

A Long Time Coming

by luvsev

Hermione devises a plan.

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Chapter 1 of 1

Hermione devises a plan.

What a beautiful night, Hermione mused as she walked barefoot across the lawn of Hogwarts. Stars dotted a cloudless sky and a gentle, cooling breeze rustled through the trees. As she walked towards the lake and the edge of the Forbidden Forest, her mind wandered to her last conversation with Severus in the staffroom. She had been trying to flirt with him, and as usual, he was clueless. Since she couldn't figure out how to get his attention, she'd devised a plan with Oliver Wood.

Returning from her reverie, she looked around and saw Oliver. He was standing near the lake in his Quidditch gear and leaning on his broom.

'Hullo, love. Are you nervous about learning to fly?'

'A little, but I'm more concerned if this is going to work.'

Oliver pulled Hermione into an embrace and wrapped his large hand in her hair. Whispering, he said, 'It will, Hermione. Trust me. He's already watching; I saw him on my way out.'

'Really?'

'Hermione, you'll know by the end of the night if he wants you. Many men can't stand to see the woman they want on the arm of another man. I'm sure Snape is no different.' Oliver mounted his broom and held out his hand. 'Are you going to join me? It's now or never.'

Hermione took his proffered hand and took the front position on the broom. Once fully seated, she felt his arms wrap protectively around her waist.

He guided them up into the air and let her take control of the broom, giving her a chance to get a feel for flight. For having so many reservations of flying, she was doing fairly well, he thought.

After about an hour of flying, Oliver tapped her shoulder. 'It's time to land and seal the deal, Hermione. Are you ready?'

She landed, took a steadying breath and looked at him. 'Yes, I am ready, Oliver. Kiss me.' The words barely left her mouth before he engaged her in a soft, but passionate kiss.

He released her and said, 'It's really too bad you want Snape. Your kiss holds promises of so much more, and I'd love the chance to show it to you. Now, get a move on before I decide to steal you away.'

Hermione chuckled as she made her way back to the castle. She could only hope that the kiss she and Oliver shared would reveal Severus' true feelings. Right before she opened the door to the castle, she felt a presence behind her.

'Miss... Hermione,' Severus said close to her ear. 'Turn around.'

Hermione turned to face Severus, who had his hands fisted in his robes. 'Yes, Severus?'

'I-I was wondering what it would... what it would be like to kiss you. May I?'

Hermione thanked Merlin that her plan had worked and that he wanted her.

Severus gathered her close to him and barely touched his lips to hers. He heard her sigh and felt her relax into his kiss, and he couldn't help but think that this had been a long time coming.

A/N: Thanks to the lovely voxangelus for the quick betaing. Also, thanks to beawesley2 for the following prompt: Hermione has to learn to fly a broom. (For whatever reason) Oliver Wood offers to help. Who is watching and why?