

The New Marauders Part 2



28 March 2021

Brilliant Event

INTRO

HERMIONE

I just saw a Foundable of Sirius in his dog Animagus form. I take it that you decided not to give into The Unforgivable's demands?

HARRY

I'm sorry, Hermione, but I couldn't in good conscience let The Unforgivable get their way. Adversaries have proven how dangerous the Calamity is in their hands. We can't risk them unleashing any more Darkness upon the world.

HERMIONE

Don't apologise. You were in a difficult position and did what you thought was best. In any case, what's done is done. Better we brace ourselves for what might be coming than fret about the past.

HARRY

I know you're worried, but rest assured, I don't intend to tempt The Unforgivable. Aurors are personally guarding each of our children and Hogwarts has been put on high alert. If they do try anything, the kids will be safe.

HERMIONE

I hope you're right, Harry...

BRILLIANT PADFOOT

HARRY

Sirius Black came from a long line of pure-blood supremacists. He knew he'd be disowned if he spoke out against his family's ideals, but he did it anyway because he knew it was the right thing to do.

But that was Sirius: brave, almost to a fault. Not to mention incredibly loyal. Out of all the Animagi I've known, his form - a black dog - was perhaps the most fitting.

He wasn't in my life long, but I couldn't have asked for a better godfather.

BRILLIANT YOUNG REMUS LUPIN

HARRY

Remus Lupin told me he was bitten by Fenrir Greyback when he was only four years old. He spent his whole life facing discrimination for being a werewolf.

Unfortunately werewolves still face a lot of stigma, but thanks to the Ministry's outreach, the wizarding community is becoming more understanding and accepting.

We may not be able to change everyone's minds, but if we can save one person from going through what Lupin did, it's worth it.

MARAUDER'S MAP

HERMIONE

I've got a bad feeling, Harry... You're positive Hogwarts has been quiet?

HARRY

Neither my Aurors nor McGonagall have reported anyone or anything suspicious. I've also been monitoring the Marauder's Map constantly, and no one unaccounted for has turned up.

HERMIONE

Even so, I can't shake this premonition that something awful is about to happen...

Normally I hate being wrong, but this time I sincerely hope I am.

PRONGS

CONSTANCE

Harry told me his dad and his dad's friends became Animagi when they were still at Hogwarts. I can't imagine doing such difficult magic so young.

I was set on becoming an Animagus too once. I'd kept the mandrake leaf in my mouth for a month, brewed the potion, and was just waiting for a lightning storm when Sloan Travers told me about a friend of a friend who botched the spell and became half wizard, half naked mole-rat.

Unsure if my silver teaspoon of dew had not seen sunlight or been touched by human feet for seven or six days and terrified of becoming a half-human, half-animal abomination, I never drank the potion.

Ah well, it was probably for the best. Knowing my luck, I probably would've been saddled with something unremarkable and disappointing like a squirrel.

CLOAK OF INVISIBILITY

HARRY

The Cloak of Invisibility has been passed down in my family for generations. My grandad passed it on to my dad, my dad to me, and soon I'll pass it on to James.

I'd originally intended to wait until James left Hogwarts to give it to him, fearing he'd use it for mischief. But after reflecting on how my dad and I used the cloak, well... I realised using it to make trouble at Hogwarts is also sort of a family tradition.

MYSTERIOUS NOTE

1ST PIECE

CONSTANCE

Harry, there was a piece of a note attached to that last Foundable. Think it's a remnant from The Unforgivable's surge that got absorbed into yours?

HARRY

Seems likely considering that I didn't send it and the same thing happened when I intercepted the informant's surge.

CONSTANCE

I wonder if it's a message for us.

HARRY

There's only one way to find out. We'll have to recover the rest of this note, and quickly. It's imperative we find out what it says.

5TH PIECE

CONSTANCE

Our assumptions were right, Harry. The Unforgivable's note is addressed to us - well, to you and Hermione. We don't have all the pieces yet, but what we have put together... Well, you should probably read it for yourself.

HARRY

'We're sorry you decided to disregard our suggestion to stop manipulating the Calamity. Unfortunately we had no choice but to take action...'

'Had no choice'? But that implies they've already retaliated... Constance, have we received an owl from McGonagall lately?

CONSTANCE

Come to think of it, no, and she's been so diligent sending her reports up until now... You don't suppose...?

HARRY

I need to get to Hogwarts now.

FINAL PIECE

HERMIONE

Harry! Thank Merlin you're back. How are the kids? Are they safe?

HARRY

They're fine. McGonagall, on the other hand, was rather startled when I came barging into her office, wand at the ready... Apparently things have been quiet at Hogwarts. Her owl was just delayed by some foul weather.

HERMIONE

That's a relief, isn't it? Though this news does raise an important question... If our kids weren't The Unforgivable's targets, what - or who - is?

CONSTANCE

I think I may have the answer to that. We finished putting together the rest of The Unforgivable's note. They mention 'stopping by Weasleys' Wizard Wheezes and the offices of the Daily Prophet,' which probably means...

HARRY

The bit about Hogwarts and lessons was just to misdirect us. Their actual targets were Ron and Ginny!

END

CONSTANCE

I heard Ginny was attacked! Is she alright? What happened?

HARRY

Exhausted and banged up, but the Healers say she'll be fine. Her attacker used Polyjuice Potion to disguise himself as her Editor-in-Chief. Thankfully she noticed his behaviour was off. The imposter got away, but if Ginny hadn't become suspicious, the outcome could've been much worse.

What about Ron? Is he alright? Can I talk to him?

CONSTANCE

Harry, Ron is... I mean, he was...

HERMIONE

Ron's missing, Harry. I've searched everywhere... The Unforgivable's taken him.