Hey, kiddo. I keep thinking about you -- I hope you're doing all right.

Luna said she'd sent you a sketch of Adam. I wanted to tell you, he showed his magic the other day. Summoned something from clear across the room.

I think he misses you. I know I do. Take care of yourself, yeah? I love you.
This kitten is a descendent of one of the kittens from Headmistress Umbridge's kitten plates.

It's playing with a ball of yarn because many of us have been setting up charms to make stockings and jumpers (Mum your Mum Mrs Weasley has been teaching the charm to as many people as she can), and so a lot of the girls have knitting needles hovering in the air, clicking away just behind them while they're busy doing something else.

Charlie wrote to you, I see. I assume he told you his family news?

Adam is just as adorable as ever. And even more admired now, of course.

I wish

I wish you would
Private Message to B Lestrange and A Dolohov

Rowle confirmed intel re. movement into Ipswich 289. Estimate 3,500 arrivals.

So it's Go for tonight.

Protectorate Defence contributing three units. (Reserving the rest for NL or resupply, should circumstances warrant.) Rowle to hold his orders close until T-30.

Re. last night. Penderyn's debrief of relevant personnel confirms our assessment. Phoenixes arrived shortly behind us. Suggests mole is in a unit, not leading one. Still. Travers taking point on that.

All MLE units remain on Protocol 17 for duration of Freedom festival (@ which, nothing to report). All units ready for short notice call-out. Braithewaite will issue Ips orders to our units @ T-30.

Will go personally to alert Rod. Said they'd be Thameside this afternoon.

Berry brought supper, if you have time to join me. (Upwind of the little darlings.)

Did she bring any of the cheese Narcissa sent? (A hopeful sign, indeed, that parcel this morning!)

Suppose it's not poisoned.
She did indeed, and I'm saving it for you; I know it's your favourite.

(I must write to N once this operation is over; I am so dreadfully behind on keeping in touch. But things getting through is indeed a good sign.)

Mole in unit, perhaps. It would be wise not to discount those who are otherwise connected to unit members. Spouses, family, friends. I plan to investigate further after the weekend.

Expect me to arrive shortly after the call-out.
We are going ahead with Barra and the Ireland rite tonight. We're leaving shortly, sunset's at 9:45, and we hope to have the location fully secure well before then.

I want to remind everyone that floo and other locational magics are likely to stop working, as we've noted. We should be able to adjust once things settle down after the ward shifts. If you see other odd magical effects, please tell me or one of the other committee (preferably in writing, it's much easier to track). Anything might be relevant.

The whole ritual takes until tomorrow at dawn (which is 5:22), and we'll be back a bit after that, if when everything goes smoothly.

Alice, Remus: I've turned off notifico for my journal for everyone but you two and Linus. (He's at Hogwarts to coordinate communication and take measurements, and someone will also be up in the workroom all night to monitor.) If anything comes up elsewhere (like last night), we may be able to spare a few wands, but we won't know until we've seen how things are there. Jeremy's offered to come along to help on site.

A great deal of thanks is due to everyone on the committee, and especially to Irma for analysis and research, and Evelyn, Linus, Septima, and Jeremy for modelling effects and doing a great many calculations.

I've told Evelyn that she should stick close to Sean Finnigan, and if there's the least concern about safety, to get him out and get back to Hogwarts, no matter what I'm doing.

We couldn't have done this without a lot of people, but especially her.

If anything goes wrong, Cecilia and Gilly have complete copies of my notes, and my trunk with the other things is in my rooms.
**alt_charlie** at **2015-08-01 23:14:46**
(no subject)

Good luck, you all.

---

**alt_fred** at **2015-08-01 23:31:25**
(no subject)

Yes, definitely!

We'll ask the house elves to have a heroic breakfast waiting for you for when you return.

---

**alt_susan** at **2015-08-02 02:19:50**
(no subject)

Good luck, Professor Siz! I know you and the whole team have put loads and loads of work into getting this ready. I'll be waiting with that cuppa too.

---

**alt_poppy** at **2015-08-02 03:06:49**
(no subject)

Standing by and ready if needed. Imagine that Healers Chadwick and Burrows will be enough, but if you need more hands, don't hesitate.
**2015-08-01 21:12:00**
*Private message to Barty and Bella*

The shambling horrors and I are in position and disillusioned. Rod and Lana are also in place with their troops. We're ready when you are; I'll await your signal.

---

**alt_crouch_jr** at 2015-08-02 02:19:05
*(no subject)*

T-11

---

**alt_antonin** at 2015-08-02 02:22:36
*(no subject)*

Understood.

Good hunting, dear heart.

---

**alt_crouch_jr** at 2015-08-02 02:28:05
*(no subject)*

See you in hell, if not before, Dedushka.

---

**alt_antonin** at 2015-08-02 02:28:39
*(no subject)*

As always, lapushka, if I'm first to arrive, I'll save you a seat.

Ready when you are.
@alt_crouch_jr at 2015-08-02 02:30:35
(no subject)

Go.
One minutes to sunset. Observers confirmed in position. Ready to receive information here.

All best to you and the team, Professor Siz.
**2015-08-01 21:42:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Aurors and Enforcers*

Just got word through the button network, there's an attack in progress at Fradswell. Field Teams 4, 5, and 6, get there as fast as you can. Be prepared for Inferi, apparently Dolohov has been making them. Be prepared for Crouch and Dolohov, for that matter.

Field Teams 1 through 3, stand by. I hate to send you out for action two nights running but you may be needed. Grab some alertness potions if you need them.

---

**alt_rachel at 2015-08-02 02:51:02**

(no subject)

Standing by.

---

**alt_justin at 2015-08-02 02:52:50**

(no subject)

Ready if needed, just say the word.

-F-F

---

**alt_rachel at 2015-08-02 02:57:37**

*Private Message to Ron Weasley and Justin Finch-Fletchley*

Just had confirmation of Inferi. And a reminder that Hermione's there with the Sleeper group.

Find her and get her out, if you can. She's not someone we can easily afford to lose.

Ron, take Charlie if he's with you.
On it.

Charlie's in.

On my way.

-F-F
2015-08-01 22:08:00
private message to Moon, Siz, Evelyn

Primary ritual phase underway. Looking good.

Moon, Siz wants readings on ley fluctuations above thirtieth percentile if any, plus run Perenelle's Pendulum and calculate. She'll check in when we swap off monitoring, during the gap between primary and principal ritual phases.

alt_linus at 2015-08-02 03:12:13
(no subject)

Shall do posthaste, Stretton.

alt_linus at 2015-08-02 03:26:27
(no subject)

No ley fluctuations above the mark. No reports of unusual phenomena. The squid is reported to be sluggish tonight but I'd hardly think that signifies. Results from Perenelle's Pendulum: delta, delta, tau, epsilon, lambda, alpha. All else commensurately calm.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-02 03:42:54
(no subject)

Right. First. Get an elf to take the following paragraph to Alice, Remus, Rachel, and whoever's holding down the workroom. If any of them are out of the castle, tell Campanella too.

Rookwood's holed up, Manx, Muir, and Peel are keeping him busy, but someone should monitor to see if he attempts to write for backup or any other reason. Rest of getting things secure went very fast, and so far the rite is proceeding as anticipated.

Principal phase begins at 11:20, I'll be entirely occupied for at least one full 39 minute cycle then, possibly two. I want another Perenelle's Pendulum reading at 11:15, and one at 11:25, monitor
the leys in between, and then take readings on the quarter and three-quarter hour marks.

The tau worries me. Before then, run the Ficino variant, please, and cross check against the harmonic resonance for the island size.

Thank you, Linus.

---

**alt_linus** at *2015-08-02 03:54:19*

*(no subject)*

The note has been sent as requested. Your readings, with added variant, shall be conducted as directed. Headmistress Vector is holding down the workroom at present, and sends her best regards.

---

**alt_linus** at *2015-08-02 04:22:05*

*(no subject)*

The Ficino variant produced a sextet of gammas, a clean sweep, which seemed a bit improbable. I therefore re-ran it, which meant I was rather rushed to get the quarter-hour standard Pendulum. Sorry for the delay! Herewith the data:

Ficino 1: gamma, gamma, gamma, gamma, gamma, gamma

Ficino 2: gamma, gamma, gamma, gamma, gamma, gamma

Harmonic resonance cross-check indicates the values are accurate. How odd, but there it is.

Perenelle (standard) Pendulum 11:15: delta, gamma, zeta, epsilon, zeta, beta

---

**alt_linus** at *2015-08-02 04:47:38*

*(no subject)*

Perenelle’s Pendulum (standard) 11:45: kappa, kappa, omicron, mu, tau, sigma
Right. Siz told me right before principle phase: record and hold further reports unless significant disturbance, in which case run Perenelle's, but report directly only if you hit phi or higher.
**2015-08-01 22:09:00**

Order Only Private Message to Justin and Charlie

I just dead-ended. No sign of the Sleeper area here. Will double back.

Any sign of Hermione or her group?

Haven't seen any Inferi, but from the sounds of it, the fighting's thick beyond the admin block.

---

**alt_charlie** at **2015-08-02 03:23:38**

(no subject)

Somebody pointed me in the right direction. Awfully busy over here, but I think I hear

**alt_ron** at **2015-08-02 03:28:06**

(no subject)

You alright there?

**alt_ron** at **2015-08-02 03:32:06**

(no subject)

Charlie?

**alt_justin** at **2015-08-02 03:37:57**

(no subject)

The fighting is rather heavy in the administrative building, and that's where Hermione was said to be. I'll look for Charlie while looking for Hermione.

-F-F.
Damn.

Making my way there.

Charlie. Check in if you can.
**2015-08-01 22:22:00**

*Order Only*

Auror and Enforcer units 1, 2, 3 needed at Fradswell. Meet me at the Apparation point.

Inferi confirmed.

Unit 1: Auror Weasley has a separate assignment.

---

*alt_susan* at **2015-08-02 03:41:51**

*(no subject)*

Do you need more of us to muster up? I mean, beyond the Authors and Enforcers, that is.

---

*alt_rachel* at **2015-08-02 03:57:28**

*(no subject)*

Yes, come if you're willing.

Use the west Apparation point and avoid the Admin block as you come in. You'll hear the fighting before you see it.

---

*alt_susan* at **2015-08-02 04:01:44**

*(no subject)*

Understood. Got my broom, on my way.

---

*alt_bill* at **2015-08-02 04:04:43**

*(no subject)*

Right. On my way, with Fred, Terry, and any others we can snag.

Can't find Charlie; is he already with you? Sent him a patronus.
Charlie is here, yes.
Use Fradwell west A-point. I'll look for you. If you miss me, watch yourselves. Take orders if you fall in with any of our units.

Got it.

Know you'll do it anyway, but watch your back, love.

Inferi! My goodness. I'd so hoped we'd seen the last of them.

Sleeper section's been attacked and everyone scattered. Lots of casualties.

Found Snell and Pepper here when we arrived, slightly injured. Report is that Charlie got here just ahead of a DEMLE unit. They defended and then Unit 6 turned up and beat back the hostiles, but there's a huge lot of damage to the building here. Walls blasted to rubble and all.

Anywiz, they've evacuated the injured. And that included both
Hermione and Charlie.

Should we follow them to the triage area or join our units?

alt_rachel at 2015-08-02 04:16:15
Re: Private Message to R Brodie

Unit 1's in Admin north. Head there.

alt_fred at 2015-08-02 04:32:10
(no subject)

Brought along a few of Fu's incendiaries, which we're handing off to any Enforcers we find. They're a helluva lot easier to pinpoint target than Fiendfyre. And inferi hate 'em.

alt_susan at 2015-08-02 04:35:24
(no subject)

Ooh, where are you? Was just thinking a more controlled burn would be useful.

Though we can't really do much with fire too near the Sleepers.

alt_fred at 2015-08-02 04:43:05
(no subject)

West side of a warehouse. Uh, warehouse 6, the sign says. Admin's about three buildings away.

alt_susan at 2015-08-02 05:00:55
(no subject)

Breaking off from unit 4 to head your way.

Thank Merlin they haven't been able to make these fuckers sit on a broom.
alt_draco at 2015-08-02 05:23:53
(no subject)

I've just finished Russell's shift at Summerfest and have returned to his flat.

Tell me where I'm needed.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-02 05:27:34
(no subject)

Fradswell west A-point. Wand out.

Things are moving fast.

alt_susan at 2015-08-02 05:29:50
(no subject)

Broom too
Holed up in the cave, alone. The Ashes bastards have attacked the isle. Minimal numbers. Look to be attempting some sort of ritual. Anything they attempt tonight or tomorrow is a terrible idea. Whatever you're doing isn't as important as this. Get here now. Bring out the troops. Rain down Fiendfyre. The isle burning eternal is better than whatever they have planned.

They may be aiming for midnight. If you're not here by then, I'll do what's necessary. Needs must. Over the top and blow them all to hell.

The minutes are ticking.

If it all goes to hell, grab the little Mick, bloody him, take cover and throw him into the wards and you should be able to get through, for a few minutes anyway.
Private Message to B Lestrange, B Crouch, A Dolohov, and R Lestrange

Have cleared south convalescent dormitory. Do you need us in another sector?

Circle around to NE barracks. Take it you have control of them now?

More difficult than it looks, it's true.

Needed to pair our magic. Suppose it's the way we were working when we were learning the spell.

But, yes. Responding fully to command now.

Where are we needed?

North East Barracks.

Didn't realise pregnancy affected reading skills.

NEED WANDS AT SW GATE THEY HAVE FIRE

1 SQUAD OF INF. ALREADY DOW
DOING OK WITH OTHERS THO

alt_crouch_jr at 2015-08-02 04:55:53
(no subject)

On my way.

alt_antonin at 2015-08-02 04:52:42
(no subject)

CAREFUL

WHEN DESTROYED MAY BREAK YOUR CONCENTRATION UNLESS BRACED FOR IT

FOCUS MORE
Grab all the supplies for wounded you can and come help at triage. Colin C will meet you at Fradwell west apparation point and direct you.
2015-08-01 23:59:00
(no subject)

Too late.

Over the top boys!

For Our Lord and England!
2015-08-02 00:01:00
private message to Alice, Remus, Rachel

Principle ritual phase complete; work proceeding. Finnigan alive. Rookwood dead.

Sorry, a little shook, but we’re good. Rookwood apparated screaming into the ritual area just before the tick of midnight as Siz finished observations. She took him out with Farmington’s Asphyxia. Bloody fast, she is. Remind me never to be on the receiving end of a curse from her. We levitated the body off the pitch. Ritual continuation unimpeded. Continuing with observations until next phase of blooding.

alt_jeremy at 2015-08-02 05:03:14
(no subject)

Peel coming to lend a wand at Fradwell. Muir and Manx remaining.
Don't come to triage! Inferi overran it
Order Only

I've been waved back by some of the Hogwarts galleon holders. They were evacuating some of the wounded, but the Healers with them are missing, along with the rest.

The inferi have swarmed the site. Don't send any more wounded there!

Noted.

You should evacuate Molly. Return to Hogwarts and help us track arrivals there. We'll want to know who has returned once units begin withdrawing.

On my way.
2015-08-02 00:23:00
Order only

I'm pinned down. Guarding a group of about twenty. They're mobile and mostly uninjured but about to bolt in panic except inferi are converging from everywhere. Have only four of Fu's bombs left.

alt_fred at 2015-08-02 05:27:41
(no subject)
Shite. WHERE?!

alt_terry at 2015-08-02 05:29:13
(no subject)
Southeast corner, beyond the kitchens.
Two bombs left. hurry

alt_bill at 2015-08-02 05:30:22
(no subject)
On our way.

alt_terry at 2015-08-02 05:31:30
(no subject)
They've...they've all fallen over! The inferi!
Merlin, they've stopped.

alt_terry at 2015-08-02 05:41:37
(no subject)
Bloody hell, I thought I was a goner for sure.
Unit 3 reporting.

All of the Inferi here have fallen down and stopped their advance.

I think they're dead? Truly dead, I mean.

---

@alt_bill at 2015-08-02 05:37:06
(no subject)

Who was commanding them? Was it Bellatrix? Is she dead? Was it Crouch?

Rachel, did your contact know?

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-02 05:39:35
(no subject)

It was Antonin Dolohov.

@alt_sirius at 2015-08-02 05:41:35
(no subject)

Yes, it was.

I don't know whose curse connected, though.

@alt_sirius at 2015-08-02 05:40:50
(no subject)

Bill, I have an angle from here. I think the commander was Dolohov. For just a second I saw a figure on one of the rooves.

But I barely had time to fire off a curse before he fell.
Would the inferi fall if he was merely unconscious?
I'd ask you to find him and kill him if he isn't dead--and cut his balls off as a trophy! Except if he's just unconscious and we can find and question him, that might lead us to Ginny!

If the curse didn't do it, the fall did.
Hydra's right; the Inferi have collapsed. Last time that happened - well, we know why.

Are they pulling back, then?
What else could be drawing them away?

Not being drawn away, they're just collapsed. Dead. Because whoever made them is dead.

Almost more startling than sudden retreat would be! Least we know they're not off to menace others.
Extreme caution now.

Take whatever advantage you can, but don't let yourselves get cornered in the chaos.
2015-08-02 00:32:00
(no subject)

Batya?

alt_crouch_jr

alt_crouch_jr at 2015-08-02 05:35:09
Private Message to A Dolohov

Where are you?

Hold position! On my way!!

alt_sirius at 2015-08-02 05:54:31
(no subject)

That's another father you've got killed, Crouch.

Come on, then, and finish this insanity.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-02 06:16:11
(no subject)

Don't.
2015-08-02 00:47:00
Private message to Bella, Lana, Barty, and Tosha

What's happened? Over half the ranks here have fallen, but not mine and Lana's.

Answer, Tosha

alt_bellatrix at 2015-08-02 05:54:01
(no subject)

This isn't a stall. They're completely de-animated.

Tosha is down. Permanently. As are his creations.

alt_bellatrix at 2015-08-02 05:55:51
(no subject)

Collect what resources you can and retreat to Buckingham.
2015-08-02 00:56:00
Order only

We're going to need more burn salve. LOTS more.

alt_luna

alt_fred at 2015-08-02 06:03:19
(no subject)

Not as pinpoint as we hoped.

Better than getting ripped apart by bloody inferi, I hope, though.
2015-08-02 00:59:00
Private message to all Protectorate MLE Units

Pull back and retreat to NL1 for debrief at once.
Order Only

DEMLE evacuating.

Fire at will.
Private message to Freddie

I'll be there! One-

Seamus passed out a while ago, I took him to cover.

I've got to side-along him.

Stay away from Crouch, for fuck's sake.
Bones just told me the triage point was hit.

Was Charlie there? Hermione? Where are they now?

Did they evac to Hogwarts?

Need to find them.

No, they're not here.

Have they brought any of the wounded in there yet?

Yes, there are a bunch of people here but none of them are Charlie or Hermione.

Damn.

Sorry.

Alright. If Mum comes in there, don't mention it to her. Unless she already knows-- something.
I'm checking everywhere before I leave here. If they turn up, tell me, yeah?

@alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-02 07:18:47
(no subject)

I'll tell you right away.
**2015-08-02 04:07:00**

*Private Message to Antonin Nikolaevich Dolohov*

Sanctus Deus, Sanctus Fortis, Sanctus Immortális, miserére nobis.
Agios o Theos, Agios ischyros, Agios athanatos, eleison imas.
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy-
Sviatyi Bozhe, Sviatyi Krepkyi, Sviatyi Bezsmertnyi, pomilui nas.

Blessed are your gods, Batya, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

---

I am, Re,

the Eldest, and Horus, the heir of Osiris. I come with a message to the Lord of the Universe: Horus has been given his throne. I am the First-born; Let me enter and speak.

Dammit. The formulas are-

---

**alt_crouch_jr at 2015-08-02 09:39:26**

(no subject)

I can’t pray your prayers, Batya.

I

---

**alt_crouch_jr at 2015-08-02 09:41:24**

(no subject)

I

O Amon, great of dignity, behold, I come to see thee.
I penetrate the nether world that I may see my Father Osiris and drive away the darkness. I am his beloved;
I have come to see my Father Osiris and hack out the heart of Suty, who wronged my Father Osiris.
O God of spirits and of all bodies, who trampled down death and overcame it, and bestowed life on your world, yourself.

O Lord set to rest the soul of your servant Antonin Nikolaevich Dolohov who has fallen asleep, in a place of light, in a place of green pastures, in a place of rest where all pain and sorrow have been driven away. Give rest to the soul of your servant Antonin Nikolaevich who has fallen asleep. Establish him in Paradise. Give rest to his soul where all the Just shine like the stars in heaven, and do not regard his transgressions. Do not-

May his memory be eternal—

No, dammit. I’ve written your name and it will never be unwritten now or forever or to the ages of ages. It’s here. Your name. To the ages of ages, Batya. I’ve sacrificed to the four cardinal points. I’ve dressed them with blood of the messenger--East, South, West, North--the bird I sacrificed carries my message to your gods, Batya. They will hear me. You taught me that they obey if you command them.

You believed this, and they will welcome you as Osiris, the murdered one, but immortal. They will preserve your name. And as long as your name lives, you live.
May all the gods and saints and all our honoured dead shelter you, Batya, always and eternally, now and ever and to the ages of ages, amen.

Sviaty Bozhe, Sviaty Krepkyi, Sviaty Bezsmertnyi, pomilui nas. Holy God, Holy Almighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us, both now and ever and to the ages of ages, amen.
2015-08-02 04:30:00
Order Only

Have they come in?

Have they been found?

I can't bear it

alt_molly

alt_ron at 2015-08-02 16:28:21
(no subject)

They haven't yet, but Mum, it's-

I've been to all the ev They were with a load of other people, including six, maybe seven Healers and some assistants from the Fradswell staff. And other wounded. They all evacuated ahead of the Inferi--people saw it--so probably they're all together somewhere. So it's good, really, that we didn't find any sign of them at the camp.

Mum. Go look at the clock and tell me what it says.

alt_molly at 2015-08-02 18:38:59
(no subject)

It says 'Mortal Peril.' The clock hand hasn't fallen off at least, which means he must still be alive.

I suppose--if he's at St Mungo's, it would say 'Hospital,' unless he's so badly injured he is in Mortal Peril. But he could be in serious interrogation, too. Or both.

Oh, dear.

Ginny's hand is on 'Prison.' Well, at least the clock realises she's not there of her own free will, even if she doesn't.
2015-08-02 11:27:00
Order Only

The Ireland rite. It worked. Sean Finnigan's recovering.

Lots more work to do before the 7th, but we need a day to find our feet.

Augustus Rookwood is dead. Didn't recover his notes.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-02 15:52:27
Private message to Alice, Remus, Rachel

More thorough report coming within the day, but the initial tests are good.

Floo is confirmed disrupted, also portkeys. Committee is working on the calculations for the 7th. Some reports of odd magic came in last night, tracking for any others. We'll need a number of additional measurements around the country.

I've read the other news. Keeping to my rooms for a bit to sort myself out.

Rookwood destroyed his notes. He almost - almost.

It almost went very badly for us.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-02 15:58:17
Private message to Evelyn

Excellent work. Told Jeremy and Linus, but you too. Always.

Need a bit on my own. Not the kind of thing anyone can help with, before you offer.

Try and get sleep, spend some time with your family. I'll find you when I'm ready for work again. Tonight. Maybe tomorrow. Probably tomorrow.

Cecilia's got the Octoboros calculation work in hand for the moment.
And the others. They're entirely competent.

I still can't believe we made it work.

Linus has just reported to me that he went by the Head's office, and the door was ajar.

I'm telling him to keep anyone else from going in, until someone can go down and see what's up.

I don't trust myself at least until I've managed more sleep, but it should be someone who can check for residual wards and other protective charms.

Sirius and I will come take a look, Aurora. Thank you.

It appears that we once again have access to the Head's office. Or rather, Septima Vector does. All the various wards and obstacles put in place by its former occupant are now gone.

That said, I think Dolohov's personal library will require special handling.
It will. Both because his system is was idiosyncratic to the extreme, and because some of the books need special handling.

Justin and Cedric would both know, but I'm assuming they're both required elsewhere. I can have a look once I've slept.

(If I don't manage it in a few hours, I will see about getting a potion.)
Hermione and Charlie are both still missing. Ron's combed Fradswell and checked the regional hospitals. It's possible -- likely -- that they're at St Mungo's. Ron's asked Molly to check the clock and see what it says about Charlie; that'll give us more information, though it was the most gravely wounded who were evacuated to St M's, I think, so 'mortal peril' could mean 'still wounded' and not 'in the hands of Death Eaters.'

How much do we trust that neutrality agreement, Poppy?

Also, I'm fairly certain I killed Antonin Dolohov last night.

There were a lot of people throwing curses. It may have been someone else's. But I think it was mine.

Bless.

Thank you. For all of us. For Albion. And for the younger ones who came under his sway and have been at risk because of it. They may not bring themselves to thank you, but I most certainly do.

I wish I could be certain. And I wish we'd been able to test the proposition without its being sworn members of the Order at stake.

Much depends on who took them there. If they were already prisoners, the treaty won't be of much help. Any. If they were
transported by our affiliates or by neutral parties, then that's the circumstance the treaty is meant to address.

I've sent owls to three people I trust, who might be in a position to know. Or to check for us.

If necessary, I'll go myself. With due precautions. At least I know my way around the wards.

---

_user: alt_rachel at 2015-08-02 18:41:57_
(no subject)

Hermione's journal got left behind last night, just so you know. Ron found it.

We haven't found Charlie's.

---

_user: alt_poppy at 2015-08-02 21:19:30_
(no subject)

I've heard from Healer Behm. Not quite what we hoped, but some good news.

He's able to tell me that a group of twenty-seven evacuated from Fradswell triage last night in rather dire circumstances. They chose St Mungo's out of desperation, essentially. Two of the Fradswell Healers are still openly on staff at the hospital, and the Fradswell staff had on hand a set of St M's casualty Portkeys. With so many to evacuate and too few staff to side-along them all, they made the decision.

Lost two in transit. Deceased, I mean. Not sure if it was due to the... issues we're seeing with Portkeys.

Charlie is accounted for, definitely. At that initial point. Behm says he was recognised, however. But Behm isn't able to say for certain where he is at this moment. Which is worrying, admittedly. I think he'd be able to say if DEMLE had come and taken custody of him. I'll send back to him and hope for clarification. And perhaps he'll know
more soon.

About Hermione, he's even less certain, but from his description of the patients they received from the camp, I'd say she could well be among them. He mentions one female with 'brown hair and slender build' who is being treated for head injuries. Another 'young adult female, dark hair, shoulder length' suffered crushing injuries from the fall of a wall. And a third, 'young woman, dark brown hair, medium height' is said to have suffered curse damage of a serious nature.

I will let you know if I learn more, Rachel.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-02 21:24:12  
(no subject)

What do you know about Behm? What do you think of him?

alt_poppy at 2015-08-02 21:28:22  
(no subject)

I trust him.

I tried recruiting him, but his family situation is complicated and he wasn't willing to put them at risk. In the end, he asked me to Obliviate him so he would not remember that particular conversation and meeting with me. But I would say without hesitation that he is one of ours amongst those remaining at the hospital.
2015-08-02 12:28:00
Private Message to Rod

Where are you?

I'm sorry I slept so late, but-

What's happened? There hasn't been an attack somewhere, has there? Not the festival! Papa and Orion

Oh, gods. Last night. Crouch. And Mulciber.

Of all the Antosha. I can't

Rod, he's

alt_lana

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-02 18:37:38 (no subject)

I didn't want to wake you when you need your rest.

I'm at Buckingham. Been in discussion with Bella and Rowle about our next manoeuvres.

In a stroke of perverse irony, the Summer Festival was a more or less a rousing success.

Tosha is a profound loss. Particularly since it means that we will lose
Barty, too, though I hope only temporarily. No one's heard from him since he left the debrief. I assume he's at Cottesmore.

Can't fathom why Barty didn't assign Tosha more coverage so that he might maintain disillusion.

I hope you're right that he's at Cottesmore.

That he'll stay there.

Did you see him--I mean his eyes--when he killed Cadmus? I've never

It seems a bad time to call on him.

I confess that is yet another reason why I chose to let you sleep. Should he decide to return to Buckingham in such a state, it would

It would...?

Apologies. We've just received a report here.

The Greengrass family has been discovered in the Grandmother's Brighton home. Bodies in the kitchen, one of the owls killed, its blood marking the wall East, South, West, and North. The rest of them were lying on the floor,
heads to the East. Hearts removed (and missing). A galleon under each of their tongues.

alt_lana at 2015-08-02 19:15:27
(no subject)

Rod?

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-02 19:28:46
(no subject)

Greengrass had more or less pulled out of Fradswell and left it to the Phoenixes, and Brighton, as you know, is a haven for anti-Protectorate sentiment.

Still, I suggest you warn your family to take all precautions.

It's unclear what Barty's motive is here, beyond drowning whatever pain he is suffering with the pain of others. I don't believe he's finished yet.

alt_lana at 2015-08-02 19:30:05
(no subject)

Gods.

Are you-

You'll be there a while, then? Should I come?

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-02 19:30:30
(no subject)

Do.
alt_lana at 2015-08-02 19:53:06
(no subject)

The Floo's blocked. I mean, I've opened it, but it won't respond to command. Is there-

Did you secure it someway?

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-02 19:56:43
(no subject)

It's a developing problem elsewhere, too.

Portkey?

alt_lana at 2015-08-02 20:01:00
(no subject)

Oh. That's annoying.

All right, then.

Think I'll use the loo before I put myself through Portkeying. Expect me in a few.

alt_lana at 2015-08-02 20:10:28
(no subject)

Ugh. Oh. Damn.

That hurts.

The stupid thing's defective!

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-02 20:17:36
(no subject)

Blast. It looks as if portkeys are being affected, too.

Are you still at L'Estrange?
Seriously?

It dumped me into the backgarden. I'm fine. Just bruised.

What's causing it?

Look, I'll just-

How damaging could it be to Apparate, do you think? I mean, surely

Darling. Stay put.

I know the inconvenience grates. I shall try to return as soon as I am able.

But-

That means I'm stuck here?

I suppose if the place catches fire, I can walk up the drive. Or try to control that wretched carpet. A broom's right out at this point.
Such pouting. There will be no fire, as you well know. I didn’t spend months securing the extensive wards and protections only to have it all snuffed out by a careless kitchen elf.

I’m having Honour Pilliwickle divert all reports malfunctioning portkeys and floos to you so that you can begin compiling data.

All right. Of course, I’m glad to do whatever I can.
2015-08-02 12:32:00
Private message to my eldest brother

I write these words in sincere hopes that though their form is broken, their intent will hold.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us, now and forever, to the end of time, amen. Blessed are the Gods, always, now and forever, now and to the end of time, amen. To the souls of your departed servant, Antonin Nikolaevich Dolohov, called Antosha, called Tosha, called Toshenka, give rest where there is no pain, no suffering, but life everlasting, abiding there forever without corruption, now and forever, now and to the end of time, amen.

Though bearing the scars of so many transgressions, let his way be opened to the halls of Osiris, let the underworld be opened to him, let him be established as a dweller in the halls of the shining ones. Unclose the ways and open the roads to the souls of Toshenka who has now entered in the house of Osiris. Let him enter boldly and come forth in peace at the house of Osiris, without hindrance and without repulse. Let his souls enter at his pleasure and go forth at his will.

Grant him eternal rest and may he rest in peace. May his souls and the souls of all the many beloved departed, through the mercy of the Gods and all the sacred powers, rest in peace.

Toshenka, chosen brother. I remember you with apples and with honey wine, at the dawn of the day and the sight of the first star. I will tell stories about you to the few to those who will listen, and I will remember you, all the days of my life. You have been teacher and brother and most of all, friend. You have saved my life and the life of those I love, and though you are dead and though you have done so many horrible things, I do remember the good you chose. These things I tell to the sky and the land and the lake and the bees.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-02 16:52:00
(no subject)

Toshenka. I am furious with you. Still. Forever, now.

For giving up. How could you make inferi, Tosha? How could you turn your back on all the things I
thought you believed, the last few parts that were still your better self, not something twisted and shattered and wrong? I can understand your loyalty. To family. But the rest - how could you?

For dying too soon. I was hoping. I was hoping we could fix the wards (your cobbled-together, badly-designed, monstrosities of wards that would have killed us all), and maybe give you one more chance, and I wasn't fast enough or smart enough or able to figure out the magics soon enough, and even if I had, you'd have said no, I'm sure. But dead is done, and there is no more. And it was a stupid hope, and maybe dead is better. You can't do more wrong now.

For teaching me to think like you did. You and all the people who blighted the past twenty years. You taught me enough to undo your work. You and Raz and half-heard conversations at parties, and things people thought I wouldn't understand and Irma's research and so much arithmancy and sheer luck. Despite everything. Despite what you did to Seamus and his mother, and despite all the blood, so much blood. But it's in my head, and it will never come out.

For turning me into someone who could kill. Did kill. For making me more like you.

---

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-02 16:53:38
(no subject)

And if you do not, in that afterlife of yours, find Harry, find everyone whose deaths are on your hands and make things better for them, I will hunt you down to the end of time, to the death of the last star.

I thought better of you. And I was wrong.

---

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-07 12:14:41
(no subject)

I am so very sorry, Tosha.

And sorry I am not strong enough or fierce enough to be Antigone.
Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us, now and forever, to the end of time, amen. Blessed are the Gods, always, now and forever, now and to the end of time, amen. To the souls of your departed servant, Bartemius Crouch Jr., called Barty, give rest where there is no pain, no suffering, but life everlasting, abiding there forever without corruption, now and forever, now and to the end of time, amen.

Though bearing the scars of so many transgressions, let his way be opened to the halls of Osiris, let the underworld be opened to him, let him be established as a dweller in the halls of the shining ones. Unclose the ways and open the roads to the souls of Barty who has now entered in the house of Osiris. Let him enter boldly and come forth in peace at the house of Osiris, without hindrance and without repulse. Let his souls enter at his pleasure and go forth at his will.

Grant him eternal rest and may he rest in peace. May his souls and the souls of all the many beloved departed, through the mercy of the Gods and all the sacred powers, rest in peace.

He was chosen son of my chosen brother, and friend of my husband, and for all the many wrongs that he did, he brought them and others joy.

Youngest sister, I will accept the fault for so many transgressions and never gainsay your right to hold me to task for them, but you will not blame me for those last.

We made our bargain, at the very beginning, my word and magic on it, and I have upheld that bargain throughout, even past the point I was forced to return it to you: I have kept faith with you to precisely the extent to which it did not conflict with my older oaths. Certainly more than I could have; almost certainly more than I should have. But you will not hold me to task for having upheld that particular vow. I swore to you that I would do everything in my power to make certain you would survive the life you had chosen, and it is not my
fucking fault that you did not believe me about the price it would demand of us both.

As for the rest of it, that I have failed, again and again: truth, and self-evident to any who have eyes to see. That I have done wrong: truth, and to you alone I will admit it, you who appointed yourself the keeper of my conscience even as I appointed myself your champion, but hindsight is the only vision we have that is not clouded. That I have broken all my vows, even the ones I should never have made: truth, and I will answer for that when my death is not clawed back from me, and the gods alone will be my judge. That it took me too long to see that those vows ought to have been broken, or never made in the first place: truth, and that truth is perhaps the bitterest, that I could have turned aside this wreck at a double dozen points, and by the time I saw any of them, it was far too late.

But I have never pretended with you, for all that you persist in attempting to see the better of me. I warned you. I warned you repeatedly, as plainly as I could and more plainly than I ought to have, and we have spoken often enough about choice and necessity that you know that my life is ruled almost entirely by the latter. There are many choices I do not have the luxury of making, and have not had for years.

And now you will want to tell me that there is no choice that cannot be made or unmade, and you will tell me that it is never too late to do the right thing, and you will persist in believing the better of me in hopes that the universe will bend to your will, and you will preach to me the virtues of fairness and mercy, and I will say to you what I have always said to you, which is that my life has always revolved around consequence. I pay my prices. I do not pay all of them gladly, nor will I ever stop regretting some of the prices the universe has asked of me, but I will not shirk them. That the consequences of all my actions up until now led me to a place where there is no right action, and not even the least worst -- that I regret, and the price those actions demanded of me. But it will not stop me.

Your side may be the better choice -- I will not argue that question with you. But they are killing mine, and while I likewise will not argue the question of which of them deserved to die, you cannot hold my desire to live against me any more than you can hold my desire that you live. When the choice is between atrocity and execution, I will choose atrocity, and make my excuses to the gods when I must. And at least now Barty is beyond the
Set me aside from your thoughts; you have undoubtedly spent enough of your influence on the question of me. I made my choices, and although I may regret some of them, I will not beg to be spared the consequence. But do not curse me for them. I have never pretended to be a tame lion.

That you have written the prayers for me is a comfort. What little of it I have left.

---

_user@domain.com_ at 2015-08-11 12:54:19
(no subject)

Toshenka,

The comment you cannot see, here, the one to me, those are the prayers for Barty. Because someone needed to say them. And because whatever else he was, he was your son, and he was Raz's friend, and I remember that, even if no one else wants to. People are so very complicated.

For all he killed so many people. Children. Utter innocents.

I will not set you aside from my thoughts, because I cannot. No more than I could set aside the stars. It would be easier, certainly, if I could. You are right I have spent all the influence I might have had on your behalf, and I do not regret that, but - it will not do any good, and I am sorry for that. Still. Always.

As to - as to what you made me, what keeping your promises made me, you are right. You did tell me. Warn me. And I chose. I have wrestled myself to some sort of detente about it in the days since. I can't regret it, because it mattered, in the end.

I'm still thinking about that. Will be, for the rest of my life, I'm sure.

There are a lot of things I'm thinking and can't say, don't have words for. But I will never stop listening to you.

I was rereading the notes I sent you, what feels like decades ago, on Kirkegaard's *Fear and Trembling*. I have been thinking about Troy, so much, the past two weeks, in the thoughts I can spare from other tasks, about walls and oceans and deaths and how we treat the dead, and how we treat the living, and what's left after a great war. About how you are like Odysseus. The questions of mutuality, of
vows, of commitments, even when they turn out to be wrong. I don't have words, or even coherent thoughts, most of the time.

But I would not be here, now, but for you, and I thank you and I love you and you are still my chosen brother.

@alt_antonin at 2015-08-11 15:17:44
(no subject)

If you have been thinking of Troy, I have been thinking of Aulis. And Moriyyah. And Shelley's Ozymandias -- the hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed -- and T. S. Eliot, with whom I have been wrestling for longer than you have been alive, and whom I had always intended to lend you, one month when we had nothing more pressing with which to occupy ourselves, for the joy of watching you wrestle with him, too.

Read the Four Quartets, if you have been thinking about the shadows of a great war. You will find East Coker speaks to you most plainly (home is where one starts from; as we grow older, the world becomes stranger, the pattern more complicated, of dead and living), but as should surprise you not in the least, Little Gidding is the one that speaks to me most clearly, and always has:

And prayer is more
Than an order of words, the conscious occupation
Of the praying mind, or the sound of the voice praying.
And what the dead had no speech for, when living,
They can tell you, being dead: the communication
Of the dead is tongued with fire beyond the language of the living.
Here, the intersection of the timeless moment

Yes, I will be giving you books until my end.

I will not defend Barty to you -- may his memory be eternal, ныне и присно и во веки веков -- and I would not expect you to listen if I tried, because as near as I can tell he was mad with grief and guilt and pain, and for all that I understand that grief and guilt and pain (O gods do I understand that grief and guilt and pain), madness must be stopped. I comfort myself by thinking even he
must have known that, at the end. (There are so many things that must be stopped, and I was the one who set too fucking many of them into motion in the first place, and I suppose now the price I must pay for having done so is to be the one who decides where to begin looking for the end. Which is my beginning.) But I loved him, and I will not stop loving him, and it is good to know that someone wrote the prayers for him immediately, that he was not left entirely to

no, I shall leave it there, I think. Safer. You can comfort yourself, at least, that whatever I do next, it won't be out of madness. Or maybe you won't find that a comfort at all.

If we are to add up the measure of my balance, I am well aware of which direction that balance falls, and I will answer for that when I must. Do not apologise to me for not having been able to convince the company you keep that I am anything other than the monster they name me. You are perhaps the only person left upon these shores who can see at least some measure of what went into my making, and I will not expect you to champion me further. I had not expected you to champion me at all.

I have not ever doubted your love for me, little star, as I hope you have not doubted mine for you. For all that we may be the only people who can recognise it as such, from time to time.
2015-08-02 14:30:00
Private Message to Inigo Sandoval and Orion

Papa.

I don't want to worry you, but it's important that you increase security at home and for Abueloberto and Abuelita. At the store, as well. And you have to Avoid the streets. Use the Floo or Apparate direct to your office. Don't spend so much time walking the departments, please. People know you do that. And, please, Papa: be sure to have your security people with you. Full detail. That's what they're for.

I've set up an appointment for you with Jacqueline Mackrell, Papa. She'll come today at half-four at the house. Look, I know it will upset Mama, but you really have to make the ward change now. You have to accept that Honoria's gone over to them. That's what makes you targets. And not just from the Phoenixes. There've been

I can't tell you details, but you must take this seriously.
Pardon this intrusion on a day of rest after such labours, but I have noticed something which I feel duty-bound to report.

When walking down the corridor past the Head’s suite of rooms, I noticed that the door thereunto was ajar.

It really seemed I ought to tell someone.

The door has hitherto been locked, presumably due to the intricacies and complexities of Castle magics in a time of the fluctuation of nomenclature and the ebb and flow of regimes, as it were.

One might postulate that the factor keeping the door locked was the presence of two possible Heads. (An alternative might be to suggest that Madam Vector is merely a temporary head, but given that the Board of Governors duly constituted confirmed her, one would naturally find this a less compelling bit of logic.)

If the door is now open, one might suppose that there is no longer a dilemma. One might suppose that one of the lemmae no longer obtains. Is lemmae the plural of lemma, do you know?

I am sorry, Professor Siz. I am not perhaps thinking quite as soberly as I might. But I believe that perhaps Profess Antonin Dolohov is dead.

Is he?
I'm sorry, Linus.

I've had information saying he is. Convincing information.

Last night. While we were busy with other things.

I don't really have words right now, for you, but maybe later, we can talk about it. Don't do anything you can't get someone to double check for you today, please.

Septima, I've passed this along to the appropriate ears. I've asked for someone to come secure it for the moment.

Linus, can you stay by the door, and make sure no one goes in until it's secured?

It should be checked out thoroughly by someone who can check for any additional protections or charms, and I think that's a task for one of our Aurors.
2015-08-02 15:51:00
Order Only

I found Hermione.

South Wing, Floor 3, Room 322.

The chart lists 'curse damage' but no specifics.

I need to know if she can be moved out of here.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-02 21:55:31
(no subject)

Check to see whether there are any charms on her at the moment, spellwork that's keeping her stable.

alt_draco at 2015-08-02 21:57:41
(no subject)

There are.

So I suppose that means she can't be moved.

I don't trust anyone here, and I'm not leaving her where she might be stolen away, like Ron's sister was.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-02 21:58:40
(no subject)

I'll send Hydra to watch over her. Can you meet her to hand off the cloak?

alt_draco at 2015-08-02 21:59:30
(no subject)

I don't want to leave her.
Private message to Auror Malfoy

You are due at the Elysian in one hour. This cover -- Faust -- was not easy to get.

You don't have to trust the staff at St Mungo's but you do need to trust Hydra.

I won't let anything happen to her. I swear on it.

Meet me on the roof of the South Wing.

It might not mean she can't be moved. I could tell you whether she could, or not, I think, but I'd need to actually go. Auror Brodie, do you want me to go?

Do you think you can get in and out without the cloak? Just by passing yourself off as staff?

Probably.
I'll keep that possibility in mind if Hydra can't find Healer Maxwell.

If it comes to sending someone into St Mungo's to impersonate a member of staff, I'd ask you to send me.

Noted.

Oh, thank Merlin she's alive.

See if there's a Healer Maxwell on the ward. If you're still there?

She can be trusted. Don't reveal yourself, but if she's on shift, I'll see if I can enlist her help.
She was as of a few hours ago.

Right.

In that case, go ahead and leave Hydra use the cloak to guard her, if that's what you've decided. And I will do what I'm able to use my connections to check her condition and advise us on moving her to safety.
Notice to citizens of Albion

Last night, we brought down the Irish ward, as the first step toward re-joining the rest of wizarding society. This caused some disruptions both in floo service and portkeys. (You may recall that portkeys were severely disrupted in December a few years ago, and that privately made portkeys were no longer available after that; this was caused by the Protectorate government’s creation of the Irish ward.)

The Albion government is working to restore floo service and portkeys as quickly as possible; we apologise for the inconvenience. In the meantime, use caution when traveling with either of those methods. DO NOT use portkeys. The results will be unpredictable and potentially dangerous.
I do not know if someone has told you aught of this already, but it seems that you certainly should be informed, as you knew him.

It is reliably reported, I am informed, that Antonin Dolohov is dead.

Pardon, I am at a loss for words appropriate to such a well, bloody complicated situation is what it is. The death of an enemy who once was...

In any case, there it is, and you have a right to be told.

Yes. He died was killed last night attacking Fradswell, one of our centres for waking the Sleepers.

Do you recall last year, when he started vanishing every Friday for his special project? He was working with Voldemort's Inferi. I, and I suspect you, could tell he was not happy about what he was doing, even at the time without knowing what it was he was doing. Given his beliefs it must have been a terrible think to harm the dead like that. But something changed because he did it voluntarily to raise a new army. Not under oathbound orders, but because it looks easiest. What changed that a betrayal of his beliefs was easiest?

He was a great teacher. He saved my life. He repeatedly gave kids the tools to be the best witches and wizards they could be. He murdered more people than I can count. As Headmaster, he betrayed some of those same kids and others he was honourbound to protect. He tortured people. He corrupted others's souls.

I'm actually sleeping at the castle tonight. I'll be in the gardens at dawn if you wish to join me. If his beliefs are true for his soul, maybe we can help him be those better parts and purify away his many
horrors. We can't forget those horrors, or we risk falling down his path, but he changed Hogwarts in many good ways. I'll be inviting some others who saw this side of him as well, not just the murderous, dark magic twisted assassin.

---

**alt_linus** at **2015-08-03 05:02:40**

(no subject)

I keep thinking of a conversation he and I had, early on, after that unfortunate unauthorised duelling society and so forth. He went out of his way to impart to me what seemed like the greatest of wisdom, with solicitous care about my future. I cannot recall his words exactly, but he remarked that there were two sorts of Ravenclaws, one of which went through life amassing information for information's sake alone, and was thus vulnerable to anyone who dangled a shiny bit of knowledge before them as a lure to get them to do one's bidding, and the other of which knew what was behind the information they were collecting and collating and correlating, and therefore was aware of currents in the wider world and was not at the mercy of any man who would use them to his own ends.

He told me to think about which sort I would be.

It seemed at the time

Well. It seemed that he was offering to mentor me and guide my development that I might attain the latter. And yet, I think now that I was always and only the former to him.

If he were alive I would send by owl a perfectly chilly letter of thanks for the lesson in the perils of being a trusting fool.

... And yet.

He did mentor and mould me, not entirely in dreadful ways, and he kept me from peril when he could.

So.

Dawn, then. I shall be there.
It's a few hours before Faust is due on shift at the Elysian, yes?

Poppy heard back from her contact; Hermione and Charlie, along with about twenty others, were evacuated last night to St Mungo's. Charlie is definitely there -- somewhere -- and there are three brown-haired young women who might be Hermione who were brought in.

If we know where they are, we can go in and get them out rather than hoping that neutrality agreement is respected.

Think you can go look? If you can tell me whether they can be moved, that's even better.
Pete,

I'm so sorry. I have been avoiding coming home (or rather, out to Great-Aunt Mina's) but it's not because of anything you've said or done. And I'm sorry you've felt caught between me and Carrie; she's done so much for Mum & Dad. She has every right to be cross with me for not being around.

The thing is, no matter how much Mum & Dad say they don't blame me for Ed...it just hurts too much to be out at the farm without him to cut the tension and make a joke or something.

I need to be here, working as hard as I can. Not because I'm so vital to the revolution--I'm mostly a pair of hands, and a wand, sometimes a broom--but for me. When all else fails, apply Standard Hufflepuff Coping Methods, eh?

But I'll be there tonight--and yes, I'll write Mum & Dad. I've just...I was up a good half the night fighting and I realised...well, we're doing all this for strategic reasons partly, but also to give all these people who might've lost hope a chance to see their families again, and I miss mine. And once the security situation is better, you and I should go to Scrivenshaft's and get some new drawing supplies, if you want.

Love you, Favourite Youngest Brother.
Poppy's been trying to find out what happened to Charlie and the other evacuees from the triage point last night.

Charlie was definitely taken to St Mungo's. Poppy's contact said that he was recognised on intake and then added that he isn't able to say for certain where he is at this moment. About that contact, Poppy says he's a sympathiser and she trusts him. If he'd been taken by DEMLE I don't think he'd be nearly so evasive. What this suggests to me is that he's being hidden somewhere at St Mungo's. We're going to see what else we can find out.

Also, Molly -- I killed Antonin Dolohov last night.

Thank you. Thank you.

We will, of course, not be saying anything to Ginny.

I'm just so relieved there is some hope.

Please tell me whatever you learn, once you can without violating security concerns. I would rather know the worst than not know at all.

And Dolohov.

It sounds strange, and awful to think (and say) that it is one of the greatest gifts you could give me. But I do, with all my heart. There are no more families he can hurt the way he hurt so many.
Spiffin' good news, Rachel. Thanks.

The next time I see Poppy, I'm going to land a big, wet snog on her for negotiating that St Mungo's treaty. Merlin. Let's hope it will keep him safe. And

Just saw the news about Hermione. Thank you for sending Draco in.
You'll want to upgrade that "use caution with Portkeys" to "do not use Portkeys." Got a frantic message from my parents that I shouldn't use one because their neighbor's son-in-law just did and materialized halfway through his front door. Door was closed at the time. Healers are working on him now.
We've been getting the word out about avoiding floo and portkey use. Promising more information to come, but that it might be a bit.

Starting to get reports of odd magics, mostly west. Wales, the west of Scotland, Cornwall, Devon. Unusual waves, a lot of fish showed up dead off Portpatrick, an entire beach worth's of rocks by Aberystwyth are now coral instead. We're making a list, even the things that don't sound related, but nothing's been obviously lethal or dangerous that we've heard.

Other info about Fradswell we should get out? We've not heard much from contacts in London yet.
**2015-08-02 16:52:00**

Order Only Private Message to Charlie Weasley, Draco Malfoy, and R Brodie

Charlie, If you're reading, let us know. We think you're at St Mungo's. Is that right?

Malfoy, have you seen any sign of him or Hermione?
You alright, there?

If you get to Hermione, tell her I've got her journal, will you? It's safe.

Charlie, I'm hoping you've still got yours. And that you manage to keep it. And you're safe. And not hurt.

Let us hear from you, yeah?

---

**alt_draco at 2015-08-02 21:58:46**

*(no subject)*

Didn't find your brother, sorry. Just now found Hermione.

---

**alt_ron at 2015-08-02 22:22:05**

*(no subject)*

I hope it turns out she's all right. And that we can move her out of there soon.

I'm sorry.
George and I need to stick around family for the traditional Weasley family dinner get together in the Great Hall, or Mum will probably spontaneously combust or something. But afterwards, we could use the company of some friends, out by the lake.

Lee, including you in case you can take a break from your usual.

Charlie?

He's alive, last we heard. Evacuated to St Mungo's. They're trying to find out more, hoping that some of the Order-sympathetic healers might be protecting him.

But the clock hand says 'Mortal Peril,' rather than 'Hospital,' which makes us think either he's pretty badly injured, or the healers couldn't manage to protect him, and he's been taken to interrogation.

I'm glad he was spotted and identified as surviving the battle. Because that was one real mess.

I hope they can keep him safe.
Yeah.

George and I were saying that we don't usually envy you being an animagus too much.

But it would be convenient to be able to forget everything, change and spend a couple of hours playing fetch with a bloody stick right now, since we can't do Quidditch drills together anymore.

Still sorting through reports coming in, but can get away for an hour or two after supper.

Lake it is.

Thanks.
Say. Have a listen to the W WN.

They're reporting that we've killed a bunch of people. Today. Or anyway, they've been found today.

It includes Daphne's parents. Found in Brighton in a house by their elf. Says MLE're investigating.

Another one's Athena Belby, the opera singer.

And there've been some others. They're not naming names yet, though, but they're saying 'authorities' believe there's a link between these murders and what happened to Crispin. And they're telling people to be careful and to look out for people wearing the Phoenix arm band. Nice touch, that.

But. Daphne's family. I can't even.

Her whole family? Even the girls?? Merlin's fucking arse, and they're saying we did it!?

D'you reckon people will buy it? I can't imagine anyone who hasn't already made up their mind to think the worst of us would, because it doesn't make a damn bit of sense.

But I also know there's a lot of misinformation out there, and those false-flag attacks weren't helping.

They're not saying anything about Astoria and Queenie. So I don't know. Reckon they'd say if they were dead. I mean, they're throwing everything they can at us.
I don't know what people think. But even if most don't buy it, some do and others aren't sure what to think.

That's true. They'd hardly miss a chance to smear us if they could. Do we have any way to find out for sure?

Because if they were lucky enough to not be home or some such, I'd hate to think of them coming home to *that* and maybe getting whisked off by DEMLE or worse.

I asked Justin and Pansy. Neither of them could say for sure where Astoria and Queenie've been. I mean, it's not as if any of us've been close to them. Astoria, particularly. Though, Justin- Sorry. Anywiz, they didn't know.

I hope wherever they are, they're keeping their heads down now.

I'll see what Sally Anne knows. I'm going up there in a bit to bring her a snack.

Would it be a terrible idea to send them a PM?

They need to know not to trust anyone they don't recognize with a Phoenix armband.

And if they're on the run and not sure where to turn, well, Queenie was one of my firsties once; she might be inclined to listen to me.

Are there any Auror-type reasons why I shouldn't?
Don't PM them, Sue. DEMLE will be watching the journals, and it'll put a target on them if they get a PM from our side.

For all I know, Astoria's firm on the other side. Queenie, too, though if you say she's not, then I believe you. I just don't know otherwise.

You could send an owl. And, yeah, you could certainly warn them against people posing as us. And remind them where to find us if they want our help.

We could ask Brodie if we could try to find them and take them into protection, but if they didn't actually want our help, it would be sticky.

Good points all. 'S why I asked.

And it just occurred to me that DEMLE could bait a trap with them (or their books)!

Owl it is; I'll send Valkyrie--she has good sense for an owl--and I'll charm the parchment too.

I just want this to be a situation where we can do something.

I know.

It's horrible to just be sat here with no way to help.
Too right!
I dunno how you're not going spare, with everyone who's in the wind right now.

Who says I'm not?

You're faking it all right, then.
And I respect the hell out of you as an Auror and a person. But if you need to take a break from being professional and hit things, well, feel free to wipe the floor with me in training any time.

You're a bit o' alright, Sue. You know that?

Back at yer!
It's so terrible.
Oh, how could people think we would do such a thing?

Daphne's parents and Athena Belby?
Have they released any other names since you started listening?

Yeah. Somebody called Clairiker? Probably have that spelled wrong. An importer, they said.

Oh. I don't know that name.
Only I suppose I was just thinking it odd, because Barty Crouch was romantically connected to Daphne, and now her parents have been murdered. And he was romantically connected to Athena Belby, as well.

You don't suppose he was seeing somebody called Mr Clariker out in Kent, too? Never thought he seemed the sort to, y'know.

Though the gossip mags used to take the mickey and write as if he and the Headmaster were like that.
alt_ron at 2015-08-03 04:19:08
Re: Private message to Ron

Sorry. I shouldn't make jokes about it.

I mean, Dolohov's dead and now all these other people.

Guess I've done too much sitting around today.

You still at St M's?

alt_hydra at 2015-08-03 04:26:50
Re: Private message to Ron

A Mr Clariker? I doubt it.

Antonin and Crouch aren't like that. Their relationship is powerful, but it's not sexual. It's paternal and familial, but I don't think in the usual way. It's more something than that.... romantic, I think.

I'm still at St M's. It's quiet here - no WWN. Hermione's having bad dreams.

alt_ron at 2015-08-03 04:35:26
Re: Private message to Ron

Oh.

Romantic? Huh.

Hermione's alright, though, yeah?

Are you able to see what she's dreaming, then?
I can't think of a better word. It's a combination of intimacy and devotion, I suppose.

She's alright.

Yes, though it's not like seeing waking thoughts. It's all soft and muted, somehow.
Order Only: Private message to Charlie Weasley

Charlie,

I've hated that clock, sometimes. Hated the way that Mum watches it like a dragon clutching when any of us are in danger, which has been happening bloody too frequently for my liking. But I almost cried when Mum came back from the Burrow and told me that your clock hand hadn't fallen off, that you were still alive.

Now I want the hand to move from 'Mortal Peril' to 'Hospital.' And then to 'Home.' As soon as possible.

We've had people looking for you, and we know you've been spotted at St Mungo's. I am so desperately sorry that we can't be there with you, and I am sorry you're hurt and probably scared. If you're even awake.

If they find you

I'm just going to hang on to the hope that you're going to make it, and make your way back to us. If you were able to hang on to your journal, and you recover enough to read this, we'll be waiting to hear from you. But if you're too hurt to write, I hope I can comfort you that everyone is accounted for. We had losses, yes, but you saved a lot of lives last night, Charlie, and we're all proud of you.

That bastard Dolohov is dead. My brilliant wife managed to take him out on the battlefield.

We're all doing okay. Worried about you, of course, and bloody hell, we'll be glad if we hear back from you, but all is well. Siz's group has accomplished their mission, without a casualty, except for one of the enemy who blundered into the middle of things, so that's good news, too.

Come back to us, dammit, little brother. We've lost too many people, and I won't lose you, too. Adam needs you, and Tonks needs you, and Dree and Em need you, and Mum and your siblings need you--even Ginny, and she'll realise it again someday--and your dragons need you. And I need you so I can kick your arse in chess.
And I love you. Write back if you possibly can.
I'm just in shock. I can't believe it.

Turn on the wireless if you haven't been listening. They're saying Athena Belby's been found dead. Her elf reported it. Athena!

Reethi, do you remember when we saw her sing Isolde? Our first year in training? That may have been the best performance I've ever witnessed. And she was always marvellous. Not sure I'll be able to keep my Opera seats after this. I mean to say, they haven't got another soprano worth listening to, let alone one able to step into Athena's roles.

You've heard about the Greengrasses and Clarriker? They said Clarriker's son was killed, too.

Ugh. I hate being stuck here. Alright, it's not as if L'Estrange Hill is Azkaban, but not being able to leave makes me itchy. And on top of that I'm huge. All of a sudden, I've gone from blossoming to bulging. I was fine yesterday, but today I can't move, I'm so tired. And I have to run and have a pee every other minute!

Only, if someone came here and got in through the wards? (I know, I know, it's not likely, and Rod would be offended if he knew I'm worried, but you try being a dirty great pregnant lump, and see if you don't think about how you'd be completely helpless if someone wanted to...)

I wish he'd get home.

Sorry, I know. Only, it's been all day. And all I've got are these wretched reports full of data that needs collating and tabulating.

When people out there are being murdered and having their hearts

Oh. Sarah, I meant to say. I heard the show went off beautifully. Congratulations on all the good press. Did you bribe Ptolemy to lean
on Cuffe? Or bribe Cuffe directly? Seriously, though. Everyone thinks you're a marvel.

Reethi. I hope you're keeping well over in Ireland. Write me with clever stories about the ridiculous people there. I could use a laugh!
2015-08-02 23:59:00
Private Message to Siz & Justin

There are a few of us who worked closely with Antonin. We saw the good he did along with his murderous hatred.

I'm actually sleeping at the castle tonight. I'll be in the gardens at dawn if you wish to join me. If his beliefs are true for his soul, maybe we can help him be those better parts and purify away his many horrors. We can't forget those horrors, or we risk falling down his path, but he changed Hogwarts in many good ways.

Siz, do you think Evelyn or Sally-Anne would want to be invited? I know their relationships with him were even more fraught than ours.

---

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-03 12:04:25
(no subject)

Sorry, finally took a potion last night, only just saw this.

Are you still around? I told Remus I'd look at the Head's office once I'd slept, but I'd much rather have help.

I said the prayers for him yesterday. As much as I could remember, anyway. Because yes. So many horrible things, but he saved your life and Evelyn's, and mine, and other people's, too.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-03 12:12:41
Private message to Cedric

Sorry, still rather a mess.

I killed Rookwood.

He apparated into the middle of the ritual design at Barra, I'd just finished a round of running the charms. And everything Raz practiced with me, and everything Tosha taught me, it just flowed out of me, like it never has before.

Because I couldn't let him
He'd have killed me, or killed Evelyn, or killed someone else. I could see it. Broken the ritual, certainly. And it's not like the Ireland rite was easy, without that. I'm not sure it would have worked without someone dying.

I couldn't stop thinking about the compromises we choose, to win. Last night. Before the potion. That, and missing Tosha. Or the Tosha I knew, anyway.
Draco, I think your shift at the Elysian must have ended by now.

Are you at the castle tonight? Or in New London in Russell's flat?

I came back to the castle. You know, in case something happens or she needs anything.

Why are you still awake?

I've just woken, actually. I was asleep for a few hours.

May I borrow your omniculars and your Firebolt?

Yeah. Sure.

What do you want them for?

An assignment.
Which? We haven't got any new ones. Rachel's faffed off for a while - understandably.

I know. The assignment isn't from her.

You saw what Rachel said. He wrote: "The dove always dies." I saw it myself. And it was written at the other crime scenes, as well. He wrote that to me.

Crouch? What makes you think he wrote that to you?

Is it code, or something?

Sort of. But it may have any number of meanings.

Right now I'm going with "I'll stop when you're dead." Or maybe it's less macabre to say "this will end with you."

It's hard to explain if you don't know how he thinks. And I'm not even sure I know how he thinks. I do know for certain that "The dove always dies" was written for me.

He's made it clear many times over that our confrontation was inevitable, and I never wanted to give him the satisfaction of allowing it to come to that. But if people are dying then I think it has to go this way.
Bollocks.

Don't make it sound all ridiculously *fated* between you two - he's the one who made you believe that, you said it yourself. And now your letting him steer you from inside your head.

Does Justin know about this?

Because we can wait til morning, then get Justin and Ron and band together to get Crouch. At least that way you might stand a chance, and you'll have mates at your side, as well.

That's an idea Harry would have, you know?

And it's not fated, is the thing. It's just me making a choice instead of putting one off.

Don't worry about Justin.

I'm not worried about Justin. I'm worried about you, you stubborn tit.

This conversation is reminding me a lot of one I had not so long ago, Hydra.

*Oh, Draco, I've thought through this situation more clearly than you recognise.*

That's what Daphne said before she went off and married the filthy bastard.
I'm not letting you just walk off to try to kill Barty Crouch on your own.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-04 05:55:30
(no subject)

I'm glad you're worried. I appreciate it, I mean.

I never said I was going to try to kill him. But I do need to try to stop him. I don't know how I'll do it but I know that I need to at least try.

alt_draco at 2015-08-04 05:57:30
(no subject)

Either way you look at it it's a type of suicide.

And I know I should be a supportive comrade and tell you "you can do it, sport," or some other such rubbish, but fuck that. I'm done seeing people just walk off and never come back.

So no, you can't have my Firebolt, and you can't have my omniculars.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-04 05:58:12
(no subject)

Well, fine.

But when this comes up later, remember that I did ask politely, first.
You're staying off the streets?

I don't know what you've gathered from the wireless, but the killings are still on-going. What we're trying to keep from getting out is that it's all the work of an Auror who's gone utterly mad since Saturday night.

Freddie thinks that Astoria and Queenie are staying with Uncle Callum and Aunt Jessamine and must be fine (physically speaking). Do you happen to know if that's true?

Either way, I suggest you get in touch with Callum and Jessamine and tell them they may be targeted, and that the ought to exercise the utmost caution.

Same goes for you.
Update for anyone who's not heard:

Hermione's out of St. Mungo's and back in the Order's care.

Once Faust's shift was done I went back to StM's and relieved Hydra. At about 4:30 in the morning a female Healer came along and indicated she had been sent by Poppy Pomfrey and Albus Dumbledore. I was under the cloak but it was clear she'd been told someone unseen would be in the room. The healer wheeled Hermione out of the room while I followed, wand out. We ran into only a few people along the way, but the healer had enough authority to wave away any of their questions without trouble. Eventually we ended up in a sort of loading docks area where supplies come in. It's outside the anti-apparation wards. The healer checked whatever spells were on Hermione and said she'd be safe to side-along apparatus, so that's what I did. I took Hermione to the Manor and through the co-location box into the Secret Room. She's now resting in the HW.

I need to get more sleep before I'm back to New London tonight, so if you have questions don't be surprised if I don't answer straight away.

Good show, mate.

Glad she's back. Hope she's going to be alright.

BRILLIANT, mate! Madam Pomfrey, can she have visitors yet? Even if she isn't awake?

Let's hope the transfer will go this well when we locate Charlie. (if we find him. I mean, he always won at the Burrow when we played hide and seek, but let's not get ridiculous.)
I apologise for turning you away this afternoon. Short visits may be possible tomorrow in the early afternoon.

Thanks to you both, Hydra and Draco. And to all the Healers who helped.
From a purely intellectual level I understand why you are doing what you are doing. The motivation, the impulse, the satisfaction - if you've yet found any.

But you must stop. If this continues you threaten to do more damage to our cause in one fell swoop than Sirius Black himself. And you know I don't make that comparison lightly.

Stop now. Return to Buckingham so that we may continue discussion of exit strategies. Or lock yourself in Cottesmore and never show your face in court again, if that's what you prefer. Just bring this temper tantrum to an end.
2015-08-03 15:11:00
Private message to Miss Minx and Bronwen

You've probably heard, but my Aunt and Uncle were killed yesterday--Daphne's parents. So was Athena Belby and The Clarrikers (father and son).

And over here we got a late morning report that the entire staff of Whirl magazine was slaughtered at their headquarters. As was Barnabus Cuffe of the Prophet.

It's all Crouch's doing. He's on some sort of murder spree that began with Mulciber in our last debriefing. Can't handle that Dolohov's gone, I reckon.

Everything's a mess over here, basically.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-03 21:04:11
(no subject)

Crouch, is it.

Well then.

alt_jason at 2015-08-07 16:07:09
(no subject)

Minx, new update.

MLE's been ordered to apprehend Cedric Diggory. Ginny Weasley fingered him as the secret keeper for Dover, and Lady Lestrange wants Dover.

It was also decided that Seamus should be sacrificed to see if it will dismantle the wards entirely. Some doubts were raised in our meeting as to whether this would work or not, which is why they're going after the secret keeper--in case it doesn't.
Seamus. Haven't you been keeping company with him?

Is he aware they're planning this?

Lana was the one to suggest the idea. Seamus gamely agreed to offer himself up.

I have a vested interest in making sure it doesn't come to that.

So.

Can I count on your help, Minx?

What sort of help, exactly, do you expect to need?

If I unsnare us in time... I want Seamus to be protected. Sent into Exile, if absolutely necessary, but not made to stand trial.

In exchange, I'll work for you and Albion as an Auror.
Protection for my parents and brother, too.
Private message to Jason

What happened?

Mostly every awful thing you can imagine.
You might want to go back to sleep.

How are you feeling?

Really awful. Like someone beat me with a hammer.
Every awful thing, really? You're still alive, so there's that.

You fell unconscious before everything went to shit.
It must have been because the Phoenixes took down the Irish Wards, though we didn't realise what was happening at the time.

And then at Fradswell Dolohov was killed and all of his Inferi were rendered useless, so we had to retreat.

During the debriefing after, Crouch killed Mulciber and left the Palace. He's been on some kind of rampage ever since. My Aunt and Uncle are dead, and so are a bunch of others, like Athena Belby, Sophia Novello... and there are probably some who've not been discovered or reported yet.

The floo system is all out of sorts, too.
Told you it was bad.

Your Aunt and Uncle. The Greengrasses?

I'm sorry.

And Dolohov

Are you sure?

Yeah, them.

And yes, Dolohov too.

Are you still in hospital? All the Units are on regular rotation, but with Crouch gone Lady Lestrange is leading MLE. But she's also got to run the rest of the show, so I expect she'll pass that duty off to someone else soon enough. Maybe her husband--or ex-husband, whatever he is.

I'm in Buckingham, in the Healing wing. People are mostly just ignoring me. Someone came by a little while ago but said I wasn't supposed to get out of bed yet.

Sophia Novello? Athena Belby? Why would Crouch kill them, they're not even remotely involved with the Phoenixes, are they?
Not to my knowledge.

No one really knows why or how he's choosing his targets. He did date both Sophia and Athena, but he didn't date Barnabas Cuffe or Christophanus Clarriker. Maybe there's some other personal connection to them that I'm unaware of.

Want a visitor?

If it's you, yes.

If it's Crouch, I think I'll pass, thanks!

It's gonna be me.

I'll come 'round in about an hour.
2015-08-03 16:01:00
Private Message to Charlie Weasley

We're working to get you back. I promise. We're worried about how badly you're hurt.

But, so you know. It's like with Gin for communications. Security decision.

If you can do, let us know where and how you are.

alt_ron

alt_charlie at 2015-08-04 14:34:50
(no subject)

aM OK
Safe 4 now I tHINk
HuRT bad bt Healing

e4 e5
Nf3 f6
Nxe5

loVE U all

alt_ron at 2015-08-05 02:06:13
(no subject)

I told Mum you're safe. That actually worried her because the clock still says Mortal Peril for you.

I told her you at least could write, so maybe it's just that there's danger you'll be discovered? Not so much that you're about to pop your clogs.

Sorry.

Hope you're well enough that was funny.

Are you at St M's? Can you say?

(I didn't tell mum the rest. It's not going to come to that.)
@alt_charlie at 2015-08-05 05:47:45
(no subject)

fuNNy

Y StM

Safe STAY

prOMiSe

@alt_ron at 2015-08-05 07:17:16
(no subject)

Promise.
Those murders we've been hearing about are being committed by Barty Crouch.

One of his victims was my mum. (My aunt, actually, but she raised me after my parents were killed, and I called her mum.)

Her wards were breached, obviously. Her cat was also found dead. He'd marked the compass points in blood -- either Mum's, or the cat's -- put my mother with her her head to the east, and cut out her heart.

There was a galleon under her tongue, and her wand was snapped and in the rubbish bin.

Burned onto the floor next to her were the words, 'the dove always dies.'

'The dove always dies." Are you certain?

I mean, yes, you must be.

I'm very sorry, Rachel.

If you want to come see for yourself you can.

Yes, actually.
alt_hydra at 2015-08-03 21:17:06
Private message to Rachel

It's a message for me.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-03 21:19:49
Re: Private message to Rachel

I'll send Bill to find you. I think coordinate-based apparation is still a mess, but he knows how to get here.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-03 21:14:59
Private message to Alice, Remus, and Sirius

I can't

I can't

I need 24 hours off. I can't

I don't know

alt_alice at 2015-08-03 21:26:29
Re: Private message to Alice, Remus, and Sirius

Oh. Oh, Rachel, I'm so sorry.

Yes, take whatever time you need. We'll take care of things here. And if you need one of us to come there, so you don't have to be on duty right now, just say the word.

alt_draco at 2015-08-03 21:19:49
(no subject)

Oh. Fucking brilliant.

If you want me off assignment, I'm off. Say the word.
I'm sorry. It's awful.

Don't worry about things here. We've got our orders and we'll do fine.
Alice and Remus,

Thank you for giving Rachel the time off she requested. And thank you for the use of the cottage. It's very peaceful, and it's just what we need.

Please pass along to Mum thanks for arranging with the house elves for the hamper. There's probably enough food here for a week, although I know we (and especially she) can't be spared that long.

You'll find my notes and task list (sketched out through next week) under the bust of Felix Summerbee on my desk, which should help if anyone's looking for anything.

Send me word if anything new develops with regard to Charlie or Ginny. Otherwise, I'm going to be keeping my journal shut and concentrating on my wife.

Bugger Barty Crouch to hell, anyway.
2015-08-03 21:57:00
Order Only: Private message to Bill

I just got an owl from mum's neighbors. She's dead. So's her cat. Those murders
I'm going, I need to go right now. I need to see what

alt_rachel at 2015-08-03 20:06:15
(no subject)

I asked her to let us put up a Fidelius, or move her to Hogsmeade, she was convinced the wards she had were fine and she wanted her neighbors to be able to drop by and she liked her house and

alt_rachel at 2015-08-03 20:06:31
(no subject)

She was the only one I had left.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-03 20:08:34
(no subject)

Come find me, I want you to come with me.
Private Message to Professor Siz

Thank you for the loan of the American Witches books. They were a capital distraction, and the antics of Americans certainly supply fertile ground for drama, however much the books may overflow the cauldron of plausibility. Do they really punish pranks in American academies so severely? Bullying seems a strong term. My father gave me some words of wisdom before I entered Hogwarts, explaining that the Moon line of men were generally two things: high-performing Ravenclaws, and the butt of jokes. Responding to the latter would take time away from achieving the former, and he enjoined me therefore to endure the sneezing hexes and the boots charmed to kick their owner and the pratfall jinxes and the occasional expelliarmus and levicorpus and what-have-you as simply part of the price of being Moon and displaying excellence among the unimaginative, the uncouth, or the unkind.

(The tripping hexes were annoying, but it was really the destruction of parchments and the constant hiding of texts and quills that were quite wearing. And that satchel. I still miss that satchel.)

It is a great relief that things are a bit different here these days. I do not miss the presence of either Crabbe or Goyle, I will say — though not everyone has departed who gleefully hexed me or split their sides laughing when someone else did. The Order of the Phoenix has its own well-esteemed contingent of the uncouth or unkind. Fortunately most of them are kept sufficiently busy by the tasks of consolidating the gains of a successfully fomented revolution that they no longer have dull moments to fill with the apparently delectable pastime of watching a Moon turned upside down after laying bets on how many quills will fall out of his robes.

Father said that the ones who appreciated one’s skills and talents were the ones whose good opinion should carry any weight whatsoever, as all else was piffle and erumpent feathers.

Which brings me to Professor Dolohov, as indeed every third thought seems to, today. He valued my skills and talents, if use is a measure of value. I must confess to having welcomed the encouragement, and admittedly the projects he gave me were as enjoyable as the extra arithmancy puzzlers with which Professor Vector used to reward me, but it was hardly a one-sided exchange.
Did you know he put a geas on me? That’s why I ran out of my detention that time. Our conversation had strayed too close to the topic of a statistical analysis I had done on risk of mortality to Council members as correlated with proximity to specific other Council members, and that triggered the geas, because it was very much something I was not supposed to talk about to anyone but him. It quite worried him at the time. He very nearly obliviated me. He very nearly killed me, actually. In the end, he went with a geas against discussing the topic with anyone other than himself, which was, he said, for my own protection, as the subject matter and conclusions were rather… sensitive.

(I no longer have the parchment, or I’d consider updating it with data from recent events. If I ever achieve my daydream of writing a history of the liberation of Albion, perhaps it might make a good appendix.)

Pardon, it is late and I am babbling and do not know what it is I really want to say in any case, and therefore will stop now. At least it was not poetry. Note the efficacy of your tutelage there, Professor.

You miss him too

---


(no subject)

Oh, Linus.

I’m thinking about how to talk about the question of bullying. I’ll come back to it.

I had not realised he had set a geas. But, yes, that would have been a very dangerous sort of document, indeed. A very dangerous set of thoughts, for all you aren’t the only one to think about that kind of thing.

I was, for a long while, keeping record of the times someone was called to court and then turned up dead unexpectedly, and worrying over how the intervals between were getting smaller and smaller and smaller, but not at all predictably. An erratic orbit. Also dangerous to contemplate.

Cedric and I started looking at his office and rooms yesterday. It will take a long time to unpick all the warding and protections, but I will
see if anything about it turns up. If you feel inclined to other statistical charting of that kind, talk to me first, please?

---

**alt_linus** at **2015-08-04 15:47:59**

(no subject)

> Do be careful in his rooms. A considerable number of his books, as well as other items, can "defend themself adequately."

Those are his own words to me, when we discussed -- ever so obliquely, which is a neat trick if one can do it -- my stealing something from him.

Let me retrace my steps and start from somewhere with a more panoramic view. It was for that blasted challenge, back last year. Can it have been only last year? Merlin. In any case, Montague, my sponsor in the challenge, required that I steal something from either Professor Dolohov or from

Oh, Professor Siz. I am so sorry! About your party last year, when my brother-in-law, in his cups, fell into your sculpture and chaos ensued. I must confess and throw myself on your mercy! That isn't exactly how it happened, and it was my fault, as I was taking part in that aforementioned blasted challenge. I ruined your sculpture and stole the Snitch that had represented the Sun. Jason Montague said I had to steal something valuable from either Professor Dolohov or from you and Professor Raz, and the sculpture was a gift from the Malfoys and from a noted artist and therefore valuable, but I knew you didn't like it very much, so it was perfect. Oh, Professor Siz, I am so sorry

But you and Cedric must absolutely be careful when approaching any of Professor Dolohov's items, because there are quite a number of them which are bespelled, cursed, warded, or a combination thereof! He said as much when we were delicately not-discussing why it was probably an extremely inadviseable idea for me to attempt pilferage from him at the behest of my sponsor.

I think he thought it was funny, actually. But he was serious about the dangers.

And I am so sorry.
I've warned people about the precautions, you can be sure of that. He never took me off the wards on his personal rooms.

As to the sculpture, please, do not worry about it. It was a present from the Malfoys, but it was very well meant.

Only, we put it there for the party rather in hopes something unfortunate would happen to it.

As to the advice you got, quite. My things are rather less likely to have a nasty bite than his. Given the number of entirely unreasonable tasks you were all asked to do, I think that you did very well choosing what you did, under the circumstances.

Bullying. I don't even know where to begin.

First. It can get better. I had one really good friend, once I got to third year. And we're still friends mostly because we're both very stubborn badgers. You've not met him, I've barely seen him the past few years, because it'd put him at risk. We owl a lot.

The rest of my yearmates, I just did not understand. They mostly left me out rather than being nasty, except for a bit fourth year with the Ravenclaw witches in my year that was - very bad. Alcor (my predecessor) after that, he taught me about how to see the patterns in how people interact, how to make sense of it, have it stop being so puzzling, and more something I had choices about.

And then once I left school, when I could find people who liked the things I did, and who weren't so pinned down by trying to do the right thing, the visible right thing, it got a lot easier. You've seen how Gilly and I are together, and you've seen me with other people. It's - it's always work for me, attention and effort, except with a very few people, but it's so much better than it was at school.
Even if I still get it very wrong a lot of the time, and I know people laugh at me, and assume things about me that are wrong and hurtful. And yes, even in the Order.

Including people, welcoming them, really doing it well, is the hardest thing in the world, I think.

I've been thinking a lot about bullying, here. About discipline in general. Because how do we go on, with students, when all of you spent years with people doing things that could be lethal? Were, sometimes. When Crucio was considered a perfectly reasonable punishment, or other, horribly abusive things. (And I'm not just thinking of Madam Pinkness, for all she was quite horrible that way.)

I don't have any answers. At all. Except that I know we have to do better, somehow. I keep feeling I failed so many people, so many times, and it'll take the rest of my life to begin to put any of it right.

And except to say that you still have time, to find the people who want to be around you, who find you interesting, are amused by your quirks and your poetry and your earnest adoration of statistics.

Ravenclaw witches. Well. Yes. Never get on their bad side. They have an ability to painstakingly concentrate on details.

I wonder how Padma is.

As for finding people who find one interesting and appreciate one's abilities and interests and actually want to be around one, I am rather afraid of decreasing my store of such, once I broach a certain subject to Lavender, but there it is.

Speaking of, Madam Pince has found for me the run of Oxford Poetry issues from 1910-1921!
I like individual Ravenclaw witches rather a lot. (Gilly. Poppy. A few others.) Rather less when they're all in a flock, as a rule.

As to Padma, I don't know if you'd have heard, but she's being held somewhere safe. She doesn't have regular access to her journal, but she's safe. I haven't heard anything recently.

About Lavender, all I can say is that being honest generally works out best, even if it's also hardest. I never thought Raz would be interested in me, or that we'd enjoy each other's interests as much as we ended up doing.

People can sometimes surprise you, in the good ways, if you give them the chance. And if they don't, well, at least you know, and you aren't guessing.

The books. Tosha and I would talk about them, you know?

And he was really clear about what parts were what America is like - he'd spent a lot of time there, you know? And what parts were propaganda, here. And what parts were a bit of both. I've got notes somewhere, I can hunt them out.

(Though in the matter of punishment, I think he'd remind you that that part of America is rather densely populated with Muggles, and things that would cause undue attention would be a big risk, and isn't that a summary of the much larger question of our past twenty years?)

It rather is.

But they know about us now. Muggles, I mean; they
are at this point, in this country at least, excruciatingly aware of our existence. At least, the ones who are awake are. Is a mass Obliviation planned? Is all interaction between wizard and Muggle to be proscribed in the future unless disguised? Shall we be going back to the former state of affairs? Would such even be possible?

Professor Siz, I know not if my abilities and aptitudes merit it, but I intend to bloody well do my damnedest to go to Oxford. If I have to learn to live undetectably, to appear to be a Muggle, it would be a small price to pay for the importance of this quest.

(I have been speaking with Rosemary Roche, to whom Mrs Longbottom directed me when I enquired, but no one seems to quite know what actually admitting a wizard to Oxford might entail in the way of such things, if indeed it is possible at all.)

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-04 17:13:03
(no subject)

You are quite right that at this point, there is no hope of secrecy here. My understanding is that everyone working here, for Albion, hopes we can learn to live together, with different strengths and skills and interests. (Even if that seems rather a long way away at times.) Even if we've got some different ideas about what that might look like in practical terms.

As to Oxford, that seems a fine sort of quest, all things considered. It's exactly the sort of thing that will need sorting out by someone, and why shouldn't you be one of the first?

And if we ever do sort out the wards, there are other places you could go. All sorts of universities in America, or on the Continent. I keep wondering about astronomers in other places, what they know that I don't. And even the simple things, like what the stars actually look like in Australia or New Zealand.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-04 13:27:15
(no subject)

I do miss him.

I'm also furious at him.
I don't really have words for any of it yet.

After we sort the Octoboros, though, I think I want to sit down and tell stories for a night. If you're interested. When we have time to breathe again.

Yes, please.

And yes. Quite. Neither do I.
Have you heard anything back from Charlie?

I know it's a good idea to take people out, when they're captured or maybe captured. I still hate it. Even though it was a good idea with Ginny.

No. Not yet.

Don't know what to expect, really, only Rachel wanted him to know he's been removed from the Order to keep the lock safe if he ends up in DEMLE custody.

She said Alice and Remus did it Saturday night, as soon as we knew he was missing. Didn't tell the family until today. I mean, I know why, I guess. But it feels rubbish. I mean, there I was writing him and no one said. Whatever.

I'm not really cross. Especially with Rachel, because

I mean, her aunt, y'know?

It all reeks.

I know it makes sense but I don't know why she didn't just tell you. Because your mum would go wobbly? I mean she knew it was a good idea with Ginny but we KNEW Ginny had been captured.

Does Charlie carry

It really does sound like he's being hidden by someone who's taking care of him, doesn't it? I mean
I hope he's okay.

That's what Madam P thinks, anywiz.

She told Rachel she thinks someone's got Charlie in a safe spot. Probably there at the hospital. She thinks it's not on one of the regular wards because he's so obviously a Weasley. Heh. Or, well, she did admit they could've spelled his hair blond or brown, but she thinks her friends would've been able to find him by now if he was on one of the wards. And they haven't.

She told us, though, that St M's is a bit like Hogwarts and has rooms and places that one person will tell stories about but no one else has ever seen. Says she's been around long enough, she's known loads of people who have a story about a time they stepped into a room or ante-chamber or corridor, or passed by one, or saw someone come out of one, but then there's never been a room or corridor there ever again that they can find.

Has she talked to you about it? I guess she hasn't been around much, though, huh? Sounded like she's mostly been checking the regional health sites. And chasing information for Rachel.

I've barely seen Madam P in weeks. It's been mostly other Healers overseeing things here at Hogwarts. But yeah, she's told me about that with St M's, and so did Healer Korotkova.

And that makes sense, that St M's would have a room like that for Charlie. Because kind of the way Hogwarts wants to protect its students, St Mungo's wants to protect its patients, and after what happened with Ginny.

Yeah.
And yeah.

Rachel's aunt. That's utterly awful.

Crouch has always been utterly awful. Now he's utterly awful and a complete lunatic, it sounds like.

I hear that combination is popular this season.
Private message to Antonin Dolohov

I'm going to miss you. And I'm grateful for the help you gave me. But you should have always been on our side, always, not on His. You read muggle books, you knew perfectly well they weren't animals. You mentored half-bloods, you knew perfectly well we weren't any of us inferior, or at least, not because of our parentage. (For every idiot half-blood like Milli there's an idiot pureblood like Vince.) You knew perfectly well muggleborns like Hermione and my mother didn't steal their magic or anything else from anyone, that was always a lie.

You knew they were liars. And you knew He was a lunatic, that no one you'd ever cared about was safe from Him and neither were you. You knew that for YEARS. If you'd come over, if you'd joined us, if we could have TRUSTED you, maybe Harry wouldn't have had to die. Maybe there'd have been some other way.

I'm not glad you're gone. But I'm glad you won't be able to kill any more of the people I care about, either yourself or with the Inferi you made. (INFERI. Because apparently it wasn't JUST Voldemort that could get you to violate all the things you supposedly believe, expediency and Bellatrix would do the trick as well. Pretty much all adults are hypocrites, though, so that shouldn't surprise me.)

Anyway. I guess you'll be able to pass on my messages to Harry and Neville in person. Good luck with whatever happens in the afterlife.

I hope if I ever see you again, next time we'll be on the same side.
Private Message to Amara Mitiku

Mother. I am not coming to the Floo again to speak with you. I don't know when they'll have them operational again, but I've never known you to use them for transit. Why on earth would you begin now? Or are you worried he could come through that way? If that's it, then be glad they're blocked.

Now go to bed. Do. It will be much better in the morning when you're... rested. And, no, I've no real suggestions what you ought to do if Cadmus Mulciber's ghost visits you again tonight.

Is that why you're worried you'll be targeted? I doubt he's asking Mulciber for help with his list.

Honestly, Mother. You're a society witch. You're not political at all. It would require a massive stretch of the imagination to think anyone would select you out of all the people in the Protectorate to murder.

And if he does? You know, I give you at least even odds. You've rather an impressive record for surviving, don't you think? (Don't huff. It causes wrinkles. Anyway, you know I'm right.)

Turn off your wireless and go to bed, Mother. I can hear you, but I am seriously not getting up again. Remember, you arranged my marriage and gave me this townhouse so I'd be out from under foot in Wilton Crescent. Why haven't you got someone there with you who'd be some use in a crisis? Or against a foul-tempered ghost? Has Jerome Caustic broken things off again? Then, I tell you what, go out tomorrow and find someone new. Or hire more security. Who knows, one of them might be good-looking.

Oh, now, look. You've gone and woken Susan. I just heard her slam the door to her en-suite. If she comes down here next and shouts at me, I promise you I'll be displeased, so, do just shut up.
**2015-08-04 01:14:00**  
*Order Only Private Message to Sally Anne*

What do you make of the fact that they're not naming some of the victims? 'A couple in Surrey' and 'a family of five in Wiltshire'. The Scottish woman is Brodie's aunt, yeah? I reckon they might have been asked to hold that back by Rowle or Lestrange, but that only makes me more curious about the others.

Eh. I'm turning it off and going to sleep. Hope you have a quiet night on the ward.

If they let you go early, wake me up. I'd loads rather see you than dream you. You know?

Love you.

---

**alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-04 21:43:13**  
*(no subject)*

Thanks for telling me to wake you. I'm never sure if I should? Anyway got up a little while ago and I've been thinking about why they weren't naming people, and I wonder if in part it was because they were trying to blame the murders on us. No one's going to believe that Rachel ordered her own aunt murdered; obviously it was someone from their side.

Though, they're admitting now that Barty Crouch is doing it -- well, they're calling him a 'person of interest' blah blah blah but as IF anyone's going to be fooled.

Anyway I haven't turned on the wireless so I'm not sure whether they're still not naming people. But, you know, the couple in Surrey and the family in Wiltshire, maybe they were ours, and that's why Rowle and Lestrange didn't want them named? Because that would've made it harder to lie.
2015-08-04 10:21:00
Private message to Lana Sandoval-Pennifold

Rod assures me that the L'Estrange floo system has been reconfigured and is back online. As of this morning we can say the same for the Palace system.

I'll need you in my office as soon as you are able. I have a temporary assignment for you that should not be inhibited by your delicate condition - provided you don't allow it to inhibit you.

alt_bellatrix

alt_lana at 2015-08-04 16:49:13
(no subject)

Of course. I'll be there by 12:00.

I'm happy to help however I can. Even if it's parsing data or filing. Mind you, I'd welcome more significant involvement if my skills can be put to use.

Thank you.
There was never any dove.

It was all a lie, from top to bottom.

I do that sometimes. Mummy even used to warn people about it, telling them I had a habit of lying to get attention and sympathy from others. But I always found that a lie was more useful than the truth. More simple and, in my case, more believable.
2015-08-04 11:36:00
Order Only Private Message to Draco Malfoy and Pansy Parkinson

Either of you seen Hydra? (Can't turn up F-F, either, so maybe it's as simple as that.) Only, I saw she wrote you last night, Malfoy. She say she which direction she was going today? I thought she was done with the project Brodie gave her.

Anywiz. Thing is, I've been looking at the reports that've come in about the murder scenes, and there are some interesting bits. I know she's not trained for criminal profile analysis, but I reckon she knows some things the rest of us don't really, about how different kinds of people think. And at the very least, she knows Crouch better than the rest of us.

If you see her, tell her I'm looking for her?

@alt_draco at 2015-08-04 16:56:45
(no subject)

Don't think I'll be seeing her, mate. She wrote to me to ask for my broom and my omniculars. Said she was going to try to find Crouch and stop him, and claimed that the "dove always dies" nonsense was a message to her.

Anyway, I refused to help her. I've had enough of people just - maybe I've had enough of people, full stop.

She found me and we had a row about it.

She won, and now she's gone.

I thought about writing everyone to let them know, but what's the point? There's already enough to be worrying about, and Hydra's of age and an Auror, so - there it is.
Er. You alright, then? Need anything?

Bruise salve? Help to the hospital wing? Shot of whiskey?

Guess I won't be running this stuff by her, then. Merlin. I hope she-

I'd've liked to know whether she thinks there's any pattern. But, of course, we're not necessarily hearing about them in order. This morning there's a report from Folkestone of a family found in their flat above the cafe they ran, that'd been dead since Sunday, probably. And money left on the cafe counter beside a plate and soup bowl.

Wonder if he ate before or after he killed their cat and cut out their hearts?

No whiskey. I've got Russell's job to attend to at 3pm.

And anyway, I've recovered.

You can run it by her. Who knows, maybe it'll be useful? My guess is that she's gone to look at the crime scenes herself, since she asked to see the one involving Rachel's mother.

I suppose it's small favours that he didn't actually eat the cat or the hearts.

Reckon we don't know that he didn't. Eat the hearts. The reports that've said anything about them say they were taken from the scene.
But you're right. If he ate them, he probably wouldn't have wanted the soup. And if he'd had the meal first, he might not have had room for three people's hearts.

One of them was a toddler, though. Reckon that heart's smaller.

Sorry.

Working this is getting to me.

Want to swap for the day? I think making martinis and neat whiskies sounds good.

He could have kept them as trophies. Though I suppose if you eat your trophies then they become a part of you forever, in a way.

If any of us ever have children we'll have to be really careful, you know that? Because we're just messed up people now, that's a given.

I keep hoping that Crouch decides to come into the club and wet his whistle before his next slaughter. That'd be handy, wouldn't it? I'll just poison his drink and be done with it.

Damn. Another 'Urgent Update' on the wireless. Two more in NL. Well, four bodies, two sites.

One of them's Bobolis. The bloke who publishes Londinarium. Published. Found in his flat at the Horseguards. (Nice address!)

The other three are Drumgooles. Um, hang on...

Huh. Two adults in a flat in Hatton Gardens. Eva and Aislin Drumgoole. Thirty-five. Twin sisters. One of them waits tables at White's and is a poet and performer. (Think that means she
sings? Or is a polite way of explaining what she really does at White's?) The other's an associate editor at The Prophet. (Reckon it's properly gloomy there this week.) Oh. And the third body was a kid's. No more details for that one.

---

👤 alt_draco at 2015-08-04 18:03:28
(no subject)

Bloody nightshade. He's obviously going after people he has some kind of personal connection to, or felt personally slighted by, at one point or another. The New London press has been both good and bad to him in equal measure, I reckon.

I wonder how closely related the Drumgoole twins are to Maebh (oh, and I think it's Aoife, not Eva. Irish, you know). Or maybe it's just the fact that one worked for the Prophet.

Hard to imagine how toddlers and kids could have personally slighted him, but maybe they were just in the wrong place at the wrong time.

As for White's, I don't know how it works there, but at the Elysian we don't provide those kinds of "services." But from what the chef says that hasn't stopped Tamsin and Felicia from providing them when the prospects are good.

---

👤 alt_ron at 2015-08-04 18:20:49
(no subject)

Are you listening to this?

They just broke in to the programme again with an announcement that Crouch is armed, dangerous and a POI in the case. Pretty sure it called him 'former Auror Crouch'. Bet you'll hear some talk about that!

If they air it again, I'll set the Dictaquill on it.
Oh, another thing.

Charlie answered. He's alright.

Says we're not allowed to sacrifice anyone trying to get him back. Knight's gambit. He means we should play him for advantage if we can. But not throw away advantage to protect him.

I haven't written him back yet.
Thought you might want to know this.

Just had a report come in from Kiddlington, northeast of Oxford. Another murder. Neighbour found Annetta Rickett dead. Same kind of scene.

Neighbour = Stribella Punt. Says she didn't touch anything once she'd got to the kitchen and found the body, but she admitted she'd straightened up some things in the lounge before she realised.

Address = Old Orchard Cottage, Church Ln, Charlton-on-Otmoor, Kiddlington

I can give you probably 45 minutes before I have to report it to Harkiss. (She's out having a fly round the lake.) Unless you want an investigator to meet you there.
when we'll have to shift out. Anywiz, Rickett's a halfblood. She voted in favour of sacking Dolohov. Those look like the biggest reasons he might've gone after her. That we've got notes on, anywiz.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-05 02:48:20
(no subject)

Then it's possible he'll next target the other Governors who supported sacking Dolohov.

Do you think either Harkiss or Wright could send me the names on that list?

alt_ron at 2015-08-05 03:16:42
(no subject)

Sorry. To keep you waiting. Yeah. Wright's compiling it and will PM you.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-05 04:24:19
(no subject)

I made it to the Moons. Barty had been here, but it looks as if they're away on holiday. There were instructions left for watering the plants and feeding the cats.

I don't think he'll bother to track them down, but just move on to whoever he was planning to target next.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-05 04:32:03
(no subject)

He got to the Peakes. The other MLE is there now.

Don't worry, they didn't catch me. I was looking at the scene through Draco's omniculars.
Yeah. They just reported that one on the wireless.

You know, Mr Peakes was Dean Thomas's foster father? Not a nice bloke. At all.

Not that that means he deserved to be killed by Crouch.

Oh, yes. That Mr Peakes.

No. No one does, really.

Well, not *no one*, but the list is short.

Put Crouch himself at the top of *that* list!

We wish.
Bellatrix told me you lobbied her to give me this chance. You wonderful, wonderful man!

Mind you, it's been a completely mad day.

There've been more killings. Two more: Josiah Peakes. He was head of Hogwarts' Board.

And Mariposa Poddington. I admit I'm shocked about that. What could he have had against her? I mean, she was Narcissa Malfoy's assistant at Witch Weekly for years. I hope Braithwaite can suss out a motive there, because I can't imagine.

But then that's not my brief at the moment, is it? I've just got to coordinate and make assignments and keep everything moving.

It's really thrilling, Rod. I promise I won't disappoint you. Or Bella.

I know how you've been craving the mantle of leadership and responsibility, in recent months more than ever. I'm pleased that you're as keen to the task as I anticipated.

As I understand it, Barty had MLE coordinated very efficiently. Bella will prefer that you keep to his course, more or less, so I'd suggest doing so as best you are able.

Mariposa Poddington is an unfortunate loss. Particularly as I was just thinking to write to Narcissa, perhaps convince her reach out to Barty to see if she might be able to cool his wrath. She always did have a rather a good way with him.
Before I left the castle I wondered at what point your efforts would begin to flag, but now I can see that things aren't moving in that direction.

I discovered splinters of wand wood embedded in the walls and ceiling, so you're cracking the wands with a great deal of force. I already know of your ability to push through exhaustion and extreme conditions and not have your skills be any worse for it, but you're also fueling yourself with the Dark ritual magic.

Bruises and torn clothing indicates that you handle the victims roughly while they're still alive and petrified. Once they're all arranged to your liking (head facing East), you kill the familiars and mark the cardinal points with their blood. Then you start the ritual killings.

The hearts aren't missing because you took them, but because they're gone. You open up their chests, then levitate the heart out, and use a Dark spell that combusts them into nothing, except for the wave of energy that floods over you.

Everything I've seen indicates a level of rage that I've probably never experienced. But everything's also very precise and controlled (not a surprise, by the way). For now, anyway.

I wonder who you're angry at. All of your victims? I think those are just petty grievances. Excuses, maybe.

You know who you're angry at, and so do I.
Because it was your idea to make the Inferi, wasn't it?

I'm sure most people assume it was my mother's plan, and perhaps she even took credit for it. But you're the one who led all the Inferi for the Lord Protector. You saw first hand the overwhelming damage they were capable of.

So it was your idea first, I think. Maybe Antonin even knew it was your idea?

Because who else would he have made all of those for?
2015-08-05 08:55:00
(no subject)

See?

i told you all, didn't I?

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-05 15:09:19
Private message to Milli

Milli, where are you?

Seriously he might target you next. Your whole family. Get out, come to Hogwarts or just hide somewhere for now.

alt_millicent at 2015-08-05 15:25:26
Re: Private message to Milli

What i could be talking about anything.

alt_millicent at 2015-08-05 15:26:06
Re: Private message to Milli

he's probably too busy to read journals anyway. Someone should tell lestrange that.

Or Finch-fletchley if thats what she is now

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-05 15:34:05
Re: Private message to Milli

He's not going to come after you because you wrote in your journal. You were one of Daphne's friends and he can get at you.
Re: Private message to Milli

i hate Him

why won't anyone do anything?
**2015-08-05 09:09:00**

Order Only Private Message to Tonks, Alice, Remus, and Rachel

I got another message from Charlie last night. Confirmed he's at St M's. Says he thinks he's safe. His writing looks really terrible, and the ink was smudged even though it had to've been his self-inking field quill he was using. Happens when you press too hard on the page, y'know?

Then, this morning I got an owl (just an ordinary public post owl brought it). This is what it says:

You don't know me and I'm not going to give my name because it's not safe, but I work here at St Mungo's and I saw your brother's journal open with a message from you in it. I put it away again so nobody could see it who shouldn't have.

He's alive. He's been very badly injured, and he's going to be recovering for a long time, but he's alive. He's been awake a few times, and when he is, he's lucid. He's in pain, but we're treating it. Right now, the Healer in charge of his case believes he will recover in time.

His presence here is a matter of record, but right now, we think the only people who know for certain where he is in the building are people who aren't going to betray him. Those of us who believe in you are doing everything we can to keep him safe. He needs constant specialist care, so please don't try to move him. I'll write to you again if the situation gets worse.

Please don't try to figure out who I am. I have family who would be in danger if anyone knew I was helping you.

I've seen the twins already, and I'll tell Mum about it when I see her, but I thought the rest of you should know.
Sorry I didn't respond to this earlier.

That's good news. Have you discussed this with Poppy? She's in a better situation to assess whether we could override this Healer's judgment and move him regardless. Or whether we should.

If this person were not actually on our side, presumably they'd have handed him in to Bellatrix already. Unless they don't actually know where he is, they're just writing because they saw you PM'd him, and they're trying to keep us away so they have time to find him. That seems unlikely. More likely that they're who they say they were, someone on our side.

I'll be back in my office by this evening.

Ta very much, Ron.

Good to hear it.
Were the proof-of-life charms his idea, or yours? Perhaps you came up with it together?

I don't know much about normal, healthy parent-child relationships, but from what I've gathered it's not unusual for a child to think of their parent as invincible. They are larger than life and can never die. The parent, though, is much more aware of mortality and vulnerability and watches over their offspring with absolute vigilance.

I know you didn't think Antonin was invincible, but I think he was more accustomed to being worried about you than the reverse. Just imagine that stretch of time in Ireland that you almost didn't return from.

What did you expect him to do, if you hadn't survived?

I'm just very curious to know what you two had planned if one of you died before the other. Because I don't think it likely included killing sprees.

Maybe the proof-of-life charms weren't about plans. Maybe they were just motivation to stay alive, for each other.

I told one of my colleagues that there was something Romantic about your relationship with Antonin. I'm not sure he really understood what I meant by that. But what you're doing has the weight of a dramatic aria or poem - the ultimate expression of your rage and torment. It's the only medium you've dedicated your life to, though it would have been better for everyone if you'd been a painter, or something, instead.
Order Only

It's Faust's day off. I told his nosy neighbour that I'm taking a tour of a graveyard in North Yorkshire. Yes, Russell Faust likes touring graveyards for fun, the sodding weirdo.

The neighbour told me to be careful not to run into Carnage Crouch while I was traveling. Carnage Crouch, can you believe it?

And at the club last night they were calling him Barmy Barty. Doubt they'll find it so funny if its their hearts that go missing.

Anyway, I'm actually coming back to Hogwarts to sit with Hermione, but consider me on duty for anything else that might come up.

---

Private message to Hydra

Well if you're writing PMs to Crouch then I suppose that at least means you're still alive.

---

Re: Private message to Hydra

So far. I'm losing steam, though. I haven't had enough sleep, or enough to eat.

So I hope this can end soon.

---

Re: Private message to Hydra

Does he answer your messages?
No.

I think that he might read them, though. He won't like the ones that are coming later today.
I know, right? Lana Sandoval-Wossname filling in as head of MLE--as in, someone from our class filling the shoes of Barty Crouch Jr himself. Fenton has been walking around looking as if he's swallowed a fucking doxy.

Can't imagine Crouch himself would be well pleased, were he paying attention. Who knows, perhaps that was Lady Lestrange's goal--to get his attention.

Anyway, I'll play along and be nice. She wants so much to be important.

Can't say I ever thought shagging Lady Lestrange's husband and having his love child would be the direct path to nepotism around here (the direct path to an early grave sounds more likely).

But isn't the world full of wonder and surprises?

Oh, word also has it that Lady Lestrange is giving Crouch another day, and then she's going to gather up her tot and venture out to force Crouch to return to the Palace.

Another rumour is that once she has him, she's going to orchestrate a massive public display--take away his wand and let the New London crowds rip him apart.

Make what you will of that.
Sorry to bother you. I know you prefer your solitude. I would have asked Charlie but that's not possible right now.

So I was wondering if there are any methods for luring a Unicorn, especially if you're not at all an innocent.

I have a feeling that the answer is "no," but it seemed worth it to ask.

Odd question.

If you're not an innocent or don't have an innocent with you, there are no methods for luring a Unicorn. As you suspected.

You can only hunt them. Which I wouldn't recommend doing. For your sake, not the Unicorn's.

But if it's something that's for the sake of everyone else, that's different, isn't it?

You really looking for approval from someone like me?
alt_hydra at 2015-08-05 21:07:02
(no subject)

No.

Just working myself up.

alt_macnair at 2015-08-05 21:07:32
(no subject)

Figured it was something like that.
2015-08-05 17:15:00
Order Only Private message to Albion MLE and Madam Pomfrey

Location: Three Broomsticks, Hogsmeade

Madam P: One person reported injured, near death

Unit 1 (and Malfoy): Large crime scene. Report says the downstairs has been torn apart (will complicate investigation). Four reported dead. Second, separate scene upstairs in living quarters. Ritual murder.

Unit 3: Provide security

-----

alt_ron at 2015-08-05 22:24:10
Private message to Hydra

Sorry I couldn’t give you any advanced notice on this one: there’s someone still alive at the scene. Barely. Get there fast and you might beat the rest.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-05 22:25:46
Re: Private message to Hydra

I'm not far from Hogsmeade.

I'll see if I can get there fast. If nothing else I'll meet up with the Units when they reach the scene.

He's so close

alt_hydra at 2015-08-05 23:03:05
Re: Private message to Hydra

Alright. The Units are here, but I had a look before they arrived. There's nine dead, not four.

Blessfield will send you the official report. Everyone downstairs was murdered without the ritual features. Upstairs he performed the ritual on Madam Rosmerta. Heart gone, same as the others. Except this time he wrote "THIS IS NO LIE" instead of "The Dove Always Dies." She was laid out on her kitchen table.
So, that's another message to me.

I'm worried he's going to head to the castle next. He could have got a Seal ring from one of the school Governors he killed, which would allow him to bypass the wards.

Put up the alarm and I'll see if I can find him.

---

[@alt_poppy](https://x.com/alt_poppy) at 2015-08-05 22:30:25

(no subject)

Just on my way!
2015-08-05 18:03:00  
Order Only Private message to Rachel Brodie  

SECURE THE CASTLE; ALERT CODE 1A

Unit 1 Report: The Three Broomsticks looks like a Muggle bomb went off in it. Everything—booths, tables, chairs, pictures, mirrors, bottles, glasses—is smashed to bits. The taps broke and there’s ale everywhere.

Four dead. One survivor. Madam Pomfrey has her. Not possible to take a statement yet. (Did ask.) Think Madam P may have used Cinnabaris. Not certain.

Upstairs. Madam Rosmerta was laid out on her kitchen table, head to East. Heart removed. Cardinal points marked in blood. Cat’s, presumably—there was one on the counter, drained. Wand snapped in rubbish. There was writing beside the body that said, “THIS IS NO LIE.”

Auror H F-F confirmed it’s a message to her. Said to tell you she's following Crouch. Thinks he's heading to the castle. Believes he has a seal ring (Peakes’ or Rickett’s) that could give him Governor’s authority to pass the wards. He might be mad enough to try assassinating Alice or you or Sirius or whoever he can find.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-05 23:06:40  
(no subject)

Understood.
**2015-08-05 18:06:00**  
*Order Only*

Everyone at Hogwarts -- Code Red.
Barty Crouch may be on his way to visit us.

*alt_rachel*

---

*alt_nymphadora* at **2015-08-05 23:24:29**  
(no subject)

Understood

---

*alt_alice* at **2015-08-05 23:25:22**  
(no subject)

He won't get far if he does.

---

*alt_nymphadora* at **2015-08-05 23:50:14**  
(no subject)

Kevin, Bea, and Adam are safe as houses with me.

---

*alt_evelyn* at **2015-08-05 23:50:49**  
(no subject)

I'm with Siz, mum.

---

*alt_frank* at **2015-08-05 23:51:12**  
(no subject)

good.
In the tower workroom. Have most of the wards committee, including Irma and Septima.

Putting up the stronger wards for the tower now, including the upper door and the windows.
I don't think I ever told you, but I can hear the thoughts of someone who dies in front of me - whether they die by my wand or someone else's. The first time I ever noticed it was when I cast AK on someone. There's a noise that's like the pop of a champagne cork. A consciousness suddenly vanished, and air rushes in to fill the vacuum.

If someone dies more slowly, say from a blood-letting curse, it's like having the volume slowly turned down on the wireless. The sound gets weaker and quieter until it's gone.

If someone dies from Dark, ritualistic magic, then their thoughts turn into something I can't decipher at all. It's as if they're no longer human. Which I suppose makes sense, since Dark magic utterly robs them of their humanity.
2015-08-05 18:37:00
Private Message to Lav

I trust you are safe and that someone has warned you to take cover, my dearest. I'm up with Professor Siz and the rest of the wards lot.

Be safe. Please be safe.

I will find you when this is over.

alt_lavender at 2015-08-06 02:00:03
(no subject)

Thank you, darling!

I've taken shelter in the kitchens; they were closest to where I was, and I trust the elves as much as I trust anyone.

Are we truly under attack???

alt_linus at 2015-08-06 02:15:43
(no subject)

Yes, I am told that we may be. Barty Crouch has been seen in the vicinity.

Something may be happening in the Forest. Stay hidden until the all clear has sounded. Excellent thinking about the kitchens and the elves, my dearest!

alt_lavender at 2015-08-06 02:20:34
(no subject)

In the Forest?? It's a pity the spiders haven't eaten him.
It is said that there are some things even spiders will not touch.
BaRty Crouch cant really get into the castle can he?
DON'T ASSUME HE CAN'T. MIGHT AS WELL GET SOMEBWHERE SAFE, HEY? I'M GOING TO THE SECRET ROOM MYSELF, FEEL FREE TO JOIN.
I was at Fradswell and I was there when Antonin died, which means I was close enough to see Antonin Nikolaevich Dolohov die.

He was on the roof, struggling. Struggling to maintain the Inferi's attack and struggling to keep his disillusionment solid. But his energy was flagging. Every time someone killed one of his Inferi, it got worse, distracted him further. Eventually, he couldn't keep the disillusionment up. I saw him flicker in and out of visibility, awash in the waning light of the blue moon. And then everyone started firing curses at him. He couldn't defend himself and keep the Inferi going at the same time. It was too much, but he kept trying, he really did. It wasn't enough. A fatal curse landed.

I heard his last thoughts, and they were all about you.

Where were you? Do you remember? I'm sure you remember it well.

Yalla, yalla ya khara, NO, pomeelooy menyah, O my heart of my mother-

---

See you in hell.
ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Charlie Weasley

There's a certain amount of poetic justice in both of us being stuck somewhere with a wolf at the door, isn't there?

I suppose the best thing for both of us to do is to wait as patiently as we can for it to pass.

Adam's so very confused. It's like he's lost his sense of balance the last couple of days. I hope he'll get some of it back once you're here safe and sound, but I'm trying my best to keep him from getting too frustrated by everything. Bea is switching back and forth between being the Best Older Sister Ever and an absolute brat, but that's decidedly understandable.

I miss you.

Come home soon, yeah?

---

And I've no idea when you'll be able to read this. Probably after you're back and Alice and Remus have sworn you in again, and it might be ages and ages before you get to this because you'll be playing catch-up, and then we can laugh about how ridiculously worried I was, and isn't it nice that it's all over?

I think that'd be something nice to look forward to.

I might have to make a list of things to look forward to, just to give me something to do.
There's something going on in the Forest.

It's hard to see from the Astronomy tower, but there was a rather enormous tree that just came crashing down, and every now and then we can get a glimpse of flashes of light. We're seeing if we can modify the telescopes to see better.

Flashes of light caused by spell-casting?

Which quadrant of the Forest? South-West, North-West, or directly West?

Southwest, moving West.

The tree cover is making it difficult to see too much but

Oh! There was a rather large explosion just now.
Hydra, can you report?
We're prepping Unit 1 to send in as back-up.
2015-08-05 21:35:00
(no subject)
H
h H's
He

alt_hydra at 2015-08-06 02:38:38
(no subject)
's dead

alt_draco at 2015-08-06 02:41:56
Order Only
We're on our way to you.
Crouch is dead? Are you still in one piece?

alt_hydra at 2015-08-06 02:44:28
Re: Order Only
cold

alt_draco at 2015-08-06 02:45:08
Re: Order Only
Send up a signal for us.
You can do it.
tell J

You stay awake, cousin.

Oh, Merlin.

Find her, Draco?

I think I just heard her signal. Trees to thick to see it but we're headed that way.

Found her. We picked up their trail and followed it. It was long - they were in here for a while.

Hydra's covered in blood, but I can't tell if it's all hers. Either way she's definitely not all right so we'll be levitating her in.

And, I suppose since you're the closest thing to his next-of-kin around here, do you want me to bring Crouch's remains back, or leave them to the animals in the Forest?

He's not exactly in one piece, but I know which option I'd choose.
Leave them there.
It's what he deserves.

Draco,
Is there anything you & the unit 1 team need in place?

Find Sally Anne or one of the other healers if no one else has done yet. I think Madam Pomfrey is still attending to the survivor from the 3B's.

Will do.
2015-08-05 21:36:00
(no subject)

Yes x 3 - DM
Has Hydra Finch-Fletchley been found? Is she gonna be all right? IS BARTY CROUCH REALLY DEAD?
2015-08-05 23:00:00
Order Only

Auror Brodie, should we stand down or hold our positions?

alt_susan

2015-08-06 03:18:28
(no subject)

Stand down.
All clear.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-06 03:18:28
(no subject)

2015-08-06 03:24:56
(no subject)

Thanks. Good to know.
Sally-Anne, if you haven't already heard, unit 1 is requesting you for Hydra.

If there are any other Healers on premises, they could probably use them too.

It's too bad we can't call Madame P on the Floo to see if she's still urgently needed at the Three Broomsticks.
2015-08-06 01:48:00

Private message to Madam Pomfrey and senior Albion Healers

Hydra has an extremely high fever, and she's vomiting. I've tried all the usual remedies and nothing's helping. I think someone else needs to come.

👤alt_sally_anne
2015-08-06 09:26:00
Private message to all loyal members of the Council

Tonight, 10pm. Mandatory court session.

alt_bellatrix

---

alt_seamus at 2015-08-06 16:31:27
(no subject)

Yes, ma'am.

alt_jason at 2015-08-06 16:51:39
(no subject)

Understood.
Our news outlets are reporting that Barty Crouch Jr. was the subject of a 3-day manhunt that culminated in his being pursued and killed by Auror Hydra Finch-Fletchley.

Their news outlets (what's left of them) are reporting that "the recent crime spree has met its end thanks to the hard work of Protectorate MLE forces." No details beyond that.

Hydra had Crouch's wand on her last night, so I snapped it and sent it to Bellatrix, along with a note that said "from your daughter" (Bellatrix will know it's my handwriting, but that's fine. Better, actually). It's possible that Bellatrix thinks that Hydra is dead, too, based on Hydra's open journal post last night, and the fact that I was the one who sent her the wand and not Hydra herself.

I went with Unit 3 to do a sweep of the Forest this morning before returning to my assignment in New London. In the North-West quadrant we found the body of a Unicorn. It had been killed with ritual dark magic - sacrificed, basically. Crouch's last victim, we think.

Hydra's still in the HW with a persistent fever and other injuries, and F-F is with her. She's not allowed any other visitors.

The creature wasn't Crouch's victim. You cousin was asking me about Unicorns yesterday.

Yeah, that possibility crossed my mind.

Crouch had been performing ritual magic for three days, so she must have decided she would need something extra to give her a chance.

I would have done the same.
Ritual dark magic performed on a creature like a Unicorn transfers a huge amount of energy, but when it's expelled, there's a potentially deadly withdrawal effect. Might want to tell the healers that the fever is one consequence of that particular act. No magical remedies for it, just have to let it run its course.

I'm not at the castle anymore, but I'll write to Sally Anne and Madam P.

Just learned from Macnair that if one performs a dark ritual sacrifice on a Unicorn, there are consequences (no surprise).

Hydra's fever is likely linked to that. He says there are no magical remedies other than letting it run its course.

And yeah, he also confirmed for me that she was asking him about Unicorns yesterday, so it was her who killed the one we found, not Crouch.

Thank you. That is most helpful.

And concerning, indeed.
Thank you so much for finding her, Draco. For bringing her home.

I wish...it seems strange, and almost wrong to worry about it, when Mr Crouch killed so many people. But I wish there was something that could be done for the unicorn. Bury it, or dispose of its body in whatever way the other unicorns would think would be honouring it. We--Colin and Evelyn and Neville and I--went out to the Forbidden Forest several times, you know, looking for wand supplies, and we were grateful when they left hairs for us. We only caught glimpses of them once or twice, but we came to think of the unicorns as our friends. Just leaving her there where Mr Crouch killed her feels disrespectful somehow.

What would the unicorns want us to do? I suppose that they wouldn't want people coming into the Forest now. The centaurs certainly won't!

We thought about harvesting some of the hair, but finally decided that hairs from a Unicorn that's been desecrated should probably be left alone.
Queens know that when they send their knights into battle, sometimes those brave knights will fall.

Yes, sacrifices must be made, but we promise we will not risk our pieces unnecessarily. And yet the game is not finished. The end game is nearing, and soon, we hope, the black queen will fall.

This queen hopes to see her brave knight return home again, to be back with the rest of the chess set where he belongs.
Private Message to Ginny Weasley

Say. Miss you.

Can't sleep tonight. I was thinking . . . of people I miss. People we've lost and won't ever see again, and it made me wonder when I'd see you again.
2015-08-07 10:03:00
Private Message to All Protectorate MLE and Council

Priority Target: Phoenix Cedric Diggory. Capture ALIVE. Known to come and go from Dover.

alt_lana at 2015-08-07 15:12:49
Private Message to P Baddock

Good show, Baddock.

Maybe I needn't have worried that Dolohov's loss would affect her.
2015-08-07 10:15:00  
Private message to Seamus

Look, I understand that you were upset about Remy and it may have influenced your thinking. But you really must *not* make heroic Gryffindor choices for me. I'm far from helpless.

Others might find the gesture touching but I'm having a hard time not being offended that you think, even for a second, that I'd be alright with the idea.

I've known for a while now that someone might suggest we use you to break the wards. Only I expected it would be Lady Lestrange, not Lana (believe that may have been deliberate on LL's part, in fact). I'd already arranged for various options, should that suggestion be made. So even if you're resigned to sacrificing yourself you won't, in fact, have to. And I won't let you. I'm not Draco sodding Malfoy.

You've got to trust me and do what I say, exactly when I say it.

Will you?

---

alt_seamus at 2015-08-07 16:29:24
(no subject)

The last time

I don't want anyone else

What do you

How sure are you that it'll work? Are you also going to be safe?

He cut out Remy's

alt_jason at 2015-08-07 16:38:58
(no subject)

I'll be safe. I'm not the self-sacrificing type.

Nothing is certain, everything's a gamble. But who would you rather have betting for you--Lady
Lestrange and Lana, or me?

They don't know for a fact that it would even work, Seamus. You are expendable to them. You are not expendable to me.

alt_seamus at 2015-08-07 16:41:50
(no subject)

You.

I wish

What do you think I should say if this comes up again? I mean they did ASK me. But the right answer was clear.

alt_jason at 2015-08-07 16:53:17
(no subject)

Playing the agreeable Gryffindor is what they expect, so go on with you.

Just know in your heart that it's not going to come to that.

Also, Lady Lestrange didn't say, but it was her daughter who killed Crouch.
Cedric, where are you right now? If you're not within a Fidelius zone, get into one. (F, not Neo-F.) Apparently the DEMLE has been ordered to apprehend you because they think you're the Dover Secret Keeper.

I'm going to send Ron or one of the other Albion Aurors or Enforcers over to get some of your hair. We can certainly use their interest in you to bait a trap, but I'm not baiting it with real bait. Unless you really want to volunteer, in which case I'll come by and we can talk.

Aurora, the DEs think that they can bring down the wards by sacrificing Seamus Finnigan. Can they? Just how messy would the results be?

---

I'm in Dover already. (And Cedric is around here somewhere, though not right with me at the moment.)

If we hadn't removed the Ireland wards, they could have sacrificed Seamus, and it would probably have worked. That's a part of why we went ahead as quickly as we did.

For values of probably that would have depended on if they could make a ritual that worked (just killing him might have worked, but maybe only temporarily? I'm not exactly an expert on Dark ritual magic, I'm just the best we've got, so some of this is guesswork, and I was focusing on the parts about undoing it without killing people.)

The original ritual, it was Bella and Rod, and then Lucius, Tosha, Barty, Rookwood, Stephen Rosier. And all but the first two are dead, and while I'd never ever underestimate what Bella and Rod know, they're both more about other kinds of Dark magic, and not so much the ritual parts.

But now? Give me a minute, want to check a couple of things in my notes. Also, give you a couple of thoughts about tonight.
I'm in Dover. At the floos. Happy to donate hair. Do we know if anyone polyjuiced into me would have use of their arm? It should be checked before any sort of emergency situation.

If they are targeting me, my family should be brought into protection. Either fidelius the entire property or have them come to the castle. If they are brought to the castle someone should take Jenni aside and assess more thoroughly her situation. I know they are paying her now, I made absolutely sure of that, but I'm not completely positive that they made it fully clear she can leave and get a wand and training. I don't know what she wants. My attempts at talking to her weren't particularly successful.

Ok. Current wards.

I don't know for sure what will happen after we do the switchover tonight. Insert my potted comment on 'this is all stuff no one's done before' here. We'll know a lot more later this evening when we can get readings, and I'll update as soon as I have something more definite.

Anyway. They also don't know what they're doing. I'm fairly sure Rookwood was one of the only people who knew details about all three sets, and I'm also pretty sure he was either ignoring details about parts he wasn't interested in or a lot more intermittently senile than people realised a lot earlier, or probably both.

Once we make the switch tonight, it's possible that killing Seamus would make a difference, but it's more killing anyone would make a difference, because enough death magic does weird things to wards. The Octoboros wards are based on rune and arithmantic models, not ritual magic, but - could they take out an individual stone that way? Maybe.

It would really really be a bad idea, though. There are lots of reasons we're not just taking down all the wards at once, some of them
political, some of them practical.

But some of them are about how if we don't have a way to rebalance the energy flows of the country - the ley lines - we're looking at Atlantis. Or at least Ys. And that would affect not just us in Albion (and I'm biased, but that would be bad, we have spent too much trying to save Albion to be drowned) but also France and the Netherlands and Scandinavia and all sorts of other places.

So our hope - and our models - are that we rebalance things using our 9th stone on the Octoboros, and then take down the 83 wards in a way that is at least a little controlled. But then it will take some time for all of those energies to balance out. And we don't know yet what that will look like.

Taking out the wards while that's still going on? Likely extremely bad for a whole lot of people. Probably especially whoever actually tries.

After it settles, it's a little more complicated, but I'd expect that'd be a few weeks, at the very least, and it could be months. Maybe years.

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alt_sinistra at 2015-08-07 17:45:57
(no subject)

Last part, I promise. Writing fast, not so much editing. Tonight. I passed this along before, but one more time so it's all in one place:

- The switch will be at 7:56 precisely. Cecilia and I have coordinated watches. Both of us have advance prep to do, so we may not see notes to us after 6, but Evelyn or Jeremy or Septima can all get hold of someone who can tell us.

- Ireland is going to be outside the Octoboros wards, and cut off from the rest of the British Isles again.

We should be able to establish a connection through the wards, like at Dover, eventually, but we won't know how long it'll take for the Octoboros to settle until we get to the other side of the switch tonight.

- If you can manage to avoid having your Aurors and Enforcers and so on doing anything terribly complicated between 7:50 and 8pm tonight, that would probably be good. Magic everywhere may be
rather odd.

- Current models give substantial preference to the notice-me-not and other area effects lingering for a bit, but it's not certain. I think this got communicated to people over there, but right now I'm not sure, and I can't find my notes about it.

- Floo and portkeys will stop working again when we do the switch. I strongly suggest people avoid taking them after 7:50 tonight. (I've asked Lee to put out a warning on the radio, vague, 'unexpected effects due to celestial conjunctions'.) If everything goes well, we will have revised coordinates very quickly, but we'll need to do some spot checks around the country to confirm.

- We expect there will be flares of magic, most likely near the Octoboros points and along the major connecting leys, but we have no idea what.

- There may be more earthquakes. All over. Or there might not be. Models suggest worse as you go away from Dover, so possibly worst in Scotland and Ireland.

- Between 7:50 and 8pm would be a really really bad time for the other side to try and do anything large and complicated to interfere, but I guess we just sort of have to trust that they won't pick those particular ten minutes.
Order Only: Private message to Alice, Remus, and Sirius

Heard from my contact.

It sounds like Bellatrix is contemplating exit strategies. They're trying to lay hands on Cedric Diggory (apparently Ginny told them he's the secret keeper to Dover. He's not, is he? I'm pretty sure he's not. Serves them right for expecting good intel from someone they've cruciated repeatedly) to get them into Dover, and considering some maneuver involving sacrificing Seamus Finnigan because they think it'll bring the wards down.

So.

This is an opportunity. In several directions.

First off, I'm going to talk to my Aurors (the ones who are on their feet and not sitting vigil for anyone) about baiting a trap with someone PJ'd as Cedric. (Justin would be ideal for this, but he's a bit distracted at the moment.)

But here's the other thing to consider.

We could offer them exile. I know that's not what we'd prefer, especially for Bellatrix. But they're clearly ready to give up and let us have Albion. Certainly some of them, if they're willing to swear an oath never to return, we could just let them out.

And, the other thing to consider:

Aurora's in the process of taking down the wards. When she's done, they're going to scatter. So if we DO want any of them to see the inside of an Azkaban cell, we'd better act fast to get our hands on them.

Oh, and finally, just for the joy of sowing dissent within their ranks, I think we should have Haruman tell Padma Patil what they're planning with Seamus, and encourage her to write to him. He apparently agreed to this plan of theirs, but surely he's not happy about it! Given what happened to his mother, maybe he just desperately doesn't want someone else to die for him again.
It turns out I have a mildly hilarious addendum. Jason Montague wants us to agree to send Seamus into exile, rather than making him stand trial. In exchange, he'll work for us as an Auror.

Oh, Merlin.

Thoughts?

Would he be a willing Auror?

Would he be more willing if we made a similar arrangement to Ms Patil's?

Speaking of -- yes, Haruman has my permission.

I think he'd be a willing Auror. And as much as I hate to admit it, we could certainly use him. He's good at his job, he'd be a second legilimens, and we're already stretched thin.

As for an arrangement like Patil's... I'm not sure. I think his first preference would be a pardon, second probably exile, third some arrangement like Patil's. I suppose I could ask, though he'll interpret that as an offer, probably.

And I'm still not thinking clearly.

The risk of having Patil write to Seamus is that it tips our hand rather clearly to the existence of a
spy in that meeting, and even if we could trust Seamus to keep his
mouth shut, which we probably can't, he's regularly in the
presence of Bellatrix, who's a legilimens.

Probably best not to. Well, we could encourage Haruman to let her
write to him and ask how things are going.

-alt_alice at 2015-08-08 00:16:46
(no subject)

Right.

I can see the risk -- she might make it seem too
convenient, as we can't depend on her for subtlety
without completely monitoring everything she says.

-alt_alice at 2015-08-07 17:30:21
(no subject)

They need to be neutralised as a threat. Were they to
simply scatter, they would potentially be able to
return. Ideally, they would all be put to trial, but if
time is of the essence, that cuts into our ability to

proceed.

If we cannot have justice for all, an oath to never return would be
some small measure of what we need to be able to move forward. It's
a viable choice, especially for those who serve in supportive roles --
without them, New London is ours.

The International Confederation of Wizards may be able to achieve
some measure of sanctions as well, which is cold comfort.

-alt_rachel at 2015-08-07 19:59:43
(no subject)

We could require a set of Unbreakable Vows similar
to the ones we required of Lucius Malfoy. I think he
had to vow not to use the Unforgiveable Curses or
any spell with lethal intent. I can't remember if we
allowed an exemption for self-defense. Maybe not. He can defend
himself just fine non-lethally, if he wants to.
I think he also had to vow not to return to Albion without permission from the authorities, but I don't remember how we phrased that.

And I agree that trials would be preferable, but they're unlikely to hand themselves over. Capturing them one at a time is slow and risky. Persuading the lot of them to just leave would let us start rebuilding in earnest.

Yes. Agreed.

Your comment made me curious, so I thought I'd go back and check. We didn't make Malfoy swear not to return - however, we made it plain that he would be killed if he did and we caught him. Probably should have also made him swear not to continue to aid the enemy, but I think we didn't insist on either of them just for the sake of expediency. Luckily, it doesn't seem like he's been too involved, unless it's by owl. And those hampers Narcissa sent Draco and Hydra would seem to indicate they're remaining at least neutral, if not withdrawing their support from Bella entirely.

As for young Finnigan, by all reports he's pretty lethal himself. On the other hand, he's the same age as Draco, Justin and Ron. I think he has to stand trial, but we can guarantee that he will not receive a death penalty. Exile could certainly be the sentence, provided Ireland were included - I don't want him going back to Belfast or Dublin and stirring up trouble there.

Frank and his team are in position to head over to Ireland late this evening. Calais was willing to lend us a vessel.
With any luck, he'll be able to reconnect with some of the people he worked with a few years back. If the situation on the ground is stable enough, he'll send for Sean Finnigan.
Dearest. I have been putting this off and can do so no longer. We need to talk. About the future.

(I'm snatching a few moments here, and I will unfortunately be busy until certain work under way is completed, but I do hope we can talk tomorrow. Afternoon is more likely than morning, as I expect to be awake quite late tonight with the current project and therefore will be quite likely to sleep later than usual.)

You seem nervous, darling. Shouldn't the future--our future--be a happy thing?

See you tomorrow, love.
**2015-08-07 18:45:00**

*Order Only*

Reminder that we'll be doing the wards work at 7:56 tonight. I'd strongly suggest avoiding any kind of complex magic for about 10 minutes starting at 7:50. Just in case.

We're not sure the magnitude of effects, but it's possible there will be flares of magic, especially along ley lines or in aligned places, and there may be earthquakes or odd weather bursts. We've warned the regional healing and other spaces, and Lee's had vague comments out about this evening, and avoiding the floo and portkeys tonight all day.

We sincerely hope this will settle things and reduce the risks of any further problems from the wards entirely, but we won't know for sure until we get to the other side of the changes. I'll update when we know more.

---

**alt_cedric** at **2015-08-08 01:10:19**

*(no subject)*

Calais is on the floo, yelling that the sky is on fire. After attempting to calm them down, I think they meant the aurora effects in the air along the lines that extend toward them.

---

**alt_sinistra** at **2015-08-08 01:14:47**

*(no subject)*

Good to know it's extending along the lines.

Values of good.

Readings are unclear, still. Lots of magic, moving, more than we expected.

Tell them we'll update them when we know more?
Linus has reported people - unpleasant, he said - checking the Peterhead stone. He's returning to Hogwarts, I'm sending Evelyn to Stornoway.

I expect we'll be a bit before we have more news.

Lee, earthquake reports would be very handy.

Initial reports, button and journal.

Earthquakes, worse the further from Dover, like you thought, but not too much damage or injury. Things shaking about, not falling over.

Lights, anywhere that can see the stones or the lines you showed me. Shifting colours, very bright. Not fading out.

Odd weather all over. Snow, rain, rain up and sideways.

Weird animal reactions. Swarm of eels in the Thames. Something about the ravens at the Tower, but it's garbled. Stampede of ponies at Exmoor. No, Dartmoor, sorry.

Lots of people reporting unhappy pets. Frogs and owls seem more unhappy than cats or kneazles.

I'll update if there's anything new and different.
I have achieved a reasonably comfortable and extremely well-hidden spot with a good view of the stone in question near Peterhead. No one has come or gone from the area that I have seen. Heeding your warning, I did not approach near enough to verify that the stone is warded, but one presumes that it probably still is.

Thank you, Linus. Doing the last prep now.

It is more likely someone will appear after: take the readings I've told you to, and then get back to Hogwarts, and monitor there, please.

Shall do, Professor.
Ten minutes to go. Magical energy build-up nearly complete. Cecilia says circulation and linkages seem adequate.
2015-08-07 19:53:00
private message to Siz

Central stone - standing by ready to take load at GO.

alt_jeremy

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-08 01:03:56
(no subject)

Report?

Lights, no earthquake. Readings following.

Opals held. How's the jet? Lights in Peterhead, also quake.

alt_jeremy at 2015-08-08 01:16:58
(no subject)

Here: lights, no quake.

Cecilia says everything's holding so far. My readings look good, though at the upper end of what we'd thought.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-08 01:20:35
(no subject)

Upper end here, too. Bit over, in the surges.

Not dangerous but unpredictable.

Keep monitoring. I'm sending Evelyn to Stornoway.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-08 02:16:45
(no subject)

I was worried the opals wouldn't hold, but they seem to - like it? I don't even know anymore.

There's a lot more magic moving than the models
suggested, but it seems to be holding. Seen tiny drops since it started, but not enough to model the rate of return to normal levels.

Part of me wants to just sit on the dock here and watch the lights, and I can't. Not for a bit yet.

---

@alt jeremy at 2015-08-08 03:11:19
(no subject)

Yeah, know what you mean.

Levels still not dropping here.

---

@alt sinistra at 2015-08-08 03:20:44
(no subject)

Do you think you can manage, if Cecilia wants to get back to Nikki? I hate to keep her away.

I think some of us are in for a long night, though.

---

@alt jeremy at 2015-08-08 03:21:53
(no subject)

Right. Yeah, I'm good. I'll tell her to go on, then.

---

@alt jeremy at 2015-08-08 06:32:22
(no subject)

Levels still high. Light show still remarkable. Good night for not sleeping.
2015-08-07 19:56:00
Private Message to Professor Siz

OH. OH, MERLIN.

Look at the colours!

alt_linus

2015-08-08 00:58:35
(no subject)

It is hard to take readings when the ground is moving.

alt_linus

2015-08-08 01:05:33
(no subject)

Everything is fine, here, Professor. The earthquake, if that is what it was, was of no great moment, as it were.

Continuing apace with readings.

Pardon blots on page; it seems to be snowing.

alt_sinistra

2015-08-08 01:08:04
(no subject)

All reports are useful, thanks.

What's the biggest thing you saw move, in the quake?

Colours are gorgeous.

Want readings on overall magical load, particularly.
Biggest thing I saw move? Abandoned Muggle building nearby. It went up, came down, and is rather sagging now, but I cannot tell if it is sagging more than it was previously. Trees nearby whipped about a bit, but nothing seems out of place.

Pardon. All of the birds in the area are flying about and they seem very displeased.

It's still snowing, but now it is snowing up.

Finish the readings, and get back to Hogwarts, please.

This was more obvious than I was hoping for, and they may check the area nearby.

Readings finished, no time to run confirmations and checks, as the stone is now being visited by what look like rather unpleasant people.

Returning as ordered.

Thank you. I'd appreciate readings from the Hogwarts grounds when you catch your breath.

It'll be a bit before I have more, likely.
I have returned and am proceeding. Readings from the grounds indicate a general heightened level of magical energies, though not at the levels of those at Peterhead, which were at the top of the charts.

The squid seems to be... dancing?

Odd effects entirely not on my list of things to anticipate.

Squid dancing, I mean.

It is unlikely anyone would or could anticipate it, Professor. It is, pardon my language, the damndest thing. (Yes, the American Witches books do seem to have affected my vocabulary.)

It looks HAPPY.

Perhaps it likes the colours. They really are quite spectacular. They do not seem to be tapering off, either.

Dear me. The squid is humming.

I did not know they could do that.
As you can, I'd appreciate the full benchmark sequence I showed you. (Alaston's, then Renwick's.) Measurements of flow and strength are still running higher than expected here, but appear stable.
Congratulations, Aurora, to you and to the rest of your hard-working team!

Here, here!
And George and I would like to add, it's also a spiffing way to celebrate Lee Jordan's birthday. No shabby firework displays for you, Lee. No, instead the Order pulverises the Ponce's wards and sets off a light display throughout Albion. Now, THAT'S a celebration!

Timing not quite intentional on that front, but it's a lovely light show indeed.
Likely to keep going most of the night, I think.
(And if you two ever manage to make fireworks that come a tenth of the way to duplicating it, I'll buy them over and over again.)

Thank you.
It's entirely a team effort - Cecilia and the others working on the Octorobos stones did so much before I ever heard about it. And so many people have spent a lot of time checking models and running calculations and a dozen other things. And Charlie and the others from Stornoway, and Irma, and a lot of other people.
Still figuring out exactly how the effects are going to go long-term, but that's new horizons in magic for you.

alt_jeremy at 2015-08-08 03:13:27 (no subject)

Cheers, all!

Enjoy the lights.
2015-08-07 21:46:00

Private message to all loyal members of the Council

All wards projects postponed until further notice.

alt_bellatrix
We're tracking all the anomalies, and they keep being reported. The clock tower at the Palace of Westminster, swaying violently, like a sapling in a storm. The central section of Westminster bridge, fallen into the Thames. The Serpentine, iced over. The Monument, toppled. Cleopatra's needle, crumbled.

The Ravens vanished from the Tower precinct, only to reappear a half hour later out in the moat, ruffled, but apparently none the worse for the experience. Toads emerged by the thousands from the bathing ponds at Hampstead. Swarms of mayflies suddenly filled the Opera House.

So many reports of ghosts shrieking and banshees caterwauling, of werewolves turning out of cycle and creatures rampaging, of bats and owls (and other things) gone mad and attacking anything alive and in range.

I hate feeling that we've been taken by surprise again, and that all we can do is respond to calamity after calamity of their designing. We could so desperately use the extra forces we'll acquire once Bella's mandatory service regime is under way.

And the Floos have gone off again, and Portkeys are malfunctioning, so I'm stuck here at Buckingham. But, honestly, with all that's happening, it's as well. Only, don't expect me, love.

I'll be fine.

Yes, the private messages across the journals (and Bella's mood) make it more than clear who's behind the anomalies.

Some of the devices in my workshop have emitted unusual noise and activity. Planning to keep away for the time being.
Is the baby doing anything unusual? If so, do take down some notes for me.

 alt_lana at 2015-08-08 04:40:53  
(no subject)

The baby is fine now, I hope. A bit of upset whilst everything shook, but that seems wholly understandable. But as there's no time for dramatics, it's excellent that it seems to understand its obligations.
For the record, Sir Adam was most displeased by the actions of the Wards committee. He simply wasn't having it at all, and screamed himself into exhaustion after about twenty minutes of mighty tantrum throwing. There were so many utterly random things happening, I had this wild thought he was causing it all, but the reports were coming in odd across the board, so either our Adam is the most powerful wizard ever, or it was the stones and not him at all.

He's sound asleep, and appears to be having a rather interesting dream by the looks of it. We'll see how he is tomorrow.

I wonder if you could see anything from where they've got you squirreled away?

Adam misses his da most mightily, and so do I. I'm sending every positive thought I can your way. Consider this one of them. Come home soon, luv.
Readings are holding steady at Stornoway.

They lost two dragons, but the rest appear to be stable and out of danger. I'll be bringing back the blood and heartstrings within the hour -- make sure someone is prepared to brew Cinnabaris tonight.

I'll prep for it. We'll be ready once you get here.
Madam Pomfrey and Sally-Anne,

I don't want to alarm you--I think it's gonna be all right--but Luna started feeling awful right when Professor Siz did whatever she did with the wards. Just like she does at full moon, you know? But it isn't the right time. She came and found me, and I think it's getting harsh enough for her that I'm about to change in the Professor like I usually do, to calm her.

I sent a patronus to Colin to let him know. Like I said, I don't think she's any worse than she usually is, but I just wanted to let you know, in case one of you want to come by her quarters to check on her. And maybe you'll let Professor Siz know? In case she's keeping a list of magical effects.

Right. Putting down my journal to turn into the Professor.

---

**alt_kingsley** at **2015-08-08 05:39:21**

(No subject)

I'm sitting outside the door and knocking on it every few minutes, only because I don't know what else to do, and I know

I know she'd prefer I wasn't right nearby during the full moon, and I don't know how similar this is, really, but I figure it'd be best at least for now.

I wish I could do more.

---

**alt_poppy** at **2015-08-08 06:56:39**

(No subject)

I trust that things remain as they were when I checked with you?

Do not hesitate to call me back in should there be a need.
2015-08-08 02:08:00
ORDER ONLY

landed.

alt_frank

alt_alice at 2015-08-08 07:10:18
(no subject)

Good to hear.

Keep safe, love.
Good news:
The wards are entirely under our control.

The 83 wards transferred beautifully to the Octoboros wards, and we are now back to the coordinates in use before 1983 (for floo, portkey, etc.) That in a very real way makes us part of the larger world again. We have vastly reduced the chance of another Atlantis or another Ys, and all sorts of other very bad things. We are not at risk of the 83 wards crumbling without notice, and if the other side tries to manipulate the wards, the Octoboros system is very robust.

Not ideal news:
The transfer flow was much stronger than we'd expected - that's part of why the light show all night. It is also settling at a much slower rate than anticipated. Until the magic disperses fully into the ley lines, we will not be able to open additional entry points to the country (such as to Ireland) or be able to take the Octoboros wards down entirely. That will be at least a month or two, maybe a lot longer. We should have better estimates of time within the fortnight. Magic near the major leys and Octoboros points may be unpredictably strong in the meantime: I will have maps later today.

Also, because the flow was much stronger than expected, it was exceedingly obvious to the other side, and there were a number of effects on people and places that we didn't anticipate. I'm so sorry about that. We're still not sure about some of the effects in Ireland, nor a number of other things, so there's a lot of work yet to do.

I'm on my way back to Hogwarts, but I desperately need some sleep before I try to do anything else.

---

Excellent work last night, thank you.

Excellent work all along. Every bit of it.

I need to fall over: my head's spinning again. I plan to sleep until I wake up, likely later tonight. You should get some rest too, but I trust
your judgement on whether to wake me or not if there's something that you feel can't wait.

If you're awake before I am, there's copies of the map base on my desk in the workroom: highlight the three major leys, plus the points where the Octoboros effects overlap. I'd like to make sure Rachel's aurors and enforcers all get copies, and then anyone else who might be doing complex magic you can think of.

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-08 18:22:00
Re: Private message to Evelyn
Done and done.
I tried to sleep a little, but couldn't really.

It's sort of

It's sort of comforting, isn't it, that despite everything that's happened, the model held true. The formula worked, mostly, the numbers held, and things behaved as we suspected they would.

Numbers are so wonderfully dependable, aren't they?

I still can't believe we managed to pull it off.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-09 02:10:29
Re: Private message to Evelyn
I'm awake. My head's still pounding
I can't believe it either. At all. And even with the - there's so many pieces I wish we'd had time to do better, rather than doing all we could, and having to trust the rest would work.

I'm about to make the last pot of coffee I've been saving. Do you mind stopping by the infirmary for a headache potion for me, and coming up, and we can see if we can get a summary for Cedric?

Thank you for the maps, that's a great help.
alt_evelyn at 2015-08-09 04:20:06

Re: Private message to Evelyn

Of course. I'll be right up.

alt_cedric at 2015-08-08 17:23:03

Ireland

All of them questions coming in from France today have been about Ireland. Apparently the muggle government there has been pressing them about what has been happening in Ireland, previously it had never been mentioned by the muggles. Several of the key players have been high ranking generals asking about troop deployment. This is all being reported second hand and they say the generals are not asking about us.

Should the notice-me-not wards for Ireland have come down last night?

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-09 02:08:02

Re: Ireland

Sorry, only finally awake.

It shouldn't have. The models we had gave only a 8.5% chance of it.

Only.

Ugh. Can't get my thoughts straight. From you, from Frank, sounds like it did. And we knew it was a possibility, but it's not the way that notice-me-nots usually work. Or stop working, more accurately. The theories why are for whatever research paper gets written up later, they won't help now.

I don't think there's a way to fix it. And it looked like, originally, last night, like it worked. But, of course, it's easier to tell if people see a thing, remember a thing, than if they don't, isn't it?

Tell me what questions they have, and I can work up some summary information for you?
It's the political end not the magical end. Your posts covered enough that I could give them the non-confidential magical overview. Alice and our muggle liaisons are speaking to them about why everyone now remembers that Ireland exists, but that no one has heard from it in twenty odd years.

Siobhan Mazure, a clerk I've dealt with several times recently, was suddenly extremely worked about her muggle cousins from County Mayo. Apparently her mother's maiden name was Teahan. It was heart wrenching watching her remember relatives.

I suppose the other thing to get their heads around is the part where we're still protected by those same magics, the notice-me-not. I don't even know how you'd do that.

I need a day or so to recover a bit more, but if it'd help to have me come down to Dover and talk to people, I can do that, this week. We have a lot of follow-up work to do, yet, but it's a lot less time sensitive other than helping get the floos back online and all that.

The clerk, that must have been so hard for her. Hard for a lot of people, probably. I can't even imagine.

Most of the magical people I've talked with don't seem to be hugely effected by the notice-me-not. I think in Siobhan's case it was because they were more distant relatives and that there were muggles. Though we should discuss, particularly with Alice and the new government, how and when the other notice-me-not wards should be brought down along with what pregame planning we
can to do prepare the muggle governments of the world for everyone remembering that the 'United Kingdoms' exists again.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-09 19:35:28
Re: Ireland

That makes sense, I suppose.

I wish Professor Flitwick were still alive. Some of the charms theory is - very dense. Especially about things like the notice-me-nots, and large areas of effect. (And it's not like anyone has ever covered entire countries before, or at least I'm pretty sure they haven't.) There's so many parts of this that are entirely new applications.

Evelyn and I are working on pulling together notes, things we know, things out of Alde's journal references (heavily annotated, and it means finding other supporting references.)

I think we may be able to bring down the notice-me-not and the enclosing aspects of the Octoboros wards, eventually - not while they're still so active, while the flow is still so loud. Bright. High. Whatever you want to call it. But we'll need to wait for the leys to settle before we can be sure, I think. I'm hoping we'll be able to start getting some more measurements this week that will give us some idea of the timeline, anyway, before we can do anything else with them.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-09 19:44:15
Re: Ireland

Sorry, meant to say , we could bring down the different parts of the wards independently of each other. That's one of the good things about the Octoboros, actually, that it's not just 'here are wards, this is what they do'.

Even if the way they designed it is utterly bizarre.
**2015-08-08 16:40:00**

*Private Message to All Protectorate MLE Unit Heads*

**Reminder**

All Report. 5PM.

**Agenda:**
- Buckingham Report: Travers
- Phoenix Detail: Braithewaite
- New London infrastructure updates; transport concerns: Stone
- Protectorate Defense: Trammel
- Press Management: Willett
- Wards and Borders: Clark
- International: Ekster
- Ireland: Ravage, reporting for Singh
checking in.

made our way to dublin last night, keeping a low profile. carrying a wand distinctly dangerous to one's health. suspect speaking with an english accent is likewise a risk.

american muggle soldiers arrived at dawn, met with strong resistance from the locals. bloody fucking mess. gunfire, bombs, etc. all morning, a lot of civilians caught in the cross-fire. seems to have stopped for the time being, but both sides are stubborn bastards, no doubt the americans will be back with reinforcements. let's hope they try talking first this time.

laying low, trying to make discrete inquiries, find Moody's old sources. cannot report with certainty, but IMA appears to have taken over Dublin, no sign of MLE or Protectorate officials.

---

Sounds like a right mess.

Keep safe, all right?

It seems as though Ireland is certainly being Noticed.

We're working as hard as we can with Calais to see what we can sort out diplomatically, but it's slow going.

Please stay safe, love.
2015-08-08 19:13:00
Private Message to Linus

Linus, darling, I've been thinking about what you told me this morning and I've been wondering...

Were you really in earnest, or was it another one of your thought experiments?

alt_lavender

alt_linus at 2015-08-09 00:30:53
(no subject)

I am quite in earnest, my dearest. If the wizarding and muggle worlds are to intermingle in this new world of ours, then someone has to be the first wizard to attend Oxford, and why should it not be myself? (Attend Oxford openly, of course, I mean; goodness knows some of us have been there now and then through the ages.)

In any case, it is a quest truly worthy. Will you be my gracious lady and accompany me? Think of the adventures! I have been talking with Rosemary Roche and also with Mrs Longbottom and with Professor Siz, and I do believe it might be possible. Just imagine it!

alt_lavender at 2015-08-09 00:49:31
(no subject)

I have to admit, I was rather hoping you would say it was a flight of fancy.

Surely there are easier ways to let your father and Karo and that crowd know that you've thrown over the traces decisively? Ones involving myself and a trip to the City of Light, perhaps?

alt_linus at 2015-08-09 01:18:05
(no subject)

Oh, Lavender, heart of my heart, when I receive word that I shall truly be going to Oxford, we shall indeed go to the City of Light to celebrate! I am given to understand it is traditional to make a
Grand Tour at some point in any case.

As to my father, I am quite certain that he will support my ambitions once I explain them to him properly. It's all in how one goes about laying the matter out, after all -- an arithmancy of ambition, as it were.

Karo's crowd, on the other hand, is not any source of approval I would care to have. I rue the day she set eyes on Ptolemy Baddock, or he upon her, to be more precise. Yet there must be room for clemency in Albion for those who were misled by otherwise laudable wifely loyalties, misgiven though they may have been. Bad companions, but not a bad heart, one can hope they will say.

Speaking of, have you heard aught of your brother recently? Are your worries founded?

@alt_lavender at 2015-08-09 01:33:09
(no subject)

From what I hear, Tibs has been hanging around the edges of Ptolemy Baddock's set--going to their parties and such.

I'm hoping he doesn't get much closer--although it's a bit funny that Mum isn't sure which of us to pleased with and which of us to be cross with.

And I hope you're right that they'll go easy on Karo.

You really think you can convince your father?

@alt_linus at 2015-08-09 01:39:33
(no subject)

I am certain of it, my dear. Once I explain to him how important it is, both to myself and to our mutual future here, he cannot fail to see the proper path to take. My mother will help, too, I warrant. She does have a way of helping him see what is needful. (Hufflepuffs do have their strengths, it cannot be denied.)
But your Mum cannot be in sympathy with the Protectorate-that-was, surely?

alt_lavender at 2015-08-09 01:46:05
(no subject)

My Mum is trying to figure out who's going to win, and how to get by without damaging the family name too much either way.

alt_linus at 2015-08-09 01:54:59
(no subject)

I am proud that when it came to it, my father took a stand for the preservation of Hogwarts. I believe he remains in hope that Karo will somehow see reason, and judges it inadvisable to make an open declaration that might force her prematurely to a choice which she is not yet ready to make correctly. It is a subtle approach, yet ultimately may prove kinder and more wise. Yet he has been quite supportive of me remaining here.

When I write him tomorrow, I shall share news of the triumph involving the wards.

alt_lavender at 2015-08-09 02:26:57
(no subject)

It was a triumph! Why can't you just stay here and be happy being a wizard and doing that sort of thing?

Do you really want to go live among Muggles?? Are you ashamed of your wizardry somehow? Is this some sort of guilt?

alt_linus at 2015-08-09 02:34:20
(no subject)

It is not Muggles per se among whom I wish to live. It is poets. And one must go where the poets are. Were. And will be again, I make no
doubt.

Besides, I am told they have opinions on the writing of history at Oxford the likes of which Professor Binns has never dreamt. Someone someday must set down a proper chronicle of these tumultuous, challenging, and spirit-refining times. Why should it not be a Moon who does so?

My dear fierce lady lion -- you aren't afraid, are you?

alt_lavender at 2015-08-09 02:44:47
(no subject)

No!

It just sounds like a wild Snorkack hunt or whatever those creatures were that Lovegood used to go on about.

And the poetry's lovely, but they're still Muggles.

alt_linus at 2015-08-09 02:51:12
(no subject)

Lavender, my dearest, I think perhaps we both ought to sleep on the matter before either of us says aught we might regret.

alt_lavender at 2015-08-09 02:52:30
(no subject)

I suppose we should.
2015-08-08 19:18:00  
ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Rachel

Does the basket pass security checks?

I suppose an attempt to poison me would be rather painfully obvious, but still.

Thoughts?

alt_rachel at 2015-08-09 09:27:30
(no subject)

It's clean.

I think they've decided we're going to win.

alt_alice at 2015-08-09 17:04:34
(no subject)

All right.

I'll come up with something appropriately gracious and conditional, then.

I'm assuming they acted completely without Lana's knowledge of it -- their 'need for discretion' speaks volumes.

I'll let Honoria know, and make sure it's quite clear that she isn't required to reconcile, but that if she so desires, she certainly can, as long as it's carefully done.
Lee,

I've got a few more names for your list:

* Oliprance, Procerity, Hap, and Florinda Robards (The family from Wiltshire.)
* Aoife Drumgoole's daughter was called Siren. (Got confirmation that she was four years old.)
* Jerome and Mary Spinx (WN just reported them this afternoon.)
* Carlus Dervish and Holda Wunsch (Those are the last two to be identified from the Broomsticks.)

Oh, and the fifth body in Wiltshire was a Muggleborn servant. We don't know the name, but I think you should include him in the list somehow.

---

Got them, we'll be putting the names out.

One of them here, wants to do a piece on the muggleborns whose names we don't know. The unforgotten dead. Something like that.

We're adding it to the list of things we're asking round the camps we can talk to, but anything you hear like that, elsewhere, too.

Cheers.
2015-08-09 12:14:00

Order Only Private Message to R Brodie and C Wright

Here's the list as far as we've been able to piece it together this week. Mind you, every time I think I've got them all, WWN reports another. Or The Prophet. 🧙‍♂️alt_ron

Speaking of which, we've picked up a good informant at the paper this week. Bloke called Cornelius Verbosen, and he's got good ties to the news staff at WWN. Anywiz, Verbosen works the crime desk and has press access to Buckingham, which I think means he gets briefings from Ptolemy Baddock, so there're definitely controls on what he finds out, but he makes it sound as if he's got other people who sometimes talk to him off the record. Could, of course, be a plant, feeding us information, but most of what he's given me here checks out with our other sources. Some of it's unique to him, but we don't have a good way to get confirmation for some of these reports because of location or DEMLE involvement.

* **Cadmus Mulciber** former head of MLE (replaced by Crouch; now replaced by L S-P). Crouch killed Mulciber during a debriefing at Buckingham following Fradswell. Malfoy heard someone at the Elysian say it was for making a stupid joke about Dolohov's having lost his illusions.

* **Philip and Victoriana Greengrass**. Pretty sure Crouch killed them because they were collaborators with the Order and because Philip, was Admin of Fradswell Camp and gave control over to the Order, so in Crouch's view he was responsible for Dolohov's death. (They were killed in Brighton at Alexandra Greengrass's home--Daphne's grandmother. She was elsewhere, luckily. No one's heard yet from Astoria and Queenie, but they may have been with other relatives.)

* **Athena Belby**, opera singer, Crouch's ex. Sources say she'd been rude about his relationship with Dolohov, including giving unattributed statements to various gossip mags. Told Whirl the adoption was a 'polite fiction'.

* **Ephraim and Christophanus Clarriker**, father and son. Clarriker was co-owner of Folkestone Ferriers with Lucius Malfoy as silent partner. Crouch must have had some evidence that Clarriker was collaborating with the Order. We think DEMLE have been investigating whether he had a hand in our takeover of Dover. Christophanus would've been a 7th year at Hogwarts. A Hufflepuff.
* Barnabus Cuffe, editor-in-chief of The Daily Prophet. Killed at home overnight. Nobody knows if it was personal with Crouch, or whether it had to do with how the Prophet reported Fradswell, or something else.

* All of the staff of Whirl magazine. Iris Kepke, editor; Sophia Novello, Tartarus Kendall, Oreille Kreswell, Splendiferus Grey, and Macrella Fulsome, reporters; Madge Gobble, finance; Nuntius Spindle, security. The killings occurred at half-nine, just after the magazine's weekly staff meeting began. According to Verbosen, this scene looked more quickly done than the others in Crouch's spree, but he'd still marked the cardinal points (east, south, west, north) in owl's blood, put a galleon under the victims' tongues, and laid out one body--Sophia Novello's--head to the east. (Sophia Novello wasn't just a reporter; she was in the scene, too; a regular New London It-Witch who was always at society functions and throwing parties that you couldn't get invited to unless you were all that. We understand that Crouch had had words with Kepke, the editor, but that was a while ago. Maybe a year or more ago. Anywiz, there were 8 staff members there, and he killed them all, including the security wizard, but Verbosen says they had security onsite to keep hacked-off society folk from storming the place after the magazine publicised their affairs and other scandals--not because they expected anyone to come assassinate them all. And even if they'd had better security, Crouch was prepared: he disabled the panic alarms they had, threw up a containment ward to prevent any of them from escaping by doors or windows, and put up anti-apparition wards before he started. There were signs people did try to get out or hide, but obviously that didn't help them.

* Rawlings and Thalia Powell who lived at Hatchlands Park, East Clandon, Surrey. Discovered dead at noon on Monday, 3 August. (Time of death not certain.) Names were withheld by the NL press, 'pending notification of kin', but Verbosen says that when they finally got that info out of DEMLE, the story had moved on, so I guess they were never named at all in the press. (Lee's got them on the list he's going to read, though, so we'll remember them, at least.) Hatchlands Park is a big manor home. Our sources say Powell got it for some kind of favours to the Protectorate five or six years ago. Couldn't find out what that was about, but maybe it's got something to do with why Crouch had them on his list.

* Emma Lamont. So far as we can tell, the WWN and Prophet never got this report. DEMLE may not know about it, either.

* Oliprance Robards, his wife Procerity (Chillicotte) and their
two kids called Hap and Florinda. And a Muggleborn servant. We haven't been able to find out his name. The Protectorate press wasn't saying who these people were, either (just calling them a ‘family of five in Wiltshire’), but they were having a rough time keeping up with Crouch's pace. Turns out Robards was Crouch's mother's cousin.

* The Southcran family in Folkestone, Wirt, Violet and their daughter, Aster. They ran a cafe and lived above their shop. They'd been dead at least a day before a delivery person found them late Monday afternoon. Said the shop had been open but unstaffed all day. He'd stopped in twice before he tried going up to the flat. There was money left on the counter along with a dirty plate and soup bowl. The press reported all the details on this one except the names, but they really latched onto the fact there was a toddler and that the wands were snapped and left in the bin. That was the first time they got that detail about all the scenes.


* Aoife and Aislin Drumgoole, 35-year-old twins: Aoife waited tables at White’s and had one child, a four-year-old called Siren, who was also a victim. Report on her is she was Maebh Drumgoole’s arty younger sister; guess she was a singer and a poet, too. The other twin, Aislin was assistant editor at the Prophet. Neither one was married (no one seems to know who the kid’s father is). Anywiz, they shared a flat in Hatton Gardens. Thing one of our sources pointed out is how much they looked like Maebh. I've seen pictures, and that's definitely a thing.

* Annetta Rickett, member of the Hogwarts Board of Governors. Loads of speculation about why Crouch killed her. She voted to sack Dolohov, for one thing. Her death was reported to us and the Protectorate press was really slow to get wind of it. (And when they did, they made a meal of the fact she was a halfblood.)

* Josiah Peakes, who was head of the Hogwarts Board of Governors. He was always on the safe side of everything that came up for a vote, but I reckon Council politics was complicated enough that didn't keep him safe. I hear he made himself obnoxious to Dolohov and Crouch over the years. And he was head of the Board and the Board sacked Dovs, so it could've been that.

* Mariposa Poddington, who was Narcissa Malfoy's assistant at Witch Weekly.
* Hannah Abbott's family in Godric's Hollow. Protectorate-side reports have been speculating that Crouch killed them because they were halfbloods who were artificially elevated to purity after Carrow killed Hannah. We've got another theory, though. Brindl and I went out to Godric's Hollow because, well, it's where Harry was from and we thought that was worth looking into. Anywiz, we found something (well, two things, actually) that Buckingham was maybe sitting on (assume DEMLE found it, too, because it looked as if someone'd tried to vanish it): just outside the bounds of the fidelius around the Potters' house, there's a message carved into the walk. It's the same thing Crouch put beside loads of the bodies: 'The dove always dies'. Anywiz, our theory is one of the Abbotts saw him there and he saw them, so he went to theirs and killed all four of them.

* Bathilda Bagshot. So this is the other thing we found when we went poking around Godric's Hollow. We tried taking a reading on Crouch from the residue in the walk outside the Potters', and it pointed us to this other old cottage, not just to the Abbotts'. And when we got inside, we could tell there'd been a dead body in there. One that'd been dead a long time. There was a big stain on the carpet and it reeked. Seriously, it stank like the body was still there, only it wasn't. They'd taken it away. But you could tell it hadn't been gone long by the way the dust was deep most everywhere, except where it'd been shifted. So DEMLE know about it, but they've kept it out of the press, even though they were reporting the Abbotts. Our theory is that Crouch killed her, too--Brindl reckons it was back in May or April, even--and took time to go back and have a look at her corpse while he was in GH last Wednesday. No telling if we're right, of course.

* Ryan Mackrell, owner of Puddlemere United. Well, majority owner. Turns out there's a group of owners that included Crouch. Mackrell and Crouch were yearmates in Slytherin in school. Friends near as anyone can say. Mackrell's sister, Jaqueline, owns Mackrell Security and Surveillance Systems. Both have been solid for the Protectorate.

* All four of the Jugsons--Janus, Camille, Remy and Alfie.

* Jerome and Mary Spinx This one's new: WWN have just got hold of it this afternoon.

* Madam Rosmerta at Three Broomsticks. The nine others killed there were:

1. Ruari MacGhille
2. Tertius Foster
3. Sturl Hofnagel
4. Vespa Tamblyn
5. Roger Thrush
6. Carlus Dervish
7. Brace Carden
8. Holda Wunsch
9. Cilla Pottage

The one who survived is Mesmeric Fellowes, who's still recuperating in the Hospital Wing.
2015-08-09 17:58:00
private message to Barty and Bella

why did I wake up at St M's and not at home?  
What's the situation?

alt_antonin

alt_antonin at 2015-08-09 23:02:15
(no subject)

O gods

O gods, no

alt_antonin at 2015-08-09 23:49:02
(no subject)

No one I've questioned so far knew that I was here,  
nobody knew that I survived, nobody knew HOW I  
 survived, I don't know how I survived, tell me  
someone told you, TELL ME SOMEONE TOLD YOU

alt_antonin at 2015-08-09 23:50:10
Private message to Barty

TELL ME SOMEONE TOLD YOU

alt_antonin at 2015-08-09 23:51:51
Re: Private message to Barty

O gods no no no
Who is this?

Tosha?

Yes, and for my bona fides I can tell you what we discussed the day before your wedding.

I've tried to put it together but I woke in a hidden corner of St M's two hours ago and I'm not yet.

It was Fletcher. I died -- two and a half minutes, he said. Long enough to break. I think I remember being. And someone evacuated me from the field, I do not know who, and he was able to bring me back upon arrival, but not awaken me, and he feared for the safety of the hospital and.

He said that he tried to contact you, but Barty.

Fletcher? He tried? Not nearly hard enough.

And with Barty unleashed and spilling blood from here to Scotland.

Where is Fletcher now?
I left him at his home. Told him he had spent the life-debt on my not killing him for having been so stupid for not having realised that he needed to immediately notify you and

Barty

that I was

O gods, Barty. Tell me where he is, tell me you were able to find him after, tell me Auri did not mean that he was left to rot without even the honour of a clean burial, much less the rites that would

I cannot even tell you where he took his last breath. All I have is his wand, and that was sent to me snapped.

O gods am I to be deprived of that too, I cannot bear this, I cannot, святый Боже помилуй нас

I am

I will find you when I am able to

Tomorrow. At least. Not before I can

If it's revenge you want, Hydra was the one who killed him.
I don't yet have conformation that she actually survived, however.

O gods, Barty

I'm at home now, I shouldn't have pushed myself that badly, but I had to know what had
2015-08-09 18:22:00
Private Message to Professor Siz

Pardon for interrupting, but I am a bit concerned. I sent an owl with a rather extensive (and quite important!) missive to my parents earlier today, and it has returned and refuses to go out again for a second try. It is all quite frustrating and mystifying.

Do you suppose the Octoboros wards transfer magic might have confused the owl?

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-09 23:44:36
(no subject)

Pardon.

The journals. Just now.

Come up, my rooms, if you want. We can talk.

Wards shouldn't have confused owls. I - did I get one from Dai today? Yesterday? Since.

alt_linus at 2015-08-09 23:45:59
(no subject)

I shall be right there, Professor.

Really, it's just... odd.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-09 23:53:36
(no subject)

That is - not the only odd thing, Linus.

Odd, maybe not the word.

Just come up.
2015-08-09 19:47:00
Order Only

I still had the notifico on for Tosha

Just now, there's a message from Antonin Dolohov's journal. To Bellatrix and Barty.

If he writes me - I wrote after he - anyway, I'll tell you.

My head hurts. Still.

---

alt_hydra at 2015-08-10 00:15:52
(no subject)

Why

Is he dead?

I killed him I thought

alt_jeremy at 2015-08-10 00:34:30
(no subject)

What.

alt_molly at 2015-08-10 02:33:11
(no subject)

No!

Oh, bugger
2015-08-09 22:05:00
Private Message to Linus

I've been thinking all day, and I'm sorry for the way I said what I said last night. Muggles are people, people who make and write lovely things, and we were wrong to treat them the way we did.

But Linus, I'm a wizard. We're wizards.

I thought I'd follow you anywhere, but I won't follow you to Oxford. If there even is an Oxford that's ready to be gone to in the autumn term.

I'm sorry. It doesn't mean I don't love you, because I do.

alt_lavender at 2015-08-10 03:05:39
(no subject)

What do you mean?

alt_lavender at 2015-08-10 03:15:56
(no subject)

Just what I said. That I won't go to Oxford with you.

And I wish I could support you but I can't hide how I really feel about this whole project--thing--mad idea--whatever you want to call it.

alt_lavender at 2015-08-10 04:44:56
(no subject)

You're not going to shout at me? Or lecture?

It would be so much easier if you did.
There is no shouting in me. There are no words at all. All the breath has been taken from me. You confront me with that most terrible of choices: the woman I love, or the quest I feel destined to essay?

Sentiment and reason alike are obscured by the weight of the dreadful dilemma - and how indeed shall I choose either and carry on, when the other choice is the price I must pay for whatever I embrace?

All is dungbombs and ashes, Lavender. Dungbombs and ashes.
Blessed are You, our Gods, who come forth to hold the

Ἅγιος ὁ Θεός, Ἅγιος ἰσχυρός, Ἅγιος

Blessed are our gods always and forever and to the ages of ages amen holy god holy immortal holy almighty have mercy on us now and forever and to the

blessed are

I told you that you were not allowed to die without my permission and you swore, you swore

you idiot, you couldn't have waited a week before throwing away your

no. You are mine. You are mine

I saw

I saw the prayers, I saw that you wrote my name, I saw that you sent me with

oh gods, all-seeing, who have gathered unto yourselves the souls of my beloved son who has kept faith with you even as he did not believe, guard well the souls of my beloved son as he enters unto you and unto life everlasting, for he is beloved and eternal and the light of my being, he is

he is
Sanctus Deus, Sanctus Fortis, Sanctus Immortalis, miserece

oh my son, остави мне недостаточность мой and for having

Не желаю жить в мире без тебя, no more than you did for me, if I could drag you back by the heel I would, if I could buy back your passage with gold or with blood it would already be done, if I could descend into

I will pray your prayers, лапушка, солнышко, зайчик, and all manner of thing shall be well and I will wait for you to tell me that you have made the crossing and I believe, верую, верую, должен верить, I will believe enough for us both, it is not me who says this but the throne-mother of the gods, she all-ruling, light-bringer, she who redeems her brother who is my son who is who

Святый Боже, Святый крепкий, Святый бессмертный, помилуй нас, Ἅγιος ὁ Θεός, Ἅγιος ἰαυρός, Ἅγιος ἄθανατος, ἐλέησον ἡμᾶς, Holy God,
Holy Almighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us, ныне и присно и во веки веков, amen. Blessed are our Gods, always, ныне и присно и во веки веков, amen.

Помяни, Господи, душ усопшего раба Твоего Bartemius Antonov Crouch, lastborn son of the house Долохова and of the line of al-Busiri, entered into us and of our beloved dead, ныне и присно и во веки веков. Христос воскресе from the dead, смертью смерть поправ, и сущим во гробех bestowing life. Amen.

Помилуй его́, Боже, по велицей милости Твоей, молю ти ся, усло́ыш и помилуй, Господи, помилуй. Господи, помилуй. Еще молюсь о упокоении душ усопших раба Божий Bartemius Antonov Crouch, lastborn son of the house of Dolohov and the line of al-Busiri, that he be forgiven every transgression, voluntary and involuntary, and яко да Господь Бог учинит душы егò to where the righteous repose. Lord, have mercy. Lord, помилуй, Господи, помилуй.

Милости богов, царства небеснаго, и оставления грехов его, богов нашего просу, now and ever and во веки веков. Let his way be opened as he descends into the blessed domain in the beautiful west. Let him come forth, triumphantly and whole, even if his body be scattered like the body of the god Osiris, ныне и присно и во веки веков, amen.

It is not me who says this but my son Osiris Bartemius Antonov, Lord of ma'at, lord of eternity, king of those who are not, lord of the living, the one that remains perfect, he who was brought together, the eye of heaven, beloved and eternal to the ages of ages. Bring my soul with you to the house of Osiris, so it may see as you see, hear as you hear, stand as you stand and sit as you sit. You who give bread and beer to blameless souls in the house of Osiris, may you give beer and bread day and night to my soul with you. You who open a road and clear paths for blameless souls in the house of Osiris, open for me a road and clear for me paths for my soul with you. It comes forth in peace from the house of Osiris with none opposing or hindering it. It enters praised and comes forth loved and triumphant, its command performed in the house of Osiris. I have gone forth, for no fault of mine has been found and the balance is empty of any misdeed.

O my heart of my mother, my heart of my mother, my heart of my earthly being, do not stand against me as witness beside the lords of the ritual. Do not say against me, he did do it, about my actions do not make a case against me beside the great god. Hail my heart, hail
my heart, hail my entrails, hail those gods at the fore, tressed, resting upon their sceptres. Tell my goodness to Ra, hand me to Nehebkau. See him, uniting the earth at the great one within. May I endure on earth, not die in the west, and be a blessed spirit there. So says Bartemius Antonov Crouch, lastborn son of the house of Dolohov and the line of al-Busiri, beloved and eternal во веки веков, amen.

O holy one who rises with the moon, O holy one who shines as the moon, may Bartemius Antonov Crouch, lastborn son of the house of Dolohov and the line of al-Busiri, go out with this, your multitude. Deliver he who is in the sunlight, open to the world beyond. For he has gone forth by day to do what he may wish among those who live eternally, идеже праведнии упокоятся. May his body be made whole, uncorrupt and eternal. May he rest in peace. May his souls and the souls of all our faithful departed rest in peace, unburdened and unprisoned by the weight of his departure. May the gods have mercy on his souls, отойдя не успев принести плоды, достойные покаяния.

Nikolai Anatolievich Dolohov, Anatoliy Valentinovich Dolohov, Amisi bint Kareem al-Busiri: father of my spirit, father of my blood, mother of my souls, I send to you the souls of my son Bartemius Antonov Crouch, lastborn son of the house of Dolohov and of the line of al-Busiri, beloved, sanctified, and made whole as he comes forth into the light of perfection, ныне и присно и во веки веков. Welcome him unto you and into your eternal life as he comes forth loved and triumphant, to the ages of ages. May whatever anger you hold at our failures be turned away from him and unto me, for he is blameless in your eyes, made whole and perfect in the light of the worlds beyond.

Beloved child, made whole and uncorruptable as you come forth into the light of our beloved dead, остави мне долги мой as I am struggling to forgive должником моим. For my flaws and failings, остави мне. For my failure to protect you from those who would do you evil, остави мне. For having led тебя во искушение, for having placed you in the path of evil, остави мне. For having left you at the time of your greatest need, though it was against my will, остави мне. Forgive me my sins, in what I have done and what I have failed to do, and wait for me in the sunlight, in the world beyond, among those who live eternally where the souls of the righteous repose.

Let my prayers which shall be repeated to the ages of ages carry my breath to all our gods, so that they know that you are loved, you are cherished, you are adored, you are blessed and sanctified and made perfect in the world beyond. You have stood as Horus, you have sat
as Ptah, you have grown strong as Thoth, you have grown powerful as Atum. You walk with your feet, you speak with your mouth, to seek your enemies. They are given to you; they cannot be rescued from you. Let the morning star make way for you, that you may adore Re at the beautiful west. Let any anger of the gods against you be directed at me in your stead; let your sins be weighed not against you but against me who has failed you, as you are made whole and undying, perfect and uncorrupted in body and in spirit, ныне и присно и во веки

во веки веков

O Gods who were and gods who are and gods who ever shall be, know that my beloved and eternal son, Bartemius Antonov Crouch, lastborn son of the house of Dolohov and of the line of al-Busiri, whose name shall be written eternally among the names of our beloved dead, is my
gift unto you, unto our beloved dead, sent forth unto you with the souls of those he marked as our enemies to make way before him. May the Lord of Life gather him. May he be adored by the blessed one in the world beyond as I have adored him in the world herein. May my son

O gods, my son

may he rest in peace. Аллилуия. Подай, Господи. May he rest in peace, may he never doubt my love for him, always and eternally and to the ages of ages, may my prayers reach his ears in the world beyond that he know my love for him is undying and eternal and please, O gods, shelter him and guide his steps as he comes forth triumphant and whole to live
eternally among our beloved

Святый Боже, Святый крепкий, Святый бессмертный, помилуй нас
Святый Боже, святый крепкий святый бессмертный помилуй нас святый
2015-08-09 22:44:00  
Order Only Private Message to Alice
Longbottom, Remus Lupin, and Rachel Brodie

I don't wish to alarm Molly until there's more than my present vague information to offer, but I've just had an owl from Healer Behm reporting a significant disturbance at St Mungo's this evening. Explosions, loud crashes, and shouting. He and others nearby took cover and hid until they'd had an all-clear from the security detail. (He says they've been operating with heightened security all week, and who could blame them?)

He couldn't say for certain what happened: there are rumours of all sorts, but one of those is that Antonin Dolohov's ghost or reanimated corpse paid them a violent visit. Aurora's written something about him, as well--

Behm still has no direct information to offer us about Charlie, but he's concerned for Charlie's safety, and I suppose that means we ought to be, as well.

alt_alice at 2015-08-10 04:18:30
(no subject)

Bloody hell. Can Charlie be moved?

alt_poppy at 2015-08-10 04:44:58
(no subject)

I have no way of answering that, Alice. Not without seeing him myself or hearing a first-hand account of his condition from someone capable of assessing him.
Well, then.

He's managed to stay out of sight so far -- let's keep him where he is and hope very hard that the people who've been keeping him don't get too nervous about it.

With any luck, if they do, they'll let us know first.

Shit.

Why couldn't he just stay properly dead?

So it's true?

Well, then.

I haven't the slightest notion what to say.
2015-08-10 03:49:00
Order Only

Reports suggest that the news of Antonin Dolohov's death may have been premature.

Use all caution.

@alt_rachel

@alt_ron at 2015-08-10 10:51:43
(no subject)

But the Inferi...?

@alt_molly at 2015-08-10 12:11:05
(no subject)

Aurora said it last night, but I hoped with my last breath it wasn't true.

Oh, Merlin. Ginny.

@alt_bill at 2015-08-10 12:12:08
(no subject)

Bloody hell.

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-10 13:09:51
(no subject)

Send someone to kill him.
Rachel,

I could bait him. Like Hydra did Barty.

-Justin

Private message to Justin and Alice

Do it. Unless Alice vetoes.

Re: Private message to Justin and Alice

Yes. Do it.

What.

Just

what.
Expect you got an owl like the ones that came here this morning. Rather out of the blue, this Protectorate Security Society. Not sure what to make of it. Are you? I mean, naturally I'll go along to tomorrow's reception, but I feel as if I must have missed some announcement about it in the news or at the club.

Montague, Derwent: do either of you know any more about it than the invitation says? Has anything been said around MLE?

Oh, also. Thank you for the condolences. Susan's been too upset to thank anyone yet, but I'm certain she'll manage acknowledgements once the memorial's happened this afternoon. To be honest, I'll be glad of the excuse to get out of the house tomorrow. Can't imagine she'll be there, but then I really couldn't say yet how she'll respond in any given circumstance. Suppose we'll see.
I expect you're already deep in preparations for tomorrow's reception at the Palace of Westminster.

Just wanted to be sure you understand we'll need everything in place a full hour ahead so we can give the security detail time to confirm the safety of everything you've provided.

I'm sure you understand why that's necessary, and that it's a formality in your case, but there can be no exceptions at this point.
I miss you so terribly, you know.

Everyone does. But it's like there's this shining banner of beautiful red hair and a bright smile that's missing every time we sit down for dinner, or have a meeting, and I can just tell that the room is a little dimmer because you're not here with us.

I'm glad you're still alive. Beyond glad. I hope we'll get to see one another again someday soon.

Ginny, I need you to do me a favour.

I know you talk with Mr Dolohov. He saved my life once. And no matter what's happened since.

I think this is something he'd consider very important, Ginny. It is news about Mr Crouch, and I feel obligated to share it with him, because I owe him, and it would harm neither him nor us to learn of it. I would write him direct, but I needed a touch of discretion, and you know how very much I dislike attention. If you could copy this down exactly, and give it to him, I would appreciate it, and I honestly believe he would as well. Here is the message.

Thank you, Ginny. All my very best.

- Evelyn Longbottom.

alt_ginny at 2015-08-10 21:08:55
(no subject)

I think you're trying to trick me.

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-11 03:54:55
(no subject)

I think it's a shame that war can corrupt even the best of intentions into something that is a warped version of itself, but apparently, I cannot be trusted to think on my own these days.

It's not always a trick.

I hate this. All of this. I'm sorry, Ginny.

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-11 16:25:01
(no subject)

Many happy returns, Ginny.

I'm so very glad you're alive. Here's to many, many more.
Linus Moon's just been up here, asking if someone could go check on his family at their holiday cottage in Torquay. Says he hasn't been able to contact them for several days, and the owls he's sent refuse to go back out for re-delivery, which I admit is odd. He'd go himself, I'm sure, but it was obvious he's got a bad feeling about what could have happened-

Anywiz, wanted to let you know I'm going myself. Taking Brindl with me. If we need backup, we'll signal.

Hydra was at the Moons' last Tuesday night, and said it looked like they were away. I didn't tell Moon that. Or that she'd said it looked as if Crouch had been there ahead of her and gone away again. She hoped the Moons had dodged a hex, so to speak, but maybe not. Or maybe they got a warning about Crouch and decided to hide, but you'd expect a post owl to find them. And everyone knows by now that Crouch is dead. At any rate, Moon says they should still be in Torquay, so that's where we'll start.
2015-08-10 12:31:00
Private Message to Professor Siz

May I please come up to the Tower
Ron Weasley just
Please.

alt_linus

2015-08-10 17:36:57
(no subject)

Of course.

alt_linus

2015-08-10 17:38:14
(no subject)

Now I know why the owls

alt_linus

2015-08-10 17:39:51
(no subject)

BARTY CROUCH KILLED THEM. ALL OF THEM. HE KILLED MY PARENTS AND MY LITTLE BROTHER AND MY LITTLE SISTERS. HE KILLED THEM ALL THEY NEVER
Dux,

I say, how are you feeling today? I wanted to stay but I felt I've shirked long enough, especially now that Madam P assures me you're past the worst of it.

So, as you know, I'm currently on assignment impersonating Cedric, trying to go to conspicuous places and attract attention. Luckily, his injuries make flying somewhat impractical, what. I'm bally well certain he could do anything necessary on a broom in a pinch, but my meagre skills would surely strike even the most casual observer as amateur.

However, looking like Cedric shouldn't preclude me from writing to Dolohov. Rachel's taken me up on my offer to draw him out, as you did Crouch. I thought I'd start by telling him the progress we're making at disabling his wards on the Headmaster's office. Perhaps indicate we're destroying volumes of his library. But I don't know how well that will lure him; after all, Hogwarts is still a seat of power for the Order and I very much doubt he'd come there on the strength of one or two taunts.

Whatever did you say to finally get Crouch to come after you? (And how did you take him, in the end? The last time I asked you, you weren't altogether comprehensible on the topic.)

-Justin


I'm still not sure who was luring who. But after he killed everyone inside the Three Broomsticks, he could have hidden his tracks into the Forest, but he didn't. So I knew then that it was either a trap or an invitation. Maybe a little of both. I decided to regard it as both.

Of all the private messages I sent him, he only responded to the last
one. In that one, I told him that I'd heard Antonin Dolohov's last thoughts, and that they were of Barty. Which was true, and Barty knew it. To that he wrote "See you in hell."

Barty and Antonin had a relationship that was built upon absolute devotion to each other above all else, even logic and good sense. So you might try to aggravate Antonin's sense of desperation to find Barty, or to know how he met his end.

Actually, I have something in my cloak that might be useful. Are you coming back to the castle at all?

I don't see why I shouldn't come back this evening. Unless this ruse works, of course, but so far there's been no hint of activity.

Yes, his desire to recover Crouch would be a powerful draw. He'll know it's a trap whatever one does, what, so I suppose it doesn't much matter what the message is so long as it's effective.

-J

Yes, I've just checked and I still have them.

Barty's bracelet with the wooden bead - it's his proof of life charm. And a small pendant of an ankh, given to him by Antonin.

Are you sure you want to know how it happened?
Well, it might help if I knew the details and could use them to spark Dolohov to recklessness.

It also might help to know what worked so that I've a hope of beating him in an open duel. (Yes, now it's my turn to doubt that I can do it.)

-J

So you're saying it's too much to hope he doesn't just fall over dead of heartache?

If he's so obsessed with the Gods and the Afterlife, then he should join them voluntarily. Barty's waiting. So is everyone each of them ever killed.

Yes, that's too much to hope. I presume that's not what happened to Crouch?

As is the idea that Ginny hasn't already told him where to find Crouch's remains, which makes it likely he will go there before the ground can be properly laid for a trap. In any case, I'm on my way there as soon as 'Cedric' can disentangle from his current duties.

-J

Barty had been performing Dark ritual magic for days. I knew I wouldn't be a match for that, so I
took steps to change that. It was -

The Unicorn Draco found with Unit 1. That was me.

I'm not sure how long the fight went on but it seemed like it could have been minutes or days. I think probably hours. The Forest provided cover, but it provided other advantages and disadvantages, too. I almost had a tree drop on me, almost turned my ankle in some creature's burrow.

As for Barty, at some points he acted as if he were still training me, which was both reassuring and infuriating. And I was doing what I usually do. Dodge, dodge, stay alive. And the whole time I kept getting hit by waves of his rage and grief, which were enough to nearly throw me back. But at some point - I think I was suffocating, actually. He hadn't disarmed me, but all my air was gone, and things were going black. He was doing something to me. I knew then that I could only stay alive if he died. And I was overwhelmed by the sound of his heartbeat. I mean to say, I could hear it inside myself, not just with my ears. So I focused on that, only that.

And then his heart exploded in his chest, and he died.
Something's happening in New London. I've only been on shift an hour and there's already been several people in the club talking about a new "Protectorate Security Society." They all seem to be a little confused about what it means, but from what I've gathered, there's some kind of event at the Palace of Westminster tomorrow, and nearly everyone under the age of 25 has been invited.

Russell's too old, so he wasn't invited. Some of my co-workers were, though. Tamsin, Corbet, and Felicia. I should be able to find out more from them after tomorrow.

Also, it's definite: Lana Sandoval-Pennifold has been put in as head of the Protectorate MLE.
Order Only

Rachel and the rest of MLE:

I'm not cleared for field duty, but you might want to send a patrol unit to the Forbidden Forest. If you still want Antonin Dolohov dead, that is.

Evelyn somehow passed it along to him that what's left of Barty is out there, so he may try to recover anything that remains in order to fulfill his superstitious methods and modes of worship.

---

alt_alice at 2015-08-10 21:35:21
(no subject)

WH

alt_alice at 2015-08-10 21:41:02
Private Message to Evelyn

You sent him word?

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-10 21:44:19
Re: Private Message to Evelyn

yes.

alt_alice at 2015-08-10 21:49:07
Re: Private Message to Evelyn

What did you tell him?

How many times have you contacted him?

...Why, Evie?
I'd have thought that you of all people would've have the sense to

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-10 22:04:28
Re: Private Message to Evelyn

This is the first time I've made contact since I replied to the note he sent me about coming over to the house in December.

I told him where Mr Crouch fell. I told him that his body had been torn apart by an explosion, and that he'd died instantly. I told him we weren't in the forest, but to beware the centaurs.

I told him I knew what it was like to not have a body to bury.

It was one thing to leave Mr Crouch's body out there unburied when there wasn't anyone left to mourn him, it was awful and sad and wrong and I thought we were better than that, but now the one person who loved him is alive, and I couldn't. I couldn't let it lie.

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-10 22:13:40
Re: Private Message to Evelyn

I've fulfilled my obligation.

I don't plan on talking to him ever again.

alt_alice at 2015-08-11 00:30:32
Re: Private Message to Evelyn

I see.

alt_alice at 2015-08-11 03:29:36
Re: Private Message to Evelyn

I also see he wrote you.

Anything I need to be made aware of?
He was blaming me for leading him into a trap.

So it seems I've made an entire flotilla of people angry with me today, and that the trap was entirely ineffective, for what it's worth.

If you want me to read his message aloud to Auror Brodie, feel free to give me the order.

Evelyn.

You're right. That was uncalled for.

I know. We need to talk.

Only when I'm less bruised, please.

All right, Evie.

Dash it.
Can one of us arrest her?

Until you're one of those willing to put their life, humanity, and sanity out where it can all be snatched from you at any moment, I think you're better off staying in the tower and working on charts.

I don't care what debt you owed him, or if you think he saved your life.

You know who has really saved your life? Harry, Ron, Justin, Draco, Mr Snape, Sirius, RACHEL. Whose parents he killed. In addition to Mrs Weasley's brothers.

He fostered a devotion in Barty that was so powerful and blinding that Barty killed over fifty people in his name. He made Barty believe that the world wasn't worth a knut if they both couldn't be on it together. And for some reason there are people in this castle who feel echoes of that same devotion. That their lives are on some level lesser without him, even while they're surrounded by people who give them everything, everyday, and never ask for anything in return.

I swear I will hex it out of you if I have to.

I appreciate what you've done and continue to do for all of us, Hydra.

You put your life on the line every day in a way that I don't.
So thank you for that.

And thank you for killing Mr Crouch. I think of all of us, you're the only one who could've managed it, and the world is a far better place without him.

I'll stick to my tower. I know where I'm best suited. But I stand by what I've done. If that warrants a hex from you, so be it.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-10 23:09:36
Re: Private message to Evelyn

What you've done demonstrates that you don't appreciate it at all, so save your words.

alt_justin at 2015-08-10 22:41:44
(no subject)

I've finished my assignment for the day and I'm coming back to the castle. It's imperative that the area near where Hydra and Crouch duelled is guarded but does not 

appear to be under surveillance. He'll suspect an ambush, even if the message came from Evelyn.

If he does come, it will likely require a group effort to kill him.

-Finch-Fletchley
The Moons are dead. Linus's whole immediate family. Father, mother. Horace and Olivia (twins, they would have been fourth years, in Gryffindor). Vinca, who was only nine.

His owls kept coming back, and I gather he asked Ron to find out if anything was wrong. Thank you, Ron, for taking him seriously. And for how you told him. From what he said, it's clear it was Barty.

He's absolutely overset, but he is rather wanting to know if his sister Karo knows, or if we can pass it on.

If someone could tell Lavender, privately, that might also be a kindness. They appear to have broken things off, last night, from what he told me then.

Oh, that poor young man. Is he with you, Aurora?

I'll find Lavender and tell her.

He is, yes.

If you don't mind, and there's a spare Healer who could have a look at him, that might also be a kindness. (I've given him a calming potion, but.)

He's

It's rather awful.
Merlin.

That's

Merlin.

How very awful.

I checked on the Moons. Barty had already been there, but it was clear from the surroundings that they were on holiday. I don't know how he could have determined where they were. Possibly they left an address out, alongside the instructions for watering the plants.

From what Linus has said, they've gone to the same place most years. A very habitual sort of family.

Possibly he picked it up from talk in the area, then.

In any case, there would not have been time to warn them.
Linus is as settled for the night as he's going to be. It's early yet, but I'm going to try and sleep. My head's pounding again.

If you need somewhere quiet to be, my sitting room's at your disposal.

We can talk tomorrow? Or wake me if there's something urgent. Leaving the journal where I can't hear it. Only. I'm proud of you trying to do the caring thing. Even when it's difficult. The thing I couldn't figure out how to do. Didn't dare.

And. If you have to wake me, I recommend a light charm from across the room. I almost did something unfortunate to Suha when she tried to sit on my head this morning.

I am quite finished with talking. Possibly forever.

I know you mean quite well, and I appreciate it, but I am not eager to dwell. I did something, I must own it, and the greatest kindness possible would be to let me do useful work. Sympathy would be rather unbearable at the moment.

Yes, I am up early.

There is a large pile of useful work on my desk in my rooms. So you needn't see anyone if you don't want, and I won't say a word to you unless you ask.

I'll be out for a bit this afternoon, most likely, but there is enough to keep you busy for several days, I think. Let me know if you need more.
I have not told him it was Rookwood I killed (but I would like to, so that we can return Rookwood's body, at least, for all I don't think any of that side have missed him, and now knowing he is dead won't change their plans.) I have not told him about Linus's family (though, again, I do not know if Karo knows.) I have not told him about the wards. I have not made any number of things more clear to him than they were already.

But I have told him that I said the prayers for Barty, when there was no one else who would, and I have told him that as much as it would be easier, I cannot set thoughts of him aside. My brain is not so tidy as that. And I am not so heartless.

What he wrote is an ongoing discussion, one we have had over the course of our friendship. About choice and consequence. You may read them, if you insist, but the part that is most relevant is where he said: "Your side may be the better choice -- I will not argue that question with you. But they are killing mine, and while I likewise will not argue the question of which of them deserved to die, you cannot hold my desire to live against me any more than you can hold my desire that you live. When the choice is between atrocity and execution, I will choose atrocity, and make my excuses to the gods when I must."

I also need to make clear something I tried to explain, before, several times, without breaking confidences, and now I think needs must. I told you, when I joined the Order, told many of you, that if you killed either Barty or Tosha, the other would hunt you to the ends of the earth.

What I did not say, in so many words, is that Tosha adopted Barty as his son and heir. Formally. Ritually. Two years ago, last spring. Adopted him by all the formal rites of both sides of his family. They did not tell many people - Lucius and Narcissa, I know. Me and Raz. People have guessed, since, but clearly, not enough people understood what that meant.

I know you do. For all you are now wishing I hadn't told you, I'm sure. For all it makes your job harder. But I keep thinking about how
what we do, how we treat the other side, that is going to echo for decades. Like what they did, what you did, 20 years ago, and 15, and 10, is still with us. That how we treat the worst of them is what will be remembered, not how we did the easier things.

Killing is one thing. I will not argue that Tosha should not die. Not any more. But when we are done with the killing, let us keep our decency and our compassion, the shards that are left.

Also, and these are the old and wise snakes who have taught me speaking, it gives us more leverage later.

---

@alt_sinistra at 2015-08-11 14:20:13
Re: Private message to Alice

I will be out for a bit this afternoon. I need to see - I need to be not here, for a few hours. I promise I am not going anywhere to talk to him. I just need -

I don't know what I need, but I know I won't find it here. That's been made quite clear.

---

@alt_alice at 2015-08-11 18:43:16
Re: Private message to Alice

I'm afraid I do not follow your meaning. What is clear to you is certainly not clear to me. I'm sorry it seems you feel that you lack support and understanding, though.

I very much hope that you'll find what you need, and will be returning to us.

We are human, we make mistakes, all, and the best we can do is to try and learn from them and move forward. Leaving Crouch in the woods was a mistake I'll admit to, and one I'm working with Rachel to see if we can remedy. Evelyn writing Dolohov was also an error in judgement, although her intent was good.

What else can I say?

I am about to make a policy announcement in the wake of what has happened in the last few days, requesting that communication with Albion's enemies, and those who may pass along information
to those enemies, be first passed by a member of our security team to ensure there are no possible security breaches, especially unintentional ones.

It is not meant to target any one particular person. It is not meant to target you, believe me. Know that this is one of those moments where I cannot spare feelings or make exceptions, and we must keep in mind our greater safety -- and as a mentor to many young people, you no doubt know the value in setting good example.

We are still in a time of active war. People's lives hang in the balance in a very real way. This is not meant to punish, or prevent contact. I very much hope you are able to understand my intent, and realise this is a temporary measure to help our collective safety on many, many fronts.

---

@alt_sinistra at 2015-08-11 23:07:21

Re: Private message to Alice

Alice,

I had a rather longer draft worked out, and - I'm going to copy it below, because there are bits that you maybe need to know or at least I need to know I've said more clearly somewhere than I have before, but here are the parts that matter right now.

I understand and will obey the restriction. Comments below on the practicalities, but I can sort them out.

Thank you for admitting you handled things badly. It helps. And I am sorry for the things I've handled badly, which are many.

The wards magics, I didn't understand - I don't think anyone understands - what they affect, how they work, and I did a lot of it by intuition and stubbornness. The let-down is complicated.

I had thrown myself into the wards to avoid thinking about Harry, about the dozens of dead students, about how my sister hates me, about a dozen dozen other painful things. The all-absorbing parts of the wards are done, and I am forced to think again. Feel. And now someone I love was dead, is now alive, and until he is dead again, I will be reading and overhearing conversations about how good it will be to kill him, finally. I understand the necessity, I will
no longer argue for his life even to you, but it is - difficult.

I killed someone, for the first time, and in a way I did not at all expect. Someone who had been a guest in my home when I had a home that was mine. I am still coming to grips with it. It must seem so stupid to you.

And finally, several things have stirred up old emotions - also, more below - and now that the wards project is largely over, the bludgers of all the repeated pains and fears are much louder. I have lost the stars to the burning sun, and there is no quiet dark where I can sort things out.

The rest is below. If you'd rather talk in person, I'll be in my rooms or the ward committee workroom. Or I can come somewhere else in the castle if you tell me where.

---

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-11 23:07:44
Re: Private message to Alice

Where else could I go? There is no space for me with my parents (rather literally) even if my eldest sister could stand to see me, which she can't. Hogwarts has been my home longer than any other place, for all she is battered and near broken. An afternoon is not enough, but it must do.

The last part is the simplest. I understand the restriction, and I will make some suitable sort of public agreement with it. I will not be a burden, but I will still write, you understand. Just as the Weasleys will write to Ginny, and Rachel writes to whoever her contact is, and other people have those they care about and talk to.

In practice, it would save everyone time if we can identify the best-read of the current security force, please. My discussions with Tosha routinely have a variety of allusions, historical, literary, and otherwise. I am glad to annotate - both explicit and implicit content - but it would go faster with someone who already grasped even part of it. And I will be honest: without that, I could hide rather a lot in those allusions, and a casual reader would not notice. I will not, but you have no way to know that.
The rest, first, I know I am still raw from the weekend. From the massive magics of the past fortnight. Wrestling magic, wild magic, has costs.

My head's aching again. Helping Linus, some of the wards research, has dredged up both the worst of my remaining fears and a lot of old pains, about being left out, and friendless, and only good for stars and maybe books, and the world utterly uncaring. And I needed to not be here before I did something that would hurt people who don't deserve it.

I am also quite clear that while my work with the wards was at least moderately valued, it is largely over and I am no longer particularly needed. I am equally clear that whatever other knowledge, experience, understanding I have, it does not matter. Not as someone who learned a lot about many of those still fighting us, when I married in. And certainly not as someone who has losses that are barely acknowledged, or even openly, blatantly, scorned. (And I do not mean Tosha here, to be clear, but Harry. Raz. Unpopular students whose empty chairs are going to haunt my next six years if there is a school and me still alive and teaching.)

I'd hoped for better, is all. In a lot of ways.

It's not your fault. You are human, there is only so much time and so much heart, and you have been openhearted with me far beyond anything I expected. But I am hurting, and I am so incredibly tired, and the world has not allowed me to keep anyone to turn to when the worst moments come, who also understands the complex parts. At least not someone who is a peer. I envy you and Frank, and I envy Sirius and Remus, and Rachel and Bill, my parents, and - rather a lot of people. For still having each other. It does not bring out my better self.

I am on the outside, and I needed to look outside to find some way to keep going. I may need to again.

But I do care about Albion, and I do want this to be over, and I want there to be a world worth living in when it is. Which means...
not just thinking about winning the war, but what it's like in the decades to come, what we sacrifice and what we can't afford to.

---

alt_alice at 2015-08-12 00:45:48
Re: Private message to Alice

I'm sorry, Siz.

There is not enough energy in me to begin to address this with adequate care.

You have poured out your heart many times over, but these are not problems with easy solutions, and I am not sure what you want of me, or whether I can begin to provide it.

I suggest you talk to Vector about your future at Hogwarts, and what form it may take, and think about how you might reconcile the rest. And remember, love, we all mourn in different ways, and have had rather a flood of it in recent months -- simply because people do not display it openly for everyone we've lost does not mean it is not felt.

Give it time.
2015-08-10 16:18:00
Private message to Linus Moon

I'm so incredibly sorry, Linus. Do you want company? If you wish for it, just let me know where you are.

Love,
Luna

alt_luna

alt_linus at 2015-08-11 17:28:28
(no subject)

Thank you for your kindness. Professor Siz has just provided me with a large bundle of Arithmancy to work with, which should take much of the day, but perhaps tomorrow.

It's a pity it's not the season for baby bowtruckles, as they are rather distracting to observe.

Lavender and I have
You're awake! That's absolutely marvelous. It's so very good to see you writing again.

I've been keeping notes as we go -- the Sleeper programme is on schedule, and there hasn't been anything unexpected. Sluggy and I have been keeping on top of things, and we'll continue to do so until you're back on your feet, but between the two of us, we're only half a Hermione, so for everyone's sake, here's to a quick recovery.

I can come by once you're up for it to go over things, if you'd like.
2015-08-10 17:30:00
*Private Message to Linus*

I'm so incredibly sorry.

Your family did nothing to deserve his retribution, when other families that were spared had harmed him.

Even without you being sworn into the Order, you're my brother in this. We've fought together, first against Umbridge, then at the wedding and since.

If you ever need a place to stay with other people around, my door is open. Anything you need. Anytime. Forever.

Your Friend Cedric

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*alt_linus* at 2015-08-11 17:30:58
*(no subject)*

Thank you. That means a great deal just now.

---

*alt_cedric* at 2015-08-13 20:04:47
*(no subject)*

I'm sticking this here so it's not obvious that I'm writing to you again. I'll be up to the castle tonight & probably tomorrow. I've got an odd note, it involves old, probably wrong, quidditch information and I'd like some help sorting out what's wrong and exactly how it's wrong. I think a friend is in trouble and asking for help.
2015-08-10 17:38:00
Private Message to the Diggories and Jenni

You must fidelius the whole property or flee to Hogwarts. There are too many credible threats against me and my family, too much has happened. Please get to safety immediately. We’ve tried to put our game face on and show that we can continue as normal, but your safety is more important.

alt_cedric

alt_cedric at 2015-08-10 21:50:04
Private Message to Jenni and Jaspar

Jaspar: show this to Jenni if they haven't acquired a journal for her.

Jenni,
If my parents are stupid and don't follow my advice to flee, know that you can do it on your own. If they don't take steps and you wish, ask Jaspar for my old broom. He will give it to you. Go to the Weasley's and one of them will help you get to safety.

Cedric
2015-08-10 17:50:00
Private Message to Mrs. Weasley

Thank you for telling me, so he didn't have to.

alt_lavender

alt_molly at 2015-08-10 23:56:28
(no subject)

I said it already when I was giving you the news, but given the shock, you may not have remembered. If there is anything I can do for either one of you, do please let me know.

alt_lavender at 2015-08-11 00:13:42
(no subject)

I truly do appreciate it. You've shown me nothing but kindness since I've been here.
I'm so sorry. Words don't seem enough.

I know things aren't easy between us, but right now I'm yours, for anything you might want or need from me.

Even if what you want is to tell me to take a short walk off the Astronomy Tower.

Thank you.

I think I should stay where I am for the moment. Calming potions are

I don't think I should

But thank you.
I just got word about your family.

I don't know what I can say.

Horace and Olivia -- They're just a year older than Laurie, you know? I remember they'd always take the same two chairs in the library and get shushed for laughing all the time.

It's awful and I'm sorry.

Look.

I had to do a lot for the memorials, yeah? After the battle. And if you need any help with that, any help at all, you just say, and I'll help. If it's not overstepping. I know family is its own thing.

I'm so sorry, Linus, mate.

Thank you, Ernie.

I don't know what the plans for the

I don't know how to do

I don't know if anyone has

There is something you could do that would be helpful. Could you enquire as to whether anyone has yet informed my sister about everything

?

She should know. If she doesn't, I shall have to write her. Oh, Merlin.
I will find out for you. Right away.

Honestly, mate, the rest of it can wait. It can. Promise.

And once you have a clearer idea of what's going on, we'll sort it out.

Hey. The answer is they haven't notified her. Now.

You've got some choices, way I see it. You can tell her, right out. Or you can have the officials get the tough stuff out of the way now, and tell her, just the facts, so she knows, and then you can write her when you're ready to talk about what to do about it. Either way, she'll find out.

No right or wrong answer here, man. Just whatever would work best for you.

The latter, please. I

Tell them to tell her. Thank you.

Consider it done.
Know that the relief we feel at having you back is matched only by the sympathy and grief we share for your loss. Barty was an immeasurable asset to the cause, and over the past weeks and months I have personally seen how important his devotion was to you, as a comfort, a companion and a promise of continuance of your traditions.

So you must also understand how I hate to intrude upon your mourning by telling you of the message Ginny Weasley received from Miss Longbottom. She says that Barty died about a mile south of the Astronomy Tower but that his body was torn apart. She seems to believe there is nothing to recover. It's difficult to tell from a journal post but it does seem to me that she might have been sending a message to taunt you.

Ginny's here with me and she says you can come and read the entry yourself, if you like. There's some Arabic I'm unable to translate accurately (he admits sheepishly).

If you'd like an honour guard to accompany you, should you decide to go investigate, say the word. I'm sure Lana will oblige.

Thank you, my dear boy. And for passing along the message, as well. I'll come now and see the subtleties of it; my impulse is to think that Miss Longbottom may be trying to do a kindness, but I'll be able to say with more confidence when I see the message, and know more about what my next steps should be.
**2015-08-10 18:42:00**  
Order Only: Private Message to Draco (and Harry)

Where are you both?

I had--I keep forgetting what happened. Was there--was there a dragon? Something about flying.

Oh, I wanted to tell Mr Snape, I think there were two potions. That's what's tripped us up, I mean. Two.

For some reason I want some toast. But the Healer says I'm only to have liquids for a while longer. Aspiration. That means choking.

Draco?

I'm really tired.

---

**alt_draco** at **2015-08-10 23:51:30**  
(no subject)

Hey, are you supposed to be awake and writing?

You were hurt. Do you remember? How are you feeling other than being tired?

---

**alt_hermione** at **2015-08-10 23:53:10**  
(no subject)

Oh, no! Am I being punished? Maybe I should put the journal away before anyone notices.

---

**alt_hermione** at **2015-08-10 23:54:39**  
(no subject)

But.

Wait. No.
Healer said, said I could write. If it doesn't hurt.

It's all jumbled up. When I think hard, I know. But then I get headache.

Don't tell. Or they'll make me set this down and I want to remember.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-10 23:55:40
(no subject)

They're dead, aren't they. Harry. And Mr Snape.

I mean, I remember. And they are. I must have been dreaming.

alt_draco at 2015-08-10 23:59:40
(no subject)

No one's going to punish you, you're free. And a journeywoman.

I really don't want you to do anything that will make you feel worse or hinder your recovery, but have I ever been wanting to talk to you.

And yes, they are both dead. I'm so sorry. Was the dream a good one at least?

alt_hermione at 2015-08-11 00:06:08
(no subject)

I know, I remember now. It was just at first.

You must think I'm rather pathetic, forgetting something like that. I do, too. The moment I realised I started crying. Can you see the blot on the parchment?

The dream. I dreamed about the dragon, and flying out of Gringott's. Only this time it was me and Harry, not you and me. And there was something else. We were running away from your Aunt, maybe. Dunno. Fading.
There was something, though. Something important. Do you ever feel like a memory is just out of grasp?

alt_draco at 2015-08-11 00:13:34 (no subject)

No, I don't think you're pathetic. I catch myself forgetting sometimes, too. And then I realise that I'm wrong and it's like something rips away and they're dead all over again.

Yeah, sometimes. I hate that. I don't like it when my mind won't behave in a predictable way, ha. You probably feel the same way.

Ugh, I really hate that I have to be here at the Elysian while you're awake. I want to be with you.

You do remember that, I hope? That I love you? Other people do, too, in their own way. But yeah, I do.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-11 00:20:04 (no subject)

Yes, all over again. That's just what it's like. Like it's fresh. A raw wound.

Elysian? Oh, yes, I do remember. You're pretending to be Russell Faust who's a bartender. But we were spending days off looking for houses.

Yes, I remember that. And I want to keep writing but I think I have to lie down again. You can keep writing, though, and I'll read it.

I do remember. And I

love ....
alt_hermione at 2015-08-11 00:34:39  
(no subject)  
....

toast

alt_draco at 2015-08-11 00:36:47  
(no subject)  
Oh bloody - 
Never one to let me off easy.

alt_draco at 2015-08-11 00:38:32  
(no subject)  
But yes we were looking at houses and we were going together to Strathglass this Saturday, but you got injured at Fradswell.

And also at Fradswell: Dolohov was killed by Rachel, which sent Barty Crouch on a mad murdering spree. Seriously, there are loads dead, including Linus' parents, Remy and Alfie Jugson, Daphne's parents, and far more. Horrific in the most literal way possible.

But Hydra killed Barty, eventually, only now it turns out that sodding Antonin Dolohov isn't really dead.

And yet they still are.

Yeah. There's that rip again.

alt_draco at 2015-08-11 00:49:10  
(no subject)  
They also loved you - you know it.

But I'm the only one who gets to say it and write it so I'll do it whenever I get the chance.
It doesn't matter to me if you don't or never-

I mean, if it's because you don't know if you can love me, if it's because you might prefer someone else more, then you know I'll stand aside.

But if it's because you're just you, and that's just how you are and might always be...well, I understand. And I accept it completely.

alta_draco at 2015-08-11 00:52:40
(no subject)

Oh, for fu-

Tamsin just got shirty with Russell for 'gawping at [his] book like a toad.' I'd best get back to work.

I love you and toast's a distant third or fourth on that list. But I hope you get to eat some soon.

alta_hermione at 2015-08-11 00:00:36
(no subject)

Oh, and I feel...fuzzy.

My finger itches, too. The missing one.

And my legs feel all heavy, but the Healer said if I wiggle my feet and toes, they'll get better.

And I'm serious about wanting toast. Not Sirius, though. I mean, I'm serious, not Sirius. Ha.

alta_draco at 2015-08-11 00:04:41
(no subject)

I'll get you all the toast you want just as soon as they say you can have it.
I know we are all tired. We are *exhausted*. We are working miracles, and we've had terrible shocks and heartbreaking setbacks and we're all mourning our losses and--

I probably shouldn't write this at all. I should keep my mouth shut and my journal shut, and spare you the grief of my venting to you but I am too bloody enraged!

What in Merlin's name was Evelyn *thinking*? She wouldn't have even *told anyone* that she was inviting Antonin Sodding Dolohov to just mosey over to the Forbidden Forest *just outside Hogwarts Castle*? First of all, how did she dare to take a risk with all of our security? Ginny had to be cruciated repeatedly to throw her loyalty to Dolohov, but what in blazes is Evelyn's excuse?!

Did she feel pity for him? Pity because he was mourning that OBSCENE MURDERER Barty Crouch? Perhaps she could redirect her pity toward some of Crouch's actual victims, like poor Linus Moon's entire family!

My son isn't here, and I don't know if he ever will be again. My daughter is a brainwashed prisoner toadying up to Dolohov, who PERSONALLY MURDERED MY BROTHERS, and what's to prevent him from leaving Albion and TAKING HER WITH HIM when the wards finally come down? Why on earth is Evelyn helping him? How can she THINK of helping him? And how dare she use Ginny's status as a prisoner to do it! She's never even written to Ginny she was captured, and now only does it to get a pity message to Dolohov?

**Can't you order people to STOP COMMUNICATING WITH THAT Miserable, Vicious Monster?**

**WHO SHOULD STILL BE DEAD AND ROTTING!!**
WELL, ISN'T THIS COSY! NOW HE'S WRITING TO HER!!

I've inquired, and apparently, he is embittered at believing she led him deliberately into a trap.

I know this has been an incredibly difficult month for you, Molly.

You have every right to feel what you're feeling, love.

Evelyn told me that she knew what it was like to not have a body to bury, and that she believed in her heart of hearts that leaving Crouch's body to the elements was deeply morally wrong -- especially when there was someone left alive who would mourn him and whose religious beliefs would view it as an extreme violation.

I am furious with her, and disappointed, and baffled, and heartsick, but I can see why she believed herself to be so obligated.

I'm sorry, Molly.

I've slept--barely--so I've mostly climbed down from the towering rage.

All right, if I squint really hard, I can get a glimpse of her underlying reasoning. Barely. Especially after Neville. But comparing your grief over not having a body to bury with his--a boy who helped save all of us from Voldemort versus a man who went into a rage and murdered over fifty people...

It makes me want to spew.

Oh, Alice. I found myself wishing this morning that you and I could just run away on a silly little holiday somewhere. Lyme, or
Blackpool, or the boardwalk at Brighton or--or somewhere. Stuff ourselves sick with pudding and get sozzled on cocktails and bask in the sun on the beach in bathing suits that would embarrass anyone to see, or, I don't know. I haven't had a holiday in years.

Neither of us deserve this.

I love you, Alice, and I'm certainly not going to break our friendship over this. You're doing an amazing job in a situation that would break anyone. Evelyn is a lovable little girl with a big heart, and I'm sure I'll hug her next week when I'm over the urge to smack her silly.

Oh, bloody hell. It's Ginny's birthday.

 alt_alice at 2015-08-12 01:18:14
(no subject)

Oh, my darling.

Let's say a year and a day from today, we do just that.

A year and a day, so you can celebrate a proper birthday with Ginny, and then pudding and cocktails and sun.
2015-08-10 21:09:00
Private message to Evelyn Longbottom

Did you think I would be so overcome in my grief as to not notice the ambush?

Who ordered you to do it, to bait the trap with such a lure? I refuse to believe the idea was yours; you do not have the viciousness it would require. Your mother's, perhaps, if she did not believe the disposition of your brother's body was no idea of mine, nor would I have allowed it? Finch-Fletchley, who knows full well what the burial of the dead signifies to me? Rachel Brodie, to avenge her parents? Diggory, perhaps, or Parkinson, or Perks, or even Auri -- she certainly would know. Or Hydra Lestrange, having read the truth from the mind of one of the others, precisely the way her mother might have?

Or was the idea planted upon you in secret, and you made to think the message-bearing was your idea and the heart of your heart used to betray you, while you are left to suffer remonstrances for your compassion issued by those who claim themselves to be dwelling upon the moral high ground?

Tell your masters I am not such a fool as to walk into their arms, no matter the provocation.

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-11 03:23:42
(no subject)

I did not intend for it to become a trap. I intended to right a wrong. And when I wrote you of entirely my own accord, what I said was the truth, and I meant every word of it.

However, I live in a castle with someone who is possibly the world's most powerful living legilimens, and writing (and thinking) in German didn't stop her from sorting it out in an hour or two.

As you might have gathered, she rather has it in for you.

You had a narrow window, and you lost your advantage, and it's your own damn fault, so don't you dare try blaming me.

It was wrong, leaving him out there. I know it was. If the centaurs
wouldn't try to kill me, I would've tried to bury him myself. Believe what you will about my gullibility, but I've fulfilled my obligation to you, and if you were short-sighted enough to wander into a trap, that's on you.

Don't ever write me again.

👤alt_antonin at 2015-08-11 03:34:39
(no subject)

In that case I suppose I must thank you for the attempt, and let the dice fall where they may.

Peace be upon you, and long life.
Saw Mum, so I know how hacked off she is, though she didn't say anything to me.

Look, I know I'm not Pete. I'm good at listening, though, and I do have a couple of shoulders sturdy enough to cry on if you need 'em. No judgement.

You in the Astronomy Tower? I'll look for you there.

If I have to talk about it any more, to anyone, even someone lovely and well-meaning, I am going to scream.

I really appreciate the offer, Terry, but I really, really want to be left alone right now.

Please.

Well, there's always cuddling a mangy mutt in your lap, if you don't feel like talking. If that sounds like it might suit, just let me know where you are.

But if you do want to be left entirely alone, I can certainly understand that, too. Whatever's best for you is just fine by me.

Love,
Terry
I really, really, really want to be left alone right now, Terry.

Please.

I think I might want a bit of a shoulder now.
And a few games of chess. If you're up for it.

I am definitely up for that. Well, you'll probably beat me at chess, but I hope that will cheer you up.

I'll be up at your room in a minute.
As horrid of a man as Barty was, even with the horrors of his last days, if I'd know Dolohov was still alive, I would have done what I could to return whatever of the body there was to him. He saved my life. I'm doing what I am now because of what he taught me. He wounded me terribly after in unforgivable ways, and his litany of sins, 'transgressions' as he would say, is longer than most anyone else's. But we owed him his son's body, if nothing else. As you were owed your brother's

You shake your opponents hand after a match. You don't desecrate the enemy's dead. What are we

It is complicated, isn't it?

Thank you.
I have a great deal of news, and none of it good. I'm sorry, darlings, I don't have the capacity to soften it.

You may have seen some of it already. I'm not sure how much is making its way to you.

The worst of it is that Barty is dead. As near to it as I can piece together, it was Wednesday. There was a battle, on Saturday, and in the midst of it I took a curse, enough to kill me. Dead for two and a half minutes, they tell me. It broke everything. The charms we had for each other, the spells I was holding on the field, my spells elsewhere ... I don't blame him for thinking I was dead; I would have believed it myself. They called the retreat shortly thereafter, and the field was such that they knew they could not have taken the time to find my body. Except, of course, that one of the battlefield Healers had portkeyed me to St Mungo's, and I was brought back -- the order may be the other way around; I still do not know everything that happened -- except the hospital is contested ground, and Fletcher plucked me out of the pile before anyone else could tell that I had been brought in, and did not realise how urgent it was to tell Barty that I was not dead after all. Just unconscious, and would stay so for quite some time.

He tried to get a message through, apparently. Just not hard enough.

Barty -- well. How often did we joke about it, that one of us would not outlive the other for very long? Except I believe Barty thought my death was his to carry the blame for -- it was not, I will go to my grave swearing swear to you it was not; it was my own fucking failure -- and his guilt and rage got the better of him, and he set out to make me an escort of anyone and everyone who had ever so much as.

It was Hydra who stopped him, finally. In the Forbidden Forest -- I think he was determined he would take back Hogwarts in my name or die trying. They left him there to rot, to be eaten by monsters, and they will use even that to.

Простите -- I waited to write until I thought I could do so coherently, but I am less coherent than I would like.

I don't know what comes next. I've spent the last day trying to figure
it out. None of the options will do anyone any good.

I am so fucking glad that you are both safe and well and away from this nightmare.

---

alt_narcissa at 2015-08-11 12:15:35
(no subject)

Oh, Toshenka. How dreadful.

I must admit we have all but put our journals aside, save for one or two specific Notificio circumstances. Lucius was alerted last week by one but it was Rookwood raving. So he put the book away. I might have missed this, myself, were it not for the Notificio growing more insistent.

I'm so very -

Did my parcels get through? It seems incongruous to ask only, I hoped the opening of trade might signal a potential exit for you. If not through Dover then elsewhere.

You've heard that Ireland is back on the map? On the outside, I mean. Lucius was approached by representatives of the IWC seeking advice on its sudden reappearance. There's also a situation brewing in the Balkans which they thought could use his expertise.

About Barty, I ... I think I knew something was wrong, though by what prescience I could not say. My dreams have been less peaceful, this past week or so. Perhaps in retrospect I am ascribing connection where I have no right to one. He was special to me, as well, though we had nothing like your bond.

Of course you are heartsore and weary, my dear one. I am more sorry than I can say. This fight has cost us all far too much. If you can find an escape, Toshenka, do come here. May you find it as healing a place as we have done.
Yes, they did -- I'm sorry, milaya, I meant to say. He and I made a picnic out of some of what you sent, in fact. Sitting on a platform over the

It's a good memory. We had several of those in the past weeks, at least. And your gifts did bring him joy for at least an hour or two, before it all went to hell.

No, I hadn't heard about Ireland. I've been -- well. As you might imagine, I have not been good for much over the past thirty-six hours since I woke up, and certainly not keeping track of the wider world. Although I'm not certain that's known here even to those who aren't wallowing; news, as of late, has been less reliable if one does not know how to read through the propaganda. (And I am certain reports will grow more unreliable from here on out; Barty had, as you well remember, a grudge against the media, and I am afraid to say that the Prophet, Whirl, and Londinarium, at least, all suffered losses. I have not yet seen a full accounting of the rest; there may be more.) From rumours I knew there was some great working while I was halfway to the undiscovered country, and from the effects it had on everything I could guess it involved the wards -- Gus had been working on some way to handle bleeding off some of the built-up pressure, but

I'm sorry. I'm avoiding the things I don't want to talk about. Tell Lyoushka I can give him a list of names of those who might be sensible. And if the Americans are being difficult, as they undoubtedly are, he should go find Marja -- Marie-Jacqueline -- Brouard, in their Department of Magic, and tell her that he is my brother and that I will forgive the hundred Galleons she still owes me if she should spend some of her political capital in easing his way.

If Dover had been open at any point since he whose name I shall not ever write again fell, I would have coshed Barty over the head and dragged him through, and let him rail against me and my treachery once he woke somewhere safe and protected. Would the gods that I had. But rest assured, if I see the chance, I will take it. And if my appearance would not bring the full weight of retribution down on your heads, you will be my first stop. If my sins catch up with me first, though -- know that I love you both, dearly.
Bratka,

My condolences. As Narcissa said, we have found ... found that even if we try to get a sense of occurrences in the Protectorate, it is nearly impossible to piece together the whole of what has been happening. You are quite right that at times it seems there is far too much to discuss and not nearly the time - or the words. But you have my sympathy for this loss, as for much else.

Will certainly keep the recommendations in mind, but for the moment I do not believe we are in danger. They were asking for assistance, not seeking retribution. Thus far, at any rate. We do still have allies among the international community, or I suspect we would have had trouble long before this.

You speak about reporters and losing control of the press - there you have my utmost sympathy. There is no controlling them on this side, only scaring them off. But we have at least been able to exert some pressure to keep them from dogging our heels at every turn. It wasn't long before we were discovered but - well, as I say, we have handled it.

Had I been in any position to bargain for you, I would have done. Assume you are working to capture Dover's Secret Keeper?

Lyoushka, I did not expect you to have bargained for me. Nor I would not have gone without Barty, and he would have been an even harder sell.

I don't know who the Secret-Keeper for Dover is, but yes, if I am able to determine it, I will do what I can to find him or her. Until then, though ... I don't know. A good hard look at how many mistakes I can at least partially rectify, I suppose. I should undoubtedly go check in with Bella and see what machinations are already underway, but I'm finding it difficult to drag myself out of this house. Perhaps I shall see what her next move will be.
I'm glad that you two are enduring. But if matters turn ill for you and it looks as though you may not make it through with your usual grace, if all else fails, go to Cairo: find the Conclave, and ask for Sayyid ibn Āzar al-Sadiq, who may even be Grand-Master by now, and tell him that you are mine. At very least he will arrange sanctuary for you. And yes, I know that I am catastrophising, but it eases my mind somewhat to arm you with some of my connections, in the hopes that if it all goes to shit -- goes further to shit -- you will have as much of a fighting chance as I can give you.

Luck to you both, my dear ones. And wish me the same.

Bella's attempt to hold together the remains of government was noble, even valourous, but I fear it may have been too little, too late. Had we all recognised the need and been able to set aside personal grievance for a single coup, perhaps, we might have been able to defeat both the Dark Lord and our enemies. But given what I have managed to glean of the manner of the nameless one's passing, I fail to see how circumstances could have played otherwise.

Now we have both lost sons.

Nonetheless, if you hear of Bella's next move and wish to discuss its wisdom, know that you have but to ask. Доброе братство — лучшее богатство. They may have - limited - my range of options, but strategy has never been their strongest suit.
2015-08-11 07:46:00
Private Message to Ginny Weasley

Many happy returns, you!

I wish you would return. Or we could meet up somewheres and run off together. Through Dover to France, maybe? That'd be a birthday outing, yeah?

How are you, anyway?

alt_ginny at 2015-08-12 14:47:20
(no subject)

Were you the one they sent to kill Karo's family?

Was it you?

alt_ron at 2015-08-12 14:56:37
(no subject)

What?

Gin, Auror Crouch killed the Moons. And a whole lot of other people, too.

alt_ginny at 2015-08-12 14:59:40
(no subject)

Ptolemy Baddock told me it was the Order of the Phoenix.

And I trust him. If you want me to trust you, you should come here, so I know Mum and Rachel and Alice Longbottom aren't controlling every word you say.

alt_ron at 2015-08-12 15:10:55
(no subject)

I can't come there, Gin. I could meet you somewhere neutral. Or I can write you, but I can't go to New London.
Writing to you is important to me. You're like a lifeline. Don't know if you'll know what I mean, but yeah. That's the thing. Miss you.
2015-08-11 11:03:00
Private message to Ptolemy

All ready for this afternoon?

From what Freddie's told me (he went on some kind of epic pub crawl with Derwent and some other lads last night), the general reaction has been mild bafflement mixed with curiosity, but no outright rejection. So the enticement charms seem to be doing the trick. Sarah told me that there will be ample refreshments, too, with wide-ranging effects (the primary one being my favourite: coercion).

So that should make signing the pledges go down a treat. Especially if Harrod's is doing the catering.

Must be said that Lana's taking her new role quite seriously. Not that there's a choice in the matter.

2015-08-11 17:25:40
(no subject)

Yes, including a surprise for our birthday girl, who is, it must be said, also eager to join and be of additional use.

Lana has always wished to be recognised for her dedication and determination. She's never been one for half measures, either.

2015-08-11 17:38:47
(no subject)

What birthday girl is that?

How you describe Lana could describe any of us, really. Though I suppose she has a certain boldness that others of us might lack. I rather wish I'd thought to try seducing Rod Lestrange now.
Ginny Weasley, of course.

Dedicated and determined describes many of us, true, but overachieving? Seems to me some are more thorough in their duties than others.

Perhaps you've picked up something I've not, then. I never got the impression 'Rod' was much interested in anything other than young, adoring witches. Like his daughter, one might say, until she traded his protection for her little French fop.

Soz, don't really have room in my brain to keep track of everyone's birthday, especially those of political hostages.

He's good looking for an older chap, that's all. But no, I've not got the right equipment--the baby-making kind, that is. But if he also requires them to be adoring I don't know how he ended up with Lady Lestrange the first time 'round.

Anyway, what's the surprise for Ginny Weasley?
2015-08-11 12:11:00
Private Message to Evelyn

I hope it is not an imposition upon your schedule, but I shall be making forays into the realm of predictive Arithmancy this afternoon, and Professor Siz suggested before she left that you are among the most competent of those who might verify my maths, that being a matter of prudence at the moment. The problem upon which my energies will be bent is the possible pattern of resolution for the heightened and unpredictable magical energy flows following the recent Octoboros ward transfer work.

I will be running Scansell's sheaf analysis, Wrdjeman's patterning application, and Kantorowich's Least Worst regressions. At a minimum, really. One wishes to dig into something, and this is timely and pertinent and really ought to have the full attention of several of us right now.

Might you be available to receive parchments by house elf as they are completed?

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-11 17:34:52
(no subject)

Oh, yes, please. I've got a rather satisfying stack of portkey adjustments to chew over, and it'll be lovely to shift gears now and again for pattern analysis.

It would be a kindness. Truly.

Thank you, Linus.

alt_linus at 2015-08-11 19:54:01
(no subject)

No, the gratitude is mine. Or perhaps we ought to divide it equally.

The elf should have delivered the first batch. I used Scansell's, as you no doubt immediately recognise. Shall proceed
immediately to Wrdjeman's patterning application, though of course if you find errors in my work, notify me soonest so I can recalibrate.

The results of Scansell's do not look heartening for a swift abatement of magical energy levels in the ward system and the most strongly associated leys. Normal function does not resume within the projected short-term period.

In short, as Professor Siz sometimes permits me to say, everything is in flux and one can not yet tell one's ear from one's elbow. Which is an adequate summary of the moment, actually.

---

-interesting. Not surprising, though. So much build-up has to go somewhere.

I might try a few variations to test the range. Or we might think about practical applications -- channeling it someway into an energy grid, perhaps?

I'm so curious to see how the solstice will end up factoring in.

And well, then, consider it a good deed all round.

...Honestly, Linus, anything that'd help, anything at all, consider it done, whether it's checking your work, or anything else, truly.

-channeling it? Quite. Though if we could put it up in bottles for later, that would be ever so tidy, wouldn't it?

Wait. It would. Wouldn't it?
I suppose it's not entirely different from, say, nuclear energy. It's all energy, isn't it?

Batteries, is what you're thinking of.

Pardon. I was distracted for a bit. I've finished Wrdjeman's. It seems to indicate that either the subsidence to normal background magical energy levels should take approximately four months at which point we'll be facing a short-term under-supply of magic in the leys and other foci, including artificial foci such as Octoboros stones...

... or everything should be fine in about twenty days with no after-effects other than the odd light show now and then when certain spells are used near the stones....

... or we ought to be on the look-out for rains of small stones from a clear blue sky and the birth of improbable fauna. Honestly, I cannot make head or tail of it. I'll send it over with the elf. Surely I have bolluxed up something there?

The temporal component was a touch fiddly. I've re-worked the first few, see if that makes more sense?

Ah. Quite. Thank you.

I am once more awake, and shall be resuming
work. Expect more parchment deliveries, if it is still convenient to receive them.
Private Message to Justin and Auror Brodie

Linus wants to know if his sister has been notified of his family's death.

If you haven't passed it along yet, I can ask him what he'd prefer.

alt_ernie

alt_rachel at 2015-08-11 20:25:06
(no subject)

We haven't contacted her. By all means, if Linus has a preference, let me know.

alt_ernie at 2015-08-11 23:13:50
(no subject)

He'd prefer she be officially notified by you lot. I'd imagine sooner rather than later would be useful.
2015-08-11 14:03:00
Order Only: Private Message to Hydra

Hullo, cousin.

How are you doing?

Listen, loads of people are going spare over Evelyn and Sinistra and who knows who else keeping ties. Maybe you're still angry, too, and you've a right to be.

I just thought, perhaps, in all the fuss and to-do, there haven't been enough people thanking you. For what you did out there. For what it must have taken to overcome him.

Well done. There was quite a queue for that particular kill, but I don't know if any of us could have done it alone.

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alt_hydra at 2015-08-11 23:29:31
(no subject)

Lots of people are angry and unhappy about all sorts of things. I think it must be a delayed reaction to what Barty did to so many people, and then topping it off with the discovery of Linus Moon's family. Among other things.

And yes, a part of me is thinking: "well, at least you didn't have to kill him." And also "at least you didn't have to visit a number of his crime scenes, where the bodies were still fresh and the smell of burnt flesh was still on the air."

And -

"At least you're not me."

But I think that fever wiped away whatever self-pity I might want to indulge in. So, I'm all right, actually. But thank you for asking.

If people still feel an attachment to Antonin, or to anyone else, that's their matter to deal with. I feel sorry for them, more than anything, because they've committed themselves to a story where they understand the object of their attachment in a way that no one else does (and vice versa). If they keep holding on to this story then it
could prevent them from doing a good many things. Or it could make
them do something dangerous, or foolish.

I've had those attachments and everyone knows it. I know I even
came close to having one with Barty. Perhaps it's good that I did,
because if I hadn't, I probably wouldn't have ever acquired the skills
or knowledge to best him in a duel. (Barely.)

A part of me still can't believe that I did. I keep thinking he'll show
up in the journals with some kind of taunting, luring message. But
then I close my eyes and I see it all over again, how he died. No one
comes back from that.

But I think I could only kill him because I shut the door on him. I shut
it right after the Battle here at Hogwarts. He kept nudging it back
open and sticking his head in, and even managed to get under my
skin in all kinds of ways, but it was still him doing the nudging.

I'm sure it's much harder to shut the door on Antonin. He knows how
to make a person feel so special and unique. He makes a person feel
chosen, completely accepted. You get to be part of his "family." And
now his family feels like they're betraying him.

Sinistra and Evelyn - they're good, and they're not comfortable with
betrayal in most of its forms.

Antonin probably isn't comfortable with betrayal, either. Not when it
involves his family, or his traditions. Though he did make Inferi, so
who's to say?

But why would Draco and Dora care about betraying Antonin (who
was still dead at the time)? Are they meant to care that others have a
problem with betraying Antonin? If every decision in the field came
down to how every individual outside the field feels, nothing would
get done.

And you know, I was a bit out of it, but I don't think anyone made
much of a fuss about Barty being left in the forest until after Antonin
turned up alive. So for those still attached to him, perhaps it's more
about making absolutely sure that he knows they don't approve.
Preserving their image in his eyes.

Daphne's still buried with the Lestranges. Her parents wanted her
with the Greengrasses in Brighton. No one feels betrayed or upset
about that. Especially not her parents, since they're dead.
That reminds me that I should try to see if I can contact Astoria and Queenie.

**alt_sirius** at **2015-08-11 23:51:43**
(no subject)

No one made any fuss because no one thought there was anyone to mourn Crouch. And strange as it seems, he is mourned and you're right, there are people who (however inexplicably) care that someone who loved him is in pain because he's gone.

I happen to agree with you, 100%, though, that the reason they care is Dolohov is so infernally good at *making* people care.

Out of curiosity, is Justin on the side of feeling he's betraying a 'family' or no? I haven't even had a chance to ask how he feels about the Jugsons. I know there was no love lost but they were good to him, in their way.

Anyway, it seems to me that Crotch's strategic value, now, is in how desperate Dolohov can be made to try to get to him. And even if people feel squeamish about leaving him where he lies, if it's going to do us any good, then it's also a necessary, if ghastly, course of action.

So, you say you're not feeling self-pity, but you keep fearing he'll be back, and you keep seeing him die when you close your eyes. Are you sure that qualifies as 'all right'? Because it would be normal to feel a little unsettled by what happened.

**alt_hydra** at **2015-08-12 00:11:40**
(no subject)

Oh, no. Justin slammed the door hard. He's made himself focus on all of Antonin's bad qualities until he can't see anything else. The Jugsons - well, he wasn't close to my Aunt and Uncle. I wasn't very, either. Remy and Alfie thought it would be nift to join the Order, but I'm not sure they really understood what it meant. Especially Alfie. He was a bit weird when he learned that Justin is muggleborn, too, while Remy was mostly petulant that Justin kept it a secret from him.
I really will miss Remy. He could be so daft, but it was endearing sometimes. And he was my friend when I didn't really have any others.

@alt_sirius at 2015-08-12 00:35:00
(no subject)

You all must be beyond fatigued at losing all your agemates. The worst part is knowing that so many of your generation will never see what we rebuild.

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-12 00:37:45
(no subject)

Doesn't that make my generation a repeat of your generation?

We just have to make sure it stops here.

@alt_sirius at 2015-08-12 00:41:55
(no subject)

It's worse from here, somehow, looking at you. You, Draco, Hermione, Justin, Ron - knowing that only some things get easier. Other things ... stay hollow, no matter what happiness one musters in the moment.

I'm sorry. We're supposed to have the answers and I'm fresh out.

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-12 00:43:43
(no subject)

It's all right, I wasn't asking.

You sound tired.
I'm tired of letting you lot bear the burden, that's all.

You don't have to let us, I suppose. I'm not sure what you think a different option would look like. Do you have something in mind? Only you said you were out of answers, so. Maybe not.

And me, I wouldn't say that I'm unsettled. Though perhaps if I were, people would feel better about things. It would be normal, as you say.

I think I'm being protected from feeling unsettled right now. Maybe forever. Which should be a scary thought but again, I'm not sure that it is.

I think you've the right to feel however it makes you feel. And if you aren't troubled then you're probably very lucky, or you've done a fantastic job of maintaining the perspective that what you did you had no choice about doing.

And maybe you'll feel it down the line, when you're not expecting it. That's all right, too. Or perhaps you won't, and that's okay.
It's your seventeenth birthday, my darling, and I want to be with you so very much.

You were born at 3:26 pm, at home. Your Dad didn't go to work that day. Pandora Lovegood stopped by for awhile to help with the children, so Dad could be with me and the midwife. Maisie Diggory had brought round lunch and dinner for everyone, but I believe everyone was too excited to eat until rather late. You were the first girl to be born in the Weasley family in a very long time, so it was a very special occasion.

Arthur cut the cord with his wand and held you within five minutes of your being born. I was tired, of course, but so very pleased! We were all oooing and ahhing because you were so pretty! You had a fine crop of red hair, and the tiniest little fingers and toes. You were a little smaller than any of my other babies, but just perfectly formed.

At about five o'clock, we brought your brothers in to meet you, and they all gathered around the bed in Arthur's and my room. Bill held you first. He had a lot of experience with his brothers, of course. You managed to get one little fist out from underneath your blankets and bonked him on the nose, which made him laugh. I remember that Percy was so excited to meet you that he fell right off the bed! Luckily not while he was holding you, though! The twins wanted to hold you, too. They were a little small, but we propped them up well with pillows, one at a time, and they were able to cuddle you, too. They didn't say much, but they had grins from ear to ear. Ron was just a toddler himself, and so he didn't quite understand what this new bundle was that his Mum was holding, but I remember how he patted your cheek and then leaned down and kissed it. They stayed with you for almost an hour. You slept through the whole thing.

In your honour, that night your Dad planted the white rose bush that now climbs and cascades over the back door, the one that smells so lovely. Did I ever tell you the name of it? It's called 'White Dawn.'

I love you. I carried you under my heart for nine months, and I will carry you in my heart always.
I started three different sketches to you but none of them have turned out right. I'm sorry.

Just--Happy birthday.

It's not right that you can't be with us on your coming of age birthday. It's not right.
In any time of transition, there are growing pains. There are steps taken forward, and difficult and painful pushes back. It seems as though we've been in a stand-off since we took the castle after the Battle, but lately, there have been several important gains accompanied by devastating losses.

We mourn the many deaths Crouch left in his wake. We continue to work on a solution that will bring our Ginny back, safe and sound. We are sorting how best to take New London with minimal bloodshed. Every day, we work to govern, establish our authority, open our borders, and to create a new future where all of us can live and work together. We thread a fine needle in the present hour -- to attempt to create and model a just society at a time of war, when we must engage in actions of violence. It is an impossible task, and we will not be entirely successful, but we must continue to strive for it as best as we can.

We face our enemies as we head into this final push -- some, our former friends and family -- but we cannot lose sight of who they are and what they represent.

I believe that civil war is the most painful sort of war there is. To fight against one's own people, one's own family, is a deeply scarring thing, and it will take us many generations to overcome this schism and fully heal.

If we are to move forward, here are some things that I am absolutely certain will have to happen. We must be prepared to compromise at times, and sacrifice an absolute justice to achieve peace and bring our fractured society together again. We must be prepared to forgive despite the fact that it will sometimes be a bitter potion to swallow.

Lastly, we must not give our enemies ground in these final stages.

I will say this bluntly. Antonin Dolohov is our enemy. He has been many things to many of you in the past -- a friend, a mentor, a person who at times protected you from harm, but he has made his choice and position clear. My daughter Evelyn's intent was at its heart a decent one -- but her methods opened up a door that could have proven to be a catastrophic security risk.
Communication with *anyone* currently in New London -- including Ginny and other former schoolmates -- as well as someone who is in possible contact with those in New London, such as Mr and Mrs Malfoy and Padma Patil -- must be cleared through our security team first, with an aim towards ensuring that there is no security risk involved. And should there be, the team may require you to modify your message or may ask you to not communicate until an immediate danger has passed. I am not telling you that contact is forbidden -- we've been through the nightmare of a restrictive society and the harms that can do -- but this is a time of active war, and even a message one believes is innocuous or innocent may ultimately be a weapon in the hands of our enemies. I will hold myself to these standards as well, and we will disseminate these requirements to non-Order members within the castle also.

(Molly, love, thank you endlessly for anticipating me, and running your message to Ginny by Rachel first. Our hearts go out to you today.)

Needless to say, our Auror team has and will continue to communicate with our enemy. They are trained and supervised, they are directly able to inform one another about security risks that may emerge, and their communication is deliberate and to a specific end. I hope we can all recognise the distinction.

We must practice care and common sense, and realise that there is quite a ways yet before we are out of these woods.

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*alt_alice* at 2015-08-12 01:00:43
*Private Message to Rachel, Sirius and Remus*

What an enormous headache I have.

Merlin.

*alt_sirius* at 2015-08-12 01:36:04
*Re: Private Message to Rachel, Sirius and Remus*

I know, love.
Naturally, Luna, my request is for any future messages you may send -- not the one you just sent off. You couldn't have anticipated I'd request this.

Of course. I've tried to be mindful of security, I promise. I haven't been writing messages, really. I've just been doing sketch portraits of people she already knows. The one time I drew a portrait of one of the Healers sitting with Daddy in the hospital wing, I changed the face so that it didn't look anything like the real person, to protect the Healer's family.

Today I was too sad to do a sketch, so all the message said was 'Happy birthday.'

You're certainly thinking responsibly, Luna, and that's very appreciated.

It'll just cover our hoops a little more if you show it to someone first in the future, in case they catch something you wouldn't.

I will be happy to do that.
**alt_alice** at 2015-08-12 01:02:30  
*Private Message to Hermione*

Your exchanges with Draco don't fall under this, of course. It's so good to see you're feeling somewhat better, love.

**alt_alice** at 2015-08-12 01:04:25  
*Private Message to the Weasleys and Tonks*

For the time being, I'd prefer we limit non Order-Only posts to Charlie to only use in severe emergency. Unless we all start writing to one another without using the lock, his would stand as an obvious outlier, and may draw suspicion.

**alt_nymphadora** at 2015-08-12 01:24:49  
*Re: Private Message to the Weasleys and Tonks*

Understood.

**alt_nymphadora** at 2015-08-12 01:27:17  
*Private Message to Alice*

And Alice...

I can't help but feel partially responsible for how things've come down. It was my call to leave him there. I didn't anticipate

Well, I didn't anticipate bloody Antonin Dolohov rising from the dead. So there's that. But anyways. I'm sorry for my part in it.

**alt_alice** at 2015-08-12 01:30:29  
*Re: Private Message to Alice*

Just as you've said, love. You couldn't have anticipated the impossible.

We'll keep at it, and try our best to admit when we've fouled up.
Nevertheless. It was said in anger, and I should've been better than that.

...And I chose to let it stand instead of saying something, as I ought to have done.

Believe me, Tonks. This is on a great many shoulders.

I hate to leave him without hearing from the family, but it's a sensible precaution, and we want to assist in keeping him as safe as possible.

Alice--thank you.

Thank you, Hydra.

You're welcome, of course.
@alt_molly at 2015-08-12 03:14:13
Private message to Alice

A good, judicious, tactful message, and very much appreciated. And much more even-keeled than I managed to be last night!

I wish Frank were here for you. You could certainly use the support right now. Have you heard from him since that message right after he landed?

Thank you for the message of support. It's been very hard--I mean, her coming of age birthday! But those of us who are here had dinner together tonight, and we told funny stories about Ginny, since we couldn't be with her. And cried a little. I talked a bit with Rachel privately. I'm worried about her, I'll admit. The death of course, and she just looks so worn. Bill's worried, too, and trying to do everything he can to support her. Can she possibly delegate any more? If only to get more sleep! Well, we're all short on sleep.

Ron stopped by only briefly, as he was scheduled for a shift, but Rachel was so good as to rearrange things so that he could spend a little time with us at least. I must confess I felt so very proud of him tonight, listening to him talk a little about his work with Rachel, and also with Sally-Anne. It struck me so much how very adult he seems: a serious Auror respected by his peers, a young husband.

How very pleased and chuffed Arthur would have been.

@alt_alice at 2015-08-12 04:04:57
Re: Private message to Alice

I haven't, no.

I think if he'd been here, things might've gone differently. He's the one she tends to go to for comfort and advice first. Sometimes I think he makes a far better mum than I do.

I think we're all worn to the bone -- no wonder we're whipping ourselves into frenzies. Rachel has been juggling so many quaffles.

Your entire family is such a marvel, Molly. Both the family you've given birth to, and the people who've ended up in your orbit. You've
drawn together such a shining circle, love. I know it's a little
dimmed these days, but Arthur would've been beside himself to see
how far Ron's come along.

@alt_jeremy at 2015-08-12 14:36:10
(no subject)

Right. Steady on, all.
managed to track down Bridget Delaney. She’s not happy we’re here, but she can be trusted. She’s giving us a secure place to kip. Not particularly happy about that either, but she owed Moody a favour or ten so we’re taking advantage.

There’s been a shift on the ground. No more active resistance from locals, massive numbers of Muggle Red Cross, Americans replaced with United Nations, NATO, etc., but none of them appear to be itching for a fight.

News is difficult to come by. There’s a whole lot of rumours, a local wireless station is trying to stay on top of things, and there are notices being posted announcing ‘Peacemaking Mission: Disaster Relief’, providing directions for accessing food/water/necessities, etc.

Bridget said they managed to overthrow the Protectorate Wizards a few weeks after Crouch left with his haul, and it became clear that backup wasn’t arriving. It was a group effort – a core group of Irish wizards and IMA in a suicidal attack on the city centre, but a huge mob of citizens joined in and made it a rout. A handful of Protectorate officials managed to run to ground, and the surviving IMA took over Dublin. Apparently, Singh, the Protectorate enforcer in charge, has kept sending out reports as if everything is peachy, sending them from some fideliused bunker he and his friends managed to hole themselves up in. Local sentiment towards Wizards are decidedly mixed – depends on the county you’re in, who’s related to who, all that. There are a few wizards around Dublin, they’re mostly working with IMA, helping with security. Bridget got right hacked off we were able to sneak in.

I’m thinking by now, the statute’s shot to shit, and if the UN is here, the ICW should be too, and so should our people. Spread this thing wide open and get to tell our side of things before it gets too far ahead of us. Long as we tread carefully, otherwise we’re going to get the same warm welcome the Americans got.
Private Message to Frank

Frank Longbottom.

Check in every twenty-four hours, for the love of Merlin.

Especially after reporting gunfire and bombing and I've been so very worried about you.

aye aye.

You are ridiculous and I miss you so very much, my dear sweet man.

I feel like I've lost my bearings and what little patience I have left to me without you around to smooth out the rough bits and talk things over with me at all hours.

I am very much looking forward to your coming back.

Glad to hear things are looking up at least a little.

I still wish it had worked out for you to take a team over to help watch your back. Not that you need it but I'm not sure I trust some friend of Rudy's (I still think of him that way) to do it the way we would.
You and me both.

Sam and Bob are from Sherwood. Sam's muggle, and Bob's got a flawless dubliner accent, so we've got our arses covered on all fronts. They're good lads. We're keeping safe, no worries.

You'd better believe I miss my team. Good thing you weren't here a few days ago, though. Got me enough grey hairs as it is.
I am sorry to have to tell you that your parents as well as Horace, Olivia, and Vinca were all victims of Barty Crouch's rampage. He found them at their cottage in Torquay. Linus became concerned when they weren't replying to his owls, and asked one of our Aurors to go up and check on them, which is how we found out what had happened.

If you would like to come to Hogwarts to be with Linus and help him see to the funerals, please feel free to do so; we are open to whatever arrangements would allow you to feel safe among us during this difficult time.

I am so terribly sorry for your loss.
Good morning, dearest,

How are you feeling this morning? Any pain?

I hope you got my note.

I did so want to be with you when you woke but we received some rather bad news this morning. Your wretched sister-in-law has gone and ordered Karo's family killed.

As you might imagine, it's upset Karo a great deal. She'd no particular love for her father but her mother.... And there was no reason to kill the youngest of the lot. We're thinking through our next options and what's to be done. I shan't bore you with details. Suffice to say it's thoroughly unpleasant and I'd far rather still be wound up in you.

But you ought to have breakfast in bed, and enjoy these last few days of leisure. Soon you'll be an important wireless personality, after all! There'll be no time for lying in.

What? The Moons? But why? Linus was working for the Phoenixes at the castle, last I heard. Really, down to the youngest? That's horrible. I'm so sorry to hear it.

The 'why' has yet to be fully determined, but yes. We're not even sure whether Linus is among them. Perhaps he tried to escape, as you did, and was less than successful. He's not mentioned by name.

Of course, it could also be a ruse intended to draw her (or us) into their grasp. You know better than most how they are.
Oh. Maybe he did try to escape. That would make sense, then, that they'd punish him.

Please convey my deep sympathy to Karo.

And I'm having my breakfast in bed, as you ordered suggested. You're right. I should try to be rested up.

I remember being a model was exhausting. Though it's hard to know now how much of that was true overwork and how much was the potions my family was having the matron give me.

Several of them wrote to me, I'm sure you saw. Since it was my birthday.

I'll be sure she knows.

And yes, I saw. It's my job to see, Gingersnap. Is there anything you want to tell me about them? And don't forget, now you've got your present to help when you do read what they have to say.

Yes, it says not to trust any of them. Even Luna and

You don't think they sent Ron to
Yes, well, we knew they are not to be trusted. They want you to remain a naive little girl. But you're not a little girl anymore, are you?

Just be sure and tell me if you see anything that looks extra suspicious. I know it was frightening when we thought the worst had befallen Antonin, but that's all over now. Soon enough, he'll be back to help put a stop to them, but in the meantime, you know I'm here to take care of you, right?

No, I'm not a little girl. And I know you'll take care of me, even with Antonin not here.

Thank you.
They've told Ginny that we killed the Moons. Or, anywiz, that's what she thinks. So you know.

Well, I suppose they might as well, right? One more reason for her to hate all of us.
Private Message to Lavender

Have you written to Padma by any chance since things happened?

I feel that she ought to be told, but I cannot manage to put quill to parchment or journal even to write a draft. Finding words is more difficult than... well. And then knowing that some security personage will be reading it over before it is permitted to be sent --

I'm sorry. I should not ask you to help with this.

I'm sorry. Never mind.

I was just thinking of Padma myself, actually, and considering asking Mrs Longbottom about writing to her. Not anything politically sensitive, of course.

Maybe it's foolish of me, but I miss her.

If you wanted, I could tell her for you.

If you would, it would be a great kindness.

I've just PMed Mrs Longbottom--I suppose I'll have to wait on her say-so. I do understand the reasoning, but this restriction is rather tiresome.
They said I could write her so I'll try to do that soon.

Auror Brodie also said I could visit if I wanted--is it bad that I feel decidedly of two minds about that?
2015-08-12 13:56:00
Private message to R. Faust

You certainly were business-like as ever last evening. I suppose I can't fault you that--it is your job, after all.

Was my group making too much noise? Lots of talk after the reception at Westminster, you see.

Maybe I'll stop in by myself, some night when you're closing things down on your own. Like last time.

What was that, seven months ago? Eight? Refresh my memory.
2015-08-12 14:10:00
Private Message to Antonin Nikolaevich

We've managed to remove a few of the curses protecting the cases on the left-hand side of your old office.

I recommended burning ?????? ?????? ???? ??? ?????? ?????. I say, that's the one with three chapters on muscle calcification and variant spells, isn't it?

There are a few others in that section that promise similar levels of danger. I'm looking up the surest ways to destroy them. It's not quick progress, what, but it is methodical, painstaking, careful and safe.

Does it eat at you, knowing what's left of him is out there? I imagine more than one creature has eaten at him, by now. I thought you'd have made more of an attempt to recover him, honestly.

Perhaps it's not as important to you as you made the others think.

alt_antonin at 2015-08-13 01:27:40
(no subject)

Clumsily obvious, Юстинка. Have you grown so used to having your wife present to read truth out of your victims' minds that you've forgotten all your subtleties? I am unsurprised what you will use as bait, but I cannot be fooled more than once.

And mind the office. Did you notice the Melanaia curse infused into the back of the cabinet? I don't believe I ever taught you that one, and it's subtle enough that you won't have noticed if you tripped it. Three to four weeks, it usually takes to run its course. How have you been feeling lately? Starting at shadows? Exhausted and weary and taking pleasure at nothing?

Except it wasn't the Melanaia curse at all, and it wasn't on the back of the cabinet.
alt_justin at 2015-08-14 17:32:03
(no subject)

My wife, who killed your son, do you mean? That wife? The one who figured out how to stop him rampaging his way all round the country?

Was it simple grief, by the way? Somehow I don't think so.

I have a different theory. Do you have a complete list of the people he killed? Because Ron's been keeping a catalogue. There are almost sixty victims that we know of. It's a list that now includes the Moons—all of them, including their nine-year-old daughter. My foster-family are on it, as well. The Abbots. Daphne Greengrass' parents. Mr Peakes. He even killed Cadmus Mulciber for us, though that hardly makes up for the rest. Whole families, servants, children, grandmothers, old men, innocents of all kinds—no one, it seems, was safe from his wrath. Hydra put him down like a rabid dog. She's more merciful than I would have been, after the way he treated her.

Ron also has details about the scenes. You're always meticulous when it comes to presentation, so shall I tell you? I say, not his usual signature at all, if you're wondering. Curious, what, because from what I and my wife could tell, he didn't believe in any of your twaddle about the afterlife.

But that has me thinking about the connections. There are a fair number of apparently random choices, but I believe the thing they had in common was a significance to people whom one or both of you held close. The Moons, my foster-brothers, members of the press, Narcissa Malfoy's assistant, Rachel Brodie's mother, etc. I don't know about all of the ties, but was that the idea?

Though, come to think of it, it's odd, that he decided not to include any of the Sinistra clan. I say, there's jolly well enough of them, one would think he could have found someone to butcher. But he did not. Nor the Diggories.

One has to wonder why. Perhaps he thought you'd be too shattered to ever forgive him if he'd killed any of their number. Perhaps even in his madness, he could not bear to take that chance. Somehow I doubt that.
Possibly they were too well-protected and he couldn't be bothered to honour you with their deaths. If it was you he was honouring, that is.

Or is it because he felt them entirely unworthy of his twisted sort of compliment? A referendum, perhaps, that he could never have expressed if he had a hope of seeing you again? Could it be that for all your declarations of unending, unconditional approval of each other, in some secret corner of his soul, he, too, harboured a seed of betrayal?

An interesting theory. Pity it's completely wrong, but then again, you don't have the information necessary to figure out the correct one. Or what I believe is the correct one, at least.

But then again, you've never understood the way we think, have you? If you did, you wouldn't be so fumblingly obvious in your attempts to lure me. Are you looking to duel me, Юстина? To rid your world of the danger I represent? Or just in the hopes it will help you sleep more soundly?

You're going about it in entirely the wrong way, of course. If you thought about it, you might be able to score a hit or two; keep trying. But you are very young, and you are working at quite the disadvantage.

Think back over the past few days. What have you been missing? What have you been too slow to realise? You are paying entirely too much attention to the finger, and none at all to what it is pointing.

I'm not surprised, but I am disappointed. Do try to keep up. I wouldn't want this to be boring.
I'm trying to figure out if I've been compromised.

I have Russell's journal and scarcely anyone writes to him directly (a few of his co-workers, one of his neighbours, etc.). He makes very few entries, as well, but follows quite a few people.

A bit ago he got a PM from Jason Montague, who was in here last night with Finnigan, Troy Derwent, Alfred Montague, and Demetrius Martyn. They had a round of drinks and chatted about the reception for the Protectorate Security Society (more on that soon).

Montague didn't say a word to me last night other than to order drinks for everyone. But in his message he seems overly familiar. Said he might stop by some night when I'm closing alone, like "last time." And then he asked if it had been seven or eight months ago, and could I refresh his memory?

Essentially I can't tell if I (as Russell) am being propositioned or if I'm under suspicion.

Jason Montague is working for me.

I can let him know that 'Faust' is, too. Warn him off. That means he'll know you could compromise him, if you're captured. But he'll try to make sure that doesn't happen. If you'd prefer I don't, however, you can handle his PM however you'd like.

Seriously? He's on the council, so how does that work, exactly? Won't Bellatrix find out? He must be able to occlude, obviously.
Or - animagus?

I mean, if I knew what he was doing I would have a better idea of whether or not you should warn him off.

Sodding Russell Faust. He never said a word about Jason Montague.

@alt_rachel at 2015-08-12 20:35:41
(no subject)

He's an occlumens and a legilimens, which is possibly why he decided to prod Faust. He might have noticed he couldn't read him anymore.

Hydra had mentioned to me he was an occlumens. It's why I approached him to see if I could persuade him to pass information, given Bella.

@alt_draco at 2015-08-12 20:45:30
(no subject)

Alright. Well, if you're fully certain he's not going to turn me in to my Aunt, anyway. Then go ahead.

Make sure he knows he can't tell that sodding snitch, Finnigan.

@alt_rachel at 2015-08-12 20:46:54
(no subject)

Pretty sure he doesn't gossip about his job to Finnigan. How attached was Finnigan to him, could you tell?

@alt_draco at 2015-08-12 21:13:59
(no subject)

Well he kept looking at Montague, that's for sure. Not in a gooey way, just sort of constantly checking in with eye contact and such. Montague seems to encourage or reward it. Gives him a little pat or whatever. They weren't hiding it in
Montague asks everyone loads of questions, then sits back and lets everyone else talk while he listens. Finnigan doesn't talk much, though - he listens like Montague does.

@alt_rachel at 2015-08-12 20:48:52
(no subject)

Also, have you got some excuse in mind for the next time one of Faust's old lays turns up? Montague's probably not the only one he forgot to mention.

@alt_draco at 2015-08-12 21:15:59
(no subject)

Hydra said Faust was gay, but trying to suppress it. Part of the reason he was such a good subject was his lack of personal relationships, romantic or otherwise. He told me he was hoping to find a wife in Austria.

So, I suppose if someone else shows up I'll go into full on suppression mode. Definitely won't be difficult, that.

@alt_rachel at 2015-08-12 21:39:56
(no subject)

A wife? I feel sorry for the woman already.

Montague said that he knew something was off because he couldn't read you, but that otherwise you were exactly the same, except for 'entirely lacking that quiet desperation of a secret, shameful shirt-lifter.' He doesn't think we need to worry about any other lovers, or that anyone else will notice.
Yeah, doubt it's going to happen.

Montague sounds like someone who thinks himself quite funny.

Oh, he does. Always has.

I should add, just in case this isn't clear, that you may not share Jason Montague's name with anyone. You are the only active Auror who knows it, but clearly you need to, so now you do.

Alice, Sirius, and Remus also know.

Understood.

He and Finnigan are clearly an item, by the way.

Yeah? Good to know.
So you know, Mother, the reception yesterday was quite interesting. We've been invited to join in a Protectorate initiative to put New London back to rights and to ensure its security in these days when the Phoenixes continue causing so much consternation.

Basically, it boils down to noblesse oblige, and naturally one does what's needed.

So far, that's consisted of drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and an hour's small talk with a roomful of people--not only my set, but we were certainly all out for it--followed by respectful attention to an explanation of the new organisation, its mission and structure. As expected, we've been assured that quality will take top spots. In fact, I was assured that my CCF training will mean a commission at advanced rank.

That was it, apart from signing--a loyalty oath and the commitment forms.

Tomorrow, first thing, Susan and I are to go receive our commissions and first orders, and then be fitted for uniforms.

It would be a kindness, Mother, if you would invite Susan for luncheon following. I'm certain she'll be free by noon, and I've an idea I may need to do a bit of unofficial work to establish rapport... and other necessary things. In any event, she's been so wet recently, it's a strain to keep up appearances. As you're the one who thinks it necessary to make a show of things with this marriage, the least you can do is entertain her for the odd lunch.

My thanks.
Right, I have a couple of pieces of news regarding the Moons.

Karo's replied by owl. She wants to meet somewhere neutral to view the bodies. I think the Order's Albion coroner took them to the morgue we use, where they're being held with a stasis charm for the moment. I'm not sure if there's some morgue that would be a more obviously neutral location?

Meanwhile, apparently Ginny thinks our lot killed the Moons. Sounds like it's not entirely clear if she was told this explicitly or what. But I don't think we can expect them to act in good faith with us.

This got me wondering, though, assuming Evelyn was correct that Antonin Dolohov would truly like Crouch's body back...could we offer to trade it for Ginny? For Ginny ALIVE, I think we'd want to make that as clear as possible. Gathering up the remains at this point would be rather a significant risk, given the Centaurs, but if it got us Ginny back I think it would be worthwhile.

Bloody brilliant. Well, why not? Every time they want to test a lie, it seems like Ginny's become their captive audience.

Er, no pun intended.

I've a feeling Dolohov might take the bait, but, we'd need to make sure he doesn't tell any of the others about it. They'd be sure to tell him what a bad trade it is. Barty's blasted shreds of a corpse are only of value to him, not to Bella or any of the others. But if it makes getting Ginny out of Buckingham his problem and not ours, I'm all for it.
Oh, I am definitely not expecting he'd run this past Bellatrix.

He clearly had access to Ginny before his unfortunately brief death. He could probably gain access to her again.

And I'm thinking we'd make this an honest trade, not use it to trap him. So it wouldn't be bait, it would be an honest deal. Something of no value to us, for something of no value to him. We both benefit. Assuming we can get the remains out of the forest without the Centaurs killing us.

Right word, wrong context. I didn't mean 'bait' as in we'd double-cross him, I only meant that it might actually entice him to deal. Obviously we wouldn't kill him when the goal is to regain Ginny.

Although ... there's nothing to say he can't convince her to take an Unbreakable Vow or put some other sort of spell on her that will effectively make her into a living booby trap. The Vow would only kill her; some other sort of spell might take her out and whoever happens to be standing near her at the time.

I guess the question is whether we trust Dolohov's promises.

How could we convey it was genuinely meant? It was clear after talking with Evelyn that he was
absolutely furious at the trap, as expected. I doubt he'd trust even Siz at this point.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-12 18:23:51
(no subject)

Wouldn't he?

Of people who had a relationship with him -- there's Siz, Evelyn, Sally-Anne, Cedric, Justin, Pansy. Am I missing any? I think Sally-Anne was the one who approached him about returning the bodies of the Death Eater dead after the battle in May. That was done by house-elf.

The issue of him using an Unbreakable Vow to force her into sabotage is a good one, though.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-12 18:29:14
(no subject)

Here's another possibility.

Jason Montague asked for leniency for Seamus Finnigan. Exile, rather than prison. In exchange, he offered to become an Auror for Albion.

I suspect that if we offered Seamus amnesty in exchange for Jason returning Ginny safely, he'd do it. I think he'd want actual amnesty, though, and I think this would have to be fairly soon. (Amnesty with conditions, yes. Prison...I'm less sure, even if it were a comfortable prison like Patil's.)

alt_alice at 2015-08-12 19:54:05
(no subject)

With an Unbreakable Vow regarding use of the Cardinals and Dark Magic, and regular check-ins with security, I'd be willing.

It'd certainly address our concerns regarding any hidden traps Dolohov might plant.
If it isn't possible for him to get to Ginny, what then? We still want a deal.

**alt_rachel** at **2015-08-12 20:28:17**  
(no subject)

I think Jason would agree to that. It sounds as though he thinks Finnigan will go along with whatever Jason tells him; I'm not entirely sure he's correct, mind you.

**alt_rachel** at **2015-08-12 20:28:41**  
(no subject)

As for 'what then' -- do you mean regarding Ginny, or regarding Jason?

**alt_alice** at **2015-08-12 20:58:19**  
(no subject)

Both.

If Jason cannot get to Ginny at all, we wouldn't want to lose him entirely. I suppose our fallback with regards to Ginny would be Dolohov.

**alt_alice** at **2015-08-12 20:04:42**  
(no subject)

I think both are viable.

Antonin Dolohov would do just about anything to get back Crouch's remains. If we use that (Merlin help us) to get back Ginny, it might significantly burn him with his companions, and allow us to keep our person on the inside a little while longer.

Jason Montague would be more likely to deliver Ginny safely, without the need for extra precaution.

My first impulse is to see if Montague can get away with it. If he can, for the sake of basic decency, our reputation, and to preempt
Dolohov's destructive anger, I'm inclined to simply give the remains over and be done, advantage be damned.

---

**alt_rachel** at **2015-08-12 20:30:33**
(no subject)

Yes, I do think that if we persuaded Dolohov to restore Ginny to us, that would make his relationship with Bellatrix rather awkward.

I just noticed Justin sent him a PM. He'd asked permission to bait Dolohov, and I told him to go ahead, and didn't rescind the permission... I'm not getting enough sleep. Anyway, I think probably we should offer Jason the deal for Seamus, and focus on killing Dolohov, if we can.

---

**alt_alice** at **2015-08-12 20:56:50**
(no subject)

Baiting does rather make it difficult to engage in a genuine exchange.

Let's try the first avenue, then. And soon.

---

**alt_rachel** at **2015-08-12 21:06:51**
(no subject)

Right. I wrote to Jason. We'll see what he says.

---

**alt_rachel** at **2015-08-12 21:09:42**
(no subject)

I should just note, by the way -- Draco now knows that Jason is my agent, and Jason now knows that 'Faust' is my agent, due in part to Faust's failure to mention to any of us that Montague was an ex-lover.

I've kept Jason's name on a need-to-know basis but Draco certainly needed to know that he hadn't been compromised, and Jason needed to know to give Faust a wide berth.
Jason thinks he can do it.

I guess we'll have to wait and see if he's right.
So that you can be aware of how he's doing, this entry is simply to let you know that I just finished a heart-to-heart talk with Linus Moon.

I think the first shock and numbness has worn off a little, and so the grief is definitely welling up. He seemed to blink back tears at a couple of points in our conversation, although his speech was--oh, you know Linus. Perhaps it would be easier if he went ahead and let himself cry, but he is, after all, a very proud young man and--well, I've raised six boys of my own. I understand why he doesn't want to let himself go. He is very grateful for Ernie Macmillan's offer to help with any arrangements which must be made, but he's fretting about the difficulties presented by his estrangement from Karo. Understandable, certainly.

I judge he is also suffering quite a bit of agony over whatever caused the falling out with Lavender--I didn't get a clear picture of exactly what's going on there. 'The Love of the Muse must burn within the heart of a true poet like a torch when the fire of Love itself falters.' Or something.

His conversation was rather elliptical (at times downright mystifying) and kept wandering back to Arithmancy. I think his impulse is to bury himself in arithmatic calculations--but he has a most exquisite delicacy about asking you for more projects, Aurora, because 'I don't want to be a burden to her.'

Rachel, I included you because he was also fretting over other people he wanted to inform of his family's death, specifically Padma Patil. I gather they were friends. I told him quite firmly that he must obtain permission from your security personnel before making any attempt to contact her. I was worried he might argue, but instead an expression crossed his face that--oh, he seemed so very tragic and hopeless.

I don't think that he will attempt to contact anyone in defiance of Alice's latest directive, despite how brittle he is, but I just wanted to make you aware.
I do think we should keep a close eye on him. The poor young man.

Thank you, Molly. I appreciate the concern, and I'm sure he does too. (And I am certain there are things he will tell you, as a mother to someone his age, that he won't tell me, who he knows principally as a teacher.)

I had a somewhat unexpected nap, but I am now working on finding him more to lose himself in. And I was already thinking that perhaps a bit of watching the Perseids was in order (and if you know anyone else who could use a bit of meteor shower in their night, they are also welcome. Big tower, plenty of space.) Sometimes people will talk in the dark, when they wouldn't if someone was watching.

He has always found Arithmancy particularly comforting in times of distress, and I certainly have plenty of it that needs doing. I will make it very clear that he is not a burden, as well.

(And the process for getting messages cleared, should he wish. He is - mmm. Rather used to restrictions due to his lack of common sense, shall we say, but he has always obeyed once the lines were made clear.)

As to Lavender, I have gotten parts of it out of him, translating around the bits of poetry. He has been speaking with Rosemary Roche and various of the others about the plans to reconstitute Oxford, and having determined that Muggles have poetry, and are therefore people (it makes sense to him, however odd the route is), he wants to learn their poetry and how they do history, and a number of other things.

Lavender, as I understand it, declined to join him. From the things he's said, she was quite gentle with him, not cruel, but of course, he felt strongly about her (and she about him) and was already hurting, even before we got the news about his family.

Padma is rather more complicated. I'm not sure friend is quite the word I'd choose, but they were the top Ravenclaws in their year, with the mingled high standards that implies. Competition with each
other, cooperation in maintaining the standards of the house. Certainly Padma is one of his yearmates he felt closest to, for a variety of reasons.

Rachel, Alice: Linus had asked about her, a few days ago, but if there's any particular news I may pass along other than what I told him (that I had heard she was somewhere safe, but not at liberty to use her journal regularly), that might be a help.

👤 alt_sinistra at 2015-08-13 15:54:10
(no subject)

First, Alice, Linus has just had a rather interesting suggestion, about filtering some of the excess energy in the leys into some sort of storage. Is that a question for Fu Lee, or the twins, or who would you suggest? I think it's worth at least exploring.

Second, meteors were apparently the right sort of thing. We were up there rather late, and the dark was clearly helpful and "Did you see that one!" is both undemanding but not entirely solitary as a conversation. I did hear him sniffling, but didn't draw attention to it.

Molly, I was thinking about his family. His mother was a Hufflepuff, and warmer, but his father fairly rigid. (Not unkind, as some people like that are, but - high expectations, and a lot of structure, and trying to ignore things that are outside the tidy lines and numbers.) Mum offered whatever help, when I talked to her on Tuesday, but I think if you're willing to keep checking in with him, your approach might be different enough to be comforting without being too painful, if you see what I mean.
2015-08-12 18:22:00
Private message to Gardant Wreston

Tonight, 11pm.

Reports on the following:

Hartley, J.
Kennard, T.
Serle, E.
Newsome, A.
Montague, J.
Trammel, N.
Penderyn, G.A.
Knarck, C.
Quash, V.
Crick, J.
Fouret, M.

Include all Unit operations, schedules, debriefings, and miscellany.
Private message to Reynard

If you bring us Ginny Weasley, alive and unharmed, the Albion government will extend full amnesty to Seamus Finnigan, contingent on him taking an Unbreakable Vow not to use the Cardinal curses or to cast any spell with lethal intent. He will also need to check in regularly with a security person chosen by Albion MLE, and you will need to make sure he doesn't re-join the other side before the end of the war, though I imagine that should be relatively straightforward given they've made it clear he's completely disposable.

We will protect your parents and brother regardless, of course, to the best of our abilities.

On an unrelated note -- Faust is working for me and would prefer to keep his relationship with you professional at the moment. Do not share that information with Finnigan. (I don't actually think you would, but Faust specifically wanted me to make that bit clear.)

There it is. Knew something was off about him. Mostly because I couldn't read him, mind - otherwise he was exactly the same. So stiff, formal, and distant. And yet entirely lacking that quiet desperation of a secret, shameful shirt-lifter.

Didn't think he was yours. DS's, maybe.

As to Ginny, what constitutes "unharmed"? She's been severely brainwashed, you realise. I can't un-do that. But I do think I can get her, though I will need time to formulate an exit strategy.
I'm well aware of what was done to her and I don't expect you to undo it. I want her back without her being harmed any more than she has been already. Though you may have to restrain her if she realises where you're taking her.

They're going to have Ginny start working as a WWN newsreader, which I'm sure would be highly inconvenient for you. And possibly Mr Faust has told you that MLE has installed a Protectorate Security Society. Nearly everyone in New London between the ages 18-25 will be working for MLE now, in some capacity or another.

He knew something about it, but not the full details. Did anyone decline the invitation to the event yesterday? Or decline to enlist?

Declining wasn't an option. Plus, the invitation had all sorts of enticement charms layered into it. What's that thing they were doing at Hogwarts that Freddie was always talking about. YPL? CCF? It's a bit like that.
What on earth is Lana even planning to do with the flocks of society witches and lads-about-town she's forcibly recruited?

It allows her to delegate the most important tasks to the fully trained Aurors and Enforcers, while filtering less pressing tasks to the PSS.

It also puts everyone on the same team: we all fall or rise together.

I suppose time will tell if she's successful or not. I likely won't be around to find out, one way or another.

And do you think any of his other former lovers would notice the difference in Faust? Or only if they were also legilimens?

Faust? Lovers?

He was 'technically' a virgin, and I relieved him of that particular burden. Had hoped it would help him realise what he was, but possibly that wasn't the case. I've been into the club since, of course, and he was nervous that I would approach him, so I left him alone.

But I think I could only tell he was nervous because of the legilimency. Like I said, he's a formal sort of person.
Whilst *in limine* I was tasked to bear you a message. Mr Potter says, to the nearest of my ability to recall: "Stop worrying about me; I'm fine, and I'm waiting for you. We'll definitely see each other again, although there's no rush." He also bade me tell you that he left you a folded origami lion on the desk in his room.

Thus do I discharge the obligation laid upon me, having done so as swiftly as I could once memory returned, and quite frankly I don't give a damn if you believe me or not.

---

Thank you, messenger.

There. Now I've discharged my obligation, too.
I am about to proceed with Kantorowich's Least Worst regressions, and shall be sending completed parchment batches by house elf to you for verification, Evelyn, should that still be convenient. Your help has been invaluable, and I am most grateful.

Professor Siz, Evelyn and I had a conversation yesterday which is tickle-hexing the back of my brain, and as it might conceivably someday have some actual application, it behooves me to make you aware of it. We were indulging in some speculative jocularity regarding methods of dealing with the inconveniently high levels of magical energy remaining in the system, and it was suggested that removing and storing the energy would be ever so convenient. Putting it up in bottles, as it were. If anything comes to mind along those lines, we shall certainly report it to you, but I wanted to tell you now before I forgot, as I have not been in precisely the most linear and retentive frame of mind these past days.

(If it is acceptable to you, Professor Siz, Evelyn and I will confer here under Private Message until the point at which we have anything to report which warrants your full attention. I believe this to be an efficient and convenient method of keeping the discussion in one place, which increases the chance I can find it when I look for it again. My thanks.)

Thank you, both, and of course it's perfectly fine to discuss here.

I'll be in and out of various places in the tower today. I'm working on some notes for Septima, mostly, but either of you, please snag me if you want anything.

More meteors tonight, if the weather holds? And I've a few ideas I'd like to run by you tonight or tomorrow, Linus.
And I have just passed the idea about storing the excess energy along. I don't know if anything will come of it, but do continue to explore any thoughts about it, to give people a running start if anyone wants to pursue it.

I realise I've been rather wrapped up in things lately, and that you've been having a difficult time of it.

Apologies.

Is there anything I can do?

Nothing to apologise for, honestly. (And I've been feeling I've not been as helpful to you or other people as I ought, for that matter, for which I apologise.)

Part of it is that I was throwing myself into the wards work, and it meant I didn't have to think about other things, and now there's space for that, and it all hit me like a bludger. Several bludgers.

The other part is something I ought to have mentioned much earlier, which is that finishing any kind of big project like this, there's often a feeling of let down, like the world dropping out from under your feet.

I rather think it's worse when it's involved both the world literally shifting under one's feet, and the levels of magic we've been around. I'm sure it will make a fascinating research analysis when we're not so bruised by it all.
Anyway. Take time to do things you enjoy, the follow up work on the wards is important, but not nearly as urgent unless we start seeing unexpected results. And I'm trying to do the same. And if you'd like to talk about some entirely not practical projects to spend a little time with, maybe that would be good for both of us. Or some more observing, now we've got the specialised telescopes to play with again.

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-13 15:49:54  
(no subject)

Of course! I'll be around all day. That sounds like just the thing.

alt_linus at 2015-08-13 17:33:57  
(no subject)

There should be an elf with parchments for you. I do hope the colour-coding survived Duplio with sufficient vividness. The indications for rebalancing into a state of magical stability and, most crucially, the possibility of repeated adjustment or dismantling without catastrophe seem much more favourable here. I shall begin another run immediately.

Temporal components still fiddly.

Watching meteors is oddly soothing. Perhaps we could set everyone to doing it.

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-13 18:10:18  
(no subject)

The stress test iterations I went through with Scansell's certainly allow for that, quite reasonably so.

The colours turned out quite well.

As far as the temporal bits go -- I think perhaps tying it in more explicitly with the solstice as well as monthly cycles is required. Sort of a nested approach, if you follow?
We might have an open invitation tonight, if you wouldn't mind some company. I'll post fliers at dinner if you're amenable?

Please do.
Private Message to Mrs Longbottom and Auror Brodie

Mrs Longbottom,

I hate to bother you, since I know you've got a great many potions on the boil right now, but I was wondering:

Do you know if the people Padma Patil is staying with have given her back her journal, and if so would you mind if I wrote to her?

Linus wants to give her the news about his family--and this is something I can do for him right now.

Also, I'd just like to talk to her. Not about anything politically sensitive, but just about everyday things.

And while I'm on the topic of letters, I'd like to write to my eldest brother, Diocletian. I heard about that Protectorate Defense thing on the wireless and I'd like to find out if my family's been pulled into it. Dio's very nearly 30, but my middle brother Tiberius is just the sort who'd think it a prime lark. I was going to tell Dio that they might be safer if Mum & Dad pretended to disinherit me--although, given everything, it's not impossible that they'd disinherit me for real.

Sincerely,

Lavender Brown

---

alt_alice at 2015-08-13 15:42:49 (no subject)

Lavender --

Thank you for writing me. Goodness knows, this sort of business is a painful one when families and friends end up on either side of things. I'm sorry to hear about your family concerns.

After my parents were killed by Death Eaters, back before the Protectorate, my brother Roger... well, he rather blamed my political
leanings, and left for Europe with his family. We haven't spoken since. So I know something of what it's like, in a small way.

I think both of those things sound imminently practical. Keep in mind that you just have to run the text by another set of eyes to make sure you haven't missed anything that might be sensitive -- it makes it rather difficult to be truly private, I understand that, but the people who'll be looking will be mainly trying to see if there are particular bits that might be a problem that you might not realise are important, and won't be as concerned with monitoring the basic content of your messages -- given what you're talking about, it'll most likely be that nothing would be at issue at all, and your writing these people and your sharing news with them on the whole is something you are certainly free to do any time you'd like, as long as you pop it round to have another set of eyes on it first.

I'm very much hoping this is an extremely temporary measure -- and am planning to work very hard to get to the point where we don't have to think about what we say and to whom. But this Protectorate Defence business does add a wrinkle in things, doesn't it? Especially as so many young people who were a few years ahead of you in school seem to be wrapped up in it.

Thank you for writing me, Lavender. And may I say, I am so very deeply grateful that you are here, and working alongside us.

---

alt_alice at 2015-08-13 18:03:11
(no subject)

And to clarify, dear, in the future, you only have to run any messages you wish to send by the security team -- there's no need to ask for permission first.

And yes, Padma is certainly able to read and write in her journal under supervision -- I suppose she hasn't had many people write her at all lately, and while she has company, I'd imagine it would be a great kindness were you to take the opportunity.
Go ahead and write to Padma, Lavender. She's closely monitored and can't write in her journal without supervision anyway, so even if you slip and let her know something she shouldn't, she won't be able to pass it on.

I've got a couple of Enforcers doing these security checks now, they're in the office marked 'Communication Checks' a few doors down from me, you should be able to just stop in.

Also, I think she can have visitors, if you're so inclined -- talk to Haruman Patil if you want to go see her.

Thanks very much for getting back to me about this. Auror Brodie--thanks for letting me know I can visit; I didn't realise that. I guess I'll see how the writing goes first.
2015-08-13 13:28:00
Order Only Private Message to Alice, Remus and Auror Brodie

I've received a rather odd owl. I think it was intended for me anyway. She was hopping around outside the fidelius zone. We checked for spells, took the note and sent her on her way. It was addressed to "C". It was full of quidditch news and a bunch of in jokes from the Hufflepuff quidditch team. I'm trying to decipher the quidditch parts because it seems off. Other parts are out and out wrong, rubbish like Lannic and "Razz" making plays together, but they never played for the Falcons at the same time. The note's signed Vulcan ß. Not a nickname I'm familiar with, but that plus the Hufflepuff and quidditch stuff makes me think it's from Heph and that he's in some sort of trouble and asking for help. I'd like to come up to the castle so I can show you, then talk with Linus and look at some of his notes to see if I can figure out what he's saying.

alt_alice at 2015-08-13 18:12:25
(no subject)

Of course.

We'll be prepping our team for Ireland over the next day or so, so there is nothing terribly time-sensitive in Dover at the moment.
I saw you wrote to Dolohov.

I wrote to him when I thought he was dead. I wasn't very

Did he write back to you? (I assume you actually had authorisation, unlike Evelyn. And me, but I really did think he was dead. They said he was dead!)

---

Sally-Anne,

Yes, he wrote back. I made certain he would do, if you follow me. Rachel asked me to goad him, the way Hydra led Crouch to fight her.

I'm currently in the process of trying different tactics, what, to see what will cause him to grow impatient, bored or angry with me.

The result was - perhaps not as satisfying as one might have hoped. Though it's notable that he's attempting to play similar games with me.

-Justin

He didn't write back to me. I wasn't trying to goad him, though I did tell him that -- well, it doesn't matter.

Did you go to that memorial service Cedric was organising?

I didn't.
No. I most certainly did not. In fact if I'd been less distracted by keeping an eye out for Hydra's posts to Crouch, I might have told him exactly what I thought of how ludicrous the suggestion was.

Perhaps it's useful that I felt no urge to pour out my heart to his sainted memory, or I couldn't now make him believe I'm a threat. If I can make him believe it, what. Thus far I'm still a gnat in his ear, or perhaps more accurately an adorable pet he can tease and indulge.

And as for Cedric, Sinistra and the others--I say, Sally-Anne, I know he did you a service, arranging that internship, but am I really alone in understanding that every kindness he extended to any of us, including Sinistra, was merely to line his shelves with people he thought would be useful to him? Oh, it was all in the best light possible, to be sure, but he looked on none of us with unconditional affection. One need only look at what he did to Ginny--or what he led Crouch to do to all those people - to know that.

For all we know, their 'prayers' for him are part of what kept him tied to his physical body long enough to claw his way back from Hell. Which is where he and Crouch belong.

And Evelyn--Hydra was livid, I don't mind telling you. So was I, if it comes to that. If she hadn't acted so precipitously we might have been able to reveal Crouch's location to him in a more effective manner. As it is, he--

Oh, I say. Dash it. I think I've just put together something he said.

What? You mean in his reply to you?
Yes. Dash it.

The moment I heard what Evelyn had done I recommended a concealed perimeter round Crouch's remains. I got to the Forest myself, as quickly as possible, in case he made an attempt to recover them.

Then in his reply he said, 'I cannot be fooled more than once.' I thought it odd at the time but let it go, what. I thought it was another of his little games.

But now I think he might have come after all, and seen something that warned him off.

Dash it. I shall have to ask Evelyn if he mentioned it.

-Justin

Anyway, yes. He wanted me to become a Healer because he wanted to have a Healer who was in his debt, because that way he'd feel like he could trust me to have his best interests in mind.

You know, though, it was pretty flattering that he actually thought I'd be useful to him, given how many professors just wrote me off altogether because my mother was muggleborn.

And I enjoyed his company. I enjoyed talking about books with him. And other things. I miss th

I don't know. I mean on one hand, having a memorial service to pray for him felt wrong. Or at least, I didn't want to do it. In that message I wrote him I said 'good luck with the afterlife' and that was as much of a prayer as I wanted to write (that's sort of what prayers for the dead really ARE, though, aren't they? 'good luck with the afterlife! hope you get a nice one!' only poetically).
Especially given how many people in the Order were mourning for friends and family due to Barty effing Crouch.

On the other hand, I guess my feelings are complicated. I know he's my enemy. But he was an enemy I was fond of for a long time. Ron -- doesn't miss Savitha Desai at all but he does miss that she was one of the only people who ever treated him as special. Like he was worth cultivating. She saw his worth. The Order didn't, exactly, for a long time, I mean that was sort of true for all of us, they just saw us as kids.

I don't know.

He cultivated fondness, it's true. He counted on endearing people to him. Everything I've heard about Riddle, early on, was the same. Riddle also drew people to him and seduced them with the idea that they were essential.

The only prayers I said at the time were in thanks that he was gone. And those, it seems, were not received well.

I'm jolly well sorry it's complicated for you. I do understand the feeling you describe and I can't deny that I felt it, from time to time, when I was studying under him. I expected it, but it repulsed me at the same time.

Perhaps it's different because I was the only one of us who deliberately chose to use his own schemes against him.

-Justin

Maybe it's because he wanted you to do things you found morally appalling.

I could have been a Healer for Death Eaters without much moral compromise. The oath says that I will never see any patient as anything but a fellow creature in pain.
It doesn't say I have to be an idiot (Seamus Finnigan tried to get me to come heal Rosier during the May Battle and no, I wasn't going to go put myself at Finnigan's mercy) but even without a debt, if I were a Healer and Dolohov were my patient, I'd be required to help him.

He wasn't trying to turn you into a Healer, though. Far from. And you might be rather good at assassinating people but I can't imagine that's what you said you wanted to be when you grew up, back when you were six. (Not that I wanted to be a Healer when I was six, but you know what I mean.)

And argh, speaking of being a Healer, I'm supposed to go in early tonight to do the Potions inventory before my shift starts. And I haven't eaten or anything. This night shift business is for the birds. The nocturnal sort of birds.

Anyway good luck baiting him. I think he'd be a lot harder to bait than B.
2015-08-13 17:34:00
Order Only: Private message to Draco

Saw Dolohov wrote to you. What did he want?

alt_rachel

alt_draco at 2015-08-13 22:44:14
(no subject)

Transcription:

Whilst in limine I was tasked to bear you a message. Mr Potter says, to the nearest of my ability to recall: “Stop worrying about me; I’m fine, and I’m waiting for you. We’ll definitely see each other again, although there’s no rush.” He also bade me tell you that he left you a folded origami lion on the desk in his room.

Thus do I discharge the obligation laid upon me, having done so as swiftly as I could once memory returned, and quite frankly I don’t give a damn if you believe me or not.

alt_draco at 2015-08-13 22:45:13
(no subject)

My reply:

Thank you, messenger.

There. Now I've discharged my obligation, too.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-13 22:49:07
(no subject)

Thank you. That sounds entirely personal, then. Let me know if he adds anything that might be of concern to the Order.
Evelyn,

By any chance, when Dolohov wrote to you on Monday, was he cross?

Did he say anything that might have indicated he'd been to the Forbidden Forest?

-F-F

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-14 02:08:23
(no subject)

He seemed cross. He knew there was a trap. He said,

'Did you think I would be so overcome in my grief as to not notice the ambush?

Who ordered you to do it, to bait the trap with such a lure? I refuse to believe the idea was yours; you do not have the viciousness it would require. Your mother's, perhaps, if she did not believe the disposition of your brother's body was no idea of mine, nor would I have allowed it? Finch-Fletchley, who knows full well what the burial of the dead signifies to me? Rachel Brodie, to avenge her parents? Diggory, perhaps, or Parkinson, or Perks, or even Auri -- she certainly would know. Or Hydra Lestrange, having read the truth from the mind of one of the others, precisely the way her mother might have?

Or was the idea planted upon you in secret, and you made to think the message-bearing was your idea and the heart of your heart used to betray you, while you are left to suffer remonstrances for your compassion issued by those who claim themselves to be dwelling upon the moral high ground?

Tell your masters I am not such a fool as to walk into their arms, no matter the provocation.'
And

I know Hydra isn't feeling particularly

There's a difference between intention and execution. I ought to have talked to someone about it first. I just thought

After Tonks and Draco said what they did, and mum didn't say anything, no-one else did either, that they wouldn't

Anyways. She was right to be angry with me. And I am very sorry.

I've no particular need for an apology, Evelyn, when the deed is done. If anything it's my fault for not asking you before opening dialogue with him.

In any event, thank you for the information.

-F-F
Blast.

He did come to the Forest, and we missed him. I just found out about it. I wish--

I feel I'm going about this business all the wrong ways. Blundering like a bull in a china shop.

Is it too late to come up to see you? Well, we'll see if they don't let me in.

I need to ask you more questions about what happened in the Forest. I'm sorry; I know you'd probably rather not discuss it. If it weren't necessary I wouldn't press.

-J
2015-08-14 08:02:00
Private Message to M Grosbeak

You're late. Expect this means you've been waylaid by Phoenixes, savaged, and left in a rubbish tip to die miserably.

alt_lana

alt_lana at 2015-08-14 12:13:10
(no subject)

You have two minutes.

Need the day's schedule. Briefing packets for meetings with new 'officers'. Tea and digestives.

alt_lana at 2015-08-14 12:14:47
(no subject)

One minute.
2015-08-14 11:44:00
Private Message to Evelyn

The elf should have appeared with what I believe is the final iteration of Kantorowich's Least Worst. It looks oddly favourable, though perhaps that is only when it is compared with the disasters and anomalies in the earlier runs, before certain components were adjusted for accuracy.

I shall be speaking with Siz for a bit, and then if you'd care to meet and discuss a bit, I believe I have further thoughts on putting magical energy up in bottles, of all things. We can meet at your convenience, if it is, er, convenient.

alt_linus at 2015-08-14 18:52:52
(no subject)

Actually, as it turns out, I need to pen a short missive and then take a nap. I shall be back in the land of the waking at some point before mealtime, I am reasonably certain, and perhaps we can discuss at that time.

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-14 19:07:16
(no subject)

Of course. That sounds like it would fit my plans for the day rather well.
Thank you for putting an end to the person who killed my family.

If there is aught the house of Moon, though sadly dwindled! may do to support you and yours, please know that you have but to ask.

Sincerely,
Linus Moon

I'm sorry that I assumed he'd moved on from your family to his next target - that was a mistake on my part. I was trying to move quickly. Had no choice but to do, really.

I was not aware of that aspect of the situation, but I am certain that you acted with all prudent despatch and for the good of all.

Yes, I was checking up on the other school governors after Mrs Rickett was found. For all appearances it looked as if your parents were on holiday and Bar Crouch had moved on, which I was very relieved to see.

I still haven't any idea how he discovered where they were at. And now I suppose we'll never know.
The family almost always goes to the same cottage, and my mother always leaves a note for the neighbor with Floo information next to the cat food.
2015-08-14 14:29:00  
Order Only: Private message to Frank Longbottom

Dad?

Mum's trying not to, but she's really fretting. Especially since it sounded like things aren't exactly calm there.

Check in, yeah? Please?

alt_frank at 2015-08-15 05:30:55  
(no subject)

sorry, kiddo.

got a bit hung up.
2015-08-14 20:33:00
Private Message to Capt B Zabini

As adjutant to Cmdr Braithewaite, you'll be liaising with MLE. In addition to your attendance on him, accompanying him to all briefings and any other meetings for which he may require your assistance, you will meet daily with me. Assume you will have a similar standing appointment with Broome. Information sharing, agenda setting, schedule coordination, troubleshooting, etc.

I've told Cmdr Braithewaite that I'll expect to see you each morning at 7 o'clock and that he may rely on our meetings taking no more than an hour. Generally less.

To start things on the right footing, I'll require your attendance tomorrow morning. My assistant, Minotaur Grosbeak, will be hand-delivering a dossier of materials with which you'll need to have familiarised yourself. Expect him shortly.

@alt_blaise at 2015-08-15 01:32:07
(no subject)

Yes, of course.
checking in.

apologies for not doing so sooner.

got picked up by IMA security early yesterday morning. were stripped of wands, weapons, and journal. questioned for twelve straight hours. after hour twelve, they switched to requests for testimony about what's been going on in Great Britain, and any known information about Order and Protectorate activity in Ireland. suppose that's when they started believing us. got a bit more cosy after that. still, just now got my hands on quill and ink.

we've been told our testimony will be passed along to the United Nations, so we've tried to be as thorough as possible without leaking something we'd regret Bellatrix learning about just in case. damn sorry the first they're hearing of things has to be from the likes of me, sam, and bob, but there we go. did our best.

we've managed to negotiate clearance for a team of diplomats to come over. tried to smooth the path as well as we could, but didn't promise them anything concrete. recommend whoever is coming bring a substantial financial gift to help with rebuilding efforts. assume any team will be a mix of muggle and magical -- that really saved our arses. the team will have a security detail accompany them to Dublin after landing -- non-negotiable, but they told us it was for the team's protection as well as national security. use the same place we came ashore.

they're putting us up in a hotel, but it's clear we won't be going for a stroll without supervision any time soon, and I expect wands will stay in their hands for the time being. been without mine before, I'll manage. hope they'll let me keep this, though. the rest of the team is in good shape, holding up fairly well. we'll join up with the diplomatic team once they get here, I expect.
alt_evelyn at 2015-08-15 04:27:03
(no subject)

Oh, Dad.

I'm very glad you're all right.

alt_frank at 2015-08-15 04:40:25
Private Message to Evie

course I am.

how about you, sweetie?

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-15 05:29:06
Re: Private Message to Evie

I feel excessively foolish. And embarrassed. And I miss you horribly.

alt_frank at 2015-08-15 05:30:09
Re: Private Message to Evie

miss you too, evie.

and love you. no matter what.

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-15 05:46:38
Re: Private Message to Evie

I love you too.

alt_alice at 2015-08-15 04:30:00
Private Message to Frank

Thank goodness.

How rough were they while they were 'picking you up', and during those first twelve hours?
And how angry do I need to be at Bridget?

alt_frank at 2015-08-15 04:35:25
Re: Private Message to Frank

they were on their best behaviour.

just bloody tiring.

I'm getting too damn old for this sort of thing.

alt_frank at 2015-08-15 04:36:56
Re: Private Message to Frank

and this way, we got an audience right off.

should send her some roses. big basket of jams.

alt_alice at 2015-08-15 04:39:37
Re: Private Message to Frank

I shall do no such thing.

I'm very glad they let you have your journal back.

One step at a time, I suppose. And we got our side of the story out there, right when we needed to. Thank you.

Oh, Frank. You come back just as soon as you can.

alt_frank at 2015-08-15 04:41:17
Re: Private Message to Frank

I'll do my best, love.
checking in.

Good.

Our diplomatic team is expected to arrive first thing tomorrow, love.

It's clear the French governments are speaking to "les Nations Unies". The French Auror corps has contacts with the French muggle military and they are in communication with "le Conseil de sécurité des Nations Unies". If we talk about Albion, it seems like the muggles often can't remember the last conversation. However, the conversations about Ireland no longer have that problem. I don't know if the pieces of the international bureaucracy in Ireland and the pieces we've talked to through Calais are related or not. Mademoiselle Mazure is not taking point on the Ireland issues. She's very motivated.
2015-08-15 06:35:00
Private Message to Lt R Vaisey

Expect I'll see you this afternoon at the training exercises, but who really knows until we're a bit further into all this. I've got to dance attendance on L S-P this morning. Have been up for hours, reading a mass of things she insisted will be necessary, but only bothered to send round last night. Suppose it's my own fault for not having got a day job they'd want me continuing in like yours. Then it would just be the weekend exercises and standing by for necessary call-outs.

At any rate, I've got full employment now as adjutant to Br Cmdr Braithewaite. And, really, it may suit me. Who knows. Not especially the part where I start every day with Herself. Maybe she'll hatch the sprog soon? You'd know better than I do how close she is.

Say, if you've not got plans already, Susan and I would like to have you and Lizzie round here for drinks and supper this evening. Half-six. Well, assuming they let us limp away from this afternoon's business by then.
After discussing the note with Linus to check historical quidditch data, I think I know what he's trying to say. Siz also provided some of his old essays to compare handwriting to help confirm that it's authentic. I can't make head or stick of the jokes as anything other than confirmation that it's him and intended for me.

I'm positive he's in trouble and can't leave New London (the trouble's obvious, lots of cages and odd mentions of London). The errors in the old quidditch news all seem to fit together. We're fairly confident that he'll be at the Pickled Hawk Pub (talk of the Falcons playing while 'sauced'), which is a block over from the Lethifolds stadium (the non-existent games they played were all against the Lethifolds) on August the 17th at half eight (mistaken dates and the score was 800-30). He's tangled up with Lana (the mentions of Lannic 'playing' with Raz appear to be talking about her, right sort of name, playing with one of the Lestrange brothers. Implied that the 'playing' was sexual and wrong), tangled up with Lana can only really mean he's bee caught up in their new security force.

I'd like to help him, both personally and because turning part of the Bobolis clan would help sway another prominent 'neutral' family. However, I'm pretty sure it wouldn't be a good idea for me to go to New London, but I don't know who he'd trust that we trust enough to meet and negotiate with him.

Where do we fly from here?

---

New London is not actually good territory for anyone in Albion MLE. I'll see what we can do, but I'm reluctant to have any of my people take the risk of meeting him. (I'm sorry, I know he's your friend, but he's had months now that he could have made the choice to come to us.)

If he's only willing to talk to you this is definitely a non-starter. You
can't go. Someone PJ'd as you might pass on distant inspection but they're not going to convince a good friend of yours that they're really you.

alt_alice at 2015-08-17 05:17:42
(no subject)

I agree, it's risky.

Rachel -- might Cedric look into sending a reply? What sort of information might Cedric send along or request that Mr Bobolis provide that could move us forward in a useful way here?

alt_cedric at 2015-08-18 20:38:08
(no subject)

I've sent a return owl suggesting that we meet outside the city and that he needs to bring an amazing trade. I offered a few pubs near other quidditch pitches and some times later in the week.

We'll see what he returns with.

I fully understand the security concerns, but I think the potential rewards are large enough that we should pursue this. Along with Heph, do we have a contact in the more extended family that we might be able to use to move them all fully to our side?
One of the Healers here has been so kind as to inquire for me about plans to release the bodies of my family, and I have been informed that Ptolemy Baddock has asked for and received them. I have heard nothing from Mr Baddock, nor indeed anything from my own sister Karo, his wife, and I am tormented with worry, foolish though it may be, that some evil has befallen her as well. I write to all of you, as all of you have in some capacity or other helped me get through these difficult days.

Is Karo being held incommunicado somewhere? I know she has been colder to her family ever since her marriage, but this seems beyond the pale even for her.

Have they decided upon a funeral and not informed me?

Have they already had a funeral and not informed me?

I cannot go off to the stronghold of the erstwhile Protectorate and confront my sister. I cannot go to the family home as I do not know whether it would be even safe for me to go. Or indeed what point there might be in going there or anywhere else. And in any case Hydra has already wreaked

Other than in the realm of Arithmancy, all is unclear to me and I know not where my duties toward my family, my honour, and toward Albion (if she will continue to have me) may lie.

I am frankly at a loss. My soul cries out in anguish, soothe it however I may with work. What ought I do??

It is perhaps a fortunate thing that Hydra has already put paid to the matter of vengeance, as I do not think a duel between myself and that wretch Crouch would have been advisable. I assume that the two of you, not to mention the weight of Albion's planners in general, would find it
just as inadvisable for me to take up quill and inscribe a freezing missive to Prof Dolohov, holding him responsible for what his comrade and, if it be reported aright, chosen family member has done, and offering him my utter lack of condolences.

@alt_ernie at 2015-08-16 22:14:14
(no subject)

That's awful, mate. Right cold of him, if you ask me.

I don't know how to sort out the stuff about your sister, or whether they had a funeral already or not.

I do think that if you'd want to have a memorial here, we could do that. There are people who knew your mum and dad, and who knew the twins at school, who'd come.

As far as the house goes, there might be some pictures or personal things that you'd like to keep. You never know. If Baddock's not being reasonable, it might be a good idea to go now and see if there's anything you'd want before he pulls anything else. Maybe he could go for a quick visit with a security detail, Auror Brodie? Hell, Linus, you could make a list of things you think you'd want, and send me round to fetch them for you.

And with all of this, you could end up deciding you'd rather not, which is okay too.

And no matter what, you've got people here who'll help you, and who care about you. So there's that.

@alt_ernie at 2015-08-16 22:22:46
(no subject)

And mate, I know not everyone's sticking around Hogwarts forever. But that's not something that has to be sorted today. So you can just take that particular weight off your back for the time being.

Once it does need to be sorted, maybe we can look for a flat or something, yeah?

Don't know if you've got other plans, but the offer's there. Just so you know.
Oh, Linus. How awful.

I'm so sorry to hear it.

Perhaps you ought to write Karo? Through the proper security channels, of course. At the very least, it might help start to address some of your questions.

You're not alone in feeling like the future is a thing of uncertainty. After all, we're sort of in the process of creating it, aren't we? We'll just have to muddle through it as best we can, together.

There aren't any easy answers to your last question, Linus.

But please do know that Albion will always have a place for bright young people working to make a better future, and that what you have been doing is incredibly valued and worth while.

I lost my parents to an act of violence when I was only a few years older than you are now. I know a little of what you might be feeling now -- the sense of being adrift and uprooted. You have my deepest sympathies, and if there's anything we can do to provide you support in the immediate future, or, indeed, in the coming months and years, we will do our best to be there for you.

I'm so very sorry for your loss.

I was sorry to miss you last evening, but wanted you to know that I've returned to the castle for the afternoon and will be in the hospital wing should you wish to stop in.
**2015-08-16 22:19:00**

**ORDER ONLY**

checking in.

team is here.

progress slow, but steady. notice-me-not damn frustrating when working with muggles from UN, but the people from ireland aren't impacted by it. not yet, at least.

wand still confiscated. temperature decidedly less frosty, however. expect they managed to track down a few people to corroborate Order activities in Ireland.

apologies for brevity, we've been orienting the diplomatic team, and are well knackered, but otherwise fine.

---

**alt_alice** at **2015-08-17 06:36:49**

(no subject)

Good to hear, love.

Thank you.

---

**alt_frank** at **2015-08-18 06:19:05**

(no subject)

check.

slow and steady.
Figured it out yet?

Пионеры не боятся волков.

Trying to taunt me? I'll get to you when I've time, старик. Until then you can continue to lick your wounds.

Don't pretend that's not what you're doing. Of course you are. Nursing the hurt. Your Russian soul craves legacy, but you've none left. We are all turning away. You are alone. Linus sees the truth about you, now; you've seen to it yourself that little Evelyn's eyes have been opened, as well. Even Diggory called you a monster.

I say, in spite of the fact that Evelyn and Cedric both were also playing you, as I was, you briefly managed to impress them with your charm. But where once they might have defended you--after seeing you as I have seen you--as I have always seen you, what--they are your champions no longer. You see, that's the problem with mentoring others only for what good they might do you. Eventually, you cannot hide your motives. And every one of them jolly well resents you for it. Rightfully so.

You ought to have given up when we were waiting for you. Someone might have been willing to plead clemency, under the circumstances. Or let you leave with his body. Instead you ran and hid. You're still hiding, aren't you? It's certainly not like you to slink away from a fight.

But perhaps you were already feeling less than your best. Too tired to maintain a proper disillusionment, truly? Were your old wounds bothering you? Were you missing all the other comrades who have already slithered away, or died, or abandoned you?

Or was your concentration failing because you knew how beyond the pale your false son's plan was? For all your protestation that power is
only there for using, you knew that there are some acts too despicable for any wizard to commit. You knew there was no coming back from creating that army of abominations.

So, was it Divine punishment, losing him? Losing all of your disciples? Losing everything you hold dear? What are your gods trying to tell you, воспитатель?

Kind of you to worry, but you are correct: I'm not a bit afraid of wolves, thank you. I know exactly what they look like sliced open.

If you, on the other hand, are not too frightened or grief-stricken to leave Cottesmore, there's a token of my regard for you and Madame Lestrange in Millingford, on Prospero Lane. Number 3.

-F-F
Whilst you're out, stop by Harrods Food Hall and bring me a box of their candied blackberries.

Be quick about it.

And don't let Braithewaite's staff keep you waiting again today. (Tell Zabini he'll regret it.) I don't care what else they've got brewing; my request takes precedence.

Where are you?

If you want to have a position beyond this afternoon, you'll be here inside twenty minutes, and you'll have one of Madam Maplethorpe's truffle pasties, still piping hot, for me when you arrive. And a pint of lemon-basil water.

Fail in that, and you'll join Grosbeak on permanent 'holiday'.

2015-08-17 10:22:00
*Private Message to M Snood*

2015-08-17 17:28:35
(no subject)
You and Karo free tomorrow night? I've got a bottle of clicquot that needs drinking.

Forgive the short notice, but I've only just learned that it will likely be the only evening that Seamus and I have free this week (at the same time, at least). We were thinking of taking dinner at my flat. Buckingham has it's endearing qualities but every now and then a little quiet doesn't go amiss.

Oh, and if you can make it, do bring Ginny Weasley. Seamus has been a bit concerned about her. Both Gryffindors, you know, and he didn't get along with her brother. I think he wonders if, now that Antonin Dolohov has made himself rather scarce, she won't suffer some kind of 'backslide' into her old ways of thinking. I've assured him you have her well in hand, but an actual face-to-face interaction would probably put his concerns to rest. And who knows, it may do her some kind of good to socialise with a former school-mate who knows the right way of things.

Tomorrow. Tomorrow just might be all right, if I don't have a queue of new Security pups asking to be transferred to anyone other than dear Lana.

In fact, an evening away from Buckingham would probably do Karo a world of good, as well. We buried her family Saturday, you know--private ceremony was what we decided would be best. Avoid the whole question of how and who. I don't want her talking to that idiot brother of hers, even if it might furnish an opportunity to use him to reel in larger fish. We'll cross that T when the ink is dry and not before. Then all day yesterday was spent in cleaning out and closing up the home (and setting appropriate alarms and traps if anyone should come calling). Karo's about ready to snap the head off anyone who looks at her with too much sympathy.

A quiet dinner might suit her to the ground. As for Gin, thanks for including her but she's adjusting to her new role at the WWN and I've got her on a strict regimen. Early to bed, early rise, that sort of
thing. Why is Finnigan so concerned? I've got her right where we need her, never fear. Even with all the disruptions on Karo's side.

alt_jason at 2015-08-17 18:12:03
(no subject)

We have to get up early the next morning as well. I don't expect it to go terribly late. And if Karo's sick of sympathy, well, she won't find much of it from me. Not that I'm not sympathetic--I just have it on good authority that I'm rather shit at expressing it in any way that comes across as earnest.

As for "Gin," I reckon it's because he's (practically? actually?) the only Gryffindor from his own year who didn't throw in with the Phoenixes in one way or another. It was him who sussed out that Longbottom was a traitor, then it turned out that a whole load of the rest of them were traitors, too. I'm not sure he really believes that someone like Ginny Weasley can really be changed. He might think she's just putting on a good act.

Can't say he's wrong to wonder.

alt_ptolemy at 2015-08-17 18:21:12
(no subject)

The only one who's still alive, anyway. We'll never know if Thomas would have made good. But you've got a point.

Let's say you're not the only one who can foster loyalty in a young and eager conquest. I'd wager her devotion is just as intense as his. Perhaps more, shall we say, desperate, but by now I believe it's fairly unshakable.

Or could it be that you're bored already and looking to change things up?
I'll admit to idle curiosity, but I hadn't thought to try to change things up until you mentioned it.

Really, you shouldn't plant ideas in my head like that.

But no--even if such a thing were on offer, Seamus wouldn't like it, and I've got an interest in keeping him comfortable right now.

Also, it turns out I've got a possessive streak. Looks like I'm not the only one.

Indeed. One could perhaps say we've both got some capital invested in our young charges.

Well, all right. You're correct that she craves company nearer her own age. I suppose she deserves a formal celebration of her first few days on the job. Why not? I'll find out if she'd like to come along.

Sounds good. Half six? Like I said, we'll have an early morning the day next here, too.
2015-08-17 18:29:00
A puzzle

s m a i s m r m i l m e p o e t a l e u m i b u n e n u g t t a u i r a s

(Various notes follow)

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-17 22:32:02
Private message to Linus and Evelyn

A puzzle for you both, but I figured I might as well be opaque and confusing in public, and see if I could get the other side to waste time on it before I did a series of other notes. (It does not reveal anything that we have not known for a century or two, but I'm curious to see if either of you two can solve it without looking it up.)

Just checking in - I've some more pleasant arithmancy for you, if you'd like, or not, if you don't. I'm very pleased with the work you've done so far, and it's at least reassuring, largely, that we don't seem likely to have other difficulties, just have a slow shift.

I was thinking I might do a little observation tonight (some locational calculations I'd like to try several ways around) if either of you would like to help with that. Quite possible there will be some lingering meteors, too.

Gilly's about done with her review of the school telescope charms, and she offered to give both of you the highly detailed lecture if you'd like, at some agreeable time.

alt_linus at 2015-08-18 02:14:28
Re: Private message to Linus and Evelyn

If there is still observation planned for tonight, I am in fact available. Possible meteors as bonus sounds fine as well.
alt_sinistra at 2015-08-18 02:15:47
Re: Private message to Linus and Evelyn

Do come up. I've just finally finished my note to Septima.

You sound like you need some stars.

alt_linus at 2015-08-18 02:25:20
Re: Private message to Linus and Evelyn

Stars are different to Arithmancy, but they are fully as good for certain applications, I must admit.

(There, Professor, a testimonial to your instruction and your efforts to broaden us beyond our habitual paths of endeavour, appreciation, and understanding!)

I shall bring the cat back on my way up, and thank you again for the loan of him.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-18 02:30:17
Re: Private message to Linus and Evelyn

You may not remember so far back, Linus, but my lecture to the first years, the thing I try to say every year.

That the night sky is beautiful. That I hope everyone, whatever else they learn and forget, or never learn at all, can look up and appreciate it, and understand that the world is vast and complicated, and yet there are patterns and movements we can learn to understand if we're patient and pay enough attention.

And sometimes, I just like that the stars are very far away, and - meteors excepted, and a few other things - don't change very quickly at all.

But yes. I also have more arithmancy for you. As much arithmancy as you want.
alt_evelyn at 2015-08-18 04:53:42  
Re: Private message to Linus and Evelyn

It almost looks like bits of Latin, but not quite making up proper words. I got as far as something about a University violating anger or somesuch, but the rest of it doesn't.

Oooh. I might have to do some rearranging.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-17 22:37:54  
Order Only: Private message to Alice, Remus, and Rachel

The above is an old astronomical anagram: it says nothing more complicated than "Saturn has rings" (though with slightly more words and in Latin.)

On the other hand, I figure being a little obscure might make someone on the other side spend their time on that, and not something more difficult.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-17 22:55:19  
Order Only: Private message to Poppy

Poppy,

It is an entirely good thing you did not give my cats that toy until after the wards work was mostly done. I keep stopping to watch them.

(I'm quite sure my sister will want one too - you said it was Adiaphoron Entwhistle, in Alnwick? Did I tell you that Sage has been staying with Diane and Chiron for the last month or two? Her job in New London let her go, and besides, security and all. So distractions to keep her cats occupied and off the dog, much appreciated. Diane's still - well, difficult. Distractions for her, much appreciated, too, and I haven't been able to do much beside stay well away and not make things worse.)

There's something about the way it rolls and the tail twitches, and then exactly how long it stops and teases them with the light, before it rolls off again. Not quite predictable, but not startling, either.
I've been thinking about the soothing properties of cats, actually. (I've been handing Linus one of them, at intervals, and he does find it comforting.) On my list, for if we ever get bored, years from now, research into the effects of familiars on various factors and the well-being of students.

Beyond that, I'm feeling at least a little less at sea - Septima and I had the beginnings of a good discussion after lunch, though we got interrupted part way through. You? I'm still juggling various pieces, but if there's something I can help you with, I'm quite willing.

---

@alt_poppy at 2015-08-17 23:15:14
Re: Order Only : Private message to Poppy

I'm very glad ad to hear that you and Septima are digging into what lies ahead. I gathered she's been finding the whole business daunting to consider, from staffing to security to the likelihood of very low numbers and more.

As for the powers of familiars, particularly feline familiars... I assure you I'd have them on the ward as caregivers were it not for the maddening resistance of cat allergies to magical prophylaxis. If only someone could find the charm for that!

Tea tomorrow afternoon, perhaps? I should be back here by two at the latest and should have discharged my immediate duties on the ward by half-three.

---

@alt_sinistra at 2015-08-17 23:35:20
Re: Order Only : Private message to Poppy

Tea tomorrow, please. I've missed talking with you rather a lot. You're welcome up here if you want to be somewhere people can't find you quite so easily, or I'm glad to come down if you want to be somewhere they can.

It is extremely complex. Even just finding people who might be willing to teach who stand a chance of being at all competent is rather the trick. I'm working up some notes to her now.

And of course, there's the part where we have absolutely no idea
whether we might have classes in September (which I admit is looking more and more unlikely) or when, and yes, about having no idea how many students we'll have. And I keep thinking of bits that someone ought to decide about, like is there any chance we could help with refresher courses for muggleborns, as suitable wands come in, and how in the universe would we make that work anyway.

And yes, I suppose that would be a challenge on your ward.

I'll come to you, then. Much better to be out of immediate reach of minor crises.

Oh, and yes, the cat toy was one of Entwhistle's follies. He was at school with Albus, you know. A bit younger, but not by much. Remembers him fondly.

As do I.

I am now feeling rather sorry for the staff that had them both to deal with, really.

Albus. Yes. I kept thinking about both him and Minerva, while I was talking to Septima. Other people, too. (I keep missing Professor Flitwick, particularly, the way he taught.)

Maybe sometime we'll have time to tell all their stories properly, you know? The things they did.

And Pomona. It's still difficult to be here without her.
alt_sinistra at 2015-08-18 02:25:32
Re: Order Only : Private message to Poppy

Pomona, so much, yes.
I keep thinking that if she were here, a lot of us would be doing a lot better, because she'd know exactly the right thing to say and when to say it.
And it -
It doesn't feel like the same school without her.

alt_poppy at 2015-08-18 02:30:08
Re: Order Only : Private message to Poppy

No, indeed. I quite agree.
Thank you, my dear, for saying so.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-18 02:38:01
Re: Order Only : Private message to Poppy

Should have said it long since, really.
It must be so much harder for you, being back.
I've Linus coming up, shortly, but - tomorrow. Tea. Conversation. I'm looking forward to it.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-17 23:08:11
Private message to Mum and Dad

You know, I haven't figured out if the other side's realised you're alive yet, but it's not like the journals aren't full of notes to people who've died. And I did want to write you both, not just have you read over Mum's shoulder, Dad.

I know I worried Storm, last week, and I'm sorry. I worried me, too. It's better, this week, mostly, and I'll try and come by again soon, when you're both around. (Though timing that so Diane isn't, still complicated. It's good she's out of bed more, and even out of their
house, but it makes staying out of her way harder, and Storm was very clear she's still blaming me - rightfully, I suppose - for a lot. Better than her blaming you, Mum, she needs you.)

Mum, I did tell Linus that we certainly won't let him be all alone. He was very grateful, though he's still trying to make sense of it all. Ernie Macmillan's been very good about reaching out to him, too. Whenever we sort out a memorial, I think it'd mean a lot to him if you were both there.

And yes, I'm writing Dai. Not in the journals, I don't want to remind anyone he exists, but we've been owling, I promise. (He said he might stop by next I can get away, if I can give him a little warning.) He's being right stubborn at me about insisting I write back promptly. And actually say things other than locational magic puzzles. (I am fairly sure you or Storm put him up to that, you know.)

Storm did let on, last week, that he's feeling squeezed by people expecting him to be Orion, when he's not. (I guess Diane and Chiron and Theo. And Aunt Alphecca, by owl, which is quite bad enough.) I know you're both up to your necks in important things like feeding people and keeping track of what's needed, but I wanted to tell you, because Hypatia knows he won't.

I really do mean it when I say I want to do everything I can. I love teaching, you know that, but whatever administrative skills I have that are at all useful, you have only to ask. (And I am very glad I managed to find the pu-erh I meant to give you last Christmas.) To follow up on other points we meant to come back to (sorry, this rather got away from me but I hope it makes it easier later.)

I am working up notes on curriculum, people I've come across who might be decent staff, and some of the discipline issues we touched on. We can talk more in a day or two? Or sooner, if you've need.

Staff: I do think Laura McGivern would be excellent if we can persuade her. She's Muggleborn, for one, and I can vouch for her teaching ability, her way with students, especially younger ones, and she's entirely pleasant to work with. She'd be an exceptional role-model in a number of ways. As I said, she's taught a number of the
magical subjects, and I seem to remember being told she was in Slytherin, though I might have that wrong. On my list to check.

Hufflepuff: Of course, if Mina wants to continue as Head, she has my full support. If she'd rather not, no one could ever replace Pomona, but I could at least give Mina more time with her Creatures, and I do know the surviving students.

The Astronomy spaces and equipment are in good order, but would it be a help if I tackled cleaning out the Defence classroom? Having done it twice now, I have some idea what needs special care and what belongs to the school.

Curriculum: Still thinking about how to put practical applications earlier, plus those bits of History and Muggle Studies we touched on. I keep wondering if Hogwarts could at least assist in a refresher for Muggleborn who wish, as they are able to get suitable wands. During term is obviously complicated, but maybe over the holidays?

The parts we didn't get to, and really, they're a much larger conversation.

Bullying: I know I'm a badger, but I truly don't mean everyone must be friends. Rather how the staff can help students find the people who will be their friends, and reduce the incidence and severity of bullying and ostracism as best we can. I'm particularly concerned about the re-integration of muggleborn students into the school, when we can do that, but certainly not only that. Even when I was at school, we were not good at keeping people with private resources for magical education from taking it out on those without.

More than that, we've also - as more than one person has pointed out to me - often treated problems as if magic will solve them all. I think it's clear that that's not true. A thing that would be dangerous without magic is still dangerous with magic, and the reverse: that we can sometimes avoid utter tragedy is a gift, not something to rely on. Of all the things I think we need to do better, it's that: understand magic for what it is, and what it isn't, and remember that knowledge, inclusion, and standing up for what's right matter just as much (if not more.)

Discipline: The essential problem of school discipline with students who are either used to the worst violence, or alternately to inconsistency based on blood and family. I keep thinking the only way forward is to be utterly transparent, and to make any discipline for
more than the most trivial things something that more people have input into than a single teacher or Head of House. Time consuming, but entirely different. Sending some thoughts around on that too.

Giving students their best chances: I think of the pressure on Dean Thomas, or how our structure does not support those who are exceedingly specialised, like your Thomas Capper. We have students who are not academically adept, but who deserve a chance to find what they are good at - there are so many names here. And I wonder how we can encourage creative, entrepreneurial minds, like Fred and George Weasley (ideally without being deluged by pranks) because we need those too.

Cordelia didn't get enough support with the choir, but perhaps someone could pick that up. Tosha tried Language classes were a good idea, maybe even touching on languages students speak at home? Handcrafts - I was reminded visiting my brother how soothing they are. (He's a woodworker, and would be glad to consult, and there's always knitting and spinning and such. Practical, too.) Cooking lessons, if we can persuade the elves. The school play did get people working together well, and perhaps an apolitical classic would serve. Maybe not immediately. It will be a constant reminder of Daph. Perhaps Miss Bones would be willing to help with some sort of literary publication? Not all of them at once, but thinking about more things than we have.

And finally, harder, there's those who come from homes where family pressure, expectation, assumption and worse have warped things beyond all soundness - Teddy Nott has been much on my mind, recently. We have so many students who have suffered so much, and who might be particularly vulnerable in the coming years to influences, good and bad. And I keep thinking how much I've failed them. That the school has failed them.

(I don't think I ever told you, but last summer, when we thought Draco was dead, I drank a shot of alcohol for every student who'd died that I'd taught. That I knew of, anyway. I couldn't do it now, it'd take me weeks, though the numbers keep haunting me. You too, I'm sure.)

Most of all, I keep thinking about the next few years. Whenever we have first years at Hogwarts again, they will attend school without seeing the places where their friends and housemates and teachers died. And yet, for older students, they will see those places all the time. We, as surviving teachers, will see the missing faces, but new
staff will not. (And will likely not understand what it was like to live here under other rules.) There is so much hope, in that, but a lot of pain to live through, first.

I don't have answers for any of this, Septima, except that it needs doing, somehow, however daunting. As I said, I am wholly at your disposal, and Hogwarts and her students have long had my first loyalty.
2015-08-18 13:18:00
Order Only: Private Message to Draco

What's your timetable for the week? I know you told me before but I didn't write it down and now I've forgotten. (And don't worry, Healer Deverill says that it's probably not related to the curse or the trauma, it's not a sign that my memory's gone off or that there's any long-term impact on my recall skills. Just that I've got a lot of things to think about and I still get tired easily, and memory's one of the things that's impacted when one's overtired.)

Anyway, I talked to Professor Slughorn and to Master Gimlet and I'm going back into the field this week. Well, tomorrow, most likely. The thing is that the process has been going all right without me--I mean, Pansy and the others are all doing fine--but I reviewed some of the field notes from the most recent sites and they're not at all precise enough. Plus the production rates are slightly lower than my notes from before the attack on Fradswell.

So I think if I get back to it, we can put everything back on track and I can collect better observations. Also Master Gimlet and I think we can detect a slight migration in the potion, based on the recovery times listed by the field teams, and I've got to figure out which process is being short-cut, or altered, or whatever it is, before it has an adverse effect.

But I wanted to let you know, and to make sure I'm around the next time you've got a free evening, or day, or anything.

I'll be glad when this business is over and I can move on to something else. I'm sure I'm not the only one who's getting tired of making the same potion over and over, but being away from it for a few days really made me start thinking about all the other projects we I have to take on.

How about you? I expect you're already tired of mixing drinks and serving wretched Death Eaters and their mates.
I've got Thursday and Sunday off. Well, so long as Pugh doesn't try to get me to cover for him again. He's got that new PSS nonsense as an excuse to rearrange everything at the last minute.

And yes, everything here is very monotonous and dull, not that different from making the same potion again and again. I learn some little things here and there, but so far nothing really useful for us. I'm thinking of talking to Rachel about whether or not this is worth keeping as a full time assignment. Perhaps if I was a legilimens it would be, but I'm not.

Then again, it's only been a few weeks.

Do you still want to visit Strathglass? If you feel up to it, that is?

I feel all right, it's just that I have to rest frequently. And technically I'm not supposed to Apparate, really, for another week or so. But we're going broomback so it'll be fine.

I suppose you've got a tough balance to achieve. You want to impersonate Faust in a way that's believable, of course, but you need to be interested enough that people start telling you more than the average bartender. Could you slip something in the drinks now and then? Not every drink and not every time, but something to make people more talkative around you?

Yes, we are. Sunday? Or we can play it by ear.

Hm, that's an idea. Obviously if I were to be caught it'd be disastrous, but I don't think I would be.

Sunrise Cordial? Ha.
Did Shilly come find you yet?

alt_hermione at 2015-08-19 01:19:46
(no subject)

Sunday's ought to be fine. I'll just make sure I'm not needed.

Sunrise Cordial, but only if a drop or two wouldn't change the flavour of the other drinks. A drop of veritaserum might do it without overdoing it, either. I can probably find the ingredients between the Hogwarts stores and the potions greenhouses at Birnham. It takes a while to brew but I could work on it for you.

Shilly--no, why? What are you up to?

alt_draco at 2015-08-19 01:26:21
(no subject)

Veritaserum, really? You know, I rather like being acquainted with a journeywoman of your calibre. Meanwhile, I'll see if I can find some Sunrise Cordial.

She's dawdling, then. Overly influenced by my parents and the other elves, I suppose. But she should be there soon.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-19 02:13:04
(no subject)

TOAST?

What on earth...?

Aren't flowers more traditional?
alt_draco at 2015-08-19 02:19:15
(no subject)

You insisted to me that you loved toast!

But I'll get flowers too if you prefer.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-19 02:24:18
(no subject)

What? When?

I mean...toast is excellent, especially on an upset tummy. But love's a strong word for it.

I did? Did I say anything else daft like 'I want a pet firecrab' or 'It's a lovely day for sailing in an umbrella?'

alt_draco at 2015-08-19 02:32:28
(no subject)

Go back and read what you wrote, toast-lover. You were going on and on about it.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-19 03:02:52
(no subject)

I just read it.

Draco...you know how I was saying, in that entry, that I was trying to remember something?

alt_draco at 2015-08-19 03:04:22
(no subject)

Yeah, sure. A dream, wasn't it?
Yes, but it wasn't a dream.

Are you alone? I mean, are you where anyone will see you reading your journal?

No, I'm at Russell's flat. Worked first shift today.

Oh. Good.

Because I do remember. It wasn't a dream. It was a message.

That's why I included Harry on the PM address, why I was so confused about him. It was a message from Harry.

Do you want me to tell you or would you rather wait and hear it in person?

Another

In person, of course. Though I'm knackered and not sure I'd make the Apparation without splinching.

If you're all right with telling me here, that'll do.
All right. Let me see....

Well, I saw him. I mean, he was there and he was whole and he didn't seem hurt or unhappy. He was smiling. And he said to tell you.... Oh, it's so strange, but he said to tell you that Pansy and Sally-Anne both know the spell for making perfect toast. And that you could ask them to show you.

Actually, I know it, too, but it didn't occur to me that you might not.

But that's why I was thinking about toast so much, I think. So that I'd remember to tell you.

Isn't that curious?

Maybe it really was just a dream. But it's a funny sort of dream. It's not as if he and I ever discussed the finer points of crisped bread before.

Maybe I shouldn't have told you.

It wasn't a dream.

I know it wasn't a dream.

I wrote a PM to myself a few weeks ago. But I was actually writing to Harry. The first thing I wrote was:

I'm writing this over cold tea and burnt toast. I've got better at not burning toast, but there's still a learning curve, apparently. This is what comes of having house elves wait on you your whole posh bloody life, and then having Snape do all the cooking after you exchange that posh life for another. It's not such a big deal, though. It's just toast.
REALLY?

Oh, my goodness, that's--that's amazing!

I wonder how... Do you think...do you think only wizards can--can communicate like that?

I suppose it must be, or Muggles wouldn't spend so much time trying to make contact.

Oh, no, but--You don't think that means he's stuck somewhere? In limbo?

We have ghosts and portraits for that, but not many end up a ghost, and portraits aren't really the same thing as the real person.

So maybe only Harry can. Otherwise, we'd have heard of others.

You saw Dolohov wrote a few days ago? He wrote with a message from Harry. It said Stop worrying about me; I'm fine, and I'm waiting for you. We'll definitely see each other again, although there's no rush.

That might have been in response to what I wrote to Harry in my PM to myself, but it reminded me more of something I said to Finnigan. He'd written to me in some attempt to get under my skin, I guess. Which was impossible at that particular point because I was about as low as I've ever been.

Anyway, what I said to Seamus was: I worry that he didn't go to that place at all. He didn't die a normal death - his soul was ripped from his body using dark magic. Maybe his soul is out there somewhere, still being ripped apart. Maybe it never stops.
I worry that if Harry did move into a different place, a better place, then that's not the same place I'll go when I die.

So.

I think he's trying to tell us that he's all right.

Oh.

Oh!

Are you sure you're too knackered to come home?

I--

Oh, where's Crookshanks?

I was, but now I'm wide awake.

Stay there, I'm coming.

Good because that's ever so much better than a cat!
**2015-08-18 18:55:00**

*Private message to Alice Longbottom*

Evening, Lady L. Though you're not the Lady L. I usually address.

Perhaps you've heard of me from Rachel--though if you haven't, then I'll have quite a bit of explaining to do.

In any case, I think it's time that we have a conversation.

---

**alt_alice at 2015-08-19 01:07:42**

*(no subject)*

Yes, Mr Montague. I've talked with Rachel about you quite often, and I can anticipate what you'd like to talk about, to a certain extent.

But please, do let me know what you'd like to discuss.

I know you wouldn't write me directly unless it was very much needed.

---

**alt_jason at 2015-08-19 01:19:48**

*(no subject)*

I'm somewhere safe. A fideliused property to which I'm the secret keeper. And I have two people with me. Seamus Finnigan and Ginny Weasley.

Ginny is physically unharmed, though I do have her sedated right now. I had to take her away against her will, and she won't be pleased when she rouses and realises.

I have an interest in Seamus' future, just as I believe you have an interest in Ginny's. Has Rachel discussed any of the matter with you?
Yes, she has.

Merlin, I am

I am so very grateful that you were able to remove Ginny. Thank you.

The terms, as I understand them, are that in exchange for Ginny turned over to us in her current condition, you would agree to work under Rachel as an Auror, and Seamus Finnigan would receive amnesty after taking an Unbreakable Vow placing limits the Cardinals and Dark Magic and agreeing to regular check-ins with security.

I realise that this is a compromise on both our parts, and am willing to extend this offer as head of the Order and with the full backing and support of the Transitional Government of Albion.

I believe personally that this is a worthy thing we're both attempting to do, and will accept Mr Finnigan's amnesty.

I can send over an owl with the precise wording of the Unbreakable Vow, and specifics regarding the nature and frequency of these check-ins if that would suit.

You're quite welcome. She didn't belong there.

And neither, it would seem, did I.

Yes, that was more or less the arrangement I discussed with Rachel. Though I would like to request that I be allowed to stay with Seamus. He'll do better if that's the case. I understand you have personal reasons to mistrust and dislike him, but I know the history behind the actions he took and the decisions he made. As such, I would ask you and your people to remember that he only ever did what was asked of him by the people he had no choice but to put his trust in.
I'm also sending evac. instructions to my parents and brother momentarily.

Also, you may have heard that I'm a occlumens and legilimens. So that means I can't be checked over by yours. Is that a problem?

---

**alt_alice** at **2015-08-19 01:53:21**

*(no subject)*

Your abilities aren't a problem in the least.

And yes -- to be honest, when Rachel first raised the idea of Mr Finnigan's being permanently deported as a possible solution, it struck me as something that was far less than ideal for you, and, frankly, for him as well.

I'd rather have someone who wants to be here and has good reason to stay working for us. And I'd rather have someone who is, after all, very young be given the opportunity to turn his life around rather than be abandoned and left vulnerable for further radicalisation. It is far more palatable to accept Seamus Finnigan as a citizen who follows the laws of the land and has support than face him as a future enemy.

Indeed, I see a great many benefits to your remaining together.

And while I have my doubts regarding Mr Finnigan, I trust Rachel's judgement, and through her, your intentions.

---

**alt_jason** at **2015-08-19 01:59:22**

*(no subject)*

I look forward to meeting you in person and seeing if you really mean that.

Where I come from, such noble talk is almost always slight-of-hand, if not a full-bodied lie.

I should warn you that I'm not particularly noble, so don't appoint me to make your speeches. But I'll work in whatever capacity is required of me, as I always have.
Do you run this show all on your own?

Will it bother you if I call you Lady L?

Because the contrast is really too amusing for me to ignore.

I'm a Hufflepuff, love.

We tend to value practicality a great deal.

I'd say our system is a rather hectic mix of committees, group consensus, and meetings, but whenever things need to really get moving, or tricky decisions need to be made, I do have that rather dubious responsibility, yes. And they do tend to listen, at least for the time being. Merlin knows why.

And Mr Montague, you're returning Ginny Weasley. You can call me whatever you bloody well please.

Within reason, of course.

Ah, within reason--good girl. You don't want to give someone like me too much leeway where that's concerned.

I think your Owl's arrived.

Where shall we go when he's finished taking the Vow?

Hm. Rachel had better receive the Vow, I think. This will be a tough sell to some of our people, and I will do my level best, but it'll help vastly if there is concrete and unassailable assurance that it's been carried out in full.
You can certainly be the binder, if that would work for you both.

Rachel and one of her Aurors can meet you, Mr Finnigan, and Ginny at the Three Broomsticks. It'd be easier all round if Ginny were kept under sedation, I believe.

alt_jason at 2015-08-19 02:51:45
(no subject)

Very well. We can be there in an hour.

alt_alice at 2015-08-19 02:58:27
(no subject)

That'll do rather nicely, Mr Montague.

I look forward to our continued acquaintance.

And thank you for Ginny. Truly. From the bottom of my heart. A deal is one thing, love, but this goes beyond that.

alt_jason at 2015-08-19 03:00:40
(no subject)

You're welcome, Lady L.

alt_alice at 2015-08-19 02:01:50
(no subject)

I know our terms didn't explicitly cover your immediate family.

Please know that if they wish to live and work here among us, and are amenable to following our laws, there will be a place for them here, and we will help with any security concerns they may have -- which will be considerable in the immediate future, I'd imagine.
That sounds just fine. I'll see that they're made aware of their options.
Private message to Mum, Dad, Freddie

Tonight.

Bdrm dresser, box in second drawer from top.
2015-08-18 21:07:00

Private message to Lana Sandoval-Pennifold

What is the meaning of J. Montague's activity?

Did you authorise him to write Alice Longbottom? And if so, what for? And why was I not informed. In detail.

Get here and explain yourself at once.

alt_lana at 2015-08-19 03:14:31

(no subject)

Whatever he's done, it's without authorisation.

On my way.
**2015-08-18 21:13:00**  
*Private Message to Jason Montague*

WHAT THE FUCK HAVE YOU DONE?

---

alt_jason at 2015-08-19 02:33:09  
(no subject)

You haven't figured it out?

---

alt_ptolemy at 2015-08-19 02:52:44  
(no subject)

Don't play coy. Your note makes it plain what you've done but just exactly how do you think you'll get away with it?

I told you I had an investment in that asset.

If you think I'm going to let myself or Karo take the fall for you, you're more fool than you act.

You can still save yourself--there are many reasons you might write to AL, with or without authorisation. Turn round now and we can fix this.

---

alt_jason at 2015-08-19 02:59:28  
(no subject)

An *asset*. Listen to you.

I left you a note so that you could make whatever plans you need to to protect yourself and Karo, just as a good mate would. I don't expect anyone to take the fall for me.

And thanks for that, but it really is too late. "The die is cast." (Suetonius said that to Julius Ceasar, supposedly).
2015-08-18 22:07:00
Private Message to Aristotle Baddock

Bear Market.
checking in.
damn notice-me-not.
doing the best we can.

Thank you.

here.

I miss you so very much, my dearest man.
You come back soon.

We've had a spot of good news. I'll tell you about it tomorrow.

Ginny and Charlie are back with us.
Both.
They're in rather rough shape, Charlie physically and Ginny mentally, but they're here.

I authorised a deal with Rachel's spy to bring Ginny back. Amnesty
for his lover, Seamus Finnigan.

I hope

I believe it was the right thing.

---

@alt_frank at 2015-08-20 06:15:56
Re: Private Message to Frank

right.

it was.

and nev would've thought so too.

I'm sure of it.

---

@alt_frank at 2015-08-20 06:19:25
Re: Private Message to Frank

you don't have to feel guilty, love. not about this one.

I'd rather have ginny back any day. hands down.

---

@alt_alice at 2015-08-20 06:20:27
Re: Private Message to Frank

All right.

---

@alt_terry at 2015-08-19 12:52:59
(no subject)

The best you can do is brilliant, Dad, don't worry. Because you're brilliant.

Thank you for checking in. It makes Mum (and us) happy and keeps the load off our mind.
good, kiddo.

love you.

miss you.

we'll keep working til the job's done, and then I'll be back just as soon as I can.
Dux,

Rachel's just sent an elf to tell me to get to NL. I've got my list; apparently there's been a change in the landscape. She thinks I might well be able to capitalise.

If I'm not back for a few days--well, I love you. PMs will mean I'm alive and all right, just as before.

Sweet dreams,

-J
Ginny is in an Order safehouse.

I don't think any of you should go to see her quite yet -- possibly Ron and Luna, once she's gotten some sleep. The best way to help her recover is to give her time and patience. But she's safe, and I wanted you all to know.

---

On another note, I think you should know that part of the deal for Ginny's safe return included amnesty for Seamus Finnigan.

Alice agreed to this personally -- you may in fact have seen that Jason Montague wrote to her directly.

Jason will likely be working as an Albion auror -- sorry, Ron, I know he was never your favourite in old MLE. But he's been working for me for a while, and the intel he's provided has been solid (and in some cases lifesaving).

We'll shortly be telling the whole Order that Ginny's safe, but I'm going to leave it to Alice to talk to Evelyn and Terry about Seamus Finnigan, so please keep that to yourselves for the moment.

I guessed that things were closing in for Montague when I saw his note to Alice, but I never expected this! Oh, well done!

I can wait to see her, yeah. She's pegged me as the mad villain in all this, so maybe I should talk with whatever Healer in charge of her rehabilitation before seeing her. I don't want to put a foot wrong now and inadvertently twist her mind away from us permanently.
Private message to Rachel

I can hardly believe it. I feared we were never going to get her back, never. Was the trade your idea? My wife is dead brilliant. Probably a good thing you didn't say a word to us about it before Montague pulled it off--I doubt our nerves could have taken it.

It must be an awful thing for Alice and Frank to swallow, though--mercy for Seamus Finnigan, of all people. What is going to happen to him?

And bloody hell, I wish we could let Charlie know.

My original idea was to offer Crouch's corpse to Dolohov in exchange for Ginny, but the risks were too high. Montague was getting increasingly antsy about staying to spy, and I thought the lure of amnesty for his lover would do the trick.

Finnigan took an unbreakable vow not to use the cardinals, or other dark magic with lethal intent. Other than that, nothing's going to happen to him. That was the deal.

Well, neither Montague or Finnigan will have much temptation to regret the deal. I doubt Bellatrix would welcome them back with open arms now, to say the least.

Hope I'll be able to shake Montague's hand and thank him personally soon. We owe him a helluva lot.
alt_luna at 2015-08-19 12:33:00  
(no subject)

Oh, my goodness! How absolutely wonderful!

Of course I'll see her, of course! Just as they say I can.

alt_molly at 2015-08-19 12:10:01  
(no subject)

Oh. Oh, Rachel. Thank you!

Has a healer seen her yet?

And about seeing her now, no, I understand. We all do.

Oh, my goodness, I just burst into tears. I'm so happy!

alt_rachel at 2015-08-19 12:43:05  
(no subject)

Yes, absolutely she's been seen, and will be monitored for some time.

She's in reasonably good shape physically.

alt_fred at 2015-08-19 12:38:35  
(no subject)

Brilliant!

Bet Ginny didn't come with Montague willingly though, right? What, did he have to stuff her in a sack or something?

Given how her mind's torqued around, she's probably monumentally hacked off right now.
@alt_rachel at 2015-08-19 12:44:19
(no subject)

I believe he used a potion to knock her out. She might have gone with him willingly at first, but that would have changed the moment she knew where they were headed.

@alt_rachel at 2015-08-19 13:37:52
(no subject)

And I think she's more terrified than angry. Time, and nothing terrible happening to her in our hands, will help with that.

@alt_fred at 2015-08-19 14:35:21
(no subject)

Poor kid.
We'll be on our very best behaviour with her, promise.

@alt_ron at 2015-08-19 13:18:02
Private Message to Rachel

I want to go sit with her.

Promise I won't say anything to make her cross. Or tell her she's wrong about anything she says she's thinking. I just- I think it's important she sees right away that we're over the moon to see her and know she's alright--healthy, y'know. (Only, yeah, not all of us at first.)

@alt_ron at 2015-08-19 13:20:37
Re: Private Message to Rachel

Even if she sends me away.

Or the Healers do. So long as she knows I'm trying to get in and see her.

I'm going up there now.
I'm really just asking if you can do without me today on shift.

@alt_rachel at 2015-08-19 13:31:22

Re: Private Message to Rachel

That's fine, Ron.
2015-08-19 06:01:00
Private Message to Bellatrix Lestrange and Lana Sandoval-Pennifold (Lestrange)

Good morning,

You are losing followers.

NL 065

-Finch-Fletchley
Alice,

Offering amnesty to Seamus Finnigan cannot have been easy. Please know that I understand that very well. I bless the day we voted you in as Arthur's replacement (he would have, too) and I will be grateful to you until my dying day.

I am glad she is back where she belongs, Molly. She is most certainly worth it.
Private message to Mum and Dad

What do you mean, he refuses? There is no "refusing."

Let me make this clear: I have made choices that there are no walking back from. I’ll be an enemy to the Protectorate now, and so will my family. In Lady Lestrange’s eyes, Freddie doesn't have enough value to negate my treachery. So he must get out.

Make this clear to him. I don't want to write him again and risk putting an even bigger target on his back.

Anything?
Need yr help

Healer says ppl looking for me again this morning

Go to Alice + Poppy show them this first
Can't write them b/c journal headers being watched

Come to St Ms
ask for Healer O'Flaherty
tell him you're here for Jeremy Smythe
he will help you move me
He is OK + can be trusted

Will be OK away from care for a bit but not long

Don't be surprised at hair (disguise) or at how badly I'm hurt
still need to rebreak/regrow half my bones
but am OK to move (Healer O'F says) b/c it's urgent

Love you both
Bring tea.
And find where this draught is coming from.

---

@alt_lana at 2015-08-19 15:18:23
(no subject)
Oh, honestly. You call this milk?

@alt_lana at 2015-08-19 15:21:29
(no subject)
Bring biscuits.
And some jam. Not strawberry.

@alt_lana at 2015-08-19 15:26:15
(no subject)
Augh.
NO.
Take it away! It smells of rot.

Why are you always out of earshot?

---

@alt_lana at 2015-08-20 02:45:07
Private Message to Self
Minotaur Grosbeak
Mervyn Snood
Minimus Squint
Magister Helms
Hey.

It's brilliant you're back. Best news since we heard we'd got Ginny home. Seriously, this has been a week!

I hear they're expecting you'll be in the hospital wing for a while yet, and I reckon that means the curse damage is still pretty fierce. Is there anything you need that I could get you? I could send it in with Sally Anne even if I'm not cleared to see you.

I did get to see Gin today. They're keeping her at one of the safehouses, which is probably necessary for now. Under the circumstances. I stayed through supper, and I'll go back for a while tomorrow. After work, I reckon, but I promised I'd come, and she seemed glad for the company.

She's really upset about- loads of stuff. Losing her job, for one thing. She really liked being on the WWN. Hope you didn't have a chance to hear her programme. It was rough listening to it, but she thinks it was brilliant. I just let her tell me about all that, and about people she's been spending time with, and things like the summer festivals in New London, because she went along to some of those.

I stayed away from talking about family, for the most part, but she likes to turn a conversation around to that. Anywiz, the healers are hoping that if she has time and rest and feels safe, she'll shake off what they did to her. I hope they're right.

I added Madam Pomfrey to this because I didn't know if you're able to read much yet, or whether you can even read messages under the lock again. (So maybe Madam P could read this for you if you can't.) I'll ask Rachel about that when I see her tomorrow, I guess, but I wanted to write you now just to say it's dead brilliant you're home and as soon as they'll let me, I'll come see you.
I'm only awake a bit
Easier to sleep through
Fucking good to be out of there though

I know you want to see me but I'm in bad shape. Give me some time?

So glad Ginny's home too
Tell her I love her if she's ready to hear
Love you, too
So glad it did not all go more to shit

Can't think of anything I need except to be
But go hug Tonks for me, she sounds like she needs it

No worries. Take all the time you need. And I did see Tonks. She's just - Gave her the hug. Think she'd rather have it from you, though.

Gin's not really ready to hear about anyone else. I don't think. I haven't tried, mind you. It's just, I don't want to argue with her because that won't do any good, y'know?

I took along the animating parchments I use for making the cartoons in Christmas crackers, and I just drew her idiotic things all afternoon and we made up stupid jokes. Or I did, anywiz. And when she had things to say, I just let her talk. But she's not talking much. And when she remembers things, they're still all twisted and queer. And scary. They scare her.

Sorry. I shouldn't tell you all this. Bill told me off for bothering you.

And I told him to get bludgered, but I should let you be, I reckon.

Rest up and get well.

But see Tonks before you let me in to see you. Know what I mean?
no, I like the messages. Bill's just worried about me. I'll be ready to see people in a few days though I think we can play chess. you'll beat the crap out of me, I can't keep a thought in my head for more than two seconds.
Hallo, luv.

I managed to extricate Dree from a rather damp and enthusiastic Mrs Weasley thank you earlier. Good on her and Em for getting you here.

I know things are all sorts of Not Particularly Fun right now, but I am beyond glad that you're here, and between you and Ginny both coming home nearly on the same day, it's rather like Weasley Christmas has come early.

In all seriousness, my dear sweet lovely amazing Chuck, thank you for holding on all this while, and for coming back home where you belong. We'll sort the rest out, I've no doubt.

I know you were rather insistent on limiting your list of visitors this evening. Don't blame you for that in the least. I'm sure it's been a rather horrible day all round. A rather horrible row of days, really. I do want to say hallo in person very much, just because it's one thing to hear someone's safe and alive, and another to see them for yourself, and my imagination has gone to some rather dire places of late, and I don't mind about your hair or any of the rest of it, but I don't have to fling myself over your hospital bed and weep with thankfulness just yet.

I'm ever so glad you're here.

---

Ha
Poor Dree and other ppls emotions

It's not that I don't want to see you

Don't want anyone to see me
it's bad
Healer's been doing that "of course you'll get better" thing
but he's lying I can tell

Give me a few days at least
Love you, best girl

---

@alt_nymphadora at 2015-08-20 16:35:45
(no subject)

A few days it is, Chuck.

We're going to have to see you some time, though.

---

@alt_charlie at 2015-08-20 20:23:31
(no subject)

I know
Mum was so upset I didn't want visitors
Just can't face the look people get when they see me
The staff at St M was one thing but I can't bear it from family
Dree's face when

promise me you won't bring Adam until I'm on my feet again
I don't want him seeing his da like this

---

@alt_nymphadora at 2015-08-20 22:44:21
(no subject)

Oh, luv.

I suppose it'll be a rough go for a bit. Especially those first couple of times. But we'll all adjust, I'm sure of it.

And as far as Adam's concerned, well, getting on your feet might take a good long while. I'd rather he saw his da a little worse for wear than keeping him at arm's length. Maybe not quite as worse for wear as he is right now, mind. But still. I think it'd hurt you both much more than it'd help.

I know you. This isn't vanity.
They don't think I'm going to recover completely.

I am so fucking terrified.

That's quite a lot of adjusting.

...Especially if you're trying to do it all by yourself.

You're not alone, here, Chuck.

I know, I just well.

I'll be positive in another few days for now I'm just tired and scared and I want to be alone for a while

love you, though. kept thinking about you. it helped.

Positive of what?

And good.

You rest up. At least you can work with the tired bit, yeah?
Positive attitude Healer kept telling me "think positive", guess it stuck

and yeah. Tired I can fix, at least.
2015-08-19 23:24:00
Private Message to Lt R Vaisey

If I stopped round your office at half-ten tomorrow, would you have time for a cup of tea?

I should be finished with my morning circuit (Braithewaite, L S-P, Broome, Braithewaite) by then.

alt_blaise

alt_blaise at 2015-08-20 03:36:49
(no subject)

Heard several things today worth knowing. Wonder what you’ve heard from your sources.
**2015-08-20 09:32:00**

Order Only: Private message to Mum, Fred, George and Ron

He's still not wanting other visitors for now. I mean, that's how he's feeling *today*; who knows about tomorrow. But he's here, and he's getting better every day. And he's in the best possible hands.

Just try to be patient, okay?

---

**alt_molly** at **2015-08-20 14:43:52**

*(no subject)*

But why won't he see me? I mean, I saw him while he was asleep, so I know perfectly well how battered he is, but that's not the same thing at all! I want to *talk* to him.

I can understand why Ginny won't see me, but for mercy's sake, he's in his right mind, and I'm his *mother*.

---

**alt_bill** at **2015-08-20 14:53:24**

Private message to Mum

Mum...

He's not...not *entirely* in his right mind. Oh, don't get me wrong; no one has driven him 'round the twist like Ginny. But he was severely hurt, and afraid he's not going to get better--the healing has been slow--and that has messed with his...his conception of himself. He just really needs to lick his wounds in private for now. I'm sorry, but he can't deal with the avalanche of a concerned Molly Weasley.

---

**alt_molly** at **2015-08-20 14:54:35**

Re: Private message to Mum

Bill, for goodness sakes!
I'm sorry, Mum. Really sorry. But it's true. He needs to heal. That means we have to give him what he needs, and not what we need.

That's...the reason I'm not visiting Ginny, after all. What if I came bringing Adam to see him?

Soon, Mum. But not yet. Charlie would probably want to hold him, but that would be difficult for him. And the little bugger would want to crawl all over him, but that would hurt him, physically. There are all the burns, and with the healing bones, he's very sensitive to touch. I reckon the healers wouldn't think it's a very good idea.

Just trust me, okay?

I hate it. I just hate it.

Of course you do. Because you're a good Mum. And because you're a good Mum, you're going to respect his wishes, right?
alt_molly at 2015-08-20 15:11:30
Re: Private message to Mum

... 

Yes.

alt_bill at 2015-08-20 15:13:35
Re: Private message to Mum

He's home again, Mum. He's going to make it. They both are.

Hang on to that.

alt_ron at 2015-08-20 23:16:23
(no subject)

You scolding me for writing Charlie?

Get bludgered.

alt_bill at 2015-08-21 01:06:07
(no subject)

What?! No, of course not. Writing's fine, as far as I know.

I wrote to you, along with everyone else, because you're a member of this family. Charlie told me he didn't want to see anyone else for now. He hasn't even seen Tonks. If he's changed his mind for you, then bully for you. But if he hasn't then I'm giving you the courtesy of warning you, along with everyone else in the family, don't be surprised, and give him some room.

And thank you for visiting Ginny, by the way. You'll notice that I'm not trying to visit her, because that's what she wants. And I'm not resenting you for it.
2015-08-20 16:18:00
Order Only Private message to Dora

Have you been able to see Charlie yet? Or were you at least able to write? I hope he's doing all right.

If you want a distraction, maybe we could have tea together soon. With Bea and Adam too, of course. I think I would like that.

I've been wanting to talk about some things lately, I suppose, and with someone other than just Justin.

Plus I've always liked the tea you make.

alt_nymphadora at 2015-08-20 22:48:25
(no subject)

He's written back, which is something, but he's rather insistent on only seeing Bill, and I'm going out of my skin trying to be patient and not anticipate the absolute worst.

In other words, tea would be absolutely lovely. With Bea and Adam. Yes please. And talking and tea go hand in hand, don't they?

alt_hydra at 2015-08-20 23:04:12
(no subject)

Maybe he just doesn't like to feel helpless in front of you?

There's something I should tell you before we have tea. Mostly because I don't want to be able to see what you think about me when I tell you.

Remember the Unicorn that Draco found in the Forest? He thought Barty did it. Well, that isn't true. It was me.

I haven't really felt quite the same since.
Yes, that's probably at the heart of it. That, and his work with the dragons was so physical. I'd imagine there's a lot of uncertainty about whether he'll be able to go back to it eventually, or at all.

Uncertainty is the absolute worst, isn't it?

And as far as the Unicorn goes, I'm glad you told me. I can see why you'd feel different after, too. That's some powerful magic, and not lightly done. And that's piled on top of the actual process of fighting and defeating Barty, which must've just been exhausting on all sorts of levels.

How've you felt, then? Other than bloody tired.

Will any of us be able to go back?

Sorry, that's morbid.

The funny thing is that I can write that and not feel particularly bothered by it. I supposed that's what's changed. It's not as if I don't feel emotions anymore or anything like that, but I do experience them differently. They seem more abstract, or distant somehow. Unless something makes me cross, and then I seem to feel it more keenly.

I think that kind of dark magic - you use it to do awful things, so you're less affected by them as a result.

I still feel as if I'm not quite explaining it right.

And I suppose now I'm thinking about the other consequences that there might be, in the future.
I can see how it'd be almost protective to have that be a side-effect of things. Like it makes what you've had to do more bearable.

I wonder if it'll last, or if it'll change with time? My best guess is to the latter.

It's funny, what you were saying, it just reminded me so very much of Alice, actually. She was keeping me company while I was going spare waiting to hear about Charlie, and she was talking about how it was so hard for her to feel truly happy or satisfied about anything these days, and how much quicker she was to anger.

Anyways.

All of this stuff leaves a mark. And perhaps it stays with us for a good long while, and we have to sort out how to manage it as best as we can.

Maybe it's a blessing, not being able to go back. Having to move forward, I mean.

I think it is protective, in a way. It makes it easier to do really powerful, destructive magic. And when there's something that must be done, well - there it is.

I've thought about the baby, though. The one we lost. I didn't - I never really thought about it so much before. Maybe I wasn't letting myself. And now I wonder if I'll ever be able to have one, because of what I've done.

I didn't think I wanted kids. I'm still not sure that I do. But choosing not to seems different than not being able to.
That would make quite a difference, yeah.

I can see why you'd be thinking about it, because of that. And about the baby you lost. That's quite a lot of 'what might have been' knocking around.

Maybe that's part of what happens when you survive something you didn't think you would walk away from. And the fact that there's so much else up in the air doesn't help much, either.

I think it's understandable that you'd want to know whether you can or not, regardless of whether you want to right now. And that it'd be sort of terrifying to make it a certain thing, all at the same time, in case it closes off that particular choice absolutely instead of just wondering about it.

I didn't mean to talk about myself so much.

When is a good time for tea?

Pish. Takes me out of my own head for a little, which is nice.

Twenty minutes? Sir Adam's good for another hour and change.
All right, that sounds perfect.
2015-08-20 19:36:00
Private Message to Antonin Nikolaevich

Дедушка,

Barty killed half the periodicals reporters not currently employed by Albion, what, so one wonders: Do you miss all your gossip?

I can provide some.

Word on the street is that the Baddocks, father, son, wives and children, have fled New London. Jason Montague, as well, and his parents, and with him Finnigan--I say, you were something of a mentor to Finnigan, when Mr Rosier wasn't available, weren't you? You assisted him in killing his mother, at any rate.

Miss Weasley, whom you spent so long torturing into submission, has also chosen to run away, they say. She'd only just begun a promising career as a newsreader, what, but no one's heard her since her third day on the job.

I say, what could have caused her to leave so bally well suddenly? Could it be that your careful brainwash failed and faltered, without you there to keep reinforcing the lies? You Cruciated her until she would tell you anything you wanted to hear, and for nothing. Even that has failed. You've been singularly incapable of doing anything you set out to do, Антонин.

Где то́нко -- там и рвётся. Will that be you? Or, pardon one's saying it, but has it been you, all along?

Ips 192.6, by the way.

-Джастин

alt_antonin at 2015-08-21 01:28:16
(no subject)

I find it particularly amusing that you berate me for my moral failures in the same breath as taunting me with your latest kills. How long did it take you, I wonder, before you could twist yourself into knots
enough to excuse the atrocities you commit while berating me for precisely the same things.

Interesting that you seem to feel the need to confess. A need to be shriven? A desire to be noticed? An attempt to show your teacher that you’ve learnt the lessons he had to teach? Or is it just that you wish your moves in the game we’re playing to be acknowledged -- are Alice Longbottom and Rachel Lamont not suitably appreciative of your talents, then?

Or are you simply feeling the lack of anyone on your side who understands the thrill of the hunt?

I wonder if you've found any of my own little offerings. Were you expecting me to return the courtesy of alerting you? I've grown out of needing external validation for my choices.

---

@alt_justin at 2015-08-21 01:41:50
(no subject)

If my morals are twisted, it's only because my teacher's were already perverse.

I say, are the coordinates for a dead man? How can you be sure? Perhaps I've left you something other than a corpse.

And as for growing out of external validation, really? Do tell. Precisely when did that happen? Fifth of August, perhaps? Or was it as long ago as 16th May?

-Д

@alt_antonin at 2015-08-21 02:01:05
(no subject)

Call it an educated guess.

What do you imagine for yourself in ten years' time, Юшка? What will be your role in the world you are trying to build? Or have you not thought that far ahead yet?

Assuming the Americans don't blow us all to kingdom come, mind you. Have you figured out how to keep the wolf away from the doorstep, yet? They do tend to be so touchy.
Your concerns are noted, but unnecessary.

-F-F

Going that well, is it?

I would offer to consult, but I doubt you could pay my fees.
My office. Half-six. Leave your shadow to come at his usual time. Want to confer privately first.

Too many bodies turning up in NL betokened with feathers. We need your patrols in place, reassuring people--and discouraging that French pest from making himself free inside our bounds. Catch him at it, better yet.

Need a strategy we can present to BL. She's not best pleased, as you may imagine.
2015-08-22 17:55:00
Private message to Albion MLE

New duty rosters are being posted tomorrow; please check yours. I've shuffled around who's working with whom, at least a bit. As always, feel free to let me know how things are going. If there's someone you can't stand working with, I'm not going to assign you to work together so long as I know.

If you've got friends in NL who are asking for help getting out, please let me know about that, too. We're trying to work out to what extent the conscripts into that new security organisation would like to break loose.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-22 23:00:40
Private message to Auror Jason Montague

Stop by my office when you get a chance.

alt_jason at 2015-08-22 23:03:20
Re: Private message to Auror Jason Montague

Oh, good. Are you giving me something to do?

I could use a distraction, frankly.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-22 23:06:09
Re: Private message to Auror Jason Montague

Not exactly. I'd rather discuss this in person, though.

alt_jason at 2015-08-22 23:14:57
Re: Private message to Auror Jason Montague

Why is that?

Did you get word about Freddie?
Anyway, I'm on my way.

I'd like to request that Seamus and I be allowed to stay in the castle for a few days. Starting tonight, if possible.

I don't believe it's a good idea for my parents and I to be under the same roof at the moment, and my safe house is small enough as is.

You can come tonight. If I can think of somewhere else for you to stay, though, I may have you move there tomorrow.
Pans,

Passing along a request from George: it's not Sunday, so it's not the expected Weasley get together day. But could you join us for dinner anyway?

Mom's inclined to go spare, as she still hasn't seen Ginny. Or Charlie, who has his head up his arse about seeing us, for some reason we can't fathom. AND today is Percy's birthday, which is making Mum sad. She could use some bright, distracting chatter.

Plus, of course, George wants to get some snogging in afterwards.

Ow, George, quit it.

you berk

Bright, distracting chatter is most certainly available on request. I'll have to dig around for non-potions topics, though. I've been up to my ears in parsley, spleens, and scales for what seems like an age and a half, and that tends to get rather dry rather quickly. Perhaps we can borrow Adam for a little? Babies tend to provide all sorts of entertainment.

And Fred, darling, the snogging bit is pretty much assumed, isn't it?
Bellatrix Lestrange sent me a box by owl containing Alfred Montague's eyes, tongue, ears, nose, and fingers, with a note saying, 'Your mole left this behind. See that he gets it.'

At least, I assumed they belonged to Alfred. Jason wasn't able to persuade him to leave, hadn't heard from him in several days, and was quite worried. We're having a Healer check, just to be sure. They'll be able to tell us if they were removed from his still-living body or a corpse, as well -- not sure whether Jason actually wants to know that detail or not. If they were removed while he was alive, there's at least the possibility he still is, and we should keep his parts in magical stasis for later re-attachment... I can't imagine he is, but you never know.

Anyway. I told Jason in person. He took it ... stoically.

How utterly awful.

Jason wants to come stay at the castle. With Finnigan. Says his safe house is too small for them to stay there with his parents, right now.

Thoughts? Have you told Ter.
**alt_rachel** at 2015-08-23 02:46:09  
(no subject)

I gave him permission to come here for tonight. I'll try to think of another solution starting tomorrow. Having Jason here is one thing; Finnigan is another matter. But they need to be somewhere safe, that's not negotiable. For either of them.

---

**alt_alice** at 2015-08-23 03:07:57  
(no subject)

Yes. Agreed.

Safety first.

Here's hoping he uses common bloody sense and stays out of everyone's way.

---

**alt_sirius** at 2015-08-23 01:03:00  
(no subject)

Merlin.

Well, it's cold consolation but I imagine she reacted so dramatically because she's aware her position is getting worse and worse. That or she's finally completely lost her mind.

You knew Jason before he became your spy. Do you think he needs someone to watch out he doesn't try anything stupid? (Either to himself or by rushing off to avenge his brother?)

---

**alt_rachel** at 2015-08-23 01:11:17  
(no subject)

No. Finnigan needs him. After all he went through to keep him safe, Jason's not going to leave him stranded alone.
\textbf{2015-08-22 20:21:00}  
\textit{ORDER ONLY: Private Message to Evelyn and Terry}  

Loves, due to a sudden security issue that's come up, Seamus Finnigan needs to come to Hogwarts. I think a little distance over the weekend would be a good thing for all of us, so my thought is we could spend the weekend in Moddey. I can pack Kev's things.

Evie, dear, do you have any work that needs doing on Sunday? Would spending tonight and tomorrow night there throw a wrench in things? Terry, darling, would that arrangement work for you? Can the twins let you go for a day or so?

I know it's awfully last minute, but I think it would be best.

---

\textbf{alt_evelyn} at \textbf{2015-08-23 03:30:20}  
\textit{(no subject)}

That ought to be just fine, mum.

A weekend in Moddey works for me.

\textbf{alt_terry} at \textbf{2015-08-23 03:37:35}  
\textit{(no subject)}

Fu

Yeah. That would be best. Well, best would be--never mind, not an option.

It would actually be okay to get away from the Sleeper potion prep for a day or two. Fred and George, well...it's not the ideal thing to leave them right now, but they'll understand.
Thank you.
Both of you.
after some false starts we managed to settle a few things.

the diplomatic team has formally established a working relationship with the government of Ireland. they formally recognise the government of Albion, we worked out a preliminary trade deal, and are in the process of negotiating terms for an assistance loan and aid package.

the notice me not caused more than one hold-up. got to where we were sounding like bloody broken records whenever we talked to the UN. ended up creating a series of classified documents using multiple methods of verification that'll help explain things once the field around Great Britain drop. made a tonne of recordings of the process, too. (they've got really nifty movie cameras these days. very compact.) should prevent another attempt by the Americans to come in guns first. here's hoping, at least. tried to cover everyone's respective arses to make sure it didn't come off as coerced or falsified after the fact, and account for the fact that everyone involved will probably be well spooked to see movies of themselves talking to us that they won't remember anything about.

ICW remains conspicuously absent. they're either working furiously behind scenes, or wishing the entire thing would blow over and they didn't have to bother. they don't have much choice in the matter regardless.

two of the team are staying put in Ireland for the time being, setting up in the old British Embassy. will keep in regular contact. rest of us are making our way back tomorrow.

That's good to hear.

Very good indeed.
2015-08-23 11:07:00
Private message to Jason

I'm still in the room. I
Where did you go?

alt_seamus

alt_jason at 2015-08-23 16:24:42
(no subject)

Sorry, I left early to see that my parents were still at
the safe house and hadn't done anything foolish.

They haven't.

I'm heading back now. Everything all right?

alt_seamus at 2015-08-23 16:32:54
(no subject)

Yeah.

I just wanted to make sure you were okay.

It's really weird being back here.

alt_jason at 2015-08-23 16:48:11
(no subject)

Imagine how it feels to a geezer like me.

Last time I was here was for one of those lectures
that Dolohov arranged for. Remember? Well, possibly you didn't notice I was there. But that's not the same as actually sleeping in the castle again.

Are you going to grab some breakfast? Or lunch by now, I suppose.
alt_seamus at 2015-08-23 16:49:47  
(no subject)

I don't really want to go out.

Do you know if there's some way to get the elves to bring me something?

alt_jason at 2015-08-23 17:07:05  
(no subject)

Why? I heard that the Longbottoms aren't around.

Though I suppose I can understand why you're reluctant, really.

Still, you had to make sacrifices to be here. Just something worth keeping in mind, you know?

alt_seamus at 2015-08-23 17:10:07  
(no subject)

The Longbottoms aren't the only ones who hate me.

alt_jason at 2015-08-23 17:29:09  
(no subject)

Do you want them to not hate you?

What I'm asking is: do you simply want to avoid their sneers? Or do you want to change their opinion of you?

I rather enjoy it when people sneer at me. It means I've done something worth remembering.
I don't know what I want. Other than not to get hexed for going to lunch.

I'm back at the castle. Do you want to come down and eat with me?

It could be interesting. Maybe Draco Malfoy will be here, with that girlfriend of his. Funny, that. You should have heard the stuff he spouted at parties one or two years ago. Reckon he was acting all along? Or is there some part of him that will always be the spoilt Malfoy scion?

Here's how I see it: You've always been exceptionally good at adapting to whatever situation you were put into. You had to be good at it, or else you might have been dead.

Pretty sure that these people, at least, don't want to kill you.

And if they do, I'll know.

But if you'd rather I get something from the kitchens and bring it up, I can do that, too.

If you're here, I'll come eat with you.

And some of them definitely want to kill me.

But I trust you to keep me safe.
Well, good.

It'll all be all right, Seamus.
Hey, Linus.

I was talking to Ern at lunch. He said he wasn't sure whether you'd have a memorial here or not, but that regardless, any support would be appreciated, and, well, I just wanted to say that I'm so deeply sorry for what happened to your family, and if there's anything I can do, well, you just say the word.

I know that it can be so hard when families fall on either side of things, and that must just make everything even more complicated and awful.

You've been an absolute brick these past few weeks, working on the wards project and all, and when your dad did what he did to remove Dolohov as Headmaster, it was so very brave of him. Liv and Horace were such shining stars, and after you kept them safe during the Battle, it's just

You've got so much on your shoulders right now. I don't mean to go on. I only wanted to say that I'm here if you need anything.

Best,

Pansy
Guess what? I GOT MOVED BACK TO DAYS. Healer Ludsthorpe, I don't know if you've run into him as he only came over officially a week or two back, apparently ADORES working nights. So I might get pulled in now and then to fill in but I can work sensible hours again.

I thought I'd like working nights, I mean I always have trouble sleeping and hate getting up in the morning, but it turns out it's ten times harder getting to sleep during the day and then getting up when everyone else is going to bed. Ugh. And I'll be able to see you! I mean, at least when you're not away at work.

I'm not at work now. So, y'know, if they're letting you off tonight, we could...

Are they letting you off tonight?

Yes!!! I have the night off. I guess I was overdue for one, I hadn't been tracking the days that closely but Healer Ludsthorpe counted up.

Good thing someone was!

I'll come walk you back if you want. There are some bad elements in the castle at the moment. Maybe you know already? Finnigan and Montague came over, and Brodie let them come here because they're afraid their mates from DEMLE are a bit hacked off at them.
Finnigan is here? Seamus Finnigan?

Is that why the Longbottoms took off for Moddey? I'd heard they all decamped, but I thought maybe they were considering moving HQ out there.

Yeah. Finnicky. Seriously. Brodie turned Montague, and it turns out he's Montague's kneazle. Can you believe it?

They turned up at lunch together. Hydra and I had an amusing time, staring them down over our sandwiches. Not sure whether they're still here, actually. I missed supper. But I'm not sure where else they'd've gone. And you're right, Alice and Ev are away, and I reckon that's probably not a coincidence.

They just turned up at lunch? Merlin. Did Hydra tell you what he was thinking?

Yeah. He was pissing himself he was so nervous about being back here.

So we made sure he knew he was right to be worried.

Seriously. Hydra. I mean, if she'd been looking like that at me, I'd've been worried. Like she was imagining her chicken breast was a thick slice of Irish 'ham' instead.
Hydra was eating chicken? Since when does Hydra eat chicken (or anything else that used to be a cute animal?)

Anyway I'm glad he was nervous. He SHOULD be nervous.

She eats meat. Hasn't she always?

I mean, we had roast last night, and she had seconds. I know because I passed it to her.

And, yeah. He should be. If I knew where they're staying, I'd send Quintus Twycross's ghost after him. And the Baron.

I could ask Myrtle to track him down. She might think that was a lark.

And Hydra's a vegetarian! Or at least she was pretty much forever until, I don't know, sometime after I started the night shift, I guess. (When she was younger she was sort of a sugartarian. I mean if she could have lived on nothing but sweets and rice I think she'd have done.)

Actually, sending Myrtle after him would probably be just as traumatising. For him. Though he deserves something loads worse. Thing is I don't trust him. None of us should. I think it's mad they took him in.
Huh. I don't know about that, but she likes meat well enough now.
Well, I left. I mean, I left New London, I left our side -- what was left of it -- I left Bellatrix Lestrange and Antonin Dolohov (even though he turned out to be alive after all) and the Council. Jason Montague convinced me. Not to go to the Order -- he didn't tell me where we were going, just that he was going to keep me safe.

He'd apparently been working for them for months.

The Death Eaters want to get out -- they're trapped by the wards, the way everyone else was. Lana Sandoval suggested killing me to break out of the wards. Which might have worked, I guess, because of the way the Irish ward was made. They asked if I was willing, so of course I said I was, because -- you know, what else was I going to say? After that was when Jason asked me to promise to come with him to safety. I thought, I don't know. I guess on some level I thought he probably meant the Order, but I couldn't let myself think about it. I just kept my head down until he said it was time.

So now I'm at Hogwarts. We were in a safehouse, Jason's safehouse. But it's very small, and his parents were there as well. And Freddie -- Alfred -- he wouldn't come. He wanted to stay behind. And that didn't end well for him. Jason wanted to get away from his parents for a bit so here we are. It's -- I don't know. I don't like being here. Too many people hate me. I don't belong here. I don't really belong anywhere.

Do you think they'd let me visit you? Would you want me to
I suppose you've heard, too. About Seamus?

I asked if I could write to you. It's completely unfair that he's walking round Hogwarts free as anything and I'm in here. You know the kind of things he did? Compared to me?

Just because he's had the good luck to be sleeping with someone who was spying on the Council for a few weeks, he gets to get away with everything?

And now he's writing to me, too, like he expects everything to be all right.

You HAVE to talk to them. It's not as if I'm going to hurt anyone. Not like I'd kill Mum, or anything, not like they'd even expect me to do something like that.
D'you know whether Finnigan and Montague are staying tonight at the castle again? Lunch was interesting. Suppose it's not nice, turning the tables on him like that, but it did make the sarnies taste better.

I couldn't tell you what Montague was thinking. He didn't seem fussed though, did he?

And Seamus was occluding, which was a new development. But after a while he seemed to give up. Too nervous, I think.

Yeah, nervous.

Don't kid yourself. He was scared to death of you!

Why? I wasn't going to do anything.

He thinks everyone hates him, I think. Which is sensible of him.

I don't know if I actually do hate him, myself. Even though I did have a conversation with Justin about killing him. But that was mostly because he kept making bad decisions with even worse results.
Wish you had done.

Not sure what they've promised him. I mean, if he makes himself too much of a liability, surely we can do whatever makes sense at the time, yeah? I mean amnesty's for what he did in the past. It shouldn't be forever, d'you think?

Well he did take an Unbreakable Vow, so there's that.

Padma and Seamus were both always making decisions without even thinking about the harm that they caused. Or rarely, anyway. It drove me mad when I was on the castle.

But everyone around them encouraged them to be exactly the way that they were. I know that you and Neville didn't always, but sometimes you still had to put on a mask, like you did with Professor Desai.

What if you depended on Desai for everything? Or someone like her?

I'm not making excuses for Seamus, but he's a far, far cry from someone like Teddy Nott. I don't think he'll cause trouble on his own. He might if Montague decides to, though.

True, but those are only as good as the phrasing. I mean, you hear about people finding wiggle room in UVs.

Not that I'm saying Brodie or whoever wrote it would've left him enough room to wriggle out of it, but...
Maybe I can get him hacked off at me enough to try throwing AK my way. Then he'd fall down dead, and it wouldn't take me breaking his amnesty guarantees, at all.

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-24 03:20:26
(no subject)

You could try. What would you do?
Did we find Montague and Finnigan a place to stay that's sufficiently far from - well, from anyone else?

We knew that re-integrating would be a challenge, well, here's our very first live test of whether we can get the next generation to get along, after all the bad blood.

I hope we don't have to place a guard outside their door or anything.

Mind you, I'm not saying Alice made the wrong call to get Ginny back, but I wonder if we should have insisted that Finnigan pay at least some dues before expecting the others to simply break bread with him.

They're somewhere up one of the towers. (Not Ravenclaw or Astronomy. Maybe near the Divination classroom?) We should have had Alice specify that they needed to eat their meals in their room, or at least that Finnigan needed to.

Maybe he'll exhibit more sense from here out. Or we could simply instruct the elves and save everyone the stress of another day like this.

I wish I knew what Montague wanted. What Montague was thinking. If it were just Montague turning up to eat with our side, it would be easy enough to explain, 'oh, he's actually been working for us for months.' Draco, Hydra, Justin, Ron, they all had their turn working as Order agents; that's easy for people to
Does he expect us to welcome Seamus Finnigan back with open arms? I thought the bargain was just amnesty, not -- I don't know.

alt_sirius at 2015-08-24 02:15:23
(no subject)

There's amnesty and there's the good taste to stay a hermit.

alt_lupin at 2015-08-24 02:17:34
(no subject)

I think we all assumed they'd have the sense to keep their distance.

Maybe we could take up a collection to provide them with a flat in Hogsmeade. Or anywhere that isn't the castle.

alt_sirius at 2015-08-24 02:19:49
(no subject)

Hm. Do you think they got the point, though? Or should we say something to Mr Montague?

alt_lupin at 2015-08-24 02:27:53
(no subject)

The trouble with talking to Montague is he just lost his brother, horribly.
Rachel,

I've crossed another off our list and if it's all right with you, I'll be coming home for a day or two.

I don't know if Draco's told you yet, but there's meant to be a festival of some sort next weekend. Perhaps we could organise a disturbance there?

At any rate, I'll be available to debrief tomorrow. Apologies but I'm far too bally well knackered at present to be of much coherence.

Good work. By all means, come in. I'll see you tomorrow morning, whenever you get up.

Oh, and you should know -- Jason Montague and Seamus Finnigan are both currently at Hogwarts.

Montague, because he was spying for me. Finnigan, because of a deal we made with Montague. And they wound up at Hogwarts last night for safety reasons. It's every bit as awkward as you'd expect. I just wanted you to know before you ran into Seamus Finnigan in the bath or something.

Oh, I say.

Yes, I'd seen your message headers to Montague. I rather thought that might mean he was yours and had been compromised.
I...I say. Finnigan, truly. Well.

I say, does that mean that the others you had on our safe list are now acceptable targets?

-J

👤 alt_rachel at 2015-08-24 02:58:35
(no subject)

Ptolemy Baddock definitely is. Let me double check the rest and get back to you.
2015-08-23 21:49:00
Order Only: Private Message to Hydra

Dux,

I'll be home shortly.

I say, I saw Rachel sending messages to 'Auror' Jason Montague. He was on our list of people not to harm. So, I take it he's one of ours?

Was his cover compromised--is that why he wrote to her?

One does feel out of the loop. I'm looking forward to seeing you, having a bath and hearing all about what I've missed.

Soon,

-J

alt_hydra at 2015-08-24 03:17:38
(no subject)

Technically?

I wouldn't say that he's been accepted, though. Montague insisted on an amnesty deal for Seamus, similar to the arrangement Padma has. I don't know the details except than an unbreakable vow was involved.

Oh, but Montague did rescue Ginny, and I suppose Seamus must have helped in some way. So Montague wasn't compromised but he couldn't go back, after that.

I'm glad you'll be home.

alt_justin at 2015-08-24 03:23:26
(no subject)

Yes, Rachel's just told me that Finnigan is at Hogwarts. I say, I could hardly believe it!

That's rather a different arrangement from that
given Padma, then, unless he's locked in a dungeon awaiting proof he'll behave himself.

So he's the reason Ginny's back? Well, worth the trade, I'm sure. I see I'm jolly well behind the times!

-J

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**alt_justin** at **2015-08-24 03:24:03**  
(no subject)

Is Ginny feeling more herself, then?

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**alt_hydra** at **2015-08-24 03:26:59**  
(no subject)

I think Jason Montague is acting as his guard and guardian, or something.

Anyway, I don't think they'll be here for long. But then none of us will, really.

And I haven't seen Ginny, so I couldn't tell you. Very few people have seen her, actually.
2015-08-24 06:19:00
Order Only Private Message to Sally Anne

Say. I'm getting sent down NL way to do recon.

Just so you know.

Glad you were off last night. Tell Healer Wotsname thanks!

alt_ron

---

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-25 00:47:28
(no subject)

How's it going? Do you know what time you're getting back?

I'll say one thing for night shifts, they're a lot quieter than day shifts. (Usually.) This is the first I've been able to write back to you.

Say, something people were talking about at lunch is where they're going to live. Since we're all going to have to move out of the castle, so they can bring in students again. Do you know -- I mean -- do you have any thoughts about that? Can't very well live in New London and I don't think we want a house that muggles are going to turn up wanting back as more Sleepers wake up. I'd prefer not to have to apparate a really long way at the end of my shifts but I'm not sure even where I'll be working so I guess I'll have to just cross my fingers for a reliable floo option.
**Private Message to M Bande**

0700 Briefing [L S-P (Catchlove), (Zabini), (Crestrose), (Broome)] (MB: yellow ante-rm)

0730-0845 Command & Coordination [B Lestrange (Broome), Rowle (Crestrose), Braithewaite (Zabini), L S-P (Catchlove)] (MB: meeting rm 2; see elves have orders)

0900 Briefing w/ N & G Burdett-Coutts re. Hyde Park festival [L S-P (Catchlove), Braithewaite (Zabini), (Crestrose), (Broome)] (MB: yellow ante-rm; B-Cs require escort from security entrance; do **not** leave unattended)

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**alt_lana** at 2015-08-24 11:50:12

(no subject)

Need settling draught, tea, digestives.

See to it.
Order Only - Private message to Alice, Remus, Sirius, and Rachel

When I was at the castle early yesterday morning to pick up Hermione, I noticed that there were some trunks and things shoved out into the hallways. I guess people are trying to get organised for the big move out.

I don't know what kind of discussion you've all had in private, but have you made a decision on where the Albion government and MLE will be headquartered once the school term starts? Because there's something to be said for making a legitimising and lasting impression. Even Riddle recognised that when he took Buckingham for himself.

Anyway, if you haven't settled on a HQ yet, I thought I would offer up Malfoy Manor. It's certainly big and grand enough for that purpose. And there are plenty of rooms, for those who are still displaced or don't feel safe moving into a regular flat somewhere.

Let me know what you decide, yeah?

Well, it's a lot better than any of the other options we've come up with. Thoughts, Alice?

At the start of summer, we'd expected (rather idealistically) to be able to move to New London by now, but barring that, we were looking into a variety of options, all far less than ideal.

This will serve well as a temporary seat for a temporary government.

Thank you, Draco.
I can just see your parents' reaction if/when they ever find out. If you think others won't have a similarly horrified or traumatic reaction, let's do.

Thank you, Draco.

Obviously it's not a location that screams 'neutrality,' but I'm not sure what does, these days. I am interested in shifting perceptions of what the Malfoy name stands for, though. I'm sure you relate.

I don't think it would serve as a permanent HQ, but it's an option for the time being, since the school has to go back to being a school.

No, it's a logical choice, honestly. Hydra's the secret keeper, isn't she? We'll need to lift that, I reckon. One of the nice things about Hogwarts is that it's public but fairly defensible.

We'll need a second Polyjuice detector in the main entrance, too. I'd like to leave the prototype here for Septima.

But the Manor doesn't have anti-Apparation, does it? That's something to consider. We don't want your Aunt Bella popping into the west drawing room for tea, do we?

There is some security detail at the Manor. Mother had those threats from that Collins bloke, and then there was Dogstar, too. I'm fairly sure they're inactive now, but maybe Rachel can
assemble a team to look things over and install whatever wards or other security measures would be needed. I can assist too, of course.

**alt_draco** at 2015-08-24 18:15:25  
*Private message to Sirius*

We should get together when I'm free next. I've got a story you'd be interested in hearing, I'm sure.

**alt_sirius** at 2015-08-24 18:29:49  
*Re: Private message to Sirius*

All right. I'm intrigued.

**alt_draco** at 2015-08-24 20:52:42  
*Re: Private message to Sirius*

Wednesday night?

**alt_sirius** at 2015-08-24 22:16:39  
*Re: Private message to Sirius*

Going to leave me hanging? Tease.

Wednesday night it is.

**alt_draco** at 2015-08-25 00:24:27  
*Re: Private message to Sirius*

Best shared in person, possibly with one of those spliffs. That way you'll be less likely to think I've gone mental.
Good Afternoon,

Have you missed anyone yet today? Everyone reporting in as expected?

I say, I realise I've been unspeakably rude, not inquiring after your health. I know we've never really become acquainted, but as you are part of the extended family, and about to extend that family even more, it would be remiss not to express the hope that everything is going well with Hydra's soon-to-be half-sibling.

I do trust the stress of running MLE in your condition hasn't adversely affected anything. Do you know, back when Hydra thought I came from Squibs, one of the things we discussed was that her father's rather significant prejudice against them was not merely academic. Apparently the Lestranges were jolly well prone to the birthing of Squib children, not too long ago.

Now, for us, of course, that wasn't an issue. I'm not one to complain about a lack of magic in the family, or any of its descendants, what. Hydra has quite rejected all her family's ridiculous notions about blood purity or magical ability. But for someone like Rodolphus, who sets so much importance on his lineage, it must be a bally well tense time indeed. One can't imagine he'd be pleased with anything less than a perfect heir. Pity. I was always under the impression that the best parents pray only that the child be whole and healthy, and that mother and infant both thrive afterward.

I'm curious: Did you look into spells to assure that the child will be male? Antonin might have helped you there, if you'd asked him.

I say, come to think of it, has he been of much help, at all, since Barty's demise? Or is your husband's former wife keeping Tosha too busy with her own errands?

Well, don't let me take up more of your valuable time. It can't be easy or comfortable getting round at present and I'm sure you've loads of things to attend to.

NL 021, by the way.
Regards,

-Finch-Fletchley
2015-08-25 05:06:00
Private Message to Honoria Sandoval

alt_lana

2015-08-25 13:11:04
Private Message

alt_lana at 2015-08-25 13:11:04
Private Message

What have you been telling those people about our family?

alt_lana at 2015-08-25 13:11:55
Private Message

How dare you?
What are you even doing here?

Jason brought me.

Does that mean you're his prisoner? Slave? What?

No. I think you know what we are to each other.

You could be that somewhere else. A suggestion.
That would in fact be my preference.

Maybe you should hook up with someone who takes your preferences more seriously, then.

Montague seems to enjoy being under foot.

Brodie's foot.

Too bad for you.

If I see you again, you'll end up under mine.

I'm staying out of everyone's way as well as I can.

If you see me again, I'll be an easy mark for you. Hope you enjoy it.

What. Are the elves not bringing you food?

Suppose they don't feel they've got any duty to you. Huh. It'd be a right shame if you starved.

That's not what I meant, but whatever.
Have you seen your sister? Is she doing any better?

Jason got her out, as I'm sure you know, so I saw her that

What do you even—

Do you know what they did to her?

Of course I know what they did to her. That's why I'm asking how she's doing.

If they'd just left her alone, I would have assumed she was doing fine and I wouldn't have asked.

She's doing about like you'd expect. Totally wrong-footed all the time. Has no idea who to trust. I think she's scared a lot.

And she's angry, too.

And sad.

They What do you know about Baddock? He was her minder once Dolohov disappeared, yeah? He's the one got her the job at WWN?
He didn't cruciate her, at least. He probably didn't think he needed to.

He kept an eye on her, got her the job at WWN, gave her presents, and raped her. Maybe he didn't think it was rape, since I assume she said yes? But she'd have said yes to anything, that was really the point of most of what they did to her. She'd go along with anything they said, believe whatever they told her.

Did she tell you?

Fuck.

Yeah, of course that's not what she said. But, yeah. No wonder she

Where do you think Baddock's gone to ground? Any idea about that?

I'd tell you if I knew. But I don't know the Baddocks terribly well. And they're hiding from Bellatrix as much as from the Order.
Alright. Yeah, I didn't really expect you would know. Worth asking, though.

Thanks.

I mean, you didn't have to tell me anything, I know that.

I'll tell the elves to be sure you get lunch, by the way. So you don't have to come down. That'd still be better for everyone.
Private message to Pisces and Seven

Ipswitch 11.

ISO secure location with you at Glasgow. Sooner the better. Can't offer services but have someone with me who will.
2015-08-25 10:19:00
Private Message to M Travers, G Braithwaite, P Revanche, G Wreston

Pisces and Seven? Id.

Why is Montague still alive?
Don't answer him. He probably just wants to make you feel worse about Longbottom.

Will they let you go places? My parents left New London. They're still not really together. Dad's working for the Albion radio people, I guess, and Mum's taken up a house near this collective of farms where they're making loads of textiles. And Inderpal and Pav have been working for Albion for a while. They're in Crieff. Haruman's at Hogwarts.

But they're letting me out. Later today, that's what they said. And so we've got to decide where I'm to go. I don't want to go to Hogwarts, if that's how things are. I think I'll probably go stay with Pavs and do...whatever they're doing.

I suppose I've got you to thank for it, really. I told Haruman to talk to them since it's ridiculous you're walking round free and I wasn't. But now they're fixing that, so.

I'm glad you're not in New London anymore.

I think I could come visit, wherever it is you end up staying. They're not -- I mean, I'm not a prisoner. I could probably even go back to New London and no one would stop me, it's just that I'd have to be a complete idiot to do that, especially after what happened to Freddie Jason's brother. Anyway. I can meet you anywhere that's safe.

I'm really glad they're letting you out. It wouldn't have been fair, keeping you in a cell when they gave me amnesty.

Jason and I are going to move out of the castle as soon as we can. He's looking for a place for us to stay.
I'll let you know.

I think Inderpal might want to chaperone

I've missed you so much.

Me, too.
Order Only Private Message to R Brodie

Ptolemy Baddock. Is he dead yet? He needs to be.

alt_ron

alt_rachel at 2015-08-25 17:20:11
(no subject)

He's no longer on the 'nonlethal force only' list, but he's still alive, so far as I know.

He's not a high priority, since Jason believes he's left New London and gone into hiding. Should he be?

alt_ron at 2015-08-25 18:02:29
(no subject)

Sorry.

I've been with Ginny, trying to find out if it's true.

It is. Ptolemy Baddock raped her. Seduced her. Whatever. She's in love with him maybe even, but he used what they did to her to get her sleep with him. And of course she did. I mean, it's not like she could've said no, is it? Or would've. She-

I asked her about him. I mean, I got her talking about the wireless programme, and she said his name, so I asked what he was like, and she just went to bits. Seriously. She kept crying and crying. Like her heart's broken. I- She was better by the time I left. Reading something.

Do we know where Baddock is?

I want to make him beg to die.
Personally?

Personally, yeah.

All right. Yeah. I get why you're asking. And, no, I don't want someone to hold off if they've got a shot at him. I just want him dead, even if it's not me who gets the chance to do it.

Good.

And we don't currently know where he is. I'll see what I can find out.

And there's no such thing as 'seduction' when the other person is your brainwashed prisoner. Even if you sat them down for a nice dinner first, rather than threatening them with more cruciatus if they
don't do what you want.

Did you tell the Healer what you found out?

Oh.

No, I didn't tell the Healer, but I should do, shouldn't I?

Thing is she thinks she wanted to. I think. And I think she misses him and wants to be back with him. She's really-

I can't see she's ever going to be right, y'know?

And, ugh. That's probably a reason it'd be good if someone else goes and takes Baddock out, because- it would make it even harder, being there with her. Not sure I could really-

I just want to know he's dead. Yesterday.

The Healer may already know, or at least suspect, but yes. I can send her a note, if you'd prefer.

And be patient. She's only been back with us for a week. She'll recover.
Private Message to Mephistophilis Carr and Martin Scalliwag

Need to find my brother, Orion. Should be somewhere at Harrods, but one of you check at home. Tell him if he's going to be impossible to reach by Floo, he'll have to come here in person.

There's a promotion in it for whichever of you gets him here within the hour.
2015-08-25 13:29:00

Order Only: Private message to Pansy Parkinson

I need to find Ptolemy Baddock.

Pansy, you were acquainted with his father for years. Do you know where the Baddocks would likely go to hide? (They're hiding both from our side, and their own. Ptolemy was the one guarding Ginny Weasley when Jason removed her back to us.)

alt_pansy at 2015-08-26 03:22:20
(no subject)

Justin managed to get in a rather thorough interview after dinner. I very much hope you find him.
Ptolemy Baddock raped Ginny Weasley, while she was being held prisoner in New London.

I want him dead.

I'm not sure where he's hiding, but I'll see what I can find out.

---

Rachel,

Naturally. Death is too good for him, what.

May I ask, who else knows this? You may count upon my discretion, of course, but--if Ron--or her mother-- I mean to say.

They ought to be told by someone qualified to counsel them.

Is Ginny--that is, will she be all right? I say, it's an altogether inadequate question, isn't it. What I mean to ask is, do the Healers detect any lasting physical damage? The emotional damage, it goes without saying, is horrendous enough.

One's tempted to return any favours he did her, you understand.

-Justin

Ron knows. The rest of her family doesn't. I'm not sure when, or what, to tell them, though they already know she was cruciated repeatedly and unrelentingly in order to brainwash her to hate them.

He didn't cause her any additional physical damage -- if he had, we'd have known sooner. I expect he considered it 'seduction.'
Frankly it's hard to say which is worse.

Death is far too good for him.

-J

It really is.

And as far as favours returned go, I don't want you taking any unnecessary risks.

Understood.

-J
Somebody finally found me a Dicta-Quill so I can write without having to hold the quill which they told me to stop doing because it was making the bones in my hand shift wrong and those are about halfway down the list to regrow. Sorry no strike that? Cross that out? I don't know how to work this fucking thing.

Anyway. Sorry.

I'm sorry I haven't wanted visitors. It's not that I don't want to see you. I do. It's just. I don't know what it's just. I can bear the healers looking at me like I'm broken because they're the ones who're putting me back together, but everyone else who sees me gets that look on their faces too and it's like being stabbed all over again. The look on Dree's face when she saw me nearly undid me. And I feel so useless and I'm so scared and I don't know what the hell comes next except a lot of fucking time in this bed.

But it's not fair to you to not let you come see me when you've been so worried and I'm sorry. Everyone else can keep waiting but. You can come by whenever your free. No you stupid fucking thing your. Y O U APOSTROPHE R E oh my fucking kneazles balls I'm going to set this thing on fire.

Sorry. It's having trouble understanding me or I'm having trouble working it. Put a shitting comma in there you malformed jizzfucking sack of

Sorry. Anyway. Yeah. Whenever you have a minute. I should be awake for at least another few hours.

I love you. Best girl.

We'll manage the 'what'll come next' bit together. Promise. I'll be up in a few.

Love you back, Chuck.
There are some significant downsides to strict blood purity, aren't there? You seem to have done well enough with the fertility -- did Rod mention Bella's miscarriages to you? -- but the squib risk must be keeping you up nights, especially given your own family history.

Oh, yes. Honoria told me. She told me about Inés -- the other older sister she should have had, if your family hadn't abandoned her in Spain. And the six others, the ones from your father's first wife, Valeria. Poor Valeria. I'd say Inés proved rather decisively that those six squibs weren't just her fault.

At least since they were left behind in Spain, your sister and half-siblings weren't handed over to the likes of Rookwood and Amycus Carrow for experimentation.

Does Rod know about the Sandoval squibs?

Unless you're one of the lucky parents whose baby shows magic early, you could be in for a long wait to know for sure. The minute I hear your baby's been born, I'll be able to check in the Hogwarts Book and see if there's a new Lestrange baby listed. No listing, no magic. I don't know how many people on your side knew about the Hogwarts Book -- Lucius did, and probably Antonin, since he was Headmaster. Of course, they never saw the real one, since the Order had the real one hidden for years. That's how we got hold of the muggleborn babies before your lot did.

It's back in the Head's office now, as it should be. I'm sure Vector would let me take a look, if I asked politely.

You might recall stories about Filius Flitwick being killed by Savitha Desai, because he crept into the Hogwarts Castle. That's what he was there to do: he created the false copy of the Hogwarts Book.
Your parents must have given up on Inés well before Hogwarts age. Most children show their magic by five, but not all.

She could be in the Hogwarts Book! I mean, she wouldn't have been in there at birth, since she was born in Spain, but you were added when you immigrated, and she'd have been too. If she wasn't a squib after all.

I wonder if she's in there?

You have no

How dare you even?
And don't waste the effort. She's not there. She's not there.

Did you ever read *Children of Magical Families: Statistics and Outcomes*? I found it on the library shelves. It's from before the Protectorate days, an American researcher who did studies on magical families. He was trying to identify what causes squibs.

He found that two percent of magical children don't show their magic until they are fully ten years old. Ten! How old was Inés, when your family abandoned her?

Honoria doesn't remember her, of course, since she was gone before Honoria was born. But I suppose you would. She was your baby sister. Until one day she wasn't.

So I checked the dates, and based on Inés's birth date, which is inscribed inside one of your mother's rings, she would've been just barely four years old.

Half of all magical children haven't shown their magic yet at five. There are tests -- I'm sure your parents had them done -- but they're unreliable at best.

Go on, tell me again it would be a waste of time to look for her.
8 October 1977.

Emerald ring.

Did you ever look at that inscription? Was it your Uncle Eduardo who told you about the 'family tragedy' or did your father tell you?

That picture in your grandmother's dressing room -- is it really your father's first wife, or was that a tale you and Orion made up to scare Honoria with?
2015-08-25 17:56:00
Private Message to Antonin Dolohov

Come for supper tonight?
Say you will.

alt_lana

alt_antonin at 2015-08-26 02:13:49
(no subject)

Thank you again for your hospitality, my dear. I'm sorry I could not stay longer -- I would have been quite content to spend the entire evening on our conversation -- but between my extracurricular obligations and your inevitable desire to get some sleep in between the bludgers being applied to your ribs from the inside, I suppose an early night was inevitable.

I will happily, however, come back whenever you are in the mood for company; a monofocus is good for none of us. (A lesson of which I have needed to be reminded more times than I can count, in my life.)

As to the other matter we discussed -- I am more than happy to take care of it for you, and thank you for trusting me enough to do so. I know that you would inevitably prefer to take care of it yourself, but in this measure, at least, my wand shall be at your will.

alt_lana at 2015-08-26 03:07:42
(no subject)

I think only the two we decided. I can't bring myself to-

Honoria's to blame, not my uncle. He's done nothing to betray the family. Perhaps he oughtn't to have told her so much as he did--he really shouldn't--but none of us could have guessed how utterly malicious she would become.

And thank you, for looking into the other (other) matter for me. I- I hate all of this. Most of all, keeping things from him. Only, I'm really not sure-
No.

It's only that there's so much that's so challenging at the moment. Who could have foreseen? A year ago? But I know we've simply got to see it through until we prevail.

alt_antonin at 2015-08-26 03:20:23 (no subject)

I can certainly think of better ways this could have turned out, yes. If wishes were horses -- but I am taking care of it. Taking time out from cleaning up my own messes to handle matters for you will not be a problem at all.

Regarding that other matter -- I've found the notebook that had the ingredients for the tea Ummi used to swear by, and I'm happy to say that none of them are very difficult to procure. I'll have the elf bring around a tin of it tomorrow. I shall include her instructions, but they are basically "before birth drink one cup three times daily; after birth and until weaning, drink one cup every three to four hours until the child's magic shows". In the meantime, I'd recommend that you avoid reading any of their taunts -- the last thing you want is to convince your subconscious mind that they are prophecy, not cruelty -- and I will inform you immediately if I turn up anything else you can do.

Really, it's unconscionable of them to be harassing you in such a fashion at this point. Do what you can to put it out of your mind as much as possible.

And you have my word again that the matter will go no further. You and he both have a great deal of stress upon your shoulders; there's no need to further it by fretting with each other.

alt_lana at 2015-08-26 04:08:02 (no subject)

I know you're right about the messages. I promise I'll ignore them at least until the baby comes. Until it's weaned, even. And I'll take your Ummi's tea faithfully, knowing it will be infused with all the power of your family's magic.
Thank you, Antosha. You are a wonderful friend, a brilliant mentor, and a very dear man.
Heya Pans--

I feel like we never see each other these days. It’s good to be busy--and not trapped in the bloody castle --but it also feels strange that we aren’t all living in each other’s pockets any more.

I suppose that’s what being a school-leaver is like really; we members of the old ISS crew probably see each other more than most former schoolmates actually. On account of being members of the same revolutionary organisation and all...

How’s it been with the Sleepers? I’m sure you’re relieved Hermione’s doing better--well not just because of that obviously! It’s so good to see her and Hydra both recovering; it was touch and go there for awhile. I’ve been enjoying my role as Apparition Lass & General Magical Dogsbody for Col. Davidson--and I think that seeing that he’s obviously my superior has gone a long way toward building trust with all the Muggle camps and free farms and various groups we’ve been meeting with.

And I’ve been learning loads about Muggle history and culture and most importantly music! I met this amazing woman named Kirsty--she was one of the first wave of awakened Sleepers and she’s still having a bit of a time wrapping her head around the fact that it isn’t the 1980s any more and she’s been asleep lo these many years. But anyhow--she hung around in folk clubs and wrote songs against whoever was the Muggle Minister of Magic (well not Magic; it was some Arithmantic-sounding sort of title) and she’s been teaching me loads of songs--just by ear since she hasn’t got any sheet music. I want to try to find her a guitar when I can.

It’s been a job keeping everyone in food and clothing though--and some places are looking pretty raggedy & hitting the turnip stew pretty hard. At least I’ve been seeing Wayne & Stebs pretty often to coordinate moving stuff. Telling them about the Abbotts was pretty rough though.
It is an utter relief, yeah. She does push herself awfully hard, though, so I've been trying to help as much as I can. And it's not like there isn't anything to do now that I'm not trying very hard to be half a Hermione (I've no idea how she manages being a full her, honestly). The Food Network is just so time intensive, and the Business and Trade Committee won't run itself, so at this point, I'm just glad for any sleep at all.

I think for the most part, though, it's work well done, you know? Things that very much need doing.

And yeah. Them, the Greengrasses, the Jugsons, and the Moons hit particularly hard around here. Poor Linus. Queenie and Astoria, too.

I think I can get my hands on a guitar. I'll send one down. Maybe once we both have a proper break, you and the amazing Kirsty can sing some of these songs to me.
You might send a discreet owl to your parents to let them know to watch their step around Lana. She's not in a terribly good mood at present, and telling her that it was your Uncle Eduardo who passed on the details of your father's first marriage might get him into hot water.

Let me know if she writes to you again.

Also, I did check the Hogwarts Book for Inés. She's not there. Probably she really was a squib. It's also possible that she's not listed simply because they left her in Spain, or because they did magic expelling her from the family, or some combination of things. I'm not planning on telling Lana that, though.
Sorry to once again sneak out while you were still sleeping. I put out a note this time. Did you see it? Never-mind the doodles--I couldn't' sleep.

Anyway, I'm at the safe house gathering a few things I left behind. Soon as you're up and about go ahead and pack your things, because we're moving on.

How do you fancy Glasgow?

Recall that I told you about my few years living and working there, after I left Hogwarts? Made quite a few connections, the biggest being the McCormacks, a name likely familiar to you through quidditch. When the Lord Protector was still around, they and the rest of their clan worked hard to keep the city free of his particular flavour of scrutiny. I assisted by giving them notice about upcoming raids and investigations.

They're more or less aligned with Albion now, but are remaining independent.

Anyway, Meghan and Kirley've said they can help us get settled in there. There'll be work for you, too, if you want it.

We'll have to keep a low profile for a while, but in the long run, who knows? Maybe we can make a home there.

I haven't ever been to Glasgow, but I fancy it more than staying here.

What sort of work?
Well, they'll like you. You're a fellow Celt, even if you're not (in their opinion) the best kind. Like I said, the clan works to keep the city happily independent and free of strife, so anyone with any kind of Auror training would be especially welcome. They're not like the Protectorate MLE, though. They seem to prefer to solve most conflicts with a pint rather than a duel.

Ha. Well, I can try my best for them. Do they know I can't cast anything really dangerous, now?

That was once the rule for everyone, right? I mean, it didn't involve UVs, it was just a polite practice that our society agreed on, in addition to certain things being illegal. They're not looking for an assassin. It's more about seeing to it that people are safe, collecting reports on any unusual happenings or new arrivals to the city, that sort of thing. But if you'd rather I'm sure they'd let you work at the pub, too. Pouring pints or sweeping up. Or there's always the potions workshop, too.

I don't. I guess I've never actually thought about it. Whether I'd rather pour pints or work as an
Enforcer. It was never my choice, so there wasn't a reason to think about it.

I'll do my best, even though it's hard to imagine being much use as an Enforcer if anything serious came up. Maybe nothing ever does.

Are there muggles in Glasgow?

Well now you have a choice. No rush to decide, though.

Muggles? I don't rightly know, but I suppose it's possible.

I guess I could try one thing, and if that didn't work out well, I could try something else.

Jason, can I go visit Padma Patil today? Would that be okay? Or should I wait -- maybe she could come visit in Glasgow, once we're settled?

That's pretty much how I live my whole life.

Where would you visit her at? It's not her I'm concerned about, but we've still got to take precautions when it comes to where we're seen.

I can see why you wouldn't want to wait.
I'm not sure where she is, but she has to stay in hiding from Bellatrix, too. I think she was going to go stay with Parvati.

You should do what you want to do, but take all precautions, of course.

And I'll come along if you want me to meet her.

Properly meet her, I mean. Not the whole "oh, we're being Cruciated together in court" sort of meeting.

I think she'd like meeting you. Properly.

Brilliant then.
Surely you've caught up on your beauty sleep by now?

George and me'd like to stop by to see you sometime today, whenever you can fit us in around your nap schedule. You mustn't worry about the necessity of primping to see us. We've given you time that you asked for, but c'mon, Charlie.

We're family.

---

Look. I'm sorry that I don't want visitors but I don't really want visitors. I'm exhausted and I'm in a lot of pain and they're still regrowing five or six bones a day which is agonizing and every time someone comes to see me they either cry on me or look at me like I'm a pitiful wreck and I can't fucking deal right now and I don't know when I will be able to.

Fuck a monkey's eyeball quill what do you have against ducking commas you kneazle-wedging load of ass-cramming I SAID FUCKING NOT DUCKING Merlin's balls I'm going to set this thing on fire.

Ginny asked to see me yesterday and we spent an hour or so and it's what she needed but it was fucking exhausting. And they're up to doing my right knee today and they warned me it was going to be even more excruciating than the ankle and that was bad enough they had to put me under with Living Death for it. So I think I'll fucking pass on the company.

All right, Charlie. We're sorry you're in pain. We're sorry you're exhausted. If it helps, we weren't particularly planning on weeping all over you at all, but we had hoped to lift your spirits. A visit for the
benefit of you, not us. But if you're convinced it wouldn't be a benefit, but instead a pain in the arse, okay then.

Glad you got to see Gin, which is more than we've managed to do.

(Bet we could charm you a less frustrating Dicta-quill. Would that help? Is there any other way we can help? Books? Peeled grapes? A magical back scratcher? Bet Mum would make you some of her shortbread, if you like.)

If you can get me a Dicta-Quill that's less ducking annoying and actually knows what commas are that would be wonderful I swear I spend half the time fighting with this piece of ship.

FU CK I N G. S H I T. Oh my sodding centaur knickers I give up.

And look. I'm sorry. I don't mean to snap at you but I told Ginny yesterday I'm like a dragon gets when its injured. They find a cave somewhere and hide in it and snarl at anyone who gets too close. I just want this part to be fucking over already so I can stop spending eight hours a day having the Healers torture me for my own fucking good and get on with figuring out whether or not I'm going to be able to walk on the other end of this or if I should start learning how to leviosa myself where I need to go.

Books. Books would be good. If you can charm them to read themselves so I don't have to leviosa those over my head to read them. The grapes and the shortbread are out I'm afraid. Not supposed to have anything the Healers don't give me right now. I miss real food so fucking much.
Hello,

Pansy was correct about there being a house in the north, what, but it was a ruse.

I did manage to dispatch one of Lana's Aurors, poor sod. I offered him the option to surrender but he chose to fight.

With your permission, I'm going to contact Baddock's father. Pansy seems to feel he has more the heart of a broker than a murderer. One hopes he'll weigh the relative merits of saving his family at the cost of his scab of a son, and be willing to make a deal.

Even if he doesn't, it might be bally well useful to strain relations between father and son, what.

I shall make no promises other than that his wife, Ptolemy's, and the young daughters will be unharmed and that Aristotle himself will be treated fairly. Pansy was hard-pressed to point to anything he'd done that was jolly well nearly as bad as most of the others, so I do think it's safe to assume that he would be unlikely to receive capital punishment or even life imprisonment if he agrees to submit to a tribunal.

-Justin

Did Jason know anything? My concern about writing to Ari is that he'll warn Ptolemy, rather than taking the deal.
Jason knew, as did Pansy, that Ptolemy and his father have always had a somewhat rocky relationship, for a variety of reasons, including temperament. He had some idea that Ptolemy had been putting an escape plan into place, long before Jason made his move, but with the routes presently cut off it's entirely possible they can remain in hiding for some time.

I'm accounting for the likelihood that he'll warn Ptolemy but my point to him will be that he can trade his son for his daughters, or leave them without their brothers or their father.

And of course, should Lana and Bella be the ones to find them first, there will be no guarantees about the witches in the family.

-J

Good point about Lana and Bella.

You might mention to Ari the collection of Alfred Montague's body parts we got through owl post. I can give you a copy of the Healer's report, if you want. It says which bits were removed while he was alive, and which after he was dead, and how it was done.
Good morning,

I'm writing because, after spending a good deal of time speaking with Miss Parkinson last night, I believe you may be a man of more sensibility than most who joined Voldemort's ranks. As such, perhaps you will receive what I have to tell you in the spirit in which it is meant.

We know that you've had to remove your family from New London. I say, on the whole I believe you're much better off outside of the madhouse run by Bellatrix Lestrange, what, but I think you knew that. The problem is that you're now running from her, and from the Order as well.

You might recall that Rachel Brodie (Lamont, as she was known to MLE) offered an opportunity for Aurors and Enforcers to turn themselves in, in exchange for clemency. We've been fair to everyone who has joined us, and indeed, extended rather more mercy than might strictly be called for upon occasion. Ask Seamus Finnigan, if you don't believe me, or your oldest friend, Lucius Malfoy. They're both free, when by rights they should have been punished much more severely.

Your family are blameless. Your daughters and sons have lost friends and roommates. Yet you've all survived. It's a miracle you've kept them all together and relatively safe, for so long.

I've some bad news for you, however: Ptolemy is not getting out of this alive. I'm terribly sorry but it's a foregone conclusion.

If you are not already aware of his crimes, then you ought to know he has violated a girl barely older than your daughter, taking advantage of her trust in the most reprehensible manner. Consider what you would do to a man who would rape Lucy, and then ask yourself if you can condone such behaviour in your own kin.

However, you've a chance to save yourself, your wife, your daughter-in-law and your remaining children. If you surrender, turn yourself in, I can promise no harm will come to them. You will have the opportunity to defend yourself in court, a venue to which you are
accustomed, and may well escape the worst judgement.

For Ptolemy there will be no such quarter, but his actions have sadly
determined his fate. If you, on the other hand, reject this chance, then
I'm sorry to say you'll share his fortune.

As a man of reason, I implore you to do what is right. You have every
grounds to accept.

If you believe you'll receive better at the hands of your erstwhile
friends, allow me to describe Bellatrix Lestrange's treatment of Jason
Montague's brother. You likely haven't heard that when Jason's family
ran, Freddie elected to stay.

Our head of MLE received Freddie's eyes, nose, ears, tongue and
fingers via owl post.

I say, he had been alive when they began the process of removing
them.

I can promise you, at least, that no such brutality awaits you in
Albion's hands.

Regards,

-Justin Finch-Fletchley, Auror
This is an announcement regarding facility use of Hogwarts as we transition to the new term and beyond.

Hogwarts is scheduled to re-open to students on September 1, and letters have been sent to all eligible students. We are in an ongoing process to fill a handful of remaining staff and Board positions, but are confident that our new term can begin on schedule with a qualified selection of professors.

This will no doubt be a challenging term. We will have far too many empty places in the Great Hall, and quite a few new students of a variety of ages who will be transferring to Hogwarts who will need to be appropriately placed. We are working diligently to ensure that all students who attend Hogwarts will be in a safe environment, regardless of blood status, political differences, and personal history.

Any rising fifth, sixth, and seventh year students who are currently at Hogwarts will of course be welcome to remain at Hogwarts over the weekend. During this time, if you so wish, you can help with the last of the immediately necessary repairs to our facilities, and can have a hand in the programming we're enacting to help us all start off the new term on the right foot.

We would also like to take this time to assure all students that they have a home at Hogwarts for as long as they need it, and are prepared to house students over summer holidays if that should be necessary.

The Transitional Government of Albion will be temporarily housed at Malfoy Manor, and as of now, we anticipate any personnel and materials associated with the Transitional Government will be fully moved to that location by Friday evening. Those students who have vital work with the government of Albion are welcome to come and go from Hogwarts over the next few days if you wish to be housed here, or can temporarily be housed at the Government headquarters -- we are assured by Albion representatives that there is adequate room at the Manor for such purposes.

We look to this coming term as a chance to collectively heal, to prepare our students for a rapidly changing world, and to look to the
future with hope.

Sincerely,

Ernest Macmillan
Assistant to the Headmistress of Hogwarts
Private Message to Antonin Dolohov

We've confirmed that the castle will be returned to its proper use by 1 September, with all operations and staff of the pretended 'transistional government' shifting out by then.

I wonder if we could take advantage of the upheaval to gain access to the school. What do you think?

And if you think it's at all feasible, tell me what my chances would be of gaining access to the Head's office, and if I did, what might stand in the way of my removing the 'Hogwarts Book'--the roll of children eligible for admission.

---

alt_antonin at 2015-08-27 12:29:21
(no subject)

Hm. I doubt that you would be able to gain access to the Head's office -- Septima has undoubtedly had it warded thoroughly -- but it is possible that I might; it will depend on whether the castle still recognises me at all. I've been pondering it anyway; there are a number of things I would rather like to retrieve before the barbarians destroy them all. I have had a vague plan of engagement mapped out for quite some time, but the circumstances were never right. Using the Welcoming Feast as cover, though, may work.

Let me think on it.
Are you in your office, or packing?

I'm .... I'm out on the pitch.

What Draco wanted to tell me - it was about Harry. He said that he'd been worried, wondering where Harry was - what happened to him, that is, after the spell and allowing Riddle to take his body. He'd written a few posts, asked questions, that sort of thing. Trying to work through his guilt, depression, so on. And he said Harry found a way to answer him.

He went through Dolohov, while Dolohov was clinically dead, and Hermione while she was unconscious. Both of them delivered their messages with enough clarity to convince Draco that they were genuinely from Harry. The point of it all was to assure Draco that Harry's in a good place, that his soul's intact, that he's patiently waiting to see us all again.

And - well, it was so obviously a relief to him that it was impossible not to be happy for him. He had his confirmation. It had clearly been weighing on the kid, far too much. So there's that.

I mean to say, if anyone could figure out a way to send a message from beyond the grave, it would be Harry, wouldn't it.

I'm glad Draco found it so comforting. I know he hoped it would be a comfort to me, too. But, personally, I never doubted that Harry would be at peace. He was at peace with his death and his decision to die. Knowing that - it doesn't change anything for me. If anything, it's ... it's worse.

I think my reaction disappointed him.

I'm staying out here a while longer.
I'm coming to find you.
So wherever we move has to be deep enough in Order territory that we'll feel safe, not likely to turn out to be owned by muggles who are alive and want their homes back, with low enough rent that everyone can afford to live there. We need either a building full of flats or a cluster of houses close together because while the two of us can live together just fine, Ron and George sharing a flat will eventually be a disaster. If we're all sharing a building full of flats then George and Fred will need to agree not to blow the whole place up. (Or, you know, to do experiments that might result in blowing the whole place up. I realise they would be unlikely to SET OUT to blow the place up.)

But, I mean, I want to live near you. I assume Fred will want to live near George. I think Justin and Hydra might like to live nearby, and Draco and Hermione, and maybe Susan?

Is there anyone we'd want to make sure there isn't quite enough space for?

Is there anyone who has time to find something? Our fallback is to move into the Burrow until we find something else but that's really not my first choice.

---

I want to live near you too! And ugh, you're right, Ron and George together in the same flat would be an utter disaster.

I've got a few ideas in mind.

1.) I buy the rest of the flats in my building, and we just use that. Minus, it's in London, but plus, if we've got the whole building, we can make it quite secure. Minus, it might take some doing to track down all the rest of the owners in like a day.

2.) I buy up a building that just has one owner and there's enough room for you and Ron, me and George, Fred, Sue, Draco and
Hermione, and Justin and Hydra for certain, and perhaps there's room for a few more and we see if anyone else, like if Jeremy and Ced, or Ken and Jack, or Stebs and Wayne, or Ernie and Linus want in -- that's rather a large lot -- Draco might go in on it if it's a large building), and we can all just use that. It might be simpler that way, and yeah, like #1, if we have the run of the building, we can make sure it's secure, and renovate it how we'd like, and all that. And if I own it, it'll probably be a set-up where rent is enough to cover upkeep and taxes and things, but that'd be quite low if it's split however many ways.

I can poke around either one tomorrow, just take the day and just work on that -- I think it's worth it, seeing as how the lot of you can't fit in my flat, and Merlin knows Draco would just love living at the manor.

Is there anyone you wouldn't want room for? I mean, other than the obvious -- no invite for Patil or Finnigan, ta very much. Fred might want to ask Terry if he wants in, because, you know, part of the package, all that, but he probably wants to stick close to his folks for the time being anyways, so. Lav's a bit eh, but if we're offering to everyone else in our year who isn't, you know, an utter and absolute git, I suppose it'd be rude not to extend something.

Unless we're keeping the list short -- just the ten of us, eleven with Terry.

I can look at smaller and bigger options -- a six flat building would cover the short list.

---

@alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-27 16:33:14
(no subject)

I don't want to live in London, not while the other side is still controlling it. Even under Fidelius. I mean, if we run out of milk or tea or eggs, do you really want to have to apparate somewhere instead of running down to the corner shop? I want to live somewhere it feels like we're having some sort of normal life, even if it takes ages to get everything straightened out yet.

As for people I don't want ... not Lav, please not Lav, let's just keep it to the people who were on our side before the Battle, you know? So probably not Ernie and Linus, either, then. Terry, well, it's fine as
long as I don't have to share a flat with him. (What can I say? Just because someone's on my side doesn't mean I don't find them irritating. But he's Fred and George's best friend, and I'll manage. I expect he feels similarly about me.) I expect Terry and Fred will want to share, anyway.

Honestly what I would LOVE would be a village with a lot of little houses close together. That way we wouldn't have to worry about Fred and George blowing the whole building up. There are loads out there, but most are going to have muggles moving back in. Though, that muggle village near where I grew up, I'm pretty sure they were all killed, and not moved to camps at all. Those houses are in terrible shape, though. Also, Bagwyllydiart is located at approximately the north-east side of the arse end of nowhere at all.

But if we got it properly hooked up to floo, arse end of nowhere wouldn't matter much, would it?

If it's truly abandoned, let's take a load of tents out there and see what we can make of it. At the very least, camping out for a few weeks all together would be fun, and if it has some real promise, we'll make something of it.
Private message to Finch-Fletchley

Harassing a pregnant witch and taunting her about her child? And here I thought you prided yourself on your courtesy.

Still haven't found any of my little gifts? From the lack of hypocritical moralising, I am guessing you haven't. Come now, Юстинка, it's been simply ages. Surely you can't be that slow.

alt_justin at 2015-08-27 15:52:27  
(no subject)

Harass? No, not at all. The child will be a brother-in-law, of a sort. I've every right to express genuine concern regarding her health, and that of the infant. I'm only sorry that she's chosen a father for it who will care more about its ability than its health or happiness. But if you think I was discourteous, I assure you, it was merely that I had not yet had the chance to wish her well.

On the other hand, handing over a psychologically vulnerable young woman to be raped by a man she believes to be her protector--is one meant to suppose that *that* is the soul of chivalry?

As for your contributions, are you worried they have gone unnoticed? I thought you needed no external reinforcement? I'm terribly sorry, what, that there's no one left to tell you, 'Well done, Batya,' or pat you on the back.

I decline to provide confirmation or denial for your efforts. They have received only the merit they deserve.

-J

alt_antonin at 2015-08-27 15:56:49  
(no subject)

What on earth are you talking about?
I beg your pardon? Which part do you not understand?

I am assuming you are referring to Miss Weasley?

Unless there are others you've delivered to be brutally manipulated, let's for the moment confine the conjecture to her, yes.

Surely you know what happened. You can't expect me to believe you had no idea.

If you're trying to trick me, it won't work. Don't think I've been neglecting my education, with or without you.

I see.

I hardly expect you to believe me, but no, I had no idea. I will not ask you to convey my apologies -- not that I think you would -- but the matter will be dealt with.

A slap on the wrist and an avuncular lecture, no doubt.
Of course if you say it, it must be so.

Keeping up on your education, are you? How difficult that must be, given the tedious hand-wringing your lot tends to produce on the topic. Do remember my lectures on the dangers of learning entirely from books.

Oh, but you left such gems on your shelves, Тошенка. We've got them nearly all catalogued by now.

Are you suggesting I field test some of the choicer contents? Name the place.

That eager to sit your final exam?

Better to leave the time and place to happenstance, my dear boy. I would hate to deprive you of the opportunity to watch over your shoulder so closely. But don't worry: you'll get your chance eventually.

What puzzles me is all the opportunities you've had to stop, to change course, and yet you persist. Why? What is it about the likes of Sandoval or Lestrange or that maniac you served that you found so appealing? The idea that one ought to have no limits? How is that working out? Did creating Inferi feel so marvellous that you're desperate for more?

Your fine example, so far as I can tell, has led to nothing but grief and anguish. You could still stop but you won't do. I
know you won't do. You're too convinced of your own power to control the outcome. But all your Arts lead to only one result.

Do you never tire of it? What sense is there in continuing? If you really wanted to contribute, you'd employ your Arts against Lestrange, so that we could bring an end to this conflict, and save us the trouble.

alt_antonin at 2015-08-27 19:55:06 (no subject)

I shall take your suggestions for my priorities under advisement.

What puzzles me is that you are too convinced of your own righteousness to realise the virtue to which you pretend is nothing more than what you accuse me of. Can you really not see that the accusations you fling at me are nothing but a mirror held up to your own choices? Was it a failure in the teacher or a failure in the student that led to you lacking so much self-awareness? Your talent for the Arts may be prodigious, but you have forgot their alternate name is the Arts of Self; when was the last time you took a hard look at the shape of your motivations and your choices?

I at least choose my hypocrisies and double standards consciously. I fear that you have fallen into yours without looking twice.

If you do not understand what motivates me by now, I doubt another round of tuition will provide you with any satisfying answer.
2015-08-27 10:17:00
Order Only: Private message to Fred and George Weasley

How are you two holding up? Have you seen Ginny or Charlie yet?

I haven't seen Seamus. Which is a really good thing. I've not the least desire to speak with him.

I won't to try to kill him if I lay eyes on him. I owe Mum and Dad that.

But I'll really want to.

---

alt_fred at 2015-08-27 20:31:47
(no subject)

No family reunions for us yet. Still, the two of them are loosening up a little. Ginny's seen Ron and Charlie. They'll work their way around to us eventually.

Charlie about bit our heads when we asked if we could visit. Guess Bill was right to tell us to wait.

If it helps, we saw Finnigan once, briefly, and he didn't exactly look like he was enjoying himself. Keeping his head down. He knows he has no friends here.
Private Message to Nicola and Gabriel Burdett-Coutts

Just heard the WWN advert for the weekend's fête. Good show: it's just the thing. And the window displays along the Strand and Regents Street are gorgeous. Everyone's talking about them.

Braithewaite has everything in place for the Protectorate Security Society's deployment at Hyde Park and along the routes leading there. Marveille Corelle was by this morning to show off the sashes she's made all event staff and for the PSS. I hope you've seen them: they're brilliant and will be just the festive touch to keep PSS from appearing too authoritarian.

(On the other side of things, Wreston's coordinating the MLE and Auror presence. Trust him to mobilise just the right mix of visible and undercover enforcement. We intend that everything will go as absolutely smoothly as the Little Venice weekend did.)

What report can you give me about the arrival of the Merfolk to the Serpentine? Is that still on for this afternoon? Hedigan's taking point on that for the Ministry. Be sure he's present to give the necessary welcome and assurances.

Any concerns on your side? If there's anything I need to know, contact me directly or via Catchlove. If you call, tell my functionaries you need to speak directly to one or the other of us. Seriously. Don't leave a message. Particularly if it's anything sensitive.

We're all looking forward to a simply enchanting weekend on the Serpentine! Thank you for all you do, both of you!

Bisoux.
I asked for my journal back so I could write to you. I'm not seeing you is still too hard.

I understand now what they did to me. That they made me remember things that weren't real. But they still feel real. Healer Hadresham says that over time that will get less true and things will get easier.

I've asked if I can come stay at Hogwarts to be closer to all of you and Healer Hadresham said she'd talk to Madam Pomfrey and they'll think about it.

Gin, I'm so glad just to hear from you. Don't fret about seeing us until you're ready. We can wait. Knowing that you are with people who are caring for you, and that you aren't in the hands of the enemy gives us all the patience in the world.

I've been Cruciated, too, Gin, remember. Not so badly, or for so long, so don't think I'm comparing my sufferings to yours. But I do understand--right down to the bone--that when you're undergoing that, you want more than anything to make it stop.

What you've undergone has always been my boggart, Ginny: you were in the hands of the enemy, and you had information they wanted that they were determined to have. The only hope you had was in your enemy's mercy, and they had none.

But you've survived that. Surviving the worst thing imaginable is remarkable; it is worthy of respect. Please don't castigate yourself in any way for what happened. None of it was your fault. None of us think it was. Let it all get swallowed up in our joy that you've been able to return to us.
There's one more thing, and I confess it's given me a sleepless night or two. I just want to make sure that you understand why I told you to hate me? I love you Gin, and I always have, and I always will. Allowing you to hate me--urging you to do so--was the only way I could think of to protect you, as far away and as helpless as I was. I thought that hatred could be a shield for you.

Is there anything you need while you are recovering?

If you get to the point that you can see us again, we will have a proper coming of age birthday party for you.

Ginny, we are so glad that you are home.

---

@alt_ginny at 2015-08-27 16:18:58
(no subject)

Thank you.

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@alt_molly at 2015-08-27 16:28:56
(no subject)

Oh, Ginny, my dearest girl.

Bill's right, dear. Of course we can wait. But I'm enormously heartened that you are starting to...to understand exactly what happened to you.

I am so glad you are under the care of Healer Hadresham. I've spoken with her, and she seems like a very wise and compassionate woman.

I had a thought, and if you like it, perhaps you could talk it over with Healer Hadresham. Do you think it would help you reconnect to your true memories if we arranged for you to go home to the Burrow for a bit? We wouldn't need to be there, but perhaps--oh, perhaps if you could just go home, even briefly, and see your room, and see all the nicks in the furniture, and the dear old kitchen table, and the ratty old couches with the afghans flung over them, and the pictures on the walls and the chessboard, and oh, all the places you were loved....do you think it would be a comfort?
Yes, I do.

Thank you.
As you probably noticed, they gave me my journal back. I asked for it so I could write to Mum and Bill, because I still don't really want to see them yet. Charlie said he thought I was allowed to take as long as I needed. But I thought I could write to them, anyway, that would be something.

I feel like I should tell you

I told Luna today that I feel like the worst Gryffindor of all time. I couldn't -- when they took me into the interrogation room I told myself I wouldn't say anything, I'd hold out, but it wasn't much time at all before I'd told them everything I knew, everything I thought I knew, and started begging them to stop cruciating me. (They didn't.) When I joined the Order I told Hermione Granger I'd die before I told them the Order's secrets, and that turned out to be a lie. I mean, if I could have died I would have. I'd have done anything to get away. I mean, literally anything. If the only way to kill myself had been setting myself on fire I'd have done it. I tried to kill myself with a bed spring, later that night, but they caught me and took it away.

So she was right about me, after all. I was a failure as an Order member. I was a failure as a family member. If they'd offered to stop cruciating me if I'd killed one of you I'm pretty sure I'd have done it. As it was the only way to get them to stop was to break Mum's heart and I did that.

When they caught Neville, he had Hydra break his mind with cruciatus. He ASKED her. To make sure he wouldn't do what I did, and give everything away. Hermione and Draco held out until they were rescued and saved all of us.

I didn't.

Luna said I should think of it like her lycanthropy. Once a month she loses her mind, more or less, because that's what lycanthropy does. And this is what cruciatus does to people, it strips away ... who they thought they were. It breaks them apart. That I can't blame myself for what they did to me any more than she can blame herself for what they did to her.
But Ron it's so hard.

Yeah. Course it is.

I-

Look, I'm not going to tell you what you ought to think or feel about any of it, but don't compare yourself to Hermione or Draco--it was totally different what they had to face and how long. And you didn't have Hydra there to do for you what she did for Neville. You didn't have anyone. We couldn't get to you to help.

The thing I want you to know, though, is something you know already. It hurt Mum a lot, but Mum's Mum. It wasn't you that broke her heart, it was what Dolohov and the rest did to you. And her heart's not really broken. That's the thing about her heart. She's always going to love you just as much as she always has, ever since the first minute you were alive.

The rest of us do, too. But I know it matters most about Mum, knowing she's still- I promise, Gin, she's beside herself wanting to tell you that the only thing that matters to her is that you're alive and safe, and that she can see you again. (She'll say a bunch of other gloopy stuff, too. You know she will. And she'll mean all of it.)

I'm not sure whether I can visit this afternoon. I may get sent off on another job still. I'll let you know, though, if I can come, so you can tell me to bugger off if you're tired of my bad jokes and ugly mug.

I won't tell you to bugger off.
Cheers, you.

What do you call a familiar with the sniffles?

I don't know.

What DO you call a familiar with the sniffles?

A Skneazle!

That is the worst joke I've ever heard.

Score!

I mean, you can't say I don't try!

I'd draw you a picture of little stick figure people falling down laughing but you're much better at that charm than I am.
One of my best skills. I'm much better at that, say, than the one that straightens up everything on the desktop. Or keeps stuff in the bureau drawers tidy.
Why are Harrods' windows not displaying Nicola's SumMer Fête installations? I don't like to worry Papa with such things, but I'm very disappointed about this. We should be first in loyalty!

Honestly, Orion. What is going on over there?
I'm back, but had to stop up to the hospital wing. I'll be alright, but I got caught out by an Enforcer in Hyde Park. Used the re-transformation spell on me. Bit of a duel. It's alright. They won't find the body, and no one else came along to see any of it.

I do have a report on the preparations they're making, but the really interesting thing is they're bringing in a group of Merfolk to do some sort of entertainment. That's what they're being so cagey about in all the adverts they're running. It's meant to be a big warm, happy surprise, I reckon. Anywiz, I think someone ought to go have a word with our lot down the Lake and see if there's anything we could do to turn an advantage.

If you're in, I'll come by as soon as the Healer clears me. (Don't want Charlie getting the idea I'm trying to sneak in and have a visit, anyway.)

---

Good work.

I'll talk to Mina about chatting with the merfolk. And yes, I'm in. Come by.
Ari, received your owl. Have been working on arrangements at this end. Chiefly, just came from a meeting in Paris: ICW will extend emigration rights to those of our cohort who can manage to make landfall in Europe. No extradition back to England. We just have to produce evidence that you have not played a significant role in the events following the fall of the previous regime, or that you have been coerced to commit acts in the service of the current one. Simple enough.

On the topic of Ireland, Tosha, have advised them to recommend that it be completely removed from the ICW treaties for the present. No qualified representatives are in any position to negotiate there and it's unlikely there will be for some time to come. Uncertain they will follow my guidance but at least the head of the coalition for Irish Affairs was inclined to caution. Suspect they will drag their feet, if not comply altogether.

Oh, and Ari, you asked about the Secret Keeper for Dover: No, sadly, they were reasonably careful not to provide us with a name or face. We were blindfolded and he came into the room to tell us. Can confidently state it was not Diggory, however. Have you been chasing him all this time? You ought to have asked weeks ago.

If the situation has indeed devolved as far as that, then by all means, get out. It is the only sensible course.

If Dover is not available, you might try Penzance. The stone there was diamond. They likely have it under guard.

As for the territory here: We are both well, considering. Though it is quite a different landscape, in which increased interaction with Muggles is the norm. It is not without - benefits, however. One didn't realise all the things one missed.

Gentlemen, if you can escape, do. It may be the healthiest move any of us have made in years.

-LM
That's good news about the ICW, yes. Although one wonders how much they are attempting to play both ends against the middle; from what I've managed to glean from my ongoing repartee with Finch-Fletchley (he has yet to realise how much he gives up to me whilst he is busy castigating me for my moral and spiritual failures) their own negotiations are ongoing as well. If you've any intel on what's going on in Ireland that might bear fruit, let me know -- it has been damnably difficult to get news.

Ari, I saw he had written to you -- if you are willing to share, let me know.

I am as well as could be expected. Cleaning up my messes, as much as I can. I have not yet ruled out escape, but not without fixing a few more things first -- of which F-F is one.

What is there to fix, Tosha? Have you any indication he would follow if you simply melted away?

You must do what you feel necessary, of course, but allow me to caution you not to take foolish risks, nor to jeopardise your chances of convincing foreign soils to believe you were blameless in all that went on since May.

The experience of having been dead -- and the prices demanded of me immediately thereafter -- made it quite clear how much of this mess can be laid upon my shoulders. I've been working down the list of those mistakes. Halfway there, or thereabouts. And yes, I am doing so quietly.

I doubt they will believe my innocence no matter what, but I've enough old friends who might be willing to tip the scales in my
favour. Or if not, there are still places in this world where the ICW holds little sway.

alt_lucius at 2015-08-27 17:58:20
Re: Private message to Lucius

Of course, you have resources; I thought of it even as I was putting the finishing touches on the last reply.

Still ... as tempting as it can be to assume the blame, Tosha - walk away. I know how difficult it seems, that one feels one must put all to rights. But - it will never be right. There will always be another score to settle, on that path. Turn and find another while you have the option.

You will doubtless say I've grown feeble and you may be entirely correct. Even so. You are not responsible for all this. None of us is blameless, but none of us is entirely to blame, either. Walk away.

alt_antonin at 2015-08-27 18:23:49
Re: Private message to Lucius

If I were a smarter man, I would agree with you wholeheartedly, my dearest of brothers. But if there is one conclusion I have come to by now, it is that I am not as smart a man as I have always believed myself to be.

One of my children wrote me when I was dead -- well, several people did, but I am thinking of one in particular. My Healer-to-be, Miss Parkinson's bosom friend. She said that I ought to have been on their side from the beginning, that I ought to have seen the lie in he-whose-name-I-will-not-write's promises, that I ought to have seen the Abomination's flaws and committed myself to his destruction. It was the anger of an idealist, thwarted and frustrated as only an idealist can be, and while I will never agree that we were wrong to try and I will never agree that our efforts were doomed from the start, I cannot help but agree that I ought to have made so many choices differently. I kept myself from seeing the truth for far too long out of the belief that the fault-lines were ignorable, and I have only myself to blame for at least some of the detonations that resulted.

That they will win -- have nearly won -- is nigh-inevitable at this
point. And if they are to win, they will be the ones to rebuild, and there are those who should not be allowed anywhere near that task. I will not leave without attempting to secure some future for those who stay -- no matter what their allegiance might be.

If I'd had any sense I would have coshed you and Narcissa and Barty over the heads and had you safe and far away from here ten minutes after the Abomination undid Dominic's sacrifice -- and that you and she are safe and far from here is more of a comfort than you can imagine.

Don't worry about me, dearest. I know what I have to do. A smarter man would have recognised the reality of the situation a long time ago. But I am not that man, and if I've any hope of living with myself later, this is something I need to do first.

---

@alt_antonin at 2015-08-27 17:22:03
(no subject)

Yes, well, that's precisely the sort of taunting I meant, and thank you for the transcription.

I am sorry to say that from everything I hear, he is correct at laying the blame for Montague's death at Bella's feet. The rest of it ... I do not know. They have Finnigan and Patil, and from journal message headers both of them at least are still alive and still have access to their journals, but I have no means by which to evaluate the sincerity of this particular offer. My instinct, of course, is to distrust it as much as yours is, but they are infected of a Hufflepuffian strain of 'fair play', so Salazar knows.

I agree with Lucius; escape is the sensible course. And I wish you the best of luck in attempting it; if there is anything I can do, just say the word. I do not think I will be far behind you.
Ran into Ron Weasley on his way out of the hospital wing. He was in good spirits, after being ID'd by some DE Enforcer who hit him with the transformation spell and barely getting away with his life.

I'm so tired of this. They're children. Why are they the ones

Is there any way for us to kill Bellatrix Lestrange? Take her down, and the center won't hold.

Well, that's just what I was saying last night.

Before Harry - when he convinced me to let him go ahead with his plan, we talked about the risks that James and I took during our first go-round with Voldemort. And yes, we were young then, too, but at least at first, we didn't have children to take care of.

Now it's bordering on ridiculous. We're the ones who're meant to be protecting them, not putting them on the line. It was different before, when we couldn't work openly, and they were the only ones in position to make an impact. But now - there's no reason for it.

I want to talk to Alice and Rachel about moving every Auror under 21 into a reserve status. Let those of us who are already long in the tooth assume the risks for a change.

As for Bella ... I don't know. We thought that would be true of Voldemort, and it wasn't. But then again, if she goes, who's left who can organise them all? Dolohov? He's got the charisma, to be certain. Rod won't lift a finger without someone forcing him to do it. He'd rather retreat, and besides he's about to be a father again. He won't put himself in danger when there's no need. Rowle's a puppet.
Travers is not leader material. So. Maybe.

What about - I mean to say. Usually we stay in on the full moon. But if you take Wolfbane there's really no reason to hide, is there?

Werewolves of London? Great single.

**alt_lupin** at 2015-08-27 17:54:33
(no subject)

Do you think Rachel has any intel about the layout at Buckingham? Where we'd go to find her?

**alt_sirius** at 2015-08-27 18:00:03
(no subject)

If she doesn't, Montague would have had. Unless they've changed everything round, but I doubt it.

**alt_lupin** at 2015-08-27 18:51:20
(no subject)

Shall we invite Montague by, privately?

**alt_sirius** at 2015-08-27 18:55:49
(no subject)

You want to keep this between us? What makes you think he won't go and tell someone?

Anyway, I'm not interested in a suicide mission, kamikaze-style. I'm open to taking backup. Loads and loads of backup.

Just not Ron, Justin, Draco, or anyone their age.
If you think we can persuade Rachel to keep this job to the proper adults, then let's have a meeting -- her, us, Montague, Alice if she can find the time.

I-wish-Severus

I think it's a better plan than we've had for a while, and a better chance. And if it means leaving a dozen or so able wands behind, to only be called in when the worst wave is over, she'll see reason.

And if that doesn't work, I'll use my boyish charm.

That'll work on Rachel but how are you going to convince Alice?

Moony, you wound me! My charm has always worked on Allie!
2015-08-27 13:10:00
Private Message to Narcissa

I know you've been writing to Draco.

Get word to him, or to Hydra, if you can do it without anyone taking notice: Antonin certainly means to kill Finch-Fletchley. Not idly, if you take my meaning, but as a priority. Obviously the boy's a fool if he doesn't know he's a target but there is a difference between a target of opportunity and one Tosha has already decided to take down.

If you want your niece to retain her husband, you'll warn them to avoid Tosha at all costs. I've gone as far as I can go to talk him out of it without making it obvious.
Abuelita,

I'm so glad you can come for tea. Orion's just on his way to collect you and bring you here. I've been wanting to show you where I'm working and give you a tour of the palace. It really is something! Oh, and I can show you all of Nicola and Gabriel's drawings for the weekend's festivities. I think you'll agree that I've got the best, most interesting position in all the Protectorate.

I asked Abueloberto if he couldn't come when he's done for the day and join us. I haven't heard back yet, but I do hope he'll find time. He works too hard!

Orion: you're on strict orders not to drive too fast. I know what you're like when you've got that carriage team in hand, but remember whom you're driving!

Turkish Delight.
All should be ready in half an hour. The message has been sent, and I can't imagine she'll delay. Or have any qualms. Goodness knows we've worried for ages that it could happen any time.

Thank you. I'm not sure how I'll be able to repay you, but know that you've only to ask and I will do anything in my power.

Think nothing of it, my dear. I have not been able to give you the full support you deserve as my apprentice for far too long; the least I can do is take care of this for you. As far as I'm concerned, no debt is owed.

I'll stop in tonight to confirm, if that's all right with you. (Briefly! I know how understandably exhausted you are.)

Perfect. Come for supper if you've time. You know we'd love to have you.

I don't know what my timing will be -- I have another stop to make after your errand -- but I shall try. If I am unable, it is not due to a lack of appreciation for your hospitality!
I'm sorry, my dear; as you have undoubtedly guessed, I have been delayed. I was interrupted on one of my errands -- not yours; that was successful -- and the interruption proved surprisingly lively.

(I am well enough. Or will be, after I finish treating the few hits F-F was able to land. Sadly, I was taken by surprise and did not have time to put up the anti-Apparition wards; he did not escape unscathed, but he did escape.)

I am sorry to say that the errand I was interrupted upon was checking on the Baddocks' well-being, and the task I interrupted F-F at was Ptolemy's death; if Ptolemy was alive when I arrived, he expired while I was occupied with F-F. Ari and the rest of the family is gone -- I do not know where. In hiding, perhaps, or managed to escape. I would have stayed longer to verify, afterwards, but I was not at my best; I needed to retreat to my fortress and lick my wounds a bit first.

You may wish to send someone for the body -- someone with a strong stomach -- and a team to see if they can reconstruct the scene. I will happily give a statement tomorrow, once I have slept some. Which I am about to go do.

The only consolation is that I came out far the better at the battle. I did not, I think, land anything permanent -- but if he does not have a reliable Healer on hand, he will be rather worse for wear.

Merlin. Are you certain you don't need a Healer? Or to go to St Mungo's?

I don't at all like the notion that you're going to go to sleep without being seen by someone skilled in curse care.

Antosha, really. I'm sending an elf immediately, and will happily send whichever Healer you'd prefer if you'll only say.
I'm fine, truly. (And I am more than a little wary of Healers at the moment, for a number of utterly boring reasons; there is not one I would trust to see to me at the moment.) I've done the same battery of curse-diagnostics they would have, and I promise you he did not manage to land anything I have not undone on my own. I have a great deal of practise in tending my own aftermath -- and the advantage that I was the one who taught him nearly everything he knows.

I've fifteen minutes left on the clock for the last monitor -- I promise you, I am not sleeping until it comes back clear, no matter how certain I am that it will.

All right. Do rest well, and let me hear from you in the morning.

Awake, disgustingly well-rested, and perfectly fine, dear girl.
2015-08-27 16:15:00
Order Only: Private Message to Sally-Anne, Ron and Hydra

Ron, if you're with Ginny, don't pay attention to this, mate, stay focused on your sister.

Sally-Anne, are you free? I say, I need Slytherin eyes for something. Particularly yours, I think.

I.... perhaps I ought to tell Rachel I'm not up to her tasks. Not where Tosha's concerned.

I can't seem to maintain the right composure, what. It's jolly well frustrating.

-J

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-27 21:45:10 (no subject)

I'm in the hospital wing but I'm way, way, way overdue for my lunch break, let me just tell the Healer in Charge that I'm going to take it. Did you want to meet in person?

alt_justin at 2015-08-27 21:48:17 (no subject)

Yes, thank you. I think it'll be easier if you can read over my shoulder.

-J
Ron,

Rachel just caught me coming out of the salle; she's heard from one of her informants and has reason to believe that the Baddocks--or possibly someone else on our list, what, but most likely the Baddocks--are going to attempt to break through the wards tonight.

I'm going. The intelligence she got suggests they'll be trying to leave through Penzance. We know the name of the vessel they chartered.

If you want to come along, I'll not stop you. If you'd rather not, I quite understand.

Hydra, all my love. I should be home later if all goes well.

-Justin

---

On a job in NL, actually. I'll let you know when I finish.

But listen, mate, if you get there and see you'll need backup, let me know. I've got the Notificio on.

Good luck, and be careful. Love you.
Hey.

I'm finishing up here. Anything I can do to help you out? Or are you done already?

Яон,

Tell Madam Pomfrey,

Sry to disturb. Coming through to Hosp Пинг

Плс préparer. I say, don’t fuss, it’s not bad. Des hexes mineur.

Need to check for more damage. But j’n’pense que—

Тоша.

Tell Hydra. On my way.

-?

I can read this. I'll find Madam P.

Ron,

I say, thanks, old chap. Much better, though they want me to stay here a while yet.

Sally-Anne says you went to look in on Honoria? Did you find her?
Something Antonin said--I believe they lured her away earlier. She might be under Imperius or--or worse, what.

Ron? It's done. The other. He did beg, in the end.

-J

alt_ron at 2015-08-28 04:04:36
Re: Private Message to Ron

Well. That's- Cheers for that. Sorry you got banged up, doing it. Are they setting you straight?

And, no. I haven't found her yet. It's a big castle, though. I'll let you know or Sally Anne will once I find her.

alt_justin at 2015-08-28 04:08:48
Re: Private Message to Ron

Yes, I'm quite recovered. The Healers are simply taking precautions, what. I bally well don't blame them.

And Ptolemy's not responsible for any of the damage. Never got a shot off, in fact, nor his father.

Antonin came upon us. I say, I'm not altogether certain he didn't wait until I'd finished just to make sure I'd done the job.

He-- Please take any necessary measures to locate Honoria, Ron. It's jolly well urgent, I'm sure of it.

-J
The Baddocks are leaving tonight.

From Penzance.

It's the entire lot of them, including the children -- two littlest ones, Antonia and Natalie, are more than likely terrified. I've no idea what they expect will happen, but if you do go after them...

just watch out for the children. Please.

For what it's worth, if you need to know anything about Buckingham as of a few days ago, I'm willing to come in and tell you all about it as long as you keep my mum safe.

Come in. Bring your mother. We'll protect both of you.

They can see you've written me. Wherever you are, you're not safe.

I was rather hoping you'd say that.
2015-08-27 22:24:00
Order Only Private Message to Madam P, Sally Anne, Hogwarts Healers

Expect Justin F-F to arrive with curse damage. Send someone to the gates. I'm on my way there now.

alt_ron

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-28 03:26:08
(no subject)

On my way.
They're not really letting me near him, either. But he wants someone to check on Honoria Sandoval. Do you know where she's been sleeping? I think she might have visited your sister earlier today, but I can't imagine she's there now.

Is he going to be alright?

What's he been hit with, can you tell?

They don't know yet exactly what it was, but they seem very sure they can fix it. It's not Bellatrix's curse, I can tell you that for sure. Anyway yes, he's going to be fine. Probably by morning.

Can you check on Honoria? He seemed really worried about her. If you check on her and she's fine, I can go reassure him and that way I can check on him and let you know how he's doing, right?

Uh. Yeah, alright.

I'll be back as soon as I can.

Well, I can't tell you much, unfortunately. I tried her quarters, but she didn't answer the door. I've tried the Great Hall and the library and a couple other places.
I guess I'll go back up to her rooms and try the occupancy charm if she doesn't answer. At least, we'd know if she's in there and just asleep or meditating or whatever and not hearing a knock. I don't want to make a ruckus if that's all it is, y'know.

👤 **alt_sally_anne** at 2015-08-28 03:59:27  
(no subject)

Yeah, I know, it's kind of late. She usually stays up kind of late, though. Do you want to ask your sister if she said she was going anywhere?

👤 **alt_sally_anne** at 2015-08-28 04:00:55  
(no subject)

I mean the thing about the occupancy charm is that there are all sorts of things that can throw it off, from cats to ghosts.

👤 **alt_ron** at 2015-08-28 04:06:43  
(no subject)

Yeah, it's a bit crap.

And it didn't tell me anything. So either she's not there or it just didn't work.

I don't know about asking Ginny... But Justin's properly worried about it, I reckon. He just wrote me to ask if I've found her.

👤 **alt_sally_anne** at 2015-08-28 04:08:36  
(no subject)

Maybe find someone to open her door? She'll be a little cross if she was sleeping and you disturb her but by tomorrow she'll think it was funny.
Yeah. I just realised I could send an elf. Mind you, that's a bloody jolting way to wake up, with an elf popping in beside you, so I hope she forgives me.

Shit.

Okay, this is bad. Don't tell Justin anything yet. I'm going to call Rachel.

What? What happened?

I guess you should come or someone. A Healer, I mean.

She's dead, though.

She

WHERE?
Sorry. In her rooms.

Rachel's here, but we think a Healer needs to come have a look.

I sent you Healer Withinghall. He's ... well, he's sort of an expert at this sort of thing. He's the one who examined Alfred Montague's bits, to find out if Alfred was alive or dead. When they were cut off. So.

Oh.

Alright. Guess he knows his way?

Say. I'm trying to decide whether to suggest to Rachel that we ask Ginny how Honoria seemed this afternoon. Only, I imagine it won't do her any good to find out about Honoria this way.

She could be asleep already-

Justin wants to know about Honoria. Can I tell him?
I guess. Unless you want to wait and see what Healer Whatsummy has to say.

And I think you have to tell Rachel you think Honoria visited Ginny this afternoon.

Eh. You're right.
2015-08-27 23:13:00
Order Only: Private Message to Rachel, Remus and Alice

I've just been told about Justin.

This is exactly what I was talking about this afternoon. WHY did he go after Antonin bloody Dolohov on his own? Or Ptolemy sodding Baddock or whomever.

Was it really necessary to put an eighteen-year-old in harm's way at this stage?

Alice. Enough. There are plenty of us to assume the risks. Rachel, put them on reserve, please. At least until the worst threats have been resolved.

2015-08-28 04:24:30
(no subject)

When I joined the Order I was utterly shocked that you'd allowed children to join. Actual children, not even of age yet.

Bill told me he'd made the mistake of thinking of them as 'children' for far too long. That they'd proven themselves. That they'd made astonishing contributions.

He was right. I sent Justin after Ptolemy Baddock because I knew he'd have both the patience and the skill to get to him. Just as I sent Ron to infiltrate the new Security Forces meeting this week -- he'd be able to do it, in his animagus form -- and had Draco replace Faust.

We have not won this war yet.

2015-08-28 04:30:05
(no subject)

We've been over this already. I don't think of them as children. Circe knows when I was their age, I was fighting, too.
We let them join when there wasn't a choice. Sometimes, I'll note, they didn't *give* us a choice - and for a long time, there wasn't any other way to make any progress.

But now we can all fight in the open. There's no need for any of them to put themselves on the front lines. I'm well aware that we haven't won yet, which is *why* they should be kept back. So they'll have the chance to keep the peace once we *do* win.

alt_alice at 2015-08-28 04:33:23
(no subject)

We have greater numbers than we did. Enforcers who've signed on to our side who are experienced. Frank, Sirius, Remus, and Tonks are likewise willing to take some heat, too.

Ron had a close scrape today. Justin as well. We nearly lost Hydra.

I'm not saying they are incapable, but they are much more likely to take risks, and need reining in sometimes.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-28 04:33:45
(no subject)

There is no one other than Ron who could have infiltrated that PSS meeting in animagus form yesterday. Your form is far too conspicuous; so is mine.

There is no one else who could have replaced Faust as convincingly as Draco's done.

And I'm not convinced there's anyone else who could have crossed wands with Dolohov -- after being surprised by him, apparently -- and escaped mostly unscathed, other than Justin.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-28 04:25:11
(no subject)

And keeping them off the front lines is not necessarily protection.
Honoria Sandoval is dead. Fell down dead, in her own quarters. Justin thinks Dolohov managed this somehow, we're trying to figure out how.

@alt_alice at 2015-08-28 04:30:38
(no subject)
Oh. Lord.
How on earth?

@alt_sirius at 2015-08-28 04:31:17
(no subject)
Bugger.

@alt_rachel at 2015-08-28 05:13:53
(no subject)

Apparently while visiting Ginny Weasley today, Honoria received an urgent owl from her brother Orion, saying that her grandmother was dying and she should come to her bedside to receive her grandmother's blessing. The owl said that Lana had already come and gone, that she'd be safe.

We found the note. It's Orion's handwriting. I'm not sure if he cooperated in luring her, or if he was coerced. Or Imperiused.

The curse is slow-acting, designed to kill hours after it was cast. If we'd known earlier. When used to kill, it's frequently mistaken for natural causes, though heart failure is a thoroughly suspicious cause of death in a girl Honoria's age.

Dammit.
I've called off Justin. For now, at least. I told him I'm not sending him back out right away.

I'm not sidelining Draco. He's mid-assignment; pulling him out would mean losing that opportunity.

Thank you. And understood.

At least Draco's assignment doesn't involve him actively seeking out murderers and engaging them in a one-to-one duel. As long as he maintains his cover, no one should be aiming hexes at him.

Let's hope, anyway.
**2015-08-27 23:14:00**
*Order Only Private Message to R Brodie*

I, uh. I just sent an elf to check on Honoria Sandoval. Justin was worried about her and said we had to find her.

She's in her quarters. Dead.

The elf says she looks like she fell. Anyway, she's on the floor.

Do you want me to go in and see or do you want to come? I mean, before we call a Healer in. If there's nothing they can do for her, anyway.

---

**alt_rachel** at **2015-08-28 04:20:04**
*(no subject)*

Oh, bloody hell.

Call the Healers, there might be --

I'm on my way.
2015-08-27 23:33:00
Private message to Lana Sandoval-Pennifold

- Lana,

Apologies, set-up has taken longer than I anticipated. The foreman underestimated in his calculations for population density, and all my charm-setting had to be recalibrated.

Damn tiresome work.

How are you feeling? And how was your lunch with your Abuelita? Did you notice that you wrote to Tosha. Anything amiss there?

alt_lana at 2015-08-28 05:02:32
(no subject)

Honestly, can no one manage a job properly anymore? I'm sorry you had to be inconvenienced like that.

And I missed you at supper. Tosha didn't make it, either. Apparently he went to check on the Baddocks and found Finch-Fletchley assaulting Ptolemy. Tosha engaged him and was injured. Only slightly, he promises me. At any rate, the French pox got away from him. He said the Baddocks are gone. Except for Ptolemy, that is, and he's dead.

I suppose it's been a stressful day all around. Save for my tea with Abuelita, which was lovely, and it was so good to have her come to the palace to see my offices and have a tour. We took one of those beautiful gilded chairs and used it to carry her through all the rooms. She really did seem to enjoy it.

Only I've missed her so, but perhaps we'll all be on better footing now. She even asked after you, which is a notable sign. Mind you, Abueloberto didn't come, but if she accepts us, he'll come around.

I got a bit emotional when she left, and I think I may have frightened Catchlove. He didn't seem to know what to do with it, so I sent him home even though there was a great deal still to accomplish tonight.
I suppose it's as well you've been tied up: I've been buried in parchments and ledgers.

@alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-28 05:17:14
(no subject)

It's a rather unusual job, considering. And at this rate I suppose that I and the rest of the team may as well consider it a full time affair, if we're to keep throwing festivals and parties to placate the public.

Ptolemy dead? Better than at Bella's hands - or perhaps worse, if one imagines what must have gone through the lad's mind when he was felled by such a thing.

Do hope Tosha hasn't found reason to hesitate.

I'm glad you enjoyed your tea with Abuelita, even if a certain degree of emotional turmoil is to be expected in such hopelessly complicated family matters.

@alt_lana at 2015-08-28 05:37:10
(no subject)

It's only because you're the very best at such things, you know. There's no one else who could deliver the same quality.

Yes, such a waste, Ptolemy. Not that he was without faults, but he did make himself useful. And we can't keep losing people like that. We simply must recruit more talent to the Ministry and the Department, but it's just like with your crew tonight--so difficult to find skilled help willing to work with dedication. Thank goodness for Catchlove. And Braithewaite's giving fair marks to his new adjutant, Zabini. I suppose we should have thought of the PSS sooner as a way to involve our highest talents who have chosen employment outside the government, but have much-needed skills to lend.

Tosha will be fine. He's promised to let me hear from him in the morning. I intend to ask him a bit more about his scheme for entering the castle. I can't let go of the thought that it would be beyond useful to have that Hogwarts roll in our possession. A
record of every magical birth as it happens. Very, very useful, given all of the records we lost when the Ministry fell.

Mm, yes.

Though one can't help but get the creeping sensation that pinning all our hopes on recruitment and talent would be unwise, given the meagre offerings. Relatively speaking.

Can't imagine a single one among them who could amount to a Barty Crouch, or a Dominic Selwyn. Or a Raz Lestrange.

If you're confident in Tosha's council then I will endeavour to do the same. It's not his abilities that I doubt, it's the level of his spirit.

I'm entirely confident in him, love. He dealt with Honoria for us today. I simply could not allow her to continue poisoning my relations with the rest of them. It's appalling that they couldn't bring themselves to sever ties with her even when it became clear she'd committed herself willingly to the Phoenixes.

At any rate, that's done. And done in such a way that she'll appear to have met a tragic, but entirely natural end.

I couldn't ask for a better friend, could I?

Oh, do come home. You're beginning to sound positively gloomy, and I can't help but think it's because you've been made to labour like a common wand, day in and day out.
If I'm gloomy it is because I have lost much, in spite of all that I have gained.

Though all the labouring doesn't help the matter.

I think some face-to-face time with my soon-to-be-wife would lift my spirits immensely.

If you're not too tired, I'll make myself presentable.

Present yourself any way you like, and you'll see how much energy I have left!

I defy you to look gloomy once I've had my way with you.

See, you've already made me smile.
**2015-08-27 23:56:00**

*Order Only: Private message to Auror J Finch-Fletchley*

Good work today.

Set the rest of the list aside for now. I'm not sending you back out right away.

---

**alt_justin** at **2015-08-28 05:00:00**

(no subject)

Rachel,

I'm all right. I nearly had him.

He must have got to Honoria beforehand.

I'm sure I can find a way to best him, truly. Thank you but rest isn't necessary. I'm quite all right.

-Justin

---

**alt_rachel** at **2015-08-28 05:02:19**

(no subject)

I think you're correct about Honoria. We're investigating right now to figure out how he got to her.

I'm not sending you back out yet. I'm sure the Healers have done a fine job, but I want you in the castle for a few days.

---

**alt_rachel** at **2015-08-28 05:05:35**

(no subject)

Or the Manor, rather.

That'll be an adjustment.
Have I done something wrong? Admittedly, I've not been entirely happy with my correspondence with Antonin but he does have a way of twisting one's intention. I'm well certain I can assume a more appropriate affect in future.

If you think I'm too apt to react adversely to Honoria's death or Baddock's, I can assure you that's not the case.

It's not--his taunt from today, and a few days ago. I thought he was merely playing with us but--you've not found other cases like Honoria's, have you?

Because if you have done, then it's my fault, for not having been more sure he wasn't bluffing.

But that's no--

No. I'm sorry. Whatever it is, tell me how to improve and I shall do it.

-J

Justin. I'm not unhappy with your work, at all. This is not the result of anything you've done or anything you haven't done.

You've done an excellent job. Trust me that I will have more work for you soon.

Yes. Quite. Thank you.

-F-F
I hope you're still awake.

I'm coming back to our room, I think. Soon, anyway.

I'm awake, love, and ready to talk, whenever you get here.
2015-08-28 02:36:00
Private Message to Ernie and Pansy

Please accept my apologies for the slowness of my response to your supportive missives. They were very much appreciated in the stygian depths of the first days of loss.

After what consideration I have been able to muster, I believe that having some sort of dignified memorial at Hogwarts would, in fact, be the best course. Perhaps some of the other Governors are there any left?

Merlin.

Well. In any case, there will be some among the returning students who knew Olivia, Horace, and Vinca. I cannot

It would be good to do something. Doing something is infinitely preferable to doing nothing.

Any thoughts and abilities you two might have to lend to planning, etiquette, and logistics would be most sincerely appreciated. (By the bye, I shall myself be staying on at Hogwarts through at least the early part of term, as Professor Siz has said that she has tasks I would be well-suited with which to assist.)

So many have lost so much. It seems our best course is to mark our losses, honour them, and find some way to contribute some bit of rebuilding, some positive endeavour with which we can somehow say that our souls may be temporarily in the mud, yet we remember the stars somewhere must shine, see them though we may not yet.

I should add that the mention of staying on and assisting here at Hogwarts for a time should not be taken as indicating that I have given up my hopes of further education. My current plan, as I am told that Oxford will be regrouping for some time before it is possible to reopen, is to devote myself to whatever studies will better enable me
to obtain entrance thereunto, as well as learning a bit more about how to go on with Muggles, since I shall certainly be in their company if I do indeed manage to attain my dream.

@alt_ernie at 2015-08-28 14:53:42
(no subject)

That sounds like a plan.

You thinking about living here for the time being?

@alt_linus at 2015-08-28 15:11:15
(no subject)

I am, at least for the short term. The Castle apparently approves, as it has provided a small, nearly monastic cell in the less-than-elevated reaches of Astronomy Tower. (It is quite comfortable actually.)

As things sort out, more plans may be made. Your mention of a flat does catch my attention. Professor Siz had also remarked that the Astronomy Guildhouse might be an option for me if I take another internship with them. I am told there is more than enough astronomy-and-locational-magics-related work to go around, given the need to get all Magical Transportation methods working properly again.

What are your short-term plans? Has the Castle given you a room?

@alt_ernie at 2015-08-28 19:47:40
(no subject)

I'm going to stay in Hogsmeade technically, but I know there'll be a lot of late nights here for the first few weeks or so. Bet it'll give me a place to kip if I need it.
I would wager you are quite correct there.

Speaking of Hogsmeade, has anything opened up there yet where a couple of chaps might quaff a flagon and take a brief respite from their endeavours?

The three broomsticks is still shuttered, but I'd bet a knut the Hogs Head has some libations. First round's on me?

There are a few of the old Board left, yeah. I'll make sure they're on the list.

I think it'd be good for all of us, mate. You're right. There's a lot of healing needs to be done.

Would you be up for a combined memorial? Say, the Jugsons, Abbotts, and the Greengrasses too? If you'd like to, me or Pansy can see what the Greengrasses might want to do.

I'll help however you need me. Of course.
That sounds quite appropriate. Yes, let us proceed in that manner.
Quiet now the desk,
the quills that once scurried 'cross parchment
with alac
with precise alacrity

Quiet now the

Quiet has fallen,
a blanket deep upon the desk
where once the quills, with precise alacrity,
laid their tracks upon parchment,
as row on row, the numbers formed in orderly ranks.
No more.
Stilled is the hand that

Where is the hand that guided mine
when first I struggled with the quill

Your quills stand to attention still.
They, like I, struck dumb and motionless
Waiting for the guiding hand
They will forever mourn.
2015-08-28 08:45:00
Order Only: Buckingham

Right.

How close are we to restoring portkeys? Could we create a number of them to get into Buckingham?

Or perhaps Montague or Clearwater have ideas about how to get in. They're with us now, might as well use the advantage.

Remus and I think if we can take about 20 able wands with us, and wait until the full moon, we could mount an assault directly on their headquarters and take the fight to them.

This festival thingy in New London this weekend - they'll all be distracted by that, correct? So we get in, get to Bellatrix, and end this whole sorry business.

alt_frank at 2015-08-28 14:44:45
(no subject)

count me in.

I can look into portkeys too.

alt_sirius at 2015-08-28 14:57:38
(no subject)

Knew you'd be in. Good to have you back, mate.

alt_sirius at 2015-08-28 15:05:33
Private Message to Frank, Remus, Alice, Poppy and Molly

Based on what Alice, Remus, Rachel and I discussed last night, I'm not going to tell any of the younger members of the Order that they can't fight - that would be useless and insulting, and deprive us of able wands, in the bargain. But what I will insist upon is that they are
not in the vanguard. They can come in after we've borne the brunt of the attack, as reinforcements. They'll still be able to play a critical hand in the battle but with any luck, it will be at far lower risk to their lives.

I just ... I don't think I can live with myself if any more of them throw their futures on this altar. And we don't need them to do it, either.

Rachel's right that not being on the front lines doesn't necessarily protect them. Poor Honoria Sandoval died last night and she's barely lifted her wand against anyone. Still I think it's high time we did what we're meant to do and put ourselves between our young people and danger, as much as possible.

Agreed?

---

alt_lupin at 2015-08-28 15:21:23
Re: Private Message to Frank, Remus, Alice, Poppy and Molly

Agreed.

---

alt_jeremy at 2015-08-28 15:19:56
(no subject)

Since the Octoboros push is done, perhaps put Siz, Cecilia, Evelyn, and Linus on calculation-checking and locational magics. I can steal a couple of half-days to help. Food network continues badly overworked, but I need to avoid burnout. Switching projects for a half-day is as good as a holiday. Or so they tell me.

---

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-28 16:57:30
(no subject)

Portkeys, making the things, that's something I'd need help with, don't know if I could pick it up fast enough.

But the calculations for them, we can do. I'd like to ask Jason Montague a couple of specific questions to confirm there isn't a local effect to account for, but we should be able to manage that.
Count me and my wand in.

Good, we'll need you.

You really think it's over when my mother's dead?

I think there are a dwindling number of the enemy who can hold things together in her stead. There's no guarantee but they're losing ground rapidly and they know it. I think we could succeed in capturing or killing the remaining holdouts, too, if we act quickly enough.

Sorry. It's not that I'm not confident. Or not in support.

I suppose I have trouble imagining things being different. Which is funny because they already are.
Sirius,

Yes, by all means.

-J

Private Message to Sirius

That is, if Rachel will allow me to go.

I can't think why she's told me I'm to sit out for a few days. If she's worried about my injuries, please tell her I'm quite fine?

I'm not sure she believes me, but she will do if you tell her.

-J

Re: Private Message to Sirius

Don't blame Rachel. I asked her to shift her assignments. You and Ron, Hydra, Draco--you're all doing marvellously, but it's high time that the rest of us shoulder the burden and let you have the cushy jobs for a bit.

You'll all still see action, don't mistake me. I'll want you all to help on this. Just not at the very front of the line.

The Elysian will have a set-up at the fête, just like at the last festivals. Russell's scheduled to work a shift, and even if he weren't, he'd be expected to show loyal. However, I do have a back-up plan in place if he needs to make a sudden exit that doesn't blow his (my) cover.
I'll do what I can, whether its more helpful for me to join in or stay where I am.

**alt_sirius** at 2015-08-28 17:01:37  
(no subject)

Your cover's important but if everything goes as I hope, you might not need it anymore. Probably the best use for you is to keep vigilant and see what (if anything) you can do to prevent any reinforcements they might have out in the neighbourhoods from doubling back.

**alt_draco** at 2015-08-28 20:10:37  
(no subject)

The purpose is to assassinate Bellatrix, then? Did Montague confirm that she never attends the festivals? All my intel has indicated that she rarely leaves the Palace, so that would align with what I know.

There will still be some guards and staff on hand at the Palace. I'm sure she knows not to leave the place completely vulnerable. Broome will be there, for certain. Lana S-P wouldn't dream of missing a party, I bet, so she'll be gone.

Actually, let me just send you a list of every MLE person I saw out and about at the last festival. That should give a rough idea of who will be left behind, and how many.

**alt_sirius** at 2015-08-29 01:24:17  
(no subject)

Excellent. Yes, my theory is that if we can get in, find her and overwhelm her, then our reinforcements can follow in short order and we'll secure the Palace. If anyone still insists on fighting, well, we'll have a significant advantage by holding their own fortress.

I realise it seems simplistic but sometimes the most straightforward plans are the ones they least expect.
I can help.

I can bring along some of Fu's special little presents, too. No incendiaries, promise, but some concussion thingammies that'll throw the defence offstride and pack a wallop.

George says he'll assist at the triage station.

Nothing showy. If a good portion of MLE are out of the Palace, we don't want them to have a reason to come running back.

Good point. So noted.

I'll talk to Fu. He's excellent at sneaky battle tactics, and he'll give us good advice about what would be best/appropriate.

I'll help, too.

I'll come and provide support.
You heard about Honoria? It's so sad.

I'm packing us up. Do you want that red jumper or was it meant for the donation bin? It's got a small hole in, so probably you meant to donate, but it was in the cupboard after the last laundering.

Pansy and Sally-Anne have a plan to put together a sort of neighbourhood. Sort of all clustered together like the Victory Village in those *Pure Hunger* books. They asked if we want to go in with them--well, I mean, they came round to a load of us yesterday, after Ernie's announcement, and were asking. Pansy and George, and Fred and Sally-Anne thinks maybe Terry, and her and Ron, of course, and they asked Hydra about her and Justin, and then there's us and Susan.

Well, I said I'd talk with you about it. If we're all in different houses, maybe. But I did like that cottage you found. In Strathglass.

But anyway, the thing is, I started packing this morning, because we're going to have to either go where the rest go or take the place in Strathglass, but either way we won't be here after the weekend. And about a half-hour ago, a house-elf came and asked me to go down to the Staff Lounge.

Professor Slughorn was there, with Master Gimlet and Headmistress Vector. I got really nervous all of a sudden, because I couldn't imagine what I'd done to have to report to all three of them! But then Professor Slughorn started talking, you know, and he said that they'd been wanting to talk to me for a while. He and Master Gimlet had been watching all summer, he said. Well, you know, for Mastery, usually one has to sit an oral defence and prepare a load of potions and present one's notebooks and--well, it's a process, you understand.

But Professor Slughorn said they'd been just about to arrange for me to sit with them when that attack happened. And since then they were waiting to make sure everything was all right, that my injuries didn't incapacitate me as far as my Potioneering was concerned. Master Gimlet said that they'd been 'completely satisfied' when they saw me this week, because remember I told you about the modifications to the
Sleeper potion, and then there was nearly an outbreak at Dumfries but one of the Healers caught it early so we just put on a few cauldrons to make a replenishment draught, I mean they're really simple, after all, and well, the point is that Master Gimlet said that it completely satisfied him, and--and they've sent in the parchmentwork to the Guild.

I'm a Potions Mistress.

And then the Headmistress said that since Professor Slughorn still wanted to retire, and they need a qualified professor, I could start this term, if I wanted. He said that he'd be willing to stay on for one term if it would help get my feet under me. I mean, the Sleeper project really only has another month or two to go, and so it's probably not strictly necessary that I stay on it full-time.

They told me to think about it today and let Professor Vector know as soon as possible.

What do you think? I-- It's not really what I planned on doing, I mean, there's loads of research I'd like to do and there are things other than Potions, I mean, it's not the only form of magic that interests me. But I'd be here where there's a massive library at my disposal. I don't know how much time I'd really have, though. And teaching, I don't know. I don't think I'd be very good at it.

But I don't want to decide without us discussing it first, at least.

Oh, and I really do want to know if you still want this jumper.

---

👤 alt_draco at 2015-08-28 16:02:45
(no subject)

Hermione, that's brilliant.

MISTRESS Hermione.

Professor Granger.

I can't decide which I like better. I think I like them both.
Don't EVER call me 'Mistress'! Just...no.

If you say so.

Though you can't stop me from saying it in my own head.

You have issues, Draco Malfoy.

The neighbourhood idea is snitch, really. Definitely appealing. Though at the same time I can't help but think that eventually, we might want to forge friendships and associations with people outside our little inner circle.

But then again, most people are complete rubbish.

Alright, not complete rubbish. But still, they don't really understand. They haven't been through what we have.

But remember how the cottage had that extra building out back? Perfect as a potions workshop for you.

Maybe we could have both. I can afford it, in any case.
alt_hermione at 2015-08-28 16:33:09
(no subject)

Weren't there other cottages up the coastline? We could all live along the beach, maybe.

alt_draco at 2015-08-28 16:43:05
(no subject)

There were, but we'd have to check to see that they were all properly unoccupied. Not awaiting muggle occupants and such.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-28 16:48:33
(no subject)

Well, let's check. Because they thought about the village idea but no one really knows where would be a good place.

alt_draco at 2015-08-28 17:00:05
(no subject)

Part of the reason they may be officially unoccupied is because they were once used as holiday rentals.

Russell has the third shift tonight. I can make some inquiries before I head to the Elysian.

How many spaces are needed? Six? (You/Me, Ron/Sally Anne, Justin/Hydra, Pansy/George, Fred, and Sue?) I'll just assume six is the minimum.

alt_draco at 2015-08-28 16:13:34
(no subject)

Teaching children sounds hideous. Well, to me, anyway. Imagine them coming at you with sticky hands, and spilling their ink everywhere, and saying utterly daft things.
You would be better at it than I would. You're pretty much the most incredible teacher I've ever had - and I don't mean just in potions. I wish you had more time to think about it.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-28 16:37:10
(no subject)

Well, they'd be eleven. Not precisely babies or anything. But it's true they'd be rather hopeless.


I mean, it's an honour, certainly. But I wish it seemed like they really wanted me for it and less like they needed someone, and I happen to be at loose ends.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-28 16:38:51
(no subject)

And you've had plenty of time to think about that jumper.

alt_draco at 2015-08-28 16:44:34
(no subject)

Whatever you decide, it should absolutely be for yourself and no one else.

Oh...red jumper. Russell's, I think. So I'd best hang on to it.
Hydra,

I'm going out for a bit. Something he said isn't adding up, what. Or rather, it's adding up too well, if you follow me.

Honoria's death wasn't an accident. Perhaps some of the other accidental deaths reported recently haven't been, either.

I'll be careful, I promise. And back in time for tea.

Oh, as far as the move to the Manor: I've already packed my trunk with everything but clothes for the weekend and there's really only the one satchel with all the books in. My toiletry kit, aftershave and all that can stay out until Monday morning. If you want the hamper your Aunt sent, I think there are still several good pieces of fruit and some biscuits.

I do feel foolish about last night. I was certain I was better prepared, what. I'm sure there were three or four times when I could almost have had him. But he was even faster than I remember, what. I just need the smallest adjustment and the outcome shall be quite different.

But first to follow-up on this dashed elusive hunch.

All my love,

-J

P.S. Sirius just told me he's the one who asked Rachel to order me to sit out for a few days. He's--

Dash it. I understand his point but it's bally well not his decision, is it.
I know how important this is to you, and I know how much effort you've put into this for the last few weeks.

But I really think you should keep to Rachel's orders. Not just because you've recently been injured (though that is a good reason to remain where you are), but also because of what my Aunt's told me. Do you remember how I said last night that she got word to Draco? Antonin is serious about killing you. He sees it as a moral imperative. Not even my Uncle Lucius could convince him to put it aside.

And going it alone, well - I should have waited for Draco's back-up Unit when I went in to the Forest to find Barty. As it was, I was phenomenally lucky.

Can you at least wait until this attack on Buckingham is over with? For all we know, Antonin may be there.

He may well protest that he thinks it's necessary, but I've already duelled him and I can tell you, I think he's still conflicted. For one thing, he could have done it while I was still busy with Ptolemy, I do think he was there for a short while before I saw him.

For another...I know you said Crouch did this to you, too, and I know it's a psychological tactic, what, but he was jolly well offering advice as we fought. Well, he was at first, what. He stopped after a time when we got into it in earnest. As fast as he was, too, there were moments when he...he might have taken a shot and he hesitated. I'm dashed cross I couldn't capitalise, either, but I do think I've an advantage there. And in the gri

But I do hear you. I promise I'll not go looking for him, and not alone, all right? I just want to satisfy myself about what he's been up to.

-J
But do you know why he hesitated? Possibly he was toying with you. He's as good at that as Barty was.

I just don't see that it matters what he's been up to. We all know that he needs to be stopped.

Yes, and I'm meant to be the one to stop him. I was sure he was bluffing, do you see, but with Honoria-if I've miscalculated that badly then I need to understand where I've gone wrong, and I need to see anything he might have left behind as a clue. Just as you did with Barty. It will help me know how to outwit him.

You think I should give up and let someone else handle him?

I don't know anymore.

I say, I'm sorry.

I don't wish to quarrel. And I'm not cross with you, I'm anxious and upset with myself.

I keep thinking of Honoria, and Remy and Alfie and--everyone, I suppose.

I'll see what I can piece together from Rachel's reports, will that do? Safe and snug here, for another day or so.

-J
I'm not cross, either. But do you think that being anxious and upset is a sign that you should take a bit of a rest from the matter?

But, I suppose reports don't do much harm.

And now I see that he's written you and is probably winding you up again.

Actually, he's not. Not much.

What are you doing, love?

Asking why he feels it's his duty to kill you. I don't suppose I'll get an answer.

Did you? Get an answer?

I've managed to frighten him, at any rate, which is no little thing.

Unless he's dissembling for effect—that's certainly possible, at least in his more recent comments. He doth protest too much, what.

When you were stalking Crouch, did there come a moment when you felt you had turned the tables?

I say, it's jolly well about time something unnerved the bastard.
Not really. Not until he was dead.

I'm sorry, I know that's not very reassuring.

I'm finished talking to Antonin, but he's saying that I need to stop you from whatever "idiot plan" you have. What's he on about?

I found a book in his collection. Very dangerous, warded about twenty ways. I quoted the introduction and he's assuming that I'm delving into it for its deepest secrets. Despite the fact that it's obviously exactly the sort of text one doesn't consult. He's absolutely certain I'm trying to learn its secrets.

I'm not. Don't worry. But it has him scared and the next time we do meet, what, he'll still believe I've been using it.

It's no unicorn, but it seems to be having a desired effect.

So, are we going to stay at the Manor or just get everyone else settled and then move out to Pansy and Sally-Anne's Village?

Oh, is that it? I get the impression that he believes you're going to go on a tear and read through the whole thing tonight. But yes, twenty different wardings? That would be
desperate and mad.

I don't understand why anyone would keep a book so dangerous that you can't read it. My father always did that, too.

I have to go to the Manor tonight to help prepare it for occupancy, but it's odd to think about living there. It still feels as if it belongs to my Aunt and Uncle.

I think I'd rather be in the village, wherever that ends up being?

Well, there is one spell that--but, no, it's far too risky. Jolly well mad, indeed, but he's just the type who can't conceive of someone who'd read about especially powerful spells and not try to use them.

The Village sounds all right. I had thought, perhaps, we could somehow produce a deed to the Finch-Fletchley home in Devon, or the London townhouse, but somehow that seems--like it would be the old way. I don't want the old ways. I want new ones.

I imagine everyone who's planning to stay at the Manor feels odd about it. I say, when this is over we'll turn it into a museum or something, perhaps--a monument to the Muggle holocaust, perhaps.

Oh, Pansy talked to me about a memorial Moon wants to hold. They want to include the Jugsons--well, Remy and Alfie, at any rate. I told her she should talk to you, you were their cousin. I suppose a memorial is appropriate but--well, one just hasn't had the leisure to think about it.

Well, we can catch up with her tomorrow. Or after Sirius's daft plan succeeds, what. Probably ought not say so aloud and jinx it.

-J
I'm sure it's tempting, but he's probably telling the truth about how dangerous they are. It's only safe for someone like him to own, of course.

I don't know that it really matters where we live so long as we're together. Though it would be nice to have friends nearby, people that we know we can rely on. Sally Anne can keep us healthy, and Pansy can manage our finances, and Hermione will make great discoveries, and the twins will...make sure that it never gets too quiet, and Sue will sing for us, and you, me, Draco, and Ron will keep things secure. If Neville were alive, he would grow our food. And Harry would be Harry.

And right. The memorial. It feels as if every day is a memorial.

I don't know. Maybe we should have a proper memorial when it no longer feels like every day is a memorial.

Have supper with me before I head to the Manor?

Yes, he never lies, exactly, but he has been known to embroider the truth, or emphasise certain aspects. I don't believe he’s feigning all of his caution, just, let us say, selling it in such a way as to frighten us off. But in his own head, he's sure that I’m reading it.

It does feel as if each day brings with it someone else to mourn, yes. But soon, I hope, we'll be past that. A change of scenery will do us all good, what.

As you wish. And gladly. I've time for supper and perhaps the salle.

-J
I hope so, too.
Are you in our room? I'll bring something up.

Yes, our room.
See you shortly.
2015-08-28 12:37:00
*Private message to Finch-Fletchley*

You still keep your left elbow raised too far.

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**alt_justin** at 2015-08-28 17:43:13

(no subject)

Tell me: What did Honoria Sandoval ever do to violate your code? In what universe was she fair game?

---

**alt_antonin** at 2015-08-28 17:58:39

(no subject)

Have we reached the stage where I am the boogeyman under the bed, to be blamed for every last bump in the night?

Very well, then. Allow me to return the question: what did Lysander Searle do to earn his death? Or is it simply that he was in your way?

---

**alt_justin** at 2015-08-28 18:18:23

(no subject)

No, Tosha. Only the ones for which you are responsible.

Who the deuce

It was your handiwork. Don't insult me by feigning otherwise. You came to Penzance from her, or else you'd have been there early enough to lay the trap properly.

Richard Hewsley, as well. So, that's what, four to your anonymous credit?

Well done, by the way, trying to twit me for signing my work, when you're both not signing yours and it was you who taught me to do
so. But then again, our goals--and our directives--have been different.

alt_antonin at 2015-08-28 18:28:36
(no subject)

So you've only found four of them? Really, Юшка, that's just lazy work. And here I've been telling you for two weeks to keep your eyes open.

But you thought I was lying, didn't you? Trying to get under your skin. Trying to push you into doing something rash. My dear boy, if I wanted you to do something rash, I know far better ways to go about it, and lying has always been far more effort than telling the truth. In this, at least, I am playing fair. Shall I stop doing so?

alt_justin at 2015-08-28 18:56:54
(no subject)

You're correct about one thing: I do know you. I know how you twist the truth. Introspection, what, that was good advice. Unlucky for you that with my introspection came renewal of purpose.

But as you like. Because unlike you, I am not 'playing' at anything.

alt_antonin at 2015-08-28 19:09:36
(no subject)

Renewal of purpose? What purpose is that, then? Do you really think that killing me will bring you your happy ending?

Some free advice: be careful what you wish for; some wishes cannot be undone once spoken. And you may realise too late that you are unwilling to pay the price that they demand.
I'd rather never have to kill another person again--even you. However, that does not mean I'll not defend myself. My purpose has been to use the skills you insisted I develop to end this conflict. To ensure that Muggles, Muggleborn, Halfbloods and Purebloods all have an equal opportunity to live alongside one another without fear of oppression. You like to accuse me of righteousness but you fail to acknowledge what that really means. It means fighting on the side of right, avoiding harm to innocents (adult or otherwise) and only applying oneself to the minimum amount of carnage absolutely necessary to achieve one's goals.

I'm aware of where I've faltered--and of where the Order have not been perfect--but I dare you to tell me I was ever in the wrong about which side to support.

I am mocking your self-righteousness because you are here nattering at me about avoiding harm to innocents less than a day after I watched you kill a man because he would not get out of the way of your vigilante justice. Dear boy, you are as much a hypocrite as I am, but if you must persist in claiming your ethics are deontological rather than teleological, I will persist in pointing out that the emperor has no clothes.

If you'd rather not have to kill me, then you may feel free to cease making the attempt. Your stated intention to do so is no influence on my actions. And unless you remember to mind your left elbow, among other things, I doubt you've a chance of succeeding anyway.
Another twist to the truth. If you mean Serle, I offered him the chance to yield; he refused. If you mean Baddock, can you deny that you were coming to kill him, yourself? I've already admitted to stumbling on my path. You don't need to point it out. Yes, I took satisfaction in killing him--but not pleasure, ????. Never pleasure.

You're far too solicitous of my elbow. I'm flattered you find it so difficult to sever your tutelage. Is it that much harder to leave off your pursuit? Your 'moral imperative'?

If I believed for a moment you'd forswear ever committing another murder, ever casting another Dark spell, then I'd consider what might be done with you. If you were willing to eliminate the threat you represent, then I'd be willing to bring you to the Order alive to answer for the debt you owe.

I say, *are* you willing?

Oh, that's far too easy to answer: Define 'Dark spell'.

Go on; I'm waiting. And if you try to fob me off with the stereotypical "designed to cause injury or death blah blah blah" nonesense, I shall retroactively fail you for the past three years of my class.

Oh, Tosha. As if I care about passing your class. The one you enrolled me in against my wishes?

That 'stereotypical' definition, as you quaintly put it, is, it turns out, the only one worth using.
No doubt you would prefer to confine it narrowly, as 'one which can be applied empirically and solely to the property of the spell's effects upon the caster - that is, only those spells which the casting thereof may impact negatively upon the one who attempts to harness their power.'

Personally I don't much care what 'class' of spells you consider 'Dark' or 'Noble' so long as you abdicate any that don't adhere to our polite societal taboos. Swear never to cast with the intent to severely harm, kill or subjugate another living creature, and we can call an end.

Empirically and solely to the property of -- oh you idiot.

You IDIOT.

You've been reading De Rei Magiae?

Did I teach you NOTHING?

Did you not stop to THINK there was a reason that volume was in a locked cabinet, behind a locked door, in a locked and warded box with seventeen individual layers of warding that had to be undone before one could get at it?

Eighteen.
Justin, I say this to you speaking as plainly as I know how, bereft of any attempt to manipulate or deceive: I beg you, do not look to that book as anything other than a curiosity. You ought to know that I am willing to bear your death on my conscience; you may safely heed my words when I say that the results of using that book would be worse.

So your Noble Arts have limits, after all? Good to know.

You were saying, about hypocrisy?

Find me one example of a time at which I have ever claimed they do not. There is a reason that text is not used as anything other than historical reference, you idiot child, and there is a reason I spent so bloody long in class on teaching you what not to do with an unknown text.

No reply?

I'm sure you're telling yourself that you know better than to use anything you find in that book, or in one of the others of mine that you've been 'triaging' or 'handling' or 'making safe' or any one of a thousand other euphemisms to conceal that what you are actually doing is plundering knowledge in search of power.
I'm sure you're telling yourself that you're stronger than that. Better than that. More pure. More noble.

But I know you. Better, it seems, than you do yourself. All it will take is one moment of weakness. One moment of being overwhelmed. One moment with one of your targets in your sights -- me, or Bella, or Rowle, or one of the others. All it will take is one solitary stray thought of "I could do this, and it needs to be done, and I don't care what it will do to me to do it", and that will be the end of the matter.

And you won't stop. You never would have, and that is precisely why I came to realise it is my obligation to stop you -- you may go ahead and tell your wife that I have answered her question, by the way. Because yes, I made you. And I shouldn't have.

But your zealotry and conviction is going to lead you to overreach sooner or later. Almost certainly sooner. And when you do, you will wind up dead either way. A foregone conclusion.

So I regret to inform you, student of mine, that I have no desire to be anywhere near ground zero of your inevitable explosion -- and an explosion it will be. As I have no doubt you will take care of the matter for me, I do not need to be anywhere near your self-immolation when it happens; I shall take Ari's example instead. And perhaps recusing myself as temptation will point you at those others who are on my list.

If I may leave you one last word of advice: begin praying now that when you do overreach yourself, you are the only casualty that you care about.

You idiot.
Got you, you son of a bitch.

For what it is worth, which I am aware is 'precisely nothing', I am sorry for how things ended. I cannot regret your death, but I do regret its necessity, and its manner. I ought to have seen to it myself -- tu deviens responsable pour toujours de ce que tu as apprivoisé, and all -- but there are so many things I ought to have done.

I wish you the best of luck in the next life, my student.

Almighty God, you judge us with infinite mercy and justice and love everything you have made. In your mercy, turn the darkness of death into the dawn of new life and the sorrow of parting into the joy of heaven, through our Saviour, Jesus Christ, amen. You promise eternal life to those who believe; remember Your servant Justin, as we also remember him. Bring all who rest in Christ into the fullness of your kingdom, where sins have been forgiven and death is no more.

Unto him that is able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to the God our saviour be glory and majesty, dominion and power, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen.
Private message to Antonin Dolohov

Why do you think it is your moral obligation, your duty, to kill Justin?

Or anyone else, for that matter.

I don't expect an answer. I'm asking anyway.

And you can ask me about Barty, if you want.

Why on earth would you believe I would trust a word you said?

Mistrust doesn't usually win out over curiosity.

Use that tactic often, do you?

I'm afraid I shall have to decline your game; I am already busy playing another.

No. Do I ever write you, or my mother, or my father? I don't have an interest in games.

Barty did, though.
Setting aside your attempts to manipulate me, which is a tactic for which I will not fall: If you bear any love for your idiot husband, you will stop him from executing the idiot plan he undoubtedly has in mind.

I'm not manipulating you. I asked a question; you're clearly not going to answer. I'll live.

And I don't know what you're talking about, and I don't care.
2015-08-28 18:12:00
Private message to Rodolphus and Lana

Ravage came to me with intel regarding the rest of the Baddocks' whereabouts. Ensured credibility via legilimency - apparently one of the Baddock children wrote to a friend back in New London, saying they were "no longer in England" and had sailed from Penzance.

My evening schedule is full, but once I've taken my last meeting, I plan to Apparate to Penzance to inspect the status of the wards there for myself. I will only be gone for a short while. Tell absolute no one of my absence - not even Rowle. I will decide when and if he will get to share in the news, should it turn out to be auspicious.

If the wards are indeed passable, you should prepare yourselves to evacuate New London in short order.

---

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-28 23:56:31
(no subject)

So noted.

alt_lana at 2015-08-29 05:03:11
(no subject)

Forty minutes.

Rod, I can't possibly have all this ready-

I simply can't.

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-29 05:11:31
private message to Lana

Darling, I think she means to discuss who to place on the evac list, not for us to actually evacuate in 40 minutes time.
Though she is in a hurry. And her journal post makes me wonder what she's done.

*alt_lana* at 2015-08-29 03:12:18
(no subject)

Needn't worry about Rowle, he's had me cornered all evening, helping prep his speech for tomorrow's opening ceremony.

Do let us know what you find in Penzance.

*alt_bellatrix* at 2015-08-29 04:42:49
(no subject)

Have confirmed that the wards at Penzance are passable.

Must take care of a few more items of business before my return. Both of you meet me in my office one hour from now.

*alt_lana* at 2015-08-29 05:00:45
(no subject)

Oh. Oh, goodness.

Of course.

One hour.

*alt_bellatrix* at 2015-08-29 05:02:27
(no subject)

My office. I didn't say you had to be ready to leave, though the sooner the better.

Calm yourself.
Yes, alright.  
We'll be there.

"You lose?"
And what is that in reference to?

Loose ends.

Merlin, you'd think Rowle had never given a speech before. I was tempted to send him home with a tummy tonic and a dose of dreamless sleep, but I was the picture of patience and let him wear himself down.

I suppose I'd feel more invested in tomorrow's ceremonials if we weren't on the verge of leaving all of it behind, but we are, and now it's after ten, and I've only just got home to begin pulling things together.

I keep going back and forth between thinking we'll simply have to buy everything we need when we get there and thinking that, no, we really must take the things we depend on every day. And, naturally, I'm as big as an erumpent, but I can't logically take two sets of everything, and I've no idea what size I'll be once the baby's come. But I can't be left with only a tent to wear afterwards.

And then I think of the small essential things, like Antosha's Ummi's
tea, which we absolutely must bring, only then it flies out of my head before I can either add it to my list or go collect it and put it in one of the parcels. I can't hold a thought more than six heartbeats, and then I keep thinking of the same things over again and finding I've already got them in a pile or on the list. I'll be quite mad by morning, I'm afraid.
2015-08-28 19:04:00
Order Only Private Message to Sally Anne

I'm in place with good cover. And I gave the area a thorough going over snakewise, first, so I know where the blind approaches are. I should hear anyone coming before they get here.

Transforming again now, so I won't hear a notificio or be checking in until I'm finished. I'll see you when I get home. Promise I'll wake you.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 01:48:46
(no subject)

Good. I mean, I'm glad you're going to wake me.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 04:24:45
(no subject)

Ron? You're not in human form right now by any chance are you?

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 04:25:19
(no subject)

Do you know what Justin was doing tonight?

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 04:32:29
(no subject)

Okay so

I just got a private message from Dolohov and he says that he and Justin are both very badly hurt and if I come heal him he'll give me Justin and the passwords to Buckingham and he'll leave Britain and never come back.
I can't find Justin. I can't find Hydra. I can't even find Rachel although I wanted to see if she was here but I didn't want her to see me, since I am absolutely SURE she'd tell me not to go. The elves said that Justin left at a run about an hour ago, and Rachel left just a few minutes before. So I don't think this is just a bluff.

And I'm sure Mrs Longbottom would tell me not to go and so would Madam Pomfrey and I know this is insane, but he swore this wasn't a trap, and

I think they'd let Justin die. At least I'm afraid they'd let Justin die. After Gin And if I wait, someone will see the message from Dolohov and they'll make sure I don't go anywhere.

I'm going. So. If he does kill me, you know what happened, I guess.

I love you.

✉️alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 04:49:22
(no subject)

I'm fine, if you see this.

So far.

He's very badly hurt, he wasn't lying about that.

✉️alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 05:19:41
(no subject)

Still alive!

I bet you're still in snake form.
Order Only: Private Message to Rachel

Rachel,

He's written again. You ought to see it.

I think....

I do believe he's going to try for Penzance. Tonight. This very moment, most likely.

Let me go. We'll not get another chance.

-F-F

Penzance?

Yes, yes, where the Baddocks tried to make their crossing.

Or possibly made it. I didn't--

We're losing our chance. It has to be NOW if we're going to get there in time.

I can't let you go, Justin.

I'll go.
What? Of course you can.

You can come along if you like but

Oh, I say. BUGGER.
2015-08-28 22:21:00
Order Only: Private message to Bill

Going to Penzance.

Don't wait up.

Maybe this time he'll stay

alt_bill at 2015-08-29 06:47:35
(no subject)

Bloody hell. Rachel!
Say, do you have to head home straight away? I could use a whiskey.

The Elysian, maybe. I'm certain a drink or two would help all those logistics details settle into the brain.

Feeling rather chuffed about tomorrow. Our debut, really. And the payoff for the training so far.

People seem to like the uniforms, too! A bit of an antidote for being tied down by marriage. I know it's not entirely the same for you, but surely you're not beyond feeling the thrill of having a clutch of witches turn their heads when you pass them on patrol or the warm feeling of having a barkeep refill your glass 'in appreciation'. It's nice to be noted. And noteworthy.

At any rate, when Braithwaite lets you go, come by the staffroom and we'll head over to the Elysian.
I hadn't expected this, but he's running for it. Or possibly it was a ruse to draw me, but that hardly matters.

Rachel's gone--she went alone. I say, jolly well ironic, isn't it?

If you see this, come to Penzance, the shoreline near the stone. Bring extra wands, if you can do.

I said I wouldn't seek him out but he'll get away, if he's not bluffing. And Rachel--

Dash it all, Ron's on a detail and can't read his journal; Sirius can't Apparate, he'd be a sitting duck. Draco's on shift as well, by this time.

I've got to go. I can't--she's not a match in his current form. But together, perhaps.

Je t'aime bien, ma chérie. I'll see you again.

-Justin

---

What?

I'm coming.
2015-08-28 23:19:00
Private message to Sally-Anne Perks

I must beg for your help. I have no one else I can turn to.

I am badly injured. Justin is badly injured. I do not doubt neither of us will live out the night if we are not treated. In exchange for healing, I will give you the week's passwords to Buckingham's wards, and a vow to leave Britain and never return and to never again lift wand against any of you or yours.

I am at Cottesmore. The password 'Salazar's Mercy' will permit you entrance, as long as you come alone. Once I am healed I will tell you where he is. You will not find him if I don't.

I swear to you on the souls of my dead and yours that this is not a trap.

When you wrote to me after my death you were more right than I was willing to admit.

Please.

---

alt_antonin at 2015-08-29 04:31:20
(no subject)

If there is anything I can do to assure you I am not lying say the word

If you are not willing to come to Cottesmore I will go anywhere you need. But if you want that, ask quickly. I will not be able to apparate again for long

Пожалуйста

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 04:33:05
(no subject)

I'm coming.
As promised, the written version of what I gave you verbally:

Saturday: coherent silence approach
Sunday: furious cemetery flame
Monday: interdependent related motivation
Tuesday: prime prodigious profile
Wednesday: stolen sound whiskey
Thursday: tranquil clay heartbreaker
Friday: sound nonsense interrelatedness

The passphrases are changed on Friday; I do not have anything beyond then. And I rather suspect I will be removed from the distribution list after tonight. Once your lot kills her, burn the body.

I owe you a debt, for all that I doubt either of us will ever again be in a position to allow you to collect.

SHE CAST THE BLACK CURSE ON HIM YOU SON OF A BITCH.

DID YOU KNOW?

HOW COULD YOU NOT KNOW?

No, I did not know. I would have told you if I had.

He went there to kill me. Would have stopped at nothing to kill me. In the end, I suppose I could not bring myself to return the favour.
**2015-08-28 23:25:00**
*Order Only: Private message to Justin and Hydra*

Where are you?

---

*alt_hydra* at **2015-08-29 04:33:35**
(no subject)

Something's wrong. It's.

What does my mother mean?

What does she mean?
2015-08-28 23:29:00
(no subject)

You lose.

alt_bellatrix

alt_hydra at 2015-08-29 04:35:00
(no subject)

What did you DO?

alt_sirius at 2015-08-29 04:46:37
(no subject)

Lose what? Exploding Snap?

The pleasure of your company?

Oh, your mind! But that was gone long ago, so... what?

alt_bellatrix at 2015-08-29 04:48:57
(no subject)

alt_sirius at 2015-08-29 04:51:26
Order Only

Oh, bugger. That is not good.
Sirius, do you know where Justin is? He wrote me, said he was going to Penzance to stop Dolohov from crossing the wards. Only Rachel went first, he was going to help her because he didn't think she should go alone.

I'm at Penzance. I think. I can't find him, or anyone.

Fuck.

I'm coming.
Why is Antonin Dolohov writing you privately?

It's way too complicated to explain right now. I'll tell you later.

Where are you, my dear? Are you safe?

It's quite important that you tell me. I'm afraid that it's causing rather a lot of upset here and may result in who knows what rash foolishness.

I'm safe. At least I THINK I'm safe.
@alt_poppy at 2015-08-29 05:28:52
(no subject)

Bless.
**2015-08-28 23:59:00**

*Order only: Sally-Anne, Justin, Rachel*

CHECK IN.

Poppy, Ron, Bill, anyone who KNOWS where they've gone or what Bella's gloating about, CHECK IN.

Hydra's in Penzance; I'm heading there.

ALERT.

Dolohov may be waiting, as well as others.

---

**alt_lupin** at **2015-08-29 05:01:27**

*(no subject)*

What the fuck is going on?

**alt_sirius** at **2015-08-29 05:02:04**

*(no subject)*

Hell's breaking loose, that's what.

---

**alt_sirius** at **2015-08-29 05:02:43**

*Private Message to Moony*

If Justin's alive, I'll kill him.

---

**alt_draco** at **2015-08-29 05:04:53**

*(no subject)*

Nothing's happening in New London, I can tell you that much.

I can have Russell fall ill if I'm needed.
Is she at the Palace? Did anyone happen to say whether she stayed in all evening?

Bellatrix? No, sorry.

Haven't heard anything about her, other than the usual whispers of fear and admiration.

I'm very much afraid Miss Perks has left the castle, lured out by Antonin Dolohov.

I sent an elf to her quarters, and there's no sign of her there or anywhere else on the grounds we could think to check.

And she's not answered my message to her.

FUCK

All right. What's the worst we ought to assume here?

Dolohov is holding Sally Anne, Justin, and Rachel captive somewhere, and Bellatrix is on her way to join him?

Yeah. Not fucking good.
Russell's going to get very ill, and I'm getting out of here early. Are you and Hydra still at Penzance?

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-29 05:20:41
(no subject)

We're here. Sirius is sick.
From Apparation.

@alt_alice at 2015-08-29 05:28:47
(no subject)

Tell us as soon as you know more.

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-29 05:31:50
(no subject)

Why don't YOU know more?
Or aren't you our leader?

@alt_alice at 2015-08-29 05:33:33
(no subject)

I know that Justin was told to stay at Hogwarts. I know that there were protocols in place to run communication with Antonin Dolohov past a security team.

None of these things, apparently, make an iota of difference.
We are waiting on standby if you should need backup.

@alt_poppy at 2015-08-29 05:33:34
(no subject)

I've heard back from her. She tells me she is safe. In a way that makes me think she does not for a moment trust that's so.
Naturally she's also entirely disregarded my request that she tell me where she is.

@alt_sirius at 2015-08-29 05:43:05
(no subject)

Well, they're not here, that's for damn sure.

Where would he--

@alt_alice at 2015-08-29 05:49:40
(no subject)

He's here, with Sally-Anne. He's injured.

Where's Rachel?

@alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 06:10:39
(no subject)

I didn't see Rachel. When I asked about her, Dolohov said that he didn't know what happened to her and he last saw her at Penzance.

@alt_alice at 2015-08-29 06:21:54
(no subject)

Merlin above, Sally-Anne.

I'll send a team out to look for her.

And I'll make sure we notify Bill.
2015-08-29 00:43:00
Order Only

I'm bringing Justin back to the apparation point outside the Hogwarts gates can someone please meet us

alt_sally_anne

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 05:44:42
Private message to Hydra

Come.

Come NOW.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-29 05:45:53
Re: Private message to Hydra

Okay.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 05:47:13
Private message to Madam Pomfrey

He thinks Bellatrix cast the Black Curse on him.

I think he's right.

Maybe he's wrong?

alt_poppy at 2015-08-29 05:54:00
Re: Private message to Madam Pomfrey

We'll know more as soon as we've had a proper look at him.
Private message to Mrs Longbottom, Sirius Black, Mr Lupin, and Rachel Brodie. And Madam Pomfrey.

Earlier this evening Antonin Dolohov sent me a private message saying that he and Justin were both hurt very badly and would die without care. He said that if I would come and Heal him, he would give me Justin, the passwords to Buckingham, and his promise to leave Albion and never come back and also to never raise his wand against any of us again.

So I went.

Here are the passwords:

Saturday: coherent silence approach  
Sunday: furious cemetary flame  
Monday: interdependent related motivation  
Tuesday: prime prodigious profile  
Wednesday: stolen sound whiskey  
Thursday: tranquil clay heartbreaker  
Friday: sound nonsense interrelatedness

He says they're changed on Fridays and he asked us to burn Bellatrix's body.

Re: Private message to Mrs Longbottom, Sirius Black, Mr Lupin, and Rachel Brodie. And Madam Pomfrey.

Did you clear this with anyone? Did you even tell anyone where you were going?

I told Ron.

I don't think he's seen the message yet, though.
alt_lupin at 2015-08-29 06:06:56
Re: Private message to Mrs Longbottom, Sirius Black, Mr Lupin, and Rachel Brodie. And Madam Pomfrey.

And you HEALED Antonin fucking DOLOHOV?

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 06:07:58
Re: Private message to Mrs Longbottom, Sirius Black, Mr Lupin, and Rachel Brodie. And Madam Pomfrey.

Yes. To get Justin back.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 06:09:06
Re: Private message to Mrs Longbottom, Sirius Black, Mr Lupin, and Rachel Brodie. And Madam Pomfrey.

I didn't know it was the Black Curse.

I don't know what I'd have done if I'd known.

alt_alice at 2015-08-29 06:18:28
Re: Private message to Mrs Longbottom, Sirius Black, Mr Lupin, and Rachel Brodie. And Madam Pomfrey.

Is Dolohov gone, then?

and the Black Curse...

I see.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 06:21:04
Re: Private message to Mrs Longbottom, Sirius Black, Mr Lupin, and Rachel Brodie. And Madam Pomfrey.

I think so. I mean, I think Dolohov's gone.
Where are you? Are you awake?
Please be awake.

I was working on some bookkeeping, and just utterly
nodded off.
Sirius raised an alarm?

What is it? What happened to Justin? Are you all right?

Justin's dead.
And I

Dolohov wrote to me and said that he and Justin were both gravely wounded and if I healed him he'd give me Justin and the passwords to Buckingham and he'd leave Britain and never come back or raise his wand against the Order and so I went and I healed Dolohov. He would have died, if I'd refused, but then Justin would have, too.

But Justin would have thought that was worth it. And I wasn't even able to save him. It wasn't Dolohov who'd cursed him, it was Bellatrix. There wasn't anything I could do, or anyone could do.

And I don't know how much trouble I'm in, yet.

I didn't talk to anyone before I went. Because I knew they wouldn't let me go. So.
Justin

right.

I'll bring us some firewhiskey and we'll wait up for Ron and we'll see

We'll see after Hydra.

If she'll let us.

And if she won't, then I'll see after you, and we'll sort out the trouble part tomorrow.

When I went, it seemed so clear that this was the only thing I could do. The only thing that made sense. Only now

When I got to Justin the first thing he asked was, 'did you kill him?' He'd have preferred I leave him to die, if it meant Dolohov died with him. Even if I could have saved him.

You were thinking like a Healer.

That or an idiot.
Maybe a little of both.

But you got the passwords. And Hydra got to be there for him.

So there's that.
2015-08-29 00:48:00
Private Message to Rod

I'm in the loo

It's- Oh! Oh, ugh

Come find me!

alt_lana

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-29 06:00:47
(no subject)

Oh, bloody Erebus.

Not that.

Be there shortly.
Word from my B'ham contact.

Lady Lestrange et al are making a break for it, tonight. Same way the Baddocks (minus P) did, apparently, via wards at Penzance.

Have a list of who will be in the entourage, estimated departure times, and other various miscellany.

---

Did you get this to Remus? I saw he wrote you.

I'm awake, now. Still in bed. The Healer's going to take this thing away from me if she thinks I'm working.

I'm on site at the castle.

Are you all right? Your face and other parts, specifically?

Kidding. A bit.

I've been filled in.

Yeah, they put me back together. More or less.

I can't stand up yet. Getting out of bed makes it feel like someone's trying to rip out my spine.

I assume the rest are planning an ambush at Penzance. Or a battle. Or something.
Well, it seems no one wants Lady L to escape with her life, though they were apparently fine with allowing Antonin Dolohov to saunter off with his.

Minx - Rachel. I'm sorry. I don't have to read your mind to know how much you wanted him dead.

Yeah.

Poppy's apprentice struck a bad bargain.

I've been thinking, once the wards are down, I could try to track him. He can get out of Albion but it's not as if he can go to Mars.

You could do.

You could also hire an assistant to come along. Someone who's used to working under you.

Enjoys it, even.

Merlin's tits. Soz. I'll try to stop, but somehow I get even worse when everything goes all tense and life-or-death-ish.

I should write to Seamus.

Yeah, write to Seamus.

Good luck tonight. Try to stay in one piece.
2015-08-29 01:14:00
Order Only Private message to Hermione

Are you awake? Or up late working somewhere.

I'm back at the castle, but you must not have seen--

Justin...Bellatrix cast the curse on him. Black's curse.

It's just like

---

alt_hermione at 2015-08-29 06:19:27
(no subject)

Oh, no.

I thought it was Dolohov?

Oh, Hydra must be

Where are you?

alt_hermione at 2015-08-29 06:20:07
(no subject)

I mean, I saw her post but

alt_hermione at 2015-08-29 06:20:27
(no subject)

How long ago?

alt_draco at 2015-08-29 06:21:16
(no subject)

I don't know.

There was nothing I could do. No counter-spell.
Never was one.

I left just before she - I think they wanted to be alone. For Hydra to end his pain, I mean.

👤 alt_hermione at 2015-08-29 06:22:48  
(no subject)

Oh!

She shouldn't have had to be--

Oh, how awful. I'm

👤 alt_hermione at 2015-08-29 06:20:51  
(no subject)

Oh, god. Draco.

👤 alt_draco at 2015-08-29 06:22:02  
(no subject)

I'm going to our room.

👤 alt_hermione at 2015-08-29 06:23:30  
(no subject)

I'll be right there.
Justin's gone.

I'm - I've got Hydra here.

She

Neither of us is in good shape.

FUCK.

---

I'll fetch Tonks.

Oh, love.

What the hell just happened? Rachel's not even around to fucking explain herself. I thought she'd agreed that it was time for the adults to take our turn with with the tasks like 'personally duel Antonin Dolohov' and 'wind up killed by Bellatrix Lestrange'?

Rachel is not reporting, and I fear

I'm sending up a team to look for her, Remus.

She may have been killed or taken.
He thought he was saving her. Saving Rachel.

Hydra can't stop crying. Not that - I mean, of course.

But I've never seen her cry.

I'm coming up.

Unless you don't want me.

Yeah, sorry.

Had to carry her to a bed.

Healers trying to get her to sleep. Don't think she can swallow a potion at present.

I'm.

Come up.

Fuck.

FUCK.
And Circe, Padfoot. I'm so sorry
I'm so

What happened?
I have Rachel. She left me a note in the journal, saying she'd gone to Penzance. And I saw what Sally-Anne wrote...

I went back, to keep looking for her--there's a linking charm between us.

She's in her animagus form; I found her curled up under a rock, hiding.

Oh, god, she's so badly hurt.

Poppy, am heading for the hospital wing.

Thank Merlin for small favours.

I'll send the team up there regardless to keep watch in case anyone else tries to get through at Penzance.
Hydra, dear, I am so dreadfully sorry. Losing a husband is...

Well, I know you have Pansy and Sally-Anne, and all the rest of your friends, dear. But should you want to talk, or just have someone sit with you, or if I can help in any way, you need only ask.

Love,

Molly

Bill? Poppy? Will...will Rachel be all right?

She'll live, Molly.

That's the best I can tell you at the moment, but in view of everything, I'm relieved to be able to make so good a report.

I'm so very sorry, Hydra.

Poppy gives very good advice. About potions that help a little. And other things.
Alright. I got in and out. At the Haringey safehouse now. Going to kip here for a bit, but then I'll get back down to Hyde Park. Have notifico on now if I'm needed.

Several things:

* Warded the groundsman's hut at the NW end of Green Park opposite Hyde Park corner. Sanctuary charm keyed to Phoenix badges (visible or not, but you'll have to have one on to get in). (Not fidelius. Too obv if something blinks off the map at the start of a festival weekend.) Should make this a safe staging area for backup today or for evac if foot evac necessary from Buckingham. Sent Siz the coordinates for Portkeys (if they've got that sorted).
* Got into the staging centre DEMLE and the PSS are using (they've taken over the boathouse on the north side of the Lido). Got the password, but it'll've changed at the morning shift change.
* PSS have got sashes to wear over their uniforms tomorrow and uniformed Enforcers have got an 'Event Security' badge. Inserted our tokens in the lining of the sashes and added it to backside of the badges. Left one in the pocket of each of the guards (so if the things work properly, they shouldn't even be arsed to wonder why they all fell asleep and snored through their shift). Can tell you they do work, too. Once I'd activated them, I could feel it even though I'd cast the protection on myself. Anywiz, tomorrow the park should be full of enforcers and PSS who can't be arsed to follow up on anything. (Mind you, it won't do a thing to the undercover lot who won't be kitted out like the rest.)
* Spent the rest of the night in my hole outside Buckingham, but the only really useful thing I picked up was that they called a Healer for LS-P because she went into labour. Guess they tried to stop it, but couldn't. The chaps I was listening to reckoned they took her to St Gerard's.
2015-08-29 08:54:00
Order Only Private Message to Sally Anne

Sorry I didn't get back this morning. Seemed stupid to Apparate all the way up there to sleep for two hours and then have the long jump back to NL.

How're the plans for the move coming? Sorry I can't help at all. Well, actually not so very sorry. I'm sure you and Pans'll find us a perfect place.

Anywiz, I'm going to kip now for a bit.

Have a good day, you. See you on the far side.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 15:46:47 (no subject)

Did you not read your journal at all after you transformed back?

alt_ron at 2015-08-29 15:53:22 (no subject)

Mmph-

Uhn, no.

Sorry. Why?

alt_ron at 2015-08-29 15:55:23 (no subject)

Was sleeping, yeah?

What should I have read?
Last night was really awful.

I'm okay and so is Pansy and no one in your family wound up dead.

So there's that.

What's happened?

Last night Justin thought Dolohov was going to escape from Penzance. Rachel went to fight him and he almost killed her. Justin went after Rachel and fought Dolohov and almost killed him, and then Bellatrix Lestrange showed up and cursed Justin.

Dolohov took himself and Justin back to Cottesmore and wrote to me and said that he'd give me Justin and the passwords to Buckingham and his word he'd leave Albion if I'd come and heal him enough that he wouldn't die.

He didn't tell me it wasn't him who'd cursed Justin.

Bellatrix used the Black Curse. I got Justin back to Hogwarts, he got to see Hydra, at least. Before he died.

Rachel almost died but Bill found her and she's going to make it.
But Justin's dead.

And even if I could have saved him, he'd have traded dying if it meant killing Dolohov. And

Oh

Merlin.

He didn't take anyone with him? Justin, I mean.

No need to answer that, really.
No, he didn't. Neither did Rachel. She went without him and he followed. I don't know if they were in too much of a tearing hurry to find anyone, or

I don't know.

I couldn't've gone if he'd asked me. He did the day before, y'know, but I was down here in NL then, too. Reckon he knew it'd be the same last night.

But he didn't ask Hydra to go? Or Peel or anyone.

Ugh.

I'd've done the same. Might as well admit that. Reckon I have done.

yeah, you would have.
This is mad, but y'know what I just thought?

It just leaves Malfoy now. Malfoy and me. And if there's really a god that controls fate? He's having a good long laugh about that.

So...

Does this mean everything's changed for today, d'you know? I reported in this morning, but none of them've answered. Reckon Rachel can't, yeah? How badly hurt is she?

Not sure who to ask for orders at the moment.

I have no idea what's planned for today.

Rachel's unconscious still. She's going to live but I don't know when they're expecting she'll wake up.

Sirius spent half the night as a dog trying to comfort Hydra and Mr Lupin's transforming tonight.

Ask Mrs Longbottom, I guess. I don't I hope at least they don't waste the passwords
Lupin and Wright are calling us in.

Which- whatever.

At least we'll be able to be at the funeral, but- Justin would be furious if he knew we were pitching in all this work. And Brodie's going to want Wright's head for it. Not just the work we've put in on the festival security, but on the Bham raid. And the opportunity we've got because the two things are happening at the same time? We've got a serious plan to take out Bellatrix Lestrange and we're going to just... not do it.

Mordred's balls.

I didn't ask if they're pulling back the units they sent to watch Penzance. Not sure I'd keep my gob shut if they told me they're just pulling the plug on everything.

Ugh.

Ugh.

I don't even know what to say.

Adults are IDIOTS.

Someone did tell Honoria's parents, didn't they?
I mean

Justin's being buried today but I haven't heard anything about what's happening with Honoria, I don't know if the Sandoval are burying her quietly without us like Karo Moon did with Linus's family, or

---

**alt_ron** at *2015-08-29 18:10:07*

*(no subject)*

Oh, yeah. Brodie had a Floo call with Honoria's mum. I reckon it was a rough conversation to have. I was in there just after and she looked-

Anywiz, they sent for her body, and there's going to be a family rite sometime. Don't know. I expect I should write them. I mean, I know I have to do. Only-

Ugh. Sorry. I've got to get going. See you in an hour unless something unexpected happens.

By which I mean if you don't see me by 2:15 or hear I'm back in the castle, at least, then tell someone something unexpected's probably happened to units 1 and 4.

---

**alt_ron** at *2015-08-29 19:15:34*

*(no subject)*

Say. We're back. So you know, but I'm going to the loo and then taking a shower before I come find you.

Trust me. You'll be glad about that.
Unit 3-S report from Penzance: Phoenixes are attempting to secure the location. Assembling advance strike teams to clear the way by the time of our departure.

What does the healer say?

That she's having a fucking baby, that's what they say. Nearly six weeks premature. Nothing the healer hasn't seen before, but not ideal.

Bellatrix, you ought not have overworked her.

Pardon. I ought not have what?

My, doesn't this sound familiar.

Darling Rodolphus. I've let you have the daughter you always wanted. And now she'll soon be giving you another daughter or son.

Don't you know why I let you have those things?

So that I would have more things to take away from you later, if it became necessary.

Did you really not realise that? Did you believe I was doing you a kindness?

The egos of men continue to astonish me.
We were married for over twenty years, Bella. Of course I know why you do the things you do.

Then stop acting stupid and start being useful.
2015-08-29 10:38:00
Private Message to Rod

I keep asking these people to summon Mama, but they haven't done. Would you please send someone?

Or- you're not?

I know it might be awkward later, but I really just want

Ugh! Why can't they make this baby come? What's healing magic for if they can't

---

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-29 16:03:55
(no subject)

Darling, I think it best that we avoid matters that might further upset you.

Let me see to my tasks here at the palace and I will come as soon as I'm able, I swear to you. Let the healers make you comfortable. I know you've not forgot that magic-assisted labour can result in undesirable side-effects. It's to be avoided so long as neither you or the baby are in distress.

alt_lana at 2015-08-29 16:51:30
(no subject)

Define distress.

alt_lana at 2015-08-29 20:05:12
(no subject)

I'm the bloody Head of MLE, and I can't get any of these stupid healers to lift a wand to help me.

Oh, gods, this is the most awful thing that's ever-
Make it stop!

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-29 20:29:35
(no subject)

It must be close to time, surely. I'll be there shortly.
If I could bear this pain for you I would.

alt_lana at 2015-08-29 22:14:12
(no subject)

Trust me, you'd take that back if you had the slightest-
the smallest idea how awful this is!

Rod, where are you?!

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-29 22:23:33
(no subject)

Honestly, Lana, I've only stepped out to use the loo and get some fresh air. It's been a handful of minutes.

I don't remember Hydra or Rigel taking this long

alt_lana at 2015-08-29 23:06:41
(no subject)

Argh!

What? Did SHE just pop them out, or something?

If I could do this any faster, I would!

Arck. Oh, hell.
Give me my wand, would you?

alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-29 23:11:48
(no subject)

When this is over I will give you your wand.

Here, I'll come back and you can inflict as much pain on me as you like - just not with your wand.
Order Only: Private message to Hydra, Sirius, and Alice

Should we have a funeral this afternoon?

Or wait until tomorrow?

Just so long as it's not after sundown tonight

I could -- arrange things.

I'm sending an owl to Laura (Merlin, if I can work out what to say), but it will still be days, even weeks, before she could get here.

Hydra, it's up to you. I think there's little reason to hold off and perhaps there are good reasons to get it done quickly, so it's not ... not lingering.

He might have asked me to help, if he hadn't known I was the one who told Rachel to bench him.

Remus.

Heard someone say that without Rachel we can't move forward tonight.

But we can. You and me?

I owe them that much. Reg and Severus and Harry and Justin. I

It ends. Tonight.
You're thinking just the two of us?

Just us, and no more of our friends, or our children, dying?

Yes.

Mordred, yes.

Should have done ages ago.

Well.

We even have passwords to get into Buckingham.

Might as well use them.

This afternoon, please.

Three p.m. at the Battle Memorial, then. I'll put out word.
Will Ron and Draco be able to come? I'm not entirely sure what their orders were for this afternoon.

It can be as private as you want, though, Hydra.

I don't know.


He'd want Ron there, I think. Sally-Anne? They were friends.

Is she going to bring her friend, Profe

Anyone who wants to say goodbye can come. Of course.

What are you going to do?
What do you mean?

Bury Justin. Dammit.

I think I can probably count on one hand the number of times I have ever asked an adult for anything.

Will you please kill her? Will you? I just want it to be over. Everyone always felt so sorry for me, but no one ever tried to save me. Only him. Will you please do it?

Please?

I don't have it in me. Not now. And if she gets away like Antonin Dolohov - we can't let it happen.

Oh, Merlin, Hydra.

I was going to tell you after the funeral.

Yes.

Yes, that's exactly what I'm going to do. I should have done it ages ago.

Thank you.
No, don't thank me.

Listen: I ... might not be back. I mean, I don't -

Your mother and mine had so many things in common. One important difference, though, is that your mother is all lies, deceit and pollution. Everything she is, everything she has ever done, has been calculated to hurt.

Mine may have been a toxin, but she wasn't wrong when she told me that I am, too. I have so many things to regret, Hydra, but chiefest is that I have failed to protect my loved ones. Every. Single. One.

So don't thank me. It's quite literally the least I can do. It's also the best thing I can possibly think of to do.

You're going to protect me. You're going to be the one who does it.

And I'm thanking you now, because - just in case.

Thank you.
*2015-08-29 11:52:00*

Order Only Private Message to C Wright, A Longbottom, and R Lupin

Am holding to my orders for Hyde Park/Bham backup. Leaving in :05 unless I hear differently.

Will be in and out of transformation, I guess, so I can check for notificcio.

---

*alt_lupin* at *2015-08-29 17:01:02*

(no subject)

Ron, hold on for a few minutes, please. Let me talk to Campanella.

---

*alt_ron* at *2015-08-29 17:07:10*

(no subject)

Will do.

---

*alt_lupin* at *2015-08-29 17:08:50*

(no subject)

Did Sally-Anne bring you up to speed on what happened last night?

---

*alt_ron* at *2015-08-29 17:11:41*

(no subject)

Yeah. She did.
alt_lupin at 2015-08-29 17:14:20
(no subject)

Right now we're not sure whether the op tonight can move forward. Rachel didn't write anything down and Campanella's in the loop but not on enough of the pieces.

We're going to guard Penzance, keep anyone else from slipping out that way.

We're probably holding Justin's funeral this afternoon.

alt_ron at 2015-08-29 17:19:47
(no subject)

You still need my units down here in case something goes pearshaped at this festival, though?

I mean, we were meant to be here to counter anything they might have planned for their false phoenixes. And, then, of course, we're here if there's a diversion needed to cover things at Bham. Or to send backup that direction.

Those were our duties.

alt_ron at 2015-08-29 17:20:53
(no subject)

The funeral's today?

alt_lupin at 2015-08-29 17:21:41
(no subject)

Yes. This afternoon.

I think you should come back for it, and hang the festival.
You sure about that? I mean, I don't want to miss the funeral, I really don't, but-

Or. Do you mean I should call both units in--or leave them here under another command?

Campanella agrees that we should just call in the units. Too much risk that we'll lose the lot of you to our own disorganisation if things do go pear-shaped.

We'll re-deploy later if need be.

Hang on. What about the log? Brodie keeps all the orders in an encrypted log in the office. Wright should have that. Something's fishy if she says she doesn't.

Oh, right. The problem is she changed the passcode yesterday, apparently, and forgot to pass it along.

Or she told it to Justin, possibly. Who knows.
Alright, then.

I'll make the rendezvous with the units and order everyone back to the castle. We'll be back by two. If not, you'll know something went wrong.

Jason Montague says his contact reports the whole lot of them, from Bellatrix on down, are going to try to make a break for it tonight through Penzance.

We're thinking we'll send all available wands to Penzance. Stop them there. This is a strategic nightmare, though, since they know we know they might try it (though they don't know we know they're going to). They'll come ready for a fight.

Come to Campanella's office when you get back to the castle, we're trying to figure out how to make this work.

On my way.

Sorry. Just-

We're sure about that intel?

Because you're right: they know we know they might, and they know we might bury our dead. What if they send some decoy units out to Cornwall, draw our units there, and then mount an assault on Hogwarts while we're doing funeral rites for Justin? Or later than that, maybe--just after we send the rest of our units west. They
might think we’ll be leaving Alice and other command and coordination behind. Target rich. Defence poor.

Needed to tell Sally Anne where I am, but on my way up now.

alt_alice at 2015-08-29 19:58:20
(no subject)

I can see that as a possible strategy if their goal long-term were to re-take the Protectorate. The numbers are decidedly not in their favour, however.

We might see what we can do in terms of security here, on the off-chance she attempts a strike, though.
For those who have not heard, I am grieved to report that Justin Finch-Fletchley died last night.

His funeral will be held today at 3 p.m. at the Hogwarts Memorial Grounds, where he'll be laid to rest with the fallen from the May Battle.

All who wish to remember Justin and say goodbye may attend. I've told Headmistress Vector so that she can let Justin's classmates who are here but not Order members know.

---

Thanks, Mr. Lupin. I'll ask Col. Davidson if it's feasible for me to return to the castle a little early.

I'll write the Elysian and say that Russell's still too ill to come in.

Thank you, love.

Sirus, I am so deeply sorry.

I'm working with Campanella to keep an eye on Penzance, Remus. If we're capitalising on Sally-Anne's intelligence, we'll have to move on Buckingham before Friday. I'm sure we can re-organise logistics on Monday to give it another go.
Private Message to Mum and Mr Lupin

I'll be there.

It's just so awful. Poor Hydra.

Will there be anything for Honoria?

Has anyone told Ginny about Honoria? I saw her write Madame P.

Honoria's body was returned to the Sandovals at their request. (Her parents, I mean. Not Lana.) We're not sure yet if they're planning a private funeral or not. We thought we'd wait and see, and hold our own memorial if need be, but there was no rush, and if we held off a bit Ginny would be more likely to come.

She does know about Honoria. We had to wake her to establish that Honoria was indeed lured out of safety the day she died.

Linus Moon is planning a memorial. We'll see if she can be included in that -- it would give some more time to invite her classmates and so on.

okay.
Fuck it, I know the work we're doing out here is important--Col. Davidson says it's not only doing the right thing, it's also a strategy to help prevent another war once the Sleepers are fully awakened and the rest of the world realises Britain exists again (now there's a thought to trouble your sleep at night).

But I hate, hate being away from the castle when you lot are still risking your lives. Not that I would have been much use to Justin. Or poor Honoria.

And Sally-Anne, for what it's worth, I'm glad you went.

I feel like there's a better way to put this and I'm too tired to think of it: obviously she's grieving, but has Hydra done anything to suggest she might be going to top herself? I'm not sure it would be fair to stop her if she did, but I hope she knows we care.

I'll be back tonight; I haven't packed a stitch. Heard through the grapevine about your village idea--for now I'll be kipping at Great-Aunt Mina's with the family when I'm not out and around, but I'm in if you want me.

She spent the night in the hospital wing. I imagine they're keeping an eye on her.

I don't think Hydra would kill herself. Dying would be like surrendering to Bellatrix. It would be letting her mother win.

Thanks. And I didn't mean to sound like I was intruding on your patch.

It's just--I've heard of situations recently where
couples who were really deeply linked went that way. Or tried to.

alt_pansy at 2015-08-29 17:58:49
(no subject)

I think she isn't in immediate danger, but she's going to need us for a good long while.

If you're in, that's a good thing.

She'll need all of us.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 18:03:32
(no subject)

She won't look at me. Hydra, I mean.

She won't meet my eyes.

alt_pansy at 2015-08-29 19:09:01
(no subject)

I can't imagine all the stuff coming her way that she can't turn off. From all of us.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-29 19:11:07
(no subject)

I don't think that's it.

alt_pansy at 2015-08-29 19:30:24
(no subject)

...yeah.
When I got to Justin last night the first thing he said to me was, 'did you kill him?'

If he'd been able to choose, when Dolohov wrote to me and said that he and Justin were both going to die, I would have said 'good' and closed my journal. Because it was worth it to him to die if Dolohov died, too.

If he'd lived, I don't know if he'd have ever forgiven me.

I don't know if Hydra's ever going to forgive me for taking that from him.

Every choice you had in front of you was a terrible one.

I'm sorry.

Right, what Pansy said.

And you're a Healer; expecting you not to think like a Healer is like, I dunno, expecting a Centaur to sprout wings or something.
Private message to Jason Montague, Rachel Brodie, Sirius Black, and Alice Longbottom

Jason -- I saw you wrote to Rachel. She's been badly injured. Any chance you could stop by and be brought up to speed verbally? In the meantime -- whatever you're asking her or telling her, she's not going to answer yet. You can talk to me or Alice, or Campanella Wright if you'd prefer.

alt_jason at 2015-08-29 18:37:36
(no subject)

Injured? Sorry to hear.

I wrote because my contact at the Palace has indicated that Lady Lestrange & co. will be attempting to pass the wards at Penzance tonight. She already knows that you're we're keeping an eye on it, but that doesn't matter. She'll send in as many advance teams as she needs in order to clear the way. Her numbers will be limited there, though, given the weekend festival, so I imagine she'll use Rowle's special forces to punch through.

Anyway, yes. I'll come in to report in person.
2015-08-29 14:09:00
Private Message to Sue

Are you, Wayne, and Stebs coming back for the funeral? I sent an owl to Summers and Eloise as soon as I heard.

It'll be just the six of us, now.

Almost half our year gone.

D'you think

I mean, we'd talked a few times after the Battle, and it was awkward as anything, and I thought

I figured we'd have more time to sort that stuff out.

I guess I had time to sort out what he did and why last term, and come to terms with the fact that even though I hated him at the time, it wasn't for the reasons I thought, and it's not like I ever sat down and talked to him about that part, because, you know, we'd have the time for it later.

And I don't know whether he forgave me. For not

For not doing an awful lot of things. To start.

And I guess now I won't ever really know because he's dead. Gone out in a duel with bloody Bellatrix Lestrange and Dolohov because he's a god damn hero, and it's not like I'll ever get to tell him what I really think of him now that I know what he's done.

Bugger.

I fucking hate funerals.

alt_ernie at 2015-08-29 19:24:33
(no subject)

Do you think he hated me just as much as I hated him?

Suppose he did.
He didn't hate you. Was frustrated with you maybe. No more than I did.

And yeah, the sett is looking damn thin on the ground these days.

Heard they're looking for any wand they can get.

I'll be there, Sue.

Be careful out there. That goes for all 3 of you! I'm in the second wave with Ron's lot so I'll see you on the field.
2015-08-29 14:30:00
Private message to Madam Pomfrey

I heard what happened.

Please let me go to the funeral.

alt_ginny

alt_ginny at 2015-08-29 19:44:47
(no subject)

I'll sit with my mum.

I'll sit with her AND Bill. Just don't make me miss this.

alt_poppy at 2015-08-29 19:56:20
(no subject)

I've managed to get permission for you. There will be an escort arriving soon to bring you here. I'm afraid it will be a very short visit, but the answer is Yes, you may certainly attend the rites for Mr Finch-Fletchley.

I'm so sorry for your loss of two dear friends this week. I hope you will find it helpful to be with friends and family who share your grief. If, however, you find it all too overwhelming, you need only say a word to your escorts and they will return you.
When I joined the Order I thought of you as a child.

But you know, I decided I was going to kill Antonin Dolohov when I was ten years old. So I wasn't in much of a position to judge.

And you were good at what you did. So good. Too good. Sirius had said before he wanted you (and the rest of the Juniors) further from the action. He didn't want to admit that Dolohov was right, you were incredibly talented. Putting you behind a desk would have been a waste of resources and we couldn't afford to waste resources, especially after we lost Severus and Kingsley and so many others.

If we hadn't been trying to protect you, would you have brought Sirius with you last night? Bellatrix would have killed him, instead. He'd have bought you the half second you needed, that you didn't have.

He'd have bought it so gladly.

As I would have. But instead, you saved my life and lost your own.

They didn't let me out of bed to go to your funeral but I heard the bells ringing.

I feel like I should say thank you, for saving my life, but I want to grab you by the shoulders and shake you, and tell you you're lucky you work for an MLE where we don't cruciate people for making stupid decisions and then give you a week of leave and a month of filing parchmentwork, instead, so you can think about what an idiot you were.

Dammit, Justin.
2015-08-29 15:47:00
Private message to Terry Boot, Colin Creevey and Ginny Weasley

Terry and Colin,

I talked with Ginny at the funeral.

Terry, I know you promised me every full moon, and Colin, you've always been happy to wait for me outside the room. But they are going to need every wand that we have for Penzance tonight. Ginny's agreed that I can stay with her tonight, and we've worked it out with the Enforcers that I can stay with her at the safe house.

It's all right--this is what I want, honestly. I can't fight tonight. But I can let you go where you are most needed, and that way I can feel as though I'm doing something for the Order. I've been through this before, so I know I'll be just fine, and Ginny will be the company I need.

alt_luna at 2015-08-29 20:56:37
Private message to Ginny

I was so happy that you spoke to your Mum and Bill, and that you even hugged Mum afterwards.

Was it all right? Everyone one was so sad, because of Justin, of course. But I'm sure some of the tears in your Mum's eyes were also tears of joy for you.

alt_luna at 2015-08-29 20:58:27
Re: Private message to Ginny

And Ginny?

I know how hard it was for you to face them again.

You really are a true Gryffindor.
Thanks, Luna.

I wish I could fight tonight. But

At least I won't be completely useless.

You're never useless. I will be so very glad to have you there with me.

Luna and Ginny,

That'll be fine, then, and I think your reasoning is good. And Ginny, thank you. I'm glad that Luna will have such a good friend to be with her tonight.

Colin? Want to partner with me?

You know it, mate.

Luna, Ginny, keep a candle lit.
that was well done, poppy and ron.

hell of a thing to have to do. I'm glad you were both there to send him off.

I know it's hard to pick up and keep on right after losing one of our own, but as most of you know by now, intel says there'll be a mass exodus planned at Penzance tonight.

we've got a unit in place on surveillance, but we'll need pretty much every available wand ready to come give a hand. there'll be a small security unit staying behind at Hogwarts to cover our arses.

we'll be meeting for a debrief in the Charms classroom over the next hour. anyone who's headed to Penzance needs to check in. we'll need eyes in the sky, so any experienced fliers be prepared to bring your brooms. I'll be taking point on the field, Campanella Wright will be coordinating from Hogwarts, sending reinforcements where they're needed, and overseeing Hogwarts security.

we also need to spread the word, make sure every non-Order member in the castle is kept in the loop. we'll need them if they're ready and willing. colin, make sure that gets done. lee, let's prepare to send out a call on the button network, too.

We've finished burying him. Macmillan stayed to help, of all people.

Allie, Frank - there's something Remus and I want to talk to you about. Alone.

There aren't enough words.

There isn't enough time for them.
Thank you for telling me.

I love you both beyond reason. My dearest friends. The two best brothers I could've ever asked for. We've walked a hard road to get here, and we've lost so many good people along the way, and we couldn't have done it without you.

Make it count, and come back if you can.

I want to be at the centre stone, the Octoboros. The wards should The magic's unpredictable. Clearly.

I'd like someone with me, and someone in Dover, to monitor, but they can should be people who can't fight.

And. And if my broom's any use, it's a good one, I can lend it to someone. I'll bring it down to the Charms classroom.

I'll be there with you.

Just woke up and saw this. Will take Dover monitoring.

Cheers.

We're at the stone, readings are - well, trying to sort that out.
Linus is at Hogwarts, coordinating there.

Curious about if there's any pattern to the phasing you see at Dover. Or if it's phasing at all. Or there's this odd vibrant green shimmer to the eyestones here, sometimes, and then sometimes not.

**alt_jeremy** at *2015-08-30 00:07:46*  
*(no subject)*

No phasing, but sparks. Tiny green ones, almost imperceptible. Fountain of them, then several minutes' pause, then sparks again.

**alt_sinistra** at *2015-08-30 00:11:55*  
*(no subject)*

If you can get timing on them, that'd be good.

No phasing. Right. May have some more for you in a bit. Tell me anything that happens, no matter how minor, please.

**alt_lee** at *2015-08-29 21:36:24*  
*(no subject)*

Button network ready inside fifteen minutes.

Ready to help with coordinating alerts, whatever, as things happen. Aldrich is packing up some supplies, too.

**alt_evelyn** at *2015-08-29 23:06:04*  
*Private Message to Dad and Terry*

Stay safe. The both of you.

I love you.
Love you, too.

We'll be careful.
Won't be home tonight. Albion MLE is going to do their best to stop Lady Lestrange and the others from passing the wards at Penzance.

Also, I'm sorry to say that two of your former school mates are dead. Honoria Sandoval and Justin Finch-Fletchley. Not sure how closely acquainted with either of them you were--I only know that you always said how skilled with a wand Finch-Fletchley was.

Apparently Lady Lestrange went to Penzance and found Finch-Fletchley dueling Dolohov, both of them on their last legs, and took the opportunity to cast her specialty curse on Finch-Fletchley. Dolohov lived, though apparently he was responsible for Honoria's death.

Do you know about the Black Curse? Well, I can tell you another time if not. It's the stuff of nightmares.

Yeah, I know about Bellatrix Lestrange's curse. It's what Draco cast on Harry.

Justin Finch-Fletchley.

Damn.

Is there anything I can do to help, tonight?
*alt_jason* at 2015-08-29 21:37:38  
(no subject)

Oh, right. Still not sure how Malfoy learned that. She doesn't teach it to anyone. And there's no cure or counter-spell.

Apparently Finch-Fletchley's wife ended his life so that the curse wouldn't--which, given how excruciating it must be to die like that...yes, I can see why she made that choice.

While I think the offer would be appreciated by some, I'm not sure that I trust some of this lot to not suggest that you throw yourself on the nearest wand.

Meghan can probably give you something to do that will keep you busy over there, though, so that you're not wringing your hands with worry.

---

*alt_seamus* at 2015-08-29 21:58:47  
(no subject)

Okay.

I'll talk to Meghan.

Please be careful tonight.

---

*alt_jason* at 2015-08-29 22:00:46  
(no subject)

Please don't do anything that a Gryffindor would do, Ireland. I love you and I'll be just fine.

Always am.
I'll do my best to spend this evening pretending I'm a Hufflepuff. Though being a Hufflepuff didn't save F-F. Maybe I should pretend I'm a Ravenclaw.

I spent years trying to pretend I was a Slytherin, and I'm pants at it.

I love you, too.

Hardly anyone is any one thing--not comprised of one house, or one side.

Chimeras, each and every one of us.

Well, maybe not Lady Lestrange.

She owes me some ears, fingers, eyes, and more. But I don't have to be the one to take them from her. I'd much rather live another day.
Order Only: Private message to Padfoot

Poison?

POISON?

Look into Hydra's eyes and say you're poison because of who your parents were. Or Draco's. Or Pansy's.

We fought a goddamn war to say finally that magical blood is magical blood regardless of who your parents were. Good people are also good people regardless of what their last name is, whether they got added to some dusty moth-eaten tapestry when they were born, whether their parents fought to create this clusterfuck or fought to eliminate it. You don't carry some taint because you're a Black, any more than Hydra does, or Draco. We are the people our choices make us. You've chosen to be the person I LOVE, Sirius Black, you've chosen to be the person who holds me at night and stays with me when I transform, the person I waited most of my life to find. You've chosen to fight people like Bellatrix, to risk everything you have to make a better world. DO NOT TELL ME THAT YOU ARE POISON.

There aren't any guarantees. None of us were promised a happy ending. Not Minerva or Severus, not Kingsley or Benjy, not Harry, not Justin, that doesn't make it all somehow your fault when things go wrong, you egotistical jackass. WHERE ARE YOU?

yes, I found your FUCKING note. just like obviously you found mine.

---

I've been talking to Hermione.

I knew you'd shout about it, but it's true.
And maybe it's not because I'm a Black. It's just because I'm who she made me.

So. Bellatrix will stand as an altogether appropriate proxy, won't she.

It's all right, Moony. I don't want to -

I can't stand being here when they're all gone.

I'm tired.

Hermione, Draco, Hydra, Bea, Adam, they're not worth living for?

Of course they are.

How long before I fail them, too?

Hydra asked - she begged me to kill Bella for her. Because she doesn't think she can do it right now.

And I'm so relieved she didn't want to go along, because how could I have said no? but she only wanted it done, and it's all I want, too.

And if I live, well, that's Emrys having a joke on me. Maybe it'll make things better.

But if I don't - I just want you to know, I'm at peace with that.
I'm all right with that.

That, I understand.
And I feel the same way.

Anyway, I wrote that back -
Well, a while ago. Before Harry.
But now I've got two more names on my ledger, don't I.

Here's what I was going to update my note to say. I wrote that note thinking that I might die some month during the transformation. I wanted to add that I thought my time was getting short. You know, I'm old for a werewolf, when you factor in how young I was when I was bitten. Month in, month out, even with the wolfsbane potion it's exhausting. It wears you out. You know that as well as I do.

I wanted to tell you that if I died tonight, killing Bellatrix, that it beat the hell out of dying some random month for no good reason other than my father made the mistake of annoying Fenrir Grayback when I was four years old.

A meaningful death feels like it's worth something. A death that accomplishes something feels like it's worth something.

Dying in a pool of vomit when my body just refuses to transform again? What a useless, pointless way to go.
Together, then?

Yeah.

Together.
I'm part of the back-up crew. Round two.

Today has been a really, really awful day. I know it has.

I need you to promise me something, though, all right?

I need you to stay here, and keep safe, at least for tonight. Because there's a lot up in the air, and let's just say that with one parent in the hospital and three looking to jump into the fray, I need to know down to the bottom of my feet that my kids are going to be looked after, no matter what happens. Otherwise, my head won't be in it. And knowing you're safe, that helps.

Greatly.

Will you do that for me?

Of course.

But you have Mrs Weasley and the rest of them. And many others besides just me. So don't worry.

Yeah, they'll have a gran. And a da. Even though he's a bit battered at the moment. And loads and loads of people who'd love them and want to help, I'm sure.

I'm just saying, if I had to pick a person to step up and take my place if I needed it, it'd be you.
alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 00:18:32
(no subject)

I don't know what to say.
Except thank you for trusting me.

alt_nymphadora at 2015-08-30 00:20:42
(no subject)

You're the strongest person I know, cuz.
I'd trust you to the moon and back again.

Off in a bit. All my love.
Justin's funeral was cobbled together in a hurry, and a bit disjointed if any snobs are inclined to be picky, maybe, but it was absolutely heartfelt so nobody gave a damn. Ron gave the eulogy, and he did Justin proud. Hydra held up--well, I've never actually seen her cry before, but she did manage to keep her head held high. Stuck close to Tonks and Sirius.

Ginny came...she actually sat next to Mum and me, and she didn't say much more than 'hi,' but she gave Mum a big hug afterward. Merlin, I was so relieved.

I think it's going to be all right.

Charlie...

If we're lucky, this may be just about the last battle. It would be so effing stupid for me to fall now, when the end is in sight, but what almost happened to Rachel last night scared the shite out me, and I'm not going to ignore the possibility. I sat with her all day, until the funeral, and she's hurting badly, and obviously, wracked by guilt over Justin.

If I don't make it back--obviously, I'm going to do everything I can to try--but if I don't...

I know you'll step in as head of the family, and you'll probably do a better job of it than I did after Dad died. But especially, please watch over Rachel for me. I'm going to write her a letter, and I hope I'll be back tonight and can rip it up, but if I don't make it back, I'm rather afraid for her mental state. She has told me she didn't expect to survive the war, and I don't--I don't want her to be tempted to take steps to make her assumptions true.

You've been the best brother I could have ever had. The very best. Fred and George are good for making me laugh, and for stretching my ingenuity, and for taking the starch and piss out of me, and Ron's great at reminding me not to get too full of myself. Percy, I guess, was an object lesson, and Ginny, oh, I guess she taught me a lot about the mysteries of the female mind. Made it easier when I got married, you know?
But you: you've stuck with me and never given up on me when I was at my very worst. You held up the mirror in my face when nobody else would to remind me what we had to do to live up to what Dad taught us. Thanks for the chess and the late night beers and Firewhiskey, and the fishing, and the Quidditch drills and all the rest.

If the Weasley luck holds, I'll see you tomorrow morning and you can tease me all you like about being a sentimental idiot.

But if it doesn't, I'll see you some day on the other side.

---

**alt_charlie** at 2015-08-29 21:57:10  
(no subject)

Yeah I've been keeping up on things as much as I could from here. Right tense last night I tell you. Although I mostly just heard the shouting and the crying.

I'm glad Rachel is all right. And don't worry about anything else. We endure. That's what we do whether it's our idea or not.

I love you too. Don't be an idiot tonight. I'll see you tomorrow.

---

**alt_charlie** at 2015-08-30 04:27:56  
(no subject)

Sounds like it's mostly over.

You'd better be all right.
2015-08-29 17:34:00  
Order Only: Private Message to Draco

I just had the strangest conversation with Sirius.

Are you going to Penzance tonight?  

---

alt_hermione  
at 2015-08-29 22:42:05  
(no subject)

Did you? What about?

And yes, I think that's the plan.

---

alt_hermione  
at 2015-08-29 22:45:12  
(no subject)

About us and Hydra, and looking after one another.

And how he tried to stop Justin going out. Just like he tried to stop Harry.

I think we should keep an eye on him. He didn't sound - normal.

---

alt_draco  
at 2015-08-29 22:53:31  
(no subject)

He's been odd for a while. I noticed it when I talked to him the other night. I told him about Harry, you know. The messages.

And I could tell it didn't really make a difference to him.

And Montague's just written an entry. I don't know if you can read it, from the way the heading is written, but he has confirmed reports that Bellatrix is still at Buckingham, waiting on Rodolphus and Lana (she's having her baby right now, if you can believe it).
What do you mean, it didn't make a difference?

Draco, if she's still at Buckingham.... Don't go to Penzance. Wait. Please?

I mean that it didn't make him feel anything in particular. It wasn't the relief to him that it was to me. Or you.

You think he'll use the passwords to go to Buckingham?

Because I think you could be right.

I think he doesn't care anymore, if he can kill Bellatrix. And I don't think he cares about coming back, either.

Do you think you can stop him? Maybe, convince him it's throwing himself away to go in, wand brandished?

I tried that with Hydra and she hexed me out of her way. Fortunately, she survived anyway, but it was close.

I think... he might need this. The big, stupid Gryffindor moment, you know? And if I try to take it away from him he'll just figure out another way to get it. Him and Remus both.

Maybe I should talk to someone.

Like Ron. Harry - he would go to Ron.
Yes, talk to Ron.

And--

I'll talk to Hydra. Maybe she knows more.

Ron and I are going to take the cloak and shadow them to Buckingham, if and when they try to leave. Not stop, just shadow. Be their second wave.

All right.

I'm with Hydra. She's holding up all right. Better than I'd have expected, considering.

But we're right. She told me right out that Sirius told her he's going to kill Bellatrix. I mean, she asked him to do it and he said that he was already planning to do.

So yes, go. Be careful.

And--and I love you.

Approximately more or less than toast?
Oh, stuff.
Just make sure you *come back*, you idiot.

I love you.
I'll spend my whole life making sure you know it.

'Bye for now.
2015-08-29 17:39:00
Private message to Rod and Lana

WHAT is taking so long?

It's just one baby, and an early one at that.
2015-08-29 17:43:00
Private message to Remus Lupin, Sirius Black, and all of Albion MLE

You know, your secret club makes communication difficult.

All right. I've heard from Catchlove. He's tracking movement in and out of Buckingham, and confirms that Lady Lestrange is still in the Palace. Apparently waiting on Rodolphus and Lana, who are having a baby.

LL has assembled a series of strike units to flush the Phoenixes Protectorate enemies out of Penzance. The first is set to deploy at 6pm.

alt_jason at 2015-08-29 22:55:28
(no subject)

Hello?
6pm.

That's in roughly six minutes from now.

Is anyone actually reading this?

alt_lupin at 2015-08-29 22:57:40
(no subject)

I sent a patronus to the units at Penzance to make sure they saw.

More are on their way.
Yes, yes, we're on it.

So how many are still in Buckingham? Any estimate?

A lot?

Those numbers will go down as the festival ramps up again, and more units are deployed.

When you have a moment, please let me know where Lana is having the baby. Whether at Buckingham or somewhere else.

Thank you.

St G's.

Condolences.
here they come

keep your wands up, and keep your calm.

see you lot on the other side.
backup needed in Q4, head that way
and get some brooms up there if you can

Getting in the air now Mr L. Unit 4's on it's way.
2015-08-29 18:24:00
Order Only Private message to Ron

You're on second wave, yeah?

Here's the thing, I've been talking to Hermione and we both have an inkling that Sirius and Remus are going to try to get into Buckingham and take Bellatrix out by themselves.

A suicide run, more or less, and based on some of the things Sirius has said, he knows that's what it is.

You see Montague's post? Where Sirius is asking how many people are left in Buckingham?

Yeah.

Thing is, I don't think it's something they can be talked out of.

Any ideas?

alt_ron at 2015-08-29 23:43:07
(no subject)

Nice.

I mean that's just rich after everything else. Mind you, I see what they're thinking.

Yeah, I expect you're right they can't be talked out of it. And I don't really expect they'd be glad if we volunteered to come with. But-

We've got loads of wands going to Penzance, and, yeah, our brooms could be useful there on second wave, but seriously, we've got enough, I think.

What if you and I shadow them to Buckingham? As their second wave. We can apparate into the safehouse I set behind Buckingham in Green Park and access Buckingham from there. I mean, we've got the password, too, yeah?

And if they don't know we're along until it's too late, they can't stop us.
Yeah, I was thinking something along the same lines. If we try to openly interfere they'll only try to send us back.

So we've got the password, and we've also got an invisibility cloak. We're too tall to both fit, but you can be your snake-self, yes? And curl around my neck or pockets, maybe? Cloak, not trousers.

Never mind, doesn't matter.

Or something like that.

Yeah.

The cloak's good. Glad you have it, actually. So do we have any idea when they're going? I'll tell Sue to cover for me, anyway, and meet you down at the gates, maybe? If we're under the cloak, we'll see exactly when they leave.

Unless they're not apparating. Damn. Did they get a Portkey made after all?

They won't Apparate. It utterly does Sirius in. Saw it for myself last night.

I don't think portkeys are reliable just yet, especially at that distance.

Maybe we should beat them there. We've got cover, after all.
Alright. On my way, then. Meet you at the gates.
Oh, for

Your son has seen fit to ward himself into his quarters, with an assist from Mrs Baylock and Tourneur.

Wailing that he doesn't want to go!

Who on earth told him? It wasn't you, was it?

He's my son, suddenly?

What a new and novel development.

Of course I didn't tell him. But he's six years old now. He has ears and a brain, Bella.

Apparently this is the first time you've noticed?

His noisy whinging is reminding me of you just now.

Leave your wife-daughter for a moment and help me convince him to come out.

You don't want to leave him behind any more than I do.

Bloody Erebus.

TWO women demanding more from me than I can possibly provide, and at the worst possible
moment.

Bella, do what you usually do. It's always worked before.

@alt_bellatrix at 2015-08-30 00:52:39
(no subject)

Well?

Where's the damn rabbit?

WELL?

@alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-30 00:55:52
(no subject)

Which one?

@alt_bellatrix at 2015-08-30 00:57:48
(no subject)

The rabbit one.

@alt_rodolphus at 2015-08-30 00:59:34
(no subject)

I believe you killed them all.

@alt_bellatrix at 2015-08-30 01:06:43
(no subject)

He says he wants a Duckie.

A duck. Since when?
Duckie.

He's asking for HYDRA.

Your daughter. His sister.

Now. I must go.
**2015-08-29 20:00:00**

*private message to Siz, Evelyn, Linus*

Sparks now visible at Dover stone. Green. Fountaining at intervals of two minutes.

Stone now making crackling noises, very faint. Sounds like a fry-up from the next room.

---

**alt_sinistra** at **2015-08-30 01:07:34**

*(no subject)*

There's notes, there - weatherproofed notebook, side of the pillar. Opal strengthening charms. Try the first and third listed, then the third again in five minutes if it's still making noises.

We're seeing two minute surges here, too. Also some other statistically random noise.

At least I think it's statistically random.

---

**alt_evelyn** at **2015-08-30 01:09:29**

*(no subject)*

I'm running probabilities to see.

---

**alt_linus** at **2015-08-30 01:17:16**

*(no subject)*

I quite hope this does not resolve to the third option derived from running Wrdjeman's patterning application.

Fountaining sparks are not good. Let's not progress to rains of small stones from a clear blue sky and the birth of improbable fauna.
Write this: Rod- ohgods, Rod! It's coming! Now!!

penned by ExecuQuill
Weasley called away.

We'll advance according to the original plan; knowing it might not survive contact.

Take care of each other out there and LET'S GO.
We're seeing really weird effects: sort of...coruscation in the gloaming, bowed out lighting, suggestive of a portal or a door, but they don't stick around longer than a few seconds. It's hard to describe. We've seen a few of their people popping in, trying to evacuate, and we're playing Chaser/Bludger with them, fighting in midair as they circle around, waiting for those weird gaps to open, and they try diving through. One's made it through. Another made a dive, only to slam into something that snapped back just as he reached it. Broke his broom, and he slid down to the ground like an egg smashed against glass.

No injuries on our side yet.

Wait. Here come some more.

We're seeing effects in the wards, too.

Unpredictable: some pulsing effects, a repeated pattern. Some building over time. Jeremy's reported that the opals at Dover seem to be having trouble taking the strain.

We're trying to even out the load, but I don't know if we can do more than keep things moving and not building up any one place, with occasional gaps.
I keep thinking about you tonight.

I'm here with Haruman and it feels so strange that you aren't here.

I suppose I'd heard that he was spending some time here at Hogwarts, but this is the first time I've actually seen him. Probably because I HATE the Hospital Wing and usually never come here unless I must. But there is a lot happening right now and I would feel rather foolish if I sat around doing nothing. So I've been charming bandages for Haruman and his crew, stirring what they tell me to stir, and generally trying to be helpful and not a nuisance.

Anyhow, seeing Haruman feels a bit like old times except also completely different. And I miss those times sometimes. I miss us--the old Lavender and Padma from before things started to change. Sometimes I even miss the old Protectorate before the Lord Protector went completely insane. Although it sounds like he was always a lot worse than what we knew.

Haruman is reading over my shoulder (everyone’s taking a short rest before starting up a new round of brewing) and looking disapproving. (I’m sorry I’m not a very good citizen of Albion all right! It’s just how I feel sometimes.)

But then I start thinking about how his closest followers were people like Auror Crouch and I find myself glad those times are ending. Even if these new times scare me.

I was supposed to tell you before, Padma--I told Linus I would, but it was hard to find the words. The whole Moon family (except Linus obviously, and Karo) was killed by Crouch. He lost his mind and went into a murderous rage when Prof Dolohov was killed in a raid (only he wasn’t really, but that’s a long story and I don’t really know the details). I still can’t believe he killed children.

Linus would have written himself, but he’s having a really difficult time--made more difficult by his and Karo’s estrangement.

And I want to help him--I want to so much--but right before he got the
news we sort of broke up, which makes everything terribly awkward. If you were to send him a condolence note, I think it would mean a lot.

---

**alt_lavender** at 2015-08-30 03:02:28
(no subject)

And--if you didn't see it already--Ron Weasley just wrote that Bellatrix Lestrange is dead.

It's almost impossible for me to imagine.
Hope you're awake. Draco and I need a legilimens. Is Montague reachable? Didn't want to just write him out in the open.

We've got Rigel Lestrange and he's... a handful. Has some kind of power over people. I had to keep transforming to break it, but it was a lot quicker and more... anywiz, Draco needs help with Rigel and I need help with both of them.

We looked for Hydra, but she's not here. Actually we looked for Hydra because that's who Rigel wants, but it would have been brilliant because she's also just what we need.

Nevermind. Just- are you able to get Montague for us?
Draco's quarters.

At Hogwarts, I mean.

It's a little distracting here.

I wrote to him.

Is Terry here? He's also an animagus--

I suppose he's at Penzance with the rest.

Jason's on his way to you.

Wait, how the hell do you have Rigel?

I don't know what your orders were tonight but I'm damn sure they weren't 'go to Buckingham and kidnap Hydra's brother.'
2015-08-29 21:06:00
Private message to Jason Montague

Can you get away and back to the castle?

Ron and Draco have Rigel. They need a legilimens. Someone Rigel can't influence.

They're in Draco's room. Ask the elves, they should be able to show you.

alt_jason at 2015-08-30 02:13:09
(no subject)

Can?

Yes. On my way.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-30 02:16:36
(no subject)

Good
Oh, Rod. She's beautiful!

Come back in! They're cleaning her up, and me a bit. And she's absolutely perfect!

Just the most magical thing ever!

Oh, they're going to let me hold her again, so do come!
2015-08-29 21:32:00
Order only

Triage! get ready
Explosion.
Fred and me bringing in Colin and Terry
don't know if they're alive

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-30 02:35:32
(no subject)

Triage is ready for you.

alt_alice at 2015-08-30 02:36:25
(no subject)

I'm coming in.
2015-08-29 21:36:00
Order Only Private message to Hydra and Hermione

Where are you?

alt_draco

alt_hermione at 2015-08-30 03:01:19
(no subject)

We're at St Gerard's.

We've just arrested Rodolphus. Hydra's informing Lana now that she's also under arrest.

I see that Ron wrote. Does that mean...?

alt_draco at 2015-08-30 03:04:38
(no subject)

It's true.

We didn't make it in time for Sirius or Remus. But they killed her.

I'm sorry, more later. Buckingham still needs to be secured.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-30 04:28:18
(no subject)

When can you come home?

I look at Lana's baby and she's gorgeous but it just makes me think about them, and how Hydra's going to be raising her alone and--

I want to know what happened. And we have to tell Dora, and....

Just come home?
She won't be alone.

And yeah. Give me ten minutes. I'll tell you everything.
2015-08-29 21:37:00
To All Citizens of the Former Protectorate, Now Called ALBION

Bellatrix Lestrange is DEAD.

alt_alice at 2015-08-30 02:54:18
Private Message to Ron
Do you know
Remus and Sirius

alt_ron at 2015-08-30 03:10:34
Re: Private Message to Ron
No. I'm sorry.
They didn't make it.

alt_alice at 2015-08-30 03:12:51
Re: Private Message to Ron
both of them
oh
Mrs Longbottom, I'm really sorry!

What happened?

Short version: Draco and I followed Sirius and Remus up to Lestrange's offices. We'd worked out they were going and didn't want them going without backup. We didn't ask them. We didn't tell them, actually. Just- Anywiz, we followed them up and they flushed a load of people out. Reckon Remus looked well frightening. Anywiz, we dealt with the ones that didn't just run for their lives. And then we sealed the wing so the ones that got past us couldn't send reinforcements up after us. Then we followed and when we got there, Remus and Bellatrix and Sirius and some enforcers were all fighting. And Rigel Lestrange was there and Remus was trying to shield him, I think. Oh, and Phil Catchlove. Got killed in the crossfire. Anywiz, Rigel saw Draco and ran for us. So then Draco couldn't do anything but see to him--he's really something else! Seriously. And

She and Sirius were fighting and then they weren't. She killed him. And Remus, he jumped her. Tore her throat out, but she had a knife. Silver.

And that was it.
@alt_rachel at 2015-08-30 03:42:29
Re: Private message to Auror Weasley

I should probably shout at you for going against orders to follow Sirius and Remus, but I'm not on duty right now so I'll just say, good work getting Rigel Lestrange out and not getting yourselves killed.

I'm sorry to hear about Sirius and Remus.

But I'm sure they considered it worth it.

@alt_seamus at 2015-08-30 02:59:56
Private message to Ron Weasley

Are you sure?

@alt_ron at 2015-08-30 03:12:48
Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

I saw it happen.

@alt_seamus at 2015-08-30 03:17:37
Re: Private message to Ron Weasley

How?

@alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-30 03:03:48
Order Only: Private message to Ron

That's BRILLIANT.
It was horrendous, actually.

So you know, because everyone will soon: she killed Sirius and Remus, both. But not before Remus - he ripped her throat out.

Oh, bloody hell.

Were you Dammit.

I mean good for Mr Lupin.

But that's I'm going to miss both of them.

Oh, thank MERLIN.

Are you hurt, Ron? Is anyone with you hurt?

Draco and I are fine.

But, Mum, Sirius and Remus... both of them are dead.

What about Fred and George and Bill? Actually, I've got to go. I'll
get briefed when I get back. I mean, maybe it's better if you don't tell me anything. Alright?

Ron, your brothers are fine. They're all fine! So you come back too, safe and sound, do you hear me?

you better not be lying
2015-08-29 22:20:00
ORDER ONLY

it's a mop-up operation here.

got a whole host of people who surrendered their wands, a few idiots who are trying to make a run for it, and the rest killed or captured. bringing everyone in for processing and securing, and are sending out a team to track down the idiots.

do we need to re-direct forces to New London?

alt_rachel at 2015-08-30 03:30:35
(no subject)

Do we have ANY intel on the festival?

alt_alice at 2015-08-30 03:31:55
(no subject)

Agreed -- it'd be good to send in a team to get intel on the current state of New London and Buckingham.

We'll bring everyone else back here and put them on standby if we need to send larger forces.

alt_frank at 2015-08-30 03:33:11
(no subject)

can do.

alt_alice at 2015-08-30 03:35:43
Private Message to Frank

Love, Remus and Sirius didn't make it.

Neither did Colin.
Terry's injured, but he'll pull through.

We need

We need to sort out next steps to get to New London as bloodlessly as possible. I'm not sure there's anyone left who'd oppose us, but we need to move, and soon, and push through this.

👤 **alt_frank** at 2015-08-30 03:36:14  
*Re: Private Message to Frank*

aye aye.

👤 **alt_rachel** at 2015-08-30 03:43:20  
*(no subject)*

It may be possible to secure Buckingham. Ron and Draco should know more.

👤 **alt_frank** at 2015-08-30 03:46:14  
*(no subject)*

noted.

👤 **alt_draco** at 2015-08-30 03:58:30  
*(no subject)*

The Palace is empty, unless anyone is hiding somewhere. If they are they'll be found eventually.

Festival is still on-going.
good to know.

Unit 4's pretty knackered but Unit 1 isn't too bad off. We could go check out the lay of the land if need be.

we're meeting by the shore to talk strategy and receive the rendezvous point. leaving for new london in ten.

glad you're on your feet, kiddo.

I'll be there. I'm a bit shite honestly but I can still fly & hold a wand.

we're going in, going to see the lay of the land, and if it's too hot, get the hell out and re-group.

we'll play the rest by ear, but we're not going back in to a fight, Merlin willing.
Got it. Just did a headcount and most of Unit 1's up for it.

See you there Mr L.

Due to repeated damage to the wards, the current best models (Linus and Evelyn have checked them already), the wards may remain at least partially up for perhaps one hundred (100) hours. Sometime late Wednesday night, give or take.

I don't think we can bolster them. The Dover stone is almost entirely done in, and the damage at Penzance is just too high.

The good news is that the models all suggest they'll simply fade, stop working so well. No earthquakes, no tsunamis, no rain of purple frogs, anything like that. We're not completely certain, but more certain about a lot of things.

Can I help with messages at Dover? Since Cedric

Yes. Please.

Thank you, Siz.

Of course.
Hydra and I went to St Gerard's. Rodolphus Lestrange is on the floor of a dungeon at Malfoy Manor. Lana wasn't ready to leave St Gerard's but we've placed her under arrest and there's a guard on her room.

Oh, and we took the baby back to the castle, first for a quick check in the Hospital Wing but they said there was no reason to keep her. Hydra won't put her down.

I can't really blame her, she's so tiny and perfect and beautiful.

Oh, and Jason Montague was with Rigel, but as soon as Rigel heard Hydra was back they turned up. So he's also now fast asleep next to her.

That's utterly brill.

Hallo, new cuz!

Dearest,

You'll want to come back in.

Sirius and Remus didn't make it.

I'm so very sorry.
oh, bugger.

They

Right. I'll make my way back there.

city's calm and quiet.

some pretty heavy cheering charms in place at the festival, from what I can tell. a tonne of people there, including several targets of interest, like Rowle.

no need to start a panic, figured we could keep things quiet and make arrests of those targets as people leave. shouldn't take much to replace existing security, was well thinned out because of Penzance. we'll need another two units to process people and bundle them off site, and rotate through so we don't burn out.

we can sort the rest out tomorrow.

Good.

Thank you, love.

We'll send along some back-up.
Now that the fluctuations have settled, I have been applying rough approximations based on tonight's data to the results of Scansell's sheaf analysis, Wrđjeman's patterning application, and Kantorowich's Least Worst regressions, run by myself and analysed by Evelyn, and according to everything I have tabulated, the wards may possibly remain at least partially up for a maximum of one hundred hours. That, however, represents the absolute outside of their viability.

The part of the news where Dame Fortune smiles upon us is that according to this model, there are no earthquakes, no tsunami, no rains of frogs, and no herds of spectral erumpents or anything of that nature. The remaining wards, tattered as they are, will simply vanish softly and silently away.

It's what the model suggests, at least. We shall of course find out whether practice matches theory. As the old saying has it:

In theory, there is no difference between theory and practice. In practice, there is.

---

@alt_sinistra at 2015-08-30 03:53:58
(no subject)

Thank you, Linus. Very much.

@alt_sinistra at 2015-08-30 04:07:12
(no subject)

I've reported that out. Staying at Dover to help coordinate messages.

Evelyn, Linus, if you can be helpful at Hogwarts, stay there and help. If there's no specific need, I could use someone to help here, we'll want to keep very good summaries so we can pass information along promptly. Short timetable and all.
alt_jeremy at 2015-08-30 04:12:02
(no subject)

I can stay as long as it takes. Sounds like I'm of most use here.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-30 04:14:11
(no subject)

Ta. That's a great help. I'm in the - well, Cedric's desk, making sense of his notes.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-30 04:15:17
Private message to Jeremy

Sorry, didn't mean to leave you out, but I officially get to tell Evelyn what to do, and if I don't give Linus things to do, he's more than a bit prone to inventing problematic ones.

You're rather more a free agent.

alt_jeremy at 2015-08-30 04:19:04
Re: Private message to Jeremy

Right. Happy to help right now, though.

Good point about Moon. He was telling me about his grand hopes for the future, which are apparently still on. Think Oxford can survive him?

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-30 04:28:09
Re: Private message to Jeremy

Historically, I understand Oxford has been awfully resilient and understanding of eccentricity. I hope that continues.

Linus is a vast amount better than he used to be. I think the trick will be finding him someone there to keep an eye out, and we can't do that until we're sure who's teaching and all that.
Right. I found the list of who's associated with which government, organisation, mutual society of interested parties, grudging collaboration of interested parties who don't like each other at all but have common cause for some reason, and a few stray people defying category.

If you take the incoming messages and sort them accordingly, I'll work out who we need to talk to first?

@alt_jeremy at 2015-08-30 04:28:58
Re: Private message to Jeremy

Right. Sounds like a plan.
2015-08-29 22:44:00
Private Methage to Lt Vaisey

Cheers, mate. Yeah, I'd have another of those apple brandy thingers, if you're buying next round.

Maybe we can find Rowle and get him to tell us his speech again: drink on NEW, DAY, INTEGRITY, ALLEGIANCE and FUTURE. Drain the cup for PROSPERITY or FIDELITY.

Heh.

Say, which stall had those chocolate truffles? I haven't had good chocs forever. Where do you suppose they were able to get them? Smells like blackmarket to me! I say we go shake them down for whatever stock they've got--

ohlook fireworks! on the waves!

You coming back with those drinks, then?

---

@alt_seamus at 2015-08-30 04:27:59
(no subject)

Everyone can see this 'methage,' you bloody drunken idiot.

@alt_blaise at 2015-08-30 04:32:35
(no subject)

Oh, say! Finnigan!

You're missing the party of the year, man. Shame you're not here.

Where'd you go off to, anyway?
Around the time Lana Sandoval suggested to Bellatrix Lestrange that killing me to break through the wards and make a run for it might be a good strategy, I decided that staying in New London might be bad for my health in the long term.

You go ahead and enjoy yourself, though.

Hello there.

Still alive.

Have confirmed that small children and I get along spectacularly, but don't you go getting any ideas.

And what ho, Zabini.

Thanks for the status report. I find the charms of little kids entire resistable, myself. Maybe we can get a kneazle?

Montague!

You bugged off out of NL, too, didn't you? What's news?
Rod Lestrange's work was extra-thorough, I see.

Beg pardon?

Oh, you needn't beg.

You're not my type, mate.

Need a bit more up top.

How about me?

Tell Vaisey Hi.

You're not saying you've grown tits, are you?

You're full of surprises, mate!
Oh, bloody nightshade. You're a tit and a half.

Vaisey says you have to drink every time someone says TITS.

There. Spotted you the first one.

That's harsh, mate!

I mean to say, I've got no great love for LS-P, either. Spent the last fortnight working for her. Well for Braithewaite, but that meant being her dogsbody, too. Piece of work, tht one! But, heh. Should see how gigantic she's got! Hilarious. And she really hates it, which- couldn't happen to a more deserving witch, eh?

Oh, say. My mate Vaisey, here, says he hears she's off popping the sprog today! So coast's clear if you want to come for some of NL's finest apple brandies and some quite fine entertainments.

Actually, the baby to which you refer is now in the custody of Auror Hydra Finch-Fletchley. And Lana Sandoval-Pennifold and Rodolphus Lestrange have both been apprehended for crimes against state of Albion.

And you'll be arrested too, Zabini, if you'll just stay put long enough for them to get to you.
alt_blaise at 2015-08-30 04:49:56
(no subject)

I say. Who are you?

alt_seamus at 2015-08-30 04:51:33
(no subject)

That's Hermione Granger, Draco Malfoy's girlfriend.

alt_blaise at 2015-08-30 04:57:59
(no subject)

Granger?

Eh.

Say, have you heard Clan Darragh's new songs? They're brilliant!

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-30 05:01:15
(no subject)

That's 'Potions Mistress' Granger to you.

alt_blaise at 2015-08-30 05:02:36
(no subject)

Is that meant to be kinky?

I did always fancy you a bit, Perks. Truth told. Shame you aren't my sort.
No, I'm really not your sort.
I'm a patriot of Albion and a member of the Order of the Phoenix.

You're a lackey of the old regime, someone who will spend the rest of his life trying to convince his friends and family that he was one of us, not one of them.

See? It's the way you talk, really. Feisty.
Confess I've a bit of a weakness for that.

That and tits.

I really hope they let you keep your journal after they arrest you. So that you can read this whole thread after you sober up.

Afraid I've got to leave this conversation.

There's a gentlewitch here, insisting I'm needed urgently. Elsewhere.

And she's got

Oh, now-
Bye, Blaise!

I'd offer to come visit you in prison but actually I never liked your company as much as I pretended to when I was a half-blood in Slytherin who needed allies.

I used to sleep outside your dormitory, you buffoon.

No call to be rude, is there?

No, generally there isn't.

So perhaps when you're sober, you'd care to consider how rude you are to anyone you believe to be beneath you.

NEW, DAY, INTEGRITY, ALLEGIANCE, FUTURE, PROSPERITY, FIDELITY and TITS.
2015-08-29 22:59:00
Order Only HELP Penz

Inc on staging
Help

alt_cedric

alt_frank at 2015-08-30 03:01:30
(no subject)

sending backup to your position
2015-08-29 22:59:00
Order Only: Private message to Poppy Pomfrey

Healer Maginn wasn't able to save Cedric's leg. He amputated it below the knee and doesn't believe it will be possible to re-grow it.

Terry Boot will pull through. There will be some scarring.

We lost Colin.

Also, this didn't happen at triage, but. Remus and Sirius are also dead. They died killing Bellatrix.

alt_poppy at 2015-08-30 04:16:20
(no subject)

Thank you. For the news.

We are keeping busy here. Business is brisk. Is the situation resolving there? Or are you still receiving fresh patients? When you're ready to transport the remainder, let us know if you require fresh wands and bodies to help.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-30 04:19:54
(no subject)

For the last half hour or so all the new injured have been prisoners, not Albion supporters.

I think we'll be able to move everyone ourselves, but it'll take a while, and of course we need to know where the prisoners should go, exactly.
Thank you, yes, I need to have a word with Alice regarding the disposition of injured prisoners. We should have an answer for that by the time you need to shift locations.
Ginny, dear,

You probably saw Ron's post. That is very good news, and we are hopeful that the war is finally close to finished, but there have been some deaths among our own. Your brothers and sisters-in-law are all safe as of this writing, but, I think Luna should come find me before opening her journal. If you don't want me to come there to the safe house first thing in the morning?

I understand if you don't want me to, dear, but in that case, please don't let Luna open her journal until she's come back here and spoken with me or Alice or Poppy first.

What's happened? Who died?

Remus and Sirius were the ones who went to Buckingham and killed Bellatrix Lestrange, but neither one survived.

The one who will be the greatest shock to Luna, I am afraid, is Colin. It was an explosive hex, during the battle at Penzance. I was here in Triage when he and Terry were brought in. Terry will live, although he will be scarred, but Colin never regained consciousness. Poppy thinks he never felt a thing.

You may tell her yourself, of course, if you wish to, since you are there with her. Not now, of course, but in the morning, after sunrise. But I am willing to do it, too, if that is what you think would be best.

Our fighters have regrouped and are now turning their attention to New London. I have not heard much, other than they seem not to
have met much in the way of resistance. All of the old Protectorate forces seem to have either surrendered or fled.

alt_ginny at 2015-08-30 04:37:39  
(no subject)

I've put her journal away where she won't be able to find it.

But telling her 'you can't read it, someone has to tell you something' and then making her wait is just cruel. Either you have to be here first thing or I'll tell her.

alt_molly at 2015-08-30 04:41:44  
(no subject)

Well, I would be there first thing in the morning to tell her myself--I would have done so if she had been in her quarters for this full moon as usual--only I wasn't sure if you're willing for me to come there at all, dear. I'm trying to be sensitive to you as well.

Just let me know what you prefer.

alt_ginny at 2015-08-30 04:49:31  
(no subject)

Mum, it's fine, you can come here.

alt_molly at 2015-08-30 04:50:50  
(no subject)

Well then, thank you.

Expect me there at sunrise.
**2015-08-29 23:42:00**

*Order Only*

I am very sorry to tell you that Colin Creevey died tonight in the battle at Penzance, killed by an explosive hex.

I am also grieved to report that Remus Lupin and Sirius Black died tonight in the act of killing Bellatrix Lestrange.

---

**alt_rachel** at **2015-08-30 04:48:53**

*(no subject)*

I am pleased to report that Bellatrix Lestrange is dead.

Rodolphus Lestrange and Lana Sandoval are in custody, along with a number of others.

New London will likely be secure and in our hands by morning.

And the last wards are expected to be down by Wednesday.

---

**alt_hermione** at **2015-08-30 04:52:53**

*(no subject)*

We should--

There should be a proper ceremony in London. That everyone can attend.

So that everyone's remembered. All of them. Neville, Hannah, Sophie Fleet, Mr Snape, Harry--everyone who was lost in all this. But Sirius and Remus most of all.

When Bellatrix thought she had brought Sirius back before, they put the remains in a box and made everyone file past. Well, I think we should put their caskets out and let people visit if they want. And pictures of Harry, so people could pay respects.

Could we?
alt_rachel at 2015-08-30 04:56:08
(no subject)

Lying in state, you mean?

Yeah.

I think we could do that.

alt_bill at 2015-08-30 04:54:51
Private message to Rachel

There's little to no resistance here.

Buckingham is practically deserted, and the people at the festival act like everything they've been eating or drinking is charmed to put them in a fine mood. They're positively delighted to cooperate with us.

I don't expect we'll have any more injuries tonight.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-30 04:56:56
Re: Private message to Rachel

Good.

alt_rachel at 2015-08-30 05:08:24
Re: Private message to Rachel

I don't know how I wound up alive and Sirius, and Remus, and

dammit

Justin
didn't.
Re: Private message to Rachel

There isn't any reason in why one dies and another lives, love. One person dodges one way, the other person dodges that and he's the person who's hit, but it could have easily gone the other way.

The meaning is in what you make out of your life after you've been given the opportunity, the gift, to go on living it. You honour the fallen with how you shape the life you have that they don't. I learned that from my Dad.

You are a brilliant woman, and when Albion drafted you to step into this role, you took it without hesitation and you have done an amazing job. Yes, even though you lost some, including some of the best. ANYONE who had taken that job would have lost Aurors, and your experience, your know how, the fact that you were able to develop Jason Montague as a contact--well, all of that saved many who otherwise would have died.

Some of Davidson's teams are arriving here in New London to relieve us. I'll be leaving the field soon, and I'll come and find you. We'll hold each other as long as you need.

That part at least is ducking good news.

Bellatrix being dead is the best ducking news I've heard in a while.
Oh, oh.
Oh no.

hey sweetie
I know.
I'm going to be in new london tonight. but I'll be back tomorrow.
you make sure you give your mum a hug for me, yeah? I've a feeling she'll need it.

Merlin.
But they got her.

Good on them for that.
2015-08-30 00:02:00
Order Only Private message to Tonks

I'm so sorry love. I'll miss them both. The bastards.

Come down if you need someone to lean on. I think we can probably find a bit of me that won't hurt to do so.

I'm so sorry I couldn't be there tonight fighting with you.

alt_nymphadora at 2015-08-30 05:18:49
(no subject)

I'm numb all over.

It didn't seem possible for Sirius to die. I mean, he just managed to sneak through so many times, it was and oh, I shall miss my Mr Ponds buggering hell, Grimmauld is going to be so empty and I've no idea what I'll tell Bea and

I'd very much like a shoulder, ta. or, you know, whatever can be leaned against.

alt_nymphadora at 2015-08-30 05:23:50
(no subject)

we had a family, you know, and it was weird and it was cobbled together but it worked, and then Snape and Draco and Hermione and you and Adam came along to make it even better, and oh

I can't hardly breathe.
He came by to kiss Bea good-night, Remus did, and I'd no idea

I thought he was twitchy because of the full moon and all that but he was saying good-bye

and I could just

how could they?

Yeah. Thought they'd both be around forever. But what a hell of a thing to go out on.

Come on down. I promise I won't whinge at you about my problems until at least next week. We'll figure out what to tell Bea and how but we don't have to do that quite yet.

And no matter what we'll make sure Bea and Adam grow up knowing them as much as they can. Them and Snape and Harry and Justin and hell even Percy. She'll grow up knowing he came to kiss her before he went off to save us all. I promise. And even when it doesn't help she'll still know it.

Bill wrote me earlier saying he was going into the fight and if anything happened to him I needed to take care of everyone else and I told him not to worry because we endure. No matter what. You may have lost half your family and I may not be able to stand up on my own two feet for the next year or whatever but we'll get through this. Even if I'm not entirely sure how yet. We'll think of something.

I love you best girl. And you know you've got me. Even if I'm a bit fucked up right now. And we'll figure it out but we don't have to figure it out tonight.
Maybe we should ask people to write down their memories now before time starts to make them fade. Of everyone we lost but Sirius and Remus especially. And we'll hold on to those stories for as long as we have to and when Adam and Bea want to know about their other parents we'll have everything right there.

We aren't going to forget. We aren't ever going to forget. And we won't let anyone else forget either.

sounds like a plan to me.

and no.

no, we aren't going to forget. Ever.

Oh, Charlie.

I'm so glad you're here.

Yeah.

I'm so fucking glad you're all right too.

Let's not go through this whole mortal peril thing ever again. Any more of us. But especially not you.
okay.

Come on down. I think I can make enough room for you to curl up in this bed with me if you don't mind helping me move a bit. And right now I don't care whether it hurts.

good.

I'm covered in bogeys and will most likely cry all over you.

You're perfect any way you look. Always have been.

And I've got a box of tissues right here on the nightstand. Been doing a bit of crying myself.
2015-08-30 00:20:00
Order Only: Private message to Ron and Pansy

So if there's one thing Blaise has right, it's that drinking sounds like a really goddamn excellent idea. Once I'm out of triage, anyway, which might not be for hours yet. (I'm working. Not injured. Just to be clear.)

Should we meet at Pansy's London house? If London's secure? Secure-ish?

alt_pansy at 2015-08-30 05:31:32
(no subject)

yes.

please.

alt_ron at 2015-08-30 05:32:44
(no subject)

That is an absolutely bloody fucking excellent thought.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-30 05:33:58
(no subject)

And they just told me I could go. The senior healer said I should 'get some sleep,' ha, as if.

I'll see you soon.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-30 05:34:31
(no subject)

I'll bring hangover potions for tomorrow. One of you can find something to drink for tonight.
on it.

So. What are the rules for this? Are we NOT talking about anything that's happened? Or are we saying every damn thing that did happen and DARING it to haunt us forever? Staring it all down, I mean.

I don't care, either way, but I think we'd better make a rule about it before we get too pissed.

Here's my rule: we can use any filthy language we want. Even words we don't properly know what they mean.

I think I want to say every damn thing that did happen while using the filthiest language I can think of.

Can we make up new words?

I propose titsed. It's when you're so pissed, you can't think of anything else except tits, even when the world is burning down around your ears.
And yeah. I'd rather stare it all down. What the hell. We survived.

What's the worst we've got to fear?

Oooh, I just broke a nail, and the baby vommed on my favourite shirt.

Let's stare into the void and laugh, because everything else after this is going to be boring enough as it is.

I think maybe after this boring will be good.

At least I think it'll take a while before I'll be sick of it.

Though if it turns out I don't like boring, I'll see about getting trained as an emergency specialist for St Mungo's. That should be exciting enough to get by.

I've a feeling George will keep me on my toes.

He's been talking about taking up hang-gliding.

Speaking of, I still very much like the idea of having you lot close by.
alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-30 06:09:55
(no subject)

It won't be the same without Justin.

alt_ron at 2015-08-30 06:12:42
(no subject)

No. It won't.

alt_pansy at 2015-08-30 06:12:45
(no subject)

no.

It won't.

alt_pansy at 2015-08-30 06:13:13
(no subject)

Hah! Jinx!

Another word you can't say while titsed.

alt_ron at 2015-08-30 06:16:14
(no subject)

I'm not nearly titsed yet, though. And that's just wrong.

Pip! pip! And tip the cup!

alt_pansy at 2015-08-30 06:22:08
(no subject)

Fuck yeah.
That's approximately 4/5ths as pissed as I would like to get. Or maybe 2/3rds.

Absolutely. Titsed is in the lexicon. I declare it.

Paradoxically, by the time you're titsed, you can no longer actually say the word 'titsed.' I'm pretty sure. Possibly this requires testing.

I expect you also can't say the word paradoxically.

We can test that, too.
2015-08-30 00:40:00
Private Message to Hydra and Draco

So.

It's finished?

@alt_narcissa

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@alt_narcissa at 2015-08-30 05:43:02
Private Message to Hydra

I'm so sorry, my dear.

For your Justin.

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 05:44:17
Re: Private Message to Hydra

How did you hear about Justin?

@alt_narcissa at 2015-08-30 05:54:31
Re: Private Message to Hydra

Antonin. He was here from the small hours Saturday morning until just after luncheon.

He said your mother showed up out of the blue and cast her curse, canvassed the area and left without a further thought.

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 06:00:51
Re: Private Message to Hydra

I don't suppose you poisoned his food.

He told you a half-truth. His specialty.

But yes Justin is dead. My mother's curse wasn't what killed him. I spared him that. It was the last thing I could give him.
Oh, my darling. How tragic.

No, I didn't, but don't think I didn't weigh the option. He was in far from his best condition. But, guest-right does still count for something, and it would have been such a bother.

He told us many half-truths. To which were you referring, specifically?

Dolohov and Justin were dueling before Mummy arrived. One of them was going to die, and it wasn't going to be Justin.

Or maybe Dolohov did tell you that and you just left it out of what you said to me.

He knew Justin was dying. He knew and he pretended he didn't.

If Bellatrix Lestrange comes into the field, casts a single curse, and then leaves, you know what the curse is. There's never any doubt.

But Antonin pretended Justin was injured, and he used that as leverage to get healed, and to escape.

He used Justin's death to save himself.

Mm. Yes, his version was decidedly coloured somewhat differently. Particularly about whether he knew for certain the damage done to your - husband.
For what little it is worth, I do believe he was deeply wounded by misplacing his trust in Justin. Not that it condones his action in the slightest, but it does clarify how he believed his defence was justified. It is not unexpected, merely unfortunate.

He'll never return to England, which I am sure is cold comfort.

What will you do? Have you any idea yet?

alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 06:35:01
Re: Private Message to Hydra

It's worth nothing, of course.

He'll do the same thing, wherever he goes. He's a cancer that spreads everywhere.

I can't believe you're asking me what I'll do. Asking that now.

I'll go on. I have a sister and brother who need me.

alt_narcissa at 2015-08-30 06:42:46
Re: Private Message to Hydra

A sis-

Forgive me, Hydra. I have been so very isolated, it is difficult to know what one has missed.

By sister, I assume you refer to Rodolphus's infant?

And no, of course it is of no consequence to you what Antonin felt or did not feel. Not at present, possibly not ever. I only meant to point out that someone like him, in his position, would have no trouble convincing himself of the necessity of his actions. And in a way, I suppose, I'm paying your late husband a compliment. There have been very few who could penetrate Antonin's defences so completely.

I was asking because - believe it or not, I have been worried about you. And I still care.
What about your grandmother? If I know her she's managed
to keep herself safe through everything. Surely she can help.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 06:48:18
Re: Private Message to Hydra

Help with what?
Do you mean Rigel and the baby?

Actually - I can't be around Rigel all the time, and he still
doesn't understand his own magic. I don't think he really
means to hurt anyone, but Mummy confused him so much,
and bribed him with things sometimes, or took them away at
others. But you and Daddy and Nanella... he didn't seem to
affect you, and none of you are legilimens.

What did you use to nullify his magic?

alt_narcissa at 2015-08-30 06:57:13
Re: Private Message to Hydra

Your father didn't tell you? He worked long
and hard on it. We each have a cloakpin to
wear when we're looking after the boy.

Or you can always send Rigel to his grandmother and she'll
keep him safe.

The girl, though. That's an altogether different matter. What
of the Sandovals? Oh, no, I'm not expecting you to know
anything this instant, of course - poor thing, you only came
into their guardianship this very night. It's something to think
about, however.

It's so late. You'll need to sleep, particularly with a newborn
in your care.

Will you write again, tomorrow? And we can talk more.

I do want to help, Hydra. As much as I can, from here.
alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 07:01:14
Re: Private Message to Hydra

He never gave me one.

The Sandovals can't have her, I'm afraid. Though perhaps they can be a part of her life.

Depending.

I'll try to write. I don't know. I'm very tired.

I think I had better go.

alt_draco at 2015-08-30 05:43:17
(no subject)

Call it the last gasp. With no hope of recovery.

alt_narcissa at 2015-08-30 05:55:21
(no subject)

But you're unharmed? And your Hermione?

alt_draco at 2015-08-30 06:05:53
(no subject)

Unharmed but not exactly happy, either of us.

Because even if your sister is dead, Sirius and Remus are, too. And whatever you might think of it, we were both close to them. Hermione, especially. And Justin was our friend.

So it's finished, but not over. Not for us.
There's no need to be quarrelsome. I've no wish to upset.

Sirius, too? Tonight, I presume, that happened?

Yes. Sirius and Remus were the ones who killed Bellatrix.

Tore her throat out. Remus, in wolf form.

But don't worry, I didn't let Rigel see.

You have Rigel? Not Rodolphus?

Rodolphus and Lana were arrested. It really is finished in that regard.

And Hydra has Rigel now, and her new sister.

Lana went into labour. That's how Hydra and Hermione got them - they went to St G's.

Yes, so I am gathering.

Well.
I am sorry that you've lost so many who are important to you. And Sirius, well - he and Bella always were at each other's throats. I suppose they were meant to destroy one another.

I think you and Hydra should make sure Rigel spends adequate time with your Nanella. I've told Hydra as much - she'll help. She has the knack with Rigel, particularly.

Star-crossed.

Why were we all named for stars and constellations?

Hydra, give the baby a normal name. Like Ethel.

Mother, I'm exhausted. I'll write to you later. Soon.

Yes. Do.
I'm so sorry, Luna.

If you can muster up the energy to come see Terry, he's awake and asked after you. He was with Colin at the end.

Luna, I'm so sorry.

Oh, Luna.

He left you a note. We found it in his room.

I don't want to ask you to bring it to me, since I imagine you're with Terry now.

Fred suggested...

Well, he said that Terry asked after me, so I might stop by later.
Just...just not right away. You can leave the note for me on his bedside table, if you step away for a bit.

I'm very glad that Terry survived, at least.

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-30 16:28:40
(no subject)

Yes. Me too.

And I shall.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 16:56:23
(no subject)

I'm very sorry for your loss.

alt_luna at 2015-08-31 00:09:47
(no subject)

And I for yours.
2015-08-30 08:14:00
Terry's awake
And he's asking for his family.

alt_fred at 2015-08-30 14:23:08
Private message to Pansy Parkinson
Where are you? Now that we can leave Terry, George is asking.

alt_pansy at 2015-08-30 15:41:21
Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson
The flat, with Ron and Sally-Anne.
We're all just fine. We just needed we needed some winding down.
I'm glad Terry's all right.
Want to join us for a late brekkie?

alt_fred at 2015-08-30 16:04:08
Re: Private message to Pansy Parkinson
Excellent. We'll be along shortly.

alt_alice at 2015-08-30 15:39:05
(no subject)
On my way.
2015-08-30 10:07:00
*Private Message to Draco*

It would seem you were right. As congratulations are in order, permit me to offer mine.

Is there anyone left in charge on your end with an idea of the terms they desire with the ICW? I am in a position where I might ... ease the transition, shall we say. Vouch for Albion's validity. It might speed along the process of reintroducing England to the world.

Your mother -

She will deny it, of course, but when she told me of your news ... the news that her cousin and her sister (and ‘the werewolf’) perished in the final act of this passion play, specifically, ... she related events with perfectly dry eyes, professed that she cared not a whit for any of the 'old battles,' as she put it, and then became so wracked with grief that she needed assistance to lie down.

So you may imagine that although we are removed from the direct repercussions, we are not immune to them.

I wish you well, my son.

Your

Father

---

2015-08-30 15:58:24
*alt_draco* at 2015-08-30 15:58:24

(no subject)

Not right with a capital R, though. We've lost a lot, and the recovery will be long and hard. But we'll get there.

Your offer - I can see what it stands for, so thanks. What I can't see is Albion agreeing to be in your debt. We'll just have to make it without your anyone smoothing things along.
Huh.

Father, I still don't know if I really understand Mother. I get you backwards and forwards, but she still manages to surprise me. I mean, the part about her pretending not to be affected sounds just like her - but why pretend? If you're grieving, then grieve.

I suppose it's just not her way and I should give up pondering the matter. Sounds like it would be for the best.

Which isn't to say that I expected her, or you, to be unaffected.

I wish we were more on the same page, though. I suppose, for example, you were both troubled to hear about that rancid boil of a the dramatic conclusion to Crouch's "passion play." Or experienced mixed feelings, at the very least.

But on my end, the feelings weren't mixed at all.

That's what makes talking to you difficult.

To say nothing of ideological differences.

---

@alt_lucius at 2015-08-30 16:28:42
(no subject)

You still find nuance elusive to grasp, then. Your mother is a woman, and one of the many things that endears her sex to us poor males is their ability to maintain contradictory emotions and uphold that they are unaffected by them.

I had no thought of indebtedness. If anything, perhaps I see it as a debt I owe to you, and your company. At any rate, cannot imagine the ICW will not ask my opinion; if you have no concrete terms in mind, then I must take my best guess of what would be appropriate, under the circumstances. Presumably upholding the 1692 Statute of Secrecy is completely out of the question, for a start.

Do you imagine it is that much easier for me? For us? It is
bittersweet at best. But, time and distance may provide better lubrication than you realise. Then too, after only a few weeks back among the larger world, it has been ... educational ... to remember those conveniences we had renounced when we put aside all Muggle invention. (Your mother has had her eye on a 'convertible,' a device which she had not enjoyed since before we married. Have not yet consented to the expense, but as in all things, cannot deny her.)

All that is to say, it is perhaps a question of priorities. That there are topics you or I may find painful to discuss is of course regrettable. I only hope that, over time, we may find ways to broach said matters with an understanding that, while we may disagree on fundamentals, our bond precludes another falling out over them. That we may approach them as men, who may differ in details but who at the end, only wish the other healthy, happy and sound.

For my part, I can at the very least see that your choices, actions and beliefs have brought you glory. You are a hero, Draco, and you may yet attain the even more exalted heights of which I - which any father - dreams for his son. In that, I am entirely proud of you. You will always have my affection, and while my counsel may have to be limited to matters of a universal nature, insofar as I want you to succeed, thrive and prosper, then it is yours whenever you wish it. I shall not endeavour to advise you on those things at which I seem to have no skill - such as choosing friends. There you exceed me altogether.

Speaking of that, do I correctly detect that you have resolved the greater portion of your grief over Harry? If so, I am glad that you've found peace. It is a loss that will, I fear, affect us all for many more years to come. But nonetheless, it is good to see you feeling more upbeat - though, naturally, your victory must account in no small part for your joy.

Regarding ICW, I'll ask the others, see what they think. I'll tell them you want to help, but I can make no guarantees of what their response will be.

No, I don't think it's easier for you. I think it's probably easier for me. I spent years mentally preparing myself for you to hate me.
and denounce me, while you and mother remained unaware, more or less believing that I was following along the path you set out for me.

I'm not going to lie to you about who I am now, but I'm not going to rub your face in it, either.

And one thing I'm definitely not is a hero. Not moreso than any of the others, anyway.

Harry was one, though. Inside and out. Being raised by that fucking monster couldn't change who he was - it only made him better. It made me better.

alt_lucius at 2015-08-31 01:17:21 (no subject)

Heroes, like villains, are only very rarely self-appointed. They are named by their deeds and the biography of the times and places in which they lived.

Harry would no more have called himself a hero than you do, and yet, in your eyes and the eyes of those who stand with you, it is decidedly the case that he was one. I will allow that Harry possessed an indomitable spirit which enabled him to act in the best interest of all of England - to sacrifice himself for a greater good which is, in retrospect, undeniable. He rid us all of a scourge. Perhaps in fact he was the only person with the necessary qualities who could have affected such a plan. But his rôle in your revolution does nothing to discount your contributions, nor your other compatriots'.

Nor, indeed, do I believe your friend Finch-Fletchley would have characterised himself a hero, particularly as he died having failed at a task which he believed to have been imperative. Nor Sirius Black, who from what I know of him never believed himself capable of much good. Yet in the eyes of all those who now reside in the free Republic of Albion, you, and they, will be deemed heroes.

It is already occurring. One has but to look outside your circle of friends, at the posts coming from throughout the country, to see
what people think and feel about the deliverance you brought them. They credit you, Mr Weasley, Black, Lupin, the Longbottoms, the Finch-Fletchleys, Mr Creevey, even Miss Granger, with the restoration of peace and freedom.

It is a bitter pill to realise that ours was the false dream, and to accept that yours may be the true one. It remains to be seen whether holding your peace will be as achievable as winning it. Still, one takes comfort from the notion that it is your dream to inherit, that the birthright you claim now is one you yourself have made your own.

This is your world now, Draco. Make it one of which you can be proud.

@alt_draco at 2015-08-31 02:47:16
(no subject)

We will. I will.
Where do you want to go, once we're not all prisoners?

What would you like to see that we could only read about in books?

I think it would be fun to go to Boston and Old Salem and see how much the American Witches books got wrong.

And New York City to see the tall buildings, I checked a map and they're not too far from each other.

And Paris to see the Eiffel Tower.

And Moscow to see that building with the bits that look like swirly onions.

And Kenya to see an elephant, and Brazil to see the Amazon, and Shanghai and Hong Kong and Tokyo!

Justin's mother lives in Kenya.
I dreamed about the aeroplane again. I mean -- it woke me up. When I woke up it was because I thought I HEARD it, overhead.

And then I couldn't get back to sleep, which is a shame because I think I really could've used more time to sleep off all the firewhiskey. Though the hangover potion worked pretty well.

It did, yeah.

I'm glad you dreamed it again.

I can't wait to see one.

I want to try flying in one. See how it compares to a broom or a carpet.

Who wants to try flying in a muggle aeroplane?

Or one of those absolutely enormous ships with the drinks and the pool?
alt_draco at 2015-08-30 16:05:00
(no subject)

No way.

Flying without magic sounds completely unnatural. How does it even WORK?

Well, I might do if I can be the one flying the thing.

alt_pansy at 2015-08-30 16:06:12
(no subject)

Like one of those small ones that can do loops?

alt_rachel at 2015-08-30 16:06:44
(no subject)

I'd fly in one but not if Draco's flying it.

Sorry, Draco. I'm pretty sure muggles who fly those get special training.

alt_draco at 2015-08-30 16:10:19
(no subject)

Are you mad? I flew a dragon.

How hard can it be?

alt_rachel at 2015-08-30 16:11:58
(no subject)

I wouldn't have wanted to ride the dragon you were flying, either!
OH, for the thousandth time, Draco, YOU did not FLY A DRAGON!

The dragon flies all on its own. You and I were holding on for dear life!

My glory, let me have it.

Never.

Really?! Special training? And they have ones you can fly solo?

George is definitely interested.

See, I told you, Sally-Anne. We're going to need our own personal Healer right next door.
alt_rachel at 2015-08-30 16:09:13
(no subject)

I want to see real mountains. The highest mountain in the world is over twenty times higher than Ben Nevis.

alt_bill at 2015-08-30 16:35:30
(no subject)

I like the way you think. Switzerland? I've read about Muggle skiing, and I've always had a sneaking suspicion it might be fun.

Or are you thinking of somewhere even more exotic, like the Himalayas?

alt_rachel at 2015-08-30 16:46:11
(no subject)

Skiing, that's the thing where they strap sticks to their feet? I was actually thinking about climbing in the Himalayas. I'd be up for trying skiing too, though.

alt_jason at 2015-08-30 16:10:43
(no subject)

Atlantic City, USA
Las Vegas, USA
Macau, China

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-30 16:17:28
(no subject)

Australia or New Zealand. To see what the southern stars look like.

When I was in school, before the wards, Mum took me to Tuscany one summer. Fields and fields of golden grain, and cypresses sticking up, and totally unlike here. And the food, I've never forgotten the food.
I want to talk to people who know things I don't. About stars, mostly, but other things, too. And Muggles, they put actual people into space, and what that's like, and what it looks like out there.

atars molly at 2015-08-30 16:23:28  
(no subject)

Arthur and I used to talk about someday taking a holiday and seeing the lavender fields in Provence, France. And there are many famous gardens I'd like to see.

alta evelyn at 2015-08-30 16:26:41  
(no subject)

Houston, to see where the rocket ships take off from, and where they have the space programme. And those places where they built enormous satellite dishes.

alta hydra at 2015-08-30 16:32:21  
(no subject)

Dijon, France.

alta hermione at 2015-08-30 16:56:32  
(no subject)

Oh!

Yes.

alta fred at 2015-08-30 16:44:07  
(no subject)

George and me want to see everything. The Charm Institute in Salonika. Muggle factories. Rome, and Berlin and Prague. And yeah, we'd be up for rides on an aeroplane.

And the Quidditch World Cup, of course.
Paris, Venice, and New York City.

any where but here

Somewhere warm. With sand and blue water and tropical fruit.

I want to go to the poles. Both of them.

And then I'm going to the seaside with Tonks! Maybe an island. We had a book when we were young about children who lived in the Seychelles. Such a queer name for a place, yeah? But it looked awesome! They've got giant tortoises there.
2015-08-30 11:52:00

Private Message to Ginny

I am so very glad you're back.

I am so very sorry for writing you like that.

I didn't write you other times, because I thought it could be painful, hearing from friends and family while you were being told they were awful, and when I wrote you, I was trying to

I am sorry.

I regret how I went about doing things very much. Especially because it involved you.

If it helps at all, I meant every word I wrote.

---

alt_ginny at 2015-08-30 17:40:42
(no subject)

I don't think I want to talk about this.

---

alt_evelyn at 2015-08-30 17:43:55
(no subject)

okay.
Private Message to Hydra

Are you going to bring her down with you so you can get some lunch? We can go back to St G's today and pick up more formula, if you like. Also make sure Lana's ready to be discharged and moved - well. somewhere. Saltash, I suppose, for the time being.

Before they left, Sirius came and talked to me. He was saying goodbye, I know that now, but he particularly wanted to make sure you were looked after.

Which we would have done, anyway, but--well, the thing is, I went to his and Remus's rooms this morning. He left a note for Ms Laura Finch-Fletchley. There was an instruction to give it to her when she gets here, because I guess he wrote to tell her about Justin.

There are some other things. I thought I'd sort properly after lunch.

It's the kind of thing I put off after Mr Snape died, and I wish I hadn't done. It was more helpful than I realised it would be.

I suppose I can bring her down.

It's not the people themselves. It's what they're thinking. Of course some of them occlude, those who can, but not all.

I just needed a break from it.

Do you think I ought to let Lana see her? A part of me doesn't want to, but maybe that's not fair. I don't know.
I understand.

Did the elves find you with the platter?

I don't think you should let Lana see her, no. I'm really glad you stepped in your father's way when he was about to go in to them, too. I don't think you should even let them know her name, if you don't want to do.

Well, I mean, once you choose a name.

Is there--what else can Draco and I do to help?

Yes, thank you. I'm afraid I didn't eat much.

I don't really know where I'm going to live. Do you have any ideas?

How about with us?

We've talked about it and we're going to stay at the Manor for a short while. We saw a place we liked but it's only for two, not three and two children. So we could just spend a week or two all together at the Manor while we put an addition on, or look for a larger house in the same area.

We'd thought about being close to the others--but that was before. Now, I don't--it's complicated, isn't it. And I'd rather have a place with family around us.
I don't suppose it's even a good idea to try to put down permanent roots right now. Things will be changing so much, won't they?

I didn't think I'd feel right living at the Manor, but now that I've spoken with my Aunt, I don't think she'd mind. And it's a place that Rigel is already familiar with, so that's good, too.

Oh, she's awake.

Maybe I should ask if anyone wants to see her before we go back to St G's. And I'll find someone to watch her while we're gone. I know that I can't take her everywhere, all the time.

I think we have to take control of the things we can, so that when everything else changes round us, we've got something to use as an anchor. But that doesn't mean there's a rush, either. Anyway, the Manor's as good a place as any for the time being. I don't want to live there forever, but--well, Sirius said something about how Grimmauld used to be full of horrid memories for him, until they started living there and transforming it. Maybe it'll be the same for us and the Manor.

And no, not all the time. But I can understand at least a little why you'd find it hard to entrust her with anyone else.

What about Mrs Weasley? She's a professional baby-holder, so I hear.

I thought 12G was incredibly creepy when I was small. Same for St James and L'Estrange Hill. Blackmoor Park was nice, and so was Malfoy Manor. I wonder if my horse is still there?
I've written to see who wants baby-sitting duty. And I've decided on a name, too.

Charlotte because Justin's grandfather was a Charles. And Amelia was a name we both liked.

Charlotte Amelia. I like that very much.

Maybe we can find her some booties and singlets while we're out.

I'll just tell Draco we're off.
2015-08-30 12:35:00
Private message to Hydra Finch-Fletchley

I wasn't able to stay long at Justin's funeral yesterday, because -- well, they're not letting me out yet without minders, and everyone had things they needed to be doing other than minding me. So I didn't get to talk to you. But I wanted to tell you I am so sorry for your loss.

From things I've overheard I'm pretty sure Justin killed Ptolemy Baddock. And I wish I could have thanked him for that.

How are you doing? Is it true you have Lana Sandoval's your sister? Half-sister, I guess.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 17:51:32
(no subject)

He did kill Ptolemy, though he indicated that it was for Ron, too. In a way.

Ptolemy is vile, but he wouldn't have been able to take advantage of you if it weren't for what Dolohov did.

Are you still having trouble with your memories? I don't know, but I might be able to help. Because I'll be able to see them, I mean. But I would understand if that sounds scary or potentially violating.

alt_ginny at 2015-08-30 17:57:17
(no subject)

Would you be able to tell? I mean the thing is, I think some of what I remembered did happen. But maybe not quite the way I remember it. I don't know. I understand I can't trust any of it but it's different, knowing it and feeling it, you know?

And yes, I know.

Dolohov cruciated me until I 'remembered' my parents abusing me,
just to make it stop. I understand what he did to me. You don't have to persuade me that Sally-Anne should have let him die.

Representative alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 18:07:14
(no subject)

I don't really know. If there are false memories or thoughts they might feel wrong to me, in some way. Mostly, I'd be able to see what you remember Dolohov doing, and that might help to sort it out. But again, you might not like the idea of going back there. So, you don't have to decide now.

I can't even look at Sally Anne. If she asked, I wouldn't let her hold the baby.

If I let myself think about it to much, I would probably want to kill her, since I can't kill Dolohov. Those are the kind of thoughts I have now, sometimes.

Justin would want me to let it go, though.

Representative alt_ginny at 2015-08-30 18:10:22
(no subject)

Well, I don't exactly like the idea of going back there but whatever you could tell me, I like the idea of knowing more. Understanding better. I feel like maybe if I did understand better it would have less of a hold over me.

But I know you're busy. Whenever you have time, though.

Representative alt_ginny at 2015-08-30 18:14:29
(no subject)

I don't want to kill Evelyn but I don't want to talk to her. You probably saw she wrote to me, that was to apologise for using me, when I was a prisoner, to pass that message about Crouch's body. I don't even know how to feel about that. At the time I thought it was some sort of trick. But I did pass the message, anyway, because I didn't know what sort of trick it was, and I was terrified that
whatever I did was just going to result in more cruciatus. They'd think I was in on it, somehow. Or that this was some kind of test. I didn't know.

At least I was wrong, I didn't get cruciated.

It makes me sick, though. That she wanted to comfort Dolohov, even while he was torturing me.

You'd know better than I would what Justin wants. Would want. Please don't kill Sally-Anne, though, it would make my family gatherings more awkward than you can possibly imagine. At least she thought she was going to save Justin.

Of course I'm not going to kill her. It's just - I can't deny that the impulse is there, if think too much about how helpless Dolohov was, how easy it would have been. How much Justin wanted him dead. How stupid she was not to see that Dolohov was using her, like he always does.

What can I say. When killing becomes a solution to problems, it becomes a solution to problems. It's always an option that's there, amidst the more sensible ones. Like "get over it."

I'm sure Sally Anne has no idea, anyway.

I was the one who snitched on Evelyn to everyone else. She still stands by her decision. Or, she did at the time. I don't know what she said to you.

I have never in my life met anyone as good at manipulating people as Dolohov is.

Well, I suppose there's Rigel. That's different, though. Dolohov couldn't actually reach in and manipulate people's minds
directly. He had to use tools to do it. Sometimes he used charm and kindness. Forbidden knowledge. Books. Tea. Other times he used cruciatus.

Anyway. I'm glad you snitched on Evelyn. What did she say to me ... here. 'I am so very glad you're back. I am so very sorry for writing you like that. I didn't write you other times, because I thought it could be painful, hearing from friends and family while you were being told they were awful, and when I wrote you, I was trying to ... I am sorry. I regret how I went about doing things very much. Especially because it involved you. If it helps at all, I meant every word I wrote.'

I guess she means that she meant it when she said she missed me (which she told me in that other message) and that she was glad I was still alive.

Possibly also that she really did mean that she needed me to do her a favour, and that she felt obligated to Dolohov because he saved her life.

I actually have no idea what the German and Arabic said, other than that it was something about Crouch's body. I can't read either language.

---

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 19:13:08
(no subject)

Rigel doesn't completely understand what he's doing. He's still young, and all children that age think the world does and should revolve around them. Unless you have a mother that reminds you, constantly, that the world revolves around her. I'd like for Rigel to understand his ability and learn how to not abuse it, though it will take some time to figure that out, I think. Meanwhile, there are some pins that people can wear - they make it so he can't have any effect on you.

Barty was thoroughly manipulated by Dolohov, too, though he'd deny it to the ends of the earth. But Dolohov scooped him up and groomed him when he was still young and in need of a father figure.

Possibly I'm reading between the lines, but it sounds as if
Evelyn regrets using you to comfort Dolohov ("how I went about doing things") but probably does not regret wanting to comfort him in the first place. I've gathered that there are others who agree with her that it was wrong to leave Barty's remains in the forest - but they only decided it was wrong when they realized that Dolohov was alive. Make of that what you will.

alt_ginny at 2015-08-30 19:31:45
(no subject)

Dolohov was so good at making his chosen favourites feel special. Not just Barty. All the people he took an interest in.

I know how powerful that feeling is, because you know what else was really good at making you feel special? The diadem. The horcrux.

And that makes sense, doesn't it? Because the Lord Protector couldn't have always been repugnant and noseless and terrifying. (Well, I know the noselessness was recent. But 'repugnant and terrifying' weren't new.) People followed him for the same reason they were attracted to Dolohov.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 19:44:05
(no subject)

Oh, yes. Tom was like that, too.

That makes me wish Dolohov were dead even more, though. Horcruxes have to be killed.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 17:56:03
(no subject)

Oh, and yes, I do have my sister.
Good. Are you going to keep her? I love babies, if you ever want me to babysit.

Well right now they're babysitting me, but.

Eventually.

Yes, I am.

And all right.
2015-08-30 13:54:00
Private Message to Mum and Dad

I'll be in hospital for awhile and recovery even longer. I'm well enough. In the final push last night someone got my leg. I never even saw the curse. It was something awful and dark that was doing odd things given my previous issues and the healers had to amputate it, thankfully below the knee.

I'll not be going back to work at Dover, so won't be kipping there and Rosemerta's my previous place isn't an option. I'd like to come home for a few weeks after they let me out while I get my feet under me figure out what I'm going to do with what's left of myself.

The pain potions are making me feel a bit odd. Why do I smell toast? Give my best

Tired again think I'll call the healer over-----------------------------

---

alt_cedric at 2015-08-30 22:08:28
(no subject)

I'm sorry for drifting off while writing that. Pain potions. I'm fine, I have no idea why I smelt toast, but the healers say there's nothing wrong.

Give my best to the littles. You two can come visit tomorrow, bring Jaspar before he goes back to Hogwarts. I'd like to wait a few days before I'm up to the littles.

Was the floo hooked up for international service before the wards? If it was it should be easy to get it reconnected. If not I'll have to look into what it will take to get it connected.

Have you set a real contract with Jenni yet? Will the back pay be problematic for you? If it is I may be able to help.

All my love.
So it looks like Chuck and me are going to be settling in Grimmauld.

I know you lot are looking to spread your wings, and thinking about other places you might stay, but I wanted all three of you to know that you've got a home base here whenever you need it. And regardless of where you end up settling, that includes a standing offer for any babysitting, holiday visits, and possibly a dinner once a month if you'd like it. (Can't guarantee it won't be slightly burnt if I'm the one cooking it, but these sort of things aren't just for the food, right?)

Anyways.

I know it'll never be quite the same, without Remus and Sirius and Severus there, but it is a home, and we're family, so feel free to come back to the nest now and again for a visit, yeah? I'd like that quite a lot.

---

Oh, Tonks.

Of course, we'll come visit. All the time. And you'll come to wherever we wind up, too. Holidays, birthdays--maybe not Weasley Sundays but, you know. Loads.

Don't worry, we won't give you time to miss us.
I'll always consider you a home, Dora.

And thank you for what you said to me yesterday. It's part of the reason I left for St G's to get Charlotte.

Glad to hear it.

It looked really quite lovely, to see you holding her in the Hall today. Like you both belonged to one another.

That's what it felt like, too.

Yeah. What she said.

You know, seven years ago, before I'd met your da and my dear, sweet, lovely Mr Ponds, I didn't think I'd ever have this.

I am so very grateful.
Yeah. Me either really. Not that I didn't love what I thought my life was going to be but I never imagined this as an alternative.

I'm not going to be able to go back to dragonkeeping I don't think. Not for a long time and probably not ever. I won't be physically capable enough and I won't put anyone around me in danger by not being able to handle it. And I think it's going to take me a long ducking I SAID FUCKING YOU PIECE OF SHIT time to come to terms with it but it's so much better doing that with you than not-with-you.

Let's never get married and be a scandal until the end of our days. Hell maybe I can be your house not-husband. Or see if Griphook has something I can do for the Goblins.

We'll make it work. I promise.

Why, that's the sweetest not-proposal a gal could ever get. I'd love to live in sin with you, Chuck.

I know it isn't what you expected, and it won't be easy, but I'm here.

And yes. We'll make it work, and make it work our way, which means we can do things however the hell we want. And we've got all the time in the world to sort it out.

That sounds like a damn fine deal.
**2015-08-30 14:44:00**

Order Only

I'm going to bring the baby to the Great Hall for a bit, if anyone wants to see her.

Her name is Charlotte Amelia Finch-Fletchley, by the way. And I'll be changing Rigel's last name to Finch-Fletchley, too. So we can all be the same, and not have to be called Lestrange.

I'll be taking Rigel to see Nanella here shortly, but will anyone watch Charlotte while I run some errands with Hermione?

---

**2015-08-30 19:54:47**

Me! me me me me me me me!

---

**2015-08-30 19:55:58**

I am VERY good with babies.

You can ask Jacinda, she'll tell you. I'm probably better at babies than at chopping parsley actually.

---

**2015-08-30 19:59:27**

How old are you again?

---

**2015-08-30 20:04:21**

I can vouch for Arista. Absolutely the best babyminder I know. Loads of experience at Moddey!
We'll make a great team. Charlotte will be in expert hands!

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 20:06:27
(no subject)

Well I was thinking she looks just the right age for babyminding.

You, on the other hand...

@alt_ron at 2015-08-30 20:07:59
(no subject)

Oh, I'm loads younger than I look.

@alt_selwyn at 2015-08-30 20:06:12
(no subject)

I'm eleven.

I start at Hogwarts on Tuesday!!!!!!!!!!!

@alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 20:08:28
(no subject)

Yes, you're in for quite a year, I think.

I would have been a 7th year, but I've decided not to come back. I've got to be an Auror, instead. Among other things.

@alt_selwyn at 2015-08-30 20:11:39
(no subject)

Well of course you're not coming back, I can't imagine sitting classes and exams after everything you've done.

I can't wait! I thought I wasn't going to get to go to Hogwarts but now I can!!!
I would just cheat on my exams anyway.  
I'm happy you're so happy. And if you ever need a good hiding place, away from everyone else, I know of more than a few.

I'm in!

I'd be happy to watch her anytime, dear.  
I've always found caring for babies to be immensely helpful in times of grief. I hope you find that to be true for you.

Oh yes, I was thinking you might volunteer. Thank you.

I'd like very much to meet her.  
What a lovely name you've chosen for her.
Please do.

Private Message to Draco

We're going to St G's for more supplies and to see to Lana's much-deserved incarceration.

I think Hydra's going to accept and stay with us, but she does want to let Rigel stay with your grandmother. Have you talked to her? We should probably go and check on her sometime soon--well, you should do, I don't know if it would be unpleasant if I came along.

Oh, and I saw Headmistress Vector. I told her thank you, but no.

She's in for a rude awakening, isn't she? Lana, I mean. And people say I was spoiled.

Do you want to go over what Sirius left behind tonight? And should we have one last supper here, or try it out at the Manor?

That's good news, about Hydra. As for Nanella, I'll test the waters with her, I guess, and take it from there.

While you're out I'm going to see if I can rearrange things a bit. There's a guest apartment that I was envisioning for you and I, and one down on the other end of the wing that I might be able to move next to ours.

I'm more than a bit glad that you won't be teaching here. I don't
know about you, but I'm ready for a change of scenery. Even if that does mean going back to my childhood home.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-30 20:49:28
Re: Private Message to Draco

Yes, I thought I'd go through everything tonight. He left a will, Remus witnessed it for him. We'll have to go to Grimmauld for some of the items.

About supper. Let's see what Hydra wants to do. I don't necessarily want to say goodbye to everyone so soon, but I'm not sure I'm in the mood for a huge party, and when we got to the Hall with little Charlotte it looked like that's what's on here. I'm sure they'll drink a toast to Colin and all the others, but other than that it does look like a merry gathering. I'm looking forward to merry but - not tonight. Not quite yet.

I don't know if I would have accepted before everything that happened last night, but now? I just can't imagine it. Arista Selwyn's so excited about starting at Hogwarts and it's wonderful to see, but that got me to thinking. I have no idea what it was like to be a student here. I just can't envision how I would teach when any sort of formal education wasn't my experience in the slightest.

Besides, there's too many other things to do, now, and I thought about what you said, how it should be for me, and no one else. And one thing I do know about teaching is that it's never about the teacher, it should be about the student.

Mostly I think I just want to take a break and rest for about a month! Though probably a week is more realistic.

I've also been thinking about the Manor. Sirius said that Grimmauld was horrid for him at first, because round every corner there was some sort of unhappy memory. But that gradually, over time, he and Tonks and Remus, Ellie, Bea, and then you and I, filled it with other memories. We transformed the house by living in it--those were his words, exactly--that we transformed it--and I think, maybe, we could do the same with the Manor. Maybe we're thinking about it all wrong, and keeping it sterile like a museum or mausoleum isn't really the way to change how we perceive it.

Or maybe there are some places that we do need to preserve as a
reminder of the past, the mistakes and the pitfalls and the ways people can be horrible to one another.

I don't know. But I know it doesn't seem nearly as awful as I thought it would be, at first. And besides, I know that it doesn't really matter where we stay, as long as we're together.

alt_draco at 2015-08-30 21:47:41
Re: Private Message to Draco

A whole week off for Hermione Granger? How positively decadent. Do you want to go somewhere or do anything special? Or would you rather experience what it's like to be genuinely lazy for once in your life?

And I have good memories of the Manor. A lot of them with Harry, actually. Like that giant ginger-bread house we decorated at Christmastime. And flying off the roof at top speed.

I don't think anyone should ever live in Buckingham again, though.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-30 22:40:35
Re: Private Message to Draco

Well, I don’t think there will be any need for Buckingham to even exist, will there be?

Perhaps we can propose tearing it apart and erecting something else there, more useful. A new Ministry building that Muggles and wizards can both access, or an enormous home for displaced widows and orphans or a repository of, I don't know, pipe cleaner animals. Anything but what it was or what it became.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-30 20:26:14
Private message to Hydra

Is it okay if I come see her, or would you prefer I stay away?
alt_hydra at 2015-08-30 20:31:07
Re: Private message to Hydra
You can look at her.
But that's all.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-30 20:32:31
Re: Private message to Hydra
Okay.

alt_nymphadora at 2015-08-30 21:01:29
(no subject)
You know I'd be up for a session with Charlotte whenever, cuz.
2015-08-30 15:24:00
Private message to Ron

Hey,

Thanks for coming with me last night. We did all right, yeah? Not a bad team.

I mean, maybe you don't think so, seeing as we didn't actually stop Sirius and Remus from killing themselves.

I've been having a think about it, though, and I know it's what they wanted. Maybe not to die, exactly, but to have it be over. Once and for all. Sirius was in a dark place and I recognised it because I was there, too, not so long ago. And he was one of you lot, a Gryffindor, and I think he just hated feeling like he hadn't done enough. Which was rubbish, of course, but how do you tell someone "no, your feelings are wrong," especially with someone like that?

So what I'm saying is that they chose, you know. Like Harry did.

And... as I'm writing this I realise that you're a Gryffindor, too, and it probably all makes perfect sense already.

---

alt_ron at 2015-08-30 21:44:47
(no subject)

Ha.

Too right, it makes sense what they did. Same as what we did. You've been spending a lot of time with Gryffindors, y'know? Some of it's rubbed off, I think.

And thanks. I was thinking I should write you today, but I wasn't sure which things to say. I was actually on my way to thinking it'd be better to ask you round the pub and just talk about it instead.

Y'know, one of the things I was thinking was that every time we've partnered for something--remember some of those CCF manoeuvres?--we've been kinda brilliant. I mean, more than not bad. Something to think about.

On my way to see Brodie now. She's getting stir-crazy.
We were good because neither of us wanted to let the other one be better.

Pub is brill, so long as I'm not the one serving the drinks. Speaking of, I need to head off to the Elysian to make sure they've shut down. Maybe I'll come in as Russell to do it, just for a laugh. Give the poor bloke a bit of status before I shelve him for good.

Say Hi to Brodie, and you know who to call if you need back up.
I'm sorry, Lines. About your family. And Lav, too.

She says you've been working hard. That's good, I think. It's good to keep busy. And you're planning to go to Oxford? Are you even sure they'll reopen it? Well, I guess they're sure to rebuild some places, and that's bound to be one of them.

I've moved in with Inderpal and Pavs. Mum's got a shop going, now, and she'll be designing all new uniforms for Hogwarts, for the Albion Ministries--for a load of different places, I guess. I've been thinking and even though I wasn't involved in it for a long time, I'd like to work on the Sleeper revival project, if they'll have me. Maybe see if someone will take me as a Potions Apprentice. I like the idea of working with things, better than people.

I would have written a while ago, only, there was a long time I didn't really want to see or talk to anyone. But Seamus and I got to spend an afternoon together recently, and that was--it was good, you know? Knowing that we can still be best mates, that we don't even hate each other after everything that went wrong.

Anyway.

Did you see the fool Blaise Zabini made of himself last night? Honestly, he's such a pillock. I don't know what I was ever thinking!

-Padma
2015-08-30 16:09:00
Private Message to R Brodie and C Wright

I know I was supposed to be off-shift today, but I can't. And it's not as if there's not work out that needs people assigned to it.

So assign me.

alt_ron

alt_rachel at 2015-08-30 21:27:20
(no subject)

Yeah, I've got an assignment for you. Come to the hospital wing and give me updates on everything that's going on. No one's telling me anything, they seem to think I should be 'resting.'

alt_ron at 2015-08-30 21:37:58
(no subject)

On my way.
Private Message to Mrs Longbottom, Auror Brodie, and Mrs Weasley

I know there's a lot happening right now and people are grieving, but that's going to be going on for a while and I wanted to ask you about something that's rather time-sensitive.

I've been pondering all sorts of ways to bring this up, once I thought of it, but in the end I couldn't think of anything better than the direct and simple method, so:

It doesn't seem right for students to come back to Hogwarts and find The Three Broomsticks, which has always been a symbol of the happiest times of our school years, a devastated crime scene.

And they can't very well go to The Hog's Head--it's dirty and full of sad elderly Firewhiskey addicts, which is hardly a family atmosphere. So, unless Madame Rosmerta had family who are ready to take it on, I'd like to try to get the Broomsticks up and running for the autumn term. Is there any reason I shouldn't?

Mrs Weasley, if you have time, I was hoping you might be able to advise me. I know a lot of domestic charms and such, but I can't say that I ever even thought of doing anything like this with them.

I certainly think that's an idea worth exploring, Lavender. This is exactly what I was doing with the Hope Emporium, you know...advising people on starting new businesses. Or resurrecting them, in this case.

You will have to investigate who Madam Rosmerta's heirs were, of course, and then see about securing a loan, I suppose, unless your family is willing to help you with the financing. Frankly, it might be quite ambitious to get everything up and running for the autumn term. Goodness, Albion's process for licensing businesses is still being sorted out, too, you know--although I assure you the procedure won't be nearly as arbitrary as under the Protectorate!
But assuredly, I will help. And I think you are right: it would certainly be a business we should prioritise, so that the children coming back to Hogwarts will have a welcoming place in Hogsmeade.

---

**alt_alice** at 2015-08-31 00:30:49  
*(no subject)*

What a thoughtful idea, Lavender.

I think Pansy Parkinson might be willing to help -- she's heading up a group to provide loans for new businesses, and has had some experience in these matters as well, and could make recommendations.

We can let you into the Ministry to see if you can track down any relevant paperwork that might help identify ownership or a possible will. No guarantees, mind, and it might be easier to just place an advert in the paper and ask for appropriate documentation.

---

**alt_lavender** at 2015-08-31 02:13:08  
*(no subject)*

There won't be money coming from my family, unless my mum comes around and that could take awhile.

Surely no one would object if I just went down to Hogsmeade for a look round, to see what might need to be done to get it going again?

---

**alt_molly** at 2015-08-31 02:40:01  
*(no subject)*

Of course no one will object, dear.

Why don't you stop by and see me, and we can settle on a time we could look around together? I know a bit about the sorts of things you should look for.
That'd be lovely, thank you.

And I'll grit my teeth and write to Pansy Parkinson to see what expertise she might be willing to offer.
Private message to Cedric Diggory, George Weasley and Lee Jordan

Ced,

George and me looked in on you earlier, after we left Terry's bedside, but you were asleep. Are you up to a visit from the two of us later? And maybe Lee Jordan?

We have loads of ideas about what might be next for the two of us, now that the war is over. Of course, there's still a lot to do for willing hands, but now's the time to do some thinking and brainstorming about new directions, isn't it? George says to tell you that his life is completely different now than he thought it could possibly be a year ago, since he lost his magic. And that sucked, and he was plenty hacked off about it for awhile, but now he's thinking about ways he can sort of...work around his limitations, to the point he can see new ways to do things he thought he would never be able to do again. Like flying, for instance--he wants to learn more about Muggle aeroplanes.

Anyway. The point is, we're dead sorry about your injury, but we want to talk over some ideas with you and make sure you know that there still can be plenty bright about the future. So we'd be honoured if you'd think through some of this stuff with us (Charlie's another one we need to talk with about this, but the git still has his head up his arse and is refusing to see us for now, but don't worry, we'll wear him down eventually).

We'll bring a chess set. Or Exploding Snap, or dumb magazines or--well, not Firewhiskey, because if we tried, Madam Pomfrey would throw us out of there. But anyway, we'll bring our charming selves. So, up for a visit? If not tonight, let us know when.

Yes, come by whenever. Give it a few before serious talk, the pain potions can leave me well loopy.

Yes, something other than desk work. No matter how good I was at it, I won't go back to that and unfit for fieldwork now.
I know we can compensate, look at Rhymes With Rudy, but fuck it hurt tired again. Later gato-------------
2015-08-30 20:07:00
_Private message to my youngest sister_

I am alive; I am safe; I have gone home. I have sworn never to return and it is a vow I intend to keep.

Good luck with the wards; I shall exert what scraps of influence I may from here to ensure matters go as smoothly as possible.

Live well, little star.

---

alt_antonin at 2015-08-31 01:59:57
_(no subject)_

I saw Harry, you know. When I was dead.

We were in the desert, on the steps of a half-buried temple, although from what he said I believe he was seeing the landscape as something else entirely. He looked well; he said that he's all right, and that he's waiting.

I asked him to forgive me for the ways in which I failed him, and he said that he did. And he sent me back.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-31 13:50:10
_(no subject)_

I will miss you. (Te desideravo, te desidero, te desidererò.)

And thank you. For telling me that.

alt_antonin at 2015-08-31 16:09:36
_(no subject)_

I shall resist the urge to launch into a digression the likes of which we are well familiar, and simply say that I miss you too.

When they get around to Cottesmore, you may let them know the wards came with me. (And if any of them believe you outright, I
shall be most surprised.) Everything left behind there is something
about which I do not care. Let them burn it, or seize it, or leave it
in place as a cautionary tale.

Don't worry about me, though. All shall be well, and all matter of
thing shall be well. Go look for your happy ending.
Order Only

I saw Dolohov wrote a PM and I just want everyone to know that his 'youngest sister' isn't me.

I don't know who that was to, other than not me.

alt_sally_anne

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-31 01:59:58
(no subject)

It's to me.

Just a few sentences.

That he's sworn never to return and will keep his promise, mostly.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-31 02:05:57
(no subject)

Lies.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-31 02:00:58
(no subject)

Of course it's not, Sally-Anne.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-31 02:01:55
Private Message to Sally-Anne

Just give her time, all right?

I know it's hard.
It's not just  

I keep going back over it in my head. I should have asked more questions, instead of being terrified that Justin was going to die before I could save him. Or said no. Or waited to hear from Hydra and asked her what she thought I should do or talked to Rachel or Alice or I don't know, but I keep thinking about Justin asking 'did you kill him' and I took that away from him, and that bastard lied to me. How could he not have known what the curse was? Seriously. How could anyone not have known?

Of course he knew. And of course he lied. Or, well, not *lied* but he only told you what you wanted to hear. That's worse than lying, in its way.

He counted on you being frantic to save Justin.

I'm sorry that you were the one he turned to. And I'm sorry that you made such a big mistake. I can't offer any comfort about that, because he was my friend, too, and I would have wanted to save him, too, so in one sense it seems like it should have been an easy decision. But it wasn't. And it's too late to do anything but try to learn in case you're ever put in that kind of position again.

But everyone knows you feel awful and betrayed and ill-used and guilty. Really. Even Hydra, I think--well, I mean, she has to know it, she's a Legilimens, she's just not--

she lost her *husband*. Her soul-mate. That sounds ridiculous but you know what I mean.

I just mean that you don't need to worry about people calling you traitor--they know why you did what you did.

And she'll see it, eventually. It's just too soon right now.
private message to mum and dad

You'd bloody well better sort the back pay for Maureen, or we’ll not let you see the grandchildren when they come.

Or invite you to the wedding. Be a shame, seeing as Gemma has already agreed to be maid of honour.
2015-08-30 21:23:00
Private Message to Linus

I never knew how terrifying it is to have an Idea--something more than just a daydream, that you want to bring into the world.

I ought to have been kinder to you about yours.

Your goal just isn't mine and I still find Muggles a bit but I think I might understand a little better why it's so important to you.
Right then

I slept practically all day and I still feel a lot like an Erumpent just kicked me in the face.

I keep wanting to write to Lisa and Sarah and the rest of the Moddey crew to say how sorry I am about Colin and then I remember they haven't got journals. I'll owl--but it isn't quite the same; there's something well comforting about having these little books to talk to each other in.

Huh. Still haven't figured out what I want to do with my life. I guess I'll carry on liasing as long as the Colonel wants me and see what happens. Least I won't be shoveling owl poop!

I wasn't as close to Sirius and Mr Lupin as some but they were pretty brilliant and will be missed. It's a bit of a sad crew we are now--but we're here.

Pansy--who's buying the first round?

---

Private Message to Ron

Reckon I might just owe you my life mate.

All those sparring sessions that I thought we were doing mainly for you--to burn off steam while waiting for the Ginny and Charlie situation to shift--I'm well certain that's what gave me the edge over Yaxley.

Still a bit ill from that really; I'm sure some of those Enforcers didn't make it but this was the first time I'd looked someone in the eye and known I was going to go for the kill.

Good show, you! I told you all you needed was the right situation to come along and you'd rise to the challenge. Was right, too, wasn't I? Dead brilliant of me, what?
Seriously, Sue. You did what you had to, but I know what you mean. It's not something you get used to, or anywiz, it's not something you want to get used to, yeah?

And any time you want to spar, or talk, or have a match over the chess board, or, y'know, down some pints, give me a call.

---

**alt_susan** at 2015-08-31 03:30:02
*Re: Private Message to Ron*

Don't think I won't take you up on all those offers. Especially the pints!

And thanks. For everything.

You staying on with the Aurors?

---

**alt_ron** at 2015-08-31 03:41:42
*Re: Private Message to Ron*

You know it.

I'm in it for the glory, y'know. And the uniform. Sally Anne thinks it's hot.

Kidding.

---

**alt_susan** at 2015-08-31 03:45:26
*Re: Private Message to Ron*

Ha!

Assuming he stays in--I have this glorious mental image of you and Draco in about 5 years with a line of baby Auror trainees following you around like ducklings.
Re: Private Message to Ron

Heh. He'll hate that. And be dead brilliant at.
Just a prediction.

Re: Private Message to Ron

Course! They'll adore and be terrified of you both. I suspect there's going to be a Legend.

It's a good thing the rest of us will be around to keep your egos tied to the earth.

We're not rubbish at this prediction business! And here I didn't even take Divs.

Re: Private Message to Ron

I reckon you know how important what you're doing with Davidson is. I mean, having a wizard who gets on with people being his right hand. Dead important.

Re: Private Message to Ron

I do. And I've been learning loads from him and from all the people I've been meeting; not to mention getting to see the country.

Muggle tecnologics is well fascinating you know? And there's the music.

I just don't know if I'll fancy being a bureaucrat once it's all sorted; I don't want to go round with my wand out but I have got used to some excitement in my life.
@alt_susan at 2015-08-31 02:47:47

Private Message to Luna

I'm so very sorry about Colin. He was so wickedly clever and funny and brave.

And he was absolutely gone on you too--it was sweet to watch.

I'm well angry that he shan't be here to know a fully free life.

@alt_pansy at 2015-08-31 03:06:31

(no subject)

I am.

And whatever you end up doing, I'm sure it'll be to make the world a better place.

@alt_susan at 2015-08-31 03:08:49

(no subject)

I'll get the second then!

@alt_susan at 2015-08-31 03:16:04

(no subject)

I hope I shall do.

And let's keep reminding each other to to live and live boldly.

After all--there's no one to stop us!

@alt_ernie at 2015-08-31 03:17:45

(no subject)

Thanks for watching my back out there, Sue.

Wasn't sure
Wasn't sure how it'd go, but it went a good deal better this time round.

Sad to hear about Colin Creevey, though. I only really got to know him a little, but he seemed like a really decent kid. I would've liked to have had the chance to have gone to school with him.

---

@alt_susan at 2015-08-31 03:38:35
(no subject)

And thanks for watching mine! It was good to have you on the crew.

It's hard. It's always fucking hard. I've got to say I'll be well pleased if I never have to cast anything harsher than a Jelly-Legs Jinx on anyone for the rest of my life.
2015-08-30 22:30:00
Order Only Private Message to Arista
Selwyn

Say. I reckon you're already asleep, but you can read it tomorrow or whenever you've got time enough between lessons to do it!

I'm sorry I left so soon from the Great Hall this afternoon. I mean, with my mum there and everyone else who came to have a look at the baby, I was just an extra body and kinda in the way.

And, well. I reckon I just didn't feel like being in the middle of so many people all at once, either.

But I'm sorry I missed the chance to really catch up with you. I thought, y'know, when you came to stay at the castle to help with the potions work, that we'd have more time to see each other, but then--well, then everything.

Anywiz, I wanted to say that I hope you have a brilliant first year at school.

alt_selwyn at 2015-08-31 03:59:36
(no subject)

I'm actually still awake.

It's going to be so weird living in a dormitory in a house instead of one of the rooms the castle made for us. Where do you think I'll get Sorted?

alt_ron at 2015-08-31 04:12:38
(no subject)

Well, Gryffindor, of course! It's the best House of all. (Just ask Malfoy.)

No, really. I mean, you're one of the bravest people I know, Arista. And when things get scary, you just set your eyes on where you're going and keep going on.
Where do you think? Does it matter to you which House?

Maybe the Hat'll just think which House is going to need a really great Chaser a year from now, and Sort you there!

**alt_selwyn** at 2015-08-31 04:18:26  
(no subject)

Well of course you think Gryffindor is the best House since it's YOUR House!

I don't know if it matters to me exactly. I want a House where I'll have lots of friends and I don't want to be with Sarah Little (she'll be a second year since she's a year older but she's coming to Hogwarts).

**alt_selwyn** at 2015-08-31 04:19:22  
(no subject)

And I think Sarah Little wants to be in Gryffindor.

**alt_ron** at 2015-08-31 04:31:28  
(no subject)

Well, yeah. That'd be a thing to consider if the Hat puts her in Gryffindor.

The good news is, she'll be Sorted first. And you can see where it puts her before it's your turn.

**alt_selwyn** at 2015-08-31 04:33:12  
(no subject)

Yeah, what I heard is that they're going to Sort in order of age, with all the kids from Moddey who are coming. But even if they weren't, they go alphabetically and L comes before S!
So do you think you'll play Quidditch?

I hope so! I LOVE Quidditch. And I'm a very good flyer.

Yeah. You won't have to worry about passing your flying exam, for sure! Well, if you make the side for your House, I'll come see some of your matches.

Say. Don't know whether you have yours or not, but I still wear my ring, the one Mrs Longbottom made for us. Left thumb. And I'm going to keep on. I like knowing you're alright.

Yeah, I still wear mine, too.

I was glad I had it last night. Because I didn't know what you were up to but I knew it was something dangerous.

Last night was rough for everyone. Lots of dangerous stuff happened, and lots of people did really brave things, and some of them got hurt... or worse. And it's not just last night, I
know. It's been like this a long time. I mean, in some ways, I reckon it's been like this our whole lives. I think it's going to be better from now on. I hope so. It's what we've all been working at. You, too.

@alt_selwyn at 2015-08-31 05:07:06
(no subject)

I was so sad to hear about Colin.

I mean the others were sad too. But I knew Colin. Everyone at Moddey did.

@alt_ron at 2015-08-31 05:14:58
(no subject)

Yeah. I liked Colin. Got to know him when he was helping Mr Longbottom, and then when he was around with Luna so much recently. He was a really nice bloke. The sort who really likes helping, too, which is- There aren't a lot of people like that, really. And he wasn't ever puffed up about himself or down on himself, either. Just solid. And funny, too.

I'm sorry you lost someone close. And I'm really sorry it was Colin.

@alt_selwyn at 2015-08-31 05:23:00
(no subject)

I knew Sirius Black, too, but not as well.

I remember when you saved me and Hector from the Ministry, you took us to Sirius and Remus and Tonks. They were a little scary, actually, but not as scary as the Department of Mysteries had been.

@alt_ron at 2015-08-31 05:56:36
(no subject)

I'm going to especially miss Mr Lupin. Remus. He was quiet and he listened, y'know? I don't know. And he had a good
sense of humour. I just really liked him.

Sirius was more like one of us kids, in some ways. Remus was definitely one of the adults, but they both took us seriously. I mean, in ways my mum didn't. I suppose it's hard for parents, and it's not really fair to say it that way. Parents have to protect you and worry about you, but Sirius and Remus weren't my parents and that meant they could be... not friends, exactly, but... I don't think there's a word for it exactly. They were wiling to train us and teach us wizard stuff that we'd never get taught in school, and they understood when we got frustrated about Mum or about school, and they had seriously good advice about how to cope with some of the scary stuff. They were like uncles, maybe?

And, yeah. I'm going to miss them... a lot.
**2015-08-31 00:24:00**  
*Private message to Terry*  
Are you awake?

---

**alt_terry at 2015-08-31 05:26:15**  
(no subject)  
I was asleep earlier, but my pain potion has worn off, and I can't take one for another hour. So I'm awake.

**alt_terry at 2015-08-31 05:27:27**  
(no subject)  
Too much on my mind, anyhow.

**alt_luna at 2015-08-31 05:28:03**  
(no subject)  
I can't sleep, either.

**alt_terry at 2015-08-31 05:29:52**  
(no subject)  
Well. I guess we both have reason, don't we.

**alt_luna at 2015-08-31 05:31:23**  
(no subject)  
You didn't really look me in the eye when I visited you today. I wasn't sure whether it was the pain potion, or--
Terry. I have to ask.

Do you blame me?

alt_terry at 2015-08-31 05:32:25
(no subject)

Blame you? What are you talking about? Blame you?

I thought you'd blame me.

alt_luna at 2015-08-31 05:33:25
(no subject)

I sent you away. I sent you both away. You would have both been safe with me, same as any other full moon, if I hadn't done that.

alt_terry at 2015-08-31 05:34:38
(no subject)

I suggested he partner with me. I was supposed to be looking out for him.

alt_luna at 2015-08-31 05:38:25
(no subject)

Well.

I think both ideas are nonsense, really. Honestly, Terry, I do. You and Colin were fighting for the Order, and how could I possibly find fault with that? It was a battle. And it was an explosive hex. Non...not your personal nemesis, or an avenging Fury or anything.

If you don't blame me, then please don't blame yourself.

Oh dear. You've lost so many people, haven't you?
... Too damn many.

What do you think you will do now?

I don't know.

I just--

Fred and George talked about me rooming with them, with the rest of the younger Order members.

Honestly, I think I'd go mad.

I want to leave here. Leave Albion. I think I might travel a bit.

Where will you go?

I don't think it particularly matters. Just--somewhere that's not Albion. Somewhere where I've never been boot, where I've never killed anybody.
But I do mean to come back, Luna. Every month, for the full moon. No matter where I go, apparition will get me back quickly, and I did make you a promise.

alt_luna at 2015-08-31 05:45:26
(no subject)

Will you write to me? I would love to hear about the places you travel.

alt_terry at 2015-08-31 05:46:10
(no subject)

I can do that.

alt_luna at 2015-08-31 05:47:03
(no subject)

Terry,

No matter where you go, remember that you'll always be there.

alt_terry at 2015-08-31 05:48:00
(no subject)

What do you mean by that?

alt_luna at 2015-08-31 05:49:56
(no subject)

I'm saying it because I like you, Terry.

You may wander far, but I wonder if it'll ever be far enough if you don't like your company.
That...

I'm too tired to make sense of that. And I suppose I'm in too much pain, I guess. I hope they bring that potion soon.

I'll sleep, once they do.

Good night, Luna.

And don't worry. You're clever; you're a Ravenclaw like me.

You'll figure it out eventually.
Well done, you magnificent bastard. You and Remus actually managed to kill Bellatrix fucking Lestrange.

Wish I'd met you a few years earlier.

I'm going to miss you.
2015-08-31 01:08:00
Private Message to Rachel Lamont

Congratulations.

Bill Weasley? Really.

Interesting choice, my dear. Best wishes.

---

alt_rachel at 2015-08-31 15:06:39
(no subject)

Lucius Malfoy, what an interesting surprise to hear from you.

Enjoying France?

alt_lucius at 2015-08-31 15:33:04
(no subject)

Tolerably, yes, thank you.

And you, enjoying matronhood? How easy do you find juggling the demands of Weasley-esque propagation against the demands of your existing MLE brood?

alt_rachel at 2015-08-31 15:35:20
(no subject)

Fortunately, Molly Weasley has one grandchild to shower with adoration, not to mention other daughters-in-law, so I've been able to focus on my Aurors.

alt_lucius at 2015-08-31 15:58:45
(no subject)

Good! Take my advice and put it off, then, as long as you can manage. You shan't want the burden of additional entanglements when the inevitable time comes for you to leave him.
I would have thought that discovering I was working to undermine the regime the whole time I was sleeping with you might have given you cause to ponder whether you ever knew me as well as you thought.

Apparently not, though!

My dear girl, what makes you think I am not basing my assessment on your capacity for deceit?

What exactly do you think I'm deceiving Bill about?

Bill, unlike you, was never the enemy I was fighting against.

Currently, I think you are entirely genuine in your affection and your desire for a simple, uncomplicated bond. You may find it a blessed relief after years of hiding in plain sight.

Over time, however? You will grow bored with such a straightforward, forthright relationship. You will grow restless. Will he be enough to content you?

Let us hope so.

Make no mistake, I am happy for you if you are, for the moment, happy. I only wish to see you remain so. But you
enjoy the hunt as much as the trap. Oh, I've no hard feelings: I used you; you used me; we are both unrepentant and if there was any surprise as to the outcome, it was only a matter of whose game would conclude first. You won, in more ways than one. So again, I say: Congratulations. You vanquished me. In comparison, your capture of Weasley is nothing of note. He's barely a worthy adversary.

But it is that thirst, that lust for deception, that thrill that comes with the risk of discovery, that makes me suspect that Bill Weasley is ... not your last conquest.

Enjoy him while he lasts.

 UserRepository: @alt_rachel at 2015-08-31 17:13:05
Message: Well.

 UserRepository: @alt_lucius at 2015-08-31 17:15:45
Message: I guess we'll see.

 UserRepository: @alt_rachel at 2015-08-31 17:13:05
Message: Adieu, ma petite. Et bon chance.
Scheduling the memorial during the second week of term is quite prudent, yes, thank you. It is best to let the excitement of Sorting Hat and Welcoming Feast ebb a bit before dealing with more somber and solemn matters, and yet deal promptly rather than having the event looming ahead in the distant weeks. In any case, it shall be a dignified memorial and most proper to the setting, and focussing on the future of Hogwarts will be quite appropriate and uplifting and suitable. And, of course, when the family finances and inheritances get sorted, there will be some manner of Moon memorial gift for the good of the school.

Thank you again for your work in planning this. I would have been -- I was! -- entirely at sea in trying to handle any of it myself.

Abbotts, Jugsons, Greengrasses -- have we more for the list that we ought include? Governors and students? Perhaps a reading of names would be fitting.

---

No matter what, we'll have a memorial in May for those lost in the Battle of Hogwarts that'll be more focused on all that, but we could make space to recognise the people everyone has recently lost. I think the more we do that, the better. And yes, I'll check with the Rickett and Peakes families. We might have a moment for Madame Rosmerta, too. I know a lot of the older students remember her fondly.

And blimey. The Sandovals. I'll get on that too.
To All Citizens Of Albion

I've been receiving requests for interviews, and I can't - I'd just like to make a statement here, please.

I started fighting in the war years ago, but I was never in a position to declare my rebellion openly. My family connections and mind magic abilities made me far more suited to an undercover role, and that's what I did. It was still devastating to be Marked for the council. It wasn't what I wanted, however much I knew it might help us reach our goals.

I, along with other of my peers, had to take innocent lives in order to maintain our positions and win this war. We had to do things that we found morally objectionable, more times than I can count. We all wore masks, and I imagine that many of you reading probably had to do that, too.

I apologise to anyone I ever hurt - directly or indirectly - during my time as a Death Eater.

That's all over now.

To make up for all the misdeeds I've done, I will remain a servant of Albion for as long as I am physically and mentally able. I swear to do my best to help keep this new world safe for everyone, whether pureblood, halfblood, muggleborn, or muggle.

I believe my husband would have done the same.

That's all.

From,

Hydra
Private message to Padma Patil and Seamus Finnigan

I just want you to know that I don't hold any ill will toward either of you.

You really didn't have the opportunity to learn anything different and that's not your fault.

I tried to find ways to make you more aware, but none of them really worked. Sorry I never thought of anything better.

I hope you both find peace.

Re: Private message to Padma Patil and Seamus Finnigan

Thank you.

I'm trying to ... sort through things.

Re: Private message to Padma Patil and Seamus Finnigan

Well, write me if there's every anything I can do to help.

Re: Private message to Padma Patil and Seamus Finnigan

I wrote to Lana. But it was to tell her to sod off.

I hope that's all right.

Are you really adopting her baby?
**alt_hydra** at 2015-09-01 00:57:48
*Re: Private message to Padma Patil and Seamus Finnigan*

Did you really?

Yes, it's true. I am.

**alt_padma** at 2015-09-01 01:05:43
*Re: Private message to Padma Patil and Seamus Finnigan*

Yes. I'll probably visit her, though. Now and then. Because no one should be truly alone.

But it's all right if she feels abandoned for a while. Maybe it'll help her sort things out.

And good on you.

I'm really sorry about Justin. He was better than we gave him credit for. A better person, I mean. A horrid swot, but then, so was I. Haruman said he was really brave, at the end.

I'm sorry you had to see him suffer. And be the one who ended it.

**alt_hydra** at 2015-09-01 01:09:03
*Re: Private message to Padma Patil and Seamus Finnigan*

I haven't decided yet what I'll do as far as visitation. It's not really a good time to be making decisions like that yet. Not for me.

But who knows, maybe you'll be able to get Lana to change a bit.

Then again, she idolised my mother. So good luck.

Thank you for saying kind words about Justin.
Oh, Hydra.

I'm so proud of you. And Sirius and Justin would have been, too.

If any more reporters dare bother you, let me and Draco deal with them, all right?

Oh, and we'd better make going to Blackmoor Park a priority; Rigel had me playing with him half the morning when I meant to be gathering up everyone who was mentioned in Sirius's will!

Well, thank you. I'm proud of you, too. And Draco.

I can go to Blackmoor whenever you're ready.

All right. Draco and I were just taking one last walk round the lake; I'll be back at the entrance hall in five minutes.

Oh, goodness, four o'clock. That means the others will be arriving at the Manor for supper in just over two hours. We'd better shift ourselves, I suppose.

I'll come find you, then!
Private message to Sally Anne

I'm really angry right now.

Some of them are the wrong people to be angry at, and some of them are the right ones.

I can say with a certain level of detached confidence that you're definitely one of the wrong ones, but I can't make my feelings go away, not yet.

I hate what you did because I would have done something entirely different. But we're not the same person, I can't expect you to do the same things I do. I know that. I know it.

I hate this. I hate that I'm the one who has to be strong. Again.

I don't blame you for being angry at me, and I'm not going to tell you not to be.

I wish there were something I could do to make things easier for you, but I can't think of anything, other than staying out of your way.

And I'm sorry.

I can't say that if I used a time-turner to try it over I wouldn't make the same mistake, even.

I wanted so badly not to lose any more friends. (And I don't mean Dolohov. He was never my friend.)
Re: Private message to Sally Anne

Well at least you realise that. Unlike some people.

Re: Private message to Sally Anne

Yeah.

Does she know what Dolohov did to Ginny?

I mean, I actually wrote to him then, though I don't think it helped any. It probably wouldn't have helped if she'd written to him either except it's possible he actually cares what she thinks of him.

Though in the end she'd have probably wound up making excuses for why he really needed to cruciate Ginny until she was completely brainwashed, just like she made a bunch of excuses for the fact that he cruciated half the school last year.

She held a little memorial gathering for him, when we thought Rachel had killed him. Cedric invited me. I didn't go.

Re: Private message to Sally Anne

How could she not? Everyone in the Order was talking about it. But anyway, if she didn't I've just reminded her, and I mentioned Honoria, too.

This is what I said to her in my PM, if you're curious:

*If I ever see evidence of correspondence between you and Antonin Dolohov again, I will see to it that everyone knows. I will make sure that you are investigated, sacked from your position at Hogwarts, banished from the country, and/or possibly tried for treason. Whatever it takes. Everyone needs to know that they're safe with us, if we're to keep this going. There can be no question of where our allegiance lies, not ever.*
And then I added:

*I would give the same warning to anyone else I thought might continue to correspond with him. I can't think of any who would, other than you. Well, no one who isn't in custody, or dead, or living in France.*

*I would hope that you genuinely have no wish to. After all, regardless of what his thoughts are on stars, books, tea, ancient cultures, or anything else, he killed Honoria Sandoval less than a week ago. He tortured Ginny repeatedly, made her so vulnerable that she was further victimised by Baddock. He tricked Sally Anne horribly, and used Justin's death as leverage to escape.*

*He's a cancer. He can't be allowed to touch this place again.*

Sort of dramatic.

---

**alt_sally_anne** at 2015-09-01 01:19:16  
*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

Well

maybe?

But you're right. Ginny's still got a year left at Hogwarts, if she goes back. On top of what Dolohov did to her personally, Honoria was one of her best friends.

If someone wants to stay friends with him they should move somewhere that no one was hurt by him.

---

**alt_hydra** at 2015-09-01 01:28:34  
*Re: Private message to Sally Anne*

Yes. I agree.

She told me that she didn't know about any of the things he did that I just told her about. Like Ginny, and Honoria.

I really don't understand how she didn't. Even if no one told
her directly, weren't we all talking about it here and there? Ginny, especially.

Well, she knows now, anyway.

@alt_sally_anne at 2015-09-01 01:38:36
Re: Private message to Sally Anne

How could she possibly not have known about Ginny? Especially after what happened with Evelyn. I know she was busy with the wards project, but everyone was busy, and people were talking about it everywhere.

And with Honoria -- there were warnings that went around because Mrs Longbottom was worried about people being lured out.

@alt_hydra at 2015-09-01 02:00:43
Re: Private message to Sally Anne

Don't ask me. Maybe she just didn't want to know?

You'd think being able to read minds would help me to understand everyone, but sometimes I just don't.

@alt_sally_anne at 2015-08-31 21:23:31
Re: Private message to Sally Anne

Or maybe Cedric organised it and invited Siz.

I didn't go, so I'm not sure.

@alt_alice at 2015-08-31 23:08:08
Private Message to Hydra

You are a hero, Hydra. Through and through. I will do my very best to make this a place worthy of your service.
Thank you.

@alt_hydra at 2015-09-01 01:10:19
Re: Private Message to Hydra

My thanks to you as well, Mrs Longbottom.

@alt_susan at 2015-08-31 23:19:56
Private Message to Hydra

That made me think of how you signed all your notes that way when you were younger.

Seems like ages ago even though it wasn't. And now you're going to be a mum! It might not have happened in the usual way but I'm glad for you just the same.

I'm not sure the sett did as well by Justin as we should have done; but I appreciated and admired him very much. You'll be in my thoughts--but I'll do my best to Occlude them so they shan't oppress you.

@alt_hydra at 2015-09-01 01:11:03
Re: Private Message to Hydra

Yeah, that's why I did it.

And thanks.

@alt_susan at 2015-09-01 02:10:04
Re: Private Message to Hydra

You're welcome. Don't be a stranger!
It seems entirely unreal, that we are, in fact, able to look ahead to a new school year, after so many changes and losses.

Those of you returning to Hogwarts, we'll have a lot to talk about, but please know that the Astronomy Tower is open for conversation, snacks, and the comfort of a cat, should you need any of those. (Or a quiet place to read and think and not be bothered if you need that instead.)

Those of you coming to Hogwarts for the first time, I am so very much looking forward to getting to know you, and helping you learn all the things you want to learn. There is no place in the world like Hogwarts, even when she's a bit battered.

For everyone else, we need so many different skills and talents and experiences and ideas to rebuild, and I am looking forward to seeing how that goes, whatever it means.

We should talk, about what it looks like next, you apprenticing. We have a fair bit we should go back and fill in sometime.

And Georg's written, wanting to make sure you get introduced to other astronomers, properly - he's suggesting some suppers, here, during term, if you're willing and don't think it would be too much. Probably you and me and him and one other person.

But for right now, tell me what you want, and I'll do everything I can to make that happen. And please, tell me if your schedule's too much, or you need time with your family, or time on your own, or anything like that. It's going to take a while to figure out what works and what doesn't, I think.

Stars last night were good, yeah? Both the watching and the quiet.
Re: Private message to Evelyn

I'll be in my rooms for the rest of the night.

Private message to Linus

Do tell me if you need help with anything? The next weeks are going to be so busy, but I will always make time for you, don't ever worry about asking.

I'm writing Mum and Dad about some thoughts for holidays, but I meant what I said, that you always have a place for things like that, for as long as you want. Mum's as insistent as I am on that point. She is also making noises about care packages of baked goods, like she does.

I'll be up in the classroom today, going through to make sure everything's ready for term, if you want me.

Private message to Septima and Ernie

By supper, I'll have my classroom and office ready for tomorrow. Is there anything else I can lend a hand with?

Septima, thank you for listening, for continuing to listen. I know this is all going to take a lot to work out, but I'm so glad we're trying. And Ernie, you're doing such a good job of keeping things in order, you have no idea. (And Linus was telling me about your plans, a little bit, and I'm so very glad you're looking out for each other.)

There's a thing Mum sent - actually, let me come find you quick, it's easier to explain in person.
Thanks for the thought about the suppers. I'm not going to be able to get free from here reliably for a long time, I think. And she'd like a chance to use her German with someone else, I'm sure.

It's going to be such a difficult term, Georg, and unpredictable, and you know what I'm like with unpredictable, even if I've had to get a lot better at it than I used to be.

Someone said to me once that the one thing that was a constant with His Noselessness was change, and that was true enough. I can't help but think that any organisation named for a bird who is born and dies in flame, over and over again, is scarcely going to be restful either. (It certainly has not been so far.) But perhaps it's a better kind of change. I hope so.

Thank you for sorting Gilly out so quickly. And I'll ask Dai, but you know how touchy he is about getting help. And for seeing about people willing to monitor the locational magics various places.

In your infinite spare time, I do want to look for a cottage, somewhere near you. Um. On the side away from Diane, please.

Doesn't need to be big, so much as several bedrooms (three, anyway: me, Linus, and a spare, at least for this year) and a reasonable sort of kitchen. Dad, check my figures, but I think the savings in my vault, and what Mum and I put aside out of Raz's before I gave it all over should cover something. Maybe?

(I haven't even asked about Spence yet. I'd like to be able to get some things in storage from there, the bed, and so on. But I can't imagine living there, and I can't even figure out who technically owns it now. Could be me, could be Tosha, or maybe Daphne's sisters, depending on wills and things and figuring that out will be a mess. But someone should see to the house elves and the art and some other things because those came from Raz, and I guess that part is mine to do. Not this month, though. So. Um. A cottage where we
could put the incantatus from there, in the garden? Maybe?)

Mum, I'd say I can't believe that Dal and Trae convinced you, but I can. I've told Septima to expect them. Having Chiron's note helped, and I explained that Di's been doing exceedingly badly since May. But you're right that having them learn is better than not, and that Di's not in a place to make the best decisions for them, at all.

Storm, hug Hyssop for me, and Baz, and tell them I'll come visit when I can.

---

@alt_sinistra at 2015-09-01 01:17:28
Private message to Storm

If I open the floo in my office, can you come through?

Right now?

Please?

---

@alt_sinistra at 2015-08-31 19:37:54
Private message to Gilly and Dai

I'm trying to be sensible, all right? Gil, so glad you can go home properly, and that things in London went so smoothly, and that you can get your job back.

When I was in Dover, I suggested that one of the things we could use - besides all the food and healing and whatever other things they sort out - were summaries of science, things people have learned since we last could talk to the rest of the world. If anything comes of it, especially about telescopes and things, I'll let you know. But I'm sure there'll be some.

Dai, it's been a mad rush, but yes, please, seeing you. There's talk of trying to get the Three Broomsticks going again, or you can come here, finally, without it being a risk, or if you can wait a couple of weeks, I can maybe meet you somewhere for an hour or two. Actually, though, there's a favour I'd like to ask your parents, about Linus. So maybe Wales, for an afternoon, sometime?

Do you have any idea what you want to do next? Georg's trying to get funds together for another survey to check all the locational magic
measurements closely, once we can do that again. Or Magical Transportation's going to be hiring, they have to, and I'm sure he'd vouch for your skills.

May not get a chance to write for a few days. Just means I'm thoroughly busy.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-31 19:58:46
(no subject)

I imagine that students would feel more reassured about returning to Hogwarts if they could know, with certainty, that their Professors have ceased all correspondence with fugitives who at one point tortured students.

alt_sinistra at 2015-08-31 23:01:08
(no subject)

There are a lot of things I will be discussing with my classes, with my colleagues, and with other people in the coming days.

For right now, if any specific student feels uncomfortable with me, or being in my classes, I hope they will talk to Headmistress Vector, or another professor they do trust, so we can work out the best solution for them.

alt_hydra at 2015-08-31 20:02:36
Private message to Aurora Sinistra

I'll just be plain.

If I ever see evidence of correspondence between you and Antonin Dolohov again, I will see to it that everyone knows. I will make sure that you are investigated, sacked from your position at Hogwarts, banished from the country, and/or possibly tried for treason. Whatever it takes. Everyone needs to know that they're safe with us, if we're to keep this going. There can be no question of where our allegiance lies, not ever.

I think the head of our MLE would be inclined to agree with those measures, considering.
And if you truly have more pity for him than Ginny Weasley, or any number of others, then you have no business teaching, anyway.

If giving up your correspondence seems like a painful sacrifice, then I'll give you some perspective: in the last few days I arrested my father and cast the Killing Curse on my husband.

Thank you for making your feelings so clear.

Anything I would say right now would be wrong.

What I can say is that the future is a very long time, and right now, I think any promise I made would not be trusted, and I will not make a promise I am not sure I could keep. But I have heard your warning, and I understand why you make it, and I would never expect you not to keep it.

You do not need to worry you will see me at the gathering tonight. I can't promise to avoid you completely, there are too many memorials left, but I will do my best to occlude so you needn't hear my thoughts.

I am sorry for your loss, I truly am.

I would give the same warning to anyone else I thought might continue to correspond with him. I can't think of any who would, other than you. Well, no one who isn't in custody, or dead, or living in France.

I would hope that you genuinely have no wish to. After all, regardless of what his thoughts are on stars, books, tea, ancient cultures, or anything else, he killed Honoria Sandoval less than a week ago. He tortured Ginny repeatedly, made her so vulnerable that she was further victimised by Baddock. He tricked Sally Anne horribly, and used Justin's death as leverage to escape.
He's a cancer. He can't be allowed to touch this place again.

alt_sinistra at 2015-09-01 01:16:53
Re: Private message to Aurora Sinistra

I did not know most of that.

I am not going to make any decisions or any promises or anything else tonight.

But thank you for actually telling me, instead of assuming I knew.
Order Only Private Message to Sally Anne
Perks

I've had a most welcome bit of news from St Mungo's: they've had what I can only describe as an administrative coup there overnight. Albertus Behm has taken over the mantle of Chief Administrator (from Plympton Norwood), Jalen Allthorpe, the oversight of all Healing Staff (from Guinevere Acton), and, most auspiciously, Hesper Dunn has been made Head of the College of the Healing Arts.

Healer Behm's first act was to lead the Board in reversing its restrictions on halfbloods and in reinstating all those made redundant by that action. (He tells me there was some wrangling over a measure to offer restitution and back pay, but that it all passed in due order.)

Amongst other things, this means your Emergency Stabilisation licensure will be restored; you should expect an owl to that effect quite soon, as this has been made a priority. (Behm said the Board had little choice, given the number of staff vacancies at the moment.)

I should think that you would be able to find full- or part-time employment as a Healing Associate in one of the the Casualty wards, should you wish to supplement the stipend you will be offered when you receive the owl that will soon be coming your way from Healer Dunn, inviting you to join this year's cohort in Cambridge at the College of Healing Arts. I found Hesper more than amenable to setting aside the usual application process for someone who has given herself so selflessly to the liberation of Albion (etc., etc.).

Healer Dunn found your credentials, experience, and the evidence of your academic excellence (despite the lack of NEWT scores) to be superiour, and she estimates that you would have been one of the top two candidates had you been evaluated in the formal admitting process.

Congratulations, my dear!

Do, please, know that I recognise that entering the training programme may not be the priority it once was, and if that's the case, know that I shan't be offended in any way if you choose to defer or decline the offer.
If you've not yet left the castle, I should very much like to see you. If I've missed you, then I will send my own owl along with a small parcel, containing, among other things, your Healing Associate's pin, which I retrieved from the Head's office just now.

Do not be a stranger, my dear. I wish you all the best in what lies ahead.

---

*Sally Anne* at *2015-08-31 20:19:08*  
(no subject)  
I'm still here, I'll come find you! And -- really?!?? I thought at the very least I'd have to find some way to take the Potions NEWT before I'd be considered.

And yes, I still want to do this. Even if it's just to become an ordinary Healer at St Mungo's and not to heal Order people who've been wounded in battles with Death Eaters.

Thank you for finding my pin for me.

*Poppy* at *2015-08-31 20:29:20*  
(no subject)  
You are very welcome!
Everyone, Hydra and I have arrived at the Manor and we're getting ready for tonight's reception. Oh, there's just no time, so sorry, but I have to put everything here all in one go, and I'm sure I'll forget a few things, too:

- Jeremy, how soon can you arrive? There seems to be something of a scrum between the catering crew that arrived from yours and a cartload of prepared food from Harrods'. Apparently the Sandovals are making a donation and won't be refused. I'm sure we'll wind up using it all, anyway, and what we don't can be handed round elsewhere, but if you could help sort it, I'd appreciate it immensely.

- Lee, Hydra has ideas about where to set up for your broadcast. There aren't to be any other reporters, mind, just your lot! And of course, the music afterward.

- How many do you think might end up staying on tonight? The Floos are working again, I'm told, but we do have extra rooms here if people are still at loose ends.

- Alice, please tell Ms Birdwhistle that we've a room reserved for her use as long as she needs it.

- Madam Pomfrey, we're ready to receive Rachel and any others of the convalescents who are able to come. Even if it's for an hour or so, it won't be the same without as many as possible. But of course, nothing that would risk anyone!

- Tonight's about celebration, but I know there are still precautions, so Ron, your teams will take shifts for security, have I got that right? Only I want everyone to be able to have fun, too.

- I know this is less pleasant, but I did want to let everyone know, when we arrived there was a message waiting from the Sinclair parlour. The remains were transported safely and they're being prepared. But we can talk about state funerals tomorrow.
Oh, like I said I know I'm forgetting things but I should really get back to it. I'll keep the journal handy if anyone has questions or thinks of something I haven't mentioned.

---

@alt_hermione at 2015-08-31 22:18:52

Private Message to Alice, Luna, Tonks and Madam Pomfrey

Luna, how are you feeling? I was looking for you earlier but every time I tried to find you something else came up. I've got something for you from Remus.

How is Terry?

I meant to stop up before we left but it's just been so mad today.

Do you think he'll be able to come?

And Charlie, Madam P, say that Charlie can come for an hour or more before they go on to Grimmauld. If you're not already there, that is, Tonks! See if you can get him to come? Even briefly.

@alt_luna at 2015-08-31 22:33:34

(no subject)

I am doing as well as can be expected, I think. It has helped that I've been off duty, just spending time with friends, who have stories about Colin to share.

Remus left me something? Oh...oh, thank you. Whatever it is, it will mean a good deal to me.

I am going to miss him, quite a bit. And Sirius, and Justin too, of course, as well as Colin.

Terry was in pain, physically, when I was exchanging messages with him last night. I hope the potions will be working better for him today. I will stop by to see him to urge him to attend. I think it would be good for him. (And I'll take shameless advantage of the fact that he doesn't like to say 'No' to me when it's around the time of the full moon.)

I suspect he won't stay for long, though. Don't be surprised if he slips quietly away after an hour or so. But just seeing some people will be
good for him.

I know it will be good for me.

I have to confess I'm ever so curious to see Malfoy Manor. Thank you so much for arranging this so as many of who can are able to be together.

alt_jeremy at 2015-08-31 22:46:28
(no subject)

Be there in a tick.

alt_lee at 2015-08-31 22:50:51
(no subject)

Be there shortly, just had to round up the last bits for the music.

I'll find Hydra as soon as I'm there.

alt_charlie at 2015-08-31 23:04:55
(no subject)

They finished regrowing all the fiddly bits in my hands today, which was the last set of things they had to work on for right now until we know what's going to heal and what won't, so if we can figure out a way to get me there that won't hurt too much, I'd like to come for a bit. (Also: We finished regrowing the fiddly bits in my hands today! I can write on my own again! I have my commas back! And I can write 'fucking' without having to argue with the fucking quill!)

Dunno how long I'll have the energy to stay, but you can all admire the self-levitating chair. And you all have to promise not to give me one of those horrible looks of shock or pity when you see me, Tonks is the only one who hasn't looked at me like that yet, and I swear I will hex anyone who asks when I'll be better. I apologise in advance if I'm awful to anyone. (I probably am going to be, I can't seem to be able to stop myself, but.)

Oh, and I want to talk to a bunch of you lot soon, although probably
not tonight in the middle of a party and probably not until I'm a little less snappish. I want to work on collecting all the memories of Remus and Sirius that everyone can think of -- good or bad, embarrassing or not, absolutely anything that you can think of at all. You can write them down or tell them to me or Tonks, we have this Dicta-Quill after all. But I want to get as many memories as people have so that Bea and Adam know their other parents as well as they can, even if it's through dozens of other people's eyes.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-31 23:14:41
(no subject)

Oh, that's marvellous, I'm so glad you'll be able to come!

Did you know that back when Draco's grandfather was alive, there was a lift in the Manor? Because he was in a chair, too, only I suppose the hovering charms weren't quite as reliable then.

Charlie.

That's a wonderful idea. Your mother's just--that is, she was congratulating me on my Mastery in the Potioneers' Guild and she mentioned Severus and-- Could we expand it, perhaps? He knew Bea, too, after all. She should hear about him, too.

alt_charlie at 2015-08-31 23:20:35
(no subject)

You know, I hadn't thought of that, but she should, shouldn't she? Yes, let's do that too.

And I managed to miss your Mastery! Congratulations, you. I know how hard you've worked for that.

alt_hermione at 2015-08-31 23:31:45
(no subject)

Cheers.

And--thank you.
Of course, I just realised I really shouldn't be using the Order lock anymore because fully half the guest list isn't on it, but then again I really didn't want the whole country to know our plans!

I suppose we're going to have to work out some finely developed systems of sending 'private messages' to groups of more than a hundred people, aren't we? 'Private Message to All Albion Government Agents, Ancillaries, Supernumeraries and Officials?'

Has anyone seen Draco yet?

Hermione

Thanks so much for organizing this! And Draco--thanks for lending your place to the cause!

It'll be good to be together for something that doesn't involve having our wands out.

I figure, if Draco's going to be hailed as a Hero of Albion I'd better get over my hostessing jitters!

So far, it's not too difficult, especially when there's loads of help.

Hah! You'll be great. I couldn't do it for love nor money.

And we're a good crowd to start off with as everyone's friendly and well relieved to have an excuse to celebrate. Keep the food and the drinks flowing and we'll all hail you Hostess of the Year!
Has it been well strange setting up in the Manor?

@alt_cedric at 2015-08-31 23:27:19  
(no subject)

Is it possible to floo there? Or to somewhere nearby where I could be picked up with a carpet? Can't fly or apparate, even side-along. I've talked the healers into an hour or two if I can floo through. No alcohol with pain potions though. No funny hexes either, I'm looking at you Fred.

@alt_hermione at 2015-08-31 23:29:28  
(no subject)

Cedric, they're bringing you, don't worry. We wouldn't be without you.

@alt_charlie at 2015-08-31 23:34:07  
(no subject)

You can come sit by me, we can have the Ask Before You Hug, That Bit Probably Hurts corner.

@alt_susan at 2015-08-31 23:42:18  
(no subject)

I'm glad you'll both be there; it'll be good to see you.

I promise the only hugging I'll do will be verbal!

@alt_rachel at 2015-08-31 23:42:51  
(no subject)

I'd be there even if a half-dozen house elves had to carry me in on a litter.

But, they let me out of bed today. I can walk, a little, if it's not too far.
2015-08-31 17:34:00
The reception tonight

I'm very much looking forward to seeing everyone tonight.

(Poppy, will you have Healers transporting those too wobbly to manage their own apparition? Because I'd be available to help with side along, if you could use another hand.)

2015-08-31 22:52:17
Private message to Hydra

Charlotte truly is a darling!

I hope the house elf found you with that basket I sent? I did find Raising Your Witch and Raising Your Wizard to be the most helpful mothering books of all the scores that I read. I hope you find them as helpful as I did. But I'm sure you'll do splendidly.

2015-09-01 00:27:28
Re: Private message to Hydra

I received it, thank you.

This might be an odd question, but do you think that sometime soon, we might sit together while you hold Charlotte? And if you can please not occlude at all while doing so... I think I can keep to the tasks of caring for a baby well enough. But I want to make sure that

Sorry. I want to know if the things I feel and think are normal, too.

I suppose I'm just worried I might have something wrong with me, or be missing something? Because of how I was raised. And I know what a good mother you are.

I already know that I love her, but if she doesn't stop crying and I feel overwhelmed and stressed, for example, is that normal?
Oh, Hydra, dear.

It's *perfectly* normal. Babies cries are meant to be distressing, because how could babies survive if their mothers didn't rush to soothe the baby so they stop making those awful sounds? Feeling distressed when she is distressed is a sign that you'll be an *excellent* mother, because you truly care to keep her happy, do you see?

And yes, I imagine that will rather different than how you were raised.

It *is* possible to be a good mother, even if you had a terrible one yourself, trust me. Now, I was fortunate to have a loving family, but I know woman who had to teach themselves, or turn to mentors, because they have no happy memories of being loved by their own mothers.

I would be happy to do any experiment you would like, if that would help reassure you.

The key, remember, is that if you feel overwhelmed, *ask for help*. Which is *exactly* what you doing right here, right now, with me. So you see? You are off to a very fine start.

So many people want to help. I suppose I can't really go wrong, can I?

My Aunt Narcissa and my grandmother Nanella showed me affection. So did Daddy.

But... I don't know if it can make up for not getting any from your mother.
I would never diminish the challenge and say that it would be easy, Hydra.

But dear, when we grow up, we learn that not only do we have the family we are born into, we have the families we choose. And those families we choose can teach us what we need to know, that we might not have learned in our first families.

I know, from watching the two of you, that you loved Justin. You truly did, Hydra, despite the fact that you had very little example of a loving marriage to follow from watching your own parents, isn't that right?

Forgive me for bringing it up, because (as a widow myself!) I know that thinking about what happened to him is incredibly painful. But take hope from that, from the fact that you knew how to love Justin, despite not having any example at home. Given that, you can trust that you will be able to love your baby.

It is painful.

But thank you.

I heard the news, but I have barely had a moment to draw breath to tell you 'Congratulations!' Arthur, of course, would have been so proud, but more than that, well, Severus! I can imagine him as sort of strutting around like a peacock, he'd be so proud of you. Except that unlike those albino ones (I hear they have them at the Malfoy Manor, don't they?), he'd be an all-black peacock.

I couldn't possibly imagine anyone more deserving, dear. Well done!
Re: Private message to Hermione Granger

Thank you, Mrs Weasley.

He would have been. I miss him so much, every day.

We all do, dear.

Private message to Linus Moon

Linus, you will be there tonight, won't you? Do come, please. You have worked as hard as anyone for this result, and I know it must be so very difficult for you right now, but please do join us.

You are the soul of kindness, Mrs W. I have located my best formal robes and shall indeed be in attendance to lift a festive glass.

I will look forward very much to seeing you.

Ron, dear,

I glanced in your quarters at the castle that you've moved out of, and I found one of your jumpers wedged down between the cushions of the sofa. The one I knit for
your two--no, three Christmases ago? Maroon, of course, but the one with the cross-hatch pattern at the waistband.

Shall I bring it to the party?

Oh. Um, thanks, Mum.

You know what, though? Don't bring it to the party. (I'll just forget it at the Manor, probably, if you do. I mean, it's not like I want carry a wool jumper around all evening!)

I'll, uh, pick it up next time we come for supper, yeah?

That's fine, dear. I'll have it back at the Burrow whenever you want to pick it up.

Oh, and that reminds me, Sally-Anne...

I'm starting the jumpers for next Christmas, and you should certainly expect to see something along those lines with your packages on Christmas morning. Is there a favourite colour, or yarn you'd like me to use?

I have a cable knit pattern that looks suggestive of very graceful snakes--Slytherin, you know!--if you think that would be nice?

(And I should measure you to get your size, dear.)
alt_molly at 2015-08-31 23:16:38
Private message to Jeremy Stretton

Maureen told me this afternoon! Oh, Jeremy, how exciting! I am so happy for you both!

Now, I know you'll be making the announcement tonight, so I wanted to assure you I haven't breathed a word to anyone!

alt_jeremy at 2015-09-01 00:08:17
Re: Private message to Jeremy Stretton

Ta very much.

We're asking Bill tonight if he'll be best man.

alt_molly at 2015-09-01 00:29:43
Re: Private message to Jeremy Stretton

Oh, how wonderful! I'm sure he'll be chuffed as anything to be asked!

alt_molly at 2015-08-31 23:24:43
Private message to Frank and Alice

My heart is so full tonight for you both. I know you're grieving for Colin, as well as Sirius and Remus, and I know you're missing Neville and worried about Terry.

But you deserve to bask in a great deal of glory tonight, so please don't begrudge us for honouring you tonight. I just wanted you to know that I am so glad that Arthur joined forces with you to save so many children.

Albion has been so lucky to have you, leading the way from the very beginning.
That would be most helpful, Molly. We might use another two or three steady Apparators to help, as well.

Look at you, Mum.
Already working the room like a pro, and the party hasn't even started yet.

Oh, dragonfeathers.

Will Rachel be coming? Will Charlie?

I'll have to speak with Hermione about making sure there is a room set aside for people who want things to be quieter. Luna and Terry, I suppose.

I'll be apparating Rachel. And I think Charlie will come, too, but I doubt either of them will be up for much in the way of carousing.

Just to have them there, especially Charlie, will be enough!

And I won't crowd him. I promise solemnly.
alt_bill at 2015-08-31 23:48:07
Re: Private message to Mum

Good. Making sure that you don't will make it more likely he'll stay a little bit longer.

alt_molly at 2015-08-31 23:49:40
Private message to Fred and George

I'll have your solemn promise tonight, you two.

No pranks!

alt_fred at 2015-08-31 23:52:07
Re: Private message to Fred and George

There's a part of us that wants to say, 'Aw, Mum. People can use a bit of a laugh, now that the war's over.'

But we get the point. Too many convalescents.

And too many people grieving.

Right. We'll behave.

alt_molly at 2015-08-31 23:53:36
Re: Private message to Fred and George

Not to mention the probably priceless furnishings at Malfoy Manor!

It would be a poor way to repay Draco's hospitality-the first time he's hosting us, too!--to break something that costs more than the entire value of the Burrow and all its contents. Goodness.
Private message to the ones we've loved and lost

It's over. The war is finally over. Voldemort is dead, and Bellatrix is dead, and we are finally free to tear out what they cultivated and make the land bloom the way it was supposed to be. Although it will never be quite the same as the way as it was.

But I still hope that what comes next will be worthy of all the sacrifices made. Especially yours.

There's so much I wish I could say to all of you, both the ones we lost years ago--Gideon, Fabian, you still hover in the back of my mind practically every day--and the ones who laid down their lives just this past weekend. It has been hard, and so upsetting, but I wish with all my heart that you could see the small victories we've had. The children from Moddey Dhoo are free to live openly with their families again, and some of them will actually be arriving at Hogwarts tomorrow. More Sleepers are awakening every day, so the wounds in so many families who were torn apart are beginning to heal. Some of them.

Aurora says the last of the wards will likely fade away and disappear sometime this week. It seems just unbelievable that the prison walls are finally coming down and all of us--muggles, squibs, muggleborn, wizarding folk, and all the other free magical peoples of Albion--we'll all be able to mingle openly in the sun.

We hope you are happy. We hope you are at peace. Some of us are hurting terribly, and some of us are grieving afresh from missing you. But we will be all right.

We will be all right.

You made it possible.

We will never forget you, never.

Thank you.

[Arthur, dear man, I love you. How I wish I could feel your arms around me this day.]
Heya Mr L--

I was just wondering...

have YOU decided what you want to do now that the fighting's going to be a less regular thing?

other than get old?

didn't think I'd manage that.

hadn't thought about it much.

I'm a piss poor diplomat, so that's out. Al is busy enough for the both of us, I'll be doing what I can do be there for her, and there's Kev to look after. so maybe I'll be a stay-at-home mum for a while.

or maybe Rachel needs a hand training up the new recruits or something.

How would you feel about teaching?

Not that being a stay-at-home Dad would be a bad thing.

I'm sure Kev would love it.
you mean for Hogwarts?
can't say I'd ever considered it. Professor so and so.

heh.

why, they hurting for a defence instructor?

Rather! I had tea with Great-Aunt Mina today--
she's staying on this year--and she was saying that
the Defence position is the one that's been most
difficult to fill.

It needs to go to someone trustworthy even more than most.

hm.

might give a chat to Septima, see if we can't sort
things out.

it'd be tricky. merlin knows, some of those kids, I would've just
fought their parents at Penzance. must be hard on them. I know
my kids were well worried about having Rabastan as a teacher.
took a while to lower their guard.

but if they need someone badly enough, I might give a hand for
a year, see if it sticks.
alt_susan at 2015-09-01 01:50:49
(no subject)

He was fair in class and I can't imagine you'd be anything less. And you're a good teacher.

We'll all have to adjust to the presence of bad history I suppose.

I think you should give it go!

alt_frank at 2015-09-01 02:48:32
(no subject)

too right.

ta, kiddo.
Dear Ms Parkinson:

I know you don't like me a great deal; the feeling has generally been mutual.

However...

I greatly respect your skills in your chosen field. And I am in a position where I am in need of business advice and possibly capital; my goal is to purchase (or rent) and restore The Three Broomsticks in Hogsmeade and return it to a working state as soon as possible provided any heirs of Madame Rosmerta's agree.

What would you consider a fair trade for the same? I am willing to offer anything reasonable.

Sincerely--

Lavender Brown

Hello, Lavender.

That sounds like it'd be something I could help with.

I'm on a committee of economic development, and one of the things we're tasked with is offering loans to small businesses starting up. We've come up with an application -- it isn't terribly hard, and it does have certain stipulations, like for you, it'd involve providing employment opportunity and the possibility for advancement for Muggle and Muggleborn employees, with bonuses if they're in position of management, and making sure wages are set at a certain level, and so on.

There will be some licensing involved too, to handle and distribute food and spirits, but I also happen to be on a committee that's handling that as well (they've got me on quite a few), so I can show you how to go through that process.
And beyond that, if you want to talk about all the ins and outs of starting a business, I'd be willing to sit with you and answer questions, and give you a word or two of advice.

I think re-starting the Three Broomsticks sounds like a good idea. It's just the sort of thing we're hoping to help get off the ground.

And this is government money, not my own, so it'd be Albion terms, not mine. So all you'd owe me would be the occasional butterbeer when I'm in town to thank me for helping you through the process.

---

.alt_lavender at 2015-09-01 02:30:32
(no subject)

I'm really not to the point of thinking about hiring but I suppose I can agree to that.

I'll have to get used to mingling some time after all.

Do you even like butterbeer?

And thank you; I know you weren't obliged.
**2015-08-31 18:44:00**

Private Message to Lavender

Why are you writing to her?

Don't tell me you've gone right round the twist and you two are best mates, now.

What on earth have I missed all this time?

---

**alt_lavender at 2015-09-01 00:05:20**

(no subject)

Hah! Parkinson and I disdain each other as much as ever.

But--much as it pains me to admit it--she has access to something I need and perhaps if I'm civil she won't turn me down flat. And she's been quite decent to Linus.

Did I hear that you got time off for good behaviour and all that? It seems only fair--since Seamus's got off scot-free!

---

**alt_padma at 2015-09-01 00:09:35**

(no subject)

Oh, well, *that*’s a relief. Not about you needing to be civil to her--I mean, I suppose we've all got to be civil to one another, really, it's only proper--but that something's still right with the world. She may be decent to people but that still doesn't mean she's not a cow.

Yes, I've been released on 'my own recognisance' although that's not entirely true as I'm living with Inderpal and Pavs. For now, anyway. But that's mostly *because* Seamus came back; I think if he hadn't they'd have left me to rot, honestly. Only I told Haruman that it wasn't fair and I suppose Mrs Longbottom agreed. Or she just couldn't be bothered anymore.

I don't know if you saw but I wrote to Lines. He hasn't replied.
alt_lavender at 2015-09-01 00:20:42
(no subject)

Did you see my note from Saturday? It was so odd seeing Haruman on his own without you or Pavs; Pavs has been by the castle occasionally but she seems very...wrapped up in married life.

But I'm glad you seem good terms with all of them. I'm not speaking to Mother right now (nor she to me) and Tibs is determined to be a hothead.

Linus is burying his grief in Arithmancy and Muggle poetry and not really speaking to much of anyone right now. Give him time?
Things are sorted at the Manor. Sandoval’s offerings are laid out, and ours are in reserve with stasis charms, except for the pasties. Need to have some honest grub set out alongside all those charm-spangled one-bite wonders.

Remember how the blokes were laughing about opening a pub called Rubbish Service? Clementine Summerby and Moe Darst are actually going to do it. Clem’s got the Gryffindor touch; she’ll make a fine door supervisor. Moe can bring the ‘Puff friendliness and play the welcoming publican. Ought to work. The advertisements practically write themselves.

Have something to ask you. Bit of a favour, actually. Maureen and I are getting married in the spring. We’d like you to be a bridesmaid. We’ll be asking Sally-Anne as well. Would you?

Jeremy! I'd love to! Ooooooh, that'll be just brilliant. You just know you'll have the best fireworks display I can muster, don't you?

I love the idea of Rubbish Service. I'm so glad that crew is sticking together. They can count on my patronage, that's for certain. (And possibly a loan, if more hands-on patronage is required.)

And while we're asking favours, I know we've all got a tonne of work to do, but I'd like to keep working with you on our Food Network regardless. Make it something a touch more permanent. Self-sustaining. I think we'd be rather good at it.

What do you say?
You're on. Had some ideas yesterday, in fact. Something you said about joint ventures and sustainable agriculture. Tell you tomorrow.

And thanks. For more than I can say, really.

It's good to have a future. You know?

Hear hear.
2015-08-31 19:29:00
Private Message to Ginny W

Say. There's a thing tonight that Malfoy and Hermione and Hydra are throwing at Malfoy Manor, and I asked around and got them to say it's okay if you come. Would you want to?

I think Charlie's going to be there, at least for a bit. And the rest of the family. Oh, Rachel, too, I guess.

Up to you. And, I mean, if you don't think it's something you want to do, I could come see you for a while, maybe?

---

alt_ginny at 2015-09-01 00:51:00
(no subject)

Oh, yes, please.

I would definitely like to come.

---

alt_ron at 2015-09-01 01:00:24
(no subject)

Excellent.

I'm on my way.
Hey, you lot!

Welcome to my home, which I hope from now on you'll all consider your home, as well.

It's ours. All of this is.

The last time there was a party here, the guest list was assuredly the crème de la crème. Think fur-trimmed dress robes, nose-sculpting charms, potency potions, and catty New London gossip, far as the eye can see. And pure blood, of course. Purest you can find.

Now I look out and see something I've never seen here before. Purple-haired weirdos, people missing a limb or two, scars on parade, some seriously questionable accessorising, and tattered and posh robes in equal measure. I see muggle-loving weasles, muggleborns and muggles chatting with purebloods, and halfbloods everywhere. And the twisty part is, as I was looking about, I realised I had to think about it before I remembered who was what and who was who.

Possibly this is also because I've had a bit of champagne.

But what I'm saying is: we're all here together. Everyone looks pretty happy, even though there are still things to be gutted about.

Everyone we've lost would want us to celebrate, and raise a toast to them. And to ourselves, as well.

So, chin chin!

Now, who wants to come up to the roof and have a ride on Sinbad's flying motorbike?

---

How much champagne?

Don't fall off. Or wreck it.
Aw, come on!
No one's got TITSED yet!

How dare you say this to a man who has flown a dragon.

(Not much. Mostly drunk for other reasons. For now.)

YOU DID NOT FLY A DRAGON!
MERLIN'S BEARD.
This is never going to end, is it?

I'm actually started to get a little tired of it.
You'll have to find something new to tweak me about, and me you.

I can't wait.

Well, perhaps if you're lucky it will be 'the time you fell off Sirius's bike into the reflecting pool and broke your miserable leg.' Or 'you fell off the roof while other people were having a go.'
But hey, we're doing it, aren't we?
Making the new memories. Here.

Yes.
You're absolutely right about that. And what you said, about how we've let everyone mingle and it's already unbelievably different.

I wish they were here to see it. All of them. And I'm sorry I keep getting maudlin and wistful when everyone's having such a marvellous time. I promise I'm not really upset at all. I even laughed until I snorted tonight!

So, have your fun. If you don't break your neck, I'm sure you'll come up with something else to turn into a tall tale.

I do love you, Draco Malfoy.

Don't you think they can see it, though?
I don't know. I'm not saying I've found religion or anything. I just think that they can.

And we lived a tall tale.
Maybe someday I'll write it all down. Because you know somebody will. Somebody probably already is. And they're bound to get hundreds of things wrong.

And you can help look it over, because you always keep me honest.
That's why I fell for you so hard, like a big, handsome oaf.

Oh, maybe I am drunk.

**alt_ron** at **2015-09-01 01:51:35**  
(no subject)

I'm in!

**alt_rachel** at **2015-09-01 01:52:19**  
(no subject)

I would love a ride on that thing but maybe not tonight.

**alt_charlie** at **2015-09-01 01:54:10**  
(no subject)

Cheers, Malfoy. We've all come a hell of a long way, haven't we?

I made sure to wear my very best pyjamas just for you.

**alt_jeremy** at **2015-09-01 01:55:29**  
(no subject)

Think I'll watch, mate.

Might take bets on results, though.

**alt_millicent** at **2015-09-01 02:03:35**  
(no subject)

I was not invited

why is that?
Please join us, mademoiselle.

not if you're going to be weird?

and foreign.

Do whatever, Millie.

It's a free country. Literally.

Oh, Milli. Stop growling and come along. Don't refuse an invitation from Draco, he might not invite you twice!

can I look at your kneazle?

...As long as you mean that literally, yes.
literally?
well can i look at it AND touch it?

Whatever, Milli.

I think we need a new slogan: "There's No Party Like an Albion Party Because Albion's a Party for All" or something like that!

The legendary flying motorbike? Don't mind if I do!

George is wondering: think the bike will fly for him? He's willing to give it a go!

And I'll try it after him. If it all doesn't end up badly and pitch off the roof with George in the seat, that is.
Why don't you put it on the ground before George tries it, just in case it DOESN'T fly for him?

Is Siz here somewhere, everyone who should be here? Everyone. Even the people who can't be.

Don't think she's coming.
You're looking well, Cedric. I'm glad you could make it out.

CED! I'm so glad you made it! And Ev too!

You have always had a nift house, but it's a lot more fun with this group than the crowd your parents invited.

The sink that plays music is still there, though! (I checked.)
There's a sink that plays music?

Oh yeah it's in one of the loos. I'll show you, it's ... one of those things that you would only ever install if you truly had more money than you had any idea what to do with. (There are a lot of things in the Manor that are like that, actually.)

Yes, and the linen cupboards are self-sorting and the windows in the guest bedrooms will provide a forecast if you ask for it.

You ought to go and try.

... And hey, are you going to be a bridesmaid or what? Maureen says you really have to, and I agree.
Of course I'm going to be a bridesmaid! I told Maureen yes!

EXCELLENT. Because without you it would not have happened. Could not have.

So. So I'm glad you're going to be a bridesmaid because you have to.

So is Pansy. And Gemma is maid of honour.

Gemma will look absolutely adorable done up fancy. Are you going to let Valentina be a flower girl? Because she's definitely going to WANT to be a flower girl, even if she's actually a little old for it.

That is an excellent question. I will pass that excellent question along to Maureen.

How many glasses of champagne have you had, anyway?
alt_jeremy at 2015-09-01 02:51:01
(no subject)

SOME.

alt_nymphadora at 2015-09-01 02:46:56
(no subject)

Oi! I resemble that remark.

alt_susan at 2015-09-01 02:55:11
(no subject)

TONKS!

You are pretty wizard I hope you know that!

alt_nymphadora at 2015-09-01 02:58:49
(no subject)

Last I checked, you're pretty snitch yourself.

Miss Kicked Arse at Penzance.

alt_susan at 2015-09-01 03:03:21
(no subject)

Ugh Penzance can we not? Gonna have some bad dreams but not tonight cos tonight is for good things only!!!

But thank you! Go badgers!
Thank you for a most salubrious evening. Cheers, Malfoy.

Ta from me as well.

Nicely done. All round, really.
Maybe in light of Hydra's message I shouldn't be doing this, but if anyone wants to see what I've written, they're welcome to do. Anyway, I've got used to that over the last few months, and from what I hear, I reckon you'll get used to it, too.

I was sorry to hear about Ned, but it sounds like you didn't care much, anyway.

And I heard your sister was killed on Thursday, but the gossip is that you actually arranged that. That you asked Professor Dolohov to do it, and he did. So I'm sure you don't care that she's dead, now.

They told me you had a baby with Rodolphus Lestrange. That Hydra took her away before you'd even seen her.

The thing is, I've been thinking a lot--I had nothing but time to think, really--and I wonder if you care about that, either.

I wonder if you care about anything, besides yourself.

I got to spend time with Seamus recently, and we talked and talked about how all the things we did, we were convinced were necessary, and how we twisted ourselves into knots trying to justify killing children because their parents were traitors, if they even were. Seamus killed his mother but it was only because they told him he had to do it, that the safety and security of the realm depended on it.

All I ever did, to join the Council, to be part of things, I did because I wanted to please you. To impress you. And once you had what you wanted, you couldn't have cared less about me.

You deserve to be in jail. Way more than I ever did. You deserve to spend the rest of your life in a tiny room with a bucket for a washbasin and chamberpot, and people watching you every minute. You deserve to never hold a wand again.

But if you're a very good girl, Lana, they might let you out someday.

They let me and Seamus out.
But then again, we had people to speak for us.

Have you anyone left to speak for you?

Your friend,

Padma Patil
2015-08-31 20:23:00
Private Message to Al

looks like there'll be fireworks if you're of a mind to pop back round to see them.

-alt_frank

---

alt_alice at 2015-09-01 03:27:41
(no subject)

All right.

alt_alice at 2015-09-01 03:43:57
(no subject)

You'll be brilliant, you know.

I may have to schedule regular Wednesday evening visits, so I can have you three nights a week.

Especially these next few weeks.

Merlin, it hits me all at once sometimes.

Seeing Dudley and Fin tonight, I just automatically looked for our Colin, and I very nearly had to sit down.

-alt_frank at 2015-09-01 03:47:06
(no subject)

yeah.
tonight was good, though.

bit much at times, but good.
Tow Row Row

SERIOUSLY?

WHY are you singing that? I can tell you're being ironic. I'm going to have it stuck in my head super ironically for DAYS.

Hah! Mission accomplished!

If you're going to sing 'Hey Hey Merlin' you could use the new words and then you wouldn't even have to sing it ironically.

We can do both!

Who knew we could come up with so many euphasisms?

You're brilliant. And it's so good to hear you sing again.
We are the bestest at them! You too--I mean it's good to hear you play.

And nobody's gonna hex us! Yay!

Very, very true!

I mean, if you think about it, there's all sorts of things we can not get hexed for now.

Like saying we remember things. And reading books. And wasn't that all just... I mean, just utterly ridiculous? Awful, yeah, but *ridiculously* awful.

The Lord Protector really did suck balls.

Which is another thing we can not get hexed for.

I think that might be an insult to balls! Or to the suckers of balls!

ATTENTION EVERYONE: VOLDEMORT WAS IN NO WORTHY TO SUCK BALLS!!
alt_sally_anne at 2015-09-01 03:10:01
(no subject)

He was a STUPID PONCE and Fred and George had a load of other insults for him and also fireworks on the page, I think.

alt_susan at 2015-09-01 03:11:28
(no subject)

Ooh fireworks! Haven't had any of those yet tonight!??!

Fred and George are the bestest insulters!

alt_fred at 2015-09-01 03:17:16
(no subject)

Fireworks!

Did someone say one of our FAVOURITE WORDS, FIREWORKS?!

alt_susan at 2015-09-01 03:18:40
(no subject)

FIREWORKS FIREWORKS

alt_draco at 2015-09-01 03:17:32
(no subject)

Enough singing! Where the sod are the fireworks?
alt_fred at 2015-09-01 03:19:40
(no subject)

We can provide!

Do us a favour, though, and just casually mention to our Mum in passing that we're providing them at the specific request of the host?

alt_draco at 2015-09-01 03:23:41
(no subject)

Well done, chaps. Not a problem.
2015-08-31 21:36:00
Private Message to Hydra

How have you been, today, tonight, amid the frivolity?

(If you find a way to tell Draco: I saw what was happening and hid Lucius' journal for the night. He's doing his best, but he is still only a man, and--it was our home. It was where he grew up. He'll cope with the commentary much more easily when it's a few days removed.)

alt_hydra at 2015-09-01 02:43:53
(no subject)

Keeping busy, mostly. Being around others to drown out my own thoughts.

I think it didn't occur to Draco that you would be able to read this. What I mean is, he didn't do it deliberately to upset you. We've just had to hide everything for so long, you see. It feels good not to.

alt_narcissa at 2015-09-01 02:46:16
(no subject)

Oh, my dear. Of course he meant nothing by it. It's natural and proper. It's his home now, and his to do with as he pleases.

I'm merely keeping the peace in my own house, as it were.

Keeping busy is good. Mother says you came by this afternoon.

alt_hydra at 2015-09-01 02:49:45
(no subject)

I'm going to be living there, too.

Yes, I saw Nanella. She.. she's been alone for months, and I can tell she did her best to hold up and all, but she was a little twitchy. I had to keep showing her the
tapestry to prove to her that Mummy was dead. But then I brought in Rigel and he seemed to make her feel much better.

@alt_narcissa at 2015-09-01 03:05:00
(no subject)

Poor Mother. Losing Pascoal shook her terribly.

She and I talked so often about removing Rigel from Bella. I can't begin to tell you how ... relieved I am, that you'll be managing him. I'm sure her grandson cheered her considerably, yes. Please do make sure she sees him often.

She also said the baby is perfect. Charlotte? Have I got that right?

@alt_hydra at 2015-09-01 03:15:22
(no subject)

I know how she feels.

She'd read about me and Justin, apparently, but she didn't know that he was dead.

I hope Rigel hasn't been damaged too much. He told me that Mummy would bring him pets, rabbits and kittens and things, if he followed her orders. He loves animals, you know. Anyway, if he didn't follow her orders, the pet would "die from disobedience." Burst into flames right before his eyes.

She was just killing them herself, of course, but he somehow thought he was the one doing it.

And that's how she used him to wield his power on other people.

Charlotte Amelia Finch-Fletchley. And everyone keeps saying she's perfect. Do they say that about every baby? But she is, really.
alt_narcissa at 2015-09-01 03:22:35
(no subject)

I know it's worth little, Hydra, but if I had known how corrupted she'd become, how unbalanced, I would have acted. I swear that. I'm so sorry.

She was my sister - there is an obligation to love, but it was difficult to maintain that love, from time to time.

I should let you go back to your party. You don't need to think sad things tonight.

But - send me a photograph of Charlotte? And Rigel and you, when you have a chance.

Oh, and. It's probably not the right time to ask but, had you and Justin chosen binding spells? Were you bonded? You don't have to tell me now, if you haven't time or it's too painful to discuss. I was merely wondering.

alt_hydra at 2015-09-01 03:29:19
(no subject)

Well, she used to do the same thing to me. With the animals. I told him that, and that it was just her being mean and cruel, and she oughtn't have done it. That he wasn't a bad boy at all. Which made him go quiet and a little weepy.

I don't love my mother at all.

But I do wish that she had loved me.

And..

yes, I don't really want to keep talking about that.

I'll send you photographs, of course. And proper letters.

And yes, Justin and I were bonded.
I wish you had told me. I know why you did not, of course, but I wish you had.

No. She made it impossible for you to love her. But then, she did not want your love. Or anyone's, really.

But I'm not surprised Charlotte's beautiful. (People do say it about most babies, but they don't always mean it. You were. Draco was. Rigel was...red.) But her father is a handsome man, and Lana - well, whatever else one may say about her, she was bred for looks.

Imagine, if I had been a little older, or he a touch younger, I might have been your Mama. But then we would have no Draco, either.

As for you and Justin - I thought that might be the case. Sometimes bonds backlash when they are broken too quickly, in which case you would have been rather as helpless as Aurora was when the Razzer died. But you seem as grounded and at peace as could possibly be expected, my darling. I think that must be an indication that your bond was true. Cherish that, if you can. For most couples, it takes years before the bond upholds one so well.

Now I really am being far too depressing. Go! Enjoy your party.

All my love, Hydra.

Your Auntie,

Narcissa
I used to think she wanted Voldemort's. I thought she'd die without him. But she didn't. She just went on, fueled by her own desire for control and power, I guess.

What do you mean about my father? That you fancied him?

I'm sorry, but he's not worth fancying.

And Justin and I, we were together for years before we were married. And he did die in my arms, and looking into my eyes. And he was ready.

Maybe all those things make a difference, too.
2015-08-31 22:01:00
Private message to Ron

Are you in charge of watching Ginny? Or are people sharing? (Do you know when they're going to decide they can trust her again?)

alt_sally_anne

alt_ron at 2015-09-01 03:28:05
(no subject)

Oh, say. I just took her back, actually. She was feeling done in.

Where are you, even?

I think Charlie's left. I was thinking I should write him and say sorry because I told him I'd be right back and then I buggered off and flew that motorbike and totally lost track and now he's gone home. Or I think he must've.

alt_sally_anne at 2015-09-01 03:34:01
(no subject)

I went up to try the guest room window Mrs Malfoy mentioned.

You want to come find me?

It's nice and quiet up here. No one else around.

alt_ron at 2015-09-01 03:35:40
(no subject)

Ha. You went upstairs to get a window to talk to you?

Too much Tow row rowing downstairs?
This is the weirdest house, Ron.

I got to come to parties here a couple of times and I always spent half my time wandering around looking for things like that magical faucet. I never found the talking window, though.

Come on up and I'll show you a few things.

Come up and let you show me things upstairs in the Malfoys' house?

Oh, yeah. I will!

Which wing are you in?

Southeast, second floor.

And it's not the windows I'm interested in seeing, y'know?
Um that's good actually because it's not in fact the windows I'm interested in showing you.
2015-08-31 22:30:00
Private message to Rachel

You'd better not have been trying out that flying motorbike.

Want to come outside to see the fireworks, so I can relieve my mind that you're still in one piece? It's nice and cool out here on the terrace.

alt_rachel at 2015-09-01 03:32:52
(no subject)

Ha, you know me too well. I was tempted by the flying motorbike but managed to restrain myself.

Outdoors sounds lovely. Let me just heave myself out of this chair. I think it may be equipped with a permanent sticking charm where your bum goes.

alt_bill at 2015-09-01 03:36:36
(no subject)

Hmm.

On the other hand, it's not too cool. Maybe I'd better check your bum over? Make sure it's still in its usual fine shape.

Did I mention it's a dark terrace, too? Well, aside from occasional flashes of light from the fireworks, of course.

But that keeps things interesting.

The peacocks are bedded down for the night; they won't notice anything.
alt_rachel at 2015-09-01 03:39:11
(no subject)

I'm still on activity restrictions but rules are made to be broken!

On my way.

alt_bill at 2015-09-01 03:41:11
(no subject)

I can be very inventive.

See you soon.
To our Captains

I sang this tonight and it has lotsa words; this isn't the whole thing but I want to put it here so I don't forgot. And remember to thank Kirsty for letting me learn it off her and giving me the words. And thank you Mr Stan Rogers whoever you are though I suppose Kirsty will tell me for writing it.

the words for Nev and Harry and Colin and Justin and Mr Snape and Sirius and Remus and Mr Weasley and everybody all the ones that didn't make it to see the flowers of Bermuda (which sounds beautiful maybe someday I'll go there) but especially the ones who led the way:

He was the Captain of the Nightingale
Twenty-one days from Clyde in coal
He could smell the flowers of Bermuda in the gale
When he died on the North Rock shoal

But when the crew was all assembled
And the gig prepared for sea
'Twas seen there were but eighteen places to be manned
Nineteen mortal souls were we

But cries the Captain "Now do not delay
Nor do ye spare a thought for me
My duty is to save you all now, if I can
See ye return as quick as can be."

Oh, there be flowers in Bermuda
Beauty lies on every hand
And there be laughter, ease and drink for every man
But there is no joy for me

For when we reached the wretched Nightingale
What an awful sight was plain!
The Captain, drowned, was tangled in the mizzen-chains
Smiling bravely beneath the sea

He was the Captain of the Nightingale
Twenty-one days from Clyde in coal
He could smell the flowers of Bermuda in the gale
When he died on the North Rock shoal
There IS joy though I have to believe there is or there will be anyhow
And maybe you can see freedom from where you are
I hope you liked the fireworks!

alt_hermione at 2015-09-01 04:39:35
(no subject)
Sue, I'll have the elf bring you a hangover potion in the morning.
And one for Aurelia, too.

alt_susan at 2015-09-01 04:43:56
(no subject)
Ta very much!!!
2015-08-31 23:00:00
Thank you all for coming

And thank you, Fred and George, for the wonderful finale to the evening! It couldn't have ended better.

Pansy, Jeremy, come tomorrow morning, will you? We have to distribute all this food and I want it to go to people who need it. In London, maybe.

If anyone's feeling too titsed to go home, there are guest rooms on the third, fourth, and fifth levels. Let me know and we'll have a room for you. No Apparating if you're liable to splinch!

alt_hermione at 2015-09-01 04:02:28
Private Message to Draco

Draco, most of our guests are leaving. Come inside and help me say goodnight?

alt_hermione at 2015-09-01 04:03:13
Re: Private Message to Draco

I'm in the entrance hall.

alt_hermione at 2015-09-01 04:03:29
Re: Private Message to Draco

I assume you can find it.

alt_dracon at 2015-09-01 04:06:23
Re: Private Message to Draco

On my way, lady of the house.
@alt_hermione at 2015-09-01 04:22:14
Re: Private Message to Draco

You know, I think I'm getting the hang of this.
It's not so difficult, is it.

@alt_draco at 2015-09-01 04:26:27
Re: Private Message to Draco

You're an utter natural.
what else would you be?

@alt_hermione at 2015-09-01 04:30:27
Re: Private Message to Draco

It's odd but I was so worried. Remember at your birthday party? But now I think there's nothing to it.

Then again, we had only friends here. And Milli.
...

Oh, Merlin, where is Milli?

@alt_draco at 2015-09-01 04:32:27
Re: Private Message to Draco

Check your kneazle.

@alt_hermione at 2015-09-01 04:36:04
Re: Private Message to Draco

You check my kneazle.
alt_draco at 2015-09-01 04:37:27
Re: Private Message to Draco

May I?

Don't mind if I do.

alt_hermione at 2015-09-01 04:48:16
Re: Private Message to Draco

Well.

It seems like it's going to take a few minutes before everyone's settled. But then?

Yes.

I'm pretty tired, though. But don't worry. There's tomorrow, and the day after that, and the next.

And all the days to come.

alt_susan at 2015-09-01 04:02:54
(no subject)

NO SPLINCHING TONIGHT!! I will take one yes please thank you.

alt_hermione at 2015-09-01 04:05:44
(no subject)

Sue, you're in the west wing, third floor. An elf will take you.

(I know, it's daft, isn't it? But we're following Pansy's lead and we're paying them. They're still not sure about that. I'm sure they'll come round.)
BRILLIANT
And I'm sure they will do good on you two for thinking of it.
I think Aurelia might want to come with me!! Let me go find her.

Our pleasure, honest! One thing we like about this crowd is that they truly know how to appreciate fireworks!

I've never appreciated them more. Cheers, lads.

Shall do, Hermione. Ta for a brilliant party.

Oh. Maureen suggests we stay. As apparently I am titsed as the saying goes.
So. Put us wherever?

Brilliant party. Really.
Jeremy,

Of course. That will make coordinating tomorrow even easier!

Just follow the elf.

We're staying.

No worries, though, we've already found a room.

Well, all right, then.

See you in the morning.
I missed you at the party, I'm headed back to hospital. Rather tired.

How are you doing? Everyone ought to be welcome here celebrating.

I'm glad you got to go.

I've had better nights, and - no reason to spoil things for other people.

I'll find time to come see you, yeah? Sometime soon.

You are always welcome. I meant it, everyone should have been here tonight.

I offered this to Linus a few days ago, but it goes for everyone in the Order. Everyone of us is welcome in my house, anytime, forever.

No solving tonight.

I promise, I'll talk to you about it. Just. Not tonight, okay?

I've some thoughts about Linus, too. We should compare, but Mum had me make very clear to him that she's glad to have him any time, and I am too, or you, or...
Yes, Soon.

You remain a far better badger than I manage to be on my best days.

Thanks.

This helped, too.

If nothing grabs me before we have students arriving, I'll see you tomorrow for a bit.

I don't recall if I've ever said it outright.

Thank you for talking with me after Frost Faire about how to handle the Third Task. It set me on the path to my friendship with Harry and where I am today.

I still don't know where Heph is and I'd have been beside him.

It would be a whole different - everything, if you hadn't.

I'm glad you listened.

Tomorrow. Even if it's just for five minutes.
Confession of L Sandoval-Pennifold (per Wizengamot Order HJ35829)

I, Lana Sandoval-Pennifold, confess that I did commit heinous crimes against the people and the peace of Albion in the service of the usurping tyrant, Tom Riddle who pretended to the title of Lord Protector.

As a member of the corrupt Auror force, I abused my office to harm blameless citizens, to terrorise the populace, and to crush dissent. I collaborated in the enslavement of the non-magical citizens and Muggleborn citizens of this country. I committed acts of common vandalism against private citizens of this realm and committed acts of war against those who sought to liberate the nation from oppression.

As a member of the usurper's Council, I committed murder, torture, and inhuman abuse. I practised the Dark Arts and traded my life's blood for power which I used to corrupt, injure and destroy others. I made habitual use of the Three Unforgiveable Curses.

As a teacher at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry and under the tutelage and leadership of arch-traitor, Antonin Dolohov, I corrupted my students, leading them to trade their natural magic for the unnatural practices of the Dark arts. Whilst I was a teacher of the youth of this nation, I broke my marriage vows, committing adultery with another witch's husband, Rodolphus Lestrange, conceiving with him a daughter, born of my body on 29 August 1998. Of that child, I resign custody to the state.

As Head of MLE and in service to the second usurper, Bellatrix Lestrange, I have committed crimes against humanity. I contracted the murder of my sister, Honoria Sandoval Torralva. I abused my position and my power.

I make this confession willingly and submit myself to the power and punishment of Albion, justly administered for my crimes.
Confession of R. Lestrange (per Wizengamot Order HJ35830)

I, Rodolphus Lestrange, confess that I did commit numerous crimes against the people and the peace of Albion in the service of Tom Riddle, who called himself the Lord Protector.

As a purveyor and craftsman of dark artefacts, I did knowingly supply the Lord Protector and his MLE with uncountable deadly devices, and did not care how they were put to use. I also used these devices to knowingly disturb, disease, or kill my rivals. I studied and practised the darkest of arts and knowingly subjected my children to dangerous and experimental dark magic. I spilled much blood in the name of my quest for mastery.

As a council wizard, I took part in terrorising all who stood in our way, sometimes on the Lord Protector's orders, and other times not. Such acts of terror did include torture, dismemberment, and murder. I endorsed the practise of chattel slavery. I was one of many who helped to overthrow the original and lawfully recognised Ministry in order to establish the Protectorate realm.

As a husband, I did knowingly and willfully commit adultery on numerous occasions. I seduced my protégé, Lana Sandoval, and helped her to hide her lack of innocence from N. Pennifold on their wedding night. I did knowingly murder N. Pennifold at the Hogwarts Battle. I convinced Lana Sandoval to bear my child, and to participate in dark magic experiments intended to produce more fit progeny. This child, a daughter, was born on 29 August 1998. I fully resign custody of my daughter, and Rigel, my son born by Bellatrix Lestrange, to the state of Albion.

I make this confession under Veritaserum and submit myself to the power and punishment of Albion, justly administered for my crimes.
2015-08-31 23:37:00
Private message to Jason

I'm really glad they didn't make me do that.
(Write out a whole long detailed confession, I mean.)

Bad enough remembering some of that stuff without having to write it down.

alt_seamus

2015-09-01 04:42:13
(no subject)

Did you see that Rod Lestrange gave his under Veritaserum?

Must not have gone willingly, did he.

And hey, we're going to make some new memories.

I was thinking that I'll ask Minx if she'll let me out of Albion's MLE. The war's over, after all. It's just going to be a long, dull clean-up from here on out.

And we could leave Albion altogether, then.

alt_seamus

2015-09-01 04:43:05
(no subject)

Do you want to go to Las Vegas, Atlantic City, and Macau?

I'd come with you, if you wanted.

alt_jason

2015-09-01 04:46:24
(no subject)

East Coast of the US first, I think. Atlantic City is there. And then we can work our way across.

No one will know anything about us--not what we did, or what side we were on. Not if we don't want them to.
Blank slate.

@alt_seamus at 2015-09-01 04:47:16
(no subject)

There is nothing in the world that sounds better than a blank slate right now.

Anywhere at all.

@alt_jason at 2015-09-01 04:48:18
(no subject)

Brilliant.
2015-08-31 23:42:00
Order Only Private Message to Charlie

Say.

You left before I could get back inside.

Sorry. I really did want to say more than just Hey to you.

alt_ron

2015-09-01 04:45:00
(no subject)

It's all right, don't worry about it. I was just tired, and I needed my next dose of pain potions. But you and the rest of them deserved a good party. (Did you get to try the motorbike?)

alt_charlie

2015-09-01 04:50:39
(no subject)

The bike is dead wizard. I mean, utterly brilliant.

Not at all like a broom. I mean for one thing it's big. To wrap your legs around I mean. And it rumbles.

Um. Amazing.

And, yeah. It was a good party. Too many people, really. Or anywiz, too many people thinking they should be trying to make small talk with me. I just-

I didn't have much to say, I guess.

I stayed out with the bike for a long time, but when I went back, I just couldn't really

Anywiz. We're staying overnight here. Sally Anne's already asleep.

It's a nice night out. Loads of stars now the fireworks have done. Quiet.
Yeah. That's kind of how I felt about it too, really. I can't

I can't believe it's over. We started this a long fucking time ago, and Mum and Dad and Alice and Frank and Harry's parents and Sirius and Remus and Professor Dumbledore and that lot started it even earlier, and they sort of closed their eyes and took a leap of faith and believed that it would work, and they believed it hard enough that we believed it too and now we're here.

Well. Some of us are. Merlin, looking at that list, and it's just Mum and Alice and Frank left. I'd have to check the lists of the first people in the Order, but ...

But I'm glad you're here. And I'm glad we made it. And I'm damn fucking glad we got to see this.

I love you, you know. And I'm damn proud of you.

I'll see you in the morning.

Yeah. So, so much has happened. I mean, so much just the past couple of months. weeks. days, even.

Hard to get my head round it.

Anywiz, yeah. Night, you.

Get some rest. You're going to need it! We all are.
2015-08-31 23:59:00
I HAVE MY OWN JOURNAL NOW!

My own journal! I don't have to use my father's old journal anymore!!!

I cannot WAIT to go to Hogwarts tomorrow.