

A Weasley Predicament Part 2



19 April 2021

Brilliant Event

INTRO

HERMIONE

The surge has picked up again. It's still centered around the Weasley family, but this time it's taken a more personal turn, featuring fixtures of the Burrow.

Harry, do you think this surge could be made up of Ron's memories? These Foundables feel too intimate to have been created by anyone but someone close to the family.

HARRY

If The Unforgivable are capable of using my memories to create a surge, I imagine they could do the same with Ron's... Though the thought of The Unforgivable rooting around in Ron's mind makes me ill.

HERMIONE

I guarantee that making us uncomfortable was their intent. The more concerned we are about Ron's safety, the more likely we are to agree to the trade they hinted they were going to propose.

HARRY

I hate to say it, but it's working.

BRILLIANT PROPRIETOR FRED WEASLEY

HARRY

When Fred died in the Battle of Hogwarts, everyone was devastated, but none more so than Molly. Though she's since returned to her normal, cheery self, you can tell that Fred's death continues to affect her deeply.

I can't imagine what she's going through right now. I have to bring Ron home safely, no matter what it takes. The family can't lose another son and brother.

BRILLIANT WEASLEY CLOCK

HERMIONE

Mrs Weasley had this clock made to keep track of the whereabouts of the whole family, with each hand representing a different Weasley. Apparently Ron's hand has been pointed at 'mortal peril' since he went missing.

Despite this, I've tried to keep positive and confident that we'll get Ron back safe and sound. Rose and Hugo need a pillar of strength right now and I don't want Harry to blame himself for what happened any more than he already does.

But underneath the surface, I'm probably more worried than anyone. It terrifies me that Ron's in the hands of Dark witches and wizards who wouldn't hesitate to destroy lives to get what they want.

Ron's been in 'mortal peril' before, but other than that brief time he left Harry and I during our hunt for Voldemort's remaining Horcruxes, I was right there beside him through it. Now I just feel so helpless.

MOLLY WEASLEY

HERMIONE

Molly is the latest to have a false memory implanted in her Foundable. In it, Ron - or someone disguised as Ron - came to her crying. He then begged her to convince us to listen to The Unforgivable so he can come home.

CONSTANCE

Just when you thought The Unforgivable couldn't go any lower, they emotionally manipulate a mum and play on her fear of losing her son to get what they want. Disgusting, isn't it?

HERMIONE

Very. Molly Weasley is one of the strongest people I've ever met, but this is more than any mother should have to bear. As difficult as Ron's disappearance has been for me, I guarantee it's been twice as hard for her.

She had every right to demand that we concede control of the Calamity in order to get Ron back. But instead she just had me promise to give The Unforgivable hell in her stead.

Believe me, I intend to do just that.

SELF-KNITTING JUMPER

HARRY

We have nearly all of the Ministry's Aurors, the SOS Task Force, and agents from other countries out looking for Ron. I even asked McGonagall to search the Hogwarts portraits. But no sign of him has turned up. It's like he's vanished.

CONSTANCE

He has to be somewhere. We just have to be persistent and leave no cauldron unturned.

HARRY

But we're running out of time. The Unforgivable's offer is going to come any day now and we'll have to make a decision about whether to accept it or not.

Constance, what do you think I should do?

CONSTANCE

I'm probably not the best person to ask. After all, I can't even decide what to eat for lunch...

GNOME

CONSTANCE

I've always pitied Gnomes. Imagine you're a Gnome, minding your own business in your burrow, just trying to be the best Gnome you can be, when suddenly a wizard grabs you by the legs, spins you around until you're dizzy, and tosses you away. Or worse still, sets a Jarvey on you.

Whenever I bring the topic up, people tell me anecdotes about how they destroyed their gardens. And I get it, I really do.

But I know what it's like to be treated like a pest. It's hard not to sympathise with their plight.

MYSTERIOUS NOTE

1ST PIECE

CONSTANCE

Look, Hermione, a fragment of a note! The Unforgivable kept their word to get in touch again.

HERMIONE

Now we'll see if they intend to keep their word about returning Ron safely...

5TH PIECE

HERMIONE

We've recovered enough pieces of the note now to confirm that The Unforgivable are, in fact, proposing a trade: Ron in exchange for not only complete concession of the Calamity, but also the return of Kit Gerrard and the informant.

HARRY

That's ridiculous! It was bad enough when they were demanding control of the Calamity, but now they're asking us to trade lives too? Kit's finally been reunited with his family and we only just identified Flavius Flint as the informant. There's no way we can go along with this.

...Or so I'd like to say, but realistically, what choice do we have? The Unforgivable have reason to keep Ron unharmed for now, while he's still valuable to them, but there's no telling what they might do to him if we reject this offer.

HERMIONE

And there's no telling what The Unforgivable might do to Kit and Flavius if we hand the two over to them. I know you feel responsible for all this, Harry, but bargaining with their lives simply isn't an option.

I have a better idea. It's potentially dangerous, but, if successful, we should be able to get Ron back, keep Kit and Flavius safe, and possibly even uncover where The Unforgivable have been hiding...

FINAL PIECE

HERMIONE

Now that we've fully reconstructed The Unforgivable's note and know the location and date of the exchange, we can start putting my plan into motion. Did you place your Aurors on standby just like I asked?

HARRY

They're at the ready and awaiting further orders, though many are wondering what exactly you have planned. Myself included.

HERMIONE

It's best that we keep this operation on a strictly need-to-know basis. If word somehow reached The Unforgivable that Constance and I are planning on using the Polyjuice Potions that I precautiously made last month to Transfigure ourselves into Kit Gerrard and Flavius Flint--

HARRY

Hold on, your plan is to take Kit and Flavius' places at the exchange and infiltrate The Unforgivable? It's risky, but I'd be lying if I said it wasn't brilliant. Except I'll be going in Constance's stead. It's safer that way.

HERMIONE

Harry, if you don't show up to the exchange, The Unforgivable might get suspicious. Not to mention that someone needs to be there to secure Ron and deploy the Aurors if needed. No, Constance and I will go. We can handle ourselves and we'll have a Tracking spell on us in case anything happens.

END

HERMIONE

I've just got back from St Mungo's. There's nothing physically wrong with Ron, but he still hasn't woken up. Constance is recovering. The Healers say she's lucky some light burns were all she had after taking the full brunt of that Confringo.

HARRY

Bloody hell! The Unforgivable were one step ahead of us the whole time. They saw right through your Transfigurations, knew just where our defenses were the weakest, and now I've received word that the real Kit Gerrard and Flavius Flint went missing from the safe house while we were making the exchange.

HERMIONE

You're right. Even getting Ron back seems like something they allowed to happen. Either they have a Legilimens in their cabal... or someone leaked our plans.

HARRY

You think there might be a spy for The Unforgivable within the Ministry? But who could it-- Constance! What are you doing here? Shouldn't you still be in the hospital?

CONSTANCE

Never mind me, you need to go see Ron! He's woken up but his memories... They've been completely Obliviated!