

13th July

Mess in my head

Oh, here it is! I couldn't find this old diary of mine for so long! I guess I can call it "old diary" (which is so cool) now, when I have it for more than a year? I was scared I left it in school, but oof, it was just hidden really deep in my suitcase.

How do I write about this long period of time? I guess I will just do some brief recapitulation of the important things. And I will write more about feelings and less about events. In general, I can't get rid of the feeling of being left out and not being good enough for my friends.

I was once on theater club meeting. It was something between great and awful. It was really nice to get to know the people (mostly our third-graders, like, Maxwell actually talked to me on the stage, whoa!) and, of course, to be near The Professor. The worse thing was that I actually HAD TO be on the stage, I wasn't in the backstage as The Professor had told me earlier that I could, which felt like an actual betrayal. I wasn't sure I could ever forgive him, but then he gave us tickets for Wicked, a musical he plays in, and it was awesome, so I guess we were able to overcome this first troublesome situation in our relationship.

I was sick during exams (Kate was out with Alastair late at night, she caught a cold and I caught it from her. You see how useless love is?), so I missed most of them. And also we didn't win because Gryffindor got 100 points during the last day. Laurie told me about it, because I still didn't feel well, but they all got pink caps and they left, except for Jack. Honestly, I'm glad I wasn't there because I would feel like it's quite disrespectful to leave. I know that girls think that it wasn't fair and I agree a little, but if I were in Gryffindor, I would be quite sad if my winning wasn't fair, and even more if the whole other house left. But if I stayed, girls would KILL me, or at least they wouldn't be friends with me anymore. And I don't have many friends, so I can't afford to lose The Pink Caps (Laurie, Aurora, Vianna and Cornelia).

However, I did not manage to avoid another strange situation like this, when they offered me their pink cap, which I, according to what they said, have to have it (that was on the train ride home). I tried not to show it, but I really don't think those caps are very nice, and also, I am afraid a little that people wouldn't like me if I wore that, because there's a lot of drama surrounding my friends and I try my best to stay out of it. Why do I have to choose between my friends and the rest of the school? Why can't I just be friends with everyone who isn't mean to me?

It's not always easy. For example that Max, Laurie and Nathan thing. Nathan sent me a very nice letter one day and few days later I hanged out with him, and also with this Pheo girl (it is the one who clearly flirted with The Professor on Valentine's Day!!! – but I forgave her). But when we had a dinner and girls from the house came, Laurie was quite rude at me because I was talking to Nathan. She said Nathan was somehow mean at Maxwell; but then she said she didn't mind me talking with him; I didn't understand her at all and it turned into a huge fight in the common room, which was really embarrassing. And it's not even like I am super close with Nathan. He's just friendly and I don't see anything wrong with it, that's all.

Ever since then, Laurie tends to be quite standoffish, maybe a little steep. I feel like I have to constantly prove I mean everything in a good way, that I don't intend to hurt anyone. All the time I fear I will mess it up when I talk to her. Sometimes it's nice (like in the theater, where she had beautiful dress and she also praised mine, which was nice), but despite those bright moments I feel like we are not as close as we were. I guess Abby became my best friend once again...?

But before I will write about summer and Abby, just one last thing I have to say to The Laurie Problem. I think it's only partly my fault (even though I don't know what I did) that we don't understand each other so well anymore. I don't know a lot about that, but I'm convinced she has some problems outside of our friendship. First, the thing with her mum in USA. I don't know if their family works very well. And second, last time she was leaving the Leaky Cauldron and it seemed like something happened. I thing Aurora and Vianna know something about that, because they were really quick in finding a reason why she left and seemed really nervous about it. Maybe they did something to her and she is sad about that, but she doesn't want to tell me, because they were lately better friends to her and it doesn't feel right for her to come back to me when they have problems? I don't know. But I still care about her, so I hope she is fine and she will come back and tell me. Until then, I will just have to be careful with her, because she is more fragile and emotional than ever (and that's something, because even before she was always a sissy).

In the last months of school, girls became somewhat closer with guys from third grade. Or at least so I think. They were singing together in the theater club and Vianna with Aurora even DATE with Maxwell! (but it is just "made up", they aren't actually kissing him and holding hands with him). I encouraged them to invite him for an ice cream, so it's not always him paying, because that is not very nice.

Me? I didn't really get close to any of them. I think Max... tolerates me. More than before. He doesn't make pull faces all the time, and I would say he doesn't consider me as annoying as people's average, which is, I suppose, an honor. I saw Stu and Lys in the theater (I know I

already wrote about that, but The Professor was reallyyyy cute and even though I didn't get to talk to him, I was so excited to be there), but we didn't talk, and I don't know anything about them apart from Stu's love of fantasy and science fiction.

So Barry is probably the only boy from our house who talks to me. He is always nervous, but that's probably some of his weird character traits and it's not my fault, because it's true that with me, he at least smiles and talks. I didn't see him talking very much with other people! I know I probably just dream it up, but I feel kinda special that he doesn't seem so scared of me as of other people. I was thinking, we could maybe be friends one day? Sometimes I and he stayed up late, reading in common room, and once we even talked! People say he is weirdo, but I think I understand him a little better. Maybe it's because... I am weirdo too?

So I don't know now, I am a little thrown out of the group. Relationships are hard. I don't understand people, no matter how hard I'm trying. I spend a lot of time on the farm, where I work at to make a little money. And lot of time I am in Colchester with my family and Abby. We do a lot of stuff with Abby, and it's nice to have a friend in Colchester (which wasn't the case before Hogwarts, so I guess things are better than before). We often go to the castle and do silly stuff on the playground, or we climb the trees and I try to read while Abby is annoying me. Sometimes Abby has to bring her little sister along, which she hates and I love, because Megan loves Abby and also me. She's so cute when she's telling us about her first year in school; no matter that Abby only roll her eyes on her. I like Abby a lot, but I really hope that once Megan will grow up a little, she will beat Abby up for the way she treats her now!

Oh, it's so late in the night and I'm still writing. But it was really important to get that mess from my head! What do I do now? I guess I need to learn how to be social, so my friends include me more again. I will try to talk to people immediately as I'll return to the farm tomorrow!

June Elizabeth Deeren