You're Only as Old as You Feel

by magalena

Severus is feeling old and also takes note of a strange pattern in his life. Written originally for GS/100 'age' challenge.

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Chapter 1 of 1

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Disclaimer: I do not own HP. I make no money here.

AN: Many thanks to my lovely beta drhermionephd.

Nineteen seemed a significant number in his life. He'd been a nineteen-year-old boy--man--in 1979 when a powerful witch had been born to Muggle parents. If someone had told him then what the future held... well, he'd have thought them insane.

Then nineteen years later she'd helped the boy who lived defeat the darkest wizard in a century. He'd played a part in that as well.

Now another nineteen years, and she'd spent the day putting her daughter on the train to Hogwarts. But it was him she'd returned to, Severus Snape; he was her husband now. Not Weasley.

~*~

Where would they be nineteen years from now, he wondered. Would she still want him?

He felt her arms around him. "I'm an old man, Hermione."

"Don't go maudlin on me now, old man," she teased.

"I'm ancient compared to you," he responded.

"You think too much, Severus," she said. "Age is relative. Muggles have a saying, 'you're only as old as you feel.'"

"Well, I feel bloody old! What do you see in me?"

Hermione stepped around to lean back against him. "Would you really like to know what I see?"

~*~

"I see a man not even middle-aged by wizard standards. He's stubborn, sarcastic and scornful, but he has great intelligence, honor, and principle. A brave man, who devoted a huge portion of his life to fight against darkness, never expecting a reward, never even expecting to survive. I see the man I love dearly."

She pulled his hands down to rest snugly against her abdomen. "I see my baby's father. I think he'll be outstanding at the job. What do you think, Severus?"

"Suddenly I feel young again." Smiling, he kissed the mother of his unborn child.

~fin~