

Harry thought back to the summer; not once had Ginny played quidditch with them. Harry had assumed it was because she didn't want to. Then he realised none of her brothers had ever asked her. "Yeah, sure," Harry agreed with a shrug. "We can go out before school starts back up."

Ginny beamed, leaning up to kiss him on the cheek — right as they entered the Great Hall. Immediately, a fresh wave of whispers started up. Harry smiled ruefully. "Well, that's gonna be *great* for the rumour mill," he muttered sarcastically. Ginny winced.

"Sorry."

"Nah, it's alright. People will think what they want. Hell, if it leads them off the trail of who it really is, I'm all for it." If they thought he was dating Ginny Weasley, no one would be looking towards Draco Malfoy.

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With Christmas over and the spring term rapidly approaching, the students suddenly remembered all the homework they'd been ignoring in favour of the Yule Ball — Harry included. It also meant that the four champions were back to trying to figure out their eggs. Harry had pretty much stopped opening his; he'd heard it scream plenty of times now, and nothing was going to change about it. All he could do was research things that screamed and hope he came across the right one.

That all changed on the 30th of December, when Viktor rushed into the Great Hall, saw Harry and Fleur sat at the Gryffindor table, and hurried over to them. "Where is Cedric?" he asked quietly. Harry shrugged.

"No idea. With Cho maybe? Why?"

Viktor glanced around shiftily, then leaned in. "I haff made progress."

Harry and Fleur shared a wide-eyed glance. "I'll find him," Harry said, getting to his feet.

"Meet by the Durmstrang ship when you do," Viktor replied, taking Fleur with him when he left. Harry ducked into a side passage, rifling through his school bag.

*"I solemnly swear that I am up to no good,"* he muttered, scanning the map for Cedric's name. He eventually found him down near the entrance to the Hufflepuff common room, Cho by his side.

Harry sprinted through the halls to find the Hufflepuff, skidding to a halt when he almost crashed into him. "Come with me," he urged, grabbing both Cedric and Cho by the wrists.

"Harry, what's wrong?" Cedric asked, following in bewilderment.

"I think Viktor's figured out the egg." That had both of them picking up the pace, and they went outside to see Viktor and Fleur sat on the bank of the lake, right at the edge of the water. Viktor had his egg in his hands.