

**2013-11-01 08:36:00**

*Private Message to Daphs and Sally-Anne*

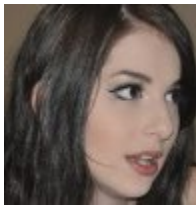
Can you meet on Sunday for Noble Arts? I was hoping to get a few more sources from the library first, and have a chance to look them over.



[alt\\_pansy](#)

Oh! And guess what? I heard Elsie talking with Lizzie Stephens this morning, and *apparently* Sarah Yaxley is going with Carrig Drumgoole. They were at the State Party last night together. Carrig. From the Kestrals. The one who's *incredibly* fit. I mean, have you seen his picture? Anyways. I suppose Martha's horribly jealous, seeing as she's stuck with Sandoval.

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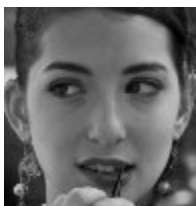


[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-02 17:41:22](#)  
(no subject)

He's fit all right but how does he treat her? I hesitate to say 'good on Sarah' unless I know whether he's more than just (very, very) nice to look at.

If someone's nice to look at but a bloody waste of time to talk to I'd leave them on the quidditch field and just try to get good seats for the games, you know?

(Sandoval, on the other hand...why'd she even take him back? one round of delightful potions wasn't enough?)



[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-02 17:41:57](#)  
(no subject)

He is AWFULLY fit, though.

I suppose maybe you could just make sure he's always got something else to do with his mouth but talking, if he's a crashing bore.

**2013-11-01 10:04:00**

*Private Message to M Travers*

She was your plus-one last night? Would have appreciated warning.

Or did she have her own invitation?

Dammit. Is she making another bid for His notice? Playing a game of her own?

Don't say it. I know.

But if she's linking herself to Maule I need to know that. Before we spring the trap.

Sparring dungeon 2. Half-five.



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

**2013-11-01 10:16:00**

*Private Message to A Dolohov and L Malfoy*



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

Interesting gathering last night.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-11-01 15:39:37**

*(no subject)*

Quite. Were you in earshot when Yvaine Warrington was regaling that gaggle of gossips with her oh-so-genteel screed against Corax? She wouldn't have dared without those rumours about how his department is running (or not running, as the case might be) -- and, Lyoushka, do not think I did not notice whose efforts ensured those rumours were properly watered. Well done, my dear.

I did find Our Lord's mood quite difficult to interpret, however.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-11-02 00:35:52**

*(no subject)*

Oh, yes, the garden was in full bloom by ten. Indeed, Mulciber must have been more perturbed by the stories than he wished to let on: He cornered me in one of the corridors off the main ballroom.

Apparently he thought him-self terribly witty and menacing; personally found him as tiresome as he was toothless. But he did decide to fling a thinly veiled threat toward the end of our repartée - to the effect that he expects to supplant me in Our Lord's graces. Reminded him that most who have tried are no longer around to tell the tale.

Confident he will make a play, possibly indirectly - he did make a point to mention my 'protectiveness' toward those whom I hold dear - but equally confident he does not know how to ensure that Our Lord does not see his power-mongering as a threat.

Toshenka, did you get a chance to see Rookwood? He was there only very briefly. If one stepped away to use the gents' one might have missed him.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-11-02 01:20:45](#)  
(no subject)

I did, although only from across the room -- by the time I was able to extract myself from Madam Cooper and make my way over, he had already left. I am greatly encouraged by how much improved he looked. Has he said anything to you about his ultimate prognosis?

And I shall keep my eyes open for Corax's machinations; his lack of subtlety should at least serve to make them obvious when it happens. Which is all to the positive; Our Lord may appreciate nerve, but vulgarity has never pleased Him.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-02 01:45:28](#)  
(no subject)

It was the talk, Mulciber's reign of terror. Surprised there's no one on his staff willing to challenge him, but then the civilian side have always been a bit wet.

We prefer to keep our Head malleable and to manage matters aslant. Mind you, things are almost as bad in MLE under Cadmus, but we have him at stalemate.


Or did. Things have been stormy with A1 today. Our Lord's shifts of mood and favour... decidedly difficult.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-11-01 15:42:28](#)  
*Private message to Barty*

And speaking of moods difficult to interpret: are you well, my dearest son? I saw the look on your face after you spoke with Maebh.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-02 02:33:40](#)  
*Re: Private message to Barty*

I'm fine.

I don't need you, Batya, to tell me it was... rash to go after her. Though I'm sure you will.



Sophia made sure I knew I'd only myself to blame if the press made a meal of my 'acting the jilted lover'. (It was nothing of the sort.) She did promise that Whirl have other stories to headline. Obv, if she wants to continue to have admittance to these things as my plus-one, she knows where the lines are.

Maebh knows where they are, as well. And just how to cross them.



**alt\_antonin at 2013-11-02 13:16:34**

*Re: Private message to Barty*

СОЛНЫШКО, I will not lecture. The heart will lead you to do what it leads you to do; you are more than capable of delivering the lecture to yourself, but if your heart lured you to ignore what your intellect well knows, there was a reason. I will not castigate you more than you are already no doubt castigating yourself; I only wished to check that you are well.

You may have convinced me to abandon my habit of always checking that you are not bleeding or curse-damaged after a battle no matter how fine you feel, but you will never convince me to forego the check that your heart has not been wounded after I see a situation in which it might have been so much as bruised, no matter how much you might try to pretend to others that heart is stone and adamant. It is not weakness to feel, and you are mine and I will never stop wanting to protect you.

Your,  
T

**2013-11-01 10:50:00**

*Order Only: Argh*

We just got an owl. From Zonko's.

All further orders are CANCELLED.

We blew the bloody store doors off for him for Halloween and Christmas was going to be even better, but no, he's CANCELLING us.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#)



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-11-01 15:54:55](#)

*(no subject)*

WHAT?!

Oh, no! Why? Did he say?



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-01 15:58:48](#)

*(no subject)*

The letter didn't make any sense! It acknowledged the terrific sales, and he wished us nothing but success, but he said he'd 'decided to go in a different direction.'




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-01 16:00:42](#)

*(no subject)*

Be polite when you write back. We don't want to burn any bridges. After all, it probably wasn't his idea.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-01 15:55:50](#)

*(no subject)*

Oh.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-01 15:57:24](#)  
(no subject)

You know why this happened?

I suppose we can sort it out well enough.

If it's who I think it is, it's enough to make Zonko's lose out on some really decent profits.




 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-01 16:02:53](#)  
(no subject)

I think we all know why this happened.

But bloody hell, we're not gonna roll over and die for ~~him~~ them.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-01 15:58:57](#)  
(no subject)

Probably best to put a new ad in the Prophet -- tell people we're going exclusively owl-order, but make it sound like it's a good thing.


I'll work on it.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-01 16:01:25](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-01 16:03:39](#)  
*Private Message to George and Fred*

Bloody hell is right.

I've tried to keep a low profile, but I might have to talk to Lucius again.

We had such a good first week, too.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-01 19:20:22](#)**  
(no subject)


Oh, bloody hell. I'm sorry.

Bugger, didn't see that coming. And I should have. To undercut your business, he has to cut your income stream. Classic--should have remembered that from my training with the goblins. I remember a book on financial warfare--I'll have dig out my notes.

Warning: he may try to go after your suppliers next. Make sure you have two or three sources for everything, and keep your noses clean. Strictly legal sources only. Your consultants, too--he may try to lean on your packaging designer, for instance.

I'm dead sorry. That stinks! But there's something to be said for building an owl order network, so you'll have multiple streams of income to fall back on.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-02 01:18:49](#)**  
(no subject)

That's not on!!

We're totally starting a boycott! I've been talking to people and no Gryffindor's buying anything from Zonko's again until they have Weasley Whizbangs back on their shelves! I bet other Houses will join in.

We'll show them! And we'll tell them, too! I've got parchment out in the Common Room and we're writing letters to Zonko's and The Prophet.

We've got your backs!



 **[alt\\_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-11-02 18:47:48](#)**  
(no subject)

After we've had a few days to cool and think about it...

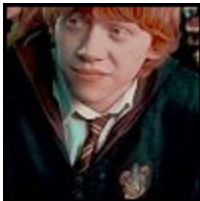
We don't want to get him cross at us because


students are boycotting him. More to the point might be having people visit the shop, ask for our products and 'when is Zonko's going to be carrying them again?' yeah? The whole point is for us to get back in to the shop.

So we plan to keep stopping by the premises periodically to show him stuff we're developing and saying, "don't you think this would sell well for you?" If he keeps hearing students telling him how much they want to buy our products at Zonko's (rather than how they're hacked off at him), he might be more likely to let us in again.

Boycotts can work, yeah, but they're best tried after you've tried everything else first. Because they can cause bad feeling, and if tempers start really flaring, he might give up on the idea of selling to students entirely. Get rid of the shop and taking up knitting like Mum.

(Except, of course, that Mum's gonna be knitting a lot less if she can get her own shop off the ground).



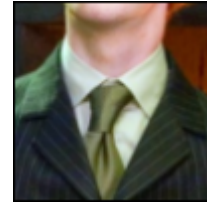
 **alt\_ron** at **2013-11-02 19:22:54**  
(no subject)

Thing is we can't go in and talk to them. Not until next Hogsmeade day. But we can write.

**2013-11-01 17:55:00**

*Private message to Lucius Malfoy*

Here's a brightener at the end of the week: Mr Crispin let me know by owl that a few pointed visits from various people was all it took to satisfactorily convey the message to Zonko's in Hogsmeade.




 [alt\\_percy](#)

He is quite sure you will be pleased with the results. (More pleased than Mr Zonko, perhaps, but if he mixes with undesirable elements, that's his lookout.)

If I may say so, sir, I do admire Mr Crispin's efficiency.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-11-02 00:17:04**  
*(no subject)*

Good.

**2013-11-01 20:19:00**

*(no subject)*

BoYcOTT ZoNKOs UNTIL THeY BrING BAck  
WeAsLeY wHIzBANGs!!! WrITe AND TeLL  
ZoNKos THeY're DAfT fOr DrOPPING THeM!!!



 [alt\\_galleon](#)

**2013-11-02 13:57:00**

*(no subject)*

Boycott Zonko's? THAT makes no sense. We don't go back to Hogsmeade until December. They wouldn't even notice if we were boycotting or not.



 [alt\\_galleon](#)



**2013-11-02 14:04:00**

*Private Message to Yvaine Warrington*

From everything I've heard about Thursday, you've certainly made your position known! But I'm sure it was worth it if it meant Niall Wilde took an interest. And Cooper - he wasn't pestering you about a commission, was he? I understand Amara was rather upset and claimed he was inattentive all evening.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#)

I take it you spent some time with Mordant Travers' companion. Did she have anything intriguing to say for herself? Perhaps if you and Niall keep on, you'll have occasion to see her in some clan gathering and you may make a better acquaintance. (If so, I shall count on you to report in full, my dear!)

Now, as for the St Mungo's benefit, of course, I'd be happy to speak to Selma about adding you to the committee. I'm sure she'd be pleased to have you. Though if you've any thoughts about the Jr Auxiliary, you ought to send them to Isobel Sandoval as soon as possible. I believe she means the roster to be determined by the 22<sup>nd</sup> with notifications going out at the end of the month.

We really ought to lunch soon. Do let me know if Charles is looking at the *Prophet* or one of the other publications and I'll have Celia make some appointments for him. I'm sure we can procure a situation for him in no time.

**2013-11-02 14:10:00**

*Private Message to Barty Crouch*

Did Sophia enjoy herself?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#)



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at **2013-11-02 22:36:19**

*(no subject)*

Found it invigorating. Suppose we'll see when this week's Whirl arrives.

Expect she'll divide her focus between the younger set--the Yaxley daughters, Baddock's niece, and whichever Spinx that was--and the shifting alliances of their elders. Says she finds us more compelling, though more dangerous to offend.

Did she put her nose in at your poetry salon? How was that, anyway?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at **2013-11-02 22:59:56**

*(no subject)*

It was quite enjoyable, until Myron Wagtail tried reading his lyrics as poems. Then it devolved a bit into more of an acoustic music sing-in.

The honeyed cherry cakes might have played a part in that, too. I understand they had a little something 'extra' to keep people in a receptive mood.

Fortunately, Niall Drumgoole had already read and he was really the only one worth hearing to that point. His account of the retaking of Sixmilebridge was stirring. He must have spoken to a number of eyewitnesses. Were you one? It rather seemed as if he'd done proper research. It's so fascinating how youth and zeal can glorify war without a hint of irony.

~~I saw you following~~ Where did you keep yourself all evening? I looked for you for a dance but you never seemed to be in the ballroom at the same time I was.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-02 23:29:28](#)  
(no subject)

Could have used spiked cake for the afternoon I gave the poet Drumgoole. Honestly.

Suppose it was time charitably spent if you found the results so pure and stirring.

Have forgotten, does young poet D have gainful work somewhere? Or is he courting patronage in lieu of salary?

Not surprised we didn't intersect. More work than pleasure on my end.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-11-03 00:08:42](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, he's quite tiresome in conversation, it's true, but his poetry is unmistakably gifted. I'm fairly confident he was trying to look for patrons. He nearly cornered Mariah Pyle but she slipped off to the game table. And I know for a fact he bent June Calderwood's ear for twenty minutes before I pitied her enough to provide rescue. He even approached Pandora Baddock but I thought it best to come to her aid straight off. (Just because her husband and mine insist on foolishness, that does not mean she and I need to give your Sophia grist for *Whirl's* pages!)

You seem to have been working quite hard lately.

I understand - that is, I hear from Lucius that you were as surprised as I to see another Drumgoole in attendance. ~~Are you~~ If ~~you~~ It must have been disconcerting to learn in that manner that she had regained some measure of favour.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-03 00:18:16](#)  
(no subject)

For the record, if there is anything in Whirl re. L and AB, I am not Sophia's source. Trust that went without saying.

Speaking of— Suppose you haven't spoken with Bella since?



 **alt\_narcissa** at **[2013-11-03 00:35:05](#)**  
(no subject)

I would never dream of accusing you of such a thing. As for whether anything will appear, we'll have to see. Unfortunately it's not quite as private a war as one might wish.

Bella? No. I spoke to Mother yesterday; she said Bella had actually come to see her - upset about something but not wishing to say what. I can imagine it had to do with the dais - or the balcony during the fireworks - or both.

Did she make things difficult for you? (Or does that privilege belong to someone else?)

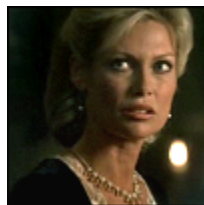



 **alt\_crouch\_jr** at **[2013-11-03 01:59:34](#)**  
(no subject)

You have mastered understatement. Re. Lucius's matter and Bella, both.

Suffice to say Corax Mulciber has competition for Departmental Tyrant award.

Not complaining that I am rather the worse for our hour in the sparring dungeons: I knew what I was in for. Others are less well-prepared to cope. Including, perhaps, Bella herself. That's what's concerning.



 **alt\_narcissa** at **[2013-11-03 02:36:46](#)**  
(no subject)


Truly, I thought that title rightfully belonged to my sister anyway. Is there something in particular she's doing to suggest she's losing her grip on the Auror squads?

She has always had trouble controlling her temper. Something

you share with her, I might add.

I must admit I'm accustomed to feeling the weight of her contempt. I am much less accustomed to yours, however.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-03 02:46:46](#)  
(no subject)

I wouldn't say she is losing grip or ground. Her sense of proportion, however. Trust the loss is temporary.

My contempt? Never. What makes you say such a thing?



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-11-03 02:59:34](#)  
(no subject)

Perhaps I've misread you, then.

I'm sure you have other confidantes who are willing to listen to your troubles but I thought

I was still one of them, as well.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-03 03:10:28](#)  
(no subject)

Thought that's what I was doing here. Confiding concern about matters of relevance to the two of us. Surely you share my apprehension about current shifts in the

landscape.

Was I as—

Suppose we are all out of sorts.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-11-03 03:16:16](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, of course. Matters of consequence to us both.

I was speaking of matters of consequence to

you. None of my business, I suppose. ~~If she hurt you again~~  
All I meant to say is that I miss you.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-03 03:33:00](#)  
(no subject)

And I you.

But you've your poetical pups, barking for attention. And your artiste, whom you've only to commission to command his time and attendance. You're hardly at a loss for company.

As for Maebh. It's nothing I can share. Rest assured she's a little interested in my concern as you are interested in my concerning myself with her. Or, that may not be accurate. She does, in fact, seem interested in causing me concern. Perversely as ever. And is obstinately unwilling to take warning that her folly will harm only herself.

That's more than I ought to have said. Trust you can accept that.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at [2013-11-03 03:50:28](#)  
(no subject)

You of all people should know there's a difference between those who clamour for one's company and those in whose company one would choose to be.

If your assessment is not accurate for her part, it's also not accurate for mine, dear. I take particular interest in whether you concern yourself with her, if only because she seems to still hold a peculiar power over you. And it is not like you to be swayed by her sort.

At any rate, if shifting landscape from the past tells us anything, it's that sometimes the follies of others do attract notice - in ways that reward, rather than condemn.

~~I want to see you~~

I hope you don't mean you have some ominous plan in mind for her.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-03 04:10:21](#)  
(no subject)

Should like to think there is reward at the end of all this, but am not sanguine.

Comforting to have you play the Oracle for me, though. And you could be right. Why not?

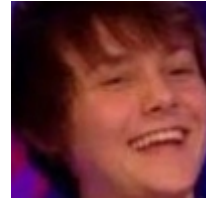
(You are, at least, not wrong re. M. The alchemy between us hasn't gone. Worse luck. But that's irrelevant as ever. It must be.)

**[2013-11-02 16:30:00](#)**

*(no subject)*

That was some match, wasn't it?

And it was even more fun with Lovegood commentating. Though I suppose it didn't do much for anyone actually wanting to *follow* the game, still it was educational. I'd never heard of a Bunticle bite before or that it causes people to speak only in limericks. Must be inconvenient for the side when they're trying to call out plays to each other.

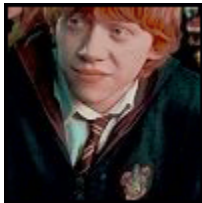



 **[alt\\_michael](#)**

(No, Bits Bets, it's not a real thing. I don't think. Probably not.)

I guess it doesn't matter because we won anyway, so

## GO, RAVENCLAW!



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-03 02:19:50](#)**

*(no subject)*

Yeah, we'd all better watch out for Bunticles, I reckon. I hear the older the Bunticle, the fouler the limericks it makes you say!

Cheers on the win. Chang was fierce in that race for the Snitch.



**[2013-11-02 16:50:00](#)**

*(no subject)*

Lovegood, you definitely have to announce more games. That was brilliant.



And nicely done, Chang. That was a really close game.

 [alt\\_harry](#)



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **[2013-11-03 02:16:25](#)**

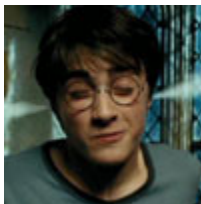
*(no subject)*

I've never heard anything quite like that commentating. Hope the Headmistress agrees!

Thought this first match would never get here. And a month still before we play, yeah? Seems like forever!

But I reckon your lot might need the time to get ready for us.

Kidding.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **[2013-11-03 02:47:13](#)**

*(no subject)*

I think you've got it backwards!

Also kidding.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **[2013-11-03 02:43:42](#)**

*(no subject)*

Hullo, Harry, old chap,

It *was* well exciting, wasn't it? It's too bad for us in Hufflepuff but they played as hard as they could do, what.

I still can't quite believe anyone would willingly get pummelled by Bludgers like that. But it does make for a fast-moving match!

I say, did you get any ideas for how to lead Slytherin to victory against the others?


-Justin



 **alt\_harry** at **[2013-11-03 02:46:13](#)**  
(no subject)

It's going to be a really challenging season, that's for certain. Which makes things that much more exciting, yeah? When it's not already a given who will come out on top.



 **alt\_susan** at **[2013-11-03 03:11:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Fast-moving is one word for it!

Good to see you in the crowd, mate. There's nothing like that wall of Badger yellow when we fly onto the

pitch.

**2013-11-02 19:22:00**

*Private Message to Lucius Malfoy*



 [alt\\_pansy](#)

Lucius,

You've shown me how effective you can be at navigating through the politics of business, and how your influence can smooth paths or make them a great deal rockier. I can see now how very unwise it was of me to not seek your help from the beginning, and how much more difficult life is without you supporting and helping me, as you've done selflessly for so many years. I also see that nothing we ever do happens in isolation, and that even though my goal was to try to show some independent initiative, my reputation was still wrapped up with yours, and my decision could have harmed not only myself, but your reputation as well. Believe me when I say that wasn't my intent at all.

More importantly, through my attempts, I have damaged my relationship with you. A relationship that I cherish. It hurts my heart to feel distance between us, and countless times in the last few weeks I've wanted to ask you for advice or share with you my successes. I miss you horribly.

I want you to know that I am very sorry for the way in which I went about things. I can see how selfish that was of me, and how short-sighted. I suppose there was a part of me that anticipated you'd simply tell me no, and so rather than talk with you directly, I decided to take my chances. I acted in a deceptive manner, which was wrong. I know I can be willful at times, and stubborn, and I'm sorry to have caused you pain through my actions.

Even though I was not straightforward with you, which is something I am heartily sorry for, I have invested time and effort into this project. Beyond just providing funding, I've worked at developing budgets, advertising, packaging, and establishing product lines. I've worked hard to ensure that my investment was being put to good use. I am proud of what I've accomplished, and with your permission, I want a chance to develop this business further. I wish so badly that we could talk about all the good things I've been able to do, and all the progress that has been made, and what I'm planning for my future. I hope with all my heart that you can forgive me for my short-sightedness and deception, and give this project a chance to be successful.

I'd much rather continue with your blessing and forgiveness than attempt this without your support.

If that is something you are not prepared to do, however, were certain current impediments were to be resolved, I would be willing to remove my name from partnership and talk to Fred and George Weasley about establishing a reasonable payment plan to return my initial investment. I know that your influence means a great deal with Commerce, and that my association is hurting this business (and Molly Weasley's by association) more than helping it at this point. I'd rather see their businesses succeed without me than have them continue to face their current struggles. And my relationship with you is something I value deeply, and although I care about this business, I care about you and your connection to me more.


Please forgive me, Lucius.

Regardless of your decision, know that I respect you, and love you, and miss you more than I can say.

Always Your

↳ Pansy.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-11-03 17:43:33](#)  
(no subject)

Really? *Have* they met with adversity so soon? That's very surprising to hear: My sources tell me their opening week-end at Hogsmeade met with unqualified success, deserving only hearty congratulations. How disappointing for you, if what you say is so.

But as for giving up .... Why would you rush to reverse your position all of a sudden? I thought you *believed* in them - so much so that you have already invested heavily of your time and effort, as you have pointed out more than once. Yet you would so quickly turn your back on your commitment? Just because of a bump in the road?

Or could it be that you have begun to see the instability in that pair of delinquents and now suspect that failure is but a matter of time?

Let us leave that question unanswered for the moment.

I'm not sure why you should think *your* involvement is the cause of these troubles you mention, whatever they may be. You are, after all, only one young witch - why should Commerce pay them any more attention or actively conspire to harm them just because you are associated with them? I rather think you may be giving yourself too much credit, my dear.


You certainly give *me* more credit than necessary in assuming I can clear away any 'impediments' you and your partners are experiencing with a mere sweep of my wand. Surely you understand that whatever is happening as far as Mrs Weasley is part of the normal process Commerce has put in place to ensure that all new businesses serve the interests of the Protectorate and present healthy growth, satisfying the needs and fulfilling the proper desires of Our Lord's loyal subjects. As for whatever other obstacles your colleagues may be facing, I am sorry if you failed to anticipate how difficult it would be to gain a foothold on the market but you did say you were all learning as you go along.

Either way, it does not seem to me that you could mitigate the damage to your reputation or fortune - or their undertaking - by withdrawing now, so soon after the launch. In fact, one feels sure it would only bring about worse ramifications, as it might send a signal that you have less confidence in the venture than you have claimed heretofore. One can only imagine what might be made of *that*, should it become public knowledge through the trade columns.

No, as you so eloquently said in your defiant retort to me: It's only right that you start making decisions on your own about what you intend for your life. What did you call it? Part of growing up?

If I have been silent these past weeks, it is only because you made it clear you no longer wished for my opinion on this matter and wanted to stand on your own. I have acceded to that wish and have been giving you adequate room to make those decisions - and to face the consequences of those decisions. Pray do not think you are unforgiven or that I hold you in disgrace, nor that I have turned away my affection for you; rather, I have provided you that which you said you wanted most: Freedom to do as you choose.



 **alt\_pansy** at [2013-11-04 04:19:50](#)  
(no subject)

I am so very glad to hear that you do not hold me in disgrace, Lucius. And it's very heartening to hear that your sources have remarked so positively on our early successes.

Even though you say I am not unforgiven, I will keep trying my best to show you how very sorry I truly am.

I do wish for your opinion. I think that one of the things your silence has taught me is how very much I depend on you, more than I thought I did, and how much I value your insights. And although I do think it's natural to want to make my own decisions, I also think that independence does not have to mean isolation. I've found my short foray down that path to be a rather lonely one, and I supposed I feared that if I let silence stretch out too long between us, I would wake up one day and not have you a part of my life any more, which would pain me greatly. And it would've been my choices that would have led to that distance, not yours.

I can also see how my tendency to worry has made me read far too much into all the little things that have been creating difficulties for us. And it is rather egotistical of me to put myself at the centre of everything, I can see that. Every forming business has its bumps in the road. I suppose you've been such a large figure in my life, and I see you as such a source of power and influence that it's only natural I should think that your displeasure would lead to trouble, and that with a wave of your hand all those troubles were to go away. You're looking out for my best interests, and this includes teaching me a rather valuable lesson about how things work in the real world -- and the real world is not that straightforward or simple.

I can see how reasonable your advice is to not be so hasty in withdrawing my partnership. You're right -- others would see it as a lack of confidence, and it might have the opposite effect from my intent. My partners also appreciated the advice of Mr Crispin, who I'm sure was looking out for our best interests by telling them to be cautious with how our products may be used or the trouble they could get in were they to be taken the wrong way -- in fact, we designed disclaimers for our products with his very warning in mind.

We have indeed had a very successful opening week, and our owl orders have taken off very steadily as a result. Hogsmeade was a rather smashing success with every goal we set, and did what it was meant to -- we sold a large quantity of our selected goods, and increased brand awareness for our owl orders.

However, it's rather frustrating -- Mr Zonko very suddenly cancelled his order for our goods just the other day. After such a profitable showing, it was quite discouraging and unexpected. We shall continue to function through owl order, of course. Fred and George have spoken to me about trying to convince him to change his mind, but seeing as his decision came with so little warning or reason, I wonder at the wisdom of associating with someone who is that inconsistent and easily swayed. Have you any idea why someone might change his mind so quickly like that? I suppose he might have seen us as competition.

The eventual plan is to open a storefront, but that's been challenging too. We are depending on Mrs Weasley's venture as a way to have a physical location, as her revenue would be needed to pay for the building rental. I'm sure you're far too busy to be kept abreast of everything, but the repopulation office received a complaint (a jealous neighbor, no doubt) about Mrs Weasley's source of revenue, one that she was told was legal, and she is now having to address it. She needs the revenue to pay for the store location, and was hoping to house other businesses besides ours as well. It's rather awkward, as her arrangement was set up for her by Director Selwyn, and she assumed it was in good faith and above board. Now that his memory is no longer in favour in the court, it's a challenge to be sure.

It's interesting, but I never gave a great deal of thought about how everything in business is so very closely linked together with the current political atmosphere. Mrs Weasley depended on a person who is no longer able to help her, and whose association with her has most likely hurt her chances through no fault of her own. It's very sad to see. And had I been less stubborn and insistent on my independence, I'm sure your advice regarding Commerce would no doubt have made this process a great deal more smooth, as you have so many insights into how they work.

Without Commerce's approval, we won't have a storefront, and were her revenue to disappear, it would be quite a blow to the Weasley family. I very much hope her next meeting is more

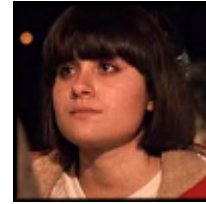
successful. At this point, she's putting her best efforts towards pulling together all the paperwork required of her, and is keeping us informed of her progress, and all of the additional evidence she's been asked to provide regarding her finances and blood status. Have you any advice I can pass along so that she won't encounter any more unexpected challenges? I'm sure it would be appreciated.

May I just say, I feel so very relieved to be talking to you again, Lucius.



**2013-11-02 20:17:00**

*ORDER ONLY: Private Message to George and Fred*



Well.

Here goes.

 [alt\\_pansy](#)

I've asked for Lucius's blessing to continue. If he won't give that to me, I've told him I'm willing to withdraw from partnership, as long as he stops his current attempts to ruin the business. Well, I didn't say it like that, of course. But it's there.

You may have to pay me back.

I'll make sure that it's over a long enough amount of time that it wouldn't cut into ~~our~~ your profit margin.

If it means he'll leave off and give you a chance to succeed, it's something I've got to be prepared to do. And I figured that your having to pay me back would hurt you far less than having both your business and your mum's business fail because of Lucius's anger at me.

I'm sorry.

I hope it works out.

I'll let you know what he says.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at **2013-11-03 21:35:32**  
(no subject)

Wait

What

Sorry, we've been up to our ars elbows in owl orders. We see you wrote to Mr Malfoy before telling us what you were going to say.

Not to be rude or anything, but we gotta ask: why are you asking for his blessing? He isn't your guardian or your trustee, right? Is it that you've known him longer than you've known us? Are you having

doubts about the business, or are you wary of crossing him? Is the stuff he's doing to thwart us scaring you?

We want you as our partner, and we think that together we could build this business in brilliant ways, but we don't want to force you into anything you're not willing to do. We understand that he's family. But don't be in a hurry to make it easy for him to shut us down. Because you know that's what he's trying to do, don't you? Why should he win playing dirty tricks like that? Like getting inspectors to bang on the doors at night when you know that hardly ever happens to new businesses? Like the friendly little warning visit we got from his protégé, Virgil Crispin?

Like what he got Percy to do to Mum?

We'll pay you back if that's what needs to happen, and we swear there'll be no hard feelings. And you're part of the Order, no matter what. But just stop and think about what it'll be like when you have all your money back and Lucius Malfoy is willing to smile and pat you on the head again. He'll be that much more sure of you, that you'll never ever slip off the chain or step out of line without his say-so. In fact, you'll never step out of line at all. Is that really what you want?

Mom talked about not letting him win with divide-and-conquer, remember?



 **alt\_pansy** at [2013-11-04 04:35:26](#)  
(no subject)

First of all, I'm not like Percy.

I'm not doing this for him. Or for me. I'm doing it for you.

I want very badly to stay on as partner. I'm glad to hear that all this nastiness with Lucius hasn't spoiled you to the idea. I honestly enjoy working with both of you, and think you're brilliant, and want to keep it up.

The reason why he's doing all of this is to teach me a lesson. And he couldn't care less about your financial future as long as I learn it

properly. And I'll be damned if I let him destroy you and your mum just so he can show me how powerful he is.

So I'm calling him on it. And part of that involves showing him lesson learned and showing him just how sorry I am and how important he is, and another part is giving some ground.

You're thinking about it like a battle. But it's not. It's a dance. Or a chess match where he has my queen cornered, and most of the pieces on the board, so I have to sacrifice a knight so we can breathe again.

And if that knight is my partnership, but he backs off, it's worth it.

Slytherins don't fight like Gryffindors do. But that doesn't mean I'm not fighting with everything I've got. Please don't think I'm working against you. Or that I care about the money.

And there's more to it than that.

Pretty much the only thing I'm good for in the Order is my connections. I can't afford to burn bridges we might still need.

I need to keep my connections, and use my position. And if I have to kiss Lucius Malfoy's arse to do it, I will.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-04 04:42:24](#)  
(no subject)

And he's written back.

Right now he's cautioning against my giving up partnership, so it seems as though there's more lessons he wants to teach me. Either that, or he's trying to bluff me or test my resolve. I'm still sorting it out.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-04 04:42:35](#)  
(no subject)

...It's complicated.




 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-04 12:51:37](#)  
(no subject)

No kidding.

Don't forget: chess is war, too. Just a little politer.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-04 15:40:17](#)  
(no subject)

That's pretty appropriate, actually.

I'd call what we're currently doing a battle of excessive politeness. Which is far better than what we were doing earlier. And makes it just a bit harder for him to up and do something that directly interferes. Not that he'll stop, mind.

Anyways. He's told me he's had no part in interfering, and I've let him know that I know what he's done.

All very politely, of course.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-04 12:51:03](#)  
(no subject)

Huh. Well, you know him better than we do. That's good news at least, that you're still our partner.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-04 12:48:45](#)  
(no subject)

You're doing this for us? That's just

We're going to have to think about that a bit. We're grateful, of course, but we hope a sacrifice like that won't be necessary.

Don't forget, we're used to being poor. It doesn't scare us. We don't mind living on the premises (once that permit business is straightened out), and we can live on beans and toast, even if Mum will fuss about it.

Also: you're worth more to the Order than just your connections. That's nonsense. You've got grit, and you're not a half-bad flyer, and you have good ideas. Hey, you've even taken the CCF first aid course.

Not to mention, you're our *friend*.



 **[alt\\_gredforge](#)** at **[2013-11-04 12:49:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Not to be maudlin or sentimental or anything.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-11-04 15:34:45](#)**  
(no subject)

Naturally.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-11-04 15:43:23](#)**  
(no subject)

And don't get that sappy, gents.

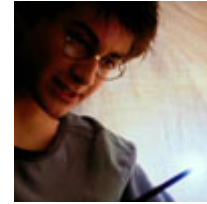
It's for the Order too, you know. Mrs Weasley's business plans helps the Order, and your inventions do too.

Although it is rather nice of you to say anyways.

**2013-11-02 20:28:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

Mr Dumbledore asked me to talk to Professor Slughorn, to find out more about what Lord Voldemort was like while he was school.



 [alt\\_harry](#)

So we could have a bit more information about what He might've turned into a Horcrux.

Anyways. I went to his office today, and said that I was wanting to know more about what My Father was like while he was at school, and he asked me right off why I'd want to know. And he seemed really cautious.

I said that I wanted to be a dutiful son, and was thinking about my own future and what I'd want to do with my life, and I also talked a little about how sometimes My Father can be very hard to understand, and how He's so powerful sometimes that it's overwhelming, and it might help me if I thought about when He was at Hogwarts, like I am now. And Professor Slughorn said pretty quickly that he was pretty sure my thinking about Him as a child wouldn't be something He'd want, and I said oh, of course, but I was just wondering what sorts of things he was interested in.

Professor Slughorn didn't ever call Him by the name he used at school -- Tom Riddle, I mean. I didn't either, of course. And he said that although He was one of his favourite students, he didn't know much about what interests he had outside of classes. But He was obsessive about mastering himself as a wizard. That's how he put it. And I asked him about whether He was interested in all of the Founders at all, because He is now, and Professor Slughorn seemed a bit surprised by that and said that he knew He was a very proud Slytherin, but didn't think He studied the other three at all while He was at school. And I asked about specific coursework and projects, but all he'd say is that He excelled in his classes, and was a truly talented wizard in all sorts of areas. So I might have to ask him about that later, maybe.

He did say something about an award for special services to the school, and then he paused like he wasn't sure if he should've said anything about it. And when I asked what it was for, he said it was for stopping a murderer, but he didn't want to say anything else about it after that. Hermione and me went to the trophy case after to see if we could find the award, but it didn't look like there was any.

That's all we talked about for now.

---



 **alt\_harry** at **2013-11-03 03:29:52**

*Private Message to Mr Dumbledore*

I didn't ask him about horcruxes.

He seemed too nervous.

I'm going to, though.



 **alt\_albus** at **2013-11-03 15:14:38**

*Re: Private Message to Mr Dumbledore*

Most interesting.

You've no idea what made him nervous in specific, then?



 **alt\_harry** at **2013-11-03 17:48:53**

*Re: Private Message to Mr Dumbledore*

I think just even talking about Him made him nervous. He was careful with everything he said, and was really general sometimes.

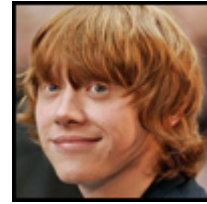
Like I said that He must've been juts brilliant in Defence and Transfiguration, and he just agreed with me. He didn't give any examples or anything.

And he looked sort of uncomfortable the whole time. Like he didn't want to be there.

**2013-11-02 21:20:00**

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

Well flown, Bones. Shame it didn't turn out, but you kept in until the Snitch, and there's nothing Summerby really could've done better. It just wasn't your day.



 [alt\\_ron](#)

Anywiz. Sally Anne and I were cheering you on, and you were dead solid.

---




 [alt\\_susan](#) at **2013-11-03 03:07:48**

*(no subject)*

Thanks, Ron! It was really nice to see you and Sally-Anne out there cheering us on.

Should be good times when our lot plays you and yours, yeah? I feel like we're more evenly matched at Seeker and that usually makes for a good show.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-11-03 03:17:35**

*(no subject)*

Looking forward to it!



 [alt\\_susan](#) at **2013-11-03 03:32:17**

*(no subject)*

We'll be coming at you so be ready!




**2013-11-02 21:33:00**

*Private Message to Bob Summerby*

Don't be so hard on yourself, mate.

Chang's been at this awhile, and you've only played what, three matches? You'll get there.



 [alt\\_susan](#)

And hey, I flew for Hufflepuff all last year and I still nearly got whacked by a Bludger and missed a major goal today. I think there's room for all of us to up our play a bit.

Wasn't it good to see Ced cheering us on, though? I hope he'll be able to get back out on the pitch himself soon.

**2013-11-03 16:07:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Dora*

So, er, Charlie mentioned that ... well, he said in passing that you've been feeling loads of pressure and that it's partly what prompted what he called wanting to 'run away from home.'



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

I mean to say, everyone deserves a holiday now and then and beyond that, I hope if you ever feel as if you need to leave the Ministry or change what you're doing for the Order, you've only to say and we'll make the necessary adjustments. It's useful but not if it means sacrificing your sanity, love.

But the way Charlie said it sounded as if it were something more related to *home* - that is, to Doughty Conduit and Grimmauld.

And I just .... I wanted to make sure - I mean, ask: It's not something I've done, is it? I mean, I've not made you feel uncomfortable or unwelcome or unappreciated or anything, I hope. And if I have done, or if it's something else - well. I hope you'd tell me (or even tell Remus to tell me) so I can try to stop whatever's the problem. If I can, that is.

Of course, if it's something Remus did, feel free to hex his ears off. I might even help. (If it was Kreacher I'll definitely help!)

I don't mean to sound like I assume that the way you feel is at heart an issue that's all about me, far from it. Just that I know if there's one person who could uncomplicate your life just by not existing, it's me. So naturally I'm going to treat myself as the prime suspect in your unhappiness. If that makes sense. Or at least that I must be guilty until proven innocent.

Anyway. It's a long-winded way of saying: Whatever's wrong, if anything *is* wrong, don't keep it to yourself, kiddo.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at **2013-11-03 23:21:45**

(no subject)

I-

What did Charlie say to make you think that?


I mean to say, he's right that I jumped at the chance for a bit of a

holiday. And I did enjoy it awfully much. More than I meant to admit to anyone other than him. But it's fair enough for you to ask.

I really haven't any complaints: I've got the best kind of family I can think of with Bea and two lovely blokes to share bringing her up. And we've the shop and the garden and the people there, that's nothing to complain about. But the rest of it, I admit, can be... tiring. It's nothing more than you already know, though. And I wouldn't give up the camp visits. Not for anything. I've just got to keep making it work.

And I did enjoy the day out. That's all.

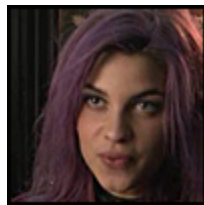


 **alt\_sirius** at **2013-11-03 23:59:38**  
(no subject)

You're sure?

Good. I mean - yes, we all get overwhelmed by the scope of the battle we're fighting, and how hopeless it can seem at times. It's only natural to need a change of pace now and again. And don't let's put it on Charlie - I mean to say, it wasn't anything specific that Charlie said, it was the way he said it. That you had 'enough to be going on with.' I suppose I just assumed he meant 'Sirius Black is an insensitive prat' because, well. I dunno, really. Wouldn't be the first time.

I think you know I'd do almost anything to make sure we can keep making it work. *All* of us. I can't imagine what it would be like if we weren't all here for each other.



 **alt\_nymphadora** at **2013-11-04 01:27:52**  
(no subject)

No more can I.

I'm not trying to change anything about us. Truly. I don't want it to change--I hope you don't, because you're well and truly stuck with us!


And... well. I don't want Charlie thinking I would want any kind of change.

You see?

It was only a friendly thing. Nothing at all more. Because he's his own life and his own loves, y'know? Different from ours, but that's where he's connected. He and I just like each other. And it's good for us to be able to pitch over other things and have someone to talk to who we've not got responsibilities with. Do you see?

So, don't tease him too much or he'll think I haven't understood. And I like him too much to have it go pear shaped like that.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-04 02:07:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Darling cousin, I keep telling you, I'm the last person who requires an explanation on the benefits of a good, solid shag, or who needs to be told that shagging someone once (or even *more* than once) automatically means someone's going to fall in love, get married or any of that traditional bollocks.

And I know just why you want to keep it secret from the others. Merlin forbid Molly or Bill finds out - they'd both draw the wrong conclusions in their own ways. I've no interest in stirring that cauldron.

But that doesn't mean I don't derive a vicarious pleasure from seeing two people I care about enjoying one another's company (energetically).

Particularly when you leave openings one could fly an entire Quidditch side through. (In fact, Charlie as much as admitted he'd have been suspicious if I'd let his comment go unnoticed.)

So don't worry. I think 'stuck' with you and Bea is about as perfect as it gets.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-11-04 02:15:25](#)**  
(no subject)

All right, then. Glad we've got that settled!

And don't you ever try uncomplicating my life by not existing. Hm?

**2013-11-04 09:14:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

See me in my office, Weasley. Immediately.



 **alt\_corax**

**[2013-11-04 11:03:00](#)**

*Order Only: Mulciber*

Mulciber called me into his office first thing in the morning, handed off a sheaf of parchment work, and ordered me to deliver them. 'This folder goes to Magical Commerce. Oh, and this one goes to the Repopulation Rewards office. Thought you'd appreciate the chance to read them over first.'



 [alt\\_bill](#)


It was a stack of forms, and he's signed off and rubber-stamped every one. Everything was there. Mum, you won't even have to show up at the next Magical Commerce meeting. Your licence has been approved, for both the business and the building. He even signed off on the permit that allows Fred and George to stay on the premises of WWW overnight.

The other folder had a letter informing Repopulation that there was nothing whatsoever that was irregular with the rental agreement on the property in New London under the name of Molly Prewitt Weasley, and they were to back off and leave her alone.

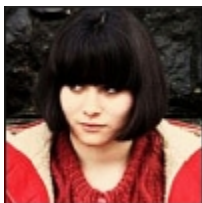
You realise what this means? Mum, you're in business.

Thanks to Corax Mulciber.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-04 19:43:58](#)  
(no subject)

Now *that's* interesting.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-04 20:38:31](#)  
(no subject)

Mrs Weasley, if Lucius is annoyed enough by what Mulciber has done, he might retaliate in some way just to make a point, even though I've been trying to smooth things over with him.

I'd be ready to attend the meeting just in case.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-04 23:33:31](#)  
(no subject)

That is surprising. And disconcerting. I mean, it's wonderful that he decided to smooth the way for you but it's a little frightening to think that it's just because he and Mr Malfoy are quarrelling.

I suppose the best we can do for the moment is wish you all good luck and hope that nothing spoils it.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-05 00:23:33](#)  
(no subject)

Well, exactly.

If it's on a whim, he might do something to take it back later. He's not dependable, or trustworthy, and he doesn't care at all for Mrs Weasley or what may happen to her in the long-term. Not like Director Selwyn did.

But it is something we can take advantage of in the short term at least.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-05 00:55:57](#)  
(no subject)

There's another aspect to it, too.

He's my boss. He handed me the parchment work to deliver, rather than anyone else. He wanted to let me know that he had done it. A rather pointed signal, if I'm reading this right?

I really need a Slytherin translator. What might he think this obligates me to do, for him or his allies?



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-11-05 03:27:25](#)**  
(no subject)

Depends, doesn't it?

He's aiming for Lucius. So that might be part of it.

But you don't have much political power, so there's only so much you could do.

He might end up transferring you to another department, and expect you'll still answer to him, so he could have more influence. But that's just a guess. I honestly don't know.




 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-11-05 00:58:22](#)**  
(no subject)

On the one hand: it's lovely that everything's all set now, and Mum, you won't have to deal with the constant hassles and demands for more information and the like.


On the other hand: now I'm wondering what he's going to want in exchange for that 'favour'.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-05 01:11:04](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm afraid that whatever-it-is, he'll expect it to be a big one, too.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-05 01:13:48](#)**  
*Private Message to Charlie Weasley*

I didn't expect to get tied to him so tightly so fast.

It could be a mark of approval, too. Because I'm doing so well at all those new special spells I'm

learning.

Bugger all.





 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-11-05 01:16:36](#)  
(no subject)

I hardly know what to think! On the one hand, part of me wants to go *hip hip, hurrah!* The other part makes a sort of frightened squawk.




 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-05 01:17:55](#)  
(no subject)

You should have heard the two sounds when they came out together. Came close to frightening the goats.

Speaking of goats, Bill, this means we'll be moving out again, and the goats will be all yours.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-05 01:18:57](#)  
(no subject)


That won't be a 'hip hip hurrah' from me.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-11-05 01:20:27](#)  
(no subject)

Does this mean we'll have to invite Corax Mulciber to the Grand Opening?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-05 01:22:33](#)  
(no subject)

Another question for a Slytherin protocol expert, maybe.

If we do, we pin our hopes on him not showing up.

Maybe I can rearrange his calendar to schedule something critical opposite it.




 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-11-05 02:16:59](#)  
(no subject)

It is unlikely he will expect an invitation to the festivities — your family are not sufficiently well-connected enough for him to wish a public declaration of alliance.


The two most likely explanations of why he has bestirred himself on your family's behalf: he wishes to disrupt Lucius Malfoy's plans, either for amusement or as part of a longer game he is playing, or he wishes to demonstrate the carrot to you, in addition to the stick he has been employing. Or, of course, both at once.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-05 03:36:09](#)  
*Private Message to Snape*

Speaking of Mulciber's carrots and sticks for Bill, I've got the modified potion. Whenever you've time to try it.




 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-11-05 03:39:48](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Snape*

I have some additional thoughts as well; I was able to chase down a few references in the Restricted Section that might prove fruitful if your modifications are not wholly successful.

I am free tomorrow evening if that will suit.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-05 03:49:08](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Snape*

Bonfire Night. Might not be the best timing but we can try.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-11-05 04:04:37](#)

*Re: Private Message to Snape*

Ah, yes, I had forgot.

Thursday would also suffice, should you wish to remain available for any potential

difficulties.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-05 04:12:23](#)

*Re: Private Message to Snape*

Thursday's probably better from our end but what if Bill needs that potion this week? I dunno if we should delay.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-11-05 04:14:27](#)

*Re: Private Message to Snape*

Ah, yes. Given Mulciber's championing of Molly's cause, you may very well be correct.

I suppose we can simply take care to be on alert for need elsewhere.

**2013-11-04 18:49:00**

*Order Only: Weird devices & George McCalman*



 [alt\\_charlie](#)

So, Tonks and I went out this morning to check up on the weirdness from the device thing. We went for the methodical approach -- flying all about at calculated distances in various directions, approaching the line of the disturbance from all sorts of directions, trying to quantify what we were feeling, that sort of thing.

It's definitely related to the whatsis. We started out plotting the line we thought we felt, and it went along with what Sirius and Tonks felt the other day: northwest to southeast, along the coastline. Then we tried flying out at odd angles and crossing back over where the line should be, waiting to see when things got weird again, and it was the same line.


Once we'd established that, we were planning to fly up it and see where it led to, but by that point my broom had bucked me off four times and refused to take off again until I moved further away twice, Tonks kept getting so dizzy she could barely see, both of us were feeling incredibly drained like we'd been using immense amounts of magic, and the problems kept coming and going in waves as we flew along, in no pattern we could figure out except that it got a little worse every time we got hit. So we decided it would be better for us to leave it for a bit until we could recover some.

Second part of the day was up to Armitage to see if we could pick up George McCalman. I'm sorry to say that didn't go well enough either. George is at Moddey now, at least, but his parents weren't very interested in hearing us out. Mrs McCalman was bad enough, arguing that the Protectorate was looking out for them and we had no business being there when "the wizardfolk" would know what to do with their baby for the good of everyone, but then Mr McCalman came back from his work detail and flipped his lid about us talking treason and his wife cheating on him because no child of his would have turned out that way and their baby being sent to poison the work of this great nation... you get the picture.

It was rough. We Obliviated them both before Mr McCalman could turn more violent and faked a cot death, but now I'm worried Mr McCalman will take that out on his wife, too.



---

 **alt\_bill** at [2013-11-05 01:08:35](#)

*(no subject)*

You got bucked off your broom four times? I never would have believed such a thing.

You're sure you're all right, both of you? Don't suppose Poppy could check you over, but Frank and Alice hopefully did while you were at Moddey?

Oh, and there's the obvious: could whatever-you-ran-into have been doing something to your brooms? They've been checked too, I hope?

Well, I'm glad that George McCalman's at Moddey Dhoo, anyway. The more babies, the more attitudes we'll encounter, I guess. (We do seem to be getting a bit less consumed with second-guessing and guilt when these situations come up where the parents are hostile. I'm not sure it's entirely a good thing, but I still think taking the kid's the right decision.)



 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-11-05 02:28:26](#)

*(no subject)*

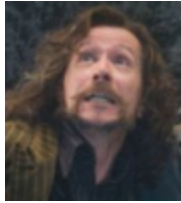
We're all right, we checked each other over well enough. I was starting to get a bit worried after the umpteenth bout of the dizzies -- Tonks had it much worse than I did, but I got hit a bit, too -- but it cleared up soon enough after we got out of the range of the whatever-it-was. We took an extra long lunch to make sure the effects had time to wear off, and food helped, too.


I checked the broom over pretty carefully after the first time it went all wonky on me. The Cloud of Doom didn't seem to be messing with the enchantments on it, or if it was, it wasn't in a way I could spot with all the diagnostic charms I know. We're going to have to be very careful when we check it out further -- it'll have to be expert flyers only, I think. If I'd been one pinch less experienced with keeping my seat in the midst of anything and everything, things would've ended much worse.

Our best guess was that the Cloud of Doom is messing with our magic, on some sort of innate level we can barely even feel, much less measure. Tonks was experiencing some disruption with her metamorph abilities, even -- said it felt like slogging through mud to

shift.

And yeah. No doubt in my mind that taking George was the right thing to do. Merlin alone knows what would've happened to him if we'd left him.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-05 02:52:07](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, that's what it felt like. I was honestly concerned about shifting to Padfoot, as well.


But good on you for your virgin camp mission - and it sounds like it was quite the trying one.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-05 03:34:32](#)  
(no subject)

Too right about the flying. Frank, love: this one isn't a job for you!



 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-11-05 03:43:06](#)  
(no subject)

ta, you.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-05 03:51:59](#)  
(no subject)


We could have used you in the camp, though. You've got the touch sometimes when I can't imagine what to say next. I mean, no one's better set to tell parents how their children will be taken care of.

I don't know if that would have made the difference today or not. This one was really dead set against our traitorous plans. And he was so... I don't understand how someone in his position could think the things he did. Or said he did. But he really seemed to believe all the rubbish he was shoveling. I mean, it didn't seem like the performance someone might give if they thought they

were being loyalty tested.

He was really trying to call the guards in on us. So, really, in the end, there wasn't much choice but to stun him. And then, well, no going back from that, really. So then we were at Obliviation. Confunding them and taking the baby was the least of it, see?



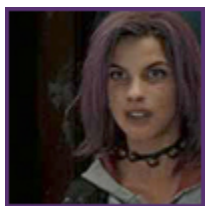
 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-11-05 04:10:35](#)  
(no subject)

people will do strange things sometimes to defend the life they're living. makes it easier to bear, maybe.

maybe he was more comforted by what he knew.

I hope to merlin we can get enough people listening to the radio out of aldrich. give them something else they can pin their hopes on and find comfort in.

remember what it was like before.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-05 04:19:41](#)  
(no subject)

I hope so.


I thought going in today that we might add a button contact at Armitage. There were loads of people out in the fresh air when we got there. It was a nice autumn day up there--which was nice after we had steady cold rain all over Norfolk.

But I don't know what to think about our chances in Armitage now. I doubt the McCalmans are the only ones who think like that, and if that's true, I wouldn't want to trust the wrong person with a button.

Anywiz, in the end, we just got out as quickly as we could.






 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-11-05 05:42:39](#)**  
(no subject)

might check with fawcett, see if he knows anyone there who'd be useful.

our list of dogstar operatives doesn't include armitage, though.



 **[alt\\_terry](#)** at **[2013-11-05 12:34:50](#)**  
(no subject)

You did the right thing for sure. As for what would have happened to him, I'm so glad he'll never have to know.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-11-05 03:39:10](#)**  
(no subject)

It wasn't an easy choice at all. And if the father hadn't shown up when he did, I'd have left the baby there with its mum until we could persuade her to see things differently.

But he was...

In the end, I couldn't quarrel with the decision.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-11-05 04:07:48](#)**  
(no subject)

You really would have left him there with her if it hadn't been for the father going mental on us like that?

I don't know if I could have done that. I really don't.





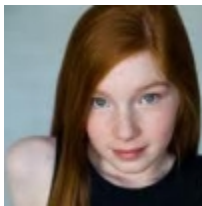
 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-05 04:12:09](#)  
(no subject)

We could have come back and tried again with her. Confused her if necessary so we could start fresh the next time. Sometimes you just get off on the wrong foot and need to make a fresh start.

And sometimes you learn something partway through working with someone that shows you where their soft spots are or their sore points, so then you've got a better idea how to manage them on a second go.

I'd definitely have given it another round if I could have. If it had only been her.

But it wasn't.

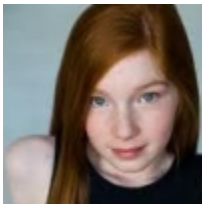



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-05 02:50:53](#)  
(no subject)

I've been plotting things on the map in the secret room to follow along with the octobori.

The fields follow the coast, but I wonder how long they go for. And they don't appear to curve.

I wonder what you'd find at Great Yarmouth. Would there be another one there that it meets up with?



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-05 04:16:43](#)  
(no subject)

There's only eight. Aren't there?

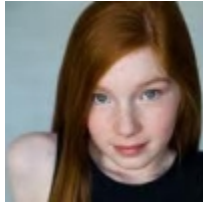
Or do we just assume there are because of the name?

Because I keep trying to start from Walsingham and see where the next one might be, and I use up all eight very fast.



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-11-05 04:18:43](#)  
(no subject)

I'd be interested in seeing that map. Might be a good place to start looking from.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-05 04:30:07](#)  
(no subject)

I've worked out a few different scenarios, but keeping it down to eight just doesn't fit. The coast is just too fiddly and lumpy.

I've been using onionskin to trace out angles and things so they could layer over the map in different combinations. I can send along a map and the ones I've drawn out so far to Doughty with pig if you'd like, but they're all just guesses.

And I'm not sure if I got the angle right exactly with what you and Tonks and Mr Black described, so there's that too.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-05 05:01:26](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, do send it! We'll have a look and compare it to what we saw there.

It'll be dead helpful.

I expect Cecilia Perks would like to have a look, as well. If that's alright with you. She's promised to make models and arithmantic charts for us, but she needs a few more sure points before it'll be more than guesses. No harm having more than one person comparing guesses!

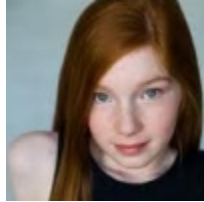


 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-05 12:38:06](#)  
(no subject)

I didn't know you were working on that.

Let me see it, too, Ev, before you send it off. One of the garden design books I've studied uses

overlays a lot when graphing lines and curves for design, so I'm used to thinking using that method. Maybe I'll think of another possibility you missed.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-11-05 16:01:39](#)**  
(no subject)

That's where I got the idea from!

And of course I will. I'm really just poking in the dark at this point, but if it's following the coast, there look to be a few points where it'd have to change direction.

I've got a variety of angles, only because I'm not entirely sure of the precise heading Tonks and Charlie and Mr Black took.

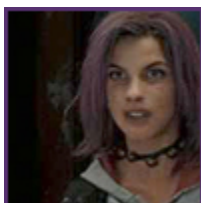


 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-11-05 02:59:25](#)**  
(no subject)

I've been there, man. never easy.

went through it with trixie and bart's folks too. they were pieces of work.

and with these black wands, it makes everything that much harder.




 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-11-05 03:45:38](#)**  
*Private Message to Charlie*

I keep thinking about the father and the things he said. And whether we could have said anything differently that might have at least got him to listen to us.

You still thinking about it, too?



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-11-05 03:57:04](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Charlie*

Yeah. Yeah, I am. Have been ever since we gave up and admitted we weren't going to convince either of them. I've been going back over every single damn

thing I said and wondering: too forceful? Not forceful enough? Sugar-coating things too much? Did I miss the one thing that would have made them understand?

I know I was trying too hard, I could tell it wasn't working even while I kept arguing, but I kept thinking that if I could hit on just the right phrasing, I could make her realise that flesh and blood should come before political allegiances. There was that moment when I almost, almost thought I was getting through to her ... and then he walked in, and that was that.

I hope I didn't make it too hard for you.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-11-05 04:07:58](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Charlie*

No. No worries about me.

Only, I was a bit worried about you. I mean, in the heat of it. With him.

It really got you, didn't it?



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-11-05 04:29:43](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Charlie*

I was trying so hard not to let it, but I guess it did really hit me. I know you said about how we can't make it personal, and I didn't think it was going to be personal, and then we were there in the middle of a fight and both of them were talking about their own baby like he was going to -- I don't know, like he was going to single-handedly bring down the whole Protectorate just by drooling. Or something like that. And it got personal, really quickly.

Makes me want to go back to Moddey and cuddle George extra, just to let him know that even if he wound up with parents who've bought into the whole shite stew, that doesn't mean nobody cares about him. (I know, I know, Alice and Frank and the rest of them will do all the cuddling anyone could want, but I feel ... almost responsible for him, really.)

Anywiz. Even though it was rough, I'd still like to come back with you again in future if you'll have me. Or put together another

expedition to find more about the octoboroses. Dizziness, puking, falling off brooms, magic-disrupting Clouds of Doom, pissing-down rain, screaming parents, and emotional gut-punches aside, I had a nice time with you today. (Which sounds horrible. But you know what I mean. Today was awful in a lot of directions, but it would've been more awful alone or without you there to make bad jokes with.)



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-05 04:55:22](#)

*Re: Private Message to Charlie*

Don't beat yourself up over it. This was as tough a first mission as I can imagine, and we got George out without anyone being the worse for it. So that's success!

And there wasn't only dizziness, and puking, and being bucked off our brooms, and magic-disrupting Clouds o' Doom and pissing-down rain. There was also a very fine lunch and time to warm up together before we had to go out and face parents going shouty bloody crackers at us.

And, after all, it was only rain pissing down on us, so it could have been an awfully lot worse.

I'd say if you tot up both columns, we came out ahead. I'd definitely have another go with you. Camps or octoboroses or whatever you want.



 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-11-05 05:02:09](#)

*Re: Private Message to Charlie*

You can have another go with me whenever you want, luv!

(Sorry, you walked straight into that one.)

And, yeah. George gets to grow up at Moddey with people who'll love him and getting to learn how to use his magic instead of having to hide it, and you're right, that's a win overall, for him and for us, even if it isn't the absolute best way it all could've come out. I just have to keep reminding myself that things aren't failures just because they weren't smashing

successes. ~~And just because I keep thinking about Percy doesn't mean~~

And don't say things could be worse! You'll jinx it!

I think I'm going to take my bruised backside down to the hot springs for bit of a soak. How are you feeling? Is the last of the dizziness still lingering? I've never seen you look that pale.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#) at 2013-11-05 22:03:11**

*Re: Private Message to Charlie*

I was doing better by the end of the evening. The garden was a jolly place last night.

I've got to say, though, I was done in by the end of my shift, and then I came home to a bit of madness, and it's been mad all day and no sleeping for me.

Ugh. It's the bloody Watch again. I'd forgot they were likely to wind themselves up over Bonfire night. Anywiz, I got home this morning to find Bea with Kreacher and Themselves already at Laszlo's.

Apparently, Remus had firecalled Ellie just to see if she remembered there'd be a delivery before half-eight that she'd need to open the cellar for, and she came completely to bits.


Last night a delegation of our local Watchers came by after midnight and were right put out they couldn't talk to Mr Ponds or his wife, who'd left just a mudblood to put them off. They were as ugly as could be to her. And it was so late, and she was rattled, and she's not told us all of it, I don't think. I don't like to imagine what they said or tried that has her avoiding our questions the way she is.

I expect it's going to be a long night, and we've sorted out that we all need to stay at Laszlo's tonight. There are a couple of blokes who've stopped in two or three times already today, but we've been so busy they couldn't get Remus's ear. I don't expect they'll give up, though, and I can tell he sees he's probably not going to be able to duck their 'invitation' this time to come out on the Watch with them all. Not that we've had a free moment to talk about it, because it truly has been busy.

For a holiday no one officially celebrates, I'd warrant a lot of our business today is supplying people with things to mark the night. Loads of people are wanting just one candle, thanks!, or a special sweet for tonight's afters, or a packet of Spark Sprigs that make your fire sparkle and snap in a merry way. I'm glad we got those in early this year, because at this rate, we're going to need another order before Christmas!

Anywiz. Hope your bruises aren't too horrid today. Mine are just tender enough to remind me I spent the day with you!



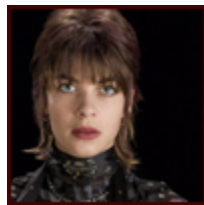
 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-11-06 04:22:33](#)

*Re: Private Message to Charlie*

Oh, that sounds absolutely miserable. I hope you can get some sleep tomorrow -- there's nothing more awful than having to deal with stressful things when you haven't got more than an hour or two of sleep in too damn long.

And poor Ellie. Can you give her a day or two off to regroup once things calm down a bit? Sounds like someone was probably right awful to her. I wonder if you could give her some kind of talisman to keep in her pocket that she could summon one of you with, without whoever was hassling her noticing? Like the buttons, only going just to you lot and letting you 'casually' come looking for her. It might help her feel safer, if nothing else, since she can't exactly defend herself without putting herself more at risk.

As for me, the hot springs helped, and so did the bruise paste we keep on hand. Have I given you some of that before? I'll bring some with me next time, since it's likely we'll wind up just as battered the second time around.



 **alt\_nymphadora** at [2013-11-06 04:46:34](#)

*Re: Private Message to Charlie*

I wouldn't know what to do with enough sleep if I ever got it, but I confess I'm not in best form tonight.

Worried for Remus. They did come back and wouldn't back




down. He's already gone off with them because he didn't want them hanging about here and making our regular lot uncomfortable. I expect they'll be out late, and he'll be a wreck from trying to keep that lot from doing Merlin knows what. At least the moon's only just new.

Thank you for being calm and sane and sensible. That's an excellent idea about the talisman, by the way. I expect Remus or Sirius could make just the thing for her. It would make me feel better about leaving her here alone all those nights.

Do, please, bring us that bruise paste. I'm worse than a ripe peach for bruising. And so clumsy, I'm always crashing into things. As I'm sure you've noticed.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#) at 2013-11-06 04:56:36**

*Re: Private Message to Charlie*

That's not clumsy, it's just not knowing where you end and the rest of the world begins. Easier to figure it out when you aren't shifting things around all the time! I'll bring along the paste as soon's I've got a spare minute to pop down.

And I can be sensible for you whenever you need. For Remus -- I wonder if the best way to handle that might be to be as useless and in-the-way as possible, until they wind up thinking he's more trouble than he's worth? (Foxy dumb, Em calls it -- apparently it took Dree years to figure out he was deliberately breaking all the dishes whenever he was left with the washing-up!) Won't help immediately, but it could get him out of things after a few more nights like this.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#) at 2013-11-06 05:51:46**

*Re: Private Message to Charlie*

Ta, you.

And if that doesn't sound like the advice of a second brother! Ha.

Actually, I wouldn't be surprised if Remus has come up with nearly the same thing with his awfully polite but rather inept middle-aged bloke act. He tries that on all the time with us.





 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-11-05 04:00:41](#)**  
(no subject)

You're certain you're not feeling any after effects?  
Aside from bruising.

It would set my mind at ease if you would let me know tomorrow whether you are having any difficulties.




 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-11-05 04:06:19](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes'm. I promise I will let you know if any of the side effects linger.

And the bruising's not awful. I've had much worse on the job.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-11-06 04:10:05](#)**  
(no subject)

No report is a good report, I trust?



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-11-06 04:23:57](#)**  
(no subject)

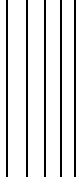
No, I'm feeling much better today. Tired, but not unduly so, and I didn't notice any problems with my magic during the day. So at least whatever it is, doesn't linger too long.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-11-06 04:35:39](#)**  
(no subject)

Pleased to hear it. And that your magic's not been damaged.

Now all you've to do is mind yourself around those dragons!

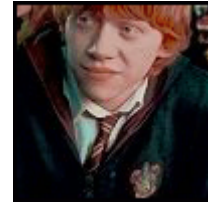


 **alt\_charlie** at **2013-11-06 04:38:20**  
*(no subject)*

At least that part, I'm used to!

**[2013-11-05 14:14:00](#)**

*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up to No Good*  
*Private Message to Harry Potter*

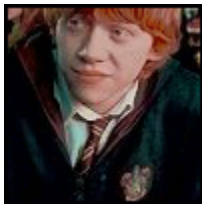



Say, mate.

I've been thinking more about what we'd do if we got people together for revising. I know you had ideas about that. Anywiz, we could start it up this week if we wanted. I mean, since we don't have any giant deadlines this week, it might be a good time.

 [alt\\_ron](#)


We should know what we want to do, though, before we decide who to ask.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **[2013-11-05 20:20:00](#)**  
(no subject)

I know there other people we could talk to about this and probably should, but before that I wanted to see what you're thinking about it.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **[2013-11-05 21:13:50](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, sure.

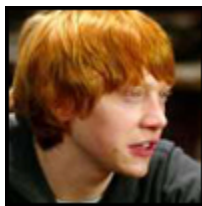
I'm good at Defence stuff, and maybe other people could take over heading up different topics depending on what they're good at? I think people would probably think revising was useful, so they'd come for that.


And there's other stuff I was thinking about. Like what Mrs Longbottom and Sirius were talking about. But it's hard, because Umbridge isn't around any more. She sort of made it easier to come up with stuff to do, you know?

So I thought we could check in about the 5th years in each house to see if people were doing okay. Especially the halfbloods. I'm going to get tutors and stuff, but I think it's important that we all help too. Because one of the things Umbridge said was that halfbloods were expendable. And that's not right.

Which was why I thought we could also show everybody the notes we got from Umbridge's office. About how she was going to try and make the halfbloods fail, and that they were going to be used for something awful. Because they wouldn't be missed. And she even talks about who would be the least likely to be noticed, too.

I think even though she isn't around any more, it might make them care more. About how unfair it is. Especially if they think it might still be a problem. I mean, the people on the galleon are okay, which is why they're on the galleon, but this might really make it so they'll want to help other people, not just their friends.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-05 22:13:05](#)  
*(no subject)*


Well, as for subjects and all, I don't imagine we have to worry too much about planning anything. If we invite people to come and someone's got a question about something, I'm sure there'll be one of us who can answer.

But, um. If we're thinking about inviting loads of people, then we wouldn't want to do it in the secret room, right? We'd just say it was a special revising thing that some of us sixth years are putting together and anyone can come. And you could especially get halfbloods and other people who are maybe having trouble with some of their OWL subjects, and we could just be helpful.

But I think what F-F was thinking about was going back to using the secret room and inviting people we think we can trust and want to get closer with. Or, anyway, he was wanting to have somewhere we could revise without having Patil and Finnicky bothering him to work with them.

And that seems different. I mean, I'd like to keep the secret of that room secret, so if we ever do need somewhere safe to go, we'll have that.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-05 22:29:39](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, okay. So you're thinking we'd have a general revision group for anyone who wants, and make sure OWL students know to come, and have a smaller group for the secret room like Daphs and Katrina Bundy and Corner and stuff. And yeah, I wasn't thinking we were going to invite just anybody to the secret room.

I thought we could tell the galleon people about Strangeweale. Not just anybody. People we could trust a bit. People we already know were angry at Umbridge and wanted to do something about it, you know?




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-05 22:50:29](#)  
(no subject)

Er. That's what I thought you were saying. About doing something with 5th years who need help, like all the halfbloods.

And, yeah, that'd probably have to be separate if we want a place where the galleon people can talk and maybe do some extra defence drills.

And I guess, well. I'm wondering if it's time to give a few more people galleons now. People we weren't sure about before. I don't know. But I'd really like my sister to hear what you found out about Umbridge and Strangeweale... and see what she thinks when she hears it. Because if something happened where we really needed the galleons now, I'd want her to have one. Only, it's risky to trust people with them that we didn't before, y'know? And Ginny's one of those people.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-05 23:10:15](#)  
(no subject)

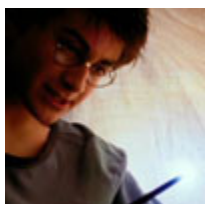
Yeah, I can see why you'd want to.


And you'd know if she could handle it or not.

She'd want to bring Honoria in too, probably. And maybe other

people have been thinking about people they want to give a galleon to.

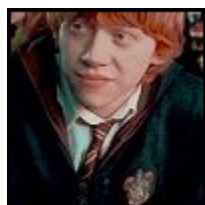
I think it's always a risk, you know? So we might have to sort out what we'd do if things went wrong, like how we'd handle it, but that shouldn't mean we never ask anyone else to come on.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-05 23:13:17](#)  
(no subject)

And, I mean, we haven't done anything too bad yet.

The things we did with Umbridge was stuff that was sort of expected, yeah? I mean, some of the earlier messages people were writing about blood might really get us in trouble, but I don't know if new people would be able to read the old stuff.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-06 03:51:44](#)  
(no subject)

I don't think anyone can see back beyond the most recent couple. It's not like in our journals where everything's always still there if you ask them to show you.

So, yeah. And anywiz, with the galleons, who knows who said what, right? I mean sometimes I can't tell at all. Othertimes, yeah, it's dead obvious who said something.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-06 03:57:45](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, it is sort of anonymous. Which means if someone said something that could be seen as traitorous or something, you couldn't point a finger to anyone specific. Which means it'd bring down the whole group.

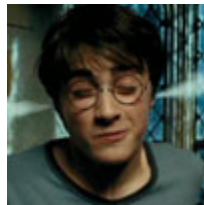
And if we choose them right, they wouldn't want to get that many people in trouble.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-11-06 03:53:48](#)  
(no subject)

That's a good point.


I reckon we ought to talk to the rest of them now and see what everyone else thinks about getting the galleon group together again. We can ask them about adding new people, too. And about what we do if something does go wrong. (Besides panic and use our rings, I mean.)



 **alt\_harry** at [2013-11-06 03:58:59](#)  
(no subject)

We could send them to the infirmary and have Madame P knock 'em out. Or Pans could scramble their brains, like she did with Mrs Professor Carrow.




 **alt\_harry** at [2013-11-05 23:10:59](#)  
(no subject)

I was thinking about what we'd all get up to after school. And I was thinking that if the galleon people knew they had someone they could talk to about really bad stuff, that if they came across something like that at their jobs or something, they might talk about it to us. Even if they weren't part of the Order, that might be really useful, you know?

And if they know they can come to us and tell us things and they know we won't get them in trouble, maybe they'll think we can do something about it. Like what we did with Umbridge. And Sarah. Even if they don't want to know how. Like they could just think I can do stuff because I've got all these connections and things. Maybe.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-06 03:55:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Also a very good point.


Yeah, when we leave school, everything will be different.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-11-06 05:40:11](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah. And I think this sort of thing is easier to start while we're all still in school.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-06 06:06:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, so then we should do it.

Do you want to write the others on the Order lock tomorrow? I don't know if it matters that Mum and the rest see what we're up to. Maybe they'll leave us alone to talk about it ourselves if we say we're just wanting to have a conversation where Hermione and F-F can see it.

It's bloody inconvenient, people aging out of this one.




 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-11-06 06:49:24](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, it really is.

Sure. Tomorrow sounds good.




 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-11-06 21:01:07](#)**  
(no subject)

You okay with talking about Ginny where your mum and Bill and Charlie can read about it?

I'll say it's Institute business, and for Order people to stay out, but I don't want to bring up Ginny unless you think it's okay.





 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-06 21:36:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Ugh. You're right. I don't really want to talk about new people where they can see it. Especially not Ginny. We can put that topic off until we meet, yeah?

**[2013-11-06 07:39:00](#)**

*Order Only: Private Message to Alice and Black*

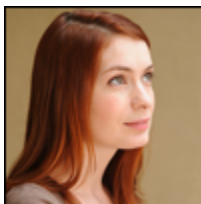



 **[alt\\_severus](#)**

The latest variation upon the Dark Arts mitigation potion does indeed function to lessen the euphoria provoked by casting Dark spells — or at least, it sufficed with the limited range of spells Black was willing to allow me to cast upon him — but it does not remove the response entirely, nor does the potion's effect last much longer than half an hour or so. Likewise, it must be ingested before the magic is to be cast; *ex post facto* consumption merely makes the drinker violently ill.

As Mr Weasley's distress at his reactions to using the Dark Arts is considerable, and that distress is undoubtedly exacerbated by the physical and emotional reward mechanism for casting such magic, it might be best to provide him with a supply of this version of the potion for use now with the understanding it is meant as a supplement only. On the other hand, as you have mentioned Weasley has placed a great deal of hope in this venture's success, a partial solution might prove worse than no solution at all, particularly as it might lead him to believe he might cast with impunity — a belief that would no doubt lead to future issues, particularly in one so subject to the Dark allure.

Black and I shall continue to refine the formulation further, in hopes of rendering the issue academic; in the meanwhile, recognising that we ought not keep arguing the question lest tempers become ~~even more~~ engaged, we have agreed to cease debating and allow you to decide the next steps instead.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-06 20:57:01](#)**  
(no subject)

I can certainly understand your caution, as well as the care that must be taken in terms of its application.


However, I am extremely heartened by the fact that you've been able to come so far from so little initial information. Well done, both of you.

Although it has limited utility, it might be enough to dissociate the rush from the action. If he deliberately participates in an act of contrition within the thirty minutes, for instance, that association may be redirected in useful ways.

I think it's worth while to proceed with extreme caution, and to make sure he understands this is not a perfect solution to his problem. Charlie and I will continue to monitor his situation very closely as well -- although I do think he's now in a much better position to handle any unexpected reactions to this potion than he would have been a month ago.

This goes without saying, but I would also appreciate any opportunity you can take to improve things as well.



 **alt\_alice** at [2013-11-07 01:49:53](#)  
(no subject)

Perhaps if we have Bill come to Grimmauld, we can all talk about it together.

I do think that before we bring him in, it's important to not give conflicting messages -- are we all on the same page in terms of how to approach things?

Severus, will you be able to make yourself available for a meeting? I know you've got a more restricted schedule, and slipping away from the school twice in a row might be difficult, but I would like you to be a part of it.

**2013-11-06 09:35:00**

*Private Message to M Starling and M Travers*



Sorting through last night's reports.

Either of you heard of this 'Umbra sumus' business before? Edinburgh, Bristol, Leeds, Sandwich, Norwich, Hogsmeade, Peterborough, scattered small places. NL, naturally. All tagged with that phrase. 'We are shadows.' Please.

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

Pennifold's got nothing in the journals. (Besides the search finding mountains of whingeing re. the rosy ex-Minister.)

Could be a single malefactor with high tolerance for Apparating. Or not. See it doesn't get buried beneath the rest of the Bonfire files.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at **2013-11-06 15:54:21**

*Private Message to M Travers*

Anything?

Want Maule's head. Without surprises involving Snowdonia. Tell me you've got it sorted.

**2013-11-06 12:57:00**

*ORDER ONLY: ISS Business*

Um. So. Since Justin and Hermione can't write on the lock any more, I thought we'd use the Order lock. But it really is ISS business, and stuff we'd prefer to sort out on our own.



 [alt\\_harry](#)

Anyways.

Justin and Ron and Sally-Anne and me and a few other people have been talking a little about what we want to do with the galleons, and what we want to do while we're at Hogwarts this term.

- We could ask the galleon holders to meet up. We need to sort out why, though, and what we want to do. One thing I think we should do is to talk about what happened last term, and talk about how important it is for halfblooded students to pass their OWLs this term too. And show them the Strangeweale notes from Umbridge's office so they know how important it is. And maybe get them thinking about how unfair it is.

- Do we want to add anyone else to the galleons? And what should we think about in terms of security? I know Ernie Macmillan had to be Obliviated, so I guess we've got to be ready to do that if someone seems like they wouldn't be ready.

- In order to help the halfblooded students who aren't on the galleon, we could have a general revision session that's open to anybody and encourage them to come.

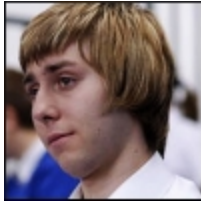
- But we could also have separate revision for just us too.

- Anyone else have any ideas?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-11-06 23:58:01**  
(no subject)

Maybe we could meet at the secret room to talk about it more too.



 **alt\_justin** at [2013-11-07 00:43:45](#)  
(no subject)

Hullo, Harry,

Thanks for opening this topic, old man.

About Ernie, I can tell you that he does rather regret following Madam Umbridge last year. He's told me he felt a 'right pillock' in retrospect. And yesterday was his birthday so he'll never be a candidate for the ISS, what, even if we were to consider telling him other things. I say, I don't think he's quite ready to hear the extent of our activities but with a little work, he might be trusted with a Galleon.

Regardless of whether we bring Ernie round or not, what, I should like to include John Summers in the open revision session. He might be comfortable with a Galleon as well. But bringing him to revise would certainly give everyone a chance to get to know him. There are probably others who might benefit but perhaps it's best to invite only a few at a time.

As for bringing together the Galleon holders, what, I wonder if there are any of them we would not want to tell about Hermione having a wand, or saving Sarah Fawcett? If we think they can all be trusted with that information, then we ought to ask them to a special meeting in the secret room and tell them. I agree, Harry, we bally well need to be ready to Obliviate them should anyone make a fuss. I don't think we ought to tell them about the Ministry or anything that might lead straight to the Order, what--which might mean we need to be careful how we explain Fawcett's escape.

-Justin




 **alt\_hermione** at [2013-11-07 01:01:22](#)  
(no subject)

Well, it's nice that he feels like a berk, because he was one to turn everyone in to her. But regardless, Justin, he *did* turn everyone in to her. I know it would make things easier for you if you didn't have to lie to him but I don't think we can trust him.

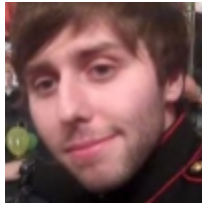
Ernie, I mean, of course. I think Summers is just really quiet.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-07 04:07:28](#)  
(no subject)

I'm not sure about Ernie either.

Feeling sorry isn't quite enough in my book.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-07 04:12:00](#)  
(no subject)

Pansy,


I quite agree. It's a start, however.

I think I can say on observing Macmillan closely for over a year that he's the sort who's easily influenced, what.

We've got to decide whether we'd rather be the ones influencing him or leave it to the likes of Smith, Zabini or Finnigan.

-Justin



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-07 04:39:09](#)  
(no subject)

Point.

There are other ways of influencing than handing him a galleon, though.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-07 04:41:54](#)  
(no subject)

And I am not advocating giving him a Galleon right away. I said he needed work before he'd be ready for one.

-J



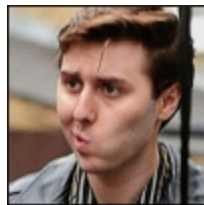
 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-11-09 00:11:38](#)  
(no subject)


I hate to disagree, especially over a member of our own house, but as I had to get Fred and George in to Obliviate him the last time, I wouldn't be too hasty to try again.

And I know you're *not* advocating haste, but even so...

I don't think he'd feel we were doing him any favours--he gets a lot of pressure from his family to be a Perfect Prefect and all that.

But yeah, we should keep working on him.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-09 03:17:52](#)  
(no subject)


Susan,

Yes agreed, but it's precisely because of his sincerity that makes me think there's hope for him, what. Someone like Smith or Zabini would jolly well never consider he might be wrong but Macmillan at least has the decency to doubt himself, if you follow me.

It still doesn't excuse his thoughtlessness to Evelyn, especially as a Prefect. But I think he *wants* to do the right thing, he's merely confused about what that is. I'd rather have you and I and someone like Harry telling him than Smith or Bobolis or any of that lot.

-Justin



 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-11-09 15:42:37](#)  
(no subject)

It's not that I disagree exactly, it's more that if it comes to any kind of difficult choice I feel as though he'd choose his family's wishes over what we need.



And it's not like I blame him exactly--I had the feeling when we talked before that the Protectorate has something on them, I mean more than the usual.




 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-09 02:44:36](#)  
(no subject)

He was rude to me the other day when I was helping his brother.

He asked if I was Neville's sister, and said something along the lines of how it was remarkable that such a thick plonker had a sister who had half a brain.

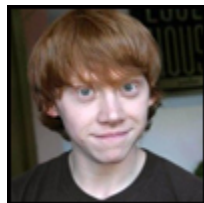
He's seeing Megan Jones, isn't he? I guess if he cares overly much about blood, he wouldn't. But he strikes me as a bit of a bully.




 [alt\\_susan](#) at [2013-11-09 02:50:09](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, he is. Which is maybe another thing to think about.

Could we trust him not to tell her?

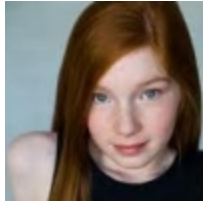


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-09 02:50:11](#)  
(no subject)

Well, there you go, F-F.

You'll have to work on Macmillan a bit more. He can't join until he knows better than insulting Evyls.


I mean, insulting me or Nev's one thing. Telling her she's got just half a brain is just not Quidditch.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-11-09 02:57:45](#)**  
(no subject)

I think he might've meant it as a compliment.  
But in a back-handed sort of way.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-09 03:06:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, well. Back-handing witches is bad form  
no matter what you mean by it. Especially if  
the witch is as clever as you are.


Say. I was thinking it's been a while since we had a match.  
Fancy some chess tomorrow or Sunday?



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-11-09 03:30:22](#)**  
(no subject)

I'd love to, yes.



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-11-09 02:57:49](#)**  
(no subject)

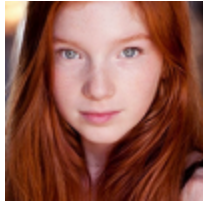
Evelyn,

I say, he what? Oh, I say, that's shocking bad  
form. I had no idea.

I'm sure he thought he was giving you a compliment, what,  
but that's no excuse. I'm dreadfully sorry. Shall I have a word  
with him for you?

I shouldn't call him a bully but--well, as I say, he's easily  
influenced. Perhaps Susan and I have our work cut out for us,  
after all.

-F-F



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-09 03:28:11](#)  
(no subject)

I'm fine. It's a small thing, really. Honestly, if his name hadn't come up, I wouldn't have bothered to say anything about it.




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-09 05:08:25](#)  
(no subject)

No, I rather wish you had done, what! I can't correct him otherwise.

-J




 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-09 05:13:58](#)  
(no subject)

I shall be sure to let you know if anything else happens, then.

After all, if he ends up a bit nicer as a result,  
I'm in favour.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-07 01:39:44](#)  
(no subject)

I think telling them about Hermione's wand is something we'd have to be really careful about. Because that's something some people might not be ready for. I'm not sure if we should.

And yeah, we should expect they'll ask about Sarah Fawcett and what happened. I was talking to Ron about similar stuff. We can maybe just have them assume I have connections, and took care of it, and leave it at that. Or I can just tell them that we can't say what happened. Or we can make up a story.

What do you think we should say? I think they should know that we can take care of stuff like that, so they'll tell us if something big happens later, but they probably shouldn't know exactly how.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-07 01:49:53](#)  
(no subject)

I think starting with Fawcett makes the most sense. Clearly it's up to Hermione who she'd feel comfortable telling that she can do proper magic.

But if we told them--I mean Greengrass, Diggory, perhaps Corner--about saving Fawcett and see how they react, what, that will tell us a great deal about what else we might be able to confide.

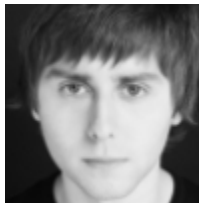
As for the others, I think the best approach is to begin very slowly, with some harmless discussion about the Protectorate itself, what, and the treatment of halfbloods and such. And again, see how they react and invite one-to-one conversation later.


-J



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-07 01:54:25](#)  
(no subject)

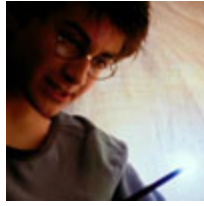
So when you say we should tell them about saving Fawcett, what do you mean? Like how she was rescued?




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-07 01:57:39](#)  
(no subject)

I think we want to be a little vague on the details, what, and obviously we ought not to lead directly to the Order. But at no time have we made an outright declaration to the Galleoneers that Fawcett's with people who oppose the Protectorate--and I say, that *we ourselves* bally well oppose the Protectorate. It ought not simply to be something we did because Madam Umbridge was so jolly unreasonable; they ought to understand that we did it because we're working against the government.

-J



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-07 02:05:37](#)  
(no subject)

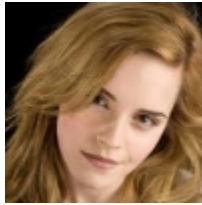
I don't know if they're ready for that yet.

Maybe though.

If we're careful.

I think there's some people who really want to know, and some people who really don't. Sally-Anne said earlier that maybe Corner and Daphne don't want to know some things. So maybe we start off smaller with them.


I also think that if we do tell them that stuff, it's got to be really clear that I'm up to my neck in it.



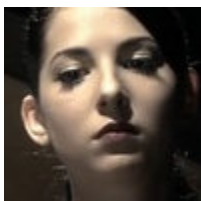
 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-07 02:17:10](#)  
(no subject)

I think what Justin says about inviting people to talk to each other one-on-one is important. And Harry, I think you're underestimating your ability to lead people. If you say that you think the Protectorate is wrong, it'll make people think about it. You don't have to say that you're trying to kill Voldemort or anything--just saying you think it's *wrong* is enough. Then let them seek you out to hear more, if they want.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-07 04:03:05](#)  
(no subject)

Okay.

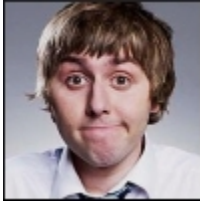



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-07 06:20:33](#)  
(no subject)

Summers actually has one already. A galleon, I mean.

He's so quiet, but I thought I remembered him at the

meetings, and so I checked the minutes, and yes, we gave him one. I think it was Susan who gave it to him, not you, which is probably why you don't remember.



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-11-07 15:55:01](#)**  
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,

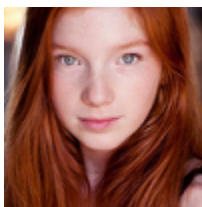
Yes. Of course he does have--I can't believe I'd forgotten. I don't think he bally well ever *uses* it--he only took it in case something went horribly wrong last year.

And of course, Macmillan and Smith are nearly always about so he never talks about it, what!

Well, I'm certainly jolly glad you checked before I embarrassed myself in speaking to him!

I wonder if he'd be persuaded to use it more if he knew we were doing some good with them. Or if he prefers not to be reminded that his prospects are far lower than they rightfully ought to be, what.

-Justin



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-11-07 01:46:22](#)**  
(no subject)


I think Artemus Ross might be a good candidate for a galleon.

He's very shy, but I think he'd want to be a part of it from what we've talked about privately.

Luna, he's in your year, what do you think? He's spent some time with Kitty Bundy, because we all sit together sometimes and talk, so she might be able to weigh in too.


Anyways, he's a halfblood, and he's going through OWLs right now, so I can make sure he knows about the revision group and encourages his friends to come too.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-11-07 13:11:47](#)  
(no subject)

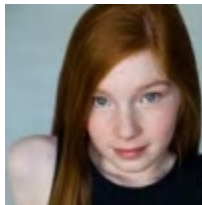
I do think he would be good.




 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-11-07 13:20:17](#)  
*Private message to Evelyn Longbottom*

It's rather funny to ask what I think and what Kitty thinks, when much more to the point is what you think. I mean he has kissed you, hasn't he? I can't really see you kissing anyone who has the sorts of sentiments that would be a danger to us all. (If he hasn't kissed, then I think he's shockingly slow off the mark. Because even if he is quiet, it's clear that he likes you. At least he blushes--just a little--whenever you're mentioned. And smiles to himself.)

Anyway. I do think he should have a Gallleon.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-07 15:54:56](#)  
*Re: Private message to Evelyn Longbottom*


Oh! I didn't want people to think that the only reason I was putting him up was because we were

you know

friendly.

And Mum's said she always checks with someone else whenever it's personal, just to make sure she isn't letting her feelings get in the way of what ought to happen.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-07 16:01:29](#)  
*Re: Private message to Evelyn Longbottom*

And yes, we have. Kissed. Properly.

Although it took us ages and ages, because he's shy and

well

I'm shy when it comes to things like that.

But it's been very nice.



**2013-11-06 15:37:00**

*Order Only*


Frank, Alice:

I've just had a careful note from our friends at Igtham Mote, wanting to be certain that their shipments of the dietary supplement are being received and are sufficient for our needs. I take it, since you've not said otherwise, that the drop point has been secure and that all is well. How have you been getting the stuff into the camps where it's needed? What are you hearing from those camps where rations have been so severely curtailed? And is there anything more I could do to help?



 [alt\\_poppy](#)



 [alt\\_frank](#) at **2013-11-07 05:14:00**  
(no subject)

ta, poppy.

much appreciated.

checked in with sherwood today, and looks like we're right as rain. they're helping smuggle the supplements in, and are stockpiling food from some of their other camps where they have contacts to help supplement when things start getting really tight.

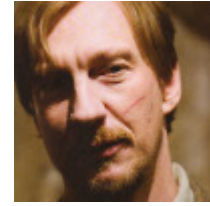
we've been training the handful of wandholders in each camp how to use glamours to give an appearance of hollow cheeks, sallow skin, hair and teeth loss, and bruising. got that idea from our terry.

the slowdown has been tough, as they're under pressure to produce, and some of those bruises won't have to be glamoured.

kingsley and me are working out ways we can smuggle some folks out in the process. if they expect people to die, we might as well take advantage.

**2013-11-06 21:46:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Sirius and Alice*



 [alt\\_lupin](#)

(As tempting as it is to take a page from our younger members and declare this to be business solely for the proper adults and request that the lot of them keep their noses out of it...I decided to just make it a private message.)

I've discussed this with Tonks and Sirius, of course, but Alice, I thought I'd better let you know what happened last night.

The Watch turned up, and insisted that I go with them on their 'rounds,' and I thought I'd better do it, since we already walk the line of providing dissenters with a comfortable place of like-minded beer-drinkers while trying to look like loyal subjects of the Protectorate. I thought if I was slow and clumsy and useless they'd likely leave me to my beer garden in the future.

They We went round to a number of places with muggles -- there aren't loads of them, in New London, no camps or anything like that, but I was shocked at just how many this wretched load of bigots ferreted out. First stop was a brothel, I think, and they roused the customers, cursed them all with impotence -- I didn't mind that part so much -- but then they dragged out all the girls, made them strip, and hit them with curses to cause painful facial boils. They wanted me to cast that one, and I substituted a hex that would cause temporary swelling but hopefully not too much pain and hoped they wouldn't notice, and no one seemed to.

I thought that would be it, but then we moved on to a hotel that uses muggle staff in their laundry, and the leader of the mob demanded that the owner send out the muggles so we could 'teach them their place.' I was hoping the hotel would refuse, but they sent the muggles out, and we lined them up (THEY had to strip too -- I don't know why. Pure humiliation, I guess.) And then the leader of the mob made an example of this one bloke who dared look him in the eye. I didn't have to participate this time, but there wasn't anything I could do to stop it. He used Imperius to force the man to gouge out one of his own eyes. Or -- maybe not out. Perhaps -- I don't know. ~~If the hotel owner sent for a Healer~~

The last stop was the worst, really, because it was the take-away shop

managed by Puneet's parents. I've been there a few times since Tonks and Padfoot took Puneet. We like the food -- well. Of course, they're left mostly alone by the wizards who technically own the shop; they were absolute sitting ducks for the Watch and I feared the worst. It wasn't -- in some ways it wasn't as bad. They abased themselves, were as submissive as anyone could ask for, and got off -- I don't want to say lightly. At least they'll heal. They -- I should stop saying they. We. I was there and I didn't stop it. We put Puneet's father into a body-bind so he couldn't interfere and each of us used our wand to cut his mother's face while she sobbed and begged for mercy.


I don't know if she recognised me as a regular customer, or not. I don't think so. It was dark.

~~I feel like I'll never~~

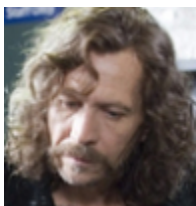
I don't know what I'm going to do if they come back for me. I was terribly afraid of what they'd do to Ellie, if I didn't cooperate with them.

Things broke up when they were done with Puneet's parents and I went home.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-07 04:21:25](#)  
(no subject)

Alice, what should I do the next time they come?




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-07 04:22:21](#)  
(no subject)

~~Tell them to bugger~~

Can you be even more bumbling than this time?

Clumsier than our Dora?

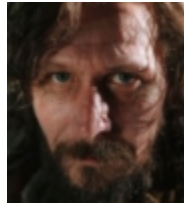



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-07 04:27:52](#)  
(no subject)

Over the course of yesterday evening I managed to knock two of my 'companions' into an enormous mud puddle but unfortunately everyone took it in excellent humour. I think half of them were drunk, so clumsiness unfortunately didn't really set me apart.

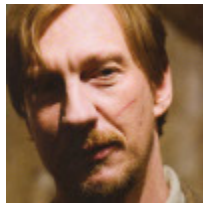
I tried complaining that I was out of breath and had to stop and rest but that got one of them thinking about how perhaps what I really needed was more exercise and I didn't like that line of thought at all.


The horrid thing was that once I agreed to go with them they turned friendly. To me. They were willing to tolerate a great deal of clumsiness and incompetence because after all they were NOT professionals but merely mates. Going around. Seeing who's loyal. Showing muggles their place.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-07 04:28:58](#)  
(no subject)

That might change if they find themselves the targets of drunken friendly fire.




 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-07 04:33:19](#)  
(no subject)

That's a thought.

Don't quite know how I'd set it up, but maybe.

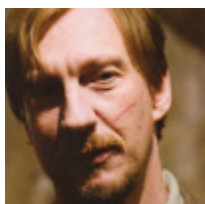



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-07 04:52:11](#)  
(no subject)

I can see how you're weighing the safety of your patrons, and Ellie, and what we've built with the Beer garden. It is important to take into account -- and it seems as though if they were to turn against you, it would make things quite difficult.

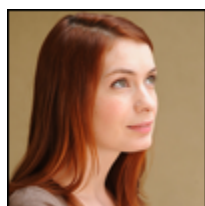
And despite your best efforts to dissuade them, it looks like they may ask you again.


Perhaps you could communicate with people who could follow behind and undo some of the damage, or who could be at the ready to interfere should they turn deadly?



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-07 04:56:10](#)**  
(no subject)

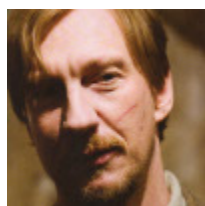
It's a thought. What these people really needed was a Healer, though, and Poppy's rather occupied most evenings, from what I understand.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-07 04:59:06](#)**  
(no subject)

Perhaps she has a sympathetic friend from St Mungo's who won't mind a late night now and then.

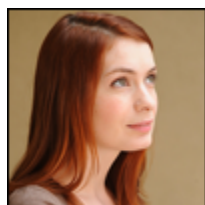
It's worth asking.




 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-07 05:13:36](#)**  
(no subject)

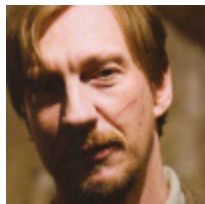
Yes, you're right.


I'll see what she thinks.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-07 04:57:32](#)**  
(no subject)

Would increasing their inebriation help, perhaps? Liberal use of firewhiskey and Confundus to keep them off track? Get them so drunk they just assume they've been up to mischief when they wake up the next day and don't remember what happened?

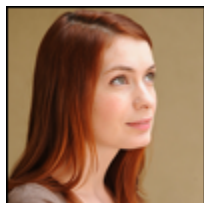



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-07 05:09:18](#)**  
(no subject)

It's hard to know whether getting them drunker would cause them to pass out in a heap, or merely removed any last vestige of self-control that would otherwise keep them from killing their victims.

But if you want me to try, I'll lay in some bottles of firewhiskey to bring along and 'share' the next time.

For that matter, maybe we could slip in some potions that would make them -- I don't know. Calmer. Distractible. Anything.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-07 05:18:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes.

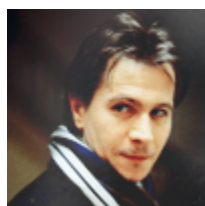
I think that might be warranted.




 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-07 04:28:53](#)**  
(no subject)

I can try refusing.

But it may make us a target if I do.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-07 04:29:58](#)**  
(no subject)

Nah. I think next time you go, but then Tonks should round up a couple lads from the garden to follow and throw pot-shots at the group. Hex from behind, that sort of thing.

All in good fun, right?




 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-07 04:37:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Sounds lovely.

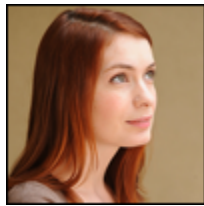
Tell them not to worry overmuch about hitting me.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-07 05:01:12](#)**  
(no subject)

I think if you can manage something like that, it might provide enough distraction for them to do any real damage.

And it might spur others to action who would otherwise sit and watch and be too afraid to retaliate.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-07 06:36:40](#)**  
(no subject)

We might take a page from recent history and have them wear masks. Perhaps the twins can pass along some of theirs.

It's a thought.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-07 04:44:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, Remus.

I'm so sorry.

How very awful.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-07 04:21:25](#)**  
*Private Message to Moony*

I knew I should have told Snape to take the potion and go back to Hogwarts.

I hate that this all happened while I was at Grimmauld with him.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-07 04:23:56](#)

*Re: Private Message to Moony*

It wouldn't have mattered. You couldn't have come.  
And if you had

You'd have seen

~~I can't imagine it would have made it better, having anyone~~

I feel so utterly filthy tonight.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-07 04:27:10](#)

*Re: Private Message to Moony*

I could have followed and the party could have found themselves victims of a sudden wild dog attack.

Don't. It's not your fault, you didn't enjoy it. You did what you had to do to protect the Order.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-07 04:32:35](#)

*Re: Private Message to Moony*

I suppose there's that. I'm not the sort of bloody psychopath who actually enjoys this sort of evening fun.

I thought I was protecting the Order but what if they WOULD have just left us alone? I told myself maybe I could do SOMETHING to protect their targets but all I did was cast a slightly less painful hex on one muggle girl. Oh yes, I'm quite the heroic Gryffindor, I am.

I do think I convinced them I'm cruel to Ellie. So there's that. I mean, when we were talking, walking between the hotel and the take-away, I tried a bit of bragging about how I disciplined my 'mudblood' and there was approval and GOD Padfoot what if I



gave some bastard ideas? I don't think any of them have muggleborns at home but I'm not sure.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-07 04:37:54](#)

*Re: Private Message to Moony*

I think you're losing perspective. I mean, the really important thing here is that you'll never want to get curry from the Kamathalis again. Now that's punishment enough for your soul, I

think.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-07 04:47:28](#)

*Re: Private Message to Moony*

No, that's true.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-07 04:53:46](#)

*Re: Private Message to Moony*

We could always create a fiction in which Tonks goes round out of pity and spins a tale about her monster of a husband.

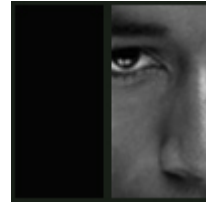
Threatening Ellie, throwing hexes at prozzies: Junius Ponds, you're getting to be a veritable tyrant.

Remind me to get you a riding crop - no, a bullwhip - for Christmas. Goes with the new image.

**2013-11-08 16:23:00**


*Private Message to Padma Patil*

Say. I just learned something interesting that you need to know about. The short of it is: put some distance between yourself and Tamblyn.



 [alt\\_blaise](#)



 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2013-11-08 22:27:37**

*(no subject)*

What? Why?

It's not some daft Duelling Club or a potions ring or something, is it? I don't know why seventh-years go and lose their sense over the summer hols and come back thinking they own the school and can do whatever they fancy.



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at **2013-11-08 22:28:51**

*(no subject)*

Yeah, he lost his senses over hols. But it's not duelling he's up to.

Well, not that kind.

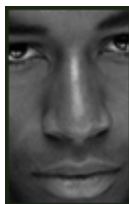


 [alt\\_padma](#) at **2013-11-08 23:04:58**

*(no subject)*

Well, what other kind of

Wait. What?



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at **2013-11-08 23:10:26**

*(no subject)*

Exactly.

We should talk.

But for now you should take care not to look too cozy with him. That business at lunch didn't look good. Tittering at his jokes or

taking instructions or whatever it was. It made you look as if you're included in his business, and you don't want to be. Not perfectly. If you take my meaning.



 **[alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-11-08 23:14:04](#)**

*(no subject)*

Not *Perfectly*? How is that possible when he's the Head Boy?

And he and I have *always* got on together. There's nothing odd about that.

...

You're not jealous, are you? Of Tamblyn? Because it's not like that, either.

Either way, it'd be nice if you start making sense.



 **[alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-11-08 23:30:48](#)**

*(no subject)*

Jealous of Tamblyn?

I always thought he was a poof. But maybe not if this is all true.

Thing is, even if it's not true, you don't want to be associated with it.

Take my word on this: you need to drop Tamblyn. If you take my advice you'd make a bit of a show of it, too.

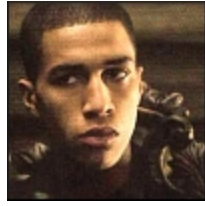



 **[alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-11-08 23:34:27](#)**

*(no subject)*

I'm not making a show of anything and I'm not binning Tamblyn without a really good reason.

(And he's not, but everyone always thinks he is. I think it's the way he makes his 'r's.)



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-11-08 23:40:31](#)  
(no subject)

(I's more to do with the way he walks, isn't it? His hips... well. Whatever. He comes off as a shirtlifter, is all.)

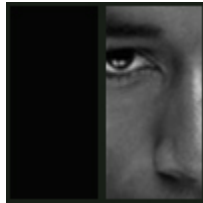
And I'm serious about this. I suppose it's your look out if you want to be standing there when the mud splatters, but I don't intend to be covered in it just because you're soft on him.




 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-11-08 23:44:29](#)  
(no subject)

Fine, you're serious but why? What's so--

If it's not something you want to write in the journals then I'll come and meet you. Where?




 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-11-08 23:47:28](#)  
(no subject)

Tomorrow, maybe.

Tonight I'm helping Vaisey arrange some things.




 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-11-08 23:50:41](#)  
(no subject)

'We need to talk,' you said. But then you put me off until tomorrow?

For Lakshmi's sake, you're such a prat  
sometimes.



 [alt\\_blaise](#) at [2013-11-09 00:48:07](#)  
(no subject)

Don't whinge.

It's not as if you don't have nights when you're off doing your own things. And I don't

complain about that.

Honestly. At least I took time to tell you about this, rather than leave you to be surprised if it blows up on you all of a sudden.

I expect you can wait until tomorrow to hear. I realise it's a terrible blow to have to do without me for the evening, but try to get over it. Read a book or something. Or rough out a first draft for our Arts essay.

**2013-11-08 21:13:00**

*Order Only Private Message to Frank and Alice Longbottom*



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#)


Say, Frank? I'm going to have to come late for our regular Saturday training. Sirius and I had to put off baby-snatching yesterday, but he thinks we could go tomorrow first thing.

Thing is, Remus... has been really hard on himself about what happened. And Sirius has been watching him like a pot that won't boil if you do watch it. Sorry, that was terrible. But it's true: he's been padfooting it and sticking to Remus like toffee pudding, so that's why we haven't made the run to Kent to get Emma Jenkins. But now Remus is onto him and he's insisting we go tomorrow or it will make him feel he's entirely responsible if something dire happens at Dartford camp before we can get in there to collect her.

So we reckon we have to go.

I'll bring Emma along as soon as I can, and we can get on with our training then. The best of it is you'll have an extra three or four hours before I come and wipe the sparring ring with you.



 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-11-09 03:41:20](#)

*(no subject)*

works for me. I can spend the morning with sherwood, keep an eye on our slow-down feed-up effort.

see you then.

and tonks

these sort of things take time. but he's got good people around him who love him, and that makes all the difference.

believe me.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-09 03:52:02](#)  
(no subject)

Ta, Frank.

Knowing it and believing it are different, I guess. It's just we worry for him. Can't help it.



 [alt\\_frank](#) at [2013-11-09 04:05:42](#)  
(no subject)


you keep up worrywaring, and I'm going to be mopping the floor with you instead of the other way round.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-09 04:08:24](#)  
(no subject)

You keep on thinking so, do!



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-09 03:44:59](#)  
(no subject)

Might I come by for tea on Sunday? Or Saturday, when you and Sirius are back from Dartford?

I'd come up Saturday morning, but I don't want him to get the impression that you think he can't be left alone. But I do want very badly to see him.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-09 03:48:33](#)  
(no subject)


I suppose that's just what he'd think if you came Saturday morning. Silly man. But... he might actually be really grateful to have a chance to talk just to you without us there listening in, do you see

what I mean?

Use your own judgement about it, but I think you could come if you wanted.

And, of course, you could make it Saturday afternoon while I'm at Moddey. Or Sunday when we've got the day for ourselves. We'd all love to see you. But I promise we'll know you're there for Remus, really, and we'll clear off to give you some time, Sirius and I will.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-09 03:56:35](#)  
(no subject)

I do see that, yes.

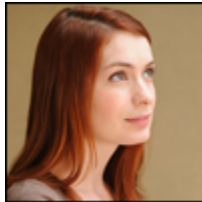
I think I'll take my chances and come by Saturday morning, then.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-09 04:01:59](#)  
(no subject)

I won't say anything to him about it. Unless you want me to do.

That way if you change your mind or something comes up to keep you from leaving Moddey, he won't be disappointed. (But he also won't have worked himself up, expecting you, either.)



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-09 04:10:23](#)  
(no subject)

I think it'd be best to not surprise him. I don't mind if you let him know I'm thinking of paying a visit.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-09 04:12:51](#)  
(no subject)

All right, then.



**[2013-11-09 15:39:00](#)**

*Order Only: Private message to Alice*

Thanks for the visit.

I keep thinking how, when I made it back to the rest of you, I thought that sort of thing was over. ~~That I wouldn't have to~~



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

I've been remembering a lot of things I don't like to think about. And thinking about the bits I don't remember, if you follow me.

Ugh.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-09 22:29:52](#)**

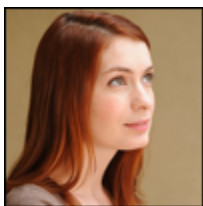
*(no subject)*

I do.

I've been giving some thought lately to the scars we all bear, and how much of ourselves we've had to give up to get through this in one piece. I have no doubt we'll have quite a few more marks on all our souls before all this is done. And Merlin knows how history will judge us all. The best we can do is keep muddling forward.

I will never entirely forgive myself for all the years we abandoned you. It was needless. It was cowardly. We were so afraid of everything. And what you had to do to survive in order to get through that time was awful.

But love, you must know that I am beyond grateful that you are here with us today. I value your friendship more than I could ever say, and I depend on your good sense and advice. I love seeing you smile when you play with Bea, and seeing you surrounded by people who love you fiercely. Because you deserve it.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-10 00:19:20](#)**

*(no subject)*

You're the glue that holds Grimmauld together, you know. Sirius wouldn't have a home if it weren't for you. And without you around to bring her into the

fold and give her work at Lazslo's, our brilliant Tonks wouldn't have had a home either. She would've been stuck cleaning toilets and answering to that horrible Crouch family.

**2013-11-09 22:15:00**

*(no subject)*

Thanks, those who came tonight. If you didn't, all you missed was a plan to revise like last yr and keep an eye on 5th-years sitting OWLs.



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-11-09 22:20:00**

*Order Only*

Junior Order: I'm the one who sent that Galleon message. I hope that will cover anyone whose memory we had to alter tonight. (I left them thinking they came up to the room but then changed their minds about coming.)

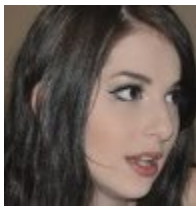


 **alt\_hermione**

Do you think that will do it? And remember not to mention anything to them. It was Chang, Edgecombe and Greengrass.

Thanks again for making sure they left one at a time.

So. What did the rest of you talk about?



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-11-10 04:10:55**  
(no subject)


It was really funny -- like people realised they had permission to be disloyal and so they started complaining. About ALL SORTS of things -- how hard it is to get citrus that's not transfigured unless you're connected to the right people, and how you never know when Barty Crouch or Bellatrix Lestrange will read your journal posts and pop up to be intimidating at you for no reason, and how much everyone lies, and how we're not allowed to go other places, like France.

It was such a weird mix of the big stuff and the little stuff. Like Kitty Bundy brought up oranges and then Justin said something like, 'I say, they're also jolly deceptive,' trying to steer the conversation toward things a bit more important than oranges and Ginny Weasley jumped in and said 'yes, like with that plague they all blamed on Sirius Black. EVERYTHING THEY SAID was a lie, every last thing' and looked at Luna and then stopped talking. And then Michael said he'd like to be able to leave and travel to see the pyramids and the Great Wall of China and everyone agreed and Cedric said they won't let you go even if you promise to come back.

But people did complain! A lot. In detail.

Oh and Honoria Sandoval told Kitty she could find her citrus but I think that just made her crosser.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-10 04:16:22](#)  
(no subject)

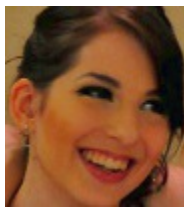
Sally-Anne,

Well, they *are* jolly well deceptive, what.

But I think the whole conversation goes to show that people really are quite keen to have a place to discuss things openly.

I thought it went rather well, in point of fact.

-Justin

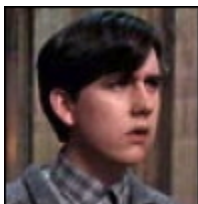



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 04:18:59](#)  
(no subject)

JOLLY WELL. I agree completely.

And yes. It did go well.

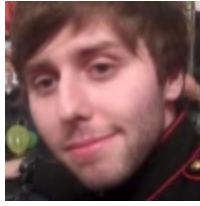
I think having people ask you about France next time will be excellent. Because I think hearing that you can have muggles living their own lives outside of camps and the world doesn't end and wizards don't get burnt at the stake -- it might be helpful. And people will really feel like they're hearing truth instead of lies, for once.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-10 05:49:50](#)  
(no subject)

Well, complaints are important, though, aren't they? Once you see the little things, they can start adding up until you get to the big things.

I do think the meeting turned out well. I heard people talk ways they've never talked before, and you can bet if this lot is talking, then even more people are thinking.



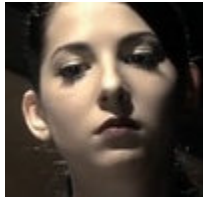
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-10 06:00:58](#)  
(no subject)

Neville,

Of course, they are; I don't think Sally-Anne *disapproves* of them complaining, what! I think what she's saying is that they were jolly well clearly nursing discontent. And the point is that we've provided a place where it's safe to voice that dissent.

I wonder. I know Sally-Anne wants me to answer questions next time, what, but I wonder if we ought to have a specific topic each time, such as re-reading Sirius's Grim Truth essays and discussing them or, perhaps, we'll leave it each time and see what makes sense, but we could discuss the camps at a meeting, or the sorts of jobs halfbloods are or aren't able to obtain, if you follow me. And then we might be able to...to nudge the conversation toward those bigger issues, what?

-Justin




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 06:06:16](#)  
(no subject)

Michael wants to do defence practice again, just so you know.

But I like the idea of a topic.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-10 06:11:20](#)  
(no subject)

I do, too. It might help keep the discussions from skittering off like pixies in every direction.

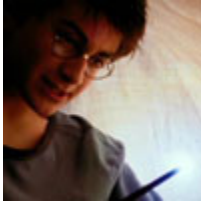
Although that can be good sometimes, too.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-10 07:45:57](#)  
(no subject)

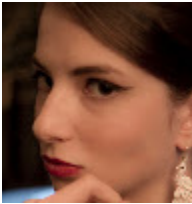
He does?

I think that's definitely something we can do too.  
Maybe sort of work it in a bit each time?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-10 07:45:26](#)  
(no subject)

I like that, yeah.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 04:12:53](#)  
(no subject)

And I think it's worth trying again with Daphne.  
Maybe.

It might help if it were a smaller group to ease her in.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-10 04:18:59](#)  
(no subject)

Do you think? I hope you're right.

Actually, I think the thing is that if we really needed her for something, she'd do whatever it was. But she doesn't want to get up to her neck with us if it's just tutoring halfbloods with a side line in talking treason.

That's not quite what she said--she wouldn't--but I think it's more or less what she meant.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-10 04:40:01](#)  
(no subject)

I don't know her like you do but I'd say you're right.

Also, I think she already knows more than we thought. When I pulled a wand to Obliviate her, she

didn't look as surprised as I expected. She *did* look somewhat surprised but compared to the other two it looked more like she was putting together clues she'd already half-noticed, if that makes sense. But when I Obliviated her I tried to implant the idea that I'm just a worthless muddblood and she should barely take any notice of me, so maybe it'll be a while before she starts to figure things out again.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-10 04:48:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah. It does make sense. I was pretty well sure knew more than she wanted to already. More than she would ever let on, y'know?

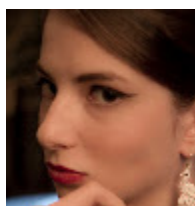
And I reckon it's good you caught Chang and Edgecombe by surprise--Chang, especially, her reflexes are so good. It would've been bad if they'd got their wands out on you. Getting caught duelling isn't anything we want to get you into. Not that I think either of them would've stood more than a round or two with you, but still that might've been enough to call attention, y'know?



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-11-10 04:54:55](#)**  
(no subject)

That's why I wanted them one at a time. Only it did occur to me that maybe if we need to do that again, with anyone else new, someone from the group should escort them out. So it'll be two

against one.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-10 05:06:43](#)**  
(no subject)

That's a good idea. Probably whomever invited them, if it's someone who's full ISS (or Order).






 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-11-10 06:19:49](#)  
(no subject)

Best it didn't come to that, right.

Glad to hear the meeting went okay.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-10 04:13:21](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah. It's a shame about Daphne. She didn't want to let us down, but she didn't want to stay, either, really.

I'm not surprised, exactly, but it was worth seeing what she'd say. So, yeah.


You know who I was surprised about? Chang.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-10 04:44:34](#)  
(no subject)

I wasn't.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-10 04:50:14](#)  
(no subject)


Why not? You didn't think she has questions about how things happen in the Protectorate?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-10 04:59:38](#)  
(no subject)


I'm sure she does. But that doesn't change the fact that she looks out for herself. I don't think she'd turn us in or anything and Obliviating her was just to be on the safe side. But I'm not surprised she doesn't want to be involved in anything that might jeopardise her career. Or that might put her in the path of danger.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-11-10 05:43:06](#)  
(no subject)

I wasn't, either. I was a little disappointed, though. It would have been nice to have at least one more person in Ravenclaw.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-11-10 05:45:38](#)  
(no subject)

Not that I'm discounting Michael Corner, of course, now that he's in.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 05:56:16](#)  
(no subject)

Well, he's still got reservations and he thinks he ought to forbid Bitsy to come. Maybe talk to Bitsy, Luna? Also, see what she thinks about Philip Stretton.

Come to think of it, I should ask Jeremy what HE thinks of letting Philip into the Complaining About the Protectorate Club.




 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-11-10 06:08:07](#)  
(no subject)

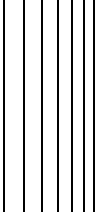
I can talk to Bitsy, I think. She's interested in knitting, and so we've chatted in the Common Room.

Asking Jeremy about Philip is a good idea.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-11-10 06:09:57](#)  
(no subject)


Although Michael is mad to think he can forbid Bitsy from doing anything. But maybe that just comes from being an older brother.



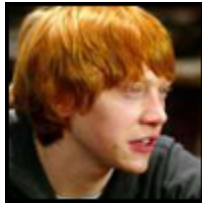
 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-10 06:15:02](#)  
(no subject)


Well, if he has his reservations, like Sally-Anne says, then he's probably just being protective.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-11-10 06:15:39](#)  
(no subject)

You were probably rather pleased about Ginny, though? I was.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-10 14:35:20](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah. I was. But-

Well, I'm going to talk to her today.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 04:17:11](#)  
(no subject)

Oh ALSO.

About five minutes before we had to leave, Michael turned to Justin and said, 'Say, you're not even FROM HERE, you lived in France for most of your life!' and he wanted to know if it was true there were muggles absolutely everywhere in France and they didn't even know wizards existed.

And after that it was like someone had opened up the lid on a pan with corn popping, EVERYONE had questions. I think people had been pretending they weren't curious because it seemed disloyal to be too curious. So Justin told them about France for a little while and then we decided that the next time we came, people could ask whatever they liked about the world outside and Justin would answer as best he could.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-10 04:25:04](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, I'm a bit nervous about that, what.

But I think it's the best way to explain how much people are missing, if you follow me. I mean to say, no one knows what they've missed if they've never had it but if one explains about--oh, films, or the Louvre or football--it makes living in a closed state seem bally well ridiculous, doesn't it.

I just hope I don't give anything away about myself, in the process.

-J

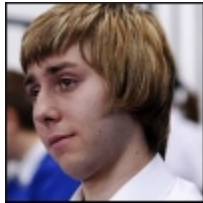



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-10 04:46:12](#)  
(no subject)

You won't, because I don't think you can afford to do that yet.

At least not with the whole group.

Besides, you'll just be talking about the way things are in the world outside.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-10 04:50:41](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, but in the Muggle world. I don't jolly well know anything about the *wizarding* world outside the Protectorate, what, apart from Beauxbatons.

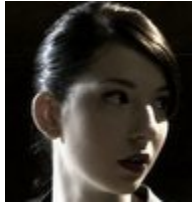
Well, I suppose I've my past as an invalid to fall back on, haven't I. I can always explain that much of what I know I learned from the few times I was allowed out of doors. It's quite true that Muggles vastly outnumber wizards almost everywhere but here.

-J



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 04:52:41](#)  
(no subject)

It's not a secret you grew up in the muggle world, is it? Since supposedly your parents were squibs.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 04:54:28](#)  
(no subject)


And you watched tilly, at least. My mum's talked about tilly.

wait

TELLY

Telly or tilly or whatever it is.



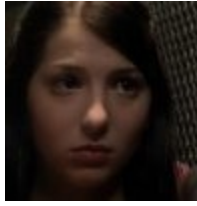
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-10 05:16:51](#)  
(no subject)

Television, yes. Though not as much as one might think, what; my mother only allowed me to view it two or three hours a day.

And mostly old films, at that.

How much do you think squibs really care about the Muggle world? I mean to say, obviously they have to do things the Muggle way, what, without magic, but do you think they're interested in all the things Muggles do? Things like computers or video games, movies and telly and all that? Or how about going to University or becoming physicians or solicitors or businessmen in the Muggle way?

-J



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 05:21:49](#)  
(no subject)


I think you could tell people that squibs usually assimilate completely with muggles, or at least your parents did, and no one would argue because squibs here just disappear.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-10 05:27:26](#)  
(no subject)

What's a computer? It sounds like something that does maths.



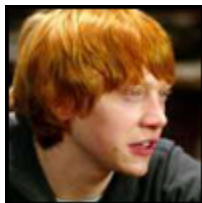
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-10 05:46:11](#)  
(no subject)


They do do maths but they also do other things, what. Computers are--well, they're machines that run different programmes.

There are word processors that people use to replace journals or notebooks and maths programmes that will calculate and do one's accounting and there are even games that one can run on them. Oh, and one can send messages electronically to people all over the world, if one has access to the right sort of account.

Muggles have had the technology since the '50s but it's only been in the last fifteen years that they've had personal computers. My mother has stock in a computer company in America that was doing quite well when I left. I rather think they're the future, what. Well, for Muggles, at least.

-J

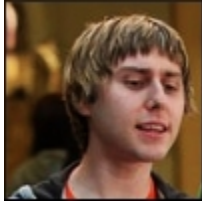


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-10 04:55:02](#)  
(no subject)

Here, too. If you count all the ones in the camps and asleep.

That's why the camp admins wet themselves

anytime there's trouble. There's just a few wands between them and a whole load of people who'd like to turn the tables on them.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-10 05:20:41](#)  
(no subject)

Indeed, one wonders why they bothered to create such a problem in the first place, what.

-J

**2013-11-09 23:01:00**

*Private Message to Sally-Anne*

So, erm.

Wow.

I mean, that was...a lot to take in.

I guess you were dealing with loads more than I thought. When we were...well, you know.

For what it's worth, I'm sorry if I came off like a pillock.



 [alt\\_michael](#)

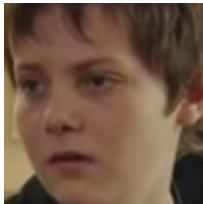


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 04:23:54](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah.

And no hard feelings, you know? It's okay.

Are you going to come next time?



 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-11-10 04:32:31](#)  
(no subject)

Maybe. I mean. I have to think about it.

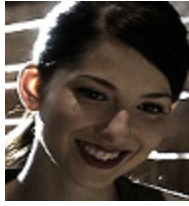
I mean, don't worry. I'm--I agree, really. Mostly. I mean, some of--well. All I mean is, I'm not going to go tell the Headmistress or anything.

And it was interesting. And fun, really. I do want to hear more.

But it sounds to me like you and the others are...more *involved* than I think I'd be comfortable being. Or than my parents would like.

Bitsy's all excited about it but I think it's just that everything's new to her. (Well, and Diggory was there. And she fancies him. Only don't tell him that. He's in it, up to his eyeballs, isn't he?)





 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 04:38:42](#)  
(no subject)

You can come just to ask questions and listen, nothing scarier than that. Fancying Diggory is definitely not mandatory.



 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-11-10 04:53:19](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah.

Maybe I'll tell Bitsy to stay home, then.

(Only. We are going to actually revise, some of the time, right? Because I think I could still use some extra time practising defensive spells and that.)




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 04:56:13](#)  
(no subject)

Well it's not FORBIDDEN either, she should still come!

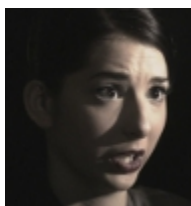
Next time I think it'll be the stories people were asking for right at the end this time.

But I think extra practise with defensive spells is a good idea.



 [alt\\_michael](#) at [2013-11-10 05:22:27](#)  
(no subject)

Oi, she's my sister, I'll bloody well be the judge of what's forbidden and what's not.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-10 05:25:08](#)  
(no subject)

Well then I'd think you'd be happy to have her fancying Diggory. It's not as if he's going to treat her as anything other than a sweet little girl. It's

almost as safe as her fancying Owain Pritchard or someone like that.



 **alt\_michael** at **2013-11-10 05:28:59**  
(no subject)

I'm not worried about her fancying Diggory.

I'm worried about her getting ideas about that sort of hero. I *told* you she's all excited about everything.

**2013-11-10 01:45:00**

*Private Message to Harry Marvolo*

Thanks. Tonight was helpful.

Personally I'd find it very useful if people get a group together to revise for NEWTS instead of just tutoring OWLS (which I'm not sure is really my place any more) If anyone wants to talk about what to expect in seventh year in any of my NEWTS I'd be happy to.



 **alt\_cedric**

I know we talked a bit about this over the summer, but I'll repeat most of my life decisions have been pragmatic rather than ideological.

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 **alt\_harry** at **2013-11-10 07:44:14**  
(no subject)

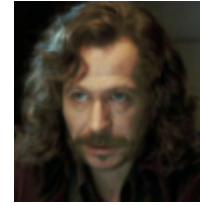
I think that'd be okay, yeah. It doesn't have to be all about OWLS for sure. And I know we'd get a decent number of sixth and seventh years who'd be interested in something like that. Maybe you can bring it up next meeting.

Glad you stuck around.

Really glad.

**2013-11-10 10:23:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Bill and Snape*



Bill, let us know when you've some time to stop by Grimmauld.


 [alt\\_sirius](#)

Don't get your hopes too high. It's not finished yet - that is, it's not as effective as we'd like. But we've agreed that this version of the potion will do in a pinch. We want you to test it so we can customise any modifications from here out.

We just wanted you to have something at your disposal, even if it's not perfect yet. There are some side effects and Snape can explain them to you. If Alice is available to meet us here when you are, she'll come as well so we can all discuss it together.

Hang in there.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-11-11 00:37:43**  
(no subject)

Just saw this now--I've been doing chores for Mum all day to help button up the Burrow for the winter. I can swing by tomorrow night, if that works for you?

I don't care if it's not finished. Whatever you have is about 1000% better than what I have now. So thank you both.

**2013-11-10 11:50:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Remus and Dora*



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

Sorry for bowing out on the park but I think my staying with Ellie was a good compromise. She really seemed nervous still about being left alone but she's comfortable enough with her trusty guard hound. (Have either of you made any progress figuring out what's been troubling her since Monday? I thought she was feeling better until today's panic attack. Maybe I can get her talking this afternoon.)

Well, anyway. How is Bea enjoying the playground?

If you've got time between pushing her on the swings, you should take a closer look at the Juniors' conversation last night. Not that I would ever dream of barging in to their discussion. They need their space just as much as we do sometimes. But Moony, it'll make you smile.


They're seeing the big picture. They're picking up steam and they're getting their contemporaries to *question* the regime. And they're doing it in a way that we could never do. It's just beautiful.

Times like this I know we made the right decision to bring them all into the Order. That's our future, right there.

And I never thought I'd say it but bless Dolores Umbridge for being such an evil toad. Between her and the Carrows we barely have to lift a finger to show how oppressive the Protectorate is. Or how hypocritical.

I guess there's a reason that teenagers are always revolutionaries. They're already predisposed to find fault in their elders.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at **2013-11-10 17:09:12**

(no subject)

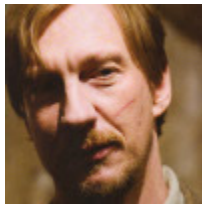
Are we allowed to read those? I wasn't sure. (I'd refrained; I thought it would be a lot harder to resist putting my knut in if I knew what they were up to.)




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-10 17:13:01](#)  
(no subject)

I didn't mean to read it - I agree, normally I try not to take too close a look - but I admit sometimes I give things a skim now and then. And this one was ... of it.)

But no, I would never, ever tell them I peeked. Might make them look for more private means of communicating to keep things from us.




 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-10 17:25:46](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah. I thought as long as I don't read it, I don't have to worry about what's in there.

I assume Alice is keeping an eye on them, and she can intervene if they decide to try something really dangerous. They walk a little closer to the edge than we do -- can you imagine rounding up a group of Beer Garden regulars and saying, 'Right! We've decided to form a club to talk about all the things that are wrong with the Protectorate!' -- but good for them. It's working.




 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-10 17:13:28](#)  
(no subject)

Right.

That's bloody brilliant. And one of their newcomers was Ginny Weasley -- so hopefully that means Molly won't lose another one, right?




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-10 17:19:20](#)  
(no subject)

Let's hope. Considering that it sounded for a while there like she was leaning the wrong way but if what she said was reported correctly, then it seems she's got her head back on straight.

I wish ... Well. No.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-10 17:26:01](#)  
(no subject)

What?



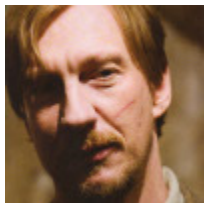
 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-10 17:37:40](#)  
(no subject)


It's just ... it all seems to be driven by Miss Perks and Justin. Which makes a certain amount of sense, given that Perks is so tetchy and Justin is used to freedom of speech. But I thought Harry would be more central to the effort, more ... self-confident? Assertive?

He seems so cautious about everything. Granted he's been conditioned to be careful but it's so different from James. I can't decide if it's just because he's naturally more meek or if he's holding himself back. If it's the latter then I don't know how to encourage him to be himself, especially in a group he can trust. And if it's the former .... it makes me wonder how different he'd have turned out if I'd been able to keep him out of Riddle's clutches.

But then I think about how he went charging in to the Ministry and I'm sure there's a Gryffindor in there. Maybe it's just that he can only give over to it in the heat of a crisis, or something.

I dunno. I don't want him to feel pressured to 'be like James' - that's not what I'm saying. Maybe I just wonder whether he's found his own voice yet.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-10 17:44:31](#)  
(no subject)

Hm.

He's a bit caught on the fence, isn't he? On one side, there's safety, where he's a dutiful loyal son


to Voldemort and the Protectorate. On the other side, there's outright rebellion, and there's surely where he WANTS to be.

But he's terrified of the consequences for his friends. And the more time he has to think about it, the more entangled he gets in his own doubts. That night at the Ministry, they surely didn't have much time to think it over -- one moment they were at the wedding, and the next they sprang into action. And really, that's what Gryffindors are best at, those moments when we can run out, wands blazing, to defend the helpless and beat back the Death Eaters and all that.

This isn't that sort of battle. It's a battle for people's thoughts and hearts and beliefs.

Harry needs to realise that it's too late to go back. (It's been too late since that night at the Ministry.) And it's too late to shepherd his friends anywhere safe. The only safety is in sticking together, watching one another's backs, and work for victory -- which will make everyone a good deal safer in the end, even if some of them die to get the rest of us there.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-10 17:46:29](#)  
*(no subject)*

And in those endless grinding daily battles where your weapons are your wits and your words, rather than your wand --

Well.


Watching Miss Perks and Miss Parkinson has me wondering if we'd have done better to recruit a few Slytherins to the Order, back in the day. They're rather good at that sort of thing. Hufflepuffs, too.



**2013-11-11 09:21:00**

*Private message to Honoria and Luna*



 [alt\\_ginny](#)

Honoria you were SO RIGHT about about 'Pure Hunger' and 'Pure Power,' I don't know why I didn't read them earlier! They were BRILLIANT. And now I'm reading 'Pure Hunger' over again because I can see where she hinted at some of the things that were in 'Pure Power,' now that I've read both and I'm trying to guess what's going to happen in 'Pure Victory' when it comes out and I CAN'T WAIT.

It's coming out next month, isn't it? So people can have it for Christmas?

I don't want to wait for Christmas! I want to read it right NOW! What do you think is going to happen? I really hope Amaranth doesn't end up dying, there are things in the story that make me think she will (even though she's the one telling the story! but there could always be an epilogue told by someone else). I think it's going to turn out Efrain is still alive, but maybe I just think that because I liked him so much? But you never see the body and that means he COULD still be alive.

Honoria how ever did you STAND waiting? You read 'Pure Power' when it came out, that was a whole year ago! I'm only going to have to wait a month and I CAN'T WAIT.

Luna have you read these? Did you like them?

**2013-11-11 17:00:00**

*Private Message to A Dolohov*

Batya. Trust others have remembered your day and fêted your not insignificant attainment in reaching so venerable an age.




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

Had intended to join you for supper tonight, but it's not possible.

Considered sending entertaining messengers in my stead, but do value my own longevity.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-11-12 00:46:13**  
(no subject)

I will miss you, my dearest of children, but I did get your package this morning. (Speaking of valuing your longevity, you are fortunate that, knowing your sense of humour, I opened it alone in my office, not at the breakfast table. You simply did have to throw in that magazine, didn't you?)

The remainder of the gifts, however, were quite appreciated. The concert looks to be very well suited to my tastes (and, while I hope you will take the other ticket, if it will not be to your tastes, I will not drag you!) and now I know who beat me out for that copy of Parnell's memoirs that came up for auction in August! You sneak.

On the whole, today has been lovely -- several gifts from my colleagues, including a quite thoughtful collection of well-chosen texts from Sinistra, both scholarly and not -- and even the children have been on their best behaviour today. I am now putting my feet up with a nice cup of tea (and the marzipan figures that were included in Sinistra's gift; you simply must see the artistry involved) and diving into the Parnell. We'll have to discuss it this weekend.

Your,  
T

**2013-11-11 18:32:00**

*ORDER ONLY: ISS business*

What should we do with the people who didn't want to stick around last time the next time we have a meeting?



 [alt\\_harry](#)

Should we keep Obliviating them? I don't know if that'll work long term. I don't want Daphs to give hers up though. I think we ought to give her a bit of a chance. Maybe we can work with her more one on one or something. I'm not sure about Chang and Edgecombe, though.

Gryffindors, any news on what Honoria and Ginny thought about the meeting? They both had stuff to say, so that's good, I guess. Evs, Luna, what about Artemus?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at **2013-11-12 02:42:39**

*(no subject)*

We shouldn't keep Obliviating them. It could be dangerous to do that too many times or too often.

I think we should either always only use the Galleon to call meeting that really are for anyone with a Galleon--or we should come up with a code that sounds like something Edgecombe and Chang won't want to do, but really means one of the secret meetings for everyone else.

Or we could just get their Galleons back from them so they don't have them anymore--tell them that if they missed that meeting, we need them back for the new people who are still interested.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-11-12 02:50:25**

*(no subject)*

Maybe what we could do is tell them that we're planning on talking about the Protectorate from now on, and that if they want to keep the coins because they want to help if an emergency happens, they can, but they can't tell anybody what we're talking about.


And if they don't want to keep them, we ask them to give them up and then obliviate them one more time?



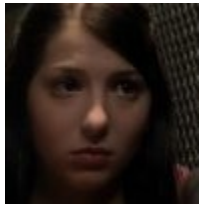
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 02:49:16](#)  
(no subject)

We could steal them back, or something like that. Then confund them or modify their memory so they think they lost them.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-12 02:51:39](#)  
(no subject)

You think we should do that to Daphs too?




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 02:54:24](#)  
(no subject)

No, I don't want to do that to Daphne.


If we make sure it conflicts with her schedule -- there are other Prefects, so we wouldn't want to do it during Prefect meetings. But she's got revising groups and clubs and so on, we could probably make sure she just couldn't ever make it.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-12 03:54:25](#)  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*


Is anyone else reading what's happening?



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-12 03:55:23](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:  
Private Message to Neville*

I can't stay in my room. And I can't be in the common room. Can we slip away somewhere, Pete?



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-12 04:07:28](#)

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

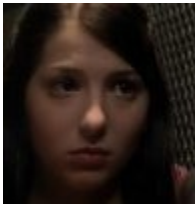
Right. I'm with you. Let me grab my robe, and then I'll be on my way down.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-12 04:09:16](#)

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

Mr Severus might let us sit in his office.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 04:17:23](#)

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

Bloody hell I wish they'd let us help.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-12 04:28:33](#)

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

I'm not sure how much good we'd be.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 04:30:42](#)

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

We'd be better than nothing.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-12 04:33:02](#)

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

Too right.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-12 04:55:01](#)

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

This might be the start of it. Everything, I mean.

If the other camps start doing the same thing, we're helping.

And if they try to do what they did in Ireland and start rounding everyone up, I don't think we can sit out either.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-12 04:59:02](#)

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

Yeah.

I'm not sitting out if this is going full on. We can't. It's not as if sixth year NEWT lessons are important if the world's coming to bits.

Listen. Promise me. If you go, let me know. I'm coming with.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-12 05:04:19](#)

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

Okay.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-12 04:51:45](#)

*(no subject)*


Harry,

Sorry, this has nothing to do with the Galleons (and I think that was Summers, who posted, what-he's been peppering me with questions since Saturday!).

I just.... Dash it, does everyone else feel bally well helpless while they all go off to that camp? Or the farm, what?


-Justin



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:53:01](#)**  
(no subject)

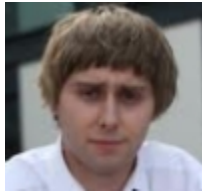
Bloody right.




 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:56:38](#)**  
*Private Message to Justin*

I've just said on ISS that if another camp starts up, we've got to do something to help.

And if they round up everyone and try to kill them, like they did in Ireland, I'm not going to sit around and watch them do it.



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:59:01](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Justin*

Quite right, old chap.

Particularly those of us who can Apparate. There's no reason we can't ask Matron to tell everyone we're in the Hospital Wing and we can go to Hogsmeade to Apparate wherever we're needed.

I say. Good form, well done.

-Justin



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:57:20](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-11-12 05:00:58](#)**  
(no subject)

I'm used to it. I mean, I've been around that sort of thing for a long time.

But it doesn't really get easier.

Terry, you're not with one of the groups that left Sherwood, are you? If you are, please be careful!



**2013-11-11 18:35:00**

*Private message to Mafalda Hopkirk*

I know this falls out of my official purview as an Auror in Malfeasance Elimination. Nonetheless I would very much appreciate permission to assist with the operation in Saltash -- yes, I've heard about it, everyone in MLE's heard about it.



 [alt\\_rachel](#)

Please. I want to go. It shouldn't interfere with my MEU work, this surely won't take long. It's important to me.

**2013-11-11 19:41:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

guard towers and main administration buildings on fire




don't appear to be people inside, though. least not any more.

 [alt\\_frank](#)

the boats on the coastline are also burning too. bunch of people crowding the beach, looks like they're trying to put out the fires on the boats, but we're too far away to get to them.

trying to get to the main area of fighting, but this place is a fucking maze and they've got parts of it shut off completely. and someone let loose a shit ton of cows. they're running wild.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at **2013-11-12 03:51:09**  
(no subject)

We're seeing some chatter, love. Lucius Malfoy appears to be calling on some of his friends -- they might be stopping by.

Watch your back.


I'll keep Sherwood apprised, and see if they can spare some more wands to join you.



 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at **2013-11-12 03:55:38**  
(no subject)

Frank, Dorcas and Caradoc and I are at the point where the road from the camp turns down to toward the ferry anchorage, but we may have to move soon. Can you find us there in the next few minutes?



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:56:22](#)**  
*(no subject)*

yes

**2013-11-11 20:18:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

shit.

shit.

this isn't stevenage, al. it's kerry.

lost a man from sherwood in a run in with MLE. gave good as we got. ran into a dogstar woman. said they were planning on chaos and damage. didn't give a damn about muggle casualties.

nearly did something I'd regret.

heading back out there. going to try to get as many people out of the fighting as we can.

damn moody for being in ireland.



 **alt\_frank**



 **alt\_sirius** at **2013-11-12 04:32:54**

*(no subject)*

I was about to tell Dora to come here but it sounds like you need her more.

So far the only thing we're battling here is the size of the perimeter.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-12 04:40:28**

*(no subject)*

Yes, I agree.



 **alt\_neville** at **2013-11-12 04:32:55**

*Private message to Dad*

Stay safe. Just--

Stay safe.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:47:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Frank, I'm coming your way. Where should I apparate to?



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:49:57](#)**  
(no subject)

building where we met the squib

we're due north of that

careful



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:51:25](#)**  
(no subject)

On my way.

**2013-11-11 20:48:00**

*(no subject)*

Nvr used this b4. Weird. Hrdr than t looks.  
Meeting was intersting, can't wait for next one.  
When? Whre?



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-11-11 20:49:00**

*Order Only: Saltash*

Passing along from Davidson and Turner: we have word out of the camp in Saltash via the button network that something's up.

A disturbance, maybe not spontaneous. Camp admin is responding, but sluggishly. Fighting breaking out, some wands have changed hands.

We're trying to learn more, but it's difficult, given the limitations of the network.



 [alt\\_kingsley](#)

Report came in about an hour after sunset. Bill, have you heard anything more?



 [alt\\_alice](#) at **2013-11-12 03:02:42**

*(no subject)*

Thank you, Kingsley.

Please keep monitoring the situation, and tell us if anything changes.

Sirius -- I know you're busy at Grimmauld, but I think this might be that opportunity we'd talked about for Terrie's farm.

Do you think she'd be ready tonight?




 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at **2013-11-12 03:08:03**

*(no subject)*

Davidson's sending some of the Zulu companies, the scout teams, to see if he can learn more--and to find out what's needed. May know more soon, and if I do, I'll pass it on.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:09:52](#)**  
(no subject)

Kingsley, perhaps you and Caradoc and Dorcas can go along with the group from Sherwood. Frank can meet you there.



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:15:47](#)**  
(no subject)

Understood, and Davidson and Turner are agreeable. We'll watch for Frank.



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:41:16](#)**  
(no subject)

Merlin. We're here at Saltash. Still trying to locate Frank in the confusion.

It's as if Bonfire Night came a week late. You could almost read the *Prophet* by the light of the fires. Administration and guard posts have been torched. And there are several ships in the harbor burning, too.



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:42:19](#)**  
(no subject)

Stockades, too. Panicked livestock running around.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:45:22](#)**  
(no subject)

You mean whoever did this doesn't care about the animals getting hurt?

Oh, and if the ships are burning, does that mean no one can get away by sea?






 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-12 03:10:37](#)  
(no subject)

Do you think we'll have time?

We might not have anyone to send to Saltash. Think Turner'd be up for giving us extra help?

I'll Floo her anyway and see if we can manage it.




 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 03:12:41](#)  
(no subject)

I think he just might.


It's worth a try. We haven't had a window like this for months.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 03:13:56](#)  
(no subject)


How many people will you need?



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 03:16:02](#)  
(no subject)

Steve McGivern can come along as an extra wand arm -- and I'm headed to Sherwood to see if Davidson can spare a similar number to those who helped at Aldrich.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 03:16:52](#)  
(no subject)

Tonks, could you be on standby in case we need you in one location or the other?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:24:41](#)**  
(no subject)


All right ... I reached her.

She thinks we can do it. We need at least ten wizards - twenty would be better - and someone who can perform the Fidelius once we've taken the place. It's helpful that it's night and most of the staff have gone home.

She said if we can get people there within the half-hour we have a shot to secure the whole compound by morning. Her Floo's open for a staging area. For those who are Apparating her address is the Mortal Man, Bourne End.

I'm just going to make sure Remus has seen this and then I'll head up there.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:26:31](#)**  
(no subject)


Excellent.

I'm at Sherwood. They're continuing to monitor the button from Saltash, but reports are a bit muddled -- apparently they're in a different part of the camp from the main disturbance, so it's hard to separate out the hearsay.

Turner's on board to take the farm, Sirius. He's ready with ten others, as is Stephen McGivern.

Would Terrie be willing to be the Secret Keeper herself, if you walk her through the Fidelius?



 **[alt\\_jeremy](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:31:34](#)**  
(no subject)

I want to help! Can I help? Can I come?

I don't know how to cast the Fidelius Charm, though.




 **[alt\\_jeremy](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:32:07](#)**  
(no subject)

Where should I come

Oh, you said. Mortal Man, Bourne End. I'll apparate there right now!




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:37:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Jeremy -- I want to hold off putting you in the field just yet. If we're successful at taking over the farm, I'll want you working closely with them to help transition to independence, but for now, it's a tricky situation, so I'm keeping it to people who've done this sort of thing before.

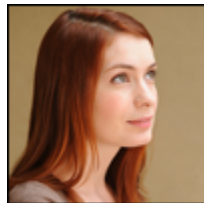
Honestly, what would be most helpful at this point would be if you could head to Doughty and give them a hand, in case Tonks or Remus has to take off suddenly.




 **[alt\\_jeremy](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:38:46](#)**  
(no subject)

~~But I can~~

Yes ma'am. I'll go to Doughty.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:40:17](#)**  
(no subject)

Good.

Very good.




 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:42:02](#)**  
(no subject)

Tonks and I flipped a coin and I won, so she'll manage the beer garden and I can come.

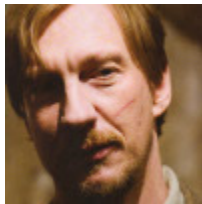
Once Jeremy gets here he could possibly take


over. It'll be a little odd to have someone here who's not me, but the crowd tonight seems a tad distracted (it's Armistice Day, and we attract the sort of people who remember that sort of thing).



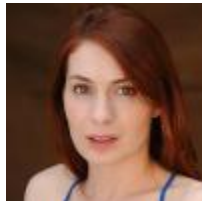
 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:52:37](#)**  
(no subject)


Remus -- are you headed to Saltash, or Terrie's farm?



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:58:59](#)**  
(no subject)


Terrie's farm. Would you prefer I head to Saltash? It sounded like Terrie's farm was the spot where we could be useful, that needed 10-20 wands.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:07:27](#)**  
(no subject)

Go to Terrie. One wand will make much more difference there.




 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:03:38](#)**  
(no subject)

Carter prentiss is there, isn't he?

the dogstar bloke we tried to put in charge of maidstone?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:05:28](#)**  
(no subject)

That's what I just said, Frank! Great minds, mate.


Should we lend them a hand?



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:07:36](#)**  
(no subject)


I'm ready, yeah



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:19:58](#)**  
(no subject)

He didn't end up at Maidstone, though. Backed out of the opportunity, actually. Which was odd, considering it was a larger camp.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:04:35](#)**  
(no subject)


Bill's with me, here at Grimmauld.

Don't we have someone at Saltash? A DogStar person. Prentiss - so much for them telling us when they plan

a move.

Should we get ready to head up there and give them a hand?




 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:04:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Not yet. Hadn't heard anything was out of the ordinary when I left work today.

I'm at 12 Grimmauld Place at the moment; can be standing by if anything's needed.




 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:12:10](#)**  
(no subject)

Except...I just remembered.


My MLE contact was on edge at the end of the day. Left a little early. Maybe she'd heard something.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 03:18:04](#)**  
(no subject)

Bill, keep your ear to the ground. I'll let you know if we need you -- if we do, it'd most likely be to the farm, as you'd need to be cautious with Polyjuice otherwise.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:03:49](#)**  
(no subject)


Alice,

Mulciber's private messaged me, the arse. (Sorry.)  
Sent me a message to pull the files for Saltash

Muggle camp.

Look, do you want me to head to the farm? I can lend a wand there, but I might be more use if I head into the Ministry to see what I can learn on that end.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:06:33](#)**  
(no subject)

Go there, see what you can hear. Any advance warning at this point is going to help.

**2013-11-11 21:28:00**

*Private Message to Mafalda Hopkirk and  
Bellatrix Lestrange*

Message received.

Curious that they're unable to contain things  
themselves. Shall be at the rally point in ... ten  
minutes.



 **alt\_lucius**

**2013-11-11 21:30:00**

*Private Message to Percival Weasley*

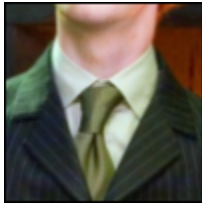
Need you on standby - there has been a disturbance at Saltash which is apparently proving resistant to peacekeeping forces.




 **alt\_lucius**

May need you to re-arrange meetings to-morrow. Particularly morning meetings.

---




 **alt\_percy** at **2013-11-12 03:44:53**  
(no subject)

At Saltash? Understood, sir.

I can come tonight if necessary; just say the word.



 **alt\_lucius** at **2013-11-12 03:47:43**  
(no subject)

Have arrived.

The Assistant Administrator Prentiss - we had evaluated him for promotion to Maidstone.

Send his file up when you can, if you please. May have a few minutes to re-familiarise myself.



**2013-11-11 21:34:00**

*Private Message to Barty Crouch and Antonin Dolohov*



On way to Saltash.

Barty, presume you have been called?

 **alt\_lucius**

Toshenka, my brother, I do hope you enjoyed your birthday - it seems you are being offered yet another chance to wreak mayhem in celebration of the anniversary.

Let us hope this is not another Ireland, however.

See you there.

**2013-11-11 21:51:00**

*Private message to Cadmus*

I'll see you soon.

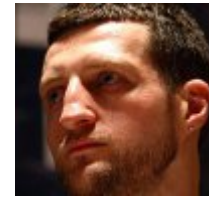


 [alt\\_corax](#)

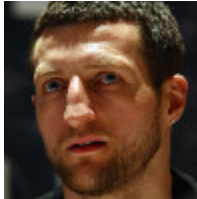
**2013-11-11 21:52:00**


*Private message to Bill Weasley*

I hope you're not busy. I want you to go back into the office. There isn't anything in particular I need you to do there, but if I DO think of something I need, I want you to be available right away.

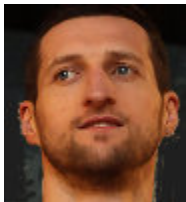


 [alt\\_corax](#)



 [alt\\_corax](#) at **2013-11-12 03:54:07**  
(no subject)


Actually, while you're there, pull the files about Saltash Muggle Camp.



 [alt\\_corax](#) at **2013-11-12 03:54:49**  
(no subject)

I don't want that bloody Auror getting the lot before I've had a chance to look at them, later.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-11-12 04:14:26**  
(no subject)

Understood. Heading in now.



 [alt\\_corax](#) at **2013-11-12 03:56:41**  
(no subject)

Also, there's a big stack of files I called for last week. While you're in there you might as well put them all back where they go, if you've got the necessary keys, and if you DON'T have the necessary keys fill out the forms for the keys you need.

**2013-11-11 21:57:00**

*Private Message to Auror Lamont*

Might interest you to know that there has been a rather severe revolt at Saltash. It seems your acquaintance Prentiss was foolish not to have transferred to Maidstone when he had the opportunity.



 **alt\_lucius**

Although, so far, perhaps it was the right decision from our perspective; he has seemed strangely rattled at the scale of this ... conflagration. (An apt term: They have set fire to almost half the compound.) It's strange, considering that he gave every indication in the inspections that he knew his camp inside and out.

But then, you know as well as I that an emergency can cause even the most organised and capable wizard somewhat addled.

Surprised Mafalda did not call in all available Aurors prior to this point. Half-expected to find that you were already here, wand in hand.

Bella's called a meeting in three minutes.



 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-11-12 04:02:30**


*(no subject)*

I asked to go. Auror Hopkirk ordered me to stay put and said she'd let me know if my help was needed.

She's not here now, though. If Auror Lestrangle thinks I might possibly be useful, I will be there instantly.

I'm waiting for the word, but am bound by my orders.



 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-11-12 04:03:35**

*(no subject)*


And I'm deeply disappointed that this happened on Carter's watch. I thought better of him or I wouldn't have mentioned him to you.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-11-12 04:17:43](#)  
(no subject)

Well, one should hope you didn't recommend him purely on the basis of 'family friend' or whatever that charming euphemism was.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-12 04:21:22](#)  
(no subject)

No. He's always been ruthless, competent, and sharp -- his records bear it out, I've seen them.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-12 04:05:06](#)  
(no subject)

And I'm going utterly mad here back at the Ministry and frankly I'm getting absolutely nothing done at the moment because I can't concentrate on bloody expense reports when something like this is going on.

If you can manage to have me brought in, I would be EXTREMELY grateful.




 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-11-12 04:21:26](#)  
(no subject)

Clearly.

So distracted that you've sent word to Mulciber's assistant? Good thinking. Perhaps he can tell you what Corax's take on this is.

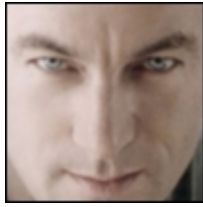



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-12 04:23:27](#)  
(no subject)

Corax ordered him into the office. What he thinks he needs with an assistant in the office while he's at Saltash, I don't know. Perhaps he's thinking he'll send him for take-away and keep it hot till he gets

back.

Are you expecting to be there all night, or is this the sort of little dust-up that ought to be resolved by midnight?



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:31:10](#)**  
(no subject)

Will note that I have also placed my clerk on alert.

Had thought initially that it should be relatively easy to put down the insurrection. However ... they seem to be both organised and *disorganised*.

Let me speak to Mafalda about securing more wand power. Shall offer to personally make sure the object of her affection has both the opportunity to score several kills - and an experienced partner to keep her out of trouble.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:40:07](#)**  
(no subject)

That would be brilliant. Thank you.

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

*Order Only: Bedford*

Merlin, this place is *big*. It's not just one large farm like the Strettons have; it's a whole network of farms in the community that were merged into a large, inter-connected enterprise.



 [alt\\_sirius](#)


All right, I've got wands on the way to Meadow Farm, Gadfly Farm, Wood Farm, Kempston Nurseries, Bell Farm, Glenbrook Farm and (I'm not making this up) Justins Farm.

We still need people to go to Ransom's Wood, Lambert's Spinney and Calfclose Spinney, where there are outposts.

It shouldn't be too difficult - as I said, it's nighttime, so there are only one or two people on watch at each major farmhouse.

Moony's here. We'll start securing the perimeter for the Fidelius and yes, Allie, Terrie will be the Secret Keeper.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 04:17:05](#)  
(no subject)

Good.

Be careful.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-12 04:26:54](#)  
(no subject)

Jeremy's here. Seems to know what to do.

Do you need me?



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 04:32:18](#)  
(no subject)

I'm hesitant to send the entire Grimmauld contingent to one place, Tonks.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:38:47](#)**  
(no subject)

Alice, things have been quiet here, so far. It's just that there are so many locations and the footprint is large.

We're fighting the clock but there's been little resistance. I want to get this done before the morning shifts arrive.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 04:47:34](#)**  
*Private Message to Sirius*

Don't rush -- get it done solidly.

And when you're done, if Saltash needs a hand, it's either Remus or you. Not both.


Merlin help us.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 05:00:01](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Sirius*

Could you use Stretton if I sent him to you?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-12 05:02:59](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Sirius*

Yeah, just saw that he'd posted.

I was going to tell you to have him come here - we can use the hands, and honestly I don't want him in a fight yet, either.

He's not worse than Turner was when he started out, at least.





 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 05:05:33](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sirius*

Yes. I'll tell him.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-12 04:40:56](#)

*(no subject)*

Just tell me where I'm needed and I'll go, Alice.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 04:45:06](#)

*(no subject)*

Saltash needs you more if you're ready for it.

Remember, your goal is to save as many lives as you can, avoid capture, stay safe.

Find Frank or Kingsley and stick with them. Don't go out on your own.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-12 04:46:10](#)

*(no subject)*

Will do.

**2013-11-11 22:09:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

You coming in, by any chance? I saw Corax sent you a PM, and surely he's not ordering you to Saltash OR enquiring after your health.




 [alt\\_rachel](#)

('Coming in,' yes, I'm still at the office. Aren't I always?)

---




 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-11-12 04:17:03**  
(no subject)

I'll be there in a moment.

He ordered me to pull the files for the Saltash Muggle camp. Don't suppose you'd tell me what's up, would you?

Actually, Mulciber told me to get those files before you see them. Look, we can arm wrestle for them, but there's no need as far as I'm concerned. Just don't let on to him that I ceded first crack at them to you, all right?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-11-12 04:20:04**  
(no subject)

There's trouble at Saltash Muggle camp. Aren't you glad you have a friend in MLE? You never could have worked that out on your own, I'm sure.

As for the files, they're all yours. I'm rather hoping they'll let me go to Saltash to help out, but if not, no one's told me yet to get those files and I'm just a TINY bit distracted at present.

**2013-11-11 22:22:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

here.

securing and warding dormitories as we go. getting civilians off the streets. making sure buildings don't catch fire.



 [alt\\_frank](#)

slow going. don't know how much good we're doing.

merlin knows we just might be making it easier to get to if they're all in one place.


dorcas is down at the docks with some of sherwood to try and salvage a boat or two to get people out.

haven't run into too much heavy fire yet. every now and then a handful stumbles into us and we deal with them. once they run out of people to fight against we'll reassess. our numbers holding steady so far.

there's too many damn people here. most of them are helpless.

need to get back to it.



 [alt\\_frank](#) at **2013-11-12 06:48:21**  
*Private Message to Alice*

it comes down to the wire, I'm going to take one other volunteer with me to draw fire and the rest will start to side along as many as they can to Aldrich. got a dorm full of mostly kids, we'll start there and see how many we can get.

ran the numbers and if we hold steady through the night, we'll be able to get out several dozen easily. better than nothing.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-12 06:54:38**


*Re: Private Message to Alice*

Duly noted.

I'm with Davidson talking about our options, including preparedness for a defensive stand versus retreating. Costs are painfully high regardless.

We may be able to have the advantage of surprise with a sudden influx of as many of our numbers as we can scrape together.




 **[alt\\_frank](#) at 2013-11-12 06:55:43**

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

remember. you promised.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-12 06:56:14**

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

Yes.

I'll keep it, too.

Stay safe.

I love you.

**2013-11-11 22:55:00**

*Order Only*

The bar's closed, I mean the beer garden,  
whatever it is, it's closed.

And Ellie says she doesn't mind doing the  
washing up and I think the mad house-elf's  
watching the baby.

NOW can I come help? Either place?

---



 **alt\_jeremy**




 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-12 05:06:27**

*(no subject)*

They could use a spare hand at the farm, Jeremy.

Remember -- Sirius is in charge on this one.



 **alt\_jeremy** at **2013-11-12 05:09:44**

*(no subject)*

Yes ma'am.

I'm on my way.

**2013-11-11 22:57:00**

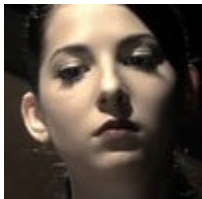
*Order Only: ISS Business*

I was thinking we could make a list of things we find usefully distracting.



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

1. Christmas gifts. I've been working on knitting things and so on.
  2. Someone left behind a catalogue from a book shop and I've been going through it and writing down the names of books I'd like to try to borrow from somewhere.
  3. I was thinking maybe I'd re-read 'Pure Hunger' and 'Pure Power' seeing as the sequels are coming out soon and perhaps tonight would be a good night to do that as I don't expect I'll be sleeping much.
- 



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-11-12 05:03:15**  
(no subject)

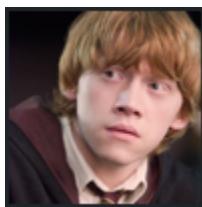
Oh I thought of another one.


4. Cats. The kittens are all cats now but they're still rather cute and they're very playful.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at **2013-11-12 05:07:21**  
(no subject)


And when they purr, it's rather soothing.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-11-12 05:11:27**  
(no subject)

You alright, there?



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at **2013-11-12 05:18:40**  
*Private Message to Ron*

Reading about Ireland after it happened was hard.

This is worse.

But worrying where they can see it won't help them right now.

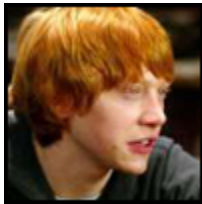


 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-11-12 05:25:19**

*Re: Private Message to Ron*

You're right. It won't help them. And you're right. This is dead awful.

I'm sorry.



 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-11-12 05:04:53**

*(no subject)*

Right because those pure books are so calming. They're about war games, aren't they? I mean, I've just been listening to Ginny go on and on and on about them all weekend.

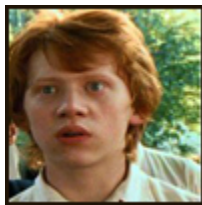


 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at 2013-11-12 05:05:38**

*(no subject)*

What you haven't read them?

They're not calming, they're DISTRACTING. Try to keep up.



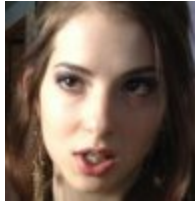
 **[alt\\_ron](#) at 2013-11-12 05:07:56**

*(no subject)*

Oi!

So you want to READ about fighting to keep from worrying about people who are fighting?

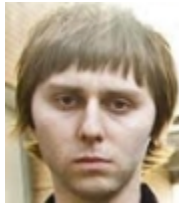
I say we just go join in. Then we aren't just sitting here on our hands.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 05:11:56](#)  
(no subject)

I don't even want to think about what they'd do if any of us turned up at Saltash. Other than knock us senseless and haul us back to Hogwarts.

Anyway, I can't apparate.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-12 05:16:02](#)  
*Private Message to Sally-Anne*


Harry thinks there might be more outbreaks. If that happens, they'll need every wand we can muster, what.

And there are Floo points, too--I mean to say, Sirius gave a Floo address for people at his friend's farm so there might be others nearby wherever we'd need to go.

If you asked Matron, she'd tell people we all came down with some sort of flu and we're all in the Hospital Wing. It might not fool Professor Dolohov but then he's out there with the others, possibly.

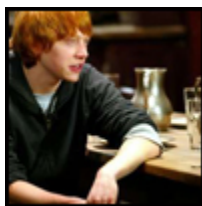
-Justin




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 05:19:28](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Sally-Anne*

If it comes to that I agree. We should go. Whether they say 'yes' to it or not.

It's part of why I don't think I'm going to sleep much tonight. I don't trust they'll TELL us.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-12 05:18:49](#)  
*Private Message to Sally Anne*

I can side-along you.

But only if you want to go. Do you? I mean, I think we can at least wait for tomorrow and see

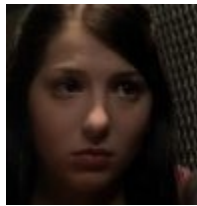


what's come of it. This could just be a camp thing and it may be on its way to being put down already. And if that's true, then we're not needed yet. But if it catches and other camps go up, they'll need us. That's what Harry's talking about. If this is more than just a single camp. If it's all out rebellion, we've got to be in it. We can't hang back and think that other people will fight it for us.

Anywiz. I don't want to talk this out in front of Evelyn, yeah?

But we should talk. Are prefects back from rounds yet?

We could meet.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 05:23:15](#)

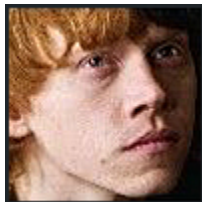
*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

Yeah. That would be very distracting That would be good. Ours are back, so it shouldn't be hard to slip out in a little while.

Justin said the same thing and yes. If it comes to that I think we should go, all of us who want to, whether the Order says 'yes' or not.

And yeah. I'd want you to side-along me.

But not tonight. Right now -- we don't know enough about what's going on to be useful. ~~And the last time we went up against Councilwizards we didn't do very well.~~ I'm afraid what would happen is that instead of helping people we'd wind up taking up resources because the Order would have to rescue us.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-12 05:31:00](#)

*Re: Private Message to Sally Anne*

Justin said the same thing?! What would Hydra say about that? Heh.

Sorry.

No, you're right. If we go, we've got to do it right. We can fight and we know better than to run straight into chaos with no

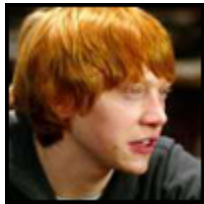
plan. So, yeah. We should wait for the reports overnight and see what's coming of it. I mean, if this is really going to be war, they'll need us tomorrow and the next day and the next.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 05:13:44](#)

*Private message to Ron*

Though they're letting bloody JEREMY go to Terrie's farm! He found out about the Order what, last week???

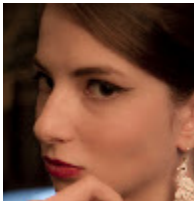


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-12 05:21:45](#)

*Re: Private message to Ron*

I know.

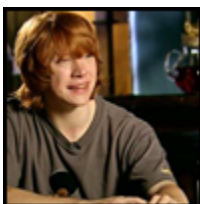
And do you know why? Because he put himself in the middle of it. I mean, yeah. He asked first, but we can't do that. They'll say we have to stay here. But it's the same thing: Stretton's going because he wouldn't take No for an answer. We shouldn't either.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 05:06:46](#)

*(no subject)*

Anyway they're really good and you should read them. Tell Lav you want to borrow her copies, I know she has them.

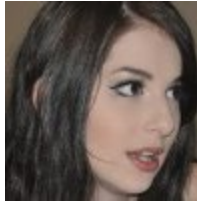


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-12 05:09:06](#)

*(no subject)*

Apparently Ginny has them. Unless she's given them to someone else. I think she's just reading them over again, though.

And I've got enough to read as it is, thanks.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 05:12:48](#)  
(no subject)

She'd probably lend you her copies because if YOU read them she'll have ANOTHER person to talk about them WITH.

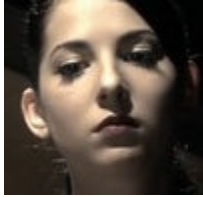


 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-12 05:13:47](#)  
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,  
Excellent notion, what.

5. If he's out there fighting, Professor Dolohov won't be able to teach Noble Arts tomorrow.
6. Nor shall Professor Lestrangle.
7. Do you think there will be another play next term? What about?

-Justin



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 05:17:56](#)  
(no subject)

So what you're saying is, it's probably not going to be a terrible problem that I didn't get most of my homework done.

That's something, anyway!

And I think there will be another play next year and it will be a musical production based on ... I don't know. Oh, wait, I do know. It'll be a musical based on 'Pure Hunger,' it'll be a hit.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-12 05:21:39](#)  
(no subject)

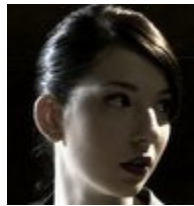
I say, Hydra wanted me to read those and I couldn't see what the fuss was about them.

I mean to say, I can bally well understand they're jolly thinly veiled parallels to the Protectorate. But I found them--well, the first one, I should say--rather formulaic.

Oh, I say:

8. Who in the Galleon club do you think will be next to join the Order? Ginny?

-Justin




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 05:24:40](#)  
(no subject)

I wonder if that would make Mrs Weasley happy or if it would send her utterly round the twist? If Ginny worked things out and asked to join.

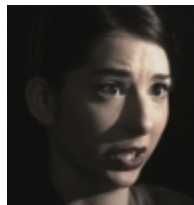
Maybe Cedric Diggory?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-12 05:27:48](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah.


I think he'd be good for it.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 05:30:45](#)  
(no subject)

I don't even know what you mean by 'formulaic.' They're exciting and fun to read and I want to know what happens next.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-12 05:33:14](#)  
(no subject)

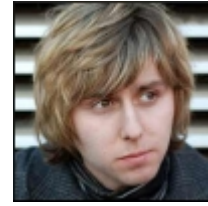
I mean that I guessed what was going to happen before it happened, what. The author was following a formula popular in that sort of fiction.

It reminded me of a number of books I've read before. Perhaps it's because they're not available here, though, that it seems so engaging.

-J

**2013-11-12 00:27:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Ron*



 [alt\\_justin](#)

Ron, Sally-Anne,

I thought it best to put this under more than just the Order lock. But no one's said anything for a while.

How long do you think we ought to wait? I think perhaps we should see if things are resolved by morning and then we could talk at breakfast?

I'll be up watching for a while, with Hydra, what. I'm sure you will be, too.

Sally-Anne, can you tell Hermione? She can tell Harry and Draco.

-Justin

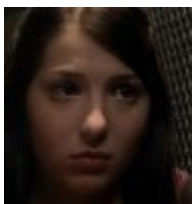



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-11-12 05:32:54**  
(no subject)

Ron thinks that if things get a lot worse we should go, all of us.

But here's the thing, if we sit up all night watching to see if we see anything new, we'll be ~~even more useless~~ not at our best.

I'm thinking maybe we should take turns, and try to sleep in between. Like two of us could sit and watch the journals for the next two hours, and then someone else could wake up and do it.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-11-12 05:34:25**  
(no subject)

I don't know if I'll be able to sleep unless I KNOW that if anything important happens someone will wake me.

So we can do something.

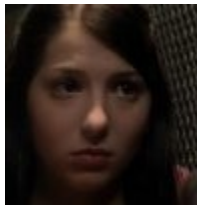


 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-12 05:39:11](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, I see. All right.

Well, I'm here with Hydra and we're not tired just yet. But she can wake you in two or three hours, if you like. And then you can wake Pansy or Hermione. That way no one has to set an alarm that might wake others in the dormitory.


-Justin



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 05:40:41](#)  
(no subject)

Okay.

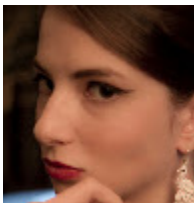



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-12 05:35:25](#)  
(no subject)

We've been saying the same thing. We should wait and see whether this is more than a one-night camp mess before we rush in there. And we need a plan if we do go.

Unless things go pear-shaped and they call for all wands tonight.


So, yeah. We're going to be watching for a while. All night, probably.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-12 05:43:56](#)  
*Private message to Ron*

Common room's empty. I'm coming to meet you.



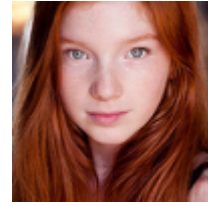
 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-12 05:45:28](#)**

*Re: Private message to Ron*

On my way.

**2013-11-12 06:32:00**

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



Something's happening.

We were just leaving Mr Snape's office this morning to get cleaned up before breakfast, and Mr Dumbledore came by looking very serious. We couldn't hear, because they used muffliato, but he was holding out some of his hair he'd cut, and they were arguing.

 [alt\\_evelyn](#)

We had to go, so we didn't see the end of it, but I thought I'd let everyone who's on the lock know.

And then I read that he wrote dad. Mr Dumbledore, I mean.

Hydra, Harry, could you tell Justin and Hermione?



**2013-11-12 06:55:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

here we go.



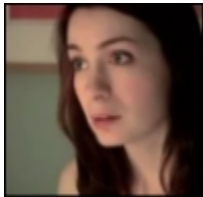
 [alt\\_frank](#)



 [alt\\_frank](#) at **2013-11-12 14:57:36**

*Private Message to Alice*

love you.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at **2013-11-12 15:01:47**

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

What's happened?

What's going on?

No. No no no no.



 [alt\\_frank](#) at **2013-11-12 14:58:20**

*Private Message to Evelyn and Neville*

love you both.



 [alt\\_frank](#) at **2013-11-12 14:59:25**

*Private Message to Terry Boot*

love you too, kiddo.



 **[alt\\_tery](#)** at **[2013-11-12 15:31:12](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Terry Boot*

Don't you dare act like you're saying goodbye. You come back to us. You have to.

**2013-11-12 07:04:00**

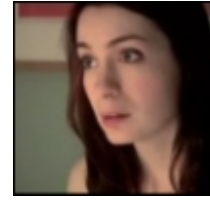
*ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Sirius*

He just told us good-bye

And then my ring

It's stopped working

It's gone cold



 **alt\_alice**




 **alt\_sirius** at **2013-11-12 15:26:08**  
(no subject)

I just

got to

Saltash




 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-12 15:28:07**  
(no subject)

Find out what's happened once you've got your bearings.

And for Merlin's sake, Sirius. Be careful.

There's only so much a heart can take.



 **alt\_sirius** at **2013-11-12 15:32:23**  
(no subject)


Sorry.

Sea air. Hit me.

There are smoking buildings in half the area and nothing


Wait. Hang on a moment.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-12 15:33:02](#)  
(no subject)

## How did they cast a Fidelius in the middle of a fucking firefight?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-12 15:35:29](#)  
(no subject)

I mean to say, I *think* that's what they did.

There's a blank where it looks like half the compound should have been.


Only it doesn't feel blank.

It's a bit creepy.

We've found cover near the beachhead. We'll stay put until we can figure out what's going on.

Unless we have to move.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 15:38:09](#)  
(no subject)

Severus mentioned the possibility of Dumbledore attempting some experimental magic.

That might be what he meant.

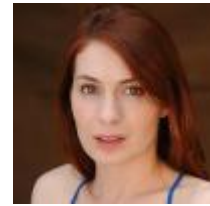
**2013-11-12 07:08:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

Kingsley. Tonks.

Check in.

What's happened?



 [alt\\_alice](#)



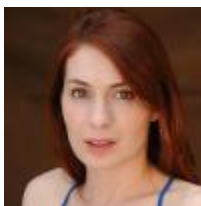
 [alt\\_severus](#) at **2013-11-12 15:28:04**


*(no subject)*

In case you did not see the comments left elsewhere: Albus has said he has a form of experimental magic that may assist those fighting at the camp. He has pressed me into covering his classes, under his likeness; he refused to provide me with any further information.

When he left here, he intended to rendezvous with Frank; I believe it was his intention to have Frank be the one to cast whatever spell he has come up with.

Having been stuck here to tend to the children, I do not, unfortunately, have further information. Hogwarts is quiet; Poppy is keeping an eye on the juniors, and preparing for an evacuation should it become necessary.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at **2013-11-12 15:33:44**

*(no subject)*

Thank you.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at **2013-11-12 15:48:49**


*Private message to Alice*

Your children, meanwhile, spent the night in my office (as did I); upon their arrival last night, Evelyn informed me that she, quoting to the best of my memory, "couldn't stand both not knowing and being in the common room with people who didn't even know there was something they didn't know".

We spent much of the evening in quiet contemplation and study, but there was an emotional undercurrent I did not much like. Poppy and I agree that the children are likely steps away from volunteering themselves to join you; she is watching them closely, and I am likewise prepared to keep them free of the fray. If we are unable to keep them from making a break for it, I will do whatever I can to ensure that they are, at least, not alone.

(I will resist the urge to do so in Albus's skin. I am exceptionally irate with him this morning.)



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 16:01:48](#)

*Re: Private message to Alice*

Teenagers. Merlin save us.

I will try my best to convince them it's not needed.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 16:07:37](#)

*(no subject)*

From what Sirius has reported, there appears to be a modified form of a Fidelius at the camp.

We have yet to hear from our people who would've been at the site when the Fidelius would've been activated, if that is indeed what it is.

This appears to be a situation where there are a great deal of unknowns. At this point, I think it prudent to wait for Sirius to report, or for our people to make contact with him.



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-11-12 15:32:37](#)

*(no subject)*


Alice. Molly.

I have your Neville, Evelyn, and Ronald, along with Miss Perks, Mr Finch-Fletchley and Miss LeStrange here on my ward this morning. They came along quite early, asking to be admitted and covered for absence from their dormitories last night. I am keeping them here until we know there is no need to

evacuate them suddenly.

I have the timetable for your youngest on my desk, Molly. I should be able to summon her quickly if needed.




 **alt\_harry** at **2013-11-12 15:35:32**  
(no subject)

Should the rest of us join you, Madame Pomfrey?

If it'd be too suspicious, we can just keep an eye on the journals.




 **alt\_poppy** at **2013-11-12 15:42:35**  
(no subject)

That is up to you, I think. If you do come, you might feign sudden illness to cover for it.

There is, of course, a risk of suspicion, and having a complete complement of you here would certainly allow someone to draw conclusions if they thought to.

I am, however, entirely willing to welcome any of you who wish to come.




 **alt\_harry** at **2013-11-12 15:59:30**  
(no subject)

Yeah. You're right.

We'll keep the journals close and be ready to come running if we have to.



 **alt\_molly** at **2013-11-12 15:59:59**  
(no subject)

Thank you for letting me know, Poppy.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-12 16:05:30](#)**  
(no subject)


Oh, Merlin.

Alice, we have to move. There are half a dozen Death Eaters about 50 yards away.

And Mulciber's - ugh. Dismembering a Muggle.

We either have to run or fight. I can probably hit one of them from here but then they'll be on us immediately. I'm going to reposition.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 16:10:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Keep moving. We should know what we're working with first.

Has anyone come out yet?



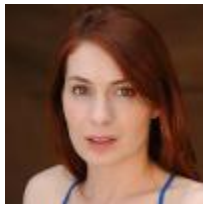
 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-12 16:24:15](#)**  
(no subject)


Not on this side but then there's a load of DEs fanning out.

I'm hexing Mulciber. Someone's got to stop him flaying people. His mates aren't going to do it.

In fact, Malfoy just - Ugh.

There's a lot of blood in a person.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 16:27:29](#)**  
(no subject)

It's your call. I trust you on this.





 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-11-12 16:31:42](#)**  
(no subject)

Sirius. I'm outside the protective field now. Looking for people who need to get inside the ward.

If you need cover, make for the trees (what's left of them) beside what's left of the kitchens. There's an edge of the ward just there and the Secret Keeper--Tremont--is waiting to bring people in.

(We're having trouble with Prentiss. Be careful.)



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-12 16:39:21](#)**  
(no subject)

Right.

I've got about eight people who came with me from Bedford. We'll shoot a volley of spells at those Death Eaters and half of us will go left, the other half right, try to draw them away. We'll send refugees toward you as we go.



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-11-12 16:59:03](#)**  
(no subject)

Found Dorcas again; we were separated for awhile, but we managed to ditch our opposition. She's all right. I got hit in left arm, but field dressing's doing for now. Got another few dozen directed to the secret keeper.

**2013-11-12 07:51:00**

*Order Only: Bedford Farm Collective*

We've finished.

Terrie's rounded up everyone and told them they can stay or go, but if they stay they've got to stay within the boundaries of the southwest collective. She'll station herself near the gates so that as the others arrive this morning, she can pick out the ones she thinks are sympathetic and offer them entry. This will be another Aldrich, I think: It's up to them how to self-govern.



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

Frank, what's your situation? We're bloody exhausted and Jeremy's got to get to work but we'll come out there if you need us.



---

 [alt\\_frank](#) at **2013-11-12 14:08:24**

*(no subject)*

they've held them for longer than I thought possible.

stalemate from what I can see.

we've been warding through the night. trying to keep fighting away from civilian sections. lost one more from sherwood thirty minutes ago when some fighting broke through. tonks is still here. she's in good shape considering.

haven't covered as much ground as I'd like.

gearing up to join in properly, see if we can't turn the tide or cause some more attrition. whichever we can manage.

might be in for a long haul or a short charge depending.

your call, mate. don't splinch yourself if you do decide to join the party.



 **[alt\\_albus](#)** at **[2013-11-12 14:11:35](#)**

*Private message to Frank*

I have something untested and experimental that may be of help. It has risks. We should discuss in person.

Severus has agreed to cover my classes as needed. Tell me where to meet you.



 **[alt\\_frank](#)** at **[2013-11-12 14:14:08](#)**

*Re: Private message to Frank*

right.

we're sheltering in place at a warehouse four blocks south of what remains of the administration building.

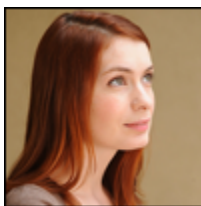
holding off until you get here.



 **[alt\\_albus](#)** at **[2013-11-12 14:15:16](#)**

*Re: Private message to Frank*

No more than 10 minutes.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 14:16:00](#)**

*(no subject)*

Good.

Very good.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 14:20:49](#)**

*Private Message to Sirius*

From what Frank says, it could go either way -- but he doesn't seem hopeful for an out and out victory.

You'd need to be in fighting shape to make it worth the risk of sending you along, and Apparating tends to be tricky

with you under ideal conditions, but your presence might rally the troops, as it were. And it seems like everyone else is bloody exhausted too, so it might even the field. We could use Turner and whoever he's got who has enough energy left as well.

If you do come, Remus stays behind. For Bea.

**2013-11-12 08:23:00**

*Private Message to Arlen Morpeth*

Sir, I'm awfully sorry I missed my shift last night. I'm ill, and I didn't wake up when my alarm sounded. Never heard it at all. I expect I'll miss tonight, as well. I apologise for not having given you notice that you'd be short-staffed.

Nymphadora Ponds



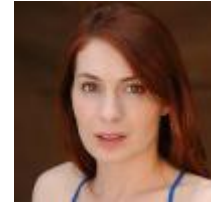
 **alt\_nymphadora**

**2013-11-12 08:27:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

Albus is here with Frank and Caradoc.

Caradoc is badly hurt, but we're working on him. He's lost a great deal of blood. Poppy, I'll keep you informed as we learn more.



 [alt\\_alice](#)

Frank is unconscious, but alive.

Albus is currently in the process of explaining why.

---



 [alt\\_molly](#) at **2013-11-12 16:47:40**


*(no subject)*

Oh, thank goodness.

I've been glued to my journal all morning.

Alice, let me know if you need me to come to Moddey for any reason. To help with babies, or keep you company or...or anything.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at **2013-11-12 17:01:56**

*(no subject)*

Stephen's with Sirius, and he's usually the one in charge of medical grade potions. I'm making more blood replenishing potion for Caradoc, and need a hand if you can make it.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at **2013-11-12 17:16:48**

*(no subject)*

On my way.

**2013-11-12 08:45:00**

*Private Message to Narcissa*

Everyone is, for the moment, all right.

Minor injuries to a few of our number - no one seriously harmed - and heavy damage to the camp, its chattel and its surrounding area.



 [alt\\_lucius](#)

Bella believes she saw Longbottom among the opposition - if that band of traitors is at the head of this mess, it would explain the unanticipated level of organisation among the insurgents. Nonetheless our biggest concern has been keeping the fire from spreading - literally *and* figuratively - and confining the fight to a manageable radius. (Also suppressing the news but that's an entirely different battle.)

Also combatting an higher than anticipated level of chaos among our own. Confusion and indecision. Infuriating.

Should be finished here by the end of the day, however. Daylight ought to enable us to put things to rest.

**2013-11-12 09:04:00**

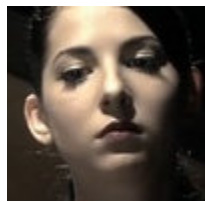
*Order Only: Private message to Ron and Justin*



It looks bad.

And I think Madam P has some sort of ward on her floo, I got up a little while ago to go to the loo and went near her fire just to see, you know, and she was there in about a second to see what I was up to.

 **alt\_sally\_anne**

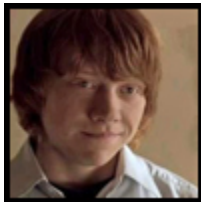



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-11-12 15:20:50**  
(no subject)

I mean now I understand why she was SO glad to see us this morning when we all said we were feeling ill. I thought she'd be glad because she could evacuate us if she needed to but also she can watch us like a

HAWK to keep us from going anywhere.

If she'd thought of it I wonder if she'd have ordered us all in here last night?



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-11-12 15:26:16**  
(no subject)

Hm.

Well, that kills the thrill of feeling like we'd put one over on everyone, covering up why were out of the dormitory last night. From clever absconders to prisoners in the blink of an eye.

Wizard.

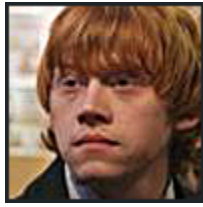



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-11-12 15:28:55**  
(no subject)

Did you see Finnigan's post? Noble Arts got cancelled completely, they didn't have someone else take it. So if we'd managed to wake up and get



back to our own dormitories last night, we could have just gone to class and not wound up stuck there.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-12 15:35:57](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Lovely.

Want to play some chess?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-12 15:38:49](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Yeah. Sounds great. Madam P's got a set in a drawer in her office, I'll go borrow it.

**2013-11-12 09:21:00**

*It's not that I don't appreciate an unexpected day off*



 **alt\_seamus**

but does anyone know what's going on? Neither Professor Dolohov nor Professor Lestrage was at breakfast and no one's saying anything.

I asked Professor Brutka if he knew and he nearly took my head off. Sorry, Professor, and I hope your headache's better soon.

---



 **alt\_seamus** at **2013-11-12 15:23:37**

*Private message to Padma*

When Dean and I woke up this morning, NEITHER of our roommates was there.

Turns out they are BOTH in the Hospital Wing. Pretty odd, innit?



 **alt\_padma** at **2013-11-12 15:38:43**

*Re: Private message to Padma*

Do you figure that's where Finch-Fletchley is, too?

What's going on, do you think?



 **alt\_seamus** at **2013-11-12 15:40:22**

*Re: Private message to Padma*

The last time all the Council Wizards disappeared from school it was because there was trouble in Ireland and they were needed.

So probably there's trouble somewhere and apparently Weasley and Longbottom and maybe also Finch-Fletchley are JUST SICK about it.



 **alt\_seamus** at **2013-11-12 15:26:43**

*Private message to Mr Rosier*

Sir? Is everything all right?

**2013-11-12 09:43:00**

*Private message to Lucius Malfoy and Barty Crouch*



 [alt\\_rachel](#)

What just happened? Is it just me or

HALF THE CAMP IS MISSING. They cannot POSSIBLY have cast --

WHAT?


---



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at **2013-11-12 15:46:30**  
(no subject)

Dammit. What? Where are you?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-11-12 15:51:19**  
(no subject)

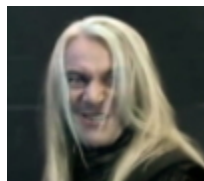
I was heading in the direction of the Admin building but HALF THE CAMP IS NOT THERE. It's just gone. All the dormitories, the cattle are missing, I'm not even sure -- I'd need a proper map to work out exactly what's gone but it is a HUGE piece of land.


WHAT ON EARTH



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at **2013-11-12 15:55:53**  
(no subject)

Where is Prentice? Have you seen him?



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-11-12 15:56:39**  
(no subject)

Where is Tosha?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-12 16:00:17](#)  
(no subject)


Haven't seen him for an hour or more.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-12 15:59:38](#)  
(no subject)

I believe Prentice was in the Administration building. Which is now missing.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-12 16:01:36](#)  
(no subject)

Dammit.

Am on the perimeter, trying to discover weakness in the wards.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-12 16:03:03](#)  
(no subject)

It can't possibly be the Fidelius Charm. They didn't have time, and it's far too big an area.

It's something else. Which might have vulnerabilities that the Fidelius Charm does not.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-12 15:55:49](#)  
(no subject)

The Admin building is definitely missing, and everyone in it.

Nearly all the muggles -- well, other than the one Corax Mulciber's got his hands on. There are probably a few other strays we'll be able to round up.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-12 15:56:51](#)  
(no subject)

Yes. Open season on any strays. Bella is already at work.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-12 16:01:36](#)  
(no subject)

Does she want the strays preserved for questioning or should we just put them down as efficiently as possible?



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-12 16:06:28](#)  
(no subject)

Hold anyone magical for questioning. Hold anyone who looks at all like either of the Longbottoms, obviously. If there's any suspicion, petrify and hold. Don't want traitors choosing death by passing as muggles.

That said, clear the rabble. Need to impose order here.



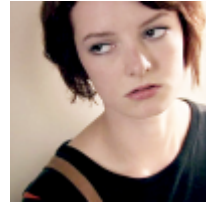
 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-12 16:12:12](#)  
(no subject)

Yes sir.

**2013-11-12 10:40:00**

*Private message to Lucius Malfoy and  
Barty Crouch*

Watch your backs. Just ran into Rufus McLaggen,  
who was taking apart a muggle instead of  
focusing on monitoring the perimeter.



 **alt\_rachel**

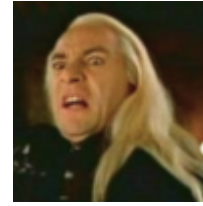
Right now I could take over monitoring the  
perimeter, or leave McLaggen to it and see if I find anyone who might  
have come in while he was distracted.

From the look of things here, he's been distracted for a while.

**2013-11-12 10:57:00**

*Private Message to Toshenka and Bella*

You're needed at my location. Immediately, if you please.



 **alt\_lucius**



 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-11-12 16:00:53**

*(no subject)*

On my way.



 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-11-12 16:06:22**

*(no subject)*

Still trying to make my way to your location. What on earth has happened to half these fucking grounds?



**2013-11-12 11:04:00**

*Private message to Bella*

Attack on central (put down quickly). Corax attacked while playing with his toys, 6-8 opponents, all wizards, unknown how they got through perimeter. Injuries our side Barty, Corax, Cadmus, no deaths; injuries their side at least three, one death, body in our custody, identity unknown.



 **alt\_antonin**

Corax's wounds are serious and he has been removed from the field; Barty unconscious but otherwise unhurt; Cadmus still on his feet.

Have not yet determined what spell is blocking the grounds. Not Fidelius, but close to. Still studying it, in between guarding Barty. Lucius in field command on this end, coordinate with him. (Mind his temper.)

**2013-11-12 11:06:00**

*Professor Dolohov's classes today*

All of Professor Dolohov's classes are cancelled for today as he is unexpectedly unavailable. I will be in his classroom at normal class times to allow for study. As Professor Dolohov will not be present his normal rules for Noble Arts work without supervision will be in effect. In particular that means that essence magic isn't quidditch. Don't let me catch you mucking about with it.



 **alt\_cedric**

**2013-11-12 11:16:00**

*Private message to Antonin Dolohov*

Saw you were writing. Situation? I gave a report to Lucius Malfoy and Barty Crouch, not sure if either's reading.



 [alt\\_rachel](#)

Found a hole in the perimeter, am trying to find what might have leaked through, feel like I'm running blind.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-11-12 17:23:08**

*(no subject)*

Have just finished putting down an attack upon Central. Barty alive but unconscious, Lucius busy with duties of command.

If you've found a hole in the perimeter it is likely the attackers came through there. Discover who was responsible for that section and order them under Imperius to report to me immediately. You are now responsible for that section of the perimeter until Lucius or I send someone to relieve you.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-11-12 17:28:41**

*(no subject)*

Sir, I can send McLaggen to you immediately. Do you want me to focus on the perimeter rather than what might have leaked inside?



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-11-12 17:39:08**

*(no subject)*


McLaggen? I see. Yes, send him to me and I will take care of the matter.

For now, yes, stand guard where you are; better to prevent further incursions than utilise resources in a sweep. As soon as we've someone free I will send them up. We're cleaning up and treating injuries at the moment. Once you're relieved, proceed to sweeping the area under guard in greater detail; Lucius has done a preliminary check, but a more in depth inspection is no

doubt warranted.

Also, I neglected to say thank you in my earlier message; from what Barty said earlier, you have been a considerable help today.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-12 17:40:09](#)  
(no subject)

Understood. McLaggen's on his way to you with instructions to explain *exactly* what he was doing instead of following his orders.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-11-12 18:49:03](#)  
(no subject)

And he did arrive, and was quite helpful in explaining the thought process that led to the perimeter breach. I must thank you again for the (exceptionally helpful) strength of your

spellwork.


Unfortunately, I must also inform you that after our discussion with him, we sent him outside the perimeter to begin rounding up stragglers. From reports, we believe he encountered Longbottom, and was not able to prevail in the resulting duel, nor able to capture Longbottom. I did want to let you know, however, that his death came after he discharged your orders to him, and not while he was still under your Imperius; please do not think you had anything to do with it.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-12 20:19:39](#)  
(no subject)

Thank you for letting me know. How utterly tragic, and how very disappointing Longbottom slipped away once again.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-12 20:20:16](#)  
(no subject)

I shan't lose any sleep over it, don't worry.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-11-12 20:43:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Frankly I'm a bit more concerned about Carter Prentiss, who's disappeared behind enemy lines.

The more I think about how things went last night and this morning, the more I notice how many problems can be traced back to Prentiss.

I know Auror Crouch had hoped to question him, and unfortunately it doesn't look likely that he'll have the opportunity.

And embarrassingly enough, I brought him to Mr Malfoy's attention some weeks back for a possible promotion. Nothing came of it, but still, I vouched for that man. If he turns out to have betrayed all of us, that will surely reflect on me, and on my judgement.



 **[alt\\_antonin](#)** at **[2013-11-12 21:08:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Everyone makes occasional mistakes in evaluating the capabilities of others. Even should Prentiss prove insufficiently loyal rather than merely incompetent, that does not necessarily reflect upon you, particularly given your excellent performance today. (As well, your willingness to confess to an error in judgement speaks well of you; it has been my experience that the truly guilty inevitably attempt to cover up their actions.)

I will let Lucius know of your concerns, but I would not worry overmuch. At most I suspect he will believe you insufficiently practised at evaluating the capabilities or loyalties of others, and that is a skill best learnt over time.

**2013-11-12 11:53:00**

*Order Only*

So, now there are a bunch of us at the Hospital Wing. Should we come help? Sally-Anne can help with Healing and no one will notice if I go. And




 **alt\_hermione**

I think we'd all like to be able to see people. To make sure they're all right.

---




 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-12 18:03:05**  
*(no subject)*

Everyone's regrouped at Moddey.

With Stephen gone

We could use some Healing help, yes. Poppy, can you cover adequately?



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-12 18:05:05**  
*(no subject)*

Let's keep the numbers manageable. You and Sally-Anne would be very useful right now.



 **alt\_hermione** at **2013-11-12 18:06:39**  
*(no subject)*

Oh.

All right.

Evelyn

Okay.




 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-11-12 18:12:13](#)**  
(no subject)

Stephen is dead?

That is exceptionally bad news. If you are in need of an experienced brewer, I can join you ~~as soon as Albus gets back here to take his bloody classes back~~ later this evening.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 18:14:00](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes.

Please.

Hermione can cover until you get here, but there's some spell damage we're still sorting through that's rather tricky and your help would be appreciated.




 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-11-12 18:20:03](#)**  
(no subject)

I hope he is our only casualty.

I cannot leave until Albus returns, but as soon as he does, I will join you at the earliest moment possible.

Miss Granger: you are capable of assessing what additional medicinals and ingredients will be necessary, should any be; inform me at your earliest opportunity.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 18:25:29](#)**  
(no subject)

Sherwood lost at least three.

I hope to keep from losing any more.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-11-12 18:29:00](#)**  
(no subject)

All right.

We're using loads of dittany; Sirius splinched his ankle but I think Mr Lupin got it stabilised. He's also got a curse mark on his arm. His right arm. I'm not sure what type of curse yet, though, and he's not awake at the moment.

Mr Turner's hurt - his hand is bleeding a lot. And Mr Shackbolt can't use his left arm at all, but there's no mark. Ms Meadows has all sorts of cuts. There are some other minor injuries, more bruises and a sprained wrist and a dislocated shoulder. And Mrs Longbottom already said that Mr Dearborn needs blood replenishing potion. I can start some as soon as everyone's stable. But that means we'll probably need more powdered re'em liver.

Oh, I think we should probably brew some standard painkiller potions and maybe dreamless sleep.



 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-11-12 18:55:40](#)**  
(no subject)

Describe that curse mark on Sirius's arm, please?

I have the Re'em liver.

I'm sorry not to be more help, but I've acquired several students this afternoon with actual ailments to tend. And that requires a bit of finesse with the rest of my 'patients'.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-11-12 19:02:22](#)**  
(no subject)

It's a sort of half-moon shape? It's really very red in colour and it's sort of got a sheen to it, as if it's sweating a bit.

Oh, and Mrs Longbottom's right about Caradoc. Nothing's

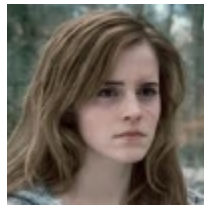


really stopping the bleeding. We don't want to make it clot in case it's too much. It's not...not gushing but it's more seeping. Loads.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-11-12 19:05:04](#)  
(no subject)

Dearborn's wounds -- are they swollen around the edges, or do they appear to be pressed atop his skin without involvement from the surrounding tissue?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-12 19:08:48](#)  
(no subject)

I'm not sure what you.... They look like gashes or claw marks but they aren't deep. They just won't close.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-11-12 19:21:58](#)  
(no subject)


I see.

If it is what I suspect it may be, the wounds will not close without the counterpell.

Unfortunately I cannot teach it in writing. In the meantime, elevate the portions of him that are bleeding as much as possible, bind them tightly, change the bandages frequently, and if he reaches the point where it is that or death, cast the blood-chilling curse upon him to slow the rate of blood loss; only be careful to dispel it after no more than an hour and leave it off for at least an hour thereafter. That should, of course, be saved solely for when it is his only hope of survival.

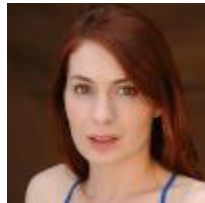
~~Albus, come get your class so I can~~




 **[alt\\_albus](#)** at **[2013-11-12 19:29:55](#)**  
(no subject)

Teach out the 6th year class, Severus, and then meet me in your dungeon. Safest place to make a switch.

Alice, do keep me informed of any detail regarding your husband, no matter how minor. If needed, I will come back later tonight.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 19:31:52](#)**  
(no subject)

I'll be sure to let you know if anything changes.



 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-11-12 19:37:08](#)**  
(no subject)

The children are reading; I decided after the debacle that was this morning's second year class that my attempting to teach Transfiguration would not be in anyone's best interests. As I believe I mentioned this morning when you proposed this ridiculous farce

Regardless, I will abide your wishes. And I shall see you in twenty-five minutes.




 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-11-12 19:29:14](#)**  
(no subject)

The curse Sirius took must not have hit squarely. The shape and colour and other visible aspects don't correspond. It might have been a curse meant to cause neurological scrambling... the wound's sweating would be the hint there. Or it might have been a curse meant to cause one's inner parts to invert. The shape of the mark would be half-right in that case.

Is there any sign of withering or deformity to the arm?

Let me know when he wakes up, please.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 18:31:20](#)**  
(no subject)

Frank remains unchanged.

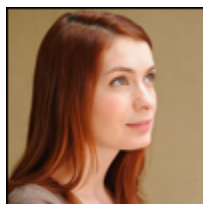
Caradoc is more of a challenge. He was in the process of receiving a counter-curse when the Fidelius was enacted, and his cuts won't close despite our best efforts. We aren't sure how to proceed. We're trying blood-replenishing potions and muggle-style stitches, which are proving to be of limited use.




 **[alt\\_tery](#)** at **[2013-11-12 18:57:00](#)**  
(no subject)

I would ask to be allowed to come be with you, to wait until he wakes up. But I know that's not what's best.

I'm so sorry about Mr McGivern.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 19:15:53](#)**  
(no subject)


I am too.

Once we've settled down a bit, you can sit with Frank, love. He'd like that.

Light a candle for him in the mean time, will you?

So he can find his way home again.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-12 18:12:39](#)**  
(no subject)

Evelyn, Neville, I want you to stay close to Madame P today. Just in case. Someone might come looking for you, and I want you to be ready to make a hasty exit.

We'll wait until the dust settles for you to come here. I can't

I can't expect Poppy to cover more of you and I need someone with Healer training and someone good at potions right now.




 **alt\_evelyn** at [2013-11-12 18:16:38](#)  
(no subject)

I understand.

We'll wait.



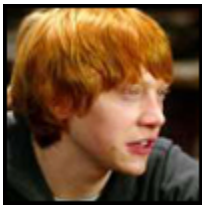
 **alt\_justin** at [2013-11-12 18:55:25](#)  
(no subject)


Harry, Draco,

Things here are quiet. If you care to come up after lessons, what, I'm sure we'll still be standing by.

We've just been playing some chess, reading. I think Hydra fell asleep just after luncheon; the rest of us are passing the time as well as we may. And taking care to look ill whenever anyone else comes along.

-J



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-11-12 19:01:05](#)  
(no subject)

Right. It's bloody dull up here.

Shame that people keep coming in sick. Funny how you don't notice how many other people Madam P sees in a day when you're in here for something real.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-12 19:07:51](#)  
(no subject)

Okay.

Yeah. We'll come by.




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-12 19:08:55](#)  
(no subject)

I can come too.

And Mrs Longbottom, if Sally-Anne needs to take a break at all, I can take her place.

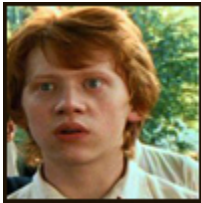



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-12 21:00:52](#)  
(no subject)

Thank you, dear.

Much appreciated.


We might take you up on that after dinner.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-12 19:10:31](#)  
(no subject)

Excellent. That will be a change from rolling bandages for Madam P. What a fiddly charm! And makes you dizzy if you do it too long.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-12 19:12:09](#)  
(no subject)

I mean, not that rolling bandages isn't important.

Just fiddly.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-12 19:14:47](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah.

So what're you going to say it was? A rotten bit of pudding you all shared after dinner?

Bet you can say you had a bad batch of sweets from Zonko's.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-12 19:34:16](#)  
(no subject)

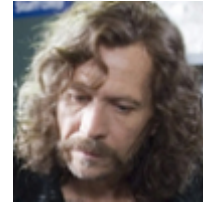
I would, except, then people might think it was some of the twins' stuff.

Madam P called it the Tummy Wumblies when she was explaining to someone out there why they couldn't come back of the curtains here to find the magazine they wanted.

So I guess we've got those.

**2013-11-12 12:02:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Alice and Remus*



Well. A lot happened in the last few minutes.

Stephen McGivern's dead. I'm so sorry. I didn't see the whole thing happen - I can't go into details just now; I'll give you a full report in a while.

 **alt\_sirius**

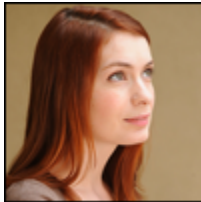
As near as we can figure, the spell to protect this area of the camp has affected its magical field and nothing magical works inside it. Including the journals.


I think I managed to gravely injure Corax Mulciber but then his brother drew a bead on me when we fled further into the woods. He put up quite a fight. Nearly got me before I managed to hit him with a wasting curse. Not sure I got him square on, though. But he dropped anyway.

Turner's with me; the others scattered and will make their way back to the Fidelius entry point. Dora was all right the last time I saw her.

Alice, I'm going in to find Frank and figure out what our next move is. And maybe get something for my arm.

We'll write back in an hour or two once we've regrouped.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-12 17:19:01**  
(no subject)

He's with me.

He's alive.

I'll tell Laura about Stephen.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-12 17:21:03](#)**  
(no subject)

We need to fall back - should we pull out of Saltash altogether, then?


I've just found Kingsley and Dorcas, too. Kingsley's hurt but we're all okay. We can make it to the safehouse.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-12 17:23:48](#)**  
(no subject)

Get the hell out of there, Padfoot.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-12 17:25:40](#)**  
(no subject)

Shit, they're sweeping again.

Right, we're out.



**2013-11-12 12:42:00**

*Private message to Corax Mulciber*

I assume you will be out the rest of the day. We've received one field report on Saltash so far which didn't make much sense, but I'll pull together whatever précis about the location and personnel I can with what I have on hand to have ready for you tomorrow. I've rescheduled Fincus, Phelps and Stafford for Thursday, but I covered the Halfblood Affairs meeting myself this morning. Nothing unexpected.



 **alt\_bill**

The Saltash files are in your inbox. Ms Lamont hasn't shown up today to argue with me for custody of them. I presume it's a very safe guess that she's in the field today, too.

**2013-11-12 13:02:00**

*Order Only: From Bedford Collective*

Alice, if it helps:

Everything's quiet here, and we've finished sweeping all the outbuildings. All checks ins report there isn't anyone here who hasn't agreed to stay, so Terrie's said we can go. With their thanks.




 **alt\_gredforge**

Everyone's dead knackered, but breathless and excited.

If it's all right, us and Lee are gonna head to Moddey Dhoo from here. Not to get in your way, because we know you have other things on your mind, but we have stuff to talk over with Fu Lee.



 **alt\_alice at 2013-11-12 19:21:13**  
*(no subject)*

Fine by me. Let me know what you come up with.

Lee, tomorrow you might want to bring a contingent from Aldrich over to talk with them about their set-up.

But Merlin knows that can wait for a few more hours.

**2013-11-12 15:15:00**

*Private Message to Bellatrix and Toshenka*

Preparing final touches on the report for Our Lord. Plan to send Cadmus to deliver the worst of the news.



 [alt\\_lucius](#)

Bella, shall you go along or do you prefer to keep the pressure on the perimeter of the affected area? If you wish someone to return to St James' Palace with Rodolphus, Narcissa will keep watch, surely.

Saltash camp: Destroyed. An area approx. 10 acres disappeared under a spell believed to be a variant of Fidelius at seven o'clock this morning. Investigation pending. Area to remain under surveillance by MLE indefinitely.

Casualties: Rufus McLaggen, Councilwizard and former Auror Trainee (by the hand of Frank Longbottom); four MLE personnel (names attached); Camp Administrator Hugh Pendarvis; 15 camp enforcers

Missing, Presumed Dead: Junior Administrator Carter Prentiss (captured within the inaccessible area); further half-dozen camp personnel

Wounded: Crouch, Barty; Lestrangle, Rodolphus; Mulciber, Cadmus; Mulciber, Corax; other names (MLE, Camp) attached

Material losses: 2,500 in muggle chattel; approximately 200 head of cattle; twenty fishing boats; Saltash administration buildings and camp facilities. In addition, a further estimate of 1,000 muggle chattels were in the affected area at the time of the alleged Fidelius. See above re: MLE surveillance to capture any refugees leaving said area

Twenty-five prisoners remanded to the custody of MLE for further interrogation.

Of note: Frank Longbottom sighted by several MLE personnel but evaded capture. Witness reported sighting of Sirius Black impostor late in the morning but could not be confirmed

Anything further to add?

---



 [alt\\_bellatrix](#) at [2013-11-12 21:29:04](#)  
(no subject)

If Our Lord requires me I am at His disposal; however, I have hope that we can flush the vermin from their refuge. I shall remain to see to it.

Rodolphus will recover; he needs neither me nor Cissy to watch him do so.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-11-12 21:30:00](#)  
(no subject)

I am working on identifying what spell was used to blank out the area. It is definitely not Fidelius: when one forces oneself to look more closely, the space is present and identifiable as being shielded, simply invisible and impenetrable. (It takes a highly disciplined individual to stare at it for more than a few seconds, but it is actually possible to see through to the other side of the area under the effect, though the view is hazy and indistinct.)

I will keep working on the problem at least until tonight, or unless Our Lord has other instructions.

Barty is awake and about, though thoroughly cranky. I am keeping an eye on him, and have pressed him into service for the analysis of the shielding spell. If you need either of us, we are working on the south side of the missing zone.

(Whatever this is, I will admit it is fascinating. Irritating. But fascinating.)



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-11-12 21:35:47](#)  
(no subject)

Also, Auror Lamont suggested Prentiss's actions over the past day or so appear to have been suspicious, whether through incompetence or deliberate sabotage. She was concerned this might reflect poorly upon her, given that she recommended him to you; given how fiercely she has fought and how exceptionally useful she has been today, I reassured her that it is common for young people

to make errors in judgement, but if you think I ought keep an eye on her I will.



 **alt\_lucius** at **2013-11-12 21:39:29**  
(no subject)

No need. She did say something last night that suggested she might be regretting her recommendation.

Given that he was believed to be captured in the affected area, it's likely he's dead. In which case, if he was incompetent, it hardly matters.

We ought to examine his actions more carefully, however, to see if there were any cunning in them.

As for Auror Lamont, am confident her services may now return to her primary assignment.



 **alt\_antonin** at **2013-11-12 22:00:13**  
(no subject)

I'll ask around a bit about Prentiss once I've gathered all the data I can use from here. Did try having one of the camp officials apparate in; as I suspected it did not work, and the man didn't return. (No great loss.)

It really is exceptionally fascinating. And it does make one wonder whether the disturbance was planned to give someone access to the camp to cast it. Mind you, I can't think of any reason why Saltash in particular, which does suggest a target of opportunity, but I suspect it might be worth asking some pointed questions.

**2013-11-12 16:01:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

Merlin, I'm exhausted. Coming back to the office for a while. Bring me a cup of tea? I think I'd sell my soul for a cup of hot tea right now.



 [alt\\_rachel](#)



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-11-12 22:15:35**

*(no subject)*

I'll bring you a whole pot, if you'll catch me up to speed. As much as you can tell me, at least.

Ran the whole division today without Corax Mulciber. Amazing how this improved everyone's mood.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-11-12 22:16:38**

*(no subject)*

There was an 'incident' at Saltash muggle camp. That much will be in the papers tomorrow.

It didn't go especially well for our side -- that won't be in the papers. The muggles had help from wizards. Rufus McLaggen wound up dead and loads of our side were injured.

I came away in one piece, but I can't remember the last time I was this exhausted. If you don't mind letting me have a look at the files Corax had you pull yesterday, I want to look at the records on Carter Prentiss. I promise you can have them back before Corax returns to work -- which probably won't be tomorrow, he got rather the worse end of some curse or other.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-11-12 22:17:17**

*(no subject)*

And I have to say I'm not surprised that EVERYTHING runs better when your boss is out of the office.

Perhaps we'll all be fortunate and he'll be weeks in the curse-damage ward of St Mungo's, recovering.

**2013-11-12 17:21:00**

*Private Message to Antonin*

Should we expect your return tomorrow? If not I will prepare for another day of overseeing directed revision and asking Socratic questions about the reading.



 [alt\\_cedric](#)

If you expect to be unable to resume your full schedule by the end of the week, I will shift the schedule to push back your quizzes and reschedule the fire call with Mysteries to an open time as early next week as possible.

I hope every thing is going well for you.



 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-11-12 23:51:23**  
(no subject)

Thank you, my dear boy. Fortunately your organisational skills should not be necessary; I am likely to be back by tomorrow morning. Unless disaster strikes, which I most assuredly hope it does not, I should be able to take classes tomorrow.

I will need you to arrange the materials for tomorrow's demonstration for the fourth years, as I didn't get a chance to do that today. Also, if I'm delayed tomorrow morning and do not get a chance to see you before class begins, I'll leave a list upon your work-desk in my office of books I'd like you to pull for me -- I'm afraid I don't remember whether the ones I'm particularly thinking of are in my book-trunk here or back at my townhouse, but you can send Berry to the townhouse for the ones you can't turn up. I'll also need you to take a trip to New London tomorrow afternoon to pick up a volume at Poundtree & Associates for me in person, as it's not the sort of thing one likes to leave to owl post, but you can fit that in whenever is convenient.

I'll have another task for you for this week, but it must wait until I know more about what information will be made public and when. In the meantime, leave off whatever you're doing, go and have a good supper, and get a good night's rest; one of us ought to!

In service,  
A.



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-11-13 01:47:57](#)  
(no subject)

I had already pulled most of the books for the fourth year class. I can't find *при самые дальние*, I'll talk to Berry first thing tomorrow.

I look forward to your return.

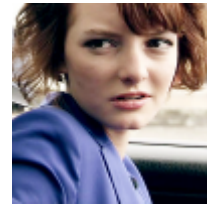


**2013-11-12 17:29:00**

*Private message to Lucius Malfoy*

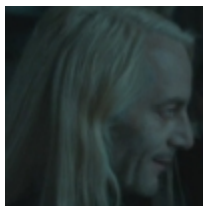
Still at Saltash?


I came back to the Ministry to look at Carter Prentiss's file. Unfortunately, there's absolutely nothing whatsoever remarkable about it. Nonetheless, it's in a safe place.



 [alt\\_rachel](#)

Do you know when Corax Mulciber is likely to return to work? I would guess not tomorrow, but I've been wrong about that sort of thing before.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at **2013-11-13 00:00:26**

*(no subject)*

No, I was at Buckingham long enough for Cadmus Mulciber to report to Our Lord.

I'm on my way home for a while but it would be useful to review Prentiss's file in more depth, perhaps in three or four hours.

As for Corax, the Healer's report is that it looks like someone attempted the Killing Curse with insufficient force to do the job properly. He'll be several days recovering.

(Wish one could say the same for Cadmus but Our Lord directed His ... disappointment ... onto a captive Cadmus brought for his own protection.)

In any event, I should be returning to my office in St James' Square later this evening. If you're not home asleep by then, your input on Prentiss's records would be ... much appreciated.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-11-13 00:18:39**

*(no subject)*

Clever move on Cadmus's part, providing an alternative target.

I'm exhausted, but not really in the mood for sleep


just yet. Did you want me to come by your office? Or somewhere a bit less official?



 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-11-13 00:23:44](#)**  
(no subject)

My office will suffice - to start. Let us say around ten o'clock?



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-11-13 00:28:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Right. I'll see you then.




 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-11-13 04:42:16](#)**  
(no subject)

Should have anticipated we might be interrupted.

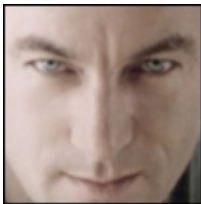
Do you mind waiting a while longer? I'd like to go over those figures again when this meeting is at an end. Should not be more than ... another thirty minutes or so.




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-11-13 04:45:35](#)**  
(no subject)

You'll find me more or less where you left me.

If I've fallen asleep, you can wake me up.




 **[alt\\_lucius](#)** at **[2013-11-13 04:47:16](#)**  
(no subject)

Good.

No late date with 'Johnny' then?



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-11-13 04:49:19](#)  
(no subject)

Or 'Mafalda'?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-13 04:49:49](#)  
(no subject)

No. And if I'd made one, I'd cancel it anyway.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-11-13 04:53:49](#)  
(no subject)

Good.

Stay put. Back soon.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-13 04:51:54](#)  
(no subject)

Bloody Corax Mulciber didn't much take the bait on the Mafalda thing anyway. I should've talked Lana into agreeing to a fake affair -- that would have been more credible, at least she's young and pretty instead of old and wrinkly.

**2013-11-12 17:35:00**

*Order Only*

No sign of nor message from Corax Mulciber all day, which made work quite strange. Since I knew what was going on and was monitoring the journals, it was a tense day for me, but everyone else was oddly cheerful.



 [alt\\_bill](#)

Alice, I'm desperately sorry about Stephen. And for the lost Sherwood fighters--I presume you've spoken with Turner and Davidson? As for the injured, especially Frank...well. I'll hope for the best.

I'm at Doughty Conduit now, retreating there when work was done. (It's quiet, and Jeremy and Ellie are holding down the fort. Jeremy seems to be doing all right, mostly, although he dropped and broke a glass a few minutes ago).

Wanted to report in on my conversation with my MLE contact, who fought at Saltash, too, but came in right before I left to look at some files about the camp. Spoke with her briefly.

Frank was definitely seen, and they're IDing him as the cause of one death, a fairly new Deatheater by the name of Rufus McLaggen. Sirius' 'imposter' has been spotted, too. She said that Corax Mulciber's been injured, badly enough that at least it's doubtful that he'll be back to work tomorrow. Implied it was his own fault, as he was busy, as she put it, 'entertaining himself with a Muggle.' I didn't ask for details, as I'm sure I wouldn't have the stomach for them.

I fished around a bit to see what MLE makes of whatever-it-was-that-Albus-did. They're utterly perplexed, by the sounds of it. She said that she'd give her wand arm to know how the bloody hell whoever they were fighting managed to cast something that looked like Fidelius in the middle of a firefight. Fortunately, so far, no one who has gone into the barrier has made it back out to report to MLE.


I asked her if she'd heard of anything like it before, or if her superiors had. She said wryly that they weren't exactly comparing notes from arcane texts at the time.

She said they're going to have to make it a no-go zone for anyone but MLE if they want to hush it up. And they will WANT to hush it up: ('Don't tell anyone I told you that.') No one will be allowed in once it's

secured, except probably Unspeakables, to study it. Then she said in the next breath that the infuriating thing is that it really *can't* be secured, since 'they can get out, but we can't get in.' Whatever that means.

They were still rounding up Muggles and hoped to turn up another wizard to question, but hadn't succeeded by the time she was sent back. Oh, and Cadmus Mulciber is the lucky one who gets to deliver the news to the Lord Protector. 'Nobody wanted that job.'



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-13 02:00:45](#)

*Private message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

Bill -- I should tell you, I'm sitting with Sirius (he's awake now, and not best pleased to be at Moddey) and I've been reading him the reports in the journals.

When he heard that your contact was at Saltash -- this is Rachel Lamont, I assume -- he said, 'I saw her there, that must have been her.'

She's the one who killed Stephen. In cold blood, he says -- Stephen had already been cut down, he was unconscious or petrified on the ground. Sirius knew it was the killing curse because he saw the green flash.

He told Alice -- she's here, of course. Alice knows. But -- be careful. I ~~know you~~



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-13 02:02:02](#)

*Re: Private message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

God.

Is Sirius sure?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-13 02:02:45](#)

*Re: Private message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

I mean, of course he is. Stupid question.

Good god.



 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-11-13 02:03:09**

*Re: Private message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

All right. Thanks for letting me know.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#) at 2013-11-13 02:11:41**

*Re: Private message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

He says the auror was a tall, slender woman with short hair and she was wearing a black jacket and a blue scarf.

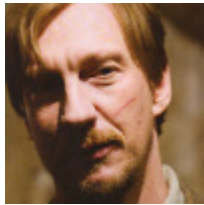


 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-11-13 02:15:17**

*Re: Private message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

Short auburn hair? I mean--

That must be her. Yeah.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#) at 2013-11-13 02:16:07**

*Re: Private message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

Sirius says he was a bit too far away to really judge hair colour but she wasn't a blonde.



 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-11-13 02:20:38**

*Re: Private message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

She didn't mention it. All right.

~~It's just that...I have to work with her~~  
tomorrow.

~~I mean, I have to work with Corax Mulciber, too. Or whenever he recovers.~~

~~This just seems different.~~



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-13 02:20:50](#)

*Re: Private message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

Fuck



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-13 02:26:29](#)

*Re: Private message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

She may have guessed you aren't exactly a fan of wanton killing.

She may think she's manipulating you into giving her information about your boss, and the information she gives you in trade is always just enough to keep you talking -- I'm not saying you shouldn't talk to her, mind you, because some of the information you've heard from her has been genuinely valuable. I'm just saying -- well. You don't need a lecture from me.

I'm sorry.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-13 02:12:44](#)

*Re: Private message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

And young, I should have said that. Your age, or close.

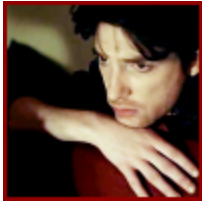



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-13 02:12:19](#)

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

We're gonna stay here tonight, and Mum is, too. Actually, we think it'd help for us to kip with the older boys, try to help calm them down. Everyone's unsettled, worried about Frank. And Mum doesn't want to leave Alice right now.





 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-13 02:23:36](#)**

*Re: Private message to Bill Weasley*

Sounds good. Thanks for letting me know.



 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-11-13 03:56:22](#)**

*Private Message to Bill Weasley and Harry Marvolo*

Bill,

Can you tell us anything else about the allegation that Mr Longbottom was responsible for killing McLaggen? It doesn't seem possible, what, especially if he was rendered unconscious when he cast the protective spell.

I...I say, I think it might help Neville and Evelyn to be able to reassure them he didn't kill anyone.

-Justin



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-13 04:11:21](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley and Harry Marvolo*

I'm sorry. I didn't get many details, so I don't know enough to say tonight, but I will try to find out more tomorrow.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-13 04:12:12](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley and Harry Marvolo*

Except...wait.

Let me think for a moment.





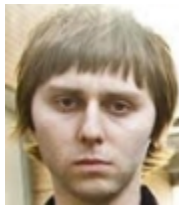
 **alt\_bill** at [2013-11-13 04:14:31](#)

*Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley and Harry Marvolo*

Her exact words were, 'Apparently, McLaggen was killed by Frank Longbottom, late in the day.'

Except I just realised, that doesn't make any sense.

Frank was evacuated early this morning, wasn't he? So he couldn't have done it.



 **alt\_justin** at [2013-11-13 04:17:14](#)


*Re: Private Message to Bill Weasley and Harry Marvolo*

Quite.

That's bally well helpful, thanks.

-F-F



 **alt\_charlie** at [2013-11-14 02:07:26](#)

*Private message to Bill*

I've just seen what Remus said to you.

Oh, Bill, I'm so sorry. I don't even know what to say. Disillusionment doesn't even enter into it, does it? It's one thing when you know she had to have done horrible things as part of her job, and another when it was against someone we knew and cared about.

Is there anything I can do?



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-11-14 19:05:04](#)

*Re: Private message to Bill*

Grabbing a brief moment in between meetings to reply.

I'm grateful, but there isn't anything you can do. There isn't anything anyone can do. I've been probing at my

feelings like a sore tooth, trying to understand them. Not quite guilt, because Merlin knows it wasn't me that raised a wand against Stephen. Not quite grief, because I didn't know her quite well enough to think I'd been personally betrayed. But it's close to both of them.

It's just hurts like blazes, whatever it is. And that makes the loneliness, that she kept at bay for awhile, feel worse than ever.

There's also--I just feel like such a bloody fool. Taking such a risk, for myself, for the Order, only to have this happen. I don't know how I'll ever be able to look Laura McGivern straight in the eye again.



 **alt\_charlie** at **2013-11-14 19:50:38**

*Re: Private message to Bill*

You'll look Laura in the eye same as you have the whole way, Bill. You said it yourself, it wasn't you who raised wand against Stephen, and if we were all judged by the actions of the company we keep, well, half the Order would have had to go a long time ago. Anything Auror Lamont does is on her, not you.

And at least her cutting down Stephen in cold blood saved him from being alive when the Death Eaters got him. You saw what Sirius said they were doing to people.



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-11-14 21:22:43**

*Re: Private message to Bill*

That's true. Or worse, if he had been alive to be interrogated....


God. What a nightmare, to think of Stephen in the hands of Bellatrix Lestrange. I mean, I hate like poison that he's dead but as it is...I wonder if he carried anything into battle just in case, to take an out the way Aloysius did. But he was petrified or unconscious, Sirius said. He couldn't have anyway.

As grim as today is, with this news, it could have been far, far worse, if they'd had him and cracked him open. Moddey's existence might have been revealed, and we'd all be running for our lives. And *he* would have died with the bitterness of knowing he'd betrayed us all.

At least he was spared that.

Cold comfort.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#)** at **[2013-11-14 21:24:52](#)**

*Re: Private message to Bill*

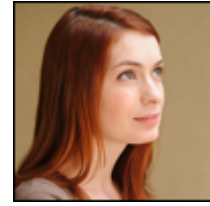
Yeah.

No good choices all around. There haven't been for a while.

**2013-11-12 18:16:00**

*ORDER ONLY*

Sirius and Caradoc look far better this evening than they did when they first arrived, and we're still patching up some of the Sherwood group, but they appear to be in good spirits on the whole. Frank is unchanged for the time being.



 [alt\\_alice](#)

Albus spent some time with me this afternoon, working through what exactly happened this morning to Frank and Saltash.

When he was first learning about whether we could ward an area as large as Moddey Dhoo, Albus did a great deal of reading up on the early development of the spell. Apparently, in a rather obscure source, he found that one early attempt at creating a magical field of protection went oddly awry -- the caster died, and the effort caused a temporary field where magic was not effective. From what I've been made to understand, the precautionary steps we use in Fidelius today -- the salt barrier, for instance, and walking the perimeter in bare feet -- are to prevent that magical feedback from occurring, which could otherwise hurt the caster and create odd or unpredictable magical fields within the area.

Albus got the idea that this early attempt could be studied and modified in order to deliberately create and sustain a magical nullification field for defensive purposes, and developed a technique that he believed would be safer for the caster, as the field would be self-sustaining after the initial magical surge rather than continue to deplete the energy of the person who cast it. There were concerns, however, that were the area too large, the caster wouldn't be able to handle the surge.

Frank cast the spell with full knowledge of the risks involved. He does not appear to be losing energy or declining in any of his vital signs. Albus seemed to be hopeful that as he has survived thus far, his chances were good. However, we do not know how long he'll be like this, or how he might have otherwise been impacted by the spell.


We'll have to explore the area some later -- clearly, the secret-keeping mechanism has largely been effective so far, and the field has maintained. It is most likely very dangerous to attempt to Apparate to an area inside or around the field, however.

There are all sorts of considerations for how we might proceed -- there are several hundred people inside the field, and we must assess their immediate needs and attempt to provide them. Being unable to appear directly in the protected area will be a challenge for supplies. We can anticipate that the surrounding area will be heavily patrolled as well. John, Remus and I have been talking through what that might look like, and sorting out who will be best able to go out there tomorrow to re-establish contact.

I'll also be extensively assessing what went well today, and what we'll need to improve upon. As always, I appreciate any insights you can give so that we will be better prepared in the future.

We have bled for the ground we won today, and the costs have been dear. I am humbled by your sacrifices, and proud of all of us for what we've accomplished today. Who knows what tomorrow will bring, but we're facing it together. Thank you.



 **[alt\\_justin](#) at 2013-11-13 03:46:47**

*Private Message to Mrs Longbottom*

Mrs Longbottom,

All our thoughts are with Mr Longbottom and the rest of the Order members. I'm sure he'll recover, if

Professor Dumbledore thinks he will do.

-Justin



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-13 03:52:42**

*Re: Private Message to Mrs Longbottom*

Thank you, Justin.

We shall see what happens.

It helps greatly that he knew what the danger would be going into it, and that he believed it to be a worthwhile sacrifice.

I know first-hand how hard it is to sit out of a fray. I also know that were there to be an urgent need, I could count on all of you. So thank you for that, as well.



 **alt\_alice at 2013-11-13 04:09:36**

*Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

I am so sorry.

I wasn't thinking like your mum today. And you deserve better than that.

I was hoping you could see your dad today, but it looks a bit tricky. I'll see if I can slip you out later for an hour or two. I wish more than anything that I could hold you both in my arms right now.

I love you both so very much, and it does my heart good to know that you're safe right now. Please take good care of one another until we can see one another properly, which will be just as soon as I can manage it.



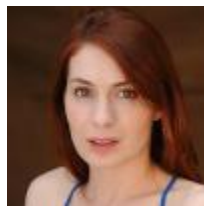
 **alt\_evelyn at 2013-11-13 05:38:29**

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

You did the right thing. There's nothing to be sorry for.

I think I'll feel better when I can see dad with my own eyes, though.

So I know he's really still here.



 **alt\_alice at 2013-11-13 15:12:05**

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*


Yes. Of course.

I'll do my best.

And Evie, Neville, watch out for Cormac McLaggen. He might get the report of his brother's death before it becomes widely known. Make sure you keep safe, and don't hesitate to ask the adults at Hogwarts or your fellow students for help.

I know the general gossip will sting, and I'm sorry for it, but McLaggen is dangerous.



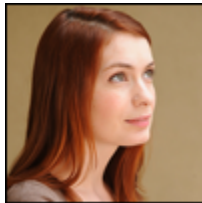
 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2013-11-14 00:45:36**

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

We'll watch out for McLaggen, Mum, yeah. We've been keeping an eye on him already, just to make sure that he doesn't get too near certain people.

How is Dad? Has he woken up yet?

Sure wish that we could see him.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-14 00:51:51**

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

He hasn't, no.

But he hasn't gotten worse, and we're keeping our hopes up.

I'm going to try and get you both out to visit him tonight, even if it's only for an hour or two. I'm checking with Poppy to see if we can get her to extend herself for another evening to buy a bit more time.

Once I hear from her and we know how much time we have to work with, we can meet at the Shrieking Shack to take you both to Moddey.



 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2013-11-14 00:59:22**

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

That would be wonderful. Better than I'd hoped, even. Evelyn and me will be ready.



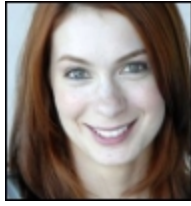
 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-14 01:01:21**


*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

Good.

I'm sorry we couldn't manage it sooner, love.

I'm very much looking forward to seeing you both.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-14 02:06:29](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

You'll be having a relapse of your symptoms tonight, and will have to go to the infirmary for the evening.

I'll have Harry meet you on the way with the invisibility cloak. As soon as it's safe to slip away, you can make your way to the shack. Be careful. I'll be waiting for you.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-13 04:18:06](#)**


*(no subject)*

Alice, I just realised something, answering a private question Justin had.

My contact said McLaggen was killed 'late in the day.' But Frank was evacuated by then, hours earlier, so it couldn't have been him.

Which means...they're just wanting to pin it on him.

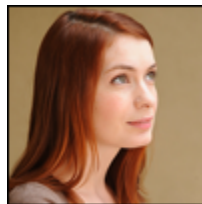


 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-13 04:25:23](#)**

*(no subject)*

I see.

Perhaps something else happened to him, and they're covering to save face.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-13 15:15:54](#)**

*Private Message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

Thank you for the advanced warning.

And thank you for keeping an eye on things at the Ministry, as well.

How are you holding up today, Bill? I know the twins and Molly were otherwise occupied last night, and I can imagine you had a bit of a rough go. I'm sorry for it.



And Charlie, while I've got you, we've got a sea of logistics to wade through this upcoming week, and I could use your brain. Mine isn't quite up to par at the moment. Can you slip away in the next few days for some serious planning?



 **alt\_bill at 2013-11-14 01:14:40**

*Re: Private Message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

I've been running Protectorate Affairs by myself today. Rather sooner than we'd hoped I'd step into this position, isn't it? Too bad it isn't permanent.

Well, except it'd half-kill me. It *is* a huge job. Left me too busy to think, really. That was a blessing, all things considered.

I did quietly move some people around, in the hopes my boss won't notice. Took the opportunity to pull and creatively edit some files, too. Might as well take advantage of the opportunity.

~~I'm well enough. Thank you for asking.~~

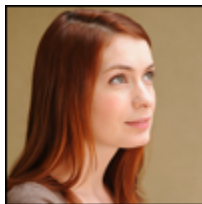
~~I'll be all right.~~

I've been thinking a lot. No definite conclusions yet. Except that you made the right decision last month, when I brought that personal matter to your attention.

~~I'm~~

~~bugger~~

How is Laura doing?



 **alt\_alice at 2013-11-14 02:51:30**

*Re: Private Message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

You can take the time you have to properly orient Jeremy. And I'd imagine your coworkers are relieved enough to not be under Mulciber's thumb that they'd be more than happy to lend you a hand in picking up his duties.

Laura is

She's not speaking to me at the moment.


I don't blame her.

His daughter Kathrine has had her friends rally around her for support, but they all were rather rattled by losing Stephen -- he taught them all potions, and was the kindest

Many of them looked up to him a great deal.

He will be sorely missed.



 **[alt\\_charlie](#) at 2013-11-14 02:05:09**

*Re: Private Message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

I'm so sorry, Alice. I've only just seen this, and what happened yesterday -- we had a lightning strike kick off a forest fire on Monday evening, and it took us until this morning to get it under control. And then I slept for a good twelve hours.

I have Friday off, if they don't shuffle our schedules around after all this. I can come then. Let me know if you need any supplies for the infirmary that I can smuggle in.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-14 02:56:58**

*Re: Private Message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*


At this point, I'm worried most about supplies for Saltash. Bandages and salves would be appreciated.

The field might nullify potions and salves too. I'm honestly not sure.

But it's certainly worth a try.

Please come if you can. I need another set of eyes on all of this. I just ask the same questions over and over again, and am second-guessing my instincts right and left.



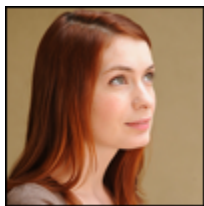
 [alt\\_charlie](#) at [2013-11-14 03:31:48](#)

*Re: Private Message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

Right then, I'll see what I can turn up.

And it's natural to start second-guessing yourself once you've had a chance to stop and think about it. But the first thing they teach you when you become a dragonkeeper is that it's all right to look back over things you did when you were in the heat of things, because there's always a chance you missed something, but you should never change your mind completely without a damn good reason -- that as long as you're well-trained and have good instincts, the decisions you make when you're in the thick of things are more likely to be right than the decisions you make once things have cooled off and you're starting to get second thoughts. That your first impulse is more likely to be the right one than the impulses you get later, which are more likely to be too conservative or too reckless.

Dunno if that helps any, or if it's just another thing to worry about. But, yeah, I'll come be practical at you as soon as I can.

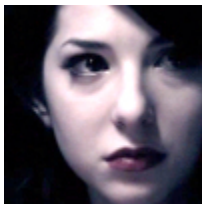


 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-14 04:07:48](#)

*Re: Private Message to Bill and Charlie Weasley*

It does. Thank you.

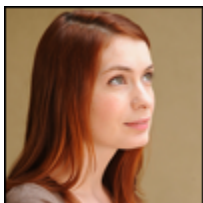
And please do. I'm looking forward to it.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-13 05:18:08](#)

*Private message to Mrs Longbottom*

Thank you for letting me come help today.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-13 05:26:48](#)

*Re: Private message to Mrs Longbottom*

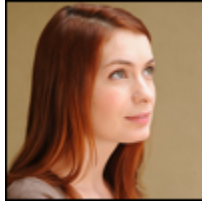
You were incredibly helpful. Thank you for being there when we needed you most.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-13 15:51:54](#)

*Re: Private message to Mrs Longbottom*

How is everyone this morning? Madam Pomfrey said I ought to go to my classes today -- I have Herbology in the morning and Professor Sprout can let me know if I should 'relapse.' But



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-13 19:53:33](#)

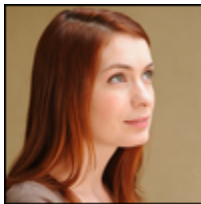
*Re: Private message to Mrs Longbottom*

Thank you for checking in, Sally-Anne.

We're holding steady here. We've sent some of the more stable Sherwood residents home for the time being, and are continuing to progress nicely with Caradoc, Kingsley, and Dorcas, as well as the handful of Sherwood people who were in more immediate need. We're out of danger, and at this point, it's more a matter of maintenance.

Molly and I are both capable of handling basic Potions now that we're out of crisis, and although I sorely wish we had more healthy adults who could do magic here, we've got plenty of hands to help with the other things that need doing, and Colin, Divyesh, Roger, and Patty have been tireless in providing whatever help they can to keep us all running.

I think we'll manage.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-13 05:29:20](#)

*Private Message to Jeremy Stretton*

Jeremy --

Once things have calmed down a bit, I'd like to meet with you to talk about your upcoming work at the Ministry, and to sort out what else you can do to help our various projects. Thank you for helping at Doughty, and at the farm as well. I appreciate your willingness to help, and your ability to follow orders when necessary.



 **alt\_alice at 2013-11-14 00:32:24**

*Private Message to Poppy*

Caradoc is healing nicely, and Sally-Anne, Pansy, and Hermione all did very good work.

And sorely needed, too.

Thank you for covering for them last night. I know it was a strain. I also very much appreciated knowing that you and Severus were going to try your best to make sure our young people weren't jumping in to a situation they were not prepared for.


Merlin, they are far too eager to sacrifice themselves.

I'm going to try and get Neville and Evelyn out to Moddey to see their father.

If you can provide adequate cover for them to spend the evening, that would be lovely. If not (which I would understand given your having to juggle so much yesterday) we can manage with an hour or two of stolen time.

I can be responsible for getting them out and back again.



 **alt\_poppy at 2013-11-14 01:43:43**


*Re: Private Message to Poppy*

Alice, this should be possible, though it does depend on my not receiving more patients at just the wrong moment.

As it happens I do have a handful of patients, but they are already tucked in for the night--with a bit of help from the system-settling draught I administered. (A good night's sleep never hurt anyone.)

If Neville and Evelyn were to suffer a relapse of their 'symptoms', I could admit them and, as you say, cover for them overnight. I do believe they will be missed if they are not here to be checked on by morning. Several Gryffindors, including Mr Finnigan, are among my number. It would be preferable if your two were in evidence at breakfast time on the ward.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-14 02:04:15**

*Re: Private Message to Poppy*

Thank you, Poppy.

Thank you.

I'll have them back in plenty of time.

**2013-11-12 18:21:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Madam Pomfrey and Pansy*



Pansy, if you're ready, we could use you.

Madam Pomfrey, Mr Snape looked at Caradoc. It wasn't the spell he thought it was, causing the bleeding, I mean, but he tried his counterspell anyway and it looks like it worked. At any rate, the bleeding has stopped and the wounds are closing on their own. So that's good. But Caradoc still looks awfully pale.

 [alt\\_hermione](#)

Oh, and Sirius is awake.

He's quite, er, upset that he's at Moddey. And he's got a tremor in his right arm, so he can't really hold a quill. Or a wand. Mr Lupin's helping him to eat something.

Mr Snape also saw the spasms and he said that he thinks he knows what the curse was and it gave him an idea for another potion to help.

(Oh, he told me not to tell anyone that. So don't tell him I said anything. But I didn't want you to worry or go to the trouble of making a potion if he's already going to make one.)

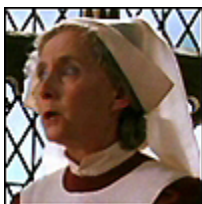
Mr Longbottom's still unconscious.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-12 23:39:16](#)

*(no subject)*

I'm ready.



 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-11-12 23:47:17](#)

*(no subject)*

Thank you for this news. I admit I've been rather holding my breath over my cousin Caradoc's condition. Not being there, I couldn't hazard a

diagnosis or suggestion that mightn't have gone amiss. I'm very glad to think Severus is having success.

I will continue to be concerned for Sirius until I hear he is on the mend. And for Frank. I do not like to hear that he continues unchanged.




 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-11-12 23:50:19](#)**  
(no subject)

Mr Dumbledore said mostly he thinks Mr Longbottom just needs to rest and we'll see. He's breathing on his own and he's not *hurt*. He's just asleep.

The Professor's here with him, too. I'm going to sit with them for a while; he looks like he could use a pat on the head. The Professor, I mean, not Mr Longbottom. (Well, maybe Mr Longbottom too but that seems inappropriate.)

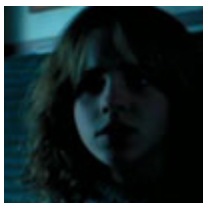


 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-11-12 23:53:30](#)**  
(no subject)

Is it awful? To see Mr Longbottom like that, I mean?

Evelyn's still white as a sheet. She doesn't need an excuse from Madame P to look ill. And Neville's grim.

Neither of them are really talking at all.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-11-13 00:07:11](#)**  
(no subject)

I really think he'll be all right. It's certainly odd to see him like that but--well, you'll see. He's just *asleep* but it's also sort of...Mr Longbottom's not a naturally still person, and sometimes people move even in their sleep or they look relaxed or something, but he's asleep but *not* relaxed, if that makes sense.

But I don't think there's anything to do except keep an eye on him and let him rest.



**2013-11-12 18:28:00**

*Private message to Johnny*

Right, if you heard ANY of the gossip today you might have been worried seeing as I'm an Auror so I just wanted to let you know: I'M FINE. EVERYTHING IS FINE.



 [alt\\_rachel](#)

(An old family friend, Carter Prentiss, is missing-presumed-dead; I kept an eye out for him while I was working today, but alas! He never turned up.)

I'm more or less cross-eyed with exhaustion but since I know you worry about all your old girlfriends with interesting careers, I just wanted to be sure that you knew that I was safe and you have nothing to worry about. Aren't I considerate? (And next I am going to take a hot bath so DO NOT FIRECALL ME unless you're coming over, and really, you'd need an awfully good excuse after last time.)

**2013-11-12 20:35:00**

*Private message to Ron Weasley and  
Neville Longbottom*



Aren't you two feeling any better yet?

Merlin's beard, there sure were a lot of you sick today! And Longbottom AND his sister were both sick, along with Weasley AND his girlfriend.

 **alt\_seamus**

Should I expect to see you tonight or are you staying in the hospital wing? (Again?)

**2013-11-12 21:13:00**

*Private message to Ginny Weasley*

Ginny, would you do me a favour? Actually it's a favour for Ron but we didn't want Finnigan to see Ron writing to you.

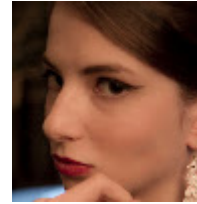


 **alt\_sally\_anne**

Come by the hospital wing. If anyone asks just say you're coming to see how Ron's doing. (You could bring him Pure Hunger, maybe he'll have time to read it if he's still ill tomorrow? I told him he ought to read it!)

**2013-11-12 21:24:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Pansy and Hermione*



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

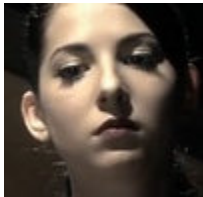
Are either of you coming back tonight?  
Because if you could bring something that would make a person spew, that would be brilliant. The Twins made something like that, but it would probably be best if it's not EXACTLY the thing they sell.


Mr Snape would know. Tell him -- oh, you know, he's not going to ask. He'll say something like, 'I'm sure you want this for some positively dreadful purpose. Try not to get in trouble we'll have to get you out of.'



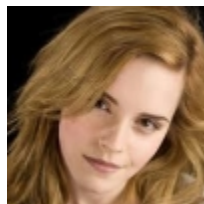
 [alt\\_hermione](#) at **2013-11-13 03:28:21**  
(no subject)

Doesn't Madam Pomfrey have some ipecac?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-11-13 03:29:43**  
(no subject)

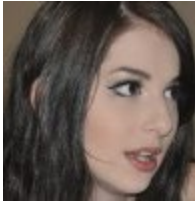
No; she says research says you're always better off with a bezoar if someone's ingested a dangerous poison, so she doesn't keep it with her medicinals.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at **2013-11-13 03:32:09**  
(no subject)

Oh.

Are you going to use it for a positively dreadful purpose?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-13 03:30:56](#)  
(no subject)

Oh wait. Did you think someone's BEEN poisoned?  
no one's been poisoned.

We're planning to poison someone. Finnigan, to be specific. Not badly, just enough that he's spewing like the rest of us supposedly were (he's suspicious we're all faking for some reason, he sent a message to Ron and Nev that made them all worried).



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-13 03:32:55](#)  
(no subject)

Oh.

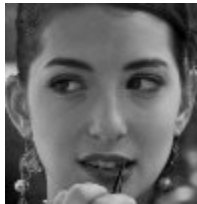
I'll see what there is here.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-13 03:38:25](#)  
(no subject)

Only, I don't know if we'll come back tonight. It's already really late.


Would morning do?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-13 03:46:37](#)  
(no subject)

If it has to be morning, then we'll manage. We need to slip it into some food in his dormitory, and I think it's easier to manage that sort of thing at night -- but we'll figure something out.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-13 05:06:25](#)  
(no subject)

We've cooked up something to bring with us when we come back. His tummy will definitely be wumbling.

**[2013-11-13 10:37:00](#)**

*Private message to Ron Weasley and Sally-Anne Perks*




 [alt\\_ginny](#)

Right, I just want you to know that BECAUSE I AM A PREFECT and I TAKE MY RESPONSIBILITIES SERIOUSLY I would never deliberately do ANYTHING to harm the students in my charge.

But, older prefects are hardly in MY charge, first of all. Besides, it's not as if I MADE anyone eat anything, in fact I made it clear that those biscuits belonged to RON WEASLEY and others should keep their grubby mitts off. And I warned Ed not to eat any.

I'm pretty sure Seamus ate some but it's possible Lavender Brown and Demelza Robins did, too. (Cormac McLaggen wasn't around this morning, I'm not sure where he went? Shame, because if ANYONE deserves a good case of miserable vomiting...) Anyway I hope you don't mind. I reckon it rather serves them right, eating something that clearly belonged to someone who'd just been sick. You'd have to be awfully thick to do something like that, you know? Either that, or you'd have to really believe they were putting on being sick!



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **[2013-11-13 23:31:45](#)**  
(no subject)

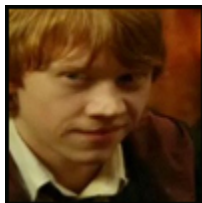
Gin,


You are brilliant.



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at **[2013-11-13 23:33:43](#)**  
(no subject)

Why thank you Ronald. It's nice to see you finally recognising that fact!



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **[2013-11-13 23:36:45](#)**  
(no subject)


It's nice to see you finally living up to the family standards!



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-11-13 23:52:39](#)  
(no subject)

Just BE SURE if anyone asks that you tell them you  
ALSO ate some of those biscuits.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-13 23:55:30](#)  
(no subject)

Of course we did.

**2013-11-13 17:31:00**

*Private Message to Seamus and Lavender*

What. In. The. World. Happened?

There's no way this is an actual illness that happened to affect the Strangers *and* their brothers and boyfriends and all *and* you two and Demelza and no one else.



 **alt\_padma**

For Lakshmi's sake. What did you do to sick up so much?

---



 **alt\_seamus at 2013-11-14 19:45:14**  
*(no subject)*

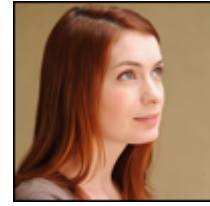
Sorry I didn't get back to you sooner. Madam P dosed me with something that put me straight to sleep.

I'm still feeling a little off-colour today but maybe it's just the memory of how I felt in Potions class. Ugh.



**2013-11-13 18:06:00**

*ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Harry and Hermione*



 [alt\\_alice](#)

Harry. I need a favour. Could you meet up with Neville and loan him your invisibility cloak? He and Evelyn will be making their way to the infirmary tonight and need a bit of help to slip away.

Hermione, if you see this first, could you pass it along?

And many thanks for you help yesterday, sweet heart.


---



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-11-14 02:11:45**  
(no subject)

Yes ma'am. Is there anything else we can do here to help?



 [alt\\_alice](#) at **2013-11-14 03:06:37**  
(no subject)


They're spending the night here. When they get back, though, I want you to keep an eye on both of them.

I expect there to be some meanness once the news gets out, but Cormac McLaggen must not ever be alone with Evelyn.

Ever.

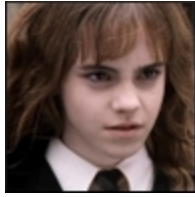
I want you all to make sure of that.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at **2013-11-14 04:04:17**  
(no subject)

Okay.


We can do that.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-14 04:20:49](#)  
(no subject)

OR Neville. McLaggen would hurt him just as much, if he had the chance.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-14 04:27:41](#)  
(no subject)

yes.

Yes he would. You're right.

Perhaps not in the same way, but no less dangerous.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-14 02:57:34](#)  
(no subject)

How's Mr Longbottom?

And Sirius?

May I ask a question? Why was he so upset when he woke up at Moddey Dhoo?



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-14 03:57:42](#)  
(no subject)

Frank is unchanged. Neville and Evelyn are spending the night, which I am very grateful for.

Sirius is doing far better. He'll be making his way to Grimmauld by tomorrow, I'll imagine, and should have enough coordination to start writing again soon.

As far as why he was so upset, Well, Sirius... he can be very stubborn sometimes.

When he first came here from France, he'd just had a nasty brush with Bellatrix. He insisted that it just wasn't safe for him to step inside Moddey, and left it at that.

I think he might've been afraid of somehow ruining things, or getting too tied down, or getting stuck there and never getting out.

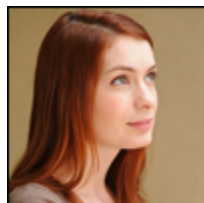
I think he ended up staying away after a while because it was habit. Funny enough, he got tied down eventually, though, didn't he? Which I'm very glad for.




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-14 04:15:54](#)  
(no subject)

I'm glad they're there, too. There was an article in the paper this morning about Saltash and it mentioned that Rodolphus Lestrangle had taken a minor injury and *loads* of people were telling Hydra how sorry they were and how they hoped her father would get better soon. And she was gracious and honestly, I think she *is* a little worried because he's her father, you know, and it would be difficult for her *not* to be worried, but I think maybe she felt uncomfortable getting so much sympathy when everyone was also looking daggers at Neville and Evelyn, as if it's their fault. And Justin told us that he talked to them last night and made sure they knew it wasn't Mr Longbottom who killed McLaggen because it happened well after he was unconscious and that helped them, I hope, but it's still hard when everyone looks slantwise.

Would you please tell Sirius...I'm glad he's better. I know Mr Lupin had a hard time getting him to stay asleep. (I think Mr Snape's potion really helped but don't tell Mr Snape that I told you about it.)



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-14 04:25:37](#)  
(no subject)

I shall tell him you said so.

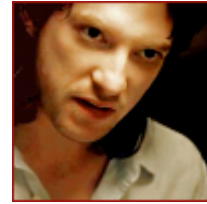
And for someone who claims not to care very much about whether a certain Mr Black were to live or die, Severus certainly did make quite an effort to address his symptoms.

Not that I'd tell either of them that, naturally.

And that was very thoughtful of Justin.

**[2013-11-13 19:18:00](#)**

*Protectorate Affairs during Mr Mulciber's absence*



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

For those who missed this afternoon's announcement, Mr Mulciber is expected to be completely recovered from his slight accident in the field and we hope to see him back at work this coming Monday.

For those who have a meeting planned with him through the remainder of this week, check with me first, as I am going to be covering most of Mr Mulciber's planned meetings. If I inform you that the meeting has been moved or rescheduled, check with Mr Mulciber's clerk, Ms Mortynson, to get the revised time and location. Civil Infrastructure's department-wide meeting IS going forward this Friday, and the usual Friday deadlines for week-end memos and the division's roundup newsletter stays the same.

Reports are to be handed in on time and error-free. You know Mr Mulciber expects no less, and so I don't, either.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-14 01:40:07](#)**

*Private message to Corax Mulciber*

I have been working my way through your in-box and have knocked off ten to fifteen items. I don't know why Civil Infrastructure sends you budget numbers on a weekly basis unless their intention is to bury you in parchment. They should send it monthly like everyone else, and I have taken the liberty of informing them so.




 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-14 01:44:52](#)**

*Re: Private message to Corax Mulciber*

Also: the text in the latest batch of draft pamphlets on Public Hygiene sent up by pamphlet editing in Wizarding Education are a big improvement, but they really need a new designer. Those colours are absolutely bilious.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-14 01:47:10](#)

*Private message to Cassia Langton*

justice.

A big improvement with the re-edit, and thank you for letting me see them. However: I think it's time the department considered allocating some galleons for re-design. The graphics are really not doing the text



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-14 01:52:16](#)

*Private message to Hestia Ketteridge*

I had a suspicion you'd prefer to have the meeting held without Mr Mulciber presiding, yeah. Ccnsidering what he did to the person holding the gavel last time. All right. I can have those quarter budget profiles reviewed and signed off under my authority, and maybe we can ram them through before Monday. He may just demand to see them anyway when he gets back and then he'll make you go through your spreadsheets line by line and order you to make cuts. With a blood quill, no less. But it's worth a try.

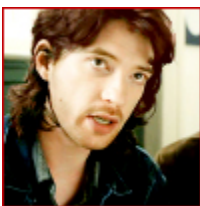


 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-14 02:01:21](#)

*Private message to Matilda Marks*

Look, I don't care in the least that Jenny Lorcan's desk is six inches bigger than yours or whether the noise from the women's bog disrupts your concentration. I know perfectly well that the reason you want your office moved is so it's easier for you to flirt with that chap in squib affairs.

Request denied. And count yourself lucky that it's me turning you down, rather than our mutual boss. Mr Mulciber wouldn't *tell* he's annoyed by your complaints. He's *show* you.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-14 02:11:57](#)

*Private message to Jeremy Stretton*

I hope you are settling in all right. The work shouldn't be too difficult, although I know they're backed up, and so it may take you awhile to get to the bottom of your in-box.

The other new hire in your department, Graham MacAuliffe, starts next week, and then you should start to see things ease up a bit.




 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-11-14 02:20:21**

*Order Only: Re: Private message to Jeremy Stretton*

My lunches this week seem to be evaporating like water in a dragon's den, but if I can catch you *some* time this week, I do want to hand off a small potion bottle to you. It's very good for treatment of the symptoms of cruciatus aftermath. Severus developed it, and it's much better than anything you can buy on the market.

I mean, obviously, I hope very much you'll never need it. It's non-standard, and I don't think Mulciber would look kindly on people tempering the effects of his temper. So to speak. So if you keep in the office (which I'd suggest) you must make absolutely sure that no one else can find it. I can discuss possibilities for secreting it when I hand it off to you.



 **[alt\\_jeremy](#) at 2013-11-14 02:32:04**

*Re: Order Only: Re: Private message to Jeremy Stretton*

Right. Yeah, that would be good.




 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-11-14 02:31:11**

*Private message to Auror Lamont*

Could you tell me please whether you've had a chance to look through those files you took last night? I have to make sure they're returned to Mulciber's in-box.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#) at 2013-11-14 02:35:39**


*Re: Private message to Auror Lamont*

I put them back in your in-box while you were at lunch. (Not surprising you didn't notice; there seemed to be rather a lot in there.)

Rumour has it Corax got hit with the Azein curse. St M's must have

nearly had to re-grow his lungs from scratch, he's lucky he's alive. (I'll refrain from comment about whether WE'RE lucky...) He might be awake enough to bother you tomorrow, alas.




 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-11-14 03:49:30**

*Re: Private message to Auror Lamont*

Joy.

Thanks for the warning, anyway.



 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-11-14 03:49:48**

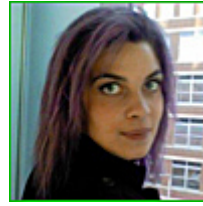
*Re: Private message to Auror Lamont*

And the files.



**2013-11-13 21:38:00**

*Order Only Private Message to Remus Lupin and Sirius Black*



 **alt\_nymphadora**

Things are just as they should be here tonight. Normal. And normal seems very good.


I didn't get sacked when I went in last night. Which was also good. Although. Ellie says there was a witch came round from 'personnel' asking questions about me on yesterday morning. Not a fire call. A visit. Ellie told her I was sleeping and that I'd been down with a stomach ailment of the very most dire sort. I got a thorough dressing down for not giving notice until after I'd missed the first shift, which is true, and fair enough, I suppose, though if I'd been as ill as I was saying, I couldn't have done much better.

Apparently I looked the part of someone who'd been sicking up for two days straight. Morpeth bought my story. Wonder if the woman from DIRRT (or MLE, whichever it was) bought what Ellie was shilling. Ugh. This is why people don't take sick days.

How are you both? Sorry. I should have asked that straight off.

And how are the others?



 **alt\_lupin** at **2013-11-14 04:58:37**  
(no subject)

Sirius is doing quite a bit better -- he can't write yet, or cast spells, because his hand's not steady. But he's on the mend.

Nearly everyone's looking better, other than Frank, who hasn't stirred. He's still breathing, though, and hasn't got any worse.

I'll be home in a bit -- I don't want you to think I've abandoned you and Bea forever. Padfoot's doing better, I don't have to nursemaid him all night.





 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-14 14:26:53](#)  
(no subject)


I've been practising writing left-handed. Took a while to remember the trick of it. This is the first time it's been remotely legible. (Merlin, used to be better at this.)

)You'll pay for that nursemaid comment, you know. Just because I wasn't writing doesn't mean I can't read.)

My ankle hurts far worse than the arm but I've tested it and it's bearing weight.

Hang on



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-14 15:01:27](#)  
(no subject)

Glad to see you're doing enough better to resent the nursemaids.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-14 16:22:02](#)  
(no subject)

Keep practising.

Really, I'm glad you're doing better. And I'll feel much better about all of it once we're all home together again.

Bea sends you a wet nose kiss.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-14 16:47:28](#)  
(no subject)

Tell her my nose is cold which means healthy puppy. And I'll be home for tuck-ins tonight.

I've been trying to leave. The children here outnumber the adults by quite a bit. I think it's only because Frank woke up that Alice has been too distracted to keep the

sprogs out of the infirmary.

(I'm okay with her being distracted, for the record. But every time I try to head for the exit I'm besieged by a knot of kids.)

**2013-11-14 08:04:00**

*Order Only: Frank's AWAKE*

He's ~~erøøøø~~ groggy but appears to be healthy.

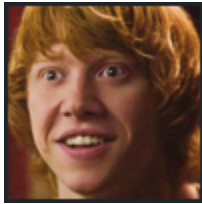
Currently being crowded by his family - all 70 of them.




 [alt\\_sirius](#)

More later

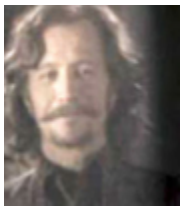
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 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-11-14 16:15:34**  
(no subject)

That's brilliant! Tell him we're all dead glad to hear it!

Um. I'm glad you're feeling better, too. You are, aren't you?




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-11-14 17:03:43**  
(no subject)

I'll be fine, thanks.


Congratulations, by the way, on your engagement.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-11-14 17:08:35**  
(no subject)


Huh?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-11-14 17:10:23**  
(no subject)

Arista Selwyn thinks very highly of you.  
Apparently you're getting married when she's old enough.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-14 17:32:20](#)  
(no subject)

...

Oh, that engagement! Tell her I thought we were keeping it secret!!



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-14 16:56:37](#)  
(no subject)

Brilliant! Did Neville and Evelyn get to see him awake at all?

(And your writing is awful, should we see if we could borrow Cedric's quill for you?)



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-14 17:00:15](#)  
(no subject)

Alice says yes, before they came back. He woke up early this morning, I guess, then fell back asleep by the time I woke up. Now he's dozing again.

Here's a tip for you: In a world where we communicate in writing, learn to hold a quill in either hand.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-14 18:08:33](#)  
(no subject)

Good to hear.

Good to hear from you too.

**2013-11-14 12:20:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Padfoot and Tonks*



Kreacher got rather talkative last night -- I think you being injured put him in a better mood -- and was going on about how you were probably going to die from your injuries and leave Tonks and me 'squatting in Mistress Cissy's house.' (He put it rather more colourfully than that. I'm sure you can imagine.)

 [alt\\_lupin](#)

You do have a will, though. I mean I've seen it. I don't know whether my sudden attack of nerves about what would happen with Kreacher if you were to die suddenly was just an overreaction to Kreacher being his creepy little self, or if there's any reason to worry.

House-elves can be willed, right? Except -- your wretched mother certainly didn't will him to YOU. Or the house, for that matter. It had something to do with your father's magic.

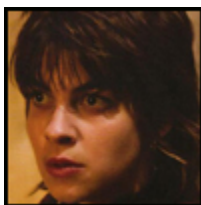
Anyway. So long as we can make absolutely sure that Kreacher can't skip off to Bella and tell her all our secrets if anything happens to you -- you know?



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-14 19:36:47](#)  
(no subject)

Colourful. That's one word for it.

Honestly, Sirius. Don't laugh this off. I just caught him in my cupboard, poking about. It woke me up, his muttering. 'Hateful' and 'Traitor' and 'Took a curse finally, didn't he?' and 'Wasting away'.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-14 19:38:50](#)  
*Private Message to Remus*

Did I use that word last night when we were talking? Wasting? I suppose about his arm?

Ugh.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-14 19:42:54](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Remus*

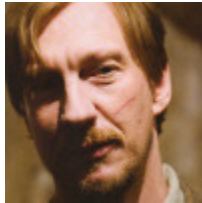
We might have used it when talking about the fight, but not specifically about Sirius, that wasn't it.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-11-14 19:49:26](#)**

*Re: Private Message to Remus*

Well, obviously we gave him nasty ideas.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-14 20:10:09](#)**

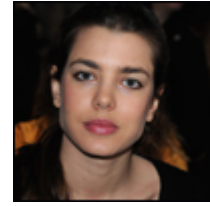
*Re: Private Message to Remus*

I don't think he really needs us to give him nasty ideas. He churns them out by the bucket full all on his own.

**2013-11-14 13:50:00**

*Private Message to Nisha Desai*

Looks as if we'll have to reschedule the meeting for my evaluation. Only, I know there must be parchmentwork that's needed to put that off, and I don't want it to prejudice my standing if we miss the deadlines.



 [alt\\_lana](#)

Evan was right: there are dozens of caverns in that spit of land under Saltash camp. (It's loads more if you're not just counting openings, but the systems that wind back of them.) And they weren't overplaying it when they said they needed more help mapping, securing and sealing them. So unless you call me in, I may be here through next week.

To be clear: I'm not asking to be called back. I suppose I'm anxious about putting off the evaluation. And eager to have full standing before there's another major op like that last.

Sorry. I do know my priorities.

You'll see to the parchmentwork, though?

**[2013-11-14 14:12:00](#)**

*Private Message to Reethi Singh and Rachel Lamont*



 [alt\\_lana](#)

Carlyslie turned up this afternoon with news about another Fidelius? On a farm somewhere, he said.

What's the truth of it? I'm stuck out here in Cornwall, crawling about in caves. Trying not to be the one that's got to swim into some of them tomorrow. Fortunately, I'm more useful for squeezing through tight crevices, and we've plenty of those in the dry systems we've already found.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-15 05:47:14](#)  
(no subject)

Yes. The farm's in Bedford; I don't know much more than that, although they may have me dig through the records to see what we can find out about it.

It's a private operation, pretty good-sized. Or, it was.

Find anything interesting in the caves?




 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-11-16 04:57:08](#)  
(no subject)

Only that the warding on Saltash extends below as well as above. Still testing for weaknesses.

And eliminating potential escape routes.

If they want to hole up inside there, they may, but they won't find it easy to leave.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-16 05:04:45](#)  
(no subject)

Well, that's something. Heard anything about how they managed the ward? (In Bedford, it seems to be the Fidelius -- it's vanished properly instead of turning see-through.)





 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-11-16 06:16:28](#)  
(no subject)

Pike heard from Meyerhof that some of the stones from the site had been blooded and were likely elemental in the spell.

That much sounds likely.

Less so, that the blood belonged to Longbottom. I told Pike, we're not The Prophet, you know? What does Meyerhof think he's selling? Is he trying to seed the story and hopes one of us will leak it? I mean, he might as well have said it was Black. The Black Impostor, I mean, of course.

Whatever. That's all I've heard so far. You haven't heard anything different, then?




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-16 06:36:31](#)  
(no subject)

I thought someone really did see Longbottom? It might be his blood. I haven't heard anything different -- I did hear something about stones today, but not about whose blood it was.

I thought I glimpsed the Black imposter, but it was dark, he was some distance away, and I wasn't sure. (Didn't hit him, obviously.)



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-11-16 07:03:15](#)  
(no subject)

Longbottom could have been there. It's not that. It's just that blaming him for everything, being everywhere all at once... means they don't have to actually give any details to the public. But we're

not the public.

**2013-11-14 14:15:00**

*Private message to Diggory*



 [alt\\_antonin](#)

— Has Poundtree contacted you back about the list I gave them? I'm beginning to think at least a few of the titles don't exist anywhere outside Mysteries, and they are not being forthcoming.

— I am expecting a package under Ouroboros seal later today -- if it comes in while I am teaching, bring it into the classroom and leave it on my desk as unobtrusively as possible; it ought not be left unsupervised for long. Wear gloves to carry it, or hold it in your robes; it will not hurt you, but you are likely to be sensitive to its aura.

— Also, try to get me an hour after class tomorrow afternoon with Brüggén from Experimental Charms & Curses; I haven't been satisfied with their reports regarding Saltash. In person is preferred, firecall will do if necessary. Schedule through supper as a last resort, but do not push it past 7pm. If Brüggén puts you off, I'd also take time with Dmitriy Veselov, but try for Brüggén first. Be firm.

— Oh, and speaking of Saltash -- I've been hearing some muttering today on McLaggen's behalf directed at the Longbottom children, thanks to speculation about their father being involved in why the experiment went awry. As grief manifests in many ways I do not wish to intervene directly, but you're likely to know better than I which of McLaggen's friends are likely to take matters into their own hands; do keep an eye out for me, if you would.

— I've left the third-year quizzes on your worktable for you to mark. The answer key is atop.

--A.



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at **2013-11-14 21:06:54**  
(no subject)

1 - Poundtree firecalled during class. Flatly refused to disclose the topic he wished to discuss for no reason he was willing to divulge.

2 - Has not yet arrived and will handle it will all due precaution.

3 - Left message for Brügggen. Was informed he will to return within the hour. If he does not return the call promptly, I will call again a few minutes after his scheduled return.

4 - I'll see what I can do about the McLaggen issue. I'll speak to some of the students the Longbottoms associate with to see about making sure they keep some beaters at their backs. Do you think it prudent to put the fear of you and the Headmistress in the likely perpetrators or wait to see if they try anything?

5 - Will have the quizzes marked and on your desk in the morning.



 **alt\_antonin** at [2013-11-14 21:20:37](#)  
(no subject)

Thank you, my dear boy; I appreciate your diligence on my behalf.

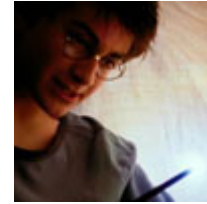
Intervention with McLaggen and those purporting to act on his behalf would no doubt end badly, and the boy has just lost his brother; a certain amount of upset is to be expected. I only do not wish for the sins of the father to be visited upon the children. I am less worried about McLaggen himself, but if you have reason to believe any of his associates have taken it into their heads to move past talk and into taking vengeance, let me know then and the Headmistress and I will decide how to intervene.

Oh, and if you've a moment free -- there is a tin of tea on my shelves behind my desk (third shelf up, on the left, the green tin). Would you run it down to the infirmary and deliver it to Madam Pomfrey, with my compliments, and let her know it is intended for the poor unfortunates she is hosting, if she believes it would not interfere with their recovery? Food poisoning is a miserable experience.

**2013-11-14 18:23:00**

*ORDER ONLY: ISS business*

Ced came up to me today after dinner and told me that Dolohov wanted him to warn Neville and Evelyn about McLaggen's friends trying for payback.



 [alt\\_harry](#)

He said he was telling me because he knew we were all on the galleon together, and I might be able to help organise stuff.

Anyways. I said I'd keep an eye out. Just thought I'd pass that along.

Evs, do you want me to talk to Katrina about her sticking close, or are you going to say something to her? I figure you're probably the best one to ask her to go with you to the loo and stuff. And I figure we can keep up covering you both in the halls and things. And when do you have Astronomy? Sue, since you're a prefect, you might be able to help walk her back to the common room after. If not, just let us know and me and Ron can take turns or something.

And Neville, I know it's a pain, but you should probably tell us if you're thinking of going off to the greenhouses or something so we can either keep an eye on McLaggen and his crew, or stop by to see that you're okay. Cause that's a bit out of the way, and if you're there alone, it could be dangerous.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at **2013-11-15 03:47:31**  
(no subject)

Yes. Cedric talked to us too, and said the same thing about Professor Dolohov.

I don't know what to think about it, really. I'd much rather he not take notice. He's never talked to me outside of class, other than the one meeting we were required to have. Perhaps he thinks it's really quite dangerous? More dangerous than we think? Or he's testing Cormac to see what he'll do, and wanted to make it harder for him?


And I can talk to Kitty. She's been around Cormac and knows what he can be like. I'm sure she'll help out.

I take my practical on Tuesdays.

~~You really don't have to go out of~~

Thank you, Harry.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-15 03:51:28](#)  
(no subject)


It's important.

He's dangerous.

And I think your mum would skin all of us alive if anything happened to either of you.

Just kidding.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-15 03:53:00](#)  
(no subject)

And maybe Professor Dolohov was just concerned?

I don't know.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-15 05:04:58](#)  
(no subject)

I can't help being surprised, too. Given who we are, or more to the point, who are parents are, and who he is. Where his loyalties are. Why is he bothering about protecting us?

I thought at first, when Diggory spoke to us earlier, that the thought came from him, but no, he said that Professor Dolohov told him to keep an eye out for us.

Not that I'm not grateful; I'm not completely thick. And yeah, it will be a pain, but the greenhouses are rather remote, you're right.




 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2013-11-15 05:11:05**

*Private message to Harry Marvolo*

And if you're going to assign us bodyguards, give more of 'em to Evelyn, okay? I can take a pounding or a hexing better than she can.

I'm worried about her particularly, and I reckon my Mum and Dad are, too. Kitty Bundy's all very well, but I'm not sure she can stand up to McLaggen alone if things get ugly. Particularly if he has his friends with him.



 **[alt\\_harry](#) at 2013-11-15 19:53:16**

*Re: Private message to Harry Marvolo*

Okay. But I'm not leaving you out. I know you can handle yourself in a fight, but he doesn't fight fair, and he might bring along his friends to help.

And yeah, he might hurt Evelyn, but he might really hurt you. Because you're bigger and can fight back. You know?



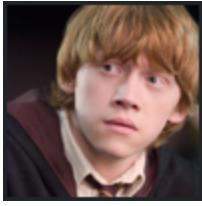
 **[alt\\_hermione](#) at 2013-11-15 06:00:43**


*(no subject)*

I don't think it has anything to do with his loyalties. I think it has everything to do with the way he likes to collect people. Have you noticed? He likes to make people beholden to him and feel like they owe him favours.

Also, you're still his students. I think he takes that responsibility really seriously.

Also, if what he's doing confuses you about his motives, then that's probably how he wants you to feel. Unsettled and unsure. Because that will make you more likely to trust him.

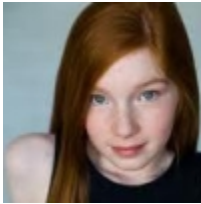


 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-15 04:20:40](#)**  
(no subject)

You can count on me, Ev.

In fact, you'll probably wish I'd let you alone before the week's out, you'll be so tired of seeing me

around!



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-11-15 04:24:04](#)**  
(no subject)

I sincerely doubt that!




 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-11-15 05:14:58](#)**  
*Private Message to Evelyn and Hydra*

There's a spell Hydra knows. She taught Sally-Anne and then I learned it too.

You really should learn it.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-11-15 05:36:44](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Evelyn and Hydra*

All right.

**2013-11-14 19:54:00**

*Private Message to Cedric*

Thanks for letting me know.

I'll see what I can do.

I guess I know a little bit about how someone's parents make other people think differently about them, yeah?

Did he say anything else, about why he thought they might need a heads up? Or was he just concerned, do you think?



 [alt\\_harry](#)



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at **2013-11-15 04:40:34**

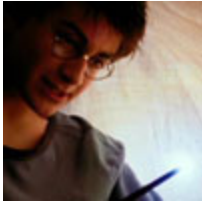
*(no subject)*

He is most concerned about McLaggen's circle of friends who might be "purporting to act on his behalf" to curry favor with the grieving family of a dead Council Wizard. He questioned whether any of them were going to move from talk to action. It was eerily like many of our conversations about people doing stuff to me in your name after the Triwizard.

He brought it to my attention in the journals. I assume he overheard rumblings in class or caught something with his uncanny eye for guessing what people will do. As to why he was specifically concerned he also said "I only do not wish for the sins of the father to be visited upon the children." It also seemed like he thought having me bring it up was less of an escalation than stepping in himself. If we learn that they are planning something specific he'll take it to the Headmistress and they'll step on it, but if we don't know something specific he wants to let McLaggen's circle verbally blow off steam, which is why I didn't go after them directly.

I came to you because I know how much both of them are Gryffindors and wanted to make sure they actually did stuff to protect themselves. McLaggen may have circle of cronies but they have a circle of friends to, even if it's not quite so obvious and it includes ... well we both know it includes a surprisingly diverse group who will have their back no matter what. No matter what anyone may say, because we all know what we all care about.





 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-15 05:53:42](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah. You're right. It might not be the popular thing to do, but it's the right thing to do. We'll keep an eye out.

The people I know from Gryffindor say McLaggen really is a piece of work.


And it's good to know he'd step in if it gets serious.



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-11-15 06:02:23](#)  
(no subject)

Let's just say if half the things are true that I heard he did behind closed doors, he's a truly unpleasant thug. I wish I'd had proof back in my prefect days, sometimes a bully can be pulled out of it. But I highly doubt having his brother, even after washing out of Auror training, elevated as he was improved his disposition.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-15 06:22:44](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah.

Sometimes, it feels like lots of people think that sort of stuff just isn't a problem. Like he isn't ever going to get punished, you know? Or if he is, it'll be a slap on the wrist.

Because the sort of people who get ahead, ~~who run things,~~ seems like an awful lot of them are like him.



 [alt\\_cedric](#) at [2013-11-17 00:36:05](#)  
(no subject)

I'm down in Devonshire with the family. Mum would be disappointed if I came back for flying tomorrow, but I think I'm going to start coming most weekends after this.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-11-17 03:15:50](#)**  
*(no subject)*

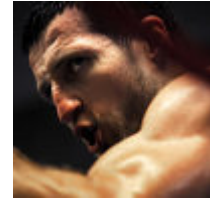
Good to know.

We'll keep that in mind.

**2013-11-15 17:12:00**

*Private message to whichever of these idiot Healers is in charge of my brother's care*

If Cadmus dies, you die.



 [alt\\_corax](#)

**[2013-11-15 19:20:00](#)**

*Order Only: Private message to Sirius  
Black and Remus Lupin*



Did Mr Longbottom smell different to you?


Well, I mean different, aside from taking into consideration the fact he'd been battling in sea air, around fires, and then had a bunch of stinking potions poured down his throat. I dunno. Something seems off. Maybe? I can't tell if it's the low notes, what you call the signature, or the tang--what he gets from the environment and what he eats and drinks. (All those potions in other words. Phew, that nutritional replenisher Madam Pomfrey uses is *rank*.) Or if it's the afterbuzz, the magical harmonics.

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

Tell me I'm imagining things. I suppose I don't have enough experience to figure it out, but perhaps you and Remus do?

Like I said, I dunno. It's not quite full moon, which I understand is Remus' best time for figuring out scents. Or maybe with Sirius hurt so bad neither of you noticed? It's not as though you didn't have other things on your mind.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-16 02:43:06](#)**  
(no subject)

Sorry, Terry - I can't say I did notice. I was advised not to change into Padfoot for a few days so I never transformed while I was at Moddey. And Remus came home before Frank woke, so I don't think he'd have picked up anything.

Does it strike you as something sinister or just different?



 **[alt\\_terry](#)** at **[2013-11-16 07:29:40](#)**  
(no subject)

Nothing sinister, no. Nothing Dark. And it wasn't like he smelled unfamiliar or anything.

But something was just different. Whatever it was, if it IS something, it was subtle.

Like I said, I wasn't at all sure, so I thought I'd ask. I was at his bedside--well, on his bed--for several hours, remember, as the Professor. So I suppose I got the longest whiff of him.

I dunno, maybe I'm imaging things, because we were all so worried.

**2013-11-15 22:22:00**

*Private Message to L Malfoy and A Dolohov*




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

Bella's just back from St M's--reasons irrelevant--picked up something of interest there: Cad Mulciber's at death's door on the curse ward. Understood diagnosis was a 'slow wasting curse'. Half right, it seems. Bella says the specialists are in a panic to halt progression. Afraid for their own lives, one imagines. Easy pickings for B, in any case. Prognosis: we could be one Mulciber lighter by tomorrow night.


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 [alt\\_antonin](#) at [2013-11-16 04:35:30](#)  
(no subject)

It would be tragic if we were to lose yet another of our company this week.



 [alt\\_lucius](#) at [2013-11-16 04:39:48](#)  
(no subject)

My thoughts precisely, Bratka.



 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at [2013-11-16 05:05:35](#)  
(no subject)

Understand there's already a pool underway for wagers on who will be named next head of MLE. News travels quickly.

**2013-11-15 23:04:00**

*Private Message to Antonin and Barty*

Lucius just told me about Cadmus's difficulty.

I trust neither of you have any lingering symptoms? It might be prudent to take stock, particularly if there's any possibility the traitors used other curses with delayed effects.



 [alt\\_narcissa](#)

(Forgive me if I am pleased that for once, my husband seems to have escaped unscathed.)

Barty, can you tell us anything more about the other incident - the one in Bedford? Shall it impact trade greatly? If there are items one ought to have on hand before they run short, one would like notice. Lucius has been trying to get a better brief on what's happened - whether it was the same group or another instance of the new spell used at Saltash. Tosha, are you going to inspect the area for comparison?



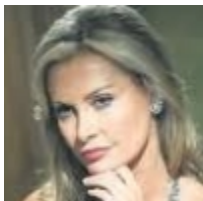
 [alt\\_crouch\\_jr](#) at **2013-11-16 05:53:53**  
(no subject)

I'm fine, Narcissa. No need to worry.

(Nothing to forgive.)

Investigation on-going re. the spell used in Bedford. Initial report is that it is merely Fidelius, but given Saltash, Mysteries are giving it a full evaluation, looking for any variation. No telling how long before they consent to brief the rest of us on their conclusions.

If one were planning any building projects using wooden framing, one might purchase the lumber sooner than later. Or if one had a special fondness for alpaca woolens...



 [alt\\_narcissa](#) at **2013-11-16 06:16:59**  
(no subject)

My dear, I worry whether there is need or not.

Wood and alpaca? Well, that hardly seems worth a fuss.



 **alt\_antonin** at **[2013-11-16 06:46:38](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Which makes one wonder whether this was something planned, or a target of opportunity. (And if planned, then why, and what niche it fills, and who brought the location to someone's attention; if opportunistic, then what the opportunity was, and why it was on someone's radar for the opportunity to be seized, and what the precipitating incident was. And, of course, why they felt the opportunity worth taking.)

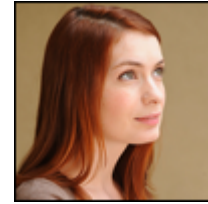
I am up to my eyeballs on data from Saltash, though I'm certain Mysteries is keeping at least a few cards close to the chest. It's the effect that's driving me mad -- it's unlike anything I've ever seen before. (Coincidentally, Auri has recently given me several books on locational magics, after some of the conversations we've had lately. Useful.) And the fact that whatever it is, it's clearly new, and clearly powerful; there are very, very few wizards who could create such a thing, and I had rather thought they were all working for us or no longer a going concern. Troublesome.



**2013-11-16 11:00:00**

*ORDER ONLY: staying on top of things*

Now that we've got a better idea of the state of Saltash, we can act accordingly.



 [alt\\_alice](#)

I'd like to send a contingent over to Bedford and Saltash that includes Regina and Lisa as well as some of the Aldrich community leaders. They can talk trade, as well as to work through their process of setting up a system of governance, sustainable living, and radio communication. I'd imagine the people from Aldrich would be quite useful here, as they've had a few months to adjust.

Lee, Jeremy, I'd like you both to work on coordinating the trip to Bedford. Remember, the people from Aldrich and Regina are going to be the experts here -- your job would be to bring them together, record the proceedings, and make note of any way we could be of use. And Lee, our Danny and Victor have come up with several prototypes of how to convert radios from electric to hand-powered -- if you could pass along those samples to both Aldrich and Bedford, they might be able to help in making more so that we can then send them on to the camps.

Kingsley, Dorcas, if you could continue to work with Saltash, pass along medical supplies and see if you can dig up a doctor who can be useful, that would be very helpful. I figure that you can organise a similar meeting to the one at Bedford once we address their more immediate needs.

We've still got several cauldrons on the fire that we need to keep our eyes on. The camps who are on reduced rations -- Ashford, Chipstead, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Swale -- we can't leave them without continued support. Sherwood has committed to funneling some extra supplies to them as they can, and have also been able to help distribute nutritional supplements. Frank had been working with the handful of wand holders in the camps to show them how to cast glamours so that the residents appear more thin and unhealthy -- they might need some further assistance, and in a few weeks, we might take advantage of an expected increase in deaths and get some people out of there. Tonks, while Frank recovers, you might lend a hand there.

Cecelia is still working on the additional information regarding the

magical fields from Sirius, Tonks, and Charlie. I'll let you know once she comes up with anything definitive. Evie, she got your maps. Thank you for passing them along.

Sirius, where do we stand in terms of Strangeweale? What is the next step for that mission?

We've also got to stay on top of the black wands. We're spread fairly thin as it is, so I think the best thing we can do is to continue to work on our recent magical births, keep the button network informed, and take care of Strangeweale as soon as we have enough intel to proceed. Molly, Remus, I'll most certainly be asking you for your continued help when it comes to getting the latest crop of babies to Moddey.



 **alt\_alice at 2013-11-16 19:28:08**

*Private Message to Charlie*

Thank you for helping me wade through all this, love. Your visit on Friday did me a world of good.

I know you've been stepping it up recently too, even though it's hard for you to get away from the Reserve, and I appreciate it endlessly. I know your schedule is trickier than some of the others, but if something comes up that you can lend a hand with, just let me know.



 **alt\_alice at 2013-11-16 19:32:51**

*Private Message to Poppy and Severus*

Frank's magic isn't working.

At all.

He can't do the most basic of spells, either with his wand or without, and trying utterly drains him.

He found out when he tried to write a private message to Neville and Evelyn the other day, and finally told me about it this morning.

He's physically a little weak, but considering everything, is in rather good health -- he's eaten some, and I suspect he would be pacing around the room if I weren't insisting he rest for the time being.

Any suggestions you could give would be much appreciated.



**alt\_poppy at 2013-11-17 05:00:30**

*Re: Private Message to Poppy and Severus*

Merciful heavens.

Of course, it might depend a great deal on what that bit of magic he did with Albus consisted of... and I would really need to examine him myself...

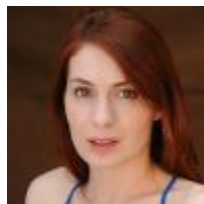
This is terrible.

I know of two, no three, protocols one might use to shore up the magic of someone whose reserves have been perilously drained--one to halt the guttering of a failing capacity, the others to bolster over-tapped resources that are not yet quite at the brink.

But you say he's known for more than a day... And that he can sense no response at all? Or, I can imagine you might not have wished to ask quite so probing a question... Is there a chance he does have a bit of response, though not enough to summon a quill or illumine a lamp?

If there is some reserve remaining, we might try these potions. And, of course, I'll have a word--words--with Albus about it.

Beyond that, you're quite right that rest is absolutely what he needs. And that includes not attempting any magic for a stretch of days. I wish I could tell you that two days or three would do it, but there's no guessing from individual to individual. Tell him a week. To be safe. With no magic at all.



**alt\_alice at 2013-11-17 05:06:23**

*Re: Private Message to Poppy and Severus*

He says he doesn't feel a thing, Poppy. Not even a flicker.

He might be overstating due to panic, but he's not the type to exaggerate.

It still might be worth our while to try the potions, though. And I will most certainly tell him your recommendations regarding rest.



 [alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-11-17 05:21:25](#)

*Re: Private Message to Poppy and Severus*

I will of course brew them.

And should you not be able to achieve satisfaction from Albus, I would be pleased to join you in pressing him for sufficient answers.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-17 07:17:12](#)

*Re: Private Message to Poppy and Severus*

Thank you.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-16 19:33:32](#)

*Private Message to Albus*

Frank is unable to do magic of any kind.

I will inform you if when this changes.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-17 02:47:52](#)

*Private Message to Alice*

Given that I have to transform to Padfoot to stake out Strangeweale's house, and given that I wasn't supposed to transform for a week, I haven't been able to do much more right away. It's my priority, though, as soon as Padfoot can appear on the streets again.

How's Frank?



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-17 03:12:16](#)

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

Naturally -- we've had a bit of a detour, to say the least! It'd be good to send along what you've been able to pick up so far, though, to see what else remains to be learned.

Frank is still very much recovering. I must remind myself that he's just been through a rather unusual experience, and can't expect him to immediately bounce back. Still, he's awake, and alive, and I'm grateful for it.

I'm worried that

He doesn't want to tell

I think we'll be taking things one day at a time for a bit, while we sort out the toll this has taken on him.



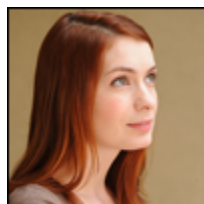
 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-17 03:20:05](#)

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

Allie.

You're not talking to some green recruit. I know you. I know when you go into this extreme organisation mode it's part of how you cope with things, particularly with feeling overwhelmed. Granted, we've got a lot to coordinate with Saltash and Bedford both but they can also govern themselves without us having to provide everything - especially Saltash, since we can't get there and couldn't use magic to help anyway.

One other thing I know is Frank's ability to bounce back is legend. So if he's not back to normal just yet, he will be soon.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-17 03:39:04](#)


*Re: Private Message to Alice*

I wish I could say that with certainty. But we're in uncharted waters here.

He makes for the world's worst patient. Or perhaps the second worst -- you might have to fight him for that honour. He's not the sort for sitting around.

And I suppose sending people you love into a war zone and having far too many close calls for comfort can do a number on one's nerves.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-17 03:46:35](#)

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

Alice .... What's wrong?



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-17 04:03:31](#)

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

He's lost his magic.

He hid it from me until this morning.

We don't know whether it's permanent, or just a side-effect, but he says it feels like he's missing a limb. And he won't say it outright, but I can tell that he's terrified that it'll never come back.

And whenever I try to talk to him about what our options are, it just reminds him further of what he can't do. I've tried to tell him that it's only been a few days, and we don't know what will happen in the days to come, but it's been hard going, and I'm worried about him.

He doesn't do well when he's at loose ends. At all. And he's had such a good year and

I just want my Frank back. I want him to be able to be happy that he's alive and here with me.

I'm sorry to put this on your plate.

I suppose that's what you get for asking.

We're waiting to tell the rest of the Order until we know more. I

don't expect you to keep this from Tonks and Remus, though. Especially given how closely Tonks and Frank have worked in these last few months.



 **alt\_sirius** at **2013-11-17 04:10:08**

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

Mordred.

No, I'm glad you told me. Who else knows? Albus, I assume - did they know this might happen when he cast the spell?

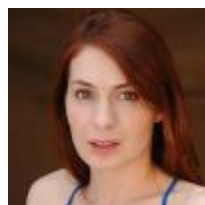
It'll be all right, Allie. There are worse fates. I can't imagine After all, millions of people live without magic every day, their whole lives.

And it might come back, as you say.

I can completely sympathise with how he must be feeling, though.

You know, Terry asked--well, I'm not going to confirm anything to him but he asked yesterday if I detected a difference in Frank's scent. (Of course I wasn't in dog form anywhere near him since Saltash so I wasn't much help.) But he might guess something's wrong if he spends much time around him.

Alice, I'm sorry. Truly.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-17 04:18:35**

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

He's been living and working alongside Muggles for years, and he has a healthy respect for our Arabella.

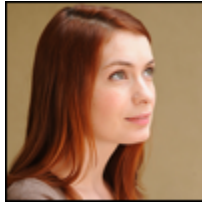
I'm sure that will help.

It's just that right now at least, he can't see what use he'd be to anyone beyond his magic. He kept saying it today. 'I'm bloody useless.'

I get the feeling he wishes he hadn't woken up. Which

concerns me greatly.

And when I try to convince him of his worth, and tell him what I value about him and what he means to me, to the Order, to our children, he dismisses it and says I'm coddling him out of pity.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-17 04:23:56**

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

I've told Poppy and Severus too, to see if there's anything they know that can be of use.

But this is so unknown, I doubt they'd be able to help much.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at 2013-11-17 05:03:01**


*Re: Private Message to Alice*

Well, I suppose now that I've been to Moddey and been dragged all over half the island by Arista Selwyn and her agemates, it doesn't much matter if I come back now and then.

We can cope, Alice. He should still be able to use a Floo, anyway, and there's Saltash - he wouldn't be able to use magic there, even if he had the use of his wand. They all can use hand-to-hand training if they mean to ever leave the camp.

There are those of us he can't accuse of coddling him. We'll keep him honest.

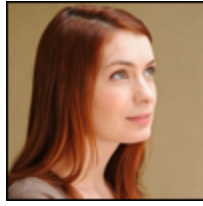


 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at 2013-11-17 05:04:05**

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

I mean to say I can come back and kick his arse all along the coast line.





 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-17 05:13:08**

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

Saltash is certainly a thought.

And I would appreciate a visit very much.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#) at 2013-11-17 04:34:49**

*Private Message to Alice*

Frank? Oh, Alice.

How is he coping?



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-17 04:47:17**

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

We've had a rough go of it so far.

He sees his worth in what he can do, and right now, he doesn't feel like he's worth much. Despite my best efforts to convince him otherwise.

Accomplishing all that you have as a team with the network, and training with you

It meant a great deal to him.

It was something he was very proud of.



 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#) at 2013-11-17 05:09:53**

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

You think it's gone completely, don't you?

Mordred. That's so unfair.


Isn't there anything to be done? I mean, mightn't it just be temporary? Or surely Dumbledore knows how to reverse it.

No. I'm sorry. I know you must have thought of everything a hundred times over and you'll be so sick of people suggesting what

will surely work if only...

But I don't know what to say.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-17 08:33:33**

*Re: Private Message to Alice*

I'm not sure of anything. But we can't depend on it coming back.

I know Frank. His first impulse will be to pull away, and I'm not about to let him do that.

We're all going to have to sort out what we can do to be there for him, and what that looks like is going to be different for everyone. Regardless, he's going to need us.

Merlin knows, I'm trying to sort out what to say myself. But I'm going to keep trying.

**2013-11-16 12:39:00**

*Order Only: Saltash*

Tonks, Dorcas and I bring you greetings from the folks at Saltash, who have had an unnerving if exciting few days.



 [alt\\_kingsley](#)

We didn't have much trouble as I feared slipping in. MLE is doing sweeps of the perimeter, and we waited through four of them before we took the risk of making our move through the barrier. Looks like (today at least) they're following the Grephart pattern. Which suggests they're really worried and will be keeping a close eye on things.

We were quickly met once we were inside by sentries. Apparently, they're not relaxing their vigilance yet, but they report that no one has breached the barrier without knowledge from the Secret Keeper, which is certainly excellent news. They were still suspicious until one of them recognised Dorcas, and the sight of the medical supplies we had brought along banished the last of the hostility.

We were brought quickly to the Methodist church, which has been turned into a command center. There, we met more who recognised us, including two or three from Sherwood who had stayed to help with the mop up.

Here's the report: Census: 1,935. Of that number, about 250 were injured, and approximately thirty-five are in critical condition.

Assets: By great good luck, Frank managed to include an old muggle hospital within the protected area. And among the muggles in the area, some used to work there before the Protectorate rose. So they have more healers--what the Muggles call doctors and nurses--than by rights we would have expected any random group of Muggles to include.

The bad news is that the hospital has practically no supplies. The greatest number of injuries are due to burns, and they have little medicine for treatment, or even sterile bandages, so they're making due on the last with ripped up bedsheets that have been boiled. A dozen have died in the three days since the uprising from their burns. One doctor I spoke with broke down in tears as he described the death of a child he lost this morning.

We couldn't help them much with healing. Magic does NOT work within the protected area, neither passive nor active spells. (It's a damned peculiar feeling. I keep reaching for my wand and then remembering I can't use it. Tonks' hair changed colour as soon as we crossed the boundary, and she couldn't manage any alteration to her appearance while we were within the boundaries.)

We were worried that they wouldn't have enough housing, considering all the fires. But the wooden buildings that were torched were mostly warehouses. Most of the buildings in Saltash are brick, fortunately.

They managed to save about 60% of the cattle. Another fortunate break: there are estuaries that flow through the affected area on the way to the sea, so they will have fresh fish as an additional protein source, cut off as they are. There are also several sources of fresh water, enough for the community. There are several open public spaces big enough to turn into community gardens next year, and there are people knowledgeable about container gardening. They will need lots of seeds, of course.

There were about thirty camp and MLE personnel loyal to the Protectorate who were caught within when the boundary went up. They're 'no longer an issue.' Yes, Prentiss was in on the uprising, and he did do his best to bollux up the MLE response. He seemed to harbour some hope that would mean he'd continue in some kind of leadership role now that the scheme has succeeded beyond his wildest dreams, but the fact that he can't do magic anymore has put a crimp in his argument that he's best suited for the job. Although his contribution to Saltash's present situation has been acknowledged, Prentiss has a lot of arrogance that has won him few friends. Nor have people forgotten his willingness to carry out the more onerous Protectorate policies. There's to be an election within the next fortnight. I strongly suspect Prentiss isn't going to end up as mayor.

Most pressing need: we'll know more in the next week, as they are in the middle of doing a community inventory, but it's clear they're going to need more medical supplies. Bandages, Muggle medicines for treatment of burns. Our magical potions don't do much in terms of active healing, although the salves are better than nothing, I suppose. Even better would be a Muggle doctor who specialises in burn treatment.

They are going to need fuel to help keep people warm this winter. They have a Muggle engineer who is beginning to sketch out plans for a windmill or two, which may meet some of the need for power.

Certainly there's no lack of wind. We need to figure out some kind of conduit for getting supplies in and out. I doubt we'll be able to move much in via the rivers feeding into town, as MLE will be watching the shoreline.

They're interested in exchanges with Aldrichtown, Bedford and Sherwood. One suggestion was that the hospital might be a good place for retreat for any wounded fighters we may have in the future if the conflict grows. IF we can find a way to get the wounded in and supply it. Once the windmill is up and working, they would be interested in acting as another location for radio broadcast.

There are also about a dozen Muggleborn who are still thinking over whether they want to stay or not. They're free and for the first time they can use magic--except that they can't within the environs of Saltash. They have to decide whether they'd prefer to go to Aldrich, Sherwood or Bedford. Family ties will probably keep at least some of them there.

The Sherwood envoys have been doing an excellent job of calming people down, turning their thoughts to figuring out their needs, etc. Davidson has trained his people well.

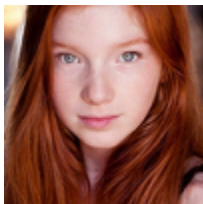
Overall, we're encouraged, and things are in good order for the most part, but there are pressing needs here, Alice. I've told them that we'll do what we can to help.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-16 18:48:57](#)  
(no subject)

Ugh.

Burns hurt a LOT.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-16 19:39:34](#)  
(no subject)

Madame P, might we come by and help roll more bandages?

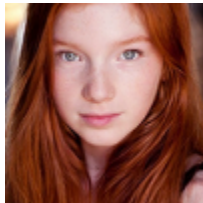
Would that be useful at all?




 [alt\\_poppy](#) at [2013-11-17 03:58:25](#)  
(no subject)

You may, of course. I would be pleased to supply the materials.


It might be best if you found a different place to undertake the project. The hospital wing is rather too well-visited to make a good place for surreptitious activities.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-17 04:10:10](#)  
(no subject)

We've got a place we can go.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-16 18:56:07](#)  
(no subject)

Nearly two thousand souls.


And managing very well, from what it seems. It bears very well for the future.

Far better than I'd hoped for.

They still might need some food support this winter -- we've got to anticipate that, and plan accordingly. And getting supplies regularly to them will be a challenge, especially if MLE continues to patrol the area. Next time you go, I'll have you take Lisa Turpin and Regina Lee to assess the field areas and do some initial planning for planting in the spring -- and there may be time yet for beans and cabbage crops this season, depending on the state of the soil. No doubt it will take a great deal of labour to prepare the fields, and they can help get that started. I'll also be sending them to Bedford to talk with them about sustainable veg growth, in case they need to convert some of their land over.

We'll be sure to ask around to see if there are any Muggle doctors who have that sort of training in our other locations, and can certainly help with salves and bandages in the meantime.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-16 19:00:05](#)**  
(no subject)

We've got a stock of burn salve from Charlie that we can send along, and can start making batches of our own as well. I'm assuming the button no longer works inside -- so yes, I agree, a radio that can both receive and transmit would be important to set up as well.


We might send over some of the people from Aldrich to help direct that process -- they have more experience setting up such things.



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-11-16 23:21:30](#)**  
(no subject)

Once I've cleared the area, I'm apparating there to pick some up. Thanks, Alice. But then I'm heading right back. They are going to try smuggling out two or three of the worst cases just outside the perimeter tonight on stretchers, and we'll see what we can do with field treatment spells. If we don't run into MLE sweeps, that is. I don't like it, and I wish we were closer to dark of the moon, but the worst of these patients can't wait.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-16 23:26:29](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, of course.

Be careful, Kingsley.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-11-16 19:10:23](#)**  
(no subject)

Is there any way to move the people who are really hurt, so they can be healed and then sent back inside?



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-11-16 19:41:58](#)**  
(no subject)

We can try that tonight, under cover of darkness. Unfortunately, there isn't much shelter in terms of buildings or foliage around the perimeter, so anyone moving through the area is quite exposed.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-16 20:27:24](#)**  
(no subject)

Could you dig a tunnel? Or half a tunnel, I mean -- start in the protected area, dig down, go over until you're outside the ward but still underground -- it would be hard to move the injured people through a tunnel, though.

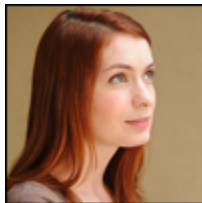
(I was watching my rat just now. Rats like tunnels, he sometimes tunnels through the blankets on my bed.)




 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-11-16 23:24:40](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, they're already discussing that as an idea.

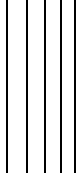
It would help if we had some geological maps of the area.




 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-17 00:12:59](#)**  
(no subject)

Bill, might you be able to get your hands on some? I suspect it would be easier to procure without Mulciber around, although you can expect interest in area maps to be fairly high with MLE, so make sure to cover your tracks.





 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-17 06:03:04](#)**  
*(no subject)*

I will see what I can do. And yes, I'll be careful.

**2013-11-16 14:49:00**

*(no subject)*

MEETING TONIGHT AT 8 SAME PLACE  
WHOEVER WANTS TO COME



 **alt\_galleon**

**2013-11-16 21:04:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Remus and Dora*



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

Four days later and I still have occasional spasms. Morgana, this not being able to be Padfoot is almost as bad as when Bella cursed me and I had to stay Padfoot.


Mostly it's just being stuck in this house all the time, with that wretched elf.

I've been thinking about what we can do to prevent him betraying us if something should happen to me. Obviously, the orders I've issued him never to contact anyone who hasn't been told the secret of the Fidelius is perfectly effective while I'm alive. The question is what he'll do once I'm no longer his master. Will he accept the will as it's written, will he decide that Bella or Narcissa are his new mistresses, will he defer to Draco or Hydra or will he go and hang himself with my father's bootlaces?

It's complicated, because my mother's will actually left the property to Narcissa but my father's magical protections meant she couldn't take possession of the house. I wrote a will as soon as we were able to open it up, of course. But will Kreacher honour it if I'm not in the picture?

I think there are a few possible solutions but none of them are guaranteed. Since I can't do much else with this ankle still healing, and with my tremors I better not handle sensitive potions measurement, we may as well discuss the options.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at **2013-11-17 03:27:53**

*(no subject)*

Right. The problem is partly that house-elf magic is odd, and spells that would work on humans are not guaranteed with house-elves.

You could order him to swear an Unbreakable Vow not to ever betray us, but whether that would actually bind a house-elf, I don't know.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-17 03:49:17](#)  
(no subject)

I think making him swear an Unbreakable Vow would be tantamount to killing him.

I suppose we *could* simply kill him. Put a new head on the wall. (No, not really.)




 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-17 03:47:25](#)  
(no subject)

I mean -- the house is going to stay hidden, because it's under Fidelius. If there's a way to magically bind him to the house so he can't leave, that's another option.

Could we put Dora back on the Tapestry? I mean essentially we need to ensure that there's a family member we LIKE who's next in line.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-17 03:51:55](#)  
(no subject)

I've never tried. I don't know the first thing about the spells woven into that musty old thing.

I was thinking there might be a simpler solution. Although maybe it's not so simple. I'm not sure how we'd make it official, honestly. I could adopt Dora.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-17 03:58:12](#)  
(no subject)

True. She's an orphan, so there's no obvious obstruction like a set of living parents. Though she's also a full adult -- does that sort of family magic work when the 'child' is nearly as old as the

'parent'?


Dora, what do you think of this idea?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:04:06](#)**  
(no subject)


There's another alternative. Or perhaps I should say an addition, if we can figure out how to arrange it.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:12:06](#)**  
(no subject)

Are you thinking of an additional adoption or a marriage of convenience?




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:14:27](#)**  
(no subject)

Marriage of convenience? To whom?


No, I was thinking of an adoption. If he wants to do it.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:15:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Harry?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:16:52](#)**  
(no subject)


Yes.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:24:31](#)**  
(no subject)


Oh, and for a marriage of convenience there's Doras Meadows. She'd keep you in line, I imagine.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-17 04:33:50](#)  
(no subject)

Dorcas Meadows? If we're going to bring a pureblood trophy wife into this equation, you could at least pick someone younger and more fit. Gwenog Jones, for example.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-17 04:42:45](#)  
(no subject)

The objective here is 'trustworthy,' not 'delightfully attractive woman to have on your arm at the Malfoy Christmas Party!'




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-17 04:45:25](#)  
(no subject)

Why settle for one or the other?

This is why you never excelled at Divination, Moony, you don't think big.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-17 04:55:15](#)  
(no subject)

I'll leave recruiting Gwenog to the Order up to you.




 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-17 04:16:44](#)  
(no subject)

I suppose our arrangements are already queer enough, what's another twist? Actually, I think it's lovely.

What do you suppose is required? I mean, it's not as though we can send the parchmentwork and payment along to some office in the Ministry. And we certainly can't march in and present ourselves for reclassification of familial ties. 'Do you, Miss Tonks, consent to be bound in filial relation to the arch-traitor Black?'


Do you suppose I'd be reclassified pure if you became my father? After all, that would make two of my parents purebloods.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:18:55](#)**  
(no subject)

I just realised this would also make Sirius Bea's grandfather. As if he doesn't spoil her enough already...




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:25:36](#)**  
(no subject)

That's just going to make my head spin.


And I don't spoil her any worse than you do. Just because I'm the fun one doesn't make me less of a disciplinarian.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:23:10](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, just as a wedding has both a civil component, where you sign papers and all that, and a magical component, there are spells parents do when they adopt a child. We could possibly do the magic part without the signing-of-papers-at-the-Ministry part, since we don't especially want the Protectorate to consider you Sirius's daughter -- what matters is Kreacher.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:23:22](#)**  
(no subject)

I think we'd have to obtain the proper parchment from the Ministry and then slip it in somehow without anyone noticing - if we went that route.


But there are magical binding spells - some of the same spells we used when James and Lily named me Harry's godfather - that create a filial bond. Similar to the traditional wedding spells but for a parent and child.

As for reclassification, nice try, but I don't think the Ministry

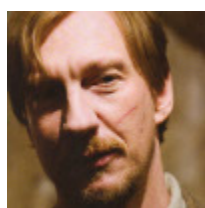
would take well to your being adopted by a wanted traitor, and one who's meant to be dead, at that!


Somehow I don't think you want them noticing.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-17 04:25:05](#)  
(no subject)


Bill could probably slip it in somewhere, surely.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-17 04:31:52](#)  
(no subject)

Another thought I had just now -- Hydra's already legitimately on the tapestry. So's Draco. You could burn off Bellatrix and Narcissa (and Lucius and Rabastan) but leave Draco and Hydra. They're Order members and -- ironically -- people Kreacher would probably be pleased to follow orders from. Especially Hydra, remember how he fawned over her?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-17 04:36:24](#)  
(no subject)

He did but that was before he figured out she's one of us.


Besides, it might solve the problem of Kreacher but it wouldn't necessarily ensure that you all have someplace to live if I pop my clogs.

Then again, I'm not on the tapestry either and he accepts me as his master, however reluctantly. So it might not fix anything.

Might be cathartic to blast them off, anyway.





 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:43:55](#)**  
(no subject)

True enough.

Maybe Albus would know. They do call them 'house elves,' maybe he's stuck with the house, and with the Fidelius in place we've nothing to worry about.




 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-17 05:09:30](#)**  
(no subject)

I think he'd go to Narcissa if he could do. The family have shuffled elves before - but in this case, he's under a direct order not to leave.

As for the Fidelius, it protects the house but you yourself pointed out that he could leave and tell them all manner of things he's overheard.


Whatever we do, I'm certainly going to sit him down and remind him that in my absence for any reason, including death, he's to follow you and Dora as his lawful master and mistress.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-17 05:27:53](#)**  
(no subject)

You could order him to tell you what would happen, but he might not even know.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:12:56](#)**  
(no subject)


Mordred, Morgana and Merlin.

Alice just told me - and this is confidential from the rest of the Order for now - but ever since he came out of his coma, Frank's been unable to do any kind of magic.

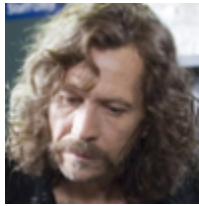
He's been rendered a Squib


They hope it's only temporary, of course. But there's no way to know.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:15:50](#)**  
(no subject)

That's not good.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:39:06](#)**  
(no subject)

No, it's not.

And Allie ... she's worried about him. About how he'll respond.

She said he described it like missing a limb but I'm sure it must be more like being rendered deaf, dumb and blind all at a single stroke.

He's got to be terrified. I know I would be.




 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:31:49](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh.

Oh, no.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-17 04:42:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah.

She wanted you to know since you work with him so much.

Actually it might be good if you wanted him to spar with you still. She said he's feeling dead sorry for himself and needs things to do.



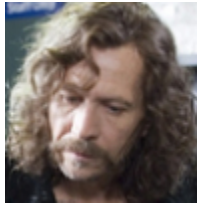
 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-11-17 05:27:40](#)  
(no subject)


I-

I can't imagine what even to say to him. Only, we-  
It's not something we could joke about.

I mean it IS something we joke about all the time when we're sparring. ('Lost your magic, there, old man?' 'A squib could block better than that!')

How horrible is that?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-17 05:44:21](#)  
(no subject)

I know.

When I was ten, there was a boy we knew, just about Reg's age. They decided he must have been a Squib. His parents Obliviated him and left him at a Muggle orphanage. We never heard what happened to him after that.

Not that we'd ever abandon Frank but - well, the idea of losing one's magic it's just ... unthinkable.

The main thing is not to treat him like an invalid just because he can't lift a wand at present. Normal as possible. And keeping him occupied.

I told Alice I'll come back out to Moddey and challenge him to a race or something. Also thought maybe he'd like to spend some time in Saltash since he can't do magic there even if he had the option. Might help him to get his mind off things.

Albus must have had a clue this might happen. He can't have just allowed Frank to try it without warning him this might be the consequence, surely.

**2013-11-16 23:12:00**

*Order Only Private Message to Albus  
Dumbledore*




I need to see you at once.

And don't think you can charm me into tolerating  
any evasions.

 [alt\\_poppy](#)



 [alt\\_albus](#) at **2013-11-17 05:47:45**  
(no subject)

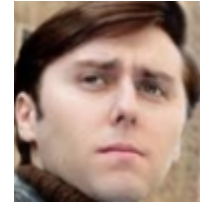
I am in my rooms, though I've appointments with  
several students in the morning.

**2013-11-17 12:20:00**

*Order Only: Galleon Meeting*

Hullo, Juniors,

I say, last night wasn't so bad, was it? I hope I didn't say anything to cause trouble but I've been going over my answers and I'm rather certain it was all right.



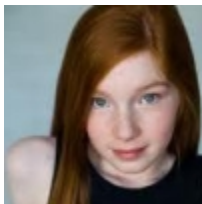
 [alt\\_justin](#)


I wanted to tell them about Saltash, what. When they were asking how Muggles live and such. Of course that would have been jolly disastrous since the official story in the papers came out. I say, then the questions should have taken on a much different tone, what!

Oh, and Draco, you probably saw at breakfast this morning but Hydra got an owl from her father; he's all right. He claims it wasn't much of an injury at all.

Anyone going flying after lunch?

-Justin



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at **2013-11-17 21:48:16**


*(no subject)*

I think it went very well. And I enjoyed hearing about the cinema very much.

I wonder what we ought to do next week?

Neville and I are supposed to know so little about our parents, I think it would be hard to talk about them and why they fought against the Protectorate, but I can tell that people are curious about it.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at **2013-11-17 23:13:46**

*(no subject)*

Evelyn,


I say, good thought. There's a Quidditch match on Saturday so perhaps we ought to meet on Friday or Sunday, as there's liable to be celebration in either Gryffindor or

Slytherin, depending on the day's outcome. (Let it be known that I, for one, am strictly neutral between the two Houses, what!)

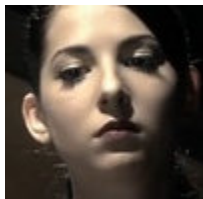
Perhaps in order to deflect attention merely from the two of you, we could discuss the war in more general terms. Since History of Magic doesn't cover anything recent, what, and what *is* covered in the approved texts is so dashed biased.

-Justin



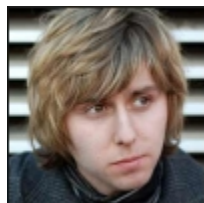
 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-18 00:07:32](#)  
(no subject)

Yes. I think that might be better. And we could certainly talk generally about what reasons pureblooded wizards could have had to work against something that would be in their favour.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-18 03:05:06](#)  
(no subject)

You know, maybe the topic could be 'what we know about the war that isn't in the approved texts' and we could start with the fact that Pansy's father was killed by Alecto Carrow. I mean, that's not even a particularly subversive thing to acknowledge, you know? So if people got utterly shocked we were saying it out loud we could change the subject.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-18 03:09:23](#)  
(no subject)


Sally-Anne,

There were some rather shocked expressions, what, when I mentioned that the Protectorate has its share of murderers; they're simply called something different. I know that was close to the line but I thought it needed to be said.

But beginning with Miss Professor Carrow is a good idea, since so many people loathed her (with good reason, apparently).

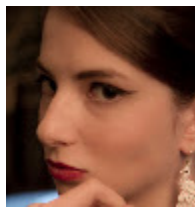
-Justin



 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-11-18 17:16:40](#)**  
(no subject)

I would be willing to talk about that.

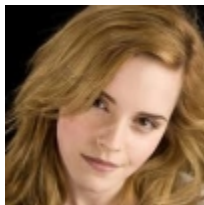
We might also talk about the number of Council members who have been killed by their own in the last four years or so.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-18 17:32:51](#)**  
(no subject)

How many of those are we supposed to know about? (Or, I mean, how many of those could we plausibly know about without access to the Order's information?)

There was Warrington -- he was killed by the Lord Protector, and loads of people heard that happen on the wireless.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-11-18 17:48:11](#)**  
(no subject)

I think if Draco and Harry and Hydra are there, no one will question how you lot know about anything to do with the Council.

I also think there's no way you can go on talking about these things without discussing secrets that the average person would never know.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-18 17:50:42](#)**  
(no subject)

Good point.




 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-11-19 02:28:55](#)**  
(no subject)

We can bring up a lot of the trickier stuff, too.  
Me and Hydra and Draco, I mean.

We might even work up to talking about what  
really happened at Kerry.

Do you think they'd be ready for something like that?




 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-11-18 07:10:50](#)**  
*Private Message to Luna*

Did you see what Moon wrote?

I suppose if Artie were the type to be scared away,  
he'd have flown for the hills before now.

Merlin. It's embarrassing enough just being me sometimes. I don't  
need any help.




 **[alt\\_luna](#)** at **[2013-11-19 02:09:58](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Luna*

It's so odd how someone as kind and well-meaning  
and clever as Linus Moon can be so spot on perfect  
at making people feel hot-faced and awkward.

He *means* well. Which is something. Not much comfort, though,  
when your blushes could keep a salamander warm!

I do like Artie. Not for myself, I mean! But for you. I hope he isn't  
scared away.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-11-19 02:21:12](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Luna*

I like that you like him.

I hope so too.

There is rather a lot to be scared by, after all.



And I'd rather be called an endangered blossom than a half-wit, so there's that too.

**2013-11-17 17:41:00**

*It is good to see...*

... that the youth of today have not lost the powers of gallantry which heaped up treasure of reputation to those of old, nor that sense of honour which garlanded the brows of heroes ever.



 [alt\\_linus](#)

*"Awake! Advance!  
Lo! Chivalry, your ancient goddess, cries...."*

Learning to comport oneself as befits one fortunate enough to be living in Our Lord's Protectorate is a worthy endeavour, and to that end, the escorting of one's fellows to class and the practice of old-fashioned etiquette is a worthy task indeed for all of us at Hogwarts (and particularly for some I could mention). Yet even in these days where good behaviour sometimes seems conspicuous by its absence -- I will not name certain third-years, but you know who you are, and so does Mr Milland -- there are those who strive to improve themselves by practising the old-fashioned virtues. Speaking as a prefect, I should like to see more of the gentlemen in our younger set comporting themselves thus, and taking inspiration and instruction from the privilege of acting as attentive friends to those young ladies who grace these venerable halls with their presence and whose accomplishments in learning are an inspiration to us all.

(Speaking of which, Padma, I have got some amendments to proffer to the new schedule of revising in company that you have proposed. I trust we shall manage to accommodate your schedule, mine, and that of Miss Brown, with just a few minor adjustments.)

But it is not only in the one direction that good influence is bestowed! As the poets have sung, it is also possible for stalwart friends to safeguard and even redeem th'endangered blossom, which though it may spring from the mire, yet aspires upward to better things -- and should we not all encourage each other to make the most of our talents in service to the Protectorate, however great or small they may be? For certainly chivalry is a better invitation to excellence and right use of one's abilities and skills than are base taunts and rudenesses.

I trust my point is clear.

---




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-11-17 23:52:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Finch-Fletchley's been 'escorting' Hydra Lestrangle to her lessons for almost two years. Why start praising him now all of a sudden? And I don't know about you but I wouldn't call her an 'endangered blossom' either.

(Seamus needs the revising timetable as it stands because he'd been missing at least one session because of History Club. So it can't change all that much. But what did you have in mind?)



 **[alt\\_linus](#)** at **[2013-11-18 00:24:01](#)**  
(no subject)

I am not speaking of Finch-Fletchley, Padma; I am referring to a young Ravenclaw who is showing his worth. And certainly cultivating all of the Protectorate's garden, as it were, despite the unfortunate and hostile environs from which certain plants have sprung, as it were, is the duty of all of us, hmm?

(As to the timetable, I was just hoping for a few little shifts. I'll show you what I had mapped out. ~~But by all means let us not discommode your precious Fin~~ But if it cannot be altered, then it cannot.)




 **[alt\\_padma](#)** at **[2013-11-18 00:39:31](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't think it's all that worthy to play copy-cat to a French import, even if he *is* one of the cleverest in our year. And Ross's choice is hardly worthy of praise--or protection. (Yes, I heard him talking about that in the tower. Honestly, if she can't look after herself then what's she doing in Gryffindor?)

And besides that, what's Ross meant to do if certain people--who have a perfect right to be upset, by the way--decide that a Longbottom ought to be held accountable for what another Longbottom is said to have done? I think you're losing sight of the fact that McLaggen lost his brother, who was a Councilwizard, quite probably at the hands of a traitor. Some of us know what that's like.

I'm not saying that McLaggen should take it out on Longbottom--I mean, it's not *her* fault her father's a madman--but I hardly think Ross would be able to stop him if he did something rash. (Not to mention the fact that McLaggen's a Prefect and Ross isn't. And a Gryffindor, and he isn't that, either.)



 [alt\\_padma](#) at [2013-11-18 00:42:53](#)

*Private Message to Linus*

And another thing: You know Draco Malfoy thinks that Neville Longbottom has been putting on an act all these years, and isn't nearly as thick as he wants people to think. Draco thought that Longbottom might actually be in contact with those traitor parents of his. He used to say that Longbottom was learning Defence outside of school and who do you think would be teaching him?

So you might not want to seem all admiring of the Longbottoms. If you know what's good for you.

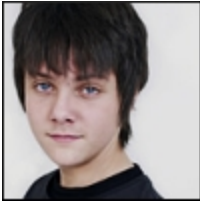


 [alt\\_linus](#) at [2013-11-18 02:21:03](#)

*Re: Private Message to Linus*

Merlin's levitating toastrack, Padma! I'm hardly admiring Longbottoms qua Longbottoms; I am speaking of the prudent and sensible cultivation of a young student who seems to have something of a gift for Arithmancy, and the channeling of her talents and associations into those pathways which lead to greater loyalty and service to the Protectorate. Besides which, honestly, I thought you had better sense than to mistake Malfoy's japes as serious suggestions. Perhaps it is true what they say about certain Ravenclaws being unable to recognise a joke when it apparates right next to them.

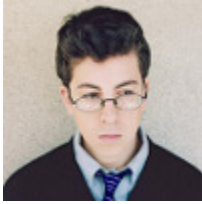
Also, anyone who discerns the outlines of a traitorous mastermind in Neville Longbottom is flat out barking, I must say. The only things to which he could be an effective danger are the populations of aphids and bore-beetles in Professor Sprout's greenhouses -- but if it makes your day more exciting to imagine him as an operative for the forces of evil, by all means proceed with your fabulising.




 **[alt\\_michael](#)** at **[2013-11-18 05:13:32](#)**  
(no subject)

Moon, do you imagine we'd use our talents in something other than service to the Protectorate? Or that we'd use anything other than our talents in its service?

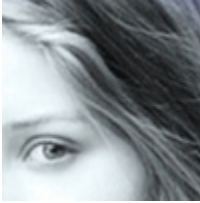
I'm just asking for clarification cuz it could probably be either one.




 **[alt\\_linus](#)** at **[2013-11-18 05:34:16](#)**  
(no subject)

I only imagine the best for all of my fellow students, and I trust that all of us will encourage one another along the way.

As long as you are doing your best and also accepting guidance from those appointed to assist you along life's often challenging paths, Corner, I am sure you will not go too far wrong. Excelsior!




 **[alt\\_lavender](#)** at **[2013-11-19 03:39:18](#)**  
*Private Message to Linus*

I don't suppose *my* favourite Ravenclaw gentleman is available for some private revising time this week?

I'm sorry I wasn't more social last week--I simply didn't want you to see me at my most wan and ill.



 **[alt\\_linus](#)** at **[2013-11-19 18:27:19](#)**  
*Re: Private Message to Linus*

Ah, fairest creature, nothing could dim your radiance to the truly discerning eye, as the poets say. I trust the owl found you to deliver the basket of sweets last night. Aren't the marzipan princesses and dragons cunning? Professor Siz gets all her treats from them, and she told me the bakery are doing some owl orders now to get ready for the Yule rush, so I thought I'd have some delectables sent to my favorite Gryffindor.

Yes, I think some private revising time could certainly be arranged.

| It would be a shame to neglect the joys of mutual learning, as it were.

**2013-11-17 22:32:00**

*Private Message to L Malfoy and A Dolohov*



 **alt\_crouch\_jr**

Have been trying to learn news of Mulciber's condition, but there's nothing. The curse specialists were all cloistered when Bella and I stopped in (on pretext of having a word with Kosta re. Rod's recuperation). Found one lone pill and potions deliverer, who knew nothing. Completely useless.

Ran into Strangeweale in the atrium on our way out. Wanted to know if we'd heard Maule's been muttering threats re. the demise of his underling, McLaggen. Suppose Maule's got hold of more than the official version of that business.

Will let you know if I learn anything further on either front. Mulciber, particularly.



 **alt\_lucius** at **2013-11-18 17:37:38**  
(no subject)

It would seem your assertion was premature.

Heard that he's been removed from St M's and is recuperating at home. Comfortably.

Rookwood tells me Strangeweale's laboratories have been lit at all hours again, as well.



 **alt\_crouch\_jr** at **2013-11-19 04:26:55**  
(no subject)

Yes, blast it. There were couriers running all day between MLE and Mulciber's lair. Forney says they're not likely to get any current work done until he's back because he wants every minute's activity accounted for by every enforcer, summarised by each op lead, and sent over hourly. Perhaps one of them will do for him if his recuperation drags out too long.

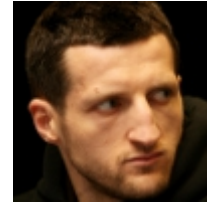
Heard similar reports re. Mysteries today from several sources.

**2013-11-18 10:49:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

These files are a mess. Why didn't you alphabetise them when you put them in my office?

I want to see the actual budget numbers for Halfblood Affairs, I don't trust this 'executive summary' they sent me.



 **alt\_corax**



**2013-11-18 10:53:00**

*Private message to Cadmus*

I'm glad to hear you're on the mend. No thanks to anyone at St Mungo's.

We should see to it that Mysteries sees a budget rise.



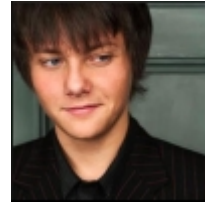
 **alt\_corax**

**2013-11-18 10:55:00**

*Private Message to Mum and Dad*

Thanks for the pocket watch. It's dead brilliant.

Bets wants to know if we can have a proper celebration when we get home at Christmas. I told her she doesn't need any more cake. She's getting plump enough as-is. (Seriously, Mum, remind her that too many transfigured turnips are not good for her, even if they're made to taste like cake. Real cake ought to be right out!)



 [alt\\_michael](#)

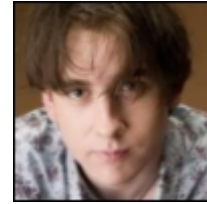
Mum, you asked about Sally-Anne Perks: She's with Ron Weasley now, but I think we can be mates again. In fact I think I understand a little better why it didn't work out with the two of us. No, there haven't been any other girls yet, and no, I don't think any of the fit ones would have me, anywiz. I told you, Mandy's just a mate. Anywiz I'm not ready to settle down or anything yet!

Terms's been all right so far, hard to believe it's almost over. Course, it'd be hard not to be better than last year but 6th isn't so bad. This week was a little weird, though. I mean, we showed up for Noble Arts and Professor Doves was nowhere in sight, so we left. Then Transfiguration was right bizarre, I mean I've never seen Professor Brutka in such a bad mood. Not that I'm complaining, I mean, it was great to be able to spend lessons reading and catching up for once. We've got loads of assignments for the end-of-term and it seems like there's always a mountain of work no matter what. It's been okay, though. Since I'm working with Sue, Mandy, and Macmillan for Noble Arts we've also been working together sometimes in other lessons we share. And if one or more of us isn't in a particular lesson we've got other partners. Plus there's the group that was working on O.W.L.s together last year, we've decided to start meeting again and it's been really interesting. I mean, what everyone else is working on, and things like that.

Anywiz, don't worry, everything's fine, and I'm sending Gran a thank-you letter for Grandad's ring, I know she has trouble keeping track of the journals and never checks.

**[2013-11-18 20:10:00](#)**

*Order Only: Private message to Mum and Dad*



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

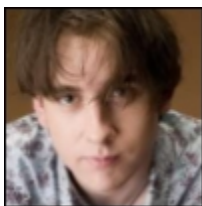
We're back in classes, and it hasn't been too bad so far. Mostly dark looks and muttered comments in the corridor, that sort of thing. Nothing we can't handle. McLaggen is away from school for the funeral right now. Perhaps it'll be more tense when he's back, but for now, Evelyn and I are doing all right.


We had a meeting last night with the slightly larger group of students who we think would be more open to hearing things besides 'Hip, hip, hurrah for the Protectorate.' The ostensible reason is it's a revision group, but it's also a *discussion* group. Don't worry, we're being careful. No one's quite worked up the nerve to ask what Evelyn or me think of the two of you. Mostly, they are very curious about Justin, because he lived in France and rubbed shoulders with Muggles on a day to day basis. They're still trying to wrap their brains around that. They ask things like:

- Is it frightening to be around Muggles?
- Are there Muggle things you miss?
- Is the pollution terrible?
- Did you ever worry things like that someone would shoot you with a gun and you couldn't defend yourself because you had to keep your magic secret?
- Did you live like Muggles? How did you stand it?

Justin's been ever so patient with the questions. Even the most impertinent ones. I think it's working, a little, to open up people's minds to the idea that people who can't do magic might actually be good for something besides being objects of horror.

We've thrown out ideas about what we might talk about in future meetings. Someone suggested reading books that aren't, you know, quite the proper thing. Even banned ones maybe. I suggested *The Christmas Carol*. Hey, it's the right time of year.



 **[alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-19 02:28:06](#)**


*Private message to Mum*

Reading over the journal entries from the last week, I just wanted to say this:

I'm dead proud that the Order voted you in as their leader. Well, one of them, anyway. You're really good at this, you know, Mum? You took some big risks this week, and it's paid off. Not just one, but two collectives that might actually be free. I know what happened with Mr McGivern was dead awful, but I can't think of anyone in the Order who could have pulled off a better result.

I'm proud that you're my Mum. Dead chuffed about it, really. I'd like to be able to say that to some of the people sneering at me and Ev at school. But I'm not even tempted, really. It's like whatever jeering things they say hardly matter at all, in the face of what you've done.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-19 04:04:21**

*Re: Private message to Mum*

Oh, Neville.

Thank you.

I'll give credit where credit's due -- Albus and your father made an enormous sacrifice, and things would've looked very different if not for their efforts. And I'm only ever as effective as the people I work with -- what they are capable of, and what they are willing to do. And I have the great privilege to work with the very best of men and women, yourself included.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-19 06:25:06**

*Re: Private message to Mum*

And love.

Promise me something.

What your father did, what he was prepared to do, he did at great risk to himself. It was a great sacrifice.

But Neville, know that I do not take joy in sending people into mortal danger, and I do not do so lightly. I must weigh abilities, risks, and benefits.

For instance, Bill, Molly, Charlie, and the twins all work openly in the Protectorate. If any of them were to fight openly in the camp rebellion and were seen, it would directly impact the entire Weasley family. Likewise, if you or your schoolmates were to engage our

enemies in a direct way and your identities were discovered, the consequences would be permanent.

I would only make that decision if we were in such a place and time when there would be no point in turning back -- to have a state of war where there would be no option for any of you to return to school or attempt to find work in the Protectorate.

I am not sure if that moment will ever come.

I would also not willingly send people into a fight to which they were not prepared. I know you and your friends are training, and training hard, but you still have a ways to go.


What I'm asking you for is to wait. I know it's hard, but don't be so very eager to join in a fight. Remember that sometimes, holding back to live for another day is the best possible choice.

You're young.

And when one is young, one often thinks of oneself as invincible. It's my job to tell you that you aren't, and to weigh the risk of discovery against the help any of you could provide.

I want you to have the opportunity to grow old.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-19 23:04:10](#)

*Re: Private message to Mum*


Well, I want you and Dad to grow old, too.

I'm doing what I can, short of fighting because it's all out war. You know I'm patient. I had to be, to have to wait so long to find out the truth about the Order.

I understand about why it's important to wait. But I have to straight up warn you that even though I intend to obey orders, I may act if I'm in a situation where my friends have their backs up against the wall and we don't have time to ASK for orders. If we get into a jam and we have to use our initiative. That's what we did with Sarah Fawcett, and that's what we did with Madam Umbridge.

Yeah, I know we've been lucky so far, and that luck might not last. So I understand how important it is to prepare. And to be careful.



 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2013-11-19 23:05:08**

*Re: Private message to Mum*

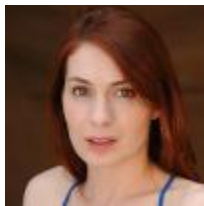
You said that Dad made a 'great sacrifice' for Saltash. Twice you said it.

Are you just going to leave it there? Or are you going to tell me?

I'll keep it from Ev, if you insist. But you know I'm going to guess at it. Do you think my guesses will be worse than what actually happened?

You can order me to keep my nose out of it if you want, I guess. If you do, I'll follow your orders.

But he's my Dad. Since you said it twice, I wonder if deep down you're really wanting to tell me.



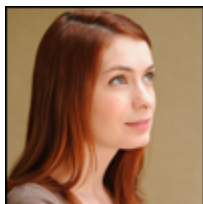
 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-19 23:34:38**


*Re: Private message to Mum*

He could have died, love.

And very nearly did.

Albus told him of the risks beforehand, and it was a price he was willing to pay. What he won for it was nothing short of miraculous. But what he did was dangerous and experimental, and we're still sorting out what tolls it has taken. He's not in any immediate danger, and regaining his strength, but is still very much in the process of recovering.



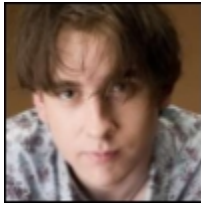
 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-11-19 23:20:57**


*Re: Private message to Mum*

Yes. Sarah Fawcett was well done. But Poppy and Severus both expressed concerns that the Hogwarts contingent was planning to go to Saltash, which was worrisome. It would've given

me more to handle rather than less, and I'd rather trust that you know when to stay put. I'm glad you did this time around. I don't want to have to worry about it next time.

I can't anticipate everything -- you're right about that much. And I know you all are capable of functioning and make decisions independently if something happens too immediately to sort out what to do. But deciding independently whether to go to Saltash is a different matter entirely.



 **alt\_neville** at **2013-11-19 02:40:20**

*Private message to Dad*

Artemus Ross has been walking Evelyn to just about all of her classes. I think he's actually happy to have an excuse to do it.

He really is sweet on her. It's all I can do to keep from laughing, because she gets SO embarrassed about it (especially after that journal entry that Linus Moon put up--did you SEE that?), but I do like the bloke. He's quiet, but that suits her, you know?

I think you'd like him, too, Dad. He's with the larger group we're getting together with to talk about things. I haven't heard him say anything that makes me worried, and he doesn't suck up to that snooty lot of Ravenclaws who hang around in the library and look down their noses at everybody.

If she stays interested in him, I hope he'll have a chance to learn the truth. Maybe even visit Moddey some day. It's early days to tell right now, though.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-19 03:57:00**


*(no subject)*

It sounds absolutely brilliant.

I am constantly amazed and pleased with what you all come up with as a group, and the very real changes you're making at Hogwarts as a result of your actions. I know Dolores Umbridge and the Carrows were terrors, and I find it the ultimate irony that they ultimately have done an incredible service in opening the eyes of our young people.

As I've told Evie before, we won't truly win this until most people believe that what we're doing is the right thing. Even when we've overthrown the Protectorate once and for all, that still will just be the first step towards healing the damage that's been done, and sorting out what will take its place will be an incredible challenge. And your generation will forge that future. Based on what I've seen so far, we're all in very good hands.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-19 07:16:05](#)**  
(no subject)

Your father's still on the mend, and some things are a bit tricky for him at the moment -- he can still read the journals, and everything you write him, but can't write back right now.

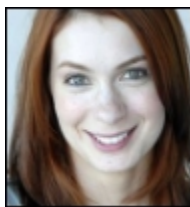
I'm more than willing to play secretary, though, so if you or Evie want to write him, I can tell you his response. He might also be up for writing letters later -- we'll have to see.


He laughed at what you wrote, and said to tell you 'Good to hear, make sure he keeps his nose clean.'



 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-11-19 22:52:12](#)**  
(no subject)

I can't loom as effectively as Dad can, I suppose. But I don't think we have to worry that Artie's going to make Evelyn uncomfortable in any way.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-19 23:48:47](#)**  
(no subject)

You're certainly getting there. Goodness, you've grown taller even since this summer, it feels like.



**2013-11-18 20:50:00**

*Order Only: Strangeweale's man*

If I'd realised a little limp in my step would make significant inroads with Strangeweale's man I'd have faked it a long time ago.



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

I tested my transformation and everything felt fine - except, as I said, I'm still weak on the right side. Between the foreleg still twitching now and then and the limp on the hind leg, I suppose Padfoot must look like he's had a minor stroke.

Well, regardless of how it looked, as I say, it inspired the sympathy of Strangeweale's manservant. He concluded that my rundown state was linked to the fact that I haven't been round for a while, which was of course correct but not quite in the way he thought. He went back inside and found some scraps to bring out. As I nibbled, he muttered that I was lucky the master's been 'burning midnight oil' again.

As if that weren't ominous enough, he said something about how lucky *he* was that the Master's 'scheme' paid off. From what I could gather, Strangeweale's mood has been swinging for three days - first frightened for his life, then triumphant, now smug as anything. And getting close to the Mulcibers, too. 'You look sharp if they're ever visiting,' he told me. 'And they'll probably visit again, now.' He then went on to describe the sorts of things he suspected they might do to a poor mutt who might happen to get in their way. From the look on his face, I think he might have some first-hand knowledge, poor sod.

I nursed the scraps as long as possible since he was in a talkative mood, but soon enough he decided he'd better get back in to his chores. At least I got an invitation to drop by again, provided the master wasn't in to notice. 'Not that he does much but sleep when he *is* here,' he said. "'Commuting,'" he calls it. All those trips from the Ministry to his private stockade. Says it's not good for his health. *His* health, if you please.'

Sounds like whatever saved Cadmus Mulciber from that curse of mine, Strangeweale had something to do with it.


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 **[alt\\_lupin](#)** at **[2013-11-19 02:56:53](#)**  
(no subject)


Fascinating. The manservant's a muggleborn, isn't he?  
Think we could bring him over to our side?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-19 03:01:44](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes. I'm sure we can; he clearly doesn't care for  
Strangeweale at all. It'll just take a few more visits.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-19 03:42:55](#)**  
(no subject)

It also sounds like his prisoners are being kept off-  
site.

Which changes things a bit, for the better. We might  
not have to infiltrate the Department of Mysteries after all.

**2013-11-19 08:39:00**

*Private Message to A Dolohov and L Malfoy*



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

Needn't have worried about the length of recovery. Mulciber's back at his desk.

Nature of recovery, however. Physically a wreck, but his magic. Has just blasted a hole the size of a wardrobe in the wall of interrogation dungeon. Sent Truncheon to St M's.



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 [alt\\_antonin](#) at **2013-11-19 20:25:04**

*(no subject)*

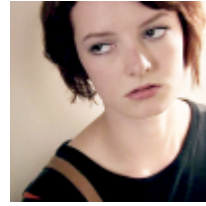
Goodness. That's unusual, both that he's out of StM's and that he's recovered so ... dramatically. Does rumour have anything to say about the cause?

I'm certain the three of us are overjoyed that he is feeling better, of course. Perhaps we ought to send him flowers.

**2013-11-19 10:45:00**

*Private message to Lana Sandoval*

Anything new on your end? I heard they've got Antonin Dolohov trying to work out what they did at Saltash and have a new set of regulations for farms.



 [alt\\_rachel](#)

I *also* heard Cadmus Mulciber's back at work and put Truncheon in St Mungo's. What on earth did Truncheon do to hack him off? It's quite a turnaround since last week, when rumour had it he was at death's door. (Anyway, if you're heading into the office -- steer clear!)

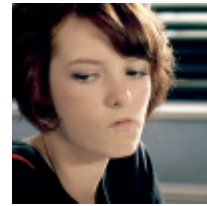
I've been going through the materials records from Saltash (incoming food, outgoing commodities, that sort of thing) and cross-checking them with similar camps to see if I can spot any interesting patterns but so far, it looks exactly like any other muggle camp. Well, any other muggle camp with animal husbandry. Lower veterinary bills than some, don't know if that's because they kept cows and goats and sheep get sick more often -- I didn't grow up with animals. Hmm.

Anyway, keep me posted if you turn anything interesting up, would you? It might give me a useful direction for this audit.

**2013-11-19 11:00:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*


First, do you know when Corax is going to be done with those files? (You don't have to ask him! I'm just wondering if you have any thoughts on what he wants them for. Whether it would help if I asked him nicely if I could have them, or if I'll get them faster if I leave him alone.)



 [alt\\_rachel](#)

Second, this is sort of a random question but I really know absolutely nothing about animal husbandry and I know your family keeps goats. Do you know offhand whether goats are more or less expensive than other animals, in terms of the food they eat, the supplies they need, and the veterinary healing they typically require? I mean, if you compared a herd of goats to a herd of cows, which would you expect to be more costly in the long term?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-11-19 23:39:14**  
(no subject)

Answer the first: no idea what he wants them for or how long he intends to keep them. Note: he was irked that they weren't alphabatized. They WERE alphabatized when I put them in his in-box. I suspect you didn't bother with that detail when you put them back. I have not mentioned to him that you had first crack at them. He was quite adamant that he wanted to see them before you did. Let's leave him in his happy certainty that you deferred to him to see them first. A happy Corax Mulciber is (usually) a marginally less dangerous Corax Mulciber.

Come to think of it, if you *were* to ask him for them, that would underscore the impression that you haven't seen them yet. He was in an ~~uncharacteristically~~ cheerful mood this afternoon, because apparently his brother is now making a rapid recovery. So it might be an ideal time to make your request.

Answer the second: Oh, cows would definitely be more expensive. They require more fodder, their pregnancies last longer, and they are much more particular about what they will eat. Goats will eat practically anything (which my Mum has been known to observe mournfully whenever one gets a hold of her sleeve if she's not paying close attention and manages to chew a hole in it).

(And I can't help wondering why you're asking me this.)



 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-11-20 01:13:23**

*(no subject)*

Of course I put the file back in its proper spot! His clerk might have gone rummaging, though.

In any case, that's a good thought. I'll ask for them tomorrow, to reinforce the idea that he's had access to them and I haven't, and plan on a few more days that no doubt he'll hold on to them out of sheer spite whether he actually needs them or not.

In the meantime I can keep going through these financial records. The odd thing is that every camp I've looked at so far has exactly the same veterinary care and supply budget, which seems odd, as they have different sorts of animals (Saltash had cows -- well, might still have cows behind the ward. Taunton Deane, on the other hand, has a flock of sheep and it's a much smaller flock but the same budget. Stroud has goats, and again, same budget. I should check Epping; it's enormous, and I think they've got multiple animal husbandry operations going, so surely their budget will be higher.) It just makes me wonder where they're pulling numbers from. Food budgets are pegged to the size of the camp. Staff budgets are set based on the number of wizards employed there. If it were graft, I'd expect to see one camp that was markedly higher. Probably someone set the figure at some point and no one's altered it since. (I mean, the camp with the goats isn't going to say, 'oh, goats will eat anything! we don't need this much money!')




 **alt\_rachel** at **2013-11-20 01:17:15**

*(no subject)*

But really, I'd have thought that a budget for animal husbandry expenses would be pegged to the head count of the precise animal -- like, if you've got a flock of sheep, one would expect to see a certain number of galleons per head per year to cover food and everything else. (They're all cared for by muggles, of course, and adding muggle labour to the expense calculation would be unnecessarily complex, but I'd think this number would include the food, any veterinary healing, and I suppose the shears if you're raising sheep for wool and ... I don't know. Bags for the wool. Bottles for the milk

if you're keeping dairy cows. I guess part of what's frustrating is that this is absurdly far outside my area of expertise, but I can't think of any reason that, say, 500 cows would cost the same as 200 sheep, or however many it was.)




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-20 02:40:44](#)  
(no subject)

Huh. That does seem odd.

Although...



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-20 02:42:26](#)  
(no subject)

I don't suppose you'd let me look over those figures by any chance? I'd be curious to see which camps are involved. Or are the figures the same for all the ones you've checked?




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-20 02:44:15](#)  
(no subject)

I did pull Epping, and the figure was higher for Epping, at least. I haven't looked at the other really large camps yet.

You can look at them if you want. I'm still at the office if you want to come over now (and Corax is long gone).



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-20 02:51:09](#)  
(no subject)

I'm recalling something my father briefly mentioned in passing several years ago.


If I'm correct, the *ostensible* reason for the line item in the budget may not be the real one.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-20 02:52:25](#)  
(no subject)

Oh *really*. Do tell.




 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-20 03:06:16](#)  
(no subject)

Humour me first, and satisfy my curiosity. What made you choose to go into Malfeasance Elimination Unit, Auror Lamont? Or more specifically, what sort of Malfeasance are you burning to eliminate?


Budgets can be very...*elastic* creations, don't you think? Are you open to the idea of fostering such creativity, as long as Malfeasance is indeed truly being eliminated? Even if it's not perhaps the exact, specific type you'll find in the MLE code book?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-20 03:06:37](#)  
(no subject)

This is, of course, an entirely hypothetical question.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-20 03:15:39](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, you have no *idea* what sort of *hypothetical* oddities you'll find in an average departmental budget. It's corruption I'm looking for, but on many occasions I've wandered down some enticing hole in the numbers only to find someone who was getting entirely legitimate expenses reimbursed under entirely the wrong budget.

Are you talking about the sort of scenario where there was extra money in one budget, so they pulled money out of it for something that should have gone in another column? Like




when someone needs an assistant but there's no money left in the staffing budget so the assistant gets hired and the salary gets charged to the bit set aside for office supplies on the grounds that an 'assistant' is a type of 'supply' and everyone's just extra careful with their quills until the next fiscal year?

Everyone does that and it's really only a problem from my perspective because it wastes so much of my time when it LOOKS like the sort of thing I'm looking for (which is corruption, mostly -- bribery, people charging for unused veterinary supplies and pocketing the extra, that sort of thing.)

I'm confident your father wasn't pocketing the money because if he were, you'd never have mentioned it to me (surely!) Or if he was, you don't suspect him of it. So what's being charged to veterinary expenses at nearly every (possibly every) muggle camp in the Protectorate?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-20 03:29:05](#)  
(no subject)

No, this was done, I swear, for the good of the Protectorate. For the good of the animals.

Here's a hint: go back and look at when that line item started showing up in camp budgets. I believe it was about five years back.

Then go back to the previous year before that and check the Muggle maternal death rate. Due to complications related to, er, dropping calves.


Compare it to the maternal death rate this year.

See the difference? It's entirely due thanks to the excellence and reliability of those 'animal husbandry services.' But those services wouldn't have made it into the budget at all if they had been called what they really were.

I daresay that for that very reason, Corax Mulciber will cut them immediately if you say something about it.

I sincerely hope that you don't.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-20 03:29:52](#)  
(no subject)

It's clear, by the way, that you never met my father. If you had, you'd realise ~~what an~~ in the utter absurdity of suggesting that he ever did anything at the Ministry merely to enrich himself.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-20 03:33:59](#)  
(no subject)

Don't be absurd, Bill. I learned a long time ago not to assume that someone couldn't possibly be embezzling simply because they seemed honest and forthright and sincere. Liars and cheats wouldn't get far if they couldn't convince the people around them they were honest.

So. Healers for muggle mothers. Fascinating. I guess the thing I'm really curious about is how this got slipped past the Camp Administrators? I'm sure that bloke who was selling muggle girls to be hunted and marking their deaths down as 'in camp' wouldn't have hired healers for muggles.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-20 03:44:34](#)  
(no subject)


I don't remember all the details, but I think much of it went to midwife training, and simple kits to give to the mothers. So the information and materials were dispensed among the women themselves, you see. Even if they didn't have a healer--or a veterinarian--available at the birth, they would have the know how to keep the area sterile, and to cut the cord with something that wouldn't spread disease. Better outcomes, you see.

The program has saved lives, more workers for the Protectorate, you see. Very convenient, for very little extra cost.

Are you going to raise a stink about it? If you do, I'm sure

Corax Mulciber would probably be happy to hex the line item off the spread sheets.




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-11-20 03:47:13](#)**  
(no subject)

I don't report to Corax, and this isn't the sort of thing I'm trying to stamp out.

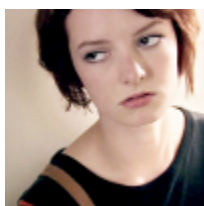
But someone must have bought the kits, arranged the training, and distributed them in the camps. Was it your father?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-20 04:02:59](#)**  
(no subject)

He knew about it. After the fact. But he kept it quiet.

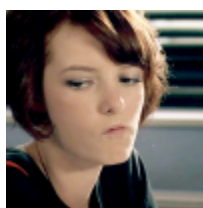
As to who did the implementation, I don't have any idea. Someone in Muggle Domestication, I suppose. Dad was only the Liaison to that Department, so HE didn't have any oversight into their budgets.




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-11-20 04:05:10](#)**  
(no subject)

I wonder if it's someone who's still there.

They've had a bit of turnover, these last few years.

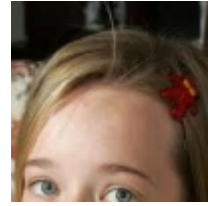


 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-11-20 02:45:04](#)**  
(no subject)

And I meant to say, the figures are the same for all the smaller camps I looked at, despite the differences in the herds.

**2013-11-19 12:02:00**

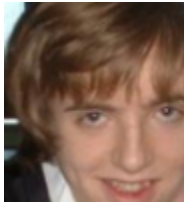
*private message to Ernie*




 **alt\_megan**

Did you see McLaggen? Now that he's back, I mean? Miss Penworthy says that grief affects people differently. But I think McLaggen might be having one of the more active forms of grief. He looks like a thundercloud about to break. I am glad I am not in Gryffindor today. Well I am glad of that most days, but you know what I mean. It would probably be clever to stay out of his way.

Do you want to walk by the lake later? We could keep out of his way together.



 **alt\_ernie** at **2013-11-19 22:37:01**  
(no subject)

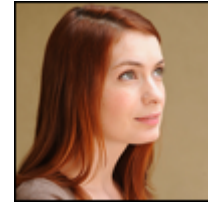
Sorry we got rained out. Gave us a good chance to practise drying charms, though!

I can't blame McLaggen, though. If I were him I wouldn't half be upset, losing his brother. Not sure how he'll be at the Prefects' meeting tomorrow. I heard Fintan's also fit to bite the head off anyone who looks at him crosswise, too. At least he's only a third-year so the damage he could do would be minimal.

Do you suppose this means he'll be trying to take on his brother's place in the Council? Or that he'll have any special compensation? (If he died defending the Protectorate, sometimes the family gets a medal or something.) Or do you think they'll not do anything since he was in the Council for so little time?

**2013-11-19 16:27:00**

*ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Poppy and Severus*



 **alt\_alice**

There is no immediate change.

It is a distinct challenge to keep him in bed and resting. As he's restless and as he's physically in fairly good shape, it's difficult for him to feel the need. He continues to take the potion regimen (thank you, Severus, for bringing that by).

Poppy, I'm trying to engage him in activities that will keep him occupied without wearing him out -- helping with logistical planning, for instance. Is that the right thing to do? Can he be a bit more physically active, or should we keep him bed bound? He's attempting to avoid the impulse to try to do magic as best he can, and we've been keeping his wand out of the room for now, but it's been such a part of his daily life that when he's especially tired or frustrated, he'll do small things automatically -- like reaching out to try and summon something to him.

Also. Sirius suggested Frank's taking a trip to Saltash once he's had his rest. Especially if there's no immediate change. He would be of use there, which he sorely needs, and his lack of magic would be expected and considered normal under the circumstances.

What are your thoughts? Would it ruin any chance he might have of his magic returning if he spent any significant time in a null field like that? Would it help?




 **alt\_severus** at **2013-11-20 02:34:12**  
(no subject)

I have been unable to corner Albus for an in-depth discussion, so I cannot speak conclusively to the mechanism by which Frank's magic was damaged nor the mechanism by which the magic-dampening field functions, but unless you are able to get a more concrete answer from Albus or Poppy feels it ought not be an issue, my instinct is to say it is a risk not worth taking unless Frank is adapting exceptionally poorly to being magicless. With how much we do not

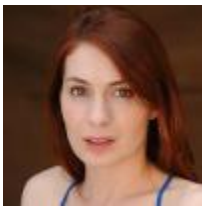
know about the situation, I would not care to risk it.




 **alt\_alice** at [2013-11-20 03:30:02](#)  
(no subject)

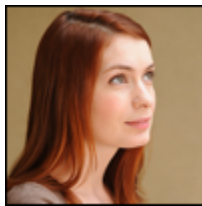
From what Frank has said to me, their conversation before the incident was fairly hurried -- Albus said that if the field was too large, it could prove fatal, and that the after effects could include permanent loss or unstable magic, but as the only other caster died shortly after due to an incorrect incantation that drained her of her life forces, it would be difficult to know what the end results would be.


Poppy, have you found anything else out?



 **alt\_alice** at [2013-11-20 04:33:00](#)  
(no subject)

And I doubt many of us would be able to handle such a change with grace and dignity.



 **alt\_alice** at [2013-11-20 04:52:55](#)  
(no subject)

Apologies.

We've had a long few days.



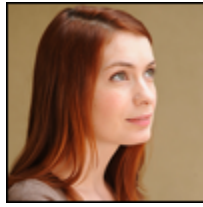
 **alt\_severus** at [2013-11-20 05:43:58](#)  
(no subject)


I can assure you I have heard far worse, and paid it as little mind, from people under less stress than you.

As it happens I have spent considerable time without magic myself, though under far different circumstances. No matter how poor I may be at showing it, I am sympathetic.

I would suggest finding a task with which to occupy himself as

quickly as possible. Perhaps Fu Lee will have a project that could use Frank's expertise without requiring his magic.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-20 06:27:58](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes. Of course.

~~I didn't mean to~~

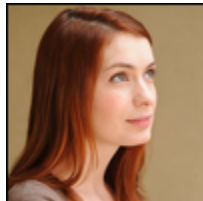
~~I'm so sorry, Severus.~~


I'll talk to him tomorrow. And once we've a better idea of what sort of activity level he ought to be engaging in, we can go from there.



 **[alt\\_severus](#) at [2013-11-20 06:37:17](#)**  
(no subject)

Do remember to take care of yourself as well, particularly as you are no doubt attempting to do Frank's work as well as your own.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-20 06:57:39](#)**  
(no subject)

And Stephen's.

Richard and Patty have been providing a great deal of additional help in our day to day work lately, which I am very grateful for. And on Sunday, when the boys came by for their weekly visit from Sherwood, they spent all afternoon chipping in on chores before dinner.

I'll be careful not to take on too much on my own.

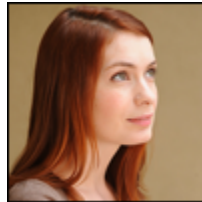





 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-11-20 07:15:26](#)**  
(no subject)

Which reminds me that I have the remainder of the potions to restock your stores available, along with what Stephen's notes say was his regular weekly brewing; I will send them along as soon as I am able.

I have given some thought to how you might work around Stephen's loss; while I cannot think of anyone who might take his place in research, one of the older children might do for the regular brewing. As reluctant as I am to admit it, I cannot keep this pace much longer.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-20 07:39:36](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank you, Severus.

Colin and Divyesh might be of help -- they worked with Stephen the longest of all the older children, and have had several years of practise helping him with his standard brewing -- he was quite a fan of practical lessons, after all.

In terms of our more complicated brewing needs, Hermione might be able to provide some assistance for keeping us in enough Polyjuice and other more advanced work. Miss Parkinson is always rather chuffed when you ask her for help, too. I'm sure she'd make time.

You might think of involving one or both of them more directly in your research, if you think it appropriate.



 **[alt\\_severus](#)** at **[2013-11-20 09:48:38](#)**  
(no subject)

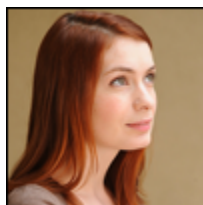
I have had Miss Granger brewing Polyjuice for some time, in fact, and serving as a junior apprentice would in matters of research — indeed, what limited success we have managed to achieve in brewing Black's family potion stems in




part from a suggestion of hers. She both has a natural aptitude for the exactness required, and (I believe) finds brewing to be more comfortable than those subjects requiring wandwork; as we do not discuss personal matters for the most part I cannot be certain, but were I to venture a guess, I would say that, having had to conceal her abilities for so long, she finds it difficult to reconcile the overwhelming need for secrecy and the confidence required for charmwork and other such magics. I have had her working at NEWT level for at least the past year, and though I do not know if she knows it, have taken her through at least the first areas of what an apprentice must demonstrate knowledge in order to be passed through to journeyman. If I am able to retain the teaching of her in such frequent measure and should she continue to show this level of interest, I cannot imagine it will take more than three or four years for her to achieve her mastery. (Mind you, should she realise what I am doing or what my end goals with respect to her tutelage are, I am certain her self-consciousness will become more pronounced; do not mention it anywhere she might hear or see. I will have a difficult enough time finding casual justification for why further apprentice-level potions must be brewed, and more precisely, brewed by her.)

Miss Parkinson has also shown adequate laboratory capabilities. I will enlist her aid as well.

I had not thought about who will take over for Stephen in providing lessons for the children at Moddey. Though I will confess to finding the prospect horrifying, I would volunteer to provide what tutelage I might if absolutely necessary, but I cannot imagine where on earth the time would come from. It pains me to make the suggestion, but now that Black has been given the secret, he might suffice at basic instruction. As he is at roughly the same level of maturity, he would no doubt find the presence of the children less grating *en masse*.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-20 20:06:42](#)  
(no subject)

I will take your recommendation under advisement.

Your plan with Hermione sounds both useful

and prudent. I am sure that under your tutelage, she will be able to accomplish great things.

She has an incredible mind, and it is so very important to foster that and encourage it.

I'll send along what notes I can find in Stephen's personal effects, and with the continued assistance of Hermione and Pansy, you can hopefully continue to progress in your projects. Please let me know if there's anything more you need from me in order to be able to do that.

**2013-11-19 21:45:00**

*Order Only: Gavenia (and Remus)*

Little Gavenia Selvaratnam is safely tucked into her new cot in the nursery at Moddey Dhoo. It was rather harrowing to get her here, and not because we had any particular trouble with her parents or the parchmentwork or confounding the camp administrators or anything like that. I went with Remus, and that turned out to be rather a bad idea, as it's right after the full moon. After we apparated away from the camp to the safe spot here outside Moddey, poor Gavenia took exception to her first journey by apparition and spewed all down Remus' front. Her nappy needed changing, too. Remus' sense of smell is quite excellent at this time of month, whereas his stomach is extremely touchy and...oh dear. I shall spare you the unfortunate details.




 [alt\\_molly](#)

Sirius, it's your turn to pour ginger tea into Remus for a change. I side-along apparated him to Doughty Conduit because I didn't think he'd be quite up to managing it himself.

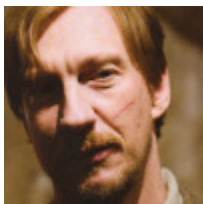
I think we should wait until at least three days after the full moon next time.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-11-20 04:06:37**  
*(no subject)*

Must have been some nappy. (Not that I'm asking for details, mind, but it's not as if we're strangers to infants and their by-products.)

Anyway, he's settled in bed with a book and keeps saying he feels fine.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at **2013-11-20 04:10:10**  
*Private message to Padfoot*

I *am* fine.

A bit humiliated but I've survived that before.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-20 04:24:54](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

Ta. I'm not going to contradict Molly when she's in a mothering mode.

Anyway, you did look peaky when you came in but it's been a long week, all round.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-20 04:31:09](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

I like rescuing babies. It's possibly the most rewarding task around, saving muggleborn wizard babies from certain doom (AND getting to snuggle a little baby AND getting to pass it off to Alice before it needs a nappy change, usually).

So naturally now I won't be able to do it unless it's three days past the full moon (or more) lest I lose my last meal on Alice's doorstep.

Possibly I am wallowing in self-pity and should stop.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-20 04:37:30](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

No, that's not it at all. Just don't go within three days if you're going with Molly. Dora or I will go with you anytime.

We should probably initiate Jeremy soon or he'll think the only reason we wanted him in the Order was to help Ellie tend bar.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-20 04:55:44](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

We could tell him it's our version of a hazing ritual and he'll be glad it's not worse.

**[2013-11-20 21:51:00](#)**

*Private message to Pansy Parkinson*



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


The rush has slowed down a bit, but sales are still meeting our budget expectations. You received our owl this morning with the figures? Not bad, eh? Mum's tickled pink.

We're about to run out of our first run of the packaging boxes and so we've put in a new order with Demeter. (Oh, drat. We *knew* we forgot something when we sent you our owl: we wanted to show you the three new designs she's come up with for us for products in the spring line. All the owls are out at the moment, so we'll send the sketches to you tomorrow, along with some more samples for the Common Rooms.)

We stopped by Zonko's yesterday with a few of the new prototypes. He poked up right away when he saw us. Guess he's a bit embarrassed for bowing to pressure--from your godfather, probably--and telling us he won't carry our stuff anymore. AS HE SHOULD BE. But we treated him as if he were our favourite uncle, and we just HAD to stop to show off our new babies. He still says the same thing, that he's not going to change his mind...but he all but licked his chops when we showed off our newest gizmos. He especially liked the trainers that turn into ice skates, once you walk onto ice. We hope if we keep popping round every month, he'll eventually weaken and start carrying our stuff again. He's too much a born salesman to keep turning his back on us.

Hitty asked us specially to say hello to you from her. She's spoiling us rotten. Couldn't have made it this far without her help.



 **[alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-21 04:42:37](#)**  
(no subject)

I had to pinch myself a few times when I had the chance to sit down and read over it properly. It's brilliant.


I love the things you've been working on for the Christmas line, too. It's a great idea to put smaller versions of product samples in crackers -- I think we'll sell loads of those. We might pass out some in the common rooms before hols. Maybe you could add a small message inside of the crackers with a bit of an advert in it.

I'm planning to roll out the Prophet advertisements for the storefront opening and the Christmas line in a few weeks.

Are we still planning on the grand opening on the day we start our Christmas hols?


If you wanted to wait for a week or so, that's certainly understandable. We're certainly doing enough business by owl order, looks like.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-21 16:25:56](#)  
(no subject)

And hello back to Hitty! Give her a hug for me, will you? I'm so glad you all are getting on.



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-21 21:03:29](#)  
(no subject)

I've been thinking of talking to her about putting her on salary, if you're all right with it.

Depending on what she's comfortable with, of course.

I've been thinking I could tell her that she could use it to buy things for her personal space at the New London house, and towards things like buying special spices or ingredients for food she wants to make. I could also let her know that she would be welcome to help decorate the house with things she wants to have around once I gain ownership properly. It's her house too, and she does use the sitting room and kitchen quite a bit, after all.

We might talk with her about it over Christmas -- it's the sort of conversation one should probably have in person.

**2013-11-22 17:56:00**

*ORDER ONLY: Professor Slughorn*



 [alt\\_harry](#)

So. I talked to Professor Slughorn again.

He was less nervous this time when I started talking about Voldemort, at least. I asked him how Voldemort learned so much about Noble Arts without a teacher here, and how he got so powerful, and he said He must've learned a lot on his own. And how there weren't as much books in the library on Noble Arts back then for Him to look to, so he did all his learning on his own.

And then we got talking about the ceremony with Ridley and the snitch. I started off talking about Him and Noble Arts some more, and then I said that He had me do this ceremony once, only I didn't know what it was and wanted to learn more about it. I told him it was hard knowing who I could talk to about that kind of stuff, but that I trusted him.

He asked about the ceremony, so I told him about it, and he turned really pale.

I even mentioned what Dolohov told me, about using important objects to protect the soul, but he just said he wouldn't be much help at sorting out what it was, because potions weren't really a part of it. And he wanted to make sure I wouldn't ask Voldemort about it, or tell him we'd talked. So I went on for a bit about how the reason I went to him was because I knew he'd keep it private, which helped.

And then he said that no-one said my father was an easy man to please. Which I don't think he would've said before.

And he said to come back any time.

So yeah. He didn't really say a whole lot that was useful, but at least he was less weird about it this time?

Professor Dumbledore, should I keep trying to talk to him about it, you think? Or maybe try Professor Dolohov again instead?

---



 **[alt\\_albus](#)** at **[2013-11-23 02:55:37](#)**  
(no subject)

I rather think both would be of use.

Perhaps we might chat in the next few days, as well.



 **[alt\\_harry](#)** at **[2013-11-23 03:26:50](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes, sir.



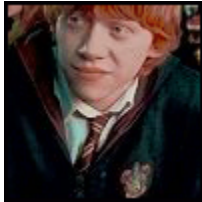
**[2013-11-23 16:13:00](#)**

*(no subject)*

Well done, Slytherin! And good match, Gryffindor.



 [alt\\_pansy](#)



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-24 00:41:36](#)

*(no subject)*

Yeah. You won fair enough. Well played, Marvolo.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-24 00:54:17](#)

*(no subject)*

Thanks, mate.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-24 00:46:45](#)

*Order Only*

And our play was absolutely shambolic. Honestly.




 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-24 00:54:59](#)

*Re: Order Only*

It seemed a bit off, yeah.

What happened?



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-24 01:14:44](#)


*Re: Order Only*

I mean.

You don't have to say. But we aren't playing against each other again this term, so I figured

Anyways. You were fine as Keeper, considering.

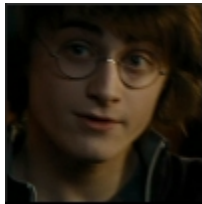



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-24 01:45:46](#)

*Re: Order Only*

Well. I mean, I know you and Bell are sort of seeing each other still, but she's not... Wood and Johnson were better captains. Anywiz, that's part of it. She's the one put Archer and Finnick on the side, yeah? And we're just not-- I mean, it's more than just having new people... because every practice might as well still be our first one.

It's like every play is a surprise. And then there're the times when it seemed like some of them were playing for you!



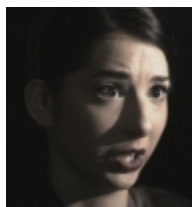
 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-24 02:09:06](#)

*Re: Order Only*

That's okay, I mean, yeah, we're sort of seeing each other, but we know Quidditch is Quidditch.

Which one of your chasers tossed the ball to Draco? I was too far off to tell.

And so it's not your season. There'll be others. And who knows? Maybe next term you'll be captain.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-24 03:22:52](#)

*Re: Order Only*

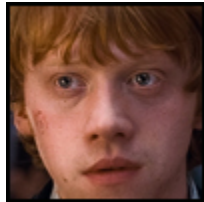
Coote tossed the quaffle to Draco. It would've been a dead nice pass if he'd sent it to Sloper or Bell. Or, you know, if it had been Draco passing it to me or Troy.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-24 03:23:52](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

No hard feelings?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-24 05:08:20](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

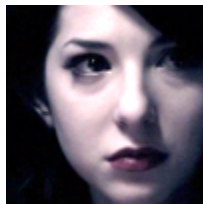
No.

I mean, I'd rather you hadn't slammed that Quaffle in my gut or that other one through the hoop, but that's Quidditch, yeah?

You flew really well. Really distracting, that.

Erm.

Did you see I got a letter at supper?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-24 05:10:13](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

Sorry about the one in your gut, I was not AIMING for your gut, you know, I was aiming for the hoop... at least you stopped that one, right?

I didn't see you got a letter. Who was it from?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-24 05:12:16](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

Better my belly than my head, I reckon.

From MLE. Well, the Aurors, actually.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-24 05:13:28](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

WHAT? It can't have been

What did they want?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-24 05:31:40](#)

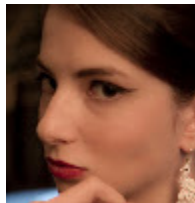
*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

To invite me to some sort of training session and screening for maybe doing an internship.

It says someone recommended me. Doesn't say who. Desai, I reckon. Or one of the other trainers this summer? I mean, if they'd asked Dolohov, he'd have put in for F-F, y'know?

Actually. I wonder if anyone else got a letter.

Anywiz, I'm supposed to talk with one of the Aurors who're coming to talk at YPL tomorrow afternoon. Nice of them to give me time to think it over, yeah?!



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-24 05:36:56](#)

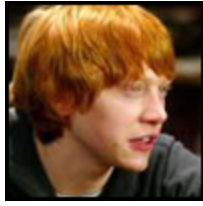
*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*


They want you to become an Auror?

Or an Enforcer or something else or is it really not that clear what the internship is about?

I didn't get a letter but I wasn't even there this summer so that's hardly surprising. Did you ask F-F if he got one? It might have been Desai, though. Or maybe they BOTH had to recommend you, but that doesn't entirely make sense, because they're not going to ignore Dolohov's opinion.

Maybe it wasn't because of CCF, maybe it was because of that thing that happened with the outlaws when we were flying the boundary at the Stretton farm that time. You know? I mean the Enforcers were pretty impressed with us.



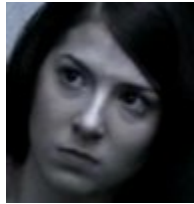
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-24 05:46:29](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

Well, if it was the thing at the Strettons, then they would have sent you a letter, too. You know?

I don't know. It's the Aurors, though. The letter came from Mafalda Hopkirk.

It doesn't really say more than that. Just that I'm supposed to be sure to stop up to talk to the Aurors who come tomorrow, and that they'd have more details.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-24 05:55:19](#)

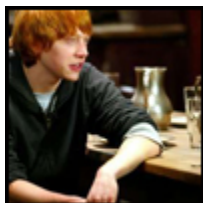
*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

They wouldn't necessarily have sent me a letter, though. Do you know of any Aurors who aren't purebloods? I mean, I don't think there's a rule against half-bloods working for MLE and I'm sure not everyone is pure ten generations back but you definitely won't find any Aurors who had two muggle grandparents.

(Except maybe F-F someday. Heh.)

You're sort of perfect, from their standpoint because you're good at all the right things, you're a pureblood, AND you're going to need a job -- I mean, Draco and Harry would both make decent Aurors but they didn't get letters this evening, I'd have seen. I'm sure MLE would talk to Mr Malfoy before they sent either of them a letter. Eh. You know how it is.

Would you want to be an Auror?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-24 06:02:12](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

Well. It's a funny thing. I mean, Charlie said something about it once, and I thought it was mad. Only it's not completely mad, is it?

I mean, yeah. I'm going to need a job. And the Order needs people in positions that are inside the Ministry. We don't have anyone in MLE, and it would be dead useful if we did.

I mean, we've got loads of people who used to be Aurors or MLE and who know how they think. But it would be really useful to have someone who knows what they're planning, yeah?

So. Yeah. I might do it if I get offered a chance.

Do you think I shouldn't?

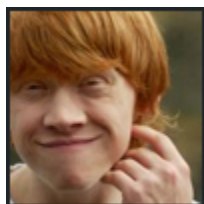


 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-24 06:04:51](#)**

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

Well

How are you at occlumency these days?  
Because if you were an Auror you would have to work with Bellatrix Lestrange.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-24 06:15:17](#)**

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

Well.

Yeah.

I mean, I can do it. Mostly. Except if I'm cross or distracted or-

Yeah. So, that's a problem. But don't you think Auror Lestrange has got more to do than go around legilimising the people she works with?

I probably shouldn't want to find out, though, yeah?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-24 06:23:15](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

Well I don't think there's any harm in talking to the Aurors tomorrow because SURELY it won't be Bellatrix.

And I doubt the Aurors who can do legilimency routinely go around legilimising their coworkers because yeah, honestly, even if you're not a traitor you probably don't want your coworkers looking in your head and seeing who you fancy or how much firewhiskey you drank last night or what color pants you have on under your robes and so on.

It would get dead awkward.

You should keep practicing, anyway, it's almost two years still till we finish school and you'd be able to enter the Auror programme (and mostly people don't go in right away).



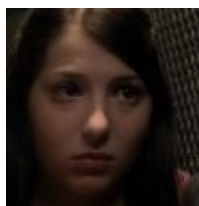
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-24 06:49:13](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

Well. At least that gives me a reason to keep on with the lessons. Sometimes I think I should just stop wasting Professor Dumbledore's time. Only, he says it's important, too.

He said something that made me think he'd taught Dad Occlumency or talked about it with him. I'm not sure.

But I know Dad would want me to keep at it.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-24 06:07:17](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

I mean you're right that the Order needs people in useful positions and an Auror or even an Enforcer would be incredibly useful.

You'd have to do terrible things, though. And you'd have to never let your occlumency shields slip.



Actually it might be best if you could learn the animagus transformation because apparently animagi can't have their minds read.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-24 06:16:14](#)**

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

What do you think I'd turn into if I could transform?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-24 06:24:22](#)**

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

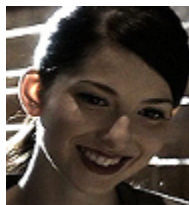
You'd turn into a snake. Just because it would make you so cross.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-24 06:49:38](#)**

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

Don't be daft.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-24 06:53:54](#)**

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

A red squirrel, maybe.

What do you think I'd transform into?



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-24 07:04:17](#)**

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

Y'know. When we studied them in Creatures, I pretty much decided I'd want to be a badger if I could choose. I mean, they're fierce, aren't they?

Not sure how they got connected to Hufflepuffs, really.

Tsk. A red squirrel. Are you saying I'm noisy?





 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-24 07:09:06](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

No I'm saying you're clever but easily distracted and you might start a fight with a bigger creature if you think you're high enough up in a tree they can't get at you.

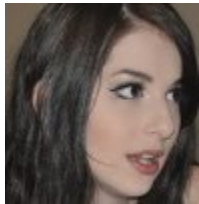
Plus they're gingers.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-24 11:45:51](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

I expect you'd transform into an abraxan or a gazelle or something. Something graceful, y'know?

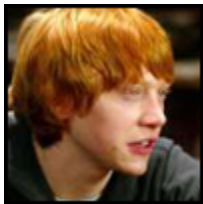


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-24 06:28:51](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

I was thinking about that the other day, you know, not so much 'what animal would I turn into' but 'what animals does no one want to turn into.' Everyone imagines turning into something that would be useful, like a dog, you know, so you can eavesdrop and spy like Sirius. (Well, plus, of the animagi I know, two turn into dogs and one turns into a cat.)

But you don't know until you transform what you're going to transform into. Do animagi ever transform into something huge and conspicuous, like a giraffe? (A giraffe would also be utterly pants in a fight. Well, I guess it could kick you. But it's not like a tiger, which is large and conspicuous but also intimidating.)



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-24 07:05:03](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*


Er.

That would be awkward. If you turned into something that belongs in the zoo. I mean, it's not as if there are many giraffes roaming about the

countryside in England or Scotland, are there?

And if I ever saw a tiger here, I'd definitely hope it was an animagus! So, yeah, you couldn't be very secretive about it.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-24 07:07:35](#)**  
*Re: Order Only: Private message to Ron*

Exactly!

The perfect animagus form would be a sparrow. Because no one thinks twice about sparrows when they see one, AND you can fly.

A giraffe would be a terrible animagus form but a fish would be even worse. But even a giraffe or a fish would keep you from having your mind read.



 **[alt\\_cedric](#)** at **[2013-11-24 02:53:54](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Well played all of you!

**2013-11-24 10:44:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Padfoot*

Off to Manchester with Molly to find Anita Williams.  
We've papers and polyjuice and the rest -- wish us  
luck. (And vomit-free traveling.)



 [alt\\_lupin](#)



---

 [alt\\_sirius](#) at **2013-11-24 16:49:59**

*(no subject)*

Yeah, whatever you do, don't vom or she'll never let  
you go along again!

**2013-11-24 12:23:00**

*Revision Session*

I thought it might be good to start up the old Defence and Noble Arts revision sessions again, like we did last term. We can go ahead and get together at 7 in the Defence classroom. Anyone who wants to can come, but it'll be mostly geared to OWL and NEWT levels.

Anyways. Looking forward to it.



 [alt\\_harry](#)

**2013-11-24 12:34:00**

*(no subject)*

PASS ALONG TO HALF BLOODED OWL  
STUDENTS IN YOUR HOUSE THAT I HOPE TO  
SEE THEM AT THE REVISION SESSION  
TONIGHT. THANKS. -HM



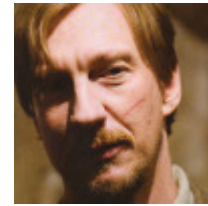
 [alt\\_galleon](#)

**2013-11-24 15:13:00**

*Order Only: Anita Williams safe at Moddey*

That didn't go well.

Anita was at Manchester, same camp as the Divyesh Shah's family, so we'd used the buttons to let the Shahs know we were coming, and we brought a letter for them from Divyesh. We thought they could introduce us to the Williams parents, let them know we were trustworthy and so on.



 [alt\\_lupin](#)

Instead, they were utterly frantic when we arrived, because the Black Wands were on site. Worse, they were pretty certain people were on to Anita. They had already spoken with the Williams, to let them know we might be coming, and had them hiding, after a fashion (you can't properly hide at a muggle camp but you can be somewhere that it'll take longer to find you).

The Williamses thrust the baby into Molly's arms the moment they laid eyes on us and told us to do whatever we had to do to keep her safe. We modified their memories to suggest that the baby had been kidnapped by people who took her by force -- we're hoping that'll put the Black Wands on the wrong track, at least, and keep the parents safe. We had to apparate out -- with the Black Wands on our trail, covering our tracks with a death certificate was simply not an option.

If we can keep in touch with the Shahs, it may eventually be possible to undo the modification and give the Williams parents the rings and portrait.

This was the best solution we could think of. We thought about trying to take the parents with us, but it would have required apparating back for one of them and we didn't think we'd have time. (We might have. We did have time to modify their memory and not just obliterate them both, but to give them a cover story that we hoped would keep them safe. But it was a near thing.)

---



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-24 21:26:05](#)

*Private message to Padfoot*

Anita's father -- we were so frantic, I didn't even get their names. ~~They're in the paperwork but I haven't~~

He told us to take Anita and his wife, and to kill him, so he couldn't answer any questions. I couldn't do it. Neither could Molly. So we modified their memory so instead they think their daughter was ripped out of their arms and taken away to a horrifying fate, and

I don't know. If we'd had more time to think about it, we could have taken Anita's mother and modified her father's memory to think the mother and baby were BOTH taken. Would that have been better?

Or we could have ambushed the Black Wands and killed them both, and figured out a cover story later. Dammit. Even now I can't think of a good answer.

At least we got to Anita in time.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-24 21:39:51](#)

*(no subject)*

Bloody hell, Remus.

If the Black Wands are on their trail, do you think we should go back and try to get the parents out, too? I can probably reach Nick and my forger today.

Mum's not home yet. I assume she's still at Moddey Dhoo, getting Anita settled.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-24 21:43:20](#)

*(no subject)*


The Black Wands weren't on their trail. They were at their door. I assume they've questioned them. Hopefully they've let them go.

Unfortunately, the whole camp is going to be alert to strangers for a while, because presumably the identities we used getting in will be

assumed to be the kidnappers. I think we need to wait a few weeks before we try anything else.

Molly took Anita to Moddey. I'm not surprised she's still there.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-24 22:00:51](#)**  
(no subject)


Bugger. All right. We'll hope for the best and try in a few weeks then. I hate to leave them hanging even that long, but it sounds as though you had little choice.



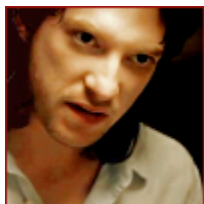
 **[alt\\_nymphadora](#)** at **[2013-11-24 22:05:27](#)**  
(no subject)


We'll hope for good news from the Shajs soon. Or at least a report on what's happened.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2013-11-24 22:35:32](#)**  
(no subject)


I'm still at Moddey, but I'll be home soon, dear. I just want to talk a little longer to Alice and Frank, first.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-24 22:36:43](#)**  
*Private message to Molly Weasley*

Are you all right?



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2013-11-24 22:37:15](#)**  
*Re: Private message to Molly Weasley*

I'm rather shaken, I must admit.

It was a very near thing.



**2013-11-24 18:57:00**

*Private message to Lana Sandoval-Pennifold*




 [alt\\_rachel](#)

I am SO glad you invited me to fill in for Desai. That was a thoroughly entertaining afternoon. 'Oh, Miss Auror Ma'am, can you please tell me which subjects I can stop revising for if I want to be an Auror just like you?' My goodness.

I suppose you'd already met both the two potential candidates for the December internship (it's December, right?) When you were in school. I caught a glimpse of them at CCF this past summer but mostly they all blurred into a mass of dirty, under-slept, jumpy teenagers. They seemed a little less jumpy this time. What did you think?

(And thank you again for inviting me to fill in. I also had tea with Professor Vector; it's been far too long since I've had an excuse to chat with her.)



 [alt\\_lana](#) at **2013-11-25 04:08:43**

*(no subject)*

Glad you enjoyed it. Sorry I had to run back to New London. I only caught a few minutes with Professor Vector when I arrived. She looks good, don't you think? I'm always afraid one of them will look suddenly older when I come back.

And it was hilarious, wasn't it? Some of the questions! 'How do you get to specialise in Interrogation?' I loved your answer, by the way! And most dangerous thing we've ever had to do. Suppose they were hoping for stories about Ireland or DogStar, not my story about nearly being squashed by a landslide when we took the wards down at that mine in Cumbria. Oh, and Moon: 'What are some of the ways Arithmancy is useful to you?' He's sweet, but so young! And he's one of those clever kids who just has no idea...




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-25 04:13:33](#)  
(no subject)

Professor Vector looks nearly exactly as I remember, yes.

I think my favourite question was the one from that boy who looked about eight (he was at LEAST eleven, but they all look so young to me) who wants to be an Enforcer when he grows up. How do they sustain that level of energy and enthusiasm without killing all their teachers?




 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-11-25 04:23:01](#)  
(no subject)

You should ask the teachers! (I think they'd all say they are dying the death of a thousand cuts, one or two per day.)

Oh. There was the question about our sparring ranks! Are you really middle of the pack in your cohort?




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-25 04:28:31](#)  
(no subject)

I am above the midpoint but not by a great deal. Most weeks I'm in the top third. The best I've ever done, I was in the top quarter.

Worst, I dipped into the bottom half but that couldn't stand. (Also, I'd been ill. So I had an excuse, of sorts, but still.)

You're at the top, yes? Though Montague's done his best to displace you.



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-11-25 04:48:49](#)  
(no subject)

Montague. Seriously. And Evan. But last I looked I was back on top.

I just don't want to have to tell Auror LeStrange I've dropped. She sponsored my for the programme, you know.


And she doesn't sponsor any but the best. She told me that back during my first year in training. No pressure, there!



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-25 04:52:22](#)  
(no subject)

Well, you certainly don't want to be a disappointment, but surely she'll understand that once you're sparring with more experienced Aurors than the other trainees, you won't be the best overnight? It'll take time to work your way back to the top.



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-11-25 05:01:02](#)  
(no subject)

Do you really believe that about her?

We'll see, I expect. Because you're right, of course, I won't simply top the rankings once I've got the promotion. But I'd best be working my wand to a stump, trying to climb the standings.




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-25 04:24:53](#)  
(no subject)

And TOO RIGHT about the landslide.

So. How worried are you really about Ron Weasley's marks? Justin Finch-Fletchley's marks are a good deal better but I'm not sure how interested he seemed, honestly.



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-11-25 04:58:04](#)  
(no subject)

I'm not. But. You'd think he could at least have looked embarrassed about lounging about in the middle of the standings. Seriously. And then he tells us he's competitive?!

Finch-Fletchley, though. Telling us how ill-suited he'd be for the job? And going on about how he thinks it's important to avoid violence as much as possible. Obviously, he's not interested. And

I'm not one to ignore it when someone waves a red flag in my face.  
(Or a white one, as the case may be.)




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-25 05:03:54](#)  
(no subject)

I don't know that it's occurred to him that one CAN be competitive about marks. You and I are both Ravenclaws, so OF COURSE we were competitive about marks! I think Gryffindors tend to assume that competition means Quidditch.

Finch-Fletchley, well, yes. Though that's part of why it's so hard to get good people in MEU -- when every Auror recruited wants action and fieldwork, it's hard for them not to see an assignment in MEU as a failure instead of an opportunity. (But. That said. I may spend many weeks cross-checking numbers, but I'd better be ready to use my wand when it's called for.)



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-11-25 05:28:00](#)  
(no subject)

Gryffindors. Honestly.

Hm. I suppose MEU is a bit of an anomaly as far as who's best suited to the work, but really, I think he may be too much of a Hufflepuff and not enough Ravenclaw for that combination. Mind you, his answer about House attributes was about the best one could give for the badgers. I mean, of course he claimed he'd be resistant to corruption and loyal to the protectorate, but I haven't heard anyone talk about their natural strengths - valuing hard work, dedication, commitment to the side - paying off in terms of physical endurance training and follow-through in the field. It makes sense. And it's pretty much exactly what Dolohov had to say about him.

Of course, Dolohov's promising he's got all the potential in the world for Noble Arts, while Finch-Fletchley's telling us he's got less inclination than anyone ever for the defensive and offensive business that's our staple.

I say if that's how he looks at it, fine. If he doesn't have the inclination, we're not going to make an Auror of him.

I suppose I should ask Antonin Nikolaevich, though. Since he was so vigorous in support.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-25 05:40:20](#)  
(no subject)

Well -- I'm not trying to talk you into recommending Finch-Fletchley, honestly, because my gut feeling was that he would do poorly in the department simply because he doesn't want it badly enough. But. I will say that a very bright Hufflepuff, or a very determined Ravenclaw, is what you want for MEU. Because *so* much of it is reading numbers until you're cross-eyed, looking for the bit that doesn't match up.

And his marks show he's clever -- cleverer than many of the Ravenclaws. Which might be part of what Professor Dolohov sees in him. You have to admit, every year there are Ravenclaws who are so bright they don't *have* to work, so they don't.

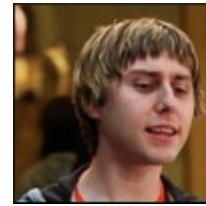
Anyway. If you do ask, let me know what you hear. I'm curious.

**[2013-11-24 18:58:00](#)**

*Order Only: Private Message to Ron*

Ron,

I didn't think it would be wise to hang about while you interviewed. I say, how did it go, old chap?




 [alt\\_justin](#)

Mine was jolly interesting. I was curious to see how they would treat someone who didn't much have any expectation of being selected for the Aurors. Auror Sandoval wasn't half annoyed when I said the worst part was how they seem to resolve all situations with wands. But I wasn't concerned with her reaction; I was watching Auror Lamont.

I say, I do think it might be a perfect opportunity for someone to go into Magical Malfeasance. One could devise all manner of clever schemes to assist the Order from inside the Aurors' division that way, what? But I'm sure it's no longer an option. Just as well, I think. I'm fairly certain I'm bally well more suited to be a clerk of some sort.

-Justin



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **[2013-11-25 03:41:56](#)**  
(no subject)

Ha. Well, you might want to go into MEU, but I could never. 'Forensic accounting'? Oi.

Actually, Mum's got a cousin who's an accountant. Or she did. Before the war. I think he's in France now. (Tell me again why you wanted to come back here?)


Anywiz. Yeah. I guess mine went okay. Sandoval wanted to know why my marks haven't been better. There's a surprise! Just like I remembered her--always banging on about the importance of marks and our place in the standings.

I told them I'm massively excited at the idea of being an Auror. Life's dream, y'know? Well. I didn't actually claim that, but I did say I've been thinking about it. 'Cause I have. Sort of. Not very seriously, but it's one of the things I've wondered about.

I told them working for the Protectorate was important to my Dad,

but I'm better suited to working in the field as an Auror than working in admin like Dad did. Don't know if they were convinced. And, really, if they weren't that saves me loads of trouble. But if they were, then... well, it's what you're saying. We could really use someone in MLE, yeah?



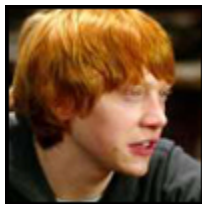
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-25 03:53:12](#)  
(no subject)


Well, I agree--I mean to say, one wouldn't necessarily want to spend hours and hours poring over maths looking for errors, what, but the moment she started talking about what she does, all I could think of was how thoroughly one might be able to misdirect funds or resources or even people.

Mind, I'm well certain I didn't impress them at all. I couldn't think of a single 'leadership position' I've sought, for example. Did they ask you how your background and training has prepared you to be an Auror? I had a dreadful answer, what.

I say, you don't think it's letting down the side, if we had an opportunity to get into the Aurors and weren't able to take advantage?

-Justin



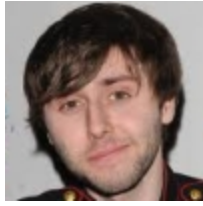
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-25 04:14:34](#)  
(no subject)

Oh. I just talked about CCF, mostly. And getting to be squad leader this summer. But, heh. I also told them about getting the lead in the musical. I figured that would sound daft and maybe they'd write me off. But they listened to it all. So I told them it was about giving cues in the right spots and learning to be comfortable doing things I'd never done before and also taking direction at the same time from Krumgold.

Can't say I didn't give them a chance to write me off.

Only, they were still asking serious questions right to the end.





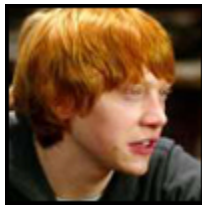
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-25 04:20:01](#)  
(no subject)


I hadn't even thought about the musical--but then, none of those were opportunities I particularly *sought*, if you follow me. They merely sort of *happened*. And you were leader of your team for CCF, true, but I was second to Harry; I only commanded that one exercise when the two of you were held 'captive.'

But seriously, now I wonder if I ought to have lied more in order to be offered a chance, what?

Though truthfully, I'm not sure it would be wise for me to spend that much time around Bellatrix Lestrange.

-Justin



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-25 05:04:39](#)  
(no subject)

Heh. True enough!

And, yeah. It's not that I lied, exactly. It's just that I didn't always answer what they really meant to be asking. Like when they asked what I'm least suited for as an Auror. I didn't say, 'Well. I'm definitely not suited for torturing innocent people.' I said, 'Oh, ha. Well, obviously, it's going to be a struggle, all that studying first year in the programme. I mean, sitting exams and me are like oil and water!'



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-25 05:10:25](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, I didn't always answer exactly as they expected, either. Still...

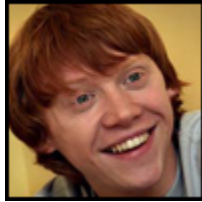
Well, surely there will be other opportunities to help the Order if this one goes nowhere. Sounds as if you had a better chance, at any rate.


I've still got two chapters to read before Charms, though.



Good night!

-J



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-25 05:13:46](#)**  
(no subject)

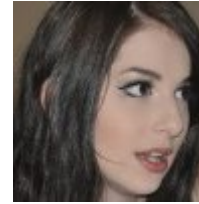
I guess we'll see what comes of it. I mean, that's how I was thinking about it. If they're wanting to offer a chance, then I'd best take it. But if nothing comes of it, then I'm well out of

it, yeah?

Eh. Charms. I've read as much as I'm going to, but Ed Bones has been trying to get my attention for a while now, so I'd better go see what he wants. Talk to you tomorrow.

**2013-11-25 09:25:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Ron and Pansy*




 **alt\_sally\_anne**

The Auror who wasn't Lana Sandoval, the one who works in MEU -- she's the one Bill writes to all the time. The one we decided was his 'contact.'

She's young and she's pretty and she's the same age as he is. She's not just a 'contact,' he's snogging her! THAT'S how he's getting all that information!!

(I mean maybe I'm wrong? She is an AUROR, after all. But. You saw her, what do you think? Did she mention knowing your brother when she talked to you, Ron?)




 **alt\_ron at 2013-11-25 17:16:55**  
(no subject)

Erm. Uh. I mentioned Bill when I was talking about Dad and Bill working at the Ministry. (We're all sooo committed to keeping up the protectorate, don't you know?) Anywiz. She didn't say anything about him.


I didn't even think about that, though. You're the one they should make an Auror.



 **alt\_ron at 2013-11-25 17:18:29**  
(no subject)


You really think they're snogging?



 **alt\_ron at 2013-11-25 17:21:55**  
(no subject)

I mean, she is sort of shaggable.



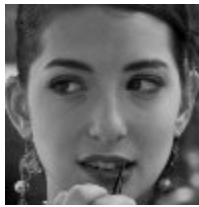
 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-11-25 17:23:33](#)**  
(no subject)

She is very fit.

And it explains some things.

Sort of.

I'm still trying to figure out why he'd write Charlie AND Mrs. Longbottom, but this might be the reason.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-25 17:41:15](#)**  
(no subject)

Well this is Bill. He has a stick up his arse approximately the size of a Keeper's broomstick, you know? So maybe he writes to Mrs Longbottom because the Head of the Order needs to know that he's sleeping with an Auror, because it could be risky, after all.

And he includes Charlie because she can't shout at him as much in front of his brother?

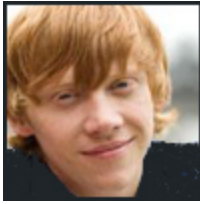
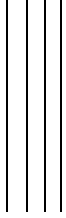
I don't know. Maybe the Auror's telling him things he only tells Mrs Longbottom and not the rest of us.




 **[alt\\_pansy](#)** at **[2013-11-25 19:58:53](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, he's obviously got *some* charms working in his favour.

But yeah, if I had to write Mrs Longbottom about something and I thought she'd get hacked off, I'd include one of you in it too.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-25 23:48:22](#)**  
(no subject)

That's sort of brilliant, actually. Glad I know you  
Slytherins.

**[2013-11-25 21:08:00](#)**

*The Hope Building*

My goodness, I have been ever so busy; no wonder I've been neglecting my journal.



First of all, and this is really splendid news: I have some new tenants! My contacts with the barter network have been extremely fruitful. We have several artist spaces reserved, and I've just finalised a contract with a woman and her daughter, simply *fabulous* cooks, who have been experimenting with their recipes and want to take the first steps toward opening their own bakery. So they will be making use of our commercial kitchen, and offering their cakes for sale at the small shop in the building, the Hope Emporium.

 [alt\\_molly](#)

I've decided to take the plunge and schedule a Grand Opening, in hopes that I might snare at least *some* Christmas shoppers. After much hard thought, I've chosen December 21, the anniversary of Arthur's death. Of course it's late in the month (I will probably have limited hours when the building will be open through the first part of the month anyway), but it just seemed right to me. I know it's going to be a dreadfully difficult day anyway, and my goodness, I simply thought it would do me good to keep busy. It's also the day that Ron and Ginny will be returning from Hogwarts. I will work something out. Perhaps I can hire some additional help for the day and when the time comes, I'll slip away to meet the train.

Ginny and Ron, would you mind lingering in New London a bit see the building before we head back to the Burrow?




 [alt\\_molly](#) at **[2013-11-26 03:59:49](#)**

*Order Only: Private message to Pansy Parkinson*

Fred and George suggested I write to you, dear, because they thought you might have some suggestions about ads for the Grand Opening. I think it would be a good idea to place one in the *Daily Prophet*. Perhaps one for the building and one for Weasley Wizarding Whizbangs, and they might be designed to be complementary? What do you think?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-26 04:17:40](#)

*Re: Order Only: Private message to Pansy Parkinson*

Of course. I can work up something.

I was thinking we could say "We're part of the Hope Emporium family, come by and give us a visit!" on the WWW one, and "Home of the Weasley Wizarding Wizbangs" on the other. You know, to make it sound all sweet and homey and family-friendly. And maybe we could either get them to put both side by side, or have arrows pointing to one another.

We've got a particular typeface we use for our adverts, I'll make sure it's used when the Hope Emporium advert mentions us. And you might want to think a bit about things like that for you, too. I'll put you in touch with an artist I know who'd be good for it -- his stuff was a bit too simple for Wizbangs, but I think he'd be able to come up with a straightforward design that you can use for signs and stamps and cards and things.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-26 04:03:15](#)

*Private message to Molly Weasley*

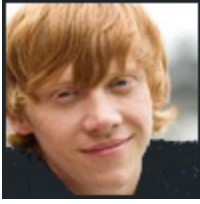
I think it's a great way to honour Dad on that day, Mum. You can count on me being there to lend a hand.




 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-11-26 04:23:32](#)

*Order Only*

Molly, are you planning on selling art in this shop then? I'm thinking of several I know at Sherwood who are definitely knacky at woodcarving. Merlin knows they have enough practice, sitting around the camp fires at night. I can ask around, both there and at Aldrich. There may be others with wares to offer, as long as you can hide in the books.




 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-26 14:47:54](#)**  
(no subject)

Yeah, of course we want to see it, Mum.

Besides, it's not like we'd get fed if we just went straight home instead!



 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2013-11-26 16:04:29](#)**  
(no subject)

Of course I don't mind, Mum. I can't wait to see it.

**2013-11-26 10:04:00**

*Private message to Ron*

Ron, I need a favour. If I give you something to keep in your trunk until next week, do you promise to keep it there and not give it back to me even if I ask for it?



 [alt\\_ginny](#)



 [alt\\_ron](#) at **2013-11-26 16:11:07**

*(no subject)*

It's not cursed, is it?

Or food. I can't promise if it's food. If it's tasty.

Otherwise, sure.



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at **2013-11-26 16:15:34**

*(no subject)*

Of course it's not cursed! I wouldn't give it to you if it were cursed. It's not food, either. It's a book, and you've ALREADY refused to read the first two, so I don't think you'll be tempted!



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at **2013-11-26 16:19:10**


*(no subject)*

One of my friends from Pure Sparkle sent me a copy of Pure Victory EARLY. And I want to read it so badly! But Honoria won't be getting her copy until next week when it comes out properly and I don't want to be the ONLY person who knows what happens and not be able to talk to ANYONE about it!!

So I'm going to give it to you NOW before I change my mind. You can put it away and not give it back to me until everyone else gets theirs.



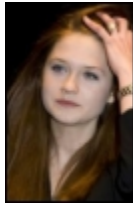


 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-26 16:36:14](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, all right, then.

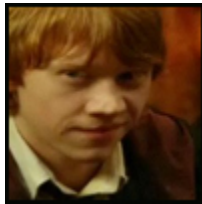
Sure. Locked in my trunk and you can't have it no matter what you say.


I can do that!



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-11-26 16:37:32](#)  
(no subject)

Okay, Honoria is making me come find you right now. I ONLY READ THE FIRST PAGE. But I'm not reading any more Honoria I PROMISE.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-26 17:38:24](#)  
(no subject)

The picture of self-control. That's you, Gin.

It's in my trunk. Blood-locked, so you know.

Pretty dramatic picture on the cover of it, I've gotta say. Is there going to be much shagging in it, do you think? Only, the characters look well fit. And like they're thinking about shagging as much as fighting.

I mean seriously, that weapon the hero's holding? Think about it.



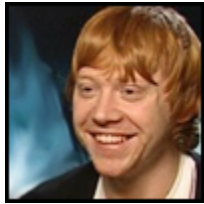
 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-11-26 19:01:46](#)  
(no subject)


Well of course they're well fit. AND they've been looking at each other longingly for the last two books, although I couldn't tell from the picture whether that was definitely Phoebus or definitely Efrain. I mean obviously she's going to have to choose between them. There have been all sorts of hints that Efrain will die heroically (unless Amaranth dies heroically! but I don't

THINK the author will kill off the protagonist and neither does Honoria!) And if he does, I guess she'll end up with Phoebus.

(There's also this other girl Agrona who's in love with Efrain but she doesn't deserve him, not after what happened at the end of Pure Power.)


Anyway it's not going to be JUST shagging, they have to overthrow the unjust government!



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-26 19:08:00](#)  
(no subject)

Whoa! Take a breath there!




 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-11-26 19:03:46](#)  
(no subject)

I wish I'd looked harder at the cover. Can you look and tell me whether the boy on the front has a pierced ear? Can you tell? Also is he wearing a little pin of a snake, or not?


Amaranth and Efrain really DESERVE each other. Phoebus, well, maybe HE could end up with Agrona if he doesn't die? Because it's not that he shouldn't be happy at the end (he should!) but well he's not as interesting as Efrain.



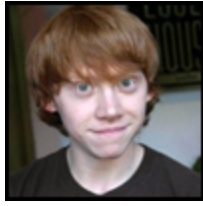
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-26 19:22:00](#)  
(no subject)


Can't look until after lessons. Sorry!



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-11-26 23:09:47](#)  
(no subject)

You've been out of lessons for HOURS, when are you going to go look??



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-27 02:23:15](#)**  
(no subject)

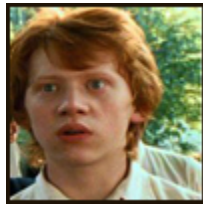
Soooo.


You want to know who's alive at the end? I've read the last page, so I could tell you.



 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2013-11-27 02:31:58](#)**  
(no subject)

DON'T YOU DARE, RON WEASLEY.

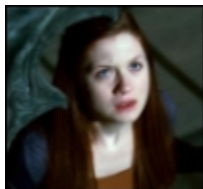


 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-27 02:57:43](#)**  
(no subject)

No?

Huh.


Say, which one's meant to be the Muggle? Because if it's... nevermind.



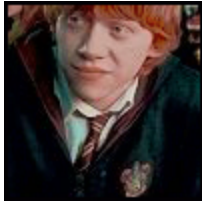
 **[alt\\_ginny](#)** at **[2013-11-27 03:02:54](#)**  
(no subject)


IF YOU SPOIL THIS BOOK FOR ME I WILL HEX YOU INTO NEXT WEEK.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-27 03:05:49](#)**  
(no subject)

As long as you hex me past next Thursday, that would be brilliant. I've got a Charms essay due that I'm not really keen to write.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-27 05:16:58](#)  
(no subject)

Well. You've really got people wound up.


Sally Anne says you won't let her read it. And there are loads of other people hoping she'll pry it away from you. The twins would tell you to charge 6 sickles a minute for peeking at it, but I say good on you for not getting people queued up for it. The line might go all the way to Hogsmeade!



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-11-27 05:20:24](#)  
(no subject)

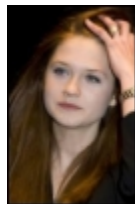
They weren't even supposed to pass it along, it said so in the note! I hope I don't get them in all sorts of trouble.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-27 05:30:18](#)  
(no subject)

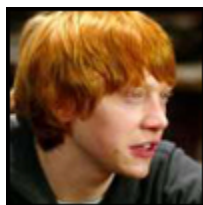
Eh. I doubt it. I mean, it's just a rumour you've got one. Nobody's seen it, right? Except me, I mean.


Maybe tell Honoria not to tell anyone else?



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-11-27 05:34:12](#)  
(no subject)

Honoria says she hasn't told anybody. Someone might have overheard us talking about it, who even knows. I swear it seems sometimes like walls have eyes and ears, the way rumours spread.



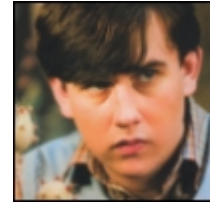
 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-27 05:40:25](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah. No lie.

At least it's not Umbridge spying on everybody this year. I mean, I was seriously convinced she had the portraits and the armour telling her everything we said.

**2013-11-26 20:31:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Terry  
Boot*



 **alt\_neville**


Terry,

You were at Moddey Dhoo on Sunday, right?  
How're Mum and Dad doing? Especially Dad?

I mean I can always write Mum, but I know she has her hands full right now, between Bedford and Saltash, besides everything at Moddey Dhoo. I know Dad can read what I write, but he can't write back, and I don't want to make him feel bad about it. Plus, you know how it is--I'd just like to get another point of view on things. About how they're doing. ~~The stuff they won't tell me~~

---



 **alt\_terry** at **2013-11-27 02:49:15**  
(no subject)

Yeah, I came home for dinner Sunday.

Your Dad is loads better. He's out of bed, anyway, and even doing chores. I'd guess from a couple remarks people dropped that it's a relief to everyone. He was fretting something awful when Madam Pomfrey said he had to stay in bed.

He's taking potions with his meals; I saw him take a dose. Whatever it is looked like it tasted awful, from the look on his face.




 **alt\_neville** at **2013-11-27 02:51:23**  
(no subject)

He's taking potions? I wonder what they were, and who made them.

I mean, Mr McGivern was the Sanctuary potioneer,  
and--yeah.



 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-11-27 02:53:05](#)  
(no subject)

Hadn't thought of that. They must've been sent by Madam Pomfrey. Or maybe by Mr Snape?


No idea what sorts of potions they were.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-27 02:56:24](#)  
(no subject)

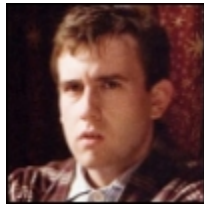
Did you see him using magic?




 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-11-27 02:57:36](#)  
(no subject)

No, I didn't.

But I gather they've told him he should hold off on using it for now.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-27 02:58:28](#)  
(no subject)

All right then.

And Mum?



 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-11-27 03:02:00](#)  
(no subject)

Dunno. About the same as usual, I guess. Well, she seemed rather tired.

She was watching your Dad at dinner, I did notice that.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-27 03:04:24](#)  
(no subject)

I wish I could get to see them. Both Evelyn and I do. It would make us feel a whole lot better.

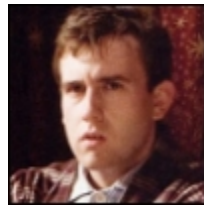
You're lucky you get to see them once a week,  
you know?




 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-11-27 03:05:23](#)  
(no subject)

I know.


I hope it doesn't bother you, that I can.



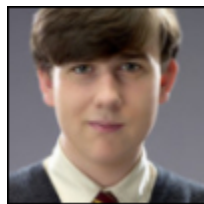
 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-27 03:07:32](#)  
(no subject)

No, I'm just glad to get the report. Anyway, why should it?



 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-11-27 03:08:50](#)  
(no subject)

I dunno. They're your parents. I just wondered if it bothers you that I get to see them when you don't.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-27 03:10:49](#)  
(no subject)

Well, they're *your* parents, too, aren't they? For all intents and purposes, I mean.






 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-11-27 03:12:04](#)  
(no subject)

I suppose I--well, all the Moddey Dhoo kids look up to them, of course.




 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-27 03:21:49](#)  
(no subject)

It's more than that. Isn't it?

He sent you a private message from Saltash, when he thought he might not come back. Same as he sent one to Mum and to Evelyn and me. Right?


So I reckon that means he looks on you as family.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-27 03:24:42](#)  
(no subject)

It's not like I'm saying you didn't have your own family, even though you can't remember them. I don't mean any disrespect to your own Mum and Dad, you know?




 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-11-27 03:28:12](#)  
(no subject)

No, I understand.

I just surprised, I guess. A little. That you wouldn't mind sharing yours with me.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-27 03:31:15](#)  
(no subject)

I don't see why I should mind, no.






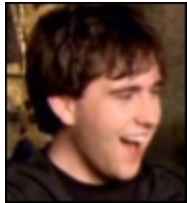
 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-11-27 03:35:41](#)**  
(no subject)


Do you mind?



 **[alt\\_terry](#)** at **[2013-11-27 03:37:24](#)**  
(no subject)

Are you joking? Of course I don't. I'm just grateful.

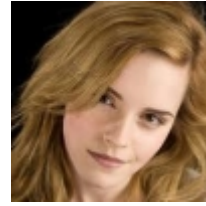


 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-11-27 03:38:32](#)**  
(no subject)

I reckon I get along better with you than loads of blokes get along with the brothers they were born with.

**2013-11-26 20:42:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Ron and Sally-Anne*



 **alt\_hermione**

So, Bradley overheard Honoria Sandoval telling your sister how much she is looking forward to the new *Pure Hunger* book and how jealous she was that Ginny had a copy already; Bradley told Portia Rubens who told Effie Stevens and Hydra.

*Does Ginny have an advance copy somehow? And if so, do you think you could convince her to loan it to Hydra after she's read it? (Hydra will accidentally leave it where I can read it, understand?)*

---



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-11-27 02:51:15**  
(no subject)

Ginny got a copy EARLY? HOW?



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-11-27 03:23:55**  
(no subject)

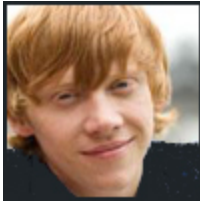
Right


RON, YOUR SISTER IS INSANE

she does have a copy but she's NOT READING IT and she won't let me have it.

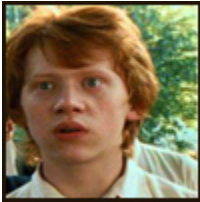
She says I can borrow it next week. I have my own copy coming next week!


And unfortunately I don't think I know anyone in her dorm who could nick it.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-27 03:51:58](#)  
(no subject)

Well, I can't nick it for you. I can't get into the girls' dormitory, you know.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-27 03:52:46](#)  
(no subject)

Sheesh.

That sort of thing travels quickly, doesn't it?




 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-27 03:54:51](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, Ron. It's only about the most anticipated book to come out this Christmas, of *course* it travels quickly if someone has a copy that's just here, waiting to be read!

Maybe she'd loan it to you, if you asked her?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-27 04:01:00](#)  
(no subject)

Eh.

I've got loads of reading without adding in silly fantasy books about wizard gladiators and whatever all's in those stories.

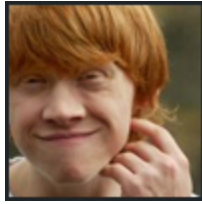



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-27 04:16:03](#)  
(no subject)

Don't be thick.

Fine. We'll just wait. I'll probably have to wait for hols.

Unless someone leaves a copy in the dorm.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-27 04:20:38](#)  
(no subject)

What do you see in those books? I mean besides the covers having pictures of manly blokes on them?

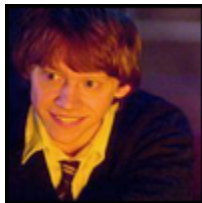



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-27 04:26:05](#)  
(no subject)

They're exciting! I mean, I know they're really not very well-written, certainly not compared to classics or Rupert Overstreet or anything, but it's really hard to put them down.

And anyway, there aren't blokes on the covers of--

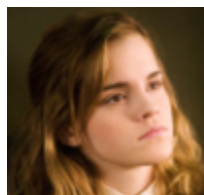
RON WEASLEY. You've SEEN the third book, haven't you?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-27 04:32:02](#)  
(no subject)

Huh.

Actually, I was just guessing what's on the covers from what people say about them all the time. You mean there's all that fighting and there aren't any manly blokes on the covers? Isn't it meant to be all about which bloke the girl's going to get together with? What're their names? Poseidon and Amethyst or summat?



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-27 04:50:10](#)  
(no subject)


Amaranth and Efrain. And yes, there's loads of fighting. It's sort of like the Frost Faire games-- the ones all those people died in two years ago-- only it's all purebloods.

The other thing is that the author makes so many comparisons to the Protectorate, really, I mean, I don't know how she gets away with it but she takes everything about the Protectorate

and sort of turns it on its head, so that instead of oppressing Muggles and Muggleborns it's the purebloods who are prisoners.

But Amaranth is strong and brave. And Efrain's really very clever and you should just read them. Tell Ginny you want to borrow the others over hols or something.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-27 05:02:15](#)**  
(no subject)

So. Which one of the blokes do you think Amaranth should get together with?

Or do you think she's really mad for that other girl? Agony or whatever her name is? Johnson and Towler were always going on about how it's really like that, and she's not really that keen on either of the boys.

Of course, I think Towler just liked the idea of two witches. Not sure he'd read the books, either.



 **[alt\\_hermione](#)** at **[2013-11-27 05:12:45](#)**  
(no subject)

Well, Phoebus is supposedly handsome, but then she's known him since they were children so I don't know if she'd come to have romantic feelings for him, in the end.

But there's something about Efrain that doesn't seem quite right to me. I think one of them is going to turn out to have been a mudblood all along.

But I also don't think they're both going to live. I mean, I think one of them will die trying to save Amaranth. Maybe. Probably Phoebus.

Or maybe Efrain and Amaranth will form a sort of triad with Agrona. Like Sirius and Mr Lupin with Tonks, only actually all together. Or something.

No, not really.

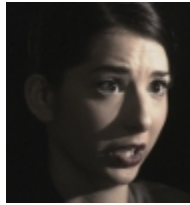


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-27 05:16:54](#)  
(no subject)

Ha. I kind of thought Efrain and Amaranth should form a triad with Phoebus.

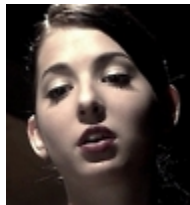
I absolutely think Efrain is really a mudblood. I mean she pretty much says as much, people can be reclassified, right? Just like in the Protectorate there are purebloods who get their wands snapped and are sent to the camps, it doesn't actually change their family history.

If Amaranth gets together with Efrain in the end there'll surely turn out to be a tapestry in the attic of some cottage, though, and he'll be the great-great-gazillion-times-great grandson of Helga Hufflepuff.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-27 05:24:53](#)  
(no subject)

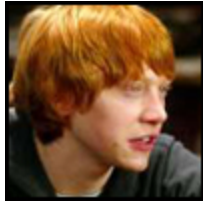
And I agree with you about Phoebus even though he's one of my favourite characters. I think he's going to end up with Agrona and I wish Agrona were more interesting. Either that or he'll get killed off protecting Amaranth, there have been all sorts of hints. (And they killed off the would-have-obviously-been-Sorted-into-Gryffindor character in the LAST book.) (That made me cross. I REALLY LIKED HER. Mandy says that since you never actually SAW HER BODY, maybe she's coming back? I don't think so, though.)




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-27 05:25:57](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, sorry, Ron. I suppose now you'll know who's going to die if you ever read these.

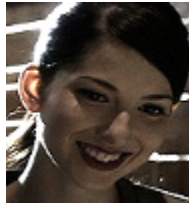
But given that you've ignored me, Pansy, Hydra, AND Ginny all telling you they're good and you ought to read them, I don't know if it really matters.



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-27 05:35:46](#)**  
(no subject)

No worries.

I just think it's fun to watch the rest of you talk about it. That's loads more interesting than actually finding out that Amaranth is an animagus and Poseidon gets hit with a wasting curse. Or whatever happens.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-27 05:44:16](#)**  
(no subject)

There haven't been any animagi which is a little surprising. The people who think Helene isn't really dead mostly think she's an animagus and got away by transforming  
(Amaranth glimpsed something small running away, you see...)

**[2013-11-26 21:00:00](#)**

*Private Message to Rachel Lamont*

I spoke with Antonin Nikolaevich by Floo this evening.



 [alt\\_lana](#)


I get the feeling he views Finch-Fletchley as a challenge, a bit of a nut to crack, if you will. Agrees he's ludicrously attached to the idea of avoiding violence--a true hobby horse. (Actually what he said was, 'I could kill whoever convinced him such pacifism was the way to go.') AN is set on winning him over, and he'd hoped we'd see the potential and make him an offer he wouldn't refuse.

It amused him to hear that F-F perked straight up over your book-keeping, though he said if MEU's needing to recruit he's got another one he'd recommend for a consultancy but with no likelihood of success in field training. I think it was Moon he had in mind.

But about F-F, what he said essentially was that it's mostly in the few moments when he's been pushed past his milquetoast appearance that one sees the potential underneath. And he recommended that if we want to see his true capabilities, we shouldn't bother threatening him; we should threaten someone he cares about.

I think basically that means we could only count on him to work if he were with a squad in the field. But alone he might be completely useless in a tight moment--or if he were asked to accomplish any serious business. Unless we were holding one of his friends hostage as a surety he'd do his work.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-27 03:06:39](#)


*(no subject)*

I have to admit I was thinking about F-F today and it occurred to me it would be nice to have an enthusiastic assistant for a week or two -- someone who was EXCITED to go digging through a room full of files.

But yeah. He really doesn't sound suitable. If Professor Dolohov is correct and that potential blossoms, and he's interested, F-F could certainly apply for the Auror programme later. It's a rare candidate who makes it in straight out of school.






 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-11-27 03:25:24](#)  
(no subject)

True enough.

It may be he just needs to grow up a bit. Get over his queer adolescent principles.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-27 03:32:47](#)  
(no subject)

True enough!

Teenagers. I forget just how YOUNG they are, until I have to actually interact with them!




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-27 03:07:52](#)  
(no subject)

I've been thinking about what you said about Auror LeStrange sponsoring you, and your duelling.

When do you move up? And how worried are you?



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-11-27 03:32:16](#)  
(no subject)

Ugh.

We've had to reschedule my interview for promotion, and you know how impossible it is to get that many people in a room all at the same time. If Rod LeStrange can make it, then Bellatrix can't, and if they can, then Crouch can't or Wright can't or Hopkirk has a session scheduled with Mulciber.

What do you mean about being worried? I expect I'll get promoted. Though I suppose you never know what someone might ask that could be a blindside cannonball to knock you back into half-year's apprenticeship.


Or did you just mean about the duelling?



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-27 03:34:23](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, I just meant about the duelling. Getting back up to the top of the standings as fast as you can. I'm sure you'll get promoted -- the interview is always wretched to schedule, for all the reasons you mentioned. It's not as if Aurors have a lot going on, you know?



 [alt\\_lana](#) at [2013-11-27 03:42:00](#)  
(no subject)

Oh. Well, about the standings, I suppose I'll tackle that one sparring session at a time.

In some ways, it's best not to be too precocious, don't you think? I mean, it paints a target on one's back, I'd think.

I expect Montague's approach will be trying to look as if he's got weaknesses he doesn't really and then springing up the ranks all in a fortnight once everyone's stopped paying attention to the new people and what they can do. I'm not a Slytherin, though.

**2013-11-26 21:17:00**

*Private message to Ginny Weasley*

Sooooooooo rumour has it you might have gotten an early copy of a book we've all been waiting for.....can I borrow it when you're done? Hydra would like to borrow it, too.



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



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-11-27 03:19:20](#)

*(no subject)*

You're welcome to borrow it when I'm done but I'm not reading it until next week.

I KNOW you'll think I'm mad! But I don't want to be the ONLY one who's read it, I want to be able to talk about it right away!



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-27 03:20:24](#)

*(no subject)*

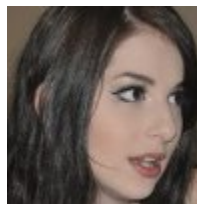
Well if you're just going to let it sit could I borrow it NOW? I can have it back to you before next week and I PROMISE I won't tell you anything that happens.



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-11-27 03:21:47](#)

*(no subject)*

No! because I want us to ALL BE READING IT TOGETHER.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-27 03:24:15](#)

*(no subject)*

How did you even get it?



 [alt\\_ginny](#) at [2013-11-27 03:26:06](#)  
(no subject)

A friend of mine from Pure Sparkle sent it to me, I guess maybe they got a copy to review?

Don't you think it'll be fun, everyone finding out together what happens?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-27 03:26:39](#)  
(no subject)

I can't believe you have a copy of Pure Power and you're letting it just sit in your trunk.

**2013-11-27 09:05:00**

*Order Only*

Got some more news from Saltash to share. We managed to get a group from Aldrich out there - it was a trick. But there's good news, too.



 [alt\\_lee](#)

For one, they got the worst burn cases stabilised - we managed to sort out the patrol patterns enough we could sneak the worst cases just outside the border and use magic.

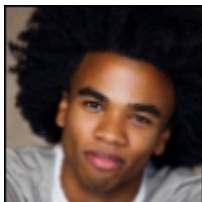
Two, we had Regina (Mrs Lee) and Lisa, who's her assistant, from Moddey Dhoo along, and they had all sorts of advice about garden plots and winter crops - beans and cabbage and kale. Real nutritious. They're still worried about food, though.

Three, they're looking at building a water wheel for power. Couple of people there have an idea how to make it and what to do when they've got it.

Four, I rounded up enough radio receivers they could have them various places (we got some for the various bits of the Bedford Collective, too), and both places are working on radio tower plans. (That's part of why we want the water wheel pronto.)

They're still real short on food choices, and there's still a lot of people recovering from burns and stuff. And I guess there's other news about how much MLE's been searching the caves near there, but I heard a bit about whether it's worth trying to tunnel down and meet one of the caves in the area now they're starting to lay off those searches, so we could get more food in and out easy. Other things, too, of course.

And the Aldrich folks have been talking to Saltash and to Bedford about governance and all that. (I think the Saltash folks are just still too busy to sort some of it out, but they're thinking it through.)



 [alt\\_lee](#) at **2013-11-27 14:28:25**

*Private message to Jeremy Stretton*

Hey, look. You want to find a time you can come out to Aldrich and I can introduce you around properly?

There's times we could definitely use an extra wand with some of their projects, or at Bedford. Sometimes

just another set of strong arms or a different way of looking at a

problem, too.

Also, I have to keep my parents in the dark about what I'm doing. Like you. Glad to share which excuses seem to worry them least, if it'd help. Or if you and I are off together, it might pass as being mates, without either set of them asking more about it, y'know?



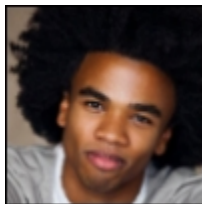
 [alt\\_jeremy](#) at [2013-11-27 15:56:22](#)

*Re: Private message to Jeremy Stretton*

Right. That's good thinking. Since they have been chuntering on at me again about getting out of the house more and making new friends it should serve.

Except I should warn you in case you come by that Mother might give you strange looks. When Maureen vanished I couldn't very well say why I was all desperate and anxious so I told her I had a horrible row with a mate. Now she's afraid I'm a shirtlifter. She was already worried because I never fancied any of the witches she thought would be perfect as the mother of her grandchildren. So if she gives you a hard stare just ignore her.

Right. I'll know more about my schedule tomorrow. At least work is down to a dull roar now that I'm settling in. Though speaking of dull roars here comes Mulciber so I had better get back to it.



 [alt\\_lee](#) at [2013-11-27 16:08:49](#)

*Re: Private message to Jeremy Stretton*


Seemed like it might do us both some good, yeah. And thanks for the warning.

I figured I could use the excuse I'd had a delivery for someone in the Ministry, you and I bumped into each other, started chatting, whatever. (Y'know that's my day job, right? Courier of things that can't go by floo or owl or whatever. Hasn't been handy for the Order yet, but it's a good excuse to be all over the place and keep weird hours.)

Um. About Maureen. Guessing you had a chance to read back now, find out what happened with her, right? Though maybe you don't want to talk about it.

Don't worry about not replying if that Mulciber's near, either.



 **alt\_alice** at **[2013-11-27 18:29:38](#)**  
(no subject)

Thank you, Lee.

And the programming out of Aldrich has been quite a hit here -- we all tend to gather around for the first news report of the evening, and Danny and Richard are always up early enough to catch the morning news. Judith adores the Mary Poppin book hour.

I'm glad they're able to work in some news from the camps, too.

I like the idea of connecting to a cave system very much. It'd certainly make getting in and out far easier. Hopefully those geological maps Bill sent along will be helpful.

**2013-11-27 20:27:00**

*Order Only: Strangeweale and the Mulcibers*



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

I went round to Strangeweale's house this afternoon (as you know). It didn't take long for his servant to entice Padfoot inside, since it was a cold, wet evening. I'd planned to see if I could get him complaining again, maybe get more information on the machines or where Strangeweale's holding his prisoners.

My hope was to be able to send one of us round to see him - or better yet, to change into myself right in front of him and offer him the chance to get away from Strangeweale. But before he started up a one-sided conversation, *both* Mulciber brothers came calling.

He told his furry guest to stay in the kitchen quietly while he went to see to the visitors. Next thing I knew, he dashed off a message to his master and Strangeweale himself came home not five minutes afterward. (They spent that five minutes disagreeing over which tactic to use with him: Corax wanted to ambush the man in his own home and Cadmus thought they could buy his cooperation. In the end they decided that they'd try to make him see the advantages of forming an alliance.)

From where I was in the kitchen with the Muggleborn (I learned later his name is Timothy), I could hear fairly well.

Cadmus Mulciber claims that the potion Strangeweale provided to him, which accounts for his improved health and apparently superabundant magic, is 'wearing off' and he wants more.

Strangeweale told him that he shouldn't need any more - and anyway, that what he has been able to store is for 'Our Lord Protector.'

Corax wanted to know exactly how the potion's made. Strangeweale was cagey about answering, but that's right about when he began to see the light. He told the Mulcibers that he needs a ready supply of muggleborns.

He told them a good deal more about his 'production line,' which I




won't go into right now. But they came to a sort of deal: Corax Mulciber will find a way to get him 'more supply' and also use their influence to throw more funding his way in Mysteries' budget. In return Strangeweale will be setting aside more potion for *both* Cadmus and Corax.

It all makes me wish I'd changed back to a human before they arrived so I could have launched a surprise attack.

As it is, Timothy made his furry friend go into the root cellar so his master won't know there's an unauthorised dinner guest. I don't want to Disapparate away when he doesn't know there's anything special about the dog he's been hosting. So I'll have to wait until he comes back and I can convince him I need to go outdoors.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-28 02:32:45](#)  
(no subject)

So that potion that brought Cadmus Mulciber back from near death was Strangeweale's?

Fuck I'd hoped it was Cinnibaris.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-28 02:42:31](#)  
(no subject)

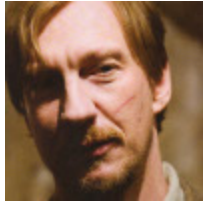
Cinnibaris wouldn't account for his magic being so powerful, though, would it have? Maybe Poppy could tell us, I'm not sure.


But no, it was Strangeweale. And now he's in bed with the Mulciber boys.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-28 02:44:20](#)  
(no subject)

It wouldn't, no. I'd hoped that was just rumours. Or something else.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-28 02:45:01](#)

*Private message to Padfoot*

Please tell me you don't mean that last bit literally.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-28 02:45:58](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

Sod it, Moony. Dogs are not supposed to be able to laugh.




 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-28 02:33:25](#)

*(no subject)*

Where does he think they'll be getting more muggleborns? There's already a shortage, or so we've heard. No doubt because of Strangeweale.




 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-11-28 14:42:31](#)

*(no subject)*

I want to know that, too.



 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-11-28 14:46:56](#)

*Private message to Sirius Black*

The part you're leaving out ... why did you leave it out?

I'm coming up with a guess that's making me want to spew.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-28 15:25:22](#)

*Re: Private message to Sirius Black*

Then you're probably not too far off.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-28 02:34:23](#)

*Private message to Padfoot*

Actually, hold on.

He TOLD them about his 'production line.' You mean the muggleborn girls he's already got.

I probably don't want to know, do I? What did you overhear?



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-28 02:39:15](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

Yes, the girls he already has. And a few young men, too. He was actually proud of his 'solution' to the shortage, which is essentially to put the muggleborn males to stud with the young women. But he said that the problem is it takes 'so long' for the females to bear, and then of course, there's a chance the baby will not be magical.

I have a feeling they might try to obtain even more of the ready supply of muggleborns. Possibly even recall those in service currently.

Only not Timothy. (Corax taunted him about that: 'Why not start with your own slave?' He told him that Timothy's been taking potions for years that have chemically castrated him. It was all I could do not to leap into the sitting room and tear his throat out. As it was, I think I did probably growl out loud a bit.)



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-28 02:46:49](#)

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

Did you overhear -- do the babies have to show their magic, at least, or maybe even grow into young children, before he can use them?

Did you hear anything that would tell us how long we have?



 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at 2013-11-28 02:55:51**

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

They have to show their magic before they can be used.

He mentioned that using a non-magical 'specimen' was what went 'wrong' with Rookwood.

I hadn't realised anything had gone wrong with Rookwood but that's what he said.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#) at 2013-11-28 03:00:11**

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

Well, that's good news of a sort.

If they have to show their magic first, that buys them some time. Plenty of wizard children don't show their magic until well into childhood.



 **[alt\\_lupin](#) at 2013-11-28 02:48:51**

*Re: Private message to Padfoot*

And recalling servants, ugh. How quickly are we likely to hear about that? We can tell Bill to keep an ear out, at least. I don't know how we'll get on without Ellie, but we can't risk them taking her. If she goes to Moddey soon, we can report her as a runaway, and it won't be obvious we were keeping her out of Strangeweale's hands.

You don't think they'll try to take Hermione away from Harry, do you?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-28 02:52:22](#)**

*Private message to Sirius Black*

When you say 'production line' do you mean the muggleborn girls? We were right that he's trying to make muggleborn babies on purpose?



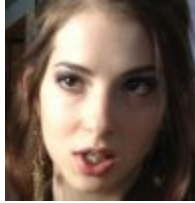
 **[alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-28 03:01:02](#)**

*Re: Private message to Sirius Black*

Yes.

The thing is that he speaks about the entire process as if it's no different to breeding horses or pet show dogs. He's reduced it in his mind so that he doesn't think of them like human beings at all.

I didn't want to upset everyone by stating it so baldly, though, so if you'd let others figure it out on their own, or decide they don't want to know, I'd appreciate it.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-28 03:04:44](#)**

*Re: Private message to Sirius Black*

Well I won't POINT IT OUT to anyone. But I hope you're not telling yourself that Hermione won't work it out.

~~Anyway I think the person who's really going to freak out is Mrs Weasley~~



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-28 04:13:39](#)**


*(no subject)*

We've got to contain this, and soon.

The more people who know about this, the more dangerous it is -- because it means they might continue to try and experiment with his ideas even if Strangeweale himself is taken out of the picture. Any plans we do end up making will have to consider destroying the machine and his notes, to prevent others from trying to pick up where he left off. Especially if they're significantly motivated and powerful, like the Mulcibers.

I'd also rather cut Strangeweale off at the knees before he has much of a chance to expand his efforts any further. Those black wands are trouble enough now as it is.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-28 14:51:47](#)  
(no subject)

Bloody hell.

This, if anything, makes it worthwhile for me to be working for the sodding prick. It'll be an honour and a privilege to thwart him. As I will do my utmost to do.

(Yeah, I know; language, Mum. Sorry. But not much.)




 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-11-28 14:57:26](#)  
(no subject)

I keep thinking of Arthur Tanisbee, the baby we thought might possibly be Arthur's namesake. I want so desperately to rescue him... if he isn't dead already for the sake of that *wretched* Cadmus Mulciber.

They didn't give any hint where the babies or their mothers might be kept?



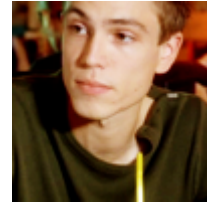
 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-11-28 15:27:20](#)  
(no subject)

No, not yet. But I'll be back. As I said, Timothy doesn't seem to care for his master at all. It should be a simple matter to convince him to work with us.

**2013-11-28 08:40:00**

*Order Only: private message to Alice*

'What does winning look like?' is a good question. Not that I have an answer yet. Though I keep coming back to 'The person you should ask that is Maureen.'




 **alt\_jeremy**

Anyhow, yeah. Meeting again today would be good. The quaffle's yours for picking a time tonight. I'll check in as soon as I'm at work, which is going to be late because the bloke who's been hired to fly the bounds in the mornings has taken sick. Again. So I have to do it. Again.

Right. Now Mother's reeling off a list of other things I could get to before I leave, after I fly the bounds. As if. But I had better get on-broom. Literally.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-28 16:12:19**  
(no subject)

Jeremy, love, I've just had a flurry of messages from Bill. Mulciber is not pleased at your being late, and is looking to make an example -- and he's making Bill do it for him.


I'm so very sorry. I know this was something out of your hands.

And know that Bill is dreading this, but should he refuse or go lightly on you, it'd go poorly for you both.

We talked about risks with Mulciber, and I know it's one thing to think about them dispassionately and another to face them head on.

Remember what else we talked about -- eventually transferring you to another department, should something open up in Portkeys. This is a temporary state -- an unfortunate, unpredictable, sometimes awful temporary state.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-28 16:18:31](#)**

*(no subject)*

And I would very much like to talk more. I should've anticipated you'd be quite thorough, but I enjoyed it.

This sort of conversation -- the kind that doesn't really have a clear end, but can keep building and growing -- that's one way to gain clarity and sort out the next possible stepping stone along the way. It's genuinely useful, and something I'd look forward to doing more of.

I think it's understandable if you want to hold off meeting today, but I would like to sooner rather than later -- not only to check in about Mulciber and Bill, but also to continue our exploration of the future.

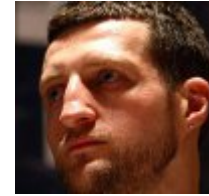
The quaffle's back to your side of the pitch.



**2013-11-28 09:27:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

That new lad you found for Muggle Detention isn't in yet, Weasley. When he gets in, he needs a lesson about punctuality.



 [alt\\_corax](#)

In ten-second increments.

From you.


---



 [alt\\_corax](#) at **2013-11-28 15:35:29**  
(no subject)


Unless he's out ill, of course, in which case he can learn a lesson about calling in properly when he gets back.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-11-28 15:36:15**  
(no subject)

I'll check to see if anyone in his department has heard from him.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-11-28 15:35:36**  
(no subject)

Yes, sir.

**2013-11-28 09:38:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Alice Longbottom and Charlie Weasley*



Alice,

FUCK. Mulciber's ordered me to cruciate Jeremy.

 [alt\\_bill](#)

Do I tell him first?

---



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-28 15:52:44](#)

*(no subject)*

Fuck, fuck, FUCK.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-28 16:07:22](#)

*(no subject)*

You've told him.

That's fine.

It's going to be all right, Bill.

Just remember -- it would be far worse if Mulciber had to do it himself.

I'm sorry.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-28 19:04:06](#)

*(no subject)*

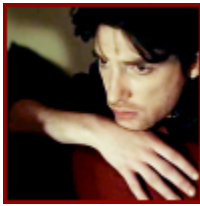
This was not your choice. This was Mulciber telling you what to do.


If you take the potion, as I expect you will, remember that your reaction might be a difficult one. Know that feeling guilty is natural, and that a lack of pleasure and satisfaction will make the experience that much more unpleasant, but it is a good thing. At the very least, there won't be additional stress and guilt at feeling that pleasure.

You might feel a bit of a rush a few minutes after as a delayed reaction. That's natural, too. See if you can't associate it with something other than the cruciatus -- be checking on Jeremy to see if he's all right, for instance, or forging paperwork for one of our camp visits.

Remember to take care of yourself, Bill. Remember that you're doing all this for a purpose, and that Jeremy doesn't blame you.

Remember that regardless of what you're made to do for this job that you are a good man, which is why this is so hard.



 **alt\_bill at 2013-11-28 19:04:38**  
(no subject)

Here's my formal report.

It's done, and he acquitted himself as well as well as we could have asked.

As you saw, I ended up warning him first. Mulciber told me to cruciate him today if he was simply late, or tomorrow if he was sick, because he had failed to call in. Jeremy chose to come in today.

I took the potion about five minutes before he arrived. I thought of ushering him into my office and shutting the door and letting him fake his screams, but Mulciber had explicitly told me to cruciate him, so I didn't dare. He could tell the last time I tried that. So we staged this sordid scene in a semi-public area. He played the surly new employee, trying to bluster his way out with excuses, I played the stern rising manager doing his boss's bidding, and then god help me, I cruciated Jeremy Stretton for thirty seconds. For the first moment I was panicking, afraid that with the potion I *couldn't*, but then I tapped into my rage at Mulciber for putting me in this spot, and I managed it.

He gritted his teeth trying to hold himself back, the poor sod, but he was screaming by the end of the first ten seconds.

Finally, I broke it off and hauled him to his feet and brought him, stumbling, to my office and shut the door. I raised my voice and continued to tear strips off him for the benefit of passersby as I

tended him. I gave him a dose of the post-cruciatus potion and used *aguamenti* to fill my kettle and I made him some tea with added lemon. Then I shut up and let him drink it. And then we talked.

I apologised, and he said...well. He seemed to understand. He even complimented me. For not holding back. God.

I told him to report back to you, too. I want you to tell me if--if any resentment shows up, that you can detect. I *must* know, because he's *my* responsibility, my subordinate onsite, as well as Nick, and I will have to act decisively to repair the damage. If I can. I mean, I *think* we're all right. But I never dreamed I'd never have to do this to him--I thought Mulciber might, but I didn't consider a scenario where it would be me. Which is bloody foolish, now that I think about it.


Tell Sirius and Severus that their potion for me seemed to help me. I think it would have been much, much worse, having to cruciate my own Order colleague without it.

I sent him back to his desk. Warned him to floo home tonight, rather than apparate. The last thing he needs is to splinch himself.

Then I sat down and wrote this to you.

I HATE this.



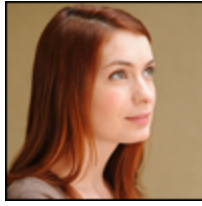
 **alt\_bill** at **2013-11-28 19:57:18**  
(no subject)


Addendum, later.

Well, I've just noticed another, delayed reaction to the potion.

The guilt is even stronger, several hours later.

Which is good. Yes? It will mitigate...the damage.



 **[alt\\_alice](#)** at **[2013-11-28 20:10:47](#)**  
(no subject)

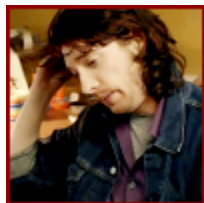
First off, I'm glad you had the chance to use the potion, and see what sort of impact it would have on you. I'm sure that Severus and Sirius would want a full report. Remember its purpose -- not to punish you, but to dampen your body's reactions after it uses Dark Magic so that you won't crave it.


Don't treat it like a punishment, Bill. If it causes severe reactions, I want you to be honest with both of them to see if there's anything they can adjust.

And secondly, I'm glad you were able to be there for Jeremy. I know it doesn't feel like you were, but you did your best to prepare him, explained what was going on, and took care of him after, which was the responsible thing to do. Neither of you were in mortal danger, and you did something unpleasant, but necessary, and it's over and done now.

I'll be sure to talk to him, love, but if he's the sort who resents you after all that, we've made a mistake in bringing him on -- and I don't believe we have.

Remember that Mulciber is a vindictive sort -- if you react strongly to cruciating Jeremy in particular, he'll note it and might have you do it more often as a result. Try as best as you can to not show how deeply it's affected you. I know it's difficult with the potion at work, but you and I both know that pretending not to care doesn't make you a monster, nor is it what you really think and feel.



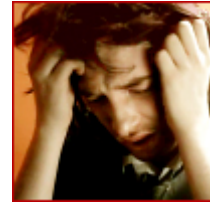
 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-28 20:24:38](#)**  
(no subject)

Very good point about Mulciber.

He stopped by and verified I'd dealt with Jeremy, so that's done. He's going to be tied up with meetings for most of the day, fortunately, so I'll be able to stay out of his way.

**2013-11-28 09:53:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Jeremy Stretton*



Your absence this morning has been noticed.

Mulciber has ordered me to administer chastisement. To cruciate you, as soon as you get in.

 [alt\\_bill](#)

I've left a note on your desk. I'm afraid I'm going to have to make this public. And to make it look good. Except...that he said if you're sick to do it when you get in tomorrow, because you didn't call in. So you can put it off until tomorrow if that makes it easier. ~~If you prefer~~

I'm so bloody sorry. I'll

I'm sorry.

There is a preparation I have to make beforehand, if you can let me know which you're choosing.

---



 [alt\\_jeremy](#) at **2013-11-28 16:10:45**  
(no subject)

...

Right.




 [alt\\_jeremy](#) at **2013-11-28 16:14:21**  
(no subject)

Make your preparation. I'll be right in.

Don't bugged this up. By holding back, I mean. I can take it.



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-11-28 16:16:31**  
*(no subject)*

Understood.

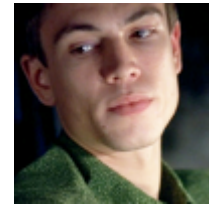
**2013-11-28 19:05:00**

*Order Only: private nmessage to 8ill*

The lemon ard tea did nelp. Thanks for tnat.

Sorry. Hands are shaking still again.

The lemon and tea did help. Thanks for that.



 [alt\\_jeremy](#)


Merlin, Weasley, you've got some power behind your wand! I was planning on taunting you to help you focus - tell you Lana Sandoval could do it harder than that, or something. Turned out not to be needful, did it?

Sorry. Still a little scattered. Funny, it's good to feel I've finally done something for the Order besides wash dishes and fetch and carry and wait. Though I didn't expect to do this. Or I did, right, but I expected to get it from Mulciber himself. Anyhow, if nothing else it should convince him that you do what he tells you and that you can be a right cruel bastard when ordered to be. So well done there to both of us, I guess.

I will make a formal report to Alice as you recommended. Just need to get a bit more tea into me first, stop these shakes.

Thanks, old man.



 [alt\\_jeremy](#) at **2013-11-29 01:17:55**  
(no subject)

o bugger everybody can read that cant they.

need more tea. and firewhiskey. havent got any firewhiskey

bugger



 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at **2013-11-29 02:52:47**  
(no subject)

Yes, they can. I'm glad you managed the 'Order Only,' anyway.



I realise the Firewhiskey is tempting, but it really isn't a good idea right now, son. Avoid alcohol for now, until all the shakes have been gone for at least a day.

At the very least, that spell tends to impair your thinking. It isn't a good idea to multiply that effect with alcohol, not when you're in the field.




 **alt\_jeremy** at [2013-11-29 03:41:54](#)  
(no subject)

Right.

I'll just sit tight and try not to bollocks anything else up then.



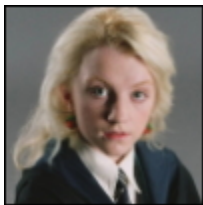
 **alt\_pansy** at [2013-11-29 01:39:14](#)  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*


This is the second time this week that Bill Weasley has surprised me.

I wonder what else he's got going on?

Or what else the rest of them are keeping under wraps?

I suppose joining the Order doesn't mean you get told everything.




 **alt\_luna** at [2013-11-29 04:06:43](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

It *really* surprised me, too. But Mrs Longbottom must know about it, since Bill told Jeremy to report to her.

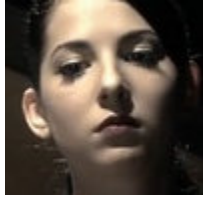
Is this the first time he's performed that spell? Maybe not, if Jeremy was surprised at how powerful it was. That would suggest he's done it before.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-29 04:12:36](#)

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

I also wonder who else knew, like Mrs Weasley, for instance. From everything that Ron says, his parents were really opposed to anybody using that spell.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 04:16:36](#)

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

Oh, you know.

I bet Mrs Longbottom, and Charlie Weasley. All those private messages...



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-29 04:19:19](#)

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

Blimey, I bet you're right. Did they start around the time he started his new job? I'd have to look back in the journals.

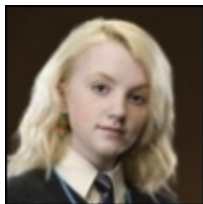


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 04:21:34](#)

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

Yes.

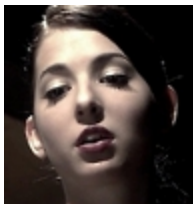
I mean he's always sent PMs to Charlie and sometimes also to Mrs Longbottom but PMs practically every week to the two of them? That started when he got this job.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-11-29 04:17:16](#)

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

No, Mrs Weasley wouldn't like it at all.



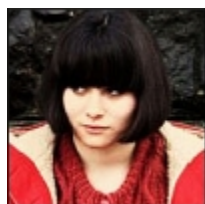
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 04:18:11](#)

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

Well, he did say he might have to, when he got this job. I guess he does have to.

It sounds like he's been doing it enough to get pretty good at it.

D'you think Terry's going to stop speaking to him forever and ever?



 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-29 04:32:19](#)

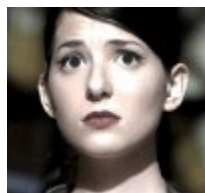
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good:  
Private message to Pansy and Ron*

Oh, probably.

He does tend to be rather inflexible when it comes to that sort of thing.

Although Mr Longbottom and Sirius both suggested their hands weren't particularly clean when it came to the Cardinals, and he still likes them well enough.

Or at least they hinted at it. I wonder.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 04:39:58](#)

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

True! Maybe he's getting over it? (His absolute inflexibility, I mean -- I don't expect he'll ever been fine with Dark Arts.)

Or maybe so long as he doesn't find out for SURE he can shut his eyes to it.



 [alt\\_luna](#) at [2013-11-29 04:30:46](#)

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

You said this was the second time he had surprised you this week. What was the other?




 [alt\\_pansy](#) at [2013-11-29 04:33:57](#)

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

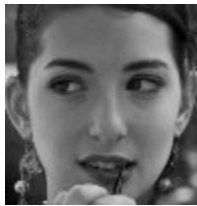
We think he's probably snogging Auror Lamont, who's his source at the Ministry.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-11-29 04:41:36](#)

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

Whoa. What gave you *that* idea?



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 04:45:37](#)

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

Well, she's definitely his MLE contact because they PM all the time.

As far as snogging....didn't you see her last weekend? She's awfully fit. And they're the right age for each other. I mean, okay, MAYBE they're not snogging, but it would explain why she tells him so much, don't you think?



 [alt\\_jeremy](#) at [2013-11-29 02:09:10](#)

*private message to Alice*

Just have to write slowly.  
At least I didn't bugged up the Order Only part.

Right. Shaking again now.

Worst recruit ever.

Bill told me to make a formal report. Said it helps. So here goes.

As you saw, Bill warned me he'd been ordered to cruciate me by Mulciber for tardiness. He gave me choice of today or tomorrow.

Soonest begun, soonest done, right?

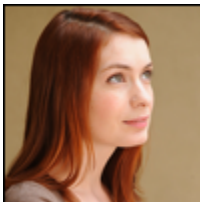
I arrived. Bludgered right in with some excuses for being late. (Didn't think I could pull off complete surprise.) Weasley got shouty back. Pulled his wand and cruciated me for I think three bursts. Possibly four. It's not like I was counting at that point. Then he dragged me into his office, which was fine because my legs weren't working quite right. He poured potions and tea and lemon down my throat while he yelled at me. The yelling was loud enough to be heard by the whole office through a closed door which was the point.


It seemed to work. I mean everybody had seen that it was a solid cruciation. My throat's still raw. So they're likely quite convinced. More to the point Mulciber was. He walked by my desk several times afterward and smirked. I stayed the whole workday plus a bit.

Bill told me to floo home which I did. I've gone to ground in my room with a teapot and a book on Quidditch greats that I've read enough times it's already duplio'd on the inside of my eyelids. My head aches. My hands are still shaking but not as much as earlier. Oh and I feel like I just tried out for Keeper against the Holyhead Harpies. But the potion and tea and lemon did help. Bill was great. I'll be fine really.

~~Tell Maureen I was~~

Honestly I'm glad to have the opportunity to do something real, as I said in the message above that I completely did not mean to make a public all-Order message. Hope you don't pitch me out for being such a Squib.



 **alt\_alice** at **2013-11-29 02:29:53**

*Re: private message to Alice*

You got the Order lock down, which is the most important thing.

And I'm glad you don't hold anything against Bill. He's quite torn up about what happened, and it helps greatly that you're taking it so well. And you are -- believe me. It's a hard thing


sometimes to separate an action from the person doing it.

You're right in that you have a purpose for what you're doing at the Ministry, and I can see how that would help you feel better about what's happened, and I'm glad for it. Just remember -- we're not in the business of sacrificing people unnecessarily -- and there's no need for martyrdom. I hope this is a very rare occurrence, and that you'll be able to keep out of Mulciber's way as much as possible. Your job is to help us stay on top of things at the Ministry, and you're best able to do that when you're not in Mulciber's line of fire.

You're in this up to your neck, love. We're not letting you go any time soon. If you need a friendly face tonight, you could swing by Lazslo's for a quick visit -- I'm sure they'd treat you well after the day you've had. If you'd rather stay on your own and rest up, however, that'd be perfectly understandable.

I'm sorry, Jeremy. I know we were anticipating things might be difficult, but that doesn't make it any easier.

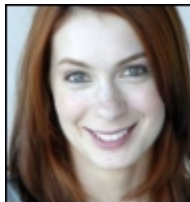



 [alt\\_jeremy](#) at [2013-11-29 04:34:50](#)

*Re: private message to Alice*

I wouldn't hold it against Bill any more than I'd hold bludger bruises from practice against my mates.

We're on the same team, yeah?



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-29 04:41:10](#)

*Re: private message to Alice*

Yes. We most certainly are.



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-29 03:57:26](#)

*Private message to Jeremy and Alice*

Alice, Jeremy flooded to the beer garden. He's sticking to tea and lemon squash, though, no beer. We'll make sure he eats something before he heads home.




 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-29 03:58:40](#)

*Re: Private message to Jeremy and Alice*

Good.

Thank you.




 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-29 04:39:31](#)

*Private Message to Remus*

I hope you don't mind my sending him your way. I seem to be spread a bit thin when it comes to cheer and comfort lately.

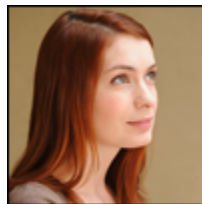


 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-11-29 04:43:58](#)

*Re: Private Message to Remus*

We're happy to provide whatever cheer we can, Alice. Especially to someone who just wants a quiet table and a lot of refills of lemon squash.

You doing all right, then? We make deliveries of cheer, too, if it's helpful.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-29 07:12:36](#)

*Re: Private Message to Remus*

I think the last two weeks are catching up to me a bit.

Now that Frank is out of bed and able to work, things have been far easier on all of us. Sirius's visit helped too -- he's got a way of shaking people out of their moods and making them laugh, both of which were sorely needed. Tonks's sparring session was also good for him, I think. It was hard for him to sit on the sidelines and coach, but he mentioned after that he might brush up more on Fu's weaponry so he could join in. I think the more we face this thing head on, the better.

And Molly's been sending shortbread in a near constant stream -- I have no idea how she managed to get her hands on that much butter.



A delivery of tea would be quite welcome, however. Especially it's done in person, and you plan to stick around to enjoy it with me for a little while. We certainly have enough biscuits to have it with.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 04:03:20](#)

*Private message to Jeremy*

You alright then?

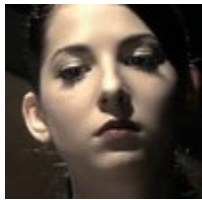


 [alt\\_jeremy](#) at [2013-11-29 04:09:25](#)

*Re: Private message to Jeremy*

Other than feeling like a complete squibbish idiot for the not-so-private message bit, yeah. Headache and the shakes and all that, easing up some now though.

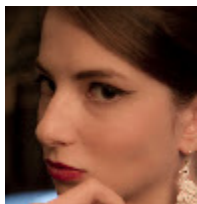
I'll say this for him, Weasley does put Lana Sandoval in the shade. Rather impressive really.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 04:11:54](#)

*Re: Private message to Jeremy*

It's not supposed to matter who casts it. Maybe Sandoval didn't cast you on it for as long? Wasn't she trying to get you to tell her where you'd hidden all those quills you'd stashed away? So you could tell her, and it would stop.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 04:12:37](#)

*Re: Private message to Jeremy*

Admittedly I've only ever been cruciated by Sandoval. So I'm not exactly an expert.





 **alt\_jeremy** at [2013-11-29 04:25:21](#)

*Re: Private message to Jeremy*

Can't recommend gathering more data.

Though Sandoval was younger then. She's probably better at it now. All that practice.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at [2013-11-29 04:30:25](#)

*Re: Private message to Jeremy*

As a general rule, I try to avoid hacking off people who might cast cruciatus on me. I mean, when I can avoid it. I just lack the commitment to science and data-gathering that some Ravenclaws have, which is probably why the Hat put me in Slytherin.

Sandoval, yeah, given that she's an Auror she probably cruciates three prisoners daily before breakfast, just to get herself going. Instead of having tea, like normal people who aren't Sandoval or Bellatrix Lestrange.



 **alt\_bill** at [2013-11-29 04:47:49](#)

*Private message to Jeremy Stretton*

Just saw this now, because George stuck his head in the Floo to tell me to check my journal. I'd say 'thanks' for the remark about my spellcasting ability, although I'm still sorry I had to cast it on you.

You're right: we both did what we had to do. I hope you'll be entirely recovered by tomorrow. I see you've given Alice your report; thanks for following up with that.



 **alt\_jeremy** at [2013-11-29 05:21:33](#)


*Re: Private message to Jeremy Stretton*

Sorry about the non-private message there. I feel a right idiot. Serves me right for getting a little chuffed about how we managed today.

And don't be sorry. I'll tell you what I told Alice when she asked if there were any hard feelings. I said I wouldn't hold it against you

any more than I'd hold bludger bruises from practice against my mates. Because we're on the same team.



 **[alt\\_bill](#) at 2013-11-29 05:32:43**

*Re: Private message to Jeremy Stretton*

We are. I'm relieved you still feel that way. After today.

**[2013-11-28 22:55:00](#)**

*Order Only: Private message to Bill Weasley*




All right then?

We had a good inkling, of course, since we witnessed you learning it.

 [alt\\_gredforge](#)

Do you need us to come home and pour a calming draught down Mum's throat?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-29 05:41:42](#)  
(no subject)

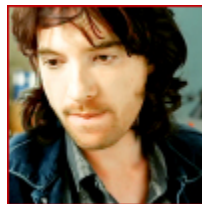
Mum already knew. I told her several weeks ago. I probably could have used your help then. She cried buckets, but she's come around. Mostly. Anyway, she understands it's necessary.


I'm...not good, but doing about as well as can be expected, I think.



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-29 05:42:08](#)  
(no subject)

Would you have kept it quiet with the rest of the Order forever if Stretton hadn't let the pixies out of the bag?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-29 05:42:42](#)  
(no subject)

Maybe I would have tried. But I'm starting to think that wouldn't have been right.

Every time I've performed a Cardinal, I've reported it immediately to Alice and Charlie: Alice because she's the Head of the Order and Charlie because, well, he's the one who keeps me honest.

I've also spoken with a few others because yeah, Dad was right. It does tear you up inside. Severus and Sirius have been working to develop a potion to blunt the effects of the Dark Magic residue.

And I've discussed other approaches, the mental stuff, with Albus and Fu Lee.

But as for the rest, yeah. I've been hiding it. Because I've been dead ashamed I'm doing this.

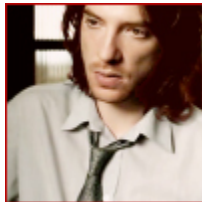
Dad always said sunlight drives out the Dark. So maybe it's better that I'm open about it, if I must do it. It might keep more eyes on me than Charlie's to keep me on the straight and narrow.


Terry was right, though. Negotiating this stuff is like balancing on a knife point.



 **alt\_gredforge** at [2013-11-29 05:43:05](#)  
(no subject)

So you've talked with Terry about it?



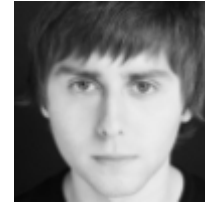
 **alt\_bill** at [2013-11-29 05:43:28](#)  
(no subject)

Not about doing the Cardinals so much as the general underlying ethical issues. What it's like when you have to hurt someone.

I appreciated his insights. I'd say, judging from what he's been through, they've been hard-earned and field tested through experience.

**2013-11-29 13:02:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Ron*



Hello,

I've been thinking about Stretton and Bill all day, what.

 [alt\\_justin](#)

I can't help but feel that I've, well, 'dodged a bullet,' is how Muggles would say it, having done so poorly in my Aurors' interview.

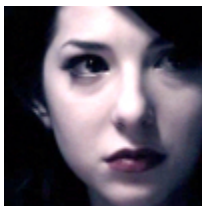
On the other hand, one does want to do the job well, and if any of us are to position ourselves favourably in the Ministry, we shall simply have to compromise ourselves to some extent, what? I mean to say, after all, neither Bill nor Jeremy are working in MLE. It's simply that they're working for a sadist.

(By the way, Ron, did Professor Dolohov ask you how your interview went? That's why he held me back yesterday, to ask. He bally well confirmed that Sandoval thought him a fool for recommending me in the first place. He wasn't half disappointed.)

I keep thinking there has to be something else we can do to help, though, that doesn't necessarily require us to...to subvert ourselves in the process. I'm dashed if I can come up with much, though, apart from all going and joining Terry in Sherwood.

I say, it's jolly frustrating, knowing we've got more than a year before we can finish N.E.W.T.s and start making a difference.

-F-F



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at **2013-11-29 19:16:04**  
(no subject)

Yeah.

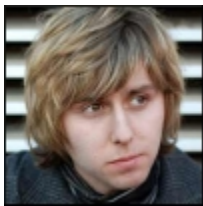
I mean that's the thing.


On one hand it would be bloody useful to have someone from the Order in MLE. But you'd have to pretend you were someone like Sandoval. All the time.

And it's one thing to pretend to have the 'right' attitude and say 'mudblood' instead of muggleborn when people are listening and all the rest. Having to use the cruciatus curse on people -- that's not just words, you know?

At least Jeremy knows why. What do you think would be worse? Having to cruciate a friend, but know that at least they know why, and won't hold it against you? Or having to cruciate some poor sod for a stupid reason and not be able to tell them, 'I have to do this because I have to stay in this position so I can find out things that will let me bring down this whole awful government and put a stop to this nonsense for everyone'?

I think the second would be worse, but honestly I'm not sure I COULD cruciate a friend.



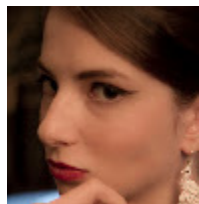
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-29 19:21:54](#)  
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,

Yes, just so. I was reading back over some of the Order's older posts. Mr Weasley's, for example. He wasn't placed in a position to have to Cruciate co-workers or friends, what, but he *did* have to go hard on innocent people all the time, whether or not he could find ways to help them in the long run.

I suppose it's the sort of thing we've simply got to learn to do. Pity there's no lesson or book that will teach one those skills, what.

-J



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 19:28:38](#)  
(no subject)

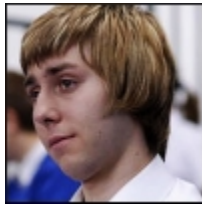
Yes. He did. He and that woman who wound up joining Dogstar -- Norma Brown something? -- had to choose people to DIE, off a list. I mean they were going to make Norma do it and Mr Weasley wound up doing it for her because she couldn't bear to.


I just

I can't decide if it's better that Order members doing terrible things mostly try not to admit it (Bill's been keeping it a secret, except from Charlie and Mrs Longbottom, I think, although maybe the Twins knew as well?) because it leads to fewer people making these sorts of compromises and justifying it, when they could avoid it.

Or if it's worse, because people like Bill feel utterly alone instead of knowing they're not the only one making these sorts of awful choices.

It's not like no one in the Order uses Dark Arts, Sirius Black may not have cast the killing curse on Cadmus Mulciber but he clearly didn't intend for him to survive it (and since he DID survive it by using STRANGEWEALE'S POTION I rather think Sirius should have USED THE BLOODY KILLING CURSE.)



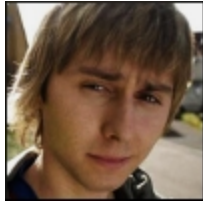
 **alt\_justin** at **2013-11-29 19:39:44**  
(no subject)

Well, I hardly think Bill's the only one making horrible choices. I think perhaps they're simply more starkly contrasted because his boss is so bally well vile.

In any case, I think there are lines one ought not to cross. It's one thing to use a curse that *might* kill someone but another to use one that one *knows* will kill. If we start using the Unforgivables all the time, what's to separate us from the enemy? (To say nothing of the fact that killing them like that denies them or the survivors any due process.)

It makes our job that much more difficult, true, but I'd rather not win by taking short cuts with my conscience.

-J

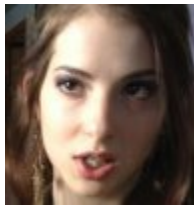


 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-11-29 19:51:47](#)**  
(no subject)

Mind, there's a difference between having to kill or be killed, what, and killing simply because one has the opportunity.

I wonder if Sirius thinks he ought to have used the curse or if he would do now if he had a second chance?

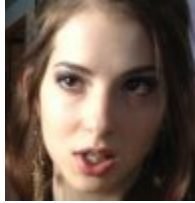
-J



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-29 20:16:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Even if he does think he ought to have, he'd never admit it to us.

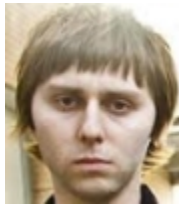
Or at least he'd never admit it to me, he might to you! If you asked him privately.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-29 19:29:48](#)**  
(no subject)

I will say I think it's a pretty bad idea having Bill Weasley be the one Order member who's casting Cardinals.

I guess the Order didn't really have the option of sending Frank Longbottom to take his job. Not without loads of polyjuice, anyway.



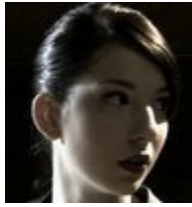
 **[alt\\_justin](#)** at **[2013-11-29 19:50:31](#)**  
(no subject)

Is he the only one? I'm not so sure. Perhaps the others simply don't mention it when they do.

Then again, perhaps it doesn't affect them like it affects Bill. Come to think of it, he was dashed wrecked after the ritual last year--that's when he laid into Ron, wasn't it? I say, dashed bad form, that was. And that was after exposure to Dark Arts.



-J



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 20:27:59](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah.

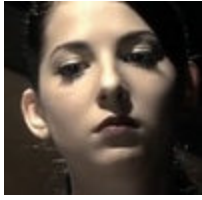
He was wrecked, and that's when he laid into Ron.

And you know, if you've properly studied the Dark Arts you'll be familiar with how it makes you feel. After class, if we cast a load of dark spells, I have a harder time settling down to sleep or to do revision on other subjects. And I know this now so I'll drink a soothing tisane and I know it'll be a good day for organising my trunk and practicing quidditch and not as good a day for working on Charms homework. You know? I know I'll have a bit of extra energy that day and but it's not terribly useful for certain things.

If you never studied Dark Arts because it wasn't available when you were in school, and if you're convinced that having that reaction means you're a terrible person and you're being utterly corrupted and it's going to turn you into Carrow while you sleep -- THAT'S NOT GOOD. And do you imagine Bill's going to say to himself after he's cast cruciatus on some poor sod who stumbled in late, 'well! extra energy! guess it'll be a good day for doing all the weeding when I get home!'

So yeah, if he gets a very strong reaction that makes what happened with Ron make more sense, doesn't it? Because he had all that energy, he didn't know what to do with it, and it turned him into one of those potions that'll blow up if you leave it in the cauldron too long. And Ron was the person who poked the cauldron and got the spillover.

That right there, THAT is why I think Bill Weasley shouldn't be doing Dark Arts in his job, but you're right that he might not be the only one.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 19:19:28](#)  
(no subject)

I know you didn't like those books but it sort of reminds me of a bit in 'Pure Power,' actually. Aramanth and Phoebus have to face each other, and Phoebus just won't raise his wand at all, and Aramanth ends up hurting him, because if they just refuse to fight, they'll both be killed.

Aramanth knows that if she hurts him badly enough, that'll be enough, and they'll both get away alive. And she manages it. But. She's also furious at him because if he'd fought her properly she wouldn't have had to hurt him as badly -- she feels like he took the easy way out, leaving it to her.

I kind of agreed with Aramanth when I read it but I think Hydra didn't (I mean, judging from what she underlined).



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-29 19:35:01](#)  
(no subject)

I remember that scene.

I say, if we were faced with the same choice I'd rather Hydra hurt me, even if I knew she'd forgive me for anything I might have to do. I couldn't forgive *myself* for lifting a finger against her but I know she's strong enough to do it and to forgive us both.

I was thinking...well, it seems obvious now that Bill's messages to Mrs Longbottom have had to do with evil things Mulciber's made him do.

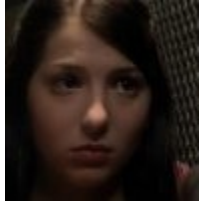
But I wonder.... You know how we noticed last year that reading some of those texts was easier for some of us than others? And in the practical Dark Arts lessons--how sometimes we'd do a spell and feel...energised for hours afterward.

Do you suppose Bill experiences that effect when he casts Dark spells?

(Because to go back to the book, what, that's another reason not to succumb to the temptation to harm someone else, if it's at all

addictive.)

-J



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 19:46:57](#)

*Private message to Justin*

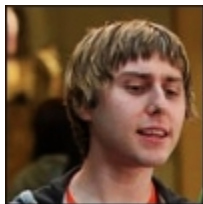
Yeah, reading that scene made me think way too much about what I'd do in that situation. Because on one hand, I'd rather be the one hurt than have to see a friend hurt (let alone be the one hurting them). But on the other hand I think having to hurt me would just about kill Ron. I don't think he could forgive himself, ever. And I could -- I mean, if I had to, to protect both of us, I could forgive myself, after.


And I don't think it's a boy-girl thing so much as a Gryffindor-Slytherin thing. (Which is why it's so funny they suggest that Phoebus is the descendant of Salazar Slytherin, it's just not a very Slytherin moment he has there.) But, Astra Morgenstern was a Ravenclaw, I think.

It was sort of silly to spend as much time thinking about it as I did. ~~I mean it wasn't just Ron, I thought about what if it were~~ Basically I think it let me think about something other than all the awful much-more-likely things that could happen to us, you know? Playing those sorts of what-if games in my head.

That's probably why I like those books so much.

Plus I think in those books, everything will come out right in the end, and I'm rather less certain of that in real life.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-29 20:19:12](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

(By the way, I never said I didn't enjoy them. I said I didn't see why they were worth such a lot of fuss. They were ripping good stories but certainly not what I'd call literature, what!)

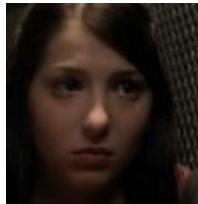
Anyway, I think it's a measure of the vestiges of chivalry, what. Not in the way Moon is always chuntering on about it, but--well, I say, when a man causes harm to a woman like that--particularly

when they were forced to fight--it's simply not comfortable for a chap to read about. Or consider, what. But for a woman to do it under those circumstances is all right.

It's well odd, because it's not as if witches are any less capable of really hurting wizards than wizards are of hurting witches but--well, it's a double-standard, I suppose.

But it's interesting you're not certain we shall win in the end. I'm quite sure of it.

-J



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 20:33:59](#)

*Re: Private message to Justin*

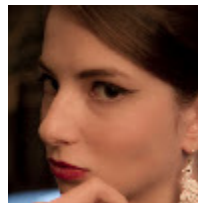
Are you?

Why?

I mean, some days I think we will. Some days I think about the fact that Pansy and Hydra and Draco and Harry are all on our side and I think, SURELY that means there are more of us than we imagine and we're going to remake the world. We'll close the muggle camps and the muggleborns will all have wands and we'll make a place where muggles and wizards can live together and no one has to be secret and we solve problems together.

Other days I think we're all going to get caught and tortured and killed, right down to Kevin Longbottom and those babies that got rescued last week. And I can't imagine succeeding.

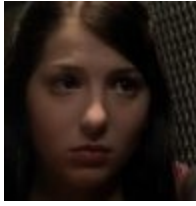
I mean I can't imagine not trying, even on those second sort of days, but I look at what we have to do and I don't see any way to get there and I see lots and lots of ways to all end up dead. So.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 20:15:09](#)

*(no subject)*

And yeah, about the people who feel a lot more energy when they do Dark Arts -- I think maybe Bill's one of them. I just -- it would explain some things.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 19:23:17](#)  
(no subject)

And speaking of the easy way out, sometimes I feel guilty for wanting to be a Healer. There aren't nearly as many situations with no right answer.

Though the Order really needs more Healers. Even more now, with Stephen dead at Saltash.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-29 19:41:18](#)  
(no subject)

If you're a Healer, you'll have to revise your opinion about the usefulness of the Killing Curse, what!

Or don't they make Healers swear a Hippocratic

Oath?

-J



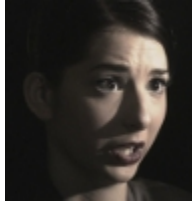
 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 19:55:22](#)  
(no subject)

It's not the Oath of Hippocrates, because he wrote that oath for muggles. There's a Healer's Oath. You're allowed to use magic that harms another if it's in self-defense but you specifically promise not to use your knowledge of Healing to harm another (because when you learn anatomy, it's -- versatile, you know? A Healer knows just how to hurt you, if they want to hurt you a whole lot but not cause permanent physical damage).

You also promise not to abuse the trust people put in you, which I think is the line that Madam Pomfrey uses as an excuse never to report us for casting things we're not supposed to be casting.

Anyway. The first line is, 'Before the witness of my teachers, I freely and by my own choice swear upon my life, my magic, and my sacred honor that from this day forward I will use my magic to Heal, and not to harm.' Which definitely means 'no killing curse ever.'

Obviously there are Healers who break their vow and so far as I know no one's wand has ever broken in their hand. I mean, that bloke I went to when I was little, his magic seemed to work fine, and he DID use his knowledge of Healing for harm, so.




 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-11-29 19:56:40**  
(no subject)

Anyway if I take that vow it means I can't ever cast the Killing Curse (or Cruciatus) but it doesn't mean I have to think no one else should ever cast it ever under any circumstances.

Also it doesn't actually rule out Dark Arts because you can use the Imperius curse to save someone's life. (And I have. In fact. So.)

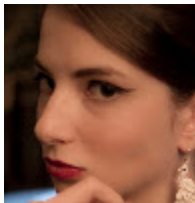


 **alt\_ron** at **2013-11-29 20:57:42**  
(no subject)

Dolohov did, yeah. Before our lesson. He congratulated me for having made a good showing and said he hoped I was pleased about the opportunity. So I guess I did alright in Sandoval and

Lamont's opinion.

I've been thinking I should talk to the Longbottoms before anything more comes of it. But I think I should go on with it if I get invited to apply.

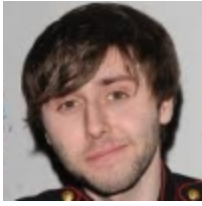


 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-11-29 21:03:53**  
(no subject)

I think talking to Mr and Mrs Longbottom is a good idea.

But I do think it's worth going on with. I mean even if you just make some new contacts in MLE it could be really useful later.

And surely cruciating people is something you don't have to do until you're in the Auror Training Programme? They wouldn't make you do it in an internship. You might have to watch it happen, though.




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-29 21:18:01](#)  
(no subject)

Ron,

I agree with you and Sally-Anne. Only, I think I should wait and talk to them if you're offered the chance to spend time with the Aurors. If they don't make the offer, the Longbottoms don't need to know, what.

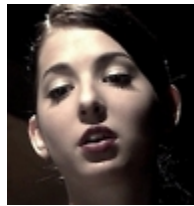
-Justin



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-29 22:18:48](#)  
(no subject)

Well. The thing is that if it does go further, I don't know when I'll hear from them or how.

So talking to the Longbottoms afterwards works if whatever's next comes as an owl in the morning post, but if someone comes and talks to me about it in person, then I probably want to have already had that conversation with Mrs L.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-29 22:32:05](#)  
(no subject)

You could PM Mrs L and someone a bit younger, like Tonks, and talk it through with them. They'd probably be sensible.

Maybe don't tell your Mum before you have to?



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-11-29 22:40:13](#)  
(no subject)

Hahaha. Mum.

You don't have to be a Slytherin to know not to tell Mum about this until... well, probably until I've already signed up and been to the first day of training. Maybe longer.

Tonks is a good idea, actually. I'd been thinking about Charlie, though.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-11-29 22:47:40](#)**  
*(no subject)*

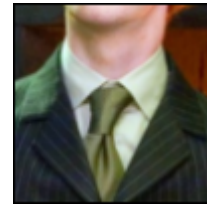
I didn't want to suggest Charlie in case you were worried he'd tell your mum! But yeah. Charlie would be good.



**2013-11-29 14:59:00**

*(no subject)*

Happy bi



 [alt\\_percy](#)

**[2013-11-29 17:02:00](#)**

*Happy birthday to Bill!*

Wishing the happiest of birthdays to my dear firstborn son, Bill. You taught me how to be a Mum, son, and I'm *very* proud of the man you've become. I know your father was, too.



 [alt\\_molly](#)



 [alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-29 23:07:13](#)

*(no subject)*

Happy birthday, Bill! So Mum cut her parenting teeth on you, so to speak. Well, that explains a lot. She continued to go increasingly off the rails when Charlie came along, and by the time we made our appearance, the case was hopeless.

We'll be there tonight, Mum. Hitty may sulk a bit, but we wouldn't miss your steak and kidney pie for anything.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-30 00:41:10](#)

*(no subject)*

Thanks, Mum. I should be home in a moment. Just finishing up some paperwork.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-11-30 00:42:23](#)

*Order Only*

Oh, good. I saw a last minute message from your boss and I was afraid....

Well, never mind. I'll see you when you get home. The pie is out of the oven and cooling.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-30 00:44:48](#)

*Re: Order Only*

He wanted me to stop by so he could give me a gift. Can you believe it? I imagine he found out it was my birthday through the journals. He gave me a

bottle of Firewhiskey, a tin of real vanilla beans, and a pound of top quality French roast coffee.



 **[alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-11-30 00:45:21](#)**

*Re: Order Only*

My goodness.



 **[alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-30 00:51:49](#)**

*(no subject)*

We've done the shed chores for you tonight. One part of our birthday largesse!

The goats were peeved, though. They didn't appreciate some of the effects of a few of the little tidbits we snuck into their feed. It's a handy way to knock off a birthday obligation AND get in some live subject experimentation of our new products at the same time.



 **[alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-11-30 06:24:50](#)**

*(no subject)*

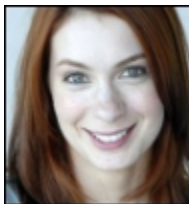
And I suppose this has something to do with why the partition was kicked down in the shed tonight.




 **[alt\\_gredforge](#) at [2013-11-30 06:25:21](#)**

*(no subject)*

We're not saying the product doesn't need further work.



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-11-30 00:59:28](#)**

*ORDER ONLY*

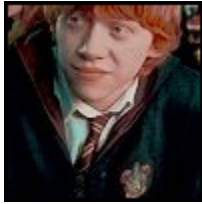
Many happy returns, Bill. I hope you have a thoroughly enjoyable evening.



 **[alt\\_sirius](#)** at **[2013-11-30 04:23:11](#)**

*Order Only*

Happy Birthday, Bill. Hope today was a sight better than yesterday - for you and Jeremy both!



 **[alt\\_ron](#)** at **[2013-11-30 06:34:27](#)**

*(no subject)*

Hope Mum cooked you something amazing tonight.

How old does this make you? I've lost count...



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-30 16:52:46](#)**

*(no subject)*

I'm 26, although I swear I'm starting to lose track, too.

The key thing to remember is that I'll always be older than you. Whether that means wiser or more decrepit I suppose is open to debate.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-30 18:28:27](#)**

*Order Only: Private message to Ron Weasley*

By the way, Auror Lamont mentioned to me yesterday that she met you when you interviewed for an intern position. I won't say anything to Mum--that's your business--but I just wanted to let you know it sounds as though you made a good impression on her.

She also mentioned that Justin had an interview, too. Have either of you told Alice of your intention?

**2013-11-29 17:16:00**

*ORDER ONLY: ISS business*

I think we ought to try and recruit Cedric for the Order.



 [alt\\_harry](#)

We talk a lot since we got thrown together because of the Triwizard Tournament. He was worried that he'd get a bad reputation for competing against me after it was done, and that it'd hurt his family and chance at getting a good job, so we agreed that it'd be good for him if we looked like we were friendly, but we stopped having to pretend a while ago. Anyways. When he was recovering over summer hols, the stuff we talked about made me think he was sorting some things out. Like he's noticed how I treated Hermione, and once he talked a bit about how his younger brothers and sisters treated their muggleborn nanny just like any other person. And the way he talked about those things wasn't like he thought it was bad. Just something that made him think. And we talked about Umbridge a lot, of course, but we talked about Voldemort too. And what happened with Wood and his family, and the Fleets, and how easy it was for them to be reclassified, which he really didn't think was right at all.

It's pretty obvious that he's loyal to me, I mean, he's said as much, and showed it too, but I think there's something more. He's been really keen on the Galleon meetings now that we've started talking about the Protectorate more, and told me he was going to stick around on the weekends instead of going home so he could go to them. He's careful, I mean, who wouldn't be, and he's worried about his family getting into trouble if he does something wrong, but I think he's honest with me about stuff, and what I've heard from him so far is that he doesn't like what's going on. If we let him know there was something he could do about it, I think he'd want to help.

I've been talking to Hermione about it, and we thought one way we could approach him would be to have a Galleon meeting like we have been, and then wait until everyone else has left to show him that Hermione has a wand, and make sure he knows that I know about it and think it's okay.

I think he'll be okay with it too. And if he isn't, we can obliviate him.


---



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-30 03:03:35](#)  
(no subject)

And. He thinks I'm involved in something bigger than Umbridge. We never really got the chance to talk about it again, but yeah. He said something about it before he got hurt. I think what happened with Sarah Fawcett might've made him think about it.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-11-30 04:26:45](#)  
(no subject)

Cedric went out of his way to make sure Nev and me weren't treated too badly last term when Umbridge was having people searched.

He was a fair and kind Head Boy even though Umbridge made everything so hard for everyone, and he helped provide cover at the wedding and while we were getting Sarah Fawcett out without needing any explanation. You just asked him for help, and he gave it.

Not to mention he took a spell that might've killed you.


I think he's a good person. I'm not sure what he thinks about muggles and muggleborn people, though. I suppose we'll have to ask and find out.



 [alt\\_hermione](#) at [2013-11-30 04:28:26](#)  
(no subject)

He knew about us going to the Ministry, too. I mean, not about what we did, but he knew that you left Professor Lestrange's wedding all of a sudden.



 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-11-30 04:42:31](#)  
(no subject)

Yeah, he did.

And Ev's right. He just up and helped, and didn't need a reason for it.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-30 05:11:36](#)  
(no subject)

Harry,


I know he's bally well liked in the sett, what, but I can't say I've exchanged more than a few words with him, and mostly in his capacity as Prefect.

Still, he doesn't seem a bad sort. He's jolly quiet at Galleon meetings but one can tell he's listening, at least.

If you think he's ready for a test, old chap, then have at.

-Justin



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-30 05:13:36](#)  
(no subject)

I say, that might be a novel recruiting method, what?

We simply queue everyone, then one by one say something well shocking about muggleborns having wands, and if one behaves ill, we jolly well Obliviate him.

We could get through the whole castle by the end of next term.

-Justin



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-11-30 05:33:29](#)  
(no subject)

Brilliant. We can skip Patil, though, right?




 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-11-30 05:42:27](#)  
(no subject)

And pass up the opportunity to Obliviate her?

You call yourself a Slytherin. I'm shocked you haven't considered the possibilities.

||| -J




 **alt\_neville** at [2013-11-30 06:20:59](#)  
(no subject)

I like Diggory, too.

There's also the point that he's an ex-Head Boy; he's working with Professor Dolohov now and he's likely to be attractive for key employers to consider in the future. So maybe he'll be able to give us information in ways that could be really helpful, if he agrees to throw his lot in with ours.



 **alt\_ron** at [2013-11-30 22:00:19](#)  
(no subject)

Um, Nev. I can see what you mean, but the fact he was Head Boy and works with Professor Dolohov aren't in his favour by themselves. I mean, we wouldn't be recruiting Percy or Trinc Moran. Or Sandoval. And they've got the sort of jobs now that would be dead useful if they were in our camp, but they're not and won't be for pretty much all the reasons that got them those jobs.

See what I mean? I'd feel better about Diggory's working for Dolohov if he'd been in with us first--if we knew he was doing it so he could look over Dov's shoulder and learn stuff to pass on to us. But he took the job without having that sort of reason, didn't he? (I mean, unless he's already working with some group like Dogstar or the Crimsons or some other resistance cell.)

And, yeah, Diggory might get recruited for good jobs. Or he might go off and play Quidditch. Who knows.

Anywiz. I definitely think we should talk to him and see what he says, but I'm not betting one way or the other how it'll come out.





 [alt\\_harry](#) at [2013-12-01 01:39:37](#)  
(no subject)

I think he'd be more likely to try to get recruited for good jobs if he were with us.

Point, though. And we can ask him about Dolohov.

I mean, Moon helped cover at the wedding too, and we're not thinking of recruiting him.

**2013-11-29 17:32:00**


*Private message to Bill Weasley*

Oi Weasley, you didn't tell me it was your birthday.  
Stop by my office before you head home tonight.




 [alt\\_corax](#)



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-11-29 23:46:27**  
(no subject)

Uh, sure. I'll swing by.



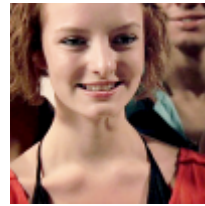
 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-11-29 23:50:25**  
*Order Only*

Bloody hell. What now?

**2013-11-29 18:48:00**

*Private message to Bill Weasley*

Many happy returns -- er, assuming the rumours I heard were correct? (I'm going to feel like a plonker if it turns out your birthday was actually a month ago.)



 [alt\\_rachel](#)



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-11-30 00:59:37**

*(no subject)*

Congratulations. You have heroically dodged the perils of plonkerdom. It is indeed my birthday. Thanks!



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at **2013-11-30 01:01:22**

*(no subject)*

That's a relief. Any fun plans? Corax Mulciber isn't making you work late, is he?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at **2013-11-30 01:08:08**

*(no subject)*

No, I'm not working late. I was worried, but no. He called me to his office to bestow upon me a bottle of Firewhiskey, some tinned treats, and a cheery 'Happy birthday.' I seriously considered picking up his tea mug to see if I could detect a whiff of Polyjuice Potion.

As for plans, just a family home-cooked dinner. Mum likes to fuss, you know, and my brothers are coming over. It'll be good to see them.


I do plan to get together with some of my school mates for beers tomorrow. I'm sure many rude jokes will be involved.



 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-11-30 01:10:13](#)**  
(no subject)

Corax Mulciber gave you birthday pressies?  
That's....unexpected!




 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-30 01:17:29](#)**  
(no subject)

Completely! I was gobsmacked.

Which, I think, may have been the point. The man certainly likes to keep me uncertain of which way to jump.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-30 01:27:37](#)**  
(no subject)

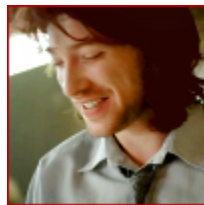
What about you? Do you have plans this weekend?




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-11-30 01:29:15](#)**  
(no subject)

Working.

I'm always working.



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-30 01:37:23](#)**  
(no subject)

My mum always said that if you don't put down your work and go outside and play sometime, you'll turn into something like those white squiggly things that sprout from potato eyes in dark cupboards. You should get out and do something different. I dunno, take a walk in the park, go to the zoo. Something.

Do you want to go to the zoo with me?




 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-30 02:32:34](#)  
(no subject)

The zoo?


All right. Tomorrow?



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-30 02:36:55](#)  
(no subject)

Sure. That'll work for me. Say at 1:00 pm?



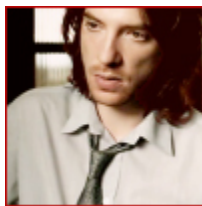
 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-30 02:39:59](#)  
(no subject)


Right. I'll meet you by the hippogriffs.



 [alt\\_rachel](#) at [2013-11-30 01:02:10](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, and I've been meaning to tell you, I met your brother. (The youngest one, Ron.) While at Hogwarts last weekend. Nice kid.



 [alt\\_bill](#) at [2013-11-30 01:11:37](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, did you? I suppose the ginger hair makes him stand out. But you must've caught his name, too, then. Did he ask interesting questions?

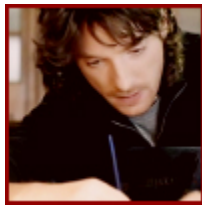
I'm quite proud of him. We're all rather close, my family, for the most part.




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-11-30 01:19:09](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, I'd have known he was your brother even without the ginger hair. Lana Sandoval and I were there to speak to YPL about Auror work (you can imagine how EXCITING everyone found the idea of chasing criminals through paperwork in MEU...) but also to interview a couple of candidates for a short internship over winter hols. Ron was one of them, Justin Finch-Fletchley was the other. Nominated due to their fine performance in CCF this summer.

I think I was impressed with both of them more than Lana was. Sandoval-PENNIFOLD, sigh, I always forget to add Ned's name. Anyway. He probably didn't mention it to you; I wouldn't, in his shoes, until I knew for certain.




 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-11-30 01:43:39](#)**  
(no subject)

Really? That's brilliant. No, I understand why he wouldn't mention it, until he was sure. I'm glad you were able to meet him, and I'll keep my fingers crossed for him, too.

I vaguely remember Lana Sandoval-Pennifold from school. She was a firstie when I was about a fifth year or so. She seemed quite serious even back then.




 **[alt\\_rachel](#)** at **[2013-11-30 02:39:15](#)**  
(no subject)

I knew her in school, of course, since we were both in Ravenclaw. She's driven, serious, studious, and intense -- I'd say she was born to be an Auror and a Councilwitch. (I was a little surprised when she received Our Lord's mark before she'd even quite finished her traineeship. Not half as surprised as I was by some of the other new Councilwizards, though, as with Lana I'd always assumed it was just a matter of time.)

Your brother's not in the same category as Lana -- his marks are

a bit undistinguished. Not atypical for Gryffindors who aspire to work for MLE, mind you -- Gryffindors tend to distinguish themselves in other ways, as I'm sure you can imagine.



 **alt\_bill** at **2013-11-30 02:48:19**  
(no subject)

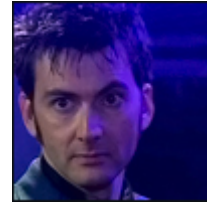
Think of us as diamonds in the rough.

Very rough, sometimes, in the case of us  
Weasleys--particularly if you watch us playing a  
game of pick up Quidditch.

I'll see you tomorrow.

**2013-11-29 23:40:00**

*Private Message to M Travers and D Forney*



Dammit.

Forney. What's the hold up on our request to question those muggle whores at Maidstone? Know your investigation is on-going, but surely you can spare the ten we need. Whatever they could tell you about that admin, you must have got by now. We need to move or we'll lose all leverage vs. Maule.

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

Look me in the eye tomorrow, if you can, and tell me this is anything more than Cad Mulciber's marking territory. Tell him to go lift his leg on some other tree.

Travers. Read your analysis. Agree re. conclusions. Exactly the right sort of rope for him to hang himself with.

Tomorrow first thing?

Have Exley's report on the hunting grounds at Sandwich, Dartmoor, and new installation at Northallerton. Thorough. Useful leverage.

Absolutely need the ten from Maidstone to draw him out, however.  
Forney: relying on you for this.



**2013-11-30 19:50:00**

*ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Neville*

She should've told us first, not last.

I hate this.

All of this.

Talking about dad like that, and thinking through using the spell that nearly killed him to up and kill other people, and everything. Just everything.

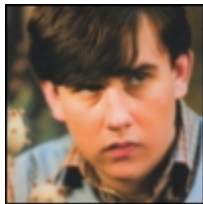
It's not fair and it's awful and from what mum's written he sounds just miserable and she does too and I don't even know what to say to either of them. And I'm angry at mum because I thought when he woke up everything would be fine and normal and it turns out she was keeping it from us this whole time and I know she's been busy and she had her reasons but


I don't know.

This is hard.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#)



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-12-01 04:26:20](#)  
(no subject)

It's really hard.

We went a couple years thinking Kevin was a squib, so it's not like we haven't thought about what it's like having someone without magic in the family.

Look, bugger curfew anyway...let's duck out and go to the greenhouses. We can talk privately there, and if Sprout catches us, she'll understand.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-12-01 04:27:56](#)  
(no subject)

Okay.

**2013-11-30 20:23:00**

*Order Only: A Curious Communication*

Well, we've had an interesting day.

There we were, minding our own business, when there's an almighty pecking at the window. Remus looked up and there was a magpie looking to be let in. Naturally, we ignored it.



 [alt\\_sirius](#)

About half an hour later it came back, this time through the back garden and pecking at the kitchen windows. Startled Ellie something frightful. But she ignored it, too.

Then, a few minutes after that, the bloody bird flew in through the door as a customer was leaving. As soon as it did, the shop's owl started going mad, flapping about at the other bird like they were about to start a midair duel.

Took us a while to separate them and calm them both down. Of course, there were customers still in the shop at the time. And the birds weren't all that mindful of the teapots Tonks had got in last week. Ruined an entire display.

But the point is that the magpie had a message tied to her leg. Remus finally recognised her, took her into the kitchen, removed the note and had Ellie give the poor thing the leftover biscuit from breakfast.

Then he cleaned up the shop while I slipped back to the kitchen to have a look.

It was Ridley's magpie, sure enough. She addressed a message - Alice, it was addressed thus:

To Frank Longbottom, if he live, or Sirius Black, if Longbottom be indisposed

Long message short: She wants to know how we protected Saltash. She says she got a report that we cast a 'Fidelius-like spell' and that somehow it's 'cut off communication' with an operative she had on the inside. Well, that would be Prentiss, of course, but I'm sure she didn't want to name him in case the bird was intercepted. (I'll note she didn't care about naming Frank or me but then we've hardly made our


loyalties secret.)

She wanted to know all the details: Could the denizens inside see out, how long it lasts, whether the people wizardfolk inside are alive and safe or if they've been put into some kind of stasis - anything we're willing to tell her, really. Also if we would be willing to take a message to Prentiss (well, 'our operative' but she means Prentiss, obviously).

So.

I'm inclined to tell her the cost on the theory she'll bugger off without further discussion but ... it's got me thinking. Is there a way we could explain it to her that would tempt them to cast it somewhere where it would temporarily debilitate a whole load of Voldemort's servants? And would that be worth the price of doing further business with DogStar?



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-12-01 02:33:51](#)  
(no subject)


I'd been thinking about this spell as an imperfect and inconvenient Fidelius, but we should consider thinking of it as a weapon. What would the ramifications be if it were cast on the Ministry?

Or Buckingham?

~~I wouldn't like to pay the cost~~


I'm not sure if trying to collaborate with Dogstar is worth it, or not.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-12-01 02:39:31](#)  
(no subject)

Well, that's just my point. But more importantly is there a way we could sell *them* on the idea of using it as a weapon? (And if so, where would they most likely deploy it?)



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-12-01 02:42:03](#)  
(no subject)

This is what makes me nervous. Wasn't it Dogstar that blew up the QWC? I'm not just being confused by Ministry propaganda?

On one hand, I think if they work WITH us on this, we could use it as a weapon -- usefully. Without killing loads of innocent bystanders.


I'm not sure we can trust them to do that. What is the absolute worst possible thing we can imagine them doing with it, and under what circumstances would they use it that way?



 [alt\\_kingsley](#) at [2013-12-01 02:43:53](#)  
(no subject)


I don't trust them, either. They've shown they're not particularly picky about minimising loss of life.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-12-01 02:46:58](#)  
(no subject)

No. They most certainly are not.



 [alt\\_nymphadora](#) at [2013-12-01 02:56:10](#)  
(no subject)

It's a good question. You know, the more I think over what she said and didn't... I don't think she knows what that spell does. I mean to say, I don't think she realises it neutralises magic on the

inside.

So, then, what she imagines her lot might do with it is probably different than what we think it's good for and not. Now that we've seen it inside and out.

I reckon she thinks it's a defensive tool, which is what we wanted

it for at first. She was interested in how we'd cast it during a battle, and I get the idea she's thinking it could be set up and used a shield so the people protected by it could have a safe vantage for sniping.

But what would she make of it if she knew it keeps anyone inside from casting any magic?

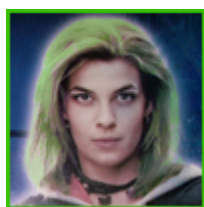


 **alt\_sally\_anne** at **2013-12-01 02:59:10**  
(no subject)

Well she wants us to carry a message to Mr Prentiss so probably he's stayed in.

Which is sort of odd when you think about it. Our people have slipped in and out again so he COULD do, if he wanted, and instead he's staying in there with no magic...

Anyway I'm sure you're right that she doesn't know about what's inside.

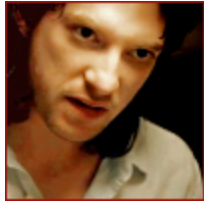



 **alt\_nymphadora** at **2013-12-01 03:12:13**  
(no subject)

Prentiss is a dodgy character. And his motives for staying inside there are muddy.

It's not because he got what he thought he should by staying in, either. He doesn't seem to have any notions about helping the muggles there or about building up a safe haven out of reach of MLE. I think he assumed he'd be made head of the operation inside since he'd been camp admin, but the muggles weren't taking his orders, funnily enough.

I'd guess he knows he's got a target painted on his back that both MLE and Dogstar will be aiming for if he puts his nose out. And I'd guess Ridley's wanting to send him a message is mostly a gambit to find out if he's still alive. Because if he is, she won't want him slipping out unnoticed.



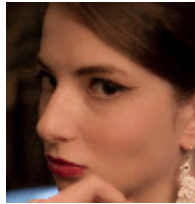
 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-12-01 03:01:27](#)**  
(no subject)

I think it says something about us that we didn't quite see how it could be a weapon until now.

Something good about us, maybe. But also definitely short-sightedness.

I suppose Fu might have figured it out, eventually, since he studied the history of warfare, but he doesn't know anything about magical theory.

I'm glad this came up. We do need to think about this.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-12-01 03:06:13](#)**  
(no subject)

So, sniping.

Could the muggles inside Saltash use guns to shoot out from inside, at the wizards on the outside?

I mean they'd need guns. I don't know where they'd get them. I think they're rather hard to build. But they're not magical, so they'd work just fine.

You can't cast magic through a Fidelius -- can you? I'm pretty sure it won't work but it's not as if I've experimented. And just thinking about how the Fidelius works I would think it would probably bollocks up a gun, if you were trying to aim it....but

Hmm

Can Fu make guns?

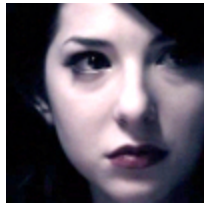


 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-12-01 03:12:18](#)**  
(no subject)

Fu absolutely has the knowledge to make guns. Remember the reference library we miniaturised and brought with us when we

extracted them out of their home? Part of it was Regina's texts on plant and crops, but an even bigger part were all Fu's books about the history of warfare and weapons. Including step by step descriptions on how to make all matter of firearms and other muggle explosive devices. He's shown me a number of them.

I'm not sure about he calls the 'teknology,' the means for making them, you understand, although perhaps magic can help with some of that.



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-12-01 03:16:11](#)**  
(no subject)

And okay. People have been researching the wards and how they work, could we cast this around some places that make the wards work and bring them down?

What if it was cast around a load of Sleepers, would it wake them up?

If we worked out where the Lord Protector's horcrux was and it was somewhere we couldn't get to, could we destroy it with this ward?

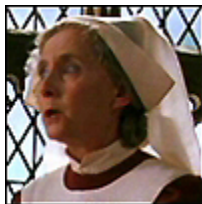
If we cast it around the Ministry, how many things that the Protectorate does would go utterly wrong at once?



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-12-01 03:17:47](#)**  
(no subject)

Okay I just saw Mrs Longbottom's post.

I guess experimenting is out, then.



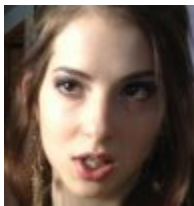
 **[alt\\_poppy](#)** at **[2013-12-01 03:38:48](#)**  
(no subject)

If you could sell Dogstar on using it as a weapon and get them to cast it in locations all over the Protectorate all at once, we might neutralise

Dogstar in the process. Sort of a bonus, but I don't imagine we'd succeed in getting them to do anything quite so large in scope as that.

I do wonder about its usefulness as a weapon. It seems to me that it is actually a quite difficult weapon to utilise effectively: if I've understood correctly, it takes quite a lot of planning, ability and coordination to cast it--there's no accident it was Frank whom Albus asked to make the attempt--and then when it takes hold, it's a tool of surprise that provides the advantage of disorientating the enemy, but it strips magic equally from all combatants, so it is really only the element of surprise that we'd gain. And only until our opponents realise they can cross out of the wards and regain the use of their wands.


I'm not saying it's useless, but it's not the Ace of trumps, either.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 02:34:44](#)  
(no subject)

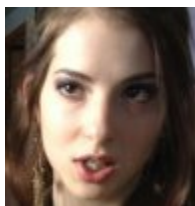
Are they offering to trade any information?




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-12-01 02:38:03](#)  
(no subject)

This is Ridley; she probably figured we were too *kind* and soppy to want anything in return.

But I'm sure she won't be surprised if we're unwilling to give something for nothing.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 02:50:46](#)  
*Private message to Sirius Black*

Well we did give her PEPPER FOR HER EGGS, after all. Because we are just that sort of people.

(That was private because I don't want to start a row with Mr Shacklebolt.)





 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-12-01 02:54:57](#)

*Re: Private message to Sirius Black*

Yes, see what I mean? Sappy and nice and kind and all those other things we're meant to be.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 03:00:32](#)

*Re: Private message to Sirius Black*

Do you think I should have kept my gob shut about how the worst thing to do with it would be use at St Mungo's?

Neville and Mrs Weasley seem really bothered.



 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-12-01 03:03:31](#)

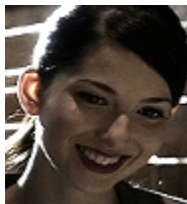
*Re: Private message to Sirius Black*

Everyone in the Order has a job to do and a way in which they contribute.

Their job is to fret over everything.

Yours is to tell us all how incredibly stupid we are.

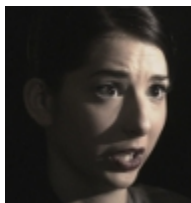
Should I mention that Remus and I are merchants? We know how to negotiate a price.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 03:09:08](#)

*Re: Private message to Sirius Black*

Well alright then, I guess I'll let you handle that part.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 03:10:07](#)

*Re: Private message to Sirius Black*

I'm not entirely convinced that 'fretting' was one of the jobs that urgently needed to be filled, mind you. By multiple people.

But next time I'm tempted to fret I'll try to remind myself Mrs Weasley's got it covered.



 **alt\_sirius** at [2013-12-01 03:13:09](#)

*Re: Private message to Sirius Black*

They're talented enough to do more than one thing at a time.

But yes, often it's a simple matter of throwing out a concept, then sitting back while they fret and fuss and quarrel a little bit and then come in with a sensible solution. There's an art to the timing of it. Come up with a good solution too early and it'll get lost in all the hand-wringing.

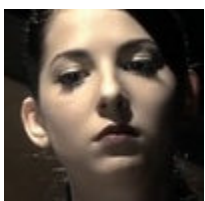


 **alt\_kingsley** at [2013-12-01 02:42:12](#)

*(no subject)*

So, she's still out there somewhere, eh? Looking for ways to rebuild her network and influence, too, it sounds like. What happened at Saltash must have been a helluva surprise for their plans.

I must admit harbouring a bit of a grudge over the manner in which we parted company. Sally-Anne Perks may have the right idea: I'm not too inclined to give information away for free, although I'm not sure what we would want in trade.



 **alt\_sally\_anne** at [2013-12-01 02:47:23](#)

*(no subject)*


Well, we could ask her what she's got to offer.

Then tell her that's not good enough, what ELSE has she got to offer.

And then decide if it's good enough to be worth the risk.

Also, the worst thing I can imagine doing with that spell is to cast it around St Mungo's. You'd kill loads and loads of people. And I could imagine her doing that if Mr Malfoy were being treated at St Mungo's, wasn't he the target at the QWC when she set off a BOMB?



 **[alt\\_bill](#)** at **[2013-12-01 02:51:19](#)**  
(no subject)

That's sound advice, I think, to beat the Bludger back and ask what she has to offer. For one thing, it'll give us a gauge of how badly she wants the information.



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-12-01 03:03:40](#)**  
(no subject)

Oh, I imagine she wants it pretty badly.



 **[alt\\_molly](#)** at **[2013-12-01 02:52:30](#)**  
(no subject)


St Mungo's, what a *horrible* thought.



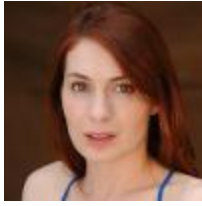
 **[alt\\_neville](#)** at **[2013-12-01 02:55:59](#)**  
(no subject)


It really is.



 **[alt\\_kingsley](#)** at **[2013-12-01 02:54:58](#)**  
*Private message to Sirius Black*

It's probably just as well that bird didn't find Frank, because *he* probably bears a grudge, too, from the last encounter he had with it. He might have been tempted to wring its neck.




 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-12-01 03:13:50](#)  
(no subject)

I think it is important to carefully consider the possible use of such a spell, both in terms of what Ridley might do with it, as well as how we might use it in the future. And part of that involves taking into account what we know of its effects, both on the area in which its cast, as well as on the caster.

Some of you already know as much, but Frank has completely lost his use of magic. As of now, we are very uncertain whether it will ever return.

There may be different outcomes depending on who casts it and the range that it covers, but for now, what we do know that it has a heavy cost.




 [alt\\_sirius](#) at [2013-12-01 03:16:54](#)  
*Private Message to Alice and Remus*

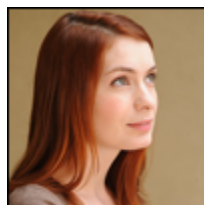
Thank you, Alice, for telling everyone. I was afraid it might come out in the discussion, without the others being prepared for it.


(On another note, I believe I may have gained some ground in Miss Perks' estimation. I'm conservatively optimistic that perhaps she might - just might - have decided I am not the scum of the earth.)



 [alt\\_lupin](#) at [2013-12-01 03:20:52](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Alice and Remus*

My goodness. How'd you manage that?



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-12-01 03:38:31](#)  
*Re: Private Message to Alice and Remus*

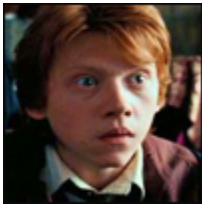
I wish I'd been able to break it more gently to Neville and Evelyn, but what's done is done.


And mercy. I don't know if I'll ever quite be able to pull that miracle off. Well done, you.



 [alt\\_molly](#) at [2013-12-01 03:17:38](#)  
(no subject)

Oh, Alice.




 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-12-01 03:18:57](#)  
*I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Mr Longbottom lost all his magic?

Totally lost it?

Whoa. Did he know that could happen? I mean, I knew he wasn't well, but... that's really bad.

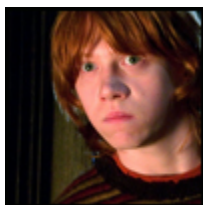



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 03:23:55](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

What Mrs Longbottom said right after the Saltash battle was, 'Frank cast the spell with full knowledge of the risks involved.'

Although at the time everyone was afraid he was going to -- I mean, I think he was afraid the spell was going to kill him. And it didn't do that.

~~Neville and Evelyn, you knew already, didn't you? This isn't how your Mum told you~~

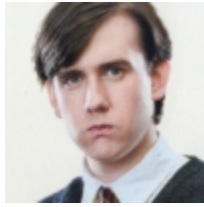



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-12-01 03:49:26](#)  
*Re: I Solemnly Swear That I Am Up To No Good*

Yeah. That's what I thought--they thought he was risking it killing him to cast the spell. But I wonder if he had any idea it could do this.

Only, it's a whole other thing to risk your life but then end up

living for the rest of your life with that much- that damaged. If you thought you'd die soon, that'd be worth it, but-



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-12-01 03:55:06](#)

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

He saved hundreds of people. His life has been worth it and *will* be worth it, even if he never does another spell.

I don't know if I could ever be that brave.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-12-01 03:20:00](#)

*Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

I wish that we had time enough to sit down and talk over this properly before letting everyone else know, and I'm sorry I haven't said anything until now.


We were hoping

We were thinking that it might be temporary, and he was trying a regimen of potions recommended by Poppy to see if that would have any impact, but it hasn't.

This has been rather difficult for him, which is understandable, but he's alive, and otherwise healthy, and we're working together to figure things out. Part of what we talked about was not keeping what he's going through to ourselves -- that the more we face it for what it is, the better he'll be able to move forward.

I'm sorry.



 [alt\\_neville](#) at [2013-12-01 03:24:35](#)

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

Oh, Merlin. Mum...

What can we do? Is there anything?




 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-12-01 04:14:20**

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

I think that so very much about his life has changed so quickly that it would be good for him to be reminded of what hasn't been lost.

I'm sure he'll want to hear from you both, even if it's just what you've been up to at school. And remember -- he is still very capable of offering advice and guidance, and still very much your father who loves you dearly.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#) at 2013-12-01 03:26:17**


*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

I wish we had too. ~~You could have~~ Is he Are you

You said to Nev that if we wrote him Private Messages he could still read them.

Is that true?



 **[alt\\_alice](#) at 2013-12-01 03:36:14**

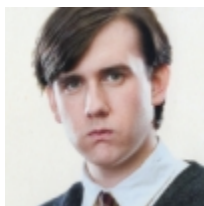
*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*


Yes. It is.

I think he'd appreciate hearing from you.

Evie, I

I suppose I was wishing that your father's situation would change by now and I wouldn't have to face it head on. But we have to lay our cards on the table to know what to do about Ridley. Please forgive me.



 **[alt\\_neville](#) at 2013-12-01 03:41:01**

*Re: Private Message to Neville and Evelyn*

Mum, that's the absolute last thing you should be worrying about. You have enough on your plate, between running the Order, Dad, Saltash, Aldrich, Bedford and everything else to fret



yourself over how exactly you gave us the news.

We know now, and that's all that matters. Yeah, we'll write to him. And I'm not going to give up hope, but if his magic never comes back, he'll still be our dad, yeah? The best dad any kids could hope for.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 03:26:44](#)  
(no subject)

That does make it safer to share with Dogstar.

I don't think they'd use it to go after St Mungo's, at that price.

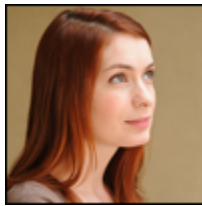
Maybe the Ministry, though.




 [alt\\_terry](#) at [2013-12-01 03:26:52](#)  
*Private message to Mrs Longbottom*

I've suspected that was it. But last Sunday, he just said he was ordered to rest, and not try any, and so I was hoping....

I'm glad I'll be seeing you both tomorrow night.



 [alt\\_alice](#) at [2013-12-01 03:48:26](#)  
*Re: Private message to Mrs Longbottom*

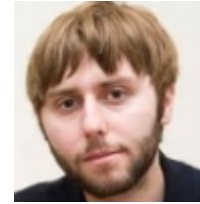
I was hoping too, love.

We'll see you tomorrow.



**2013-11-30 22:05:00**

*Order Only: Private Message to Ron and Sally-Anne*



 **alt\_justin**

Hallo,

Look, I don't wish to seem insensitive, as I'm sure Mr Longbottom feels well shocked to suddenly lose his magic.

But, I say. The looks on your faces as we were reading that.... Well, I mean to say. It's not *that* terrible, is it?

He's alive, he's otherwise in good health, it sounds, and...well, millions--make that *billions*--of Muggles live without magic every day. They never even miss it.

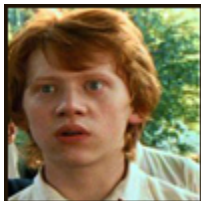
Is there something I'm missing? Why does everyone seem to think it means his usefulness is at an end?


I'm quite earnest, I should add. I can tell you all think it's a dashed catastrophe but I'm at a loss as to just why.

-Justin

P.S. Do you think Harry and Hermione will finish with Cedric soon?

-J



 **alt\_ron** at **2013-12-01 04:08:29**  
(no subject)

Muggles don't miss it, I guess, because they never had it. But if you have it and lose it...

I just-

You really think you'd be fine with not having your magic any more?  
Forever?



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-12-01 04:12:53](#)  
(no subject)

My magic kept me locked in the house for the first nine years of my life, old man. I'm not saying it wouldn't be a hardship, a bally *great* hardship if you like, but if it's a choice between dying and never performing another magical spell, it's no contest.

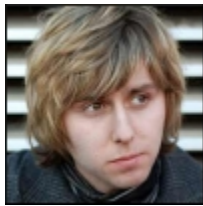
-Justin




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 04:18:24](#)  
(no subject)

Well if I had to choose between being a muggle, and being a witch who was locked in a house forever, and I could be a muggle in FRANCE and not here, I'd be a muggle. And I'd go to muggle Healer school and be a doctor.

But Mr Longbottom isn't a muggle in France, he's HERE. Where if you're a muggle you can get locked in a camp.



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-12-01 04:28:00](#)  
(no subject)

Yes, but if Mr Longbottom's caught he's not going to a camp.

Which is undoubtedly a blow to the Order, as well, since he can't help on missions the way he did, I agree.

I understand that it's a form of...of becoming a cripple, what. The point is that cripples--the handicapped--they *do* learn how to compensate for their lost faculties.

And I do see that he'll have to learn new skills but it's not as if his training is useless. He has hand-to-hand combat skill, skills as a strategist, tactical planning, survival--jolly well *loads* of ways he's still productive.

Naturally he needs to adjust to the blow. However, I can't see how it does him any good to amplify the damage to the point

where he feels it's insurmountable.

-J



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 04:31:12](#)  
(no subject)

Well it's not as if I'm saying to HIM, 'oh how HORRIBLE. Don't you wish you'd died, instead?'

I mean, my Mum lived for years and years without a wand and not being able to do most sorts of magic. She could use runes, on the sly, and she had a bit of natural magic that wasn't spellwork, more like what little kids do. It was better than being dead but it was utterly frustrating and there were things she NEVER learned to do the muggle way -- even though she'd lived as a muggle (a slightly odd muggle) for the first eleven years of her life!



 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-12-01 04:40:16](#)  
(no subject)

No, of course not.

But you're all thinking it's a fate worse than death and that sort of mentality spills out. It must do.

I've been learning magic for five years. I've found it breaks down into two categories: There are spells that create effects which Muggles can't do yet and there are spells that are, essentially, short-cuts to the Muggle method. That's an oversimplification, what, but it makes the point, I think. There are other ways to do nearly any task. Where wizards have spells, Muggles invent machines, what.

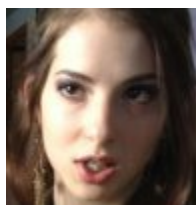
And the things they can't yet do are probably only a matter of time. Magic does achieve wonderful things and makes life easier, in some ways.

But it seems to me that this...attitude.... It rather strikes at the heart of everything the Order profess to believe. If the Order really believe that Muggles are not second-class to wizards, then living as a Muggle ought not to have such a stigma as you

and Ron and--well, everyone else--are attaching to it.

Perhaps we ought to make everyone with a wand live without magic for a year after they finish school, once the war's won. That way they'd appreciate the immense gift it is but they would also realise it's not the bally old end of the world to get by without it, what.

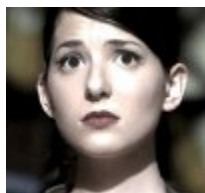
-J



 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-12-01 04:50:41](#)**  
(no subject)

Yes but we don't have any of those machines here. We don't have aeroplanes or autos, we have floo and brooms and flying carpets and apparation. We don't have muggle medicines or vaxines, we have Healers. We don't have all the other things muggles use to do the things we do with magic so Mr Longbottom doesn't have access to any of them.

If you want me to try to live for a year without magic I think I could manage and it would be interesting and fun if I were in France where I could drive an auto or fly an aeroplane or go to a doctor -- well, actually, if I were ill I'd still want to go to a Healer. But I know how to plant a garden and weed it and harvest the food and cook it. But I'd bloody well want to be using a proper muggle stove to cook it, not a fire I had to build out of logs I had to cut down with an ax. I'd want to have water that came out of a faucet and not water I had to carry up from a stream in a bucket and I'd want a way to heat it up for baths because cold baths are horrid.




 **[alt\\_sally\\_anne](#)** at **[2013-12-01 04:34:03](#)**  
(no subject)

And right, if he's caught they'll just kill him, same as before. Or torture him horribly and then kill him (you know, he probably can't do occlumency anymore, either.) But he won't be sent to a camp.

But I mean if he were in France he could go to a muggle university and do a training course and learn new skills. Here -- well, I guess he could learn from Fu. Or the muggles at Saltash

and Aldrich. They do KNOW things, I suppose, and some of them might know the sorts of things Mr Longbottom wants to learn, but it's going to be a good deal harder than being a muggle anywhere else, still.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-12-01 04:22:35](#)  
(no subject)

Hm.

Maybe it's different for you, then. Because of the way things were when you were small, I mean. Maybe you feel differently about it than other people would.

I think the thing is, there are things I'd risk dying for, and of course if I'd risk that, I'd risk anything. But... I think if I lost my magic, it wouldn't be long before I'd wish I'd died. Or anywiz, I can imagine that might be what Mr Longbottom's thinking.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 04:09:22](#)  
(no subject)


Well if you've never known anything else I'm sure it's perfectly fine. It's not that I don't think muggles are people, I mean, two of my grandparents were muggles.

But having magic and then losing it

well

I don't know Justin, if you had to pick between a 1 in 10 chance of dying, or a 1 in 2 chance of losing your magic, what would you choose?

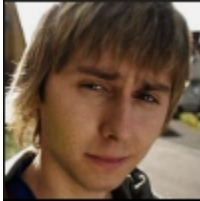



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-12-01 04:12:55](#)  
(no subject)

Only, it doesn't seem as if Mr Longbottom knew that was one of the choices. That's part of what's so-

No, scratch that. What's awful is that he's got squibbed. And it looks like it's permanent.

It's what I said to Sally Anne before: if I knew I was going to die soon, I'd do something that would null my magic. But to end up with a long life and no magic, I don't know.



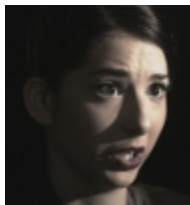
 [alt\\_justin](#) at [2013-12-01 04:17:57](#)  
(no subject)

I'd prefer to live without magic, Sally-Anne, if that's the choice. No question about it, what.

If someone told you that you could never again eat another piece of chocolate, as long as you live, or it would kill you, would you be able to deny yourself a bon-bon?

We make adjustments for hardship every day, what. I daresay even without a wand, Mr Longbottom's still 90% better off than most of the muggles in the camps.

-Justin

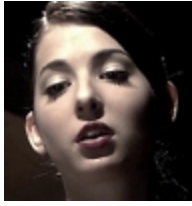


 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 04:20:30](#)  
(no subject)

Obviously he's vastly better off than the muggles in camps.

And there are muggles who are useful fighting against the Protectorate, like Fu, because they've spent years and years and years learning things about weapons and explosives and all the rest.

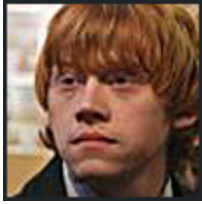
Mr Longbottom spent years and years learning to be an Auror, and that's what he knows how to do, that's where his skills are, that's how he knows how to be USEFUL. He's going to have to start over like he was thirteen and learn entirely new skills just to be able to fight, at all.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 04:10:10](#)  
(no subject)

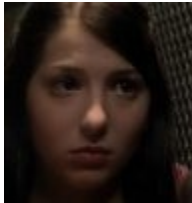
Oh and Cedric

I don't know. I mean surely they've SHOWN him the wand by now. So he must be asking questions. Or they're asking him questions. What was the signal, again? I was really distracted during that meeting, I hope people didn't notice.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-12-01 04:14:48](#)  
(no subject)

They're taking forever.




 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 04:11:44](#)  
(no subject)

Evelyn looks really upset. I feel like I should say something but I don't know what to say.


I think she didn't know. Neville, either. I mean, until Mrs Longbottom told all of us.



 [alt\\_ron](#) at [2013-12-01 04:17:34](#)  
(no subject)

I think you're right. Nev's not going to want to talk about it, and Evyls won't want to talk about it with anyone except Nev for a while. At least that's how it goes when it's me. But maybe if you said something, they'd be all right with that.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 04:21:57](#)  
(no subject)

I don't know what to say that would be comforting. I mean I don't want to sound like I think it's worse he lost his magic than he died. Because Justin's right, I mean -- really, it's NOT worse.

But I don't want to be all cheery like it's no big deal either because it IS.

And

I don't know.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 18:41:31](#)  
(no subject)

Okay.

I've been thinking about this and the thing is you're right.

But it's hard for me to think about what it means to live as a muggle, and not think about all the worst parts of my childhood, like when my father would leave us to fend for ourselves and we'd have to carry all the water, and my mum had to chop wood with an ax, and we were always cold and there usually wasn't enough to eat.

Things aren't going to be like that for Mr Longbottom. They didn't HAVE to be like that for us. But especially when I was in the middle of it it was easier to say, 'this is because we don't have proper magic' instead of 'this is because my father is being cruel.' I didn't like to think of it that way, because at least he wasn't sending my mother to the camps.

And really if he HAD sent her to the camps -- she's not young enough that they could have used her in Strangeweale's machine but she's not so old she can't have babies. So she might be in New London, right now, prisoner somewhere and having half-siblings I'd never meet because they were all slated to die horribly.

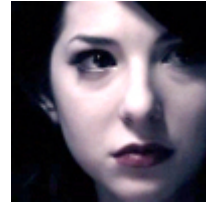
Anyway. I got my final schedule by owl post the other day, for winter hols. I'm with the Strettons until the 29th and then my father's house for the other week.

I wish I'd turned 17 already.



**2013-11-30 22:22:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Evelyn*



They hadn't told you, had they?


I'm so sorry. I mean that they'd kept it a secret from you, that you found out at the same time as all the rest of us.

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

(I'm writing to just you and not Neville because you're looking a lot more upset than he is. And I'm writing and not talking so that if you don't want to talk about it you can just ignore me.)

At least -- I mean. At least he's alive, and healthy, and -- well. I'm sure you've thought all those things already.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-12-01 04:42:16](#)

*(no subject)*

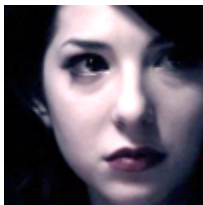
No. They hadn't.

I think they're still getting used to telling us things.

And they were hoping they wouldn't have to. That he'd get better.

It's really hard sometimes to have them as parents.

I love them. And I'm proud of them. Of course I am. And I'd rather know what they do than not. But I guess I wish every now and then that it was different.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 04:44:49](#)

*(no subject)*

Yeah.

I can see that.

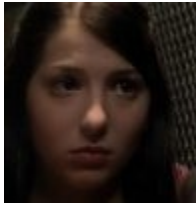


 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-12-01 04:46:30](#)  
(no subject)

I thought he'd never wake up again, you know. And when he did, it was just so wonderful because all I could think about when he was in the coma was all the things I'd miss and all the things I'd never be able to say to him, and then I got that back.

Sort of.

So there's that.



 [alt\\_sally\\_anne](#) at [2013-12-01 04:53:06](#)  
(no subject)

How old were you when you met him? I mean, after you went to live with your Nan.



 [alt\\_evelyn](#) at [2013-12-01 05:11:35](#)  
(no subject)

Eleven. Right before I started up at Hogwarts.

He wrote me a letter after the Prophet wrote that story saying they were still alive. I still have it. I must've read it a hundred times by now.

Gran told us stories about him, but he didn't feel like a real person until I got that letter. And when I got to see him for the very first time

I knew he was this really strong wizard, and that he believed in what he was fighting for more than just about anything, but I didn't know that he smiled a lot. Or that he was kind. And funny. And gave the best hugs I think I've ever had.



 **[alt\\_evelyn](#)** at **[2013-12-01 07:14:24](#)**  
*(no subject)*

Thank you for asking if we were all right. And for listening to me.

We're doing much better now, I think, since we've had time to let it settle. And it helped to think about all the things I'm grateful for that haven't changed.

I was stuck for a while about what I was going to say to dad next time I wrote him, but that's certainly a good start, isn't it?

**2013-11-30 23:07:00**

*Order Only: Juniors*

Sorry that took so long!

You can all come in. Cedric has more questions but we'll have to sneak back when we're done.



 **alt\_hermione**