

Waiting on A Brand New Day

by Fleamont

On his first night at Hogwarts, Miles Meitner sleeps alone.

Earlier that evening, he and the other first years took part in the Sorting. When his name was called, the Sorting Hat decided that Miles would become the first new Hufflepuff. That might have seemed weird, because 'M' was already halfway in the alphabet, and no one before him got sorted into Hufflepuff. He didn't think much of it.



He only started to notice that, when a handful of students after him got called by Professor Flitwick to sit under the brim of the Hat, no one joined him at the Hufflepuff table. Even until the last student was called – Ella Zircon, who was a Slytherin – Miles was the still sole Hufflepuff first year.

Headmistress McGonagall and Professor Sprout came to talk to him, explained that they had never heard of such an instance before - of a House taking in one single student. The Sorting Hat couldn't have been wrong, they said.

And so, here he is. In his new bedroom, where he will spend every night of the next seven years. Alone.

The next morning when Miles comes down to the common room, the Hufflepuff prefects, Laila Harding and Hugo Lawrence, approach him. They ask how he is doing. He is alright.

Sprout gives him his timetable during breakfast. She explains that he will join Gryffindor for Herbology and Potions, Ravenclaw for Charms and Astronomy, and Slytherin for Transfiguration and Defence Against the Dark Arts. Because of conflicting schedules, he will attend History of Magic and Flying by himself.

At Herbology he sees a familiar face in Philippa Woods, whom he met on the Hogwarts Express. Pippa is a muggleborn like Miles, so they bond over their fascination with the magical world. While picking off the leaves of dittany plants, Miles also shares his feelings about being the only Hufflepuff student there. Pippa is an attentive listener, and when they leave the greenhouse together, he feels like he has found a trusty friend in her.



Another student Miles got acquainted with during the train journey to Hogwarts was Theodore Hazell. They meet for the second time during Charms, where they learn about the cheering charm.

Miles and Theo are paired together to practice the spell, which Theo masters very quickly. Miles' day is considerably brighter after that.

Later, when lessons have ended, Miles joins Pippa at the Gryffindor table for dinner. She introduces him to other Gryffindors, Haris Ali and Anne Pearson. The four of them talk about nothing and everything. Naturally talkative as he is, Miles enjoys this immensely.

Afterwards, Miles goes down to the Hufflepuff common room. Although he's made some new friends already, he can't help wishing that he had someone to talk to at night-time. He makes small conversations with a couple of the older Hufflepuff students, who are all very friendly towards him. But, honestly, it's not the same as being with friends his own age.



At around nine, Miles says goodnight and retires to bed. He supposes his dormitory is the smallest of all the others at Hogwarts. It fits his four-poster bed, wardrobe, bedside table, and no one else's. He lies awake for twenty more minutes before dozing off.

The next day begins and ends in much a similar fashion as the day before. So does the day after, the day after that, and the rest.

Every day, Miles wakes up early and has a hearty breakfast. He then goes to lessons, sometimes by himself, but most of the time with friends. He has lunch and dinner with them, too.

Miles finds he's becoming fast friends with Pippa and Theo. The others, like Haris, Anne, and Selene Wolfram – a Slytherin girl he sits next to during Transfiguration, likewise spend a lot of time with him. They grumble about homework and revise for exams together. Miles always tries to stay with them for as long as he could before having to go back to his own common room.

Once a week, he sends a letter to his mum and dad. He wishes they could see how beautiful Hogwarts is and how nice his friends are. He misses them lots and cannot wait to see them at Christmas.

Each night when he goes to bed, a nagging feeling appears in his chest. But when he thinks of seeing his friends again the next morning, he finds he always has something to look forward to.



