Nott Theory i.e. Seduction via Math Texts

grouperman, InkOfLethe

Academic Year 2017-2018

1 Abstract

Ginny Weasley, Hermione Granger

October 10, 2017

Ginny: So. This guy. What does he look like?

Hermione: He's... tall? And has kinda curly, dark brown hair?

Ginny: Hmm do you have any photos of him?

Hermione: Why in the world would I

Hermione: And based on a quick search, there's a Theodore Nott who died aged 64 in Virginia back in 2014 and one who's a classics professor in England, but nothing on the one here

Ginny: Well that's disappointing. Get a photo of him if you get the chance

A modern day, AmericanUnversity!Hogwarts AU where Hermione Granger is a sophomore computer science student who Theo Nott is very interested in. For the potential of poaching her for the math department, obviously.

2 Fall Semester

CS 230 Algorithms - 58 members September 28 (Thursday)

Hermione Granger: In question three on the exam, how did you guys show the algorithm stops?

JSloper: Wdym?

Hermione Granger: ? You have to show the algorithm eventually stops as part of the answer...?

JSloper: I mean, it's kinda just... obvious?

Romilda: Yeah like finite vertices so you eventually run out and have to end right?

Romilda: That's what I wrote down

Hermione Granger: Is that necessarily enough? Couldn't you end up trapped in a cycle if it isn't a tree?

JSloper: You only use breadth first search on trees

Hermione: No, you don't?

Draco: Surprised you'd think anything besides trees matter

Hermione Granger: ...

Hermione Granger: What?

Draco: Aren't you the one that dropped an entire bag of save-the-tree pins on the second day of class?

Hermione Granger: Okay, anyways, back to graphs

Draco: lmao

Hermione Granger: I'm still confused on how you guys did this?

JSloper: It just doesn't seem like that big of a deal to talk about in detail

Draco: Proof by anxiety isn't gonna change your exam grade one way or another.

Hermione Granger: What???

New private message - Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

September 28 (Thursday)

Theo: Um, sorry if this is weird but I thought I'd advise you to just ignore Draco

Theo: He specializes in being a nuisance

Hermione: So I shouldn't understand what he's saying...??

Theo: Not really. Not at the moment anyways

Theo: You're right btw. You definitely have to show the algorithm stops for that question and it's not as obvious as there being finite vertices. I can try explaining what I said if you'd like...?

Hermione: If you have time. I don't want to be a bother

Theo: No, I'm free right now

Theo: And it's not a bother. I like a post-exam brief anyways

Theo is typing...

Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

October 4 (Wednesday)

Hermione: Hey, would you like to work on the next algorithms HW together? Perhaps Friday or Saturday afternoon?

Theo: I haven't actually started it yet but sure

Theo: I'm kinda busy through Sat though. Would Sun work?

Hermione: Sun afternoon is fine! I've only done a little bit so far myself.

Hermione: I can't decide whether I'm overthinking 6 is the main problem.

Hermione: I have something, but I don't think the proof holds up.

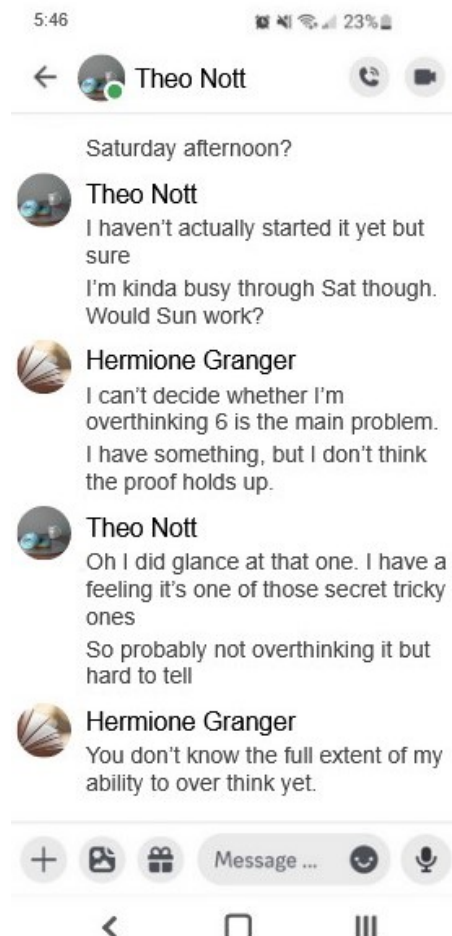Theo: Oh I did glance at that one. I have a feeling it's one of those secretly tricky ones

Theo: So probably not overthinking it but hard to tell

Hermione: You don't know the full extent of my ability to over think yet.

Ginny Weasley, Hermione Granger

October 4 (Wednesday)

Hermione:

Hermione: Was this weird to send?

Ginny: ...no?

Ginny: I'm not saying it's a good joke but it is a completely fine joke

Hermione: Thanks

Ginny: Was this the guy who said to let him know if you wanted to work on hw together one time and you weren't sure if he was just being polite?

Hermione: Yeah

Hermione: I offered two potential times so he could politely duck out and say he was busy or whatever. But he offered alternative times, so I guess he's actually interested.

Ginny: Nice

Theo Nott

October 16 (Monday)

Theo: Um, have you tried the java version of the source code?

Theo: I tried using it but got a null pointer exception?

Hermione: Seriously?

Hermione: It's just a tree. Who messed that up?

Hermione: Why are you using java anyways? Don't mathematicians pretty much only use python and matlab? Python takes care of them on its own

Theo: A good point. Branching out is overrated anyways. Leave that to the algorithm

Theo: I apologize for the bad pun.

Hermione: Lol, no, graph theory tree puns are good. One of my friends is an environmental engineer and VP of the arbor society so I hear normal-tree puns a lot.

Hermione: He's also one of my roommates so there's actually a "son of a birch" and a "leaf me alone" poster in the living room. A little diversity won't hurt.

Hermione: You can't even imagine how excited he was to hear that trees were a type of math/CS thing too

Theo: Ah. I'll have to root around for some novel ones then. With a depth first search ofc :p

Hermione: Better get root permission first :D

Theo: XD

Theo: Is he why you were doing some save the trees things earlier this semester?

Hermione: Yeah. Harry's very... passionate about trees and I'm a pushover when it comes to my friends.

Hermione: Ironically, he's not the one named "actually a plant" in our group chat. That's a different environmental engineer.

Hermoine: But Harry's more zealous and chatty about it.

Hermione: Both of them are all over this project of the arbor society, though. Advocating against proposed new logging in north Vermont. They're hoping to get the area protected, which would take forever, but they've got a mandatorium against logging starting so good signs so far.

Theo: :)

Dumbledore's Army - 6 members

October 18 (Wednesday)

Bibliophile: Is it alright with you guys if I invite someone else to the study sessions?

The-Boy-Who-Lived: sure

moon.and.sun: I do not mind

Firefly: If it's not another cormac then sure

Bibliophile: No, not another cormac

Bibliophile: Strong signals that he's too much of a nerd for that to be quite honest.

Bibliophile: Are you gonna ever let me live that down Ginny?

Firefly: I see no reason to

Firefly: no one got anything done for two weeks then we spent another week getting rid of him

Bibliophile: I'm sorry

Actually-A-Plant: Go ahead, invite him

The-Boy-Who-Lived: Neville and I can talk his ear off about plants until he leaves if needed. It was fun

Firefly: Anyone we know?

Bibliophile: Probably not. He's a math student in my algorithms class. I think he's also a sophomore

Bibliophile: I don't think we have any other math majors?

Firefly: No one who actually comes regularly

KingWeasel: sure, invite him Mi

Firefly: You've barely been coming either ron

Firefly: Wait! This is the same math boy that you mentioned last week isn't it!

Firefly: tell us everything you know about him

Bibliophile: Um

Bibliophile: Must I?

KingWeasel: You can also not do that if you want

Bibliophile: Thanks Ron

Firefly: boo :sadfaceemoji:

Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

October 18 (Wednesday)

Hermione: Hey, I was wondering if you wanted to join some of my friends and I for our study sessions at the library

Hermione: We meet on Mondays and Thursdays at 6. Usually until 8 or 9. Me and a few people are always there and then a couple others come some times

Hermione: We don't actually work on the same things most of the time though a few of us do diff eqs every Thurs

Hermione: Figured it might be nice to talk about algorithms instead of just text

Theo: Yeah, that sounds good. I'm gonna be busy tomorrow but I should be able to make it on Monday!

Hermione: We meet on the second floor near the quilt gallery. Which study room varies so I can message you the number that day.

Hermione: It's mostly friends I made last year in first year engineering and some of their friends (from high school and other classes). More engineers than anything else but not exclusively. Just a warning :P

Theo: Oh the horror!

Theo: I'll figure out how to cope for you and our algorithms grades

---

Ginny Weasley, Blaise Zabini

October 31 (Tuesday)

Blaise sent "Anthropology Exam 2 Study Guide.docx"

Blaise: As promised last night, here's my part of the study guide

Ginny: Thanks

Ginny: So Theo was at st merlins with you? And Neville?

Blaise: Yep. I fell into Theo's friend group pretty quickly and a good number of us ended up here afterwards

Ginny: Ah yes, the oh so famous st merlins to hogwarts pipeline. Only options besides the ivies and pseudo-ivies that don't bring shame upon your family?

Ginny: How did I end up knowing so many prep school boys? Hogwarts isn't that ridiculously selective

Blaise: Excuse me, aren't you a legacy student? Are you sure you're not just being biased?

Ginny: Details

Ginny: Anyways

Ginny: Has Theo said anything to you about Hermione?

Blaise: He might have not mentioned her by name, but he's obsessed

Blaise: "she's really smart" and "she asked me to study with her. does that mean something" and "draco stop being a dick to her. i don't want her to hate me by association "

Blaise: Oh and he definitely wants to steal her for the math department. I think that's just a thing the math department does though.

Blaise: They're weird

Blaise: Some part of me feels like I should have suspected something when he said his mystery girl invited him to study with her and her friends last week, but I was a tad preoccupied with that project

Ginny: Might have been good you were busy last week tbh. Hermione's the only one he knew so he hung around her the most

Ginny: Hmm well this is promising

Ginny: Up for some scheming?

Blaise: Absolutely. What do you have in mind?

Ginny is typing...

Ginny Weasley, Hermione Granger

November 6 (Monday)

Ginny: Sorry Harry Neville and I won't be at study session tonight

Ginny: Forgot that an NEA rush event was today and not tomorrow like usual

Hermione: Urgh have fun at your engineering frat thing

Hermione: Luna's busy finishing up that big midterm project too isn't she?

Ginny: Yeah she's at the architecture building until like 10 most nights so far this week

Ginny: Not convinced she's been eating dinner regularly since the dining hall closes before she's done most days

Hermione: Oh poor Luna

Ginny: Sorry gtg I have to find another professional blouse that I haven't worn in the past couple weeks

Ginny: Good luck with homework!

Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

November 6 (Monday)

Hermione: Apparently Harry Ginny Neville and Luna won't be coming today. Not sure anyone else is either.

Hermione: Have you heard from Blaise

Hermione: He's not here yet at any rate

Theo: Nope, haven't heard from him since about Sat. Didn't mention anything about today

Theo: He's usually pretty good at being on time or early

Theo: I just got here though

Hermione: Yeah. Well I'm here already

Hermione: Just wanted to let you know ahead of time

Hermione: Not that I got much advance notice either

Theo: Don't worry about it. I'll see you in a moment

Dumbledore's Army - 6 members

November 6 (Monday)

Bibliophile: I can't believe you all ABANDONED ME

Bibliophile: I am not even close to the "can sit quietly and work" stage with Theo

Bibliophile: And Blaise wasn't there either

Bibliophile renamed the chat <<Crooks and Hedwig are the best Everyone else is a traitor>>

Bibliophile: Luna's forgiven though. Please remember to eat dinner @moon.and.sun

The-Boy-Who-Lived: I'm sorry Hermione

The-Boy-Who-Lived: I'll make sure it doesn't ever happen again

Firefly: Surely you're being over dramatic

Firefly: Was hanging out with your math boy while getting homework done really that bad

Bibliophile: I mean no not that bad

Bibliophile: Still not mine

Bibliophile: It's fine Harry. Don't worry about it

moon.and.sun: I am sorry I was absent Hermione but I did eat tonight

moon.and.sun: Ginny got microwavable saag at the store for me!

Bibliophile: I'm glad to hear it

moon.and.sun: The project is almost finished. I will be at the library on Thursday. Promise

Firefly renamed the chat <<Crooks and Hedwig are still the best>>

KingWeasel: How are we supposed to remember Dumbledore's stupid welcoming speech without the chat name?

Firefly: Don't worry. It's still living rent free in my head

Firefly: "Standing army against the dark forces of ignorance "

Bibliophile: I still can't believe he uses that same speech every year. Just. The entire bad speech every year. How old is your eldest brother again?

KingWeasel: 28
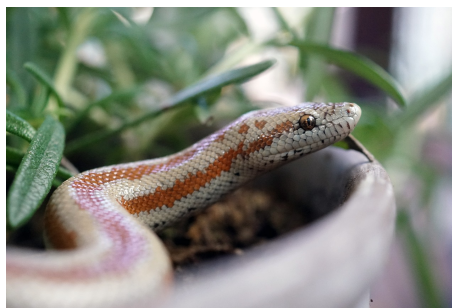
Firefly: Turning 29 soon

Firefly: He's 10 grades older than me and Luna. 9 grades than you guys.

Bibliophile: That's a lot of years (at min) to reuse even a good speech

Firefly: It's okay. It's fine. We don't ever have to listen to it again

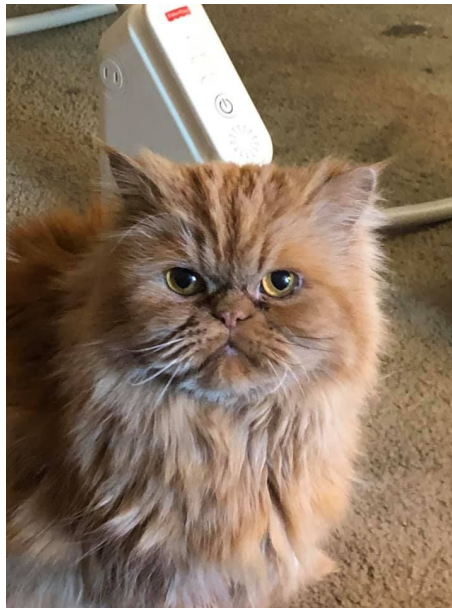The-Boy-Who-Lived: Hedwig finished a shed today!

The-Boy-Who-Lived

Firefly: aww such a pretty snake. what a good girl

Bibliophile: the very best snake

Bibliophile:

Bibliophile: And Crookshanks is the very best cat

Crooks and Hedwig are still the best - 6 members

November 11 (Saturday)

Bibliophile: Urgh I can't decide what class to take

Bibliophile: At least my advisor confirmed switching to math or doing a cs math double major won't be a problem
for me though.

Firefly: This is still the two math classes and networks isn't it

Bibliophile: maybe :/

Actually-A-Plant: From what you told us Hermione, you can't go that wrong

Actually-A-Plant: All of them have good professors and are topics you should enjoy. Maybe you should just roll a
die

Bibliophile: Lol. Thanks Neville

Firefly: Or you could just take the one with your math boy

Firefly: Just do it. Be brave :P

Bibliophile: But Ginnyyyyy

Firefly: I'm serious though. Come on, what would you regret more in the long term?

Bibliophile: ...fine. You have a point.

Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

November 14 (Tuesday)

Hermione: I registered for number theory!

Hermione: No problems with the prereqs or anything :)

Hermione: You signed up yesterday, right?

Theo: Yeah, this will be really... maybe fun isn't exactly the right word but we'll have a good time :D

Theo: Also there's an undergrad math seminar on thurs from 2-3 if you're interested

Theo: I forgot it's pretty much not advertised to non-majors at all even though it's supposed to be for anyone who's done calc 2 and up. Wenlock building 320

Hermione: Oh interesting. I'm free then

Hermione: It'll be a talk right? Do you know what about?

Theo: Yeah, knot theory. Presenter is a second year grad student I think

Hermione: I don't think I've ever even heard of knot theory?

Theo: So think, normal definition of a knot on a single string. In math, a knot is like that but you "glue" the two ends together to get a closed loop. A lot of the questions are about if you can transform one knot into another without breaking the loop (in which case they're basically the same knot)

Theo: Modern knot theory is mostly done with algebraic topology but I don't really know anything more than that. Talk abstract says it assumes no prior knowledge beyond like, high school algebra anyways

Theo: So you should be just fine :)

Hermione: Okay, sounds interesting! I'll come and I'll see you in class tomorrow :)

Hermione Granger, Ginny Weasley

November 25 (Saturday)

Ginny: You did mention you needed more math puns to send to Theo, right?

Hermione: Yeah...

Ginny: https://genius.com/52654 Rhianna (ft. Drake) - What's My Name?

Ginny: Beginning of first verse

Hermione: GINNY NO

Ginny: The square root of 69 *is* 8 pt something

Hermione: GINNY NO

Ginny: It's a pretty good math pun for a pop song, you have to admit

Hermione: ...fine

Hermione: it's kinda impressive for a pop song, but I'm not sending that to him

Ginny: Why ever not :devilfaceemoji:

Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

December 3 (Sunday)

Theo: Hey do you want to study together

Theo: I thought we could work on the algorithm review some time besides the usual meet up. We could work on our own things too ofc :)

Herrmione: Oh sure. Sounds like a good plan! I have an electrical project due on Wednesday so I can't do Tues or Wed, but I think I can make anything else work.

Theo: What about Saturday? We could go to the coffee shop downtown

Theo: It's one of my favorite places to study on the weekend

Theo: Nice to get away from campus occasionally! :)

Hermione: That sounds great! Do we need to get there early to get a table?

Theo: Probably a good idea since it's almost dead week. Usually it wouldn't be a real problem.

Theo: Is 9 okay for you? They have sandwiches and other foods so we could have lunch there if we end up staying a long time.

Hermione: Sure! It's a date! :)

Theo: Great, see you in class tomorrow!

Crooks and Hedwig are still the best - 6 members

December 3 (Sunday)

Bibliophile:

8:32

← Theo Nott

to the coffee shop downtown
It's one of my favorite places to study on the weekend
Nice to get away from campus occasionally! :)

Hermione Granger
That sounds great! Do we need to get there early to get a table?

Theo Nott
Probably a good idea since it's almost dead week. Usually it wouldn't be a real problem.
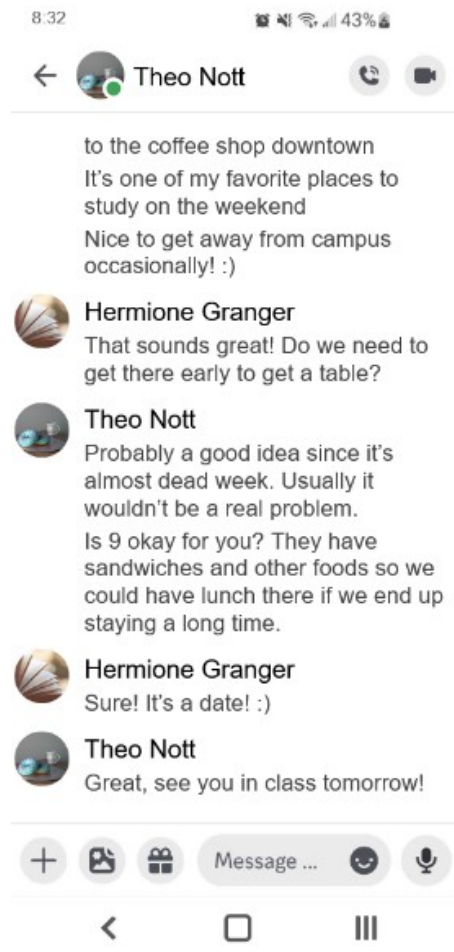Is 9 okay for you? They have sandwiches and other foods so we could have lunch there if we end up staying a long time.

Hermione Granger
Sure! It's a date! :)

Theo Nott
Great, see you in class tomorrow!

Message ...

Bibliophile: I cannot believe I said that. It was NOT intentional

Bibliophile: so... is it... a date date now...?

Bibliophile: Oh god maybe you're right gin. Maybe he does like me? But surely not

KingWeasel: Well he doesn't dislike you

The-Boy-Who-Lived: Absolutely counts

moon.and.sun: He may have interpreted it as an idiom

moon.and.sun: Perhaps you should ask him to be sure

Firefly: Have you considered sending him a heart emoji

The-Boy-Who-Lived: I mean they might as well already be dating with that many exclamation marks and smiley
faces

The-Boy-Who-Lived: I'm certain

Bibliophile: We use exclamation marks and smiley faces with each other??

The-Boy-Who-Lived: The vibes are different

Firefly: Are you guys actually kidding me

Firefly: Boys :rollingeyesemoji:

KingWeasel: I think it's unfair you're lumping us together

Firefly: "He doesn't dislike you" he says and expects to be excluded from the dumb dumb train

Firefly: Just. Keep talking to him, Hermione. Ask directly if you want, just continue acting normal otherwise and pay attention while you're out.

Firefly: And it's okay if it stays a little ambiguous even afterwards, you realize?

The-Boy-Who-Lived: Yeah, what she said

Firefly: :facepalmemoji:

Bibliophile: Sigh. Thanks Ginny

Hermione Granger, Ginny Weasley

December 9 (Saturday)

Ginny: You're home now right

Ginny: How was the date

Ginny: Was it a date? Please, tell me it was a date

Ginny: Like, Luna was right that it was ambiguous but I think we both know what you *wanted*

Hermione: ...

Hermione: All I'm saying is I finished my calc IV study guide today

Hermione: Also they do have really good coffee

Ginny: HERMIONE

Ginny: :(

Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

December 12 (Tuesday)

Theo: Good luck on calc! You'll kill it ;)

Hermione: Thanks, I'm just hoping it's not too many special cases sort of things, but nothing to do about it now.

Hermione: Did I stress out about this exam to the point that you memorized when it was?

Hermione: I'm sorry, I'm a babbler when stressed

Theo: Oh no

Theo: You're fine. I sorta accidentally deduced it. Shacklebolt only teaches calc IV at 9 and 3 and I know you don't have class at 3.

Theo: And I have analysis at the same time so I already knew which exam block it has

Hermione: Oh!

Hermione: Good luck too! Though I'm sure you won't need it!

Hermione: You've been studying it practically to death

Theo: Thanks. I think it'll go at least okay

Hermione: I believe in you

Hermione: You'll do great <3

Hermione Granger, Ginny Weasley

December 12 (Tuesday)

Hermione: I used a <3

Hermione: Ttyl I'm headed to an exam

Ginny: You can't just!!

Ginny: Bitch :unimpressedfaceemoji:

Draco Malfoy, Blaise Zabini

December 14 (Thursday)

Draco: HOW WAS I NOT INFORMED THAT THEO'S CRUSH IS HERMIONE GRANGER

Draco: Some random red head girl just like. Came up to me and started asking questions and DROPPED THAT BIT OF NEWS

Draco: I swear I've never met her in my life

Blaise: Ginny

Blaise: The red head is Ginny

Blaise: And what the fuck do you mean you didn't know it was Hermione????

Draco: I thought it was the girl that sat sorta in front of us in class. That girl's... I don't know if she'll survive engineering, I'll put it that way. She has brown curls too and that was the ONLY physical description we pulled from him, as I'm sure you remember

Draco: I was so confused why he was doing homework with her. And somehow still got pristine grades.

Draco: But Hermione Granger is a whole different story. No wonder he wants to poach her for the department

Blaise: This is ridiculous

Blaise: What's wrong with your department

Blaise: Or you. Or Theo. Thank god finals are done. There's still whiskey somewhere right

Draco: There's some cheap stuff on the floor of the pantry

Draco: I'm still livid btw

Blaise: Yeah I'm sure you are

3   Spring Semester

Draco Malfoy, Theo Nott January 10 (Wednesday)

Theo: You know. I feel sort of abandoned actually

Draco: The number theory project?

Theo: Yes the number theory project

Theo: Didn't even check with me before asking terrance to work with you

Theo: I think this might legit be the first time since elementary school that we haven't paired up for a project when we're in the same class and can pick partners. A big semester long project too! 15

Draco: Didn't see a need to make you break it to me that you'd be working with Hermione. Or give you the choice to not work with Hermione. It's for your own good

Draco: Trust me

Draco: I'm such a good friend

Theo: Are you though :skepticalface:

Theo: You said, and I quote, "oh yeah I have a partner already. Wait, not you. Hey, Terrance, do you have a partner yet? Great. I'm working with Terrance "

Theo: Do you even like Terrence

Draco: He's fine

Draco: Don't worry about it

Draco: And I made dinner theodore! Covered on the stove whenever you get back

Theo: You're insufferable but thank you for the food

Draco: :D

Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

January 12 (Friday)

Theo: here https://www.overleaf.com/

Theo: This should be the easiest place for you to get used to typesetting math stuff and it's the only good way to work on a file at the same time as others. There's a quickstart guide on there and feel free to ask me whatever

Theo: What's a good email for me to share the document with? edu is better

Hermione: Thanks. hermione.granger@hwt.edu

Hermione: Any topic ideas in mind? Any person or event relevant to history of number theory is rather broad

Theo: Well. Could always go back to the classics. Supposedly, back in ancient greek times, the guy who figured out irrational numbers existed was thrown off a ship because everyone else was angry about it. I don't think there's any actual evidence for that but it's an interesting story

Theo: Or for a modern event, something with cryptography?

Theo: Oh there's this terribly awkward section in this one book (I think A Mathematician's Apology?) where the author goes on and on about how pure math and number theory in particular doesn't contribute to war right before WWII and the whole, uh, enigma machine thing happens

Hermione: ...huh. They both sound interesting, but I like the latter for the paper.

Theo: You should be able to find a copy of the book online easily. I looked it up and it's by Hardy. I don't think it's actually public domain but math books beyond like, linear algebra textbooks are just... like that. Just on the internet

Hermione: Okay, thanks. I'll look and we can talk about it again in a few days?

Theo: Sounds good!

Crooks and Hedwig are still the best - 6 members

January 29 (Monday)

Bibliophile: I can't believe someone as nice as Theo is best friends with someone as ridiculous as Draco.

KingWeasel: What's draco done now?

Bibliophile: He uh. Said I like proof by contradiction too much

Bibliophile: It's where you start by saying, okay suppose the opposite of the thing you're trying to prove is true. So then this happens and that and etc until you reach something that's obviously false so turns out that initial thing you supposed can't be true after all.

Bibliophile: Shame you switched your major from cs to info systems so early. I think you would have liked the proofs stuff actually, Ron

KingWeasel: If you say so

KingWeasel: and uhhh. How dare draco malfoy say something so insulting?

Bibliophile: Thanks lol

Bibliophile: Unfortunately, he kinda has a point. It's apparently considered better to show something directly if you can, instead of doing by contradiction. Sigh

Actually-A-Plant: Unfortunately, one of the most annoying things about Draco Malfoy is that he's extremely full of himself and his confidence is not entirely unreasonable

Actually-A-Plant: He's terrifyingly good at basically everything

Actually-A-Plant: It's really quite unfair

Actually-A-Plant: He took math classes with the grade up during third and fourth grade if I remember correctly

KingWeasley: So he's been like that since childhood?

Actually-A-Plant: Definitely. If anything, he's toned down the arrogance in the past couple years

Actually-A-Plant: Theo was like that when he was little too. He just calmed down about it a lot more before college. And I think he got kicked out of orchestra for being super tone deaf? So that was probably humbling

Bibliophile: Huh

Bibliophile: Wouldn't have expected that... he's very generous about helping others and non-judgmental about it. Very enthusiastic when he gets to explain something actually.

Bibliophile: I guess that does explain their friendship quite a bit

Bibliophile: Makes sense for them to stay friends anyways. Loyalty's a good trait.

Actually-A-Plant: Well, they're mostly friends because their fathers are friends. I think also St. Merlins grads.

moon.and.sun: You know a lot about them considering you have never been real friends and somewhat dislike them

moon.and.sun: You said Draco was quite mean to you when you were young, correct?

Actually-A-Plant: Yeah but K-12 is a long time and the school's small... You end up just learning things

Actually-A-Plant: And one of those things is that Draco is probably best dealt with by ignoring him. Beating him at something also works, but that's more challenging for most people

Bibliophile: Hmm interesting. Noted

Hermione Granger, Ginny Weasley

February 14 (Wednesday)

Ginny: So. Today's a Wednesday

Ginny: Did you have a valentines lunch date?

Hermione: I had lunch today. On Valentines day. Yes

Ginny: With Theo?

Hermione: Yes, we ate together like we do every Wednesday. Since we have lunch at the same time and everyone else has class then.

Hermione: It wasn't like... a romantic date.

Hermione: Ginny, the most romantic thing that happened was that he helped me find a sign error on my hw. Not a date

Ginny: Tbh that sounds pretty swoon worthy. Sign errors are a pain.

Ginny: But at any rate, you *would* like it if it were a date, yes?

Hermione: But it *wasn't* a date.

Ginny: That's not the point

Ginny: Hermione, you do like him. If you can genuinely say you don't, I'll give it a rest but you've never been able to even type that

Ginny: Please, you can't pine forever. You shouldn't pine forever. I'm pretty sure if you do want to date him, he'd be agreeable you know.

Hermione: -_-

Collusion - 3 members

February 15 (Thursday)

Blaise: We need to escalate again

Blaise: Theo's pining so hard

Draco: Apparently her teeth are pretty now

Pansy: Her... teeth

Blaise: Actually I'm pretty sure her parents are dentists so maybe he has a point but I've never looked at her teeth closely enough to notice before

Pansy: I don't suppose they exchanged valentines

Draco: Technically, she gave him one. But she had a bag of them and I also got one so it definitely doesn't count.

Draco: He said they did homework during lunch like normal

Draco: Her class notes are also pretty in case you're wondering

Pansy: Okay then...

Pansy is typing...

Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

February 24 (Saturday)

Theo: If you're up for hanging around the math department more, there's department tea on Tues at 2:30

Theo: It's every Tues and Fri at 2:30, but it's math club's turn to host this time so good day to go for the first time. More undergrads there than usual

Hermione: Department... tea?

Theo: Yeah, there's tea and coffee and cookies and sometimes other snacks

Theo: Oh, tea is a normal thing at like, all math departments apparently. And math conferences. I've only ever been to UVT once for a day long conference, but they did have tea there and other people say it's ubiquitous.

Hermione: Okay. Fascinating. I'll come

Hermione: Do I just like... can I just bring my backpack? Do I need to bring a mug?

Theo: We usually stash our stuff in the undergrad lounge. I can let you in. You can bring a mug but there'll be disposable ones

Hermione: Sounds good. You said there's not many undergrads there?

Theo: There's usually a few, but not many

Theo: The math club president and secretary and sometimes the other officers. Another... two of the older students I think? And Draco and I basically.

Theo: It's mostly meant for grad students and professors. But all the officers and a couple others show up when math club hosts (last Tues of every month).

Hermione: Math majors (and perspective majors) only?

Theo: I don't think anyone cares, not for these math club ones anyways

Theo: It's kinda expected that only older math students show up during the normal ones though. People who are done with the calcs. Some people find seeing their calc students at social events awkward

Hermione: Reasonable

Hermione: Thanks for letting me know :)

Harry Potter, Hermione Granger

February 24 (Saturday)

Hermione: Harry

Harry: Hermione

Hermione: Okay so I have a favor to ask

Hermione: Will you come to the math department tea with me on Tuesday? 2:30

Harry: Uh. I mean, sure. Umm... why?

Hermione: Theo invited me, but of course he has other friends in the department too so I don't want to make him just like. Hang out with me the entire time, but I don't want to be alone either

Hermione: They have some snacks and coffee in addition to the tea as well, he said

Hermione: Thanks so much Harry!

Hermione: We can meet in the lobby of Wenlock at 2:25

Harry: Sure

Harry: Are you still pretending you don't have a crush on him?

Harry: Are you ignoring me Hermione Granger?

Harry: Wow

Harry Potter, Hermione Granger

February 27 (Tuesday)

Hermione: So...

Hermione: Are you familiar with Draco?

Harry: You know that guy I argued with a lot in econ last semester

Harry: I never knew his name but apparently it's him. I guess I'm not that surprised when I think about what you and Neville have mentioned of him.

Hermione: I see

Harry: Oh shit

Harry: I'm so sorry I spent the entire time arguing with him instead of accompanying you properly

Harry: Were you okay?

Harry: Was it bad? I'm sorry Hermione he just... you know, trees

Hermione: It's fine. I was fine. A little awkward, but Theo introduced me to some people. The grad students were happy to ramble on even though I don't really know what they were talking about

Hermione: You realize he was intentionally baiting you about trees though, right? I'm fairly certain he doesn't have a particularly strong stance on deforestation. Not that strong anyways

Harry: That's good!

Harry: That you were fine I mean

Harry: Uhh... how did... he know to bait me about trees?

Hermione: Not sure tbh. I'll ask Theo when I talk to him next I guess

Harry: I am still really sorry. It won't happen again

Harry: Stop me if I do it again. Please

Hermione: Okay. If you ever decide to get into an hour long argument with Draco fucking Malfoy about trees again I'll go ahead and drag you away immediately. Sounds good?

Harry: Yes

Hermione: lol

Hermione: Thanks Harry

Crooks and Hedwig are still the best - 6 members

March 2 (Friday)

Bibliophile: Got around to declaring the math major

Firefly: Congrats!

Firefly: I'm glad, you seem to be basically in love with it :)

Bibliophile: Did you have any trouble getting your mechanical major officially declared Gin? Neville had a time and a half at the end of our freshman year even though it's suppose to be a formality

Firefly: It went through yesterday, I think. No problems. Blessedly

Firefly: Maybe they actually fixed the system since last spring. A girl can dream anyways

Bibliophile: You'd think the college of engineering could get their internal system together. But no. Thanks Gryffindor

Firefly: No decision yet on dropping the CS major or not?

Bibliophile: Not sure, I can definitely do the dual degree if I want to. Planning on continuing with both for now at any rate. Want some more CS basics in my resume no matter what I end up doing.

New Private Message - Draco Malfoy, Hermione Granger

March 7 (Wednesday)

Draco: Heard you're converting to the dark side

Draco: Best college of Hogwarts. And best department ofc

Hermione: I highly doubt the ∼Slytherin College of Arts & Science∼ is the best

Hermione: Have you ever seen our edu rankings? Hufflepuff is clearly the best. It's been a top 20 college for education for ages

Hermione: Anyways. Hmph. Not converting yet. Just adding

Draco: For now

Draco: So same difference really

Hermione: You'd think a math student would be more precise :thinkingfaceemoji:

Draco: :rollseyesemoji:

Hermione: Also aren't you an econ major? Primarily an econ major?

Draco: yeah but eh

Draco: Anyways we're having a surprise party on the 23rd for Theo's birthday. Unit 12 Grimmauld Place. You're invited. 8:00

Draco: You don't need to bring a present though you can

Draco: His actual birthday is the 26th btw

Hermione: Wait what. Details?

Draco: :fingerguns:

Hermione: :sideeyesemoji:

Blaise Zabini, Hermione Granger

March 7 (Wednesday)

Blaise: Hey, we're having a surprise party for Theo's birthday and were hoping you'd come

Blaise: It'll be on the 23rd at 8:00, at our house. Not too many people but not like, just us either

Hermione: So I heard

Hermione: From Draco. About two hours ago

Blaise: Shit

Blaise: Pansy's gonna kill me for letting Draco get to you first.

Blaise: Pls tell me he didn't say anything too dumb

Hermione: Just his usual self. I'm kinda getting used to it tbh

Blaise: So it could have been worse

Hermione: Sure let's go with that

Hermione: I was gonna message you for more info, but stuff delayed me.

Hermione: Also who's Pansy?

Blaise: Grew up with Draco and Theo. Also a St Merlins kid from grade K. Studying poly sci now

Blaise: The three of them might as well be siblings tbh

Blaise: You willing to consider coming?

Hermione: I have questions

Blaise: I probably have answers. Probably. I can ask Pansy if I don't know. She's in charge of the planning. Draco and I are her minions even though we're the ones who live here and not her.

Hermione is typing...

Hermione Granger, Ginny Weasley

March 20 (Tuesday)

Hermione: HELP. Need to pick clothes for the surprise party

Ginny: Great! Practice is over at 6 so I can be over by 7 if you're willing to drop me off back home afterwards

Hermione: Yeah I'll drive you back to the dorms. Thank you <3

Harry Potter, Ginny Weasley

March 23 (Friday)

Ginny: How, pray tell, did you end up agreeing to go to Theo's birthday party?

Harry: I can honestly say I have no clue

Ginny Weasley, Blaise Zabini

March 23 (Friday)

Blaise: Do you know why Harry's hiding in our laundry closet?

Ginny: Harry's... hiding... in your laundry closet...

Blaise: It doesn't make more sense seeing it happen in person

---

Harry Potter, Ginny Weasley

March 23 (Friday)

Ginny: Why are you hiding?

Ginny: Blaise reported you

Harry: I promised Hermione I wouldn't get into any arguments with Draco about trees but I also promised you I wouldn't get in Hermione's way while she's here so she can talk to Theo

Harry: So uh hiding?

Ginny: Are you serious

Harry: Hermione's been around him basically the entire time so... I'm fulfilling obligations at least?

Collusion - 3 members

March 23 (Friday)

Blaise added Ginny Weasley

Blaise added Harry Potter

Blaise: Laundry closet shenanigans aside, I think this was a rousing success!

Draco: What do you mean, laundry closet shenanigans??

Blaise: Don't worry about it

Blaise: Pansy and I can confirm with our very own eyes that Hermione and Theo shared a sorta kind of hug before she left

Pansy: They were both very red afterwards

Pansy: It was sickeningly cute tbh

Ginny: Nice

Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

March 26 (Monday)

Hermione: Happy birthday! :partyhorn: :balloons: :champagnebottlepopping:

Theo: Thanks!

Theo: Did you hear about the chance of snow?

Hermione: Yeah. Is anyone not talking about it? lol

Hermione: Hoping for a snow day?

Theo: A little

Theo: Not as much as Draco and Pansy though. So far, they've flushed ice cubes down the toilet and put all the spoons in the freezer. I think you're only suppose to do one spoon but too late.

Theo: I suspect they'll make all of us sleep with our pjs inside out, but they haven't bugged me about it yet.

Hermione: Is Pansy over? And staying the night?

Hermione: Whether there's enough snow or not for a snow day, it's already pretty gross outside

Theo: Yeah, she's crashing in our living room.

Theo: Her apartment building loses power pretty much every other time there's bad weather. It's ridiculous

Hermione: Oof. Yikes

Theo: How about you?

Hermione: Do I want a snow day, you mean? Kinda. I wouldn't object to no class tomorrow. I only have one lecture and it's not super helpful usually

Hermione: Less inclined to miss Wed. More classes and we wouldn't be able to have lunch together :(

Hermione: I'm also not really a fan of walking over ice and slush and it always takes so long for it to clear here, even with the amount of salt they put down

Theo: Maybe we should look for... sunny day rituals? To perform tomorrow so we can get a snow day but then the snow goes away fast

Theo: I think the forecast actually does say it's going to warm up fairly quickly :)

Hermione: :) That really would be the best of both worlds

Theo: I'll start looking up some now. Before Draco and Pansy start bothering me about the orientation of my pjs

---

Draco Malfoy, Theo Nott

April 10 (Tuesday)

Draco: Your project's about cryptography right?

Draco: Have you seen this

Draco sent veryconference-paper10.pdf

Theo: ...uh thanks?

Theo: "Solving the Dating Problem with the SENPAI Protocol "

Theo: Really

Draco: The math is sound. I don't know what more you could possibly want

Draco: She'd think it's cute or something

Theo: I'm not going to ask her out using a cryptographic scheme

Draco: But you will ask her out?

Theo: Not right now. It's the busiest part of the semester. We have the project to finish. We have exams to study
for. Etc

Theo: Not a good time

Draco: Fine

Draco: I think she'd like the cryptographic scheme though

Hermione Granger, Ginny Weasley

April 13 (Friday)

Hermione: Fine I want to date him

Hermione: I love hearing him talking about topics he's interested in and he's really smart and is really helpful when
I don't know things without being condescending

Ginny: So, are you gonna ask him out?

Ginny: I guess I never technically asked, but I assume you don't believe in the guy having to ask out the girl

Hermione: Oh yeah that's fine in general, but this is surely a completely inappropriate time to ask someone out

Hermione: It's almost exams! Everyone's busy!

Hermione: Plus we have a project to finish together. Can you imagine how awful it'd be if he said no and then we
still needed to finish it

Ginny: "Almost exams" is stretching it a little but fine. it's not super far off I guess

Ginny: You know

Ginny: The only reason I'm not murdering you is because I'm relieved you've at least accepted that you have a crush

Hermione: Urgh crush sounds so juvenile

Ginny: You're not wrong, but one of the few things more juvenile in this realm is the middle school classic of using dumb code names

Ginny: Luna and I said "person of interest" for a little while in high school until we realized that was actually more ridiculous.

Hermione: I never had many female friends before you and Luna. Or close friends in general before Harry and Neville and Ron. So I never did that tbh

Ginny: Hmm maybe we should give him a code name after all so you get the chance.

Ginny: What's his profile picture again?

Hermione: Donuts and coffee mugs? We can skip this step of adolescence though. I promise I'm fine.

Ginny: If you say so. Let me know if you change your mind ;)

Ginny: I'm glad you became friends with the boys last year.

Hermione: Yeah. Cheers to a series of random coincidences that got us here :)

Roomies - 3 members

April 17 (Tuesday)

Ron: @Hermione you ok?

Hermione: Yes, sorry about the noise

Hermione: Just got back from doing hw at the library with Theo

Ron: It's 1am

Hermione: The hw did not like us. I appreciate the concern. I'll try to keep the shower quiet.

Ron: K night

Collusion - 5 members

April 21 (Saturday)

Draco: Would it really be that unreasonable to lock them in a closet together or something?

Draco: They've both admitted to wanting to date the other right?

Draco: Not to each other obviously

Ginny: I think she's planning on asking him out after finals

Ginny: So that's something?

Ginny: Though I'm pretty sure she's going back to visit her parents in columbus right after so... :shrugemoji:

Ginny: She's planning on only being gone for a few weeks though. She's taking stats this summer. Is Theo gonna be around this summer?

Draco: Mostly. His dad's only a bit over an hour drive away so he only goes back for 2 or 3 days at a time

Blaise: You guys should join us at my family's lake house

Blaise: Haven't figured out when to go yet but looks like my parents might let us stay without supervision this year

Pansy: You should probably ask your parents if you can bring other people beyond the usual

Blaise: ...fair point. Please don't mention it to your friends for now just in case

Ginny: Yeah, no problem. Sounds fun if possible though

Ginny: But no, @Draco you cannot just lock them in a closet. What closet would you even lock them in?

Draco: I could find one... Would probably have to convince her to visit our place again for a study session or whatever. The hallway closets lock from the outside I think and my parents own the place so I have the keys somewhere...

Pansy: We can reconsider the closet idea if they still haven't asked each other out by end of June

Ginny: ...yeah that's fair

Blaise: The boat house locks from the outside for sure

Draco: Fine

Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

April 25 (Wednesday)

Theo: :confettiemoji:

Theo: I think that went well!

Hermione: :D

Hermione: I'll take a last glance at the paper in the morning and let you know before submitting?

Theo: Sounds good!

Theo: Would you be interested in going out for celebration pizza? Or something else of course

Hermione: Sure. This weekend maybe?

Theo: Saturday?

Theo: I was thinking Blazing Tomato but I'm flexible!

Hermione: Sure. I haven't been there before, but I've heard it's good :)

Hermione Granger, Ginny Weasley

April 29 (Sunday)

Ginny: How was your date?

Hermione: I don't think it was a date

Hermione: But

Hermione: We uh

Hermione: So it took the entire hour or so while we were there

Hermione: But we did uh hold hands for a little while?

Ginny: You spent an hour... considering holding hands?

Hermione: We sorta like. Slowly. Um. Both of us kinda slowly got closer to holding hands over and over and of course we were also eating so it reset a few times, but we did hold hands for a little while before we left?

Ginny: ...

Ginny: I'm going to lock the two of you in a fucking closet

Hermione: :(

Crooks and Hedwig are still the best - 6 members

May 2 (Wednesday)

Bibliophile: We went on an actual date

Firefly: ???

The-Boy-Who-Lived: !!!!

The-Boy-Who-Lived: More info, please? Hermione??

Bibliophile: I mean, it was an accident. Basically. Our final exam was this afternoon and we finished at a similar time so we were talking afterwards and I more or less asked if he wanted to get tea or coffee or something

Bibliophile: But we... actually managed to clarify that we wanted to go on a date? A romantic one?

Bibliophile: So we... did

Bibliophile: It was rushed since tomorrow's the last day I'm in town and I need to pack and a million other things and he's proctoring a calc 1 exam right now

Bibliophile: But we... went on a date

Bibliophile: We agreed to do a video call date or two while we're at our parents' and go for a proper dinner once we're both back later this summer too

Bibliophile: Oh my god. WE WENT ON A DATE

Firefly: Thank god

Firefly: I'm so happy for you Hermione

Hermione: :D

4   Epilogue

Hermione Granger, Theo Nott

August 2 (Thursday)

Theo: Hey ;)

Hermione: Hi :)

Theo: What are you up to?

Hermione: Studying for my stats final :/

Theo: Have you had lunch yet?

Hermione: uhhhh

Theo: Where are you

Hermione: I had an apple and a latte like... two hours ago?

Theo: I see

Theo: Where are you

Hermione: Library. Above the starbucks

Hermione: I need twenty minutes to get to a good stopping place

Theo: Okay

Theo: I'll be there in approximately twenty minutes and we can go to one of the restaurants across the street

Hermione: ...have you had lunch?

Theo: I had brunch around 10 but no

Hermione: Okay, twenty minutes, food for both of us, take a little walk, then you let me into the undergrad math lounge?

Hermione: I'm guessing you have research to do too?

Hermione: And we could also go to the store later for stuff for Harry's and Draco's welcome back party. Plus, I'm out of apples

Theo: Sounds good, yep, and sure. See you soon my lovely girlfriend :)

Hermione: <3

Hermione: Can't wait :)