

dealing with Dumbledore on the Wizengamot for years now, he knows how the headmaster works. And he knows how the Ministry works. But while he was technically a Ravenclaw, he's always had a solid Slytherin side to him."

Tonks grinned, and Harry grinned back.

"That's good to know." He wouldn't let them in on what he was *really* doing, not until he knew how much he could trust them. But it was definitely nice to know there were two more Order members who weren't mindless Dumbledore puppets.

It would make it much easier to steal them over to his side, once he was ready.

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Bill and Tonks both stayed for dinner, and Harry was amused by the way both of them eyed each other suspiciously, glancing back to Harry as if they could somehow intuit what the other had needed to talk to him about. Harry ignored the whole thing, chatting with Remus instead. At least until Bill cleared his throat.

"I got a letter today, Mum. With some news you'll be pleased about," he said, barely stifling a smile. Mrs Weasley eyed him curiously. Bill's smile widened. "Charlie got a job as a senior handler at the reserve in North Wales. He'll be home by the weekend. For good."

All the redheads in the room made exclamations of surprise and joy, Mrs Weasley even shedding a few tears in delight. "Oh, Arthur! Our boy's coming home!"

Mr Weasley took her hand and kissed the back of it, beaming. "That's brilliant news, Bill," he said.

"I'll get one of the rooms upstairs cleared out for him," Mrs Weasley started, but Bill shook his head.

"Oh, don't worry; I offered him my spare room for when he's not at the reserve," he assured. Mrs Weasley made a quiet sound of protest, and Bill grinned at her. "No offence, Mum, but no one wants to move back in with their parents after they've lived by themselves for five years." His voice was playful, and Mr Weasley pecked his wife on the cheek.

"Let the boys have their space, love. I'm sure Charlie will be over for dinner plenty. And Order meetings," he reminded. That seemed to placate the matriarch — or at least, her excitement overshadowed it all.

While the twins quietly wondered if they could get Charlie to bring them home dragon scales for experimenting on, Harry smiled into his shepherd's pie. With Bill and Charlie both back in the UK, that meant they would soon be ready to take up their Wizengamot seats.

His plans were all beginning to line up. He couldn't wait to see how things would play out.

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