

The Deal

by *cocoachristy*

Death Eater Snape snatches Hermione while sleeping in an attempt to make a deal with her. This is my response to Deviant Art's Severus-Hermione group's Face Off Contest.

Arrangements

Chapter 1 of 1

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Disclaimer: All the Harry Potter world belongs to JKR. I am making no money from this.

A/N: Many thanks to my wonderful beta, the one and only, Southern_Witch_69!

Severus Snape stood in the shadows waiting for Hermione Granger to finally fall asleep. He had been living in the attic at Grimmauld Place for the last week. He silently snorted. *I could have killed every one of these imbeciles by now. They are nothing without Albus Dumbledore*He shuddered at the thought of Albus. *Better to let sleeping dragons sleep...*

Severus knew that Potter, Weasley, and Granger had found those blasted Horcruxes. He had been patiently waiting for the resident know-it-all to discover the potion that would melt the soul pieces in each. The Potions master had only found it himself after Albus had tried to destroy the soul in the ring and thus sealed his horrible fate after badly burning and poisoning his arm. He snorted once more at all the research she had been doing. *It's been right under your nose all the while, you bloody chit! Have you not read every book in the blasted Black library?*

When he was finally convinced that she was sound asleep, Severus placed his hand over her mouth, pulled her close to him, and Apparated to the barren Muggle warehouse he had been staying in for the past few months. Hermione awoke kicking and screaming when she realized a Death Eater had taken her. *Damn! He took my wand! Well, he'll not take me without a fight!*

"Calm yourself, woman, or I shall be forced to place a *Petrificus Totalus* on you!"

Although he was wearing a mask and Death Eater robes, Hermione would have known that voice anywhere. "Snape!" she cried with disdain. "What do you want from me?"

"I want to help you and the Order, Miss Granger."

Hermione shivered. Snape had taken her right from her bed. Although she had on her flannel pajamas, her feet were bare, and she had no robe. "Like you helped the headmaster? Well, no, thank you! Either kill or release me, but get on with it."

"Cease your theatrics! Now, I know of a potion that can melt the soul pieces that are hidden in those Horcruxes. I wish to help you prepare it and destroy them so that my Dark Lord can be vanquished for good."

"I suppose a potion of that sort would have helped Professor Dumbledore, would it not? Did you just conveniently remember you knew it, or did you happen upon the ingredients lying around someplace?"

"That will be enough disrespect from you. I found it in the *Black* library after Albus had already destroyed the ring." *She has got to do this! The Dark Lord gets more irrational with each passing day, killing even his own followers. I don't know how much longer I will last with him already suspicious of me.*

"I admit I have seen the book with the potion, but I could not get all the required ingredients. I was going to speak to Tonks about it in the morning."

"Well, now you don't have to. I happen to have them all right here. We can start brewing in the morning. For now, we must rest."

"Hold on, Snape! I never said I would do this with *you*! What's in this for you anyway? I could still get the things I need with Tonks help."

Severus was becoming highly irritated with Hermione. "I could help you and the Order destroy the Dark Lord, and in return, you could help exonerate many of the crimes laid at my door, as it were. It seems we need each other, Miss Granger, as *you* are not a Potions mistress. *Yet.*" He smirked when he saw her reaction. *I knew you would take the bait!*

"Why would we help you, you ruddy Death Eater? How do I know you are not just going to use me and then kill me? And what did you mean *yet*?"

"You will help me, you insolent chit, because you *need* me! We both know that you cannot brew that potion without me. It is far too difficult. If I wanted you dead, you would be so by now! And, lastly, I said *yet* because I can also help you in that area, as well, should you decide to become a Potions mistress. Now, I don't have all night. What is your answer?"

Hermione started chewing her bottom lip. *He's right. We do need him. There is no way I can brew that potion alone. If I agree, am I to speak for the Order as well? What if I agree, and they won't help him? Can I really trust him?*

"Decisions, decisions," Severus drawled, sounding much like Malfoy. "I don't really see that you have a choice, Miss Granger."

Hermione sighed. "You're right. I don't, but I would like to get everything in writing. If we brew this potion, destroying Voldemort with it, I will help you in any way I can to get you exonerated. In return, you will continue to help the Order, and when this bloody war is finished, you will apprentice me."

"I have another condition. The Order will also help me. However, since they are not to know of my location, you will go to them tomorrow and convince them, then come back here and stay the six weeks it takes to brew that potion. I will also require you to be my Secret-Keeper—in the event you decide to betray me. I will know it at once and can leave. But know this, if you *do* decide to betray me, the consequences will be very dire for you."

Looking away to mull things over, Hermione thought, *Winning the war is the most important thing right now. I have to do this.* Signing the parchment that they had agreed upon, Hermione turned to him. "We have a deal. Now, *you* know this. Should *you* betray *me* the consequences will be just as dire."

Smirking, he simply said, "Indeed? I believe they shall." *This is going to be a long six weeks! But I can make things work to my advantage. I shall get what I need in the end, no matter what I have to do to achieve it. Severus Snape always gets what he needs.* Looking at the witch beside him, he continued his thoughts, *Perhaps a little distraction in the meantime would not be amiss either. I do have more than one need.*

Christy's Notes: Oh, the possibilities! I wonder how she will convince the Order and how he will get the rest of his *needs* filled!

Southern's Notes: Dang, I'd like to know what happens next. Hehe!

A/N: This is my response to Deviant Art's Severus-Hermione group's Face Off Contest. <http://severus-hermione.deviantart.com/>

Writers:

Write a one-shot 1000 words or more of Snape and Hermione

battling/having a confrontation with each other. Snape has to be a

Death Eater, and Hermione has to be on 'the right side'. The rest is

up to your imagination. Anything goes.