

as he looked at Sirius, and Sirius beamed back, kissing him quickly.

“Ugh, are they always like this?” Harry joked, glancing at Remus.

“Like you can talk,” Sirius retorted pointedly. “Don’t be jealous because your boyfriend isn’t moving in yet.”

Harry glared at him, while Charlie’s blue eyes sharpened in intrigue. “Boyfriend? Tell me more,” he drawled lightly. Sirius smirked.

“Our Harry,” he declared dramatically, “is in love with a *snake*!” This was said with an exaggerated gasp and wide eyes. Charlie shook his head mock-sympathetically, patting Sirius’ thigh.

“It’s okay,” he assured. “There’s one in every family. You just have to learn to accept it.”

Harry snickered. “I’m telling George you said that,” he joked. “But I suppose, since you’re learning all the family secrets — I’ve been dating Draco Malfoy since fourth year.”

Charlie’s eyebrows show up in genuine surprise. “Really? Even after...” He waved a vague hand gesture, and it took Harry a moment to get his meaning. His stomach squirmed uncomfortably.

“After what happened with his dad?” *when I accidentally killed him*, he didn’t say, though they were all thinking it. “He, uh, didn’t get along with Lucius. Neither did his mum. We’re still good.”

“They’re worse than good, they’re disgustingly adorable,” Sirius grumbled. “And speaking of snakes in the family, where’s...?” He trailed off expectantly, looking towards Remus. The humour melted from the werewolf’s face.

“Death Eater meeting,” he replied, and Sirius cursed quietly.

“How long’s he been gone?”

Remus checked his watch. “Little over two hours, now.” He ran a weary hand through his hair. “Any luck, he’ll be home for dinner. Not that he’ll be in any mood to eat.”

“Who are we talking about now?” Charlie cut in, looking confused.

Harry bit his lip to stop himself smirking. “You didn’t tell him that family secret yet, either?” he asked Sirius, brows raised. That secret was really the kind that deserved prior warning.

Sirius flushed. “I was going to, but there was never a good time,” he muttered. He turned back to Charlie, trepidation flickering through his eyes. “So, someone else lives here. Moony’s partner.”

“I didn’t know you were seeing anyone, Remus.” Charlie paused, frowning. “And... he’s a Death Eater?”