

Nursery Rhymes and Lullabies

by magalena

Written for the GrangerSnape/100 'tickle challenge.' Severus has been hiding something from Hermione, what could it be?

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Chapter 1 of 1

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AN: Many thanks to my beta juliannanight for all her help!!

Hermione peeked through the crack in the doorway and couldn't believe her eyes and ears. Severus Snape, bent over the changing table handling the nappy like it was something he did every day. He seemed a bit too familiar with the whole process to be a newbie. What was going on here?

"How's Daddy's precious little witch today, hmmm?" He removed the nappy with magic but cleaned her carefully by hand, applying the special baby bum balm he'd created to prevent a rash, then put on a dry nappy. "There now, Leah, isn't that so much better?"

He softly recited the pattie cake rhyme. Patting her little hands together, rolling them around and then tracing a B for Baby on her tummy. Leah coo'ed and gurgled happily. "Does that tickle you, sweetie? Are you my ticklish little girl?" He coo'ed right back at her, bending down and blowing raspberries on her tummy as well, before putting her jammies back on.

Hermione was hard pressed not to giggle but didn't want to give herself away. She'd been so worried that Severus wouldn't bond with Leah, as he hadn't previously shown much interest in caring for the baby.

"That's what house-elves are for," he'd said, as well as several other equally ludicrous things. Now she watched in wonder as he sat in the rocker, singing their daughter a lullaby in tones so sweet and clear that Hermione felt tears forming in her eyes.

Gently laying Leah down in her crib, he tiptoed out.

Hermione had stepped away from the door and as he carefully shut the nursery door she wrapped her arms around his waist. "You are so busted, you great softy."

He just smirked at her. "Guilty as charged, my dear, guilty as charged."

~fin~