

HA meeting. Harry felt bad about it, but he knew Neville understood; they had to move quickly. They couldn't afford to wait two whole weeks for both of them to be done with their detentions.

Harry went about his evening as if it were any other, hitching his schoolbag over his shoulder and walking towards the library with his hands in his pockets. He looked like any other student, headed to get some studying done, and no one looked twice at him when he entered the library. Except for the other members of the HA, some of whom were already there, waiting.

He took his time perusing the shelves, slowly making his way back into the lesser-used parts of the library, right back to row 82, which contained old copies of the *Daily Prophet* for historical purposes.

At the end of the row was a small alcove set with a window, and Harry approached it. On the left side wall of the alcove, there was a Hogwarts crest engraved. Below that crest was a tiny little snake.

Harry checked his watch, then cast a wandless Notice-Me-Not charm; just a gentle one. Just enough that anyone who was not expecting to see him would look right past that row of shelves.

Then he hissed quietly, and the wall became a doorway, just narrow enough to fit a single person.

Harry stood in the doorway, and waited.

Unsurprisingly, the twins and Ginny were the first to show up. All three brown-eyed Weasleys looked guarded, making Harry wonder if Ginny had told the twins what to expect. Harry discreetly waved them over.

"It's down there, then?" Ginny asked, looking a bit green. Harry nodded.

"I promise you, it's safe."

"Come on, little sis," George crowed quietly, slinging an arm around her shoulders. "Trust Harry. This is wicked!"

The twins joked and cajoled Ginny into the narrow passage, but Harry didn't miss how both of them had tight grips on their wands, ready to defend their sister from anything that might be lurking in the Chamber.

He wished he'd had a little more time, to perhaps give Ginny a chance to face her demons quietly, but he hadn't wanted her to dwell on it too long. Going down there and getting straight into a HA lesson would keep her mind off the last time she'd been down there.

A small cluster of Ravenclaws led by Cho Chang was next, and Cho still looked guilty, though Marietta was notably absent. Harry nodded to them all, and stepped aside to let them