

Simple Answers

by Ladymage Samiko

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Chapter 1 of 1

Hermione asks Severus a question he doesn't know how to answer.

"Do you love me?"

A simple question, but only fools and children thought it had a simple answer. Though Hermione, too, seemed to expect such a response. It somehow surprised him that she didn't recognize the complexities of the matter, the incoherent mess that was created by his personality and experiences and feelings. That surprise made him feel old — grandfather to her child —and added yet another layer of convolution.

So he merely gazed at her, wordless, expressionless, motionless.

Hermione returned his gaze steadily, then leaned forward, kissing his cheek. "I understand," she said.

Severus simply kissed her in return.