

# Chapter 1

Summary: the scene opens on the bustling streets of diagon alley as wizards and witches alike are gathered in this whimsical shopping market when the readers are first introduced to Ron and Hermione, who are having an argument over a textbook that Ron had just purchased, with Hermione saying that Ron won't make good use of the book anyway and Ron being both offended at her remarks and annoyed that she won't just let him keep the book that he rightfully bought. Down the street, the readers are introduced to Harry who sees a disgruntled Hermione storming off from the book store. When Harry looks over, he sees Ron dusting himself off and getting his stuff situated when Harry decides to ask Ron what happened with Hermione. Ron tells Harry that she was just trying to take the book he just bought, which Harry finds somewhat amusing. Ron introduces himself to Harry, and Harry introduces himself to Ron, without telling him his last name. Harry asks Ron if he could help point him to the wand shop, as it is the last thing on Harry's list that he needs for school. Ron agrees and starts to lead Harry through the busy streets.

As Ron and Harry make their way through diagon alley, the boys start to talk about the wizarding world, with Harry expressing his amazement at things in diagon alley that Ron believes to be small and insignificant. Ron asks Harry if he was brought up by muggles, which he clarifies are non-magical folk. Harry says yes, and that everything here is new to him. Ron smiles and tells Harry that he'll get the hang of things in no time and that soon enough he'll realize how similar the magical and non magical worlds can be.

Along the way they run into Crabbe and Goyle, two brutish looking boys who they find bullying Hermione over something stupid. Ron rushes in to stop them, with Harry joining after briefly hesitating out of anxiety. Crabbe and Goyle start to bully them as well, and Harry lifts his hair from his forehead revealing a lightning shaped scar. The bullies' faces sink as they both start running away. When Harry lets his hair down, he looks over to see Ron and Hermione looking absolutely shocked as Ron begins to ask what Harry's full name is, when Harry finally reveals it to them.

# Chapter 2

Summary: we cut back to a month prior to the trio's meeting, where the scene opens with Harry trying his best to style his hair, although nothing seems to make it any more kempt. As the Dursleys shout from the other room for Harry to hurry up, Harry decides to wash out the product in his hair very quickly before leaving the bathroom to meet with the Dursleys outside, who seem to be shuffling into their car. As Harry meets with the Dursleys, Petunia takes notice of Harry's appearance, stating her disappointment in Harry's lack of care for his looks as his hair is messy, his shoe laces aren't evenly sized and his tie isn't fully on correctly. As she quickly fixes his appearance (save for his hair), the family all settles into their car where Harry starts to

think about how he wishes he could just be enough for his family, something he hasn't felt for as long as he can remember.

As the family arrives at their destination, Dudley expresses confusion as to why Harry would want to go to a museum for his 13th birthday, to which Harry makes a sarcastic comment about Dudley just not being smart enough to appreciate it. Petunia tells Harry to be nice or else he won't be getting his birthday present, which Harry remarks will only be new clothes; the same thing they get for Harry every year. While there, Harry starts to look at an artifact from an indigenous tribe somewhere in Asia, as he starts to receive violent visions of flashing green lights and tribesmen falling all around, as his POV starts to drift upward to a man wearing an interesting outfit and is Voldemort, although he can't see his face.

When Harry comes to, he sees that the glass encasing the artifact has shattered and alarms are going off around the museum, with Vernon panickedly trying to talk their way out of the situation with one of the guards and Petunia looming over Harry with a scared and angry look on her face. She tells Harry that he's grounded for a week and sends him to his room as soon as he gets home, although Harry doesn't understand why. That night, Harry has a nightmare of when he was a baby, seeing his mother's face as she cries and tells Harry that he'll be okay, when suddenly he sees a flash of green light, then a hooded man in the same robes as in his vision before, when suddenly he sees yet another flash of green light. Harry awakes with a jump, touching his scar and clutching a necklace with a ring attached, expressing confusion and interest about the nature of these dreams he has been having for years, and why suddenly he had a waking nightmare at the museum. As Harry pulls himself out of bed to get breakfast, Harry sees a gigantic bearded man standing in his living room as Petunia, Vernon and Dudley look on in horror while the man stares them down. Turning his attention to Harry, the man's expression lights up as he introduces himself, and hands a letter to Harry, calmly explaining to Harry that he is a wizard.

## Chapter 3

Summary: Harry questions Hagrid about the whole "you're a wizard" situation, and as Hagrid explains that Harry comes from a long line of powerful wizards, the Dursleys eventually chime in, saying that they forbid Harry from going to Hogwarts, as wizards bring nothing but chaos and disorder to the world and that Harry belongs with them, where he would be safe and far away from people like Dumbledore and Hagrid. Hagrid coldly tells them that Dumbledore is a great man, and threatens to cast a spell on them if they speak poorly of him again. Harry asks who Dumbledore is, and Hagrid explains that he is the headmaster of the school, and the world's greatest wizard. Harry expresses reluctance at the idea of leaving everything behind to go to a school in a world he is unfamiliar with, and Hagrid reassures Harry saying that he'll do great, and that if anyone gives him any trouble, all Harry needs to do is show them the scar on his forehead and they'll go running off. Harry asks Hagrid how he knows about the scar, to which Hagrid brushes off the subject, although the Dursleys look tense the entire time they discuss it.

After Harry finally agrees to go, Vernon tells Harry that he is very disappointed in Harry, to which Harry replies "when aren't you". As Harry departs with Hagrid, Hagrid tells Harry that their first stop will be Diagon Alley, a wizard shopping market. Harry expresses interest in this idea, asking what he'll need to buy for his classes. Hagrid gives Harry a list of the materials he will need, and tells Harry that Hagrid will be accompanying Harry the entire time, as he will guide him through the busy streets. When Harry asks Hagrid how much it will cost him to get all his supplies, Hagrid explains that wizards don't take normal money, and that all of his first year expenses are being provided by the school due to Harry's upbringing. This gets Harry to start thinking of his parents, and Harry asks Hagrid if he ever knew them. Hagrid explains that he used to be good friends with his parents, and tells Harry that they would be proud of him if they could see him now. This gets Harry to smile, and with that they arrive in Diagon alley.

## Chapter 4

Summary: We cut back to Harry, Ron and Hermione at Diagon Alley as they look star struck. Harry asks why everyone treats him so strangely, and they tell him that Harry is one of the most famous wizards in the modern wizarding world. Harry seems shocked by this news because, up until very recently, he didn't know magic even existed, and asks why he's so famous. Hermione asks Harry if he knows anything about when he was a baby, and he says that all he knows is that his parents died, and that there was a man there in Voldemort robes. Ron tells Harry that that man was probably "he who shall not be named", an evil wizard who killed his parents and tried to kill Harry. Hermione elbows Ron due to his insensitivity of the matter, for which Ron apologizes to Harry. Harry asks why he survived if Voldemort tried to kill him, and Hermione says that no one knows, only that whatever happened scared Voldemort so much that he ran away, which is why Harry is so famously known to them as "the boy who lived".

A few moments later, the trio finds their way to the wand shop, where they split off into their own ways. With that, Harry enters the shop and meets a wily looking man named Ollivander who shouts Harry's name from the back of the store, suddenly teleporting to the front of the shop to greet Harry. Ollivander says that he's been expecting Harry to arrive much sooner, and says that he has looked forward to the day he gets to give Harry his first arcane focus. Harry thinks of asking how he knows that it's him, but realizes that being famous means that people probably know all about him anyway, and decides instead to ask what an arcane focus is. Ollivander explains that a focus is a tool that wizards use to channel their spells, allowing them to control their spells easier while consuming less energy.

Ollivander explains that the standard arcane focus for a mage is a wand, which is what he specializes in making and selling, stating that he even sold his parents their very first wands during their time at Hogwarts. Harry asks what goes into buying a wand, and how to tell if a wand is good or not, to which Ollivander explains that wizards don't pick wands, but that the wands pick the right wizards, and if it is the right fit, that he'll know. After a bit of time finding a good wand, Harry finally picks one up that starts to glow, opens all the drawers, windows and doors in the shop and emits the faint sound of a choir coming from all around the room. Harry has found his wand.

# Chapter 5

Summary: After leaving the shop, Harry looks at his list to see that he has gotten everything he needs for the year despite Hagrid's disappearance, when he accidentally drops it and the wind takes it away from Harry for a moment, before being caught by Draco Malfoy. Draco hands it back to Harry and introduces himself to Harry. Harry starts to introduce himself before Draco cuts him off, stating that he knew who Harry was as soon as he saw him, stating that it's an honor to be in the presence of such a well-known wizard. Harry tries to tell Draco that he really isn't any better of a wizard than anyone else attending Hogwarts, to which Draco thinks Harry is just being humble. Draco asks Harry if he's ever performed magic before, to which Harry says that he has once, by accident. Draco offers Harry the chance to practice with him at Hogwarts, stating that his father has made a point to train Draco in offensive/defensive magic at an early age. Harry happily agrees, and the boys wave each other goodbye just before Hagrid reappears.

Harry asks Hagrid where he had gone, explaining that he had gotten lost trying to find the wand shop. Hagrid apologizes and tells Harry that he was taking care of some business at an alchemist's shop in Knockturn Alley, located right next to Diagon Alley which Dumbledore is quick to tell Harry not to travel to, as the place attracts dangerous folk. Hagrid asks Harry if he has everything he needs, and Harry says yes. Hagrid tells Harry that tomorrow, he will take him to the train station to catch the Hogwarts express.

The next day, Hagrid drops Harry off, departing him with his train ticket as he tells Harry that he will see him again once they get back to the school. Harry waves Hagrid goodbye, and the two part ways, and as soon as Hagrid is gone, Harry sees that the train ticket says to go to platform 9  $\frac{3}{4}$ . Looking around the station, Harry spots Ron and Hermione arguing over who bumped into who while running to the platform (they are running late for different reasons). Harry greets them and once again asks for their help, and the two quickly compose themselves to try making it seem like they both have it together (Harry sees right through them and chuckles) and the two agree to help Harry onto the platform, telling Harry that there is a spell cast on a wall that allows wizards to walk through.

Hermione goes first, entering the wall in some flashy way, which Ron rolls his eyes over. Harry goes second, finding an entirely parallel station to King's Cross, brimming with young mages with their parents. Harry asks how this is possible, and Hermione explains that the wizarding world is like a parallel dimension to the normal world, with some portals such as the one at King's Cross existing throughout both dimensions, allowing for both to co-exist, while sometimes bleeding over into one another. As the three make their way onto the train, they find an empty room to stay in while they wait to arrive at Hogwarts. Ron and Hermione agree to give their arguing a pause for as long as they are stuck in the same room together, and Harry thinks to himself that the train ride is going to be a long one.

## Chapter 6

Summary: On the train ride over, the gang is quiet at first with Ron and Hermione not wanting to talk much to each other until Harry breaks the tension and asks Ron what he's holding. Ron says that he brought a handheld game device with him, to which Harry expresses shock that wizards have such technology. Hermione expresses that she loves video games and plays them all the time at home. Ron agrees and says that he's never met anyone else who likes them before, and Harry mentions that his aunt and uncle never bought him video games, with Ron and Hermione telling him that if they ever get the chance that they should all play together. The three start to finally enjoy each other's company while Harry notices a necklace that Hermione has that he compliments her for. Hermione blushes and thanks him, saying it was a gift from her parents. Harry pulls out his necklace, stating that his was also a gift from them. She immediately feels magical energy coming from Harry's necklace, which Harry takes a mental note of.

Hermione starts discussing how excited she is to start school, and Harry states that he's actually rather nervous because he doesn't know much of anything about the wizarding world. They begin to ask Harry questions about his childhood, and Harry starts to explain how he was raised by the Dursleys, who he loves as family but can't stand to live with sometimes, explaining that he never feels adequate enough for them, and that despite the fact that they clearly love and care for him as their own, that he never felt he could live up to their standards. Hermione says that her parents can be similar in that way sometimes, with both her parents being muggles and being particularly disturbed by her magic abilities, but says that Hogwarts is an opportunity for people like them to feel like they fit in. Ron chimes in and says that he has a big family with many siblings, and that sometimes it makes him feel like he isn't his own person, but says that school will prove to be a great way to finally be themselves. Harry starts feeling much more excited after that, and asks if he thinks they'll have any classes together, which they say that they do.

As the train pulls into the station, the gang starts to depart for the carriages to the castle, but not before Harry has visions of countless different people in various locations each falling to their demise, with the same hooded man at the scene of each location, with his vision ending with the sight of both of his parents in a dark void, with his father saying "he's here!" Just as his vision ends, Harry reawakens to the sight of Ron, Hermione, and a few other students looking on to make sure Harry is okay. Harry states that he's fine, and that stuff like that happens all the time to him. Once the moment has settled down, the gang gets in their carriage, and heads on to the castle grounds while the gang talks about all they hope to do during the year.

## Chapter 7

Summary: Once the kids all arrive at the castle, all the students are guided to the dining hall where many different people (including ghosts) are gathered to listen to a speech from Albus Dumbledore, who Harry recognizes as the man Hagrid was talking about when he first

met him. Dumbledore is joined by the other headmasters at the school and begins to talk about how excited he as well as the other professors at the school are to see each student unlock their potentials as spellcasters, and explains that in just a few moments, they will begin the sorting ceremony. Harry asks Ron what the sorting ceremony is, and Ron explains that each year students are sorted into separate houses that determine who they will share a common room with for the rest of their curriculum, determined by what traits the sorting hat sees each student yielding the most success in fostering. Ron notes that his whole family has been in Hufflepuff since his great grandfather first enrolled in the school, prompting Harry to wonder what house his parents were in.

The ceremony shortly begins, and all the students are siphoned off into their own houses. Ron is put in Hufflepuff, Neville is put in Gryffindor, Hermione is put in Ravenclaw, and Draco is placed in Slytherin. When it gets to Harry, the sorting hat takes a long time to determine where he should be placed, saying that Harry has the ambition of a slytherin and the bravery in the face of danger of a gryffindor. After waiting with baited breath, Harry is sorted into Slytherin. After joining the Slytherin table, Harry is met by Draco, who greets him and says that he had a feeling that Harry would be in Slytherin. Harry asks how Draco knew, and Draco explains the set of traits each house values, and Harry coming from a line of famously powerful wizards only makes sense to join Slytherin. Harry asks Draco more about his parents, saying that he didn't know they were so powerful. Draco explains that the Potters are known around all the wizarding world for their feats as wizards. Harry seems proud of this, and tells Draco that he must also be a great wizard if he is in the same house as him. The two begin talking about how excited they are to start the year together, and how Harry is eager to learn all about magic from his classes, and from Draco.

Harry throughout the next few weeks has a more difficult time adjusting to this new world, with many things that defy the logic of the world that Harry has known his whole life. The reader is introduced to Harry's schedule, including Math, English, History of Magic, Defense Against the Dark Arts, Magic Theory, Keys to Mental Mastery, and Fundamentals of the Arcane Arts. Harry is surprised to find math and english on his schedule, subjects which Harry assumed wouldn't be necessary for mages to learn. Harry begins to learn some of the basics of spell casting, such as how mages can control magic to cast spells and key aspects of spell casting such as how the way they pronounce each incantation and how the movement of their wands affects the spells they cast.

Over the course of those few weeks, Harry continues to feel disoriented and isolated, still feeling out of place due to his status as a celebrity and his lack of expertise in magic compared to his classmates. The last scene will be Harry, Ron and Hermione all doing homework and hanging out in Hagrid's hut while Hagrid tends to some animals he's taking care of as Harry expresses his insecurities about everything regarding all the chatter surrounding him, with Ron reassuring Harry that no matter what anyone thinks, that they will always see Harry as simply their friend. Harry smiles, and begins to start feeling optimistic about his future in school.

## Chapter 8

Summary: A few months pass at Hogwarts (around December/January) as Harry continues learning about the wizarding world. Harry is in his Defense Against the Dark Arts class with his professor and headmaster of Slytherin house Severus Snape, along with his friends Draco, Ron and Hermione. Ron has a duel with Neville Longbottom, which he would have won if he hadn't used an outside of the box spell not allowed during the spar. Hermione goes up against a Gryffindor student named Dean Thomas, who beats Hermione due to her overanalyzing Dean's attacks in battle, and not taking quick enough action to strike.

Next is Harry, who Snape decides will be going against Draco. During their battle, Harry and Draco go toe to toe, with Harry noting how tiring the fight is becoming before he dodges an incoming attack that would have disarmed him. As Harry is about to take advantage of Draco's miscast, he begins to raise his wand to disarm Draco, when he is surprised to find that he can no longer produce any spells. Draco then regains his composure and disarms Harry. Once the spar is wrapped up, Snape tells Harry all the ways in which he could have done better, specifically noting how Harry consumes too much mana when fighting, which Harry has learned is the magical energy that every mage has, which wizards use to quantify how many spells they can cast per day and at what power they can pull them off. Snape compares Harry to a previous student of his from when he first started teaching at Hogwarts, who only ever concerned himself with the power of his spells and never the costs. This clearly frustrates Harry, but he lets it go. The class then ends and the gang heads off to lunch.

At lunch, Harry starts to talk about how annoyed he is with professor Snape, comparing him to the Dursleys. Hermione agrees with Harry, mentioning that Snape always seems to be way harder on Harry than anyone else, which Ron points out is notable given that Snape is already so high-strung to begin with. Draco sarcastically gloats about his victory (to Harry's chagrin) before he tells Harry that the professor had a point, saying that Harry felt a bit aggressive during their spar, to which Hermione suggests that Harry needs an outlet for his more aggressive tendencies on the battlefield by taking up a new physically-oriented hobby. Ron suggests quidditch, explaining the sport to Harry, which Harry likens to rugby but with flying broomsticks.

After lunch, Ron and Harry head to the quidditch try-outs, while Hermione and Draco stay behind. At the quidditch try-outs, Harry and Ron meet Cedric Diggory, a third year Slytherin boy and captain of the Hogwarts quidditch team. Cedric tells the boys that they are looking for a new seeker and goalkeeper for the team, and gives the two a series of drills to complete to see if they qualify for either. Harry proves to have much potential in his drills for seeker while Ron just barely misses the cut for the goalie. Harry is told to start coming to their practices once a week every Friday, which Harry is immensely proud of, with Ron giving Harry a big congratulations.

At the end of the day when Harry gets back to the Slytherin common room, Harry tells Draco the news, to which Draco expresses his excitement for Harry. After a bit of back and forth

banter about school life, Harry asks Draco if now would be a good time to practice magic. Draco agrees, and tells Harry to wait in his room where Draco will meet him. Later that night, Draco comes to Harry's room holding a cloak, and asks Harry if he's ready to sneak out.

## Chapter 9

Summary: The two boys sneak through the halls of the castle as they quietly make their way to the woods nearby, passing by multiple people who would have been able to see the two as they snuck past. When they get to the woods, Draco takes the cloak off of the two, and Harry remarks about the convenience of Draco's invisibility cloak. Draco says that the cloak has been in his family for generations, to which Harry starts asking Draco about his family. Draco is reluctant to say anything, and decides to brush off the conversation to focus on teaching Harry magic. Draco starts teaching Harry how to make things explode, which Harry is reluctant to do given its risks. Draco explains that he practices it on his own all the time, and that they will be fine, so Harry relents. As they are practicing, Draco takes note that Harry's proficiency with magic has at this point surpassed his own, telling Harry that his mana consumption is really low given how powerful he is casting his spells. Harry tells Draco that Snape would disagree, and makes a sarcastic remark about Draco potentially sucking ass. Draco is clearly irritated by this.

Draco in his jealousy decides to try showing off to Harry by showing him a wandless spell that summons a monster to serve him, to Harry's amazement. Harry tells Draco that he didn't know that summoning monsters like that was possible. Draco says that for most wizards it is impossible, but some mages with enough training and discipline can wield what is known as "witchcraft". Draco elaborates that there are some people with strong witch bloodlines, which he explains were the original discoverers of natural magic, although they are few and far between, saying that as far as he knows, he belongs to one of the last witch families in Europe. As Draco summons the monster, Harry studies Draco's incantations while a giant writhing mass of tentacles begins to flood out of a portal that begins to make a loud commotion, cutting down trees and such.

The boys panic as Draco disperses the monster and calls it a night, and they both decide to call it a night and try finding the invisibility cloak so they can return to their rooms, but can't find where they placed it. As they quickly search for it, the boys hear strange noises coming from the forest where they were practicing near. The two begin to become more panicked as they look for the cloak, when Harry starts to have visions of death again, seeing all the souls at once tell Harry to run. Panicking, Harry flees without Draco.

The next morning, Harry is in his Arcane Fundamentals class with Hermione as Draco enters, clearly mad. Harry goes up to Draco to apologize, but Draco cuts Harry off, stating that he got in trouble with Dumbledore the other night. Harry tries to say that Dumbledore is very forgiving, but Draco doesn't really feel like listening. Harry lets it go and quietly says sorry before slumping into his seat next to Hermione. She asks what that was all about, to which Harry explains the situation. Hermione suggests telling Dumbledore his side of the story, to which



Harry likes the idea of. The rest of the class goes smoothly, with Hermione helping Harry get the technique down for a practical spell they are learning in class.

## Chapter 10

Summary: Later that day, Harry decides to take a trip to Dumbledore's office to try exonerating Draco. When he arrives there, Dumbledore is standing with his back to the door, facing a window that oversees the castle grounds, and the woods beyond it. Dumbledore tells Harry that he suspected that he would be arriving soon. Harry tells Dumbledore that Draco didn't do anything wrong, and that it was Harry's suggestion to sneak out in the first place. Dumbledore reveals that Draco told him that Harry was never involved, and Harry thinks about how Draco said that only he got in trouble, and not Harry. Dumbledore reveals that he could read Draco's mind the entire time, saying that Harry seemed to abandon Draco after they heard something coming from the forbidden forest. Harry tells Dumbledore what happened, and why he ran, and Dumbledore tells Harry to sit across from him at his desk.

Dumbledore talks with Harry about the moment when he was a baby, when Voldemort tried to kill him. Harry says he remembers nothing, other than the man that stood there after his mother fell. Dumbledore tells Harry that this is Voldemort, an evil wizard who used to be a student at Hogwarts, who one day turned his back on his friends and professors, attacking randomly after returning from a class trip. Harry asks Dumbledore why he brings this up, and Dumbledore tells Harry that he suspects that his arrival at Hogwarts has caused Volde to reappear, and that he may be lurking in the forbidden forest waiting for an opportunity to talk to Harry.

Harry starts to get scared, and asks why the school hasn't done anything to stop him if Dumbledore knows that Volde is lurking about. Dumbledore tells Harry that the forbidden forest is forbidden from everyone, not just students, and says that he can't investigate the forest based on a hunch that Voldemort has returned. Harry asks who forbids the forest, and Dumbledore tells Harry of the wood elves who protect the creatures living in the forest. Dumble explains to Harry that between the elves, as well as the various monsters who roam the forest, it is simply too dangerous for even a wizard like him to go investigating. He gives Harry detention for a week, and tells Harry to steer clear of the forest. Harry agrees and leaves his office, but not before asking Dumbledore why Voldemort has such beef with him, to which Dumble expresses that he knows just as much as Harry in that department.

The next day, Harry goes to Hagrid's hut to serve his detention. While there, Hagrid tells Harry to just do chores around his home while Hagrid repairs his battle ax. Harry starts to think that as far as punishments go, doing chores for Hagrid is practically a reward. While cleaning, Ron and Hermione pay Harry a visit. Ron tells Harry that he did the right thing by telling Dumbledore the truth while Hermione expresses her sadness with Harry for getting in trouble at all, saying that she needs a study partner for their history of magic class. Ron offers to study with her, but Hermione declines saying that Ron isn't a good student to begin with, with Ron

getting frustrated mentioning that she's the one using his book. Harry starts laughing, but is cut off by the sound of screams from outside Hagrid's hut.

## Chapter 11

Summary: As the group rushes out of Hagrid's hut, they all discover a student who is running away injured from 2 chimera. Hagrid remarks that even one chimera is a threat for a fully realized wizard, let alone two, and Harry immediately expresses his reluctance in facing them. Ron tries to suggest that they stay behind and fight, but Hagrid insists they focus on saving the girl while he holds them off until help arrives. The gang agrees and takes the girl to the nurses office quickly before coming back to check on Hagrid. Hagrid does an impressive job holding them off, even slaying one of them, with Harry noticing that Hagrid has been casting spells without any invocations, but eventually he starts running out of mana and losing the fight.

At that moment, Harry decides to jump in despite his trembling fear, trying to save Hagrid and help him until a teacher comes along. Ron is the first to join Harry, telling him that if Harry died that they wouldn't be able to play video games anymore. Hermione tries to reason with them to stay behind and try to just find a teacher quickly, but the boys won't listen. Harry, Ron and Hagrid all do a great job fighting the chimera, but they start to falter once Hagrid falls in battle. At that moment, Hermione steps in to tell Harry and Ron everything she knows about the chimera, while casting defensive spells on the boys. Ron notices the chimera begin to get confused with all the spells being flung around, and has the idea to confuse the chimera and attack it while its two heads can't see properly. Ron and Hermione start to distract the chimera as Harry fends it off, with his wand being slapped out of his hands. He remembers the spell that Draco showed him the other night, and decides to summon a monster to help add more distractions and kill the beast in the process. Harry summons the tentacle monster, and it quickly wraps its tendrils around the chimera and begins to pull it into the portal it was coming from. After it fully captures the chimera, the portal closes and the day is saved.

At that moment, Dumbledore, professor Snape and professor McGonagall arrive, only to find that the gang has already defeated the chimeras. McGonagall asks the kids what happened, to which they explain everything they know. Snape criticizes the kids for being reckless, which makes Harry about to beef with Snape. Dumbledore steps in to say that regardless, they did well to help Hagrid and save the student when it came down to it. The teachers take Hagrid to the nurses office, and Dumbledore departs, saying that his act of heroism was enough in his eyes to exonerate him from any further detention. The professors leave, and Harry collapses to the ground, looking at his hands that were previously shaky, but now stay steady and calm. The gang celebrates their victory, with Ron starting to gloat about how well his plan worked and how he killed the chimera, to which Harry reminds him that the plan wouldn't have been possible without Hermione, to which Hermione blushes and says that they wouldn't even be passing half their classes without her, to which both are offended, and start laughing at each others antics.

As the kids start to leave, they begin to talk about how crazy the spell Harry fired off was, and that they'd never seen anything like it before. Harry tells them that he learned it from Draco,

saying that he wasn't sure if he could do it or not. The three celebrate their success right before Harry gets an intense vision of a mountain of bodies all at the feet of the hooded man and an army of monsters. He sees the forbidden forest in flames as the hooded man casts a spell that destroys hogwarts. He sees his necklace, and his mother when he was just a baby. At the end of his vision, Harry sees the face of the hooded man is white as a ghost, with red eyes and a snake-like nose, and a tattoo of snakes in an X pattern crossing his eye as he grins and says "found you." Harry comes to and touches his scar while his necklace dangles from his neck. Ron and Hermione rush to Harry's side to ask if he's okay, to which Harry says in a quiet and scared tone that Voldemort has found Harry.

## Chapter 12

Summary: the scene cuts to the students in Dumbledore's office, with Harry panickedly explaining his vision to the headmaster before Dumbledore asks Harry how they defeated the chimera. Harry tells Dumbledore of the plan they devised, to which Dumbledore apologizes and asks for clarification as to what Harry did during the fight. Harry tells Dumbledore that he dealt the final blow on the chimera using witchcraft, to which Dumbledore decides he can no longer stay idle, and tells Harry that he will be having a word with the wood elves to see about getting their cooperation in finding Voldemort. Harry thanks Dumbledore, and Dumbledore thanks Harry before bringing it to his attention. Noticing that Harry is clearly shaken by everything, Dumbledore puts a hand on Harry's shoulder, reassuring Harry that he has some tricks up his sleeve as well. This puts Harry's mind somewhat at ease, and the gang starts to leave.

Later that night as Harry returns to the Slytherin common room, Harry sees Draco, who comes up to Harry to apologize for being rude the day prior, and says that he sometimes forgets that Harry has certain traumas that come from being the boy who lived. Harry tells Draco that he's also sorry, and that he shouldn't have run off when Draco needed him. Draco explains to Harry that what scared Draco most about the whole situation was how his father would react when he hears about the trouble he got himself into, something Draco knows would get him in even deeper trouble at home. Harry tells Draco that he knows what it's like to grow up with a family that makes him feel inadequate, and tells Draco of how he was raised by the Dursleys. Draco expresses a calm bewilderment at the idea of muggles making a wizard feel a freak for how he was born. Harry tries to reason that the Dursleys just didn't grow up in a world where wizards made sense, and that despite the distance that Harry felt from them, they were the only ones who were on his side sometimes, but Draco held his belief. The conversation starts to drift about how Harry took down a chimera with Hagrid, Ron and Hermione, to which Draco expresses surprise that Hermione had the fight in her. The two start to laugh and make up, and Harry goes to bed that night dreaming of his parents, and of his necklace.

The next morning, Harry sits in his math class with Draco, Ron and Neville as Harry starts to think about his necklace, and wonders why he saw it in his vision after the other day's fight with the chimera. Harry's train of thought is interrupted by Ron who asks Harry for help with his work which Harry dismisses as easy, with Ron taking offense and trying to justify it in ways Draco and Neville disprove as well (this is just a funny gag). Harry tells Ron that he was just

thinking of his visions from the day before, and of his necklace, to which Draco tells Harry that it may have something to do with why Harry didn't die, with Harry recalling Hermione saying that she felt magical energy coming from the necklace. Intrigued by this, Harry asks where he would be able to find more information on magical artifacts like his necklace, to which Draco says that if the magic of the necklace kept him alive, it's probably necromancy, which is a forbidden form of magic that would only be able to be researched in the library's restricted section. Ron and Neville sense Harry and Ron scheming, to which Draco and Harry reassure them that they won't do anything. After class, Draco and Harry scheme to sneak into the restricted library and steal books relating to necromantic artifacts. They agree to do it Friday night when the library would be at its least busy, and the two part ways.

## Chapter 13

Summary: On Friday, Harry is excited to be doing his first quidditch practice of the year. At practice, Cedric explains that throughout the year, Hogwarts will be playing against other schools until they head to the finals, where there will be a decided winner for the entire year, earning a trophy for whoever is placed in 1st. Harry is instructed to keep his eye on the field and look out for the snitch, a golden ball that flies around quickly. Harry watches the team practice until he notices the ball, which he swoops in to grab but slips between his hands. Harry chases the ball around the field, picking up speed until he eventually catches it. The moment Harry grasps it in his hands, he feels himself pulled off his broom, as the stick goes flying off into the woods. Upon landing on the ground, Harry looks up to see Dumbledore, who slams his staff down to cast a glowy spell that travels throughout the forest.

Harry asks Dumbledore what happened, and if he should be worried, and Dumbledore reassures Harry that everything is fine, only that the snitch was being controlled by someone who wanted to lure Harry into the woods, and was not meant to be caught. Harry asks if it was Volde, to which Dumble says he believes so. Harry starts to panic for a moment, but Dumbledore puts his hand on Harry's shoulder and tells him that now that he as well as the other teachers along with the wood elves are searching for Voldemort, that Harry will be safe no matter what. Harry breathes a sigh of relief, and asks that the spell Dumbledore cast was. Dumble explains that it was an identifying spell to see any living creatures within a 5 acre radius, but he could not find Volde, meaning that he must be deep into the woods. Dumble tells Harry yet again to try staying clear of the forbidden forest, no matter what, and reminds him to refrain from using witchcraft. Harry thanks the headmaster, and begins to walk back to the field.

When Harry returns to the field, he sees Cedric waiting for him, who instantly congratulates Harry for catching the snitch, saying he's never seen it move so fast, and that Harry is maybe the fastest seeker he's ever seen. Harry tells Cedric that it was mostly just luck, to which Cedric tells Harry to stop being modest. Cedric takes Harry to see the Hogwarts Quidditch Hall of Fame, to see a picture of his father as a seeker on the school's team. Harry notes that his father was a gryffindor, and Cedric tells Harry that not even his father could have caught something like that, based on the records alone. Harry holds his necklace proudly and Cedric tells Harry that if he stays with the team, that he may go down as the best seeker in

Hogwarts history. With that, Harry leaves, telling Cedric he'll give it everything he has to make his father proud.

Later that night, Harry meets Draco in the Slytherin common room, as Draco pulls out his invisibility cloak and the two confirm that now is the time to read up on necromantic artifacts. As they huddle under the cloak and make their way to the library, Harry and Draco find Snape reading a romance novel alone at a table, which makes the boys start to quietly chuckle before Snape catches the noise and pulls out his wand. The boys are careful to tiptoe around Snape, making sure not to make any more noise so they can find the books they need and retreat. Eventually, the two find the books they need, and leave quickly.

## Chapter 14

Summary: A few more months go by (around march/april) as Harry and co learn more at school and Harry continues practicing quidditch, even winning a few games against other wizarding schools. The first scene opens to Harry in his dorm with Ron, Hermione and Draco as they all read over the books on necromantic artifacts that Harry and Draco stole a few months back. Hermione announces that she found something that might be relevant, and tells them of the Philosopher's stone, a gem like alchemical artifact said to grant its owner immortality. Harry inspects the ring on his necklace and notes that there is a gem in the ring that seems to match the description of the stone from the book. Draco expresses his relief that their search for the answers to his necklace are over, stating how tired he was getting of reading a thousand books on a magic he'll never be allowed to learn anyway. Hermione tells Draco that helping Harry unravel his past is the best way to ensure that Voldemort doesn't pull off any devious schemes, to which Draco dismisses, saying that if Voldemort was going to do anything, he could have done it by now. Harry notices himself start to tremble, and Ron tells Draco to give it a rest. Draco sighs and unconvincingly apologizes before asking Harry if he wants to practice any magic that night, which Harry says is becoming too risky with Voldemort, the school and the wood elves all on high alert now that all signs of Voldemort have gone silent. Draco leaves and tells Harry that if he changes his mind to let him know.

When Draco is gone, Hermione talks to Harry about how rude Draco has been recently, with Harry dismissing it, saying that Draco is always more on edge whenever his father announces he will be visiting. Hermione stands by her point, and Harry mentions to Hermione that she has gotten a lot friendlier with him and Ron since they first met, with Hermione saying that had it not been for Ron constantly harassing her that she probably wouldn't still hang out with them in the first place. Ron makes a sarcastic comment likening his harassment to tolerance of her rudeness, and the three have a laugh. Hermione then gets back to business, wondering if there's a way to learn more about the philosopher's stone. Harry recalls his first time in Diagon Alley, mentioning that Hagrid went to an alchemist's shop nearby in Knockturn Alley while he was supposed to be guiding him. Ron mentions that their spring break is soon while playing with his gameboy, and asks Harry if he would want them to go with him to the alchemy store to investigate. Harry agrees, saying that he would try getting Draco on board as

well. The three agree on this plan, and Harry sets off to find Draco while Ron and Hermione leave.

Harry finds Draco in his room watching a show on his room's tv when Harry asks him if he would want to join them in Knockturn Alley during their spring break to look for answers on the ring necklace. Draco asks Harry why he needs to go if they already figured out what kept him alive, and Harry says that they don't know for sure, and that talking to the alchemist could be the best way of finding that out. Draco tells Harry to give up his quest, saying that his father has been getting frustrated with him for helping Harry to figure it out so much. Harry doesn't understand why, and tells Draco that they won't have to tell anybody, saying they can be in and out in no time, just asking the shopkeeper a few questions. Draco reluctantly agrees, and by the end of the week, the gang assembles to take a trip to diagon alley.

## Chapter 15

Summary: The gang arrives at Knockturn Alley at around early nighttime the next day to inspect the alchemist's shop and see what they can find out about the gem in Harry's ring. While exploring, Hermione nervously remarks that the whole area has a dark energy around it, with Draco telling her that Knockturn Alley is known for attracting shadier crowds. Harry recalls Hagrid telling him to avoid the area if possible, and Ron is shocked by the news that they've traveled to Knockturn Alley instead of Diagon Alley, to which Hermione remarks that Ron should have been paying more attention when they were making plans before. Harry suggests that it wouldn't be too late to turn back if the group was having second thoughts, which Draco also seems to agree with. Ron says that he'll stay by their side no matter what they decide, and that if helping Harry requires that they go to a creepy shop, he'll do it. Hermione shares this sentiment, and the gang looks to Harry to await his judgment, to which Harry says that it is too important to him to learn about what kept him alive that day to just give up, and thanks everyone for being supportive.

After a bit of searching, the gang finally finds the shop, and cautiously enters. They find all sorts of materials and tools required for practicing alchemy, with a black cat following the group as they explore the shop. Ron turns to pet the cat, when suddenly it speaks and tells him to keep his hands off of him. Ron jumps back in fear, and the gang all look at the cat in surprise. Harry asks how the cat is speaking, and Hermione excitedly accuses the cat of being an animagus. The cat shifts into an older human form in fancy robes, slyly telling her she was spot on. Harry asks what an animagus is, and Draco explains that they are wizards who can shapeshift into different kinds of animals, a trait people with druidic blood like Harry often possess.

Ron abruptly asks if he would know anything about Harry's ring, yanking the necklace from Harry's neck so the shop owner may have a closer look. Harry asks Ron why he was so aggressive, and Ron apologizes and says that he doesn't want to stay any longer than necessary. Draco agrees, and the alchemist tells the gang that the ring has necromantic magic attuned to it, stating that he'd never seen anything like it before. Harry asks if it was the

philosopher's stone, to which the alchemist says he would recognize if it was, and tells them that they're out of luck. Dejected, the gang starts to head out, just before Hermione nervously tells the gang that she senses a powerful wizard coming from the street. Draco quickly produces his invisibility cloak, and Harry begins to wonder if it's Voldemort, quickly shutting down the idea, thinking that he would probably start having visions if it were. The three hide before spotting Lucius Malfoy. Draco begins to panic, and despite the gang's attempts to calm him down, Lucius spots the gang anyway, ripping the cloak off of them and staring daggers at the children.

## Chapter 16

Summary: As Lucius glares at the kids, he turns his attention to Harry, telling Draco that he ordered him not to speak with him any longer. Draco nervously trips over his words and tries to explain his way out of the situation, to which Harry intervenes and says that he forced Draco to come along with him. Lucius pulls his wand out and incantationlessly separates Ron and Hermione from Draco and Harry, demanding Draco duel Harry to see if he has done anything to improve his offensive magic. Draco reluctantly agrees, and Harry fails to try convincing Draco not to follow through with it, knowing that he will probably embarrass Draco in front of his father if he is forced to fight him. The two have a fairly evenly matched duel, with Ron and Hermione attempting to join the fray but being restrained by a spell Lucius casts on them. Draco eventually disarms Harry's wand and corners him. Just as Draco begins to raise his wand at Harry in victory, Harry receives a vision, this time of Voldemort alone, telling him he has nowhere to hide. Harry instinctively uses witchcraft against Draco and sends him to the ground.

After realizing what he's done, Harry starts running over to Draco, but is pushed back by Draco's father whose eyes remain on Draco as he tells Draco he is a disgrace to the Malfoy name, slapping him across the face. Outraged, Harry rushes forward and casts the spell that Draco showed him in the forest the first time they were caught, and it causes Lucius to go flying back, knocking him to the ground and breaking his wand. Ron and Hermione are finally unrestrained, and rush over to assist Harry. The three rush up to Draco, currently looking to the ground on his knees to ask if he's okay, to which Draco suddenly shoves Harry away, saying that he never should have talked to him to begin with, saying that he'll pay for hurting his father, and that all Harry ever did was rub it in everyone's face how much better he is than them. Harry is unable to speak, trembling and with teary eyes as Ron tells Draco that Harry has done nothing but defend him even when he was being rude, with Hermione saying that if it hadn't been for training with Harry that Draco wouldn't be half the wizard he is now. Draco starts to berate the three when he suddenly goes silent, with a look of terror in his face as Ron and Hermione turn around to see Voldemort right behind Harry, restrained with a spell as Voldemort yanks Harry backwards.

## Chapter 17

Summary: As Voldemort runs away with Harry in tow, who is being restrained in a magical binding spell, Harry struggles to escape, with each movement making the binds tighter

around his body. As they rush through the streets, Ron and Hermione go after him, casting various spells to try stopping Voldemort from running. After a short chase, Voldemort casts a spell that causes a bridge to collapse in front of Ron and Hermione, blocking their path. As soon as Voldemort gets away from the kids, he rounds a corner and steps into the middle of a magical rune that transports him to a cave somewhere away from Knockturn Alley.

As Harry lies on the ground of the cave, he notes how quickly Voldemort was able to fire off spells, and without speaking any incantations while doing so. Voldemort speaks up from in front of Harry while looking off into the forest from the entrance of the cave, telling Harry that he was much harder to catch than he assumed he would be. Harry suggests that maybe Voldemort is worse at what he's trying to do than he thinks, to which Voldemort tells Harry that he has a big mouth for a little boy. Harry makes a sarcastic comment about how he wouldn't admit that the person he's had such trouble in defeating was nothing but a little kid, which Voldemort chuckles at and shows his respect for Harry's courageousness. Voldemort turns to Harry, and Harry begins to have the most intense vision he has had yet, showing not only the death of his parents, but the death of himself as well, and the aftermath of Harry being resurrected and Voldemort fleeing before Dumbledore, Snape and someone Harry doesn't recognize arrived. He sees Voldemort running to the forbidden forest and laying low as the passage of time indicates that he'd been living in those woods for over a decade without anyone realizing. Harry comes to from his vision, and Voldemort is kneeling in front of him, hood down to reveal his full face: ghostly white with red eyes and a snake-like nose, with a tattoo of snakes in an X pattern over his right eye and stark white hair, slicked back in an unkempt but well maintained style. He looks to be in his late 20's.

Trying to back away, the restraints on Harry start to tighten as Harry is rendered immobile. Voldemort picks up Harry by the neck and remarks how long he's waited for this moment, with his eyes fixed on the ring on his necklace. Harry tries to buy himself time by asking Voldemort to at least explain why he wants to kill Harry, and why he had to kill his parents, to which Voldemort bluntly explains that they have something that he wants. Harry tells Voldemort that the necklace is the only thing he has of his parents, and Voldemort grins, saying that he isn't only concerned with their material possessions, although he does want the ring as well. Harry is confused, but isn't able to concern himself with that as his life now rests in the palm of Voldemort's hand.

## Chapter 18

Summary: Cut back to Ron and Hermione, who cast a spell to get over the broken bridge to see Harry as he is being pulled around a corner by the binding spell Voldemort placed on him. They see a flash of blue light as they round the corner, only to find a dead end with neither Harry nor Volde anywhere to be seen. Ron begins to ask where they went, to which Hermione notices the remnants of a teleportation rune, saying that Harry must have been transported somewhere far away from there. Ron asks if there's a way that they could use the rune, and Hermione tells Ron that once a rune is used, it must be resummoned, and requires a great deal of mana to create. Ron thinks for a moment and suggests that they get Draco and Lucius to



help, which Hermione strongly disagrees with, saying that the only thing they'll be rude the entire time. Ron asks Hermione if she has any other ideas for how to get back within such a short time frame, and Hermione relents.

As the two begin to rush back to where they came from, they find Draco crying while on the ground. Lucius begins to wake up, and coldly tells Draco to get himself together, which Hermione snaps at him for being so heartless. Lucius is about to say something when Draco speaks up, saying that his father is a great man and that if it hadn't been for them and their ill advised plans that none of them would be in that mess to begin with. Lucius tells Draco to be quiet, saying that he's heard enough of his whimpering and tells Ron and Hermione that if they want his help in going to help save Harry that they must be daft. Hermione tells Lucius that right now, Lucius can no longer cast any spells, and that he would be helpless if someone like Dumbledore were to come by and see the damage done around the area, explaining that only a fully grown wizard could cast spells that powerful. Lucius' expression briefly turns to fear before settling back into his resting bitch face, and tells the kids that if he can't cast any spells that they should have no need for him at all. Hermione tells Lucius that his spellcasting isn't what is needed, and that they just need to use his mana to recreate the rune that Voldemort used to escape with.

Draco tries to intervene and say that they would never help them with something like that, and Lucius snaps at Draco to keep quiet, saying that he is the one in charge and not Draco. Lucius reluctantly agrees, saying that it is typical for a muggle-born like Hermione to resort to underhanded tactics. Ron pulls his wand out and reminds Lucius that he is at a disadvantage to them right now, and that if he doesn't want to get any more hurt that he would keep quiet or else he would call Dumbledore over. Draco tries to tell his father that they don't have a real way of talking to Dumbledore, but Lucius cuts him off, saying that another noise from Draco will result in a harsh punishment. Draco keeps quiet as the 4 recreate the rune and Hermione and Ron step forward, Lucius and Draco staring daggers at them as the spell begins to activate.

## Chapter 19

Summary: We cut back to Harry as he hangs in the air by the hand of Voldemort, as visions of dying mages all scatter Harry's mind while he desperately tries to find a way out of Volde's grasp. Harry notices that Voldemort is subtly casting a spell with his wand, although he isn't saying anything or making any motions with his wrist, Harry can tell that Voldemort is concentrating on the spell, making it impossible for Harry to release himself. Just as he starts to resign hope, Harry sees a flash of light from behind Voldemort as Volde turns to see Ron and Hermione as they appear behind him in a magic rune. As he breaks his concentration from the spell, Harry headbutts Voldemort, causing him to drop Harry, giving Harry the chance to circle up with his friends.

As Harry rejoins his friends, Hermione expresses her relief that Harry is okay, with Harry asking how they got here. Ron says Hermione was able to recognize how they teleported away,

and they found a way to make it work again and come to aid Harry. Harry asks why they went through all the trouble, and Ron tells Harry that they would never let themselves sit on the sidelines when Harry needed their help. Harry hugs the two before Voldemort gets his bearings again and sees Harry's hands trembling. Harry notes that he didn't even notice how scared he was until now, but realizes that despite his anxiety that he knows he'll be okay so long as his friends are there to help him out. Harry tells Voldemort that he isn't scared of him anymore, and promises to take it easy on Volde. Voldemort laughs and says that unless he has any more tricks up his sleeves that he doesn't already know about, it would be useless to try resisting, saying that all he'll do is get his friends killed along with him. At that moment, Dumbledore's voice is heard from behind Harry, saying that they aren't the only ones with tricks up their sleeves. Volde's face gets serious.

Dumbledore stands outside of the entrance to the cave, telling Harry and his friends that they should leave before things get serious. Harry insists that he stay to fight, with Ron and Hermione both agreeing to stay as well. Dumbledore tries to cast a spell that takes the kids back to the castle, but Voldemort realizes his plan too quickly, as he rushes in to separate the kids, forcing Dumbledore to go on the defense while he protects the kids, hoping to distract him enough to attack him while his guard is down. The battle has officially begun.

## Chapter 20

Summary: Dumbledore and Voldemort have an intense showdown of epic proportions as the two titans clash while the kids are forced to fend off an army of monsters summoned by Voldemort (this battle goes on for a few pages). As the kids all convene with each other, Harry notes that it seems like Voldemort and Dumbledore have infinite pools of mana, which Hermione says would be impossible, pointing out that Dumbledore doesn't seem to be using very advanced spells, just bolstering the strength of average ones. Harry notes that the spells Voldemort has been using have been anything but average, saying that he can tell that he isn't paying any attention at all to his mana because he has so much to work with anyway. This gives Ron the idea to draw out aggression from Voldemort, which would cause him to start running out of mana more quickly and leave him without the ability to cast spells, similar to how Lucius couldn't cast when he lost his wand. Hermione calls the idea crazy and reckless, but Harry puts his full faith in Ron, and asks what he can do to help the plan. Hermione reluctantly joins in as well.

After a few moments, the gang comes up with a plan (off page) and Hermione and Harry draw attention to themselves while Voldemort is facing Dumbledore. Turning to face the kids, Dumbledore exploits his lack of concentration, and nearly lands an attack on Volde. Splitting his focus between two targets causes Volde to make a few slip ups, using higher power spells than intended and not focusing where he needs to, which results in Hermione landing an unexpected shot on Voldemort, causing him to go flying backwards, hitting a tree. As Volde starts to get back up, he notices that Harry is gone, with Ron having cast him as an illusion. With Hermione, Ron, and Dumbledore charging towards Volde, he starts to get back up, only for him to notice

Harry sneaking up on him from behind, moving insanely fast and apprehending Harry before the rest can catch up to him.

Holding Harry by the neck, Dumbledore demands that Voldemort let the boy go, or else he will face dire consequences. Voldemort seems not to care, stating that Dumbledore should know that if he made any attacks towards him that he would just use Harry as a shield. Dumbledore smirks, and says that he never said anything about being the one to deal justice. Voldemort suddenly feels the presence of ancient magic as the wood elves of the forbidden forest surround him from behind. Voldemort becomes frustrated, and tells everyone that they've won, tossing Harry towards Dumbledore and the others as the wood elves start circling in on Voldemort. Dumbledore's eyes glow as he tells Voldemort that in the end, despite his best efforts he couldn't accomplish the one goal he set out to do after all the time that has passed. Voldemort smirks, and tells Dumbledore that isn't entirely true. Voldemort flashes the necklace that Harry once had, Harry just now realizing it has been stolen from him, and before anyone can do anything to stop him, Voldemort slams his staff down as everyone goes flying backward, and Voldemort vanishes within thin air. The chapter ends with Dumbledore angrily saying "so *that's* what you've been up to."

## Chapter 21

Summary: In the nurse's office, the kids are being checked for any injuries while Dumbledore speaks with them about the fight and everything that has occurred thus far, when Snape and Hagrid burst into the room. Hagrid runs up to give all the kids a hug before saying that what they did was dangerous, but that he's glad they're safe. Snape reinforces that what the kids did was dangerous, saying that had they been any more unlucky that they would have been seriously hurt. Harry tells Snape that it was still their work that caused Voldemort to lose, with Dumbledore even saying that had the kids not been there, he may have been overwhelmed by Voldemort's magic. Snape stands firm on his opinion, but goes on to say that despite their reckless abandon, that the kids did well to make it out alive.

Harry asks Dumble what he meant when he said "so thats what youve been up to" and Dumbledore reveals that he had been using mental magic to read Voldemort's mind, and it revealed to him that he needed the necklace to fulfill a prophecy that he, as well as Dumbledore and many other wizards believe to be about Harry. Harry asks about the prophecy, and Dumbledore reveals that on a trip that Volde took while he was still a student at Hogwarts, Voldemort learned of a prophecy from the oracle of the ministry of magic, stating that "*there will be a wizard who has seen the face of death with the power to control witchcraft, who will wield the deathly hallows and change the wizarding world forever.*" Dumbledore explains that ever since he heard that prophecy, Volde was obsessed with fulfilling it, wanting to be the wizard who changed the world.

Hermione asks how Dumbledore didn't know this to be Voldemort's motive if he already knew his obsession with the prophecy, which Dumbledore explains he did know his motive, but what he didn't know was what the deathly hallows were. Dumbledore explains that the deathly

hallows are 3 legendary arcane artifacts created in an age long before he was born, stating that all the history of them being erased to time, with only their name being known throughout the wizarding world now. He goes on to elaborate that while reading Volde's mind, Dumbledore saw that Voldemort recognized Harry's ring as one of the deathly hallows. Dumble also explains that although he is a powerful wizard, so too is Voldemort, and the only way that Dumble could read his mind was because Volde wanted him to.

The kids ask if they should be worried, and Dumble tells them that they are very powerful mages, even for their age, and says that they of all people wouldn't have to worry about a thing, saying that if Volde ever picks a fight, that he'll be prepared to fight. He inspires the students to be better and tells them that so long as they continue their education at Hogwarts, that they will grow to become some of the most influential spellcasters to ever grace the wizarding world. This inspires Harry to foster his growth as a wizard, saying that he'll do everything he can to become a stronger wizard than Voldemort and save the world. Before the chapter ends, Harry asks Dumbledore if he had been tracking Harry with a wild spell, which is why Dumbledore kept touching his shoulders before. Dumbledore calls Harry very astute, saying that with intuition like his that he sees there being no trouble in Harry's future in becoming a world-class wizard. Harry makes a sarcastic remark about someday becoming more powerful than even Dumbledore, to which Dumble says he's counting on it.

## Chapter 22

Summary: a few months later, Harry is in his Defense Against the Dark Arts class as he is told to perform his last spar of the year with another student named Nadya, a hufflepuff. Harry and Nadya have a short spar, with Harry emerging as the winner. The class lightly applauds as Harry mentally prepares himself for the lecture he is about to be given by Snape. To everyone's surprise, Snape gives Harry a simple well done, telling him that he has improved over the course of the school year. Harry thanks Snape, and the class is dismissed as the gang heads off to lunch, but not before noticing an angry look on Draco's face while everyone starts to leave the classroom.

At lunch, Ron congratulates Harry for finally earning Snape's respect, with Hermione playfully saying that Harry pulled off the impossible this time. The three begin to laugh before Harry notices Draco sitting alone at another lunch table across the dining hall, which seems to sour Harry's mood. Ron asks Harry what's wrong, and Harry expresses his regrets in terms of how everything went down with Draco, and that he wishes he could reverse time so that they never had such a big argument. Hermione tells Harry that some people just like to hold grudges, and that if he wants to be friends with Harry again, that he would let him know. Harry agrees, but still feels bad about it. Ron tries to lighten the mood, saying that not everything could be that bad. As he's saying this, two cute girls walk up to Harry to congratulate him for winning the quidditch cup that year. Harry politely thanks them and the two girls walk off, with Ron using this as an example of a good thing that happened, saying that if two cute girls are paying him compliments that things can't be so bad. Hermione starts to get jealous of Ron's comment, and Ron doesn't understand why. Harry starts laughing to himself as the scene at lunch ends.

The next day, Harry begins to get on the train back to Hogwarts as Hagrid sees Harry off. Before he gets on the train, Harry bids Hagrid goodbye, saying thank you for everything he's done to look after Harry over the school year. Hagrid tells him that he's welcome, and asks Harry if he's excited for the next school year. Harry thinks to himself about all the things that he still wants to learn, like why he always receives such harrowing visions and what the deathly hallows are. Harry responds to Hagrid telling him that he's very excited, and the two part as Harry gets on the train ride to arrive back home.

The final scene follows an oily man in ragged old mage's robes with longer hair and a goatee, with tattoos covering his body and an abundance of (albeit uncharacteristic) ornate looking jewelry as he makes his way to the top of a snowy mountain. As he gets to the top, he is met by a large, fancy gate as a guard at the doors open on their own and he walks to the main door of a large mansion. Opening the door, the man makes his way through the foyer to enter the dining area, where a witch with wild and unkempt hair, a huge muscular man, a calm looking little girl with purple eyes and fancy clothes, and Lucius Malfoy all sit at the dining table (Lucius at the head), where Lucius tells the man he's late to the meeting. The man brushes this off and says that he got busy, and Lucius bluntly tells the man that he wants to hear nothing of the kind of business the man gets into. The man gives an unsettling smile as he sits down, and Lucius tells the lot that the meeting has officially started.