

## Episode 47 - Half-Blood Prince Ch. 17

w/ Miel Bredouw

PM = Past Mike

EM = Editing Mike

MB = Miel Bredouw

*\*If there is a mistake or mis-translation in this transcript please feel free to reach out to Mike for clarification! (potterlesspodcast@gmail.com)\**

<3:35>

PM

Hello internet and welcome back to another episode of Potterless, the tale of a 26-year-old man reading the Harry Potter series for the first time. My name is Mike Schubert and I am that 26-year-old man and I am joined by a good old internet friend of mine, back from the Vine days, remember when that existed? Ah yes, you know her you love her. You probably remember her for the hemorrhoid Vine, it's Miel Bredouw. Miel, how's it going?

MB 3:59

Hi, good! Thanks for having me.

PM 4:01

Thanks for being here. I also should probably say that you also co-host a hilarious podcast called, Punch Up the Jam where you and other Vine friend, Demi, take great songs and then make them better, which is always fun.

MB 4:13

Hey, thanks, man. It's, it's kind of a crazy thing that we do for fun, and it's so much work.

PM 4:18

Yes, it is. Oh man! Remember the glory days when all we had to do was point our phone at our faces for six seconds.

MB 4:24

Oh yeah.

PM 4:24

And then make dumb jokes and now we have to work.

MB 4:26

Although that didn't pay us either. So I mean...

PM 4:30

No yeah, it didn't pay us at all. Well, I mean, yeah, I mean, I'm- I'm definitely happier. And I don't think podcasts are gonna, you know? Get bought by Twitter and then viciously murdered.

MB 4:40

Thankfully, knock on wood.

PM 4:42

Oh gosh, yeah, that'd be the worst. So we are going to be covering chapters 17 and 18 of Harry Potter and a Half-Blood Prince, and they're all Slughorn themed, which is very fun.

MB 4:50

I feel like it's especially appropriate because I live in LA and I'm in the entertainment industry and it's like Slughorn feels like everybody I have to work with.

PM 4:58

I like it. I got a weird vibe from him from the beginning. Over the course of the episodes of Potterless, I have shit talked Slytherin a lot. Because so far, all the Slytherins we've met have been racist.

MB 5:08

Yes.

PM 5:08

And none of them are good nobody's nice and some people are like, "You're so mean to Slytherin?" So I'm like, "Name a good one." And then people will tell me, "Slughorn's good." And I'm reading the beginning of this book. I'm like, "No, he's not. This guy's so sleazy. I don't like him."

MB 5:21

He's a flawed man.

PM 5:23

Yeah, he seems like a good teacher but a bad person.

MB 5:26

It's also going to be so impossible to not speak in the future tense. Like, to only talk about these two chapters when you haven't read anything.

PM 5:34

Yes!

MB 5:34

Have people spoiled that for you already or no?

PM 5:36

So I think that some people have spoiled things on episodes before but I haven't noticed any. Because a couple of people be like, Oh my god, I can't believe so and so said a spoiler on episode whatever. And I think Oh, I-I didn't catch anything. So thankfully, by recording, I haven't had anything spoiled. Basically, the go-to is if I say some sort of like guess about what's going to happen next. All you have to do is just be like, hmmm... interesting and you're fine.

MB 5:52

I feel accomplished enough as an actor to handle that, I think.

PM 6:05

I believe in you I think you're gonna do great. But yes, I can understand it being hard, especially with these chapters because I can sense shit coming down and raining from the skies--

MB 6:14

Yup.

PM 6:14

--very soon.

MB 6:15

When you told me these two chapters off the top my dome, I wasn't sure which ones they were and then the second I started reading them, I was like, "Oh no." You gave me \_<6:22>\_

PM 6:25

It basically is like Horcruxes exist and then it's like, but we're not telling you what they are.

MB 6:29

But do you know that word yet? Like, just as a--

PM 6:31

Yeah, as far as like spoilers that I know going forward, I know Snape kills Dumbledore. But I don't know why. And I know that Horcruxes were a word in the Harry Potter World. Like, I knew thestral was also a word, but I didn't know what it was. Before reading these chapters, I had no idea what they are. I still have no idea what they are and we'll get into what I think they are when it's revealed.

MB 6:49

Perfect.

PM 6:49

So let's get into kick in with chapter 17, which is called A Sluggish Memory. And my first note was I wrote like, "Slughorn?" And then 75% of the way through it's like, oh, this is a dumb pun by JK Rowling.

MB 7:01

I mean, are you surprised though?

PM 7:03

No, and I appreciate it.

MB 7:04

She's trying.

PM 7:05

I love a good pun.

MB 7:06

I know, she's doing it. I love it.

PM 7:08

It's great. So basically, the kids have to return to Hogwarts from break and the way that they do that is the school set up a one-off connection to the Floo Network so that they can get back safely and I'm glad the school is doing something that's actually safer once. Whereas in the past, they've been a... we have a convicted murderer on campus, let's just have home monitors.

MB 7:27

Okay so, it's okay like, I'm hesitant to come right out the gate just like--

PM 7:30

Do it.

MB 7:30

--handing out bad things, 'cause I love this book.

PM 7:32

Do it, please do it.

MB 7:34

But, it's so funny to me that they have this big conceit of like, we had to have the train because you can't possibly Floo right into Hogwarts, it's too much of a safety issue and then they just do.

PM 7:44

It's funny because they have the train, where it's like, we have to be safe. We have to have the train. And now when it's like we have to be safe. There's people getting murdered all the time. Well, we can't use the train.

MB 7:53

And also they Floo right into the McGonagall's office, and she, what does it say? Barely glanced up from her work.

PM 7:58

Yes.

MB 7:59

And I'm like, I feel like you'd be a little vigilant about this. Just making sure no one abused it, right?

PM 8:03

Yep, I underlined that twice in my book just because I love how sassy and perfect McGonagall is. She just has like, no time to pay any mention to these children. But you're right, she should have like a roll call list and make sure everyone gets in if the whole point of this was don't get murdered by Voldemort, they should have stuff in place.

MB 8:20

And also where did all the other kids flew into? Is it just McGonagall's office is like the lobby?

PM 8:24

I guess they probably know what house everyone's in and then they went to the offices of their head of houses.

MB 8:30

Yeah, that makes sense.

PM 8:31

Ron, Ginny, and Harry are all Gryffindors and they go in. But what about, what would the Patils do? Because those twin sisters are in different houses, and...

MB 8:39

They would have two Floo set up, it's just a lot of work.

PM 8:42

It's way too... well we can't have them fly into the Ravenclaw one.

MB 8:47

It's like a practical nightmare for forever at the setup all these Floos.

PM 8:51

Yeah, oh the teachers like drew straws and then Sprout gets that she's like, "Son of a bitch, really? I gotta do the Floo thing, Dumbledore? Come on! Just put on the train.

MB 9:01

It's a bold move and I respect that.

PM 9:03

So, Mrs. Weasley is the only person left to wish them goodbye and she is just a mess. She's in tears. She is distraught.

MB 9:12

It's so sad.

PM 9:13

She's so good. Mrs. Weasley just warms my heart. She is the best mom.

MB 9:17

I was so inspired when I first read these books back in what, 1998? I believe this is long before the movies and they reference the Burrow for the first time. I was like, so taken by the Weasley's charm that I like I remember writing out the Burrow as I imagined it would be written on the side and like, putting it up my parent's house.

PM 9:38

Yes! That's so good. That is adorable.

MB 9:41

So dorky.

PM 9:42

But I love it though, and that's why you're on the podcast. So apparently, she's been crying ever since Percy stormed off quote, "With his glasses splattered with mash parsnip for which Fred George and Ginny all claimed credit." They don't tell you what exactly happened but I'm imagining that he said something dumb because Percy's the worst. And they just chucked food at his face and he went off in a big storm. So she's sad about that because she's a good mom. But Ron says, quote, "He's such a prat. So it's not really a loss, is it?"

MB 10:11

What an empathetic son.

PM 10:13

And a great brother. But Percy sucks so much, he's so bad.

MB 10:17

I think it's assuming that's like, once you have more than four siblings, like, ehrrrrh!

PM 10:20

There's got to be a bad one at one point. Like, there's a rotten egg. Yeah, like what? Who's the bad? I was gonna ask who's the bad Jackson from the Jackson Five. But I'm like, oh Michael isn't very nice.

MB 10:29

I think it's no, no, it's Joe. It's the dad. Let's be honest.

PM 10:31

Oh, yeah. Okay. Yeah, right. Yep. Yep, yep! Worst one. So, Mrs. Weasley sobs even harder when she says goodbye to Harry. She says, "Promise you'll look after yourself. Stay out of trouble." She's just the mom of the year and Harry actually replies back with a great joke. He says, "I always do, Mrs. Weasley. I live a quiet life, you know me." which aww...

MB 10:51

Nice.

PM 10:51

That witty Potter.

MB 10:52

Nice Harry.

PM 10:55

So yes, they land in McGonagall's office, and as you said, she barely glances up from her work and she says, "Don't get too much ash on my carpet." Just love her, what a caring person.

MB 11:04

I was surprised she didn't like roll out some kind of construction paper situation that kids can walk across. They're kids, they're gonna make a mess.

MB 11:11

I'm surprised there's even ash in her chimney.

PM 11:11

I guess also, can't she just clean all the ash with magic, right? Like, is this really a concern?

PM 11:20

Yeah.

MB 11:22

Booheediboop!

PM 11:22

It's gone! So those three then go to the Fat Lady painting outside of the Gryffindor Common Room, Hermione sees them and she yells, "Harry, Ginny!" And no one else clearly

pretending that Ron doesn't exist, which I love her dedication to not acknowledging Ron's existence.

MB 11:39

I feel like the sass of Hermione just continues to grow as the books escalate.

PM 11:44

It just, it gets bigger and bigger and bigger. And it's like getting to the point wherein this one it's kind of mean, but Ron is also a jerk. So it's fine.

MB 11:50

Yes.

PM 11:51

But yes, she ignores them and even she asks, "How was your Christmas break?" And Ron starts to say, "Oh, it's really interesting, Scrimgeour came." And she pretends he hasn't spoken. She interrupts to say, "Oh, I have something for you, Harry." Then the password to the common room for the Fat Lady painting, the kids get it wrong. But then Hermione knows that it's abstinence because apparently, she drank a vat of wine with her friend violet. The vat of wine came from a picture of drunk monks in the charms hallway, which raises a lot of questions.

MB 12:22

So many questions. First of all, does that wine refill after you drink it?

PM 12:26

Exactly.

MB 12:27

Second of all, if it doesn't, is there a finite amount of wine for the painting universe? I mean, just, I mean, wouldn't it be if you're a 300-year-old painting, sorry bud, you're too late. Or if you're a new painting and you have wine in your painting that people just bum rush you and take it immediately. I have so many questions about the painting world here.

PM 12:43

There's also a question of why did JK Rowling put this in the book?

MB 12:47

But like, she had to know that abstinence is not predominantly used in America to refer to like abstaining from booze.

PM 12:54

This is the same woman that uses ejaculate to say yell, so I don't think she's, I don't think she's familiar with what American people say.

MB 13:02



True, I'll give her some credit for that.

PM 13:04

But yeah, when I read abstinence, I was like whoa! And then, it got late and I was like oh right, I guess... sure.

MB 13:10

She's got a loose break.

PM 13:12

Yeah, getting it on with who's the who's the, the knight that's like really annoying. Like sir something with a C. He's the guy that went--

MB 13:20

Do you think I'm gonna remember some names, you are very wrong, I'm horrible with names.

PM 13:23

I'm literally googling 'annoying night painting Harry Potter' and it's gonna come up. Oh, Sir Cadogan! There it is.

MB 13:31

There it is! Never would've gotten that.

PM 13:33

Thank you, Google! I knew it was something with the C but I didn't know what it was. The other thing I wanted to note is that she drank the wine all the way through my good, good friends who hosts the podcast, Spirits if they were a guest on this podcast, they would have said, same. So, just gotta give a little shout out to Amanda and Julia.

MB 13:48

What else you gonna do stuck in a painting forever?

PM 13:50

Yeah, right? You get bored.

MB 13:51

No.

PM 13:51

So you find your painting friend and you get drunk especially when there's no kids there

MB 13:55

And you can't die, try every drug.

PM 13:56

Right? Yeah. Why can't you get a hangover? Ugh! too many questions. This gift that Hermione for Harry is a parcel from Dumbledore explaining their next lesson and Harry is excited about it because he has so many things to tell Dumbledore. Namely, the Draco Malfoy-Snape conversation he overheard. As they are talking, they hear a screech of Won-won from Lavender Brown and I had seen people say Won-won before, but I didn't know what this was. I thought this was just people like being cute. I was like maybe Molly calls him Won-won at some point or anything. Was not expecting pet name from Lavender, and this is bad.

MB 14:32

I mean, I agree that it's bad, but I feel like, they did Lavender dirty.

PM 14:36

Yes.

MB 14:37

You have dumb pet names in early relationships. We all did. Right?

PM 14:41

But you just don't say them in public.

MB 14:42

I guess.

PM 14:43

And I would like to think Lavender isn't this bad. But they really are like, you know who's gonna suck in this book? Lavender Brown.

MB 14:49

I know! And I feel like it's so often, this is like maybe too broad but she often makes like an annoying girl.

MB 14:56

And a little bit like JK. Come on...

PM 14:56

Oh yes.

PM 14:58

Yeah, I mean, she makes like Cho Chang crying all the damn time... what a loser! I'd be like, her boyfriend died. It's okay.

MB 15:04

I know! <15:06>

PM 15:05

There's no guidance counselor. So that happened then she did it to Fleur in the beginning of this book and I talked about something on the episodes, which I found so strange is that in the fourth book, Fleur is like, Fleur Delacour, she's so strong and smart and powerful. And then this book, it's like--

MB 15:20

Yeah.

PM 15:20

--Fleur Delacour, looks at herself in a spoon and like thinks how pretty she is.

MB 15:25

There's definitely a little projecting happening. I'm feeling.

PM 15:28

Like, oh yeah, so I don't know. You're right. She does do this and it seems a bit unnecessary. So it says several onlookers sniggered, not snickered. And I had to read that word a couple of times. Like, ugh! That's...

MB 15:39

Too close!

PM 15:39

You're one letter away from being not good.

MB 15:41

Yeah.

PM 15:41

If you say that word too quickly, that's going to cause a lot of problems. Let's just say snickered, please.

MB 15:46

Yeah, you're gonna have to bleep it on their podcast.

PM 15:48

Oh, no, or just really pronounced the S in the beginning really, really hard. So Hermione also laughs at this and then asks Ginny, "Hey, me and Harry are you gonna grab a table over here? Do you want to sit with us?" Ginny says, "No, I promised I'd meet Dean."

MB 16:02

Oooooohhh!

PM 16:03

And then quote, "Though Harry could not help noticing that she did not sound very enthusiastic." And I love how dearly he is holding on to hope and I have so been there in middle school.

MB 16:16

To me, it's weird though that like they're not further in this one-sided or maybe a mutual crush situation. It feels like what did they do over break? Like, there... something would have happened, right? For it to come up now.

PM 16:28

It's been something that's been boiling like throughout the books where it's just like, Harry started to realize how much he liked her when he saw her like getting more serious with Dean. And then it was like 0 to a hundred real quick for Harry.

MB 16:38

Yeah, which is crazy because she's been so cool the whole time.

PM 16:42

Yup, she's been great the whole time. And even in the beginning, Ginny, you know, she had the big old crush on Harry before she started dating other people. So I guess that's like what we're supposed to think it's like, oh, well, Ginny used to love Harry. So she's still got to have some sort of feelings, right? But because Harry is like the de facto narrator we never hear Ginny be like, "Oh Harry looked good today." or something.

MB 17:01

<17:02> \_ just one chapter though \_.

PM 17:04

A Ginny chapter would be so good because she's so sassy with the things she says out loud. Imagine the things she's thinking.

MB 17:09

Right? Like, this is just textbook like you want what you can't have. Like Harry, come on. But...

PM 17:15

Yeah, he doesn't realize how much he loves Ginny until he sees her literally making out with another boy. Like that's what it takes until he's like, "Oh right, I have a big crush on her."

MB 17:24

Okay, Harry. I see you.

PM 17:26

So Harry asks Hermione how Christmas was, she says fine. She goes, "How was it at Won-won's?" which is great. Love Hermione, she's been the sass. She's holding on to this grudge and it's great.

MB 17:35

Reaching her final form.

PM 17:36

Oh, she really is. Harry tries to bring up like, "Oh can't you just smooth things over." and Hermione's like, "No, I can't." And she says quote, "The fat lady is the one that drink a vat of 500-year-old wine, not me."

MB 17:46

I love the immediate callback.

PM 17:49

Like, remember this thing that didn't make sense from two paragraphs ago. Don't worry. This is why I stayed in the book for this sick joke. So Hermione and Harry started talking about the Malfoy thing. She basically agrees with Mr. Weasley and Lupin that Snape is probably just trying to get Malfoy to say what he's doing. He's not like actually being evil.

MB 18:08

But Harry.

PM 18:09

But Harry. Harry never, never wanting to <18:13>\_.

MB 18:14

It will never happen.

PM 18:14

He's having none of this. He really is trying to use this and he's trying to get Hermione to agree with him that this basically confirmed that Malfoy's a Death Eater, right?

MB 18:22

Which is just like bad practice. Like that's not how court works.

PM 18:26

No, Harry is tried to do guilty until proven innocent and it's not great. He's trying to grasp at anything he can. And Hermione does give him credit which is valid that it is a sketchy thing, but she says you can't jump to this conclusion just yet. Harry then brings up the Fenrir Greyback thing. Because Hermione asks how's Lupin? He mentions the Fenrir Greyback thing. And he asked, "Do you know about this Fenrir Greyback character?" And she's like, "Uh yeah, and so do you." We both heard his name for the first time together when we listened to Malfoy.

MB 18:58

But you know what? It's such a common name,

PM 19:00

Oh yeah! Fenrir Greyback, you know?

MB 19:02

How could she remember it?

PM 19:03

Right? It's, it's like basically Michael of the wizarding world. Like, there's so... there's like his name is basically Michael Smith, it's just very forgettable. I mean Hermione has just forgotten how dense Harry Potter is.

MB 19:14

You do wonder why is Hermione is friends with him. You know what I mean? Like, this is one of those moments where you're like, what is he bringing to the table in this friendship?

PM 19:22

Yeah, I'm surprised that Hermione has not found even if it was someone to Ravenclaw...

MB 19:26

Yeah.

PM 19:26

Like, someone to match her intelligence level because she has to constantly deal with Harry and Ron who are very, very dense and very persistent on like, it's always Snape and Malfoy and nobody else can be evil and they always ask her for homework help

MB 19:39

Yeah.

PM 19:39

All the time.

MB 19:40

They're both, Ron and Harry are both super grudge driven. And like, maybe only brave when it's like vaguely vengeance related. And then Hermione is like, super smart and like has a ton going on. I don't understand I guess that he's famous. That's like a cool thing but like at--

PM 19:56

Yeah.

MB 19:56

At like, 0,6, I don't know.

PM 19:58

I guess part of it was in the beginning and people gave me flack for this one when I started. The first two books, Hermione kind of sucks. She's really annoying, and people don't like her.

And Ron and Harry were still friends with her then. So I guess, you know? She's appreciating that they were, but even they were kind of mean to her then.

MB 20:14

Yeah.

PM 20:15

They were like, "Ugh! That dumb girl who raises her hand all the time."

MB 20:17

Yes.

PM 20:18

Yeah, maybe, I guess, I don't know. You would think at least by this point, she would have grown out of that. And more people to school should be like, "Whoa, Hermione is super cool."

MB 20:26

Right.

PM 20:26

And you would think she would have like graduated to better friends.

MB 20:28

Right. And also like, I mean, I'm not going to like hit on this much because it's too controversial. But I do think it's another example of like, a fairly poorly written woman in this universe. 'Cause...

PM 20:38

Yeah.

MB 20:39

Even though maybe they've started in the same place. I feel like she's kind of out evolved them at this point.

PM 20:45

Yes.

MB 20:45

And I don't really understand other than familiarity, why she would still be friends with them.

PM 20:49

I guess the good thing is they could like they balance her out a little bit because she's so high strung and they're so chill.

MB 20:53

True.

PM 20:53

And the only other thing I can think of is like what they have gone through. It's like they have gone through hell together. They have fought--

MB 20:59

That is very true.

PM 21:00

--Voldemort multiple times and they have the old ministry thing. But I think it would just make sense like it seems like Hermione and Ginny should be a lot closer.

MB 21:06

Right? Right?

PM 21:07

It seems like they should be best friends.

MB 21:09

That's duo we deserve.

PM 21:10

We just... ahhh! A book that's just about the two of them.

MB 21:13

Yeah!

PM 21:13

From their perspectives. Like, one of those alternate chapter books, but it's like between those two.

MB 21:17

Yes. I want to see them go to like to loom for the summer. You know what I mean? What would that be like? They make a garden, they drink a couple Pina Coladas. I don't know.

PM 21:26

Love it. I'm on board. So yes, I agree with you there. So she catches him up to speed about like, the whole why you should remember who Fenrir is. And Harry's like, "Oooh, okay, this means he's a Death Eater, right?" And Hermione goes, "No, maybe it was just an empty threat." And Harry's like, "You're unbelievable." And I kind of want Harry to be correct just because I think the told you so chapter would be very fun.



MB 21:48

Yes, true.

PM 21:49

So like, yes, he's kind of big too much here. But him saying told you so for an entire chapter would be very enjoyable, I think.

MB 21:57

A true delight.

PM 21:58

So he then tells her about the Scrimgeour situation. And then, the narrator says quote, the rest of the evening passed amicably with both of them abusing the minister, which is true friends spending a whole night together just shit talking someone that was mean to you.

MB 22:12

If there's two things that bond you, it's one, trauma and two, hating the same people.

PM 22:17

It's so good! It is the truest form of friendship. So the next morning, the kids go downstairs and they see a sign for apparition lessons. And I have two problems with apparition.

MB 22:28

Okay.

PM 22:28

First, why is it not Apparation? Because they say to apparate, so why is it not apparation?

MB 22:34

I mean, you're gonna have to wait till you get JK on the show.

PM 22:38

Oh God, that will be a bad 12 episodes series. Like, I've-I've mentioned this before, but if I ever did an interview with her, I would just ask her the dumbest question. Like--

MB 22:47

What's the J stand for?

PM 22:47

--nothing substantial. It would just be this silliest. This should be like really, this is what I gave you an hour of my time that you asked me. Why, why I said apparition instead of apparation?

MB 23:00

I think, I think you got to suspend disbelief or things like that because every word is made up, right?

PM 23:05

It is it is. It's just to me, it just bugs me. But the other thing that is I find annoying is that, every time the book rights Apparition they give it a capital A, which I get is because like we are reading it, and we are muggles and this is like a wizard thing. So you have to capitalize stuff, but that would be like, every time you were saying, "Oh, yeah, I gotta go Drive over to someone's house." and its capital D. And like, I was driving my car, the capital D. Because apparition is like that, like, this is the equivalent of getting your license.

MB 23:30

Well, maybe it's more sacred there.

PM 23:32

Yeah, they do seem to be a bit harsh about it. You have to be a certain year and it costs money to take the lessons.

MB 23:39

which by the way, I had to Google, if galleons was a British currency. Is that real money? I don't know, actually.

PM 23:47

I'm glad that you had the thought to do that. Because there were a lot of episodes where there were British things happening. I was like, "Oh, this is magic." And it's like no, treacle tart is a British dessert. It's not a made-up magic words.

MB 23:56

You're exposing yourself as a non-Great British Bake Off listener.

PM 23:59

Nope. I do not watch, I have seen an improv show based on it and that is the furthest extent that I know about it, except that people watch it.

MB 24:07

Close enough.

PM 24:08

So they see the sign for apparition lessons. There's going to be an outside teacher from the Ministry teaching it and it says that it costs 12 galleons which I think a galleon is like roughly like 10 ish bucks. So it's like, it's like 100 bucks. My question which this raised and shout out to Chloe blue on Instagram who raised this concern for me? First off, why did the kids have to pay for it? Why is this not like the school just funded this? But also what is the tuition situation--

MB 24:33

Yeah.

PM 24:34  
--at Hogwarts?

MB 24:35  
I can't believe this hasn't come up yet.

PM 24:36  
That was exactly Chloe messaged me. She's like, how have you not? You're so snarky and such a dick about everything. Why have you not made fun of the fact that they never talk about tuition?

MB 24:45  
It feels like a private school. It very much feels like it.

PM 24:48  
Right? Yeah, cuz it's invite-only.

MB 24:50  
And they have like room and board. I mean, that feels like a prep school and uniforms. That's a bougie prep school.

PM 24:56  
Yeah, maybe because the kids have to buy all of their own equipment for stuff and there's so much like they have to buy their own wands, they have to buy their own robes, they have to buy their own brooms. They have to buy you know, other little things to help them with their classes, like the books. Maybe they have enough funding where they're okay.

MB 25:13  
My hope is that the school gives them like a stipend because otherwise what? It's like this classist system where if you're not wealthy enough, you can't ever apparate like that stuff.

PM 25:22  
Yeah.

MB 25:22  
That's such a massive advantage.

PM 25:23  
That was the biggest thing is I was afraid that we were going to see this lesson and then Ron was gonna be like, I can't pay for that. And like, thankfully didn't.

MB 25:30  
See, that would've been good, honestly. It would've been like, true.

PM 25:33

And then Harry could go into his, you know, Scrooge McDuck vault of money and it'd be like, Here's 12 galleons.

MB 25:38

Here's my mum's wedding ring.

PM 25:39

Yeah, at this point, Harry has a giant vault and he also is a homeowner.

MB 25:43

Yes.

PM 25:43

Like, he owns a home in London.

MB 25:46

Yes! Oh, he's made in this <25:48>

PM 25:49

He is fine. So--

MB 25:51

And he's fine!

PM 25:54

We will get into later about how all good wizards are hot when they keep talking about Voldemort being hot.

MB 25:59

Oh, they killed the hottest ones though, for sure. Cedric, too soon.

PM 26:02

And Sirius, who they call hot a lot.

MB 26:04

Ughh! So hot. Ugh! The only hot one left is Voldemort.

PM 26:09

Especially now that he's a snake mmmmn... that knows was thank God he got rid of it, so much better. Lavender creeps up behind Ron puts her hands over his eyes and keeping and goes, "Guess who, Won-Won." And my thought, "Uhhh... maybe the only person that calls him Won-Won?"

MB 26:25

She gave herself away, Lavender. So that's just like fucking what's the word when you express surprise when hoodwink gets hoodwinked 101.

PM 26:33

So, Ron is nervous about apparition. He wants to pass the test on his first time because Fred and George did. And Harry brings up, "Well, Charlie, the best person in your family, who we never get to learn about in these damn books. He failed on the first time, right? That can be a big deal." And then Ron says, "Oh, but Charlie's a lot bigger than me." And then mimics a gorilla. So now we learn. Charlie Weasley is awesome. And he's also buff. Like, Charlie Weasley is apparently like, ripped. And would threatened to beat up the twins if they made fun of him.

MB 27:04

Also so curious what mimicking a gorilla looks like.

PM 27:08

It said he stuck his arms out so I'm guessing you did the thing where you kind of like put them like your fist over your knees kind of thing.

MB 27:14

Yeah, but that's not just a monkey.

PM 27:15

Ahhh...

MB 27:15

She didn't say a monkey, she specifically said gorilla.

PM 27:18

Yeah, I always get terrified because there is a difference between a pound gorilla and I don't know it and I'm gonna get it wrong and then someone's gonna be like, "Uhhh... actually..."

MB 27:26

I'm not a monkey doctor, don't ask me questions. I just say that feels like a weird description. I can't visualize that immediately.

PM 27:33

Yeah, he also could have like beat on his chest or just like flexed his arm or something. I don't know. So, Seamus Finnegan talks about how cool it would be to teleport just like that. And then the narrator says, and he clicked his fingers to signify disappearing, which British people call snapping your fingers clicking your fingers, fun fact. I double-checked this on Twitter with our now newly minted British consultant, Dottie James who was on the episode that just came out at the time of recording this, so I tweeted her. I was like, "Do you call it CLICKING?????" In all caps with a bunch of question marks and she said, "You call it SNAPPING?????" Which was the perfect interaction. But yeah, apparently snapping your fingers in the UK is called clicking your fingers which I thought was very fun.

MB 28:16

Glad to know that, I didn't think he was like speaking language for a sec.

PM 28:20

Yeah, I was like clicking would be like clicking your tongue.

MB 28:20

Yeah.

PM 28:20

But

MB 28:21

Where he's like, \*clicks tongue\* Like, wouldn't apparating be tight like this? \*clicks tongue\*

PM 28:28

What it... Seamus what? Are you okay? So, Harry then has his meeting with Dumbledore and Dumbledore's hand is looking rough, really rough and the narrator even notes, "Harry wondered for perhaps the hundredth time what it caused such a distinctive injury." Which, yep, that is how many times this has come up.

MB 28:43

JK really drawn it out.

PM 28:45

Really long.

MB 28:46

It's like, you have like the blue balls on this situation. This is not fair.

PM 28:49

It better be the best fucking story ever, because they have hinted at it maybe eight times now, but ughh... it better be incredible.

MB 28:59

I hate knowing it when you don't.

PM 29:01

I will get into my theory a little bit later but I do think that it is linked with the Horcruxes and I think that the reveal will be together and I'm very excited.

MB 29:08

Uhhh, maybe, maybe not.

PM 29:09

Whoo! Good! Thank you for not saying anything. So Dumbledore says that he heard about the Scrimgeour situation. Harry tells Dumbledore that Scrimgeour wanted Harry to tell the

wizarding community that the ministry is doing a wonderful job. And the book just is quote, "Dumbledore smiled." which I think is just a great response to have been like, "Huh. cute."

MB 29:29

I'd be interested how many times Dumbledore smiling is mentioned in the books because I feel like it's not often.

PM 29:34

Yeah, and it's only for like sassy stuff.

MB 29:36

Yeah.

PM 29:36

It's never like, Dumbledore was happy. It's always Dumbledore was being cheeky, so he smiles. So apparently Fudge had the same idea and Scrimgeour wanted to implement it once he took over the office. And that is what the big write up about Dumbledore and Scrimgeour arguing that took place in the Daily Prophet was about and to that Dumbledore says quote, "The Prophet is bound to report the truth occasionally, if only accidentally."

MB 30:00

Whoooo! Little burn.

PM 30:01

Little burn there. Harry says that Scrimgeour called Harry, 'Dumbledore's man through and through.' And Dumbledore says, "Oh, that's preposterous. That's very silly." And Harry goes, "No, I agreed with him." And then Dumbledore tears up and says, "I am very touched, Harry." which, Oh, great, now I'm crying.

MB 30:16

Also, can we talk about that it's so sad to me that Dumbledore is what? Like, 115 at this point.

PM 30:23

Something like that.

MB 30:24

So many students has he had. Like, you can only imagine thousands if not like, 10s of thousands.

PM 30:30

Yeah.

MB 30:30

And so it's like if one student being like, "You're the man!" makes him cry. Like, what is missing in his life?

MB 30:37

Like, he needs more love!

PM 30:37

Well...

PM 30:39

I think it might just be more of the equivalent of the president tried to say something mean to you about liking a friend and you didn't back down?

MB 30:46

Yeah, maybe that's maybe that's more it. It just, it just made me so sad. I was like, somebody's gonna love this man.

PM 30:51

What is kind of easy to cry because he did tear up about how much Harry was going through when he was like, "Oh, that's why I didn't make you prefect." but yo, Harry never should have been a prefect ever.

MB 31:02

Oh no.

PM 31:02

Harry breaks way too many rules to be a prefect. So don't cry, Dumbledore.

MB 31:05

He's like a bad boy.

PM 31:06

Yeah. He's... you know? He's mischievous. He does things he's not supposed to all the time. He's probably leading the league in house points lost for Gryffindor.

MB 31:14

Right? And I will again bring up that reframe this, Harry might not actually be a good dude. Like genuinely, what do we have to go off of other than him fighting Voldemort?

PM 31:24

Yeah.

MB 31:24

That he's a good guy.

PM 31:25



Yeah.

MB 31:25

He hates people without real cause. Like that doesn't sound like a good dude.

PM 31:29

He's not the nicest for sure.

MB 31:31

I'm just trying to plant some conspiracy here \_<31:33>\_.

PM 31:34

Ooooh, I mean, it's good though. No, it's something to like, consider. But I think it does make him more interesting is that he's not a perfect--

MB 31:39

Yes.

PM 31:39

--hero to follow. Because it'd be very boring if he was just nice all the time.

MB 31:42

Oh, can you imagine? And Harry smiled, and that's just every time, his response to something.

PM 31:47

Malfoy was mean to Harry and Harry walked away because he didn't want to get Malfoy the time of day. Malfoy only wanted to get a reaction out of Harry and he wouldn't give it to him.

MB 31:56

And Harry said, "Hey Malfoy, how are things at home?"

PM 32:00

Harry decided to bake a cake for Malfoy, maybe that would cheer him up.

MB 32:04

I will say also it concerns me that Harry stares at his knees once he realizes Dumbledore is like, maybe crying. Because I'm just like, give him a hug, man.

PM 32:13

Yeah, pat him on the shoulder or something.

MB 32:15

It's like, console him, don't just pretend you don't see him. It's so weird!

PM 32:20

It's very weird. It's a strange reaction. Harry tells Dumbledore about the Snape-Malfoy thing. And Dumbledore basically says, "Oh, that's not of great importance." And Harry gets very upset.

MB 32:29

Big surprise.

PM 32:31

Yeah! Harry's like, "Did you not hear what I said? Did you not understand what I said?" And Dumbledore says quote, "Yes, Harry. Blessed as I am with extraordinary brainpower. I understood everything you told me."

MB 32:42

Oooooooooohhhhh! Sass is real!

PM 32:44

It is very, very real. And I get that with Dumbledore might be trying to say here is I already know about all this. You're not giving me any new information. And I think he's got to have a bit more peace of mind to know that this is going to make Harry really mad/

MB 32:56

Well, Harry's a child.

PM 32:57

Yeah.

MB 32:58

Like, he's not a patient person, he's a child! He's a teenage boy.

PM 33:01

He is, he's not a patient teenage boy.

MB 33:05

He knows everything.

PM 33:06

He really, really does. But I think Dumbledore could have handled this a little bit better but so could have Harry and Harry never wants to drop this ever. So it's a little bit of like they're both to blame for this heated interaction.

MB 33:17

Right. Harry's full-on running a smear campaign for Malfoy.

PM 33:20

Yeah, on Malfoy and Snape.

MB 33:22

Yeah, and Snape. I know and clearly Dumbledore like Snape for one reason or another. So it's like, "Hey, don't talk trash about my friend to me, you know what I mean?"

PM 33:29

Yeah. Talk to Ron about that. Like, save that for Ron, Ron hates him too.

MB 33:32

I wish Dumbledore had said that, "Save it for Ron."

PM 33:35

He should've, he really should've. So they go back and forth a little bit. And finally, you know, they get to be a little more calm a little bit. I do note that Phineas Nigellus butts in during their back and forth, which is great. I love Phineas Nigellus with all of my heart. I'm very happy anytime he comes into the book at all.

MB 33:50

He was pretending to sleep.

PM 33:52

Yeah, classic Phineas. So Dumbledore reveals that the point of this meeting is to go over two memories and he says that they are the two most people important that he has stored up.

MB 34:01

On the same day too.

PM 34:02

Right?

MB 34:02

That's like, big day.

PM 34:04

Yeah, it is a big one. So Dumbledore gives a bit of a preface about Voldemort, kind of like Tom Riddle's beginning years at Hogwarts, half for Harry and half for the reader so we know what's going on. He says that he was put into Slytherin almost immediately. Like, the Sorting Hat was put on and like just as it was put on, it just goes, "Slytherin!" Like, none of the whole thing where it vamps for 12 minutes.

MB 34:24

Yeah.

PM 34:24

It's just, "Slytherin! Get out of here!" Apparently, Tom Riddle was very happy about this. He Parseltongued all over the place looked into Salazar Slytherin's history as much as he could. And the teachers loved him because he was talented and charming and good looking. According to the book, like that was a justification for why teachers liked him.

MB 34:44

I mean, but that's true though.

PM 34:44

I mean, it's very weird, is it? I don't... do teachers like the hot kid?

MB 34:47

Well, no, I think there's a difference between like the kids that are known as hot and then the kids that are incidentally hot.

PM 34:53

Okay.

MB 34:53

Does that makes sense?

PM 34:54

He's just like, I guess like his face is pleasing to look at.

MB 34:56

Yes.

PM 34:56

So you don't mind talking to him

MB 34:57

And he's a good student. Yes,

PM 34:59

Yeah.

MB 35:00

In my experience, teachers prefer those kids.

PM 35:02

Okay, the good ones. I find it strange that JK Rowling brings this up a lot with wizards. It's just you know, the ones that are good at magic also happened to be very attractive. We get it a lot with Sirius, we get it a lot with Voldemort and I'm just... I don't know, it seems like something that is kind of unnecessary.

MB 35:18

It is odd.

PM 35:19

I don't know.

MB 35:20

For sure.

PM 35:20

I guess it's not that big of a deal, it just seems weird.

MB 35:22

Yeah, I mean, she definitely have some heroes that are like not great looking. Like Mad-Eye Moody is not a good looking man.

PM 35:28

Yeah.

MB 35:28

And he's a great guy, right?

PM 35:29

True.

MB 35:30

But other than Voldemort, it seems like all the bad guys are ugly and described that way, right?

PM 35:35

Yeah. All the mean people look gross, yep.

MB 35:37

It's a little bit of like a Disney situation.

PM 35:39

Yeah, exactly. Until Disney made Frozen because that dude, he was good looking and then plot twist! He's mean!

MB 35:49

They were inspired by Voldemort.

PM 35:51

Yes, Dumbledore said that Voldemort was always very guarded around him at a fear for revealing his true identity to him. Dumbledore then goes on to talk about his crew. Most of whom basically come on to be the Death Eaters. He's kind of just got a, you know, he's got like an entourage around him that...

MB 36:05

Which is so funny to re-contextualize the Death Eaters as just like a little high school gang.

PM 36:11

Yeah, but they're a high school clique that, you know? It's like that group of high school friends that still like hang out all the time together.

MB 36:16

Yeah, and they were like, Yeah, we're gonna pants Arthur Weasley today." And like, and that escalated into murder and genocide.

PM 36:24

Ohhhhhh! The way years like this makes me think that it's like for a while they were just the guys from jackass until they became evil. "What's up!? I'm... I'm Antonin Dolohov and this is pantsing Arthur Weasley!"

MB 36:36

Ummmm let's see... my favorite things, slim jims, Trapped!

PM 36:40

Monster Energy drinks. I drink five a day, my heart is in bad condition.

MB 36:45

I would love to see like the early years here. Obviously, we know Voldemort was up to serious bad at this point.

PM 36:50

Yeah.

MB 36:50

But we're all the other guys, I don't know.

PM 36:52

No, they're, "What's up with that Voldemort guy?" "I don't know, let's make fun of these kids."

MB 36:55

Let's go pour Slurpee on the kid's homework.

PM 36:59

He sites a few quote, "Nasty incidents." And he says, "One of which as you know, is the Chamber of Secrets which resulted in the death of a student." It's like, I don't think that qualifies as nasty incident anymore, Dumbledore. Somebody's dead.

MB 37:11

That's a tragic incident.

PM 37:12

I think that might be... yeah, that's a bit serious.

MB 37:14

Yeah.

PM 37:15

So Dumbledore had to work very hard to get these memories about Voldemort. Basically, he learns that Voldemort is obsessed with his parentage. He searched the school far and wide to see if there's any mention of his father, who he believes was a powerful wizard eventually realizes that he never went to Hogwarts at all. This caused him to abandon the name Tom Riddle because he was named after his dad and just go by Voldemort from then on out. And can you imagine a teenager in the class be like, "Actually, I go by Voldemort now."

MB 37:41

Yeah.

PM 37:42

Like, when they're doing roll call?

MB 37:43

I can imagine it, because I saw Ladybird.

PM 37:46

Oh!

MB 37:46

It's the same! It's the same thing!

PM 37:48

Shit! Oh man! Yeah.

MB 37:50

Right? He's like, "Ummmm... excuse me guys, a quick announcement. Today and every day forward, it's actually Voldemort. And please don't call me Voldy, thanks." It just... it makes me think about that Soul Caliber character. I think his name's Voldo, they look very similar also.

PM 38:07

Okay, I've not played Soul Caliber, but I believe you.

MB 38:10

Just like, bad Street Fighter. Listen, it was the 90s, don't worry about it.

PM 38:13

Yeah, gonna get, oh man. Soul Caliber Twitter is gonna be really mad about this episode.

MB 38:19

That make me wonder like, I wonder if Voldemort played it, the timeline doesn't make sense.

PM 38:24

Yeah, of anything he was like oh yeah we love Miss Pac Man. So after thorough research Voldemort discovered the existence of the Slytherin surviving line and then went to find out about the Gaunt Family. After giving this preface, Harry and Dumbledore go into the pensieve. They are back at the Gaunt's house and it is rough. There's, there's mold and mildew everywhere. It's super gross. And there's a man inside with so much hair over his head and beard that you can't really see his face. So, yum!

MB 38:50

He needs a visit from the Queer Eye guys.

PM 38:52

Right? Oh my gosh, it'd be so good. Like, "Oh, you've got mold all over your house. Let's fix that. Also, haircut."

MB 38:57

<38:58>

PM 38:59

The door opens and it's young Voldemort and again he's described as handsome. The person who eventually learned to be Morphin just screams, "You!" and starts to charge at him. Voldemort says, "Stop!" in parseltongue and Morphin very surprised that he can speak parseltongue. And also, there's a fun note wherein the books when they speak and parcel of tongue it's always in italics.

MB 39:18

Yeah.

PM 39:18

So I always mentioned them saying everything like kinda sassily when they say it. "STOP!"

MB 39:24

"STOP!"

PM 39:24

"What? You can speak parseltongue?" "Yes, I know how!" "Who are you? You kind of look like that Muggle!" But then the outside perspective, they're just like, "Kasaasaasasasa." back and forth to each other.

MB 39:35



I think I like your read better. And I think you should continue to mentally voice it that way as you go.

PM 39:39

Yeah.

MB 39:39

It will be very fun.

PM 39:42

That it's the sassiest conversation. So they have a bit back and forth, and we had this great moment where Morphin thinks that Voldemort is Tom Riddle. But something is wrong because quote, "You look like him, Riddle. But he's older now, isn't he? Older than you!" He just like, can't piece together that sometimes people have kids and they look like them.

MB 40:02

Are there no spells to make yourself look younger?

PM 40:05

Um Oh, I actually don't know.

MB 40:07

Like, there must be like, wizard plastic surgery that's just like a spell, right? Or like a potion.

PM 40:12

There are some wizards like Tonks who are able to change their appearance. But it's usually just like hair color and stuff like that.

PM 40:18

So maybe there is some sort of rule like some wizarding <40:23> rule where you can't anti-age because people would just do it if they could.

MB 40:18

Yeah.

MB 40:26

Yeah, they do it here with fillers. Like, what a market they're missing out on. To make a single potion that restores your like lack of wrinkles you're good to go, billion-dollar market. I'm just saying that doesn't seem that absurd to be just, "But wait, you're too young."

PM 40:39

Yeah.

MB 40:40

Like, it's magic! There's gonna be some magic.

PM 40:42

There should be, there should be. But then it should be like plastic surgery where like, it can look okay, but the 10 years later, just like looks really bad.

PM 40:49

And it doesn't age well.

MB 40:49

Yeah.

MB 40:50

As the potions developed, they got way better at it, yeah.

PM 40:53

So Morfin hates Tom Riddle, Sr. for the whole Merope, Merope, Merope? However, you pronounce her name thing. Because apparently, Tom Riddle Sr. robbed them of the locket before she ran off. So this is when Tom was still under the love potion, and then the memory kind of fades to black and Harry asked Dumbledore, "What's up?" They leave the pensieve and Dumbledore says, "That is because that's all Morfin remembers." So what we basically learn is that Morfin just woke up the next day with the ring gone and the Riddles..." So Tom Riddle Sr. and his parents murdered across the street. And here is my big question. Why the fuck did the Riddles not move? What are you? What are you doing? What? Like, Tom Riddle Sr. learns about all this, "Oh yeah, I was put against this like crazy spell and had a bunch of years of my life deleted by this witch and her entire wizard family. They're very evil and they live across the street from us." Wow. They just stay there? Are you kidding me?

MB 41:54

Maybe it was like a turf war. They're like, "This is my place, man. I'm not moving." "I'm not moving either." We will be mortal enemies across from each other.

PM 42:02

When they, when they described this I could not believe it!

MB 42:06

It's a little too convenient, for sure. But I mean again, if you do this in a book like it happens over and over and over again.

PM 42:15

it's just, it's just... ugh! It's so stupid. Why did the Riddles not move? The dumbest, dumbest, dumbest, dumbest thing. Dumbledore then goes on to say that he describes the murder says that the police are very confused. But the ministry knew what was up because quote, "Avada Kedavra does not usually leave any sign of damage. The exception sits before me." And then nods to Harry's scar, which I think is cute.

MB 42:38

It's cute.

PM 42:38

Yeah, it's a good little like, Oh, nice. But the ministry basically knew what was up.

MB 42:42

You've got to wonder also like, when Tom Sr. came out of the potion spell, he was aware she was a witch, right?

PM 42:50

Yes, he realized this and that's why he's run away is because she kind of let him get off the spell.

MB 42:54

Well no, he didn't run away. He ran across the street. But my question is, he probably, he told everyone he knew, right? Like, of course he did.

PM 43:03

Right? Unless the ministry came in and did the thing where they didn't know.

MB 43:06

Right.

PM 43:07

And maybe that explains all of this.

MB 43:08

But did they had they explicitly said that? I don't remember that they erased that part of his memory that he didn't recall it.

PM 43:14

If they did, I am sorry and people will be mad at me <43:16> just missed it. But that would make sense if the ministry came in and then wiped his memory.

MB 43:14

<43:20> happens, but unless they explicitly said that.

PM 43:22

Yeah.

MB 43:22

But I'm like, this scumbag dude told everyone that would listen to him that he, that he was like, you know, corrupted by a witch, then I think people will start to be like, "Yo, I think that which probably, she was a witch just so you guys know." Do you know what I mean?

PM 43:35

Yeah, they would have had to have done it. That's the only reason that I can think of why they didn't move is that the ministry came in and did it.

MB 43:41

Okay, let's assume it did.

PM 43:41

Yeah, for JK Rowling's behalf. So the ministry knew was up, they brought Morfin in for a trial and he admits to the crime with lots of pride about so, he's very stoked about this. And he just keeps saying over and over again that he is very upset that he was lost his father's ring. He says, "My dad will kill me for losing this ring. He'll kill me for losing this ring." over and over and over again. Even when he gets put into Azkaban and Dumbledore tells Harry that basically what happened was Voldemort did a Stun spell on Morfin and then stole his wand, went across street, murdered everybody and then put a false memory into Morfin's brain, which I didn't know was a thing and it's very devious, and then left the wand by him and then peaced out.

MB 43:48

And also Tom Riddle, or sorry, now Voldemort, artist formerly known as Tom Riddle is still in high school when he did that?

PM 44:33

Yeah, I think he was in like his sixth or seventh year.

MB 44:37

Dude, he's gonna be the best. I was called him a magician. I'm going to call the magician.

PM 44:40

Me too.

MB 44:40

He's gotta be the best magician in town, man. That's crazy.

PM 44:44

Yeah, he's very powerful to do all of this.

MB 44:47

I'm gonna make so many people mad, I'm so sorry. I just, I'm gonna only call him magician from here on out.

PM 44:52

Just always use the wrong words for everything.

MB 44:54

<45:43> magic, their magicians.

PM 44:56

It is magic. people that do magic are magicians.

MB 44:59

Thank you.

PM 45:00

So, the reason that the ministry did not know that Tom/Voldemort did all of this is because the whole detect magic thing that the ministry knows like when Harry got caught with it before when you use it as house is because it's just location-based. They know where magic happens, but they don't know who does it, which is very convenient. But it's something that is backed up by JK Rowling because in the second book with the whole Dobby thing when he raises up the pudding thing and then Harry gets in trouble for it even though Harry didn't do it. So it does make sense and it's something she set up so I'm not going to give her flack for like making this up on the spot, she planned this.

MB 45:33

She did set it up but it is confusing to me since they have such like oversight on like everyone gets their own wand. I just feel like it's got to be a little bit like each one has a serial number and...

PM 45:43

Yeah, like gun bullet stuff is supposed to be.

MB 45:45

Yeah! A little bit.

PM 45:47

I guess, I mean, I guess it's just we learned that the ministry is very poorly run throughout the books. So we can just chalk it up to that, basically.

MB 45:54

I mean, I need a federal bureaucracy. Like, that checks out to me.

PM 45:58

So Dumbledore says that he got this memory out of Morfin with Legilimency. One thing that is very nice is that Harry is still mad about the Dobby thing. Because when he asked Dumbledore about it and Dumbledore explains it's like, "You know? Like with..." and Harry goes, "Dobby." he grimaces and says, I love it, it's so good.

MB 46:13

That's so mean. Little Dobbs, he's had such a hard life.

PM 46:17

Yeah, but Dobby is so annoying in the beginning but it gets so good, I love Dobby now. Hated him before. So now's the time for the second memory and they pour the liquid into the pensieve and the liquid is kind of chunky?

MB 46:27

Eew.

PM 46:27

And Harry thinks, do memories go bad? We learn why it's chunky later. So basically, it's a very short memory. It is from Slughorn. And they go into the memory and it's Slughorn in his office with Tom, Dolohov and Lestrage, they're just kind of like chit-chatting about stuff just very chummy-like. I don't know if this is like a predecessor to the Slug Club type thing.

MB 46:50

No, it's the clique, man.

PM 46:51

Yeah, so they're tight with Slughorn. But basically the clock strikes 11 so I guess they have to go to bed but they all have to leave. But Tom Riddle does the classic like hang back to talk to someone about something. And then he asks Slughorn about Horcruxes in a not very discreet way. And this finally! Ooooooh! it's the first time that I have read the word Horcrux. I knew the word existed but this is the first time that I read it and I am so ready for shit to hit the fan.

MB 47:17

How does it feel?

PM 47:19

it feels good because it's something that has been I feel, hinted at so long and like dangled in front of me. And now I might finally get to learn what they are, but not in this chapter or the next one. We don't get to know what they are.

MB 47:31

I'm so sorry.

PM 47:31

It's all good! But it's a fun little thing. Here's basically what I'm thinking as far as it is so far. I don't know exactly what there.

MB 47:38

Yes, I would love to hear this.

PM 47:39

I do think that they are physical objects. I think that they somehow either like make Voldemort stronger or something. Because obviously if he's interested in getting them he wants to become more powerful. So I'm thinking--

MB 47:48

Okay like, maybe like charms or something?

PM 47:50

So yeah, I think it's like maybe like you you have some sort of like item that like is magic or something and you use it to do evil.

MB 47:58

Uh-huh.

PM 47:58

Because basically, I think that there's this ring and the the locket that they're so obsessed with. The ones that like go back to Salazar Slytherin. I think that these two things might be Horcruxes. Because they mentioned that Tom is wearing the ring in this scene so maybe that is why like he's already wearing it he might know that it's a Horcrux or think it's a Horcrux. So he wants to ask Slughorn about it. So I think that basically, they are physical items. I think they're very evil. And I think that they make Voldemort stronger. And I also think that that is why Dumbledore's hand is burnt because I think he's like doing something to destroy them. Because Dumbledore got the ring and the necklace and then they're like not here anymore. In the book, they were there and now they're not. So I think Dumbledore is doing something to destroy them.

MB 48:41

Okay, so so Dumbledore would be destroying them because he doesn't want them to fall into the wrong hands or something?

PM 48:47

Yeah, that... I guess that's what I'm at so far with what I know. Is like, I think it's like if Voldemort has the Horcruxes... So maybe it's like destroying the Infinity Stones. So that they Thanos can't get them So it's like yeah, maybe it's like a thing like that words like if Voldemort has the Horcruxes, it'll be bad. Either that or just like, if you destroy the Horcruxes from existing, it makes Voldemort weaker. I feel like if Voldemort needed them, he'd be very persistent on trying to get them. Like, I feel like that would have been a bigger concern that would have come up is like, because they were so hell-bent on getting the prophecy I would imagine he would also be hell-bent on like, "I gotta get that ring back." Kind of like Thanos was.

MB 49:25

Okay, so you... that's, that's how you eliminate the idea that it's like a key to something.

PM 49:29

Yeah, yeah. Because I think he would really really want them or it would have come up earlier. Either that or they're doing a very good job of hiding that they have them.

MB 49:37

Okay, so you think there's multiple?

PM 49:39

Yes, like I think that the ring and the necklace are definitely multiple. I don't know if there's like a set number or if it's just like Horcruxes are a thing and these two happened to be them.

MB 49:48

How many do you think there are if you had to say a number?

PM 49:50

I'm just going to guess seven because that seems like a magic lucky number type thing.

MB 49:55

And they are magicians, as I said before.

PM 49:57

Right, they are, and there are seven books and that would be very fun. So I'm just going to say, seven. Because it feels right.

MB 50:05

Alright, you heard it here first.

PM 50:05

Yeah, I'll be way wrong and like these aren't Horcruxes. There are 25 of them and their snacks. Like... so...

MB 50:13

I mean, I can't confirm or deny that information.

PM 50:15

Thank you for not. But yes, I can't wait to listen back on this episode when I learned what they are and either be very excited or very sad. It could be Ludo Bagman part two. So he asked him, not very discreetly about them. I-I want to make sure I read from the book because it's just very funny the way that it's described. So he goes back and goes, "Sir, I wondered what you know about... about Horcruxes." And then this fog fills the room and the fog-filled before when they were like chit-chatting and fog came in out of nowhere in the memory and then Slughorn's voice rang out unnaturally loudly saying, "You'll go wrong, boy. Mark my words." which seems kind of sketchy and I didn't know what it was. Then this fog comes back again after he asks about the Horcruxes. And then again, they hear the voice which is too loud and doesn't make sense. And it says, "I don't know anything about Horcruxes, and I wouldn't tell you if I did. Now get out of here at once and don't let me catch



you mentioning them again." which makes me think okay, this is, this is Slughorn messing with his memory to make himself look really good because this is clearly some bullshit.

MB 51:18

Or italicized, he randomly started speaking parseltongue.

PM 51:22

There's a lot of fog in the, "Hasasasasasaa." Yeah, so what Dumbledore does eventually reveal to Harry at the very end of this chapter, is that's what the case is, is that it is Slughorn making this memory altered, altering this memory to make himself look better than he actually is. And he tells Harry that basically his plan, which I guess is the whole reason that he has Slughorn teaching this year is so that Harry can try to talk to Slughorn about this and try to figure out what he actually said there. Dumbledore notes that because it's like a fog thing over the memory, that core memory is still there. So if Harry finds that out, he can figure out what is behind the fog, so to speak. And basically Dumbledore is hiring Harry as a spy. And it is so good it is so so so good.

MB 52:06

But is it though? Because at the same time, of all the choices of students he could turn into spies, Harry, I just don't really get it.

PM 52:15

It's it's I it's not because of Harry's ability. It's because Slughorn is obsessed with Harry.

MB 52:19

Yeah, that's true.

PM 52:20

That's really what it boils down to.

MB 52:21

That's, that's true. But I'm kind of like what, Hermione is the obvious choice in this situation for me. Like...

PM 52:26

Yeah.

MB 52:26

I understand Harry's the chosen one when it comes to like, Voldemort related things.

PM 52:29

Yeah, and Slughorn still kind of does like Hermione. But Hermione was so bad when she tried to sweet talk at Borgin and Burkes. She was so bad at that.

MB 52:36

True, she's bad at lying. But...

PM 52:38

Yeah.

MB 52:38

She's great at spells and potions, which Dumbledore suggests, right?

PM 52:44

Yeah, basically the problem and we'll in this in the next chapter. The main issue is that Harry doesn't consult Hermione thoroughly enough with a plan he just goes in. It's like, "I'm just going to ask Slughorn the same question Voldemort did." it's like, you fucking idiot!

MB 52:58

Also like, how much shorter these books be if every time he had something to do he consulted with Hermione first it'd be two books.

PM 53:05

Yeah, they would be a lot, a lot shorter. So that is the end of chapter 17. And that's the end of this episode of Potterless. Miel, how are you feeling about secret agent, Harry Potter?

MB 53:17

I'm felling like, maybe Dumbledore chose the wrong guy. <53:19> for us and was like, "Oh wait, shit, did I say Harry Potter? I meant Hermione Granger."

PM 53:26

Yeah. She, she wasn't the best. Harry's not your best choice either.

MB 53:32

I mean, honestly, anyone would probably be a better choice than Harry.

PM 53:36

Probably.

MB 53:37

Like, you know who would be probably really good? Luna Lovegood. Because she just be so weird.

MB 53:37

<53:37>

PM 53:37

Yeah.

PM 53:40

Luna is the top dog. She would have just said some weird shit. Like so much stuff and then he would have been like, uh, "Let me tell you about Horcruxes."

MB 53:48

Like, just to get her to just go away.

PM 53:49

"Hey, you want to shut up? I'll tell you something cool."

MB 53:52

"I want to tell you about the ponies." And he's like, "No, no. **<53:55>**"

PM 53:55

"Oh, I was reading in my dad's Quibbler magazine..." "No, no, no! I'll tell you about Horcruxes!"

PM 54:04

Anyone other than Harry, honestly.

PM 54:06

Yeah, but we'll see how it goes. I don't have high hopes. But Miel, thanks so much for joining this episode of Potterless. Why don't you tell everyone about Punch up the Jam, your lovely music podcast?

MB 54:16

Oh, hey thanks! Okay, so you don't hear a song and you're like, "Wait a sec, what did they just say? Wait, what was that instrument?" I do because I'm obsessed with them. And so it's my friend Demi also from Vine **<54:25>**.

PM 54:26

Yay, Vine party.

MB 54:27

And so we have a podcast where every week we take a different song and we pick it apart. And then the most daunting part, we try to make it better by doing our own original version of the song.

PM 54:38

Some are really phenomenal. Your Shakira one of whenever, wherever...

MB 54:42

Lelelelele!

PM 54:44

I had started listening to it at one point, and then I switched from like listening to on my phone or listening to it at Spotify at work. And I was trying to like drag the play head to figure out where like I left off, and I accidentally started like midway through your cover, and I was like, Oh, well, they're still doing more of the Shakira song? Your Shakira impression was so good. I legitimately thought it was still Shakira. But then you said the line like, "Look at that my ass doesn't look like cream corn." And I was like, "Oh okay, that must be the parody, Miel is very talented."

MB 55:10

Hey thanks and also I'm lucky that my ass isn't like, <55:14>

PM 55:15

Yeah, I don't think that'd be good for anyone. But yes, Punch Up the Jam is amazing. It's either songs that are amazing and you love or songs that you love to make fun of. And then you just go through the lyrics and make fun of them. And it's super good.

MB 55:28

Thank you so much for having me. This is such a treat to get to talk about Harry Potter again. It's been about 15 years.

PM 55:32

Well, glad to have you back and you're going to be on another episode.

MB 55:38

Uhhh what?!

PM 55:39

So, it's gonna be so good! But yes, thank you so much for joining. Listeners, thanks so much for listening and until next time, as they say in the Wizarding World of Harry Potter before they bit take a big old dive into the pensieve, WIZARD ON!

<55:52>