

Never Turn Away

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No matter what happens, she can never turn away.

RTW Challenge Twenty-One: Winter Holidays Past.

Chapter 1

Chapter 1 of 1

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As much as I would like to take credit, the characters belong to J.K Rowling. I am not making any money writing this.

The thought that in a few hours it would be Christmas kept Lily from sleeping, so she was fully aware that someone was throwing pebbles at her bedroom window. Lily threw off the covers and swung her legs over the side of the bed, stepping quickly across the cold wooden floor. Severus stood there unmoving, a blotch of darkness in all the beautiful, white snow. Part of her wanted to turn away from the window, but before she could, she saw them – drops of blood in the white snow.

She stumbled quickly to her closet, throwing on a cloak and slipping on her boots. Then she grabbed her wand from the bedside table and slipped out the door. Sneaking quietly down the back stairs and out the back door, she grabbed his hand and pulled him quickly out of the back gate. Smiling at him, she whispered, "Come, Severus, quickly."

They walked quietly into the wooded area behind her home, still hand in hand, until they reached a small shack covered in snow. Lily reached into her pocket, pulled out her scarf and dropped it into the snow.

"Severus, what happened to your hand?"

She guided him through the front door of the shack. Once they were inside, all the candles around the small room sprang to life. She led him over to the small window and pulled him down to sit on the cot.

"Severus, tell me what happened, please?" She pushed the hair back from his face so she could look into his eyes.

"Lily, we've known each other since we were young – do I really need to tell you about what happened?"

Lily stood from the cot and walked out the door. Severus scolded himself for being so cold towards her, but when he looked up, she was standing over him with the scarf in her hand. She knelt down on the floor in front of him. Taking his hand, she gently cleaned around the wound. He watched her quietly, knowing that he needed to say something.

"I'm sorry," he whispered.

"Don't be sorry. I'm so used to the way you talk, it doesn't bother me."

"Not for that, but for what I said at school. I hate it when you're angry with me. I didn't mean it. I'm really sorry. Please, Lily, forgive me?"

Lily reached down under the neckline of her cloak and pulled out a gold necklace with a tiny vial pendant. "Do you remember this?" she asked. "I nicked it from the Apothecary in Hogsmeade our first year."

He smiled. "Phoenix Tears."

She uncorked the vial and poured the liquid onto her fingers. He was entranced, watching the small drops of silver fall from her finger tips onto the deep gash between his thumb and index finger. As the wound sealed, she looked into his eyes and whispered, "I forgive you. I could never turn away."

They lay on the cot together, embracing, watching as the snow began to fall once more.

Finis.

Please Review.