

Ah. You'll need to shift them fairly soon then, I'd imagine.

How did you get them all out? If I may ask.  
Surely you didn't all just march out through the main gate of the camp.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-07-30 04:02:46](#)**  
(no subject)

The death certificates say it was a murder/suicide. They actually petrified them and used mobilicorpus to get them out the gate. (With their permission, of course. I think the

Christiansens were willing to try anything that would let them stay with Mikhail, and maybe even reunite with Wil.)




 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-07-30 04:06:53](#)**  
(no subject)

They were. We told them to lie down and look as nearly dead as they were able. Then we petrified them and moved them out through the camp like corpses.

I think if we'd told them we needed to transfigure them all into turnips, they'd have let us try it,

At any rate, they agreed and it worked.




 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-07-30 04:28:57](#)**  
(no subject)

You didn't understate when you said you had a good opportunity. A very fortunate one if no one batted an eye as you took a whole family out before their eyes.

Nicely done. All of you.




 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-07-30 04:32:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Assuming there are no repercussions when the parchmentwork goes through.

Perhaps they don't really pay much attention to such things. But a murder-suicide is more than your run-of-the-mill Muggle death. I hope.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-07-30 16:18:55](#)**  
(no subject)

Nick and I will do all we can to obfuscate the parchmentwork on our end.

Nicely done, team!



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-30 04:19:22](#)


*Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

Mind you, we needed to confound two people and obliviate a third. But I am not admitting that.

To anyone but you. Had we mentioned that part yet? I'm sure Sirius meant to tell you. But then the vomming set in.

I'll just go see if he needs anything, shall I?



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-30 04:30:45](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

I'm sure he would have told me, but...

I brought him ginger tea a while ago but I'm not sure he kept it down long enough for it to do him any good. I think it was the side-alonging someone back to London that did him in.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-07-30 04:38:10](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

Not sure what we'd have done if you hadn't seen my note. Or if the garden had been busy enough you couldn't leave Ellie with it.

We definitely needed you or we'd never have got them all here without splinching.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-07-30 04:40:37](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

You'd have managed. Or we'd have gone back for the parents, but this way was better.



 **alt\_poppy** at [2013-07-30 03:56:14](#)  
(no subject)

Where is the family now? Already at Aldrich? They agreed to take them in on the spot? Or is that up in the air?

I'd feel better about it if we waited long enough to see if the parents are going to settle in there before we try moving Wil at all. And I'll certainly want to examine him first. I worry about exposing him to new infectious strains; he's adapted to the Sanctuary, but he's always one of the ones sick when new children settle there. He's simply more vulnerable than most.

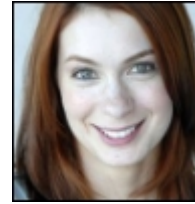
But if they are at Aldrich and want to stay there, I'll be happy to talk through the risks with them and allow them to take their own decision about what's best for Wil.

As for transportation, flying would be far preferable. I might take him myself.

I'll plan to stop back at Moddey tomorrow morning. I'm all but finished at Igham Mote and have a delivery of their dietary supplement for you anyway, so I'll make my apologies and leave first thing.

**2013-07-30 11:06:00**

*ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Neville Longbottom*



Many happy returns, son.

How lovely that I can just write this and know you'll see it right away!

 [alt\\_alice](#)


I'm so very proud of you, Neville. You've always been a brave, forthright person who has solid instincts and a good heart, and I am so very grateful to be able to see you grow up into such a fine young man. I am overwhelmed by the person you've become, and am glad to know you. I look forward to getting to know you even better now that we can work alongside one another, which has been the dearest wish of my heart for longer than I can remember.

Would you and your sister care to join us at Moddey Dhoo for some tea this evening?

I love you so very much, my dear.

-Your mum.



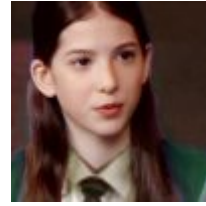
 [alt\\_neville](#) at **2013-07-30 21:05:24**  
(no subject)

Thanks so much, Mum. Being able to write to you anytime I like is already about the best birthday present I could have.

Yes, absolutely, we'd love to come tonight. Thank you!

**2013-07-30 14:00:00**

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



Happy birthday, Neville and Harry.

Harry, are they going to let you come appreciate tea tomorrow? If you want to celebrate a day early and they'll let you out, come to Pansy's, we made cake. (Well, Hitty made cake. She makes it nearly every day. I should probably stop encouraging her if I want to keep fitting properly into my clothes.)

 **alt\_sally\_anne**



 **alt\_harry** at **2013-07-30 23:28:17**  
*(no subject)*

I don't think I can come tomorrow.

They've got stuff pretty much all day.

Cake today sounds nice though. I don't think anyone will notice if I leave for an hour or so. They're all busy planning things over here. Buckingham is sort of mad.

I'll see if I can track down Hermione so she can come too.




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-07-30 23:50:43**  
*Private message to Harry*

If I'd thought about this earlier we could have made it a proper party and invited everyone and given them time to plan.

I knew your birthday was coming up (obviously) but it wasn't until today it occurred to me, you might not much care for the sort of celebrations you usually get.

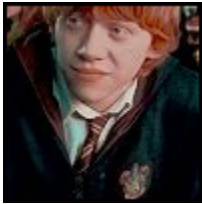


 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-07-30 23:57:18](#)

*Re: Private message to Harry*

It's okay.

Really. Just a few people are fine. And I hang out with Draco lots anyways, and haven't had nearly as much time with you and Pans, other than Tea. So it's nice.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-31 03:56:37](#)

*(no subject)*

So do you have to make a speech or something tomorrow?

If so, we should all come out for that and show loyal. If you know what time. The rest of us can do tea first or after, yeah? I mean, if they're throwing you a ginormous party, your friends might as well come out and celebrate.

Only, if we do, no one tell my mum. After dad, y'know, I think she gets worried what might happen at these big things where your father's going to be in public.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-31 03:00:11](#)

*(no subject)*

I don't know if I'll be able to come to Tea. It's Rigel's birthday too and Mummy never wants anyone to forget that he shares his birthday with Harry and Freedom from Tyranny.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-07-31 03:11:57](#)

*(no subject)*

Right.


Should I say something tomorrow? About Rigel? I could say you reminded me at our last Tea.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-31 03:32:06](#)  
(no subject)

Say something besides "many happy returns?"



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-07-31 04:04:51](#)  
(no subject)

uh.

...That's all I was planning on saying.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-31 04:15:24](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, well that should be fine, then.

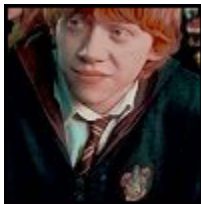
Many happy returns to you, by the way. And you too, Neville.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-07-31 03:11:03](#)  
(no subject)

Thanks, Sally-Anne! It's been an excellent birthday. Evelyn and me came to have tea with Mum and Dad tonight, and we've been having such a good time we're staying here overnight. It's been great to see Terry, too.

He said to say hello to everyone.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-31 03:42:18](#)  
(no subject)

Many happy returns, Nev. I'm glad you got to go see your parents and the Sanctuary. That's wizard.





 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-07-31 04:37:59](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, that's really brill! I'm well happy for you. And hello Terry!



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-07-31 04:07:54](#)  
(no subject)

It just occurred to me that Harry and Neville are turning sixteen, not seventeen, because they're the two youngest in our year. (Or close to it, at least.)

But I think the next birthday is Hermione's, and she's going to turn seventeen.

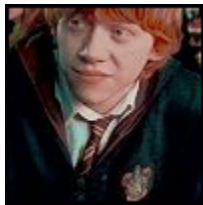
I mean, we're all on the Order lock, as well. But I like being able to talk with just you lot, some of the time, and although we can use private messages those are just for two at once.


Hermione's first, then Justin, I think.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-07-31 04:16:29](#)  
(no subject)

I know. I wish there were a way to change it, but I suppose if there were the twins would have worked it out by now.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-07-31 04:24:13](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, as brilliant as they can be, you'd think they could've set our age lock higher.

**2013-07-31 00:32:00**

*I'm a bit late but...*


Happy Birthday, Neville!

Many happy returns of the day, mate. Here's to another year!



 **alt\_susan**



 **alt\_neville** at **2013-08-01 03:01:52**

*(no subject)*

I'm just as belated giving you thanks. It was a good one!

**2013-07-31 19:44:00**

*(no subject)*

I hope everyone had a good time today.

Thanks for the well-wishes.

And hey, happy returns to Rigel too. Hydra, I hope he had a good birthday.



 [alt\\_harry](#)

**2013-07-31 21:21:00**

*Happy birthday, Marvolo*


Many happy returns of the day.

Brilliant celebration, as always. I expect I'll be seeing you on the CCF trip, then?



 **alt\_seamus**



 **alt\_harry** at **2013-08-01 02:44:14**

*(no subject)*

Thanks.

Yeah, see you then.