

# Fool

by luvsev

Hermione receives letters from someone she doesn't know.

## Fool

Chapter 1 of 1

Hermione receives letters from someone she doesn't know.

*There's more to me than what you've seen, what you've been told. It's the way I was brought up – to hate what I don't know. I've judged you, fought you over things in which you have no control. My folly, yes. I am a fool.*

*M.*

She read the short missive, twisting one lock of hair as her eyes focussed on the word “fool”.

*Fool? I know you not, so I cannot say. You have simply followed the example bigots have established. A poor excuse if it remains your belief. You want me to understand? Show me, I implore.*

*H.*

He gasped aloud, not daring to believe what she had replied.

*Bigots, indeed. I cannot show who I am... No one would believe. It is only a lie.*

The more she read of this stranger's letters, the more curious she grew. Who was this person who suffered so?

*A lie? Why must you hide, keep who you are caged inside?*

*Loyalty is everything, Hermione. Opinions must sometimes be hidden... There are worse things to lose than one's life, even if it is a life built upon a lie.*

*A life built upon lies is not a life at all.*

He read the only line and wept for the first time in years. The truth he could no longer hide; who he was would not remain a lie.

*If I told you who I am, what would you say?*

*Tell me, and we shall see.*

Weeks passed without a word from the mysterious writer. One mid-December morning, she found a folded note lying on her doormat. She read it quickly and then saw the figure leaning against the oak tree.

*Draco Malfoy.*

She walked over to him and whispered into his ear, 'You are not half the fool I've been.'

---

A/N: Thank you to my oh-so-amazing beta, kittylefish. Her talents are unparalleled, I say.