

Unforgivable Truth Part 2



21 June 2021

Brilliant Event

INTRO

HERMIONE

I don't know why I didn't think of creating a surge together sooner. With our combined efforts, it was much easier to fend off The Unforgivable's attempt to steal control of the surge between waves.

HARRY

The Unforgivable must have realised that we know how to use the Calamity to restore Ron's memories. Should we be worried about that?

HERMIONE

Perhaps, though I'm more concerned that they've realised I'm using Veritaserum to attempt to expose their informant. I've heard plenty of confessions - including a few that I wish I hadn't - but no one's implicated themselves so far.

HARRY

Perhaps there is no mole in the Ministry after all? We have plenty of circumstantial evidence, yes, but no definitive proof...

HERMIONE

No, someone close to us has definitely been leaking our plans to The Unforgivable. The only question is - have I yet to 'interview' the culprit? Or have they managed to resist the Veritaserum's effects? Well, I suppose we'll find out which is true soon enough, won't we?

Philosophers Stone

SAGE BRAGNAM

Thank you for the Butterbeer, Hermione. Tastes a wee bit off, but I'm not so daft as to turn my nose up at a free drink on a warm summer's day.

HERMIONE

The weather has been rather unseasonably pleasant lately, hasn't it?

SAGE BRAGNAM

Aye, but do you mind if we skip the pleasantries and get to the point of this meeting? I'd like to study a Philosopher's Stone Foundable before the surge is out. The Calamity may be an International Statute of Secrecy nightmare, but it's been quite a boon for my magical artefact studies.

HERMIONE

Unfortunately not everyone has such scholarly intentions. The Unforgivable have made it abundantly clear that they intend to use the Calamity for their Dark purposes. You wouldn't happen to know anything about them, would you?

SAGE BRAGNAM

Only that they're all you and Harry talk about any more. Even outside of work, it's 'The Unforgivable this' or 'The Unforgivable that.' I admire your devotion to your work, but you two need to seriously consider finding yourselves a hobby.

Three Headed Dog

HARRY

Ron, have you been able to recall any additional memories of our first year since the second surge began?

RON

Enough to question how we made it through the year in one piece. Battling a mountain troll? Sneaking past a giant three-headed dog? Making an enemy of Voldemort, who I'm told is one of the most dangerous Dark wizards of all time? I'm gobsmacked.

HARRY

The fact that we were by each other's sides through most of it probably has something to do with it. Me, you, and Hermione have always made a great team.

RON

Yeah, I'm starting to remember that.

Broken Winged Key

HERMIONE

My memory charms seem to be working. Other than Constance, whose memory I decided not to rewrite, no one remembers being questioned about The Unforgivable.

HARRY

No, but they have noticed you acting oddly around them. Current theories as to why include Polyjuice Potion, a rotten Cauldron Cake, a strange case of Dragon Pox, and that you've 'finally snapped under the stress.'

HERMIONE

A rotten Cauldron Cake? Honestly, so much codswallop gets circulated around here, you'd think we were The Quibbler.

HARRY

They've also noted a general willingness to share their secrets with you. If you're not careful, they'll realise what you've really been up to.

Underground Chambers Trapdoor

MYRA CURIO

Well, if it isn't Hermione! Word around the office is that you have a way of getting people to open up.

HERMIONE

What are you suggesting, Myra?

MYRA CURIO

Isn't that obvious?

You're clearly a better conversationalist and listener than I gave you credit for! Want to take a quick lunch? I had a dream last night involving a giant Niffler that I'd love to get your thoughts on...

Wizard Chess Knight

HERMIONE

Remember this, Ron? When you sacrificed yourself to the white queen in the chessboard chamber, I was terrified. She struck you so hard.

RON

It's nothing compared to what I'm finally remembering Harry went through in that final underground chamber.

HERMIONE

Don't be so modest. Your sacrifice was - and continues to be - one of the bravest acts I'd ever seen.

RON

You might not think so highly of me if you knew what my first thought after I woke up was. I recall wondering if my injury could get me out of class for the rest of the term.

HERMIONE

Oh, Ron. Only you could manage to put your foot in it, even with most of your memories still missing.

First Note Piece

CONSTANCE

Hermione, one of our agents found this piece of a note attached to the wing of a Broken-Winged Key Foundable. Thought you'd want to take a look at it.

HERMIONE

I do, but first I want to apologise to you again. I was so frustrated with The Unforgivable always being one step ahead and so engrossed in rooting out the mole that I started looking at you as a suspect rather than a friend.

I don't regret doing what's necessary to expose The Unforgivable, but I do regret hurting you in the process. You've always devoted yourself to combatting the Calamity and The Unforgivable. I shouldn't have distrusted you.

CONSTANCE

I'm sorry too. I took your suspicion personally, rather than recognising that you were just being diligent. There's just one thing I don't understand. Why didn't you modify my memories like you did the others'? Aren't I a liability that way?

HERMIONE

No, Constance, you're an ally. One I trust and want by my side. I'm just sorry I didn't recognise that earlier.

Fifth Note Piece

CONSTANCE

We don't have enough pieces yet to make out the entire note, but take a look at this. It certainly looks like it says 'memories,' doesn't it?

HERMIONE

Yes, and this part is definitely talking about Ron.

CONSTANCE

You don't think The Unforgivable might try to take Ron's recovered memories back, do you?

HERMIONE

Not if I have anything to do with it.

Final Note Piece

CONSTANCE

This note is all over the place. It jumps from philosophical musings on memory and identity, to haughty declarations that their mission is noble, to threats against us should we get in their way.

HERMIONE

The author certainly fashions themselves an intellectual, don't they? But underneath the doublespeak, their brutish message is clear: stop interfering or end up like Ron.

CONSTANCE

They've followed through on all their other threats so far, so we can't afford to simply ignore it. But we also can't simply let them continue to endanger the world. Blast it, they love putting us in these no-win situations, don't they?

HERMIONE

Yes, they certainly do. Almost as much as they love to rig these twisted games of theirs so that the moment we sit down to play, we've already lost. This time, however, will be different. This time, I'll be setting the rules.

CONSTANCE

That might just be the single most brilliant thing I've heard in my life.

End

GREENGRASS

Miss Granger, what a surprise. Can whatever you've come to discuss wait? I'm rather busy--

HERMIONE

No, I'm afraid it can't. In fact, I'd say this talk is long overdue. Gareth, you're the mole who's been leaking our plans to The Unforgivable, aren't you?

GREENGRASS

Don't be ridiculous, I'm no mole. I'm one of The Unforgivable's most respected members.

What am I saying...? You...! You put Truth Potion in my tea, didn't you? But how? I never took my eyes off my cup!

HERMIONE

I assumed a guarded wizard like you wouldn't. That's why I put it in your milk instead. Now it's my turn to get some answers...