

Dumbledore's Army Part 2



17 November 2020

INTRO

CONSTANCE

Harry, we're receiving reports that the surge has returned. Considering that it seems to be related to Dumbledore's Army, I take it you were able to maintain control over the surge's direction.

HARRY

Yes, but just barely. Whoever is trying to manipulate the Calamity fought hard to regain their hold over it between surges. If I didn't know any better, I'd swear there were hints of desperation, even fear in their magic.

CONSTANCE

If Hermione's theory about their surge being absorbed into yours is true, then isn't it a good thing they're resisting? After all, the more memories of theirs we have access to, the easier it'll be to identify them.

Then again, it's equally possible that Lethifold and Barghest know we're onto them and this is all an elaborate trap designed to trick us into believing we have the upper hand.

HARRY

That may very well be the case. Even so, this is the first real lead we've had in a while. We have a duty to pursue it.

BRILLIANT DUMBLEDORE'S ARMY DUELLING DUMMY

HERMIONE

The Room of Requirement provided us dummies like this one to practise our offensive spells on. Whenever we'd destroy one, another would always take its place.

Back then I naively believed that once we defeated Voldemort, that would be the end of the Dark Arts. Now I realise that what Snape said about them in my first N.E.W.T. level Defence Against the Dark Arts class is true.

The Dark Arts are like a many-headed monster. When you sever one head, another does sprout in its place. Just like how a new training dummy would appear whenever we'd destroy one. Fortunately, my time in Dumbledore's Army and the SOS Task Force has also taught me that there will always be people willing to stand up and fight against evil. We should take solace in that fact.

BRILLIANT YOUNG LUNA LOVEGOOD

HERMIONE

Luna Lovegood, a former member of Dumbledore's Army, sent me an owl. Apparently she has a memory similar to Neville and Lee's. In it, a wizard cloaked in a hooded robe warns her that 'The Unforgivable are everywhere.'

CONSTANCE

'The Unforgivable'? What's that?

HERMIONE

I wish I could tell you, but a thorough search of the Ministry's records turned up nothing.

CONSTANCE

Well, whoever they are, I think it's safe to assume this message is a threat.

HERMIONE

I'm inclined to agree with you, but Luna seems to think otherwise. She said the wizard sounded scared, not malicious. According to her, this isn't so much a threat as a warning...

DOBBY

HARRY

When I first met Dobby... well, quite frankly, I thought of him as a nuisance. As the years went on, however, Dobby became not just a valuable ally, but one of my truest, most loyal friends. Whenever I visit his grave, I bring him a new pair of socks so he knows how much he's missed.

DUMBLEDORE'S ARMY COINS

CONSTANCE

Harry, is this the same coin that you display on your desk?

HARRY

That's right. Hermione created these coins so I could discreetly communicate with the rest of Dumbledore's Army. See the numbers around the edge? I'd change them to reflect the date and time of our next meeting. Rather ingenious, isn't it?

CONSTANCE

Indeed. It's also rather sweet how you still use them to communicate with the other members.

HARRY

What are you talking about? Most of us have held on to them, yes, but we haven't used them in years.

CONSTANCE

Then why was the date on the Dumbledore's Army Coin Foundable we returned set for just days from now?

LUNA LOVEGOOD'S HARE PATRONUS

CONSTANCE

I must admit, after returning nothing but Foundables of Dark wizards, witches, and artefacts last surge, returning Foundables that aren't trying to kill me has been rather refreshing.

HARRY

That's actually why I chose to center this surge on my memories of Dumbledore's Army. I thought my happy memories could become a shield against the Darkness - much like how a Patronus is a shield against Dementors and Lethifolds.

CONSTANCE

I assumed you were simply feeling nostalgic.

HARRY

Perhaps it's a bit of both.

MYSTERIOUS NOTE

1ST PIECE

CONSTANCE

We've found another fragment of a note. I can't make out its contents yet, but it appears to be addressed to you, Harry. I don't suppose you're going through a particularly introspective phase and wrote this letter to yourself?

HARRY

I'm afraid not. I don't recognise the handwriting either.

CONSTANCE

Hermione did theorise that elements of the surge you interrupted might have been absorbed into yours. I'd bet my wand that this note is one of them. Which means...

HARRY

Whoever's been manipulating the Calamity is trying to reach out to me specifically. Constance, tell the members of the SOS Task Force to prioritise recovering the rest of this note. It's imperative we find out what they want.

5TH PIECE

CONSTANCE

We've only reassembled half of the note, yet its contents are already shocking, to say the least. The author - who admits to having created the surge you intercepted to get your attention - claims to be a part of a cabal of Dark wizards and witches called The Unforgivable. If this letter is to be believed, they're not only the ones responsible for the Calamity's Dark turn, they've been involved with the Calamity since the beginning.

HARRY

That's quite the confession. If true, it certainly raises a lot of questions about the Calamity, Lethifold and Barghest, and Grim Fawley's role in it all, doesn't it?

CONSTANCE

'If' being the key word. I'm convinced this is a load of codswallop intended to throw us off the real trail. Why else would they be telling us all this?

HARRY

Good question. Perhaps we'll receive an answer when we find the missing pieces of the note.

FINAL PIECE

CONSTANCE

Interesting... Looks like we've gotten an answer as to why our mysterious pen-friend was being so chatty. Apparently they're in a bad way with The Unforgivable's leadership. They want out, but fear too much for their safety to just leave.

They're offering information on The Unforgivable's members and plans in exchange for your personal protection and a full pardon. If you agree to their terms, Harry, they say you should come to this address they've listed... alone. They were very emphatic about that.

GREENGRASS

I apologise for intruding, but I'd be remiss if I didn't chime in. You're not seriously considering going along with this, are you, Harry? It's obviously a trap.

CONSTANCE

I have to agree. We have no reason to trust this witch or wizard. It's quite possible they're threatened by your ability to manipulate the Calamity and this is all a ploy to get rid of you.

HARRY

I understand where you're both coming from and appreciate your concern. However, if there's even a remote possibility this could allow us to end the Calamity and apprehend those responsible for it, then it's a risk I'm willing to take.

END

HERMIONE

Harry, thank Merlin you're safe. Constance told me about the letter. I can't believe you'd be so daft as to go and meet up with the author by yourself knowing full well it could be a trap.

...Harry, what's the matter? You're awfully quiet. Normally at this point, you'd be chiming in to try to defend your reckless behaviour.

HARRY

I was too late, Hermione. By the time I'd arrived at the meet-up spot, the presumed informant's mind had been completely Obliviated, to the point where he couldn't even remember his own name. The Healers at St. Mungo's are doing what they can to try and restore his memory, but it isn't looking good.

HERMIONE

How awful... Though I suppose it does lend some credibility to his claims that a cabal of Dark wizards and witches called The Unforgivable are controlling and manipulating the Calamity, doesn't it?

HARRY

Hermione, as far as I'm concerned, this experience has made two things abundantly clear. First, that this mess goes beyond Grim Fawley, Lethifold, and Barghest. And second, if we continue to stand in this group's way, it's only a matter of time before they come after us.