

Christmas Present

by kyriaofdelphi

A snapshot of Christmas for the Krums.

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Coming back from delivering presents to Hermione's parents, Viktor heard a faint mewling coming from an alley. Going to investigate, he found a tiny Kneazle kitten trying to keep warm in a box.

Picking it up, he grinned, saying, "I know just the place for you, little fellow." Tucking the kitten into the pocket of his jacket, he made his way home.

He knew where the cat food was, so he fixed a dish for the kitten. He checked on Crookshanks' dish as well. The old cat had come to sniff the kitten, and then started washing it.

Hermione wasn't due back from the Christmas party at the Burrow until later, so Viktor made up a bed for the kitten next to Crookshanks' bed. The two cats were curled up together when Viktor checked on them later.

He went back to putting the finishing touches on the Christmas tree and arranging the presents to hide the newest ones he'd bought for her.

A thought struck him, so he quickly Transformed an old wicker planter into a new basket for the kitten and adorned it with red and green bows. He picked up both cat beds and moved them into the sitting room close to the fire. Both cats left the decorations on the tree alone, although the kitten made an experimental swipe at the bow on a large wrapped gift.

Viktor saw that it was almost time for Hermione to be coming home so he hurried to the kitchen and made a batch of mulled cider. When she came through the door, he handed her a warm cup of cider and told her about the kitten.

"Oh, Viktor, how adorable. You were right to cry off going to the Burrow tonight. It was a disaster. Bill and Fleur brought Victoire, who was sick with a cold. Percy and Audrey were there, very unhappy because they had thought Audrey was pregnant, but wasn't. Molly had bought baby things for them and then had to hide the packages. Ron and Millie were all cuddly, planning their wedding. George and Angelina had gone to Italy and not told Molly. I had to keep from laughing at Charlie's antics. He brought Dragon figurines for all the kids and was having them fly around the room. Audrey burst into tears every ten minutes or so. Percy finally had to take her upstairs and put her to bed. Molly was so upset at Ron and Millie she cast a Pregnancy-detection spell aimed in Millie's direction and it showed there were two pregnant women in the room. Ginny and..." She ducked her head and blushed.

"I was wondering when you were going to tell me." Viktor kissed her nose and handed her another cup of mulled cider.

"It was supposed to be one of your Christmas presents. Molly was horribly embarrassed and handed me the baby things she'd bought for Audrey and said she would knit us a layette set later. Ron was gobsmacked; Millie had to drag him into the kitchen. Harry, of course, was delighted. He and Ginny were going to tell the Weasleys anyway tonight. He said to tell you congratulations. I wish I had gone to my parents' house with you instead."

"They are coming over here tomorrow. Do we keep Felix or not?"

"Felix? Oh, the kitten. I guess so, since you named him. He does have the right colouring for Felix Felicis."

She picked up the kitten, which opened bright green eyes and snuggled into her arms.

Crookshanks looked up at his humans and smiled. Christmas was going to be wonderful this year.

Muse's prompts Dec 17th:

A misplaced Christmas gift turns up where it can do the most good.

Viktor finds an orphaned kneazle kit and decides to adopt it.