

**2013-08-02 10:48:00**

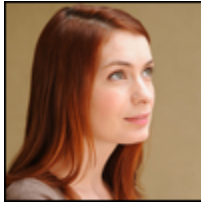
*ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Alice*

come to the nursery.

want to make sure you catch this.



 [alt\\_frank](#)



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-08-02 17:49:25](#)

*(no subject)*

What?

What's happened?

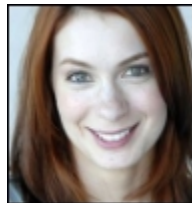


 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-08-02 17:50:02](#)

*(no subject)*

it's our kev.

come on, then, or you'll miss it.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-08-02 17:50:25](#)

*(no subject)*

On my way!

**2013-08-04 23:35:00**

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



 [alt\\_justin](#)

Hullo, Sweetheart,

I say, you know that project I mentioned I've been working on for us? I think it's ready. Better than the parks, what?

Do you think you can meet at Tavistock Square tomorrow? Tell me when.

-Justin



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at **2013-08-05 03:43:58**

*(no subject)*

Well it's Monday, so my parents will be working and that should be fine. I should be able to leave after breakfast.

What sort of a place?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-08-05 03:49:52**

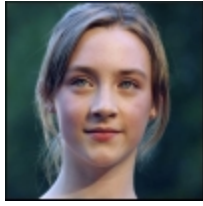
*(no subject)*

I rather wanted it to be a surprise, love, but--well--

I say, it used to be a Muggle hotel. It's taken a long time to make sure it's truly abandoned and to clean up the entrance, the stairwells and one of the best rooms. I've put protections on, as well, to keep out vermin and other unwanted guests, what.

It's not...I mean to say, it's not quite the lap of luxury. But it's better than a picnic blanket where anyone might come along, what.

-Justin



 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2013-08-05 03:53:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, the park always leaves me a little nervous. And wardrobes are too cramped.

Well this sounds much better, then. I can pretend to be surprised if that helps. Shall I bring anything?



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-08-05 03:59:12](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, I know. Me, as well.

I don't really care if you're surprised, sweet, but I do hope you'll be pleased.

If you're coming after breakfast, perhaps you could get a lunch hamper from one of the elves? The kitchens there have long since been stripped bare.

-Justin



 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2013-08-05 04:01:43](#)**  
(no subject)


Of course, that shouldn't be too difficult. I'll make sure to get some of your favourites.

I'm sure I'll be pleased!

See you tomorrow.

Love,  
Hydra



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-08-05 04:04:12](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes. Around 10:00? See you then.

Goodnight, dearest. Sweet dreams,

||||-J

**2013-08-05 11:11:00**

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

Oh, oh I don't know what to do! Daddy came out of nowhere and *he took Justin* and he was so angry

I'm in so so much trouble

I have to



 [alt\\_hydra](#)



 [alt\\_luna](#) at **2013-08-05 19:57:18**


*(no subject)*

You were with Justin? What were the two of you doing? Your entry was cut off--are you free to write? Do you think Justin's in any kind of danger?

Is there any way we can help?

Does the Order need to know?

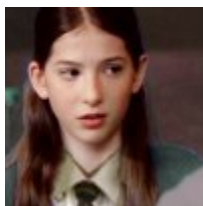


 [alt\\_luna](#) at **2013-08-05 22:33:56**

*Private message to Hydra Lestrangle*

We're all quite worried.

Please write to us as soon as you can.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-05 20:36:13**

*(no subject)*

Hydra, what's going on?

Should we tell the Order?

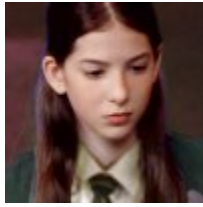


 [alt\\_draco](#) at **2013-08-05 20:52:33**

*(no subject)*

If her Father surprised the two of them and he's angry enough at Justin to "take him" somewhere - well, I don't think he found them feeding the ducks.

Hydra would have written to say more by now if she could.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-05 20:59:25](#)

*Private message to Draco*

Do you think they were hav snogging?

What do you think Mr Lestrage is going to do to Justin?



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-05 21:05:35](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

I hope that's what it was, because the alternative is that he caught them talking about the Order or somesuch.

We might have to start calling him Justina.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-05 21:23:51](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

Well he can't have done, because if Justin were being interrogated by MLE he'd have used his ring and we'd know.

~~Unless they worked it out and got it away from him before he could~~

I mean, he can't have caught them talking about the Order, I suppose he very well might have castrated Justin by now. Do you think Madam Pomfrey can fix that? I suppose it Mr Lestrage wanted to be sure she couldn't, he'd know how to manage it.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-05 21:27:47](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

I've no idea. Perhaps some version of that spell that was put on Moebius Ollivander...

Thing is, Hydra's Father does love her, so if she's pleading Justin's case he might actually listen. Maybe.

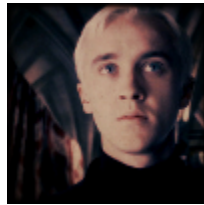


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-05 21:32:07](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

Did they make Ollivander impotent or was it worse than that?

I put a hex on Letchley that made his hands go limp any time he'd try to wank. I left his willy alone, though. (I didn't want to have anything to do with his willy, that was rather the problem, if you catch my meaning.)

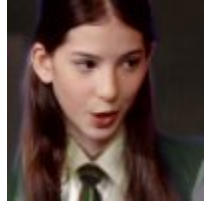


 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-05 21:43:44](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

Oh, no, his cock and balls were hexed off and kept in a jar whenever he was in school. Nice image, that.

I don't ever remember what he did - was creeping on girls, or something?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-05 21:46:30](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

He assaulted HERMIONE, Draco.

I can't believe you forgot

He got what he did because he was interfering with Harry's property, of course, not because anyone cared about how Hermione felt about it.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-05 21:51:54](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

I - you're right, of course. I can't believe I forgot, either.

I don't think I thought about it much, at the time. I mean, I didn't comprehend what that actually meant. I think I imagined him trying to hold her hand and kiss her cheek as if she were his girlfriend, and I was mostly perplexed as to why a Slytherin would want to hold hands

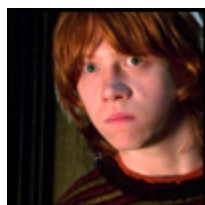
with a mudblood because surely his family would be appalled.  
But obviously that wasn't it if his bits were kept in a jar.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-05 23:18:26](#)

*Re: Private message to Draco*

No. That wasn't it.

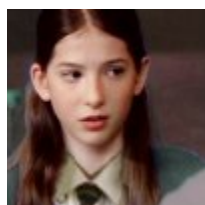


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-05 21:09:19](#)

*(no subject)*

Yeah. That doesn't look good.

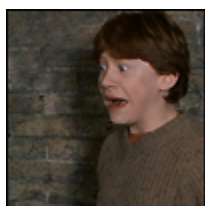
What do you think he's likely to do to Justin, then?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-05 21:18:00](#)

*Private message to Ron*

Draco said we might have to start calling him 'Justina.' I'm not sure if he was joking or not.



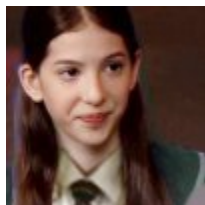
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-05 21:24:02](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron*

Oi!

That's not something you joke about.

Mind you, it's Malfoy. I just didn't realise he disliked Justin that much. Does he? No telling with him, is there?

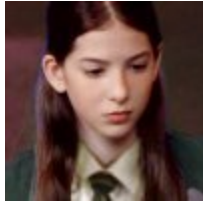


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-05 21:26:07](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron*

I don't think he does dislike him. I do think he thinks Justin was playing with fire to get involved with Hydra at all, given who her parents are, though.






 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-05 21:21:47](#)**  
(no subject)

You don't think he'll use his ring. I mean if all Mr Lestrangle cares about is that he and Hydra were, you know.

He won't need to.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-05 21:25:38](#)**  
(no subject)

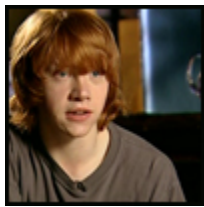
What if Hydra's mum's there? She might be interested in more than whether they were shagging.




 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-05 22:04:46](#)**  
(no subject)

I think if she's involved, things would have been resolved already.

Or maybe they are; did you see that Mr Lestrangle just wrote to Professors Lestrangle and Dolohov?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-05 22:52:37](#)**  
*Private Message to Hermione (and Harry)*

I don't see that we can really do much to help. Unless Malfoy or Harry go visit the Lestranges to see if they could get in the way of whatever's happening.

I mean, if it's just about F-F shagging Hydra, they've kind of got to take what's coming to them, I reckon. Only that could be pretty dire, so maybe Harry could help if he tried calling on Hydra. Do you think he would?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at 2013-08-05 22:56:44

*Re: Private Message to Hermione (and Harry)*

I was wondering if maybe Ms Tonks could write to Hydra to make sure she's coming to Tea Appreciation, though of course that doesn't guarantee an answer. But at least it might remind her parents that people would notice if she suddenly disappeared forever.

The thing about Harry calling is that Auror Lestrage would never tell him he can't come 'round but that's only because she wants *him* to take an interest in Hydra. So that wouldn't really help Justin.

And honestly, Ron, would *you* be willing to 'take what's coming to you' if Daphne's parents had decided to come after you for shagging her?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-08-05 23:14:27


*Re: Private Message to Hermione (and Harry)*

That's a good idea about Ms Tonks. I could write her, I guess. I thought maybe we'd have heard something from the Longbottoms by now to the rest of the Order, but maybe they're all off somewhere and Terry hasn't found them.

Well, it would help Justin if Harry distracted them from torturing him. Or questioning him. Or whatever they're doing to him.


And, yes. I mean, I wouldn't have had any choice about taking it. If they had done. I mean, it wouldn't've been nice, but there wouldn't really be anything to do about it if they'd come shout at me or hexed me or got me arrested or whatever. I didn't think they would do, though. Not Daph's parents. And, anywiz, we weren't ever really serious. And we're only friends now. It's just... I did what I did and if they were cross about it, I'd've been in for whatever they tried to do.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-05 23:24:44](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Hermione (and Harry)*

That may be so but Daphne's parents aren't the type who'd hex your privates off, or worse.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-05 23:36:01](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Hermione (and Harry)*

Yeah. That's sort of the point.

I don't think I'd've tried to date Hydra. Myself.

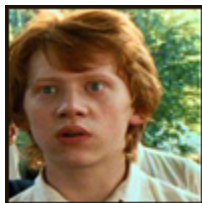



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-05 21:24:22](#)  
*(no subject)*

I don't know, as I've got no sisters, and as a male have been heartily encouraged since age fifteen to pursue sexual release in ways that are "befitting my station."

Which leads me to believe there's a bit of a double standard for females, especially ones from wealthy, pureblooded families. And Uncle Rodolphus' attitude toward Hydra has always been...well, it's a bit *funny*, isn't it?

My guess is that he'll curse him so that he's a eunich, or something.

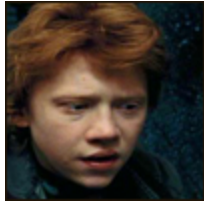


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-05 21:27:11](#)  
*(no subject)*

Seriously?

That's just...

Can St Mungo's reverse that?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-05 22:47:10](#)

*Private Message to Malfoy*

Will he hurt Hydra, do you think?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-06 00:44:18](#)

*(no subject)*

Oh. I see.

Here's hoping he doesn't.



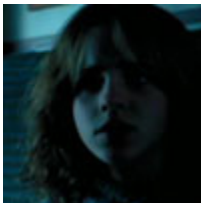
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-06 00:55:44](#)

*(no subject)*

Say.

Maybe one of you Slytherins could get in touch with Remy and ask- I don't know- ask if Justin maybe left his journal at home and is off somewhere without because you were wanting to ask him something, but he's not answering. I guess you'd have to actually write him a PM first if you did that. Or just, y'know, Floo call the Jugsons and ask if he's there. Because if he is, at least we'd know he'd got home, yeah? And if he's not, then... well, we might find out if the Jugsons are worried about it or if they seem to have heard from him or something.

Just. Maybe we'd find out something.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-05 21:20:34](#)

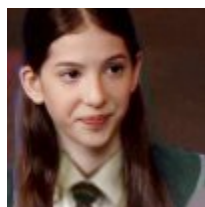
*(no subject)*

HOW do you think he found them?

I mean, I wonder where they were? They can't have been daft enough to carry on where they'd be found. Can they have been?

Which means, maybe Mr Lestrage has a way to spy on Hydra? Do

you think that means he might have heard things from Tea Appreciation too?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-05 21:22:21](#)  
(no subject)

If Mr Lestrage knew anything about the rest of us we would ALL be in an MLE dungeon right now (or dead).

And we're not. So he doesn't.



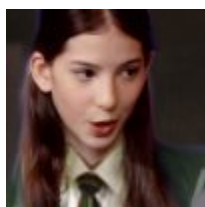
 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-05 21:26:57](#)  
*Private Message to Sally-Anne*


No, but Justin might well be. In a dungeon, I mean.

Have you ever read any of the records about duels of honour? I did a little research back when--back when Letchley was bothering us.

Pureblood families have traditions going back centuries, you know, where wizards 'defiled' their daughters. Duels are only the half of it.

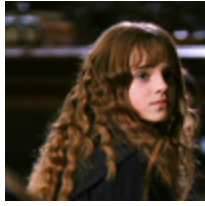
I just don't understand how anyone could be so stupid. Especially Justin and Hydra--I mean, he's really normally so stolid and she's just so careful. I don't understand it.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-05 21:29:12](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

Fifty years ago maybe but no one does that NOW.

Do they?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-05 21:51:51](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

I don't know if anyone does anymore but it's not as if the Wizengamot have changed the laws or customs. So legally, Mr Lestrage has the right to do almost anything he likes.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-05 21:34:48](#)


*(no subject)*

He's a specialist in dark artefacts - I'm sure he could find dozens of ways to spy on her if he wanted. Could be something that sets off a notification spell that goes off if things get too

cosy and intimate.

I don't think he caught them talking about the Order. If he had, he would still be waiting around to see if he could hear more, not snatching up Justin and Hydra.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-08-05 22:32:03](#)

*(no subject)*

That's a very good point, Malfoy. So less dangerous for the rest of us, but still maybe plenty dangerous for Justin. Depending on what sort of not-feeding-the-ducks they were doing.

And how angry her father is.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-08-05 22:37:18](#)

*(no subject)*

Hydra clearly thought he was a lot more angry than she wanted.

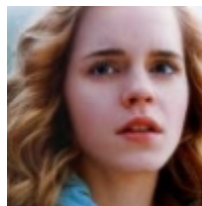


 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-08-05 20:52:53](#)

*(no subject)*

I think we should. I don't like that she cut off in mid-entry like that.

I'll talk to Mr and Mrs Longbottom. I hope Hydra won't be angry with me, but given what little we know, I don't think we have any choice.

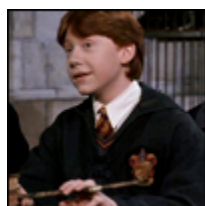



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-05 23:15:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Have you told them?

I think we should tell Sirius and Tonks, too. Maybe she can write to specifically invite Hydra to Tea. So they'll know someone's watching out for her.

Only I don't think Sirius will be very happy to find out that they got caught shagging.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-06 00:29:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Okay. So I told her. Tonks. Did you see what she wrote? I guess some of us should answer her, yeah?

I just wrote to her, though. I didn't think about including Sirius. It just seemed... I don't know. And now she wants to know if it's alright to tell the whole Order or just some of them, and I don't know. I mean, not all of them could really do much to help. My Mum, for instance. And if she didn't have to hear about it, that'd be better, really. If you know what I mean.

But I said Tonks should maybe tell Sirius and Mr Lupin, because if anyone can think what we could do to help, they'll think of it, yeah?




 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-06 00:33:07](#)**  
(no subject)

I think that's probably good. If Terry tells the Longbottoms and Ms Tonks tells Sirius and Mr Lupin, they'll keep it relatively quiet.

Unless there's a reason to tell everyone--I mean, unless it becomes clear that we have to tell.






 **[alt\\_terry](#)** at **[2013-08-06 01:16:54](#)**  
(no subject)

I've spoken with Mr and Mrs Longbottom. So they know...well, as much as we know, I guess.

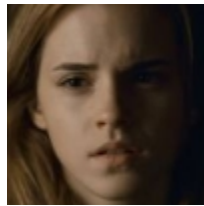
I wish one of them would write back. Or that they were carrying their galleons.



 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2013-08-05 22:35:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Can anyone think of any way we could trace the two of them? Figure out their whereabouts?

Although I can't imagine what we could do. Especially if we don't know what the situation is.



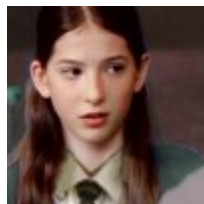
 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-05 23:04:35](#)**  
(no subject)

Maybe. If they have their bracelets?

Sally-Anne, would that work? Or Ron, could you ask Fred and George?

There's blood in the spellwork for that, right? So we could maybe find out if they're...if they're alive, and maybe approximately where they are.

I'm still not sure what we can do about it, though. The only thing I can think of is to casually write to Hydra or Justin, outside of the lock, about something completely different, just to remind Mr Lestrangle that people will miss them if they disappear.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-05 23:15:49](#)**  
(no subject)

There is blood in the spellwork, yeah, it's part of the runework I did for both the notice-me-not and the anti-loss.

But there's also blood in their veins (in rather larger quantities).



If I had Hydra's bracelet, or Justin's, I might be able to use it to find them, but I'd also have to be fairly close. (Which is a good thing for Sirius Black or he'd never have managed to stay a fugitive as long as he has -- you know there was probably hair he left behind in his house from when he was a child, and Bellatrix Lestrange could stroll in there for tea any time back when Mrs Black was alive.)



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-05 23:16:29](#)  
(no subject)

Writing them outside the lock is good. Can you find Harry? It might be best to have him do it. Can anyone think of a pretext for him to PM Justin?




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-06 00:55:31](#)  
(no subject)

Harry's on holiday with the Malfoys. But Draco has his journal, so Harry should be able to see his, too.

I wish we could get any sort of answers about what's going on.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-05 23:16:54](#)  
(no subject)

Well, they haven't used their rings, right? We'd know if they did.

That doesn't tell us they're alive, but it tells us they haven't killed themselves.

I'm going to write Ms Tonks. And ask her to write Hydra.

**2013-08-05 15:52:00**

*Private message to Raz and Tosha*


You.

Both drop what you're doing and come to my workshop at St James. Now. At once.



 [alt\\_rodolphus](#)



 [alt\\_rabastan](#) at **2013-08-05 21:55:13**

*(no subject)*

Well then, don't make it sound like an order or anything!




 [alt\\_rodolphus](#) at **2013-08-05 21:56:36**

*(no subject)*

It IS a fucking ORDER.



 [alt\\_rabastan](#) at **2013-08-05 21:58:00**

*(no subject)*

On my way.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-08-05 21:59:22**

*(no subject)*

As am I.

**[2013-08-05 17:58:00](#)**

*(no subject)*

So Friday Flying has been a tonne of fun lately. We pick a different route each time, and I think we're getting a lot of really good experience with navigating in too, and how to use maps and compasses and things. So we've been learning stuff too. Which is good.



 [alt\\_harry](#)

Anyways. I hope everyone else has been having a good summer hols too.

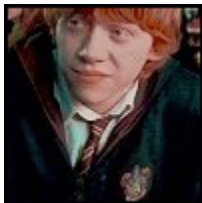
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 [alt\\_harry](#) at **[2013-08-06 01:06:01](#)**

*Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley*

Hey, so I was wondering where you wanted to go next. For flying. Because it's your turn to pick a route, and I'd like to plot it out before we meet.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **[2013-08-06 01:10:50](#)**

*(no subject)*

It's wicked fun. Last week over the dales was too snitch. Riding shifting currents like that really makes you feel the broom, doesn't it?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **[2013-08-06 01:13:23](#)**

*Private Message to Remy Jugson*

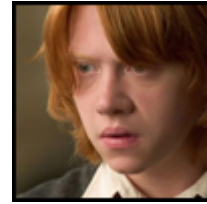
So. Um. I was trying to get hold of Justin? For a flying club thing. Is he around? I was wondering if I could firecall.

**2013-08-05 18:18:00**

*Order Only Private Message to Ms Tonks*

Er. Hi.

I hope you're not really busy tonight or anything, but we think Hydra needs help. Or, well. We think she's in trouble. With her father. She wrote and told us he caught her and Justin together and took Justin somewhere and she was in the middle of writing that she was afraid what he was going to do when she just stopped, so we think her father came back to punish her. Or something.



 [alt\\_ron](#)

And she hasn't written any more to let us know if she's all right. Or if Justin is.

Anyway, we thought if you were to write her a note in public, y'know, it would make her father remember that other people would notice if anything happened to Hydra.

I don't reckon it will really stop whatever he's doing, but maybe... it won't be so bad? Or at least maybe he'd let her answer you, and then we'd know- that she could?

I don't know. But could you? Write to her, I mean?

It would make us feel like we'd tried to do something to help, I guess.

Thanks.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at **2013-08-05 23:39:45**

*(no subject)*

Of course, I will. Just now.

But, Ron, have you lot told anyone else besides me? Have you told your mum, for instance? I'm not sure what I think is best, exactly, but I do think the Order ought to be told. Or some of the rest of us, anyway. Why did you only write to me, is what I'm asking. Is there a reason you don't want the others to know?



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-06 00:23:50](#)  
(no subject)

No!

Um. No, I haven't told Mum. And I-

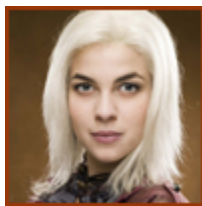
I don't think that's a good idea. I mean, she couldn't really do anything to help Hydra, and it's just that, well. What's happened isn't really something Hydra or Justin's going to really want the whole world knowing about, y'know? Really.

So. I don't know. Terry Boot said he was going to tell the Longbottoms, only he hasn't said whether he found them or what they said if he did. I thought they'd've written something to someone by now, only they haven't so...

Only, they could be in really giant trouble, Hydra and Justin. And the longer it goes on and we haven't heard anything back from them, well...

Could you maybe tell Mr Black and Mr Lupin and see what they think? Maybe the three of you'll think of something we can do that would actually help.

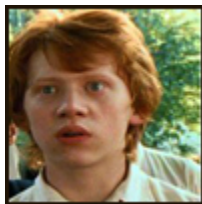
I mean, on top of your writing Hydra, which was- what you said was just the right sort of thing, I think.




 **alt\_nymphadora** at [2013-08-06 01:35:54](#)  
(no subject)

I think the Order are involved now. I'm sorry I wasn't able to head that off.

I take it none of you lot have heard from either of them, yet?



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-06 03:26:30](#)  
(no subject)

Actually, Hydra's got her journal back and she's told Malf Draco that she's all right.

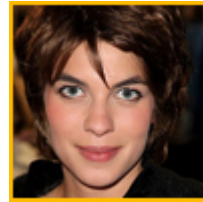
Justin's locked up somewhere in a dungeon, though, and her father is planning a duel. That's not good.

I mean, really not good.

**2013-08-05 18:48:00**

*Tea Appreciation*

After you lot came last week and we talked about everyone's favourite biscuits, I did a bit of looking at recipes.



 **alt\_nymphadora**

Ellie and I decided to try lavender biscuits and lemon shortbreads for this week--two different recipes each, so you can help us decide which are best. Or if none of them's worth making again, you can tell us that, too! And we have more of that nice rosehip tea for those of you who liked that one so much.

We do enjoy seeing you all when you come. Cousin Hydra, you especially! I know it was Freedom Day last Wednesday and you had other things to be doing, but Bea's been asking all weekend if you'll come again soon, so I hope you'll be able to this week. It makes her day to see you!

All of you, really. We're looking forward to Wednesday!



 **alt\_nymphadora** at **2013-08-06 00:11:09**

*Order Only Private Message to Hydra Lestrangle*

Let me know, please, if you are all right. Or if you need help.

I'm worried about you. (Your friend, Ron Weasley, told me that you're in a bit of trouble and that he is worried that it might be serious. That has me worried, too, naturally.)

I hope it's all worked out, but if it hasn't and if there's any way I can help, say so.



 **alt\_hydra** at **2013-08-06 03:27:07**

*Re: Order Only Private Message to Hydra Lestrangle*

I'm alright. Justin has to duel Daddy in the morning, and I don't know what that means, if he has to prove his worth or if Daddy wants to scare him, or hurt him.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 04:03:16](#)

*Re: Order Only Private Message to Hydra  
Lestrangle*

I'm glad to hear that you're alright. And sorry to hear the other.

I hadn't thought about duels like that, but you're right, your father could have other aims than to hurt him. But if you don't know which he means to do, I don't know who could.

I wish I knew something to say or do that would really help this.

I can tell you that though I don't know Justin very well, he's struck me as extraordinarily talented at keeping other people calm and soothing tempers. Mind you, an angry father would be quite a challenge, but if anyone can talk his way to a truce, it will be Justin. Don't you think? That's one of his real talents.

And he has other strengths. I've seen him duel: he's very solid with his protective manoeuvres and his shield spells. I don't expect anyone his age would stand much chance at overpowering a wizard like your father, but maybe that's not what he needs to do.

You must know other advantages he has. Don't lose hope.

And don't give up thinking what you could do to influence what happens, either. Do you think your father means for you to be there when they duel?



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 04:05:47](#)

*Re: Order Only Private Message to Hydra  
Lestrangle*

I don't think he will let me be there. As Auntie Narcissa might say, I'm liable to do something that will soften his heart.

Do you think I'm horrid?





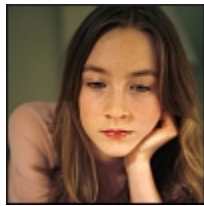
 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 04:17:15](#)

*Re: Order Only Private Message to Hydra  
Lestrangle*

I was hoping he maybe wouldn't think of that.

Would he come see you before the duel, then? If you were very clever how you asked him? Because softening his heart is definitely a strength of yours that might help here.

And I think you've been perfectly reasonable for someone that's well and truly in love. Not horrid in the slightest.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 04:24:56](#)

*Re: Order Only Private Message to Hydra  
Lestrangle*

I don't know but I'll try anything. Only I hope it doesn't go wrong and make him more cross than ever.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 04:28:48](#)

*Re: Order Only Private Message to Hydra  
Lestrangle*

Follow your instincts about that. If you think it might go wrong, then it's not the right plan.

I think you know your father really well. Use that whatever way you can.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 14:36:27](#)

*Re: Order Only Private Message to Hydra  
Lestrangle*

Any word this morning?

I'm thinking of you.




 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-08-06 01:34:24](#)**  
*ORDER ONLY*

Terry's informed us of what's happened.

Any word yet?

Have either of them used their galleons?




 **[alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-06 01:35:38](#)**  
*Re: ORDER ONLY*

I just heard from Remy. Jugson. From Justin's foster family.

He said Justin's not home, he's not been home since breakfast, and Mr Jugson was on the Floo with Mr Lestrangle after tea and has stayed in his office ever since.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-06 01:40:52](#)**  
*Re: ORDER ONLY*


Harry?

What's going on with Justin?

Lestrangle ....

Someone had better start explaining. Quickly.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-06 01:37:41](#)**  
*Re: ORDER ONLY*

Wait. What? What's happened?

To whom?



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 01:42:03](#)

*Re: ORDER ONLY*

I've been trying to get you to come into the office so I could tell you. Where did all these people come from on a Monday night, anyway?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-06 01:44:11](#)

*Re: ORDER ONLY*

Simple. It's a Monday night when it isn't raining or hotter than Morgana's fiery cauldron.

Tell me what?



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 01:45:22](#)

*Re: ORDER ONLY Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

Rod LeStrange caught Justin and Hydra together. Together, apparently.

I'm not sure the kids really wanted every adult in the Order to know that, though. But they're worried. Really quite worried about what might have happened. They haven't heard from either of them since Hydra wrote to say they'd got in trouble. But then she was interrupted, I guess, and couldn't finish what she was writing.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-06 01:47:25](#)

*Re: ORDER ONLY Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

Are you having me on?

Are you fucking joking? No, you're not. And neither's Harry.

**Are they MAD? Are they completely, totally INSANE?!? What in the name of every wizard ever to grace a Chocolate Frog card POSSESSED**

**them to do something so mind-numbingly STUPID?!**

Bugger. Bugger bugger bugger.

If he lives through this I'm going to kill him. **Both** of them.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 01:53:39](#)

*Re: ORDER ONLY Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

If it weren't actually bloody serious, I'd laugh at you.

What possessed them? The same thing that's possessed every wizard to ever have her face on a frog card--and all the rest, too.

I expect you've never taken stupid risks for a shag, have you?

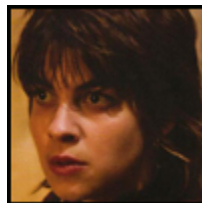


 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-06 01:56:11](#)

*Re: ORDER ONLY Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

Not when I was their age, no.

Definitely not for their kind of *Romeo and Juliet* deathwish, either.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 02:04:37](#)

*Re: ORDER ONLY Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

Well, I agree that Justin's picked the absolutely most dangerous person he possibly could have to fall arse over teakettle in love. Given his situation.

But then, I don't know many people who've consulted their better judgement before going all in for love. Mum certainly didn't. Nor me. Nor you.

I don't see as we've got much space to fuss at them.

And all the reason in the world to want to help them if we could. But I'm blessed if I know what to do.

Of course, the dead traitor Black could pen a threat to dangerous Mr Lestrage, warning him not to lay a finger on the lad. Only that's not likely to help matters, is it? What ideas have you got?



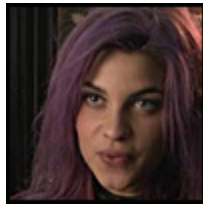
 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-06 02:06:38](#)

*Re: ORDER ONLY Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

Barking at the customers seems the most likely course of action.

I ....

No. Bad idea.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 02:30:26](#)

*Re: ORDER ONLY Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

What are you thinking?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-06 02:34:30](#)

*Re: ORDER ONLY Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

Something we can't risk.

Kreacher.

Maybe if we don't hear anything by morning.



**[alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 03:32:20](#)**

*Re: ORDER ONLY Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

News: Ron Weasley's written back and says that Hydra's writing to Draco, so she's alright. Well enough to write, at any rate.

Justin, though, is locked up somewhere in Rod Lestrangle's dungeon. And Lestrangle is planning a duel. Mind you, that's third hand, and could be what Hydra fears rather than what's really happening.

But, well. What do you think?



**[alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 03:44:51](#)**

*Re: ORDER ONLY Private Message to Sirius and Remus*

And now I've got it from Hydra herself. About the duel.

Though she thinks he might have an aim other than harming Justin. A lesson. Or a chance to prove himself worthy.

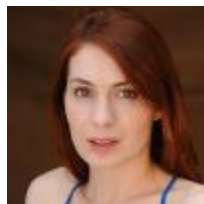
I want to think she's right, but it sounds more wishful than likely to me.



**[alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-06 05:14:00](#)**

*Re: ORDER ONLY; Private message to Mrs Longbottom*

Hydra's okay. Justin's in the dungeon, and there's to be a duel tomorrow. With Mr Lestrangle.




**[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-08-06 05:21:11](#)**

*Re: ORDER ONLY; Private message to Mrs Longbottom*

I see. Thank you, Harry.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-06 02:56:06](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks, Mrs Ponds.

I know it's supposed to be about the tea, but I'm sort of a biscuit bloke, myself. You can count on me to test any new recipes you and Ellie want to try!

See you Wednesday.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-08-06 05:25:42](#)**

*ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Tonks and Sirius*

Please let me know if you come up with something at Grimmauld, or have a better idea of what sort of support we can provide.

It's difficult to sit on one's hands in this sort of situation, but I'm not sure how serious a danger Justin is truly in.

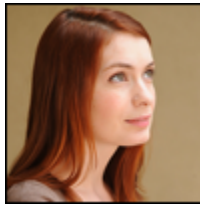


 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-08-06 15:28:39](#)**

*Re: ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Tonks and Sirius*

Have you seen what Justin's written?

It seems a bit unreal if what he says is true: Lestrangle didn't do him any serious damage. That's a relief. I honestly expected... much worse.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-08-06 20:19:42](#)**

*Re: ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Tonks and Sirius*

I wasn't quite sure what to think. My family never stood too much on ceremony when it came to these sorts of things.

I'm glad the whole endeavor seems to have satisfied Mr Lestrangle for now, and that no-one was badly hurt.



**2013-08-05 20:19:00**

*Private message to Narcissa*

- Narcissa,

My apologies for interrupting you on holiday.



 **alt\_rodolphus**

A situation with my daughter has come to light, and I may need your assistance in the matter. For reasons you may discern, I prefer not to summon Bella to St James for her input. She'd likely only see it as an offence to her work, anyway.

Might I persuade you to steal away for a moment?

---



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2013-08-06 02:29:24**  
(no subject)

What sort of situation, dear?

If it's something I can manage from here, I'm at your disposal, of course. Unfortunately we are rather far out at present; Apparating all the way to New London would be problematic. At least until morning.

Is it truly urgent? I'm sure if she were seriously ill or injured you'd already have her at St Mungo's.




 **alt\_rodolphus** at **2013-08-06 02:34:21**  
(no subject)

This morning - in an abandoned muggle hotel, no less - I encountered undeniable evidence that she and her gentleman friend, Mr Finch-Fletchley, have been having intimate relations for some time now.

I haven't hurt her, of course, but she might hurt herself in her efforts to save Finch-Fletchley from facing his fate. She's currently warded in her room. Bound now, as well.





 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-06 02:35:55](#)  
(no subject)

Ah.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-06 02:38:37](#)  
(no subject)

How recently did you bind her? Perhaps you'd be so kind as to give her her journal so I can calm her tonight. Then I can come round first thing.



 [alt\\_rodolphus](#) at [2013-08-06 02:43:12](#)  
(no subject)

I don't recall. I've lost track of time today, I'm afraid.

I suppose I might give her the journal along with a caution that she best not do anything to make things worse for him. The last thing I want is for this incident to be made public.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-06 02:45:26](#)  
(no subject)

Well, as you say, all any of us need is to involve my sister.

You might remind Hydra that if she says anything untoward, it's liable to raise Bella's awareness.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-06 03:26:39](#)  
(no subject)

Gracious.

She's no threat to herself, dear, but - well, she *has* formed quite an attachment.

I know you'll do what you feel you must, Rod. Only, please take my advice: If you wish your daughter to ever forgive you, please teach

the lad his lesson and let him live to prove how well he learns it. Any lasting damage and I fear she might never recover.



 [alt\\_rodolphus](#) at [2013-08-06 03:29:57](#)  
(no subject)

The attachment is mutual - the boy has been more than forthcoming.

It would be a complicated Obliviation, but not impossible.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-06 03:38:39](#)  
(no subject)

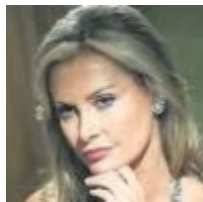
You wrote to Rizzer and Tosha. What have they to say about this great romance?



 [alt\\_rodolphus](#) at [2013-08-06 03:52:12](#)  
(no subject)

Raz is playing dumb, no surprise there. Tosha waved his hands and suggested hormones were to blame.

Since this has been going on for at least six months, there can be no doubt that neither of them were paying attention, or worse, believed the matter was beneath their concern.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-06 04:11:46](#)  
(no subject)

Well, dear, in a way Tosha's correct: They are teenagers, after all. Ruled by hormones. I meant what they advise you to do about it. Are they willing to second you? Or has Tosha offered to stand up for his protégé?

And it seems it's been going on for longer than six months. Hydra says they've been dating since her third year - the Yule Ball, if you'll remember.

Furthermore, she claims Bella encouraged her to tempt the boy. Something about practising in order to attract Harry. Which, I think you and I both know, is never going to achieve the results Bella wants.

She really is rather touchingly desperate about him. Poor thing.

So. What *is* your plan? Or haven't you decided?



 **[alt\\_rodolphus](#)** at **[2013-08-06 04:19:32](#)**  
(no subject)

They've declined to participate, both of them. Have tried to steer me down a less rigorous path, but neither of them have children so their advice is not worth my time.

Oh yes, I've known they were dating. I meant that the actual...coupling - that's what has been going on for six months. This means that Hydra deliberately tampered with the bracelet I gave her (a detail which did not escape my attention, and indeed aroused my suspicions and drove me to take further measures, which leads us to where we are today).

And yes, I have known of Bella's plans. Another factor in my "further measures."

The plan is to duel the boy, and improvise from there. I do hope you won't try to dissuade me. You know that it's well within my rights.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2013-08-06 04:27:06](#)**  
(no subject)

No, I've no intention of dissuading you. He deserves a drubbing.

It's just that ... they've had to be awfully determined. And if Harry's never going to turn his eye toward her ....

Were you aware he came in third in the O.W.L. results? Lucius was a bit perturbed that Draco placed fourth, particularly

when the Governors reviewed the entire list.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-06 04:29:05](#)  
(no subject)

Out of curiosity, what have you done with him in the interim?



 [alt\\_rodolphus](#) at [2013-08-06 04:31:55](#)  
(no subject)

He'll sleep in the dungeons tonight. He's had a decent meal, and reasonably good bedding. And I did, at least, give him his robes back.

Nevertheless, I can't say that he will get a good night's sleep.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-06 04:44:00](#)  
(no subject)

What has your cousin to say about it? I presume you've told Jugson about his fosterling's transgression?



 [alt\\_rodolphus](#) at [2013-08-06 04:48:35](#)  
(no subject)

He was fairly mortified. Was eager to give me free reign to do as I see fit.

And so I shall.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-06 04:51:39](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, about as I expected.

Well. Dawn? How tedious, that barely allows for a few hours' sleep before getting ready.

Still, I shan't be late. If only to reassure my niece that all will

||||| be for the best.

||||| I'm sure you'll think of a solution that will satisfy all  
concerned.

**2013-08-05 20:59:00**

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



Why's he written to my MOTHER?

I'm going to head to their cabin to see if I can hear anything...

 [alt\\_draco](#)




 [alt\\_hydra](#) at **2013-08-06 03:08:41**  
(no subject)

I have my journal back. I'm alright.

Justin's in the dungeon and he's been there all day, I don't know what's been done to him. Auntie Narcissa says there will be a duel.




 [alt\\_draco](#) at **2013-08-06 03:10:25**  
(no subject)

A duel, is it? Well, bloody nightshade. ~~Would have been better off as Justina~~


What can we do to help?



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at **2013-08-06 03:11:11**  
(no subject)

I don't know.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-08-06 05:16:16**  
(no subject)

Do you have any of his hair?

Maybe we could get someone from the Order to switch with him or something? Or be a body double to make some confusion during the duel?

Do you think your father will try to kill him?



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 05:22:55](#)  
(no subject)

Please don't, that could make things so much worse for so many people. There's not enough time...

Deep down, no, I don't think he will.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-06 05:50:07](#)  
(no subject)

oh. Okay. Yeah, I can see how that'd go wrong.

And if you really think he won't, I guess

Maybe it's better to let it happen than try to stop it?




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-06 03:11:52](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, thank goodness for that much.

Where's his journal? His wand?

How did your father find you?



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 03:15:25](#)  
(no subject)

I had his journal and wand but Daddy took them from me and he took mine too. He only gave me my journal back so I could be lectured by Draco's mother.


I don't know how he found us. He Apparated in like he knew just where we were. He must have put something on me, but I don't know what it could be.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-06 03:16:41](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, so it's "Draco's mother" now instead of "Auntie Narcissa?" Really.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 03:23:18](#)  
(no subject)

She called him a PET.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 03:24:21](#)  
(no subject)

But don't worry, I'm playing along. Now he's a dalliance.




 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-06 03:41:59](#)  
(no subject)

Hermione, if you're still at Buckingham then you're closest to St James. Think there's anything to be done to keep the duel from happening?

Could set the palace on fire, for example.

Yeah, that's not a serious suggestion.




 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-08-06 04:08:05](#)  
(no subject)

We're very relieved to hear from you at least, Hydra.

And--well--we're all wracking our brains, trying to think of how we can help him.






 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-08-06 04:14:10](#)  
(no subject)


Hydra, a few of the Order members know you went missing today. I'm sorry, we didn't want to violate your and Justin's privacy, or blab about what's said under this lock, but we had to let Mr and Mrs Longbottom know. In case--well, we didn't know exactly what your father had discovered. And we told Nymphadora Tonks, so she could write to you, so your father would realise he couldn't make you entirely disappear.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 04:21:47](#)  
(no subject)

I know that Dora knows. And Mr And Mrs Longbottom - well, it couldn't be helped.




 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-08-06 04:33:05](#)  
(no subject)

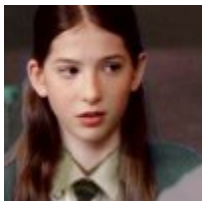
They only want to help. If you can think of any way they can, well...let us know.

I don't suppose a little dog could squeeze into Justin's cell?



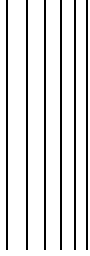
 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 04:34:57](#)  
(no subject)

Thank you for thinking of it, Terry, but St James Palace isn't the sort of place you can sneak into, even as a dog.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-06 04:58:35](#)  
(no subject)

Would it help to write to Professor Dolohov? Or do you think it would make things worse? It would have to be you who wrote to him, so your father would see.



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 05:25:11](#)  
(no subject)

Professor Dolohov has been here - he knows. I don't know what he said about it but I know he was here and so was Uncle Raz.

**2013-08-05 22:47:00**

*Private Message to Hydra*

I'm sure you've heard more than enough about how foolhardy you've been.



To say I'm disappointed is an understatement, dear, but not for the reasons you think.

 **alt\_narcissa**

Let us concentrate instead on what can be done to mitigate the situation. Your father fears you will do yourself a mischief in your effort to intercede on behalf of your paramour. I believe if I can deliver your promise you will not harm yourself, I may be able to extract from him a solemn vow not to damage the boy any more than necessary to provide his lesson.

Really, Hydra. A little rebellion, to say nothing of some healthy exploration, is all well and good, but there is such a thing as taking it too far. Can he possibly be worth such a tumult?

I see your father also talked to your uncle Razzer and Antonin Nikolaevich. Have they known about your deception as well? Has he told you if either of them (or both) are serving as seconds? If so, perhaps I can convince them to keep things under control.

Do stay calm, dearest. Aunt Narcissa will be there before anything happens tomorrow.



 **alt\_hydra** at **2013-08-06 03:06:39**

*(no subject)*

I'm not going to harm myself. I just wanted my journal back.

Serving as seconds? You mean he's going to make Justin - but he *can't*, there's no way Justin can best him in a duel.



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2013-08-06 03:09:50**

*(no subject)*

Well, darling, what did you *think* was going to happen? I suppose you've avoided it this long and you thought you could hide a while longer, or that

you might give your father the look that melts him every time and he'd let you keep your pet?

If you promise never to see this boy again, he might let him go.



 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2013-08-06 03:12:30](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm not going to do that.




 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2013-08-06 03:16:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Dearest. Either way, it's over.

Now, you must have known it was only ever a dalliance. I think you'd be best served to spend tonight preparing to say goodbye.



 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2013-08-06 03:22:18](#)**  
(no subject)

And how does one best prepare to say goodbye?

Maybe it's a dalliance but why can't I be the one to decide when it's over? I don't have to start looking for a husband until I'm finished with school, surely.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2013-08-06 03:34:57](#)**  
(no subject)

No one but perhaps your mother is expecting you to have found a husband before you finish school.

And believe me, dear, I'm not upset because you chose to gain experience - though goodness knows you're so very young to have gone quite so far - I'm upset because you've put yourself in this predicament.

You lost the right to decide when you were caught. I'm so

terribly sorry and I wish it could be otherwise but I can't see any alternative.



 **alt\_hydra** at [2013-08-06 03:48:17](#)  
(no subject)


Mummy told me to learn everything I could from Justin so that I could make Harry happy later. Daddy didn't want me to see him.

Who would you obey?

And I wouldn't have been caught if Daddy hadn't been tracking me, or spying - I'm not sure what he did but I wasn't being indiscreet.

And anyway I don't see why we can't just be together until we're older and it isn't hurting anyone, is it? Please isn't there anything that can be done?



 **alt\_narcissa** at [2013-08-06 03:59:39](#)  
(no subject)

Be that as it may, he clearly took advantage of your willingness. I do wish you'd come to me. Well, no use worrying about that now.

Your father's own indiscretion seems to bear some examination, I'll grant. But it's his job to protect you from boys, particularly ones of such low character.

If parting from him is so painful now, imagine how much worse it will be later.


Though I suppose ... things might run their course. Tell me, have you and Finch-Fletchley been dating ever since the Triwizard Yule Ball? Are you really still so much in love?



 **[alt\\_hydra](#)** at **[2013-08-06 04:03:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, yes, and he doesn't have low character. He's always been a gentleman and never makes me do anything I don't want to do. He was worried about what would happen but *I* was the one who wanted to be with him that way.



 **[alt\\_narcissa](#)** at **[2013-08-06 04:40:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, don't lose heart. He's all right for now. I don't think your father means to hurt your young man too badly.

He's decided to keep this whole thing from your mother, after all. And he's told me that your uncle and Professor Dolohov refuse to participate. I think it's just that he needs to feel he's observed the proper form.

I'll be there first thing in the morning, dearest. Try to get some sleep.

**2013-08-05 23:21:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Justin Finch-Fletchley*



 [alt\\_tery](#)

I know you can't read this because you don't have your journal. But I still have to write it. I haven't forgotten how when I was at Lincoln Castle, and I was so scared, you wrote to me after you hid the bookbag for me with all the emergency supplies in it that everyone had gathered for me. That helped me so much, knowing my friends were out there, thinking of me, hoping against hope that they could rescue me. And even when they couldn't it just helped to know they wanted to.

I hope you'll be able to read this soon. And that it'll be all right, and in a day or two you'll have your journal and wand back, and Mr Lestrangle will have come to his senses.

You must be so scared right now, both for yourself and for her.

I'm so sorry.

I hate the way this bloody regime chews up people who only want to live their own lives.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-06 15:40:22](#)

*(no subject)*

Terry,

I say, cheers, old man. I don't mind saying it looked rather hopeless for a while but--well, it's all worked out for the best. I'm glad no one decided to bally well charge in, though; it would have made things a dashed sight worse.

It had nothing to do with the Order, what, or any of our efforts. In this case, Mr Lestrangle was well within his rights as a father. I can't say I agreed with the, er, force of his reaction, what, but one can't dispute his justification.

It's good to know one's friends are looking out for one, at any rate. Thanks.

-Justin



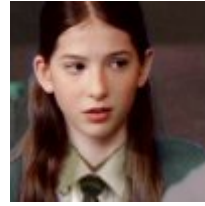
**2013-08-06 09:14:00**

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

So

Did they ever let Justin out?

When is the duel?



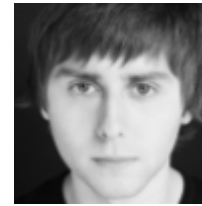
 **alt\_sally\_anne**

**2013-08-06 10:36:00**

*Order Only*

Good morning,

I say, terribly sorry to have worried everyone. I'll be all right.



 [alt\\_justin](#)

I'm back at the Jugsons' and Harry, I apologise but I shan't be able to go flying on Friday. Or any other Friday this summer, I'm afraid. Nor Tea Appreciation, what.

But everything's really, quite fine, apart from that.

-Justin




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at **2013-08-06 15:02:32**  
(no subject)

I'm very glad to know that you are with the Jugsons. Are you safe there?

Is there anything you could use if we found a way to slip it to you? Are you hurt at all? Do you need a healer? They would take you to St Mungo's, wouldn't they, if you did need to be seen?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-08-06 15:15:59**  
(no subject)

Thank you, but I'm not hurt. I've a bit of a cold but a day's rest ought to put that to rights.

Considering his options, Mr Lestrangle was dashed restrained, what.

I'm fine, really. Thanks very much for your concern.

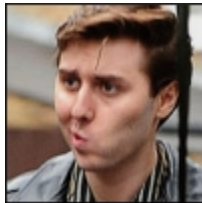
-Justin




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 15:35:18](#)  
(no subject)

That's excellent news, then. We're glad you're all right.

But our offer stands: if there's something you need that we could slip in to you, we'll certainly do our best. I think we could manage to get round the Jugsons without too much difficulty if we tried!



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-06 16:26:27](#)  
*Private Message to Ms Tonks*

In this case, I believe Mr Jugson would be hyper-vigilant. He was most chagrined to have been called by Mr Lestrangle.

It's probably best to let the situation calm down for a while, what. And truly, you've all done more than enough. I say, everything's fine.

One thing that does occur to me is that it rather scuppers our plans to bring Maggie to Tea Appreciation. Perhaps there's another way to arrange for her to meet Mr Macnair?

-Justin



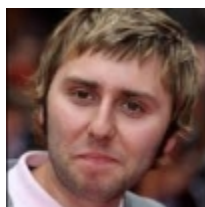
 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-06 16:36:12](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Ms Tonks*

Well, Maggie was actually one of my thoughts for getting things in to you. Is she speaking to you at all now? Only, I wonder... if you hinted that the Ponds have a parcel for you that would really help you now, perhaps she'd agree to come pick it up from us.

She knows the way. And she's been here once by herself. She just hasn't made a habit of it like I hoped she might. We could try it, anyway.

And I don't mean we'd surprise her with Mac right off on this

visit. It would just be nice if she knew that she could come here and that we're friendly and willing to help.



 **[alt\\_justin](#) at 2013-08-06 16:53:01**

*Re: Private Message to Ms Tonks*

She's been much more solicitous so far this afternoon. I'll see if I can take advantage of her mood to ask her to go round to you.

I say, I think part of the problem was she wasn't well convinced I had no romantic interest in her myself! Now that there's direct evidence my affections are firmly planted elsewhere, what, she seems to be far more affable.

-Justin



 **[alt\\_justin](#) at 2013-08-06 15:05:43**

*Private Message to Hydra*

Don't worry, Dux. It's going to be all right.

I can't quite believe *how* all right, what.

I just wish I could see you. I'm not to leave except for the CCF and trips to buy school supplies and things.

I say, it's a small price to pay, considering. And we'll see each other soon.

All my love,

-J



 **[alt\\_hydra](#) at 2013-08-06 16:20:48**

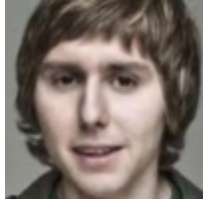
*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

Well, I'm already thinking, perhaps if I'm extra good, Auntie Narcissa might let Draco serve as our chaperone one day? Only that's a daft idea - whoever heard of a teenager chaperoning another teenager?

And you're older than Draco, besides.

I suppose it would be wise to live with the situation for a while.

And to think, once we've waited long enough, we can be married!



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-06 16:34:09](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

I don't think she'd be fooled, love. But, what about someone like Draco's cousin Ned? It seems to me he'd feel obligated to agree but not bally well invested in paying too close attention, if you follow

me.

But then...perhaps we'd best go quite, quite careful. We were lucky to have won this time; if we're caught again he jolly well might not see things the same way anymore.

I...I would do anything for you, love, but I hope you'll not think less of me if I say I'm not well keen to spend another moment in your father's dungeons.

-Justin



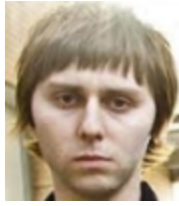
 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 17:02:43](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

I don't think that any chaperone we might suggest would be given serious consideration.

So yes, we should be quite, quite careful. And grateful. I suppose we really were being careless... which reminds me that I still need to figure out how Daddy found us. I'll have to look through all the things I was wearing or carrying with me yesterday.

I'm sorry, was it horrible? Were there any ghosts? Queen Bloody Mary is supposed to haunt the palace - her heart was buried in the Chapel Royal. And they say there's another, a man named Sellis who had his throat slit.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-06 17:37:49](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

It was...chilly, what.

I think there were ghosts, come to that. I'm not certain. There was a breeze and then a bit more glow through the cell but--well, it did at least frighten the rats.

I say, sorry to go on about it. I don't wish to worry you. It wasn't so bad.

-J



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 17:41:21](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

I'm sorry you've got ill because of it.

I'm not worried - I know how strong you are. And now Daddy does, too.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-06 17:46:47](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

It's all right. I've got my scarf, though Alfie says it looks daft in the middle of summer.

And I've got Jack to keep me company. I daresay he's not the same but he doesn't care, what!

Do you think he thinks better of me now? Your father? I say, I'm not sure why it matters but it does.

-J



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-06 17:59:57](#)

*Re: Private Message to Hydra*

I don't know. I believe he didn't want to leave me with any impression of approval whatsoever, but that's to be expected. But I hope so.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-06 15:08:22](#)  
(no subject)

So after all that, you're just grounded?

Or is it worse than that? You're not hurt, are you?




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-06 15:27:33](#)  
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,

No, I'm not hurt. I've a cold and I can't say my stay in the Lestrangle dungeon improved my opinions on rats, what, but that's a minor complaint.

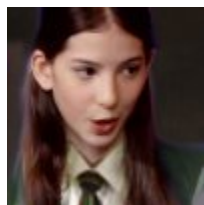
-Justin



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-06 15:32:10](#)  
(no subject)

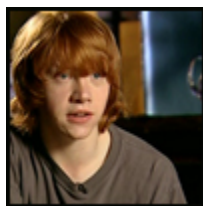
Justin, mate. You're really all right, then?


I can't tell whether you're telling us straight or keeping the worst back. Can't see behind all that stiff upper lip business.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-06 16:06:03](#)  
*Private message to Ron*

I don't imagine he'd be saying he's not hurt if Hydra's father had his bits in a jar. So there's that.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-06 16:29:48](#)  
*Re: Private message to Ron*

Well. He might just not want everyone to know if it were something like that. Especially Hydra. Until he could talk to her properly, you know.

Only, I don't think it's that extreme. I mean to say, I think he's got his bits still attached. Not sure he's not hurt at all, though.

Ugh.

What are you up to today? It's your day for the perimeter check, isn't it? I could come fly it with you if you wanted.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2013-08-06 16:30:32**

*Re: Private message to Ron*

Yes.

And please, yes, come.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-08-06 16:44:53**

*Re: Private message to Ron*

All right then!

I'll be there as soon as I finish with the goat pen. And the weeding.

I think that's all Mum's got on my list today.



 **[alt\\_justin](#) at 2013-08-06 16:08:29**

*Private Message to Ron*

Ron,

I don't wish to worry anyone more than necessary, least of all Hydra. All right?

I'll be fine. Let's say that I can attest that putting the poison in rings was a good thought. That and my bead bracelet were all I had for...oh, I guess about eight hours, I expect. Also, now I've an insight to Mr Lestrangle's unorthodox interrogative and duelling tactics I'm not eager to revisit.

I didn't fight back, you see. I defended as best I could, shielding and so on, but that wasn't foolproof. He, er, kept saying that if I swore I'd never see Hydra again, he'd stop. Naturally, I refused.

I suppose he eventually tired...or perhaps he realised he could continue forever with no different result. At any rate, he decided



he'd had enough. He offered me a brandy and said that he'd seen wizards with purer pedigrees comport themselves much more shamefully, what.


He said he hoped I'd be more aggressive if it came to protecting Hydra. I told him that I rather thought attacking him would only have made my situation worse but that if someone were hurting Hydra no power on earth could stop me protecting her.

I... We talked for a while longer and came to an agreement. We've three years--until Hydra completes her N.E.W.T.s--in which to convince Auror Lestrage that I'm a better match than Harry. Until then, Mr Lestrage is content to consider us engaged, what. Provided we see each other only under the supervision of chaperones.

It's the best outcome we could have hoped to achieve, what. And for that, I'd endure a great deal more torturous circumstances.

-Justin



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-06 16:26:30](#)

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

Well, it's good you got through it. He didn't, um. He didn't hex you where it matters, did he? Everything still works? I mean, under the circumstances, I'd think he might've, well-

Only, I can see why you wouldn't want anyone to know. If he did. But then, you'd want to get a healer to see if whatever... could be healed... or anyway be sure it's not something Dark that'll get worse if you don't get it seen to.

Sorry. Just worried for you, I guess.

But the brandy. That's a good sign. And that you've got an agreement. Only the bit about the chaperone. That's awful. Who's that going to be? I mean, is he sending a nanny to school with her, then, or what?

At least Harry doesn't seem to want to challenge you for Hydra, so there's that. But convincing Auror Lestrage. That seems like the impossible part, doesn't it? I guess a lot could happen in

three years, though. To her. And everything else.

Do you want me to see if I can get in touch with Madam Pomfrey for you? Or I could ask Charlie if he knows anyone that specialises in wizardly problems. Dragonhandlers seem to know those sorts of things and he wouldn't think anything of it if I asked.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-06 16:39:27](#)

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

No, nothing like that. I was worried for hours, that's what awaited me. But...Mr Lestrage's spells were more the type that affect the mind. I think he feared Hydra might not forgive him if he did any major physical damage, what.

I'm not saying I'm unharmed, old man, but--well, I know how lucky I am to have escaped with, er, everything intact.

-Justin



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-06 16:42:47](#)

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

Oh, well then. That's lucky!

A few nightmares, maybe, then. But that's nothing to the kind of nightmare the other sort of thing could cause, yeah?



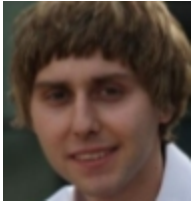
 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-06 19:18:12](#)


*Private Message to Justin*

I hope you know how lucky you are he went easy on you.

Sounds like there won't be an opportunity to talk for a while.

So, what was his condition? You and Hydra can never see one another again?



 [alt\\_justin at 2013-08-06 19:21:22](#)

*Re: Private Message to Justin*

Sirius,

Yes, I'm quite aware. I rather think it was more a question of his devotion to Hydra, which he was able to see we have in common, what.

The condition's quite the opposite, you see. He says I've got to marry her.

-Justin

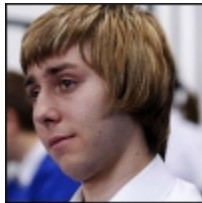



 [alt\\_sirius at 2013-08-06 19:23:14](#)

*Re: Private Message to Justin*

**WHAT?**

Merlin, it's some kind of trap.



 [alt\\_justin at 2013-08-06 19:25:31](#)

*Re: Private Message to Justin*

One I'm walking into willingly, then.

-J



 [alt\\_alice at 2013-08-06 20:20:42](#)

*(no subject)*

Thank you for the update, Justin. It's a relief to hear that you're in one piece.

**2013-08-06 12:42:00**

*Private Message to Narcissa*

Are you still in New London?

If you're unable to return, we'll follow. There are matters one could attend more easily back in Town.



 [alt\\_lucius](#)

Was the situation resolved?

---



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at **2013-08-06 17:01:56**  
(no subject)

I've Hydra with me in Kensington. Darling, I'm sorry to have cut the trip short; I do wish you and the boys would go on but if you feel it's better to return then we can reopen the Manor in a day or two. I'm taking

Hydra to the salon tomorrow and then shopping on Thursday. I think we'll be ready to repair to the country by the weekend.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-08-06 17:13:07**  
(no subject)

'We'?

Do you mean to say that you're rewarding Hydra with a shopping trip after she's caused such a fracas?

And just how long is she to remain in your care?




 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at **2013-08-06 17:19:03**  
(no subject)

The rest of the summer, dear, and it's not a reward, it's a consolation.

Now, don't fuss, and don't pretend to be annoyed. You've been looking for a reason to come back to New London and now you have one. Though I do wish you'd find a way to relax when we go on holiday, instead of worrying about what's happening while you're gone.



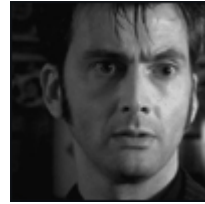
 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-08-06 17:55:53](#)**  
*(no subject)*

I think we know all too well what happens when any of us relaxes.

But very well; we'll join you and Hydra at the Manor by the end of the week.

**2013-08-06 14:59:00**

*Private Message to B Lestrage and M Travers*



Situation in progress.

Yaxley's in Hopkirk's office. Door's sealed.  
Curses flying.

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

He's figured out Starling's not taking his orders.

---



 [alt\\_bellatrix](#) at **2013-08-06 20:17:53**  
*(no subject)*

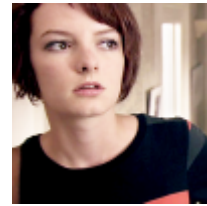
Took him long enough - that poor, addled brain of his lacks its previous sharpness.

Be there at once.

**2013-08-06 15:10:00**

*Private message to Lucius Malfoy*

Sorry to bother you on holiday, but I think you ought to know about this.



 [alt\\_rachel](#)

Apparently Director Yaxley sent a message to Marlogosia Starling today and requested a count of the people Draco sends PMs to, along with a summary of topics. Starling turned him down (not surprisingly) and he was furious. Was going to see Hopkirk about it.

Hopkirk's no intention of changing her instructions to Starling, obviously. But I wanted you to know, when you heard about the fight -- it was information about Draco that Yaxley was after.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-08-06 20:42:56**  
(no subject)

Also, I went down to MLE to see if anything new was going on. Yaxley is in Hopkirk's office, and the door is smoking.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-08-06 20:52:20**  
(no subject)

Mafalda can handle herself. It's Yaxley who concerns me.

Blast.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-08-06 20:44:25**  
(no subject)

No, it's no bother; in fact, was about to send you an owl. Am returning with Draco and Harry to the Manor this after-noon. Will be able to meet Thursday - or earlier, if you've time.

That is, provided this business does not supplant all else. What prompted Claudius to make such an unnecessary request?

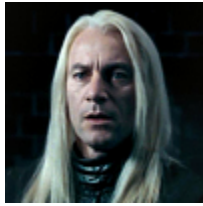
Is Barty in to-day?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-06 20:46:16](#)  
(no subject)

I'm not sure why Yaxley wanted this. My best guess is that he was looking for a pretext to request full access -- though what precisely he thinks he'd find in your son's private messages, I have no idea.

As for Auror Crouch, yes, he's here.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-08-06 20:59:07](#)  
(no subject)

That much is obvious; and as for what he hopes to find, it could be anything from details about family business to some kernel of indiscretion he could then turn into a scandal. Miss Parkinson, for example, or that Greengrass girl.

Well, with Barty on hand it's unlikely Claudius will get far.

It's just as well we've cut things short.


How well do you know Yaxley's clerk? Could you find out if he's taken more meetings lately with Nott or Mulciber or the Rowles?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-06 21:01:40](#)  
(no subject)

I don't know his clerk all that well, but I could try to find out.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-07 00:10:28](#)  
(no subject)

Right.

Yes, he's had dealings with Nott recently. Apparently Nott cancels on him rather often, and that makes him cross (and gives Lee endless headaches).





 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-08-07 00:22:51](#)  
(no subject)

I see.

Very well. Well, Bella and Barty can sort out the issue; enough time to deal with the rest tomorrow.

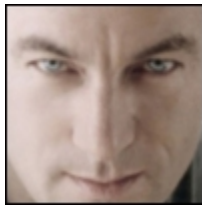
Now, on to more pleasant topics: Have you plans this evening?




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-07 00:24:14](#)  
(no subject)

As it happens -- no. And I just got off work.

Do you have any suggestions?



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-08-07 00:26:59](#)  
(no subject)


I suggest you get some supper and meet me in ... two hours?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-07 00:45:46](#)  
(no subject)

I look forward to it.

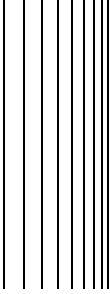


 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-08-07 03:10:35](#)  
(no subject)

Going to be a little late.

Something's come up.

Wait there.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-08-07 03:16:12](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm here, I've made myself comfortable, and I brought a book. If you're greatly delayed and I'm asleep when you arrive, you can feel free to wake me up.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-08-07 16:29:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Everything all right in your area this morning?

Suspect Corax is beside himself with joy. Once Cadmus settles they'll surely make another play for centralising control of all internal affairs. Make sure Gauge has your back.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-08-07 17:17:27](#)**  
(no subject)

Trust me, I'm doing everything I can to make sure of that.

**[2013-08-06 15:41:00](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good - Private message to Hermione and Harry*



 [alt\\_draco](#)

Hermione, we're back in New London. I don't know if you've heard, but Mother will have to be Hydra's chaperone for the remainder of the summer, so we've had to cut our holiday short. Shame it had to happen before Barty Crouch made one of his "surprise arrivals" at the weekend to liven up the party.

That's not so important, though. Father's informed me that Yaxley put in some kind of request to access my Private Messages. He didn't get what he wanted - Father said he could be looking for anything, be it indiscretions, family secrets, or whatnot. And while Father didn't necessarily say as much I don't imagine that Yaxley has any grudge against me. It's more politics and jockeying for power, no doubt. Still, if he had got his eyes on our writings...well, I shan't finish that unlovely thought. Hardly worth it, is it? *Terrible things would have happened...* Odd how a person can almost get used to living with a certain kind of constant uncertainty.

Anyway, I already told Harry about all of this, but you ought to know, too. I thought it was Auntie Bella we'd have to be worried about, but I ought to have known she would have shouldered the journals onto somebody else. Hopefully, the Aurors can keep Yaxley out. Better yet, perhaps someone will squash him permanently - and soon.

Also.

I've been thinking about what Hydra's told me about her father - how he must have tracked her or spied on her with one of his devices.

Now, what a lucky thing that it was only her virtue in question, and not her loyalty.

My parents aren't invasive as Hydra's, fortunately, but nevertheless it's a turn of events that, paired with Yaxley's inquiry, has convinced me more than ever that I must maintain an impeccable charade of *tow-row-row*. Harry, I'll be going to the next Slytherin social, no matter who hosts it. I reckon I'll take Daphs along as my plus-one again, since it worked well enough last time. Might be good if you made an appearance now and then, too. Or else I can tell everyone

that you're very busy working closely with your "Dad," if you prefer - that'd certainly stop any questions.

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 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-07 01:47:34](#)  
(no subject)

I understand.

Are you upset? About coming home early?

I think it's worth noting that they're all dead against anyone being able to report on your messages, though. That's got to be a good thing.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-07 02:54:20](#)  
(no subject)

I don't know that it's so much about protecting me as it is related to the division happening with MLE and the Auror Division. No one wants to bend and give Yaxley what he wants.

Not upset, not really. Why, were you looking forward to a holiday from Harry and me?

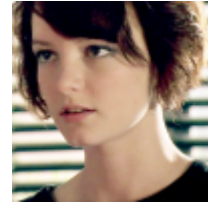


 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-07 06:43:27](#)  
(no subject)

I'll come, yeah.

**[2013-08-06 16:07:00](#)**

*Private message to Lana Sandoval-Pennifold*




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

I'm so glad I could wish you a happy birthday properly today, over lunch.

Say, I was thinking about what you told me about Yaxley, and wondering if any of it might be coming from Corax Mulciber. You're in a better spot to know this -- do you know if he's been meeting with either of the Mulcibers lately? Or Rowle, or Nott?



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2013-08-06 21:46:12](#)**  
(no subject)

Not that I'm aware.

It's a good point, though, about Mulciber. I'll ask Ned if he's heard anything from Vulc Lee. They're tight. Back when Lee was clerking for Travers, they used to cover for each other.

Oh, actually.

I do know that he's mentioned Nott. How difficult he is to deal with, mostly. Doesn't show, calls to change things at the last possible moment or after. Lee's not used to the Head of MLE having his schedule treated that way, I guess. Ned was amused.

Thanks for lunch. We should do that more often. When I'm not being sent off to Ipswich. I was right about that: Desai's got us out of building for the rest of the week. Pulled me in for briefing as soon as I got back.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-08-07 00:09:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, interesting. Thank you. And let me know when you're back from Ipswich, because yes, we should have lunch more often.

**2013-08-06 17:03:00**

*Private Message to Narcissa Malfoy*



Heard your holiday was cut short. Imagine you're disappointed. Trust the seas were smooth and the breezes pleasant up until whatever changed your plans changed them.

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

Not Ministry business, I trust? We've had some entertainment here today, but nothing that would have pulled L back last night. He didn't sound best pleased when we spoke, so I didn't ask.

If you're looking for diversions this week, I hear the Travellers have got license to show and sell horses on the Heath. Tomorrow through Saturday. Races and exercises in the show ring. Interesting even if you're not in the market to add to your stables. I always find it appealing--the sheer prowess on display. Sleek flanks. The sheen of exertion. The pride of performance. Well, you can imagine.

Planning to coerce Toshenka into going Saturday for the closing show. Do say you'll come with.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at **2013-08-06 22:44:34**

*(no subject)*

News travels fast, I see.


No, it was a very unexpected but entirely personal family matter. In fact, I have been spending time with my niece. We've been making a girls' day of it - tomorrow as well.

As it turns out, she adores horses. I'll see if she's interested. I was planning to take her back to the Manor for the weekend but it seems Lucius decided to bring Harry and Draco here to Kensington instead of Wiltshire. So we may well stay over, which would make Saturday a distinct possibility.

As for Lucius, he made his own decision to return, despite my urging to complete the scheduled holiday with the boys. I've a feeling he was bored by all the relaxation. I rather enjoyed the opportunity to catch up on my reading. I hadn't heard of any sort of dust-up at the Ministry. Has it been worth the trouble?

Perhaps you'll be good enough to take lunch with me while Hydra's robes are being tailored, and tell me all about the disturbance.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-08-06 23:21:22](#)  
(no subject)

Lunch then, yes. You're playing nanny to your niece? I thought they had staff for that.

The disturbance makes a good story. Short of it: Hopkirk took down Yaxley. To the surprise of most. Needless to say, the pool ran strongly in Yaxley's favour.

Do consider Saturday. Toshenka will be disappointed if you can't make it.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-06 23:31:01](#)  
(no subject)

In Hydra's case, I believe it's a lack of appropriate influence that has led to a rather surprising situation. The short of my tale: Toshenka may well have an uncanny sense of his pupils' hidden depths. Hydra's busy corroborating the praises Tosha has heaped upon Mr Finch-Fletchley. And to my great surprise, they seem to have swayed Rodolphus for the time being.

Believe me, if I can get away at all this week, I shall do. At present, lunch is all I can spare.

You've been ... well, I hope? Otherwise?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-08-07 00:29:15](#)  
(no subject)

Finch-Fletchley is the one brought up in France, isn't he? T does think him promising. Not sure I've had the pleasure, though. Not memorable if I have met him.

We'll make the most of lunch, then. Somewhere near Diagon Alley? But that's all either pubs or pasties. Or Vesuvius, which

would be close, but too heavy. Is Seven Dials too far? I've heard that Balestra is worth notice.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-07 01:04:06](#)

*(no subject)*

Oh, I'm sure you'd remember. He's really quite an affable young man and clearly well-raised. Well, apart from his shocking decision to let Hydra convince him to - but then, boys his age (or any age, really), are rarely the ones to say 'Stop', are they?

(Supposedly Bella played a not-insignificant rôle in encouraging Hydra to gain, shall we say, increased sophistication. Though I'm sure she never intended things to progress quite so quickly, nor that their affections would grow so strong. But Rodolphus has chosen to deal with them in his own way, and specifically to bring it to Bella at his discretion. I do hope he has a plan and hasn't merely capitulated to a daughter he can't refuse!)

We're in Covent Garden for Hydra's robes, so Balestra would do perfectly.

Thank you, dear. For understanding.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-08-07 01:24:58](#)

*(no subject)*

Wizards are not trained to say 'Stop', no. Not with that sort of encouragement. Had he not met either Rod or Bella, though? Can't say it speaks to his basic intelligence that he meddled in the first place.

(Not in any way surprised.)

Balestra it is.

Understanding is my middle name.





 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-07 01:26:11](#)  
(no subject)

Barty?

Has something happened? Lucius just informed me he's been called to Buckingham.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-08-07 01:27:45](#)  
(no subject)

On my way there now. Don't know any more to tell you.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-08-07 04:25:17](#)  
(no subject)

Narcissa. Expect you've seen all the PMs. We're all right.

Heading into meetings now, though. Lucius has just left. Am sure he'll tell you the rest.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-07 04:38:23](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, I saw his posts.

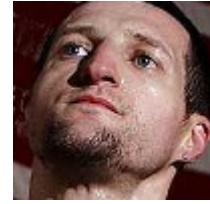
Thank you.

What's - No, you're busy. You're right; he'll tell me.

**2013-08-06 21:47:00**

*Private message to Cadmus Mulciber*

Don't hold back, and don't hesitate.



 [alt\\_corax](#)

**2013-08-06 22:41:00**

*Private Message to Sarah Yaxley*

I know your mother wanted to be left alone with you and Martha right then, and that's fine. We just wanted to see you home and be sure she was there so you could tell her.



 [alt\\_lana](#)

And we're just a firecall or a message away now. You know that. I can come at any time--don't worry at all if it's late. I don't expect any of us will sleep.

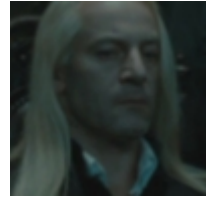
Oh, Sar. I'm sorry. ~~He was~~— I know it's been hard ever since Ireland. He never did properly recover. And you and your mother have done everything you could. Really, you have.

I've honestly no idea what I can say that won't sound useless, so I'm going to stop, but I want you to let me know when you need someone to come just be there with you. I'll be there in an instant.

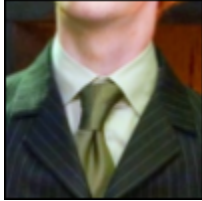
**2013-08-06 22:47:00**

*Private Message to Percy Weasley*


St James' house, immediately.



 [alt\\_lucius](#)



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 [alt\\_percy](#) at **2013-08-07 03:13:50**

*(no subject)*

Sir? It's--

Yes, sir. At once.

**2013-08-06 23:26:00**

*Private Message to Bella and Barty*

Bellatrix, you've got Braithewaite to consent?

I've called Weasley in to work on getting the heads of the divisions so you can speak to them. Should he bring them to my house in St James or would you rather another location?



 [alt\\_lucius](#)

Plan to have him summon these:

Gauge  
Brundage  
Penderyn  
Sawers-Cumming  
Manningham  
Wright  
Mustinal  
Craddock  
Tally

Who else do you need on-board? And in what order? Not too familiar with who's in Mulciber's corner of late.

Will check with Ned to see how Sarah and Bettina are reacting.




 [alt\\_bellatrix](#) at [2013-08-07 03:36:01](#)  
(no subject)

Braithewaite is in.

I recommend a more neutral locale - say, library at MLE headquarters.

For order, we want to see that Wright comes near the last.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-08-07 03:47:57](#)**  
(no subject)

Right.

Feel free to contact Weasley by Floo if you need more from him.

When do you plan to tell the staff? About Yaxley, I mean. Not until Braithewaite's confirmed?



 **[alt\\_bellatrix](#)** at **[2013-08-07 03:50:18](#)**  
(no subject)

I think that would be the most prudent, hm?



 **[alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#)** at **[2013-08-07 03:40:42](#)**  
(no subject)

I've got Gauge's buy-in. He'll be there. I've got Ekster next. Travers was on his way to Penderyn. Don't anticipate trouble with either. Desai has Sawers-Cumming.

Tell Weasley to add Revanche and Wreston.



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-08-07 03:42:19](#)**  
(no subject)

Done and done.

**2013-08-07 07:19:00**

*Order Only: Yaxley*

Yaxley's dead.

Percy was abruptly called to the office at close to 11:00 pm last night by Lucius Malfoy with the news and has been there through the entire night. He just stopped by here at the Burrow to give me the news before heading home for a shower and going back in. No one's answering any questions about how Yaxley died; when Percy inquired, Lucius looked so thunderous that Percy didn't dare press.



 [alt\\_bill](#)

Bloody hell, Minerva, do you know what's going on?


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 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-08-07 12:24:11](#)  
(no subject)


Who's his replacement? Did Percy say?



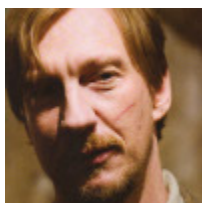
 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-07 12:28:50](#)  
(no subject)


Guilford Braithewaite, apparently. Percy said he spent the night scrambling to contact people in order to line up support.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-08-07 14:21:54](#)  
(no subject)


What do we know about Braithewaite? Better or worse than Yaxley?



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-08-07 14:30:03](#)  
(no subject)

He's not a Death Eater, at least.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-07 14:57:47](#)  
(no subject)

No, he's not.

The rumor mill is very busy this morning. I've heard speculation drifting around about Yaxley having some kind of huge spat with Hopkirk yesterday, something about him getting outraged because the Aurors weren't answering to him. The timing is awfully suspicious, don't you think? I mean, I somehow doubt he keeled over from something as prosaic as a heart attack at his dinner table last night. More likely that someone took him out to shift the power struggle. Personally, I'd put my money on Bellatrix Lestrange.

As for Braithewaite, I dunno. Tonks is right; he doesn't have a very high public profile at all. Mid-career, and he seems to be aligned with Bella's faction in the department. I think he was involved somehow in the takedown of Dogstar, but I am not sure of the details. I'll see if I can find out more.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-07 15:20:32](#)  
(no subject)

As it so happens, the "spat" was because Yaxley asked Marlogosia Starling for access to my Private Messages. She refused him so he went over her head to Mafalda Hopkirk, who also denied him access.


Braithewaite is no power-player but I reckon he likes being useful to powerful people. I mean, honestly, he's got to be someone like Hopkirk, who Auntie Bella knows will serve her interests first and foremost.

Everyone knows that it's Bellatrix Lestrange who makes the really big decisions in the Auror Division, right? But she can't be bothered with the minor, day-to-day things so she slots someone else in to do it.

So you might as well just start thinking of it as Bellatrix Lestrange: now in charge of MLE.






 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-07 15:43:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Auror Lestrage in charge of MLE does not sound good. But if this Braithewaite bloke's less the type to go into rages and start wars inside his department, that could mean MLE will be a bit less... I don't know. Maybe it won't make any difference on the outside.




 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-07 15:47:36](#)**  
(no subject)

It won't make a difference in any way that matters. I'm not even sure why we're all worried about who's in charge when it's 99 percent likely that, you know, MLE will remain a bunch of pillocks who act like pillocks.

It's not as if they'll ever put your brother in charge, or something.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-07 15:50:58](#)**  
(no subject)

Percy Weasley, Head of MLE.

Terrifying.


Oh, you meant Bill? Yeah. No. Not bloody likely.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-07 15:53:37](#)**  
(no subject)

Haha. Percy in charge of MLE would be hilarious. There'd be so many smug, pinch-faced lectures, it would be a whole new kind of fresh tyranny.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-07 16:09:11](#)  
(no subject)

Well, thanks for the vote of confidence on both our behalves, but neither of us want the job, thanks.

And guess what. It isn't Braithewaite, either. I just got it from a member of the department.


It's Cadmus Mulciber. My boss's brother.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-07 16:10:47](#)  
(no subject)


Oh, that should be perfect, then.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-07 16:14:55](#)  
(no subject)

What's your reasoning, out of curiosity?




 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-07 16:19:30](#)  
(no subject)

My father's "faction," as you put it, don't like the Mulcibers.

A divided MLE that fights amongst themselves will probably worry more about internal affairs than external ones.



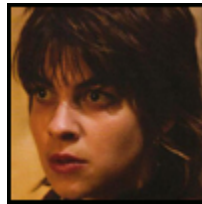
 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-07 16:24:37](#)  
(no subject)


Afraid I think that sounds really bloody dangerous for anyone in a thousand mile radius of Mulciber's new desk.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-07 16:27:23](#)  
(no subject)

How is "really bloody dangerous" new for anyone around here?



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-07 16:45:05](#)  
(no subject)

There are different kinds of danger. And it can make a difference. That infighting could end up with lots of collateral damage.

Starting at the Ministry where some of us work.

I think it's a fantasy to imagine the Death Eaters are just going to kill each other off.

It would be nice if it happened, mind you, but I think it sounds more likely there'll be a major pissing contest between Mulciber and your Aunt where the measuring posts are things like number of insurgents captured, number of confessions extracted, number of traitors ferreted out of Ministry departments and camp administrations and everywhere else.

And since it's Mulciber, I expect halfbloods are going to have fresh targets painted on our backs. It's a particular 'concern' of theirs, blood purity is.

Sorry. Didn't mean to make that personal. And maybe you know some things about Mulciber the rest of us don't. What separates the factions, do you know?

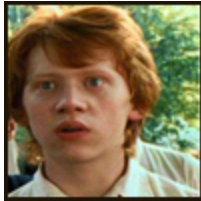



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-07 17:04:16](#)  
(no subject)

But council members do kill each other, *especially* when they're divided.

And the Lord Protector seems to have been offing more of them himself ever since they've been jousting around.


I live with and call your Death Eaters family. Harry has to call the Lord Protector *Father*, and bears the weight of responsibility if Daddy isn't pleased with him. Hydra - well, do I even need to say it? And Hermione sleeps in Buckingham Palace. Apologies if I sound unsympathetic to those of you who have to work with them, but I don't see the point in trying to predict what they'll do next because in the end, you can't. And if your prediction is *right* - well, good. Then you can prepare yourself for the fallout.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-07 16:15:43](#)  
(no subject)

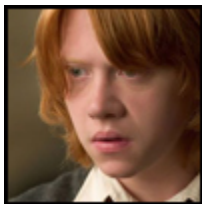
Is he as bad as the one you work for?




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-07 16:46:45](#)  
(no subject)

I don't know. But the brothers seem to get on quite well together, which I suppose means that they must see eye to eye on a number of things.

Not particularly reassuring.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-07 15:54:06](#)  
(no subject)

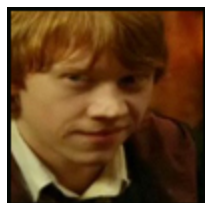
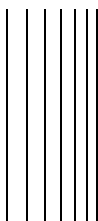
Why did Yaxley want to read your Private Messages? That's really not good.


I mean, what would they find if they did read them?



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-07 15:57:52](#)  
(no subject)

All sorts of titillating and ribald tales that would sell to the *Prophet* for a handsome sack of galleons.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-07 15:59:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Maybe Yaxley had a load of gambling debts he needed to pay off.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-08-07 14:35:28](#)**  
(no subject)

There was a huge meeting all night in MLE. They wouldn't let us in to clean. Not that I'm often the one sent over there, anyway. But we knew something was up.

I'm not sure I'd know Braithewaite if I smacked into him in the corridor. I wonder if that's a good sign? I mean, he's not any of the ones everyone's worried about getting crosswise with.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-08-07 14:41:08](#)**  
(no subject)

I've just had breakfast in a little place in Torquay where all the talk was that Bellatrix Lestrange murdered Claudius Yaxley in the middle of MLE last evening. The cafe owner's nephew is an Enforcer, apparently. News travels quickly. If not unerringly.

I'll note there's not a whisper about it in the Prophet this morning.



 **[alt\\_mcgonagall](#)** at **[2013-08-07 15:22:17](#)**  
(no subject)

It was the Lord Protector.


Yaxley must have come to him in a towering rage, because when we were summoned he (Yaxley, that is) was Petrified mid-shout, spittle flying.

He (the Lord Protector, that is) began to speak about something—I must admit I did not listen very closely, as it had nothing at all to do with the Petrified person in our midst. After a few minutes he stopped. Then he killed Yaxley. Then he dismissed the

meeting—rather, he left, and we were left with a body and no further explanations.

It was not his most coherent evening.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-08-07 16:10:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Percy was wrong; I've just heard.


Voldemort's named Cadmus Mulciber instead.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-08-07 16:22:17](#)**  
(no subject)

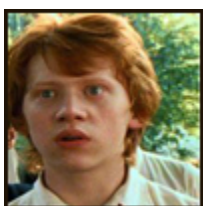
Merlin.




 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-07 16:01:43](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Weasley et al -

I don't know why Yaxley wanted to access my Private Messages. Probably more to do with my Father than me. But if he did study them he'd find a lot of messages between myself, Harry, and Hermione - and sometimes Pansy - that made clear our attitudes about the Lord Protector and his jolly Kingdom.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-07 16:14:04](#)**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Um.

Yeah.

Wow.

There's no way to make old stuff disappear out of the journals, is there? Bloody awful, that.

You mean you said stuff that could get you arrested? Really?



**[alt\\_hermione](#) at 2013-08-07 16:22:24**

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

Yes, we did. Back before Draco and Harry were on the lock, you know.

We told Bill and Sirius a while ago but you're right, there's no way to change what's already in the journals.



**[alt\\_draco](#) at 2013-08-07 16:23:45**

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

Most likely.

Well, we did try to talk in code most of the time - calling Sirius "Sinbad," for example - but someone who read carefully could figure it out.



**[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-08-07 16:29:54**

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

So you told Bill that this Mulciber bloke and your father are in different factions. Does that mean he's likely to want your PMs, too?



**[alt\\_draco](#) at 2013-08-07 17:09:42**

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

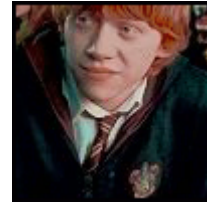
At Hydra's birthday party Father and my Aunt talked about how he wanted to take control of journal monitoring - that's why Auntie Bella moved it over to the Auror Division in the first place.

Father was worried (well, inside his head, as Hydra saw) about it because Mulciber was particularly interested in having a look at my journal, and my Mother's.



**2013-08-07 09:44:00**

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



 [alt\\_ron](#)

Looks like something major's happened at the ministry overnight.

Makes a few cows trampling bushes and a fence at the Strettons seem pretty minor.

I feel sorry for the farm foreman. Mr S sounded seriously hacked off about it. Did they find the cows, do you think?

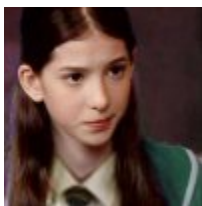
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 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-07 15:03:51](#)  
(no subject)

Really? There's nothing in the Prophet. Although -- you know what, Mrs Stretton took a long floo call this morning and shut the door for it and now she's chatting alone with Mr Stretton and keeping everyone else out.

Anyway the cows were fine, they rounded them up and they're going to put them in a different pasture until the fence is repaired, which is on the list but not at the top of the list, and you'd think Mrs Stretton would be pleased we spotted it but instead she's making up a list of things we ought to inspect around the perimeter while we're checking and dividing them up between me, and Jeremy.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-07 15:06:23](#)  
(no subject)

OH

Now I see it.


I'm still not used to paying attention to things from, like, your brothers. I mean what would they ever say that's interesting?

That's interesting.

If it was Yaxley vs Hydra's Horrible Mum I'd have been cheering for Yaxley but not putting any money on him.





 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-07 16:53:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Interesting seeing how the Order talk about stuff, yeah?

I should probably keep my gob shut and just read along. That's harder than it sounds, though.


So, Mrs Stretton's going to make both of you fly perimeter every day? Is that what you mean? That reeks.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-07 17:04:09](#)**  
(no subject)

She says it's TEMPORARY, just until we get everything checked off her list. Which given how much she's added to it this morning will be done maybe by the time I go back to school.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-07 17:22:53](#)**  
(no subject)

I'll come.

Want to get out of here, anywiz. Mum's making up stuff for us to do. Guess she's realised we're going to be off at CCF next week, but really, we've done all the chores already.

**2013-08-07 10:50:00**

*Private message to Rachel Lamont*


So...I understand it's been an interesting morning in your department.



What have you heard? Who's replacing Yaxley?

 [alt\\_bill](#)



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-07 15:54:21](#)

*(no subject)*

'Interesting morning,' yeah, that's one way to put it.

Hadn't you heard the rumour about Braithewaite?




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-07 15:56:57](#)

*(no subject)*

I had, actually. I was hoping that you might confirm it for me.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-07 15:58:42](#)

*(no subject)*

Ah, no.

Braithewaite had the support of the various department heads within MLE, but it turns out Cadmus Mulciber had the support that counts, if you follow my drift.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-07 16:03:00](#)

*(no subject)*

Good god. Our Lord named him, you mean? He's confirmed?

Well, that'll throw the kneazle in with the pixies, and no mistake.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-08-07 16:05:00](#)**  
(no subject)

At least my boss should be happy at the news.




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-08-07 16:06:47](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes.

What was he -- did he seem to be up to anything, yesterday?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-08-07 16:12:13](#)**  
(no subject)

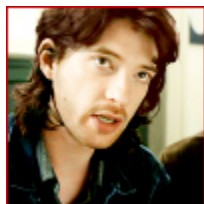
Nothing particularly spectacular. Standing over me muttering threats while I was doing reports, that sort of thing.


He did spend an hour toward the end of the day closeted in his office on a floo call though, I think. I don't know what it was about.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-08-07 16:06:10](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, Our Lord named him. He's already moving into the office.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-08-07 16:13:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Huh. Interesting.

Thanks.

**2013-08-07 11:55:00**

*Private Message to Montague and Singh*

J. Have you seen Sarah today? I would have stopped by this morning, but I had to leave so early. And I'm not sure when I'll be back. Desai's had to return, obviously, but she wants me here. Think she thinks I'm better off here, if you know what I mean.



 [alt\\_lana](#)

Listen. Could you get away tonight at all? R, are you on duty late? I could meet you somewhere. Ipswichward might be best, really. Want to know what you know that I don't.

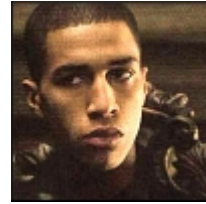
It's a shame about GB. He'd have been solid. Not saying this outcome's bad. Just don't know what it means yet. For us, especially.

Let me know about later.

**2013-08-07 12:52:00**

*Private Message to Draco Malfoy*

Are you coming along to Teds' on Friday? He asked me if I thought you would, and I told him I'd ask. Not sure why he couldn't ask himself.



 [alt\\_blaise](#)

At any rate, it gives me a chance to say that I'm glad you brought Daphs to Avery's and that there won't be any awkwardness on my part if you were to ask her as your plus-one again. I hope you knew that already.

I'm rather looking forward to being away next week. It's really time I spoke to Mother about finding a flat of my own somewhere. I'm sure she'd enjoy decorating and furnishing it. That would give her a new outlet. She seems bored this summer.



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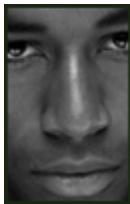
 [alt\\_draco](#) at **2013-08-07 18:19:59**

*(no subject)*

Yeah, I got his invite and was planning to make an appearance.

Glad to hear that about Daphs, as I was planning to escort her again. Not that there's a romance developing, or anything. But she's a good bit of fun, our Daphs.

Maybe I should ask my Mother for a flat. Could be useful.



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at **2013-08-07 18:41:33**


*(no subject)*

Glad to hear it. Should be an interesting evening. I mean to say, they always are, but with Teds one never knows quite what to expect. At Avery's, of course, it was the very fine brandy. You missed Vaisey's, but he had dishes of nonpareils that were truly... mind-bendingly fabulous, if you take my meaning. Made Celia Thompson think she was a calico cat. Believe me, it was memorable the way she wanted to rub herself against everyone that evening.

I think I'll see if Thompson would like to come along to Teds.

Take care with Daphs. She doesn't always look after her own interests properly, but she deserves the best.



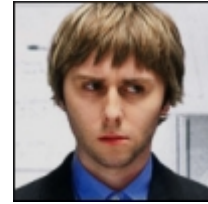
 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-07 23:21:33](#)  
(no subject)

So is it Thompson you're pulling now instead of Padma? Can't choose between them - or don't want to?

Any idea what we've got to look forward to at Teds, or is he trying to keep it entirely under wraps? Ah, I'm sure knowing him that he is.

**2013-08-07 13:10:00**

*Order Only: Private Messages*



 [alt\\_justin](#)

Everyone,

Sorry to disturb, but I've been thinking. This is the second time someone has tried to access Draco's private correspondence, what. I say, I don't think we can treat that like a coincidence.


Bill, you've said there's no way to tamper with past messages. But is there a way to create a false record and replace it, just like the replica of the Hogwarts book?

For example, if we know that the suspect messages are all among Draco, Harry and Hermione, we could create pages with innocuous content, what, and somehow slip those in to the records instead of the ones they wrote. Then we'd have to destroy the record but surely that would be simple enough, compared to the rest.

-Justin



---

 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-08-08 02:22:06**  
(no subject)


It's a good idea, Justin, and I appreciate your trying to to solve the problem with an original approach. But from what little I know about the back spell architecture of the private message system, I doubt it would work. My ignorance is partly due to the fact that Massopust did his best to freeze me out, of course, but it's also because the regime wants people to think that the private messages are private. When of course they aren't. And so the process of how they are recorded and can be monitored is all kept very hush-hush, and the security is formidable.

From the little I know, I have the impression that whenever private messages are written, the magic simultaneously records them in large, magical volumes of books. And they're also indexed, under both the writer and the recipients' names. So if you want to replace a message, you would have to go in and replace it in up to three different locations, matching up the dates, names and times. Of course, you would have to replace it with a message of approximately the same length, too.

I'm also not clear if it's one person per volume or not. If it isn't, then if you start fiddling with, say, Draco Malfoy's messages--if you can get by the security and have enough time to swap everything out--you might be messing with a volume which includes Lucius Malfoy. And anything that involves a volume his journal posts are in is certainly going to draw a great deal of scrutiny.


I just think it would be too difficult, technically.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-08 02:36:16](#)**  
(no subject)

What if someone just set the records on fire or something?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-08-08 18:36:57](#)**  
(no subject)

Right, Harry. That wouldn't be suspicious at all.

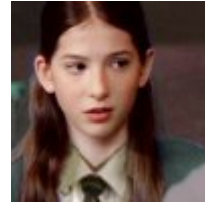
Wonder if there's a way to convince Lucius Malfoy or Farty or someone to take the notion that all your records really *ought* to be destroyed. For the security of the family, of course.



**2013-08-07 19:17:00**

*Order Only*

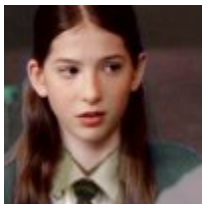
You lot aren't up to anything near the Stretton's farm, are you? I know you'd talked about it but I'm pretty sure you decided not to.



 **alt\_sally\_anne**

We I Ron and I were flying the perimeter for the daily check and we maybe saw someone down there and we DEFINITELY do not want to summon MLE if there is ANY chance it's you lot.

---




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-08-08 00:19:58**  
(no subject)

Or any of the people you work with, like Beth's group?

Would you even know if they were up to something?  
They don't seem to tell you much.



 **alt\_nymphadora** at **2013-08-08 00:36:12**  
(no subject)

security.

And, no. I don't know anything to make me think Beth's group moves through there. Of course, I might not know. It's not as if she tells us all that much. No more than we need to know, really. For

Is it just one person?



 **alt\_poppy** at **2013-08-08 00:40:46**  
(no subject)

How many people have you spotted?

Whoever they are, it might be useful to us to know what they are getting up to. However! Do not under any circumstances fly close to them. Stay back and watch. That's safer and much more useful. If they have any inkling they're being watched we'll never know what they meant to be about.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 00:20:25](#)  
(no subject)

I mean if it's something serious and we DON'T summon MLE we'll be in all sorts of trouble.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-08-08 00:29:17](#)  
(no subject)

It's not us.


Do they look like they're doing something suspicious?  
I don't know what to advise you to do.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-08 00:34:13](#)  
(no subject)

Do they look like they could be a group we'd want to protect? What are they doing?




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-08 00:39:35](#)  
(no subject)

Seeing as how I'm a dog the majority of the time ...  
no, can't say it's anything we're up to.

Besides, we long since decided anything round the Strettons' is liable to make things too exciting for you, kiddo.

How many people did you see? Are there any sparks that could indicate spellwork? Or do they have anything large with them?



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-08-08 00:41:03](#)  
(no subject)

Anything large? What are you picturing, exactly?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-08 00:43:18](#)  
(no subject)

Well, are they bringing something in or taking something out? Luggage, pallets, boxes, etc.?

Mind you, Poppy's right: Ron and Sally-Anne probably ought to keep themselves well hidden until they can figure out what's happening.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-08 00:47:27](#)  
(no subject)

I agree.


They shouldn't engage. Even if it is only one person, not a group.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-08 01:20:13](#)  
*Private Message to Dora*

What do you reckon? They're talking to MLE?




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-08 01:23:12](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Dora*

If they summoned MLE, I hope they got out of the way and gave the Enforcers a clear path to whoever's down there.

I don't much like the idea of them answering questions. Or being in the crossfire.



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-08-08 00:56:50](#)  
*Private Message to Sirius*

What do you suppose is happening?

I would feel very much better if one of them would let us know that everything is all right there.

Naturally, they may simply be doing as we've suggested, and are watching carefully from a discreet spot.

I'd still feel better if we knew.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-08 01:16:58](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Sirius*

Well, if they *did* play it safe and call in MLE, surely they can't scribble in their journals, Poppy.

Steady on.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-08-08 02:16:18](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Sirius*

Have we still not heard anything?

I've been distracted by things here, but honestly. Even if she's doing chores, you'd expect she'd write back to let us know they are all right.

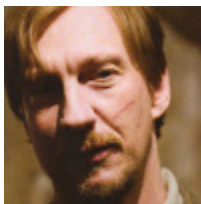
She's generally much more reliable than this.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-08-08 01:37:21](#)**

*(no subject)*

Sally-Anne, I really wish you'd write again and let us know you're all right.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-08-08 01:40:51](#)**

*(no subject)*

Harry, where are you right now? Could you floo the Strettons and ask to speak to Sally-Anne?

~~Maybe someone could nip over to the Weasleys and look at Molly's clock~~



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-08 01:43:30](#)  
(no subject)

Sure.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-08 01:52:32](#)  
(no subject)

Mrs Stretton was a bit weird, but I think it's just because it was me.

She kept saying that Sally-Anne was doing the same sorts of chores that her own son does, and that she wasn't in trouble or being punished at all. And after I said that I just wanted to say hello, she said Sally-Anne was out with her boyfriend, only she called Ron Rob by mistake, and she was expected back in an hour or two.




 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-08-08 01:54:12](#)  
(no subject)

Right.

If she'd called MLE, SURELY they'd have notified the Strettons.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-08 02:11:43](#)  
*Private Message to Remus*

What do you think?

Should we pop round there to see? (Or rather, should you and Dora go?)


I don't want them to think we thought they couldn't handle anything but ... it's been over two hours since Sally-Anne wrote.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 02:14:09](#)**  
(no subject)

They've just sent a galleon message saying not to come, and that they're okay.




 **[alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-08-08 02:19:14](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, thank Merlin.

Of course, it's a great good thing you noticed and could tell us.

I'd prefer it if they'd send us a more direct All Clear here.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 02:30:09](#)**  
(no subject)

They probably can't.


Like maybe it really is MLE, and they'd notice if they started writing in their journals and nothing was showing up, or might've told them not to write anything

or it's people who aren't the MLE but would get really suspicious if they started writing

but if they needed help very badly they would've said.

And they don't want anyone going there.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 02:28:23](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

I really don't like that they had to use the galleon instead of writing properly.

At all.

**2013-08-07 21:00:00**

*(no subject)*

DONT COME WERE OK



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-08-07 21:22:00**

*Private Message to Theseus Cox*

Well, all right if you really think it's going to be all that interesting. Has Teds got anything special planned, then?



 [alt\\_padma](#)

By the way, the New London trip was better than the other year's but it was still fairly naff. You'd think after three years they'd come up with new sites to visit.

And there was a completely *endless* Quidditch match that was more boring than anything I ever watched at school. Not to mention the heat! Those third-year boys have got to learn better deodorising charms, you know?

Anyway. There was nothing to recommend it, honestly. Well, maybe the boat trip. The canapés were much better than I remembered.

Oh, did you hear that Valerie Dunstan's having fits because Elsie was named Head Girl? I mean, it's utterly ridiculous since everyone knew Lares had Head Boy tied with a bow, and it's obvious that that meant the Head Girl would be a Slytherin. Honestly.

Right, so, Friday. Want to get supper first? Leander and Gaia were trying to get some mates together at Bubble and Squeak beforehand and they wouldn't mind a couple more in the party.



**2013-08-07 22:07:00**

*Order Only: Ron is home*

quickly

I was getting ready for bed, and wondering why on earth Ron wasn't back from Sally-Anne's yet, when an Enforcer showed up at the door, with Ron beside him.




 [alt\\_molly](#)

Bill's distracting the Enforcer for the moment so I can dash this off to you. But Ron's safe.

---



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at **2013-08-08 03:19:56**

*(no subject)*

What about Sally-Anne?



 [alt\\_molly](#) at **2013-08-08 03:25:13**

*(no subject)*

She's all right as far as I know. Ron doesn't seem to be distressed or alarmed, anyway.

**2013-08-07 22:14:00**

*(no subject)*

Don't come where, who's okay, who is this?  
What's going on?



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-08-07 22:19:00**

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

Pans, we're all right. Sally Anne, too, I mean. Only, she's still got MLE there at the Strettons, so she probably won't be able to write for a while.



 [alt\\_ron](#)

She's not going to be in trouble, though.

The Strettons are a whole other story. It's not going to go well for them, I don't think. At all.

They were growing some secret crops in the middle of their fields. From what the enforcers said, I think it's something that you need to brew Veritaserum or potions like that. Truth serums, y'know. They called it Diviner's Mint, and I guess those plants are worth a load of galleons.

That's what they were after, anywiz. They had special kit--silk sacks and special gloves and silver blades to harvest the stuff. Guess you have to cut it on the night after new moon. Or maybe they just picked tonight because it's going to be so dark. I'm not sure. Pans, do you know?

Anywiz. We're fine.

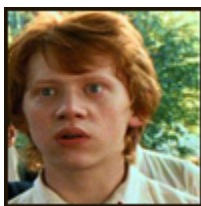
Though it was kind of dicey for a while there.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-08 03:28:48](#)  
(no subject)

But if the Strettons were harvesting something illegal like that, why did they tell Sally-Anne to patrol?

I mean, I'm glad you're both all right but.... Well.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-08 03:33:29](#)  
(no subject)

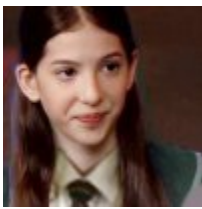
I don't think they thought we'd be anywhere close to those fields. And we wouldn't have been if we hadn't surprised the people who were breaking in through

their fences.

And the Strettons wouldn't be in trouble if we hadn't called MLE.

But we sort of had to.

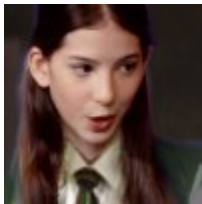
Once they'd got hold of us and were trying to get us under binding spells. It was sort of chaotic. But Sally Anne had hidden her wand in her bracelet and got it out again while I raised Hecate to distract them, and anywiz, she broke the bottle with the Patronus that calls MLE.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 03:48:32](#)  
(no subject)

Well, they told me to patrol because SOMEONE had to and they didn't want to do it? Anyway from up high you can't tell. Even on the ground you need to be looking sharp to see there's Diviner's Mint planted in that field because it's mixed in with something more ordinary.

If Neville had ever come for a visit, and had gone flying, and hadn't been put off by the smell (it's right by the Tannery), HE might have noticed. I'm passable at Herbology but it helps a lot that in Herbology class they show you ONE plant to identify. You don't have to notice that there's something mixed in with the tomato plants that's not just weeds.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 03:31:23](#)  
(no subject)

You make it sound like the Enforcers were after the Diviner's Mint.

Though they were, once they realised what it was the robbers were after.

(I told them I was really, really tired and they said I could go to bed. I don't think Mr or Mrs Stretton are going to be going to bed for a while, though.)



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-08 03:36:04](#)  
(no subject)

Phew.

I wasn't really happy about having to leave with them still asking you questions.

And can I just say? Side-along Apparition is still rotten. Ugh. It's worse than I remembered.

And he smelled, too. Enforcer Serle.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 03:42:22](#)  
(no subject)

Cry me a river about the side-along apparation!

Sorry about the stinky Enforcer, though.

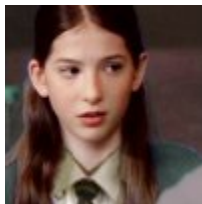
And it was fine, actually, it's really not too bad being questioned by MLE when they don't think YOU did anything wrong. At least if it's Enforcers not Aurors.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-08 03:47:28](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah. I expect they thought you'd be willing to tattle on the Strettons.

Did you?




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 03:53:55](#)  
(no subject)

Well it's not as if they'd taken me on a tour of all the shady bits of their estate?

Mostly they wanted to know if there were spots they'd never taken me, spots where I was forbidden to go, things like that. And, well. There are some spots I've never been, and I didn't mind telling, especially as I really do not want to get in trouble (especially for something THIS STUPID).

I did try to put in a good word for Jeremy, it's not fair him getting in trouble with his parents. I doubt he knew either, but with that potions scheme from his OWL year, it doesn't look good.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 03:55:55](#)  
(no subject)

Who were they going to sell it to, I wonder?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 03:59:26](#)  
(no subject)

That's a good question. I'm not actually sure what you use it for. I imagine Madam Pomfrey knows, or Mr Snape.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:09:56](#)  
(no subject)

I guess Ron knew. If I'd read more closely I'd have seen it.

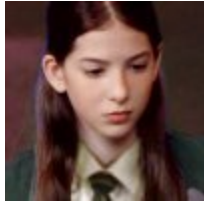
I'm going to blame my highly stressful evening for the fact that I didn't exactly read the message I was replying to.

Yeah, Veritaserum! I wonder who wants that? I'm sure MLE has their own sources.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-08 04:11:19](#)  
(no subject)


I hadn't thought about what might happen to Jeremy. Were they questioning him, too?



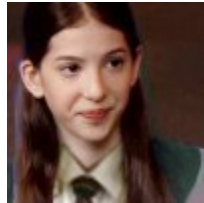
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:13:26](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, they were.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-08 04:17:09](#)  
(no subject)

Have they taken them away? Can you tell? Can you still hear them at all?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:19:45](#)  
(no subject)

Everyone's still here. All the Enforcers are still here and they're still questioning people. I haven't heard Jeremy come up. I haven't heard anyone leave.


They've actually got one of them at the top of the stairs, to make sure no one goes down there (at least without permission, I mean if I went over and said I just realised I'd left my teddy in the parlour it's possible he'd let me get it. But I'm not inclined to test it out.)



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 03:54:11](#)  
(no subject)

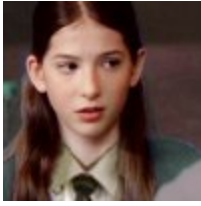
Good.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 03:55:23](#)  
(no subject)

She'd better not get in ANY trouble from the Strettons.

Idiots.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:00:56](#)  
(no subject)

The Enforcers haven't left yet. They had Mr Stretton in the kitchen and Mrs Stretton in the office and Jeremy in the parlour.

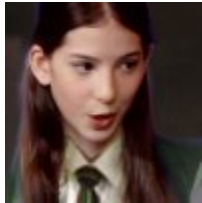
So they're really not going to be in a good position to give me trouble for a while. Tomorrow or the next day, anyway.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 04:06:33](#)  
(no subject)

Ugh.


I suppose they'd rather that nasty werewolf stole all their plants and did whatever he wanted with you and Ron instead.



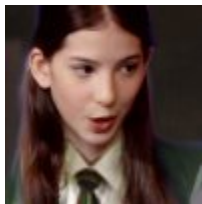
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:07:59](#)  
(no subject)

If they could throw me to MLE in trade for them not being in trouble, they'd do it so fast I'd never know what hit me.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-08 04:12:29](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, well. That's not going to happen.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:14:42](#)  
(no subject)

Fortunately for me I can't think of ANY way that they can plausibly turn this into my fault.

Did you see what Ms Tonks asked over on my entry, about what we'd do differently? I don't even know what to tell her. But I don't want to admit I can't come up with a better idea.





 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:17:27](#)  
(no subject)

I mean it really shouldn't be harder to come up with a better idea than, 'go down and snoop, get taken prisoner, have to call MLE Enforcers to save you' but I keep going through the other options and while they'd have all been better IN THIS INSTANCE that's because we know who those people were, now.

We could have pretended not to see anything and kept going. But it might have been a really dreadful group like Dogstar up to something awful.

We could have called MLE right off. But it might have been a group like Beth's network.


I mean we went down for a closer look which is the only sensible option, you know? It would have been better if they hadn't caught us but we WERE being careful.



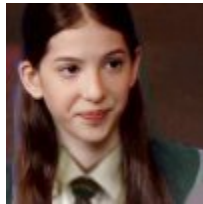
 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 04:23:17](#)  
(no subject)

Well, and if you hadn't done anything and the mint had ended up missing, you might've got in serious trouble with the Strettons.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-08 04:26:11](#)  
(no subject)

That's a very good point.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:26:20](#)  
(no subject)

Probably not, though, because they couldn't very well tell me, 'because you were careless someone broke in and stole a rare plant we weren't supposed to be growing!'

Besides, if the robbers had been a little more careful I wouldn't have seen them, for real, you know?




 **alt\_pansy** at [2013-08-08 04:30:41](#)  
(no subject)

True.

Well, they could just say that someone stole their tomatoes or something.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-08 04:20:53](#)  
(no subject)

Wow.

Thanks for giving us time to think it all over and know what we did even!

Tell her you don't think you'll know how to answer that until tomorrow at least. Or just don't tell her anything.

I mean.

Well, I've been reading what they all said to us after you asked if it was them. And they all said we shouldn't go too close and shouldn't let them see us.

So that's what she wants you to say. That we should've sat around and waited til they told us what to do, and then we should've done that.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at [2013-08-08 04:27:21](#)  
(no subject)

Well I can keep talking over here and they won't see.

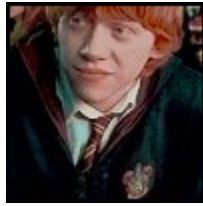
For all they know I've gone to bed.


So I definitely don't have to answer at least until tomorrow.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:28:25](#)  
(no subject)

But LET ME JUST ADD that if they want us to sit around waiting for them to tell us what to do before we do anything they need to use the bloody Notificio spell like all of us do so they can ANSWER US when we ask them questions.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-08 04:46:13](#)  
(no subject)

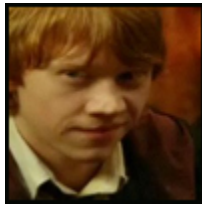
Too right.


I mean, It's not like we didn't wait for them! We did wait to see what they'd say, but then we had to go.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 04:00:21](#)  
(no subject)


You do have to use special cauldrons to brew Verisatum in, because it doesn't work well with some metals. And you can only brew it certain times of the month. So that makes sense.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-08 04:13:44](#)  
(no subject)

I knew you'd know.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:20:58](#)  
*Private message to Ron*

Was your mum cross? She didn't fall apart when she saw you with an Enforcer, did she?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-08 04:39:22](#)**

*Re: Private message to Ron*

Not just then.

I think first off, she was winding up to be really furious at me for whatever I'd done to get brought home by MLE. And then he was all nice about how I'd helped them catch a group of lawless criminals while we were following proper civil protocols for ... I don't know, he said a load of stuff and it all added up to 'You should be very proud of your son, Mrs Weasley. Thank you for raising such a model citizen.'

Caught Mum completely by surprise. Bill, too. He just looked really confused that I wasn't in trouble. Because if I had been, you know he'd have been first in line to give me a dressing down. Mum would just have had to wait.

I left them talking to Mr Serle. He's left, though, because Mum was just in here, sniffing and telling me how glad she is I'm home safely. So, yeah. I think she waited and fell apart as soon as the Enforcer cleared out.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-08 04:45:58](#)**

*Re: Private message to Ron*

Model citizen? I'm surprised you didn't need smelling salts to bring Bill around, after that.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-08 04:32:35](#)**

*(no subject)*

OH did you notice someone else wrote on the galleon?

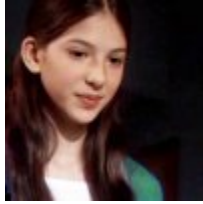
Do you think we should send another message for the galleon people like Daphne and Michael, so they won't worry? What should we say happened?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 04:37:58](#)  
(no subject)

Hm.

we were going to go flying but the strettons got robbed we're okay though?




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:43:49](#)  
(no subject)

Like, you'd made plans with me and Ron to come meet us, and we wanted to warn you not to come in the middle of the robbery?

I suppose that's plausible.

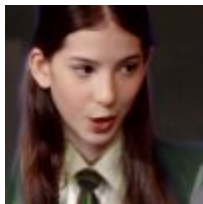



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-08 04:43:24](#)  
(no subject)

Um.

You were playing a game with Gemma and pretending to draw new designs on a galleon because she was the Queen of Faerieland and wanted her face on the money? Or- that doesn't explain what you wrote, so you were playing a game and pretending that a galleon was like a portkey that you could write secret messages on and the game was a prisoner game, so you wrote that and it was just in fun.

Does that work?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:44:39](#)  
(no subject)

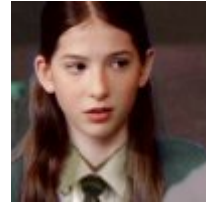
I think I like Pansy's better. Because then I'm not the sort of berk who'd write something on my galleon that would make everyone worry!

**2013-08-07 22:31:00**

*Order Only*

So here's what happened:

We flew down for a closer look and unfortunately there were a lot of them, and they spotted us. I hid my wand in my bracelet and pretended they'd got me with a disarm spell so I still had that, at least. They confiscated our brooms and the bottle from MLE with the patronus in it and our journals and all the rest.



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

I was still hoping they were another resistance group but if they were, it's not one I want to have anything to do with. One of their members was a werewolf and they told us that to try to frighten us, like he was going to bite us right then and there if we tried anything (would that even do anything? I thought it only made you a werewolf if you got bitten by a transformed werewolf).

They started arguing about what to do with us. They were going to steal something from the Stretton's (it turned out to be this illegal plant they were growing, Diviner's Mint) and they couldn't harvest it until moonrise and they were afraid I'd be missed (ha! but I'm just as glad they didn't know that) so they talked about trying to Imperius me to go back and tell the Strettons everything was okay, or maybe holding Ron hostage and sending me to go tell the Strettons that everything was okay.

Ron distracted them and I got my wand out and popped the cork out of the bottle to send the message off to MLE, and they arrived a few minutes later and grabbed the robbers.

Anyway, the Enforcers found out about the Diviner's Mint and had a lot of questions for me but they clearly didn't think I'd done anything wrong since I was the one who'd called for them (plus, you know, it's not as if the Strettons were going to consult with their foster child about what they grow?) They wanted to know what parts of the Estate I'd never been to, if there was anything the Strettons had told me to stay away from, things like that.

The interesting thing is they DIDN'T ever tell me to stay away from the field where they had the Diviner's Mint. They had it interplanted

with things they wouldn't get in trouble for, that grew taller and sort of hid stuff, and I guess they just counted on me not being good enough at Herbology to notice. If they'd told me, 'don't EVER go to the south-east field near the tannery' that would have made me curious, but they didn't. (Oh, also, they put it near the tannery. DOWNWIND. I never went there because it REEKS.)

---




 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-08-08 03:56:43](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Well, you had an interesting evening of it, then! And showed that you can think on the spot when you're in difficulty.

You learned something interesting about the Stretton farms, too. Though I guess MLE did as well, so it's not so useful to us.

Would you do anything differently if you faced the same situation again?




 **[alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 04:02:23](#)**  
*Private Message to Sally-Anne*

I'm just glad they didn't bite you.  
Or hurt you.

Or worse.

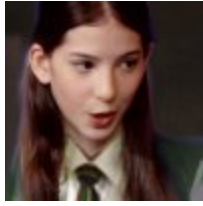
I don't suppose you can come over tonight?



 **[alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 04:03:29](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

And ugh.  
I know she means well, but honestly.





 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:05:57](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

Welcome to the Order, where EVERYTHING IS A LEARNING EXPERIENCE WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 04:05:34](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

I really can't come tonight. I mean, they're questioning people by the fireplaces on the floor, and there are Enforcers all over the house, and although they let me come up and go to bed when I told them I was really tired I don't think they're going to let me leave.

Which is a shame because this is really not a very relaxing atmosphere or particularly conducive to SLEEP.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-08 04:08:10](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

Yeah. I figured it'd look bad if you disappeared and they noticed you were gone.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-08-08 05:15:51](#)

*(no subject)*


Good to know you and Ron are all right.

Diviner's Mint is certainly dear enough, but I wonder what sort of group was after it, and what sort of group the Strettons were selling it to. It might be that those sorts of goods end up at MLE through their back door, but I'm not sure who else would want it in such quantities other than for simple profit.

And it's a good thing that werewolf didn't make good on his promise. One of our Moddey boys, Ian, was bit by an untransformed werewolf. He doesn't transform, of course, but he does have some scarring, and he has mood swings and other sensitivities that are impacted by the lunar cycle.





 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-08 15:50:08](#)**  
(no subject)

So what ended up happening to the Strettons?

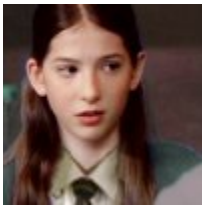
Did they arrest them? What about Jeremy?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-08 16:05:54](#)**  
(no subject)

They let Jeremy go sometime in the night. Really late.

They took Mr and Mrs Stretton in to MLE headquarters.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-08 18:38:53](#)**  
(no subject)

And now they're back, both of them.

They came back with someone from MLE, handed over some books from the office, and then he left again.

I don't know but they don't seem all that worried. Jeremy's still worried, though.



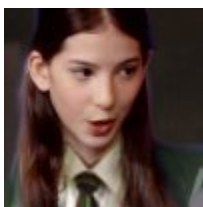
 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-08 15:58:33](#)**  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

How about you? You all right this morning?

I thought I'd go spare when they started searching you. And that werewolf was telling them to strip search us. I mean, what were we going to have under our robes? Daggers? Bludger bats? Extra wands?

Mum made toast soldiers and bacon this morning for breakfast. For her model citizen son.

Percy would be so annoyed to know she thinks I hung the moon cause I got tangled up with some outlaw plant thieves.

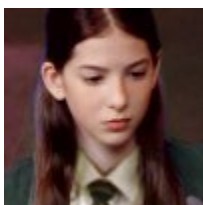


 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-08 16:08:34](#)**

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

Oh, Percy would be THRILLED to find out some Enforcer from MLE thought you were a model responsible citizen.

I don't know what they thought they were looking for but it wasn't bludger bats or they wouldn't have had to -- well. They didn't notice the bracelet, anyway, thank goodness.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-08 16:09:47](#)**

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

Maybe we should have the Order work with us to learn to resist the Imperius Curse.

If they HAD put Imperius on me and sent me back to the house....I don't know. I probably would have just done it, honestly, strolled on in and told the Stretton's 'all's well' and gone off to bed and left you --

ugh.

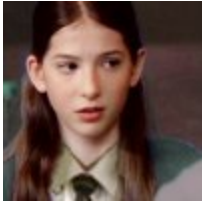


 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-08-08 17:52:31](#)**

*(no subject)*

If the Enforcers did not remove the planting, it might be worth seeing if they have placed some sort of alarm on the field to see whether or not someone returns to it. If we are able to harvest at least some of the Diviner's Mint, it could open necessary doors among the black market, particularly if we are able to determine who the Strettons were selling it to.

This is not an invitation for you lot to do so, mind you; MLE's notification spells are extremely subtle.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-08 19:32:03](#)  
(no subject)

I could just go over there and see what happens. I mean I do LIVE here. If Enforcers show up, I'll just tell them I wanted to see where they were growing the stuff, right?



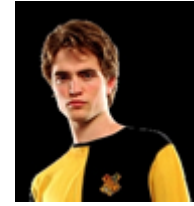
 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-08-08 20:35:14](#)  
(no subject)

That is likely an extremely bad idea.

Be sure to notify someone in advance when you inevitably do it anyway.

**2013-08-07 23:26:00**

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo*



Hey,  
Would you be available for doing something...  
like anything outside my house this weekend?

 [alt\\_cedric](#)

It's been another week of exercise, exercise  
and more exercises, but never pushing too  
hard because then I might hurt myself.

Jaspar's in a snit because he's not going to Hogwarts this fall,  
but his friends Hazel Oxley and Hereward Whitby are. Shelley  
thinks that the world should run to her whim and becomes  
**incredibly** shrill and repetitive when thwarted. Lilith's just  
started eating, or wearing as the case may be, solid food.

Last week Mum was on about painting being wonderful therapy.  
Yesterday she asked why I wasn't writing poetry anymore. The  
last time I wrote "poetry" was a card for her first year in the  
village school. I think it was something like:


**Roses are Red  
Violets are Blue  
Grass is Green  
I luv you Mum**

Dad asked when I was going to go talk to the Cannons about  
flying for them THIS FALL. I nearly snapped. Long and short, I  
have to get out of the house or I'm going to start yelling and  
that won't help anyone.

How are things going for you? EvERYThing Alright with yOu And  
Our friEnds?

---



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-08 04:18:26](#)  
(no subject)

You should start writing part of a really nasty limerick or something and leave it where they can read it. Like 'There once was a lovely young lass, who loved putting things...'

Yeah, we can get out. I'm back from the Malfoy's.

And things are okay. It keeps feeling like something big is going to happen, only then it doesn't. You ever feel like that?




 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-08-08 04:37:14](#)  
(no subject)

**Thanks for the laugh.**

**Meet in town on Saturday? We could see if Draco, Tyche, Heph or the Twins want to come have lunch (Gillicuddy's?) and go window shopping or something. No flying yet.**

**My future lurks on the horizon like a fog bank before the on-coming storm. (Maybe I should try my hand at poetry!) I can't help feeling like I should be preparing for Hogwarts in the fall. Though it does still look like I'll be there, but with some sort of personal apartment. The details as to whether I'll be on the grounds, in Hogsmeade or something else haven't been worked out. Can't be too far away, it would be unwise to be apparating too much and I think ~~Proff~~ Antonin's going to want me nearby. That's going to take some getting used to.**



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-08 04:41:34](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, we can walk around and eat something. I'll talk to Draco.

I bet it's going to be weird, not going to normal classes and all. And with everyone else in your year not around either.

But it'd be ace if you were in Hogsmeade. I bet that'd be less weird. And you could go to the Cauldron whenever you wanted.




 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-08-08 04:47:53](#)  
(no subject)

**Yeah Hogsmeade could be ace, but I'm concerned about the back and forth. I'm talking to the healers about whether it would be better to have the daily exercise or it's pushing too much and should be avoided. Hogwarts would mean that board is included and galleons for my vault. Pros and cons no matter the line-up.**

**Time to tap out for the night. See you Saturday.**



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-08 04:49:50](#)  
(no subject)

See you then.

**2013-08-07 23:49:00**

*(no subject)*

Earlier: Pansy was coming to go flying with us (SA and R) but the Strettons got robbed.



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-08-07 23:49:00**

*(no subject)*

The galleon msg was to keep her from coming.  
MLE came, they got the robbers, everything's  
fine now.



 **alt\_galleon**



**2013-08-07 23:51:00**

*(no subject)*

I hope everyone's having a nice summer holiday without that sort of excitement in it. -SA



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-08-08 00:55:00**

*(no subject)*

thAnks for the ExplAin- hEArt didnt nEEd thAt  
todAy- glAd EvEryonEs finE



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-08-08 00:59:00**

*(no subject)*

ALL SORTS OF BORING HERE. WHICH IS FINE  
BY ME.



 [alt\\_galleon](#)

**2013-08-08 10:33:00**

*Private message to Daphne Greengrass*

Daphs, I'm sure you've heard that Teddy's hosting a social tomorrow. Holiday with my parents got cut short unexpectedly, so I've decided to attend.



 [alt\\_draco](#)

Would you do me the pleasure of being my plus-one again?

I'm sure I don't have to tell you, but since it's Teds, we might as well prepare ourselves for anything. If you'd just as well stay at home I won't take offence, though I can assure you that you'll be missed by many.

-Draco



 [alt\\_daphne](#) at **2013-08-08 16:44:13**  
(no subject)

You don't need to tell me that anything goes at Teddy's! But I'm quite comfortable with that - or at least, everyone will think that I am.

I'd be very happy to have you as my escort, but you know, if we keep going to these things together people will start to believe that *we're* together, despite the fact that we might tell them otherwise.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at **2013-08-08 16:45:40**  
(no subject)

Would you really be bothered if people thought we were together?



 [alt\\_daphne](#) at **2013-08-08 16:46:55**  
(no subject)

Oh - no. No, I'd not be bothered by it in the least.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-08 16:51:11](#)**  
(no subject)

Good to know. I reckon it might be beneficial to both of us, socially-speaking. Fewer questions for me about why I don't feel like dating just anyone, and fewer questions for you about why you dallied about with Weasley.

Mind, I'm not one of the ones judging you for that. Weasley's alright. Most of the time.



 **[alt\\_daphne](#)** at **[2013-08-08 16:53:13](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, of course. Yes, I suppose it would be a useful seed to plant in the heads of the collective.

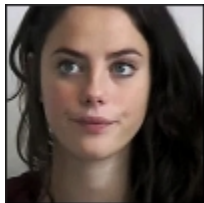
Only I thought you were worried about Pansy drawing conclusions about us? I don't want her cross with me, you know.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-08 16:55:45](#)**  
(no subject)

I doubt it's you that Pansy will be cross with.

I'm not saying that we should tell people we're dating, or anything like that. I wouldn't put you in that position. I was envisioning something more like when you and Blaise used to insist that you were "just friends" but nobody really quite believed it.



 **[alt\\_daphne](#)** at **[2013-08-08 17:05:00](#)**  
(no subject)


Mm, I quite remember how to do that.

But Draco, isn't there a girl - any girl - that you well and truly fancy?

Or is it that getting over Pansy is harder than you thought? Only it was you who broke up with her, so I suppose I might

have thought it meant that you'd started to fancy someone else...



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-08 17:11:06](#)**  
(no subject)

If I well and truly fancied a girl there are very few things that would stop me from asking her out.

May I come round yours tomorrow? Say an hour before the party gets started...



 **[alt\\_daphne](#)** at **[2013-08-08 17:12:10](#)**  
(no subject)

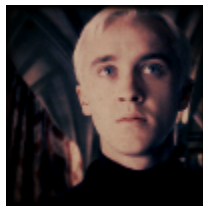
Are you-

That sounds perfect. My parents will be so thrilled to see you.



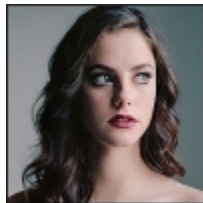
 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-08 17:15:55](#)**  
(no subject)

Brilliant - see you then.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-08 17:38:43](#)**  
(no subject)

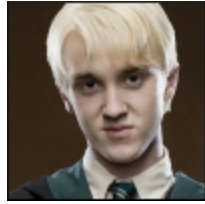
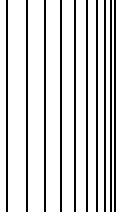
Oh, another thing - do you reckon Moebius Ollivander's been invited?



 **[alt\\_daphne](#)** at **[2013-08-08 17:41:38](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm not sure, but Teds doesn't seem the type to exclude him. "Anything goes," remember?

Why do you ask?



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-08 17:42:28](#)**  
*(no subject)*

No reason. It'll be a pleasure to see him again.

**2013-08-08 20:13:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Dora and Remus*



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

I think we ought to go up to the Stretton farm and check things out for ourselves.

Especially if Miss Perks believes she can investigate it on her own.

Thursdays are usually fairly quiet. Right?

---




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at **2013-08-09 00:27:55**  
(no subject)

Ellie can manage for a while, I'm sure. Or Remus can stay if he thinks she'll need help.

I'm in. And I'm first to say, so I get to go.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-08-09 00:38:42**  
(no subject)

Brilliant.

Just caught Remus changing his shirt. He says he'll cover with Ellie for a while - but if we're not back in an hour, he'll follow.



**2013-08-08 22:00:00**

*Private Message to Ursula Avery and  
Diana Derrick*



 [alt\\_narcissa](#)

The news of Claudius's death was so shocking - our plans were utterly changed as a result. I'm so glad it turned out we were already back in New London. Bettina was holding up as well as could be expected, don't you think?

Ursula, I couldn't agree more: It's so difficult to allow a young man like Julius to find his own way. Diana and I had the same talk about Maghnus, last year, didn't we? But don't worry: He'll make the right connections. Has he his own membership to the Ouroboros? Lucius arranged one for Draco and he's made the most of it this summer. I think it's essential, dear, if he's to find his path. If your suspicion is correct he'll have the right to go to the Elysian soon enough! Surely that's bound to please you.

Of course, it's not without risks, as we all know.

Nonetheless, we need to plan for the next few days, so Bettina and Ygraine have help with Sarah, Martha and Darius. Now, as you know, I've got Hydra for the rest of the summer but this is precisely the sort of thing she should learn to manage. And with the funeral tomorrow I'm sure there will be a flood of condolence calls but I suspect the weekend will be harder on them, once the crowds dissipate. I'll ask Yvaine and Pandora to help as well. I suppose one might ask Aurora but - well, it's still a bit new for her; I fear she'd feel too awkward, which is the *last* thing anyone needs.

Let's work out the details tomorrow, shall we? Look through your calendars and we'll decide what shifts to take.

**2013-08-08 22:56:00**

*Private Message to Lucius and Barty*

You wanted to know who paid calls today. I was only there for a few hours, of course, but Diana was there when Hydra and I arrived.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#)

Ursula came shortly after. Very concerned: Julius has been asked to take the Mark. She was careful not to make it sound like it worried her but - well, what mother would *not* worry, considering? (Gaude was not in sight, by the bye.)

Both Glendowers, the Crabbes, Scylla Goyle and that oafish son of hers, Isadora Rowle, Cornelius Jugson, Savitha Desai, Theo Nott and Nick Dyson. Half of MLE, of course but that was to be expected; I didn't think anyone was particularly noteworthy in that set.

Is that helpful?

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 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at **2013-08-09 03:35:17**  
(no subject)

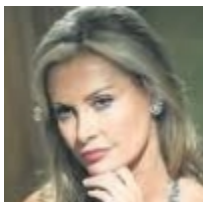
Glad I went yesterday.

It is helpful, yes. Thank you.

Dyson and Nott came together? Or is your list not meant to be chronological?

Did you hear whether either of the Ms had been there?

Interesting re. the Mark. Her reaction.




 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at **2013-08-09 04:05:52**  
(no subject)

I'm not ... No, Dyson and Nott did not arrive together. But I do recall a moment when they were both in a corner in close conversation. Dyson left shortly thereafter - and as I recall, Theo made his excuses within ten minutes.

I didn't see the Ms, no, but Bettina mentioned she received a large arrangement from one of them. She did think it odd (but not odd enough not to display it).

I'm sure if Draco had received Our Lord's favour back when you did, dear, our pride would have been unalloyed. One can't deny that the significance of His Mark has not diminished but it has ... changed over time.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-08-09 04:41:19](#)

*(no subject)*

Dyson? Thought he was assured.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-08-09 04:47:59](#)

*(no subject)*

Won't take that for granted if he's sniffing around Nott. Or vice versa.

He does cover his bases. Set his wife to paying court on McGonagall for a while. Seemed... unnecessary to me, but harmless.

Nott is something else again.

**2013-08-09 12:54:00**

*Order Only: Infighting*

As you all have seen, things are rather a mess around New London these days.



I do not believe that the minds of the Selwyn conspirators hold anything that could compromise me—not truly. (I might have to dance around the fact that I knew Selwyn's purpose when he asked me to bring him *Felix Felicis*, but I believe that is more than possible.) Yet they know that I was related, and have tried to contact me—Ursula Avery in particular. Well, and who is Ursula Avery? She would hardly speak to me when I was drying out. She considered herself rather too high in the instep to pay attention to a poor drunk. But now she wishes to discuss her child. By "her child," I assume she means the creeping fear that the Lord Protector knows all about her part in Selwyn's scheme.

 [alt\\_mcgonagall](#)

Well, I have put her off so far. Part of me wants to speak with her, to speak with everyone who was part of our little cabal, and remind them that the Lord Protector can smell weakness. If they flinch, he will know!

But another part of me says: why endanger yourself more? Why would you link your name to conspirators', when you have no reason to do so? That part is the part I must listen to.

Dyson came to see me this morning, unannounced, so that I had no opportunity to turn him away. Young Malfoy may be interested to know that Dyson is firmly on the side of Nott and the Mulcibers, it seems. He was not in the least bit subtle about the purpose of his visit. He actually said 'Lucius Malfoy is an old friend of yours, I know—but he allowed Madam Umbridge control of Hogwarts.' Oh, he couched it in concern for his children, certainly, but what he meant was "when was the last time Malfoy did anything for you?"

I must think carefully on what to do now. I have always considered Lucius Malfoy the most stable of the Death Eaters, the most dedicated to the rule of law, the most reasonable. That is why I have backed him for so long: best to stick with the devil you know and whose actions you can predict. That is also why I felt that Selwyn's plot was necessary: the Lord Protector grows more unbalanced day by day. Now, however, I begin to rethink my strategy.

Is it truly best to have a stable and functional government, if that government is oppressing our people, even if that means it is easier for us to do our work? Didn't Dolores Umbridge do more than anyone to turn people against the MLE? Could it not be the best strategy to play the sides against each other, to destabilize the top, to make it spin more and more wildly and loopily until it can no longer stand?

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 **alt\_draco** at [2013-08-09 17:50:09](#)  
(no subject)

Dyson's a liar. My father hated Bumbridge and never wanted her at the school.

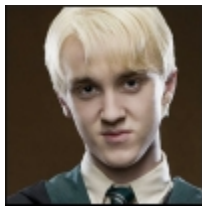
Your last point speaks to my own reasoning, which I've voiced elsewhere.




 **alt\_mcgonagall** at [2013-08-09 18:15:15](#)  
(no subject)

You have always been an unusually astute young man.

As for Umbridge and your father, his actual feelings are hardly the point, although I am indeed aware of them. (He did not want me at the school either, by the end, but for that I must admit I cannot blame him.)



 **alt\_draco** at [2013-08-09 18:29:31](#)  
(no subject)

That's very flattering.

What I don't understand - and perhaps you can enlighten on this point - is why the Lord Protector seems to favour, more and more, chaos over stability. In the early years he worked very hard to make the Protectorate seem like a brilliant idea, but he obviously cares less about that now. Is it possible he wants his followers to destroy themselves because he feels he no longer needs them? Or is he threatened by them?


I suppose a simple answer might be that he's gone mental, but I think that would be a foolish conclusion to arrive at.



 [alt\\_mcgonagall](#) at [2013-08-09 19:09:31](#)  
(no subject)

If I knew the answer to that question, I would not be nearly so nervous about the future.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-09 18:51:54](#)  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

If Teddy's father is working closely with the Mulcibers and supports them, then you and Harry need to be really, really careful at his party tonight.

I mean, it's a fair guess he didn't invite you because he's feeling nostalgic for all those times he used to play at the Manor.




 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-09 19:23:55](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

Yeah, I know.

Blaise mentioned that at the last party, there were some kind of nonpareils that provided a hallucinatory experience, and of course there's always a fair bit of drinking that goes on.

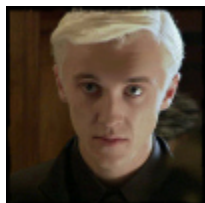
It wouldn't do to look as if I'm not partaking in the fun, but I want to keep my senses. I'm looking through my books to see if there's a spell or potion that can nullify the influence of liquor and other mind-altering substances. There's the stomach of steel charm, but it has the unfortunate side effect of making one constantly belch - not at all the look I'm going for. Can you think of anything?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-09 19:29:28](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*

There's a spell that delays the effect of substances. It might mean you'll feel it tomorrow. Or maybe the next day, I'm not sure. And I don't know if it works on alcohol or I think everyone would use it all the time, but maybe they want to be intoxicated.

Oh, and there's a numbing spell. But that's for physical pain, and if the book I found it in was correct, it actually acts almost as if the person's already intoxicated. Or, er, drugged. Something like that. So that might not help at all.



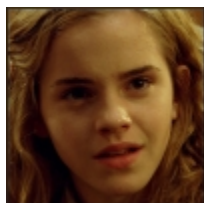
 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-09 19:39:10](#)**

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

Yes, when people drink alcohol it's usually because they want to feel intoxicated right there in the moment, not the next day. But the important thing is that I'll appear to be drinking and eating whatever little concoctions are on the menu.

So yeah, that one might just work. Cheers.

I take it you've never been drunk before?



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-09 19:43:49](#)**

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

No, and I don't want to be! Why would anyone do that?

If you want the spell I'll copy it out and send it. You might want to practise before you try it out in the mirror.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-09 19:50:48](#)**

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

I knew you were going to say something like that.

Well, I don't suppose I have to point out that you'll never know *why* anyone would do it unless you try it out for yourself.

Not that I recommend anyone make a habit of it, but it is fun every once and a while. Otherwise, no one would even bother.

Anyway - I'd appreciate the spell, but you don't have to do that. I can find it myself I'm sure.





 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-09 20:13:28](#)

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

Everyone I've ever seen drunk makes a fool of themselves. Somehow. No, thank you!

The spell's in something called *Effortless Impressions* and be sure to read the footnotes.



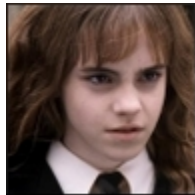
 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-09 20:16:56](#)

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

Not everyone does. *I* never have. You just have to know your limits.

Alright, that sounds familiar - it should be in our library somewhere.

Aren't you going to tell me to have a smashing time at Teddy's tonight?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-09 20:27:51](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

What?

Oh. Fine.

Have fun pretending to like people you don't and pretending to get drunk when you're not and snogging girls when you don't want to, then.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-09 20:34:25](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

What's got your fur up?

You think it'd be better if I disappeared from the social circle and invited questions about where I am and what I'm doing?



To say nothing of the fact that I might hear things that could be of use to us.



**[alt\\_hermione](#) at 2013-08-09 20:42:21**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

I didn't say it would be better. Obviously you're doing this because you think it's helpful; it's a strategically sound thing to do.



**[alt\\_draco](#) at 2013-08-09 20:46:32**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

That doesn't explain why you seem cross about it.



**[alt\\_hermione](#) at 2013-08-09 20:55:43**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

I'm not cross, I'm confused as to why you'd want me to tell you to have a 'smashing time' when you're obviously not going to have one.

I mean, I don't want you to not have fun, I suppose, but I don't know why you'd want to have fun at a party like that, either.

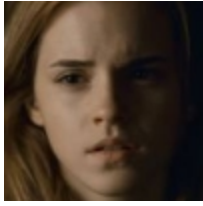
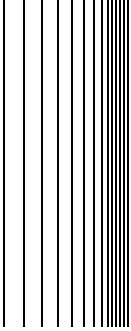


**[alt\\_draco](#) at 2013-08-09 21:07:11**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

Because sometimes unpleasant things are easier if you pretend that they're going to be fun.

Only I thought you could tell that I wasn't really expecting to have a smashing time, which is why it'd be both comforting and droll and ironic if I were told to enjoy myself even if we both know that I won't. Well, not much, anyway.



**alt\_hermione** at **2013-08-09 21:14:04**  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*

Oh.

Well, have a smashing time, then. In that

case.



**alt\_sirius** at **2013-08-09 18:48:29**  
*(no subject)*

So, Minerva, you have enough to conclude that Nott *is* working with the Mulcibers? That they are definitely setting themselves up in opposition to Malfoy?

I suppose that was obvious from their actions but it's good to confirm that they're confident enough to feel comfortable making their alliance known.



**alt\_mcgonagall** at **2013-08-09 19:11:10**  
*(no subject)*

Yes—I am certain of it. Dyson all but directly told me so.



**alt\_severus** at **2013-08-09 23:43:38**  
*Order Only Private Message to Minerva*

Having held back from enquiring as to your health and well-being this long due to a desire to avoid the starched-spine reflexive response of an attempted retrenchment, it occurs to me you might have held back from corresponding with me out of a desire to avoid being reminded of certain singularly unpleasant events of this past year.

I do hope that is not the case; I have missed our tea and conversations. Should you be free at some point in the coming week, I would quite like a chance to renew them before I must take up Milland's duties once more.

**2013-08-09 16:17:00**

*Private Message to Professor Dolohov*

Dear Antonin Nikolaevich;

I hope that you've been enjoying your time away from Hogwarts, and have found it to be restful and well-spent. I must admit that after this past term, I was very much looking forward to a change of scenery, and I suspect I'm not alone in that particular sentiment. Now that I've had some time to catch my breath, I'm very much looking forward to beginning my NEWT level work next term, and continuing my education in the Noble Arts as a part of that of course!



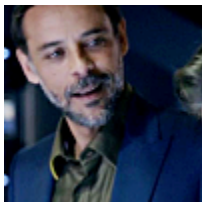
 [alt\\_pansy](#)

I've been giving a great deal of thought to what you said to me when we discussed the plans for the memorial garden at Hogwarts -- that once the term was finished, I might have the opportunity to learn more about your way of honoring the dead, and to join you in offering remembrances to my father. I know that professors often take on research projects or other matters of personal importance during our time away from Hogwarts, and that your time is valuable, so I understand completely if you're otherwise engaged, but I would like to learn more, and would welcome the opportunity.

It's important to me that the people I care about who have died are remembered, and that they continue to be a part of my life. I feel very deeply about this, and have tried in my own small way to honour their memories, but what you said that day -- about how you believe that no one's soul is lost as long as his name is remembered -- was something I found comforting during a trying time, and I wanted to thank you for that.

With deepest respect,

Pansy Parkinson



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-08-10 00:29:13**

(no subject)

Miss Parkinson,

It is excellent to hear from you. My summer has, alas, been full of the sort of tedious and time-consuming minutiae that has prevented me from doing as much as I would have


liked, but that's always the way of time off from one's primary obligations, is it not? We plan our time assuming the best possible outcome, and then are disappointed in ourselves when time never quite bends to our will.

As it happens, your timing is fortuitous -- part of that time compression did lead me to miss my usual devotions at new moon, and I was planning to make them up this weekend. I would certainly welcome your company. If you'd like to call on me late tomorrow afternoon, I would be happy to host you for a light supper and discussion beforehand, or if you'd care to arrive a little later, I am flexible in my timing so long as we begin after sunset. (Which is, to save you the trouble of looking it up, at a few moments after 8:30 tomorrow.) Sunday would also suffice, if that is more convenient for you: my honoured ancestors are, alas, by now used to their last and latest of the line and his horribly chancy relationship with the calendar, and have come to expect irregular timing from me throughout the years.

And you're quite welcome, and of course as a teacher I'm glad to have been able to assist. We often find solace -- and instruction -- in strange places, do we not?

In service,  
Antonin



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-08-10 01:17:34](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank you, sir. I would certainly be available tomorrow afternoon and evening, and it would be wonderful to have the chance to talk about your process beforehand.

Should I bring anything with me? Is there anything I should or shouldn't wear?




 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-08-10 01:49:35](#)**  
(no subject)

Dress to please yourself, and do not worry: think of this more along the lines of a comfortable chat with a series of old friends one has not seen in quite some time, rather than a rite with defined magical goals and outcome. The funeral rites for the newly-dead are more precise, and have additional requirements, but these bimonthly observations are more in the way of reminding the honoured ancestors that they yet live while their names are still spoken. (And, I must confess, my own version of the rites is entirely influenced by the Christian observations my father taught my brother, and my brother passed on to me; both ends of the matter would consider me entirely heterodox, but I find the blending to be pleasing, and the honoured ancestors have never made their displeasure known.)

Shall we say half five or so? And should you feel more comfortable bringing one of your friends with you -- it can be awkward to encounter one's professors outside the familiar Hogwarts environment -- you are of course welcome to do so.

In service,  
Antonin




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-08-10 02:33:11](#)**  
(no subject)

That sounds lovely.

I just had a rather fond memory of your formal robes at our dinner, and it made me smile.

I'll be by at 5:30.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-08-10 02:47:27](#)**  
(no subject)

The look on dear Madam Umbridge's face was quite satisfying, wasn't it? (I must confess, I took rather more delight in that than I should have; as a professor I suppose I should not have given into

the impulse to twist her tail *quite* so blatantly. You were all quite cooperative in not calling her attention to the fact I was mocking her.)

I will see you tomorrow, my dear.

In service, Antonin

**2013-08-10 09:06:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*




 **alt\_rachel**

So I heard your (youngest) brother had a brush with MLE this week! Not the bad sort of brush, though. I saw the internal memo but it left out all the really interesting details, of course, like what he was doing there. Is the foster kid his girlfriend? Or were the Strettons trying to save money on security by hiring a kid still in school?

They did well getting the Enforcers when they did. The thieves were a nasty bunch. Did Ronald tell you one of them was a rogue werewolf?

---



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-08-12 02:17:15**

*(no subject)*

I'm sorry not to have replied to you sooner. It's my sister's birthday today, and I took my siblings present shopping for her, and then we had our family celebration tonight. I haven't had a moment for my journal until now.

Yes, I heard all about it from Ron. I'm pretty sure I got the full gist of what happened, too. Sometimes we prefer not to tell our Mum things if they're a bit too...exciting, given a choice, but there really wasn't a choice in this case, since an MLE Enforcer actually brought Ron home. And once Mum gets her hooks into us and demands point blank to know what happened, we never lie to her. Nobody would dare try.

I think if Ron were younger, he might try self-aggrandising a bit more, but if anything I think he underplayed things a bit. He was helping Sally-Anne Perks patrol their boundaries, which is something that MLE recently started requiring farms to do--no idea why. (And yes, Sally-Anne Perks is his girlfriend. I think they like the excuse to spend time together). They spotted the miscreants trying to slip into a field and came down to investigate, but there were more of them than Ron or Sally-Anne realised, and so the strangers got the jump on them. Ron was a bit embarrassed about that. They argued a bit about what to do with the two of them. Yes, Ron was aware that one was a werewolf--or at least claimed to be--because he made some rather ugly and graphic threats. But eventually, Ron pulled out a distraction, and Sally-Anne seized the opportunity to uncork the

patronus alarm for MLE, and your people arrived to save their arses.

Thank you to your department, by the way. I certainly appreciate getting my brother back in one piece.

Ron was a bit worried about how Mum would react to all this, but we all agreed that they handled themselves as well as anyone could have possibly expected. I'm quite proud of him, myself.

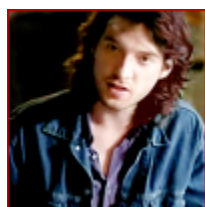


 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-12 02:25:47](#)

*(no subject)*

Oh, happy birthday to your sister. I'm glad you were busy with family things, and not spending the weekend polishing Corax Mulciber's office furniture or anything along those lines.

Anyway, since you learned the Cruciatus Curse recently, I thought I'd note that Perks used it for one of its lesser-known applications -- that's how she opened the bottle. She told the Enforcers she was hoping to give MLE an opportunity to surprise the intruders, and if she broke the bottle they'd know to flee. (I've heard of that trick but I've never seen it done. You risk breaking the bottle, and usually when you're trying to open a bottle of wine you are HOLDING it and can use a cork-pulling charm or something else more practical.)



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-12 02:34:27](#)

*(no subject)*

Wait--what? You mean Cruciatus takes the cork out of a bottle?

Huh. That was clever. Dead clever, really. Especially if you're worrying at the time about being chomped by a werewolf. I wonder how on earth Perks knew about that.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-12 02:36:31](#)

*(no subject)*

I wonder if she might have heard about it through CCF, actually. Ron always says that they do try to train them to think quickly on their feet.






 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-12 02:37:35](#)  
(no subject)


That's a good question. It's not in the report, but like I said, they do leave out all sorts of interesting details.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-12 02:38:44](#)  
(no subject)

At any rate, the werewolf will definitely not be chomping anyone in the future.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-12 02:40:55](#)  
(no subject)

I hope that will help stave off a nightmare or two for Sally-Anne.

Pulled all his teeth or something, did they?

And what happened to the rest of them?




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-12 02:42:36](#)  
(no subject)

Most of them are going to Azkaban.

The werewolf got the killing curse.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-12 02:44:56](#)  
(no subject)

I see.

Yes. Definitely no more chomping.

**[2013-08-10 11:21:00](#)**

*Order Only*

Yesterday I went to Mr Yaxley's funeral with Aunt Narcissa and Uncle Lucius, and afterward I went with Aunt Narcissa to the condolence call.

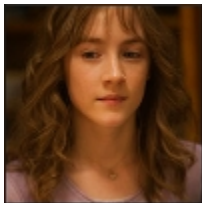


 **[alt\\_hydra](#)**

It was odd - people behave as if they're very sorry for the Yaxleys, and they seem genuine when they offer their sentiments, but most of them were thinking about other things. One was even thinking about how he was missing a quidditch match. And then the people who were sorry were thinking about poor Bettina, having this happen after having been a squib for a time, or poor Sarah, is she regretting her Mark now?

It was sort of a mish-mash, and I'm sure I didn't know some of the references. I did hear someone wondering which way the Sandoval-Pennifolds would jump now. And ~~Uncle Lucius~~ another wondered what fate the others who conspired with Selwyn would face, and if any others of them were still around, and what their next move would be if so. The person didn't seem to know who the conspirators were for certain, but the names they were thinking about were Corbyn, Pummel, Travers, Ollivander, and Rosier.

I suppose the one sure thing I took away from the day is that everyone is feeling quite uncertain, but they don't show it or talk about it.




 **[alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-10 18:00:52](#)**

*Private message to Justin*

I miss you.

Are you alright?



 **[alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-10 18:26:02](#)**

*Re: Private message to Justin*

Hullo,

I miss you, too, ever so much.

I've been recovering, I suppose. I think I'm mostly over my cold but it's been difficult, since my body needs rest but it's jolly hard to

sleep. I've found I'm reading loads, what--I say, I'm nearly through all the books in their library (which isn't saying much) and I bally well can't wait until we get our book lists for next year. At this rate I'll have read them all before we set foot on the train.

Mr Jugson said that if all 'goes well' on the CCF trip (presumably he means I don't get into any trouble, what), I shall be allowed a visit, if your Aunt agrees to it. The only other hope is going to get new robes and supplies for school; otherwise, he's quite adamant I'm not to leave the house.

It's funny. I keep thinking about when I was very young, and my mother told me I couldn't go out because I was too ill, what--well, she meant that if I played with other children I might use magic but I really did feel ill most of the time. I never thought of it before but that was rather a prison, as well.

I'm bally well certain the Jugsons don't know how familiar this all is to me. Though that doesn't make it easier, what, it's at least a comfort that it's only a matter of time before I'm free. I say, that's quite a change from any other sentence I've endured!

Anyway, it's worth all the fuss if it means I really can marry you when you finish school.

Has it been frightfully boring to stay with your Aunt? Is she going to allow you to keep on with Tea and flying and all that?

-J



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-11 01:09:17](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

I'm glad your cold's got better, but I'm sorry it's hard to sleep. Sally Anne might have some tea to recommend that would help?

When you were younger, do you suppose you felt ill only because you were told you were ill?

And then there's me, going all 'round New London to events and salons and shops, but only ever with Aunt Narcissa at my side. She hasn't been treating me as a prisoner at all, more as a pupil, maybe. It isn't boring, I suppose; I've changed my hair a little and

got new robes, that was nice. It is an awful lot of socialising and keeping up appearances, though, and sometimes I think I'm just not nearly so sparkly and dynamic as Aunt Narcissa.

Oh, but I do hope that she'll agree to a visit! I haven't yet asked about Tea and flying. I thought it might be too soon?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-11 01:27:18](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

Maggie's been making me a chamomile tea and I rather think she's put some other herbs in. It helps when it's time to go to sleep. It's not very good for keeping me there, what. I'm sure it'll

pass.

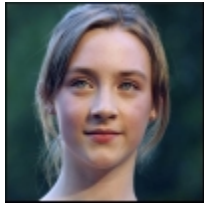
I say, I haven't asked about visitors coming here but perhaps that's a thought. I rather think it's unlikely but perhaps they'll allow Ron or Pansy to come and they could bring Sally-Anne along. I'm sure they'd bally well refuse if we wanted to hold a Tea Appreciation here, as that rather defeats the purpose of being grounded. But one or two friends might well be a reasonable request.


I've been thinking about when I was little, quite a bit. I think that's just it, Dux: I felt ill because I was told I was poorly. I suppose it was an effective way to suppress me using magic, as well, what, as I never believed myself strong enough to even think about making things happen.

I suppose your Aunt must have been happy to have you along to help, with the Yaxleys and so on. How have you changed your hair? Not cut short or anything, what? I'm sure whatever you've done suits you. At least, when your Aunt's bought things for you before, they've been bally well perfect. Not like the things your mother picks out, what!

I can't see how anyone would think you anything other than stunning, Dux. Your aunt may be glamorous but you're just as lovely and twice as kind and sweet. I'll take that over 'sparkling' any bally old day.

-J



 [alt\\_hydra](#) at [2013-08-11 01:56:17](#)

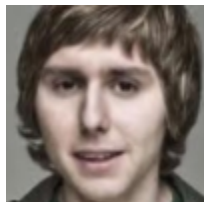
*Re: Private message to Justin*

My mother told me things about myself, too, and I couldn't help but think they must be true because she's so powerful and very clever. I hope that no one in the Order ever forgets how clever she is - and it isn't just because she's a legilimens.

No my hair is still long, only a little shorter because it was trimmed. And it's more smooth and at the same time more fluffy, which doesn't make sense but that's the only way I can think to describe it. When I was at the condolence call some people noticed that I looked quite grown up and privately wondered if Aunt Narcissa was grooming me for marriage, which I suppose in a way she is.

Anyway, being stunning isn't so important. But thank you for saying that I am.

If Remy were to ask some of the others to visit, they might be allowed to come. But having Remy around makes things rather inconvenient, doesn't it?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-11 02:17:25](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

True, but one generally doesn't think of one's own mother as devious or deceptive, what! Or one doesn't *like* to think of her that way. I say, I wonder how Sirius must have felt when he realised his mother was such a...harridan. Have you and he ever talked about it, love?

But I haven't forgotten how clever your mother is, or how ruthless. I say, have you started thinking how we might get round her? I haven't missed that your father saying we've got to win her over bally well absolves him and puts the decision off on her. I know we've three years to work on it but it's not the sort of thing we can afford to leave to the last minute, what?

Remy does make things inconvenient, though not as much as Alfie. At any rate, I'm leaving for CCF on Monday and it'll be two weeks before we're back. Oh, but dash it, Sally-Anne's not going along to that. I'd forgotten.

Well, I say, I'm sure by the time I return I'll have no troubles sleeping and the fresh air ought to do wonders for the rest.

I can't wait to see you, though. Oh, Jack wants you to know he misses you, too.

-J

**2013-08-11 00:13:00**

*Order Only: Sally-Anne*

Dora and I made our way up to the Strettons' early on Friday, before she went in to work.

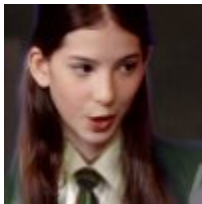


 [alt\\_sirius](#)

The fields have been sealed with Ministry wards (don't worry, we got close enough to detect them without setting anything off). Anyway, they won't be ready for harvest until the next new moon. At least, not if they're meant for veritaserum.

Either way, it's definitely not safe for anyone to go poking about too closely.

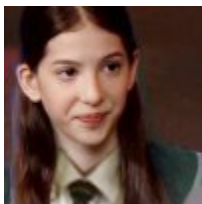
Of course, if someone wanted to go to the farm on the night of the new moon, and watch for who shows up to collect the harvest, we could use some distraction. Well, whomever goes could use distraction. Frank, Kingsley, interested in a stakeout?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-11 04:26:11**  
(no subject)

You do realise that MLE will DEFINITELY be staking things out that night, right? Either that or harvesting it themselves.

I mean they let the Strettons go eventually but there were clearly CONDITIONS.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-11 04:27:43**  
(no subject)

I think they'll also be staking out at full moon since I looked it up and if you just want to use it to give yourself visions, it's best at full moon.

I don't know who the Strettons were planning to sell it to. I think MLE's not going to harvest it until next month, though, I can't imagine anyone in MLE has much use for visions.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-08-11 04:41:13](#)**  
(no subject)

I think the MLE wards make it unlikely we'd actually be able to get too close, full moon or new.

But someone concealed the right way could be in a position to see *who* collects, without interfering with their perimetres.

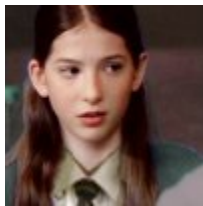
And there are ways to do that, if you know how.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-11 05:08:10](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't think anyone's going to collect (other than MLE). They kept it out of the Prophet, but this was not exactly handled discreetly and surely the person who was going to buy the mint heard about what happened. Even if they hadn't heard YET, the full moon's not until the 21st so they've got ten days for the gossip to catch up with them.


I mean no one even bothered telling me and Ron not to tell our friends what happened, you know?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-11 05:10:00](#)**  
(no subject)

I mean if you want to stake things out and watch far be it from me to stop you. Just please let me know when you're coming because the Strettons still have me doing the perimeter check and I don't want to accidentally call MLE on you.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-08-11 05:14:01](#)**  
(no subject)

you know me, mate, always up for a stakeout.

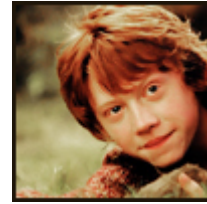


**2013-08-11 08:03:00**

*Happy Birthday, Gin!*

Many happy returns!

You're going to have to wait until tomorrow morning for your present, though: it's two whole weeks of peace and quiet without me in your way. Just think! You get to practically be an only child for a whole fortnight!



 [alt\\_ron](#)

Have fun. Don't do anything I wouldn't think of!

Say. What did you do with the refilling water carrier when you got home from your CCF weeks? I can't find it anywhere. You didn't rubbish it, did you? And I can't find my dragon hide gloves. Did you nick those?

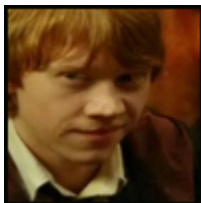


 [alt\\_ginny](#) at **2013-08-11 14:01:24**

*Private message to Ron*

Oh Ron. I feel like I've scarcely seen you all summer anyway! Or the Twins. Your departure doesn't mean peace and quiet, it means one less person to share the chores with.

The refilling water carrier is in the closet under the stairs. I didn't do anything with your gloves. There's a lot of stuff in that closet though. You should check there.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-08-11 20:19:12**

*Re: Private message to Ron*

Found. And the gloves were in the cellar. No idea. Maybe Mum needed them for something.

Glad to hear you'll miss me! Even if it's just because I won't be here doing chores.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#) at 2013-08-11 14:38:21**

*Private Message to Ron*

Thanks for writing this public and saving my arse! I hadn't realised it was Gin's birthday until you did. I owe you one.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-08-11 20:16:34**

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

I'll add it to your account.

How are you?

I'm about to go off for Combined Cadet Force. Not sure what to expect. Last year it was horrible. Only, last year it was Umbridge in charge of it and she had especially... awful notions about what we should be learning to do. But now she's gone, there's no telling what it will be like. And they've separated us off from the fourth and fifth years, so it's just us. And, actually, there're going to be fewer of us than before because they cut people based on OWL marks.

Anywiz, they did tell us to be sure our brooms are in good trim. I've been clipping my twigs the way you showed me last time you were here, and I think it's really made a difference. That and that counter-balance charm we looked up. It's really been dead sharp responding to every cue I give.

So at least my flying should be respectable. Shame it's not Quidditch we're training for.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#) at 2013-08-12 12:40:01**

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

Well, if nothing else, it sounds like you'll be doing a bunch of flying, which will be better than not flying. I'd say "things can't be worse than what they were like with Madam Umbridge", but I don't want to

curse you!

I'm sure that whatever they have you doing, you'll be just fine at it, yeah? You've been working so hard at things this last year.

I've been doing all right. Tired, mostly.

**[2013-08-11 10:30:00](#)**

*Private message to Ginny*

Oh, balls. Ginny-bean, it's not that I forgot today was your birthday, it's that I didn't realise today was today -- I'm all turned 'round again. Night shifts do a number on your sense of time! I've nicked my mate Emmett's owl to deliver your present, since I won't be at supper today.




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

How are you doing? I feel like we haven't got to spend time together in a dog's own age.

---



 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2013-08-11 15:38:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, Charlie. Honestly, this summer has been mostly awful. It's the first really long holiday since Dad died, and I think about it every day and I can tell Mum's thinking about it too, only none of the boys want to talk about it and I don't want to upset Mum.

I used to love having a summer birthday because it meant I was at home and got to have it with my whole family and this year I wish I'd been born any other time of year because at school it wouldn't matter so much.

Also I've barely seen Ron or the Twins or Bill this summer. The Twins have been off doing some internship or apprenticeship or something absurdly respectable (really, how daft does someone need to be to want Fred and George as apprentices?!) and Ron's been off flying with his girlfriend practically every day and Bill lives at the office more than the Burrow.

It's like home isn't home anymore. Everyone's changed but me.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-08-11 16:23:33](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, I promise not to patronise you and tell you I know exactly what you're going through, because I don't -- when I was your age, I was dealing with much different things -- but I do know what you

mean about feeling like you're alone in the middle of everybody.

It was so hard when I first came up here to the reserve -- do you remember, when I was low man on the roster, and I couldn't go anywhere except for one day a month and that was only if nothing went arse over teakettle and they needed me? And I tried so hard to be adult and grownup and professional, and it was nice at first to be out on my own and taking care of myself and not having to explain to Mum why I was half an hour late coming home or where I'd gone after breakfast, but after a bit of being unhappy and not quite knowing why, I realised I didn't quite know how to be me if I wasn't in a pack of Weasleys. Sleeping in the barracks wasn't like sharing a room with Bill, you know? But I can imagine it's harder when you're not the one who went anywhere, it's everyone around you who did.

And it's so hard, missing Dad. Sometimes I'll go whole days without remembering, and then I catch myself thinking, "I have to tell this to Dad," and then it all hits me again all over. A friend here told me that it takes about a year before it starts to stop hurting so much -- her mum died when she was still in school, and her da died about fifteen years ago, so she's been through this herself. I'm holding on to the idea that it does get better.

I don't mind listening, if you want to talk. About anything, not just about Dad. You can always write me, or even come up for a visit, before you go back to school. I like to think I'm a pretty good listener (you can ask Bill, if you want a second opinion there) and I never tell tales.



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-08-12 01:51:24](#)  
(no subject)

Could I come for a visit? The Twins have been up, it seems like loads of times, but ~~you've never~~ I haven't had a chance and I'd love to. See the dragons, and meet your friends and all the rest of it.

Supper tonight was dreadful. Everyone tried, and I tried, and we all carried on and pretended nothing was wrong, which made it even worse.



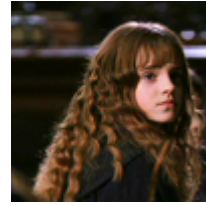
 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-08-12 12:32:47](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, of course! I didn't know that you'd be interested in coming to visit, or I would have asked you earlier. You can come whenever you'd like, just give me a day or two of notice so I can make sure it's all right. I think the visitor cabin is free this weekend, if you want to Floo up on Friday -- that way you won't have to put up with the barracks smelling like old socks and grumpy dragon. (Although the girls' barracks smell much nicer than the boys'. Don't tell Mum, she'll be on me for forgetting half the housekeeping charms she ever taught me.)

Bring your broom, I'll take you out to the caves -- I'm on perimeter search this month.

**2013-08-11 18:43:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)*



Did you find the spell and use it? Did it work?

 [alt\\_hermione](#)

And were you able to have fun, after all?

Harry said the party was naff. He said Teddy and some of the others (Crabbe and Goyle, and some of the older boys) got into a spell-casting contest in Teddy's back garden. Were you at that part? Did you cast anything to show off? Harry said he produced his Patronus and people were impressed but that didn't stop them casting Darker spells.

(Of course, if he did wind up snogging someone, I dunno if he'd say anything about it. He's been awfully quiet about things since Cho. Especially considering who goes to these kinds of parties. I dunno if he'd be willing to admit he snogged Lizzie Stevens or Gaia Chambers or Sam Montgomery.)



---

 [alt\\_draco](#) at **2013-08-12 00:49:44**

*(no subject)*

Oh its you, Granger! Hermione I mean.

I did not have fun peculiarly, Teds had a load of owls from somewhere, poor straggly looking things, but it seemed a good thing it wasn't house elves or people. Which it could have been you know.

I chose the saddest, most miserable of the lot and made it stunning, with vast, silvery wings and full, shiny plumage. I didn't mean to but it rather looked like me! Only me if I were an owl. It was such a smart looking owl that think someone might have taken it home after. Or else it ended up being the one Crabbe set fire to. I can't remember just now.

The spell worked. I believe it stopped working an hour ago, but its not so bad except I've not been so drunk before so I'm using the quail that fixes spelling anatomically.

Gaia and Sam and Lizzie are quite fit, but they're not *especially* clever, only don't tell them I said so.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-12 01:04:45](#)  
(no subject)

Did you read the footnote?




 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 01:07:35](#)  
(no subject)

Course I read it I read just as much as you do.  
Almost.

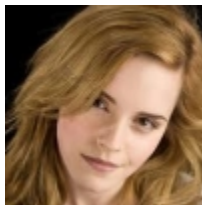
"Due to the time-delaying effects, subjects should take care with consumption levels."

Which is preciously why I had but three of four drinks.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 01:53:18](#)  
(no subject)

Why are you being all cross with me? I'll stop writing in Ron's journal entry if you like!



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-12 01:57:54](#)  
(no subject)

I'm not cross.

Why do you think I'm cross?



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 02:06:16](#)  
(no subject)

Oh you're always cross at me for one thing or another. But I've grown quite used to it.





 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-12 03:05:44](#)  
(no subject)

Well, I'm not cross.

And I'm not always cross. Am I?

It seems like you planned carefully and you thought about it and you read the notes and did the spell right and you even put a spell on your quill and I didn't even think about that, and you made sure to be alone in your rooms, so, you took care of everything.

I guess it's just odd to see you behaving so...oddly. I mean, you're not usually so jolly.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 03:16:22](#)  
(no subject)

Only with me, I think.

I am so usually jolly! Well perhaps not usually but that's only because it seems unwise to get too comfortable and pleasant. For me, I mean.

You said it was odd when I was being grouchy at Tea, you know. So what's more odd, grouchy or jolly?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-12 03:33:11](#)  
(no subject)

There's different kinds of grouchy and different kinds of jolly. I don't know. Usually you're...sort of acerbic and sarcastic but not mean. And it's the same in reverse for how happy you are.

You're always a little grumpy even when you're joking about but it's not as if you're actually unhappy, more like you've got a strong sense of irony.

Maybe that doesn't make a lot of sense. The point is that you weren't acting like normal then and you're not acting like normal now, either.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 03:47:37](#)  
(no subject)

That is... a startlingly and refreshingly accurate assessment.

No one acts normal when they've been drinking. But I haven't made a food of myself yet, have I? Even if my "quail" made some dodgy corrections.

However, I'm starting to feel a lot less jolly, and I think


*Oh bloody nightshade*



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-12 04:06:35](#)  
(no subject)

I bet now you're wishing you'd had some bread and butter.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 04:11:24](#)  
(no subject)

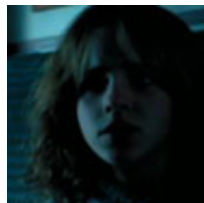
I *did* eat bread after you suggested it. And biscuits.

Just - I don't think it helped. Enough.

Ugh, and now I feel a blinder coming on.

The footnote should have mentioned that the after-effects of drinking come on faster and more furious, too.

Least that means they'll be over soon.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-12 04:17:19](#)  
(no subject)

Maybe you should try to sleep, then.

What time are you supposed to Floo tomorrow?

Are you packed, at least?



**alt\_draco** at **2013-08-12 04:36:22**  
(no subject)

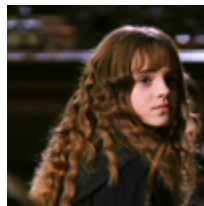
Yes, I will soon. I need to drink some more water first.

I floo at 10:20, so not early at all. And yes, the elves packed everything last night.

You don't need to mind me like you do Harry, you know. Or -

Do you wish you could be going, too? Not as a servant, but as a student. Like Justin. I know Sally Anne does, even though she probably wouldn't enjoy some of the tasks they'll give us if they're anything like the ones we've had to do in the past.

Whatever we learn that's useful we'll make sure you learn, too.



**alt\_hermione** at **2013-08-12 04:42:45**  
(no subject)

Oh.

Sorry. Force of habit.

And no, I'm not fussed about not going. I'll probably be able to sneak off to Doughty Conduit most days when Harry's gone.




**alt\_draco** at **2013-08-12 04:50:21**  
(no subject)

Oh. Well, have fun. I'm sure I'll be having loads and loads of it.

Hm. That was close to what I might usually say, but definitely a weak effort. Must be time to sleep the headache off.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-12 01:54:14](#)**  
(no subject)


Three or four is not so many drinks, you know. I've had more than that before and it was fine.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-12 01:56:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, but how often have you had three or four drinks all one right after the other?



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-12 02:05:12](#)**  
(no subject)

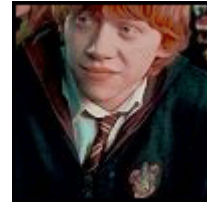
No, but when I planned the evening in advance I determined that three to four drinks was the socially acceptable number of drinks at such a gathering. I used very advanced Arithmancy to determine this, therefore it is irrefutable!

Also, when you don't feel the effects of what you're drinking, it's easy to forget that you're drinking in the first place.

**2013-08-11 19:27:00**

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

So CCF starts tomorrow, and the letter they sent back in July didn't answer very many questions, did it? What do you suppose they're going to make us do?




 [alt\\_ron](#)

I mean, it's got to be better without Umbridge, right? But what are we meant to be doing besides camping and flying? At least they told us to have our brooms in top form, that was a hint.

Or do some of you know more? Malfoy? Harry? Anyone?

I'm Flooing at ten o'clock. How about you lot?

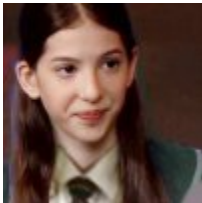


 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-08-12 00:38:22**

*Private Message to Sally Anne*

I hate that you're not going. That's totally squib. I mean, I know. It is better- safer. Whatever. For you. And I know that. But I still can't believe it's two bloody weeks and I can't see you at all.

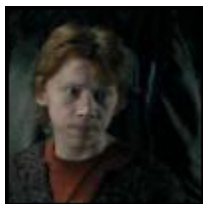
Argh.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-12 01:42:27**

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

I feel silly being this put out given how much I HATED it last year.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-08-12 02:00:18**

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

I know. But it's naff, them cutting you when you've been one of the best all along.

I'm not saying you were wrong not asking if it could be reconsidered. I just. I wish I didn't have to go if you can't.

Who's going to tell me not to do some idiotic thing before I do it and make a complete buffoon of myself?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2013-08-12 02:04:35**


*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

Well I was never a top student in Dark Arts when it was Alecto Carrow teaching. But, yeah. I don't know. Maybe I should have asked. I didn't want to ask Professor Dolohov for any favours this summer, though, especially given that he said he'd let me take NEWT Dark Arts without violating a Healer's ethical code so he's already doing me a favour.

I feel like I need to be careful what favours I ask for because I'm probably not going to get an unlimited number.

Anyway. I'll be sure to let Pansy know she needs to keep you in line, at least enough that you come back in one piece. That should work, don't you think?



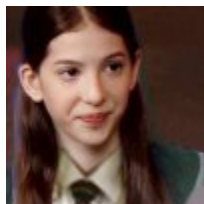
 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-08-12 03:10:47**

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

Yeah. Thank Merlin for Pans.

But it won't be the same.

At all.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2013-08-12 03:13:11**

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

Yeah.

Well, Gemma was complaining she hasn't seen as much of me this summer as she'd like. With you AND Pansy off at CCF I'll have plenty of time to make it up to her.

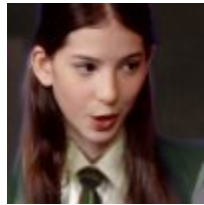


 **[alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-12 03:17:39](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

Just don't let her talk you into letting her cut your hair off.

Gin did that once to me and it was awful. I thought it was going to be a lark, but then my hair decided it liked sticking up and it wasn't right again for months. Mum was so cross. At me.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-12 03:22:39](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

Actually she wants me to put a curling charm on it. No worries there, my hair won't hold a curling charm for more than ten minutes. We can poodle me up and I'll look normal again by the next morning.

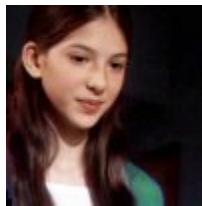


 **[alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-12 03:25:21](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

That might look nice.

I'd like to see you with curls.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-12 03:55:31](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

Okay. I'll do them when you get back from CCF, so you can see.

If that doesn't motivate you to stay in one piece, I don't know what will!




 **[alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-12 00:48:31](#)**  
*(no subject)*

I think Professor Dolohov's involved. I heard someone saying here.

But I don't know if you lot are supposed to know that.





 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-12 01:40:20](#)**  
(no subject)

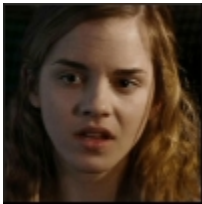
Really?

If that's right, at least it'll be dead interesting.  
Whatever they set us to doing.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-12 00:59:45](#)**  
(no subject)

They'll probably make us fly around and look for stuff.  
Rubbishy stuff, most likely. And then we'll have to sort  
out how to squeeze a zillion muggleborns into a shoe,  
only some will get shoes and others will get boots,  
just to make it more of a challenge.



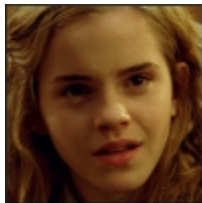
 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-12 01:03:28](#)**  
(no subject)

Maybe you shouldn't be answering people just now.



 **[alt\\_draco](#)** at **[2013-08-12 01:04:52](#)**  
(no subject)

But it was furry!



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-12 01:05:51](#)**  
(no subject)

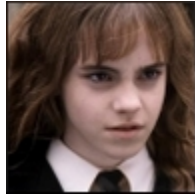
Maybe you shouldn't use that quill, either.





 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 01:22:39](#)  
(no subject)


You really don't want that.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-12 01:41:30](#)  
(no subject)

Are you going to be sick? Seriously, eat some bread or something.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 01:46:49](#)  
(no subject)

*Bread?* That sounds awful. I want chips like the ones that girl made at the shop I visited on holiday when I was twelve.

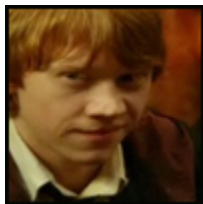
You seem really irritated with me right now! Is it because I'm enjoying myself?




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-12 01:52:49](#)  
(no subject)

I'm not irritated. We knew this would happen. I just don't see why you'd have had so much to drink when you knew it would all hit you at once like this.

And I don't want you to be hung over at CCF, either.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-12 01:39:03](#)  
(no subject)

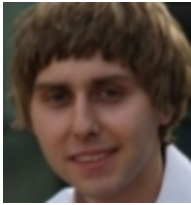
Steady on there, mate!




 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 01:05:20](#)  
(no subject)

But it was funny!

There.




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-12 01:06:53](#)  
(no subject)

Draco,

I say, old man, are you all right?

-Justin




 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 01:12:38](#)  
(no subject)

I am well and truly pissed, but no matter. I knew this was going to happen.

Shall we write together in French and make the others jealous? haha. *Comment vas-tu?*




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-12 01:15:40](#)  
(no subject)

*Je vais très bien, merci. Pourquoi es-tu ivre?*

-Justin



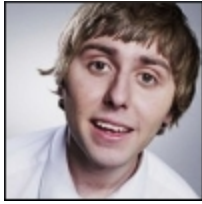
 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 01:21:43](#)  
(no subject)

*Je devais garder mes esprits lors d'une fête.*

Which meant losing them today.

You're so bloody polite, man. How do you do it? Perhaps you ought to give me lessons.

Lessons.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-12 01:30:40](#)  
(no subject)

*Je pense que ma mère a pris soin des leçons de politesse; ce n'est pas quelque chose qu'on peut apprendre après l'âge de peut-être huit; quel dommage, n'est-ce pas? Après ça, on est trop utilisé pour ses habitudes seulement!*

On the other hand, one finds it's impossible to *break* the habit of politeness, what, once its been ingrained. Even when one should dearly love to be frightfully rude.

I say, do you think you'd have had more fun at the party if you'd been this drunk then?

-Justin

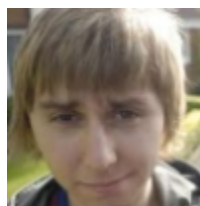



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 01:40:38](#)  
(no subject)

*J'ai été formé pour être poli aussi. Qu'est-ce qui s'est passé, je me demande?*

Ah maybe you need lessons in being rude and speaking your mind, then!

Oh, no I think the only reason I'm even enjoying myself at all is because I'm in the safety and comfort of my own rooms, all by myself. I also took precautions, having charmed my spelling quill so that it will only work in a locked journal entry, and won't allow me to say anything that I wouldn't allow myself to say when perfectly sober.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-12 03:40:11](#)  
(no subject)

*Oh, je n'ai pas beaucoup de mal à parler mon esprit, quand je suis enclin à le faire. Mais j'ai trouvé que c'est préférable généralement de retenir certaines observations lors de leur nuit sa position. Ou au moins, quand on peut faire une question de point sans que personne réalisant l'être insultant.*

*Vous avez ce don ainsi, je l'ai vu.*

It sounds as if you thought ahead. I say, it must be quite a bother to have to take such measures for the sake of appearances.

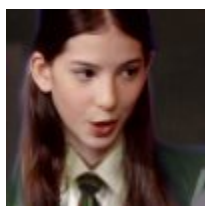
One wonders, if alcohol is a prevalent part of these gatherings, who else might be choosing to hide distaste behind a companionable drink or four?

-Justin



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-12 01:43:29](#)  
(no subject)

WHY are you pissed? Blowing off steam the day before CCF or something?




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-12 01:46:22](#)  
(no subject)

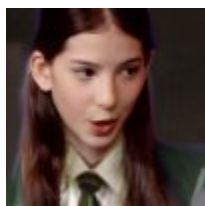
Oh. Teddy's party?

Right.



 [alt\\_draco](#) at [2013-08-12 01:51:25](#)  
(no subject)

Hermione helped me find a spell to delay the effects until 24-48 hours after drinking, and now she appears to be sorry she did it. Probably because I'm not contributing anything serious or helpful to the discussion about CCF. Perhaps I should have just locked up all my quails but I didn't expect the effects to be quite so dramatic.



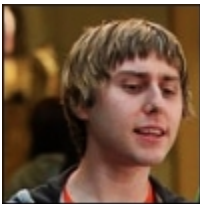
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-12 02:08:16](#)  
(no subject)

That's an excellent spell.

She's probably right you should have drunk

less. Did it all hit you at once? I mean if you drink your firewhiskey slowly over the course of an evening you can keep from ever getting REALLY drunk but if you slug it back all at once you'll be utterly rat arsed.

At least you're conscious and able to write? That's something.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-12 01:13:32](#)

*(no subject)*

Ron,

I hope there's not too much flying, what. As it is, I'm borrowing Remy's broom and he's in quite a strop about it. But as it's probably the only opportunity I shall have, I shall be grateful for the practice, if we do fly a great deal.

And perhaps while we're flying we could keep our eyes open for those Orobouros things, what?

I'm supposed to Floo in at ten minutes past ten.

-Justin



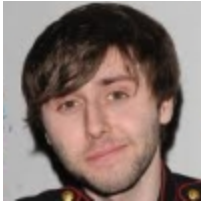
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-12 01:38:11](#)

*(no subject)*

I wish they'd told us.

It's much worse not knowing what to expect, y'know?

You'll do fine on the broom. And if they're setting us something you really can't stomach, then you've a perfect excuse to get out of it. If you dare fall off, that is. It's a bit of a trick to fall off, have it look persuasive, and not hurt yourself much. That's something younger brothers learn early, though. Maybe I'll have a chance to show you.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-12 01:50:07](#)  
(no subject)


I say, I might take you up on that!

Perhaps I should have tried harder to fail my O.W.L. in Noble Arts, what. Although, I will say that it seems Professor Dolohov won't stand for us being made to do anything completely against our principles, so that's a comfort.

It's just deciding which principles one ought to show him one has, that's the trick.

-Justin

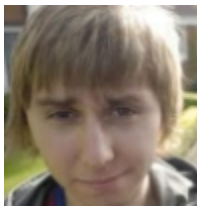



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-12 02:05:48](#)  
(no subject)

Hm. Actually, now you say it, I wonder if he doesn't guess what mine are. I mean to say, he's never really set me anything I could see my way to doing. And I didn't think about it before, but I

wonder.

I guess we'll see.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-12 01:22:05](#)  
*Private Message to Ron*

I say, it's dashed unfortunate Sally-Anne was cut. I wonder, if Hermione's correct and Professor Dolohov *is* involved, why didn't he extend her an invitation? He made sure that she could continue in Noble Arts,

what?

I wonder if she ought to write to him and he'd make room for her. Ought we to suggest it?

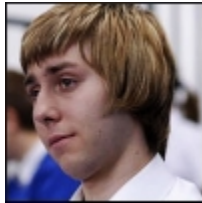
-Justin



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-08-12 01:35:07**

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

To be honest, she thinks she's well out of it. But I think it stings her anyway. And I think it reeks.



 **[alt\\_justin](#) at 2013-08-12 01:45:23**

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

I see.

Well, chin up, mate. We'll muddle through it together, what? And we've got journals so we may write to them whenever we like.

Two weeks isn't very long and you and Sally-Anne shall see each other as soon as it's over. It'll be all right.

-Justin



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-08-12 02:08:26**

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

Yeah, sorry. I didn't think about, well, your situation. They're really not going to let you see Hydra at all until school?

Is your cold better, at least? I hope.



 **[alt\\_justin](#) at 2013-08-12 02:27:05**

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

Oh, don't be, old man. It's a minor setback, what.

As for how soon I might see her, that's...apparently a matter for negotiation. I'd thought not to ask for the rest of summer but Mr Jugson said yesterday that perhaps Mrs Malfoy might allow a visit after we return. That's something to look forward to, at any rate!

My cold? Yes, it's fine, thanks for asking.



Oh, I say, did your sister have a pleasant birthday? I ought to have asked earlier.

-Justin

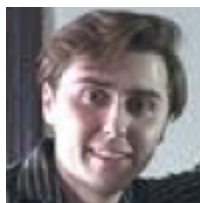


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-12 03:08:25](#)

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

Well, it was lucky for Gin that we don't leave until tomorrow. Imagine her having to have a birthday supper without me to sing embarrassing songs to her and help everyone remember all the ridiculous things she did when she was wee.

Mind you, 'everyone' was only Bill and Mum and Percy and me this year. Makes it extra good I was still around to make a real party of it!



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-12 03:19:31](#)

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

Yes, I can imagine all your family occasions must be bittersweet this year, what. I say, well done you for making the best of it! I'm sure she greatly appreciates all your effort, old man.

Deep inside, of course.

How are you all coping, then? Is there anything any of us can do to help, apart from providing distraction and routine? I mean to say, do you or your family need anything? Perhaps we ought to remember to send your mother flowers after we go back to school or some such.

-Justin



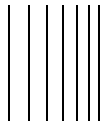
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-12 03:28:42](#)

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

We're managing. It's just things like birthdays that set Mum off. And turn awkward, y'know?

Thanks, though.





And, um. Remind me about that idea about flowers when we get back to the castle.

**2013-08-11 19:46:00**

*Private Message to Blaise Zabini*



 **alt\_padma**

I suppose it's somewhat ridiculous for us to go on pretending like there's nothing between us when we keep winding up together at these things.

So what should we do about it? I'm not having you pretend to fancy me one day and then slag me to your mates the next. Or try to pull some utterly bonkers nonsense about how we can snog each other but also see other people because that's just rubbish. Call me 'unsophisticated' if you like I've never seen that work with anyone, really--I mean, it's just what you boys say when you want to be able to snog whomever you like but when girls do that you all just disrespect them. And if you don't believe me then tell me with a straight face that you all don't laugh at Gaia or Sam for getting up to what they do.

And with CCF for the next two weeks, well, I think we should either just admit we've got a ~~problem~~ something and see what happens or else put it off completely until we're done with the exercises and can figure things out.

One thing's for sure and that's we better decide what we're doing before school starts again. I'm taking ten N.E.W.T.-level courses and I'm not going to have time to worry about whether we're on or off.

~~And you're **not** getting into my pants, no matter what you think~~

Well, what do you think?



 **alt\_blaise** at **2013-08-12 00:22:51**

*(no subject)*

That's hilarious, Patil!

Of course we've got something: we irritate each other until we have to snog. You can't take one away from the other, can you? Someday I'll irritate you enough you'll have to shag me. Admit it.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-08-12 00:38:37](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, ha. Un-bloody-likely.

Fine. So it's off, then.



 **[alt\\_blaise](#)** at **[2013-08-12 00:45:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Now, see? You're irritated. But that's no reason to go stomping off.

You wanted to know if I'd be exclusive. Yes, actually, I would. As long as you don't go off in a huff and leave me with nothing better to do.

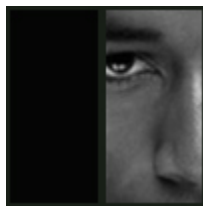
You know you want it. Why not have it, then?




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-08-12 01:01:29](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, if I can't go off in a huff then you can't act all superior like you're just so fanciable that any witch would fall at your feet. Because that smug little smirk is just not attractive.

So if you can control yourself and not act like you're Rama's gift to witches everywhere, then, all right. We may as well try it.



 **[alt\\_blaise](#)** at **[2013-08-12 01:31:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Excellent.

Suddenly there's much more to look forward to during CCF.

Have you heard any details besides that Professor Dolohov's to be involved. I expect they plan to set us learning NEWT-level skills now they've separated us off from the young ones.

What time are you scheduled to Floo? I have quarter of ten.

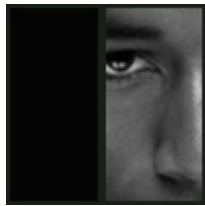


 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-08-12 01:39:21](#)  
(no subject)

I'm hoping we get to practise more of the spells and maybe a little less of the flying all over the place and orienteering. Honestly, anyone who can cast the 'Point me' spell could figure out where they are, right?

But field magic would be nift.

I've got half-nine. Ugh, you don't think they're going to make us Floo one place and then fly to our camp or something, do you?




 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-08-12 01:47:48](#)  
(no subject)

Hm. If that's their plan, you could fly with me on mine. We'll just tow yours behind with a tethering spell. How's that?

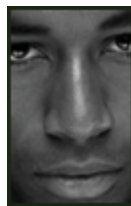
Do you really dislike flying that much?



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-08-12 02:02:41](#)  
(no subject)

I don't *hate* flying, it's just...boring.

And I'm not particularly good at it.



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-08-12 02:25:35](#)  
(no subject)

Well, I agree it's not all some people make it out to be. But I wouldn't say I find it tedious.

And it has its place as a skill, especially for CCF's purposes. I expect we will have to fly rather a lot, actually, if they mean to bring us close to battle-readiness. But then, not every one needs to master broomsmanship. There are plenty of other leadership tasks you should be allowed to specialise in. I don't expect they mean to be unreasonable about something like that.

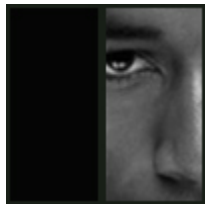



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-08-12 02:31:36](#)**  
(no subject)

I can fly distances all right. It's just that I hate having to manoeuvre, you know, twists or turns and loads of climbing and diving, that kind of thing.

And no, I don't think anyone would cut me from CCF if I happened to wobble or something. It's just....

Never mind.




 **[alt\\_blaise](#)** at **[2013-08-12 02:51:19](#)**  
(no subject)

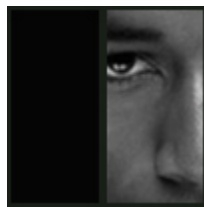
No, I know. One wants to appear skilled and reasonably agile at everything one does. It's no fun to worry about embarrassing oneself.


I think you're being harder on yourself than you need to be. I've always thought you looked quite fine on a broom.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-08-12 02:03:27](#)**  
(no subject)

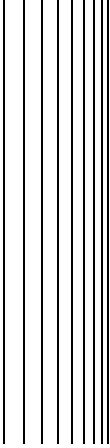
But I've never flown two on a broom before. Isn't that difficult to control?




 **[alt\\_blaise](#)** at **[2013-08-12 02:19:00](#)**  
(no subject)

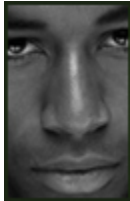
It requires finesse, but it's a bit of a lark to do.

And it's rather exciting. Or it can be.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-08-12 02:28:39](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Well, maybe we should try that. Sometime.

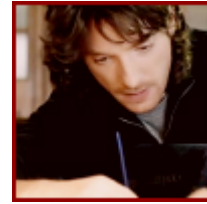


 **[alt\\_blaise](#)** at **[2013-08-12 02:55:21](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Soon.

**2013-08-12 06:53:00**

*Order Only: Aftermath of the Stretton Estates incident*



 **alt\_bill**

After years of gnashing my teeth over the seemingly impenetrable shield wall over MLE, I have recently managed (quite to my own astonishment) to develop a source who is actually willing to pass along some news (don't worry--this person knows nothing about the Order). At any rate, I learned last night that the individuals who were caught trying to sneak into that field at the Stretton Estates (and who encountered Ron and Sally-Anne) have already been processed. All of them but one have been sent to Azkaban.

The werewolf, according to my source, has been executed.

---




 **alt\_severus** at **2013-08-12 13:50:34**  
(no subject)

Interesting.


Does your contact have any sense of what organisation the perpetrators belonged to?



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-08-13 00:38:36**  
(no subject)

I'll try to probe a bit, see what I can find out.



 **alt\_poppy** at **2013-08-12 15:10:33**  
(no subject)

I should very much like to know what sort of group they were. And whether it was coincidence they were allied with a werewolf or something more. Are there groups, do you suppose, who are recruiting werewolves to join them? And are they merely criminal bands or subversives of some stripe?

That's a stark reminder what status the Protectorate accords werewolves. I shouldn't think many of them would support His

regime if they had a chance to oppose it.

Of course, one wonders if those sent to Azkaban might see summary execution as the kinder sentence.




 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-08-12 15:16:36](#)  
(no subject)

Any right-minded person would view death as preferable to Azkaban, yes — particularly as after a short stay in Azkaban, one is unlikely to remain right-minded.

No snide commentary from the peanut gallery necessary: I am well aware how fortunate I was to escape with my wits intact.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-12 16:22:22](#)  
(no subject)

I've heard that when you're already witless on the way in, that helps.


Sorry. You said 'unnecessary' but that was just because I felt like it.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-08-12 16:24:58](#)  
(no subject)

It is a comforting constant in the universe that one may always count upon you to lack the slightest bit of self-control.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-12 16:52:42](#)  
(no subject)

Relax. Anyway, what've you done with the verbena? Used it all or just moved it?






 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-08-12 17:40:47](#)  
(no subject)

By that token, I take it that you are in ~~my~~ the potions laboratory?

The verbena is where it should be, next to the knotgrass and the peppermint leaf. There are two varietals. You may have overlooked them, as they are labelled by scientific name, *V. officinalis* and *V. menthifolia*.

If you tell me what you are attempting to brew, I will recommend which to use.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-12 17:49:01](#)  
(no subject)

Well, it is my house, after all.

Re-translated the family grimoire. It's that suppression potion.

I'm guessing that's not going to help you predict what's in it, though.

Scientific names? Huh. How Muggle of you.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-08-12 18:09:53](#)  
(no subject)

Precision is often the difference between success and failure. And yes, I am quite aware it is your house. ~~If it were my laboratory I would not permit~~

As I have not investigated your wild goose chase in greater detail, I could not speculate with any degree of confidence, but given the age of the receipt with which you are working, *V. officinalis* is more likely to be the correct choice if anything is; *V. menthifolia* was not naturalised until this century.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-12 18:32:09](#)  
(no subject)

... Right.

Well, if you're in the mood for dispensing free and unsolicited advice, any clue why the cauldron keeps oversetting no matter how much powdered mandrake root gets added?

I've tried it before and after the spearmint and I tried infusing at different rates - you know, fully dissolving half, then only a quarter, etc. - but nothing seems to make a difference.

Before you say it, yes, I've double-checked the codex and it's definitely supposed to be powdered mandrake root *and* it's definitely supposed to be added while the cauldron is at a fast boil.

Well, every potion has a tricky step, right? I'll get it sooner or later.



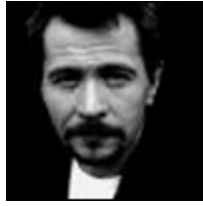
 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-08-12 18:42:17](#)  
(no subject)

Powdered mandrake root *and* spearmint? In a potion that undoubtedly belongs to the *Placida* genus?

That is an ~~idiotic~~ unusual choice. Assuming you are certain have not mistranslated the ingredients, and assuming your ancestors were not playing a poor-spirited joke upon their progeny: are you, by any chance, using an iron cauldron or stirring rod? Powdered mandrake root can react violently with iron in potions using a base with an arithmantic value of two, three, five, or seven.

Alternately, what ingredient is intended to be added after the powdered mandrake root? If it is liquid, you may be expected to combine the two before infusion.

What are the stirring instructions?



 **alt\_sirius** at **2013-08-12 18:54:19**  
(no subject)

You're not the only student ever to get an O on a Potions N.E.W.T., you know. Of course it's not an iron cauldron. And Great-Aunt Belvina made a note that it's better with a wooden stirring rod (Birch or Ash, not a darker wood), so that's ruled out.

Following the mandrake root is the crushed verbena, which is why I was looking for it.

Stirring instructions are to 'stirre like unto that of the clock's face and not any faster than its progress. But tak ye care to retract one stire in the contrariwise with each sixth rounded stroke, before ye proceed againe rightwise.'

Which I'm doing. Was doing. It just blew again.



 **alt\_severus** at **2013-08-12 19:09:01**  
(no subject)

...Fascinating.

If you are using a wooden stirring rod, were there any notes about its previous uses? If you have taken pains to remind me of your N.E.W.T. result, you will undoubtedly remember the care paid to the question of wood as living material retaining traces of its previous use; it could be that it is expected to have been imbued with some substance.

As well, potions containing powdered mandrake root usually call for counter-clockwise stirring, but as a potion of this class should not involve powdered mandrake root at all, I hesitate to call that the answer. Indulge my curiosity, however, if you would be so kind: what *does* happen if you switch to six-and-one counter instead of six-and-one clock?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-12 19:27:48](#)  
(no subject)

You think I didn't think about the wood? I cleansed it with an *expurgatis lignae* before I began.

Reversing the direction of stirring made it the solution turn, er, sludgy. And brown. Sort of, tar-like. I looked and there aren't enough other liquid ingredients to thin it back out with later steps.

Anyway, I can't maintain the speed of stir while I'm writing to you so, if you're interested now in this 'wild goose chase' then come take a look for yourself.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-08-12 19:43:35](#)  
(no subject)

I was not accusing you of negligence in your preparations; I was simply speculating that perhaps — given the inexplicability of the results thus far — your illustrious ancestors expected that step to be omitted, and it is possible the potion is expecting a fractional dose of some other ingredient.

It should not be possible, meanwhile, for a preparation involving powdered mandrake root to emulsify in that fashion. (Before you take offense at my saying so: I am not impugning your observational abilities. I am marvelling that yet another impossibility appears to have been added to the list.) It could be possible the thermal reaction is inverting the magical nature of the mandrake? No, that would result in the cauldron freezing and cracking...

I will admit to being intrigued, yes. There are some methods of analysis that might prove fruitful; I shall put together a kit and be there shortly. If you have not already vanished the results of your last attempt, do not do so until I have had a chance to examine it.

~~I will behave if you will behave~~

**2013-08-12 08:07:00**

*Private Message to Savitha Desai*

I was dealing with Mysteries until the wee hours, and am running ridiculously late today because of it. Let us hope that inauspicious beginnings will lead to felicitous endings!



 **alt\_antonin**

I do hate to fob things off on you, but if you are willing to take the morning's exercises and give me an extra half hour to get moving, I will handle supervising this morning race and setting up the last of the traps for the first afternoon exercise -- I've thought of a few additional surprises to spring on the little darlings. (And on you, of course. I am enough out of practise that every little bit will help!)

Yours,  
T

**2013-08-12 21:58:00**

*Private Message to Professor Sinistra*



 [alt\\_linus](#)

Dear Professor Siz,

Although I will naturally not be sending my customary Weekly Planning summary for our project during the CCF exercises, I am taking advantage of these few free moments between events to send you this message of greeting, and express my hopes that your own summer endeavours are fruitful and refreshing. Working with Guildmaster Bright has been a tremendous opportunity, and I thank you again for the chance to serve in this capacity. It is especially gratifying to contribute one's skills to the detection of corruption in research and reference data, and thus lay the groundwork for its remediation. Such work is balm to my Ravenclaw soul! The project is nearly complete, at least as far as the primary works by the two principal persons of concern, and even working in between classes I should be able to finish up and have it in final form no more than two weeks after the CCF relinquishes us from its rather strenuous grasp.

Lest I give you the wrong impression, let me assure you that events here are actually quite jolly. Professor Dolohov and Auror Desai are working us to the edges of our potential, true, but there is exhilaration in pushing oneself and great satisfaction in discovering, for example, that one can indeed remember three separate rules for combining the spells that will enable one's teammates to achieve a desired objective. (And there is, might I add, an extra filip of joy in proving one's worth to the captain who selected one rather early in the choosing. Father will be quite pleased with me! My only sorrow is that Lavender was not here to see it.) As it happens, my notion of combining a spell we learned in Herbology (one which allows one to tag certain bits of foliage and track it wherever that plant winds up in the greenhouses -- most useful if one's fellows sometimes play pranks and switch pots on one) with a follow-me spell was most efficacious, as it allowed us to track the progress of nearly half the opposing team, who walked right through our booby-trapped grass patch. Unfortunately, it was not enough to lead us to victory, but we made them fight for it, yes indeed.

Obviously I do not have my notes with me here, but I believe Guildmaster Bright has directed me to check some records which I will have to obtain from you, since they are listed as being in Master

Bobbin's collection of files. Student records, I believe? If you will set me up with the appropriate documents upon my return, I shall have that for you both with all alacrity.

Must go -- they are calling us to do something, and there's no telling what it might be. Such excitement!

---



 **alt\_sinistra** at **2013-08-13 02:41:41**  
(no subject)

Linus -


Please don't worry about the research: we can pick up again when your time is your own again. (Or as much your own as your schedule will allow when we return to Hogwarts - )

It's interesting to hear how they're approaching the CCF this year: I hope it continues to be everything you might want.

As to the files: we're talking files from 1949. I'll need to dig them out, and that might be better done when we're back at Hogwarts properly. I'll check, but I suspect Georg will be fine with a brief delay. (Last I heard, he was still working through the previous report: he has been rather taken with his comet recently, as well as wrapping up the Guild projects for the summer.)

In the meantime, do save your energies for your work at CCF - I'm quite sure it will need every bit of your attention and focus.



 **alt\_linus** at **2013-08-14 02:44:31**  
(no subject)

Point well taken. I shall do my best not to dwell on unfinished research, enjoyable though it might be.

CCF is indeed much improved by not having influences of a certain hue involved. Since we arrived this year, there's been nary a uniform in sight, nor have we been directed to march or sing anthems. (To be scrupulously accurate, I have heard the phrase "tow row row" uttered once, but I believe the usage to have been humorous in an ironic vein, and it certainly was not sung.) However, the freedom from particular malign influences go only so far to console the participants for the lamented absence of specific positive influences, or should I say influence. In short, I

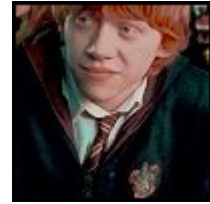
believe you are much missed. Not, I hasten to add, because you are needed to stand between us and an ill-conceived and poorly planned programme of events, but because you would rejoice to see CCF become once again a locus of learning-by-doing under trustworthy instructors. That, and because you would enjoy certain moments particularly. I suspect that Professor Dolohov is likely to accidentally omit from any missive a description of precisely how Auror Desai's expression changed when he charmed her shoelaces together. To forestall any shocked look of your own, I hasten to assure you that he only did so as fitting response to Auror Desai's jocular allegation that he had grown old before his time. Truly, it was absolute glitter-charmed hilarity.



**2013-08-12 22:21:00**

*Private Message to Mum and Ginny*

Say. Just wanted to let you know we made it here, and everything's fine after the first day.



I won the first challenge, which was a broom race along a ley line--the line was off to our east a bit, but if you knew what you were about, you should have sensed it was there. Anywiz, I was able to key to it and use it for speed in and out of the turning. That made the difference.

 [alt\\_ron](#)

And then, because I won that first race, I got made a team leader and had to pick my group. Harry's got the other team. You'll laugh, Gin. I picked Malfoy first, and then it all sort of fell in from there because I wanted people who would work well together or who'd follow without questioning. (Those aren't the same thing, mind you.) So then I ended up with Finnigan and Thomas and Patil. I mean, really? But it made sense at the time. I got Sue Bones, too. Oh, and Zabini. At least they're mostly excellent on brooms. All but Patil. And I took Zabini pretty early on because it looked as if I'd get stuck having Patil, so since they're together now (Yeah, finally. I mean, who couldn't see that coming?) I figured he'd keep her from being so impossible. And Malfoy's got both of them tow row rowing to impress him, so we should be well fixed. Of course, Finnigan and Bones are good on brooms and keen to do well.

Don't know how often I'll have time to write, but you can keep an eye on the clock, Mum, and know that I'm safe and sound, yeah?

**2013-08-12 22:34:00**

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



 [alt\\_justin](#)

I'm not sure whether we'll be able to stay awake for it, what, but I thought it might be helpful for us to discuss today's exercises. Neville, Sally-Anne, and the others, I hope it's not too distressing to read about what we're doing here but it seems the sort of lessons we could apply and use next time the Order asks us questions about our field operations, such as they are.

(Oh, and Dux, I'm going to write you an open PM just so those in the tent who aren't in the ISS won't wonder where this entry is.)

So...I'm not even sure how to begin to summarise what we've already done, what, only that we just were sent to our tents about ten minutes ago and gracious, it's been a long day.

This morning after a bit of fitness, we went on a broom race. Congratulations again, Ron and Harry, on placing first and second. I'm surprised I finished anything other than last, what, but I suppose it wasn't much of a stretch to realise that there was a ley line nearby.

After lunch we had a lecture on team tactics and then Apparition practice. (I say, sorry, Sally-Anne! Bad luck they've started us on that and you're not here. Will you be going to Grimmauld at all in the next two weeks, I hope?)

Ron, Harry, is that when you selected our teams, after that? Dash it, the day's already a bit of a blur. Well, we had teams (and good form, both of you, in mixing things up a bit) and then Professor Dolohov took one group and Auror Desai took the other, and we each had to retrieve something from an area that had been laid in traps.

I say, we all thought that would be all for the day but they surprised us and made us go through *another* exercise! This time we each had to work to disable the other team's leader (so, Professor Dolohov was Ron's team's target and Auror Desai was Harry's--er, our team's, what).

Then after supper this evening we talked about the day's activities.


That's frightfully sketchy, what, but I haven't the strength to write in detail. Besides, I rather think everyone ought to be given the chance to tell what happened.

I say, when do those of you who've got it plan to 'learn' Apparation? If we're meant to be practising it for the whole fortnight, what, I suspect we shall have to continue *not* to do it properly at least into next week. I rather think that might be as bally well dangerous as actually learning!

-Justin

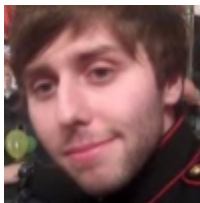
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 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-13 03:46:42](#)  
(no subject)

So, yeah. You're right, F-F. I think it's good we're not all of us on one side. Should keep us from setting off signals to Dolohov and Desai that we all know each other a bit too well, yeah? I mean, we'll still have to be careful. Not to know things we shouldn't've had time to talk about, but I think we're well used to watching out against that sort of thing.

How funny was it when Desai told Dolohov he's old before his time? The look on his face!



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-13 04:16:37](#)  
(no subject)

Ron,

I say, it was fierce enough to make one think twice about twitting him, what!

But I'm certain Sally-Anne's right and he knows we were at the Department of Mysteries. That lecture about fighting in close quarters? Also, I hadn't had a chance to say yet: He pulled me aside for a moment and seemed inordinately pleased I'd decided to come--an indication of the fact that I've 'decided' to continue in Noble Arts, what, as well as Defence. He said he hoped he could demonstrate to my satisfaction that the advantages of 'closer training' outweigh any doubts I might have had in the 'immediate aftermath' of the end of term.

I say, it was similar to the sort of thing he wrote back when I asked him why he changed my enrollment. Don't worry, I shan't whinge about that; it's simply that he already knows some of us were there but you're quite right: There's no need to make it obvious who *else* was along.

Oh, and before I nod off completely: Well done, on that aerial approach this evening.

-J



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-08-14 00:36:57](#)**  
(no subject)

I can't speak for the rest, of course, but I for one am really interested in anything you have to report about how the week goes. I intend to pick your brains about what you've learned all I can once we're back at

school.

You're right; this is stuff that would be really dead useful for the Order's purposes.



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-08-14 04:30:45](#)**  
(no subject)

Neville,

Happy to oblige, old man, but to be honest we've been driven so hard it's all a bit of a blur, what.


More flying this morning; I say, the Quidditchers have an advantage over the rest of us for formations and such.

This afternoon, we were taken to separate places and had to join up with our teams again and then we raced back to the camp, where Professor Dolohov had provided some incentive for the winners. There were obstacles, however.

I say, Ron, well done for the winning tactics. I'd no idea Thomas could present such a credible threat!

-Justin



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-14 04:53:25](#)  
(no subject)

Cheers.

I said over on my own entry that it was a fair shot you took me out with. Well played, yeah?

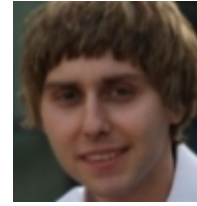
And Thomas. Who knows. He was a mess in the first exercise. I mean, he was the one on our side that figured out the traps were dead simple and didn't need much of anything to disable them, but then he was so pleased with himself he got caught by one he should've seen. And then, out of the blue, he's the first one to make it to me during the second exercise and he's got this brilliant scheme he wants to try. And it was rather brilliant. I mean, I wouldn't have thought of sending someone to try to lay an ambush back at the finish. But there you have it. Thomas doesn't think like the rest of us. Not like the Slytherins and not like any of the rest of us, either. And no doubt about it, he's best looking out for himself.

**2013-08-12 22:58:00**

*Private Message to Miss Hydra Lestrangle*

Hullo, Dux,

I say, we all arrived safely this morning, but from the moment we did, they've had us rushing about: Flying, fighting, exercising.



 [alt\\_justin](#)

They've allowed us to start learning to Apparate ahead of the other rising-6<sup>ths</sup>, what! I say, that ought to give us a distinct edge in the year to come.

I've been put on a team with Harry, Linus, Daphne, Pansy and Ernie, which means we've one fewer person than Ron's team. At least for the time being, what--it sounds like they might switch things round a bit later on.

How are you? I miss you but I hope when I'm back in New London, our guardians will allow us to meet.

I say, one thing about these exercises is that I doubt I shall have any trouble whatsoever falling asleep tonight!

Yours,


-Justin

**2013-08-13 22:03:00**

*Private Message to Aurelia Archer*

It's lovely to hear from you, and I really wish I had time to write here or owl but I just can't. They're working us really hard this week and I have to be more focused than I've been. Not to be paranoid or anything--but I think it's possible that we might need to use some of this stuff for real eventually.



 [alt\\_susan](#)

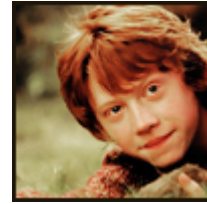
But we should have a wonderful long tea or something when I get back and tell each other all the news--I'll miss those teas when I go back to school in the fall. It'll be odd to be limited to these books and owls and the odd Hogsmeade week-end.

Ta for now!

**2013-08-13 23:23:00**

*Good show!*

I think our side should be proud tonight, especially you, Thomas. I mean, yeah, Desai had a point about the risks of your going off alone, but I think we made a good case for it being worth a shot and your being especially well suited for slipping past the others right at the start when both sides were still trying to find each other and form up. It was a lark watching you take them out, too, once I was dead and back in the mess waiting to see how it was going to play out.



 [alt\\_ron](#)

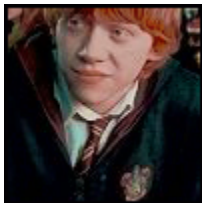
And Finnigan: you came through and made it worth sacrificing to get you sprung, so, yeah. Good show.


Bones: don't feel too bad about going down early. That happens. I mean, it could have been any of us getting surprised in the confusion at the start. They're right, of course, that we all need to be extra focused at the start of these things, but that's what we're here to learn, innit? And, anywiz, you were solid in the first exercise, right? It was Finnigan who went down to that first trap and Thomas, but they were in top form on the next outing. So tomorrow's your day, yeah?

The rest of you were solid. Malfoy, you especially. I think it was the right call we made at the end, don't you? And Patil: you've got eyes on all sides of your head, don't you? We were lucky to have you watching all angles.

So, yeah. Well done, mates.

Cheers.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-08-14 04:44:01**  
(no subject)

And cheers to the rest of you lot, too. Harry, mate, it came straight down to the last wand. Well fought!





 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-14 04:46:45](#)

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

F-F. No hard feelings you took me out. It was a fair shot, and I couldn't defend it.

Watch your back tomorrow, though!

Heh.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-14 04:53:49](#)

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

Ron,

I say, jolly good. I did think you had your guard ready but--well, as you say. We're bound to hit one another now and then, what.

It seems as if Finnigan, Thomas and Zabini haven't been entirely intolerable for you. Is that so?

-F-F



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-14 05:02:37](#)

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good  
Private Message to Finch-Fletchley*

Bit hilarious how my side ended up, yeah?

I was serious about taking Malfoy. I mean, letting Harry have him would just have been daft. So then the rest sort of fell in from there because I wanted people who would work well together, which meant people who would work well with him, yeah?

Obviously, I was trying to duck having either Thomas or Patil, but Harry outmanoeuvred me on that. I didn't figure he'd take Daphne when he did. Shame about that.

And I'm pretty sure Dolohov and Desai thought it was advantage to our team when we won the coin toss and got the extra man. But, yeah, Thomas pulled his weight this afternoon, so maybe they

were right.

I expect they'll switch us around tomorrow, anywiz.



**alt\_justin at 2013-08-14 04:55:46**

*(no subject)*

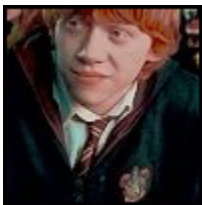
Ron,

Indeed, congratulations and well done, all of your teammates!

(And thanks for sharing the bounty, what! I say, a bit of sweets were just the thing after such a long day.)

Thomas: I'm well impressed. I feel certain Harry and Pansy were about to win it for our side, if you hadn't been there to stop them. Good form, old man.

-Justin



**alt\_ron at 2013-08-14 05:27:56**

*(no subject)*

Cheers, F-F.



**alt\_padma at 2013-08-14 05:12:48**

*(no subject)*

I suppose that's one advantage of being a prefect. But it wasn't all that helpful later.

Don't worry, Zabini and I will make sure that doesn't happen again. ~~He's just got to not try to help~~

Anyway, I was well embarrassed we got eliminated so quickly, but it was useful to watch the others try to come in to the target zone.

Honestly, though, *where* did you get the idea about those twine bundles? They work but we need to refine it a little.

Maybe in the morning there'll be time to try some modifications.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-14 05:33:07](#)

*Private Message to Padma Patil*

Cheers, Patil.

Oh the charm strands? I was just thinking about how we could use blood magic to link all of us together, so I don't know, I figured knots on a piece of twine would be an easy way to do it. And that part works fine. I mean, I wasn't ever quite sure I remembered who had the green knot and whose was the puke yellow one. Well, yeah, actually I do--that was Thomas' colour, but you know what I mean. Still, it was useful to know who'd got eliminated. And they did help all of you find me at the start.

I still think they'll be good for other things, like warning a teammate that something's about to attack them and which direction the danger is. That's why I had us wrap them round our wands--so they could give a tug to show direction, but you're right we haven't got that working very well yet. We just need to sharpen up the charms on them, I think.

(Privating this since there's no reason to give away our devices to the other side, yeah?)



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-14 05:16:52](#)

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

Not sure when I've been this tired. But still totally keyed up. Well, yeah. I do know. It was at the end of that night at Ministry, and I reckon that was worse.

Has to have been. Only, now this feels like the most exhausted ever. Phew.

It's all fine.

I've got Malfoy, Finnigan, Zabini, Patil, Thomas, and Bones on my side... and I picked them. Isn't that mad? Well, I got Thomas on a coin toss, since there weren't even numbers.

But they were the right ones to choose. We've come in ahead of the other lot in pretty much everything. And more than shown skill on the things that weren't competitions.

It's not right without you here, though. You'd be excellent at this. Of course, I'm not sure how the selections would've gone, then. I think I'd still have taken Malfoy first since I had first go. I wasn't going to let Harry have him. But then, if Harry'd taken Justin like he did yesterday, then I'd've taken you second. Instead of Finnigan. And it might all have gone differently from there. But Harry might've taken you with his first pick, and then we'd've ended up on opposite sides. Which... would be interesting, wouldn't it? I'd probably lose every gambit because you know too much about how I think. And you'd love that.

Heh. Maybe it's not such a bad thing you're not here to help Harry win!

Teasing.

Really, it reeks you're not.

Guess I'll just have to go off and have a sulk.

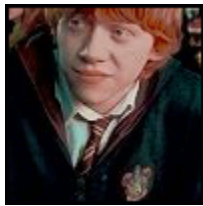


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-14 13:35:41](#)

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

Funny that you and Draco make a good team after all.

Any tow-row-rowing yet?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-14 15:03:18](#)

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

Ha!

Zabini broke out into tow-row-row yesterday when he took out one of the traps.

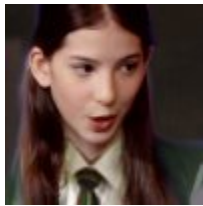
You'd have found that interesting, actually. First exercise yesterday, they blindfolded us and took us out into the woods a mile or so and told us to get our teams back to camp. And the orienteering part of that was a breeze.

But of course they'd set traps for us. They were these small sort of homunculous things that appeared out of nowhere practically--I mean, out from behind a clump of fern or down out of the leaves above us or out of a knot in a tree or swooping in like a bird or floating up out of a stream--they came from every direction but the first ones took us completely by surprise. Until we got the idea of where they might be. And they were aiming marking spells at us, which, if they got you, you were 'dead' and an elf popped in, told you that, and took you off to the mess tent to wait for everyone else to finish.

So, anywiz, at first we were throwing really major curses to block the traps from hitting us or to destroy them. Stuff that takes a lot out of you to cast, y'know? But then Thomas realised that basically any spell would neutralise them, and he started larking about showing us that Wingardium Leviosa or a tipping spell or a spinner or even something nonsensical like Alohomora or Aguamenti would make them go limp. And then, of course, one got him right on his silly arse.

Eh. I've got to go again. They got us up at half-six this morning and had us out flying. And then it was exercises with Desai (which is not at all like Umbridge leading it) and meditation with Dolohov. Then a snack and a bit of lecturing and a short break, which is why I had time to write. Now we're going to have Apparition training, so we're back to it!

More later, yeah?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2013-08-14 15:25:02

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

How long are you going to wait before you get the hang of apparating?

**2013-08-14 07:16:00**

*Private message to Auri*

Dear heart,

I imagine you have already seen the messages from the children about their week thus far, but I wished to drop you a line anyway and let you know that things are going exceptionally well.

We are having a very pleasant time of it -- working hard, of course, but with good cheer. (Let me not have just hexed us.)



 [alt\\_antonin](#)

I am certain that the question of the programme remains a sore spot, as it would with me had my hard work been as ill repaid as yours was, but should you wish to visit one evening this week, and see how magnificently the children have risen to the tasks we have set for them, you would be welcome. Savitha and I would quite enjoy your company, I am certain.

I do not yet know how much input I will have on the programme for the remainder of the year; Savitha has entirely more time to apply to the project than I do, of course. She and I have spoken about our goals, however -- particularly with the older children -- and are entirely in agreement that the children could do with a challenge that inspires them to their best. (As to that, remind me to tell you about Mr Weasley's performance. Not unexpected, given the glimmers of competence he has displayed both inside the classroom and without, but this week has been the first time I have seen him set his mind so firmly to achieving a goal and bringing his entire skill set to bear upon a problem, rather than doing the bare minimum to get by. It has been delightful to watch.)

I mention this not to taunt you, but to let you know it is likely I will have at least some small influence on the agenda to be set for the remainder of the year. Given our past discussions, on the things the Hogwarts curriculum sadly lacks, if there is something you would wish included, Savitha and I have much more room to act in entirely autocratic fashion than you ever did. By which I mean: dear heart, I know how frustrated you have been, these past few years, and I know there are no doubt reams of plans and wishes for the CCF that you have tucked away, knowing they would never pass the committee. Savitha and I have made it plain to the committee that we will not suffer interference in our vision or with what we think best; if you would care to capitalise upon that insistence, I for one would welcome

your input. (And as for Savitha, you may rest easy: she is someone I trust to nurture individual talents without attempting to crush individual tendencies. I have few qualms about entrusting our ducklings to her care.)

Should you still be smarting from the blow to your pride, mind you, we shall say no more of the subject.

Your,  
T



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-08-14 14:46:38](#)  
(no subject)

Toshenka -

I have been reading, yes. And beyond that, Linus has written to me, and he is being so very much himself, and so very enthusiastic, and so very bubbly about how fascinating it all is. I'm glad the weather seems to be far more agreeable for you than other camping trips of unlamented memory. (Last year, that is.)

Honestly, I had to think about your invitation: you are right it is still an exceedingly tender point. (And in truth, I have been sulky the past few days, and trying not to take it out on anyone, because, really, none of the people who deserve to deal with my being sulky are within range.)

But, in keeping with my "if it bothers me that much, I should do something about that" approach to other problems, perhaps I should come out and visit. Is there a night that is better than others? (This week is rather open, barring whatever Raz suggests for amusement: next week, I've got plans Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday - the first two for tea onwards, and the latter in the late morning and early afternoon.)

You are equally right that I have notes on things I could not manage to arrange, but I've got them here, so that would be easy to thumb through.

I also admit I am rather looking forward to being back at Hogwarts, where I feel I can be properly useful. (As Tamsin at the Archetype said to me recently, I am clearly not made for a life of lesiure. She offered me a day harvesting in their farm fields, which I declined, but



still.)

But the year is progressing in that direction, and we'll be there soon enough.



 **alt\_antonin** at [2013-08-14 15:31:12](#)  
(no subject)

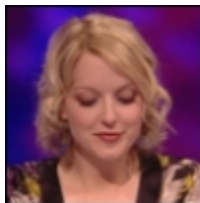
I have been thinking fondly and wistfully of Hogwarts myself. Though for different reasons than you: I have much missed having the children to tutor; they at least listen to me when I tell them that something is an exceptionally bad idea.

(I will explain that in more detail when next we meet!)

Any evening this week would be fine for a visit. Tonight will likely be more entertaining for you: we are beginning an exercise just after lunch that will run until the wee hours, or whenever the little darlings decide they are finished. (It is a retrieval exercise in which they are allowed to set their own goals, and decide for themselves when they have achieved sufficient retrieval.) As directions would be difficult, simply call Berry when you'd like to join us, and she will convey you. I do suggest after supper, whichever night you choose; we are feeding the little darlings, but the food is decidedly uninspired by any stretch of the imagination.

Savitha wishes me to let you know that you are welcome as far as she is concerned, as well. And I believe it is likely to be a clear night, if you'd like to make some observations, although I cannot imagine the viewing here could be better than it is at the usual locations you have available to you...

Your,  
T



 **alt\_sinistra** at [2013-08-14 16:02:17](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, dear.

I mean, I was aware - the world being the world - that there there are people who do not recognise your sense of forboding disaster and who might not listen to it, but



I am sorry you have been having to deal with them. I do look forward to the explanation.

Tonight, then, if that's not too rushed. (Would either you or Savitha care for some supplemental rations? One of my successful projects this summer has been convincing the elves here that my cooking is not an insult to their skill, and I have been soothing my sulkiness in the kitchen the past day or two.)

As to observations - well. Rather less of that in the summer than might perhaps have been sensible, but the lure of evening after evening with Raz has largely won out over being up until all hours. (That, and my Guild's politics have made going out to the country Guild Hall a tad delicate in places, or at least requiring more time politicking rather than observing. You'll find more than a little of that interesting, actually, when we've a chance to talk it through.)

Plenty of astronomy, mind, just mostly of kinds involving desks rather than telescopes. So, yes, thank you, stars would also be lovely. And we are still at the tail of the Perseids, which are always pleasant viewing.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-08-14 16:25:47](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, then, I would much enjoy a chance to listen to you explaining why the Perseids are interesting, should we have the chance. (It will all depend on how late the little darlings decide to push their work; Savitha and I have hidden nearly a thousand of the tokens they will be seeking, and we will explicitly be telling them that they are to keep searching until they feel they have made a proper showing. We are interested in seeing how they define success, and how much they are willing to sacrifice now in hopes of future reward: we will be telling them only that the tokens will be useful later, not how they will be useful later, and letting them decide how many they wish to collect. If they can keep from being 'killed' and having their tokens taken, mind you.)

And you need not feel that you must bring anything other than your charming company, but if you should so happen to have extra products of your kitchen that have not been spoken for, I for one would not say no. Berry has been doing her best, in between serving as general dogsbody for this endeavour, but I do so hate

to ask too much of her.

I shall see you tonight, then, little star.

Your,  
T



 [alt\\_sinistra](#) at [2013-08-15 15:45:37](#)

*(no subject)*

Toshenka -

Thank you again for a surprisingly pleasant evening. I'm very glad I came, both to have a chance to settle myself properly (I am fairly sure Raz thanks you even more than I do) and because watching them figuring out when to stop was so exceedingly informative. They are diligent, that lot.

(Also, I will treasure the expression on our Mr Moon's face when he got close enough to see me sitting with you in the mess tent. I do enjoy expanding his assumptions about the world in unexpected ways.)

Getting a chance to talk more with Savitha was also very interesting - of course, my younger siblings had her at school in the 80s, but I was never quite sure how much of Theo's response came from what (she is so very charismatic, but also so clearly excellent at her work, but of course teenage wizards do tend to notice the former more than the latter at times.)

And it was fascinating to hear you two discuss the different approaches you're taking in some of your pieces. I am not only reassured that the CCF is in excellent hands, but am wishing you'd had the running of things from the beginning, really.

(The CCF, compared to the YPL, was always even more bogged down by planning by committee, and unlike the YPL, they assumed I had no idea what I was doing at all, beyond the basics of keeping people fed and housed. Having only two people, largely in agreement about the goals and with the authority to make things happen, naturally works far better. That old joke about a camel being a horse made by committee applies, anyway.)

Should you require another supply of baked goods, do let me know. Or if there's other errands I can help with. And if you do have time free, the week before we go back, we'd obviously love to have you to supper, and to show you the new duelling space in Spence.

**2013-08-14 20:58:00**

*Order Only: Followup on the altercation at Stretton Estates*



 **alt\_bill**

At Severus' suggestion, I checked with my source in MLE to see if I could learn more about the group that Ron and Sally-Anne caught sneaking into a field at the Stretton Estates to pilfer Diviner's Mint. My excuse for asking was that Mum, being the overprotective sort, has been wittering over whether it would be safe for Ron to continue accompanying his-girlf Sally-Anne Perks on her patrols around the borders of her foster family's property. Therefore, *entirely* to reassure my overprotective Mum (sorry, Mum), I wanted to know: has the entire group been caught? Does MLE know who they were?

My source apparently accepted that, but was a bit coy; she said she'd trade for the information. She wanted to know where Sally-Anne had stashed her wand so that the people who seized her and Ron didn't find it initially. Well, naturally I can't tell my source about the Institute's very clever bracelets. So I've stalled for the moment, and told the source that I'd check with Mum, to see if Sally-Anne or Ron had given her any more details.

Ron and Sally-Anne, what did you tell the Enforcers who responded to the MLE patronus about the wand? I don't want what I tell my source to contradict anything you've already said. Perhaps I could admit that somehow you shielded it with a Notice-Me-Not spell, although I'm a bit wary of suggesting that you use something like that. What do you all think? It might raise suspicions we don't want about your propensity for hiding things--unless you can think of an acceptable excuse. Anything come to mind?



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-08-15 04:03:46**  
(no subject)

BuggeBother. I told the Enforcers I hid it under my robes and hoped no one would enquire too closely, and they were excited enough about catching crooks and finding illicit potion ingredients and all the rest that no one asked me too many questions.

Tell her I put it in a discreet purse I use for carrying supplies for my


monthly visitor. Which I DID have under my robe so it wasn't a lie. (I mean, tell her that, I didn't really have a purse under there but if she's a woman she'll believe I had one.) I didn't want to get into the details with the MALE Enforcer who was interviewing me so I didn't offer details he didn't ask for.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-15 04:06:21](#)**  
(no subject)


Also you can say I told your mum that bit and that's how you found out. I mean it would be awfully weird me telling that detail to my boyfriend's older brother who I barely know if I lied to an Enforcer but I might have mentioned it to Mrs Weasley because women understand that sort of thing.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2013-08-15 04:16:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Quite right, dear. I'll be happy to be your alibi!



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-08-15 04:21:53](#)**  
(no subject)

That's quite a clever solution. And one I would never have thought of myself, being the average type of clueless bloke about these sorts of things. Thanks.

Oh, and if you do have a purse like that, you should expand it so it's big enough to hold a wand, and put a Notice-Me-Not spell on it, too. Just in case my source passes this along to her superiors, and MLE decides to stop by to doublecheck the story. I seriously doubt they will, but let's cover that detail, just in case.

(And thanks, Mum, for being our go-between on this theoretical conversation. Because believe me, I'd be rather embarrassed if I did try to conduct it myself in person.)

**2013-08-15 00:07:00**

*Private Message to Barty*

My dearest of children,

While I am busy this week, it is possible one or two of the researchers at Mysteries I have been concentrating on wooing might stop by for a consult. If you are there in my absence, do put on your most helpful scholarly seeming, hm? I am fairly close to talking my way past the visitors' labs and into the confidences of at least one cabal, and the more we are able to appear as nothing more threatening than a resource to be tapped, the more likely they will be to slip into seeing me as nothing more than doddering old Professor Dolohov.



 [alt\\_antonin](#)

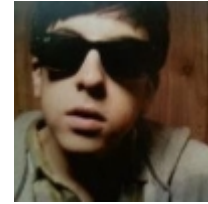
(Savitha and I are enjoying ourselves entirely too much, meanwhile. If you've time later in the week, do join us; the little darlings could use a more practised opponent to test themselves against.)

Your,  
T

**2013-08-15 00:22:00**

*Private Message to Professor Dolohov*

As per our earlier conversation, I am submitting my analyses for grading.



 [alt\\_linus](#)

This was my analysis of today's token-gathering exercise, as near as I can recollect the exact wording as delivered to Harry and the rest of the team:

Professor Dolohov said: "The goal is to collect as many tokens as possible."

If the goal is for me to collect as many tokens as possible, I can allocate my time to finding tokens, to taking tokens from other people, or a combination. Obviously, taking tokens from other people is a superior choice there, as long as I can successfully increase my own token-per-hour rate significantly over what it would be had I just been harvesting.

However, Professor Dolohov said, "The goal is to collect as many tokens as possible." Not individually, and not even by team. It is my experience that Professor Dolohov views misdirection by telling the truth as a sport. Therefore I suspect we will at some point all be on one team, and furthermore that this is where the tokens gathered will be useful. If that is the case, then we must maximise our total token gathering, regardless of who gets the most individually or by team. In fact, under this scenario, allocating any person-hours to capturing tokens rather than gathering them is a grave error. Even if the other team takes them away, gathering would still be the best strategy -- if I am right.

Maximising that strategy by informing the other team is an option best left up to the team leader.

There is another possible strategy, but I am strongly disinclined to recommend it, as I do not think that even with both teams participating we could capture both Professor Dolohov and Auror Desai and induce them to tell us where all the tokens are.

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 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-08-15 05:07:14](#)**  
(no subject)

Mr Moon,

You are correct that you would not have found Auror Desai and I to be easy targets, though I would have been most amused had you tried!

And quite an interesting analysis. I will not provide you any more detail than that, lest I provide you an improper advantage, but it is intriguing to see the ways in which your mind works.

I trust, meanwhile, that you are sleeping soundly by this point; you all have quite an eventful week ahead of you.

Regards,  
Professor Dolohov



**2013-08-15 00:50:00**

*Private Message to Ron*

Ugh. So fucking tired. I really need to stop letting Zabini and Thomas get to me.



 **alt\_susan**



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-08-15 05:17:14**

*(no subject)*

Sorry about that, Sue. Thanks for taking it well. Your ideas for spells to find the tokens were loads better than Zabini's or Thomas's combined. And they really were complete horses' arses about not listening to yours.

I hope you saw the look Thomas got when he heard Zabini muttering about halfbloods. I think he'd convinced himself that he and Zabini were going to team up and convince the rest of us to follow whatever they said.



 **alt\_susan** at **2013-08-15 05:31:02**

*(no subject)*

It was all the Hufflepuff-bashing during the discussion on sharing resources that really got me going.

The halfblood stuff I can mostly write off as Zabini being Zabini (and I hadn't seen Thomas's reaction--that's interesting) but people slagging my house for no reason. That's not on.

And really, the most devious plan isn't always the best one--sometimes it is but not always.



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-08-15 05:18:17**

*(no subject)*

I hope we didn't quit too soon, but it did seem we'd found all the ones that we were going to tonight.

And I'm all in. Already asleep, I think, really.



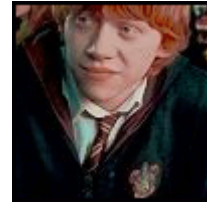
 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-08-15 05:32:31](#)**  
(no subject)

Same. See you too bloody early in the morning.

[2013-08-15 15:41:00](#)

*Private Message to Sally Anne Perks*

Oof. Okay. Loads of stuff to tell you, and I'm so knackered I don't know if I'll remember it all. But at least I've got time to write. Um, I'm sat here in the middle of the forest being held prisoner by some bloke from MLE. Angus MacSomethingorother. Not a bad chap, but not much of a talker.



 [alt\\_ron](#)

Anywiz, last night after the longest day ever, before we could go off to bed, Desai and Dolohov said Harry and I had to come talk to them and they said we each had to pick someone on our team to take over command for us. Well that was easy for me, at least. Obviously, I picked Malfoy, and then they made me give all my reasons. Also dead easy: I picked him because he's a natural leader. He pretty much expects people to do what he says, and they do. I think he was probably giving orders to people as soon as he could talk. (I didn't actually say that last bit.) I told them he was my choice because I chose the rest of my team specifically to work well alongside both me and him. I mean, I'd already sort of factored in that if anything happened to me, the others would follow Malfoy and stick together as a team.

Anywiz, today when it was time to form up for the afternoon session, which they'd told us would be a search and rescue thing, Harry and I got called out again, and they told us that we're the ones our teams have to search for and rescue.

So this nice MLE bloke's here to fight off anyone who finds me and make it difficult for them to rescue me. Mind you, he's also supposed to protect me if anyone on the other side tries to come snuff me before my side can get here.

So all I have to do is sit around all afternoon and wait to see what my mates can manage.

At least we got rid of Thomas. I didn't even have to think about it when they said I needed to pick somebody to give the other side so they'd have the extra wand for a while.

You know, he wasn't bad at first, and he even helped us win one of the exercises, but yesterday he made a complete arse of himself. Didn't like anybody else's ideas and was especially rude to Bones. So much

so she finally got really fed up and told him off. And, really, Sue's ideas were as good as anyone else's.

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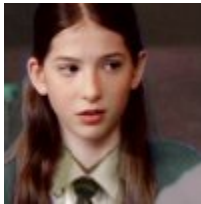


 **alt\_ron** at **2013-08-15 20:44:26**

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

Needed MacMLE to see what I was writing. That's why it's just a PM.

And now he wants to twit me about writing my girlfriend. Nice. So I'm going to keep doing it. And he can just sit there and watch me.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-08-16 02:17:11**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good Private Message to Sally Anne*

So did you notice Bill's Order post? His 'MLE contact' wanted to know what I did with my wand to keep it hidden. Which is frankly a really weird question to ask BILL, I mean, why wouldn't this person come ask me if she wants to know? I mean the people from MLE can come ask me whatever they want.

Not that I'm complaining.



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-08-16 20:05:23**

*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good Private Message to Sally Anne*

Sorry I couldn't write back yesterday.


MLE haven't come to ask you more questions, have they?

And why were they questioning Bill? That doesn't make sense. They know where I am. Or they could if they cared to find out, yeah?

What are you doing this week, anywiz? Bored without me?

I'm definitely not bored, but I'd rather be with you than here. How's that for a compliment?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-15 20:46:39](#)  
(no subject)

So for yesterday's big competition exercise, we had to find a whole load of wooden tokens that they'd hidden. I mean, there must've been 700 or 800 of them, maybe. Not that they told us how many there were, mind you. But we were supposed to collect as many as we could, each team.


Anywiz, we started off pretty much talking it to death. Arguing over strategy--like should we set some people to go kill people on the other side and steal their tokens (because that was allowed) and should someone be the healer for our group (because we could 'heal' people who'd been hit with the marking spell that meant you were 'dead'). Or. Should we pair up and one person search and the other stand protection? And they'd heal each other if one got hit. Or. Should we just search and not worry about what the other team was going to do except to be watching out for attacks?

For a while, Zabini and Thomas were arguing that we shouldn't worry about finding tokens, we should just stake out the return paths and ambush the other side when they came back at the end of the day to take all their tokens.

At least I convinced them that was a sorry strategy and that we really needed to find every token we could. I mean, the thing is, there was a lot we didn't know about these tokens, except Dolohov pretty well hinted that they'll be part of another exercise sometime. And see, the fact that they wouldn't tell us how many they'd hidden out there... that bothered me. And I started thinking what they might be planning to do with the ones we didn't find. I mean, we had no idea what charms they'd put on them, right? And they could totally have put charms on that had nothing to do with today's exercise. Charms they could activate later to use against us, if you see what I mean.

So I got them to agree that we had to try to find all of them and not quit until we did. No slacking off, so letting the other side do all the finding wasn't the right strategy. I mean, if Zabini wanted to try to ambush the other side, that was his lookout, but he needed to be finding as many as he could, too. We all did.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-15 20:47:03](#)**  
(no subject)

What would you have used to find a bunch of wooden tokens? We started with the obvious (because why not, right?) so we tried 'Accio Tokens in the Woods!' Which, yeah. We figured that wouldn't do much because you need to know pretty specifically where a thing is before you can summon it. And none of us really expected it to be that easy.


We did get a couple that way, though! I tried it on particular trees later on and got a fair few with Accio.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-15 20:56:46](#)**  
(no subject)

I always start with Accio because why not?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-15 20:47:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Zabini suggested Imperiusing Bowtruckles to retrieve the tokens since they probably watched Dolohov and Desai hide them and they'd be sure to know exactly where anything was that'd been hidden in their trees. But we never did get close enough to a Bowtruckle to try that out.

Probably the best ideas came from Patil. She worked up a spell that could detect some of the magic that'd been put on the tokens. For a while we were just pulling them in, but they weren't all charmed the same way and so that spell kind of ran out on us. Even after Malfoy thought of a way to tweak it and make it draw another batch. Her other really good idea was to use a summoning rune, and that worked really well on one particular kind of token that we'd only found a few of up till then.

Anywiz, we worked our arses off for hours past dark. Oh, and we ended up with a truce with Harry's side, anyway, because they kind of came to the same idea that it was really important to find as many as we could. I guess Moon did some sort of analysis on the way Dolohov phrased the instructions and he figured we were going to need to use the tokens later and that it was more important to find as

many as we all could than to worry about which side got more. So that was fine. At least we didn't have to waste time hunting each other and fighting.

I think Dolohov was sort of amused about that whole peace truce, though he didn't really say. And I'm not sure what Desai thought of it. It was too late for a debriefing last night and they had us up and flying at half-six again this morning, so we didn't do it then, either.

Mostly, I just want a nap now. Writing about all of it's made me dead sleepy.

And who knows when my lot will find me.

So, yeah. More later.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-15 20:55:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Well this is a brilliant long letter and I'm sorry I didn't see it earlier.

The Strettons had me take Gemma and Phillip shopping today in New London. Right now I've got them running around at a park and I sat down under a tree.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-16 20:11:11](#)**  
(no subject)

Sounds nice. Did you get school things for Phillip? What about Gemma?

Anything for yourself?

**[2013-08-15 15:42:00](#)**

*Private Message to Cedric Diggory*

Hey. I'm sort of stuck here all day. My team has to rescue me. It's okay, but I can tell the MLE person who's supposed to watch me is way bored. I don't think he's said anything at all since he got here.



 [alt\\_harry](#)

Anyways. The stuff we've been doing has been good, mostly, and we're learning all sorts of stuff. We're even getting a jump start on apparation training, which is sort of ace.

Hope your mum isn't driving you too nutters.



---

 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-08-15 22:07:44](#)  
(no subject)

**Things are fine at the moment. Mum took Jaspur into town to get school supplies, even though they aren't his Hogwarts supplies it mollified him somewhat. Though I caught him packing a bag yesterday evening. He said he was just 'playing.' I put a locator charm on it after he was asleep though. I think he may try and 'run away to Hogwarts.' No idea how he plans to get to New London though or how he's fool the hat or anything at all, but well he's ten.**

**Have they rescued you yet? I was off at yet another appointment, so only just saw this.**

**At the end of the month they're going to do an evaluation to see if I can really start the job with P Antonin and start working on flying again. I really hope it goes well.**



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-15 22:46:58](#)  
(no subject)

They found me.


And yeah, better keep an eye out. Kids think they can get away with anything when they're that age.

You'll do fine.



Do you want to do any training when I get back? To get ready for it?



 **alt\_cedric** at [2013-08-16 02:56:45](#)

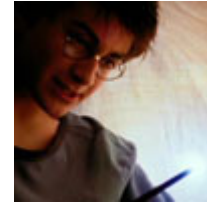
*(no subject)*

**I'm not supposed to be flying yet. I've poked around at kiddie brooms, but none of them will take my weight. I think I'd be too bloody tempted to fly for real if the broom weren't locked down. They're worried about seizures or "sudden magical convulsions" brought on by moving too rapidly through "magical variances" in particular ley lines and they want to do some stress tests to make sure it won't happen before I fly again. As I don't want fall off my broom while twitching I'm following their advice.**

**I'm planning to stay up and make sure he's not doing anything stupid the night before and I'm planning to ~~order~~ ask Jenni to get up extra early to make sure he doesn't sneak out then. She'll wake me if he's too determined and won't listen to her. I don't want to worry Mum, she thinks the shopping took care of it. I think he used it to get his 'Hogwarts supplies' and is now biding his time.**

**[2013-08-15 15:45:00](#)**

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



So. Where are you?


I told my person I was writing Cedric. I don't think he cares much as long as it's not someone else on my team.

 [alt\\_harry](#)

He looks like he'd rather not be here. I don't blame him, I guess.

---



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-15 20:56:06](#)  
(no subject)


Yeah. Mine's sort of a scruffy-looking bloke. I thought they made Enforcers keep their hair trimmed and sharp-looking.

Maybe that's why this chap got sent out to work with us.

And, yeah. I've been writing Sally Anne. I mean, I think she's off at Grimmauld maybe. Or maybe the Strettons have her working there today, but it's not too likely she's sitting around thinking I'll be writing her.

I was thinking of writing you in a bit, actually. Trying to decide if we should take advantage of the lock and just tell our teams where we are. I mean, they could still wander around for a while before they 'find' us, but at least it wouldn't take so long? I don't know. This isn't really so bad. As long as MLE haven't stunned them all. I mean, are our teams really competing with each other or fighting enforcers?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-15 21:02:55](#)  
(no subject)


I don't know. I guess it's sort of like what Linus was talking about with the tokens. Like whether we needed to just all get as many as we could, or stop other people on the other team from getting more.

I think if we found a way to talk to our team without tipping anyone off Dolohov won't see it like it's cheating, maybe? Just sort of being

clever? But if we make it way too easy, it might be suspicious.

Whatever we do, though, we should both do it.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-15 21:12:43](#)**  
(no subject)


Yeah, well. The biggest problem is not letting anyone find out about the lock. We can't afford to have Dolohov or Desai guess we've got a secret way to communicate that's not anything like the comms spells they were teaching. And that's something we're not doing with our teams, really.

I mean, it's dicey enough sitting here and writing with two different kinds of ink, yeah? With an enforcer sat three feet away.

But, well. We also don't want Zabini or Thomas or any of them to get suspicious, either. Especially Daphne. Because I think she has half an idea about it already.

So. Right. I think we shouldn't use ISS unless it gets really late and we haven't been found. I mean, I don't want to lose because my team let me get 'executed' at sundown. But that's hours off still.




 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-15 21:23:35](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah.

That works. I mean, to leave it alone unless it gets really last minute.

What do you think they'll make us do next? With the tokens? It was sort of weird how they made Thomas keep his separate like that.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-15 21:34:37](#)  
(no subject)

Excellent question.

For one thing, it looks like you can't count on Dean being on your team for long. But if he's not, then maybe the teams will get broken up. Or we'll be asked to each name some people to give to a new team along with Dean.

Ugh. I hope they don't make him leader of a third team. That would be... Well, we'd all have to watch our backs.

I still think the thing about the tokens may not be so much what we have to do with the ones we found as what Dolohov and Desai might do with any of them we didn't find. That's why I was so keen to stay out until we'd got them all. Or all we could possibly locate.

Speaking of locators. I think D&D warded me to neutralise the locator charm my team's been using. Otherwise, they'd for sure be here by now. I'm not that far from camp. Unless they scattered everybody all over the forest and made them find each other first. But still. If that's the scheme, they'd have found their way to me and that's how they'd find each other.

Anywiz. About what we'll have to do next... seems like things are getting more serious with each day and the kind of fighting the exercises mean us to do. First we were 'killing' each other, but able to come back in the game pretty quickly. And then it was a longer time to lay out if you got killed. And then the thing yesterday about healing... they'll probably do that again and try to make it so we can't really get out of the killing and healing bits, right?

I really want to know what D&D thought of our truce. It's sort of unnerving that there wasn't any debriefing last night or this morning, yeah?

And today, they've got enforcers to fight. That's a big step from us throwing marking spells at each other.

What might they have us doing next week?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-15 22:02:56](#)  
(no subject)

That's what I'm worried most about.

Like, it's funny, I don't think I'd have trouble if we were in a proper duel with someone, even if it meant we'd probably get our arses handed to us.

But if they have us doing stuff to Muggle people


you know

People who can't fight back

Or they put us in a place where we might have to seriously hurt each other


I mean, we're already sort of being careful, you know? You could tell Patil and Macmillan weren't happy with the order they were picked, but Macmillan's stayed pretty quiet about it, like if he said anything someone would yell at him or something.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-15 21:28:28](#)  
(no subject)

You've been doing really well, you know. Your team, I mean. I think we're all really sort of even. Which is good.



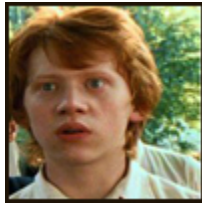
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-15 21:39:13](#)  
(no subject)


Thanks.

We worked really well together the first two days. Yesterday, though, was dicey.

How do you think F-F will do, leading? I mean, I know Malfoy will step right in, and if anyone can keep Patil and Zabini in line, he'll do it. And Finnigan will be glad it's Malfoy not me he's got

to take orders from. And Bones is solid. She'll follow anything reasonable.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-15 21:50:43](#)  
(no subject)


Your team's got good people on it, and I bet it's loads more pleasant working together with all of them.

That's another thing that was peculiar last night, actually. I mean, my team was really divided about how to go about the task. Loads of good ideas about magic for finding the things, but I've got all the Win at Any Cost people. Heh. And they really cared about whether we were going to end up with more tokens than your lot.

But then. D&D just hung up the sacks but didn't count or weigh or measure or say anything at all about who won.

That was odd.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-15 22:05:55](#)  
(no subject)

I think they've still got Pink Toad on the brain. The Win At All Costs people, I mean.

And it's not like they've ever had to take real big risks before either.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-15 21:52:02](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, say!

Something's up.

Angus McScruffybeard's just snapped to attention. I think someone's closing in on us.




 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-15 22:10:18](#)**  
(no subject)

What's happened?

Did they get you? Did anyone get stunned?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-15 22:16:45](#)**  
(no subject)

Actually, it was your lot first. And then mine came along pretty fast after that. Did you see F-F sent a PM to Malfoy? Told him where to find me. (You might want to have a talk with him about winning!)

Anywiz. There was a bit of scuffling. I'll tell you about it when you get here.

I'm just relaxing in the mess tent with a plate of biscuits. I'll save you some.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-15 22:21:26](#)**  
(no subject)


Good.

And yeah. Well. I mean, we're sort of figuring out how much we should work together, aren't we? So it's okay.

I think as long as he has a good reason for doing it, they'll listen.

It's sort of nice to know we won't get horribly punished for trying different things this time around.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-15 22:24:23](#)**  
(no subject)

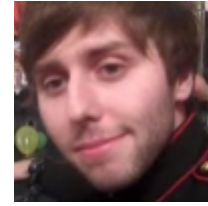
found me

**2013-08-15 16:50:00**

*Private Message to Draco Malfoy*

Draco,

I say, our team came across Ron. He's being held near that bally well huge oak with the half-moon-shaped knothole above the third branch, what. Do you remember it from Monday? It was just where Auror Desai caught up with Professor Dolohov--the first time, what, not where she bested him.



 [alt\\_justin](#)

It's about ~~half a kilometre~~ a quarter-mile SSW of the central camp. There's a bearded MLE chap with him.

Daphne had a blue scarf which we've tied at the top-most limb of a birch tree just north of the place. If you fly over, you should be able to land there with jolly good cover to investigate for yourselves.

If you'd like us to help in the rescue, I say, let me know and I'll ask a couple of mine to assist.

Good hunting, old chap! If you lot aren't in camp already by the time we free Harry, we'll come back and get Ron as well.

Cheers,

-Justin



**2013-08-15 18:00:00**

*Private Message to Blaise and Seamus*

I told you it wouldn't matter that we were losing Thomas today! Good riddance, actually.



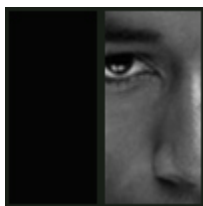
I think we're well ahead of the others. Don't you? Especially since Lines had the same idea, that any attacks on each other yesterday would be a total waste of time and effort.

 [alt\\_padma](#)

Anyway, now if Bones will just shut her bleating, we can almost ignore the fact we've got Weasley back as captain.

(In fact, I thought we sort of already *did* ignore that!)

What do you think Siz was doing here last night? Honestly. Does she think people actually miss her? If Astronomy weren't so important for Arithmancy I'd have dropped it along with History. Lakshmi knows I could use one fewer lesson on my timetable! But the difference in CCF this year versus when she was in charge is absolutely amazing. (Last year was a total bore for CCF, of course, it was all about the Junior Council. Which was fine, as far as it went, but I mean, honestly, *this* is what CCF is supposed to be!) I guess it had to get to a point where the really *elite* people were the only ones left. Imagine trying to run these exercises with Smith or MacDougal - or worse, Stebbins, Hopkins or Summers!)



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 [alt\\_blaise](#) at **2013-08-15 23:19:31**  
(no subject)

Too right about Thomas. Honestly.

And we're doing fine, getting round Weasley. At least he's interested in winning, if not, perhaps, by any means necessary. But then, that's what he chose us for, obviously. (What was Finch-Fletchley thinking today, handing us Weasley's location. I was sure it was an ambush, but there he was just as F-F said. Whatever. It's his lookout and Marvolo's if they don't care about winning.

The best of it is, we're back at a decent time tonight. I suppose they'll have us up even earlier tomorrow.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-08-16 02:40:49](#)**  
(no subject)

Sometimes I think Finch-Fletchley's read too many of those old Wensleydayle Wizard books. You know, the ones where everyone goes round saying 'Toodlepip!' and visiting dowager aunts in the country and all that. Like, he wasn't actually raised here so he thinks he needs to be more English than the rest of us, or something.

But if he's going to keep handing us victories in the name of 'fair play' or 'good form' or some weird sense of honour, I'm not going to tell him to stop!

So long as he's on the other team. I mean, really the question should be, what was *Harry* thinking, putting him in charge?

**2013-08-15 19:23:00**

*Private Message to Narcissa*

Dearest, trust you and Hydra can attend tonight's performance on your own; unfortunately some matters require attendance. Have decided to dine here and work straight through; will likely be unavailable until well into the third act.



 **alt\_lucius**

Nothing to trouble you: Just correspondence that must be completed before week's end.

**2013-08-15 21:40:00**

*Private Message to Sally-Anne*

I'm so tired I can barely keep my eyes open. We're getting on well enough, though. It's hard work, but it's useful work, not just tow-rowing. Ron is doing fairly well. I sort of wish he'd push Harry a bit more, because he tends to sit back a bit otherwise, but our group is getting on well enough.



 [alt\\_pansy](#)

I miss you like mad.

By all rights, you ought to be here. You would be brilliant at all of it. I mean, I know I'm holding up my end of things, and I don't feel like I'm the weakest link in the chain, but you'd be really and truly one of the better people here. And we wouldn't have an odd number either. Thomas is getting shuffled from group to group, and it's all a bit awkward.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-08-16 04:48:37**

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

It's funny, but most of the time when we're learning things, I'm filing it away as something that we could use with the Order.

And we're all sorting out when we ought to 'learn' how to Apparate. We're holding off until someone else gets it properly first, I think. I mean, we probably ought to talk about it on the lock just to make sure that's what we're about. It's sort of hard to stand there and look like you're trying to concentrate, but to make sure you do the opposite, so you don't pop in the circle without thinking.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-08-17 05:28:08**

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

I ran into a boggart today and it was

I miss you.

I wish you were here.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-19 03:54:24](#)

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

I hate not being there with all of you.

**2013-08-16 15:40:00**

*Private Message to Harry and Justin*

Er... These do work, still, right?

So. Don't go into the rowhouses along the south end of Elm. They're connected in some sort of maze-thing. It took an hour to find the way back out again. And no parchment.




 [alt\\_ernie](#)

Are we still meeting at the fountain in the square at half-four?

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 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-08-16 22:01:54**

*(no subject)*

Good to know.

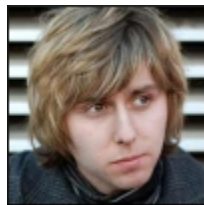
thanks.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-08-16 22:02:45**

*(no subject)*

We're running late but we'll be there soon.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-08-16 22:07:49**

*(no subject)*

Harry,

I say, I think Greengrass and I have found the parchment. But it's in a house infested by Boggarts.

There were at least three, at any rate.

Corner of Cumberland Road and Rutledge Street. It has a red door, what.

-Justin

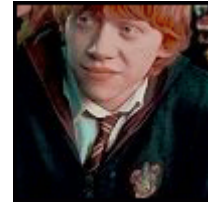
**[2013-08-16 17:16:00](#)**

*To My Lot*

Anything new?


Any sign of the other half?

Zabini. Check in. Or Patil. You're the only ones I haven't seen this hour. If you haven't answered or stopped up to the check point in the next fifteen, I'm sending someone after you.



 [alt\\_ron](#)



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-08-16 22:49:12](#)  
(no subject)

Keep your hair on. We just haven't found anything, but we're not done in this monstrous house. This one's thick with spider webs and it's got some sort of nox charm on it we can't break.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-08-16 22:50:32](#)  
(no subject)

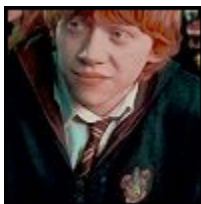
Ugh. This house is totally *disgusting*. And I keep feeling like something's crawling on my arms.


I'm about ready to just go back to camp and tell them it's not here.

Unless.

Do you think....

Hey. What if *they* have the other half already? I mean, if they found our half and they kept it for themselves?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-16 22:59:10](#)  
(no subject)

I don't think Marvolo would do that. Unless they found it and thought it was theirs. But I don't think they've been into our territory at all. I haven't seen any of them or any sign.

Keep searching.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-08-16 23:01:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, send someone to help, then. There are three other houses on this block we still have to check.



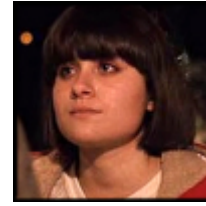
**2013-08-16 18:49:00**

*(no subject)*

There is a boggart in the building with the hammer on the sign.

I couldn't manage to take it out right away, so I just left it there.

So keep an eye out.



 [alt\\_pansy](#)



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 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-08-17 01:55:58**


*Private Message to Harry and Justin*

They really told us we can't go forward until we found the second half?

If we're not careful, it's going to get dark soon.

Looks like the others are in the same place we are.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-08-17 02:05:13**

*Re: Private Message to Harry and Justin*

Come on in.

Their half matches ours. Ron and Patil met up with me and Linus in neutral territory and asked to test theirs with ours, and it fits.

We still have to do some decoding though.

**2013-08-16 19:05:00**

*(no subject)*

We've solved it. Both teams have.

Everyone who's still out can come in.



 **alt\_harry**

**2013-08-17 14:13:00**

*Private Message to A Dolohov*

Batya.

Arranged with Peel to join her group on Wednesday. May persuade Travers and Braithewaite to come along as well.



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

Anything I could bring you?

---



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-08-17 22:23:49**

*(no subject)*

Oh, that should be quite amusing. I'll let Savitha know the children will have some worthy opponents, at least. Wednesday is the last day before the grand finale begins; if you'd like to stick through to the end, you would no doubt only improve the final few days.

Bring whichever of your underlings you think would make a merry time of it. And a spare cot if you'd like to stay, of course. My tent has room.

Your,  
T

**2013-08-17 16:07:00**

*Private Message to Narcissa*

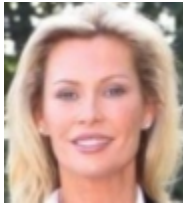
Think it's high time we hosted a reception for Our Lord's newer initiates. Perhaps shortly after Tosha and Savitha finish with the CCF students and Draco and the others are home.



 **alt\_lucius**

Will you see to the arrangements? Up to you whether it's at Kensington or the Manor.

Be sure to include Julius Avery. With any luck we can make sure of his support before anyone else - though given who witnessed his Mark, it seems unlikely.



 **alt\_narcissa** at **2013-08-17 21:18:23**  
(no subject)

Well, if you wish, dear, but - are you sure about Julius? When did this happen, in Court yesterday?

How soon? It shall have to be Kensington if it's in the next fortnight. Remember Fergus is working on the courtyards and gardens at the Manor and it shan't be in any proper shape for guests.



 **alt\_lucius** at **2013-08-17 21:21:47**  
(no subject)

Last evening, apparently. Ursula came to see me this morning, unannounced; she'd just found out. Our Lord asked the Mulciber brothers to witness the happy event.

Under the circumstances, as soon as possible would probably be wisest. Had forgotten you've had Cooper back in again while the boys are away. Fine. Kensington, then. It doesn't matter.




 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-17 21:27:13](#)  
(no subject)

What's wr - oh. Yes. Did Ursula .... That is, had she known Julius aspired to the Council? Did she say anything about Gaude's reaction?

Oh, but dearest, I'm afraid 'As soon as possible' may be after the children go back to school. We've already planned a salon evening for next weekend and I couldn't possibly cancel it now. I'm sure combining the two would be a complete disaster.

I suppose we *could* frame it as a going away party for Draco, Harry, and Hydra? The last Saturday in August, perhaps? Would that do?



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-08-17 21:33:40](#)  
(no subject)

What other reaction could Gaude have but pride?

Would prefer you reversed the two (why not cancel? Never mind. Sure you have your reasons) but if that is the earliest opportunity then so be it. Imperative Toshenka be able to attend, however, and Rizzer and the others. We can discuss the invitation list this evening.

When do you expect to be home?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-08-17 21:40:08](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, of course. I'm sorry your peaceful morning was disturbed.

I do have reasons, as it happens. If you like we can discuss who among your guests might mix well with the ones I've selected to entertain Hydra. Perhaps there *is* a way to combine the two, or at least to arrange that the young people you need to see are included earlier than two weeks from now. Would that suit?

As for coming home, very shortly. Hydra and I have had a

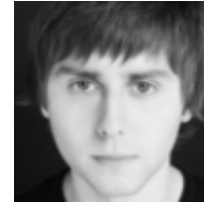
marvellous day but it's well past teatime and we're both starting to feel the need for cakes and fresh fruit. But her new robes look adorable and we found a new hat and shoes that are simply divine.

I may have bought a few other little things, too. And I even found you more of those shirts you like.

We can talk once Hydra's had her tea, my love.

**[2013-08-17 20:59:00](#)**

*Private Message to Harry*



 [alt\\_justin](#)

Harry, old chap,

I say, I'm bally well completely exhausted. Sorry for Apparating prematurely, what, I think I...just wasn't thinking about *not* doing it, if you follow me.

But congratulations, old boy, on managing it this morning! And well done, making them think you're ahead of all the others. That ought to help you in certain circles, what?

At least I don't think I shall have a single moment's trouble falling asleep. I say, I could barely keep my eyes open during the debriefing!

-Justin



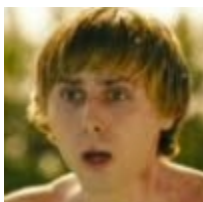
 [alt\\_harry](#) at **[2013-08-18 03:51:46](#)**


*(no subject)*

I didn't mean to. I mean, it just sort of happened. I didn't know how to not do it, so I did. If that makes sense.

I guess it's okay. I don't think anyone would guess that we'd been working on it for as long as we have.

You sure you'll be all right tonight? ~~I know you didn't~~ Anything I can do? Pans looked well worn out too. And Daphs. I think boggarts just sort of stay with you like that.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **[2013-08-18 03:57:45](#)**

*(no subject)*

I say, Harry, one week is hardly all that long! It's not at all surprising you'd get it before anyone else, though.

I shall be quite fine, cheers. I think I'm still a bit keyed up, what, but perhaps some meditation will help me relax.

-Justin



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-18 05:18:12](#)  
(no subject)

Right. It seems a lot longer than that, doesn't it?

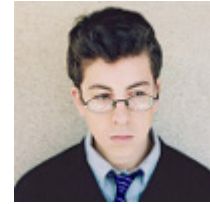
Night, Justin.



**2013-08-17 23:43:00**

*Private Message to Lav*

Am almost too keyed up to fall asleep, so I thought I'd take quill in hand and dash off a quick missive. Today we had an exercise in which our goal was to avoid being caught by some expert colleagues that Professor Dolohov had brought in. (I don't think Auror Crouch was among them, but I could not positively swear to it.) Much occurred, and most of it far too complex to detail here, but I am able to triumphantly announce that I made it to the end of the exercise without being captured and "killed" by those we were evading. You may laugh, but it was the simplest spell ever. Do you recall the theatrical glamours we have used at Hogwarts for various productions? After our group ~~hiding place~~ fortification was rendered insufficient and we all scattered, I spent the remainder of the exercise perfectly peacefully, sitting next to a ruined Muggle house in the empty village where today's challenge took place, disguised as a medium-sized piece of shrubbery. It was quite comfortable, and though several of the Professor's squadron ran past at various times, none of them actually tripped over me. Thus I remained fortuitously undiscovered, and spent the portion of the exercise recalling some of my favorite Arithmancy texts.



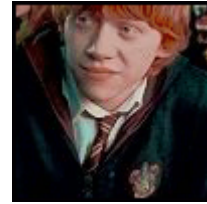
 [alt\\_linus](#)

I hope this finds you well, and that you are looking forward to our return to dear old Hogwarts as much as I am.

**2013-08-18 10:04:00**

*Private Message to Sue Bones*

Say. I've been thinking about what you did yesterday, Apparating for the first time just when we needed you to. That was terrific.




 [alt\\_ron](#)

I told D&D we'd used Apparition, by the way. I figured MLE knew it the second time, so it was probably going to come out.

It'll be nice not to have to pretend I can't. I really thought I was going to splinch myself earlier this week, trying to avoid doing it!



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-08-18 17:40:27](#)  
(no subject)

Since I really *couldn't* before hopefully they'll think we both just had spontaneous breakthroughs.

It was pretty snitch though! Just appearing right on the other side of that big hole and knowing we had a hideout.

**2013-08-18 16:49:00**

*(no subject)*

CCF: If you don't fancy being hunted all afternoon, what if we all hexed each other at one go? We might get to relax the rest of the day.



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-08-18 16:57:00**

*(no subject)*

IM GOING TO SEE HOW I DO AGAINST MLE  
SO I FIND OUT WHAT I NEED TO WORK ON.  
WHOEVER WANTS CAN TAKE THE DAY OFF  
THOUGH.



 [alt\\_galleon](#)

**2013-08-18 16:59:00**

*(no subject)*

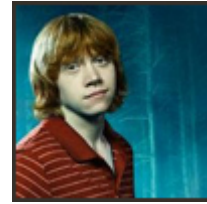
WOT? Do WHAT YOU WANT. IT'S EVERYONE FOR  
THEMSELVES TODAY. I'M IN to WIN.



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-08-18 21:45:00**

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



Um.

Sue. I'm sorry I got you into this mess.

 [alt\\_ron](#)

So I did a stupid thing this morning. I wrote Sue a private message about stuff we'd done yesterday, and I needed to write it so Thomas and Finnigan could see I was sending a PM because they were around and could see I was writing.

Anywiz, I didn't even think... and I was writing about Apparating because Sue did it yesterday for the first time while we were paired up for an evasion exercise, and I wanted her to know I reported to Dolohov that we'd both used it during the exercise since neither of us had done it in lessons yet. But I said something about that meaning that we could go ahead and do it in lessons today and not have to try not to...

And long story short, we got back to camp tonight and both of us had got notified by Magical Malfeasance that our private messages revealed we'd confessed 'self-tutoring an age-restricted magical skill without benefit of permit or proper instruction'.

And. It's worse than that because the notices were delivered in the afternoon direct to Professor Dolohov and Auror Desai, so they called us in and gave them to us. Well, Desai talked to Sue and Dolohov took me aside.

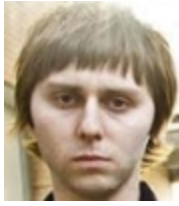
He wasn't cross. Actually, he said he was impressed I'd been trying to learn magic above my level--he said it showed I was taking initiative. And he told me not to worry because he wrote the office of Magical Malfeasance for me and told them I'd had his permission to study Apparition independently during the summer. So it should all be taken care of.

Only, that makes me worry a bit. If you know what I mean.

And it really was stupid.

Stupid. Stupid. Stupid.

---



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-19 03:48:30](#)  
(no subject)

Ron,

I say, rotten luck. As it happens, I Apparated yesterday as well, but when I wrote to Harry I tried to make it sound as if we'd talked about trying to Apparate if those MLE chaps came after us, what.


When Harry started talking about having practised for so long, what, I was worried someone might be reading. I made sure to stress that a week wasn't very long at all and that Harry's clearly extraordinary for managing it first of all of us.

I say, I expect whomever was reading the message must have believed it.

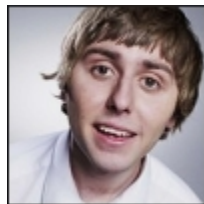
Do you think that'll be the end of things for you, then?


-Justin



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-19 04:04:29](#)  
(no subject)

Thanks for covering for me.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-19 04:05:54](#)  
(no subject)

Harry,

Not at all, old man. It's bally well surprising what fatigue can do, what!

Oh, I say, you're the one who said you'd rather take on MLE and see how you fared. Were you pleased with the results?

-Justin



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-19 04:11:08](#)  
(no subject)


It's hard to tell. I mean, they weren't really putting everything into it, were they? And it was just stunner spells. So nothing really tricky.

I took one of them by surprise, and had an exchange with another that lasted a few minutes before he got me.

So.

Could be a lot better.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-19 04:18:14](#)  
(no subject)

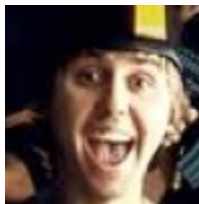
Still, not bad, what? Did you try Apparating again?


-Justin



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-19 04:18:58](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, that's how I took the first one.




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-19 04:21:02](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, I say, good show!

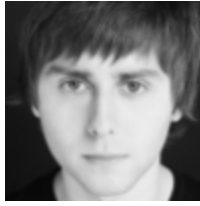
-J



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-19 04:04:56](#)  
*Private Message to Justin*

You all right then?





 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-19 04:09:06](#)

*Re: Private Message to Justin*

Me? Yes, of course, mate.

Cheers.

-Justin

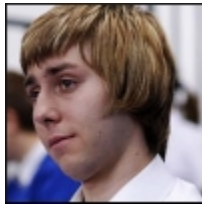



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-19 04:13:00](#)

*Re: Private Message to Justin*

I guess we're all well knackered.

Although it does take talent to fit in a nap while things are exploding nearby.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-19 04:15:38](#)

*Re: Private Message to Justin*

I really hadn't meant to fall asleep. Well, that is, if everyone had decided to call things quits, I'd've been happy for the rest, what, but it made no sense if others weren't interested in rebelling against the exercise.

In fact, I'd thought to watch Auror Desai and Professor Dolohov while everyone else was out, perhaps challenge Desai one of them and then when they eliminated me, at least I'd be close to camp, what!

-Justin



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-19 04:18:33](#)

*Re: Private Message to Justin*


Now I didn't think about that.

I wonder what it'd be like to have a duel with Auror Desai.

Even if she was holding back a bit, and just using stunners. I bet it'd be something.

We ought to ask for some really proper duelling sometime from Sirius and the Longbottoms and Kingsley. I bet they'd hand us our arses, but it'd be worth it, just to see if we could get in a few ourselves. You know?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-19 04:28:23](#)

*Re: Private Message to Justin*


Yes. Quite.

Do you think Sirius would agree to hold something like that at Grimmauld? I mean to say, we'd do a great deal of damage.

From Terry's descriptions, Moddey Dhoo would be perfect. And then Lisa Turpin and the others could also participate. Oh, but Sirius.... Has he ever explained to you why he'll not go to Moddey Dhoo? I say, I don't quite understand it. It's not as if he's not on good terms with anyone there, what?

-Justin



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-19 05:13:00](#)

*Re: Private Message to Justin*

No, he hasn't said why.

It'd be a good reason for us all to go there, though.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-19 04:38:32](#)

*(no subject)*

It sounded as if that's all there'd be.

But Pansy thinks they'll have written Mum. Magical Malfeasance, I mean. Not Dolohov.

Ugh. Now that would be bad. Dolohov writing Mum.

She'd have kittens.




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-19 04:53:40](#)  
(no subject)

I don't think he would do, do you?

As for MLE, well, as Sally-Anne says, it can't be that serious an offence, surely?

-Justin

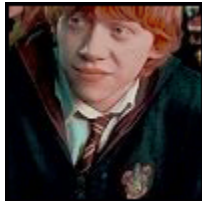



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-19 05:00:40](#)  
(no subject)

No, I don't reckon he would. At least I hope not, because it would seriously send Mum round the twist.

And MLE, well. I think the people in Magical Malfeasance just like sending out letters that lecture people for being eejits. They used loads of long words and sentences that took three or four inches of parchment.

I'm just hoping there's not a Howler from Mum in the morning.



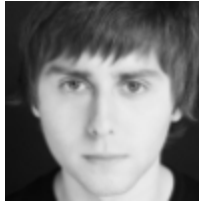
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-19 05:05:17](#)  
*Private Message to F-F*

Say.

Are you all right? I mean, it seems like you haven't been sleeping too well.

Until this afternoon, anywiz. Did you really fall asleep out there?

Only, they might give you something to help you sleep if you need it.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-19 05:15:13](#)

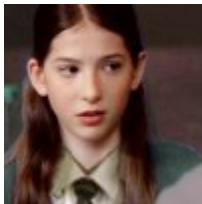
*Re: Private Message to F-F*

What? Yes, of course, old chap. I'll be fine.

I've...not been disturbing anyone else, have I? I suppose I *was* bally well exhausted. I told Harry, I hadn't meant to fall asleep, what, not at all.

I'd rather not ask for anything, cheers. I'm sure I'll be all right.

-J



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-19 03:52:14](#)

*(no subject)*

Are they going to tell your mum?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-19 04:15:40](#)

*(no subject)*

I'd imagine they would.

Although there hasn't been a howler yet, or a 'the world's going to end' post from Bill, so I suppose everything's all right for the time being.

I think loads of people practise for Apparation early. Not just us. So it could've been a lot worse.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-19 04:34:25](#)

*(no subject)*

You think so?

Blast.

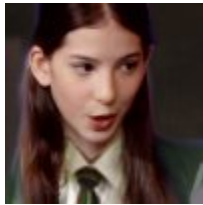


 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-19 04:33:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Ugh.

Why did you have to say that? I hadn't even thought-  
I'm really not thinking straight at all.

What an eejit. Seriously.

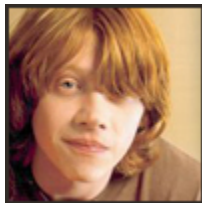



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-19 04:44:34](#)**  
(no subject)

Well if you haven't got a Howler yet you're probably safe.

And if they went to Dolohov first, you're also probably safe. I mean if he was tutoring you then it's fine.


And even if they do go to your mum, no one really cares THAT much about teenagers trying to Apparate before they're old enough for a license. I mean the worst case scenario is splinching, it's not like you'll hurt someone ELSE.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-19 04:52:14](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah. I've heard of people getting written up for it before. Can't remember what happened to them, though.




 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-19 04:03:38](#)**  
(no subject)

I was stupid too. I was tired, I guess, and just assumed Justin'd written under the lock.


I guess we'll all just have to be a bit more careful.  
Especially this week.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-19 04:33:56](#)  
(no subject)

No lie. I think we're all beyond tired.



 **alt\_susan** at [2013-08-19 14:11:09](#)  
(no subject)


Sorry--I fell asleep early last night and then couldn't get away anywhere private this morning.

Don't feel too badly--I wasn't exactly thinking sharp there either.

To be honest I didn't think they monitored PMs for stuff like that--I mean, unlicensed Apparition is like breaking the Firewhiskey age statutes. Everyone says they don't but a lot of people are well fibbing! I thought they only checked for really criminal or treasonous stuff.

Now I'm worried about Aurelia's and my PMs--we never said anything outright. but someone looking for something to disapprove of would totally find it.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-19 14:22:40](#)  
(no subject)

Ugh. Yeah. It does just make you paranoid, doesn't it?

I mean, I don't spend a lot of time thinking about people reading my private messages, because they're always under the locks. Except while we're here because you have to worry people will get suspicious about what we're writing. At school, I just pull the curtains or only use one ink at a time and anywiz, people aren't ever paying so much attention there because there's so much else to be doing, but here... Well.

Anywiz, it was a stupid mistake and I'm really sorry it included you.

I wish I could say don't worry about Aurelia, but who really knows

what they'll nose into?

I don't know anyone who'd really disapprove of you and Aurelia, though. You know? I mean, I know why you'd think that so I guess it's obvious some people do, but not very many, yeah?



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-08-19 14:28:57](#)  
(no subject)

Some really pureblooded people do--or at least they disapprove of being open about it--cos it might take away from getting married and having lots of babies like proper witches and wizards ought.

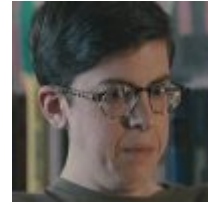
And I'm afraid that those are the kind of people who might be monitoring PMs--it doesn't help that I'm nowhere near Aurelia's league according to them. And there's the whole thing with her uncle too.

**2013-08-18 22:17:00**

*Private Message to Linus Moon*

Well, that was embarrassing.

Note to self: Improve stealth skills.

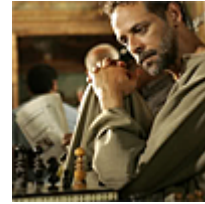


 **alt\_linus**



**2013-08-19 00:37:00**

*Private Message to Ron Weasley*



Mr Weasley,

While I am more than happy to run interference with the insufferable bureaucracy for any of my more promising students, in the future it might behoove you to alert me ahead of time; had the notice not been delivered when I was at hand to be made aware, I would likely not have been able to step in before you had been penalised.


 **alt\_antonin**

That having been said, if any of your cohort have been likewise practising Apparition outside an official aegis, neither Savitha nor I will enquire too closely should there be a string of Apparition successes tomorrow morning: the quicker you all pick it up, the less time we will need to spend on instruction, and can move along to imparting other useful skills.

Allow me to say, meanwhile, that both Savitha and I have been most pleased with your performance this week. You have the making of a fine field lieutenant; should you be interested in a career course in which further developing those skills would suit, or even find that you enjoy the experience, I would be happy to work with you independently throughout the next few years.

Regards,  
Professor Dolohov



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-08-19 13:11:00**  
(no subject)

Thank you, Sir.

It was kind of you to talk to them for me. Only, I didn't expect your help. I would have taken the punishment, especially as it was my fault they discovered I'd been trying to learn on my own. I couldn't really have told you they were going to cite me, since I really didn't realise I'd said anything that would bring that on.

Which was very stupid of me. I recognise that. It wasn't the sort of sharp thinking a leader should show. Especially because I drew one of my squad into trouble along with me.

I understand that you and Auror Desai may be reconsidering my role as a team leader.



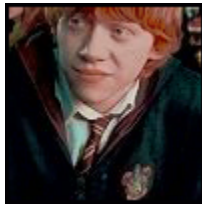
 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-08-20 03:58:40](#)**  
(no subject)


Think nothing of it, my dear boy. Few among us have not had the experience of a slip of the tongue at an inopportune moment -- when we have a moment free, remind me to tell you the story of the time a misplaced bookmark once nearly got me killed.

Discretion in trying circumstances can be learned *ex post facto*; strategic gifts such as yours are, I have found, partially innate. And initiative, of course, is a pearl of great price.

Do get some sleep tonight; I suspect none of you are thinking entirely clearly.

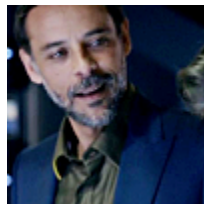
Regards,  
Professor Dolohov



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

No doubt about that, Sir.

I'm planning to take some time to think over the offer you made us--Harry and me--tonight. I need to think through the consequences as well as the benefits.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-08-20 04:13:35](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, of course -- that is why we let you both know a few days ahead of time, after all. There are positives and negatives to both options. Mind you, I have been quite intrigued by how well you've handled certain of your team members throughout; I am well aware there are, shall we say, historic tensions between several of them. You've done quite well in forging a workable unit out of highly disparate personalities.

In fact, this entire exercise has been most illuminating. It's always interesting to get a chance to get out of the classroom and into the field, is it not? We will have to take the chance to run some similar exercises throughout the year.

Regards,  
Professor Dolohov

**2013-08-19 08:27:00**

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

If you haven't Apparated yet, don't learn this morning. Dolohov's looking for people to all of a sudden 'learn' today. He'll think it's a sign you were secretly working with me and Sue. Which you were, so don't help him figure that out, yeah?



 [alt\\_ron](#)

Sorry.

Really sorry.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-08-19 20:20:25**

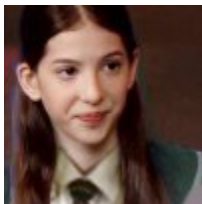
*(no subject)*

Noted.

And what's done is done. It's going to be just fine.

I mean, who knows, Seamus might've got special training on the side too.

I guess we've all bee careful about the private messages for a while now, but it's sort of scary to know that they really are reading all of them that closely.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-19 20:49:41**

*Private message to Ron*

Your Mum found out, didn't she?

(No one ever uses your middle name unless they're really, REALLY cross.)



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-08-20 03:34:01**

*Re: Private message to Ron*

Yeah.

She totally did.

We were out all afternoon, though, running this mad sort of race to

carry courier packets from one place to another and then on to a next and next and next stop. With directions that were full of holes and inaccurate maps. And MLE hunting us. And shrubberies and trees exploding to try to 'kill' us.

So I didn't see Mum's messages until a little while ago. And then I had to go out and stomp around a bit so I wouldn't say something that'd make it all worse. And now Bill's trying to sound like Charlie? Yeah, I don't think I ought to answer him at all. Because one or the other of us will say the wrong thing quicker than you can blink. You can bet on it. I'm just really too tired to deal with family stuff. Especially when it's totally my fault they're cross.

How are you?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-20 03:37:47](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron*

Tired. Jeremy and his parents had an enormous row last night and then Gemma got me up too early this morning.

Sorry everyone's cross. It's not like you let anything all that terrible slip, you know? It's not that unusual for people to try to learn Apparation early. If you'd said 'how fortunate we had Sirius Black as a tutor!' you'd have remembered to put THAT under the lock.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-20 03:51:12](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron*

What were they rowing about?

Yeah. I would have done. Or, really, I just would never have said anything about him at all this week. I'm seriously paranoid that someone's going to get suspicious about one of us writing under the lock. That's why we're all trying to remember to write plain private messages, you know? But that just makes it more likely I'll slip up.

Ugh. And we're all so tired we're just about falling over.

But it's actually quite a lot of fun, too. Don't tell Justin I said so, though. He's always trying to get Harry and me to play crosswise

to the rules Desai and Dolohov give us so the exercises don't run the way they planned. He's the one that sent the galleon message yesterday about stunning each other all at once, so we could all be 'dead' and go back to camp and rest for the remainder of the day. I think he doesn't like that it's all about winning and losing--well, and 'killing' each other. Or maybe he just wants to make things difficult for Professor Dolohov.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-08-20 04:09:04**

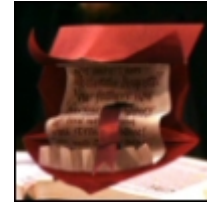
*Re: Private message to Ron*

I can imagine he likes the idea of tweaking Professor Dolohov.

Seems like a waste of an opportunity, though.

**[2013-08-19 11:10:00](#)**

*ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Ronald Bilius Weasley*



 [alt\\_molly](#)

Imagine my surprise, Ronald, when I received an owl from the Department of Magical Transportation, levying a fine on me because you've been blithering on to your friends about practising apparating. Oh, and look, Magical Malfeasance has countersigned it, too. And the fine is ten galleons!


If you're going to TALK about apparating on the journals, for goodness sake, at LEAST put it under a lock that the Ministry can't snoop through!

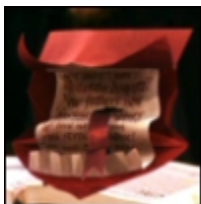
Thank goodness you were only talking about something that could be explained away as teenage BRAINLESSNESS, rather than TREASON! Do you realize what would have happened to all of us if you had mentioned, oh, that you were getting apparition lessons from Sirius?! We let you into the Order because you assured us that you could be trusted! And this is how you repay us?


There will be some extra chores when you get home. Count on it.

Be glad that you aren't doing them in Azkaban!



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-08-19 19:12:40](#)  
(deleted comment)



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-08-19 19:47:37](#)  
(no subject)

**I just had another owl drop a notice on my head. This one reads:**

***'This notice has been sent to inform you that an amendment has been made to the file regarding Incident Report No. 5484MT941-0 (regarding Unauthorised Apparition Attempt by an Untrained Minor) indicating that this Incident is now marked as***

***Resolved as Authorised, pursuant to the permission of Antonin Dolohov.***

***The fine, however, is still applicable, due to your failure to obtain Permit No. 63589 (Application for Permission: Apparation of Minor Without Full Certification). Receipt of payment must be within thirty days, or additional penalties shall accrue.'***

**ANTONIN DOLOHOV?! ANTONIN SODDING DOLOHOV?!!**

**RONALD BILIUS WEASLEY, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!!!**



**[alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-20 03:24:44](#)  
(no subject)**

I'm sorry, Mum.

About the money, too.



**2013-08-19 20:51:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good: Private Message to Hermione Granger*



 [alt\\_harry](#)

Hey.

How are you?

Are you doing okay?

They're keeping us really busy here. I've got to plan for a trip we're taking that'll last for a few days, and make a list of supplies and all, and I really wish you were here because you'd be really good at thinking about this sort of stuff.

Did you see what happened to Ron? And how he got in trouble for his private messages. And the Order's been talking lately about how some people at the Ministry were trying to read Draco's and

it just made me worried, is all. About what could happen. If they read ours. Yours mine and Draco's, I mean. And what would happen to you.

Anyways. I've been thinking about that. About a lot of things, really, but that's the thing that could get really bad really fast.

Let's just say I'm really glad you know how to Apparate.

It still makes me nervous, though.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at **2013-08-20 04:17:40**  
(no subject)

We've been nervous about it for a while, though. I mean, the Ministry can look at anyone's Private Messages, anytime it likes. It's just political fear that keeps them out of yours. And you know they've always looked more at the messages *to* you than the ones you write, or the ones you write back and forth to me and Draco and your other friends.

I've been going to Grimmauld nearly every day and I talked about what happened with Mr Lupin. He said that even if they had a

hundred people reading private messages, all the time, they couldn't check everything. The most likely thing was that Ron's just got sampled randomly, and they happened to find something. I mean, we know they can do that. That's why the twins made the lock in the first place.

I think we're still safe, those messages, I mean, for now.

Anyway, I'm all right. I'm just glad no one thinks of looking for me when you're not at Buckingham. And that Ellie always offers me supper because I figure the less people see me the less they *will* think to look, if that makes sense.



 **alt\_harry** at [2013-08-20 04:26:36](#)  
(no subject)

Okay.

That makes sense. About Ron. That it was just bad luck. Because it's not like they think we're a real danger.

I'm glad you can go to Grimmauld every day.

That's good.



 **alt\_hermione** at [2013-08-20 04:22:44](#)  
(no subject)

Anyway, how has it been? It sounds like you're doing loads of training. Is it useful?



 **alt\_harry** at [2013-08-20 04:30:19](#)  
(no subject)

I think so. I mean, it's a lot of work, and everyone's tired, but it's not supposed to be easy.

And it's not pointless, or mean, or really massively unfair like the Pink Toad's stuff.

And sometimes it's sort of fun. Like today, we were using codes, and sorting out maps, and carrying courier packages to checkpoints

only we couldn't get caught, and it was really brill when we got through the whole thing without losing one.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-20 04:38:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, it sounds like you'll have loads to share when you get back.

What do you have on your list for your trip so far? Could I help come up with items you might want? And did they put a limit on what you can take? I mean, you could ask for a charmed carpet bag that would hold loads more with a featherweight charm and an expansion spell on the insides.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-20 04:50:58](#)**  
(no subject)

See, that's why you'd be brilliant.

All they've said is that we need to take everything with us, and it'll be for a few days. So food, shelter, clothes, and we need to be able to take it with us.


And I don't think there's a limit on what we can ask for. I guess if they think it's too much, they'd say, and I could make changes.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-20 05:01:37](#)**  
(no subject)

Well. Apart from the expandable bag, you'll want spell books. And like you said, food (an endless pantry, if you can get one) and a tent for your team (and make sure it has a proper bathroom because no one wants to have to go all that time without the chance to bathe) and a source for fire and water in case you can't use your wands for a time. And a cooking kit in case you can't get the endless pantry. Bedding, and maps, and brooms, of course. And extra clothing for everyone. And maybe books about the area you're in, if they'll let you have them.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-20 16:54:11](#)**  
*(no subject)*

I'm thinking of spreading out the supplies, just in case there are weird rules that come up, like if you get caught by MLE, you'll have to give up your supplies, or if part of it means separating people.

Just to make sure everyone has some food and a sleeping roll.

Good idea about the fire and water. And it'd be nice to have cooked food, even though I don't know if any of us can really cook anything.

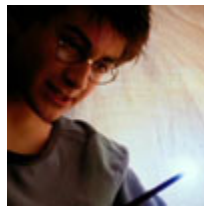
Maybe they'll have stuff on local plants or something. That might be useful. And maps and things.




 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-20 16:56:52](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Maybe everyone could have a bag, too.

Local plant lore would be good. And a book about the wildlife.

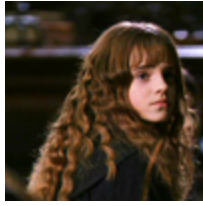


 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-20 19:55:11](#)**  
*(no subject)*

And we should get some first aid too.

Not for major things. If someone breaks a leg, I think they'll take care of it.

But everyone's really tired, so maybe Pepperup? And for little stuff like bug bites and scratches and sunburn and stomachaches.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-08-21 02:15:13](#)**  
(no subject)

And rain gear. Has it been raining there? It was raining here all day.



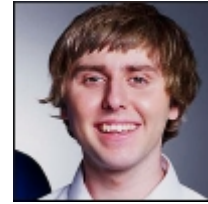
 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-21 04:11:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah. The whole time.

Everyone's tired, and Blaise hexed Linus's head off for talking too much. We had to flush a bunch of MLE trainees out of a house and it took ages.

**2013-08-19 21:40:00**

*Private Message to Linus and Harry*



 [alt\\_justin](#)

Chaps,


I say, good show today! Well done with the maps, Moon, and thanks for assuming the risk of taking point for most of the afternoon.

I'm well surprised we made it through the whole course, what! Well, I say 'we' but the rest of you did, at any rate. That MLE bloke seemed to know just where I'd be. Harry, lucky we switched bags when we did. There were--what--fifteen, altogether?

Harry, I'll have a word with Macmillan, shall I, about all the Apparation horror stories? I think they're putting Greengrass off her game. Patil didn't seem bally well happy with him, either--particularly after Zabini's incident this morning, what!

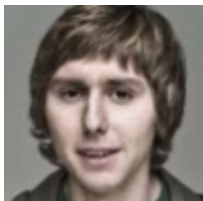
-Justin



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-08-20 03:51:05**  
(no subject)

Thanks, mate. Good thing both of us could Apparate. That last leg was hard without you.

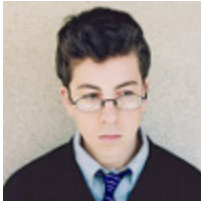
And yeah, I think you're the best one to let him know. I mean, he doesn't seem worried, but Daphs did seem sort of nervous when he was talking about it.




 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-08-20 03:56:07**  
(no subject)

No, not at all, happy to do it. I say, it's quite amazing what a good night's sleep will do for one, what?

But all that bally old Apparating today... I expect we'll sleep well again, tonight, as well!

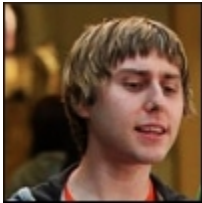



 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-08-20 05:51:46](#)  
(no subject)

If that is indeed the case, then I certainly hope I manage to Apparate soon, as I am beset with insomnia tonight, drat it all. Whatever we do tomorrow, I hope I can keep up, as I shall no doubt be quite tired in the morning if sleep does not come to me soon.

Thank you for the kind word on the mapwork; it was my pleasure to be useful. The map overlay spell was something Professor Siz taught me during detentions, when she had me finding and marking discrepancies on astronomy charts. Very handy little spell indeed, as it turns out.

I believe Ernie may be proving that knowledge and wisdom are not the same thing. Having gotten more than one correction on that subject over the past year, I do feel for him, and hope you manage to instill some thoughtful consideration for his fellows without making him abashed regarding his copious store of anecdote upon what is, after all, a subject of great importance to us.




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-20 04:00:50](#)  
*Private Message to Harry*

And I say, anything that keeps Patil from scowling so is probably worth doing, for all our sakes. Unless you mean to send her and Zabini back to Ron, what? She was bally well sucking lemons when Macmillan told that anecdote about the wizard who Apparated half of himself into a brick wall, what, and I thought she meant to hex him when he described the witch who Apparated to sea! He's a good chap but sometimes a bit oblivious, what.

At any rate, it's an easy enough thing to point out that he was frightening the ladies. He'll come round.

-Justin




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-20 04:15:10](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry*

Not sure if I will. I mean, she and Zabini make for a pretty good pair when they're getting along. And they agree to most of the things we sort out, and don't go off to do their own thing, even though they aren't happy about it.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-20 04:15:49](#)

*Re: Private Message to Harry*

If you had to, who would you say isn't pulling weight?



**2013-08-19 22:04:00**

*Order Only: Passing on information*

I'm sorry about the delay in passing along this information from my MLE source. Mulciber has me working some truly insane hours.



 [alt\\_bill](#)

After I gave my MLE source the cover story we'd worked out about Sally-Anne's wand, the source in turn told me this: the miscreants that Ron and Sally-Anne encountered at Stretton Estates weren't themselves exactly a group that MLE has been tracking, but they were sent by one of those groups. Hired muscle, in other words. None of the actual members of the group were arrested, but with what little the thugs knew, combined with some other intelligence MLE had, my source was able to tell me this:

This shadowy group calls itself the 'New Millenarians.' My source characterised them as 'absolutely mental.' Their goal, apparently, is to return the Realm to its state when their hero, the great Salazar Slytherin, walked the earth. A fantasy view of the medieval past which they think would be perfect for the future (a somehow magically muggle-less future, details to be worked out later).

Probably they wouldn't be able to do a huge amount of damage if they set their sorcery in motion because it's completely crackpot, frankly. MLE, of course, would prefer to catch them before they try it. Better not to give other groups ideas, undoubtedly.

(As a sign of how crackpot they are: why did they want Diviner's Mint? Best guess, based on the interviews with the people they caught, is that they wanted it to pinpoint the most propitious day to launch their grand scheme to remake the Realm. Someone in one of the leadership roles must be a passionate devotee of Divination.)

Anyway. They're still out there, somewhere, but my source said I could pass along assurances to my timorous mum that it's probably a good bet that they won't be trying to raid the Strettons' property again.

---



 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-08-20 03:16:42**

*Private message to Ron Weasley*

Just so you know, it's probably a good thing you're not home right now. Mum has been muttering about you and growling about Dolohov all evening. Just as well you'll have several days for her to cool off before you see her again. She seems to be agonising over whether to tell Alice or not, but hasn't decided yet.

Look, I don't know what's going on, but I'm happy to lend an ear if you want to talk about it. Or can I help in any way? I promise not to lecture you. I figure Mum probably has that angle covered.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at 2013-08-20 04:04:34**

*(no subject)*

New Millenarians .... Aren't they one of the groups trying to take credit for the Quidditch World Cup bombing?

We'd talked about perhaps making contact with other resistance movements, like Beth's people and what's left of Ridley's. But Circe, if they're *all* that delusional, that might not be a viable strategy.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-08-20 16:57:08**

*(no subject)*

How very odd.

It's rather difficult some times to sort out how to handle fanatics, because their perspective is just so incredibly bizarre.

Thank you, Bill.

**2013-08-19 22:14:00**

*Private Message to Linus*

Linus! It's lovely to hear from you! It's been rather dull here with my sweet boyfriend dashing around in the wilderness--you may think of me as your pining maiden in a tower if you wish.



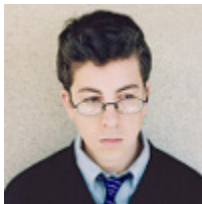
 [alt\\_lavender](#)


Although I think Parvati and I are going out to the shops tomorrow--so you needn't worry that I'm pining excessively. Still, Fortescue's afterward just won't be the same without you to lick the other side of a double scoop with me.

Your strategy with the theatrical glammers sounds simply brilliant--and much more restful than rushing about all day!

XOXO (with the promise of real ones later!)

your Lavender



 [alt\\_linus](#) at **2013-08-20 06:01:35**  
(no subject)

Fairest blossom of the land, I kiss the page of this journal, in hopes that the sentiment and kiss will somehow reach thee!

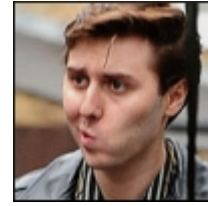
It is the middle of the night and I cannot sleep, drat it all, but at least it means I can write to you. Much excitement today, with an exercise where we were couriers and protectors of couriers, and so forth. There were maps, and it was all quite thrilling, and we did rather well, actually, and Justin and Harry have both said nice things about my performance, which is satisfying, especially when one has been diligently suggesting clever spells and making use of things learned whilst in detention this past year. Really, it's remarkable how exhilarating it can be to come up with the right spell when one's team desperately needs it.

But of course I'd rather be at Fortescue's with you.

Must try and sleep now, or tomorrow will be the absolute inverse of wiz-nift. Anon, fair maiden!

**2013-08-19 22:43:00**

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



Ron,

I say, I couldn't help but notice that your mother wrote.

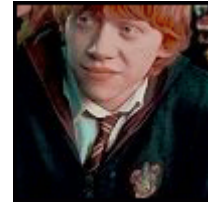
 [alt\\_justin](#)

Everything all right, then? If you don't mind my asking, of course.

-Justin

**2013-08-19 23:06:00**

*I Solemnly Swear That I'm Up To No Good*  
*Private Message to Harry*



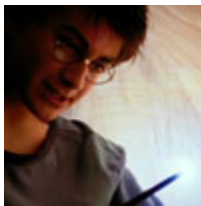
Say.


Sounds as if you lot did really well today. Well played.

 [alt\\_ron](#)

What do you think of Dolohov's offer? To make a third unit if we wanted to cut some people from ours.

I'm thinking it's not as simple as just deciding there are one or two people I might rather not have in my command.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-08-20 04:20:05**  
(no subject)


Yeah. I've been thinking about that too.

I mean, it's one thing to trade a person.

But making three teams is different, because the third team could make things complicated. Would they have to be even? If they did, we'd have to trade off more than just one person each, and I'm not sure I'd want to.


I mean, I could if I had to, but it'd be hard.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-08-20 04:21:00**  
(no subject)

And would it be easier with fewer people?  
Sometimes, more people means less work, if you do it right.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-08-20 04:34:58**  
(no subject)

Yeah. I'm thinking both of those things.


I've got one less already, and I can only think of one person I'd really want to cut if I could. So then I'd have to cut people I'd rather keep.

I mean, do we really want smaller units for whatever they're thinking of making us do from Thursday to Saturday? That's a long time to be out on an exercise, for one thing. And if it involves protecting ourselves from MLE all that time, we're going to need to take shifts, yeah? Like, some people will maybe need to sleep while others watch. And if we cut back the teams, that would be loads more difficult to manage.

Also. If there are three teams, then it's possible that two of them would work together against the third. (And then they could go back to fighting each other, of course, if they took out the third team altogether.) And I'm thinking that would be really ugly. Course, I'm also thinking my team's probably the one that would get targeted.

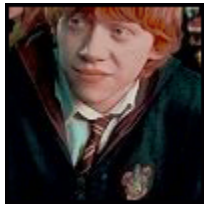
Or. Here's a different possibility: if we both cut people, the third unit will be made up of people who know our strategies. Some of them will probably be people who've been in both of our units already. That would give the new unit a significant advantage over both of ours.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-20 04:47:29](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah. And if they sort out that they were cut by us, they might try sabotage.

And this way, I know I can talk to you if I really need to, and I know you'll play fair, but whoever we cut probably wouldn't be on the lock, and might not be on the same page, you know?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-20 05:02:40](#)  
(no subject)

Too right.

I mean, it's possible that we've got a few people who will make trouble inside our units, but I think, really, it's just down to us to figure out how to get them to work for us. Take Thomas, for instance. You know he thinks he's best if he can go off as a lone wolf. And he is good at slipping around unseen. He's used those skills a couple of times pretty

successfully, right? Well, so, today we agreed he should try taking the packet on one of the runs and just slipping away while the rest of us played decoy and pretended to be a full unit protecting our packet. It was maybe our third segment. We put disillusionments on him and a really fine muffling spell. And he made it through. The woods were really dense there, and it worked a treat. So he wanted to do it again. And we put him off because the next course was more open, and anywiz we had some other strategies we wanted to try. We had a plan, I mean, and I was going to stick with it. But he kept on about it, and I thought why not, right? So the next time we had a run with good, thick cover, I let Thomas try again.

Only, MLE caught him and took him out.

That's how we lost the one packet. But it wasn't a bad gamble, and I think it was the right call to let him try it. He doesn't seem too bad tonight, either. So, yeah, it was bad that he got killed and it cost us a packet, but I hope maybe he'll work with us a bit better tomorrow.

I could totally be wrong about that, though. It's Thomas, after all.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-20 16:50:47](#)

*(no subject)*

I think that's why you're doing such a good job, though.

Because you know Thomas, and sorted out how to work him in without him going against the plan.

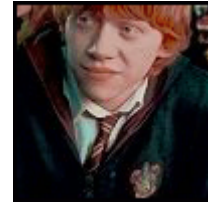
I mean, I think that's part of what makes for a good leader.

I don't know. Maybe if Thomas pulls something utterly mad today, we can talk more about it?

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

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

Well, that was crap. Sorry. Not totally useless, but I mean, I don't see how we're going to shake loose to really fly that line.



 [alt\\_ron](#)


Thanks for the heads up, Malfoy. It came through before they were even in view, so we had a chance to switch over to trajectory drills before they came up behind us.

We did get in some good speed flying and some wizard slingshot drills. Was sorry you weren't along for that. Maybe you should go tomorrow, but that would just make Finnick and Thomas more likely to tag along. (I figured they'd've had enough of me by now.) We're going to have to find a way to keep them from following tomorrow. Maybe a vertigo hex. Only that could sabotage the afternoon, too, and I'd rather not give you that kind of advantage, Harry!

See you in a few at the Apparition field.

---




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-08-20 18:58:06**  
(no subject)

are, though.

The drills were fun, though. Even though I'm still sore all over from yesterday. The more I do it, the better I like ley flying. It's sort of like being on a set of rails, isn't it? I'm still not nearly as good on a broom as you

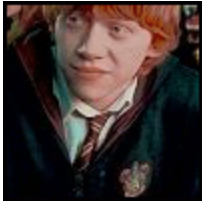


 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-08-20 18:58:59**  
*Private Message to Ron*

Did you see Blaise vom when he tried to Apparate?

He looked furious after.





 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-21 12:30:09](#)

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

Yeah.

It would probably make everyone cheerier if he can just bloody get it today! Everyone's miserable when Zabini's miserable, yeah?



 **alt\_justin** at [2013-08-21 02:20:37](#)

*(no subject)*

Ron,

I say, I've been thinking about this morning's flight all day (well, in between our assaults on those houses, what!).

Perhaps what we need is for one or two of us to draw Finnigan and Thomas apart while the others go and investigate what's further up the line.

I'd gladly volunteer except I doubt my flying's enough to tempt them. Still, it might be worth suggesting some formation drills to give you lot a head start.

-Justin



 **alt\_pansy** at [2013-08-21 05:38:18](#)

*(no subject)*

I can help if you'd like.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-21 12:28:03](#)

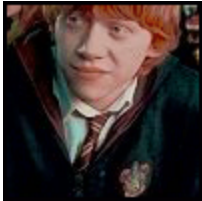
*(no subject)*


Perfect.

Thanks, Pans.

And. You were brilliant yesterday, y'know? With that pair of enforcer blokes. When they were trying to climb back into the house through the cellar hatch.

Nice catch.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-21 12:23:42](#)  
*(no subject)*

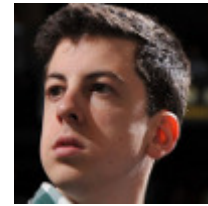
Cheers. That would be excellent if you can do it.

We'll try to be busy about something else and not hear you getting up the drill. I'll pretend I'm having broom trouble or something and get our few to have a look. That should give you a chance to pull them away, yeah?

**2013-08-21 03:45:00**

*An Educational Day*

Learning how to function cohesively as a team despite the vicissitudes of lack of sleep, physical ailments, and the cumulative rigors of our exercises is indeed a challenge -- but I have faith that with perseverance and excellent guidance we will meet that challenge.



 [alt\\_linus](#)

Excelsior, as they say.

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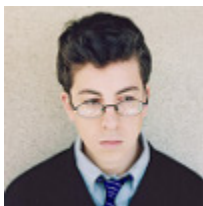
 [alt\\_linus](#) at **2013-08-21 03:58:36**

*Private Message to Lav*

Professor Dolohov just told me that I should take as my personal goal the avoidance of being stunned by my own team members.

In his defence, Blaise was considerably on edge today, following yesterday's difficulties. But in my own, I wasn't feeling quite the thing either, after a night of insomnia, and did not realise that receiving helpful suggestions on spell options was not within his current capabilities. Must learn to assess teammates more accurately. Which is, in short, exactly what Professor Dolohov was getting at, really.

I trust that your shopping and ice cream excursion went well. Do tell. I could use the distraction.



 [alt\\_linus](#) at **2013-08-21 18:53:54**

*Re: Private Message to Lav*

As the dubious achievement of getting stunned by someone on my own team could be surpassed only by the deep embarrassment of getting stunned by my own mentor, I am giving Professor Dolohov a wide berth just now. I shall continue this course of action until the spectacularly vivid language no longer emanates from the conversation in which he is embroiled, for which someone clearly has failed to put up adequate Muffliato or other charms.

Enhancing one's vocabulary is, nonetheless, one of the goals of

learning, so that's probably fine then -- though I shall of course take great care with appropriate deployment of any new idiom thus garnered.

You still haven't told me how your ice cream day was. Ah, well, you're probably out having amusements.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-21 04:04:33](#)

*Private Message to Linus Moon*

Hey Linus.

Sorry about what happened.

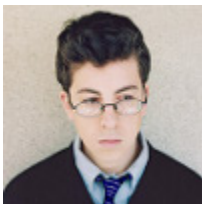
You're doing a good job. Everyone is. I think we're all just a little worn out.




 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-08-21 16:06:40](#)

*(no subject)*

I'm sure you'll do a wonderful job of upholding the honor of Ravenclaw, Linus.




 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-08-21 18:47:46](#)

*(no subject)*

I shall do my best. Today I am working on Apparating, which Padma can already manage, though apparently not for much distance yet. I've asked her to share any words of wisdom she might have on the process, as those of us who have not yet been able to achieve it will be most grateful for our peers who share their knowledge, but so far she has not vouchsafed anything terribly effective.

I trust your summer is going tolerably well. Have you found any interesting creatures to study lately?



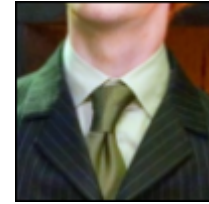
 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-08-22 00:09:43](#)  
(no subject)

I'm afraid I haven't. I can't apparate yet, of course, and there aren't many wild places around here, the sort where I can find creatures. ~~Mrs Brown doesn't like it when~~

I've been trying to catch up on my reading, and going over my field notebooks. I feel as though I've barely seen anyone this summer.

**[2013-08-21 11:09:00](#)**

*Private message to Mrs Molly Weasley*



Mum,

I'm sorry, because I know you assume I'll be there, but I won't be at the Burrow tomorrow night for my birthday. Mr Malfoy has invited me to join him and a group of very distinguished people for dinner at Portico. It's quite a signal honour for me to be included, so I'm sure you'll understand.

 [alt\\_percy](#)



 [alt\\_molly](#) at **[2013-08-21 16:12:50](#)**

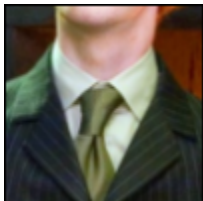
*(no subject)*

~~But Percy--~~

~~You've always~~

I see, dear. My, Portico's quite fancy, isn't it? I think I've heard you speak of it before.

Who are the other guests?




 [alt\\_percy](#) at **[2013-08-21 16:16:18](#)**

*(no subject)*

Oh, they're very important people. On the Council. Mr Malfoy will be there, of course. Mr Rosier, Bill's old boss. Mr Aristotle Baddock, Mr. Jason Montague, Mr Gaudeamus Avery, Mrs Nisha Desai. And Mr Crispin and Mr Ned Pennifold, too.

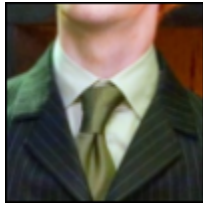
It's most kind of Mr Malfoy to do this. I consider it a gratifying sign that he's willing to promote my career growth by introducing me to the right sort of people.




 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-08-21 16:19:08](#)  
(no subject)

We'll miss you tomorrow night, Percy but I understand.

Oh, but we'll see you on Sunday night, the same as usual. We can have our family celebration then, I suppose.



 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2013-08-21 16:23:01](#)  
(no subject)

Hmm. It is getting a bit difficult for me to pop round every Sunday night. My schedule is so very busy.

I can make it this Sunday. Perhaps. But I don't think you should expect me every single week.

**2013-08-21 11:17:00**

*Order Only: current babies*

Right. I looked back at Minerva's entry from 9 July. Charles Kass and Mayuko Kawamoto are both at Moddey; Mikhail Christiansen and his brother Will are now living with their parents at Aldrich Town, yes?



 [alt\\_lupin](#)

That leaves Alise Sinclair of New London, and Kathleen Byrne of Killarney.


Has anyone heard from Moody? Bill, I assume you haven't been able to turn up Alise's parents, or you'd have said. Perhaps they're with Beth's group? We'll ask, the next time we have contact.



 [alt\\_frank](#) at **2013-08-21 22:51:14**  
(no subject)

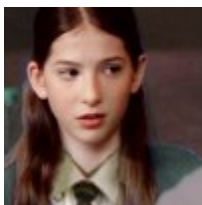
no word from moody. he usually takes a while to check in. I'll send him another owl.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-08-21 23:35:15**  
(no subject)

Nick has been hitting a wall on Alise Sinclair. He got sick of flailing around and started pulling files of everyone monitored by the department by the name of Sinclair, in the hopes he might find Alise's parents.

And there was one familiar name: Laurel Sinclair. Remember her? She was one of the muggleborns who was interviewed for the job at Doughty Conduit that eventually went to Ellie. He's going to see if he can find out what happened to her. All the file says is 'Taken into Service' with no further information.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-22 01:48:02**  
(no subject)

Right, so, speaking of muggleborns who might like Moddey, I was wondering what you lot think about helping Maureen? She's the girl who's the Stretton's nanny. Mrs Weasley's met her.




I gave her a container bracelet last year and she took it and she's kept it a secret. I think she'd run away, if she had somewhere to go. If she didn't, I think she'd keep it a secret that I'd offered.

Would it be okay, if I explained there's a sanctuary and a resistance organisation and people who could help her and give her a wand and all the rest? Or should I just tell her people would help her get away, and it might be dangerous, and leave it at that?

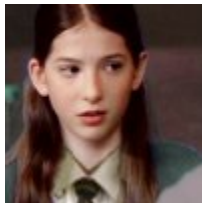
Or is it too risky? I mean I don't know how carefully MLE investigates disappearances of muggleborn servants, would they ask me questions about it? I don't think they'd have any reason to suspect I was involved.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-22 02:18:44](#)  
(no subject)

It's a good idea, kiddo, but you're right - we wouldn't want them thinking you had anything to do with it.

I wonder if we could arrange something after you've gone back to school? The only question then would be getting in without being detected.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-22 02:32:25](#)  
(no subject)

I ought to be the one to talk to her, but I could tell her it'll be in September.

We could set a day. Or, you know, she has a journal and I could leave a message in my own journal that would let her know what's up (code, you know? although Pansy and I had sort of bad luck with codes. People always figured out our codes WERE codes, I mean, sooner or later.) Or someone else could leave a message in their journal that would let her know what's up, I mean, she can read any of it.

The house isn't very secure, mostly the Strettons just assume their servants won't run away because where else would they go? So she could slip out and meet you somewhere.



 **alt\_sirius** at **2013-08-22 02:20:05**

*Private Message to Remus and Dora*

That reminds me, Dora: Where's Mac left things with his sister? If we're going to start rescuing the muggleborns associated with people we know, we might as well get them all freed.



 **alt\_nymphadora** at **2013-08-22 03:03:23**

*Re: Private Message to Remus and Dora*

She stopped in here, in fact, a couple of weeks ago when Justin had himself in such hot water over Hydra. I had him send Maggie here to collect a basket for him. That was the excuse. Really we wanted to give her a reason to come again, hoping she might come on her own accord after that. Mac and I decided if she did get to be at all regular, he'd try to drop things and come if I'd signal him when she's here.

She has been back once, but just for a tin of biscuits she knew we carried that Mrs Jugson wanted one afternoon.

And... Maggie's a bit... well, cagey, I'd say. We had a bit of a chat when she picked up the hamper, and I think she thinks Justin's all right and might think we are, too, for looking out after him.

I don't know if she'd trust us enough to try escaping on our invitation, though.

**2013-08-21 11:23:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

We went ley flying this morning, and something happened.



 [alt\\_pansy](#)

Justin and I held back, just in case Finnegan and Thomas tried to tag along, and so Ron and Harry and Draco were pretty far ahead and they just sort of dropped out of the sky. ~~It was~~ We sent off sparks, Justin went for help, and I flew over to them to see what I could do until someone else came along, and even though I went slowly when I came up on them, I could still feel a jerky sort of feeling. Like there was something wrong with the ley lines.

The mediwizard who's looking after them seems to think they'll be all right. Ron and Harry had some broken bones, but those were mended quickly enough. They're both dizzy, though. Something about their balance? I'm not sure. Draco's hurt his head, but no-one's said anything about taking him to St Mungo's, so I ~~hope~~ don't think it's serious.

Professor Dolohov was furious. Not at them, because they weren't doing anything against the rules, but he kept saying he 'should've been made aware' and looked as if he wanted to tear a chunk out of someone. And then he went into a meeting with Auror Desai and the rest of the trainees, and they've been in their tent for ages.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-08-21 18:43:38**

*(no subject)*

Pansy, were they meant to be flying the ley line? You lot have said precious little to us about what you've been doing with the CCF. Was this part of an exercise or was it something you weren't supposed to be doing?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-08-21 18:51:42**

*(no subject)*

We have free flying in the mornings, and we had one running right by the camp. We asked about distance flying and were told it was all right by Auror Desai

and Professor Dolohov as long as we were back in time.

And we haven't said much just because they keep us so busy, and there isn't much to say, really. Nothing that'd be of use to the Order, at least. It's mostly group training exercises. Like yesterday, they had a bunch of Auror trainees holed up in a house, and our team had to take over the house and hold it. And if we got Stunned, we had to go to the main camp and back again before we could rejoin our group. We transfigured an ant hill into a hornet's nest and threw it in the house, and then we had to clear it of hornets and when the trainees got back they were kind of sore about it, so they took over the house again pretty quickly, and then we had to regroup and try to attack from the outside until the sun went down.

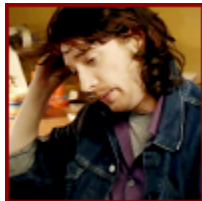
So we do things until sunset, sometimes well into the night, and after we eat we have to debrief over what we did and why, and then we're all usually too tired to do anything but go to bed. Except Harry and Ron usually stay up a little later working out what they're going to do the next day.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-21 18:52:12](#)

*(no subject)*

Honestly, if things weren't in a bit of chaos right now, I wouldn't even have time to write all this.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-21 23:41:05](#)

*Private message to Pansy Parkinson*

I've taken the liberty of stashing Mum's journal out of her sight. Ignoble, I know, but she's really not at her best today. She's rather hacked off at Percy at the moment for some reason, and I don't like to think of how she'll react once she finds out Ron has been injured.

It would be best if he could check in with the Order and assure everyone he's all right before I give it back to her.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-21 23:43:17](#)

*Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson*

We're nearly done for the day. I'll be able to head back to main camp in an hour or so, I'll see if he's up for writing then.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-21 23:57:05](#)

*Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson*

Oh, and maybe he should try not to mention Dolohov, if that's possible.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-22 00:46:35](#)

*Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson*

Well, bugger. She managed to find it after all.

Just...have Ron check in as soon as he can. Before Mum chews up the kitchen table and spits it out for kindling.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-22 00:47:13](#)

*Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson*

They won't let me in to see him.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-22 00:50:32](#)

*Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson*

He really will be just fine, though. Everyone seems to think so.

And it wasn't Professor ~~Dolohov's~~



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-08-21 19:12:12](#)**  
(no subject)

where does bode work again?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-21 21:04:53](#)**  
(no subject)

The Department of Mysteries.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-08-21 22:53:18](#)**  
(no subject)

thought so.

and he's not on dolohov's usual list of  
correspondence.



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-08-21 23:53:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Hello, all,

We should add that Ron, Harry and Draco are all  
expected to recover fully.

I've asked permission to look in on them this evening, what, so we  
can find out if they learned anything. They had planned to fly up the  
line just to see if they could find anything like that bally odd device  
the Order intercepted before.

I say, it's unlikely they saw anything of note but I can pass along  
anything they might have to report.

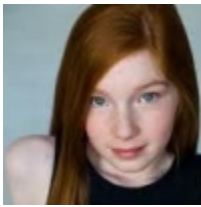
-Justin




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-22 00:00:50](#)  
(no subject)

I think it's fairly unlikely they'd let any of us go back in that direction again to thoroughly check it out, which is a pity, but once we're done with camp we can go back without drawing too much attention.

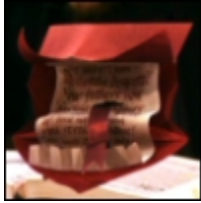
I'd say Sally-Anne and Luna or Evs or somebody could check it out, but if they fly around there so soon after the accident it might be suspicious.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-08-22 00:11:32](#)  
(no subject)

We could try for it later, and go for a few touring flights first if that'd help.

It'd probably be best if none of you came along, if we did go there, just to be safe.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-08-22 00:44:07](#)  
(no subject)

**Ron was hurt? Broken bones--  
what did he break?!**

**HOW COULD THEY LET THIS  
HAPPEN?!!!**


**A camping trip, they said! An educational  
experience! Not quite the type of  
education I had in mind!**

**Oooh, if I could ONLY get my hands on  
that pestilent Antonin Dolohov! I'll give**



# HIM an educational experience he'll never forget, that wretched, evil man!




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-22 00:46:45](#)  
(no subject)

He broke his collarbone, Mrs Weasley. That got fixed right away. He's still a bit dizzy, so he's resting for now.

I'm sorry.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-22 00:49:17](#)  
(no subject)

Mum, let me brew you a nice cuppa, all right? It'll help.


Ron'll be all right.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-22 02:28:54](#)  
*Private message to Mrs Weasley*

Ron wrote to me and said he's dizzy and sleeping a lot but okay and asked me to tell you.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-08-22 03:14:32](#)  
*Re: Private message to Mrs Weasley*

Oh, thank Merlin.

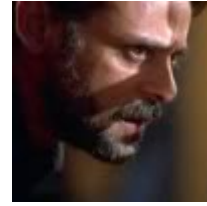
Thank you so much for letting me know.



**2013-08-21 13:41:00**

*Private Message to Broderick Bode*

This morning's debacle is at your feet. We cleared our plans through the usual channels; had you bothered to do the same you would have known the area was in use.



 **alt\_antonin**

Instead, you decided to bypass every mechanism we have in place for ensuring we do not trip over each other, destroying my plans, injuring my students, and jeopardising your team and their work in the process, for what appears to be no other reason than self-aggrandisement. 'Security' cannot possibly be the answer when there are multiple ways to cordon off a locale without providing detail; the only possible reason to hold your cards so close to your chest is that you wish there to be no question of whom deserves credit for your accomplishments.

I will be calling upon you when Savitha and I have finished our work here, and if you are not forthcoming with your cooperation, I will be certain that Our Lord knows precisely whose petty, power-mad games deserve credit for His son's injuries.

**2013-08-21 13:58:00**

*Private Message to Harry*

Finch-Fletchley found your list of the supplies you're requesting (wow, there's loads! What are they planning to have us do?) and Professor Dolohov just has us doing easy drills for the afternoon, so don't worry. Everything's under control.



 [alt\\_padma](#)

What happened, anyway? All F-F said was there'd been a flying accident.

That's not really like you, or Draco. I mean, you two usually look like you were born on broomback. Was Weasley trying to take you out before the next challenge? I bet that was it, you know he's really competitive when he gets going on something.

Oh, Blaise is feeling better and I think he might even get the hang of Apparation by the end of the day. (I managed it again; I think I'll be able to do it when we need.)

But don't feel like you have to hurry back. I mean, we're doing just fine without you.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-08-21 18:18:29**

*(no subject)*

They didn't say what it'd be. Just that we'd need to bring everything with us that we'd need, and that it'd be for a few days. You can add what you think I've missed to the list and give it to Professor Dolohov so he can get everything.

I was thinking if we packed it right and kept everything light, we'd be able to take some extra stuff that might be useful. If it gets too heavy, you can cut back.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-21 18:21:28](#)  
(no subject)

And no. Ron didn't sabotage us. He broke his collarbone in the fall. And got pretty badly bruised up. Draco hurt his head too. We were all ley flying, and something went wrong with it. We were going pretty fast, and really getting into the feel of the ley, all three of us, and it just knocked us off, like it was twisted up or something. None of us knew it was coming.

I don't know when they'll let me back. They want us to take it easy today. Ron and me are sort of dizzy, and we can't really sit up all the way without feeling sick, and Draco's still sort of out of it. Maybe they'll let me join back in on the last day.

And. I know you and Blaise make for a good team when you work together. And you know him better than anyone else who's left. And he's really talented, and knows his stuff, but he doesn't get on with everyone. Which is fine, that's just sort of who he is. So it's going to be important to keep focus, and make sure things run smoothly, yeah? And to make sure that people don't rub each other too raw.

**2013-08-21 14:03:00**

*Private Message to Lyoushka*

Before you hear something that will make you worry: the mediwizard says Draco and Harry will both be fine after a non-strenuous afternoon and a good night's sleep.



 **alt\_antonin**

That out of the way: there was an incident this morning while the children were out on their morning flying practise. It appears that Bode sent out a team this morning to either install the region's Octoboros, or to engage in the preliminaries necessary to do so -- I wasn't able to get much detail out of them -- which caused disruptions to the local ley-lines we have been teaching the children to tap into this fortnight. Draco and Harry were on broomback, and, well, you know what happens when you are flying a ley when it flares.

Thanks to the quick thinking of Miss Parkinson and Mr Finch-Fletchley, they were back in the camp and in the hands of the mediwizard shortly thereafter, and Savitha and I are taking utmost care with them. And I have taken the opportunity to let Bode know precisely what I think of his secrecy: had we known the team was present we would of course have kept the children away. He has been arguing the reason to keep me everyone out of his business this summer is to prevent a repeat of this spring's setback; with luck this will prove to him that 'everyone', of course, does not mean me.




---

 **alt\_lucius** at **2013-08-21 20:11:33**  
(no subject)

What was the extent of their injuries?

Trust you know that if it would help matters, I would storm Mysteries and demand satisfaction for Bode's gross incompetence. Suspect that might jeopardise our more recent efforts, however.



 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-08-21 20:38:20**  
(no subject)

Indeed. It was an exercise in patience to restrain myself to nothing more than a written tongue-lashing; I most emphatically am not allowing myself

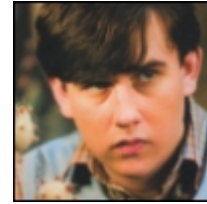
to leave camp to take the discussion more ... face-to-face.

Injuries were mostly broken bones (already mended), though Draco has a slight concussion and of course they'll all be fighting with their balance until their magic can reconnect properly with the environment around them. They were exceedingly fortunate they were not the only ones present; Mr Weasley was injured as badly as they both were, but Pansy and Finch-Fletchley were far enough away that they did not get caught in the flare.

Our plans for the afternoon having been quite thoroughly ruined, Savitha and I are keeping a close watch on them, in between bouts of teaching each other new and interesting invective. (In languages the children do not speak, lest we lose our authority in their eyes.) That is another small bright spot: she is as put out about this as I am, and I am beginning to think we might be able to win her to our side, in the maneuverings against Mysteries at very least.

**[2013-08-21 18:49:00](#)**

*Order Only: Private message to Frank and Alice Longbottom*



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

I don't want to be a whinger, but--


Okay, I'm trying not to let on to my friends, but this awful. Reading their entries about what's going on with CCF, and they're learning stuff that might be useful to the Order, or even getting injured, and I'm not there to help. Or to learn with them. I feel like I'm sodding useless.

I hate this.

I shouldn't ask, but please, please can I come to Moddey Dhoo? Maybe both of us? I want to work on Apparition more with Dad, maybe, or work with Regina in the greenhouse or something.

It would really help if we could see you at least once more before we take the Hogwarts Express back to school.




 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-08-22 00:06:42](#)**  
(no subject)

of course you can come over, kiddo. we're up to our necks in tomatoes and courgettes and beans, and could use an extra hand or two in the canning room. and we can work more on apparation, sure. we'll work it out to have you come up for a few days, yeah?

and don't worry about the ~~damn~~ CCF business. honestly, your mum has been a bit anxious about dolohov running the show, even though she tries not to hover too much. it's fine by me that you're not a part of it, and we'll see what sort of things you can learn about while you're here so you won't feel like you're getting left behind.



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-08-22 01:02:12](#)**  
(no subject)


Thank you. I'll help anyway I can. I just want to be useful to somebody.

I mean, it's been cool stopping by Doughty Conduit,

and the lessons we have at 12 Grimmauld Place. I've been working with Mr Snape, too, on potions and potion plant ingredients and occlumency and all. It's just that I miss my friends, I guess. And I want to be back at the Sanctuary for awhile, and to see you and Kevin once more before school starts. And Terry.

Evelyn can come, too, right?



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-08-22 01:17:14**  
(no subject)

Yes, Evelyn can come, love.

**2013-08-21 19:30:00**

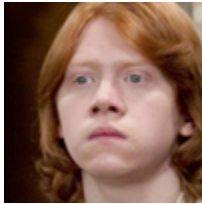
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To  
No Good: Private message to Ron*



 **alt\_sally\_anne**

Are you okay? Pansy said -- she didn't think it was serious but you haven't written and

I don't want to be a hovering nervous whinger but please let me know you're okay?

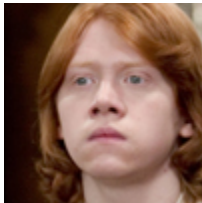


 **alt\_ron** at **2013-08-22 02:23:46**

*(no subject)*

Yeh sry  
sSleeping lots  
Di zzy

Bt all rigt



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-08-22 02:25:15**

*(no subject)*

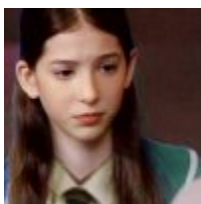
TelL MuM?



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-08-22 02:27:14**

*(no subject)*

Okay, I will.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-08-22 03:41:10**

*(no subject)*

And thanks. For writing.

I hope you feel better tomorrow.





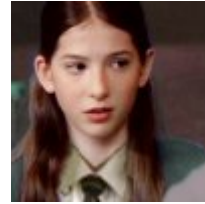
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-22 03:42:15](#)  
(no subject)

Your mum wrote back to me, she was glad to hear it.

**2013-08-21 19:34:00**

*Private message to Pansy*

So how is your week going? I'm sure you're all learning ever so much. I can't help feeling jealous, especially that you're learning how to Apparate, but all of it, really.



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

Just a few more days and I'll be able to see you again! And Ron.

How were things today?

---



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-22 00:37:15**

*Order Only*

Is Ron all right?

What happened?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-08-22 00:43:37**

*Re: Order Only*

They were going so fast, and when they fell

Oh, Sally-Anne, it was just about the scariest thing I've seen in a long time. They just dropped like stones.

And when I was with them, trying to help as best I could, all I could think of was how much I wished you were there, and how much better you'd be at keeping your head and checking things properly.

It was awful.

They're all still out of sorts. I just got back, and the mediwizard has been getting sort of short with the people trying to visit them, he keeps saying they need their rest in order to get properly realigned, only he won't tell me what that means.

I think it's something to do with having the ley disrupted like that. Like it did something to their balance or something.



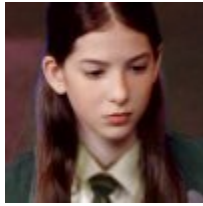
 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-22 00:44:33](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Everyone keeps saying they'll be just fine, though.

I'm sure he'll be all right.

It just gave us all a bit of a scare, is all.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-22 00:53:15](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Yeah.

~~When they fell, did you remember to~~

What happened with the ley line? Did they tell you?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-22 00:59:24](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Just that it threw them off. Harry said it felt like it twisted all of a sudden, or got tangled or something, and they were all really tied into it, and going really fast, so when it got fiddly, they

couldn't control themselves.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-22 00:38:31](#)

*(no subject)*

Ron had an accident while flying this morning. Draco and Harry got hurt too. They'll all be fine, of course, but he has to rest up and we don't know if he'll be able to join us for what we've got later in the week.

Which is a hassle.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-22 00:39:44](#)  
(no subject)

And don't worry, you'll get Apparation lessons soon enough, once we start up at school.

I haven't Apparated yet, but I keep feeling something in my stomach, so I think I'm close.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-22 00:47:27](#)  
*Order Only*

If I could get away to 12GP I'm sure they'd give me Apparation lessons.

Only there's no good excuse to get away from the Strettons, with you and Ron off at CCF. I've gotten away from the estates a few times but it's always been with Gemma. Or Jeremy. Or Gemma AND Jeremy.

I almost think I could tell Gemma and Jeremy the truth and bring them along to 12GP. But Gemma's just too young to put that sort of burden on her, and I'm not 100% sure about Jeremy.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-22 00:49:04](#)  
*Re: Order Only*

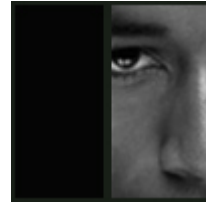
Best not risk it, then.

We can go together when I get back.

**[2013-08-22 09:25:00](#)**

*Private Message to Padma Patil*

Where are Harry and Weasley? They should be here for this briefing. Unless...




Draco looks like something the cat sicked up this morning. And did you see how his broom was listing off-centre?

 [alt\\_blaise](#)

At least our side's only got one of them to carry along.

But really, if Harry's ill, we could promote a lieutenant to commander and not let ourselves be dragged down. I mean, listen between the lines of what they're saying: this is going to be loads more challenging than anything we've done yet.

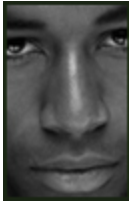


 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-08-22 13:42:57](#)  
(no subject)

Well, Finch-Fletchley went to see them last night and he said that Harry's loads more coherent than Weasel or Draco. And Harry's replies to me last night were fine. I mean, they weren't all loopy or anything. So I don't think his head is damaged. He already mentioned he might not come back right away. I think we need to be prepared to go on without him, which is fine. Finch-Fletchley will fall in line behind whatever we decide--he *is* a Hufflepuff, after all--so if we can just convince him to stop with the 'fair play' nonsense we'll be fine.

And when I went to turn in our requisitions for equipment, Harry's list was really comprehensive. I mean, *really* comprehensive. The list Seamus had for Ron's team was maybe half as long.

Not that it's a competition between us anymore. If you can believe that. Which I don't, really. I mean, we won't target the others if we're all supposed to be on the same side, of course, but we're still being judged on how well each group does, right?



 **[alt\\_blaise](#)** at **[2013-08-22 14:04:25](#)**  
(no subject)


Exactly. It's complete misdirection, their saying we're not competing. We're meant to be playing separate units of Our Lord's loyal forces in the war, and obviously each unit competes to win advantage for His cause. And that holds for CCF, for what we're really doing here: we're all competing for His favour.

It's fortunate we're on Marvolo's side. And... I don't know whether you know, but if what's in the wind is true, it may be as well we're not on Malfoy's side. By which, I mean, it would be fine if he were with us in Marvolo's number, but if we were still on Weasel's side, having Malfoy with us wouldn't outweigh the Weasley deficit.

I think all in all, the sides have shaken out just as they ought: all the better people are here. And the halfies and muddle-brained are all over there.

But that means it's ours to lose. And a loss would be a serious embarrassment. So we will not be losing.

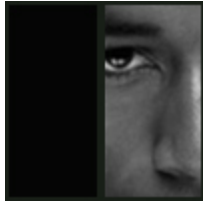


 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-08-22 14:24:12](#)**  
(no subject)

Right.

Wait. What do you mean about Malfoy? Seamus used to go over to the Malfoys' once in a while over the summers, you know, and now he doesn't anymore. And then he told me that last June, right after they got home, Mr Rosier took him on a fishing trip, and he said it was really nice but just a little odd. Like, neither of them had their journals and there wasn't any crew, it was just them, and Mr Rosier didn't give him any warning or anything. Like it was meant to be a surprise.

I sort of wish Seamus were on our team, though. He's not just a halfie, really. This year you'll get to know him better and you'll see.




 **alt\_blaise** at [2013-08-22 14:39:28](#)  
(no subject)

The Malfoys are not so secure in their place as they once were. To put it baldly.

And Rosier... Well, he's the sort to stay out of the way when the wind's blowing change.

As for Finnigan, it's fine to have pets, Padma, but don't confuse that with anything more. Rosier's fostering him because they need to control the Irish situation, and in Ireland Finnigan's family are all that. But, really, that tells you all you need to know: he's Irish and will never be more. On top of that he's a halfblood. So if he entertains you, fine. Only, don't get carried away with his bollocks about being a prince of the Irish. This isn't a romance novel we're living in.



 **alt\_padma** at [2013-08-22 15:10:42](#)  
(no subject)

*Perks* is a pet--Porkinson's or Weasel's, take your pick. *Su Li* is a pet. Lakshmi, I bet even Archer thinks of *Bones* as a pet, and she's only technically a half-blood.

Seamus may be Irish but there's more to him. Sometimes I think he even has the potential to make the Council--and you know there are a few Councilwizards who aren't strictly pureblood. There are things...things you don't know about him. I can't tell you--I mean, he wouldn't want me to tell you until you know each other better. But it's not about romance and it's not just because he's a mate. He genuinely feels the same way about Our Lord and the Protectorate as we do.



 **alt\_blaise** at [2013-08-22 18:16:33](#)  
(no subject)

You sound exactly like *Perks* and Archer: none of you'll admit that a pet is a pet.


But you're not like them. You don't lack for proper friends.

And of course Finnigan shows loyal. In his position, he'd be mad not to: everything depends on his making a very convincing show of it.

It doesn't speak to his intelligence if he actually believes it himself, but perhaps he does. Or perhaps he's good enough at his rôle to be believable. The Irish are like that. And you wouldn't be the first to have been taken in by one of them. But, trust me, don't give him a chance to hex you from behind.

It's embarrassing, you having visions of grandeur for him. Don't waste your daydreams on Finnigan. He might be included, but he'll never belong.



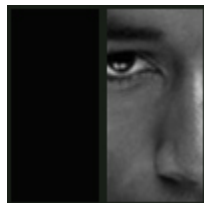
 **alt\_padma** at **2013-08-22 18:39:39**  
(no subject)


I have no problem admitting that Su Li is a pet! There's a difference between someone like her and Seamus.

And I'm not wasting time on daydreams. I just meant.... If it happens, it happens. I wish I could explain in detail but his loyalties *have* been tested, you don't even know how much.

I mean, it's true his stakes are high. He knows that. But he *is* a proper friend. He has been. He's not even like any of the other Irish at school.

Look, Harry's still under the weather and Lines is obsessing over trying to Apparate and this time I might hex him myself (talk about *pets*, there's one for you and he isn't even a halfie!), so can we not do this now? We agreed that winning is more important.



 **alt\_blaise** at **2013-08-22 19:09:12**  
(no subject)

Winning is definitely more important than arguing over Finnigan.

Only, it's irritating when you speak of him as though you don't see the distinctions. I mean, you almost



sounded as if you could think of him as a possible match--a halfie, Irish shirt-lifter.

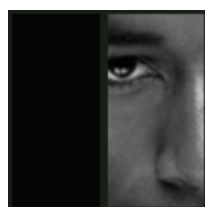


 **alt\_padma** at [2013-08-22 19:24:00](#)  
(no subject)

What? No! No, not like that--I mean--where did you hear that about him? That he's a poufter?

Anyway, no, I've never been interested in him so you don't have to be jealous. We're just mates. And I'm not saying he's *equal* to a pureblood, exactly. Just that he's a cut above the average half-blood.

Okay, let's give everyone ten more minutes for a break, then get back on the trail.



 **alt\_blaise** at [2013-08-22 19:43:05](#)  
(no subject)


If he wanted it secret, he should never have snogged Jugson. If you know what I mean.

You're right it's time to get this lot moving. We want to make camp before dusk.

At least the shrubbery's not exploding. Yet. Do you get the idea they didn't plan to stage this here? I mean, it seemed they were making a bunch of things up on the fly this noon.

And we're back to maps that are at least half wrong about more than half of what they show. Jolly, that.



 **alt\_padma** at [2013-08-22 19:47:48](#)  
(no subject)

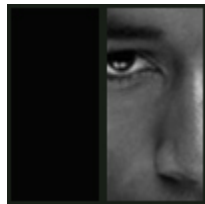
You mean, because we're all being told to move southeast and all the other exercises so far have been mostly north?


Yes.

We can put Lines on map detail again, although we could also

send F-F forward by Apparation and he could scout round and then come back.

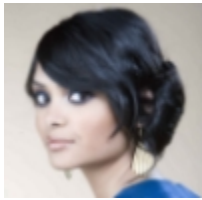
Oh, that reminds me, though, I think Harry put maps on his list. We should check and see if there are any accurate ones in the bags. Slim chance but worth a try.




 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-08-22 19:57:44](#)  
(no subject)

Score! Excellent thinking there, Patil!

Proper maps. And a stash of very nice chocolate. The former will save us Moon's endless nattering about surveying variances. The latter, I've commandeered. No need mentioning it to anyone else.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-08-22 13:54:12](#)  
(no subject)

Oh. Do you think you're ready to try Apparating again? If we have a little time to try, I mean.

I think it'll be crucial to have as many of us who can as possible. I'm getting better at distance and F-F can do it. I think Daphs will get it with a little more practice and Lines might do if he'd just quit asking questions about it and *feel* how it works. (Did I tell you he followed me through the mess tent peppering me for technical details? He practically followed me to the loo!)

That just leaves Macmillan and someone could side-along him if he's really nowhere close. But if we could *all* do it then we could switch off who's taking an extra person. Even if half of us can, then we can each take someone else. Especially if Harry's told not to Apparate for a while. Haruman says that sometimes if you've got dizzy spells or things that you shouldn't Apparate and shouldn't even Floo, if it's really bad. Not that we'll be taking a Floo anywhere but you know. There's a witch who comes to St Mungo's for a recurring case of vertigo and she has to take the Knight Bus, you know?

Anyway. If you're still worried we can wait another day but it'd be really useful if you can manage it.



 **[alt\\_blaise](#) at 2013-08-22 14:09:28**


*(no subject)*

Ahead of you there. I managed it last night. It's easier in the dark, did you know? I mean, I suppose it stands to reason that you aren't distracted by seeing peripheral things or concentrating too much on the ring you're meant to be materialising in.

Whatever. I've got it.

It really is... well, once you've done it, you can't imagine what the difficulty was, can you?



 **[alt\\_padma](#) at 2013-08-22 14:25:14**

*(no subject)*

Oh, good! I should have known you'd do better when no one was watching.

**[2013-08-22 17:11:00](#)**

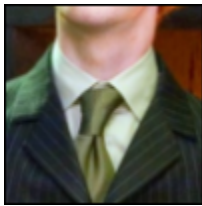
*Happy birthday, Perce!*


We have a proper present for you and all, and we'll give it to you when you can squeeze us into your ever so busy social schedule.



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

But we also wanted to say, if you want to pop round the Burrow, we have a box of chocolates we've prepared specially for your birthday. If you stop by before your dinner tonight, you can share them with those very important guests during the pudding course. It'll be a dinner to remember, no doubt!



 **[alt\\_percy](#) at [2013-08-22 22:15:08](#)**

*(no subject)*

Right.

I appreciate the sentiment, truly I do, but pull the other one, gents.

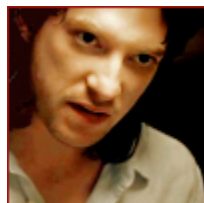


 **[alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-08-22 22:17:09](#)**

*(no subject)*

Really? You give us permission?

Excellent!



 **[alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-22 22:19:05](#)**

*Order Only*

You are SO not helping.

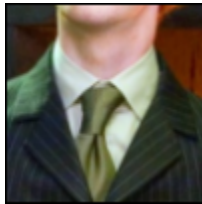
We are trying to lure him out of Lucius Malfoy's clutches, not drive him into them.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-08-22 22:24:28](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Aww, he won't believe we still consider him a proper Weasley if we stop teasing him.



 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2013-08-22 22:23:05](#)

*(no subject)*

Ha, bloody, ha. Not.

Anyway, they don't call it a 'pudding course' at Portico.

I'm not mad enough to offer round to anyone I'm trying to impress any concoction you lot have dreamed up.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-08-22 22:25:48](#)

*(no subject)*

See? You are gaining wisdom as you enter your decrepit years. Well, done, Perce!

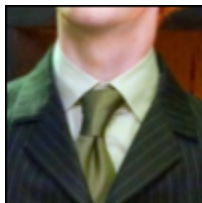
Seriously, though, happy birthday. Hope you have a great evening. Don't forget to steal enough mints for all of us back at the Burrow.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-22 22:42:26](#)

*(no subject)*

Happy birthday, Percy! I'd like to take you out to dinner soon, if we can ever find a night when our respective bosses let us go at a reasonable hour.




 [alt\\_percy](#) at [2013-08-22 22:44:16](#)

*(no subject)*

I think that would be pleasant. Thank you. Let's try to make it possible.


How are you settling in with Mr Mulciber?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-22 22:45:31](#)  
(no subject)

Well, there's certainly never a dull moment, that's for sure.




 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-08-22 22:47:51](#)  
(no subject)

Happy birthday, dear.

I love you so much, and you know your father would say the same.

I hope you--well, that you have a splendid evening tonight.




 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-08-22 22:48:57](#)  
*Order Only*

Oh, Bill.

Ugh.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-22 22:52:00](#)  
*Re: Order Only*

Cheer up, Mum. It's just one night, and he isn't lost yet.

I'm bringing something decadent home tonight that I picked up earlier today from the swanky bakery down the street. There'll be enough whipped cream and chocolate in it to drown your sorrows.

And I promise that us kids will do the dishes.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-08-23 00:54:00](#)**  
(no subject)


Yeah, happy birthday, Percy. I hope it's a good one -- or at least a quiet one!



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-08-23 00:55:16](#)**  
*ORDER ONLY*


And I hope Lucius Malfoy drowns in his bloody pudding.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-08-23 03:04:06](#)**  
*Re: ORDER ONLY*

Here, here!



 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2013-08-23 03:43:57](#)**  
(no subject)

Happy birthday, Percy.

**2013-08-22 20:57:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Sirius Black*




 [alt\\_severus](#)

Whilst I was working this afternoon, and thinking aloud, Miss Granger said something that prompted a realisation. I cannot call the page we were working from to mind closely enough: when speaking of the verbena, does the receipt call for "1½<sub>3</sub>" leaf of verbena, or "1½<sub>f3</sub>" leaf of verbena?

If it is the latter, or could possibly be read as such: the author may intend for you to pulverise the leaf, and add only the juices.

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 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-08-23 01:06:22**  
(no subject)

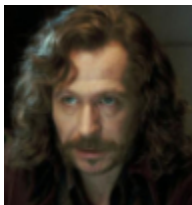
I'm not exactly right near the book, either.


But hang on.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at **2013-08-23 01:07:39**  
(no subject)

If this is an inconvenient time I am content to wait for confirmation of my theory.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-08-23 01:14:07**  
(no subject)

Okay...

There's a symbol but it's not really an f. Here, I'll draw it:

1½<sub>3</sub>

I always thought it was a smudge. At this point it wouldn't hurt to try the juice, anyway.

We're half a bath, one and possibly two bedtime stories and a round



of 'night-nights' in the garden away from getting Bea down for the evening.




 **alt\_severus** at [2013-08-23 01:20:15](#)  
(no subject)

We ought thank Miss Granger, then; it was a question of hers, when I was expounding upon the various notations potioneers have used throughout the centuries, that made me think of it.

Mind you, I am still not certain that is the answer: if it is, it will be yet another way in which this potion is exceptionally strange, as I can think of very few other potions using that preparation, which is why I interpreted the notation as drams rather than fluid drams. It is, however, worth a try.

Do not short your child time; this project is by no means urgent.



 **alt\_sirius** at [2013-08-23 01:23:28](#)  
(no subject)

Lessons on life with a toddler: Bedtime is always a contest between prog and parent. Her goal is to postpone the moment when her eyes close; ours is to make it happen sooner. Besides, taking her round the garden is Dora's job, most nights (it's certainly not mine).

Anyway, it means we're up. I can be in the lab in perhaps 30 minutes.



 **alt\_severus** at [2013-08-23 01:27:03](#)  
(no subject)

There is no rush; I have arrived and settled in, and should reach that section in another five minutes of simmer or so.




 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-08-23 01:37:31](#)  
(no subject)

Bother. That was ... explosive.

On the bright side, the potion did remain liquid through the crucial stage we were unable to shepherd it past.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-23 01:39:54](#)  
(no subject)

Small progress is still progress, I suppose.

I wonder .... You said you and Hermione were talking about notations through the centuries.

Are you using standard Imperial measures?




 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-08-23 01:41:31](#)  
(no subject)

~~We are both idiots of the highest order~~

Yes. Of course we have been.

I take it you are suggesting we should switch to the apothecaries' weights.

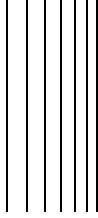


 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-23 01:44:18](#)  
(no subject)

Well, it was developed in about 1625 or something similar.

It's been copied so many times, though, I was sure somewhere along the line it had been updated for modern units of measure.

There's a set of apothecaries' weights in the shop. I'll pop down for them before I come back.



 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-08-23 01:46:11](#)**  
*(no subject)*

You needn't bring them, I know the conversions.

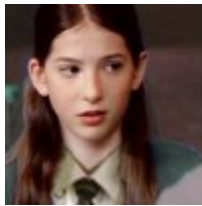
**[2013-08-22 22:44:00](#)**

*Private message to Sally-Anne Perks*

So! I understand you're dating my brother Ronald. I know we've talked a few times, but I'd like to get to know you better. Are you free tomorrow? I was thinking perhaps we could go shopping together in New London.



 [alt\\_ginny](#)




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-23 03:52:17](#)  
(no subject)

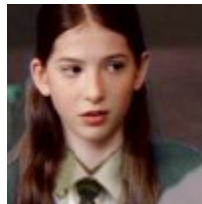
Um

yeah, okay, but I'm going to have to bring Gemma. You remember Gemma, she's come to quidditch a few times.



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-08-23 03:53:31](#)  
(no subject)

Naturally I remember Gemma. She's adorable! Of course you can bring her. Half-nine, and I'll meet you at Florian Fortescue's?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-23 03:54:54](#)  
(no subject)

Maybe I should just floo to the Burrow? If we meet anywhere that sells ice cream Gemma will want it immediately, and half-nine is a bit early to be eating a chocolate sundae.

Or you could floo here, if you want, but it's probably easier if we come to you.



 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2013-08-23 03:59:05](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Oh! Of course. I'll see you here, then.

**[2013-08-23 09:06:00](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good  
Private Message to Harry Potter*



Argh.

Hit a squad of Auror goons just as we broke camp. Sandoval was there. And Montague's older brother. There were loads of them, and they had us surrounded.

 [alt\\_ron](#)

They got Pansy and Finnigan. So we're down numbers.

Good news: Malfoy and I are loads better this morning. Bad news: they've been gone since 7:00, and if they've fought their way loose, they haven't made it back to us yet. So I guess they're well and truly caught.

We're not making much forward progress now: we think we must be getting closer to destination because we're spending so much more time detecting and clear-triggering traps. Landscape's thick with them.

How are your lot holding up?



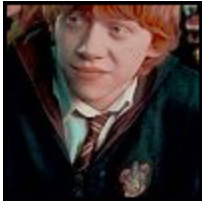
 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-23 15:25:23](#)


*(no subject)*

We got ambushed last night. They got Blaise. It's a good thing they didn't get Moon, or we'd be in real trouble, because he's the one who knows how to use the maps best.

We're in the middle of it too. Taking a breather before pushing on. I wonder if we'll get hit again today.

I'm doing okay. I got really dizzy all of a sudden this morning when I sat up, and I still haven't been on a broom. Have you tried Apparating? I know we're not supposed to for a bit. I don't think I'm going to. Not worth it, you know?



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-23 16:59:38](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, no for Apparating. Can't imagine that would go well.


Hope I don't need to. Because, of course, I'll try it if there's no other choice.

Still no sign of Pans and Finnigan. Has Zabini made it back to you? I mean, Desai said we could try to fight our way out if we got caught, but maybe they're doing more than stunning people they catch and taking them to base camp to release them. Or maybe 'dead' is done and they didn't tell us. But they would've told us, don't you think?

Anywiz, we've been really careful not to lose anyone to death by shrubbery today, because we really can't afford to lose anyone else.

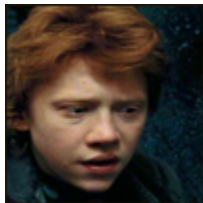
I keep expecting another attack, though. And wondering if that means we've veered off course. If we were really closing in on their base, I think they'd put up some resistance.




 **alt\_harry** at [2013-08-23 18:10:03](#)  
(no subject)

No sign so far.

Death by shrubbery is too right. Ran into some nasty Devil's snare earlier.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-08-23 19:52:02](#)  
(no subject)

Well, so. It's possible to Apparate.

I just wouldn't advise it. Blech.

We're clear now, but you know how I thought we'd surely get some resistance if we got close?

Sometimes I hate when I'm right.

Oh, and it's not just trainees out there. Auror Crouch is here. And some others. Some bloke called Mort? With a wicked stinger--he can make it hook around things like trees or boulders. Crouch is using this hex that punches all the air out of you--a concussive hex of some kind. He caught Draco bang in the chest.

In the end, our only choice was Apparating back to the spot where we stopped for lunch. Everyone knew where it was, and it's got good cover while we pull ourselves back together. Didn't lose anyone, though.

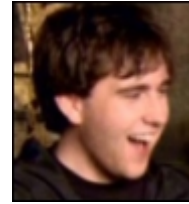


**[2013-08-23 10:05:00](#)**

*Order Only*

I APPARATED!

I missed my target the first time, and managed to dunk myself into the ocean. Not too far from shore, fortunately, so I was able to swim back to the boat landing. But I've managed it since, and never splinched myself once! And yeah, you're right, once you figure it out, you can't imagine why it was so hard before.



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

What a RELIEF!!!

And it's brilliant that I managed it here for the first time at Moddey Dhoo, so I could celebrate with my whole family.

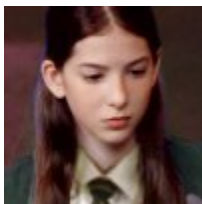


 **[alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-08-23 15:13:48](#)**

*Private message to Evelyn Longbottom*

Dad's not gonna let me try side along right away, not until I've managed to apparate fifty times or so with no problem. But I should reach that goal before we go back to school.

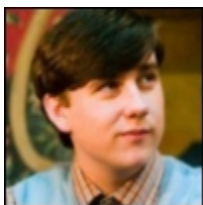
That means that as long as we can reach the apparition point right outside of school, we can get away if we have to, even without portkeys.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-23 15:56:54](#)**

*(no subject)*

Congratulations, Neville.



 **[alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-08-24 02:47:08](#)**

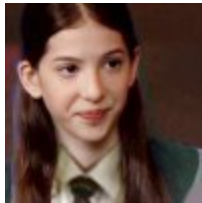
*Private message to Sally-Anne Perks*

I hope it'll be soon for you, too, Sally-Anne. I know it's awful to feel like you'll never manage it. If it helps, that feeling is no good guide to whether you can actually do it or not. I had all but given up hope

when I finally apparated for the first time.

Wish you could get away to 12 Grimmauld Place to practise. Well--except that just made me more frustrated for the longest time because it seemed like everyone was managing it but me. But I suppose it helped.

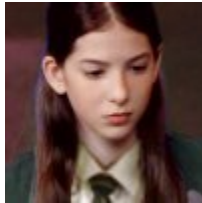
It helped even more to do it with Mum and Dad. People I especially trusted, I mean, who could advise me. That's what made it all sort of click into place.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-24 02:52:32](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks*

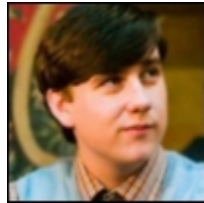
I don't know who I'd even do it with, then. If that's what it takes.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-24 02:53:07](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks*

I mean Ron and Pansy can apparate now but they can't heal me if I splinch myself, so.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-08-24 03:01:56](#)

*Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks*

I was thinking Pansy, actually, because you trust her. Although she isn't as experienced, and I have no idea how she would be as a teacher.

Maybe Madam Pomfrey would be good then, if the two of you can find some excuse to get away? I dunno, going on an herb-gathering expedition for supplies for the Hospital Wing or something, since she's taking you on as a likely student to mentor. I know, I'm grasping at straws, but maybe? She'd also be good because she could deal with any splinches that come up.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-24 04:04:32](#)

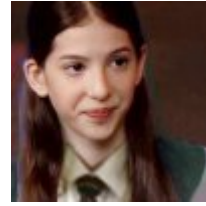
*Re: Private message to Sally-Anne Perks*

She's really busy at the beginning of the year. I don't want to pull her away from her actual duties.

It's okay. I'll be able to take the lessons at school this year -- I mean, the official ones. With a Ministry-approved teacher and a Healer standing by.

**2013-08-23 13:40:00**

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



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

I am never going to manage to Apparate, I think. Never ever ever. (Happy for you, though, Neville! Congratulations again!)

Today, instead of practicing Apparation at 12GP (which I couldn't have done anyway because I can't bring Gemma, and Gemma has been glued to my side for most of the last two weeks), I am shopping with Ginny. She wanted to get to know me better. So we're having a girls' day out. It's -- well, a little odd.

Ginny is a little patronising, but she doesn't mean to be (unlike Percy, who's utterly patronising and means every ounce of it). Here's the thing, though. She's not at all like Fred and George (who don't like rules) or like you, Ron, or even like Charlie, from what I've seen of Charlie. She's like Percy and Bill: responsible, a little cautious, the Prefect type (they haven't sent out letters yet, have they?) Which got me thinking about just how alike Bill and Percy really are. They were both Prefects and both Head Boy. They have very similar jobs -- Percy, for Lucius Malfoy, and Bill, for Corax Mulciber. They have very similar personalities, really! The real difference, the difference that defines them, is that Percy is loyal to the Lord Protector, and Bill is loyal to the Order.

(I don't know them well enough -- I especially don't know Percy well enough -- to really analyse WHY Percy is so different. I mean he knows that your family has a dodgy reputation and maybe part of why he is SO very loyal is that he believes that if he becomes wealthy and powerful he'll be able to protect your mum, and the rest of you? But I can't help thinking that if he ever found out, he'd turn every last one of you in without a moment's hesitation. So maybe he just toed the line for so long he started believing in all the lies. But, you know. If Bill had been born later -- if Charlie had been the oldest, and Bill had been Percy's twin, instead of the oldest in the family, say -- I really think he'd be just like Percy. Only maybe a little cleverer. Ginny is also a little cleverer.)


Anyway. What I'm getting at is this: Percy is a terrible risk to the Order. Everyone knows about the risk and people are careful, but that only mitigates the risk a little. If Ginny follows in his footsteps, that makes the risk even worse, because she's a little cleverer -- not with

books, I mean (Percy's brilliant with books) but at noticing things. Ginny's the youngest, she's the only girl, and she notices WAY more than Percy ever noticed.

My point is, I think we should try to make Ginny a friend. I think she could be swayed either way, and we should try to make sure she sways toward our side, not Percy's.

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 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2013-08-24 02:58:32](#)**  
(no subject)

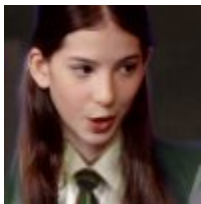
Huh, it's never occurred to me before that Bill and Percy are anything alike, but you might be on to something. They are both sort of bossy, aren't they?

I think Bill has more of a sense of humour. I wonder if that makes a difference.

I think he's a little more willing to admit it when he makes a mistake, judging from what I've read looking back over the Order Only entries. Like with Ron, with what happened last December.

I think you're right about Ginny, that it's important to get her on our side. I can help with that, maybe? I'm probably the closest to her of all of us, other than the members of her family. And she has reached out to me, trying to mend fences.

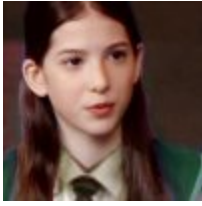
I'll try to talk to her on the train.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-24 04:29:40](#)**  
(no subject)

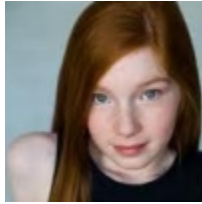
If Percy's actually convinced he's wrong, he'll apologise. He apologised to me once. It just doesn't happen very often.

Bill threw Ron into a wall because he asked to join the Order. Not much to do at that point OTHER than apologise, is there?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-24 04:30:12](#)  
(no subject)


Oh, and sitting with her on the train would be a good idea.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-08-24 04:39:24](#)  
(no subject)

I might be able to sit with her as well.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-24 18:56:24](#)  
(no subject)

Ugh.


Ugh ugh ugh.

I will be really glad when we're done with this.

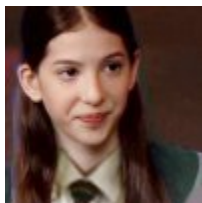
I'm stuck in a tree, and Thomas is headed off to try and free some random person who's holding codes while we distract the Aurors and trainees who are hunting us. Aurors. Bloody Crouch.

and they kept us



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-24 18:57:12](#)  
(no subject)

...sorry. One just walked under my tree so I had to be quiet. They kept us up all night, and I just want to be done.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-24 19:02:14](#)  
(no subject)

It doesn't exactly sound jolly.

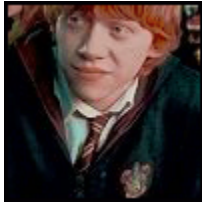
**2013-08-23 15:07:00**


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

On our way. Blaise is coming with.



 [alt\\_pansy](#)



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-08-23 22:22:29**

*(no subject)*

You okay?

Watch for chestnuts: I'd guess twenty percent of them are traps.

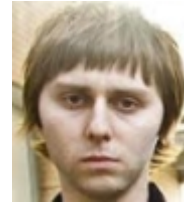
And watch out for Aurors, too, obviously. But I expect you thought of that!

**2013-08-23 23:27:00**

*Private Message to Harry and Linus*

We made it out. We're heading to the rally point.


I say, we're taking rather heavy fire but we've managed to evade them for the moment. If I've time I'll send a message to Greengrass and Patil, what.



 [alt\\_justin](#)

-F-F



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-08-24 04:38:26**

*(no subject)*

On our way.

Nicely done.

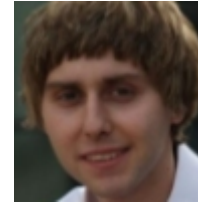


**2013-08-23 23:30:00**

*Private Message to Greengrass and Patil*

We made it out. We're heading to the rally point.

I say, we're taking rather heavy fire but we've managed to evade them for the moment. I've sent the same message to Harry and Moon.



 [alt\\_justin](#)

Has Zabini managed to rejoin the group or is he staying with Ron's?

-F-F

**2013-08-24 09:00:00**

*Private Message to A Dolohov and S  
Desai*

Trust you enjoyed a restful night. We've had a most entertaining one ourselves, teaching children what proper nightmares are.



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

And now there's a hunt on.

**2013-08-24 11:50:00**

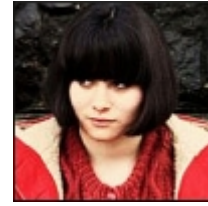
*Private Message to Ron and Thomas*

In a tree. Again.

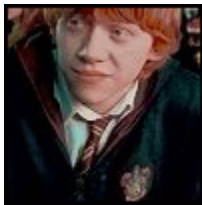
Joy.


Staying put for now.

I'll let you know if I see anything.



 [alt\\_pansy](#)



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-08-24 19:12:26**

*(no subject)*

Yeah, all right.


But if you catch your second wind, try drawing them after you again. Especially if we hear from Dean.

When he tries to break back out with the courier, that's when we really need to create a diversion.

Sorry there wasn't much to send along for lunch. I didn't plan on feeding Zabini yesterday and this morning.

Just as well he got caught again. I mean, I'm sorry he splinched. That was a bit horrible. But still, it's not as if he was any help to us. And we had to feed him.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at **2013-08-24 19:22:05**

*(no subject)*

I've got my broom. Once we hear from him, I'll see if I can get a glimpse of him at all, to help warn him, and if I can't, I'll fly like I've got something important so they'll think I have the codes.

Ugh.

Too right about Zabini.

**2013-08-24 12:45:00**

*Private Message to Linus*

Linus!

I'm sorry you had a bit of a rough day earlier this week--I didn't see your PM right away and I'm sorry I missed it.



 [alt\\_lavender](#)

Anyhow--Zabini is a pillock and you shouldn't pay him any mind. And I'm sure Professor Dolohov will get over being cross with you.

Even though I miss you loads, I actually do understand that what you're doing is important for serving our Protectorate and I'm really proud of you!


It wouldn't suit me, but we each serve in our own way. Speaking of which, I'm having tea with Professor Carpenter this afternoon. She's sure to ask me to divine from my cup after, and I do hope it goes well!

As for Parvati's and my day out--it was quite enjoyable really; we stopped in her mum's shop and got a preview of some of the fall fashions and that was pretty snitch. Parvati spent the entire time we were at Fortescue's flirting with the Ministry apprentices at the next table though--which was fun for her but not as much fun for me.

See you soon!

Xoxoxoxo  
Lav



 [alt\\_linus](#) at **2013-08-25 18:28:23**

*(no subject)*

Soon will come even sooner than expected, as all we are required to do before leaving is solve a set of sequential puzzles of reasonable but not overwhelming difficulty -- at least, not overwhelming so far. Marvolo asked me to work with him and a few of his mates as a team, which seems quite logical, and I have acquiesced. I trust that we shall make short work of these puzzles and that I shall soon be sending you a message from the comforts of dear old home.

Xs and Os expedited to you!

**2013-08-24 13:35:00**

*Private message to Ron Weasley*

Safe for the moment, but holed up. (In an actual hole, it's under some tree roots in the side of a hill.) I was being pursued, ducked in here because I hoped I might lose them, and they haven't followed but I can hear them.



 [alt\\_seamus](#)

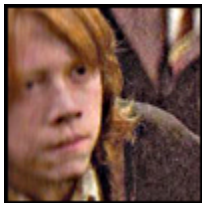
You want me to try to fight my way out, or stay here and hope they give up and move on?


---



 [alt\\_seamus](#) at **2013-08-24 18:38:02**  
(no subject)

I mean right now there's at least one still looking, maybe two. So at least I'm a distraction? I don't know. I just don't want to wind up captured AGAIN



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-08-24 19:06:22**  
(no subject)

Our goal has to be to hold their attention and give Dean whatever chance we can to get into that camp and out again with the courier and those codes. We've only got today, and time's running out.

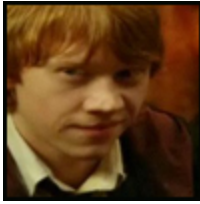
So, yeah, if you can get back out and draw them off, that's what we need.


Anywiz, what's the worst that can happen? You get caught and dragged off to a holding cell again. It wasn't that bad, was it?



 [alt\\_seamus](#) at **2013-08-24 19:09:08**  
(no subject)


Okay. I'll be a bloody distraction. I'd be happier about it if at least it won't be with Zabini again.



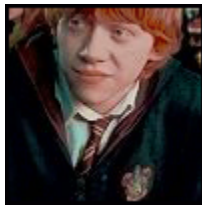
 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-24 19:14:53](#)**  
(no subject)


Heh. You mean he wasn't much fun to be stuck with in a holding pen? That's such a surprise!



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2013-08-24 19:21:59](#)**  
(no subject)

He's such a prat. You saw what it did to my wrists, getting loose. Zabini pretended he was trying to work at it, but mostly he was sitting back and waiting for me to finish, because he knew I wouldn't leave him, not after what they said.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-24 19:42:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Dolohov and Desai, you mean? About working together against the common foe and all, yeah. Well.

I mean, I'd've been tempted to leave Zabini to find his own bloody way out. Especially if he wasn't trying at all. What an arse.

Or did you mean the Aurors said something that made you think you ought to save his sorry tail?




 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2013-08-25 04:06:46](#)**  
(no subject)

I meant Dolohov and Desai, yeah. It was still awfully tempting to cut Parkinson loose and leave Zabini, but it wouldn't have looked good.

Anyway. I'm about done in -- you are too, I reckon. I wanted to say, though, you did a good job. It was luck that Marvolo's team made it in with their courier and we didn't -- Dean was close, with the codes, but yeah.

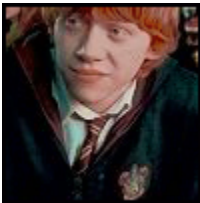



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-25 04:18:32](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks. You look like you're asleep or I'd tell you instead of writing. They kept us in debriefing-- Harry and me--until we weren't making sense any more. I'm not really now

much-

Just. You really came through. The whole time. Cheers.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-24 19:07:44](#)**  
(no subject)

And if you do get caught, try setting up an almighty ruckus so they need backup to bring you in.



 **[alt\\_seamus](#)** at **[2013-08-24 19:09:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Okay.

**2013-08-24 14:22:00**

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo and Padma Patil*




 **alt\_blaise**

I've just got loose after spending all morning captive again. And I'm splinched. Well, they healed it, but it bloody hurts.

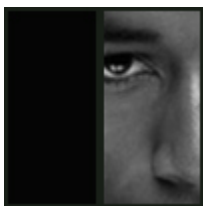
Are you even out there? I'm getting conflicting directional signals from the charm, and I'm not bloody well tromping the wrong direction just to get myself caught or killed again. Just tell me where you need me to be, and I'll come.



 **alt\_harry** at **2013-08-24 18:48:24**  
(no subject)

We're in the swampy area with all the mud. They set up something to make it so we can't use our compasses properly, so that must be messing with your charm too.

They set up loads of new traps, and it's slow going. J is injured, and the package doesn't have a wand and won't use a broom. Maybe if you can get in the air, that could help. Once you get close, let us know. Try to keep a bit of distance so you can let us know in advance if there's an ambush, and maybe pick some of them off while they're trying to get to us. I'll send Daphne to join you once you're in visual distance.



 **alt\_blaise** at **2013-08-24 18:56:05**  
(no subject)

All right, then. I'm not sure how airworthy the broom is after-

I'll do my best to locate you without drawing pursuit.  
Don't want to lead their airborne straight towards you.



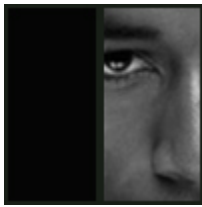



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-24 19:02:32](#)  
(no subject)

Point. Try to keep a low profile. I'd rather you take the first shot than the other way round. And if you do draw attention, try leading them off best you can.

We're so bloody close to being done with this.

I could really use you if you can get here.



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-08-24 18:52:54](#)  
*Private Message to Padma*

I've been through bloody hell. And now I'm meant to fly to the rescue?

I tell you, last night was horrendous. They pelted us with hexed chestnuts: an absolute rain of terror. First it was itching hexes, then swarms of bugs--probably illusionary, but that's hardly material when it's dead of night and you can't sleep for things crawling on you.

And then it was bloody terrifying noises, including the sound and smell of a forest fire rushing up on our encampment--and if that was an illusion, it convinced a huge herd of roe deer, which came burst in on us, trampled our tent and would have killed all of us if they hadn't suddenly veered off up the bank. I'm not exaggerating when I say the whole night was wave after wave of utter terror. And by morning, the whole place was marshy and completely overgrown with stinging nettles.

And after that night, Weasley says our strategy is to Apparate out behind the line of Aurors that had us hemmed in, attack them with disorientation hexes, and then scatter so they'll chase us. Chase us.

Well. Naturally, I splinched. But I expect all things considered, I'd rather have spent this morning in that holding pen than out playing dodge the hexes in the woods.

Is Marvolo serious you're bogged down in mud?

Ugh.

**2013-08-24 16:22:00**

*Private Message to Ron*

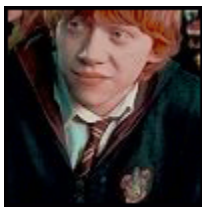
Looks like Thomas is off! I got to do some big & noisy stuff--that was fun--plus a couple of strafing runs in the air that I'm not sure did much.




 [alt\\_susan](#)

Hiding now--hoping to pop up and get them after me again, lead 'em on a wild goose chase.

Footsteps--got to stop writing n




 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-08-24 20:35:21**  
(no subject)

Excellent. Keep it up, but be careful. And if you go down, go kicking and screaming. Make them work to take you.

What about the courier? Witch or wizard? In reasonable shape or injured? What could you tell?

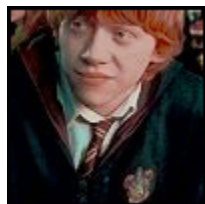



 [alt\\_susan](#) at **2013-08-24 20:49:20**  
(no subject)

Whew. Auror went past--this thicket is good cover, but prickly.

He had the the courier with him--a short, dark-haired witch. She looked a little scraped up but otherwise all right.

I saw them get going but lost track of him while I was distracting--he sort of blinked out and I think he's doing short-range Apparation. I can't imagine he's going far--especially Side-Alonging the courier.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-08-24 21:13:08**  
(no subject)

Yeah, I'm playing hide and seek with them, too. I just tried to key to Dean's position but I missed him. I think something's wonky with the charms today, anywiz. Have you tried using them at all?

And about Dean: unless he's doing loads better now we really need him to, I don't think he can Apparate very far at all. Especially if he's having to side-along someone else.

Hope they don't splinch.

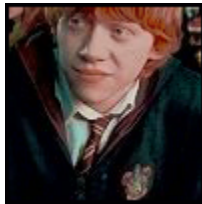



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-08-24 21:37:57](#)  
(no subject)

Whoa! Just saw Thomas on his broom again but he doesn't have the courier any more.

D'you suppose he stashed her somewhere and just has the codes now? Least he hasn't splinched.

Time for big flashy distraction #2?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-24 22:27:06](#)  
(no subject)

Do it!

**2013-08-24 19:45:00**

*Hogwarts!*

It is pleasant to be back at Hogwarts.

It is even more pleasant to be able to formally announce that I will be returning as Headmistress this year.



 [alt\\_mcgonagall](#)

I look forward to seeing your smiling faces, dear students.

---




 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-08-25 17:08:47](#)

*(no subject)*

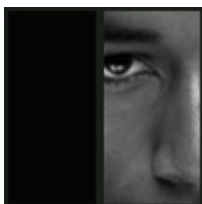
That is excellent news indeed!



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-25 17:30:50](#)

*(no subject)*

Looking forward to it, Headmistress.



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-08-25 17:43:48](#)

*(no subject)*

I think we're all expecting an excellent year ahead.

**2013-08-25 09:09:00**

CCF

Well, wow.

Don't think I've ever been quite so ready to sleep as I was last night, and yet I was awake as soon as first light started. And that's still pretty early. Not that I want winter to start, mind you, but if I'm going to be waking up with the birds, it'd be nicer if morning came a little later.



 [alt\\_ron](#)

Waking up bang early. Guess that's one of the things I've learned out here this past fortnight. One of them.

To my lot: good show. Everyone did really well. I mean that. And we did well together, which is saying something, y'know?

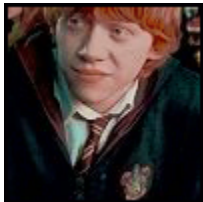
And Marvolo: well done, you! Pulling off what your lot did was right impressive.


So. Who wants to come out for some distance flying on our own this week?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-25 14:47:47](#)  
(no subject)

Me.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-25 15:34:24](#)  
(no subject)

You.

Awesome.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-25 15:27:02](#)

*Private message to Ron*

Gemma was bouncing on my bed this morning all of about ten minutes before the sun came up. So I don't know if I got more sleep than you this morning, though I'm certainly better rested for the fortnight.

I know you have to see your family (especially your mum) and all that but let me know when you're free, you can either come here or I can meet you, okay? I've missed you.



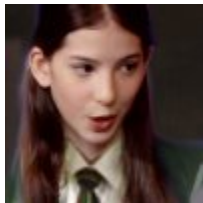
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-25 15:45:44](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron*

Yeah. I don't know when we're getting away from here. I thought after breakfast, but there's still something after lunch, apparently. I reckon it has to do with tokens we had to find last week, but who knows. They were hanging in sacks in the mess tent before we left, but they weren't there this morning.

Anywiz, I don't know when we'll get away. So, yeah. Tonight after supper? Or tomorrow morning? I'll have loads of chores, though. After messing up that message to Susan. You may have to come help me muck out the goat pens and clean all the other things Mum's thought up.

I miss you, too.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-25 16:41:09](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron*

What do you reckon that if I come to help you muck out the goat pens, your Mum will get all flustered and say you don't have to do it because she doesn't want to make ME do it?

It's worth putting up with the goat pens if I get to see you, but only just, I'll have you know.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-08-25 17:38:30**

*Re: Private message to Ron*

Heh.

Wizard.

Still don't know when we'll get home. They've got us solving puzzles. No, really.

Pansy and I are working on it together. It's okay. They said we can work in groups. Still. It's codes and crosswords and coded crosswords and other impossible things. Well, not impossible, but really? Just want to leave, already!



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2013-08-25 17:54:01**

*Re: Private message to Ron*

I'm good at that sort of thing. Too bad I'm not there to help.

I am meeting Pansy this afternoon. I could meet you this evening if I won't be intruding, or tomorrow. Let me know when they let you go home, though.



 **[alt\\_susan](#) at 2013-08-25 15:30:22**

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

I'd like to, but I'm not sure what Mum will have to say. She about did her nut when she got that notice about our breaking the Apparition statutes--said I ought to choose friends with better judgement and didn't I know the money was going to have to come out of my sibs' school fees and all that.

I told her I'd pay as much of it as I could out of my YPL counselor dosh, which calmed her down some...but still. I can't exactly tell her our reasons and now she thinks everyone I hang around with is some sort of thrill-seeking hooligan and don't I know I have to uphold a higher standard since we aren't pure and that sort of thing.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-25 15:53:22](#)**

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

Oh, that reeks.

Sorry I was so stupid. I've got a little bit stashed away. I could help you pay it if Mum doesn't make me pay ours. She hasn't said.

Is your Mum going to make you stay home the rest of hols? I mean if there's something at Laszlo's this week, do you think you'll be able to think up a cover?

Do you think she'll still be cross by Christmas hols?



 **[alt\\_susan](#)** at **[2013-08-25 17:03:28](#)**

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

It does indeed.

It's partly my fault anyway--but I'm not too proud to say yes if it means not taking away from Pete's first-year kit.

Dunno what Mum'll do actually. It's not like I've been in loads of trouble before (I'm not Ed!), but she's been worried about my friends ever since I started hanging around with Pansy when we were in second year.

I'm guessing Laszlo's will be all right though--I mean, Tonks'll be there and she's a Responsible Adult and all.




 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-25 17:36:55](#)**

*(no subject)*

Count me in.





 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-25 17:39:49](#)**  
(no subject)

Wizard.

How are you doing on these puzzles? Come join me and Pans. The faster we get done, the better!



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-25 18:19:49](#)**  
(no subject)

Sure. Linus might help too.

**[2013-08-25 11:19:00](#)**

*Private Message to Moon*

Hey, Linus.

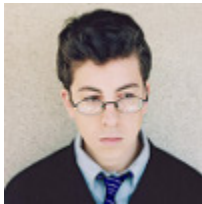
I was wondering if you'd be up for making a bit of a group, working on this thing together. I know you're ace at puzzles and codes and everything, and the sooner we all get done, the sooner we all get to leave.




 [alt\\_harry](#)

You up for it?

---




 [alt\\_linus](#) at **[2013-08-25 18:27:22](#)**  
(no subject)

Definitely! We shall crush the puzzles and leave their smoking remains in our wake. Excelsior!

Who else is involved?



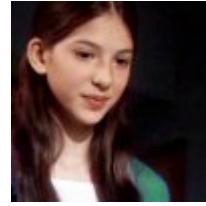
 [alt\\_harry](#) at **[2013-08-25 20:46:29](#)**  
(no subject)

Pans, Ron, Draco. And whoever else wants to, really.

**2013-08-25 11:54:00**

*Private message to Pansy*

Is your Mum expecting you back at Prospero's, or are you going back to New London?




 **alt\_sally\_anne**

I've missed you. I want to see you. I completely understand if you want a bath and a good night's rest first, though.

I haven't done my school shopping yet, if you want to go together.

---



 **alt\_pansy** at **2013-08-25 17:36:08**  
(no subject)

I am headed straight to New London just as soon as we finish these puzzle things.

Then, I am going to take a proper bath, and Hitty will feed us proper food, and we can spend the rest of the day doing whatever we want.

I can't wait to see you again. I missed you so much that it hurt. It was so hard to do everything, because there was a part of me that was missing.

And now we're almost done, and things can go back to being right again.

**2013-08-25 13:51:00**

*Order Only*

So I wanted to let you know I talked to Maureen.



She wants to escape. I didn't tell her much, not that she'd be able to have a wand and learn magic, I just said I knew of people who had a sanctuary for muggleborn wizards and witches and was she interested and she said yes so quickly I thought

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

well

I guess I should probably tell you this: I thought she'd probably been thinking about this for a while, which means she suspected. Which means -- well. Maybe that the information about the button got back to her.

Anyway I told her it wouldn't be until after I'd left for school, so that no one would think I was involved, and she agreed that would be a good idea. She thinks that she'd be able to slip out. There's a windmill about a quarter mile from the Stretton's house, she suggested that would be a good meeting place. We agreed on September 3rd, but if it has to be put off I'll post about Quidditch in my diary. I mean I'll have a post with 'Quidditch' as the title. (Well, if you want to tell me right now it doesn't work, I'll let her know in person. But if we have to put things off on the third... yeah.)

The person who meets her should tell her they're the friend Sally-Anne told her about. I did tell her they'd be side-along apparating her, just so she knows that, and I also told her not to say goodbye to anyone, no matter how tempting it is. Not any of the other servants, not Gemma, not Jeremy. She has to act exactly the same until she slips out.

She doesn't have a way to send us a message but if you go and she's not there, she wasn't able to slip out.

Does that all seem like a plan? Compared to slipping into a muggle camp and talking people into handing over their babies it ought to be a lark.

---



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-08-25 23:52:40](#)**  
(no subject)

Someone ought to be able to make that work. Dora can come if no one else is free.

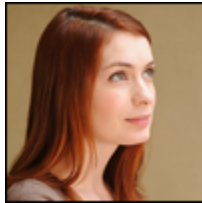
rescued? Alice, where should Maureen be taken once she's




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-26 00:18:03](#)**  
(no subject)

I think you should take her to Moddey and give her a wand and let her learn, with Sarah and Colin and all the others. She's not THAT much older than I am but she never had a chance to go to Hogwarts.

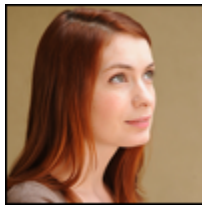
She has a journal, by the way. I told her to bring it, if she can.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-08-26 02:15:26](#)**  
(no subject)

I think she'd fit in rather well with Patty and Lisa, given their backgrounds, and it seems like she's a similar age to both.

Yes, that'd be fine by me.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-08-26 02:16:59](#)**  
(no subject)

I remember you talking about Jeremy before. Do you think he'll present any sort of problem, were she to disappear?

Is she quite all right with leaving him behind entirely?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-27 03:01:12](#)  
(no subject)

I don't know. He'll be sad, that's for sure. She said that she thought we could trust him, but she was also willing to leave him.

**[2013-08-25 19:00:00](#)**

*Private Message to Antonin*

**The large meeting with several of my healers is Thursday morning. I should be cleared for work, as we discussed, side-along apparition and to begin flying again. Assuming all goes well with the healers I will be in Hogsmeade on Friday to finalize my lodgings in one of the flats over Madam Rosemerta's. The healers settled on the walk or broom ride being more advantageous than overly stressful.**



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

**Will you be back at the castle Friday afternoon? If you aren't available then I'll see you Monday morning to begin my new position.**

**Sincerely,  
Cedric**



---

 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-08-26 04:05:50](#)**  
(no subject)

My apologies, dear boy; I did not see this until just now, having spent the afternoon and evening finishing up the CCF work.

I'm very pleased your Healers seem sanguine about the rate of your recovery, and a flat in Hogsmeade seems a very good idea; rooms in the castle would inevitably make it harder to make the transition from student to adult professional. Still, you must tell me if you are finding the travel to be more stressful than advantageous; I know, all too well, the temptation to bull through, and how damaging it can be to one's recovery. I will not fault you for weakness in that recovery, so long as you are utterly truthful with me; I will only be cross if you attempt to overdo it.

My current plans, barring last-minute commitments, are to return to Hogwarts Saturday afternoon, but you'll quickly find, in keeping my schedule, that said schedule is more fluid than one might wish; I cannot guarantee those plans will not change. Let us meet on Monday instead; you can help with wrangling my first classes. If you'd like to come up for the Feast on Sunday, I could certainly find things for you to do in preparation beforehand, but it isn't necessary.

Regards,  
Antonin



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-08-27 02:58:17](#)  
(no subject)

**It's no trouble. I look forward to starting on Monday. ~~I can't wait to get out of the house~~ I look forward to doing something productive in addition to all of my exercises.**



**[2013-08-25 19:03:00](#)**

CCF

Professor Dolohov and Auror Desai deserve quite a load of thanks for organising this year's trip. I say, it was quite educational, challenging *and* I'm sure applicable to many situations one might find oneself facing at some time or other. It was also a valuable opportunity to interact with one's classmates in ways we'd not before had the chance.



 [alt\\_justin](#)

Congratulations, again, to all of us, as well, for meeting each challenge with perseverance and ingenuity, what!

As there's only a week before we go to Hogwarts, Mrs Jugson has plans to take us to Diagon Alley for our supplies. I'm not yet sure whether that shall be Tuesday or Wednesday. (I've asked if we might stay at home tomorrow! I say, I was having trouble staying awake at the supper table and I suspect I might sleep all day tomorrow if given the chance!)

Ron, old man, I did see your invitation about flying but as you know, that shan't be possible. I'm well sorry to miss it - and Tea Appreciation on Wednesday, Harry. On the other hand, once I've got my books for the term I look forward to glancing through them to see what's in store for our N.E.W.T.s.

See you all in a week, what?

-Justin



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **[2013-08-26 00:13:28](#)**

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

Hullo, love,

I've missed you so much. I wanted to write but it was bally well all we could do to keep going sometimes.

As for whether we learned things that are practical--well, they were, dash it, but mostly for arming oneself to battle against the very people who were training us. Everyone else saw that as an advantage, what, you know: Let them train us so we may turn the

tables against them. I say, I'm not so sure. There's something to be said for one's teachers knowing all one's tricks. Luckily we've whatever the Order might teach us, so we've a hope of surprising them, if and when that ever becomes necessary.

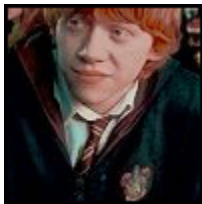
At any rate, it was bally well exhausting, often extremely frustrating, frequently exciting but never quite lost the feeling that we've been recruited into some private army Professor Dolohov hopes to raise. I'm dashed glad to be done.

Will your Aunt let you have a visit? If not, perhaps you could convince her to take you and Draco to Diagon the same day we go. I do think it shall be Tuesday; Mrs Jugson's very anxious to get everything done before we take the train back to school, what. At any rate, if you go on Tuesday I'm sure we can convince her to go then. And we could see each other, perhaps.

If not, it's only a week, I suppose. Has anyone said what will happen while we're at school? I don't bally well see how they can stop us seeing each other there.

It's going to be a long week if we can't see one another, what.

-Justin



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-26 00:22:58](#)

*(no subject)*

It doesn't seem quite real, being home. After all that. I feel as if I should be reapplying my Muffliato every half hour. Only, that just leads to giving Mum a horrible fright and making her smash whatever she was holding. Heh. Who says we weren't learning practical skills?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-26 00:28:02](#)

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

Sorry to hear they're still keeping you in. That's a shame.

I got a list on twenty-four inches of parchment of chores Mum's thought up, so I may not be much freer than you. I'm not officially on house arrest, though.

See you on the train if not before.

**2013-08-25 19:22:00**

*(no subject)*

It's been a long two weeks, but I think we all learned a lot.

Good work, everyone.



 [alt\\_harry](#)

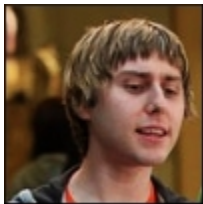


 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-08-26 02:25:24**

*Private Message to Justin*

Thanks for being my right hand, Justin. It really helped to have someone else who could Apparate, and I knew you'd have my back.

Anyways. Good job. And really, thanks.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-08-27 03:11:44**

*Re: Private Message to Justin*

Harry,

Well, one doesn't wish to let down the side, what?

It's kind of you to say so, old man.

-Justin



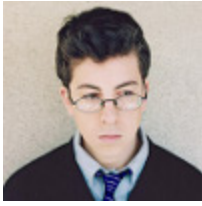
 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-08-26 02:27:11**


*Private Message to Linus*

Hey, Linus.

I just wanted to let you know that our team really couldn't have done it without you. Thanks for taking point, and sorting out the maps and all the booby traps and things. You're really good at figuring things out, and I knew who to ask if I didn't know something.

I'm glad you ended up on our team.




 **[alt\\_linus](#)** at **[2013-08-28 04:02:42](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Linus*

Why, thank you, Harry. It was my deepest pleasure to assist, I assure you.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-26 02:31:22](#)**


*Private Message to Daphne*

Hey, Daphs

Thanks for being such a solid team member. You always came through when I needed everyone to get something done, you kept everyone from getting too tetchy, and your ideas about camouflage when we were camping were brilliant. I knew you'd be the one who'd come up with creative ideas about how to pull things off.

Good job. And thanks.



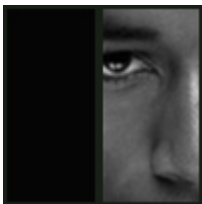
 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-26 02:37:16](#)**

*Private Message to Blaise*

Hey, Blaise.

I know we didn't start off as teammates, but once you came on board, you did a great job, and I'm really glad you ended up being a part of our team. You really pulled through for all of us on more than one occasion, and even though you took a lot of hits during our last exercise, you kept coming, and I really respect you for that.

Anyways. Thanks.

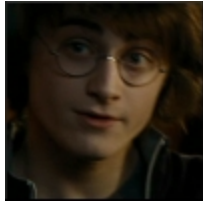


 **[alt\\_blaise](#)** at **[2013-08-26 20:05:02](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Blaise*

Cheers, Marvolo. It's nice to have one's contributions appreciated.

Of course, I was merely responding to your leadership.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-27 01:30:39](#)

*Re: Private Message to Blaise*

Oh, of course.

I try to be as inspirational as possible to everyone I know. After all, I am a shining beacon on a hill.

Tow row.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-26 02:41:47](#)

*Private Message to Ernie*

Hey, Ernie.

Thanks for all your hard work. You were quick on your feet, and whenever I needed someone to step up and take on something in a hurry, I knew you'd be right there. That idea you had about knocking the holes into the walls was ace, and you did a great job keeping everyone moving when we did fieldwork.

Anyways. Thanks, and good job.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-26 02:45:20](#)

*Private Message to Padma*

Padma;

I know you didn't start off as part of our team, but once you came on board, you contributed a lot, and I'm glad you ended up with us. You knew so many really useful spells, and you held your own against those trainees. I'm also glad you were around to help take charge when I wasn't feeling well.

So thanks, and good job.



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-08-26 22:51:25](#)


*Re: Private Message to Padma*

Cheers, Harry! It really all worked out for the best, didn't it?

Did you sleep most of today? I certainly did! I

couldn't believe how exhausted I was--well, I mean, I *could* believe it, of course, but I was surprised all the same.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-27 01:25:45](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Padma*

Yeah.

And when I wasn't sleeping I was eating.

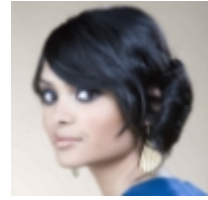
We really did a lot. I'm glad we get time to not do stuff before school.

**2013-08-26 18:51:00**

*Private Message to Zabini*

How are you feeling?

I still can't *believe* after all we did to secure those bloody tokens all we got was one extra for our trouble. He might have told us it would be useless to nick the others.



 **alt\_padma**

I sent thank-you cards to him and Desai, anyway--if they're continuing to manage CCF this year it's likely worthwhile to stay in their good graces, even if they didn't appreciate our finding loopholes in the challenges.

What did your note from Marvolo say? Might be interesting to compare.

Oh, and when are you going to Diagon Alley for your supplies and things?



**2013-08-26 21:58:00**

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



So. Anyone recovered enough to want to go flying tomorrow?

 **alt\_sally\_anne**

I may have Jeremy with me. I think he's put some sort of charm on the broom shed, if I get my broom out he's THERE less than a minute later.

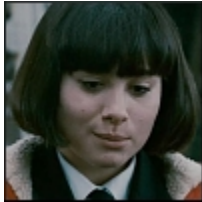
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 **alt\_harry** at **2013-08-27 04:07:25**  
(no subject)

I can go Wednesday, and to the thing Ron's planning, but not tomorrow.

Have fun though.



 **alt\_pansy** at **2013-08-27 04:08:08**  
(no subject)

As long as you take it easy on us!

**2013-08-27 22:08:00**

*Order Only: I've found a building!*



 [alt\\_molly](#)

If you'll remember, awhile back I had the idea of taking the income I've been receiving from the stately home I've been renting out (through the Repopulation Office) and using it to buy or rent a building which could be used as an incubator for new businesses (including, if we're careful and set up the parchmentwork correctly, muggleborn entrepreneurs). It's simply ridiculous how long this taken me to find the right building but with a great deal of searching, I've found what I'm convinced is the perfect place!

It's quite an oddly shaped building, more than big enough for our needs, yet CHEAP, with a colourful history. The main part of the structure was originally built as a Muggle school, and then when the school was closed, part of it was turned into a warehouse, and eventually into artist cooperative space. There were plans for awhile to turn part of it into a restaurant, so a commercial kitchen was put in, but then the financing fell through and so it was put on the market again. The first floor has cavernous spaces, and a common area and, as I said, a commercial kitchen. Perhaps that could be divided, and part used as a potions laboratory? There's one area which I think could be finished: perhaps as display space to show what the residents of the building are producing, or perhaps even a store, as we get more established? The second floor has the separate rooms/suites that were used for individual artists, so they have individually locked doors, with plumbing in many of the rooms. These, I think, could be spaces that individuals could rent out as they're getting their business ideas off the ground.


It's so hodgepodge, because of all the different owners and uses it went through, that it gives me the same feeling as the Burrow, so I'm totally comfortable in it. Odd skylights, unexpected twists and turns in the corridors and staircases, that sort of thing. The building is a warm brick overgrown with ivy. The bathrooms, frankly, are a disgrace, but magic makes that easy to fix. Bill was a little doubtful initially, but Fred and George and I see so much potential, and a licensing inspection determined that the building itself is quite sound.

Fred and George have already picked out the corner they want to use for Weasley Wizarding Whizbangs. There's plenty of room for working on their projects for Fu as well.

Any ideas for what we can name the place? In its latest incarnation, it was known as 'the Hamilton building,' but I want something a little better than that!

---



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-08-28 03:12:04](#)**

*(no subject)*

Something sentimental in me wants to suggest the Hope building. Because you could spin that to say that it means the hopes of the people who are starting their businesses, but we'd all know what it really

meant.



 **[alt\\_lee](#)** at **[2013-08-28 11:32:19](#)**

*(no subject)*

I'm in to help, Mrs Weasley.

Also got some news about the press, but no time to explain this morning.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-08-28 20:38:03](#)**

*(no subject)*

That's wonderful, Molly.

Let me know if there's anything I could do to help as you fix her up. I'm not the best with painting charms, but I can move things or pack up and shift rubbish or clean windows or wash floors.

Really, I'll do anything you ask. So do, please, ask!



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2013-08-28 23:44:45](#)**

*Private message to Pansy Parkinson*

Thank you so much, dear, for your assistance with the capital I needed to close the deal. I'm sorry I found it right before you had to go back to school, so you wouldn't have very much time--if any--to see it. But it's exactly within the parameters we discussed, and I'm sure you'll be quite pleased.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-29 05:09:29](#)

*Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson*

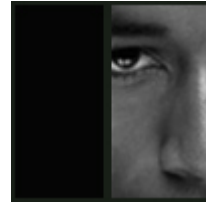
I'm glad. It sounds like it'll do what we need to.

I'll try my best to stop by tomorrow. I've got some things to sort out with Fred and George before I head back to Hogwarts anyways.

**[2013-08-28 10:22:00](#)**

*Private Message to Padma Patil*

Have you missed me terribly? I can tell you I've missed you! And I did try to get in touch, but Mother has been, well--



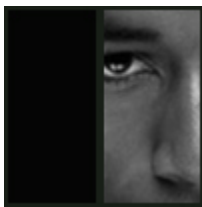
 **[alt\\_blaise](#)**

I sat down for breakfast the first morning, opened my book to catch up with the world, and she took it away. She's wanted my complete attention ever since. Well, through breakfast this morning. Perhaps she's over it now: she's gone off to Madam Ardenia's by herself, at least.

But, honestly. Breakfast, shopping, luncheon, cards with her set, fresh air meditation (she's quite mad about this at the moment, and now I've been kitted out with the silks and cushions and personal pavilion it requires), then supper and soirée. Monday it was with the Rowles; Tuesday was Runge père et fils; tonight we're having Teds and his father. She's being odd about her plans for tomorrow, and I've an idea she expects I won't be pleased with whatever she's planned.

I realise that's not an appealing lead-up for an invitation, but I wonder if you'd come for supper tomorrow. I can assure you that the meal itself will be more than palatable. And Mother's after-supper entertainments never disappoint. My guess is that tomorrow we'll be having musicians in, probably one of the consort ensembles.

Oh. And you should know that Mr Cooper will not be joining us. He's got several commissions that are taking his attention.



---

 **[alt\\_blaise](#)** at **[2013-08-28 14:53:13](#)**

*(no subject)*

You asked about Marvolo in your last. Here's what he said to me:


Hey, Blaise.

I know we didn't start off as teammates, but once you came on board, you did a great job, and I'm really glad you ended up being a part of our team. You really pulled through for all of us on more than one occasion, and even though you took a lot of hits during our last exercise, you kept coming, and I really respect you for that.

Anyways. Thanks.

Basically unobjectionable if not exactly warm. But that's Marvolo: awkward, but means well.



 **alt\_padma** at [2013-08-28 21:28:37](#)  
(no subject)

Hm, okay, yeah. That's really similar to what he wrote to me:


Padma:

I know you didn't start off as part of our team, but once you came on board, you contributed a lot, and I'm glad you ended up with us. You knew so many really useful spells, and you held your own against those trainees. I'm also glad you were around to help take charge when I wasn't feeling well.

So thanks, and good job.

It kinda sounded like a form letter so I was curious. But I guess it's different enough. I mean, it sounds like he tried to individualise the notes. Whatever. The point was that we did our utmost no matter which team we were on.

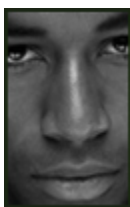


 **alt\_padma** at [2013-08-28 16:27:11](#)  
(no subject)

Fresh air meditation is absolutely amazing only I've never been kitted out with a personal pavilion for it! We use a little prayer rug and yes, a cushion's a good thing.

Well. It's not the worst invitation I've ever received, so, all right. ~~Er, does she know? I mean, am I meant to be a date or a mate or are we officially going out or~~ I think it's probably best if we just told her we're just mates, yeah? I mean, I don't really need word getting back to my mum that I've been seeing someone exclusively who isn't an Indian.

I mean. Unless that would make things even more awkward, your inviting someone who isn't even really close.




 **alt\_blaise** at [2013-08-28 20:27:32](#)  
(no subject)

We can handle it anyway you'd prefer. I have a standing agreement with Mother that I may have a plus-one for any of her occasions. She'll be pleased without concerning herself in anyway with what our degree of engagement might be. That's to her credit, I think. ~~It balances out other aspects of Mother that are less easy to~~

I'll collect you at half-five if that suits. Mother said to tell you it will be dinner rather than cocktail dress.




 **alt\_padma** at [2013-08-28 21:23:18](#)  
(no subject)

Well, whatever you think is best. I know some mothers would jump to conclusions, you know--I know for sure if Haruman ever brought a girl home for supper, my mum would ask all sorts of embarrassing questions! But then he's well older and she's already worried he'll never get married.

Anyway, half-five is fine.



 **alt\_padma** at [2013-08-31 04:14:31](#)  
(no subject)

Well, you weren't lying about the food. Or any of it, really.

Is your mother always like that with, er, male guests?

Oh, but you'll be sorry we didn't go flying with the others: Seamus says they stumbled on a huge MLE operation. They were detaining some escaping muggles and one mudblood! There were some witches and wizards too, I guess. He said it was wiz-nift and Auror Braithewaite let them stay and watch--from a safe distance, of course.

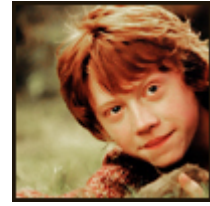
Are you packed? I've got a bit more to do (I really *wish* Mum would get a proper servant and not just summer help now and then) but I should be able to get away for a few hours tomorrow if you're free.



**2013-08-28 16:39:00**

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

Say. Does tomorrow or Friday work best for you lot for distance flying?



Only, I know people get it in mind that Friday before school starts is the time to hit Diagon Alley.

 [alt\\_ron](#)

So. Tell me which works best for you, and I'll make an open announcement for flying tonight.



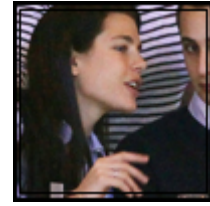
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-28 20:49:04**  
*(no subject)*

I got everything by owl-order already. Well, except for the stuff I bought when your sister took me shopping on Saturday. Anyway, either works for me.

**2013-08-29 09:25:00**

*Private Message to Rachel Lamont*

Say, I've been meaning to ask you how Montague's fitting in with your unit. I mean, he's sharp, but he can be too sharp sometimes, if you take my meaning.



 [alt\\_lana](#)

And there was something he said last week while we were harrying the cadets... I got the idea that you and M are locking horns. Or, anyway, that he's chafing a bit, having to take orders from you?

Even if you don't want to talk about M, do write me back. Sitting surveillance is six times as dull as usual after last week's entertainment.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-08-29 16:24:59**  
(no subject)

Last week was fun, wasn't it? I was only there for an afternoon, but it made me rather envious of the opportunities kids these days have.

Montague, well. He's not terribly happy about reporting to me, and has made it clear that Malfeasance is not his idea of a proper MLE department, although I'm not sure he intended to make THAT part clear. At least he's clever and efficient; Gauge will forgive a lot in someone who's clever and efficient.



 [alt\\_lana](#) at **2013-08-29 19:40:07**  
(no subject)

Hm. You may be right about his view of MEU, though I think it's more to do with his being disappointed not to have got something in Protectorate Security for his Internship. He saw Rowle's units as his best angle on top placements going forwards. And he wanted to be at Buckingham.

I'd have thought he'd have got over wanting that assignment, though. You know, he really hit it off with Malvasius Travers during his intensive there, but given what happened to him (and

Drumgoole)... Anyway, now M's been invited onto the Council, I'd think he'd be over it.

Maybe he just got his nose out of joint over the way Gauge snapped him up after Travers died. They didn't give M a choice at that point. Or that's the impression I got.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-30 04:58:18](#)

*(no subject)*

Maybe he finds it MEU boring? I'll admit going through cabinet after cabinet of old documents can get tedious, though it's certainly no more tedious than surveillance is (right up until the end, anyway).

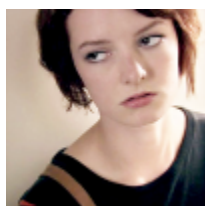


 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-08-30 07:03:25](#)

*(no subject)*

Too right about that.

Still sitting surv, obv. Seriously, you know: empty safe houses are the very definition of Nothing happening HERE.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-30 15:27:47](#)

*(no subject)*

In fairness to Montague, I'd swap for a day if I could. (But! I'm currently going through the records for all the request-for-reimbursement. It's actually a lot like surveillance because eventually, it'll probably get interesting, but at the moment...)



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-08-30 15:57:32](#)

*(no subject)*

Hope yours pays fruit soon. Things are looking up here, which is excellent since I'm a bit groggy after pulling dead of night watch.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-30 16:03:20](#)  
(no subject)

Oh?

I'd best not distract you, then.




 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-08-30 23:59:55](#)  
(no subject)

Sorry to leave you hanging.

Maybe you've heard? We got a major break.  
Took down a significant smuggling op.

Really excellent payoff for all the hours invested.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-31 00:03:11](#)  
(no subject)

I've been head down in paperwork all day so  
I'd heard only the barest outlines.

Utterly brilliant! What were they smuggling?  
More Diviner's Mint?

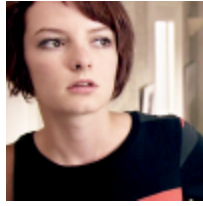


 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-08-31 00:41:51](#)  
(no subject)

This wasn't millenarian crackpots. It was  
people smuggling. A gaggle of muggles and  
one mudblood. Truncheon's got them to say  
they were 'helped' to escape from camps in

East Anglia.


Actually. You could help. You've got access to those files.  
What do they show about recent escapes or dips in census?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-31 00:57:46](#)  
(no subject)

Sure. It would help if you could tell me which camps, though -- escapes are the sort of embarrassing information a lot of administrators try to bury.



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-08-31 01:04:25](#)  
(no subject)

I've got a bit more. The camps they've named are Bawsey, Mid-Suffolk, and Waveney.

Truncheon has them singing, but naturally we want to know how these disappearances went undocumented or, anyway, weren't referred to us.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-31 01:14:22](#)  
(no subject)

Right. Found three reported missing from Bawsey one night about ten days ago, all under the age of ten.

Mid-Suffolk and Waveney don't list anyone missing who shouldn't be. The parents of the missing kids were out on a work detail, and the camp administrator seemed to think they might have run off to look for their parents.


The work detail the parents were on was near Southwold. It was one wizard; he requested a rather large crew of muggles to process potions ingredients. There's a note in here from the camp administrator suggesting that if the children were to find their way to their parents, they might get turned into potions ingredients by the wizard in question.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-31 01:16:39](#)  
(no subject)

Were there sprogs, with the group you found?



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-08-31 01:25:40](#)  
(no subject)


Yes. Six.

Twenty-seven muggle adults. One mudblood.  
Three wizards. One witch.

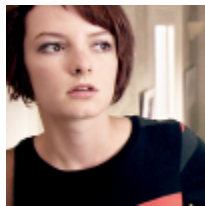
So nothing listed from Mid-Suffolk or Waveney?


Someone's been lying, then.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-31 01:36:06](#)  
(no subject)

Nothing listed from either, but Waveney  
doesn't appear to keep a very careful count.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-31 01:37:59](#)  
(no subject)


Perhaps the wizards stole an entire work  
detail? The muggles might be lying because  
the wizards have them all under Imperius --  
alas, killing the wizards to ensure that's not it  
is not exactly practical.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-31 01:38:42](#)  
(no subject)

(Unless you're done asking them questions,  
at least.)



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2013-08-31 01:42:02](#)**  
(no subject)

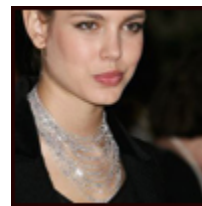
I'm sure there's something short of killing them that can get the truth out of the wizards. Even if the muggles are well useless.




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-08-31 01:46:23](#)**  
(no subject)

No doubt.

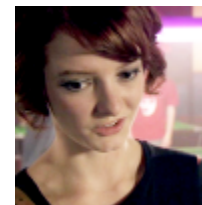
Were they with some sort of organised group, like the Millenarians were? (I'm wondering if MEU is going to be sent around to take a very close look at camp censuses next week...)



 **[alt\\_lana](#)** at **[2013-08-31 02:00:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Could well be. But no one's saying if they've got evidence of anything that organised.

Something for Montague to look forward to: a week in camp records offices. I'll have to warn Sarah he's likely to be in a spectacular mood.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-08-31 02:04:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Tell him I'll trade him Corax Mulciber for camp admins any time he likes.

Anyway. Cheers. Congratulations on all that watching paying off.

[2013-08-29 21:04:00](#)

*FLY*

# I CAN FLY AGAIN!



 [alt\\_cedric](#)



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-08-30 02:09:54](#)

*(no subject)*

# OUTSTANDING!!!

Congratulations, Ced! Are you up to much distance yet? Want to take in a flight over the river sometime in the next day or two? Mum'll be glad to provide the celebratory picnic, and you know her deviled eggs are to die for.



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-08-30 02:44:52](#)

*(no subject)*

**Thanks!**

**Unfortunately not for a week or two. I'm finalizing things tomorrow and moving up to Hogsmeade to be near my brand new job, so I don't have to floo or be apparated every day, at whatever time I'm done. I think Mum would go spare if I skipped the few meals I can squeeze in between moving stuff.**



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-30 03:05:44](#)

*(no subject)*

Brilliant!





 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-08-30 05:22:07](#)  
(no subject)

Splendid news!




 [alt\\_zacharias](#) at [2013-08-30 13:27:35](#)  
(no subject)

CONGRATULATIONS!

That's brilliant, Ced!



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-08-30 18:54:11](#)  
(no subject)

Congratulations, Ced! I'm so happy for you.

**2013-08-30 10:28:00**

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



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

One last outing before we all go back to school, right? Anyone coming? I should warn you that Jeremy's coming with me. He stopped pouting about not getting a quidditch day at the Burrow when I pointed out that Mrs Weasley is BEREAVED and perhaps doesn't feel like hosting yet this summer. (He wanted to organise one here but Mrs Stretton said no.) But he really wanted to come flying with us, at least.

(And one last posting before our year starts dropping off this lock. Who all has a birthday in the autumn? Hermione, yours is in September, isn't it?)



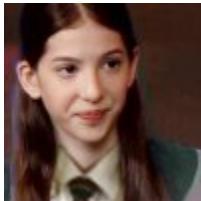
 [alt\\_hermione](#) at **2013-08-30 16:05:21**  
(no subject)

Yes, mine's the 19<sup>th</sup>. I'm really glad everyone joined the Order before turning 17, though.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-30 18:13:45**  
(no subject)

Yeah, I agree. I'm going to miss having this to ourselves though.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-30 18:15:14**  
(no subject)

I mean I can use a PM on the Order lock and talk to just Ron and Pansy. Or just Justin and Hydra. Or just you (and Harry).

But I can't use a PM on the Order lock and talk to you lot, without the grownups, and sometimes I don't WANT Mrs Weasley Bill Weasley all the grownups putting in their knut, you know?

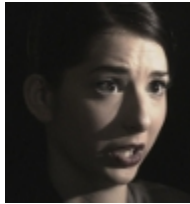


 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-30 21:25:52](#)  
(no subject)

I know what you mean.

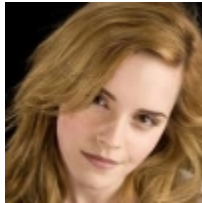
Maybe we should ask them to ignore certain messages, you know, the way Harry ignores a private message to me if it's to me and says '(and Harry Marvolo)'-  
-I mean, he could technically still read it but he never does.

It's not quite the same as really private, of course, but it might be good enough.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 21:32:41](#)  
(no subject)

I don't know. I think some of them might be able to ignore messages they could see, but I'm not sure Sirius Black is one of them.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-30 21:34:04](#)  
(no subject)

What makes you say that? I think Sirius is one of the ones who's *more* likely to respect our wanting a little privacy.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 21:43:20](#)  
(no subject)

Because I think if anyone ever made him take an Unbreakable Vow not to put his oar in, he'd be dead in a week?

But you know him better than I do.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-30 21:53:16](#)  
(no subject)

Well, he can't help that he's bored most of the time. So's Mr Snape, if you ask me. But he's good at respecting boundaries when people tell him they're there.

And he knows it's important to be able to complain now and then, I mean, have you ever *listened* to those things his mother's portrait says? I think he really understands what it's like to be in a place where the people who're supposed to be your parents don't love you--don't even *like* you--and things like that.

Have you ever just *talked* to him? Or have you mostly tried to impress him by proving you know what you're talking about?

Anyway, I know he can be brash and if you listen to Mr Snape he's sometimes more like a six-year-old than a thirty-six-year-old (but then Mr Snape can be awfully immature sometimes, too, have you noticed? Mostly when he's talking about Sirius, I think that goes way back to when they were at school) but I also know he cares about all of us. And Mr Lupin loves him so he can't be all bad. ~~If I had to choose parents~~ He could be loads worse.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-30 21:54:41](#)  
(no subject)

And honestly, if you're going by what Mr Snape says, it's not really an indication at all. They just dislike each other. Intensely, I suppose.

It's really pretty amazing that they've even been working on that potion together.

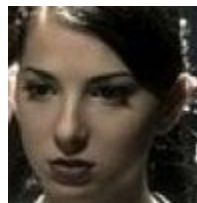


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 22:01:58](#)  
(no subject)

When would I have ever just talked to him? He'd need to want to talk to me, and I don't think he does. I mean I stayed at his house for a few days over Christmas hols with my mum but he kept his distance except that one utterly awkward night when we all had dinner together and he was only there for about five minutes before Bea threw a fit and he took her off to her room.

I just

Yes, I know that he and Mr Snape don't get on and it's not all Sirius's fault, they're both gits to each other constantly, they're worse than Draco and Ron used to be before they finally decided to tolerate each other.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 22:07:40](#)  
(no subject)

I mean it's not as if I can say 'hey Sirius, let's go grab a pint sometime.'

You know them all, I mean, you've KNOWN them all so much longer than I have sometimes it's like you're just one of the grownups, but I'm not, you know, I don't even know how to talk to him. Calling him Mr Black feels wrong ~~because that's what I called his br~~ but calling a grownup 'Sirius' also feels wrong.



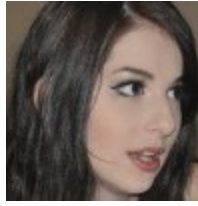
 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-30 22:19:28](#)  
(no subject)

It was a little awkward at first because I *didn't* know him, either. But of all of the--all of the real adults, that is, not Bill or Charlie, and obviously not the twins or Lee Jordan--he's the only one I do call by his name, and not 'Mr Black'. Well, and Tonks, of course, but that's also because she's told us to call her that.

Anyway. I don't think it's because I've known them longer. I've known Professor McGonagall the longest but I'd never call her anything else, I don't think. But I know that when ~~Harry Justin~~ other people have had things they want to talk to him about, he listens. And he doesn't judge, either, not like ~~Mrs We Mrs Lo Madam~~ some of the others.

I mean, it's sort of like he has the least *ability* to judge us, in a way, because he's the first one to say he's not a good role model. Or a hero.

But I don't--I mean, it's not like I *fancy* him or anything. I just think he's one of the nicest members, so it's a shame you don't get on.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 22:22:22](#)  
(no subject)

It's not that we don't get on, it's just --

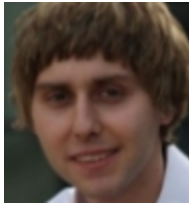
well, anyway. Let's say you're right about Sirius. What do you think the odds are Mrs Weasley wouldn't read those posts?




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-08-30 22:42:05](#)  
(no subject)

Honestly, not very good (sorry, Ron). But we could ask Charlie to make sure she doesn't, maybe.

Or maybe the twins could think of a way to create a lock for more than two people.



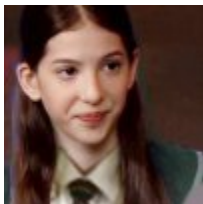
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-30 16:10:21](#)  
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,

I say, I'd love to go but of course, it's not possible.

Oh, and my birthday's in October, what. I believe Mr Jugson means to have a talk with me about what that will mean to my lodging status. Have the Strettons said anything about the end of your fostering?

-Justin



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 16:42:08](#)  
(no subject)

Oh.

Yeah.

My father got wind of what happened with the people who broke into the Stretton farm and the MLE finding Diviner's Mint and all the rest. I don't know how, because it wasn't in the papers. I got a letter from him that he also sent to Half-Blood Affairs questioning

the character of my foster family and saying that I ought to come to him for Christmas hols, instead of them.

And Mrs Stretton pulled me into her office a few days later -- she had this tone like she was doing me a huge favour -- to say that of course once I turn 17 I have every right to spend my holidays wherever I like, and of course the Office of Half-Blood Affairs can send me packing to my father's hovel (that was her word, hovel) for Christmas if they choose but once I turn 17 I'll be able to choose where I live and then she offered me a job. More or less. As an overseer on their estates. She said that she knew I was hard-working and honest and that since I'm a half-blood no one will want to hire me. I said I wanted to be a Healer and she laughed and said that naturally I should complete my NEWTs and apply to the training programme and see what happens, but there will be a job waiting for me when they inevitably turn me down.

Oh and she said that I also had the option of living off Pansy's charity. (That's how she put it.) At least until Pansy got tired of having me around.

Anyway. That was while you were all at CCF and I didn't post about it because I was too cross to write about it and so I decided to wait until I could tell people in person. Only then when you were back from camp I just didn't feel like talking about it, and now I'm not cross anymore exactly just ... tired of the Strettons. Tired of Mr and Mrs Stretton, anyway. Jeremy's not awful, Phillip's not awful, Gemma's not awful. Even the twins aren't awful (they were pretty awful babies but they're better now that they're older.)


Sometimes I think this would all be easier if they were ALL JUST TOTALLY AWFUL. Their offer isn't really terrible. She told me what the salary would be and it's decent, better than what a lot of fostered half-bloods wind up with after they leave school. If they'd had Megan as a foster daughter just think how pleased she'd be by that? They'd have got on well with Megan, I think. Instead, Megan had that old lady...

Yeah.

Anyway.

What do you think the Jugsons want you to do?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-08-30 16:55:53](#)  
(no subject)


Oh, I say, I'm sorry you had to bear that without the rest of us round to support, what.

And yes, I do understand. Tonks had the advantage that the Crouches were bally well hateful--I mean to say, not that one would wish her abused but that it made her decision to leave unquestionable.

There are moments I feel the Jugsons aren't bad sorts, either. At least I do believe they've tried, what. I've a notion Mr Jugson might like me to stay on, particularly if they believe I've a chance to marry Hydra. I'm well certain I'd rather not, what, but it's a question of what alternatives one has.

-Justin



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 18:17:18](#)  
(no subject)

Well, if you've got other alternatives you could tell them 'I'll live with you if you stop doing the following annoying things' (like grounding you) and see what they say.



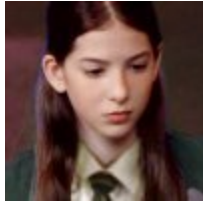
 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-30 17:41:50](#)  
(no subject)

What? She

What?

Oh, Sally-Anne. How horrid. Honestly. And it's even worse because from their point of view, they're trying to be reasonable. I still want to slap her, though,






 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 18:21:27](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, she absolutely thinks she's being reasonable.

And in a lot of ways she is.


I've been thinking about it and wondering if I should recommend Megan Jones to them. Jones isn't very well connected, especially with Dolores Umbridge inside a plate. And she'd be competent enough at the sort of things they want from their staff.



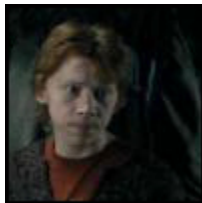
 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-30 18:29:56](#)  
(no subject)


True. She did get through her OWLs. And you're right that she doesn't have much else in terms of connections. Harry'd probably know more. They talk sometimes. Or Justin or Sue, of course.



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-08-30 18:47:45](#)  
(no subject)

That's...a pretty good idea, really. I'd never have thought of the Strettons, but it makes a lot of sense.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-30 23:44:51](#)  
(no subject)

It totally reeks.


I hope I don't have to try to make nice to Mrs Stretton anytime soon. Because I want to tell her what I think of all that.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-08-30 17:42:12](#)  
(no subject)

I'll be there!



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-08-30 18:53:34](#)  
(no subject)


I do wish I could come & get one last flight in before term starts, but no such luck.

I can't really complain though--Great-Aunt Mina pretty much saved the day when it came to my Apparition fine. Apparently they need some extra help at the Owl Emporium to cover the pre-Hogwarts rush, and she sort of volunteered me.

I'll be cleaning owl cages until we get on the train, but that plus my counselor money will cover most of my fine, and Great-Aunt Mina said she'd get the rest since I'll be helping out her friend.

Mum's still cross though.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-30 23:41:27](#)  
(no subject)

Ugh. I'm sorry. I mean, I can see Mum's point that if I was going to pay any fine it should be mine first. Only. You wouldn't've got in trouble if it hadn't been for me,

Maybe it's as well you weren't out with us today, though. I mean, your mum might not have been too keen on how it turned out.

Not that we were ever in any danger, but still.

**2013-08-30 14:06:00**

*Order Only*

I don't want anyone to worry.

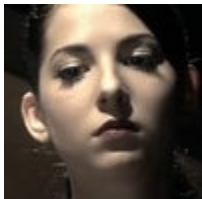
But stay away from the fens near Ipswich. We're on a distance flying trip and we spotted something. There are a few abandoned muggle houses down below and one of them is swarming with MLE.



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

We're not in trouble. The Aurors saw us and -- one of them waved, actually. Ron says it was one of the Aurors who was harrying them last week at CCF.

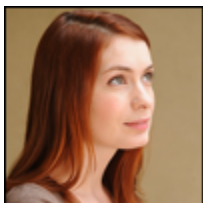
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 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-30 19:35:35**  
(no subject)

They are bringing people out of the house and making them line up face down on the ground.

They're being separated into two groups. I think some are muggles are some are wizards.




 [alt\\_alice](#) at **2013-08-30 19:48:34**  
(no subject)

Sirius, Remus, Tonks, is that one of Beth's stations?

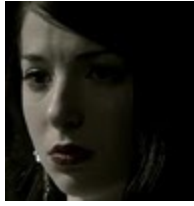
Is there any way to get hold of her?

Sally-Anne, how many people total? And muggles, or muggleborn? (I know it'd be hard to tell, but if any of the ones without wands attempted wandless magic, or tried to grab a wand and use it, that'd let us know.)



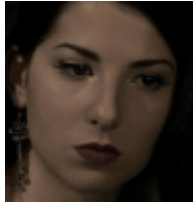
 [alt\\_lupin](#) at **2013-08-30 19:51:48**  
(no subject)

As far as I know, Beth doesn't have a safe house near Ipswich, but she tends to share information on a need-to-know basis.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 19:53:33](#)  
(no subject)

The ones they're bringing out have all been disarmed already. I can't tell.



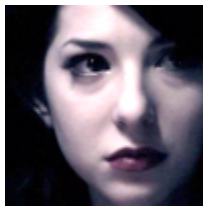
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 20:02:41](#)  
(no subject)

Oh.

Oh, that one's going in a third spot.

I guess he's

oh god



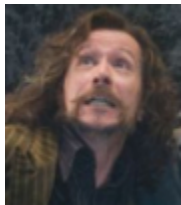
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 20:04:32](#)  
(no subject)


In the smaller group which I assume are the wizards, there are three men and one woman.

The man who's by himself is just the one and I guess maybe he's a muggleborn wizard.

In the larger group there are twenty-seven people. Ten women eleven men six children.

Is this useful, should we keep watching?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-30 20:06:50](#)  
(no subject)

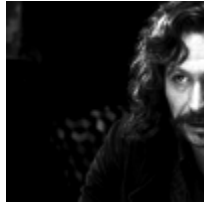
You don't have to if you can leave and not be seen leaving.

If they think you've gone and leaving now would call attention to yourselves, stay - but no, I think we all know what's going to happen next here.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 20:11:20](#)  
(no subject)

They know we're here. They WAVED. I don't know if they care whether we leave or stay.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-30 20:19:55](#)  
(no subject)

They know you *were* there, flying by. They don't necessarily know whether you stayed to watch the floor show.

Unless you've been circling this whole time? Generally speaking, MLE don't care for a whole load of bystanders, innocent teens or otherwise.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 20:21:36](#)  
(no subject)

Of course we stayed to watch, it might have been useful, and MLE made it clear they didn't care we were watching. If we'd got in their way they'd have cared.

We've moved on. Because you're right, we all know how it's going to go from here.



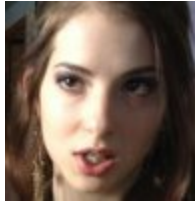
 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-08-30 20:28:00](#)  
(no subject)

One of them looked up at us once or twice.

To see if we were still there.

Maybe to make sure we were still there. Like they were showing off or something.

I don't know.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 20:28:27](#)  
(no subject)

It was actually Finnigan who wanted to stay and watch, I figured if we could blame it on him the worst that would happen is they'd yell at us to leave.

He wanted to stay because he recognised some of the Aurors from CCF. All the CCFers recognised some of the Aurors, and the Aurors recognised them, I think that's why they didn't mind us watching.



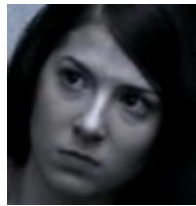
 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-30 20:47:21](#)  
(no subject)

You mean they encouraged you to stay?

Merlin. That's a sign of changing times.

Do you think Harry's right and they were showing off? Or was it more like they simply couldn't be bothered to shoo you lot away?

I wonder .... If they really were trying to impress, you might be able to ask some innocent questions about who those people were and what's to happen to them.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 20:49:38](#)  
(no subject)

Well we're up in the air not down on the ground (I think they'd be cross if we were in the way) but maybe on the way back Harry could try.

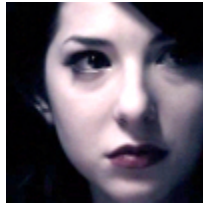
It would have to be Harry, I think.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-30 20:50:45](#)  
(no subject)

I didn't mean today, necessarily. Sometime in the next few days.


was? Could any of you tell who the Auror in charge



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 20:59:44](#)  
(no subject)

I didn't get a good enough look but someone else might've.

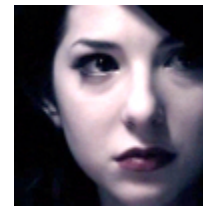



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-08-30 21:30:02](#)  
*Private Message to Sally-Anne*

Is Jeremy quite all right?

He looked really pale. During. And I saw him trying to catch your eye, like he wanted to talk to you or something, only Ron and Pansy kept getting in the way so they could hide you while you were writing things.

I honestly thought he'd fly off if everyone else hadn't stayed.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-30 21:41:57](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

Ron invited us back to the Burrow for supper and Jeremy came.

He's not talking about it, he's just staring down at the floor not saying anything. I don't think he's quite all right, though.

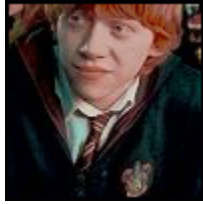


 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-08-30 21:42:54](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

I don't imagine anyone really would be.

I thought he would've said something to you, though. Because he looked like he wanted to.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-30 23:12:29](#)

*(no subject)*

So, it was Auror Braithewaite in charge of things. We met him last week. And Auror Desai--Nisha Desai, I mean. She's kin to Auror Desai, who ran things with Dolohov last week.

That's Savitha Desai, who taught Defence at Hogwarts back before the war. And during it. She's the one, y'know, who took a bunch of students off to fight in the Midlands campaigns. Anywiz, she wasn't the one there today. I don't think she's really still an Auror, an active one.

So, yeah. Braithewaite was there, and Nisha Desai, and some of the trainees--Sandoval was there, and Evan, Singh, and Catchlove. They were all part of it last week. And they were definitely trying to impress us. I think they noticed right away that Harry was with us.

And then there were a load of Enforcers. Y'know, MLE, not Aurors. Not too many that I knew, but they were wearing the MLE uniform, right? But, um, the one I knew for sure was Ms Peel. She was definitely there.



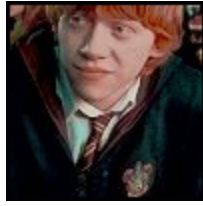
 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-08-30 23:14:15](#)


*(no subject)*

Right. Well, if you or Harry are on good enough terms, you might consider sending them a message thanking them for allowing you to stay and observe and asking a few innocent but intelligent questions about the procedure.

Who knows what you might get out of it.






 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-30 23:26:03](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, all right. I could do that. Or Harry could.

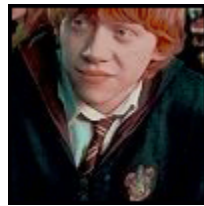
Um. Maybe Sally Anne and I can figure out which of them to write tonight.




 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-30 23:46:09](#)**  
(no subject)

I could write.

If it wouldn't be weird. I think it'd be more likely I'd get an answer, but it'd be less weird coming from you. You could totally say you were talking to me about it though?

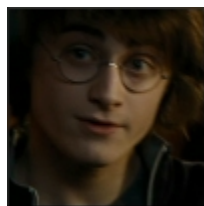


 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-08-31 00:30:49](#)**  
(no subject)

That works. We'll write something in a bit.

Cheers.

I'm really glad you were along today. I mean, maybe it would've been the same if you hadn't been, but it was good you were.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-08-31 01:04:25](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah?

I wonder what it would've been like.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-08-30 20:06:04](#)**  
(no subject)

They're torturing the man I think is a muggleborn with cruciatus.

I keep thinking they're done and then they start again.

They just

Ugh

**2013-08-30 18:10:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Fred and George*



Has your mum cooled off yet?

I've finally got the last installment today. Sorry it took longer than I thought it would.

 [alt\\_pansy](#)

Have you had a chance to read through my budget proposal? I think if we approached Zonko's with some second-tier products, like the line of chocs and cremes, they'd be willing to carry them, and it'd make people recognise the brand and drive more customers to the storefront and owl order. They really do have to look sharp, though. So we'd have to spend a bit on packaging. Like have a proper print shop work on it. If we have a big enough order, though, we should get a pretty good deal on it. Especially if we tell them that if we're pleased, we'd be coming back for lots more. And if they do a brilliant job and it looks fancy enough, we could get away with charging more too. I'm not sure who we should talk to about it, though. I guess I could talk to Demeter Freesia, she did the cover art for the album that had the Hey Hey song on it, and sent us some sketches and things before it came out. She might know someone who works on those sorts of projects.

I'd bet we can get some things displayed in Zonko's by the first Hogsmeade weekend if you approach them now with a prototype. But we might have to settle on a price right then, which would be tricky without knowing how much the packaging would cost us.

And what do you think about taking an advert out in the Prophet once we've got enough to start up owl orders? I think if we get enough initial orders before the storefront is ready, we'd get more people coming by to see what it's all about. And! If we get the advert out and some samples in the common rooms *before* Hogsmeade, we'd get loads of students asking for our stuff

I really wish I didn't start school in a few days. Just when everything's starting to get interesting.

**2013-08-30 18:23:00**

*Order Only*

It's evenings like this that I realise all over again how much Ron learned about strategic thinking from his chess lessons with Arthur.



 **alt\_molly**

Exhibit 1: He invited Jeremy Stretton and Sally-Anne Perks over for dinner to keep me from shouting at him about putting himself in such danger this afternoon.

I'm sure Ron will angle to have them stay as long as possible. I don't mind, because I hold the trump card: after all, I live here. They don't.

They will have to leave eventually, and then Ron will have no choice but to face the wrath of his mother.

(And yes, Ron, I know you can read this, too. As can at least one of your guests.)



 **alt\_alice at 2013-08-30 23:48:06**

*Private Message to Molly*

Oh, Molly.


I must admit, my heart's been in my throat more times this past year than it has been in an age. And I can read between the lines enough to suspect that one or both of mine were there too. I'm not sure if they'll decide whether to tell Frank and me about it or not, but I can see why they'd hold back to keep us from worry.

I do think that they all handled themselves carefully and responsibly, and that any group of adults out flying would've been met with far more suspicion and wouldn't have been able to gain as much information. They weren't seeking trouble, they didn't attempt any heroics, and they paid attention to whether they'd get in trouble or not.

They're members of the Order, Molly. And whereas others their age might be expected to fly on and pretend as if they'd seen nothing, they took on a different level of responsibility. They weren't gawking at tragedy, they were reporting on it so that we might learn more.

I know your first impulse. But please don't take Ron to task over this.



 **alt\_molly** at **2013-08-31 01:42:07**

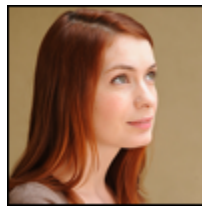
*Re: Private Message to Molly*

I know that. Or at least I know I'll know that if I weren't so angry.

Maybe my trouble is that Arthur's gone. He knew how to turn me around. He'd take me in his arms and tell me how proud I should be of Ron, who clearly handled himself so well, and didn't we do a wonderful job of raising him?

I'm trying to bite my tongue more, and to stop treating Ron like a child anymore. I know that he--that the whole Institute, really--has already done some remarkable things for the Order.

But it's hard to stop seeing him as my baby boy, the one whose nappies I was changing and nose I was wiping just yesterday.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-08-31 03:45:26**

*Re: Private Message to Molly*

Listen to your heart, love, to what Arthur would tell you, and let yourself be proud. I'm very pleased with how he handled himself today, and how he's taken everything in stride.

I'd love some company for tea if you're free the next few days.



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-08-30 23:51:00**

*Private message to Mum*

Aside from strategic thinking, Mum, ALL of us have noticed that if you can be distracted for awhile when you're really hacked off, then there's less chance of the windows of the Burrow blowing out when you finally have a chance to let it all out. Less fireworks that way.

From what I can pick up from Sally-Anne's post, it sounds as though they did do a good job of keeping their heads. And it may be they've brought us some valuable information.

(Those poor bastards, though. I'm going to do my best to find out who they are.

Or if worst comes to worst, who they were.)




 **alt\_sirius** at **2013-08-31 00:09:53**  
(no subject)

Steady on, Molly. They did fine. Especially considering they had others with them who weren't in the Order.

It might even open an avenue of information we hadn't before been able to tap. Bill's contacts are extensive but there are areas these young people can access, in the guise of thinking about careers or similar, that look far less suspicious than Bill asking round the office.



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-08-31 01:43:44**  
(no subject)

That's certainly true. The more conduits for information, the better. And they handled themselves well.

**[2013-08-30 19:33:00](#)**

*Private message to Padma*



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

I went to that Distance Flying club today and I'm really glad I did. Would you believe we got to see an MLE raid happening, from the sky? I was more or less expecting they'd run us off, but it was Auror Braithewaite in charge and he recognised us -- me, but also Weasley and Marvolo -- and he gave us a friendly wave and let us be.

They were really at the end of the operation when we stumbled over it -- sorting them into two three groups and petrifying them until they could be side-alonged back to MLE headquarters -- so it wasn't as exciting as it might have been, but there was still plenty to watch that was interesting.

I don't know who they were, or what they'd been caught doing. ~~Some of them were chil~~ I think most of them were muggles, actually.



 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-08-31 00:46:06](#)**  
(no subject)

Really? That's well nift!

My week's been decidedly more boring. One of the embroidery looms got all tangled at Mum's and it took me and Pav almost all day to get it sorted, even with spells.

Last night Zabini invited me over for supper and who do you suppose his mum had? Those Mulciber brothers. Blaise was well upset--I mean, he hid it well, but did you know that there was a third one and he was one of Blaise's step-fathers? He was *not* happy they were coming round again.

But then, he also wasn't happy that his current step-father wasn't there, either. I mean, he's not all that pleased when he *is* there but he was less pleased that he wasn't. But he wasn't lying about the food being top-drawer.

Anyway. If they were Muggles, those people you saw MLE bringing in, were they supposed to belong to someone? I mean, they weren't wild or anything, were they? (That's the wrong word but you know what I mean!)



 **alt\_seamus** at [2013-08-31 01:18:43](#)  
(no subject)

Well, MLE has them now, so if they were wild, they're now well under control.

Has Zabini ever had a step-father he cared for?



 **alt\_padma** at [2013-08-31 01:27:25](#)  
(no subject)

Would *you*, if you had a step-mother? Or if Mr Rosier started seriously dating a witch, how would you feel about it?

I know I've thought about it. If Mum or Dad started thinking about seeing someone else. I don't think I'd care for that.

I mean, it's about a hundred times worse than one's brother or sister bringing home someone who's well hideous, isn't it?

Anyway. I think he also wasn't happy because the Mulcibers seemed so pleased with *themselves*, you know? Like they've got the whole *Ministry* on the run now that they're in charge of MLE and Purity Control. (I can never remember which one's in charge of which, except that the Auror is in charge of MLE, of course, but I mean, I can't remember which one *is* the Auror.)



 **alt\_seamus** at [2013-08-31 01:53:42](#)  
(no subject)

That's a good point about Mr Rosier. Hard to see it, though. If he wanted to get married he's had plenty of opportunities.

Zabini's mum has married loads of times. I'd think Zabini would be used to having stepfathers and moved on to preferring decent ones considering his mum doesn't seem to like not being married.

The Auror is the one WITHOUT the X. Cadmus. Corax took over Dominic Selwyn's position after he revealed himself as a traitor.

I think.



**2013-08-30 21:04:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

Weasley, are you around? You've probably gone home, this time of night. Are you checking your journal?



 [alt\\_rachel](#)




 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-08-31 02:25:25**

*(no subject)*

I am, yes. Are you still at the office? What's on your mind?

Merlin, Mulciber's not pulling some all-hands-on-deck shite again, is he? Does he want me to come back in or something? He hasn't messaged me.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-08-31 02:26:21**

*(no subject)*

No! Oh, Merlin. No. I'm actually just about to leave.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-08-31 02:27:18**

*(no subject)*

I was just wondering if you'd like to meet for a drink, maybe, over at my flat. It's been a long day.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-08-31 02:30:38**

*(no subject)*

Every day's been a long day around here, lately.

Not to discuss expense reports, I take it?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-08-31 02:32:04](#)**  
(no subject)

There won't be veritaserum in the drinks, I trust. It makes me break out in purple hives. Not my best look.




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-08-31 02:33:56](#)**  
(no subject)

If you don't trust me not to put veritaserum into your drink, you could bring your own firewhiskey.


Or I'll mix us both drinks and let you pick which one you prefer so if there's any veritaserum on the table, the odds are 50-50 that I'll be the one telling secrets.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-08-31 02:46:35](#)**  
(no subject)

As a matter of fact, I do have a bottle of a very rare label put by. Guess this is as good a reason as any to pull it out.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-08-31 02:50:07](#)**  
(no subject)

Serves you right for not trusting me, having to share your rare label. Bring it, then.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-08-31 02:41:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Besides, dosing you with veritaserum would ALSO BE WORK.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-31 02:32:58](#)  
(no subject)

I have a very clear rule for myself that I do not bring work back to my flat.

I might stay at the office until after midnight, but no expense reports will ever cross my doorstep.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-31 02:51:46](#)  
(no subject)

Good thing, because any expense report I should happen to see tonight may get ripped to itty bitty tiny shreds. Just on the general principle that it's a Friday night and I don't want to think about the bloody things.

Coming by for a drink with no threat of expense reports or veritaserum sounds like a good plan. I do need your address, though.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-31 02:56:27](#)  
(no subject)

33 Tottenham Lane, Crouch End. Second floor flat.

See you soon.

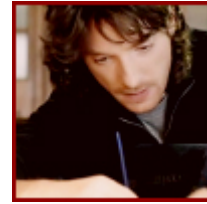


 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-08-31 03:11:10](#)  
(no subject)

On my way.

**2013-08-30 21:59:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Charlie Weasley*



Listen, Charlie,

I've been asked by, um, my source in MLE to stop by her flat tonight.

 **alt\_bill**

It seems to be just a casual invitation--I mean, I don't think it's an ambush. But Frank's protocol says I'm supposed to check in with at least someone in the Order if any of us are heading anywhere to be questioned by someone in MLE. I sure don't want to tell Mum, especially after what happened to Ron today, so I'm settling on you. So someone knows.


Just in case.



 **alt\_charlie** at **2013-08-31 06:09:34**  
(no subject)

Right, then, tell me when you get back.



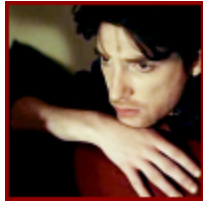
 **alt\_bill** at **2013-08-31 12:48:27**  
(no subject)


Everything's fine. Thanks, Charlie.



 **alt\_charlie** at **2013-08-31 13:18:04**  
(no subject)

Good to know. I'll stop fretting now. (Not that I was worrying too badly, but apparently I'm more Mum's son than I expected.) What'd she want, then?



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-08-31 13:24:18](#)  
(no subject)

I don't really

It was rather a surprisi

Turns out it was personal, rather than Order-related.




 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-08-31 13:25:54](#)  
(no subject)

Oh. ...Oh.

Different kind of ambush?



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-08-31 13:40:27](#)  
(no subject)

...

I guess that's one way of putting it. Um.

It was definitely a surprise, anyway.




 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-08-31 13:45:37](#)  
(no subject)

Ha! Well, as proper revolutionaries I suppose we should always be on guard for surprise attacks.

You all right, then? Only I know you're probably trying to talk yourself out of whatever you really want to do about things, six ways to Sunday.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-08-31 13:58:21](#)  
(no subject)

I'm more than all right, actually.




 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-08-31 14:27:51](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, then. That good a night, was it?

So, tell me more about this woman.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-08-31 14:45:59](#)**  
(no subject)

She works for the Malfeasance Unit. Which is a good reason to have MLE around, to my way of thinking.

She's whip-smart. Which means I'm watching my words and my step around her, believe me. She's also funny and sarcastic--keeps surprising me into breaking out into laughter, which makes Mulciber squint at me suspiciously.

She chews on her quills.

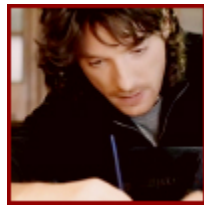
She's beautiful.




 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-08-31 14:51:34](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, then! Sounds like you're quite smitten. Which is good -- you could use a bit of smit in your life.

Seriously, though, I'm happy for you. As long as you're being careful, and I do believe you that you are, it seems like a good chance to have a bit of fun.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-08-31 15:42:25](#)**  
(no subject)

I am smitten, I'll admit it. Mixed with this much wary caution makes for an interesting sort of...*frisson*.

Do me a favour and keep this to yourself for now? I don't

know how serious this is going to be, and Mum's had enough explosions this summer.




 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-08-31 15:50:14](#)**  
(no subject)

I've sort of made it part of my "rules for adult living" that I won't tell Mum anything she doesn't desperately need to know. I mean, it's not that I don't want her knowing about my life, it's just that ... yeah.

Besides, you're keeping secrets about my love-life. I can return the favour and keep secrets about yours.

Enjoy that feeling for as long as you can, though. Even if this doesn't wind up going anywhere, there's nothing quite like those heady first few months of a relationship!

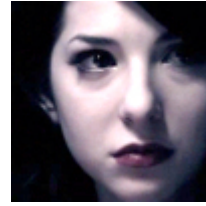


 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-08-31 15:56:24](#)**  
(no subject)

Thanks.

**2013-08-30 22:09:00**


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



Are you still awake?

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

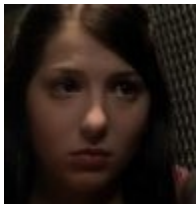


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-31 04:51:51](#)

*(no subject)*

Wot?

Yeah, I'm still awake. Is everything okay?

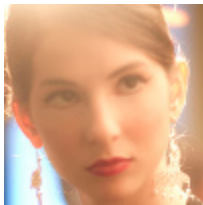


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-31 04:53:05](#)

*(no subject)*

I can't stop thinking about what we saw.

I went to bed an hour ago and I can't sleep.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-08-31 04:54:24](#)

*(no subject)*

Meet me?

I mean you'd have to sneak out, I think. I know I could get out of the house without anyone noticing but I can't apparate and I think flooing to the Burrow would be really noticeable but maybe you could meet me?

I just want to see you.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-08-31 04:55:29](#)

*(no subject)*

Yeah, okay.

I'm on my way.

I couldn't sleep, either.



**2013-08-31 08:08:00**

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



Mmmmm. That was really-

You're not sorry we did, are you?

 [alt\\_ron](#)

I'm not even tired this morning. Just really- yeah.  
Glad about it.

And can't stop thinking about you.



---

 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-08-31 15:07:33**  
(no subject)

I'm not sorry. Or tired. Well, I slept a little bit late but everyone put that down to getting a lie-in while I can, since we're going back to school tomorrow.

**2013-08-31 09:16:00**


*Private message to Rachel Lamont*

That was much better than poring over expense reports, wasn't it? Brilliant, actually.



 **alt\_bill**



 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-08-31 15:09:31**

*(no subject)*

Expense reports are a low bar. Yes, it was DEFINITELY an improvement over expense reports.




 **alt\_bill** at **2013-08-31 15:16:27**

*(no subject)*

Such an improvement that I wouldn't mind avoiding expense reports in the future, too. If you're open to the idea.




 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-08-31 15:20:39**

*(no subject)*

Oh, we could definitely meet again as long as you're not looking for a full audit.



 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-08-31 15:23:23**

*(no subject)*

And as long as you're not imagining anything exclusive.



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-08-31 15:46:29**

*(no subject)*


I see.

Well, that's being frank, anyway. Which I appreciate.

So...just an occasional tallying of columns, so to speak. With the understanding that we're free to look into other books, if we like.

I can live with that.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-08-31 15:50:22](#)  
(no subject)

Good.

**2013-08-31 09:40:00**

*Private Message to Padma Patil*

I should have invited you for last night, instead, but I was really very glad you came Thursday when the Mulcibers were here.



 [alt\\_blaise](#)

Honestly. She couldn't have waited until after school starts? I was just a pretext there, you know: introducing me to those who are shaping our realm as I grow closer to my entry into society is cover for her real purpose. She knows things are changing and she wants to resecure her place.

I apologise if she made you uncomfortable. She is who she is with wizards 'worth notice'. Your asking that made me a bit more pointedly attentive to it last night, and it was... notable. She was holding court for Antonin Nikolaevich and Auror Crouch, and with the two of them being the way they are with each other, it puts her 'interest' in a rather different light. I don't find Mother amusing very often, but last evening with Antonin Nikolaevich and Amara Mitiku discussing the rituals of their ancestors in the holy lands of Nile and Sun, I could see her thinking how very much they have in common... Well.

If it weren't for Mr Cooper...

If it weren't for Mr Cooper, ~~Amara~~ Mother might find herself sadly mistaken about interesting Professor Dolohov.

As for the flying, I'm not as sad as you suppose to have missed the CCF's further adventures on brooms. I'm glad it was Finnigan and not me. Though, cheers to Auror Braithewaite for stamping out dissidence and perversion in the realm. I'm certain the combined forces of MLE are feeling well pleased today.

I'm free this afternoon. I made my packing list the first day back and won't need to do anything further except board the train on time. What do you have in mind? Boutiquing? A pleasant tea? If you haven't had your fill of Mother, you could come again tonight. It will be the Baddocks and Spinx this time, and Fintan O'Hearne, the poet, and his partner, Donal Somethingorother, who plays instruments of some kind. All very Gaelic O'Toodle, I'm thinking. But pleasant, of course, because Mother has standards.

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 **alt\_padma** at **2013-08-31 17:45:15**  
(no subject)

Oh, I can't tonight. Family dinner. (And for us that means about 40 people, I'm not even exaggerating.) But I was thinking we could get an ice cream or something. In about an hour? I can get away until around five and then I've got to get back. (Honestly, I think if they were going to teach us to Apparate at CCF, they might have also arranged for us to get our licenses ahead, don't you think? It would be so much easier than still having to Floo or fly!)

Do you--I mean, you said your mother wants to 'resecure' her place and you said before that ~~Mr Mal~~ the Malfoys aren't quite as secure as they were...but she never really cared about all that in the first place, did she? I mean, she wasn't a really good friend of theirs or anything, so I figured that she just wasn't interested in Council politics. Or is she hoping *you'll* be able to take a place on the Council someday?

Well, anyway. I'm surprised she even thinks she's got a chance with Professor Dolohov. Are the rumours true, do you think? That he and Auror Crouch are together? Seamus says they're more like father and son from what he can tell, but I dunno--but then again, Professor Dolohov seems really affectionate with loads of people sometimes, and then he turns round and he's really formal so sometimes I think it's just his way, and nothing particularly peculiar. Could you tell anything different from supper? Daphs used to have such a crush on Auror Crouch, didn't she? Thank Krishna she got over *that*! (Although, from him to Weasel is--well. Poor Daphs, honestly. Maybe she and Draco will finally hit it off this year? Or do you think that would be just as foolish of her? Well, maybe she'll try Derwent or Gamp or someone like that--someone *normal*, you know?)

**2013-08-31 19:57:00**

*Heading back to school tomorrow*

I can't believe how quickly summer went by. Last week an owl dropped off a rather brilliant surprise -- a prefect badge! (I didn't mention it before because I wanted to tell Percy in person.) I'm honoured by the Headmistress's confidence in me and will try my best to live up to her expectations.



 [alt\\_ginny](#)



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-09-01 05:36:14](#)  
(no subject)

That's brilliant, Ginny! Congratulations.


When you aren't making your rounds, maybe you could stop by and sit for a while? I'll be with Kitty and Luna and Artemus, and I'm sure they'd all love to say hello.



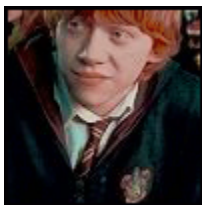
 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-09-01 18:16:39](#)  
(no subject)


Thank you, I'd love to!



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-09-01 22:07:56](#)  
(no subject)

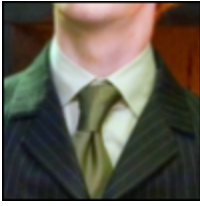
I'm so proud of you, Bean.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-09-01 22:43:05](#)  
(no subject)

Congratulations, you!

Thought I was done having siblings telling me off for being out after curfew. If I ever were, y'know. Which I'm sure I never would be.



 **[alt\\_percy](#)** at **[2013-09-01 23:53:50](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm exceedingly proud of you, Ginevra, and I am sure your devotion to your Prefect duties this year will be an honour both to Hogwarts and to your family name. Congratulations again.