

Framed

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Viktor is accused of impersonating another wizard.

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Chapter 1 of 1

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The Aurors were waiting for Viktor when he came through the Floo into the Ministry. They took him into custody immediately.

Harry was not happy about it, but orders were orders.

"What are the charges, Harry?"

The charges were ridiculous, Harry felt. "You are charged with impersonating Lucius Malfoy at Madam Dorinda's House of Love." Harry blushed when saying that. Viktor looked shocked, then laughed heartily.

"And when did this supposed impersonation take place? May I ask?"

"Three weeks ago, on the eleventh. Where were you at that time, Viktor? Between the hours of eight and nine, British time."

"The eleventh? At that time I was dancing with my mother at my sestra's wedding reception, I believe. I believe I am entitled to the benefit of counsel, am I not?"

"Yes, you want me to call Hermione?"

"She is my legal counsel, Harry. I know you have doubts about these charges. I am being framed for something I did not do."

Within a few minutes, Hermione arrived and demanded to know the exact charges. When Harry read them off, Hermione laughed.

"Harry, why would Viktor impersonate Lucius at a whorehouse? That's absurd."

"I know it is, Herms. But you know how Lucius is. He raised a stink, and now I have to deal with it."

"Harry, what if this is related to Viktor escorting me to your wedding in ten days? There is something very hinky about these charges."

"As his counsel, do you think he would be willing to answer questions under Veritaserum?"

"Absolutely. He has nothing to hide. Remember I was his date to his sister's wedding and can vouch for his whereabouts all that ~~day~~ night."

"Fine. I am going to call in Severus. He has a new formula for Veritaserum that not only acts if ingested but also works topically. He can also do Legilimency if we need him to."

"You know I have an idea why Lucius is doing this. Astoria just filed for divorce from Draco, didn't she?"

"I guess so, I don't keep up with the Malfoys."

"She asked me if I would represent her, and I had to turn her down, since I don't do divorce cases anymore. I think Lucius has a bee in his knickers because I did represent Narcissa when she divorced him. This is just such a Malfoy-type scheme."

"Let me call in Draco and ask if he knows anything. But first I need to send an owl to Severus."

Hermione sat in the interrogation room with Viktor while Harry consulted with Severus Snape.

Snape was astonished that anyone would think Viktor had to resort to a whorehouse.

"Complete rubbish, Potter. Krum is much too fastidious to visit Madam Dorinda's. It is, or was, a favourite of Lucius'. I brought the new Veritaserum. Administer it to Krum with Lucius watching. I'll permeate a parchment with the stuff and have Lucius sign the complaint. If he is lying, his hands will turn bright purple. This is just too delightful a way to even the score for Lucius luring me to Voldemort's side so I could be attacked by the wretched snake. If not for you, Hermione, and Krum, I would be dead."

"And the fact that you married Narcissa after she divorced him has absolutely nothing to do with it either, I suppose?" Harry asked.

Snape just raised an eyebrow and set about dousing the parchment in Veritaserum.

Inside the interrogation room, as Lucius watched through the mirror, Viktor answered Harry's questions truthfully about his whereabouts the night night in question.

When Viktor was released, just after the interrogation, Lucius was fuming. He stormed into Harry's office and began to rant. Severus was sitting there grinning. Harry looked at the bright purple stain on Lucius' hands and promptly took him into custody for filing a false complaint and wasting the Aurors' time.

Viktor, Hermione, Severus, Harry, and the squad of Aurors all testified at the hearing, which sentenced Lucius to another term in Azkaban.

Viktor and Hermione sat at the table with Severus and Narcissa at Harry and Luna's wedding.

Severus asked the question he had been waiting to ask for over a year. "When the hell are the two of you going to get married? You are the last of the couples not married. I promised Cissy that I would dance at all my former students' weddings. So, get to it, you two."

"You will be the first person we tell. The wedding is set for next month. We have kept it secret until Harry married so we would not overshadow this wedding. Both of you are on the guest list. Owls will be delivering your invitations soon."

"Thank you for all your help with this little fiasco, Severus. I hadn't realised that Lucius would be so petty as to try to frame Viktor with a trumped up story."

Cissy merely smiled and said, "Never underestimate the vindictiveness of that particular Malfoy. Congratulations, my dear."

Muse's prompt was :

Viktor is arrested when he arrives in Britain to escort Hermione to Harry's wedding.