

## Chapter 12

As soon as he saw Padfoot, Harry's heart skipped a beat. He laughed, dropping to his knees with his arms wide open, but by the time the dog took his last huge leap towards Harry he was transformed back into a man, wrapping the boy in a crushing hug. "Hello, pup," he greeted huskily.

"*Sirius*." Harry clung to the man like he might disappear, burying his face in the man's robe.

"I may vomit," Snape drawled, and Harry heard a familiar chuckle.

"Behave, Severus."

Harry's head snapped up, his grin getting, if possible, even wider. "Professor Lupin!"

The werewolf smiled back at him, standing shoulder to shoulder with Snape. "I'm not your professor anymore, remember?" he pointed out lightly. "I think it's about time you called me Remus."

Harry tore himself away from his godfather, getting to his feet in order to hug his ex-professor too. "Remus," he echoed. Remus' cheek pressed against his hair for a brief moment.

"It's good to see you, cub."

Sirius stood up, slinging one arm each around Harry and Remus. He'd showered and shaved since Harry had last seen him, and already he looked like a much younger man. He looked happy.

"What is this place?" Harry asked again, looking back to the manor in front of him.

"This is Seren Du House," Sirius announced, a strange accent on the words; Welsh, maybe, or Gaelic. "It's been in the Black family for centuries."

"But this one wasn't in the portfolio the goblins sent me," Harry said with a frown. Sirius' grin widened.

"This is one of two Black properties the goblins don't know about. Our family does love its secrets, after all." Harry's heart fluttered at the easy way he said 'our family', including Harry without batting an eyelash. "It's completely Unplottable; that means no one can find it on a map, or with any tracking spells. You have to know where to look. And, as that's in the middle of nowhere in North Wales, and there's only about six people alive who have ever been here before, I'd say you're pretty safe."

"Wow." Harry wished he could think of something more eloquent to say, but words had failed him.