

# Burning Day Part 2



1 November 2021

Brilliant Event

## Intro

### Harry

How goes your investigation, Hermione? Are you ready to share yet?

### Hermione

Unfortunately my theory didn't pan out. I'm afraid we've hit another dead end.

### Constance

So what now? The witches and wizards Gareth Greengrass outed as members of The Unforgivable are still in hiding, there's no trace of who abducted Penelope for the second time, and now even Hermione is stumped.

### Hermione

I'm going to use the Calamity to reach out to Grim again. He can't stop the Calamity without putting Penelope at risk, but it might be possible to help each other get what we want while staying under The Unforgivable's radar.

### Harry

You could sell joke products to Filch, Hermione. If anyone can convince Grim that working with us is in his and Penelope's best interests, it's you.

## Brilliant Grawp

### Hermione

Harry, have you noticed that Ron is starting to recall more than just his memories of our first five years at Hogwarts? After returning a Krum Foundable last surge, Ron suddenly remembered going to the 2014 Quidditch World Cup.

### Harry

Funny, I was about to ask you the same question. Returning a Foundable of George last wave made Ron remember becoming the co-manager of Weasleys' Wizard Wheezes. Then today, a Grawp Foundable prompted Ron to recall introducing Rose to Hugo for the first time.

### Hermione

All of these memories seem to be tangentially connected to the original memory that spawned the Foundable. Watching Viktor at both the 1994 and 2014 Quidditch World Cups, Fred and George founding the joke shop and later bringing Ron on, Hagrid and Rose bonding with their siblings...

### Harry

Up until now, only the shared memories we specifically manipulated the Calamity to steal would be returned to Ron. Could the Calamity's hold on Ron's memories be weakening?

### Hermione

Gareth was the one who originally stole Ron's memories. Perhaps, with him gone, the magic is naturally dissipating. Either way, this is great news. Ron is one step closer to becoming whole again.

## Brilliant Firenze

## Constance

Harry's decided to issue rewards for information on the whereabouts of the witches and wizards Gareth identified as members of The Unforgivable.

It's a good idea, but... Even if we do get these Dark witches and wizards off the streets, it's not like they'd be able to tell us anything about The Unforgivable without breaking their Unbreakable Vows.

I'm trying to stay positive that we'll manage to stop the Calamity and The Unforgivable in the end. But it's hard not to feel discouraged after so many setbacks and dead ends, isn't it?

## Hermione

Don't worry, Constance. The Unforgivable are clever, but they're not infallible. They will make a mistake eventually.

Our job will be to keep diligent and be ready to capitalise on it when that time comes.

## Dolores Umbridges Torn Cape

### Hermione

I've managed to get in touch with Grim again via the Calamity. It took quite a lot of back and forth, but he's willing to consider cooperating with us.

### Constance

Really? But Grim just told us last surge that The Unforgivable are holding Penelope hostage and that he won't risk doing anything that will put her in danger!

### Hermione

Which is why he hasn't agreed to anything yet. So far Grim's only considering the idea of meeting to discuss how we can help each other.

### Constance

You might meet Grim in person?! When? Where?

### Hermione

I'm expecting a follow-up message from him any time now. If he agrees to meet, he said he'll include a time and location. If he turns us down, well... We'll have to go back to the drawing board, won't we?

## Mysterious Note First Piece

### Constance

Hermione, one of our volunteers recovered a piece of parchment with writing on it from that last Foundable.

### Hermione

This must be the response from Grim we've been expecting! Constance, tell the SOS Task Force to be on high alert for additional pieces. It's imperative we learn the contents of this note.

### Constance

Hermione, are you absolutely certain that you've actually been talking to Grim? I'm worried this could be one of The Unforgivable's traps.

### Hermione

I'd be fooling myself if I said that wasn't a possibility. The author's handwriting, mannerisms, and delivery do match what we've come to expect from Grim, but that could theoretically be faked.

Still, I've decided to go along with it. We may never end the Calamity if we don't earn Grim's trust and cooperation. For that, I'm willing to take the risk.

## Fifth Piece

### Hermione

Constance, look at this! Grim's agreed to meet with us.

### Constance

He wants you to come alone? Isn't that a bit suspicious?

### Hermione

Grim is essentially a wanted criminal on the run from both the Ministry and The Unforgivable. It's no surprise he's cautious.

### Constance

I know I should be excited at the prospect of meeting Grim. After all, I have hundreds of questions I'd like to ask him. But I can't help but be concerned that you're walking into a trap..

## Hermione

I appreciate your concern, Constance, but I can hold my own. I'd rather you focus your energy on finding the remaining pieces of the note. We need to know when and where Grim wants to meet.

## Tenth Piece

### Constance

I have good news and bad news, Hermione. The good news is we've found the last piece of Grim's note! The bad news is it appears to be written in code.

### Hermione

It looks like the same code Grim and Penelope used in their secret letters to each other. If that's true, I should be able to use the ones we have in our evidence cabinet to decrypt the meet-up location.

### Constance

I had my doubts, but this does seem to support your belief that you've been communicating with the real Grim, doesn't it?

Though that doesn't mean you should let your guard down. Grim's already proven that he's willing to do just about anything to get Penelope back. There's no telling what his intentions may be.

### Hermione

I suppose we'll know the truth about that - and much more, I suspect - soon enough, won't we?

## Grawps Bicycle Bell

### Harry

I've been thinking. What if no one noticed anything unusual the day Penelope's portrait went missing because nothing unusual happened?

### Constance

As in, you don't think her portrait was really stolen?

### Harry

No, I believe the person responsible was either a member of our team assigned to investigate Gareth's office or someone assuming the appearance of one.

### Constance

That's certainly a possibility, isn't it? Particularly given The Unforgivable's history of using Polyjuice Potion.

### Harry

I'm going to go over my notes from my earlier interviews and compose a list of everyone who was seen entering Gareth's office around that time. I have a good feeling that will lead us to our culprit.

## Rons Prefect Badge

### Ron

I remember the day we were both appointed Gryffindor prefects. You made sense; you always were a perfectionist. But, if I'm being honest, my badge probably should've gone to Harry.

### Hermione

According to Harry, Dumbledore thought he already had enough on his plate. But I like to believe that Dumbledore wanted to teach you a little responsibility too.

### Ron

Not sure how well that lesson took. Remember when I spent a week's pay trying to complete my Chocolate Frog Card collection?

### Hermione

Ron! I'm not sure whether to be upset that you wasted all that money or happy that another memory's returned.

### Ron

Now I remember why I never planned to tell you that, too.

## End

## Harry

I'm not sure why you asked me to go in your stead to the meeting with Grim, but it was good you did. It was an ambush. I managed to fend the attackers off, but only because I was on high alert. Grim must have set us up.

## Hermione

He couldn't have, because Grim didn't write that letter. He never agreed to meet either; in fact, I was never in touch with him at all. I fabricated those letters and the meeting to expose Constance. I'm sorry about lying about my investigation, but with your frankly lackluster Occlumency skills--

## Harry

Hold on a moment. You think Constance is involved with The Unforgivable? But that's not possible.. She wouldn't... Where is this coming from?

## Hermione

My suspicions started in earnest when I discovered that Constance's grandfather, Matthias Pickering, went missing around the time The Unforgivable's leader was secretly replaced. But it wasn't until Constance changed the location of the meeting place in my letter that I was certain.

I knew The Unforgivable wouldn't miss an opportunity to get their hands on Grim, so I went to the 'real' meeting place disguised as him. Sure enough, Constance, using Polyjuice to assume my appearance, showed up to capture me. I managed to detain her, but there's no telling what she's capable of...