

No Longer a Secret

by sunny33

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Chapter 1 of 1

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Snape growled into consciousness, the pounding in his head only surpassed by the pounding on the door. "Lupin! Stop that infernal racket! They're not coming back." He slumped back against the wall and dropped his head into his hands.

"You're just giving in? We only have hours before the moon rises. We have to get out of here!" Lupin gave the door one last fruitless thump and joined Snape on the floor.

Snape's eyes opened at the sound of bare skin slapping against cold stone. He glanced down and drew his knees closer to his chest. "Where are our clothes?"

"They took them while you were unconscious. Thought you'd wandlessly conjure up some metal bars out of our trousers."

"Idiots."

"Dammit. I'm—"

"Sorry? I've heard that before. Twice now. Seems I'm destined to die at your hands. Or should I say jaws?" Snape's bitterness almost concealed his bone-deep fear.

"No!"

"No?"

"I promise. You'll be safe."

"Don't be ridiculous! The moon will rise. You'll transform, then rip my throat out."

"There's no chance that'll happen. None. Nil. Zero. Trust me, Severus."

"Why?"

"I... I can't tell you."

"Then leave me in peace."

By the time the moon rose, Snape's iron will no longer controlled the tremors. As the silvery light illuminated his changing body, Lupin's unearthly howls filled the room, and merciful oblivion claimed his companion.

Snape once again awoke, this time aware of strong arms holding him, bare skin to bare skin along the entire length of their bodies. He turned his head to meet a pair of very human, grey eyes.

"How?" he asked.

"Even we werewolves look after our pack... our loved ones." The reply was a breath, a caress on the back of his neck.

"I never knew," Snape whispered.

"You were never supposed to."

A/N: Written for the second week of the snupin_idws on LiveJournal.

The prompts were: Lupin and Snape are trapped at the full moon, and the compulsory word was "zero".