Beth

by Becky

Severus and his daughter share a moment...

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The embrace took me by surprise, and as she stepped away, she looked at me with a smile on her face.

It wasn't that I was adverse to her hugs, but we were standing in the hall right outside the Potions classroom.

Every student in the vicinity of that room stopped in their tracks and watched, looking to see what the dreaded Potions master would do next.

I looked around, scowled at the crowd then looked at her sweet face, so trusting and open, I shook my head and scowled down at her as well.

The very idea of hugging me in the hall was just too much, and I told her so. "Elisabeth Eileen Snape, where are you supposed to be right now?" I asked her in the best annoyed voice I could use. She giggled then and looked up at me and adopted the same scowl as she replied in her high pitched three-year-old voice, "Daddy funny, kiss bye bye," as she persistently tugged on my teaching robe until I relented.

As I bent down, she wound her chubby arms around my neck and firmly placed a kiss on my cheek. "Bye, bye Daddy, teach dundheads now," she replied as she turned and skipped down the hall. All was silent as they watched her skip away. No one said a word, no laughter was heard as I turned and walked into the classroom with a smile on my face and a heart full of love for a three-year-old child named Beth.