

Constance's Lament Part 1



15 November 2021

Brilliant Event

Intro

Harry

It's been a few weeks since you took Constance into custody, but I still find it hard to believe that she has ties to The Unforgivable. Why would she work so tirelessly alongside us to stop The Unforgivable if she was one of them?

Hermione

I don't want to believe it either. But, like it or not, Constance betrayed us. She set us up for an ambush and, thinking I was Grim, tried to abduct me.

Harry

But she denied any involvement with The Unforgivable under Veritaserum! What if this is all a misunderstanding? Constance thought you were walking into a trap, didn't she? Perhaps she used Polyjuice Potion to take your place and gave you the wrong meeting location to keep you safe...

Hermione

Oh, come off it, Harry! We both know that isn't true. There are ways she could have circumvented the Truth Serum too. She probably knew that I'd spiked her drink with it before taking a sip and was therefore able to resist its effects.

Like it or not, Constance is our enemy. She probably has been from the very beginning. While you help Ron regain his memories of our sixth year and beyond, I'll prove Constance's duplicity beyond a shadow of a doubt.

Brilliant Quaffle

Hermione

Constance, I know you're working with The Unforgivable. You can insist you're innocent all you want, but the truth will come out. I'll make sure of it.

Constance

I know you will. I realise now that your trust in me is gone and that I'll never be able to get it back, no matter what I say or do. So instead of trying to lie my way out of this, I'm going to be completely honest with you.

Hermione, I'm not a member of The Unforgivable. I was never initiated, nor did I make an Unbreakable Vow to protect their secrets.

Hermione

This isn't going to go anywhere, is it?

Constance

No, Hermione, you didn't let me finish. I'm not a member of The Unforgivable... but I am their leader. And I promise to tell you anything you want to know.

Brilliant Quidditch Fan Neville Longbottom

Harry

Hermione is convinced you're a part of The Unforgivable. I don't want to believe it, but it's hard to understand why you'd deceive Hermione and try to abduct Grim otherwise.

You've been our friend and coworker for years now. You at least deserve an opportunity to explain yourself, so I'm giving it to you now.

Constance

The truth is... Hermione is right. I've been with The Unforgivable for years, since before we even started working together.

Harry

I can't believe I trusted you! I thought you genuinely wanted to help people... How could I have been so daft? To think I even stuck up for you in front of Hermione...

Constance

I do want to help people! Believe me, everything I've done, I've done to make the world a better place... You offered me the opportunity earlier to explain myself. If the offer's still on the table, I'd like to take it. By the time I'm finished, I think you'll see that I'm not your enemy.

Love Potion Infused Chocolate Cauldrons

Hermione

Oh, Ron. Only you would mistake a heart-shaped box of Chocolate Cauldrons for a birthday present.

Ron

Is it so hard to believe that someone would send me love on my birthday?

Hermione

They were on the floor.

Ron

I thought they'd fallen off my bed! And anyway, you know I can't resist Chocolate Cauldrons. Remember that one Christmas Eve when I had too much Butterbeer and ate all of Rose's Chocolate Cauldrons? I had to rush out in the middle of the night to buy more.

Hermione

I remember, though I'm surprised you do. That was only a few years ago. At this rate, it won't be long before all your memories have returned!

Vial of Felix Felicis

Constance

Harry, have I ever told you about my grandfather, Matthias Pickering?

Harry

Hermione told me he went missing a few years back, but I don't see what he has anything to do with--

Constance

Matthias was a cruel and greedy wizard who would turn violent whenever I angered him, which was often. Despite that, my parents always sided with him. He was wealthy and knew a lot of powerful witches and wizards, so my family always did whatever they could to keep him happy.

Harry

I'm sorry. I know what it's like to live with a family that doesn't have your best interests in mind.

Constance

It's all right. In a way, I'm actually grateful to him. He opened my eyes to all the injustice in the wizarding world. You could say he's why I am the person I am today.

Love Struck Ron Weasley

Ron

I know those Chocolate Cauldrons I ate were spiked with love potion, but I can't believe I actually thought Romilda Vane was my soul mate.

Harry

In your defence, it was a very potent love potion.

Ron

I don't know what's more embarrassing, the fact that I acted like a love-struck clot or that you told the whole story at my wedding.

Harry

Sorry Ron, I blame the firewhisky... Wait a moment, you remember your wedding day?

Ron

I think I do... Which is, coincidentally, what I remember saying to the minister when he asked if I'd take Hermione to be my wife until death did us part.

End

Harry

It's all starting to make sense. Your grandfather, Matthias Pickering, was the leader of The Unforgivable, wasn't he? But you two didn't get along, so you used Polyjuice Potion to secretly depose him and take his place as 'Theus.'

Constance

My grandfather was a selfish wizard who founded The Unforgivable to make himself rich and powerful. He recruited only wealthy and influential wizards with the promise of more money and power. They did terrible things to get ahead with no concern for anyone but themselves.

The moment I discovered The Unforgivable existed, I knew I could put the organisation and their resources to better use. I knew I could make a difference and help those truly in need. So yes, I made Matthias disappear. But only because it was in everyone's best interests.

Hermione

Constance, you and the rest of The Unforgivable have used the Calamity to inflict untold amounts of terror and destruction. You've killed multiple people, including your own grandfather! How can you stand there and act like you're some sort of hero?

Constance

I never intended for anyone to get hurt, but helping people get what they truly want requires doing some... unforgivable things sometimes. In any case, Matthias isn't dead. He's alive and mostly unharmed inside the big trunk in my room. You'd be surprised what people will overlook if it's hidden in plain sight...