***Harry Potter and Prisoner of Azakaban***

#### **Chapter 13-Gryffindor versus Ravenclaw**

***Summary and analysis***

***Brief Summary:***

Animosity between Ron and Hermione has reached an all-time high, after the apparent death of Scabbers at the claws of Crookshanks. To cheer Ron up, Harry offers him a ride on the new Firebolt after Quidditch practice, and Ron happily accepts. The Gryffindor team is busily preparing for the game against Ravenclaw. As Harry's confidence on the new broomstick soars, the rest of the team's confidence rises as well, and the game prospects seem grand. Everybody, especially Oliver Wood, and even Percy Weasley and his girlfriend Penelope, is excited about the coming game. When the players mount their broomsticks and begin the game, the announcer, Lee Jordan, is so focused on Harry's new broomstick that he forgets to comment on many of the basic plays between the teams. Harry is playing seeker against Cho Chang, a pretty and athletic Ravenclaw fourth-year girl on whom Harry seems to be developing somewhat of a crush. Once, Oliver Wood has to yell at Harry for being too much of a gentleman and not pushing her out of the way to get to the Snitch.

Finally, Harry spies the Snitch, but as he speeds to catch it, his attention is drawn down toward three Dementors walking alongside the field. Without thinking, Harry casts a Patronus in their direction, and he catches the Snitch easily, winning the game. Only afterwards does he discover that the Dementors were, in fact, several Slytherins, including Malfoy, dressed in cloaks with the intention of unseating Harry. They are punished severely by McGonagall, much to everyone's delight, and Harry and his friends head to the Gryffindor common room to celebrate for the rest of the day and into the night. When Harry finally returns to his dormitory to sleep, he is woken before dawn to a scream from Ron, who claims that Sirius Black had slashed open the curtain around his bed. Everybody panics, and when McGonagall asks Sir Cadogan if he let anyone into Gryffindor Tower, the knight answers yes, that the intruder had all of the passwords written on a slip of paper, which Neville Longbottom, it is soon discovered, had accidentally left in one of the corridors.

***Synopsis:***

* Ron and Hermione's friendship has effectively come to an end over the seeming murder of Scabbers.
* Ron is furious and upset. Harry makes like Jimmy Carter and tries to play mediator, but unlike Jimmy Carter, Harry sucks at it.
* Hermione is upset that Harry acts like he's taking Ron's side and refuses to talk to either of them.
* Fred and George proceed to make fun of Ron for being so upset over his stupid rat.
* Harry takes his Firebolt to a team practice and it really energizes everyone.
* As they head in from an awesome practice, Harry spots a huge black dog again and gets super nervous.
* It's the day of the match against Ravenclaw and everyone is really excited.
* Harry notices that the Ravenclaw Seeker, Cho Chang, is pretty cute.
* Since the weather is nice, we can hear the commentary of Lee Jordan during the match. Lee seems better suited for stand-up comedy than ESPN, though, and McGonagall keeps yelling at him for his inappropriate comments.
* After doing a lengthy product placement for the Firebolt, Lee gets down to actually covering the match.
* The match is going well, but then Harry spies some pesky Dementors.
* But he whips out his wand, casts a Patronus, and then catches the snitch. Go, Harry!
* After the match, Harry learns that the Dementors weren't actually Dementors – it was Malfoy, Crabbe, and Goyle.
* McGonagall is furious and starts shouting at them.
* Harry finds this hilarious and he heads back to the tower for a victory party.
* Harry tries to talk to Hermione, who's doing homework in a corner during the party, but Ron makes a loud comment about Scabbers and Hermione runs off crying.
* Harry tells Ron to lay off, but Ron stubbornly refuses to apologize to her.
* That night, Ron wakes everyone up by screaming.
* Turns out Sirius Black was hovering over Ron with a knife.
* No one knows how to respond to that (other than "Aaaahhhh!") but McGonagall barges in and starts questioning Ron.
* She doesn't believe him either, but then Sir Cadogan reveals that he let Black in since he had the password written down.
* McGonagall is furious and Neville confesses that he was the one who wrote the password down initially.

***Brief Analysis:***

Ron has had it with Hermione for letting her cat eat Scabbers. He will not speak to her at all and Hermione thinks Ron is falsely accusing Crookshanks. Ron is very upset at the loss of Scabbers, even though his brothers remind him that the rat had lived three times longer than it should have.

Harry rides the Firebolt in practice and it is all that he dreamed. The big day of the match against Ravenclaw arrives; they have a new Seeker, Cho Chang, who is reported to be very good. She is also very pretty and Harry gets a few butterflies when he first sees her on the field. It is a very exciting game and Cho is just as good as everyone says. Harry misses the Snitch four times, once because he gets knocked by a bludger, twice because he is trying to be a gentleman to Cho, the last time because suddenly three Dementors appear on the field. Harry doesn't even think. He races towards them on his Firebolt, casts the Patronus charm and flies after the Snitch, just catching it before it raced away again. The game is over, Gryffindor has won.

His team is upon him, yelling for joy, as this win puts them in the finals for the Quidditch Cup. Everyone is running to congratulate him and he hears a voice say "That was some Patronus." It was Professor Lupin. Harry finds out that his charm was wasted, as the "Dementors" on the field were really Malfoy, Crabbe, Goyle and Marcus Flint, standing on one another's shoulders for height and wearing dark robes. They are all lying in a crumbled heap on the ground, tangled in the robes. Malfoy is furious, it seems Harry scared them to death with his charm. They were in quite a bit of trouble for this.

The Gryffindors party until late into the night; they are told to get to bed by McGonagall. Harry has a nightmare that wakes him up and when he does, Ron is screaming that Sirius Black was just in the room with a knife and has slashed his curtains. Professor McGonagall comes in and thinks Ron is dreaming, until she asks the Portrait guard if a man had entered the dorm. The Portrait tells her yes and the man had all the passwords for a week on a piece of paper. McGonagall asks who would be stupid enough to write down the passwords and then loose them. It was Neville Longbottom.

Harry seems to have a crush on Cho, the Seeker from the Ravenclaw team. His strength and bravery is shown yet again, as he dashes down to what he thinks are three Dementors and produces a grand Patronus. He is a tad disappointed when he finds out they weren't real Dementors, but is delighted to find out that it was his least favorite person, Draco Malfoy. He is especially happy that it is Draco getting in trouble instead of him and Ron.

Sirius Black has obviously found some way in and out of the school. The last visit was not a fluke and he is getting more desperate. The question in this visit is why he slashed Ron's curtains and not Harry's. If he is presumably after Harry, he would have attacked him and not Ron. It could have been a simple mistake in the dark, or it could be a hint about future chapters.

***Summary and Analysis Part by Part:***

***Summary Part 1:***

[Ron](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/ron-weasley) and [Hermione](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/hermione-granger) are so angry with each other over what looks to Ron like [Crookshanks](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/crookshanks)' success in eating [Scabbers](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/scabbers-peter-pettigrew) that [Harry](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/harry-potter) fears this is the end of their friendship. Harry thinks that Ron is right and Crookshanks did eat Scabbers, but Hermione loses her temper with Harry when he points this out. [Fred](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/fred-weasley) and [George](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/george-weasley) fail to cheer Ron up, but Harry is able to convince him to come with him to Quidditch practice so he can ride the Firebolt. At the pitch, [Madam Hooch](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters) inspects the broomstick until [Oliver](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/oliver-wood) reminds her that they need to practice. Before they mount, Oliver says that the Ravenclaw Seeker will be [Cho Chang](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters), who's very good but rides an old broom.

***Analysis Part 1:***

Notice that the narrator never says that Harry was particularly angry with Hermione about Scabbers's death; he was able to treat what seemed to have happened as fact without getting emotional about it. This is a mark of maturity for Harry, though his inability to see how that could be a sensitive subject for Hermione indicates that he still has a long way to go.

***Summary Part 2:***

[Ron](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/ron-weasley) takes his turn on the broom and flies until [Madam Hooch](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters) wakes up from her nap and insists they go inside. [Harry](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/harry-potter) and Ron are halfway to the castle when Harry notices a pair of glittering eyes in the darkness. Ron lights his wand and they see [Crookshanks](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/crookshanks). Ron angrily throws a stone, but Crookshanks disappears. Harry is secretly relieved; he thought the eyes belonged to the Grim.

***Analysis Part 2:***

Harry's fear of the Grim shows that even if he finds Divination a bit ridiculous, he does take the Grim very seriously. While Crookshanks is still a disliked figure at this point, he's not scary like a death omen and is rather a sign that things are normal and safe.

***Summary Part 3:***

The next morning, [Harry](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/harry-potter) takes the Firebolt to breakfast with him. The Slytherins look awestruck and even [Cedric Diggory](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/cedric-diggory) compliments Harry on the broom. After [Penelope Clearwater](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters) looks at the Firebolt and heads back to her table, [Percy](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/percy-weasley) urgently whispers to Harry that Gryffindor has to win—he and Penelope bet ten Galleons on the game, and he doesn't have the money to lose. [Malfoy](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/draco-malfoy) tries to taunt Harry about the Firebolt having a parachute, but the Gryffindors turn him away.

***Analysis Part 3:***

Again, when Cedric Diggory congratulates Harry on the broom, it shows that he believes entirely in fairness and making sure that things play out in a just way. Percy's request to Harry shows that he also has a habit of bending the truth to make himself look better to Penelope, which begins to normalize the practice.

***Summary Part 4:***

[Cho Chang](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters) is the only girl on the Ravenclaw team and as [Harry](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/harry-potter) approaches, he feels his stomach drop. [Madam Hooch](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters) instructs the teams to mount and kick off. [Lee Jordan](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters)'s commentary focuses mostly on the Firebolt and its qualities, though [McGonagall](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/professor-mcgonagall) tries to keep him on track. Cho tails Harry and, as he dives for the Snitch, she cuts him off. Harry leads Cho around the pitch at a quick pace and finally sees the Snitch. As he races for it, Cho screams and points to three [dementors](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/symbols/dementors) on the field. Harry pulls his wand out, shouts "Expecto Patronum," and continues towards the Snitch as something leaps out of his wand. He catches the Snitch and Gryffindor wins.

***Analysis Part 4:***

The fact that something "leaps" out of Harry's wand suggests that he created a real, distinct Patronus this time. It's important to remember that this happened during a moment of great excitement for Harry, which shows that Lupin may have undersold how happy or excited a person needs to be in order to properly conjure a Patronus. In this situation, being so close to the Snitch gives Harry the strength to focus on the task at hand.

***Summary Part 5:***

The team descends upon [Harry](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/harry-potter) and then the crowd engulfs them. Harry hears [Lupin](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/professor-lupin) beside him complimenting him on his Patronus. When Harry says he didn't feel anything, Lupin explains that the [dementors](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/symbols/dementors) weren't real and leads him to where [Malfoy](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/draco-malfoy), [Crabbe](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters), [Goyle](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters), and the Slytherin Quidditch captain are struggling to crawl out of black robes. [McGonagall](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/professor-mcgonagall) shouts at them as [Ron](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/ron-weasley) laughs.

***Analysis Part 5:***

Even though these dementors weren't real, Harry still gets the valuable experience of having created a perfect Patronus under pressure. This suggests that there are times when the facts of a situation aren't as important as its outcome.

***Summary Part 6:***

[Fred](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/fred-weasley) and [George](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/george-weasley) begin a party in the Gryffindor common room. [Hermione](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/hermione-granger), however, doesn't join in. Though she says she came to the match, she insists that [Ron](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/ron-weasley) doesn't want her to join the party. Ron loudly comments that [Scabbers](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/scabbers-peter-pettigrew) used to love party food, which sends Hermione into tears. Ron tells [Harry](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/harry-potter) that if Hermione would act sorry, he'd stop.

***Analysis Part 6:***

When Ron refuses to forgive Hermione and, in particular, when he makes comments like this designed to make her feel bad, he looks mean and immature. At this point, he's entirely blind to what friendship should mean to him.

***Summary Part 7:***

The party ends after midnight when [McGonagall](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/professor-mcgonagall) tells everyone to go to bed. A scream interrupts [Harry](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/harry-potter)'s dream, so he sits up, opens his curtains, and sees [Ron](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/ron-weasley) looking terrified. Ron says that [Sirius Black](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/sirius-black) was above him with a knife. Doors start to open and people tell Ron that he was just dreaming. McGonagall returns to the common room, annoyed. Ron finally shouts that Sirius Black was in the dormitory and tells McGonagall to ask [Sir Cadogan](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/sir-cadogan) if he let Black in. Suspiciously, McGonagall steps out of the portrait hole and Sir Cadogan brightly says that Black had a list of passwords. McGonagall angrily asks who wrote the list and [Neville](https://www.litcharts.com/lit/harry-potter-and-the-prisoner-of-azkaban/characters/neville-longbottom) raises his hand.

***Analysis Part 7:***

When people try to discredit Ron and don't take him seriously, it shows how a large group of people is capable of not being willing to hear the truth—even when, as is the case with the Gryffindors, they all care about Ron and want him to be safe. Ron's ability to bring in Sir Cadogan to corroborate his story reinforces the importance of having witnesses and other people to confirm events, as it's the only way that people are willing to take him seriously.