

Confrontation

by kyriaofdelphi

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1

Chapter 1 of 1

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Molly Weasley was determined to confront the man she thought had stolen her son's girlfriend. Even if it was a very public event like the World Cup game. This was the first World Cup game since the downfall of Tom Riddle, eight years after the last World Cup game in 1994. Molly waited patiently, watching the reporters and fans all trickle away until finally only the players were left in the locker rooms.

She watched the other players leave with their wives or girlfriends. She knew Hermione wasn't going to be there; she was helping Ginny prepare for her wedding to Draco.

There, at last! Viktor Krum was the last player to exit the building, waving goodbye to his coach.

"Viktor, may I have a moment?"

"Mrs. Veasley, certainly. I assume you are upset that Hermione and I have announced engagement."

"Yes, you managed to steal her from my son, Ron. I want you to disappear out of her life so she will marry my son."

"Will not happen. Do you know why? From what I have been told by Ginevra and Harry, your son spent the first three years at Hogwarts belittling Hermione. Fourth year, he had a snit about Harry not telling him about putting his name in the Goblet when Harry had not done such a thing to begin with. Then your son used Hermione as a go-between him and Harry, making up nonsense stories to tell Harry and nearly driving Hermione crazy. Then to top it all off, he accused her of helping me with the Tournament. I believe his words were '*consorting with the enemy*.' I was never his enemy nor Harry's. Your son is an immature prat, who cries to his mother when he cannot have his own way. Ask Hermione if your Ronald ever acted like he wanted her for a girlfriend. I dare you. Now I have to go meet my future wife. Please excuse me."

Molly looked after the young man, thinking *maybe he's right. Ron certainly never treated Hermione as if she was anything other than a means to get a passing grade without any work on his own. Moreover, she never treated Ron as if he were anything other than a nuisance. I really don't want to admit it, but Ron is a spoiled brat. I'll just stop by the Apothecary to pick up a potion, and Arthur and I will have a sit-down with Ron tonight.*

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Later that night...

Molly set the Butterbeer in front of Ron, who gulped it greedily. She sat down next to Arthur so they could ask their youngest son some questions.

Arthur casually tapped the front page of the Daily Prophet, which had announced the Krum-Granger engagement that morning. "Ron, how did you treat Hermione in school?"

"What? Oh, I thought she was mental until I figured out I could copy her homework and get a better grade." Ron seemed surprised at his own words and started to get up and leave, but found he couldn't.

"You're going to answer your mother's questions, Ron. The Butterbeer had Veritaserum in it. And you have also been secured in place until you answer all the questions."

"Um, why? I thought you were going to rag Viktor out for taking my girl, Mum."

"Did you or did you not pitch a fit and shun Harry because you thought he put his name into the Goblet of Fire? Then make up ridiculous stories that you made Hermione tell Harry. Yes or no."

"Well, yes... but I had a good reason."

"Did you not ask Hermione to the Yule Ball until just days before? In addition, did you not accuse her of consorting with the enemy? Which begs the question why exactly did you consider Viktor your enemy?"

"I didn't ask her at first because she wasn't pretty enough. Yes, I did say consorting with the enemy. I was afraid Harry would become friends with Viktor and I would be nobody again."

"Did you ever really want Hermione as a girlfriend, Ron? Or was it just that Viktor recognised her beauty and warmth long before you did?" Arthur's voice had taken on the same tone he used when he punished the children.

"No, I just wanted her so I could be married to the brightest witch of her age. That would make me just as famous as Harry."

"Oh, Ronnikins, you are an immature prat, just as Viktor said. I am ashamed of you," Molly wailed.

Arthur had had it with Ron. He told Ron to write a letter of apology to Hermione and to Harry for the things he had done during their school years. The letters were sent by owl post that very night.

Six weeks later, Ron stood at the back of the Great Hall of Hogwarts and watched the girl he had mistreated for years at school marry a man who adored and respected her. His new-found honesty admitted that she was far better off with Viktor than she would have been with him.

*Muse's prompt was :*

*Viktor is forced to set a furious Molly Weasley straight when she confronts and publicly accuses him of stealing her youngest son's future wife away.*