

Harry Potter and the Secret Treasures

Chapter 46 Tom Riddle's Diary

The three people dashed up the stairs and went to the closet that Crabbe and Goyle were in and threw the shoes in it. They left and rushed to the third floor while only wearing socks.

They then saw Ron.

"Ron what are you doing here?" asked Hermione who was surprised.

"Madam Pomfrey said I could leave and she suggested that I should join the Christmas party but I wanted to see you first."

"Then what did you see?" asked Ivan eagerly, Justin had been attacked when they weren't in the bathroom.

"I just came in, when you came back." stuttered Ron, "How did the plan go?"

"Everything went well, we even beat up Malfoy but when we were leaving Snape's office we saw that Justin had been petrified. He was lying in front of the big mirror in the dungeon," said Harry while being dejected.

"Another attack?!" gasped Ron, he looked more frightened than the three of them, "Was it not Malfoy....."

"My guess would be no," said Harry, "He was with us in Slytherin's common room when the attack happened" Harry shook his head, "But it wasn't a complete waste of time, we got an important clue from him."

Harry, Ron, and Hermione whispered amongst each other while Ivan saw a ragged black book underneath a cracked mirror behind Ron.

His heart suddenly tightened, his pupils dilated, and he clenched his hands.

God this is Tom Riddle's diary!

He had been looking for it for half a year at school but now it suddenly appears in front of him just as he was getting nowhere.

Ivan stepped forward and tried to pick it up but Ron suddenly stretched out his hand to stop him.

"Ivan don't touch it!" said Ron who looked pale and frightened.

"What is it?" asked Harry who also saw what was in the sink, "Don't be silly, a book can't be dangerous."

"There are countless books that are dangerous!" said Ron while he looked at the diary, "My father told me that some of the books confiscated by the Ministry of Magic would burn your eyes and there are also books that once you pick them up you can never put them down and so on."

"Well I understand what you mean," said Ivan while trying to pick up the diary.

"No, you don't understand!" shouted Ron while the other three looked at him in surprise, he then lowered his voice, "Believe me, Ivan, it's dangerous so let's not touch it."

"Being careful is an excellent trait but we have to read it to know what it is don't we?" said Ivan as he took the diary.

As soon as he opened it he could be sure if it is really Tom Riddle's diary.

He opened it and saw a name written in it 'Tom Riddle'

"Tom Riddle, who is that? I never heard of anyone by that name at Hogwarts but I feel like I have seen it somewhere before."

"Tom Riddle won the special award for service to the school fifty years ago," whispered Ivan.

"I remember, I read about it before but it didn't say why he won it," said Hermione

"Anything is possible, maybe he saved thirty owls or rescued a teacher from a giant squid," whispered Ron, "Why don't we just throw this thing away, it looks dirty,"

"Fifty years ago was the last time the Chamber of Secrets was opened, Perhaps this diary has something to do with it," said Ivan as he carefully studied the diary in his hand.

"Really let me see!" said Harry as he hastily took the diary and looked through it, "There isn't a single word written in it,"

He turned the diary to the back and saw that it was from a Muggle shop called Vauxhall Road in London.

"He must have been a muggle-born," he mused, "So he bought diary's from there."

"Well it isn't very useful to us anyway," said Ron hurriedly, "Let's just leave it here,"

“No I think Ivan is right,” said Hermione as she narrowed her eyes which made her look like Professor McGonagall, “Think about it since Riddle went to school here fifty years ago, he must not be at Hogwarts anymore but why is the diary here and who threw it away?”

“We know from Malfoy the person who opened the chamber last time was expelled and Tom Riddle won a special contribution to the school at the same time so could he have won it for catching the heir? His diary is our best bet for us to find out the things we want to know. The man who orchestrated these attacks wouldn’t want this diary to wander around would he?”

“Excellent reasoning,” said Ron while slightly cringing, “But he didn’t write anything in his diary.”

“Maybe he wrote in invisible ink!” said Hermione as she pulled out her wand and uttered the phrase, “Aparecium”

But nothing happened, Hermione wasn’t discouraged though, she then pulled out a bright red eraser.

“It a magical eraser that I got in Diagon Alley.” she then rubbed in on the first pages date January 1st but nothing happened.

“Anything else”

“This Riddle,” said Ron, “Maybe he just didn’t spend time writing things in it.”

“But.....” Hermione was unwilling to give up

“I feel like he was a friend of mine that I forgot about, it must seem absurd since I never had a friend before I came to Hogwarts and this Tom Riddle is a person who went to Hogwarts fifty years ago,” said Harry

“That is just your mind playing tricks on you so let’s just leave it here and go to the Christmas party instead of staying in a girls bathroom with a ragged diary that has nothing written in it.”

“There must be something hidden in it that we haven’t discovered yet,” said Ivan as he took the diary back.

“Well since you all think so, I have an idea,” said Ron as he lowered his voice, “Ivan, give it to me, and I’ll mail it to my father who is an expert in dealing with this stuff,”

“No, Ron!” said Ivan as he shook his head and put the diary in his bag, “I think it is better for me to hold on to it since I recently saw a potion in a book that may make it reveal its secrets.”

I don't know if it's an illusion or just the dim candlelight in the bathroom but Ron's face seemed to become paler.

Chapter 47 First Contact

After confirming his current strength and his inability to destroy the diary, Ivan decided to try to communicate with Tom.

I should not believe whatever he says.

That night, Ivan sat on his bed, he took out a quill and wrote, 'Hello my name is Ivan Masson.'

The black ink shined brightly for a second but then in the next, it seemed to be sucked into the paper and disappeared without a trace.

Then a set of words that he had never written appeared, 'Hello Ivan Masson, my name is Tom Riddle, how did you find my diary?'

Seeing the other person respond made Ivan's heart skip a beat.

The words disappeared when he began to write more.

'You seem to have offended someone so they threw your diary in the toilet where I found it,' wrote Ivan

'Luckily I recorded my thoughts in a more lasting way than ink since I knew there will always be people who didn't want this diary to be read. This diary records some terrible things from the past, some of them are from Hogwarts,'

'Oh, so you were a student at Hogwarts?'

'Yes, when I went, the Chamber of Secrets was.....'

Before riddle had finished, he was interrupted by Ivan writing in the diary, 'Great, you will be able to help me with my homework,'

'Homework?' Tom was stunned, he didn't reply for a while.

'Yes, I've been looking for a senior to help me, but they seem to be only interested in Quidditch. Professor Snape and Binns gave us some difficult work.'

Ivan's handwriting was quick and sloppy, like a first-year who hasn't adapted to Hogwarts and finally found someone who could help him with his homework.

'These assignments are very difficult, and with my ability, it is completely impossible to complete them. Tom, won't you help me?'

'I'm sorry, Ivan, but I think homework should be done by yourself. If you want, I can tell you something else, such as things about the Chamber of Secrets! When I was in my fifth year, the Chamber was opened, and the creature inside attacked several students and killed one. I finally caught the man who opened the chamber of secrets and he was then expelled.'

'Yeah, good for you! But if I don't finish before the holiday ends forget the monster, the professors will kill me, so nice talking to you, bye!'

With a flick of his writ, he closed the diary.

Ivan breathed in and fell backward on to his bed. Today he was only making first contact with Riddle so there isn't a need to do an in-depth conversation with him.

And he has to be careful when he is dealing with Voldemort, he can be led on by him, so Ivan took the initiative in the conversation.

Anyway, he has the diary, he doesn't need to worry about the attacks continuing, for now, there is still time for him to communicate with Tom before he has to deal with the Basilisk.

A few days later all the students returned to Hogwarts.

The news of Justin being attacked, already spread throughout Hogwarts. And the few joys that Christmas created vanished in an instant.

The atmosphere was depressing, panic filled all the teachers and students minds. They all became more vigilant and suspicious.

As long as there was the slightest hint of trouble, they would run away.

Although Harry wasn't there for the third attack, it doesn't prevent anyone from suspecting him. Especially in the face of inquiries, Harry couldn't explain to them why he left the Christmas party early, which is very suspicious.

More and more people began to whisper to each other and Hufflepuff's Ernest Macmillan said, "Ever since Justin accidentally told Potter that he was a Muggle-born, I have been expecting this!"

But what was worse about him saying this was that people actually believed him because they thought Ivan and Hermione were accomplices to Harry and this caused their newspaper to do even worse.

Peeves wasn't any help because he kept popping up in crowded hallways and loudly singing, "Oh Potter oh Potter, you're up to no good, you kill students and find it a hoot!"

He also danced when he sang.

Besides Colin, Luna, and the Weasley family, almost no one dared to approach Ivan, Harry, or Hermione.

It also seems that Malfoy guessed that Ivan and Harry had beat him up on Christmas Day so he was always leading Goyle and Crabbe around them, provoking them, like a hyena looking for a chance to attack.

Besides class, they spent most of their time in the library.

Hermione was combing through books from fifty years ago, trying to find who opened the chamber. Their only clue was that they had been expelled from school and had been held in Azkaban until now.

As for Harry and Ron, they decided to learn more about Tom Riddle, they found an award for services to the school, that he was a Prefect, and head boy.

"You know he sounds like Percy" frowned Ron

"It seems he was an excellent student," said Hermione

"Yeah, I never thought he would be that kind of person" replied Ron, he then turned his head and looked nervously at Ivan, "How is your investigation on the diary?"

"I've learned nothing," said Ivan as he shook his head, he thought it was for the best to not let them know anything about Riddle for now.

"Just like I said, it's just a regular diary."

"I would hardly call it ordinary, I made sure it was waterproof, fireproof, and spell proof, I can't find a way to destroy it."

"That's good, Riddle must have wanted to protect his diary," said Ron with an unnatural expression.

Chapter 48 Second Contact

Time flies, in the blink of an eye it was already February.

After his brief conversation with Tom Riddle on Christmas, he didn't try to contact Tom again, Ivan thought it was necessary to ignore him for a while.

The atmosphere in the school is still tense even though the attacks have stopped and the Mandrake grass has matured but most students were still in a panic.

Lockhart seemed to think he needed to do something.

“You don’t need to worry, the chamber of secrets will never be opened,” that’s what Lockhart said at the end of every defense against the dark arts class. “The culprit must have known I would catch them sooner or later, so they wisely stopped before I did.”

“What is needed now is to eliminate the bad memories,” said Lockhart, “I don’t have much to say but I think I have the answers,”

By the time they had breakfast on February 14 everyone knew what Lockhart was doing to boost morale.

When Ivan entered the Great Hall early that morning, he saw that all the walls were covered with big, bright pink flowers. Worse still there was countless heart-shaped confetti that kept following from the light blue ceiling.

Lockhart sat at the teacher’s desk, wearing a bright pink robe that matched the decorations, and the professors sitting beside him had a strange face. Professor McGonagall slightly twitched and Snape looked like he was going to barf.

Next, Lockhart announced he arranged a small surprise.

In the next moment twelve dwarfs walked through the doors, unlike regular dwarfs, they all had golden wings and a harp on their backs.

Lockhart called them friendly little cupids.

He told the students they could use them to deliver Valentine’s cards or ask Snape for advice on how to brew a love potion.

Ivan didn’t know if anyone dared to ask Snape about the potion, but the dwarfs kept rushing around the school delivering Valentine’s cards.

Among the teachers, Lockhart received the most cards, nearly 200 or more.

It made him the least popular among the teachers and when a dwarf came into the classroom for the twelfth time, Professor McGonagall ran Ivan out with a nasty stare.

Next, a dwarf brought him a song for his Valentine’s day gift.

But Ivan was quicker than the dwarf and cast ‘Silencio’.

To prevent other dwarfs from finding him, Ivan went back to the common room.

Ivan decided to talk to Tom Riddle once more, it seems after more than a month of neglect made the other side impatient.

When Ivan opened the diary an article that answered his last question for potions class appeared.

“I’ve already done that assignment myself and Professor Snape gave me a lousy grade, so my question now is.....” said Ivan with a wry smile, he wrote his recent magical research question.

After about a minute, there was an answer written on the page. (Note: Magical world’s Google)

Riddle gave him a perfect answer which gave him a deep sense of enlightenment, it seems Riddle’s understanding was even deeper than the professors.

In this way, Ivan began to communicate with Tom Riddle for the second time.

Every night, after everyone was asleep, he quietly took out the diary, he wrote his difficulties in his magical studies, the problems became more and more difficult, there are many questions young wizards wouldn’t normally ask.

But Riddle didn’t seem to notice, Riddle wanted to talk to Ivan about the Chamber of Secrets, and the man who opened it.

But every time Ivan changed the subject, Riddle was adapting to Ivan’s way. A strange agreement formed between the two, first Riddle told a story about the chamber of secrets and then Ivan asked his questions.

As a young Voldemort, Tom Riddle had a vast reserve of knowledge and could answer almost every question that Ivan raised if he wanted to.

From the simplest classroom assignment to the most esoteric magical theory.

For example, the method of recording sound that bothered Ivan for so long was given to him by Riddle which could save a sound to any item.

Thanks to Riddle’s help the ‘Academic research’ section of the Hogwarts’ Magic was booming, there was no longer any boring articles like the ones Luna wrote but actual research articles.

After Transfiguration class, Professor McGonagall even told Ivan that she was surprised at the depth of his research on Animagus.

In addition, the editor of the Daily Prophet, who had been following his newspaper, had offered to reprint some of his research articles, and Ivan even received some manuscripts from a number of professional magical academic journals.

But of course, most of the articles were Tom's.

In just a month, Ivan's progress had soared to new heights.

He learned a lot from Riddle, such as theoretical knowledge that wasn't taught in class, including dark magic. In fact, the other side seems to have been intentionally or unconsciously teaching Ivan the Dark Arts and encouraging him to use these spells.

At first, Ivan didn't feel anything unusual.

After consulting with Professor Flitwick, he learned that Tom had been teaching him dark magic.

Until then, Ivan was unaware how serious the problem was, he thought it would be helpful to know more about dark magic.

After a while, he finally noticed what was wrong, and the dark magic seemed to have affected his thinking. He grew more irritable and sensitive, and every time he practiced the dark magic there were cruel thoughts that appeared inside his head.

In particular, when he recently clashed with Malfoy, Ivan was tempted to pull out his wand and use a new spell he had just learned.

It was similar to Snape's 'Sectumsempra' spell but way more powerful and if Malfoy gets hit Malfoy might die.

Because he stopped himself at the last moment, it didn't lead to any irreversible consequences.

This made him terrified, this was a dangerous sign.

He now realized why Riddle would uncharacteristically teach him magical knowledge.

Riddle was looking for a way to weaken Ivan's will since Ivan was always wary of him and not interested in the Chamber of Secrets so he tempted Ivan with magical knowledge and when Ivan is lost in power, that would give him a chance to control Ivan.

Even if Riddle can't control him, Ivan's final result was likely to become the same as Voldemort, an evil dark wizard.

Since then, Ivan never dared to touch the diary again, Tom Riddle is truly evil he can gradually take control of one's mind.

Even people like Ivan who were on high alert from the beginning can fall into his clutches.

Chapter 49 Fifty Years Ago

Ivan kept the diary with him at all times since there was still the threat that Tom Riddle would control the other person to take it back but he never opened it.

Thanks to Ivan being cautious, there was not any attacks in the castle.

It has been four months since Justin was petrified.

Almost everyone seems to think the attacker has given up.

One day when Ivan was at breakfast Ivan heard Professor Sprout and several students talk about the nearly matured mandrakes.

This made people extremely happy.

Hufflepuff isn't hiding from them anymore and Peeves has gotten bored of singing. The sales of the newspaper were picking up and people were turning their attention to the upcoming Gryffindor vs Hufflepuff Quidditch match which will determine who wins the Quidditch cup this year.

Ivan saw all the third years sitting in the public lunge depressed on Easter Sunday.

"The school has asked us to choose a class for next year."

Harry and Colin, walked in with a list of curriculums, "It looks like we have to add more lessons."

"Professor McGonagall told us to take it seriously," said Hermione as she looked at Harry and Ron with a deadly stare, "This will affect our future."

"I don't want to, but I want to give up potions," said Harry.

"Impossible!" said Ron in a depressed tone, "If we could ditch the core classes I would have quit defense against the dark arts,"

"But that course is extremely important!" said Hermione in a surprised tone.

"With Lockhart, I haven't learned anything," said Ron

The students who are from wizarding families received owls from their families which told them what to choose. This made it more difficult for some students such as Neville who couldn't decide.

As for Harry who grew up in a Muggle family, there wasn't any advice.

In the end, he closed his eyes and pointed randomly with his wand to choose a course.

"You can't do that, Harry!" said Hermione as she hurriedly stopped him.

"Do you have any good ideas?" asked Harry with a frown.

"We can choose everything, the school didn't say it's not allowed, right?" said Hermione, unsure.

"Yes but I don't want to do that," said Harry as he hurriedly shook his head.

"The divination class looks interesting, you should choose that," said Ivan as he went over and looked at Harry's list, "I'm interested in it and I'd like to go over the material if you have the chance."

"Ivan's advice is excellent since divination can help you see the future," said Percy, after knowing that the Mandrakes will mature soon, he seemed to be back to his usual self, "What course you choose depends on what you want to do in the future."

"People always say that it's stupid to choose Muggle studies but I personally think wizards should have a thorough understanding of muggle society especially if they want to work closely with Muggles. For example, my father took it and he deals with Muggle related stuff. My brother Charlie likes the outdoors so he chose care of magical creatures and he now works with dragons. So take classes that will help you in what you want to do."

Percy's advice didn't make much of a difference since beyond Quidditch Harry didn't know what he wanted to do.

"Professor McGonagall wants us to turn in our choices tomorrow so think about it Harry," said Hermione as she checked all the subjects, "You to Ron"

"You sound like my mother!" said Ron as he wrinkled his nose.

That night, Ivan, Harry, and Ron sat in front of the fire and discussed each class.

Finally, Harry and Ron chose the same classes. They thought even if the lesson is boring they will pull through if they are together.

When they had just written down their course, they saw Hermione running in.

"I found out who was expelled from the school fifty years ago."

Hermione then lowered her voice and said, "It was Hagrid, Hagrid opened the Chamber fifty years ago."

"That is impossible!" said Harry hastily as he stood up.

"I wish it wasn't him to but the evidence I found was concrete." said Hermione, "Because I couldn't find anything in the library I wrote to the editor of the Daily Prophet and asked for his help."

"What did he say?"

"He sent me a newspaper from fifty years ago," said Hermione as she took a newspaper out, "Look here, it says Hagrid was expelled from the school after a serious accident."

"We already knew Hagrid was expelled!" said Harry unwilling to accept the truth.

"Look when it was reported, Harry," said Hermione, "There was the article that reported Myrtle's death and shortly after comes this article about Hagrid being expelled."

"Maybe there isn't a connection between the two," said Harry distressedly.

"But after Hagrid was expelled the attacks stopped!" sighed Hermione, "What would be serious enough to expel a student from school? Think about it, the last time we met Hagrid in Knockturn alley"

"He was just buying potions to get rid of slugs," said Harry while raising his voice, "Hermione, Hagrid would never intentionally kill anyone!"

"He certainly would not but what about the creatures he keeps" hesitated Hermione, "Hagrid likes to keep dangerous creatures and he thinks they're all marvelous. Think about the three-headed dog and the dragon. We should go ask Hagrid about these things?"

"That would be a pleasant visit. Hello, Hagrid, have you recently put any horrifying thing in the castle?"

"That's not funny, Ron, I think"

"No, Hermione! Hagrid must be innocent, I believe in him," said Harry stubbornly.

The four people were silent, the atmosphere tense and for a while, no one spoke.

Chapter 50 Hagrid and Aragog

Late that night only Ivan was left in the common room.

He looked at the diary in front of him and realized he couldn't keep distrusting every one or he would not get anywhere. Although there haven't been any more attacks, his business with the chamber of secrets has yet to be finished.

Maybe I should give it to Dumbledore!

He must be able to recognize this is a Horcrux and he should know exactly how to deal with it.

Before Ivan made up his mind on what to do he saw Harry come in.

"Ivan why haven't you gone to bed yet?" said Harry, surprised.

"I should have asked you,"

"I can't sleep because I'm thinking about the things dealing with Hagrid. He is certainly innocent, but I have to go to him to confirm it." Harry looked at Ivan with expectant eyes, "You think so to right?"

"Yes!" nodded Ivan.

"Then let's go!" whispered Harry.

"Go where?"

Harry took Ivan's hand and said, "I was going to go alone but I didn't expect to see you."

Ivan wanted to cry since he knew he should have gone to bed.

He didn't want to sneak out of the castle to find out what he already knew, but Harry didn't give him the opportunity to refuse, Harry pulled him out of the Gryffindor common room.

Before they walked out they saw Hermione standing beside them looking at them with a serious expression.

"Hermione!" said Harry, surprised.

"Don't look at me like that, Harry, did you think I would let you go alone?" said Hermione, "I said we had to talk with Hagrid but I don't believe he did it, he must know something though."

"Well since everyone is going," said Harry as he put the cloak over them.

The castle that night was exceptionally grim as they walked down the empty corridors.

It was clear that Harry had wandered the castle countless times at night as he guided Ivan and Hermione out the castle gate.

The three people hurried to Hagrid's house, they went to his door and took off the cloak. And a few seconds later they knocked, Hagrid flung the door open and the hound barked loudly behind him.

"Oh it's you!" said Hagrid as he stared at them, "Why are you three coming here so late?"

"We have something to ask you," said Harry as he walked into the hut but he hesitated, "Can you tell us about..."

"About what?" asked Hagrid as he took a kettle and poured each of them a large glass of boiling water, "Can't this wait until tomorrow, you three should hurry back and go to bed now, it can't be so important that you must sneak out of the castle."

"But, Hagrid..."

"We'd like to ask you about the chamber of secrets," said Ivan

"The chamber of secrets?" said Hagrid as he accidentally hit a teapot dropping it to the floor.

"Hagrid you know someone was attacked by a monster around fifty years ago," said Harry quickly.

"What do you want to ask?" said Hagrid as his face turned pale and began to sweat.

"Fifty years ago when the chamber was opened you were expelled from the school for something," said Hermione as she took out the newspaper, "Hagrid it isn't that we don't believe you but you must know something?"

"I don't know anything!" shouted Hagrid, he seemed to be uneasy and he nearly caused the kettle to put out the fire.

Harry and Hermione thought this was suspicious.

"We need your help, Hagrid! When the Chamber was last opened the monster killed a student and if we don't take action, the monster will probably..."

"No, Aragog didn't attack anyone," said Hagrid

"Who is Aragog?" said Harry hastily.

“He is an Acromantula, a traveler gave him to me when he was just an egg, it was terrified when the chamber was opened, it only told me that it was an ancient creature that all spiders were afraid of,” said Hagrid as he wiped his tears with a large handkerchief.

“An ancient creature, what is it?”

“I don’t know, even though I asked countless times, Aragog never told me. And after a Ravenclaw girl was killed, the one who must not be named blamed it all on Aragog.”

“Hagrid you don’t mean Voldemort?” said Harry as he stood up, he was pale.

Hagrid was visibly shaken, and he seemed to have awakened from his thoughts.

“What have I said, it’s not something you should know about,” said Hagrid ruefully, “you should go back to bed immediately, don’t ask any more questions, I won’t tell you anything.”

They were then driven out by Hagrid, Harry and Hermione whispered as they walked.

“Hagrid said Voldemort blamed it all on his spider, but I think it must have been Voldemort that opened the chamber of secrets fifty years ago and killed Myrtle, so then Hagrid was wronged.” said Harry angrily, “I knew it wasn’t him but who opened it this time, it can’t be Voldemort?”

Harry suddenly thought of what happened last year, Voldemort snuck into school to steal the Philosophers stone but thanks to him and his friends he stopped Voldemort.

“I don’t know!” said Hermine with a trembling voice and shaking her head, “Maybe, like last year, Voldemort snuck in on someone’s head. Remember the curse that was on Ron, he must have been the one to do it.”

“Where is he hiding and what is the monster hidden in the Chamber of secrets?” said Harry

“Hagrid said it was an ancient creature that spiders are afraid of, I seem to have seen similar creatures somewhere.” said Hermione as she tried to remember what it was, she then turned to Ivan and asked, “Ivan do you know anything?”

“That is simple, the creature that hides in the Chamber of Secrets is a basilisk, it’s a spider mortal enemy,” said Ivan.

Ivan had decided to give the diary to Dumbledore, it was time to end it.

As for the person, Tom Riddle was controlling, no matter who it was, as long as there is no Horcrux, they should return to normal sooner or later.

