

"Yes," said Quirrell idly, walking around the mirror to look at the back. "He was on to me by that time, trying to find out how far I'd got. He suspected me all along. Tried to frighten me — as though he could, when I had Lord Voldemort on my side. ..."

Quirrell came back out from behind the mirror and stared hungrily into it.

"I see the Stone ... I'm presenting it to my master ... but where is it?"

Harry struggled against the ropes binding him, but they didn't give. He *had* to keep Quirrell from giving his whole attention to the mirror.

"But Snape always seemed to hate me so much."

"Oh, he does," said Quirrell casually, "heavens, yes. He was at Hogwarts with your father, didn't you know? They loathed each other. But he never wanted you *dead*."

"But I heard you a few days ago, sobbing — I thought Snape was threatening you."

For the first time, a spasm of fear flitted across Quirrell's face.

"Sometimes," he said, "I find it hard to follow my master's instructions — he is a great wizard and I am weak —"

"You mean he was there in the classroom with you?" Harry gasped.

