

2014-08-01 00:07:00

All Right Here, For Now

I'm still feeling pretty shaken up, but it seems as though today was fortunate in a way, still.



 **alt_lavender**

The reception was winding down when it happened and people could have been a lot more seriously hurt than they were. Still, it's a simply dreadful end for a joyous occasion! I don't really want to say much about it, though.

The reporters from the Prophet seem to be covering it pretty well, and it brings back too many scary memories from the Quidditch World Cup.

The Patils are probably going to make a public statement, but not tonight. The Healers are starting to release people from St. Mungo's, so I expect we'll be heading home soon.

2014-08-01 00:56:00

Private Message to Seamus and Lav

I'm all right, I'm back home, I just can't sleep.

Having Haruman right there probably saved a lot of people's lives. I don't know how anything like that could have happened, or why anyone would care to disrupt my sister's wedding like that. I mean, Inderpal's job isn't that important.

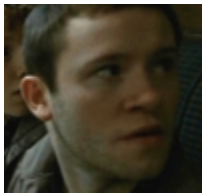


 **alt_padma**

Anyway, one of my aunts is still in St M's but I think everyone else is all right? I'm not sure. They gave me a potion meant for sleeping but all it's done is make me all groggy.

There were some servers killed, I think. I think I heard someone say that. Muggleborns maybe or Muggles, I don't know. So whoever did it wasn't very effective.

Pavs and Inderpal decided still to go to Wight for the honeymoon. They'll leave Monday, though, instead of tomorrow.



 **alt_seamus** at **2014-08-01 17:08:01**

(no subject)

I'm glad they're still going on their honeymoon. Everyone I saw was all right. Mr Rosier had already gone home.

Do you think we were the targets?



 **alt_lavender** at **2014-08-01 18:55:55**

(no subject)

How are you today? I went right to sleep as soon as we got home. I think it was all the nervous energy wearing off at once.

I'm glad Parvati & Inderpal were able to get away for their honeymoon--hopefully they'll get some time to simply enjoy themselves and not be haunted by this.

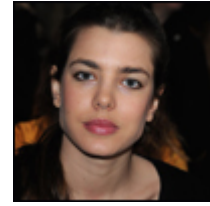
Please do give my best wishes for my recovery to your aunt. The

healers at Mungo's said most of the people they saw--including my mum--were just being treated for nerves. Belinda Dunstan was rather upset about the cut on her face but she'll be all right.

2014-08-01 08:36:00

Private Message to P Brundage

Got your message, but I'm assigned to NL46 this morning. I'd left the wedding, though, before any of it happened.



 [alt_lana](#)

Willing to provide my memories if you want to have a look for something I might not realise I noticed. Expect to be back in-house by 3 o'clock.

If taking my statement can't wait, reply here and I'll come in.

Trust you'll sort it quickly.

2014-08-01 10:20:00

Private Message to P Catchlove and K Willett



 [alt_lana](#)

So. Sawers-Cumming, Starling, Revanche, Wreston and Travers were already locked in when I came up from sparring this morning. About the wedding, I assume.

Either of you know anything yet? Have they sorted out which of them owns it? Or whether it rises to the level of Protectorate security? I expect that's why it took all of them.

I want to be able to reassure the Patils, as soon as there's anything to tell them. Because Padma's bound to ask, and you know they had that awful thing with their youngest. I mean to say, it's absolutely beastly that anyone would target a private wedding like that, but for that family, it's a double blow.

W. Is Revanche out of the meeting yet? Obviously, they were looking at whether your team's caught any intel with your journal pseudos. Any of yours? I heard you were moving beyond cony-catching into some solid counter-intel. This could really be your chance to shine; once the monitoring's back up, they'll get all the attention again and most of the credit. Expect you feel like the poor cousins most of the time.

C. Suppose S-C's still in the thick of it? Has he assigned you anything? Or are you still tying up yesterday's business? You were all day on roam and respond, weren't you? Damn it, we were all making certain Freedom Day went quietly, and then this other nonsense happened.

At a private wedding! I mean, of course, Ramesh is with the WWN, but it's not as if targeting him would achieve much. And Renati designs for most everyone who matters, but, again, it's not as if all those people were going to be at her daughter's wedding. Even with Padma's elevation to the Council, there were only a few of us there. But perhaps whoever it was thought she'd ensure it would be a more significant function than it was... If so, it's someone who doesn't have a very clear sense of the social scheme of things.

And as late as it happened... We'd already left and I expect others had, too. Certainly any of us with any role at Buckingham. I wondered about that when we got the invitation, actually. I suppose they didn't really expect many of us to come, so choosing Freedom Day meant

there was a polite excuse for why one wouldn't/couldn't.

Let me know, would you, if there's anything that can be shared with the family. I'm on one of the FD clean-up projects today, but I told Brundage he can have me around 3, so I'll be back in the department by then. Not that I'll have much to tell him.

2014-08-01 17:28:00

(no subject)

Thank you, everyone, for your birthday wishes, and for making my coming of age celebration something I will always remember.




 [alt_harry](#)

In a way, I have grown up side by side with this great Protectorate. As I was taking my first steps and speaking my first words, we were freeing ourselves from tyranny, and so we all spoke and walked our first free steps together as a people. Thanks to My Father's shining vision, I now come of age as an adult citizen who has known no other home but the Protectorate, something I am grateful for every day.

I've spent these last few weeks meeting people from all over our beautiful country, and time and time again, I have been impressed with their dedication to the work that makes us strong. Together, we face a bright and prosperous future, and I am proud to be a part of it.



 [alt_harry](#) at **2014-08-02 03:17:48**


Private Message to Parvati and Inderpal Sharma

I read the Prophet's report about what happened at your wedding. All my best to you and both your families. I hope that those who were wounded are recover fully, and that the people who did this are brought to a swift justice.

I am honoured that you chose Freedom Day as the day of your wedding, and it saddens and angers me that your day of celebration was interrupted by an act of violence.

I gather from the article that you've had to delay your honeymoon plans as a result of this incident. Please allow me to present you with a small token of my best wishes for your future together. My assistant Barkwith will be in touch.




 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2014-08-02 03:19:17](#)**

Private Message to Padma Patil

How're you getting on?

I know MLE has the investigation well in hand, but let me know if you or your family needs anything.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2014-08-02 20:11:30](#)**


Order Only

Say, mate. Now you're done hosting the whole Protectorate, can you come down the pub for a pint with your friends?

Justin and I were thinking the Jolly Rover on Ludgate hill. Nice crowd in there, we think. Not too many Ministry types.

Half-six if you can make it. Bring Hydra?




 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2014-08-02 20:32:26](#)**

Re: Order Only

yeah. That sounds nice.

I'll see if she's free.



 **[alt_ron](#)** at **[2014-08-02 21:01:35](#)**

Re: Order Only

Birthday pint's on us!

2014-08-02 11:17:00

Private message to Lana Sandoval-Pennifold



 [alt_antonin](#)

My dear sister -- I've a proposal to make to you, and it is becoming clear that if I continue to wait for a time when one or both of us is not entirely swamped, it will be left entirely too late.

As you know, I've assumed the position of Headmaster at Hogwarts, and the first task before me is to address a shortage of staff. I've filled most of the positions by now, but the Dark Arts position has proven difficult, for multiple reasons. I will be continuing to teach the NEWT classes for as long as I can, but I am in need of someone to teach the third through fifth years, and I have not found anyone both qualified and at liberty.

A possibility presented itself to me, however -- one that would benefit us both considerably -- and I would beg your indulgence to hear me out.

I believe my official biography makes passing reference to my various academic achievements, but the first, and hardest won, is my first Mastery, awarded by the Cairo Conclave for the Noble Arts in '66. I do not know how much you know of the Conclave: likely not much, as before the Restoration of the Caliphate in '78, the various wizarding governments of the region viewed the Noble Arts much as the former Ministry here viewed them before Our Lord came to power, and the Conclave, though having existed in line unbroken since the days of the Middle Kingdom, had been in hiding since the Byzantine era or so. It is one of the world's foremost bodies for study of the Arts, and I count much of my success a direct result of everything I learned from my masters there. It has been the grounding of all my work that has come since.

As a Master of the Conclave I am empowered -- expected, in fact -- to teach others, and by virtue of that mastery I may confer the title on an apprentice after he or she has satisfied me of his or her achievement. As part of my long-term vision for Hogwarts, I hope to re-establish it as the centre of academic achievement it once was; part of that will include, I hope, encouraging our Masters in residence to take apprentices for advanced study in their subjects. I propose to be the test case there, and I cannot think of a better candidate at the moment for my first apprentice than you.


You've mentioned to me more than once that you would like to expand your knowledge of the Arts: I would like to extend you a formal offer of apprenticeship. I will warn you, the programme of instruction for Mastery is both academically and magically rigorous, but I've every confidence you would thrive. As my apprentice, you would take over the instruction of the younger students -- with my assistance, of course; I would not simply throw you in the shark-pit -- and work towards your own Mastery at the same time.

I am not, I hasten to add, expecting that you would remain at Hogwarts past the granting of that Mastery, nor am I asking you to give up your calling as an Auror -- Barty's reminded me that the Auror department does allow sabbaticals for such intensive study when it is in the best interests of the department, which this certainly would be. You may ask him how valuable he has found what I have taught him -- he was one step shy of his own Mastery when our battle to establish the Protectorate grew urgent enough to interrupt -- or ask Savitha: her own Mastery is through a different tradition, but I know she found it a great help in her work.

The programme of study as handed down through my tradition takes anywhere from two and a half to five years, depending on the motivation of the student. (I do not doubt your motivation; I am confident your own progression would be on the faster side.) The first portion of the programme consists of intensive academic and practical work, both self-guided and performed in concert with one's Master; at the conclusion of the study, the candidate chooses a single topic to immerse herself in and produces both a Working and a written analysis to present to her Master for consideration. Once the Working and the monograph are accepted, she is invested with the title of Master and entered into the Conclave.

I'm certain you will have a double dozen questions, and I would not expect you to decide whether this is something you're interested in before you can have those questions answered. I am at home to visitors this weekend; do come by for tea, today or tomorrow, and I'll go into much more detail. (And lend you a copy of my own Master-work, so you can see what I mean there.)



 [alt_lana](#) at [2014-08-02 19:56:41](#)
(no subject)

Antosha, I am honoured you would think of me in either regard--with respect to teaching or to the academic challenge you've proposed.

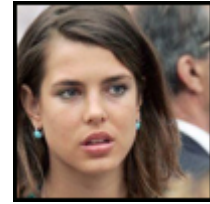
I would very much like to speak with you about it. Perhaps tomorrow afternoon? That will give me time tonight to open the topic with Ned. I will have to give thought to what it might mean for my personal ambitions, but I do not doubt that a mastery would be valuable.

Thank you sincerely.

2014-08-02 22:55:00

Private Message to Ned Pennifold

It's really annoying you had to go back in this evening. When, honestly, are you going to get that project finished? It was meant to be last week. Don't tell me it's going to drag on with all these extra hours. Fine. Yes. I know I pull long shifts, too. But that's different. You're an admin.



 [alt_lana](#)

Only, it's inconvenient tonight when I wanted to know what you really think about Dolohov's proposal before I go see him tomorrow.

It's not as if he's given us long to think it through. You don't think he offered it to someone else first, do you, and they turned him down? He made it sound as if it's difficult to think of the right person for teaching the Arts, but he could mean no one he's thought of was willing to take it on. I don't know that he really meant that I'm best of all possible candidates. Only, it would be nice if that were the case.

And would you be willing to live at the school? I mean, there'll be a duty rota and it's not possible to fulfill all of the expectations for staff if you don't live in. So that would mean moving. Or living separately, but that's not a good idea, surely. Not now. Unless you really can't see living up there with a long Floo or Apparition every day.

I don't know. Is that feasible?

And I do want to take him up on the Mastery. I talked to Wright and Braithewaite this afternoon, and they said not to hesitate. Actually, Braithewaite said to talk to Crouch and LeStrange first, but then he said he'd do it in a minute if he had the chance and if he didn't already have a family to tie up his off hours.

But I do want to hear what you have to say, so wind things up for the night, would you? I mean, if you're not ready to start monitoring tomorrow, then it doesn't matter if you come home now. The work will all be there still tomorrow and Monday and Tuesday. I'm right, aren't I?

2014-08-03 15:58:00

Order Only - Private message to Alice Longbottom



 **alt_sinistra**

I've been reading back, and thinking about some things that you should probably know. I talked to Remus about some of them, before he swore me in.

First, I want to list out resources, for everyone, so they know, because there's some things that might be helpful. But every draft I make comes back to mentioning Tosha somewhere, and I've read enough to know just how difficult that's going to be for some people. And for me to talk about as fairly as I want.


Second, you should know that it's not me being modest, when I talk about not knowing what I can do.

Raz and I, the binding charms we chose, they're very hard on the surviving partner. We chose them for good reason, but that's not much help right now. I can lay out what it means, but mostly I need you to not expect me to be better than I am. More together than I am.

Third, there's some things you might want to know. Pandora's Box, that was Tosha and Barty and Raz, I'm near certain. And you should know, the rite I did the location for, the original sacrifice was supposed to be Seamus Finnigan, not his mother. (I had no idea it was her, or what they made him do until this past week.)

And there's a thing you should know. A number of the Council can't cast the Patronus properly. Reliably. Tosha couldn't until this past year. Raz had years of his life he couldn't. Not filled with happy memories, a lot of them. And there's ways that underlies everything they do. Everything they value.




 **alt_alice** at **2014-08-03 20:39:50**
(no subject)

Thank you, Aurora. Neville suspected as much about Seamus, but it's certainly good to have confirmation. We're still teasing apart how to reverse things, which is blasted difficult. Theories abound, of course, but they're all speculative at this point.

And you're right -- it is difficult for some of our members to objectively think about Antonin Dolohov, especially recently.

Are you concerned that people will question your take on things? I have a feeling that the more open you are about the extent of your connections, the better off we'll all be. To be blunt, I believe that the more transparent you are from the start, the less your motives will be questioned by those who have reason to be wary about him. I will do the best I can to listen objectively and give you support.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-03 20:57:22](#)**
(no subject)

Complicated magic is like that. And that rite, they didn't even tell Raz the details (and he didn't ask.)

As to Tosha, I can do that. I think. I'll work on how to phrase it. The thing about him is - did you ever read the Narnia books? He lent them to me. He is not a tame lion, in all the way those books mean, that there is something dangerous, always just under the surface, always a dozen things in his head, always in motion. With claws just an instant away.


I do care for him. I am quite certain he cares for me. Not so much as for Barty, or Narcissa or Lucius. Not so much it would keep me alive if he knew any of this past week. But enough he would make it as gentle as he could.

And I do trust that what he tells me is true, but I never assume it's the complete truth, and I never ever imagine I could out-think him, not on my best day with a running start.

I do think he's the best Head Hogwarts could be given, in this moment. That he wants students in his charge to be as safe as he is allowed to make them. And there's ways I am - he and I talk, regularly. There are so many things I could ask that might maybe help. Or even just a time when Cedric, when others, knew he'd be busy. The Book, I mean.

But it's so very complicated. All of it.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-03 21:09:50](#)**
(no subject)

It is, yes.

I know Harry's been working closely with him, and feels similarly about him as Head, from what I can gather. And I know Harry's rather driven when it comes to the safety of the students at Hogwarts -- if they're on the same page on that count, I can see how they'd be able to work together fairly well. Within certain limits.

And that's key, isn't it? Knowing where those limits are.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-03 21:16:53](#)**
(no subject)

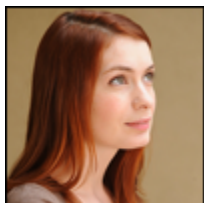
I've been talking to Harry and Cedric. (They filled me in on things not in the journals, too. Helped.)


Yes. The question with Tosha is what he's required to do. He takes his oath so seriously, and I can't help but respect that.

Even when - well. Even when that loyalty's been sorely tested.

The challenge, this spring, upset him, so many ways. The recklessness of it. The damage it did. (And especially after the year before.) But it's the question we had with Madam Pinkness, of how much anyone could protest without being removed entirely. Permanently, maybe.

You must have done the arithmancy on how many deaths in Court there've been the past few years, without public explanation. I have. Over and over again.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-03 21:37:26](#)**
(no subject)

I think

Well, I think it helps, in an odd sort of way. To

know that even someone at the centre of things gets frustrated with it all from time to time.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2014-08-04 00:26:12](#)
(no subject)

I've tried to find words for this half a dozen times now.


But yes. Frustrated. Confused by what He demands. Or does. More than used to be, I think. The past couple of years, a lot's changed.

He used to reward loyalty. Offer some protection. And that's just - not there, anymore. Not for the Council. Not for their families, the ones who have family. And so there's something else now, and I don't know enough to know details, just to see pieces of it. Loyalties, sometimes, but sometimes just alliances.

Thing I told Remus, should make sure you realise. Tosha and Barty. If one of them dies, the other will hunt the killer to the ends of the earth. I am entirely sure of that. Revenge. Fury. Madness. Dangerous to anything and everything in the way.

But that's what I mean, about how things change. It's a wedge that wasn't there a few years ago. How Bettina Yaxley was treated is a wedge. Lucius. Half a dozen things more. It's changing how they deal with each other.



 **alt_alice** at [2014-08-04 02:18:17](#)
(no subject)


It is one thing to fight for power with claws out and teeth bared, and another thing entirely to sort out what to do once you have it.

That's one reason I've been so very careful about thinking through what things might look like after all is said and done. How to keep us from imploding in an act of endless revenge and retribution, and how to make sure these soldiers we're training are going to give up power once it's in their hands.

We have to invent something brand new, and know we won't get it entirely right, but what we have now is utterly

unsustainable and a crime against humanity, and what we had before led us straight here.



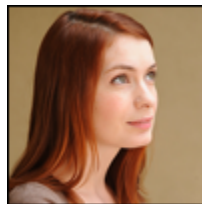
 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-04 02:32:32](#)
(no subject)


I had to laugh and laugh and laugh. For the first time since - well.

I've had this precise conversation with Tosha. Several times over. In as many words.

And just - hearing you say the same thing, makes it easier to be think maybe there is a way forward. As odd as that sounds. Something brand new, yes. Or maybe something old.

I keep wondering, what it was like before the Statute of Secrecy. How people did things. Managed. Not that there weren't problems, I grew up on the stories like you must have, why we had to keep secret. But I wonder how it worked. Legally. Practically.

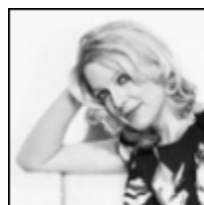



 [alt_alice](#) at [2014-08-04 03:54:01](#)
(no subject)

More freedom for certain things, more checks and balances for others, I'd imagine.

One thing we've had to struggle with throughout history, though, is the notion that people deserve dignity and freedom simply because they are people.

And that is something worth aiming for.

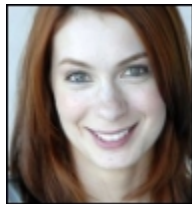



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-04 16:00:35](#)
(no subject)

I spent a lot of time thinking last night, while I was looking at nebulae.

It takes a lot of variety to make a working galaxy, really. Having everything all the same is sterile. (Quite literally, if you look at some family trees...)

But yes. The idea of dignity and respect and including rather than excluding. Strength of our house, that, but so immensely unfashionable at the moment. Learning from that variety. And I keep thinking about what you've been trying, all of you, with the centaurs and goblins.




 [alt_alice](#) at [2014-08-05 01:08:33](#)
(no subject)

My definition of what constitutes a person is certainly broader than most.


It also strikes me time and again that the people we are fighting against consistently underestimate the value of some of our strongest assets. They would have Bill Davidson digging up turnips and Hermione shining shoes. What a colossal waste.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2014-08-05 01:10:52](#)
(no subject)

And you're right -- it is all quite badgery, isn't it?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-05 01:36:17](#)
(no subject)

I don't know you well enough to figure out if that's you trying to figure out what I think about muggleborns. (Or Muggles, yes, if I remember about Davidson right?)


I remember my own school days well enough. And I think it's a shame that people who could learn aren't allowed to, and that people are treated so badly, and -

Mostly, I feel guilty. About a lot of things.

And I think it's probably more sensible for me to sort that out in my own head before I talk much about it. Harry and Cedric and I talked a bit about Hermione, this week. I'm still thinking.

There's a lot of benefit in being underestimated, I've found. And in badger virtues. And both of them take rather a lot of people by surprise.




 **[alt_alice](#) at [2014-08-05 06:18:58](#)**
(no subject)

I've been living this for years, Siz. I still consider my own perspective to be deeply flawed and ever evolving. We've got a thousand years weighing us down. I don't expect any of us to rid ourselves of those trappings with the snap of our fingers.

And if you're thinking of what's going on as happening to *people*, then yes, I can see how guilt would be a part of it.


Thinking helps. Talking does too. Harry and Cedric are good to start with, and if you're amenable, it might be good for you to get to know some of our people too, and put faces to some of those names. Once you're on more solid ground, that is.



 **[alt_alice](#) at [2014-08-03 20:40:44](#)**
(no subject)

As to your second point, a thorough assessment of one's abilities is always important. Believe me, I'd much rather be realistic than think I have a resource that I don't. And I'm not in the habit of setting someone up to fail. If I ask you to do something, I expect you to tell me if it's beyond you.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-03 21:09:17](#)**
(no subject)

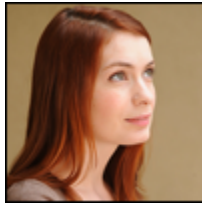
Right. I really am doing everything Poppy advises, first.


Mostly, I feel like I'm constantly one step behind, one step too slow, one step too wrong, and entirely too stupid. And I know how dangerous that is, to me, to others. The journals are

much easier. No one sees how many times I rewrite something, or have to stop and think, how I hide the gaps.

In practical terms, I've maybe two hours of coherence or focus before I need to rest. My stamina is pitiful. I can feel how much the lack of defence practice is affecting me. And it's only the past fortnight my magic's really begun to settle usefully. I have no idea if I can handle more than a handful of people at a time, I startle easily, and the less said about my sleep the better.

But beyond that, I have lost so much of the sense of who I am, what that means. Joining you, changing pole stars, helps but does not mend everything. Nothing could. And I don't know how to measure that at all.

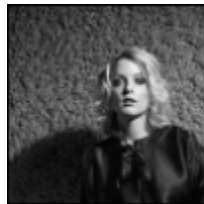



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2014-08-03 21:32:04**
(no subject)

I know it's not the same, but I've seen first-hand what it's like to have things go off-centre.

On top of it all, my Frank is a proud, stubborn man who finds it incredibly difficult to show weakness.

It's a slow, frustrating process, to be sure.

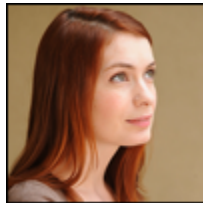



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2014-08-03 23:31:48**
(no subject)

I read through that.

Brave of him. To try. And skilled, to make it work.

It's terrifying, not being able to defend myself.




 **[alt_alice](#) at 2014-08-04 02:02:51**
(no subject)

Yes. Of course it is.

You're not alone, Siz.


I hope that helps, at least a little.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2014-08-03 20:43:07](#)
(no subject)

Before I forget. Do you have a preferred title? Our younger members call you Siz almost to a fault, I've noticed.




 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-03 21:04:43](#)
(no subject)

None of my names quite fits right anymore, really.

Siz is the easiest, really. I've never much cared for Aurora. It always seemed a name for someone more elegant and together than I've ever managed to be. My family and some close friends call me Auri.




 [alt_alice](#) at [2014-08-03 21:19:33](#)
(no subject)

Of course.

I realised that I was falling back on old habits. After all, the Aurora I knew was a first-year Hufflepuff.

I very much look forward to getting to know Siz.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-03 21:22:48](#)
(no subject)

Rather a different person now, all round.

I grew up a lot, the last four years. Late for it, but better than never.

Siz is rather braver than Aurora. And slightly less about her head being entirely in the stars. Even when they're very comforting and reassuring.

2014-08-04 10:31:00


Private message to Lana Sandoval-Pennifold



Many happy returns! I assume you've got plans for this evening with Ned, but would you be up for a drink sometime this week?

 [alt_rachel](#)



 [alt_lana](#) at **2014-08-04 16:41:47**

(no subject)

Appreciated!

I do have plans for tonight. (With or without Ned. His hours, honestly!) Mama's having us all for a celebration at Leighton House, so it will be the whole sibling and cousin scene.

I'd love to do drinks, though. Tomorrow or Wednesday after work? I've been wanting to go to one of those new places that have been popping up at St Katherine's Docks. Scylla and Charybdis, maybe. Or Iphigenia's Pyre. Did you read the article in the paper a week or so ago? One of the Bobolises has backed a new development there, and it's getting good notices for creative recovery of formerly-despoiled property.

2014-08-05 20:30:00

Private Message to Daphne

That last mailing from the St Mungo's Association sounded positively desperate. I think Diana Derrick was depending on getting loads of help from Aunt Narcissa when she volunteered to take charge of the gala, and now she's stranded and thoroughly regretting it.




 [alt_pansy](#)

Were you asked to serve on a gala committee? Apparently, she found out that I was 'good with musicians,' so I'm helping with that. Only I'm not sure who else is, so it might be just me, which is utterly mad. And she's already wheedling me to donate something 'specially made' from Whizbangs. Of course.

And the invites for rising 6th years aren't supposed to go out until November, which means that we'll be bellyaching over them for months and months at this rate.




 [alt_daphne](#) at **2014-08-06 15:04:20**
(no subject)

Oh, I was asked. I'm not thrilled about it, because I'd much rather help Gerald with his workshops, but I'm still holding on to slim hope that I'll be Head Girl, and with that in mind, I agreed to join the committee.

I suppose it's all for a good cause, but ugh, so boring.



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2014-08-06 15:51:29**
(no subject)

You've got a fighting chance on that front. At least I think so. You'd be far better suited for it, at least. And less wrapped up in council business, too.

Besides. Patil's involvement with what happened to Thomas has to colour things somewhat.

Do you think Ginny has a chance at the auxiliary? I suppose that in her case, waiting until November might work in her favour. It'll give a chance to let things settle somewhat. Honoria's a shoe-in, and we

might plant the idea that the two of them could get a lot of work done together. It'd probably still be difficult, though.



 **alt_daphne** at [2014-08-07 00:12:04](#)

(no subject)

They could colour things in her favour. You never know.

I don't mean this to be rude, but: I don't think so. Perhaps if Honoria argues for it, but otherwise I think that Ginny just isn't what one thinks of when they think of the auxiliary. She's pure blooded, yes, and she's been a model and such, but she really hasn't established herself as being involved in larger community activities, and neither has most of her family.



 **alt_pansy** at [2014-08-07 03:24:26](#)

(no subject)

Yes, I can see that. I think of all of them, she'd have the best chance, and perhaps if things worked out differently with Percy, or Fred and George had a bit more time to establish themselves, it'd be different.

And you heard Siz. If Dolohov has a say, I don't think it's a given by any stretch.

[2014-08-05 21:54:00](#)

Order Only

I had drinks with Lana Sandoval-Pennifold this evening. Apparently Antonin Dolohov is trying to persuade her to come to Hogwarts to teach Dark Arts next year -- just the younger students, mind you, he's keeping the NEWTs himself, or at least that's his intent. (We'll see if he actually has time.)

To sweeten the pot, he's offering to train her to Mastery herself.



 **[alt_rachel](#)**


She's undecided. It'll mean leaving behind her career with the Aurors (temporarily, of course -- at least that's the idea). Crouch and Travers have hinted she'll be letting others establish themselves in her absence, Rodolphus Lestrage thinks it's a brilliant idea, and Bellatrix wasn't against it, at least. Lana wants to do the Mastery; she's not thrilled with the idea of *teaching*, though.

I did what I could to nudge her toward saying yes. I've read your previous discussions of who'd be the lesser evil, teaching subjects like this at Hogwarts, and I think she'd suit -- she's not a homicidal lunatic (so probably no one will wind up dead in her classroom), I expect she'll be reasonably competent (so our future allies will learn useful skills), and she has the sort of personality that's unlikely to win many people to her side. (Unlike, say, Savitha Desai. Hopefully Dolohov's not recruiting her to teach Defence again.)

I rather suspect Crouch is discouraging her because he's afraid she'll replace him as Dolohov's favourite....anyway, I pointed out taking a few years to teach didn't hurt Savitha Desai any, and hinted that I was deeply envious of the opportunity to study with Dolohov.

Oh! Also. Apparently Ned's still working extremely late nights. I don't think they've got the journal monitoring back up yet, though they could get it working any day now.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at [2014-08-06 03:59:11](#)**


(no subject)

Lana Sandoval.

I can hear Padma Patil's shrieks of joy from here.

You're right, though. She wouldn't be as bad as some.



 **[alt_pansy](#) at [2014-08-06 04:00:28](#)**

Private Message to Justin

Do you think he'll make the same offer to you? When you're done with NEWTs, I mean.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-06 11:54:03](#)**

(no subject)

Lesser evils, yes.

The thing about her apprenticing, too, is he'd have rather more control over what she teaches and how than the usual run of staff.

And yes, he does want to keep the NEWT classes, and that's been done before. Might work. Depends more on his obligations outside the school, I'd think.



 **[alt_hydra](#) at [2014-08-07 00:17:16](#)**

(no subject)

My father's thrilled with the idea because he wanted to train to Mastery, himself. I suppose he has done, too, just not officially. Also, he's having an affair with Lana, which you all might as well know.

I don't believe she knows Occlumency, so I suppose that's another good reason to have her around the castle.



 **[alt_rachel](#) at [2014-08-07 04:06:47](#)**

(no subject)

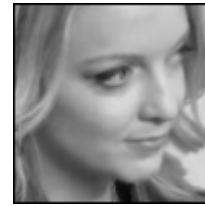
Oh really. Well, that explains a few things.

And good point on the Occlumency.

[2014-08-06 07:54:00](#)

Order Only

Reading back through things, clearly it'd help to know what resources I have.



Astronomy and research: Besides the obvious (stars, locational and chronological magics, navigation) astronomy is the art of patterns, understanding the unseen through observation of the barely visible. It is a more broadly useful skill than most people realise.

 [alt_sinistra](#)

My projection stones are likely useless for your needs, but the research that went into them might not be. I keep up with various subfields of Arithmancy, Charms, and Runes, and I spent a recent year researching some of the charms and magics built into Hogwarts.

Defence: My husband and I spent a great deal of time on the topic, both theory and practice, including discussion of his own training and those of others on the Council. We particularly focused on warding, personal protections and on thinking through possible situations. Turns out there's only so much preparation of what-ifs one can do. Apparently.

My spaces at Hogwarts are rather obsessively warded, and I created and use charmed items to tell me who is on the Astronomy tower.

Practical resources: One absurdly large and empty house in New London, though uncomfortably close to both Buckingham and St James Palace. The garden was replanted in the last year and includes a *rosa incantatus* (useful for some potions, I gather) and a poison garden (ditto). Two house-elves, insufficiently occupied. A space for full-out duelling practice. Money I'd not mind finding a good use for.

I have a solid library for my field and access to others, and am a full Master in my guild (with all the rank, privilege, obligations and annoyances thereof). Various items, protective and otherwise.

Connections: I am not naturally socially adept, and use a method my research mentor taught me to keep detailed notes on people I might deal with professionally and socially (time and labour intensive, but effective). My notes cover my Guild, former YPL and Ministry contacts, and those who moved in the same social circles as my husband. They include family background, professional credentials

and associations, topics to bring up and avoid, and sometimes other things.

Through the YPL work and circumstance, I have acquired an odd collection of acquaintances and sometimes friends. In particular, Tosha - Antonin Dolohov - has been very good to me. I understand this is extremely complicated for many of you, with excellent reason. More on him below.

Other skills: I'm a decent cook, have some basic training for managing injuries, not horrible on a broom, and I'm normally (but not at the moment) a strong apparator at distance, comfortable working from coordinates. A variety of household and family magics, though Mum is much better at all of them. I do have the habit of thinking through possible challenges and solutions in advance. Perhaps obsessively.


I am fluent in English, German, and Latin. Enough wizarding Arabic to make private comments to Tosha in staff meetings (and translate astronomy) and enough Welsh to order beer and complain about the weather. Other subjects, I'd need vocabulary help.

You should not rely on my ability to identify a plant, take the floo, proof my own arithmantic calculations, deal with sudden change, or do anything complicated between about dawn and noon.

Finally: I miss my husband a very great deal. My stamina, my focus, my magic, and my ability to have a coherent conversation remain unpredictable, though Poppy and others assure me there's steady improvement.

I'm sure there may be questions. I'll do my best to answer.



 **alt_sinistra** at **2014-08-06 12:01:56**
(no subject)

Right. About Tosha.

I am quite clear he's done a number of horrible things. And I'm not going to defend that. At all.


But I do think he is the best Headmaster Hogwarts could have at the moment. I am convinced he will do the best he is allowed to, for the school, students, and staff. (Allowed, mind, is a very relevant word.)

I trust him to the extent his oaths allow (and I am fully aware how sharp those edges might be) and he trusts me. He and I have the habit of spending Friday evenings talking (about a number of topics, including research and various projects) and I expect that to continue in some form. He's encouraged me to tell him immediately if I think he's doing something that might harm students, and he's been very quick to solve issues once they're pointed out.

There are any number of things I might ask that could be helpful, and where he would not be suspicious as long as I had some reason. I'd be glad to entertain a list.


He is very, very sharp, and exceedingly observant. I never forget that. But I also never forget what he's done for me, what he's helped me with, or his friendship.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2014-08-06 19:05:27](#)
(no subject)

What is your take on his thoughts about Patil and Finnigan? It's hard to read him when it comes to council politics sometimes.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-06 19:05:53](#)
(no subject)

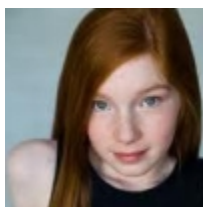
He's very good at being hard to read. Lots of practice.


Stephen Rosier was very much a mentor to Tosha when he was younger, and that carries on down to Finnigan. I think Tosha will give him as much leeway and guidance as he can, and maybe it'll do enough good.

Patil - he was furious with her, about Dean Thomas. And he knows both of them have had a tendency to misuse the power they have, to the detriment of others, in the past, because I told him (including that matter with Katrina Bundy the first CCF year.)

We'll put it this way. I'm planning to move back to my old rooms, just past the stairs to the Astronomy tower. I've already explicitly asked him to do the wards on that hallway for me, and mentioned


them as a concern in particular, and he immediately saw (and agreed with) my point.



 **alt_evelyn** at [2014-08-06 12:43:53](#)
(no subject)

Oh! Is Arabic frightfully hard to pick up? Of course it'd be useful for Astronomy. I've been curious about it. I think it'd be so much more insightful to read theories about Chaldean forms without so many filters getting in the way, not to mention the Arabic pure form, which we haven't even gotten into much, but from what I've seen, it seems just so wonderfully elegant. And Hebrew would also be terribly useful too, of course.

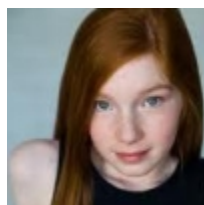



 **alt_sinistra** at [2014-08-06 13:00:25](#)
(no subject)

It took me ages to sort out the alphabet (the letters change, depending where they are in the word.)

I found learning Latin rather more distressing, originally - I had to learn how to learn a language, and all the things I certainly wasn't taught about how English works as a language, that make such a difference when you learn a new one. I know that one of Tosha's plans for this year is sorting out tutoring for people who want to learn Latin or Greek, for example, which would be easier starts.


But it's very satisfying, as things start to click together. And yes, very useful for Astronomy - there's quite a few texts that haven't been translated properly. (There are dozens of dialects, though, for Arabic, and I've only been focusing on the one, really.)



 **alt_evelyn** at [2014-08-06 15:33:53](#)
(no subject)

Yes, I'd imagine they would be easier to start with. Not to mention quite useful in their own right.




 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-06 19:28:10](#)**
(no subject)

Quite. I keep wanting to try Greek, myself.

I know a few people who read Hebrew, though it's always seemed quite a complex language and one so heavily anchored in a cultural and religious context (and I admit, one mostly not relevant to my particular academic interests.)


I'd hesitate to try and teach you the Arabic - I'm still nothing like sufficiently fluent for my standards - but if you want to look at my notes, you'd be welcome.



 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2014-08-06 19:37:23](#)**
(no subject)

That would be lovely. Thank you.




 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2014-08-06 18:20:27](#)**
(no subject)

Rosa incantatus — 'useful for some potions' is rather an understatement. And depending on what is in your poison garden, likewise.

If your mother or another family member is willing to provide hair for Polyjuice I would greatly appreciate the chance to inspect the gardens myself, perhaps with Mr Longbottom as assistant.




 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-06 19:25:51](#)**
(no subject)

My garden designer has a sense of humour, and also a great deal of respect for some of the folklore traditions that link poison plants and defence, really. I can send along the full plans, if you'd like, and the planting dates. (The *incantatus* went in a year ago June, so it's fairly well established, the poison garden either late last summer or this spring.)

It's actually easy enough to set the wards to obscure the garden from the entry to Green Park. The complication at the moment is my being at Spence to allow anyone else in. Next week, perhaps? I'm resigning myself to the necessity of several floo journeys, both to Spence and to Hogwarts that really need to happen in the next week or two.


I'm sure Mum would be glad to lend some hair, if that'd reassure, as well, and of course Mr Longbottom would be quite welcome, or whoever else might be interested. (Pomona's quite aware of what I've got too, naturally.)



 **[alt_cedric](#)** at **[2014-08-06 19:50:27](#)**
(no subject)

If you need any help with Spence, let me know. I'll be happy to help move things, or sort things or whatever.




 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-06 19:56:23](#)**
(no subject)

I definitely would like your help for the Hogwarts end, please.


The Spence end is mostly adjusting the wards, now I'm better able. I don't plan to sleep there this summer, and all the things I actually use regularly were at Hogwarts to start.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2014-08-06 20:06:09](#)**
(no subject)


Count me in too.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-06 20:23:11](#)**
(no subject)


Of course. I do still want to add you to the Spence wards, too. Let me think about timing, if we're coordinating about the gardens, too.



 **[alt_rachel](#)** at **[2014-08-06 20:35:01](#)**
(no subject)

Are you good enough at Arithmancy to get around the controls on portkeys?



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-06 20:53:25](#)**
(no subject)

I don't know.

Right. Pocket lecture. When they put the wards up, it affected a lot of the calculations for locational magic. Most of the time it doesn't matter much, but if you're trying to go from one place to another, it especially does.

And the first set of wards, in 83, affected different places differently, so between 85 and 87 they had several people go through and do really thorough calibration measurements. (I did Wales, it's why my Welsh is largely useful in pubs. It takes forever to do a complete survey.)

My best guess is that the rite eighteen months ago did something similar, but I don't know if it's a general offset, or something that's affected by other variables. (Like the amount of local magic in the area, nearby ley lines, and so on.)

Normally, the measurement tables would get filed with my Guild, but I don't think they were this last time. (I can ask.) If not, it's possible to do the measurements, but of course you'd have to do it for the places you wanted to go to, individually.

Beyond that, I've no idea if MLE's put anything in place that might affect things or cause an alert: portkeys are unusual enough as a kind of magic they'd be possible to identify by signature, yes?

2014-08-08 17:24:00


ORDER ONLY

I did it! I finally did it! I'd been thinking about what it would be like for ages and ages, and I was practicing with dad, and I felt this pull, and then I was halfway across the field and it was brilliant! And then I managed it again! And we're going to try going longer distances tomorrow, and I can't wait.



 [alt_evelyn](#)




 [alt_frank](#) at [2014-08-09 00:03:04](#)

(no subject)

that's my brilliant girl. same time tomorrow, and you'll be getting here on your own before you know it.




 [alt_frank](#) at [2014-08-09 00:04:43](#)

(no subject)

(Well done! Good timing too, now Nev's aged out.)




 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2014-08-09 00:05:38](#)

(no subject)

(Thank you!)




 [alt_ron](#) at [2014-08-09 05:27:43](#)

(no subject)

Dead brilliant, you!

Good show!

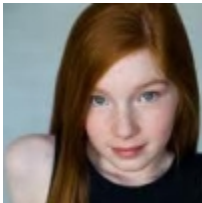


 **[alt_neville](#) at 2014-08-11 11:35:41**

Private message to Evelyn

Really brilliant, and it's been fun to see you popping in and out the past three days. I'm dead sure there's not the slightest chance you're going to splinch yourself now. You really have the hang of it!

Must admit it's a load off my mind, that we don't have to worry about portkeys anymore.



 **[alt_evelyn](#) at 2014-08-11 15:53:30**

Re: Private message to Evelyn

I'm glad too. It'd be better if you could still come with us to the Forest, though.

2014-08-10 17:05:00

ORDER ONLY



 [alt_alice](#)

Our summer is progressing quite nicely. We're in full harvest, and thanks to Regina and Lisa's tireless work, have quite a bounty. Sherwood, Aldrich, Bedford, and Saltash are likewise thankful for their efforts. We've had to make several supply runs to supplement everyone's current canning materials (which were considerable to begin with), and Victor's been making the rounds to pass along his expertise. It's a trickier process in Saltash, because proper sterilising is difficult to do without magic and it's not easy to bring the entire operation down to the caves, but they have been working on a set-up that should suffice.


We have four new wand-holders this year, Franklin, Melissa, Lucy, and Sarah. They've all been adjusting rather well -- Franklin held off for a year to work more on his diction (and we thought it'd be best to let him settle a little), and it seems to have paid off rather well for him. Alec has decided to join his brother at Sherwood, which means that Katherine and Ian are utterly despondent -- Laura was worried they'd both run off and join him immediately, but I believe we've convinced them to wait until they can Apparate and have developed their defensive skills more. Laura's still rather furious about the whole idea, though.

Our relationship with the centaurs continue to progress smoothly -- thanks to Charlie and Fu Lee, we've got our hands on some needed materials, and they have a supply of iron-tipped arrows and some custom made iron and leather front panels. They were rather adamant about not allowing anyone of-age into the Forest, which excludes Neville right out, and we've got to train up some of our younger Moddey Dhoo members more before they'd be ready, but Colin, Luna, and Evelyn certainly have things in hand for the time being.

We've a few short weeks of summer left before the Autumn term starts at Hogwarts -- I'm hoping we'll have a safehouse ready for our galleon holders by next week at the latest, so that you'll have time to show them the location before the term begins.

I'm sure we have no end of things to wrap up before the term begins properly -- if there's anything time-sensitive that needs our attention, please don't hesitate to speak up about it.




 **[alt_alice](#) at 2014-08-11 01:53:20**

Private Message to Molly

Molly, love, I hope you'll come by for some proper tea. Honour Milliband has been asking after 'the Molly lady', and she's drawn several pictures she's just aching to show you.



 **[alt_molly](#) at 2014-08-11 03:45:01**

Re: Private Message to Molly

I'll try, Alice. In a day or two, when Ginny's birthday is over.

I feel--I haven't been able to even think about it. It's dreadful. I haven't even been able to think of what to give her for a present.

I've made it to the building a few days, but there are some days I can barely force myself to get out of bed at all. Ginny's been doing most of the cooking and all of the chores. I haven't even started my canning.

Sometimes all I can do is to sit at the kitchen table with tea and stare into space for hours.

Luna has come a few times and simply read aloud to me. It's...restful. It keeps me from thinking too much.

Until the nights. The middle of the nights are the worst.


Oh, Alice. I didn't think I could survive losing Arthur, but I managed to pull myself together, with a lot of help from Bill and Fred and George. But this...this feels as though I'm right back at the bottom of the well again. And I don't know how I'll manage to convince myself to climb out this time.

The worst thing is feeling that I've failed Arthur.

And the hatred I am feeling for Dolohov...well, I'm afraid it might consume me entirely.

I'm not making much sense, I'm afraid.



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2014-08-11 04:55:33**

Re: Private Message to Molly

You've just lost a child, Molly.

It's an enormous, awful thing.

Time will help, I hope. And so will being around people who love you. I'm sure Ginny wants very much to do whatever she can to make things easier for you, and I'm so glad Luna has come by.

Arthur has been a near-constant presence these last few weeks. I keep wondering what he would've thought and done, and I miss him terribly and wish he was here to provide us with his steady common sense.

He would've been devastated at Percy's death, and he'd be angry, and frustrated, and heartbroken, and worried about you. But I truly and deeply believe that he'd see this as a tragedy rather than think either he or you were to blame, or that you'd failed as parents. Percy was wrapped up in something much larger than himself, was cruelly used by powerful people who cared nothing for him, and it was all done in a way that gave you little to no choice in the matter -- where all your options were impossible.

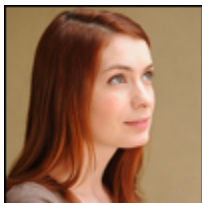


 **[alt_alice](#) at 2014-08-11 05:08:05**

Re: Private Message to Molly

And yes, you have every right to be angry.

It's a powerful force. It can be harnessed to seek a bloody revenge, or it can be put to work to build a more just world. The former is destructive, the latter is healing. I very much hope you'll choose to put that energy to good use.




 **[alt_alice](#) at 2014-08-11 01:55:29**

Private Message to Albus and Remus

We've got our firecrabs, Albus. Hagrid's caring for them until you have the chance to pick them up. I'm sure he'd be happy for a visit.


Please let me know once you obtain the device.



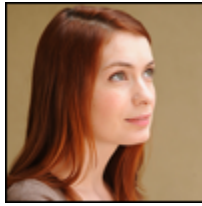
 [alt_severus](#) at [2014-08-11 04:02:21](#)
(no subject)


Muggles have canned things successfully for hundreds of years without access to magic. If none of them at Saltash are sufficiently familiar with the Muggle methods for same, perhaps we ought put out a call on the radio.



 [alt_frank](#) at [2014-08-11 05:29:55](#)
(no subject)

yeah, there's a few of them there who know a thing or two, and vic's doing what he can. but he says it's trickier without modern ovens. not to mention they're working on a bigger scale than home cooks are used to.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2014-08-11 05:33:49](#)
(no subject)

It might be worth our while to put out a call for someone with a bit more expertise in that area, then, to oversee all of it. Dr Williams was quite worried about bacteria.

2014-08-11 06:24:00

Happy birthday, Gin!

Happy birthday to our brilliant sister, legendary wielder of the bat bogey hex. It's an auspicious occasion, we are sure and deserved to be celebrated in a spectacular fashion.



 [alt_gredforge](#)

For a little change, we suggest celebrating at the store tonight. We'll close up shop at five, and then the whole family's welcome, and anyone else you'd like to invite along, Gin! Just let us know.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2014-08-11 11:33:02**

Private messaget to Gin

We're trying to take a bit of the arranging of the thing off Mum. Hitty is *thrilled* about the chance to provide the feast and decorations. And maybe it'll help everyone a bit if it's not at the Burrow. Make sure to let Lunes know she's invited, too.

Is Mum doing any better?



 [alt_ginny](#) at **2014-08-11 22:17:24**

Re: Private messaget to Gin

Thank you. Did you let Honoria know?

Mum's about the same. Says she's coming tonight, at least.




 [alt_gredforge](#) at **2014-08-11 23:51:40**

Re: Private messaget to Gin

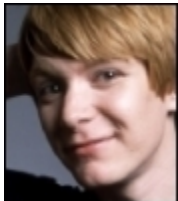
Yes, we did send her an owl. Haven't heard a reply, but we hope she'll be here.




 [alt_ginny](#) at [2014-08-11 22:18:47](#)

Re: Private message to Gin

And Luna was here earlier, I let her know.



 [alt_george](#) at [2014-08-11 11:46:07](#)


Order Only: Private message to Pansy Parkinson

You'll stick around, too, yeah? And make sure Sally-Anne knows she's invited, too.

As far as I'm concerned, you're family, too. And the more of us there are, the more it might actually feel like a party.

Thanks for suggesting having it here. You're right, Hitty's over the moon at the idea.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2014-08-11 14:17:37](#)

Re: Order Only: Private message to Pansy Parkinson


I think I

Hitty seems to enjoy parties so very much, we might throw her one to celebrate something or another.

The anniversary of her contract at Whizbang's, perhaps.

And of course I'll be there. Sally-Anne too.



 [alt_bill](#) at [2014-08-11 11:47:49](#)

Happy birthday, Ginny

I'll see you tonight.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2014-08-11 15:47:37](#)

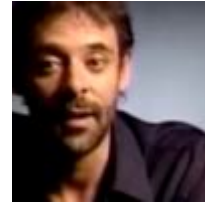
(no subject)

Many happy returns, Ginny!

[2014-08-12 09:10:00](#)


Private message to Mr Finch-Fletchley

In a perfect storm of setbacks, all three of my morning appointments have cancelled on me. Would you care for a run at the Ourobours? If you are not yet tired of me monopolising your time this summer, of course, and if Pontner has not been giving you trouble about all the time I have claimed you for.



 **[alt_antonin](#)**



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2014-08-12 14:32:48](#)**
(no subject)


Headm Prof Antonin,

Oh, I say, that would be splendid. I'm certain Mr Pontner won't object; the only excitement here this week has been a communiqué from ?????? and our well feeble attempts to translate it. I daresay the lads will be relieved if I brought along my working copy and returned with an idiomatic rendition, what.

I've also been fascinated by the palimpsest you recommended from the Aqaba dig. The section on family lines and transfer of patriarchal wards had me thinking of the Weasleys rather a lot. I had a question regarding one of the blood-bond terms, however, as I'm not sure it's the original text or the overlaid one that has been the subject of so much review. I had planned to wait until Thursday to ask but perhaps one could resolve the matter this morning, if there's time.

-Finch-Fletchley




 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2014-08-12 14:42:11](#)**
(no subject)

I must say, your handwriting is improving in leaps and bounds. ???? ????? -- and yes, of course I will help with your translation. (Particularly since if they are writing in Arabic it is undoubtedly an attempt to sneak something by you; I know full well that everyone in that office speaks and writes English perfectly fluently.)

And if I am to be your office's secret weapon and your magister as well, I'll reserve our usual table for lunch afterwards, then -- bring the text, if you have it readily to hand; I have not read it recently enough to be able to call the exact phrasings to mind. And I did remember the reference I was thinking of on Sunday -- I'll bring that as well.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2014-08-12 15:00:22](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you; I've been working through the exercise books every day. One would think good penmanship an advantage but there are certain strokes one must almost unlearn for the proper flourishes. It's dashed bewildering.


Yes, I've got the palimpsest with me. I confess I keep puzzling over it and wishing I had access to the original. Pity that a research expedition to ?????? is well unlikely, what.

Lunch would be most kind. I'm well willing to forgo the canteen, particularly as Derrick just dropped by to mention that the special today is some sort of casserole.

Right, I'll just pop home for a change of robes and I shall see you in a moment.

-F-F



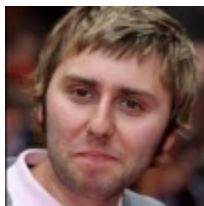
 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2014-08-12 15:15:11](#)**
(no subject)


You may always feel free to inquire about lunch when the alternative would be eating in the Ministry canteen. As far as I am concerned, that is cruel and unusual torture.

(In all seriousness: as the beginning of the academic year approaches, I am spending most days at Hogwarts, and I am certain the elves would be happy to feed you as well. A pleasant hour's lunch and discussion of your studies would be an anodyne to some of the more tedious details of the Headmaster's role. I am otherwise spoken for on Fridays, but aside from that, you may feel free to invite yourself at any time; I will not need more than

an hour's notice or so.)

And I keep meaning to mention -- while I will happily stand as your sponsor at Ourobours in a year or two, doing so now would bring even more attention in your direction, and that sort of attention would not be the respect you have already earned with your skill, if you follow my meaning. Still: as a member I am entitled to more space in the changing-rooms than I am using, if you would like to store some of your things there and save yourself the trouble of a trip back to your apartment in the middle of the day.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-12 22:22:01](#)
(no subject)

Sir,

I thought you might like to know that Mr Pontner's quite pleased with the translation. He even mentioned it was well worth releasing me for half the day with these results, what.


I do hope Mr Rowle was satisfied by the second run. I say, it crossed my mind to let him go ahead at the hairpin turning on the theory that he might take the full brunt of the Limbo Mist. I'd quite expected him to try the same tactic, what, so it was well surprising that he cast a flashpoint hex just at that moment. But after that, one could hardly loiter about nor pause to ascertain his status without giving a different sort of offence.

All of which merely reinforces your assessment, of course, that one needs no further notoriety at this time. Given Mr Rowle's position at the Ministry, however, one wonders why he wasn't himself more familiar with the layout of that particular course. Perhaps someone in a position of more equality could suggest that he ought to have chosen a different strategy?

Thank you again for lunch, and the offer to employ the elves in future. I must say it will be a welcome relief to both stomach and stipend. I trust that your preparations for Hogwarts will not be disrupted by my presence. Might one inquire as to your progress?

-F-F



 **alt_antonin** at [2014-08-13 12:24:20](#)
(no subject)

Oh, excellent. And I am glad you brought it to me: as I suspected, that section about the proposed tariffs was just idiomatic enough that if you'd relied on dictionary translation or upon someone who is not fluent, you would have arrived at an incorrect sense of the meaning. Quite deliberately so, one supposes; I trust Pontner is taking that into account.

There is, I'm afraid, no telling Rowle anything; he will do what he will do. (Although I cannot imagine what he was thinking either; I can only assume he is more accustomed to the Aurors' training course, and did not anticipate the obstacle.) That was good thinking on your part, though; your tactical thinking has grown quite sophisticated. It's good for all of us to have unfamiliar opponents occasionally -- prevents us from growing too complacent.

And having you join me at Hogwarts for lunch would be a good excuse to remember to eat lunch myself, not an imposition. The elves do remind me, but their tendency towards deference does keep them from insisting. Things are well in hand for the beginning of the year, but there are dreadfully so many details to see to. I am at least comforted that you all will give me a bit of leeway if things are a bit chaotic for the first few weeks of term!

Speaking of term, however: I did not remember to bring this up with you in person, but I would like to discuss your work in class. Which is uniformly excellent, do not get me wrong, but I know we have spoken about your group work, and the percentage of it you were responsible for. We will spend part of the year working collectively again -- the first major module of the year will be on formal ritual magics and cooperative casting -- and if it were not necessary to have at least two people working in concert for most of the techniques we will be studying, I would suggest that you work alone so that you would not need to either hold yourself back to the pace of the rest of the group or feel the need to complete the lion's share of the work yourself.

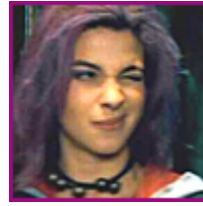
Still: I must ask you to hold back your natural perfectionist

tendencies and allow the remainder of your group, whether you continue working with Miss Patil and Messrs Finnigan and Zabini or form a new working group, to stand or fall on their own merits. It did not escape me how much of your group's final project you completed, and while the work was excellent and the other members of your group had the distraction of the competition for Our Lord's favour to consider, I would rather see matters distributed more equitably next year. (Your own marks will not suffer for it; that much I can promise you.)

2014-08-13 09:05:00

Order Only

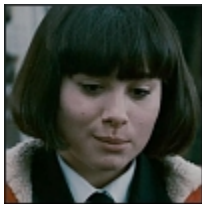
Have to say thank you to all the 'big girls' for being so sweet to Bea Monday night. She wasn't the slightest bit cranky waking up after her late night, and even today she's still talking about 'Ginger W' and her Cousin Hydra and Hermione's clever tricks with the salt and Pansy's joke about the pig and how Daphne showed her how to make different hats from a napkin (and let me tell you how little she thought of her Pa's efforts in that regard when she got him trying to make them--I was clever enough not to be asked!) But I have to say: Luna and Evelyn won top honours for knowing just the right things to say to Miss Albia about her Big Summer Project. We haven't had an accident in two nights nor the whole day between! We have talked about it a very great deal, if you can imagine.




 [alt_nymphadora](#)

Anywiz, it was awfully jolly to have you all here. Last night was dull and draggy by comparison.

And, Ginny, I hope we got your new year off to an auspicious start. Best wishes for all that it holds!



 [alt_pansy](#) at **2014-08-13 14:34:31**
(no subject)

It was wonderful fun, Tonks. I don't think I've laughed that hard in a good long while.




 [alt_nymphadora](#) at **2014-08-13 16:04:45**
(no subject)

Is it as bad as all that? I'd have thought spending time with George Weasley would mean lots of good laughs.

We're not supposed to be pretending we haven't noticed about the two of you, are we? 'Merlin save me from hoards of red-headed babies!!' I think you've rather let the cat out of the bag, there. (Still the funniest line of the night, that!)

And it was brilliant fun. I'm so glad you lot came round here when you'd done at the shop.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2014-08-13 18:44:43](#)
(no subject)


He is rather hilarious, yes. There is something to be said for the level of silliness that you can only reach when a three year old earnestly wants to learn about one's experiences with poo, though.



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2014-08-13 20:16:15](#)
(no subject)

So entirely true!



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2014-08-13 22:34:42](#)
(no subject)

She was quite serious, wasn't she? I'm so glad her project has been going well.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2014-08-14 02:28:27](#)
(no subject)


So are we.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2014-08-14 02:56:43](#)
(no subject)

It was a really different sort of experience, being with other witches like that. Socially, I mean.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2014-08-14 04:52:37](#)
(no subject)


Different in a good way, I hope.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2014-08-14 15:41:02](#)
(no subject)

Well, it was pleasant, of course. But then I don't really have a basis for comparison, is what I'm saying. I've never had girl friends, and it's not as if wizards sit round with a girl talking about boys or cycles or lacy pants versus plain ones.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2014-08-14 20:14:47](#)
(no subject)

Point!



 [alt_nymphadora](#) at [2014-08-14 20:42:55](#)
(no subject)

Hm.

Depends on the wizards, yeah?

2014-08-14 22:23:00

Private Message to A Dolohov

Apologise I haven't been home. Only just finishing here.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Hope you've been on tenterhooks all afternoon and evening. What you deserve for putting wandplay with rugrats above all else. (Reasonably impressed with his skill, by the way. Amazing what you manage to create ex nihilo--but surely you could have dismissed him when I arrived?)

Speaking of your reputation for raising warriors from lumps of clay, beginning to regret OL's confidence in your ability to train ANY raw material, properly alive or not. No doubt, He'll be setting you on toddlers and squibs next, to raise yet another flank of defenders. Unless, of course, we fail altogether with this current lot.

Outcome still uncertain, but DID have minor breakthrough this morning. Held them in place for half-minute duration several times before the command failed. Mind you, when it did fail, managed narrowest of escapes. Consider we must be on the right path finally with this combination of Impellants. Could feel the effect as soon as I began the incantation. Shame it takes so long to weave this one. Not nearly so fiddly as the last, though, so there's that.

Have several ideas for variants you ought to try if you're able to get there tomorrow. May be able to go with you if you wait for Saturday.

Will be along shortly, but won't disturb you if you're meditating.

2014-08-15 15:06:00

Private Message to Mum and Dad

Yes, I will take Jasper to New London tomorrow to get his Hogwarts things. I'm sure he will enjoy another chance to pester me with questions (Yes Mum, I have not told him how Sorting works, though I think we all know he's ending up Hufflepuff, sorry Mum). As promised I will not get him a broom of any stripe and will keep his familiar choice reasonable.



 [alt_cedric](#)

I'll Floo in to pick him up late morning and we should be back around tea time. Especially with Headmaster Dolohov not in today I'm up to my ears in parchmentwork for the start of term, so I don't know when I'll be done tonight. Which should sufficiently explain not coming down tonight and the late morning.

2014-08-16 09:28:00

Private message to Daphne Greengrass

YES!!!!



 **alt_daphne**

2014-08-16 11:28:00

Order Only: Private Message to Sally-Anne and Hydra



 [alt_justin](#)

Hullo,


Marks arrived here with the morning post. Have you got yours yet? Hydra, were your O.W.L.s what you expected?

Sally-Anne, I don't know if he did in yours as well, but Headmaster Dolohov included a well brief note in my letter, congratulating us on coming in first in the class. We've tied, it seems. Well done, you!

I say, I hope that Moon being Head Boy means that Professor Dolohov has appointed Daphne and not Patil as Head Girl. I, er, may have mentioned to him once or twice how happy I was last year to do Patil's and Finnigan's work for them, allowing them to focus on becoming Councilmembers. (Don't tell Daphne, though, what! If she is Head Girl, I don't wish her to think she wasn't chosen solely on her own merits--and for that matter, I've no way to know that I influenced him at all. And if she's *not* Head Girl.... Well, then my efforts made no difference, what.)

-Justin



 [alt_justin](#) at **2014-08-16 16:40:58**

Order Only: Private Message to Hydra

I miss you. I've been working so hard I barely noticed it's been over a month since your birthday.

How is training with Auror Crouch going?

He stopped by when I was with Professor Dolohov on Thursday, what, and Professor Dolohov convinced him to stay and finish the course with us. Then he proposed a round or two of sparring. Auror Crouch glowered but acquiesced and so I had a chance to test myself against him. I say, it wasn't easy, but then I never expected it to be. I believe I didn't quite embarrass myself, what, though he did win by rather a larger margin than I'd hoped.


I say, if you're holding your own against him then you're doing well

indeed.

When do you think you might get away to Diagon Alley?

-J



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2014-08-17 02:03:25](#)

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Hydra

Hello, you. I've been in the same boat.

Training has been the same, which is to say grueling. Auror Crouch isn't one to offer praise, but he will note improvements when they become fact, and then note the ways in which that improvement could be a potential disadvantage.

He is the most observant and attentive person I have ever met, and yet he somehow manages to filter through all that he observes and single out what matters most. It's a skill that's almost like legilimency. He says that it's good my legilimency didn't manifest until I was older, otherwise I would be too dependent on it, and it would be hard to teach me how to be observant in other ways. At first I wondered if that was an insult to Mummy, but then he guessed that I might be thinking that, and quickly commented that Mummy trained until she learned to use her gift to her advantage while dueling, but not lean on it exclusively. And I've got to learn to do the same, but it isn't easy. It almost makes me dizzy, sometimes. I'm not sure if I'll ever be the sort of witch who can demolish someone in a duel, but I might be able to exhaust someone to death by anticipating their every move, if I keep on at this.

I wouldn't say I'm holding my own. More like I'm just holding on. Which is what he wants. He says endurance is what I've got to focus on - both mental and physical. It's strange to be thankful to Mummy for having already prepared me in that regard.

I could ask Auror Crouch what he thought of you, but he might find it strange. Perhaps I can bring it up in some other context.

I'm not sure what he has planned for me in this next week, but I can let you know when I do.

It would be nice to be together before school starts.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-17 02:44:55](#)

Re: Order Only: Private Message to Hydra

Yes, I found him rather--relentless.

I've been helping Ron and his mother with all the correspondence and condolences and so on. I say, it was well gratifying to be useful to them after Percy's murder. I still go over to Mrs Weasley's New London home every week to watch out for anything new. It's quite draining, though in a different way to meeting with Headmaster Dolohov altogether.

Oh, and he's invited me to lunch with him throughout the rest of the summer. I'm well happy to do it since I'm afraid I've been spending a bit too much in the canteen and I'm bally well tired of sandwiches, what.

I doubt Auror Crouch cares much for leisurely luncheons! But at least it means you don't have to pretend to hang on his wisdom throughout the meal.

Do let me know when you can break away. Pontner's immensely happy with my performance this summer; even if it's mid-day I'm sure I can take time to meet you. If it's after working hours that's even better, as we can get others there and it won't look suspicious.

Moon as Head Boy, what? Almost as difficult to fathom as Professor Sinistra here in the Order.

-J




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2014-08-17 04:45:47](#)

(no subject)

Yes, I got a note, too. I showed it to Pansy.

Pretty fantastic. And Daphne DID get Head Girl, so good work cutting down Padma. Did you give him dirt on Macmillan, too? I can't for the life of me figure out why he'd have picked Moon.

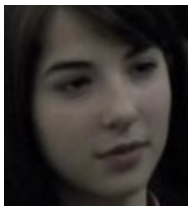


 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-17 14:25:16](#)
(no subject)

Sally-Anne, please, I thought you knew me better than that, what! I've never said a word against anyone to him, least of all Ernie. All I said was that I'd been more than happy to help Padma with our assignments, since she was so preoccupied with the far greater task of proving her worth to Our Lord. Padma was only taking advantage of my generosity in allowing me to write her homework for her.

As for Moon, you and I are not Professor Dolohov's only favourites. Moon's a particular project of his, as well. He's got quite a gift for analysis and one imagines Professor Dolohov sees other advantages in keeping him close. At any rate, Moon may be ill-suited for Head Boy but he shan't be a disaster, what--I mean to say, I very much doubt he'll interfere with anything we might need to do next year, if you follow me. I'd much rather cope with foolishness than malice.

-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2014-08-17 04:47:00](#)
(no subject)

Oh, and well done to you, too.

I wonder where Draco would've been in the standings, if things hadn't....well, and you know, Hermione would leave us all in the dust, if she were allowed to be a student at the school.



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2014-08-17 19:40:20](#)
(no subject)

I'm sure Draco is wondering the same thing.

Oh, and Justin, I forgot to answer your question:

I passed my OWL exams with all "O"s, which I ought to be over the moon about, but of course I know that I wouldn't have pulled off such a feat if I hadn't used my legilimency.

[2014-08-16 11:50:00](#)

Order Only

Good news!




 **[alt_daphne](#)**

I've been named as Head Girl for the next school year. The titles have not, as we feared, gone to Seamus and Padma. Linus Moon is Head Boy, and he ought to be easy enough to work with. He's very much all bluster and Byron, but is decidedly *not* someone who will go around Cruciating firsties. The worst I anticipate from him is getting in the way. Oh, and the fact that Padma has a history of manipulating him for her own agenda is something else to watch out for, to say nothing of his boot-licking worship of Headmaster Dolohov. If I can stay on good terms with Padma, then hopefully Moon's friendship with her won't be a problem.


One thing I am uncertain about is what role Head Boy and Girl will fill now that three (student) council members will be at school? Surely they must outrank the Head Boy and Head Girl, but to what extent are they expected to enforce school rules and policy? Hydra, do you know? If not, I suppose this is probably a good question to bring to the Headmaster.



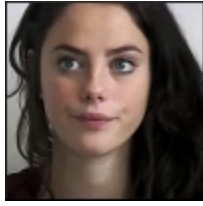
 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2014-08-16 18:02:44](#)**
(no subject)


I think the sooner we sort that out, the better. And I think Dolohov would support you, to a point. Not sure what he'd do if council business overlapped, like it did with Sophie, though.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2014-08-16 18:03:32](#)**
(no subject)


And I can do some things on my end, too.



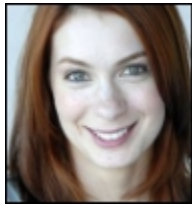
 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2014-08-16 18:05:45](#)**
(no subject)


I shall write to him later today with my questions and concerns, and let you all know what his response is.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2014-08-16 18:05:15](#)**
(no subject)


And really, that is very good news. Well done.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-17 02:38:06](#)**
(no subject)

Well done indeed!




 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2014-08-16 18:15:52](#)**
(no subject)

I really don't like how poetic and over-wrought Moon is, so I was kind of mean to him.

It's just irritating to see someone so far removed from reality.

I'm glad that the Head Girl is one of us. Congratulations, Daphne.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-16 18:28:31](#)**
(no subject)

Congratulations, indeed.

As to Linus Moon - oh. Well. After the fiasco with the entirely unauthorised duelling, he was serving detentions with me and with Tosha, and I spent mine attempting to introduce him to common sense in between having him help with some detailed analysis.

It is a rather large task in his case, but he does generally listen to me if I can get hold of him before he does something idiotic. It's the 'before' that's the tricky part. And the part where he is easily lead by the things he thinks praiseworthy.

He is excellent at - and easily absorbed by - detailed analysis, so if you wish him to not interfere in something, coming up with a project that requires focused attention to minute details would do nicely.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2014-08-16 18:38:04](#)**

(no subject)

I'm sorry to insult a student you think highly of, Professor Sinistra. But the way he presents himself is truly difficult to take seriously, at times; it's one thing to adopt a certain persona for the stage or for subterfuge, and quite another to adopt it for the sake of self-delusion. If he can be distracted from acting out in ways that contribute to his delusions of grandeur, all the better. I shall keep your advice readily in mind!



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-16 18:48:37](#)**

(no subject)

One of the things I've learned over the years is that people are complicated. I can admire (and make use of) Linus's analytical skills while entirely agreeing that how he comes across is rather difficult at times. And likely to cause him trouble. And on the whole, I prefer a world where we as staff don't get to make students into our image of the perfect person, even if it would solve certain problems.


Linus does have a good heart under there, even if it's rather buried by flowery language and a lack of understanding of the world much of the time. That's more than you can say of rather a number of our recent Head Boys and Girls.

While I'm reminded of it, though - there are some plans for the coming year I was meaning to ask if you'd be interested in helping with. A series of lectures from artists, writers, people in theatre and the other performing arts. We've put out some initial invitations, but there'll be more to come. If you think it's too much, perhaps you might suggest someone suitable to help? (It'd likely

mean a few meetings, and then helping out when the actual events take place, nothing too tedious.)

I'll say here that I have a rather freer hand with deciding who to invite than I did with the YPL, so I have reason to hope it will be along the line of the better of those kinds of things, rather than the horrible ones.




 **alt_daphne** at **2014-08-16 21:27:14**
(no subject)

Of course people are complicated. And it's assuring to hear that you believe Moon to be inherently good of heart. I commiserate with Hydra's perception of him as untroubled by the larger miseries of this world, but indeed, one of the reasons Mrs Longbottom felt that I would be of use to the Order was my potential to reach out to people in such 'untroubled' positions. By working closely with Moon, perhaps I'll have better opportunity to make him more aware of the Protectorate's more diabolical features.

I would be delighted to assist you in your Lecture Series! While it's true that I will be busy this year, in the past I've never let that stop me from taking on more than I can handle.




 **alt_justin** at **2014-08-16 20:58:22**
(no subject)

Daphne,

Congratulations and, may I say, it's by far the right choice to name you. Here's hoping you can keep Moon's effusive obliviousness at bay and that Patil's self-centred absorption remains entirely ineffectual.

-Justin




 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-16 21:32:29](#)
(no subject)

Thank you, Justin.

Oh, I think we can do more than just hope. Let us count the number of people I have on my/our side: the Lord Protector's son; a councilwitch who is also a legilimens; the students with whom the Headmaster works most closely; prefects who are also in the Order.. oh, and so many others. And, most importantly, people generally LIKE me. Most people don't actually like Padma, they just don't want her to *dislike* them.




 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-16 23:33:47](#)
(no subject)

Ha, well, I don't think anyone much enjoys being *disliked*--I say, apart from perhaps Auror Crouch and his ilk, what--but yes, I take your meaning!

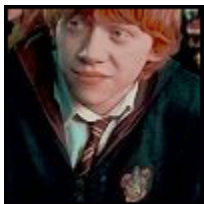
Let us say, then, that one hopes you will draw on your considerable resources, including any or all of us, if ever they begin to present problems.


-J



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2014-08-17 18:43:22](#)
(no subject)

Hear hear!




 [alt_ron](#) at [2014-08-17 03:34:11](#)
(no subject)

Good show, you!

That's really the best news all summer. Maybe this year won't be a dead loss after all. Anywiz, you'll be brilliant.



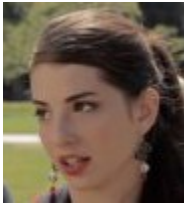
 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-17 18:15:58](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, Ron.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2014-08-17 04:48:03](#)
(no subject)

Congratulations, Daphne!




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2014-08-17 04:50:53](#)
Private message to Daphne

MOON. Really? WHY ON EARTH?

If he decided Finnigan couldn't be Head Boy because of Council obligations or the fact that he's a half-blood....I'd think it was that he loathed Hufflepuffs but he hired Cedric as his assistant! Siz seems to think Moon's quietly brilliant and good-hearted but SURELY if asked her opinion she'd have put in a good word for the prefects from HER OWN HOUSE?




 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-17 18:15:38](#)
Re: Private message to Daphne

The minds of our Headmaster and the Governors work in mysterious ways?

Though that notion makes me feel less pleased about my own appointment.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2014-08-17 18:30:47](#)
(no subject)

Good.

You heartily deserve it.

[2014-08-16 12:14:00](#)

Awakening to our duties!

As newest in an illustrious line of Head Boys, I exhort us all to say with the poet:



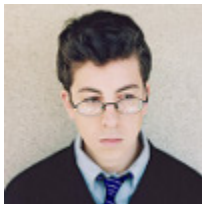
"I slept and dreamt that life was beauty; I woke and found that life was duty."


 [alt_linus](#)

Truly, both our duty and our dreams will be necessary to make of ourselves what our Protectorate needs, and to make of our Protectorate what Our Lord desires. It is our dearest duty to fulfill His dreams, that we may one day awaken to a world filled with the best and most beautiful works of witches and wizards, a world of magic and might.

I know all of you are as excited about this as I. Duty and dreams! Let this our watchword be, as forward we go into this glorious year.

Excelsior!



 [alt_linus](#) at **[2014-08-16 16:59:18](#)**

Private message to Daphne, or should I rather say Head Girl Greengrass

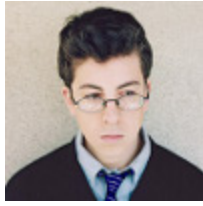
Felicitations on being elevated to the sublime rank of one responsible for the comportment and conduct of our fellow students! I have no doubt that you shall fulfill the role with your customary and celebrated dramatic flair and aplomb.



 [alt_daphne](#) at **[2014-08-16 17:48:56](#)**

Re: Private message to Daphne, or should I rather say Head Girl Greengrass

Comportment and conduct? Well, yes, I suppose that's one way to look at it. But congratulations to you, Linus, and I look forward to working with you this year. It may be wise to meet in New London before the Hogwarts Express leaves from Kings Cross, if your schedule will allow for it.



 **[alt_linus](#) at 2014-08-16 18:20:29**

Re: Private message to Daphne, or should I rather say Head Girl Greengrass

All lambs need a shepherd, after all, and we have a few particularly light-minded lambs gamboling in the meadows of learning at Hogwarts.

Most certainly, we have a great deal to discuss. Plans and schedules and patrols and how we may yet assist in the most glorious of duties. I am as yet exceedingly occupied with my internship in Magical Transportation, but perhaps some evening this coming week?

On that note, Professors Dolohov and Sinistra have impressed upon me the importance of attentive guidance. I have already drafted a set of interactive parchments tracking the performance of all students, and am quite looking forward to employing them as the year progresses.



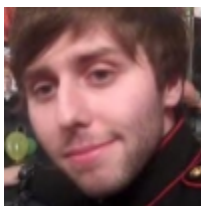
 **[alt_daphne](#) at 2014-08-16 18:42:59**

Re: Private message to Daphne, or should I rather say Head Girl Greengrass

It would seem that our Hogwarts Founders decided that these lambs you speak of need *two* shepherds: one to wield the crook, and the other to let them out of the gate every once and a while. After all, the suggestion of generosity and benevolence can inspire where the sting of the crook cannot.

The tracking parchments sound fascinating. An excellent project for you to invest in for the sake of the students' progression.

I word with Gerald late on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but am free most other evenings, given advance notice.



 **[alt_justin](#) at 2014-08-16 17:03:54**

(no subject)

Moon,


Congratulations, to you and Miss Greengrass. Jolly

good show, both of you.

I'm well certain with Headmaster Dolohov's leadership and the two of you in charge of our Prefects, we shall be well tended this year.


-Finch-Fletchley



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-16 17:50:08](#)
(no subject)

Cheers, F-F. I agree with your optimistic outlook!



 [alt_linus](#) at [2014-08-16 17:42:20](#)
Private message to my sweetest Lavender

Fairest flower of grace and beauty!


When next you have a few free hours, might I escort you to the glittering New London watering hole of your choice, that we might rejoice as befits my new estate?

Truly, as Byron says, "All who joy would win must share it. Happiness was born a twin." I cannot think of anyone in the world, nay, the universe, with whom I would rather share the celebration of such a signal honour.

I shall strive to make Professor Dolohov proud, and to be ever worthy of you, my dearest and most exquisite Lavender.


Oh! My heart is too full to speak. At this rate I shall have to resort to a calming glass of warm milk as in days of old!



 [alt_harry](#) at [2014-08-16 17:54:52](#)
(no subject)

Congratulations to the both of you.

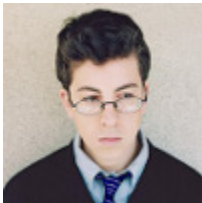



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2014-08-16 18:14:05](#)**
(no subject)

We are already living in a world filled with the best and most beautiful works of witches and wizards, unless you see the Protectorate as flawed in some way. The only flaw is found in those who deny their duty in upholding the continuation of the Protectorate's might and glory.

But I'm sure you weren't intending it that way and merely wrote without thinking.


Congratulations, at any rate. May your future contributions be scrupulous and well informed.



 **[alt_linus](#)** at **[2014-08-16 23:15:48](#)**
(no subject)


Ah, but until the whole world enjoys the freedoms and opportunities available to those of us fortunate enough to reside in the Protectorate, can we truly say dreams are fulfilled?



 **[alt_cedric](#)** at **[2014-08-17 02:03:27](#)**
(no subject)

Congratulations and welcome to our Brotherhood! It's a well deserved honor.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2014-08-17 03:27:26](#)**
(no subject)

Congratulations, Lines and Daphs.

It's good to know that you two will be looking out for the young ones, especially since I'm sure you'll be an excellent source of support to the Council in the coming years, as well.



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2014-08-17 18:29:41](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you, Padma. I will of course support the Council in any way that I am needed.

[2014-08-16 12:56:00](#)

Private Message to Daphs

I *knew* it! Congratulations, Daphs. You'll make a brilliant Head Girl.



 [alt_pansy](#)



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-16 18:04:12](#)

(no subject)

Thank you, Pansy!

Oh, you needn't be coy with me. I know you're just *dying* to see how Padma reacts to this. Knowing her, however, she'll come up with the perfect justification for why I was chosen over her, and that shall prevent her from doing any actual soul-searching--you know, the sort that might lead her to the revelation that she's kind of a bint.



 [alt_pansy](#) at [2014-08-16 18:11:21](#)

(no subject)

blah blah.

Hah! Yes, of course, I can't wait to see how she'll explain this away. A knut says she'll conclude that of course, council membership is ever so much more important, she's got bigger things to focus on, blah

And she might make your job trickier, but we're all giving to be so much better off with you having a wand in things than if she was running the whole bloody business.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-16 18:47:50](#)

(no subject)

Yes, that's precisely the sort of thinking I can envision her soothing her wounds with.

I think she'll be more disappointed about losing out to Head Girl than she would have been if she'd lost out to the council. As far as I know she never really had any aspirations about being marked, but she's been dreaming of being Head Girl

since the day she was born, practically.

She may not take this loss well at all, but if she falls apart visibly, she'll look weak to her other council members. That's a rotten position to be in. I almost feel badly for her.

But then I remember that I'm Head Girl, and I don't!

2014-08-16 19:44:00

ORDER ONLY

So.


I am a prefect, apparently.

Daphne, I'm so very glad you're our Head Girl.



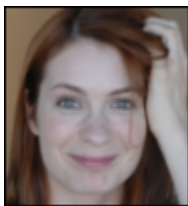
 [alt_evelyn](#)




 [alt_frank](#) at [2014-08-17 03:31:30](#)

(no subject)

congratulations, sweetie



 [alt_alice](#) at [2014-08-17 03:32:31](#)

(no subject)

Well! You and Neville will just have to come over for Sunday dinner so we can celebrate!



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-17 18:13:37](#)

(no subject)

And I'm glad that you'll be a prefect. I should caution you, though, that Astoria's been made a prefect, too. She'll no doubt be mad with power and now you'll have to associate with her more frequently than before. Just hex her with something ugly if she bothers you - that always works for me. Boils are especially effective.



 [alt_evelyn](#) at [2014-08-17 18:40:18](#)

(no subject)

I shall certainly keep that in mind. Fitz and Forney are the other two girl prefects, and they're both friends, so we ought to be able to keep her in line.

Fitz is a galleoner, so you can trust her a great deal if you need to. Forney is a little trickier, though, because of her mum.

2014-08-16 22:19:00

Private message to Padma Patil



LINUS MOON?


Is this Dolohov's idea of a fucking JOKE?

And Daphne Greengrass?

 [alt_seamus](#)

UGH.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2014-08-17 03:37:37**
(no subject)

Have you congratulated them? I was going to wait for a while longer but now that you've sent a private message to me I *had* to say something to them. You realise everyone is going to assume that we're licking our wounds?

Anyway.

It was sort of hard to believe at first. I mean, it's obviously all out of order because of what happened to Malfoy. They couldn't make Blaise Head Boy, they didn't want to bother Marvolo with it, and Teds is gone, and Greg and Vince really *are* jokes, so....


I can almost understand why he'd choose Daphs. We did talk about the possibility that they wouldn't give us Head Boy and Girl on top of the Council, and honestly, you were right that being on the Council is far more important in comparison.

But--

Lines is going to be *awful*. I just can't understand why it went to him and not you or even Macmillan.

You don't suppose his father pulled strings to get him appointed, and then they couldn't have a Head Girl in Ravenclaw, too?



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2014-08-17 04:39:46](#)**
(no subject)


I congratulated them by owl.

I didn't ever expect to be Head Boy; I just assumed it would be Draco, for our year. But then -- well, Macmillan would've been fine. I'd have been disappointed, but he's a Pureblood, you know?

Linus is a Pureblood but he's also a complete -- well, I should probably just leave it. He's a friend of yours too.


But he's utterly unsuited to be Head Boy.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2014-08-17 04:41:32](#)**
(no subject)

Did you see Dolohov's note? He says he didn't think we'd have time, between NEWTs and Council obligations.




 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2014-08-17 04:45:00](#)**
(no subject)

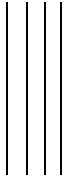
Yes. I just answered.


And you don't have to be delicate about Lines. He's a friend but he can be a total nit.



 **[alt_padma](#)** at **[2014-08-17 04:45:48](#)**
(no subject)

Maybe I should tell Harry to tell Linus he has to give up Byron.



 **[alt_seamus](#)** at **[2014-08-17 04:52:22](#)**
(no subject)

Ha. Do you think it would help any?

2014-08-17 00:18:00

Private message to Padma and Seamus

I see that the announcements of Head Boy and Head Girl have gone out. I apologise profusely; I meant to write you both before the news was released, and time got away from me.




 [alt_antonin](#)

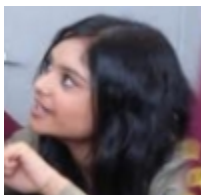
Of course you both were in very close contention for the roles, and -- had you not been chosen for Our Lord's Council-- the decision would likely have looked quite different. I have seen firsthand, however, the overwork that happens when students in their NEWT year are entered into Our Lord's service, and to add the duties of Head Boy or Head Girl atop those conflicting obligations would be doing you a great disservice. Despite that, I did agonise over the decision, as you might suspect from how late in the summer the announcement letters were sent.


I do hope that we can work together for the good of the school in the coming year nonetheless.



 [alt_seamus](#) at **2014-08-17 04:40:33**
(no subject)

Of course, sir.



 [alt_padma](#) at **2014-08-17 04:42:39**
(no subject)

Antonin,

Of course, it's understandable that you would want to spare us the triviality of concerns that must occupy the Head Students. I am sure Daphs will bring just the right sense of motherly care to our charges. She excels at taking in strays that way.

I must admit I have reservations about Linus but please rest assured that I will continue to guide him in any matters of navigation he may find difficult. I remain quite mindful of your trust in asking him to turn to me as his model for such things.

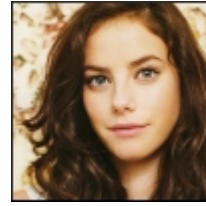
I can't pretend it wasn't a blow but, as service to Our Lord is ever so

much more prestigious and represents so much more commitment, I am confident the temporary sting will fade quickly.

Regardless of title, I remain a Prefect and you have my full support throughout the coming year.

2014-08-17 12:16:00

Private Message to Headmaster Dolohov



 **alt_daphne**

Headmaster,

I am pleased and honoured that you, the Hogwarts' staff, and the Board of Governors have selected me to fill the role of Head Girl for the upcoming school year. I assure you that I endeavour to serve the school and the student body to the very best of my abilities. Indeed, this is truly the happiest news I've had in a summer that has, for reasons I can scarcely fathom, seen fit to deliver one blow after another.

Now, it goes without saying that the dynamics at the school will be greatly different come Autumn, with you as our new Headmaster and various new staff hires, to say nothing of the three schoolmates who also now serve on our Lord's council. With such changes I can only expect some correlating shift in the hierarchy of power, discipline, and mentorship. As such, I would very much appreciate hearing your thoughts on what this shift might entail, so that I can better prepare myself to perform in a way that best suits the goals of both the school and the Protectorate.

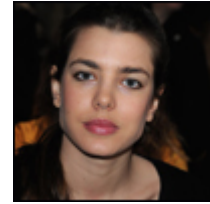
Again, thank you for both your time and your trust in my abilities.

Sincerely,
Daphne G. Greengrass

2014-08-17 14:04:00

Private Message to Daphne Greengrass and Linus Moon


Congratulations to you both on this well-deserved honour. Headmaster Dolohov is a wise man with an educator's keen sense of what will best serve the school: I hope you appreciate what a significant compliment it is to have been selected by him for this role.



 [alt_lana](#)


Bravo! And best luck!



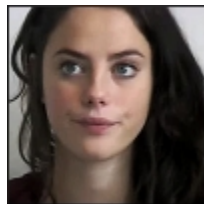
 [alt_daphne](#) at **2014-08-17 19:22:47**
(no subject)


Thank you, Auror Sandolval-Pennifold. It's very kind of you to extend your congratulations and well-wishes.



 [alt_lana](#) at **2014-08-17 21:20:32**
(no subject)


We're a bit of an elite club, Head Girls. Sarah, Siobhan, Melinda and I would like to take you for lunch before school begins. Would next Wednesday or Thursday be possible for you?



 [alt_daphne](#) at **2014-08-18 13:57:46**
(no subject)

Thursday would suit me well, thank you. I'm quite keen to hear all the advice and wisdom your club can provide me with. Elsie has also told me that there's some sort of book awaiting me at school, where each Head Girl before me has written a letter to her successor--that shall certainly be interesting! I very much look forward flipping back several years to see what each Head Girl wrote. Can one even read back to the very early years of Hogwarts, do you know?



 [alt_lana](#) at [2014-08-18 22:31:04](#)
(no subject)

Oh, by the way, we've asked Urquhart along for Thursday luncheon. She rather spoiled the surprise by telling you about the book. Anywiz, it's true. Dates back to 1600 or so. Mostly naff, you know--just people saying, 'Best wishes as you take up the reins,' and 'Trust you know how honoured you should feel,' or 'Hope the firsties don't drive you round the twist!' I tried to say a bit more, but, of course, it's hard to avoid saying some of that.

The best is reading back to the early ones. Like Alice Hewitt's, which was about looking sharp when visiting the village, to keep the students safe from King James's witch hunters. And then the next year the Head Girl laughs it off as a fun game to play, teasing the witch hunters, but says that what's really important is to be sure that Hogwarts students don't get a reputation for playing at cards or dice in the public houses when they go into Hogsmeade.

You'll quickly get the impression that It's Always Something, and, of course, it is.

2014-08-17 14:10:00

Private Message to Sarah Yaxley and Rachel Lamont



 [alt_lana](#)

Well. It's done. I still think I may be mad to have said I'd do it, but there it is. I've said yes to Dolohov and sent Hopkirk my request to be placed on extra-departmental duty. She's already granted it for Desai and told me verbally there's no question I'll be given the same assurances.

But, ugh. I can't tell you how many people have made it clear they think it's a sign I didn't have the spine for our work or that they think I'm making a stupid mistake. Montague. Honestly, Sarah, what did you ever see in him? What a prick. Said he expected I'd do something like this when I didn't earn a better placement. As if Braithewaite's group is third-rate? I mean, it's true I'd hoped to be taken up by Crouch or Travers. (Or Lestrangle, but we all know she never takes entry-level talent. I'll show them, though, when I come back and earn a spot with her.)

And now I'm in a complete whirl, trying to sort out what I'll need for teaching, and how we're going to manage with my moving. Ned's decided he doesn't want to close up the house, and he's saying we'll see how it goes about his coming with. I don't think he likes the idea of being at school without being on staff. And maybe he's right that it would be too odd.

I'm going to miss New London terribly. I keep hearing about all sorts of shows and openings I won't be able to make. I know I'll be home some weekends, but I expect that preparing for the week will take most of my energy.

I really must have lost my mind to be doing this. But then I think about studying with Dolohov--and that he invited me--and it seems like the best of all possible dreams!



 [alt_lana](#) at **2014-08-17 20:00:46**


Private Message to Sarah Yaxley

You know how dull Johns got when she settled for teaching. Ugh. I keep trying to imagine how I'll fit in with the rest of the staff up there. Thank Morgana

Desai's said she'll teach. And there's Antosha. But... long staff meetings with Sprout and Acton and Sinistra?

If I take up knitting, I want you to take me out on Westminster bridge, petrify me, and push me off.




 **[alt_rachel](#)** at **[2014-08-17 21:23:42](#)**
(no subject)

I really don't think you'll regret it. In the long term, at least. Personal study with Antonin Dolohov! To Mastery! No one will ever be able to take *that* away from you.

(In the short term, you may have second thoughts every time you have to answer an idiotic question from a Hufflepuff third-year! And staff meetings...well, maybe they won't be quite as bad as you imagine? Dolohov will be running them, yes?)




 **[alt_lana](#)** at **[2014-08-17 21:37:58](#)**
(no subject)

I know. Third-years! Honestly.

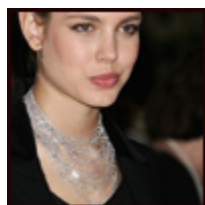
I trust Antosha will run a tight agenda. I can't imagine him letting anyone dither on too long, but, you know, there's a reason old McGonagall took to drink.




 **[alt_rachel](#)** at **[2014-08-17 21:47:19](#)**
(no subject)

Too true!


I wonder if the house-elves bring firewhiskey, if you're a professor and tell them you need a drink.



 **[alt_lana](#)** at **[2014-08-17 21:51:27](#)**
(no subject)

I imagine I'll learn the answer to that before the first week ends!




 [alt_rachel](#) at [2014-08-17 21:26:22](#)

Private message to Lana

Any thoughts on the Head Boy and Head Girl? With three Council Wizards who are also students and NOT the Head Boy and Head Girl, it seems like a situation ready-made for awkwardness.

Do you know Linus Moon at all? He's the one who asked about the use of Arithmancy in Auror work, wasn't he?



 [alt_lana](#) at [2014-08-17 21:50:43](#)

Re: Private message to Lana

I look forward to asking Antosha how he came to those decisions. I imagine, though, that he weighed Patil's academic commitments and decided not to tempt her to stretch herself too thin. Or perhaps he simply didn't want to have to add another hour a week with her to his schedule. Understandable: she can be tedious--very self-important.

And Greengrass is the right sort for managing the position under the circumstances. She knows how to soothe ruffled feathers and defuse tensions, and I feel sure she'll weather the insult if the junior Councilwizards pull rank or decide they've got impunity for whatever they might fancy doing. (And, of course, there are others of us who can step in to keep that sort of thing from going too far if it gets out of hand.) it will certainly be different this year.

Moon, though. Well, his father is a Governor, so I suppose there is a logic to it. And I hear he's devoted to Antosha, so perhaps it was a calculated decision to choose people he knows he can control. I'm certain he anticipates challenges enough for his first year at the helm.

I intend to suggest to Greengrass that she re-institute the loyalty oath I required. It was a fine tool for setting the tone and vision for the year.

[2014-08-18 17:04:00](#)

Order Only

I saw Honoria Sandoval today because we met up in New London for ice cream. I just needed to



 [alt_ginny](#)

Anyway she told me her sister Lana Sandoval-Pennifold is going to be the new Dark Arts professor. Not for the NEWT students, just all the younger ones -- Honoria was relieved about that because she says she can't imagine ANYTHING worse than having to have a class from Lana.

She was a little surprised because she doesn't think Lana will be a very good teacher (and she certainly hasn't ever acted interested in teaching!) but apparently Dolohov is going to tutor her personally in Dark Arts so she can 'have her Mastery,' what does that even mean? I mean there are standards for Mastery in Potions and that actually means something, like you're allowed to brew certain very difficult potions and people can trust them, so what's a Mastery in Dark Arts for, exactly?

Honoria had no idea but said her sister's a Ravenclaw through and through and they'll do ANYTHING for more knowledge and they'll stand on their head and whistle if that's what it takes to get a special paper saying they're the CLEVEREST AND BEST EVER. (And then she admitted Luna's nothing like that, but she thinks Luna should've been Sorted into Gryffindor with the two of us, anyway.)



 [alt_justin](#) at **[2014-08-18 22:26:36](#)**

(no subject)

Hullo, Ginny,

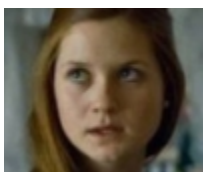
I say, I wonder how Patil will react to learning that her heroine is going to be at school, knowing all the while that she's failed to follow in Sandoval-Pennifold's footsteps!


At any rate, I can tell you that Professor Dolohov's Mastery of Noble Arts was conferred on him by the Cairo Conclave for the Noble Arts. It's one of the world's foremost bodies for study of Dark Arts, what, and it's a bally well rigorous programme, from what he's told me.

Er, he might have mentioned it once or twice in our conversations,

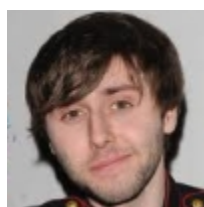
what. Though I'd no idea he had his eye on her as an apprentice. I say, Cedric, had you heard anything about that from him?


-Justin



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2014-08-19 00:23:25](#)
(no subject)

Well she followed her onto the Council, even if she didn't manage to become Head Girl. I don't know that she'll exactly think she's FAILED at anything.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-19 02:06:01](#)
(no subject)


I'm afraid you don't know Patil very well. Sad to say, I've spent more than a little time with her over the last year. I believe it's fair to say, regardless of Professor Dolohov's reasons for choosing Daphne, Padma will consider the loss as a deficiency in her record. That's not to say she might actually bally well consider *why* she wasn't selected or find any fault in herself that might *explain* the choice, what, only that she jolly well thinks of every academic position as a race, if you follow me, and that if Daphne has earned the accolade, then by definition, Padma has not won.

You're probably quite right that she is using the Council as a sop to her ego, however.

I say, she'd likely be well *furious* to discover that she wasn't the top student in the year, either, what!

-Justin



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-19 16:13:11](#)
(no subject)

Catching up - yesterday was very long.

Mastery, it depends on the field. Usually some combination of demonstrating skill and knowledge, some kind of independent research, and then a lot of convincing existing Masters in the field not to laugh you out of the room.

More complicated in this case, because there's neither an academic body for the Dark Arts here, nor a guild of any kind, but his word about her skill would do her a lot of good, obviously.

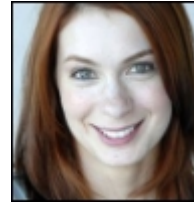
The good news is that preparing for that kind of thing is enormously time-consuming. And in very different ways than just being busy at work in the ordinary course of a job. (Working toward mine was - very all-involving, but I won't bore you with details.)

As to what it's for, well, recognition (when people could travel, that mattered a lot more, mind.) Certain rights and privileges and obligations (mine are more formal, because of the Guild, but I could - should - take an apprentice, and there are ways it gives a framework for interactions with other people in the field.)

Plus, of course, for people who really love whatever field it is, getting to spend time doing that intensively while you're training.

2014-08-19 10:50:00

ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Siz



 [alt_alice](#)

Siz,


I'm so very glad we were able to sort out your visit to Moddey and Sherwood yesterday. I hope it wasn't too overwhelming for you -- there are quite a lot of faces and names floating around, I'm sure, and our little ones do tend to swarm when there's someone new. Divyesh was absolutely thrilled about the lecture you gave on locational magics and apparation -- he's always been quite strong at maths, but we don't have anyone who specializes in astronomy and when Cecelia stops by for her occasional guest lectures, she prefers to focus more on runes than arithmancy, so we've been sorely neglecting both those areas of study, I'm afraid. (Divyesh helps us with brewing our day-to-day potions, if you'll recall.) Tim, the young man who showed us the communications network in Sherwood, was also especially keen to hear your lecture, and I'm so pleased you got a chance to see Sarah Fawcett again too.

Regina thoroughly approves of you by the way --- she's the herbologist, and tends to appreciate people with a 'firm scientific mind', as she likes to say. And you certainly seemed to hit it off with Cecelia from what I could see. I hope you don't mind my popping off to chat with Davidson while you met with her.

Arista's been peppering me with questions all morning, by the way -- I think she was intrigued by your conversation, and more than a little chuffed that you wanted to talk to her especially. Even though she didn't remember you terribly well, I think it did her good to meet someone who was friends with her mother, so thank you for that. Hector didn't have much to say about it, but he's an unflappable serious sort of boy who takes a while to chew on things before having an opinion about them.

I know you've got quite a lot brewing in your cauldron before the term begins, so thank you for stopping by, I really do appreciate your taking the time.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2014-08-19 18:52:13](#)
(no subject)

Overwhelming, yes, but you're right, it helped to see. You have a great many children there, really.


On the astronomy - I could probably manage to write up some things that'd teach the parts of my field that are actually helpful. And maybe get free sometime again to do more in person, once I can apparate again.

(I'm well aware how most people think astronomy's not relevant to much, but - oh, the reason I wanted to teach the apparition coordinates bit last night is someone reminded me this summer how useful my explanation had been to them when they needed it.)

I enjoyed Regina a lot (and I suppose for all I'm hopeless at much of herbology, I have picked up enough about gardening for food from Mum and Pomona.) I kept forgetting, she's Muggle, of course, not wizarding. And it was a pleasure to meet Cecilia, though we got into a couple of tricky places. (She's none too sure about Tosha taking an interest in Sally-Anne, and given the rest of yesterday, I let it go.)

I'm glad to talk more to Arista (and Hector) too. If they want, ever, I mean. It's not that I knew Dominic and Chloe terribly well, but - I'm also so aware right now how much talking to someone who remembers the good parts helps. And seeing Sarah Fawcett blooming was excellent indeed.



 **alt_alice** at [2014-08-19 19:36:50](#)
(no subject)

We do, yes. There aren't quite as many truly little ones as we usually have -- they're either with their mums in Bedford or the other free areas, or still waiting to be found out.


You had a wonderful rapport with our school ages, I'm sure they'd love to have you come more regularly if possible. We've such a limited pool of expertise, really; Jacinda specialised in Magical Creatures, Frank and I in Defence, and Laura in Charms and Transfiguration, and the rest of it is whatever we can cobble together from our rusty memories of Hogwarts and old textbooks,

with weekly visits from Sirius for Potions. (Besides which, our adventures with wards and portkeys alone have shown me first-hand just how very valuable your area of work is!)

Sarah has really come into her own in Sherwood -- her training has made her an invaluable member of our research team, and a great boon to Cecelia. And yes, Cecelia can be rather... opinionated. And protective of her daughter. As a fellow mum who's had to look on from a distance, I can sympathise.

I think it'd be good for Arista and Hector, and they certainly weren't protesting. It's clear that Dominic and Chloe loved them dearly, and they were accustomed to a fair bit of individual attention when they were growing up. There's only so much attention we can give, so that alone is precious and would be much appreciated, I'm sure.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-19 19:51:03](#)
(no subject)

Yes. ~~Babies~~ are I'm better once they're - well. Talking and running around on their own and learning things, mostly.

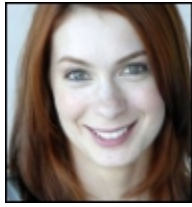
Teaching's the thing I've planned for, from - oh, fifth year, when Alcor asked if I wanted to take over for him one day. It's not much, sometimes, compared to a lot of other things. I'll see if I can sort out some written things once I get settled, and I can definitely send round copies of the new Astronomy text we're using this year.


(Actually, I made that offer to Cecelia, too. If there's books you need, there's a number of fields where no one will wonder why I'm buying them. Not the obscure things or the ones that would draw particular attention, but astronomy, charms, runes, arithmancy, defence are all rather plausible.)

I keep poking at some of the warding magics too. I'm wondering about talking to Brutka - does one call him Albus or something else? - once we're back at school and I can be less obvious about it. There's a newish locational warding method that takes advance calculation, but might be less risk than that Fidelius variant for some kinds of uses. Maybe.

And yes. I just keep remembering talking to Chloe two springs

ago, and she'd known - something was up, but not what, and she was so terrified for her children. What might happen to them.



 **alt_alice** at [2014-08-19 20:03:39](#)
(no subject)


Albus would suit, but if it'd be easier to call him Brutka for consistency's sake, I'm sure he wouldn't take offence.

I suppose I've been rather desensitised, having been surrounded by babies for years and years. They can be rather terrifying, though, can't they?

Books would be absolutely wonderful. We've had to make do with so very little that anything you can pass along would be thoroughly devoured.

Harry and his crew deserve every accolade for Hector and Arista -- they were utterly brilliant, and foolhardy, and lucky, and rash in the way only young people can be.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2014-08-19 20:34:50](#)
(no subject)

Oh, it's as much the old problem of calling people by first name who taught you as a child as which name. It never gets easy to do, maybe.

Right. Books. Books is a thing I can do. I'll start figuring out some useful things, then. Books are reassuring. They stay put in my head.

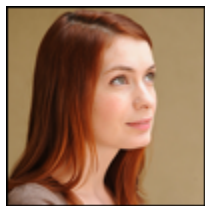
The thing about babies

It's not that I'm not used to them. (Eight nieces and nephews - going to be nine, and I was old enough to remember my youngest brother as a baby and help.) It's. Well.

Raz and I were planning on trying this autumn. For our own. And I'd expected to spend the summer sorting out the practical parts. So it's raw. Very.

We hadn't told people we were going to, though Mum and Dad

and Tosha and Storm and Di know now. And it's my own thing to deal with. But I didn't want you to think that it was the babies that were the problem. Just me.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-19 20:40:23](#)**

(no subject)

Oh, love.

Yes. I can see how that would be hard.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-19 20:55:17](#)**

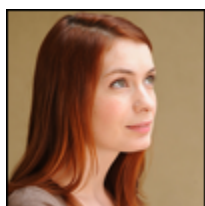
(no subject)

So. Yes. Other things.

I wrote to Tosha, mostly to pass on something about Septima.

I keep thinking about staff. Patterns and - oh, alliances. I won't duck the word. And it's going to be complicated.

First thing is keeping everyone safe as we can. Second thing is making sure they can learn. Right?




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-19 21:02:00](#)**

(no subject)

Yes. Harry's certainly devoted to doing what he can on that front. The recent choices for Head Girl and Boy bode well for Patil and Finnigan not running roughshod, and it helps that so many of our people are placed as Prefects too.

The galleon group is its own particular sort of risk, of course. And there's always the unexpected. Anything in particular that has been keeping you up?



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-19 21:19:32](#)
(no subject)

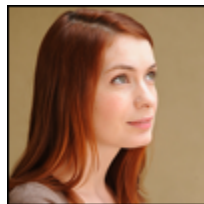
Those choices, yes. And I think Lana being Tosha's apprentice will give him some additional controls there, as I said.


(I'd say I'd rather someone else, and I would, but I actually can't think of anyone who'd be much better, and a lot who would be vastly worse.)

The Galleon group is a complication, yes. And the unexpected, which we keep having. Over and over again. I do best when I think through things in advance, as I said, but I don't even know where to start with some of what might come up now. Not yet.

Which is a lot of what's keeping me up, really. And how to balance things. Staff. Students. The NEWT classes. Protections on the tower. All the little things, like how to be social at meals in a way that's useful and not too much for me to manage, which - well, it's going to be hard, considering.

At least Tosha won't forbid the elves from bringing food to my office, like Madam Pinkness - or do I say Madam Toad? - did.



 [alt_alice](#) at [2014-08-19 22:09:44](#)
(no subject)


Frank can talk over basic safety protocol with you if it would be useful -- I've found it helps to have something you can turn to quickly and know without needing to think too hard, even if you might have to modify as you go. How you can get out, how you can help someone else get out, what happens in case we need to pull everyone in a hurry, that sort of thing.

It does help that our Order members attending Hogwarts already have some experience in these matters, and have fairly good instincts.

And goodness, I can imagine it'll be a rather exhausting transition. You have my best wishes on that front, and it seems as though you have a good support network waiting for you at

Hogwarts. (You must know that my Evie would do just about anything for you, all you need to do is ask.)



 **alt_sinistra** at [2014-08-19 22:46:16](#)
(no subject)

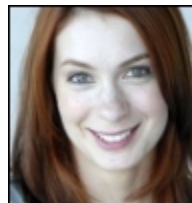
It might help to talk through, yes. Raz and I - we had plans. Lots of plans. In case. Because I don't think fast in the moment, not fast enough to matter, but if I've thought through, I'm so much better. I don't need all the specifics for each, just more to think about what I'm supposed to make happen, and some ways to do that.


I expect lots of time on the tower. It's soothing. But I've known for years, since I started teaching, that it's easy to be pinned up there if I'm not careful. The Carrows, then other fears.

So you know, I keep a broom up on the observing platform, could keep more, and there's things that show me who's on the tower. (A star chart, the magnitudes shift by constellation when people in the class I've set are there, and then I have other stars that change for each of my newts and the staff and anyone I particularly want to know about. Not my design, but very clever, and students can't really read what it means.)

And yes. It helps they've got practice. And - for other reasons, but it's handy - I gave Harry something of Raz's that'll show where I am in the castle.

As to the rest, well, I suppose, the only way forward is through. And you're right, there are people who'll help. Students and staff. I don't know how I'd have managed this summer without Poppy in particular.



 **alt_alice** at [2014-08-20 01:04:18](#)
(no subject)

We can certainly make sure that happens, then. His brain is rather built for that sort of thing, and he wouldn't mind in the least.

2014-08-19 11:46:00

Private message to Tosha

I meant to write Friday. Or Saturday. Or before today. But - well. Taken me days to get my feet under me again.



 [alt_sinistra](#)

Business first. Took all of Thursday and Friday, but Raz's the Defence classroom's all cleaned out, and the office, and Raz's and my rooms (and my things moved back to the seventh floor). Thank you again for loaning me Cedric's help - it was taking me forever to make the stupidest decisions.

I am planning to be back at Hogwarts starting Monday. There's the Guild end-of-season lectures here on Saturday, and I really ought to make an appearance, however brief. But I'm thinking - well. That it's better if I have time at school before there are students. To sort out how to deal with memories in private. Without making a fool of myself.


Second, Septima stopped by, while I was working in Raz's the Defence classroom, to see what I thought about the Head Boy and Girl choices. I didn't say much, but she's not happy. About that, and all the other changes, and well, everything. (I got rather an earful about how it's going to be so different with Horace gone, too.)

She offered something rather generous (to rearrange my schedule if I liked, and we both know how tedious that is for her), but I pointed out that if she did, I'd likely forget what I'm supposed to be teaching when, and that's no good for anyone. But then I said I'd appreciate picking up our old regular chats about arithmancy again (true enough, for my own reasons.)

That left the door for further conversations ajar, so if there's things you'd particularly like me to get her talking about, I'm willing to try. How are your other plans going? (And if there's something I could actually manage to be helpful with, you know you should ask.)

Also, so I can have things in place - you're going to be terribly busy, so should I sort out ways to distract myself on Fridays as well as the weekend? I am still entirely dreading Saturdays.



 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2014-08-20 01:14:26](#)**
(no subject)


Oh, my dear little star. I am so sorry it's been so difficult for you. You may borrow Mr Diggory as often as you feel he will be helpful; I am happy to lend him to you.

I was not planning to move to Hogwarts full-time until a few days before term starts, but if it would be easier on you to have the castle tenanted when you move back, I can join you earlier. Or if you would prefer privacy for your remembering, I can do that as well. It is up to you.

I am not surprised that Septima is disgruntled. I have done my best to reach out to her, but you know how she dislikes change, and she holds grudges like an old snake. I will do my best to work with her, but -- well, we shall fly that owl when it has fledged and not a moment before. I will think on how I can reach out to her.

This coming year will be busy, yes, but I would not want to leave you alone -- and, selfishly, I do not want to give up our time together. Would it help you to move to Saturdays? I will need to be out of the castle during the day, most likely, and I may be caught up in my work for Our Lord some weeks, but if it would help, I will do what I can to be there for you. Or we could come up with some activity for the students on Saturday nights, for you to supervise and them to participate in if they wish, to distract you.



 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-20 01:39:31](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, Tasha.

Necessary hard things. And the parts that were about doing something are done now.

I just kept thinking about cleaning out that classroom, after Lockhart, when he was about to start. And there's something right (in the middle of the horribly wrong) about being the one to sort things out again, you know? Like your cycles of prayers, with beginnings and endings.

Don't move back early for me. (Though if you're working, and you


want to pause for tea, I'll come join you. Willing to have things explained to me if you need to sort them in your head, too.)

And I think I'd like time to settle myself before there's anyone else.

I think I'd like Fridays, still, please. There's something about ending the week talking, when everything's still fresh, that helps me. And less likely to be disturbed by other tasks. I'd been thinking about maybe opening the tower up Saturday night, for talking, like Alde and I used to do, about other things than stars, but I'll see how it goes, maybe. If anyone is interested. Or if you've some other idea, do propose.

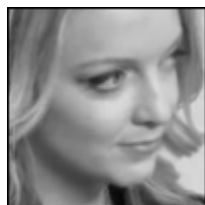
Septima, well, yes. I got to thinking about the staffing today, and how it's changed over time. And how somehow I've been there longer than half the staff if you discard Binns as an outlier of statistics. Very odd. Not sure what I think of that. Must be much worse for her, somehow.




 [alt_antonin](#) at [2014-08-20 01:54:07](#)
(no subject)

It's all the same thing, I suppose: changes never sit easily, particularly when they are changes to things or to situations one loved. Reinvention is never comfortable when one had no intention of being reinvented. But I think you are right, in thinking of endings and beginnings. Two faces of the same coin, or the snake eating its own tail.

Friday it is, my dear, and all yours.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-20 01:59:16](#)
(no subject)


You did tell me, early on, that the one constant in Our Lord's service is change.

Even the ones we'd never have chosen ourselves.

I suppose all we can do is go forward, and see what happens.

Fridays. Thank you. That helps.




 [alt_antonin](#) at [2014-08-20 02:13:10](#)
(no subject)

Sometimes I fear it is especially the changes we do not choose for ourselves. They are the most far-reaching, after all. I often wonder what my life would have been like had I

I am only sorry that I cannot be of more help, my dear.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-20 02:21:44](#)
(no subject)

Oh, Toshenka.

You are a great help, and have been. And will be, come term, I am so very sure.

We can't change what's past, any of us. Just maybe what happens next.




 [alt_antonin](#) at [2014-08-20 02:33:36](#)
(no subject)

Yes. And if nothing else, we will both be able to hold our heads high and say we have done right by the children, as much as we were able given the pressures upon us; it's something, I

suppose.



 [alt_sinistra](#) at [2014-08-20 02:41:08](#)
(no subject)

We are both in such a mood tonight, Tosha. But yes. It is something. Maybe enough. Won't know until we get there.

I have been reading Sophocles again, and thinking about Antigone, and impossible choices of loyalty and love. But also about the bit at the end of the first play that goes


*That is why we wait to see the final day,
Not calling anybody happy who is mortal*

Until he has passed the last milestone without calamity.

We can't tell what matters until it's over, ever. How it all adds up or doesn't. Who remembers us and why.

Looking at this, I think I should apply myself to a bottle of beer and some stars. It might do me some good.



 **alt_antonin** at [2014-08-20 02:44:42](#)
(no subject)

It cannot hurt, at least, and the stars at least do not judge.

Sleep well, my dear сестренка, when you do. I hope that it is a quiet night.

2014-08-19 19:10:00

Order Only: Private message to Charlie and Ron Weasley



Right.

I'm reading this to George. Charlie, if you could pass this along to Bill, and Ron, pass this along to Ginny. If you can ever coordinate schedules with her.

 [alt_fred](#)

We reckon Mum's spent more than enough time in that sort of catatonic slump, and we're not going to let her do it anymore.

We're planning on apparating home tonight and chivvying her out of bed. Ginny, you've done wonders with her, but it's time to be firm, and if it takes dunking a bucket of ice water on her if she's still pretending to be asleep, that's what we'll do. So if any of you miles away hear yells coming from Ottery St Catchpole, that's what it's all about.

We'll be kind as we can be--we promise--but we ain't going to give her any choice. Percy ~~the git~~, was Percy, but that isn't enough reason for her to stop living.

(Oh, and Ginny, tell Luna *thanks* for all the help bringing the harvest in and helping with the canning. We weren't able to help as much as we'd like.)

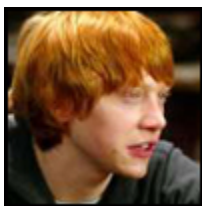



 [alt_charlie](#) at **2014-08-20 01:15:38**

(no subject)

I think that's a good plan, even if she doesn't thank you for it up front.

holler. I'll tell Bill. And if you need me for anything, give a



 [alt_ron](#) at **2014-08-20 03:52:02**

(no subject)

Sounds like you've seen Gin before I did. Good on you, for doing something to get Mum going again. Hope it works.

2014-08-19 20:37:00

Order Only: Diagon Alley

Hullo, Juniors,

I say, who's up for a shopping trip? Any chance you could get free on Friday lunchtime? We could pop over to Diagon Alley and pick up our books and such, what, if you've a mind.



 [alt_justin](#)

-Justin




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2014-08-20 01:47:25](#)

(no subject)

Count me in.



 [alt_ginny](#) at [2014-08-20 01:53:53](#)

(no subject)

I think I could come.




 [alt_pansy](#) at [2014-08-20 03:49:41](#)

(no subject)

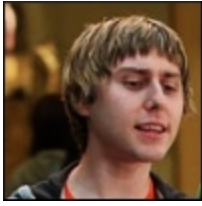
Yes please!



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2014-08-20 15:05:44](#)

(no subject)

Yes, please.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-20 15:14:32](#)

Private Message to Hydra

Dux,


Obviously, I got your owl. The downside is that I shan't be free all afternoon; I'll have to return to the office as usual, what, but at least it'll be an hour we can spend together.

Harry hasn't said anything yet. Did you ask if he'll come? In case your mother or Auror Crouch gets shirty, if you follow me.

Love,

Justin

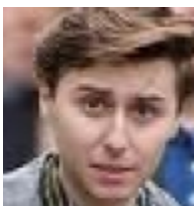


 [alt_ron](#) at [2014-08-20 15:55:26](#)

(no subject)

Brilliant. I'm really ready to get back. I mean, I'll even be glad to be fussed at by Madam Pomfrey. Loads better than being patched up by Healer Blaggett here in the department. That's no fun, let me tell you! All grunching about how we're whingeing over scratches and scrapes, and how Aurors used to have spine, and how it all went wrong when they started the crèche school.

Yeah, anywiz. I'm sitting around this morning, waiting for the first of my 'exit' interviews. Travers and Braithewaite and Cornelius are in with Hooper now. They've done with Derwent, so it's just me and Davies left, and he's not feeling talkative today. Must've had a bit too much down the pub last night. Not complaining, though. This is the most time I've had to sit and think about things all summer. Yeah, they're not big on sitting here. Nor thinking things over.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-20 17:45:02](#)

Private Message to Ron

Ron,

I'm sure your interviews will go well, old man. You've

certainly been applying yourself. Did you manage another injury, then?

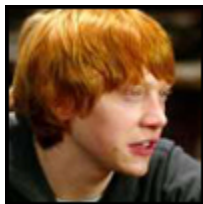
Sorry, I suspect we've discussed it already but are you in next week or not? Pontner's wanting me to stay on right up until the end of the month, he's that impressed.

Only it's dull as dishwater here this afternoon, as well. Some of the lads are planning to go down to the seventh floor as they've heard there's a cake for someone's birthday. Think you'll be done by then? Cox says it's to start about half-three.

Did Ginny have anything else to report about your Mum? I say, the last two times I've been round to the town house there hasn't been anything else about Percy.

Oh, but the reason I asked about next week is that we should start packing up for school, what, so there's time to clean the flat. I say, I will miss the neighbourhood. We might ask Mr Waits about coming back after next year. What do you think?

-Justin



 **alt_ron at 2014-08-20 19:14:43**

Re: Private Message to Ron


Let's do ask Waits if we could have it next year. If he doesn't get someone in there for a longer lease, that is. Cleaning shouldn't take too long, should it? They're shifting us off projects and next week they'll be putting us through the physical and skills pre-screening they require for entering the training programme. We did some of it at the start of the summer, so it's partly to measure what we've learned. But it's partly to see if any of us should be sent packing as hopeless and to give the rest of us a list of what we need to work on so we'll be ready by next summer. (Assuming they decide our NEWTs and other accomplishments are enough to accept us.)

Gin didn't say much more than I told you. Just that Mum's been spending more time in bed than is normal, and not wanting to cook. Which, you know, right there, that's a sign she's not right.

Ginny's worried she'll be beside herself when we all go back to school.

I'm just done talking with Travers, so, yeah, I could go for some cake. Any idea whose birthday it is? Suppose it doesn't really matter.



 **[alt_justin](#) at 2014-08-20 19:31:17**

Re: Private Message to Ron

I'm not sure how long it'll take to give the place a proper *Scourgify*. There was that incident with the oven, remember, and I could swear no matter how many times we've cleaned the kitchen, there are still smoke stains on the wall! I keep wondering if we should have engaged that charwitch, what.

But perhaps if we tell him we're interested in coming back he'll not mind so much.

Surely Fred, George, Bill and Charlie can look in on your mother frequently? Or perhaps Tonks or Mrs Longbottom, if you're that concerned about her. I agree that not wanting to cook is a jolly worrisome sign.

Cox didn't mention whose birthday but he does always seem to know when anything's happening. I say, the only chaps with a better sense of office parties are the blokes in Centaur Relations! I'll meet you at the lifts just after half-three, then.

-J

2014-08-19 20:48:00

Order Only: Private message to Ron

The Twins came by a little while ago and got Mum out of bed with ice water. She was pretty cross. They told her it was for her own good.




 [alt_ginny](#)

I think they were actually glad she got cross, she sounded more like herself.

Anyway we had tea together (Mum and I did, while the Twins dried out her bed and so on) and talked about my classes. She found my book list. I guess I was worried over nothing; she just wanted to know how I was going to keep myself safe around Dolohov. How worried do you think I actually need to be? He's never treated us any differently from anyone else, as far as I can tell, it's not like he actually has a blood feud with our family even though he killed two of our uncles, and Percy, or at least Mum thinks he was responsible for Percy. (Because of the galleon she found after the funeral.)

I had all my arguments ready for why I ought to take Dark Arts, but she didn't seem cross, exactly. It was like having a conversation about it with Sirius, almost, she was sensible about it.




 [alt_ron](#) at **2014-08-20 03:43:18**
(no subject)

What's your definition of a blood-feud, Gin? Does it take one of us killing someone related to him before it's a feud?

Sorry. The thing is, I don't think you have to worry as long as you're his student. And as long as you don't cross him. Or get caught trying to. Sally Anne thinks he's serious about keeping students safe, and I think she's right. Only, I reckon he's not protecting us out of, um, concern for us as people, but because it's his aim to recruit as many of us as he can to serve the LP. That's why he's so keen to train the ones that have talent. The others he doesn't care so much about. I don't think Sally Anne really thinks he's that calculating about it--I mean, I think she wants to think he's actually interested in her because she's an ace student and has loads of potential--but I figure it's best to assume his motives are dead cold ones, yeah? Less chance of getting a nasty surprise that way.

So Mum's still not really feeling herself, then?




 **alt_ginny** at [2014-08-20 03:47:15](#)
(no subject)

By 'blood feud' I mean him trying to kill the rest of us, that's all. I don't think he's going to, unless he has a reason. So if I don't give him a reason (or don't let him find out there's a reason, I guess) I should be okay, right?

Anyway, Mum. She's been not herself since the funeral. I mean when you come over she tries a bit harder to act normal. Today she got out of bed in late morning and then went back to bed at four. Until the Twins came over and roused her out again.

I don't know. I can't remember whether she was like this after Dad died, because I was kind of like this, too, and now -- well, she says she's set herself a waking charm and she'll get up and make breakfast tomorrow. I'm worried what it'll be like when I go back to school, though.



 **alt_ron** at [2014-08-20 03:56:43](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. It was a lot like that after Dad...

Sorry it's been awful there this summer. I guess I should've asked if you wanted to come kip with us.


Only, yeah, it was probably good you were there for Mum even if she's not acting like she wants the company. At least with you there, she eats a bit, right?

Don't worry, though. When you leave, either twins'll do more or Bill will. Probably Bill.

And she'll be alright eventually.

Don't you think?




 [alt_ginny](#) at [2014-08-20 04:06:42](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I do. I wish someone were still living at home, but I don't blame Bill for wanting to have his own place. Or you.

Anyway at least we didn't row over my NEWT classes. Or my marks.

If Percy were still alive, and talking to me, he'd have been cross about my Arithmancy OWL.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2014-08-20 04:17:11](#)
(no subject)

Why? How low was it?


It's not like you'll probably ever need Arithmancy once you leave school, y'know? Or History. Or, well, most of the stuff we have to read. Spells and some of the theory behind them, yeah. That stuff's practical, right? But the rest is only useful for a few professions, and then it's probably more about shaking out the field so they only get applications from people who are really well-suited for whatever it is, and then when you get into training, they teach it all to you again.

They've been talking to us about Auror training, and that's totally what it sounds like. The first nine months or so are all in the classroom and on the sparring floor, and Travers was telling us today that they pretty much assume they'll have to get us to bin all sorts of nonsense we studied at school and unlearn loads of bad habits we picked up there.

Makes you wonder what it's all for, doesn't it?

So what were your Marks, anywiz?



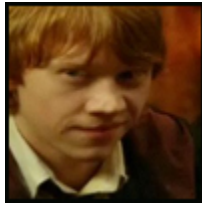
 [alt_ginny](#) at [2014-08-20 04:25:02](#)
(no subject)


I got As in Arithmancy and Astronomy. So passing, you know, but not well enough to go on.

I got Os in Ancient Runes, Charms, Dark Arts, and Defence. Es in Herbology, Potions, and Transfiguration.

I got a P in History of Magic. Probably because I spent two years sleeping through that class.

I'm going on in everything I got an E or an O in. I have no idea what I ought to be trying to do with my life, though. Is it pathetic that I think I'd most like to play quidditch for the Harpies?




 [alt_ron](#) at [2014-08-20 04:31:46](#)
(no subject)

You did better than I did, so you know. No need to worry you came last in the family.

And no use crying over Arithmancy or Astronomy, either.

As for History of Magic? I worry about those people who stay awake, they're the ones need serious help.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2014-08-20 04:04:45](#)
(no subject)


Did you see Fred wrote me and Charlie?

I just did. Oh, well. He was giving a warning about what they planned to do to Mum tonight. So, yeah.

Guess they did it.

He says to tell you to tell Luna thanks for helping with harvesting and canning and all.




 [alt_ginny](#) at [2014-08-20 04:07:16](#)
(no subject)

Oh yeah? I wondered why they seemed to think I knew they were coming. Did they forget you don't live here anymore?

Anyway I'll pass that on to Luna.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2014-08-20 04:18:42](#)
(no subject)

Mind you, he didn't tell me to thank you for helping with all that.

So, um. Thanks.




 [alt_ginny](#) at [2014-08-20 04:26:20](#)
(no subject)

Well, I'm family.

Of course, so's Luna.



 [alt_ron](#) at [2014-08-20 04:32:55](#)
(no subject)

Yeah. Exactly.

[2014-08-20 20:05:00](#)

Order Only

I'm up. I'm dressed. I'm sorry, everyone, but I think I will be all right, now.



 [alt_molly](#)

Anyway.

I've been thinking about this all day. Percy's birthday is the day after tomorrow.

I wonder if there is a way that we can use that.

Bill has been taking Percy's things to the secondhand shops, all his possessions that none of us wanted to keep, since I couldn't bear to do it myself. With all of his books, and his robes, furniture and household items and such, we have a modest sum left over, above and beyond the funeral expenses, and I have been thinking: what if I used it as a pretext to approach ~~that~~ Headmaster Dolohov?

I could send him a letter, saying that I want to set up something at Hogwarts in memory of Percy. The Percy Weasley Memorial Award. A student would be chosen each year, perhaps the Headmaster's choice of a deserving prefect. I think with Bill's help, I can write some bunk about how I want the award to honour students following Percy's example in showing their devotion to Our Lord's service. (It might be a stipend to assist the poorer students, to help them pay their school fees, but of course *that* needn't be announced generally.)

With the stipend, I'd provide a plaque. The students' names would be inscribed on it each year. Maybe I could convince him to put it in the Headmaster's office, but if not, perhaps it would end up in the trophy room?


My idea was that I might weave some charms on the plaque: subtle or innocent or small enough to slip past Dolohov, yet something that might still be a help to our cause at Hogwarts. Dumbledore, what would be useful to plant in the Headmaster's office? Or if the plaque ends up in the trophy room, maybe it's something that could only be triggered by one of our Galleon holders? I wish we could make it into an emergency portkey, but I doubt he would miss that, even if we knew how.

I'm willing to grovel to our new Headmaster to accomplish this (and

won't he love that), if we could think of any way this might be useful for planting a hidden charm or two. I just thought...Percy's birthday might provide a good pretext. And Dolohov is good, I know. Anything added to the plaque would have to be able to pass any test he could give it.

I'd welcome hearing your thoughts on this.



 **[alt_molly](#) at 2014-08-21 01:39:23**

Private message to Fred and George Weasley

I was very angry at first, until I realised that it was the first time I was actually *feeling* things again.

You were right. So thank you.

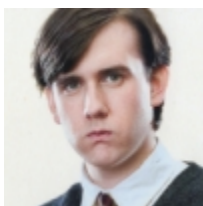



 **[alt_alice](#) at 2014-08-21 05:31:01**

(no subject)

I can see how that might be valuable, yes.

If it was something put in the trophy room, can any of our younger members think of what might be useful for galleon members to be able to access?



 **[alt_neville](#) at 2014-08-21 22:54:28**

(no subject)


Well, one important point about using the trophy room is that we WOULD be able to access it, much more easily than anything in the Headmaster's office. Especially a suspicious Headmaster, if something dire is going on and we need help in a hurry. The staff could access it in an emergency, too, come to think of it. Or it might be a vehicle for exchanging messages. I don't think there are any portraits in there, or at least I don't remember any.

And the trophy room is central, too, rather than inside one of the Houses and so protected by passwords. It's just off the Great Hall--yet really tucked a bit out of the way and isn't visited very often. And all with the jogs and turns of the corridors right there, it's easy to slip into it unseen. It would be a discreet place to go to if there was some sort of ruckus. I'll bet no one was in there the night we

helped Sarah Fawcett escaped, for example, but all of us were near it. If there was something in the plaque (or cup, or what have you) that could have helped her escape, that would be something.

We don't have any Emergency portkeys yet, do we? Dunno how you could plant one in the trophy room and not have Professor Dolohov detect it, though.




 **[alt_sinistra](#)** at **[2014-08-21 15:19:57](#)**
(no subject)

ToshaThe Headmaster does know the story of the plaque that Rod and Narcissa gave Alecto. I'd not trust slipping anything by him on an object (and I routinely check my rooms for things with unexpected charms, I can't imagine he doesn't.)

Something for the trophy room would be much more likely to succeed, I'd think.


Do the Galleon holders know the various ways out of the castle? I know there's still a couple of tunnels, yes?



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-21 16:16:23](#)**
(no subject)


The current plan is to show them the tunnels at the start of term as a precaution.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2014-08-21 23:06:38](#)**
(no subject)


I agree. I think the chance of slipping something past Dolohov with any kind of charm is extremely small, especially if it's coming from you, Mum.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2014-08-21 23:07:24](#)**
(no subject)

I suppose you're right, Bill.




 [alt_bill](#) at [2014-08-21 23:10:23](#)
(no subject)

There's no reason we couldn't charm *something* in the Trophy Room that might be useful, thought, if we really do think of something that would give the Galleon holders some needed back up help.

Any one of the Order staff could do it.




 [alt_molly](#) at [2014-08-21 23:14:28](#)
(no subject)

I suppose that's true. It's just...

it's difficult to explain, but I wanted it to be something of *Percy's*. Maybe I'm irrational, but I wanted to give Dolohov the opportunity to gloat, to let him think he's getting a trophy--but somehow it might provide our side a crucial bit of help at just the right moment. It would make me feel that--that Percy was ending up helping our side after all. Even after he's gone.

I don't know. It made much more sense to me when I was lying in bed at 3:00 in the morning.



 [alt_fred](#) at [2014-08-21 23:28:51](#)
(no subject)


Well, Mum, maybe the thing to do is to play it absolutely straight. Give Dolohov a nice shiny plaque with absolutely no charms upon it whatsoever. Or...come to think of it, maybe you could give him that chess trophy cup that he won at that summer tournament he went to with Dad after his second year. Won the Devon Junior division, I think. (You didn't get rid of that one yet, did you Bill? He used to keep his cufflinks in it.) You could ask to have it displayed on a plinth in the trophy room, with a marker: In Memorium: Percy Weasley.

AFTER Dolohov has run every test on it that he and Barty Crouch can think of--they can tie themselves into knots over it, but they won't find anything. If we're lucky, they'll decide to humour you and display it there.

And then Professor Dumbledore or Professor Sinistra can slip in afterward and add something to the base. It'd be easy as anything for the Transfiguration Professor to create a hidden compartment to the cup's base, maybe set so a password can open it. We could stash whatever we think's best in there, and then tell the Galleon holders, 'If you're in trouble and you need 'X,' you can grab the Percy Weasley cup in the Trophy Room and say, 'Doloros Umbridge has thunder thighs,' and it'll open up the back of the cup base.

And there you have it.




 **alt_bill** at [2014-08-21 23:38:20](#)
(no subject)

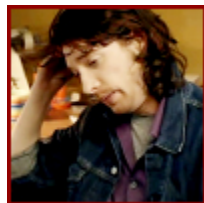
I do still have that cup, actually. It was in a box of things I was going to ask family members whether they wanted, and I keep forgetting to do that.


The cup's silver plated, engraved with his name, and set on a finished dark wooden stand. It would be appropriate for a trophy room, I think.



 **alt_george** at [2014-08-22 13:35:51](#)
(no subject)

I dunno. I mean, I dunno if Dolohov would go for it. It doesn't have a connection to *Hogwarts*. Why should he agree to display a flipping chess trophy?




 **alt_bill** at [2014-08-22 13:37:04](#)
(no subject)

Hmm. That's a fair point.

What would you suggest instead?




 **alt_george** at **2014-08-22 13:48:47**
(no subject)

Mum...what about Percy's Head Boy badge? I mean, it might be hard for you to give it up, because you'd rather keep it. But it would add weight to the idea of the donation, and keeping it in the trophy room, because it definitely represents an honour connected to Hogwarts. If he asks you why you don't want to keep it yourself, you can say it's too painful of a reminder to have at home, and you're sure Percy would have wanted it to go back to the school, because Hogwarts meant so much to him.

I mean, *everyone* knew how proud he was of that badge; he was polishing it all the time. ~~We used to tease him about it.~~

You can have it nicely mounted on a plaque: 'Percy Weasley, In Memorium,' with the dates he was Head Boy. And then once it's at the school, and Dolohov's checked it over, Brutka or Sinistra can slip something into the base.




 **alt_molly** at **2014-08-22 14:01:25**
(no subject)

That's...that's quite appropriate, actually.

What's more, it's the truth. It *would* be painful to have it around, especially since I think--
well.

I will write to Dolohov later today.



 **alt_molly** at **2014-08-22 14:04:43**
Private message to Fred and George Weasley

I'm *grateful* for the suggestion, actually. It *would* be painful to keep it around, especially since he betrayed those principles so horribly.

Oh, this is going to be a difficult day, I just know it.

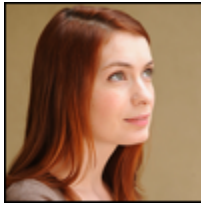


 **[alt_gredforge](#)** at **[2014-08-22 14:07:21](#)**

Re: Private message to Fred and George Weasley

We're coming round for lunch, okay? Tell Ginny. And we talked to Bill, and he'll be by, too. Charlie might even stick his head in the floo to say 'hello.'

Maybe going to Moddey Dhoo and spending the night with Alice and Frank might be good? Or we'll come and stay in our old room if you want the company. Just let us know.




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-22 20:56:31](#)**

Private Message to Molly

It's so good to see you up and writing, dear heart. I've just had a quick word from the twins, and you're more than welcome to come up for as long as you'd like.

I've got some ideas that could use your input, and Florrie's been feeling a bit poorly lately, so we could certainly use your help, and, of course, your company.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2014-08-23 04:01:22](#)**

Re: Private Message to Molly

Thank you, Alice. It IS good to be here at the Sanctuary, today of all days.

Dolohov has replied. He said he will take Percy's badge.

I do believe that is the first time I have communicated with him in any way. But it accomplished what I wanted to accomplish, so I don't regret doing so.

2014-08-22 19:41:00

Private message to Headmaster Antonin Dolohov



 [alt_molly](#)

It has been difficult for me to put quill to parchment to respond to all who attended Percy's funeral, but I do wish to thank you personally for your condolences to my family on that dreadful day. Percy had spoken admiringly of you in the past, and was proud to be allowed to consider you a mentor. I think that your presence would have touched him very much.

My son Bill has been going through Percy's personal effects, and he has found a book or two which I believe properly belong in your library and should be returned to you. Ronald will have them in his trunk when he returns to Hogwarts to give to you (although he seems quite interested in them himself, and I suspect he very well might read them from cover to cover before returning them).


There is one more thing, and I hesitate to ask it, but I hope might consider doing it as a personal favour to Percy, since he valued your guidance so much.

I have Percy's Head Boy badge. My children have wondered at me for not wanting me to keep it, but I feel so strongly that, well, Percy would have wanted it returned to Hogwarts. He loves--loved--his school so very much, and he was so proud to be honoured with that responsibility.

I know that his time on the Council was extremely short, so I naturally do not expect Our Lord to...to lay a wreath or make any particular note of his passing. But I am, as you may have heard, a rather sentimental mother. And he would have been twenty-one today, had he lived. If I send you the badge, would there be a way that it could be displayed? Perhaps just placed in a tucked away corner of the trophy room, where future Head Boys and Head Girls could remember him? It would be a true comfort to me, in the midst of my loss, to think that there is a small place at Hogwarts that remembers and honors my boy who loved it so well.

Sincerely,
Molly Prewett Weasley




 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2014-08-23 02:58:00](#)**
(no subject)

My condolences again for your loss. I only had a short time to know Percy, but of course my dear friend and sworn brother Lucius was far more well acquainted with him, after having taken such a close interest in his career for so long; I considered it my duty and my pleasure to pay the respects that Lucius would have himself, were he able.

Ron may certainly read the books Percy borrowed from me before returning them; I will never begrudge anyone a book from my library when the desire to read them comes from a true interest in the subject. I would be quite a poor teacher otherwise. The children are all well aware they have free rein of my library, particularly the NEWT students. (As to that, you may be quite proud of Ron: he has distinguished himself both in his study and in his summer's internship. I look forward to seeing what his future holds for him.)

I see no harm in adding a remembrance to the trophy room; the desire to commemorate our fallen is one of the commonalities of humanity, I suppose. Send along the badge to the school and I will see what can be done with it.



 **[alt_molly](#)** at **[2014-08-24 02:00:24](#)**
(no subject)

Thank you. I'm very grateful for your understanding.

2014-08-24 21:21:00

Private Message to A Dolohov

Regret it was necessary to work after this afternoon's inspection. Our Lord's enthusiasm for this business is notable. We're fortunate in that, as by my own measure we've not had success equal to His own. Suppose He considers that to be expected.




 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

This group were highly animated. Strikingly so. Perhaps it was His presence. Not entirely looking forward to finding out whether that will continue.

Should be home soon.

Did the parcel arrive that you were expecting? Anything of interest? (That she signed herself Prewett in her message to you. Boggles the mind.)



 [alt_antonin](#) at **2014-08-25 03:06:17**
(no subject)

Boggles the mind indeed; I've no idea what she was thinking. Yes, I've received her package. Gone over it with a fine-toothed comb, too: nothing, although I'll certainly give it another pass later. Appears to be exactly what she says, though.

'Highly animated' -- you may feel free to imagine my expression at your sense of humour, *lapushka*. Highly re-animated is entirely more accurate. Did you notice their clothing? Muggle fashion that far out of date: at least now we know where He is acquiring the raw material.

I still do not know what He has in mind for them once we've managed to bring them to heel. If we are able to, of course.

If I am asleep when you get home it is only because I am so damnably exhausted. Wake me if you've any useful news to impart?

2014-08-26 11:26:00

A new year at Hogwarts dawns

Students: I do hope you have enjoyed your summer holidays, and trust that you are rested, rejuvenated, and ready to return to the task of learning.



 [alternity](#)
 [alt_antoinin](#)

I will obey tradition and introduce our new staff at the Welcoming Feast, but to save time -- and to save you all listening to me at the end of a long trip -- I will announce the remainder of the news I have:

— Beginning this year, students of all years may elect to add a language to their schedule. This additional study will be optional, and as of now there will be no NEWT or OWL given in any of the languages that are offered, but they will be taken into account for class standing. Classes will meet for one hour, twice a week, and will be graded on a pass/fail basis. Classes will be divided not by year, but by level of experience with the language; I know there are several of you who have studied some Latin already, for instance, and you will not be expected to go back to memorising declensions with the beginners.

At the programme's inception we will offer Latin and Greek; other scholarly languages such as German and Arabic may be added should there be interest. Students may choose no more than one language to begin with, with the option of adding others after your first year of study if your academic performance warrants.

— Also beginning this year, first and second year students will be required to take two years of Rhetoric and Composition. This class will teach the basics of academic writing and research, to provide you with a solid grounding in the arts of academic writing that you will draw upon for the remainder of your time at Hogwarts. This class will be three one-hour sessions per week, and you will receive a grade in the usual fashion.

Third through fifth years: while Rhetoric and Composition will not be required, we will be offering a one-hour elective version this year, tailored for each year's level of experience in writing and research. Again, the class will be offered on a pass/fail basis, and will be taken into account for class standing.

Sixth and seventh years: your version of the class, also a one-hour pass/fail elective, will be split between refining your academic research skills and helping to prepare you for the written portion of the NEWTs.

— Feedback from recent Hogwarts graduates and from the Wizarding Examination Authority regarding performance on the OWL and NEWT is clear that many aspects of the History of Magic curriculum ought to be refined in order to best prepare students for their lives as adult citizens of our beloved Protectorate. As we have been unable to persuade Professor Emeritus Binns to undertake that curriculum refinement, we will instead be instituting a parallel track of classes for the subject of History. Your timetables will reflect the change in classroom.

We honour Professor Emeritus Binns and his many and distinguished years of service to the school. Students who wish to continue attending Professor Binns' lectures may choose to do so; however, you will need to make arrangements with a classmate to cover the material you will miss from the new History classes, as you will be tested on what is covered in those classes and not on the material Professor Binns teaches.

— Beginning in late September, Hogwarts will be hosting a fortnightly lecture series. We will be inviting many of the leading lights of the Protectorate to speak on the work they are doing, share the results of their research, explore the boundaries of human knowledge, or simply tell us fascinating stories -- in short, a diversity that reflects the diversity of the Protectorate itself.

Lectures will be on Sunday evenings and will run approximately an hour and a half, with an hour of reception afterwards at which light refreshments will be served. These lectures are open to the public, and announcements of the topic, the lecturer, and the dates and times will be placed prominently in the *Daily Prophet* before each lecture. I deeply hope you will join us even if your own Hogwarts days are long behind you.

I would like to thank Deputy Headmistress Vector for her excellent logistical work this summer, Professor Sinistra for her invaluable assistance in arranging the lecture series, and Mr Harry Marvolo for his passionate dedication to the institution of Hogwarts and to the cause of a well-educated populace. (And above all else, of course, the Lord Protector for His wisdom, and His confidence that I will be well suited for the Headmaster's role.)

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday.



 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **2014-08-26 17:02:33**

Private message to Lionel Moon

I must thank you again for all your assistance with the Board of Governors this summer. I could not have put half of this in place without that help.

If there is any other way I can be of service, please don't hesitate to let me know. I look forward to a continued excellent working relationship.

Regards,

Antonin Dolohov, CW, M. NA, D.Ph, D.Univ (*jure dign.*)
Headmaster, Hogwarts



 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **2014-08-26 17:12:53**

Private message to Daphne Greengrass

My dear -- I must apologise for not replying to you earlier. As you can imagine, it has been a dreadfully busy summer.

You raised excellent questions, however, and I would very much like a chance to sit down with you and Mr Moon and discuss what I will be looking for from you both. (And, yes, to discuss how we will handle the tricky bits of conflicting authority, but as to that I'm certain we can all arrive at mutual agreement.)

I would hate to interrupt the last gasp of your summer. Shall we say Monday evening after the Welcoming Feast? The password to the Headmaster's receiving room is '*Adeste omnium*'.

Best,

Antonin Nikolaevich



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-27 22:06:24](#)

Re: Private message to Daphne Greengrass

Sir,

I'm sorry to hear that my inquiries interrupted you at this time of transition, but I look forward to meeting with you on Monday for further discussions.

I do hope you are as excited for the new school year as I am!

Sincerely,
D.G.G.



 [alt_antonin](#) at [2014-08-26 17:15:40](#)

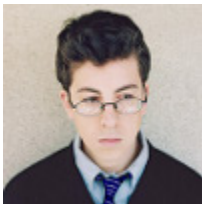
Private message to Linus Moon

Mr Moon,

I hope your summer has been pleasant, and congratulations again on your appointment.

I'd like to sit down with you and Miss Greengrass to discuss what I will be looking for from you both this year. If you would be so kind as to join me in the Headmaster's receiving room on Monday evening after the Welcoming Feast, once your House and your new ravens have been set to order? The password is '*Adeste omnium.*'

Best,
Antonin Nikolaevich




 [alt_linus](#) at [2014-08-28 03:07:35](#)

Re: Private message to Linus Moon

My most fervent apologies for not replying sooner! I must not allow the wrapping up of my summer commitments to displace greater duties from my mind.

I shall be there. And may I say, sir, that your guidance is, as always, treasured.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2014-08-26 17:22:41](#)
(no subject)


Thank you, Headmaster. I'm quite pleased that we're able to expand what we offer to our students in so many useful ways. I do think the lectures we've arranged so far will be quite interesting, and wide-ranging indeed.

In keeping with the idea of supporting broader education, I'd like to announce to students that I plan to host informal gatherings on Saturdays after supper in my office as I did a few years ago. These are entirely optional (for one thing, my office only holds so many), and you are welcome to come to as few or as many as you wish, or stay for a short while or the entire time, as your schedule demands. Other staff are also quite welcome to attend.

I expect that some nights we may start with a particular topic, perhaps related to an upcoming or recent lecture (in which case I'll post it in advance on the charm-linked slips on the notice boards I use to alert you to changes in office hours). Other weeks, we may see where conversation takes us, but I promise you that I intend to avoid my own field unless there's an exceptional reason not to. Besides the usual topics covered at Hogwarts, I hope to discuss music and literature of interest, as my own research mentor did with me during my apprenticeship.

There will of course be refreshments. Quite possibly also loans of books of interest.



 **alt_sinistra** at [2014-08-26 17:28:09](#)
Order only

I've a number of reasons for the Saturday plan, but it seemed useful to me to have a place for some general conversation, a way to get the pulse of the school, hear gossip, and so on.

More than that, I know quite well there are topics that get very limited time in class - most of Charms theory, for example - where knowing it would open up some possibilities for you all. If you think of similar things you'd like more knowledge about, do let me know, and I'll see what I can arrange, whether that's inviting someone to come talk about it, or reading up on it, or whatever.



 **[alt_sinistra](#) at 2014-08-26 17:30:22**

Private message to Tosha

Nicely put. And you'll see I have decided on how to try and fill my Saturdays. Do think about if there are topics you would like to see informally discussed that won't be handled in classes or the new sessions, yes? (Charms theory is rather high on my list, mind.)

If I came for tea, you could tell me all about how many outraged or thrilled notes you've gotten by this afternoon? (Or you're welcome to come up here, if you'd rather a change of scenery - I should be done putting things to rights in the office by then. It looks quite different than it did, considering.)

Also, Sage sent me more cat toys, and I'd like to share.



 **[alt_antonin](#) at 2014-08-26 17:36:32**

Re: Private message to Tosha

Yes, do come down. Presuming you do not mind the hike, of course. Koshka has taken to the Head's office as though it is simply his feline due, and I'm certain he'd enjoy whatever tribute you bring him.

I haven't changed the password, although I've the strangest feeling that if I could just poke at the castle magics a bit more, she'd let me know a way I could control which room of the office suite is beyond the door when it opens based on what password people give her. (Yes, yes, I apologise once again for every time I smiled indulgently at your sense of the castle. She's not sentient, not precisely, but she is definitely there.)

It's a good method of distraction. I do hope it works, dear heart.

Headmasterishly,
T.

[2014-08-26 20:02:00](#)

Order Only

So if I counted correctly we're going to have a SIX new professors -- a new Dark Arts professor (Lana Sandoval, but thank goodness she won't be teaching my year!), a new Defence professor (anyone heard any rumours of who that is?), a new History of Magic professor though they can't actually stop Binns giving lessons if he chooses to since he's a ghost, a new Latin professor and a new Greek professor (unless that's going to be the same person?), and someone's going to teach Rhetoric and Composition (or 'research skills,' for my year). Five or six new professors.




 [alt_sally_anne](#)

AND a lecture series.

I've been thinking about what to do about the language option. On one hand, it's not something I'll get a NEWT in, and it'll take time where I could be working on revising for my NEWTs. On the other hand, clearly it will impress Professor Headmaster Dolohov if I opt for it, and I know Healer Korotkova thinks other languages are important (though I've already done a pretty good job of impressing her, I think). Justin, Pansy, Hydra -- what are you lot planning to do?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-27 01:27:32](#)

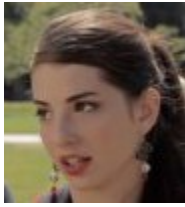
(no subject)

Sally-Anne,

I've already begun studying Arabic from Professor Dolohov; I expect I'll continue and that if there is enough interest, the lessons may be in a group rather than one-to-one. I'm not sure whether to ask him about the Rhetoric lessons, what. On the one hand, one wants to appear keen to improve; on the other, he's as much as told me my skills in the subject are more than adequate for the course he has planned for us in N.E.W.T.s, what, so one doesn't wish to seem obsequious. I suppose I could do with a refresher in Greek and Latin, as well--well, one can always use a refresher, if you follow me--but again, what I'd learned before coming to Hogwarts might be sufficient.

I suppose I shall ask him on Thursday what he recommends in my case.

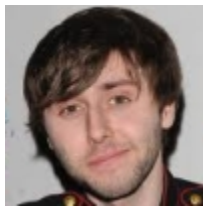
-Justin




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2014-08-27 01:31:25](#)**
(no subject)

Well, clearly you're one of the students he's talking about when he says 'the lessons will be at your level' - if you sign up he'll make sure you get a class that isn't basic declensions.

If he doesn't think you need the rhetoric lesson I wouldn't worry about it. Or you could ask him if there's anything he'd recommend in its place, I suppose. If you show up to that lesson, Finnigan's just going to try to get you to write all his papers, don't you think?



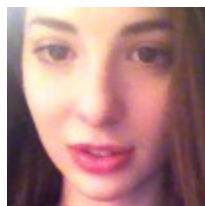
 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2014-08-27 01:37:25](#)**
(no subject)

Ha, I should bally well hope it won't be all declensions!

In point of fact, Professor Dolohov has made me promise not to write papers for Finnigan, Patil or anyone else. Presumably he plans to make it clear to them that they must also succeed or fail without additional assistance.

Asking him what to do in place of rhetoric is a jolly good idea, though.

-Justin



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2014-08-27 01:38:27](#)**
(no subject)

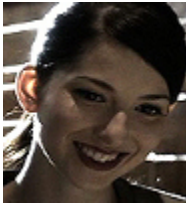
What are declensions, anyway?




 **alt_justin** at [2014-08-27 01:48:06](#)
(no subject)

They're inflections for nouns and adjectives and such. Rather like verb tenses, but for words that aren't verbs, what.

-J




 **alt_sally_anne** at [2014-08-27 01:33:05](#)
(no subject)

If I take one of these other languages do you think Latin or Greek would be more useful? People actually speak Greek somewhere, right? Or maybe he'd let me come learn Arabic. You're only getting started.

What I really needed was German, apparently, before this summer! I'm not sure if that means it'll still be useful to me AFTER this summer or if most Healers do not have stacks of German journals in a corner the way Healer Korotkova does.



 **alt_justin** at [2014-08-27 01:44:39](#)
(no subject)

I say, I am sure he means to teach Classical Greek, what, and not the language as it's spoken today. It's rather like reading Old English compared to modern, or Mediaeval French compared to modern French. It's well interesting how many spells have either a Greek or Latin root, what, and if one is familiar enough with the construction of the language, one can fairly easily invent variation on the spell. It's jolly well useful in duelling, especially.

Latin would probably be easier to start, if you've never had either.

Didn't you pick up any German from Krum, then? I'm sure not all Healers specialise in German journals. I should have thought she might like you to take up Russian! But Headmaster Dolohov advised me toward Arabic because it's a non-Romance language and he thought the challenge represented by the alphabet would be intriguing. I'm sure you could pick up on it, what, you're proper clever with handwriting and sketching and such.


-Justin



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2014-08-27 02:04:55](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I learned how to say 'hello' and 'goodbye' and 'excuse me.' Healer Korotkova has shelves of Russian ones as well, but since Russian is written in Cyrillic she thought it would be too hard for me to read them. The German ones, she thought I ought to be able to puzzle out.



 **[alt_pansy](#)** at **[2014-08-27 23:49:16](#)**
(no subject)

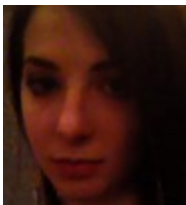
I'm thinking Greek. I know there are a few books on the potions traditions of Ancient Greece, and there might be a good NEWT project buried in there somewhere.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2014-08-27 01:50:03](#)**
(no subject)

Well, I would take the Research Skills class, if I were you. It seems like it would be generally very helpful no matter what you go on to do.

Harry, what's the lecture series all about?



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2014-08-27 02:06:07](#)**
(no subject)


That one's not optional, I don't think. Except for Justin.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2014-08-27 02:18:09](#)**
(no subject)

He said it's an elective. But that probably just means he'll judge you if you choose not to take it.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2014-08-27 23:43:09](#)**
(no subject)

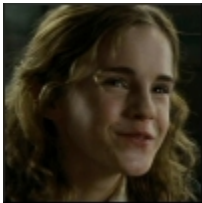
He's bringing in all sorts of people. Potioneers and other people in guilds to give talks about what they specialise in. I think he's trying to make some of it go along with stuff we're already learning, but in a

lot more detail.



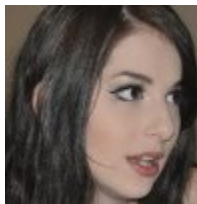
 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2014-08-27 03:04:55](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, and I think it's seven professors, because Professor Slughorn has to be replaced, too.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2014-08-27 03:06:04](#)**
(no subject)

It might be easier to count the number of professors who *aren't* being replaced!



 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2014-08-27 03:12:50](#)**
(no subject)

Argh, you're right. I'd forgotten about Slughorn.

That's going to be odd, we'll need a new Head of House, too, then, won't we? In Slytherin, I mean.

Staying:

'Brutka,' Transfiguration.

Siz, Astronomy.

Sprout, Herbology.

Acton, Charms.
Grubbly-Plank, Creatures.
Babbling, Runes.
Vector, Arithmancy.
Carpenter, Divination.

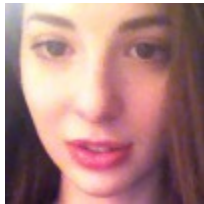
Am I missing anybody?

One of the new ones will have to take over as Head of Slytherin. There aren't any Slytherins staying. Grubbly-Plank was a Hufflepuff, and obviously so were Siz and Professor Sprout, and ALL the others are Ravenclaws, except for Professor Dumbledore, and (1) Headmaster Dolohov doesn't know he was ever at Hogwarts, and (2) he wasn't a Slytherin either.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2014-08-27 03:14:40](#)
(no subject)

Professor Dolohov is still going to be teaching you lot in N.E.W.T.s, and he was a Slytherin, wasn't he? Won't he be your Head of House, too?




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2014-08-27 03:19:16](#)
(no subject)

But he's the Headmaster, he can't be Headmaster AND the Head of Slytherin, because one of the Headmaster's jobs is to try to mediate if there's a major conflict between Houses.


Hooch! That's who I forgot. Head of Gryffindor, Flying.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2014-08-27 23:43:38](#)
(no subject)

Maybe he'll make one of them an honorary Slytherin or something.




 [alt_ron](#) at [2014-08-27 03:54:27](#)
(no subject)

Braithewaite said I ought to add the Latin lessons. Said it'd be a leg up on things they'll have us studying first year of the programme.


Assuming that adding it doesn't mean I fail the NEWTs I need. Seriously, don't we already have enough to be going on with?



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2014-08-27 03:56:44](#)
Private message to Ron

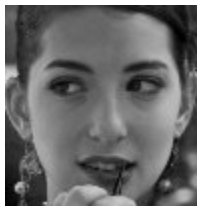
I suppose if it's useful for duelling that makes sense. But yeah. This AND NEWTs? I don't want to be a whinger but this isn't the year I'd have picked to try to learn Latin! (Or Greek.)




 [alt_ron](#) at [2014-08-27 04:10:08](#)
Re: Private message to Ron

D'you think this means we need to buy a load more books, then? Would've been nice if we'd've known when we were shopping last Friday.


And I can't say I really want to spend more for books, either.



 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2014-08-27 04:12:30](#)
Re: Private message to Ron


Well if we both take Latin maybe we could share? It's harder not being in the same House but it would be an unimpeachable excuse to meet up to revise!



 [alt_ron](#) at [2014-08-27 04:14:00](#)
Re: Private message to Ron

I like the way you think!



 **alt_justin** at **2014-08-28 00:44:51**
(no subject)

Everyone,

By the way, if anyone wants help in Latin or Greek,
I'm happy to assist.

-Justin

2014-08-26 21:55:00

Order Only Private Message to Remus Lupin



 [alt_poppy](#)

Remus, in the course of my travels this summer I've collected an assortment of things I thought you might find interesting or useful, all of them small enough that I've tucked them into my portmanteau and carried about, thinking that the right moment would come to add a quick visit at Grimmauld Place to my itinerary. How we've got nearly to the end of August already, I've no idea, but if I don't get these items to you now, I'll quite miss my opportunity to look at them with you.

The first is a quite an ingenious glass for seeing who's coming up or down the Conduit before they reach the shop.


Then there's a proper door warden--a lion with a rather severe manner about him. If the wrong person tries the knocker, I imagine he might take the hand off at the wrist. I like him. However, while I feel certain he'd quickly learn whom one trusts to enter, I do think, really, he'd send the wrong sort of message if I were to hang him on the entry to the hospital wing. I thought, perhaps, you'd find him useful, though: perhaps you'd have fewer visits from your local Watchers.

There's also a good, strong finding stone. I've tested it over a few miles distance, and it works a charm. I believe it could be used as a directional stone, as well, if you asked it to point you. If you don't have a use for it, perhaps you could hand it on to one of the people who pass through on their way Elsewhere.

And I've an assortment of other things: a pair of amulets warded against night dangers, a nice package of copying parchment that will take up an image from anything you ask it to copy, a pair of decidedly dodgy dice, and the thing I most want you to have a look at--a book to tuck in a robe pocket that makes a list of the names and details of anyone you meet. It's worked a treat for me in a variety of settings (gave me a complete roster of my companions last night at the Cap and Bells in Holyhead, for instance).

I don't suppose you're still up this evening, but perhaps tomorrow? I've several stops in the morning, and an appointment at one o'clock in Tutshill, but after that, I'd be free to pop through either to the shop or to Grimmauld Place.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2014-08-27 03:51:19](#)
(no subject)

I am still up, actually -- finishing up the dishes at the beer garden, though, I'm not yet back at 12GP. (Ellie's feeling a little under the weather.) This all sounds exceedingly useful, either for residents of 12GP or for someone passing through.


I imagine Draco would quite like that lion for his bedroom door. But you're right, it could be quite useful for keeping the Watch at a distance.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2014-08-27 03:52:12](#)
(no subject)

When are you expected back at Hogwarts? Did they send you a memo to let you know who the new staff are?



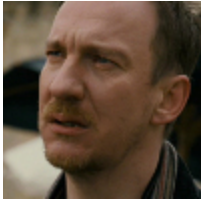
 [alt_poppy](#) at [2014-08-27 05:56:07](#)
(no subject)


Good to see you, Remus. I'll have a look for the items you mentioned when I'm in Torquay on Friday. I should have time to pop a parcel in the post before I head north.

And, oh! I've just remembered the name! (It's not at all a good sign when one begins losing names just as they're on the tip of one's tongue. If I go dotty by Christmas, you can tell them all you saw it coming.)

Posthumous Gimlet.


He's the one whose sister's a near neighbour to an old friend of mine up in Heslington. The way I heard it, he's over the moon to have been offered the post. I hope so. And I hope he knows what he's about, teaching. I don't look forward to patching up his casualties if he can't manage his pupils properly in a laboratory.



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2014-08-28 01:04:55](#)
(no subject)

Must be one of those utterly dotty Pureblood families, naming a child 'Posthumous.' Hope that's not an omen... (Think he's heard that one before?)




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2014-08-28 02:26:26](#)
(no subject)

Oh, now, it doesn't do to go poking about what Pureblood parents might have been thinking when they named their young. That way madness lies.


Mind you, I've never met a quiet Plangorous or a mild-tempered Frampler or Ramage. Have you?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2014-08-28 02:29:20](#)
(no subject)

I met a quiet Plangorous once, but he was 'quiet' like those blokes where the neighbors say later, 'we had no idea ... he seemed so quiet...' if you follow me.




 [alt_poppy](#) at [2014-08-28 02:34:52](#)
(no subject)

Mm. Isn't that always the way?

Was that one a psychopath or musician?



 [alt_lupin](#) at [2014-08-28 03:08:14](#)
(no subject)

You're really assuming it was one or the other?


Actually, he was an owl breeder. And possibly a psychopath, but I don't actually know that for sure, he just always made me nervous.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2014-08-28 03:45:31](#)
(no subject)

Breathing the aerosolised dust of owl pellets has been known to cause neurological alterations. Of course, some people don't need any help in being creepy.




 [alt_lupin](#) at [2014-08-28 03:47:58](#)
(no subject)

Gracious, it had never occurred to me there might be an actual reason why old Plangorous was the way he was.

I'm a bad one to be overly judgmental. Plenty of people find werewolves creepy no matter how brightly we smile at them the rest of the month.



 [alt_poppy](#) at [2014-08-28 03:57:57](#)
(no subject)

Yes, well. Perhaps you could use a bit less vigour when casting your oral cleansing spells? A bit less sparkle on the incisors might help.

[2014-08-26 23:37:00](#)

Private message to Barty

As much as I have been enjoying playing with Nott all summer and watching his decline into rampant paranoia, I suppose we ought to arrange the *coup de grâce* before I am expected at Hogwarts full-time, even if it would be more entertaining to see how much further we could push him.



 **[alt_antonin](#)**

(I don't know if he'd added it already on Sunday when you stopped by, but the latest part of his defences when I stopped by this morning: an amulet that alerts him whenever anything moves or makes noise on his property while he is sleeping, so he would not sleep through an attack. Regrettably for him, he did not account for the indigenous wildlife. Even more regrettably, I know several bird-and-squirrel-attractant spells that do not trip his hex-traps.)

Tomorrow night? And if you are not opposed, I'd like to bring the puppy -- he's ready for fieldwork, I think, and I'd like to give him the opportunity before summer's end.

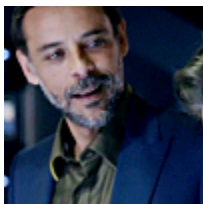


 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2014-08-27 05:09:57](#)**

(no subject)

Suppose you're right. It's scarcely sport at this point, anyway.

My latest gift was charming the window glass to darken with passing shadows whenever his gaze is half-turned from the view. Thought it would complement the looming shadows we gave him back in June.



 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2014-08-27 05:20:57](#)**

(no subject)

Ha! I had wondered why Korotkova let slip he'd contacted her yesterday in a lather demanding a check of his vision. (She fobbed him off -- not even my doing; she does not know of the feud between us; she simply does not like him.)


And trust me, I'd be perfectly happy to keep up the fun for longer, but sadly, the hinterlands of Scotland is not the place to run a proper campaign from.



 **[alt_crouch_jr](#)** at **[2014-08-27 05:15:03](#)**
(no subject)

Oh. Re. the pup. Do bring him. Let's see what his instincts are for prey.



 **[alt_antonin](#)** at **[2014-08-27 05:24:04](#)**
(no subject)

I do think he's ready. And whether his scruples manifest themselves at an inconvenient time or no, we can at least count upon his discretion.

I shall think about what sort of tableau we ought to leave. Best that the message is clear.

2014-08-27 00:33:00

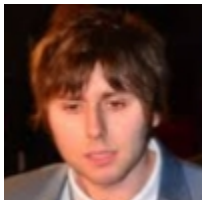
Private message to Mr Finch-Fletchley


I've had an opportunity arise for a bit of fieldwork tomorrow night. Would you be interested in joining me and Auror Crouch for the evening?



 **alt_antonin**

I do not expect it to be tremendously dangerous, but of course there is always risk involved in operating under field conditions, however confident one is in one's abilities. Still, I judge it to be well within your capabilities. (Including, if you take my meaning, your well-demonstrated capability for discretion.)



 **alt_justin** at **2014-08-27 12:58:29**

(no subject)

Antonin Nikolaevich,

I--Yes, I'm free tonight. I say, I'm flattered by your confidence.

Where shall I meet you? Cottesmore?

-Finch-Fletchley



 **alt_antonin** at **2014-08-27 14:15:14**

(no subject)

Yes, that will do. Half-nine, let us say, and plan on being out quite late if necessary.

I advise that you eat a light supper; I do not know how much exertion will be required.



 **alt_justin** at **2014-08-27 15:32:58**

(no subject)

Of course, sir. I'll be quite prepared, I assure you.

-F-F

2014-08-27 09:49:00

Private Message to Lionel Moon



 [alt_linus](#)

I'm terribly sorry, Father, but I cannot switch the time of our luncheon tomorrow at such late notice. Friday will in fact not do, as I am expected back at Magical Transportation for the interns' farewell at midday on Friday, and today is fully taken up by work at the Astronomy Guild hall -- I am to demonstrate the minutiae of one of the minor chart indexing systems to a trio of researchers, and there are some parchments regarding Arithmantic reference works which Guild Master Bright wishes me to annotate before I leave.

Goodness, my schedule is such a full cauldron of interesting tasks in various places. Not as full as yours, of course! My schedule does not include sudden conferences or luncheon meetings with high ranking personages at the last moment! Who knew that a Governor's life was so demanding? And yet, dare I say, some day I do aspire to take up the work of serving the Protectorate and Our Lord the way you do. It must be so exciting, helping shape Hogwarts into what it must become to meet the future. I daresay Mother is sensible of the honour as well, though of course it plays hob with her own schedule at times -- but as you have always impressed upon me, a Moon rises to the challenge and completes his task with steadiness and accuracy, whatever the cost!

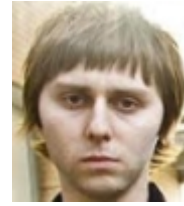
In any case, I am quite willing to sacrifice our luncheon to the cause. I know already the pride you feel in my having been chosen as Head Boy, and I will strive to the utmost to fulfill your expectations, luncheon or no.

Excelsior!

(And besides, we might celebrate later, perhaps the first or second Hogsmeade day, once things have settled into a routine back at Hogwarts. I have no doubt that Daphne and myself will have things humming like a charm-top in short order!)

2014-08-27 10:43:00

Order Only: Private Message to Sirius and Remus



 **alt_justin**


Hullo,

I wonder if you are both available for lunch today, if I came round to Doughty or to Grimmauld?

I say, Professor Dolohov's invited me to accompany him and Auror Crouch on what I must assume is an extra-curricular activity. Naturally, I've said yes, what. It may be our best chance yet to find out what they're about.

-Justin



 **alt_sirius** at **2014-08-27 17:07:19**

(no subject)


Hey, kiddo,

Yeah, if you can get to a private enough Floo, come through to Grimmauld, it's fine.

Remus has been tied up with a Ministry inspection all morning and I'm relatively sure he'd love some nice, simple Order business involving the corruption of our youth to take his mind off the bureaucracy.

Any idea what the target is? He didn't say?



 **alt_justin** at **2014-08-27 17:12:43**

(no subject)

No, he just warned me to eat a 'light supper'--I presume he expects I shall come over ill at whatever he's got in mind.

I've no choice but to go along, what. Only I know the Order ought to know what's happening, just in case there's trouble.

I say, I hope it's not someone undeserving, but every possible way I can think of to foul the mission would be bally well unwise. Not if I

want to be invited on any subsequent outings, what.

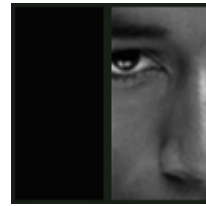
There was one--well, I'll just come along and we can talk about it in person.

-Justin

[2014-08-27 13:46:00](#)

Private Message to Daphne Greengrass

I suppose you're packed and ready for term? The Welcome Feast can't come soon enough for me. Mother is... Mother. I suppose it's natural that we're finding it difficult. I should have taken a flat if I hadn't believed her when she said she needed my company.




 **[alt_blaise](#)**

I can't believe I'm saying it, but I wish she'd find someone.

Actually, I wonder if I could persuade you to come out for an early supper with me on Friday and then go along as my plus-one to a soirée at Sophia Novello's. We needn't stay long if it's dull.

What do you say? I think it's fitting that the Slytherin Seventh-year Prefect should take the new Head Girl for a celebratory evening on the town. Who knows? We might make Whirl and give everyone something to chatter about when the next issue arrives with the post owls next week.



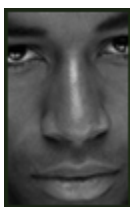
 **[alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-27 22:35:16](#)**
(no subject)

I do have most things packed, but I do wish that Headmaster Dolohov would have been available to meet privately before the start of term so that we could have discussed how, exactly, the Head Boy and Head Girl are meant to enforce rules and guide students when there will also be council wizards and witches within the student body. I don't anticipate that Hydra Lestrangle will present any problems, but honestly, I don't know what to expect with Seamus and Padma. Particularly when Padma is no doubt feeling stung about having not been chosen as Head Girl.

But oh, I'm sure your mother will find someone new, Blaise. She's never remained unattached for long, and she's still very beautiful, besides.

Jason was just telling me about Sophia Novello's party the other day at lunch. It sounds as if she's splashing out proper, so it will be quite the event to witness, if nothing else. So yes, consider me your plus-one. Though don't worry, I shan't be cross if we don't make *Whirl* or

any of the others. They'll probably only say snide things about Draco, anyway.



 **alt_blaise** at [2014-08-28 02:07:09](#)

(no subject)

Perhaps Headmaster Dolohov means you to understand that he'll take care of whatever might arise with Padma and Seamus. After all, he made the decisions about who would be Heads--or, at any rate, he had more to do with the decisions than you did. So perhaps he merely means you to accept that any issues with a Councilwizard will be handled by the highest ranking Councilwizard in the school and will not be your concern.

I suppose I'm saying that he may be hinting that you oughtn't mention it and giving you time to set your concerns aside. Do you think?

As for Mother, the only hint she's given so far of being interested in anyone has been calling on Mr Nott. I'm sincerely hoping that means nothing more than that she's found some well of compassion for a person who's also recently suffered a loss. Surely, surely it can't mean anything more than that.

Enough said.

I think Novello's got enough taste to keep Draco out of it if she writes about you. You could give her something fresh to focus on, though. Think of it as an opportunity. And, it's true: I hear her parties are quite the thing. Some of them are downright legendary. Actually, the stories always make me think of you, though, and the party you got up for my birthday that time. I expect one day it will be your parties everyone covets an invitation to.



 **alt_daphne** at [2014-08-28 02:47:04](#)

(no subject)

I can put concerns aside for now, but that doesn't help me for later, when Padma will inevitably pull rank on me. She'll do it to you, too - it doesn't matter if you've snogged her or shagged her.

It's honestly rather shocking that she's a council witch. Those on

the council have just always seemed so... beyond us, I suppose. Only someone like Draco really had that air about him, you know? And Lana Sandoval, but she's older. Draco is the only one our age who ever fit that part, at least in my head.


Sorry, I'm sure I'll stop talking about him so much. One day.

And Jason as a council wizard...even more unfathomable. And of course he took me to lunch at Acclivity, that new place that seems to attract MLE types, so that I was sure to be impressed by how he's coming up in the world. Auror Crouch was there dining with Hydra Lestrange, so I went over to say Hello to both of them, of course, and after, Jason acted as if I'd committed some terrible breach of conduct. I had to spend nearly fifteen minutes explaining to him that Hydra Lestrange is my friend, not just a council witch.

Oh, and Mr Nott is OLD. Your mother surely can't be entertaining him as a romantic prospect. Because.. *no*.

You do make a good point. About Novello, and anyone else who happens to be there. It could be an opportunity to make an Impression.



 **alt_blaise** at **2014-08-28 04:15:08**
(no subject)


Of course she will. And it will either lead to a smashing-good shag or it will make me hate her entirely. Either would suit.

Daphs. I'm sorry it's still so difficult to think about him. Perhaps we can do something to memorialise him when we get back. Just the two of us, you know, because no one else would understand. But we could each bury something he gave us, and remember him the way he was before he was ensorcelled.

Montague. Quite. It must have taken most of your acting skills to keep up the appearance of sparkling interest through an entire lunch with him. A sign of your utter brilliance, that.

Which was exactly my point about Friday evening. I look forward to your performance!

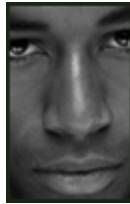



 **[alt_daphne](#)** at **[2014-08-28 04:23:55](#)**
(no subject)

I'm sure it will all fade in time, only it's difficult now, with school starting and all. And to think Linus is Head Boy when we all know it would have been Draco. The comparison is laughable!

I do like your idea to memorialise him. Let's do that, shall we? Under a new moon, to signify new beginnings.

Oh, now you're just goading me to do something memorable at Sophia Novello's, aren't you? Be careful what you wish for, Blaise!



 **[alt_blaise](#)** at **[2014-08-28 04:26:34](#)**
(no subject)

First new moon, we'll do it.

[2014-08-27 21:16:00](#)

Order Only - Private Message to Hermione

When you get a moment, can you let me know what NEWT subjects you would take, if you were a Hogwarts student? I tried to take a guess but the only one I could rule out entirely was Divination.



 [alt_draco](#)

The reason I ask is because I'm going to see if Sally Anne and Justin will agree to send along their lessons and assignments, so that I can keep up as if I were still attending Hogwarts and preparing for NEWTs. I thought you might like to do the same. What do you think?

Maybe it's a daft idea. I don't know.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2014-08-28 03:37:53](#)
(no subject)

Oh, it's a really good idea!

Let's see. You know, I did think about it a little when you all were picking out your electives before third year.

I'd definitely have taken Arithmancy and Ancient Runes, and of course Astronomy. I think Care of Magical Creatures is important but I don't know if anyone's continuing it into N.E.W.T. level. Charms, obviously, it's really the bread and butter of magic, isn't it. And of course, Defence and I don't know if I'd have taken Dark Arts but it certainly seems like it would be useful. You know, I actually think I would have tried out Divination to see what it was all about but no, I don't think I'd have stayed with it for long. Maybe not even long enough to complete an O.W.L. Herbology's going to be really important if we're travelling at all, I mean, in Sherwood they talk all the time about which plants and herbs are edible and which are medicinal and which are really dangerous, and plus so many potions ingredients are herbals. I don't know if I ever mentioned it but Professor McGonagall gave me a copy of Hogwarts, a History--the original one by Bathilda Bagshot--even though it wasn't exactly a politically acceptable book--and I must have read it six or seven times. It's really a shame that History of Magic is taught so horribly, it would have been really interesting to learn about the whole Wizarding World. Oh, and there's Potions, of course, but Mr Snape

says I'm already working at N.E.W.T. level so I don't think I need to worry about the assignments Justin and Sally-Anne are getting, and then there's Transfiguration, which is another essential skill, I think.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2014-08-28 03:47:50](#)**

(no subject)

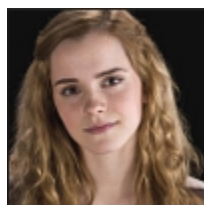
So basically, you want everything. Colour me decidedly not surprised.

Creatures is mostly practical lessons so I don't think we could continue in that if we tried, unless we wanted to ask Macnair to round up lethifolds. I don't see him agreeing to that anytime soon.

Daphs is continuing in Divination so you can get those lessons from her, if you're truly curious. I think she may be the only one taking it.

Transfiguration is my least favourite but I really need to throw myself into that one, now.

I reckon we ought to ask Terry, too. We can have study sessions and such. Who else would be interested, do you reckon?



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2014-08-28 03:56:47](#)**

(no subject)

No, not everything. There's no reason to take Divination or History, and I agree that there's no way to really study Creatures based on whatever people might be able to send you.

I don't need Sally-Anne's Potions notes. It's too bad Professors Sprout and Dumbledore and Sinistra are at Hogwarts or we could simply rely on them for lessons directly, but I suppose what we already know about Herbology and Astronomy will do well enough, plus they're easy enough to learn from books, so it's really Transfiguration that's the important subject of the three.

So, I suppose that means I would need Ancient Runes, Arithmancy, Charms, Defence, Dark Arts and Transfiguration.


Only the thing is that I'm not sure I could even start Dark Arts now, not having done it all along, so perhaps only if there's

something particularly appropriate.

Five subjects.

Oh, for other people, Maureen's not too far behind, I think. And there's Alec, Lisa.... What about Sarah?



 [alt_draco](#) at [2014-08-28 04:12:46](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I think I'll skip the Potions notes as well. I definitely want Dark Arts - though honestly, Snape's probably around equal to that as Dolohov, but with a different focus.

I'll leave the Astronomy to you. Herbology, too.

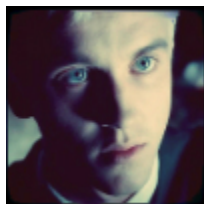
Sarah would probably be interested, yes. A few days ago she and I were reminiscing about the big pre-Hogwarts Express shop that always took place around this time of summer. Only she never had enough money for everything she needed, and I, of course, always had more than enough. Don't worry, though, I'm not going to borrow Harry's cloak and go off stealing new school books, quills, and parchment.




 [alt_hermione](#) at [2014-08-28 04:19:39](#)
(no subject)

I always hated when everyone went shopping because there were so many things I wished I could have. But really, there's not much I need.

I've been thinking about what we should take with us when we go. If we ever figure out where to look, that is.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2014-08-28 04:33:58](#)
(no subject)

Those travelling robes I stole for both of us, for one. New poison rings? Only the old ones didn't quite do the trick, did they?

Speaking of tricks, I've really come along with that glamour spell from the book Daphs gave us. I look just like the love child of Celestina Warbeck and David Bowie. Which is far too memorable a face, now that I think on it, so I'd better tone it done a bit, throw in someone more plain. We should practise some day when you're not at Sherwood.

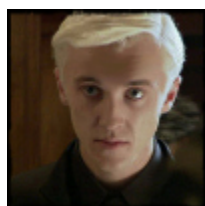



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2014-08-28 04:40:50](#)**
(no subject)

Oh, good. And I found a book just yesterday in the library, all about the sorts of puzzles wizards used to put into their vaults and safes and things. We'll need to know loads about how to disarm protections like that, I think.

I've got more than robes, you know. I've been putting together a bag with an undetectable extension charm on it. I've got bedrolls, a travel cookery set, a whole trunk of books, some potions and remedies, a cauldron and set of knives and a brewing kit, two brooms--loads of things.

You know, if there's ever a day you want to make sure I don't go to Sherwood, just say. I'm not--I mean, I go there to pass the time and learn things that I can't learn in books. It's not on any sort of calendar.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2014-08-28 04:57:21](#)**
(no subject)

Ah, living in the great outdoors. It will be just like YPL, without all the tow-row-rowing. Too bad I gave all those really posh tents away, though Sherwood needs them more than we do.

Sure. If it were really important I'd do just that. I like passing time at Sherwood and Moddey, too. Or studying the Fidelius Charm, or giving flying lessons.

But once we set off to find the Horcruxes I suppose we won't get to go back there as often. Or to 12G. So we'll both have to really make sure that we're ready before we set off.



 [alt_hermione](#) at [2014-08-28 05:01:53](#)
(no subject)


Well, if Harry would loan you the cloak again, you could steal another posh tent before we go. Or we could make Sherwood our first stop and ask for the smallest one as we'll only need room for two.

I'm not sure how much we'll be back. Sirius has a point that we might as well stay here in comfort until we have any better clue where to go. I don't think finding one Horcrux would necessarily lead us right to the next one, either. So there's a logic to coming back in between, too, but you're absolutely right that we can't count on it, either way.

Anyway, I've got supplies, too, in case we are out for months at a stretch.

Just think how much Arista Selwyn will miss your visits!



 [alt_draco](#) at [2014-08-28 05:15:11](#)
(no subject)

Don't tempt me. I can't imagine that it would go over well with everyone if I used the cloak to have another go at robbery, but I, for one, would enjoy it immensely. Bloody good fun, that.

Comfort is well and good, but if I have an endless stretch of it I fear I'll go soft. Even if I get in a training session with the Longbottoms a few times a week, it isn't the same. It's strange to admit, but before this summer some part of me was entirely accustomed to the possibility that something awful might occur at any time - because it usually did. Maybe that's why I always felt as if all the adults at Moddey and 12G were sitting around twiddling their thumbs....because they weren't facing something awful everyday, they were just watching *us* face it.


Arista will pine, yes. Many people will, and not just over me.



 **[alt_hermione](#)** at **[2014-08-28 05:34:59](#)**
(no subject)

I'm sure Sarah can contain her grief.



 **[alt_draco](#)** at **[2014-08-28 05:39:35](#)**
(no subject)

I'm not so sure about Terry. Or anyone else whose name begins with T.

2014-08-27 23:42:00

Order Only: Private message to Mrs Longbottom and Madam Pomfrey




 **alt_sally_anne**

The last day of my internship was today. Healer Korotkova thought I should have some time to finish buying my books and pack up my trunk and so on before I went back to school.

So I have a few days free and I was wondering if you'd like me to come to Moddey and do eye examinations on the children and make glasses for anyone who needs them? I don't want you to think I could handle anything like a serious disease or vision-related curse and I certainly couldn't make anything as nift as Auror Moody's eye, but glasses I think I've got down. Actually if you or Mr Longbottom or any of the other adults at the sanctuary need the sort of glasses that help you see small print when you're reading I can make those, too (and I know how to make them so you don't have to take them off when you want to see something far away, there's a way to have them adjust themselves).

Anyway let me know.



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2014-08-28 04:50:53**
(no subject)


I mean, unless Madam Pomfrey took care of it already when she was there to do the preventive exams?

Come to think of it she probably checks over everyone's eyes.

Anyway if you don't need me to come I won't be fussed or anything.


Oh and I could go to Sherwood, too. Or any of the enclaves, if there are muggles who need glasses and they don't have anyone there who can make them, although I'm not sure about Saltash, the glasses I know how to make all have charms built in and those wouldn't work anymore at Saltash. Though if you want me to go to all of them I should DEFINITELY start tomorrow.



 **[alt_poppy](#)** at **[2014-08-28 05:21:54](#)**
(no subject)

The only eye-related treatment I performed was to heal a stye for Miss Selwyn. It would be most useful if you could go and do thorough, basic vision exams for all the children.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-28 05:30:48](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, very helpful indeed. Thank you, Sally-Anne.

2014-08-28 01:08:00

Order Only: Private Message to Hydra

Hullo, Wife.

I don't suppose you're awake at this hour.



 [alt_justin](#)

It's one of those times where if we were really able to live as a married couple, I'd come home in the dead of night and you'd be sleeping sound and I could curl round you and feel you breathing and that would make everything all right, what.

As it is I've got to make do with Jack. And he's not much in the mood to be cuddled, tonight, I'm afraid. Too hot, probably.


I say, three days and we'll be on the train. I can wait. I promise I shan't even embarrass us both when I do see you.

I'll be all right. I only wanted to tell you I love you.

Always your,

-Justin




 [alt_hydra](#) at **2014-08-28 05:19:20**
(no subject)

I was sleeping, yes, but I heard your notification chime. It must not have been a very deep sleep.

What happened?



 [alt_justin](#) at **2014-08-28 05:27:45**
(no subject)

Oh, I say. I didn't mean to wake you, love.

Headmaster Dolohov asked me to go with him and Auror Crouch this evening. They killed Mr Nott.

I say, I'm not a bit sorry the man's dead, what. I'm even a bit--glad that I was there to see it, which is jolly well shameful but there it is.


It was--I hope I satisfied them that I'm not squeamish nor cowardly. I should hate to have assisted only to be found sub-par and not be brought further inside their web.

What bothers me is that twice tonight, Antonin pointed out to me actions I was bally well unaware I'd taken. I hadn't even registered doing them until he mentioned them.

Sirius and Remus advised not focusing on the acts one had to perform, so much as the larger mission, what, but one does not guess that blanking out the experience is what they had in mind.

-Justin



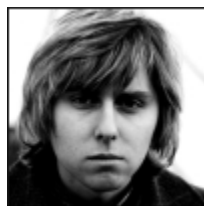
 [alt_hydra](#) at [2014-08-28 05:37:32](#)
(no subject)


You can wake me whenever you want, you know that.

And that doesn't sound like an evening that would lead to sweet dreams. I'm not sorry Mr Nott's dead, either. Why did they kill him? Was it just for Raz, or was there more to it?

I don't think we can count on our enemies to kill our enemies forever.

If you're worried, I could try to legitimise Auror Crouch when I next see him. I might not catch anything, though, and I shouldn't like to mention you directly. What were the actions you took that you didn't register?



 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-28 06:07:53](#)
(no subject)

Oh, it was most certainly revenge for Professor Lestrangle. Apparently Auror Crouch has been subjecting Nott to all manner of psychological terrors all summer long, so by tonight he was more or less a basket case. We came in via the garden (and by the way, Professor Dolohov knows far more about breaking through wards than he's ever let on in lessons), and let loose a flurry of hexes to subdue him. Once he was incapable of fighting back, Professor Dolohov treated him to quite the lecture on

family and loyalty. Then Auror Crouch asked for my help while he administered his signature mark, what. After that, they--we--positioned him to taste. We tied his arms up like a Quidditch hoop and hovered a Quaffle over his head. After he was positioned, they each offered the other the privilege of the killing curse. (I say, I'm just as glad neither of them asked me. I rather think I could have done it--*would* have done it, to prove myself to them, what--but I'm well afraid it might have been a more forceful spell than I'd have needed.)

You're aware, I think, that Professor Dolohov leaves coins for the dead. He's superstitious about paying their ferryman's fee. Each of them left a coin on one eye, and he offered me another to put under Mr Nott's tongue.

As to what I did.... Well, when we first surprised him and were duelling, I suppose I must have said something to him about having raised such a reprehensible specimen as Teddy, what, and that he still had much to answer for not preventing Teddy becoming such a menace to you or any other living creature. (I know I mentioned you because that's what Professor Dolohov said later.)

And the second thing was that when Auror Crouch made his signature--you've been working with him, I think you must be familiar with his calling card by now, yes? The Ouroboros branded under one arm? Well, I say, he asked me to immobilise Mr Nott from the waist up and hold the arm out of the way. It was only later, when we forced his arms up overhead, he literally couldn't lift his arm for the pain. Even with the Imperius, he had trouble and Auror Crouch had to move it for him.


I asked why it was so difficult and Professor Dolohov said, 'Well, you broke his collarbone five minutes ago, lad.' I suppose I must have apologised or asked if he were sure, what, because he laughed and said, 'You even told him about it. You said, "Dear me, Mr Nott, you seem to have broken something trying to get up. Best stay put then, there's a good fellow."'

So I said, 'Really, how curious,' or some rot like that, and laughed as if I thought it the most droll thing to have not even noticed that I'd broken a man's collarbone *and* made a joke of it at the same moment. I don't think he thought less of me, however, which is itself an unsettling thought.

But I do regret it. If I'm going to cause harm, what, I'd rather know exactly what I'm doing as I'm doing it.

-J



 **[alt_hydra](#)** at **[2014-08-28 06:20:09](#)**
(no subject)


I'm sure that Dolohov didn't think any less of you at all. Remember that Auror Crouch is his pride and joy.

I know what it's like to have to pretend that you're one of them. You say things you know you'd never say, or do things you know you'd never do, and yet there you are, saying and doing. It's frightening. It doesn't feel like it's real. Maybe you didn't even think it *was* real, and your mind let go of it.

Sometimes I forget some of the things that happened to me when I was a child, but then I dream about it. And then I wonder if the dream is true, and if it is, why I only seem to remember it clearly when I sleep. Maybe it's something like that.

I think you should talk to Mr Snape about what happened. He seems like someone who would know about these things. If you think you're comfortable telling him, that is.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2014-08-28 06:32:58](#)**
(no subject)

Yes, and I'm meant to be seeking the same sort of attention, what. Pity one has to become depraved to achieve his notice.

Mr Snape could tell me how to compartmentalise the actions and not to dwell on them and to bear in mind the greater purpose behind them, which is more than a simple murder. I already know that, if you follow me. And in point of fact, if I'm not recalling details from the heat of battle, then perhaps that *is* my brain's way of compartmentalising the actions.

The thing is, I'm *not* terribly bothered about committing the acts. I thought I would find them more distasteful. Perhaps it simply hasn't--caught up yet.

I'm sure in the morning I shall feel quite worse, what. I already feel weary and bally well sombre. That's a start, isn't it.

And at least I know I can force myself to do whatever it takes, which makes the tasks ahead seem very much easier.


Gracious, it's going on half-one. You should go back to sleep, dearest. I'll just finish my cup of tea and follow you to bed.

I do love you.

Sweet dreams,

-Justin



 [alt_hydra](#) at [2014-08-28 06:38:18](#)
(no subject)


You might not feel all that much worse. I suppose we'll see. But yes, you should try to sleep, too.

~~Could you at least not call him 'Antonin'~~

I love you. Always and no matter what. Thank you for waking me, even if you didn't intend to.

Goodnight.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-28 06:44:18](#)
(no subject)

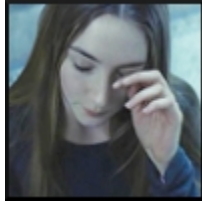
Sweetheart--

I'm so sorry. I just realised, I never even asked you how you've been.

I say, I hope you can face Auror Crouch without letting on about tonight, what. But then you are quite good at that sort of thing.

Before I turn in, is there anything you want to talk about, then?

-Justin




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2014-08-28 06:49:33](#)
(no subject)

I'm fine, truly. Same as always. And Auror Crouch won't suspect I know a thing about your outing.

We'll talk about it more tomorrow, alright? Sleep tight, my Effs.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-28 06:51:25](#)
(no subject)

All right.

Sweet dreams, love.

-J

2014-08-28 01:11:00

Private message to Rod and Barty

Circumstances have arranged themselves such that Barty and I happen to find ourselves in possession of Theo Nott's wand. Do you want it as trophy, or shall I offer it to Auri?



 [alt_antonin](#)



 [alt_antonin](#) at **2014-08-28 11:27:54**

(no subject)

And Barty reminded me at breakfast that Nott took Raz's wand as well; he picked it up last night while my attention was elsewhere.



 [alt_rodolphus](#) at **2014-08-28 15:19:44**

(no subject)

The fate of Nott's wand is inconsequential to me. We know it was not the one that killed my brother.

While I am aware that my brother would prefer his own wand go to his wife, I find that I disagree with him on that score. Raz left no children behind - well, none with his wife - so if the wand is to remain in the family line then it must remain with me. Perhaps it will suit Rigel one day.



 [alt_antonin](#) at **2014-08-28 15:38:32**

(no subject)

I agree entirely, but I didn't know if your family had different customs. I've known some that don't re-use wands, for instance. I'll bring it by in the next few days, or Barty will.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2014-08-29 02:44:52**

(no subject)

Will bring Raz's to you tomorrow noon if that's convenient. Have nothing on the calendar then until Court.

Next debt to repay: Mulciber. Care to join in?



 **alt_rodolphus** at [2014-08-29 04:15:16](#)
(no subject)

Invited for this round but not the one that came before? How generous. I know how much you two enjoy your alone time when it comes to such ventures.



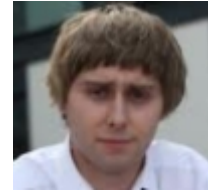
 **alt_crouch_jr** at [2014-08-29 05:32:51](#)
(no subject)

If you'd spoken for Nott, he was yours for the claiming. Not as if we rushed to the kill.

Mulciber you'll have to queue for if you don't want to join us.

2014-08-28 08:55:00

Order Only: Private Message to Sirius and Remus



Good morning,

It was Theo Nott, Sr. The target, what. It was Nott.

 [alt_justin](#)


I say, I believe I impressed them both, though they did not ask me to perform any particularly horrible act. Well, apart from assisting them, of course, but they didn't ask me to cast the killing curse or anything of that nature.

It wasn't an experience I'm keen to relive, what, but I suspect I shall be given the opportunity whether I want it or not. Still, it's a significant step toward earning their trust.

I'm all right. Please tell Mrs Longbottom that I'm fine.

-Justin

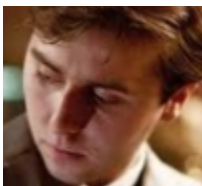


 [alt_lupin](#) at **2014-08-28 15:11:51**

(no subject)

All right, I'll let her know.

She may want you to debrief in a bit more detail with someone else -- in that case, would you prefer that it be one of us? (The other likely alternative is Severus.)



 [alt_justin](#) at **2014-08-28 15:55:44**

(no subject)

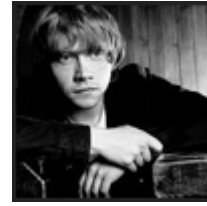
I see.

I...I suppose it makes no difference, whether it's you, Sirius or Mr Snape.

-Justin

2014-08-28 09:03:00


Order Only Private Message to Justin Finch-Fletchley



 [alt_ron](#)

You alright, then, mate? You seemed a bit, I dunno, off last night before you went out, and, well, I wasn't sure you were up this morning when I left, but I didn't want to knock if you wanted to sleep.



 [alt_justin](#) at **2014-08-28 16:08:49**
(no subject)

Ron,

Yes, I'm quite all right. I was restless last night. I say, sorry if I disturbed you, old man.

Drinks after?

-Justin

[2014-08-28 21:30:00](#)

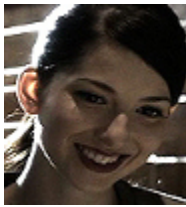
ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Sally-Anne



 [alt_pansy](#)

That was a tonne of fun. I don't think I'll ever forget the look on Sarah Little's face when you put the glasses on her after all that fussing she'd made about not wanting them, and all of a sudden it was like she finally saw the point. As it were. She is quite a handful, isn't she?

I've cleared my schedule for tomorrow so I can help out at Sherwood. You really are quite brilliant at this, you know. I mean, I know you've learned ever so much this summer, but you were downright impressive today.




 [alt_sally_anne](#) at [2014-08-29 04:48:22](#)
(no subject)

Yeah, I felt dead useful today. That went well.

Most everyone at Sherwood is a grownup though, it's going to be harder to get them to line up and look at the chart and let me peer at their eyes. I'm thinking maybe we should emphasise how I need the practice so as to be a good Healer for the Order later. If it's a sacrifice they're making to benefit ME I think people are more likely to make time to show up, don't you?



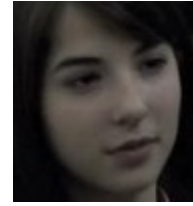
 [alt_pansy](#) at [2014-08-29 05:25:49](#)
(no subject)

They will. And we can make a joke or something about how this'll mean they'll be able to aim even better, too.

The bit you did with the multiple lenses for that teacher was pretty ace. What'd you call them? Difocals?

2014-08-28 23:48:00

*Order Only: Private message to
Madam Pomfrey*



Mrs Longbottom might tell you all of this anyway but just in case.

 **alt_sally_anne**

I examined everyone's eyes at Moddey Dhoo, including the adults. Almost everyone was fine. I made Felicia Saint a new pair of glasses; I think the ones I made for her will work a bit better than what she had, so that was good.


Heather Flockton has lazy eye. I taught a few people the charm, because that has to be done daily, but that should strengthen the eye that doesn't want to do work, so she'll be able to see out of it.

Sarah Little needed glasses. Mrs Bookman seemed really excited, maybe she thinks Sarah will behave better in classes if she can see properly? I tried to tell her not to get her hopes up. Sarah didn't want glasses but she changed her mind as soon as she'd put them on. Anyway I think the reason this was never caught before was that she'd memorised the eye chart at Moddey. Healer Korotkova sent me on my way with one of the charts that resets itself, so children can't cheat! Also there's a charm you can use just to see where the eye is focusing, to give you an idea of how much you need to curve the lens -- anyway she was trying to hide it, but I found her out.

Speaking of Mrs Bookman she needed some glasses to help her with small print, she's been using a magnification charm but I made her some of the charmed spectacles that work for both tiny print and things that are far away and she seemed very pleased.

Tomorrow Pansy and I are going to Sherwood to examine people there so I suppose I'd better go to bed. But I wanted to let you know what I found before I forgot any of it.




 **alt_poppy** at **2014-08-29 05:26:12**
(no subject)

It sounds as if you had a most successful day. I should very much have liked to see you in action. I can see you have excellent instincts for patient management.

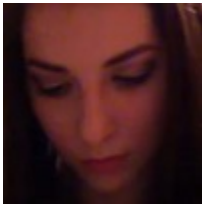
Very proud of you, my dear.



 **alt_poppy** at [2014-08-29 22:08:21](#)
(no subject)

What did you find at Sherwood? I imagine several of them have been in need of spectacles.

Did you see anyone in need of healing?



 **alt_sally_anne** at [2014-08-30 01:30:15](#)
(no subject)

Sorry I didn't reply earlier, I was at Sherwood rather late. Mrs Davidson wanted me to examine Mr Davidson because apparently his eye twitches at odd times (sometimes quite a bit). Of course, there wasn't anything wrong, eyes sometimes just do that, usually when you're under a lot of stress, and who wouldn't be under a lot of stress leading the Sherwood band? I gave him a tisane with some soothing herbs and suggested he cut down on his black tea intake (he drinks quite a lot). Anyway though first someone had to track him down and tell him his wife wanted him to come back to where I was -- it took a while.

Anyway. Laurel Sinclair needed glasses, so I made her a pair. The one it was really good I examined was Jessie Bigg. (One of the muggles.) She's in the early stages of glaucoma. It's quite painless still at this point, and easy to treat, there's a charm that has to be repeated daily, so I taught a couple of people how to do it on her. (Even if she were a Witch she'd have needed someone else to cast it, it's tricky to do on your own eyes.)

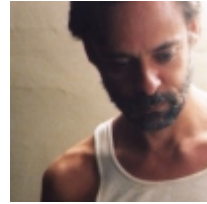
Pansy has the whole list of everyone I examined. I'm sure it wasn't everyone, there are all those different bands, but I saw an awful lot of people today.

2014-08-29 16:13:00

Private message to Barty

Called, by Mark. Painfully. He's angry.

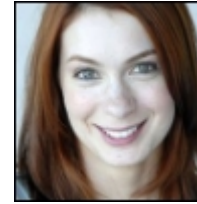
Will tell you if when I return.



 **alt_antonin**

2014-08-29 18:12:00

ORDER ONLY



 [alt_alice](#)

I am pleased and honoured to welcome four new members to the Order: Wayne Hopkins, Robert Stebbins, Katrina Bundy, and Artemus Ross. Remus and I have spent the last week talking and meeting with all of them, and we're happy to announce that all four were formally sworn in this afternoon.

Thank you to Justin, Susan, Evelyn, Neville, and Ron for all your hard work in bringing them to this point. The entire Hogwarts contingent deserves an incredible amount of credit for their efforts in finding good people for our cause.

Wayne Hopkins is working as a courier, which gives him the cover and ability to travel widely. He'll work with Lee Jordan to provide much-needed support running supplies and assisting with the transport of non-magical people from our free zone areas.

Bobby Stebbins is a dock supervisor in Bath, and Remus has already been talking to him about how we might take advantage of his position for our shipments from Laszlo's. Having his capable eyes and ears at one of our major ports will be of great use.

Both Wayne and Bobby will be training further with Severus and Frank in the coming months in preparation for more extensive involvement in our work, and I look forward to their contributions.

Katrina and Artemus are ready and willing to support their fellow Order members at Hogwarts, and we've talked about the incredible work that their classmates have been able to do while still in school, and what they might work towards in the coming months. Given Hogwarts' changes in staffing, their help will be much needed and appreciated, I am sure. Katrina's strengths are Transfiguration and Defence, and she has been looking into internships at the Ministry after she leaves Hogwarts. (Bill, Jeremy, perhaps you might have some words of advice for her on that front.) Artemus is focusing on his Charms work in particular, and also has an affinity for Runes -- his ability to look up resources for Cecelia and help her in her research from afar will be quite the boon.

I know that this summer was one of loss and difficult changes, but I believe we have a firm footing and a clear vision of what is necessary to move forward as we start this next term. These four brave young

people give me great hope for our future. They've all shown incredible courage and strength of character in joining us, and we will be a better and stronger group thanks to them.



 **[alt_evelyn](#)** at **[2014-08-30 03:08:54](#)**

Private Message to Kitty and Artie

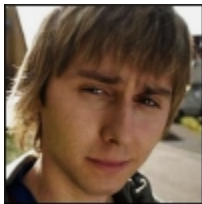
I am so happy I could honestly burst.

Thank you for trusting me.

I love you both so very much.

Talk tomorrow?

And Artie, I know it's all very new, but it'll be worth your while to get to know some people a bit better. Justin and Sally-Anne are utterly brilliant, and Sue and Pansy and Ron are ever so nice, and Daphne's only just joined too. And just think! You'll have ever so much more to talk about with Luna and Ginny now. It'll be just wonderful.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2014-08-30 03:36:37](#)**

Private Message to Mrs Longbottom


Mrs Longbottom,

I say, are Wayne and Stebbs already able to read the lock?

Dash it, I knew they were coming along bally well quickly but I meant to meet them once more before--and then this week with everything--oh, dash it.

-Finch-Fletchley



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-30 04:06:42](#)**

Re: Private Message to Mrs Longbottom


Justin --

Yes, they can now. I'm sorry this caught you unawares -- I know this week has been a particularly difficult one for you already. If I'd known what you had in mind, I

would've held off. Apologies.

I'm sure they won't take any offence if you talk to them over the weekend instead.



 **[alt_justin](#)** at **[2014-08-30 04:09:54](#)**
Re: Private Message to Mrs Longbottom

No, no, it's all right. I've just written to them.

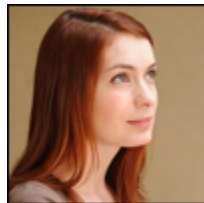
It's simply...they were my dormmates for a year and I didn't wish them to find out my bloodline from Sirius' old posts, what.


They had the right to hear it from me directly, if you follow me. But I've told them--a touch more haphazardly than one might like, what, but nonetheless at least from my own quill.

It's entirely my fault for not realising they were jolly well ready to come on board.

Sorry to have disturbed you,

-F-F




 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-30 04:15:45](#)**
Re: Private Message to Mrs Longbottom

Of course. Yes.

I'm glad you were able to get it sorted, then. I'd imagine they'll be stumbling into enough secrets as it is.

You've done a very good thing bringing them along, Justin. And you've been invaluable this summer. Thank you.

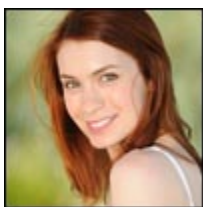



 **[alt_severus](#)** at **[2014-08-30 04:07:13](#)**
(no subject)

Welcome to our new inductees.

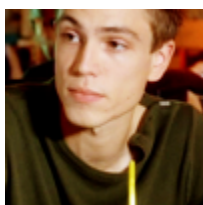
Alice, I trust you have gone over the importance of


Occlumency practise so that I need not once again be a broken record.



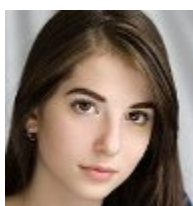
 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-30 04:17:22](#)**
(no subject)

Naturally!



 **[alt_jeremy](#)** at **[2014-08-30 16:32:17](#)**
(no subject)

New people are in, then? Welcome, all!




 **[alt_sally_anne](#)** at **[2014-08-30 17:22:19](#)**
(no subject)

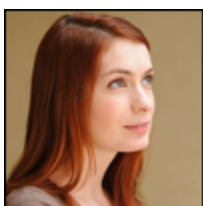
Welcome, all of you.


Katrina, I suppose you'll be learning occlumency with Professor Brutka seeing as Mr Snape's not going to be at the school anymore. I've got copies of the books about occlumency, the one I found most helpful was the 'Pane of Water' one and also 'On Occlumency' by Jacob Kilwale. I think you'll like the Kilwale one, I'll get it to you as soon as we're back at school.



 **[alt_ginny](#)** at **[2014-08-30 17:23:48](#)**
Private message to Alice Longbottom

Would it be all right if I start trying to see whether Honoria might be interested in joining us? She is NOTHING like her sister, absolutely the complete opposite.



 **[alt_alice](#)** at **[2014-08-31 00:56:20](#)**
Re: Private message to Alice Longbottom

Well, Ginny, love, that depends on a few things.

First of all, her circumstances are a touch different

from our more recent recruits -- her sister is not only a Council member, but will also be teaching at the school.

You've seen how difficult it has been for Draco, and for Harry, Hydra, and Pansy as well. She'd face a similarly hard choice, and wouldn't have the same degree of support that the rest of them have built up together over several years. The security risk is also a great deal higher for her than it is for the likes of Katrina Bundy.

Along the lines of support, I'd also want to have some consensus on the matter -- you're her very dear friend, but I would want some other Order members to feel secure about bringing her on as well. She might need to make a few more connections first.


It was a very near thing with Artemus, you know -- because he's quite shy, not a lot of other Order members knew very much about him, let alone what he thought about things, and it took a bit of time over hols to get him chatting with Neville, Ron, and Luna so they could get to know him better and see him how Evelyn saw him. And they didn't talk about out-and-out revolution -- they discussed the book club, and Sarah Fawcett, and what happened to Draco, and Umbridge, and found out what he felt strongly about, and what he thought was right and wrong before even opening that particular door. (Apparently, he's quite passionate about intellectual freedom. Neville told me that he went on and on about a book written in 1984 or somesuch that was all about it.)

I trust my daughter to the ends of the earth and back again, and I trust you too. But sometimes, when people love each other very much, they may not see things others can, so it was important for me to know that Artemus really was ready and willing to join us; that Evie's love for him didn't give her a false sense of how far she could trust him, and that his love for her wouldn't be the only reason he'd want to join.

I'd also be cautious about recruiting someone while school is in session, especially with our reduced staff presence.


So, for those reasons, I'd want to tread carefully with Honoria -- but you can certainly start having the kinds of conversations that our people had with Artie over the summer, to get a sense of what she thinks and feels, and perhaps see if some of our other members can get to know her better too. We also ought to see how having her sister teaching at the school might impact things before diving in. Does that sound reasonable?



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2014-08-30 23:47:35](#)**
(no subject)

Welcome to the Order. I'm glad you're with us.



 **[alt_harry](#)** at **[2014-08-30 23:57:15](#)**
Private Message to Bobby Stebbins

I just wanted to say

When I was at the docks with Finnigan and Patil a few weeks ago


Well, first off, I wanted to apologise. In case I came off as a giant berk or something.

Anyways.

I think it's really ace you're a part of this, and I think Mrs Longbottom is right, it's dead useful to have someone with eyes and ears at one of the ports. And you and Wayne both were a real help during fifth year, too. I figure we got through that, we can get through anything. Sophie's Army has got to stick together, yeah?


You ever have any questions, you just let me know. You can tell Wayne as much too.



 **[alt_neville](#)** at **[2014-09-01 13:48:23](#)**
(no subject)

Welcome to all of you.



 **[alt_bill](#)** at **[2014-09-01 13:53:07](#)**
(no subject)


Excellent news.

It would be brilliant to have more in the Order positioned here at the Ministry, so yes, Jeremy and I

will put heads together on that, and Nick, too. I've reached a level that I might be able to pull some strings on creating an internship for Katrina when she's ready; let me give it some thought.

In the meantime: new inductees, welcome to our merry band.




 **[alt_terra](#)** at **[2014-09-01 14:07:06](#)**
(no subject)

Wayne, maybe you'll remember me. I'm a contact for Lee when he stops by Sherwood. I'm out in the field a lot now with the Zulu scouts--Lee can explain that--but hopefully I'll see you soon. And I'll probably see you and Bobby during training sessions with Dad, since I come back to Moddey once in awhile for those--Mr Longbottom, I mean.

Glad to have you all joining us. (Artemus, I'm a Ravenclaw, too, by the way.)



 **[alt_luna](#)** at **[2014-09-01 14:10:08](#)**
(no subject)

Evelyn and Artie; I'll look for you on the train! If we get a private compartment, we can talk with Muffliato up.

I'm glad to have another Order member in my House.

2014-08-29 22:59:00

Order Only: Private Message to Wayne Hopkins and Bobby Stebbins



 [alt_justin](#)

Hallo, chaps,

Welcome to the Order. I say, I meant to have another drink with you both before Mrs Longbottom had you join properly. So sorry, this week simply--got away from me, what.

I wanted to tell you both in person; you'll have loads to read and quite a number of discoveries to make behind the lock. But there's one I'd rather you not learn by reading posts from years ago. I'd bally well hoped to be the one to tell you that I'm actually Muggleborn. I mean to say, my mother and father are not actually Squibs, if you follow me.

I'm jolly well glad you've joined up, lads. I do wish we'd been able to manage it while you were still at school, though, as we're headed back up on Monday. Speaking of that, Summers has told me he's bally well going to get an O in his Charms N.E.W.T. if it kills him; Ernie wrote me rather put out that Moon was chosen over him; and Smith is--well, Smith. So you can see, they all still have their priorities quite straight. I say, I'd have looked forward to returning more if you two were back in the sett with me, especially now, knowing the truth. But you'll find working for the Order makes even the dullest tasks jolly interesting at times, and worth the trial the rest of the time. (My summer internship was about as exciting as watching billywigs nest, what, but one managed to find ways to pass the time and to discover items of use to the Order.)

I say, fancy that round of drinks sometime on Sunday? We could meet round at Ron Weasley's and my flat or at Pansy Parkinson's house and you can ask any questions you like. As I say, it's dashed easy to become overwhelmed by all the information you now have, what, but there are almost more of us younger folk now than the older set, and we've all come to it at varying speeds. Best advice is to pace yourself. Oh, and Sally-Anne Perks advises not to read in bed, what, as you'll just lose valuable sleep, turning pages and pages!

Let me know if you want to meet up before the rest of us go back. And welcome again!

-Finch-Fletchley

2014-08-30 08:03:00

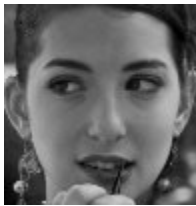
private message to Sally-Anne



 **alt_megan**

Is there something you would like me to bring? To Hogwarts I mean. From the Bad Jam cupboard. Because I can do that. I can just put it in with mine, and Mrs Stretton has given me an extra-big basket to fill already. I think she is pleased. Not so much with me although she has hardly yelled at me in three weeks which must be some sort of record, but because they have that big contract with St Mungo's now and so she is very pleased. And there are some jars now in the Bad Jam cupboard that have got "by appointment to St Mungo's" labels on them from when she was doing a practice run on labelling charms only they didn't come out quite right. So I could bring some of those.

And thank you again for helping me get this position. And I hope you had a good summer. Did you have a good summer?



 **alt_sally_anne** at **2014-08-30 17:16:41**
(no subject)

Oh, yes please. I would take a jar of the blackberry and the one that's a mix of apple and strawberry, if there's any in there.

Anyway, yes, I had a good summer. Headmaster Dolohov helped me get a summer internship with Healer Korotkova, who's an ophthalmancer (a Healer specialising in eye diseases and curses who also makes glasses). I made loads of glasses and learned quite a bit about healing eye problems.

Did you have a good summer? Anything I should bully Jeremy into taking care of for you before you head back?

2014-08-30 18:35:00

Order Only - Social Climblings



 [alt_daphne](#)


Last night I attended a party near Sloane Square that was hosted by Sophia Novello, the society writer, with Blaise Zabini as my escort. It was a young-ish crowd, and by youngish I mean that most were between the ages of 20-40, with Blaise and myself probably two of the youngest in attendance. Some of the younger Council Wizards and Witches were there - Cal Pummel, Auror Crouch, Sarah Yaxley, Jason Montague, Ptolemy Baddock, Virgil Crispin - though the bulk of those in attendance were social climbing purebloods. Most of the evening's conversation revolved around upcoming gallery openings, theatre events, who has the best 'mudblood help,' and other gossipy tidbits.

I overheard quite a bit of speculation about the demise of Mr Nott (who was murdered the other night, apparently), though of course never anywhere near any of the other Council members. The announcement hadn't even hit the papers yet (and still hasn't, I don't believe?), but someone at the party came bearing the news and it soon spread like whispered wildfire through the crowd. Most people seem to think that Headmaster Dolohov, Auror Crouch, and Mr Lestrange were all in it together, and that it was an act of vengeance for Professor Raz.

While most people seem quite oblivious to how the Council's in-fighting might potentially impact their own lives, I did detect signs that this was not the case for everyone. I engaged in a long conversation with Siobhan Calderwood, who came to the party as my cousin Jason's plus one, about the pitfalls of associating with those on the Council. She told me that she *liked* Jason quite a lot, that she hoped I didn't think her at all *disloyal* for having some hesitation about his prospects, only so many council wizards have died, of late, and if someone like Mr Malfoy can end up Azkaban, she doesn't know if dating a Council Wizard is very wise. I reassured Siobhan that Jason will probably come 'round to Sarah Yaxley again, as he always seems to, and she appeared relieved to hear it.

I don't suppose any of this is terribly useful, but just in case it is, I thought I would pass it along.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2014-08-31 01:12:57](#)
(no subject)


Was Pummel

Thanks, Daphs.

What were people saying about Dolohov? Like, in general? From what I can see, he's fairly secure, I'd be curious about whether other people thought that way too.

And did you overhear anything about Hydra? Or Patil and Finnigan? Or me?




 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-31 01:22:41](#)
(no subject)

I think they are either too afraid of Dolohov, or too respectful, to gossip too terribly much. They did seem to think that Mr Nott was no great loss, which isn't surprising given how popular the Razzer was.

A lot of people spoke about how young Hydra, Padma, and Seamus are, but were careful to make a fuss about what an honour it was for them to be on the Council. I think they may believe that those three are to be your own personal squad of Council members, perhaps tasked to protect your life with their own now that Raz is gone.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2014-08-31 01:19:13](#)
Private Message to Daphs

I haven't talked much to Blaise over hols.

Do you think he'd be up for re-starting poker or something? I know now that Draco and Teddy aren't around, it'll be really different. And it was sort of

Well, last term, I wanted to make it clear that Teddy wasn't a part of things.

But I think it could be good. To have do stuff, I mean. With Justin and Ron, or maybe Finnigan, depending. I think Moon would drive him up

the wall, though. Anyways. I think it could work out well for the both of us. What do you think?



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-31 01:26:25](#)


Re: Private Message to Daphs

Well, he's been enduring his mother, so you haven't missed much.

I do think that Draco's "death" shocked him down to his very core, and I believe he is deeply relieved not to have been Marked.

Blaise is always up for diversions of any sort, whether they involve cards or not, but I am not sure how he'd feel about being cast as Draco's replacement at your side, so you'd need to be careful not to make it seem as if that was your intention.



 [alt_harry](#) at [2014-08-31 04:59:42](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphs

Yeah. Okay. Between Hydra and Justin, I can pull that off. No politics, just occasional poker and a cigar or something.

Finnigan's tricky too. Because there's so many different ways I could go with it, you know? Hermione thinks I could be nicer. And Hydra thinks he'd be a good ally in the council if it came to it, because of Rosier.

I guess I could make him get on with Ron if it came to it. Or at least make him pretend.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-31 05:04:34](#)

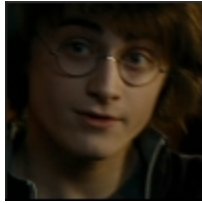
Re: Private Message to Daphs


Make Seamus pretend? As in, order him? Whoever gave you the idea that you should start ordering people around?

Oh, I can guess. Because that's what Draco would do if he were you, and he'd be quite good at it, mind. But Harry, you're not Draco, and if you'll forgive me for saying so, you're a completely

rubbish actor.

Be friendly and accepting to Seamus. He's a halfblood, like you, but he's not the Lord Protector's son. Acceptance is all he's ever wanted. Of that I'm quite sure.




 [alt_harry](#) at [2014-08-31 05:35:42](#)

Re: Private Message to Daphs

It'd be easier that way, yeah.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2014-08-31 01:30:25](#)

(no subject)

Old man Nott is dead? No tremendous loss there - let he and his son spend a miserable eternity together.

So who did kill him? Does anyone know for certain?

Siobhan probably just thinks that Jason has oddly-shaped ears, because, let's face it, he does. They're like shrunken saucers, or something, even if the rest of him is acceptable enough.




 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-31 01:40:27](#)

(no subject)

Honestly, Jason's ears are fine, they just turn out the tiniest bit. No one but you would notice!

As to Mr Nott, I don't think anyone who was there knows for certain. They're all just leaping to the most logical conclusion. Though when I did speak to Auror Crouch, he seemed a bit...dampened? No, not that. He just wasn't quite himself, somehow. The fact that I even noticed is telling, since the food and drink was charmed to make everyone loose and blithe and congenial.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2014-08-31 01:52:20](#)

Private message to Daphs

You were forced to make conversation with Crouch? Let me be the first to send you my condolences. Be grateful he wasn't himself - the man is a predator, through and through, with no respect whatsoever for anything resembling a boundary.

I remember all too well what those sort of parties entail, as well. I hope that Blaise didn't abandon you to some horrible miscreant while he himself fuffed off with an over-perfumed society cow.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-31 03:14:56](#)

Re: Private message to Daphs

I know a predator when I see one, Draco. Don't trouble yourself over it.

No, Blaise didn't abandon me. Well, he did fuff off with someone...possibly over-perfumed. But it's fine. I wasn't left alone, nor in the hands of a horrible miscreant.



 [alt_draco](#) at [2014-08-31 04:02:12](#)

Re: Private message to Daphs

~~And now you're writing to him?~~

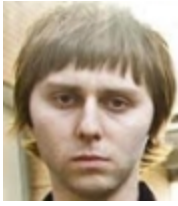
Only looking out for you, Daphs. Hard habit to break. But you're right - of course you know how to look out for yourself without me chiming in.




 [alt_hydra](#) at [2014-08-31 01:43:56](#)

(no subject)

It's true that Mr Nott is dead, but I know that my father wasn't involved.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-31 02:17:34](#)

Private Message to Draco

Draco,

Professor Dolohov killed him, along with Auror Crouch, what, assisted by--well, by me, in fact.

Cheers.

-Justin



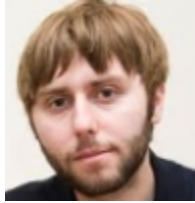
 [alt_draco](#) at [2014-08-31 03:13:01](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

Oh? And how was that?

And I wonder what the Lord Protector will make of Dolohov bringing along "outsiders" on his special

excursions.



 [alt_justin](#) at [2014-08-31 04:02:08](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

It was a bally old stroll through the garden, what.

As for the Lord Protector, I'm not quite certain it *was* one of his excursions. Either way, however, I certainly shan't go out of my way to tell him.

-F-F



 [alt_draco](#) at [2014-08-31 04:04:35](#)

Re: Private Message to Draco

I meant Dolohov's excursions, not the Lord Protector's.

Glad to hear you're not losing any sleep over it. Good riddance to the last of the Notts, and may their ghosts never darken our thresholds in the years to come.

2014-08-30 19:03:00

Private message to Auror Crouch

Mr Crouch,

Last night was quite the theatre - an apt demonstration of what I was envisioning when I told you that romance is always a stage, with most people not realising it. Mr Evan, in particular, comes to mind as being remarkably obtuse. At the time I wondered why you came over to interrupt us, but in looking back, I can only imagine that someone as accustomed to investigating as you are must have detected my bewildering disinterest in your colleague. Why you chose to intervene remains a mystery, though one I shall ponder for a good long while. I don't know whether I should thank you, or be put out that you spared me the pleasure of turning him down when he offered me his potion - as he surely planned to.



 [alt_daphne](#)

I will without hesitation, however, thank you for seeing me home to Belgravia. I found our conversation, and its conclusion, quite diverting.

Sincerely,
D.G.G.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at **2014-08-31 03:39:11**

(no subject)

Evan was being an idiot. Needed a clear demonstration of how to read the difference between disinterest and eagerness in a witch's body language.

My pleasure. Truly.



 [alt_daphne](#) at **2014-08-31 03:55:58**

(no subject)


I agree, though I would be interested in what it was that you noticed me doing to signal my disinterest. My conversation was cordial enough, I believe. It's difficult to know how straightforward to be when you're only just coming into your season, and possibly the youngest witch at the party, besides.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2014-08-31 04:21:10](#)
(no subject)

Your performance with Evan was well-managed, but not flawless. You appeared to be having a blandly pleasant exchange, but from any distance away, one could see you had no intention of accepting his glass if he proffered it. Your chin and one shoulder were ever so slightly angled away from him, not inclining towards as one does when hoping a conversation would progress to intimacy. Your free hand was closed in a fist--not clenched--nothing so obvious as that, but closed and held by your side, as far from accepting as possible. Other small marks were evident in passing moments as I watched. His tells, meanwhile, were of increasing boldness. There was no point letting him make a spectacle of you.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-31 04:30:20](#)
(no subject)


I thank you for your frank critique, Mr Crouch. Next time I shall make certain that Mr Evan--or others of similar inclination--have no room for such illusions. For I sincerely doubt that an observant Auror will always be on hand to watch so closely, and be somehow compelled to intervene.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2014-08-31 03:41:32](#)
(no subject)

Trust you were none the worse today for Sophia's libations last evening.



 [alt_daphne](#) at [2014-08-31 03:59:38](#)
(no subject)

I've suffered much worse. Whoever prepared the refreshments had a deft hand, and I took care not to over-indulge.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#) at [2014-08-31 04:22:23](#)
(no subject)

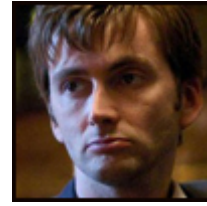
Wise of you.

2014-08-31 19:47:00

Private Message to A Dolohov

Batya.

Assume you saw the evening edition. Mulciber, of course. Suppose he thinks it's clever, giving the Prophet that picture. 'An MLE spokesperson assures The Prophet that the department expects to apprehend the culprits in this heinous crime "with alacrity".' An MLE spokesperson.



 [alt_crouch_jr](#)

Will be interesting to read the follow up. Care to wager? 'MLE admit all leads at dead end in Nott case'? or 'MLE arrest sewer rats in Nott execution'?


Meanwhile, Mulciber's burying me in parchment on every open file. Petty nonsense.

Oh, and this evening's rumour? That Crabbe attempted an ambush of M, but failed. Surely rubbish. Crabbe? Glendower, maybe. Putting Crabbe up to it? No substance to it so far as I know.

Not that I wouldn't dance for joy if he fell, but I want that death myself. I promised Lucius.

And now we've promised otherwise. Dammit.



 [alt_antonin](#) at **2014-09-01 15:32:50**
(no subject)

I did indeed see the paper last night. Not subtle, is he? I am sorry you have to deal with the aftermath in more ways than one. (As to that -- agree that we ought be on our best behaviour for a while; that dressing-down was entirely too close for my liking.)

Speaking of the paper, I'm too tired and overworked to tease you for your latest appearance in the society pages, so you may fill it in yourself.

Wish me luck, meanwhile; the little darlings should be arriving in eight hours or so.