

Diagon Alley Drabbles

by phoenix

Five looks at the shops and shop keepers of Diagon Alley.

Diagon Alley Shops

Chapter 1 of 2

Five looks at the shops and shop keepers of Diagon Alley.

A/N: I was recently going through my hard drive and found about a dozen sets of drabbles I wrote back in late 2005 and 2006. I belonged to adult Harry Potter community that used to issue period drabble challenges and these are the result. They were never posted here because there wasn't a drabble category when I first started posting here. Now that there is, I'm going to post a new set every few days.

I hope you enjoy and can figure out who the subjects of the drabbles are. :)

4 June 2013: I removed the Weasley's Wizarding Wheezes one and it's now in chapter two with a series of drabbles I found on my hard drive that have a history of the shop.

This shop is worthless. He rarely has the exotic ingredients I need and then balks when asked to procure them. Damn the headmaster for insisting I stay out of Knockturn Alley. 'Given your reputation, it would not be wise for you be seen there,' he told me. Well, damn him. If he wants his precious potions, that's exactly where I'll have to go. They're fools that classify things as black or white. It's a wonder they weren't defeated. They called us Dark wizards, but we weren't. We were merely those that saw the world in all its shades of grey.

A Gilderoy Lockhart book signing at my shop! I can hardly believe it. There's so much to do, so much to plan. We have to order more copies of his books. The crowds and the press will be magnificent. I'll have to hire on more workers for the day to keep order. And it's happening during back to school shopping, too! Of course, his books are on the book list, though why is beside me. I can't possibly imagine which subject they will be used for. I won't complain, more business for us. So much to do, so little time.

Fortescue has the best ice cream. Staying the wizarding world has been marvelous. Much better than hanging out at the Dursleys. And when business is slow, we have a lot of long talks. If he taught history instead of Binns, we might actually learn something. He makes it so interesting and tells the tale so that you think you are actually there. Maybe I'll spend each summer here? Well, I'd rather be at the Burrow with Ron and his family, but this is still a step up. And it's nice to actually have some peace and quiet for a change.

"It's time."

"I just need a few more minutes."

"You agreed to this. You set the date and time. We can't wait."

"All right, all right. Let me make sure I have everything."

"One minute."

"It's just this is my life's work, you understand" He walked around the empty shop one last time, checking the corners. "It's all here. I'm ready."

"You have the feather?"

"Of course. It was the first thing I packed. I know how important it is. I just need the right wood."

"He has the wood waiting for you."

"This will be a very powerful wand."

"No, please! I haven't done anything."

"Oh, no? You have harbored the enemy."

"What enemy?"

"Mudbloods, blood traitors, and you do business with Muggles. Oh yes, we know all about you. Bring her in here."

"Not my daughter! What are you going to do with her?"

"Nothing...yet. It depends on you."

"What do you need me to do?"

"Not here. You'll find out soon enough. Take them out of here."

Floreal fought against his captors as they dragged him out of his shop. The last thing he saw before they stunned him was the Dark Mark hanging in the sky.

Weasley Wizard Wheezes

Chapter 2 of 2

Seven drabbles that cover the history of Weasley's Wizard Wheezes.

A/N (Original from 2006): Well, here's my addition to increasing the amount of Fred and George fiction on the board as Metamuse requested on LJ. I reworked a series of Drabbles I had written about the Weasleys, pulled out the Twins ones and added to the general plot of them deciding to open a shop.

Since I like writing series of Drabbles, I'll probably do this more often. I find it a fun way to tell a story.

2013 Note: After posting the first section of Diagon Alley Drabbles, I found this gem hiding and decided to pull out the Weasley one and it's now in this chapter. The 3rd and 5th drabble are both also included in the Weasley Drabbles, but they fill out the arc and are also included here.

"I've got it all set up."

"It's a shame that Mum doesn't understand."

"And she didn't know I was gone?"

"Not at all. I managed quite a diversion to keep her occupied. Though, we might be in trouble later."

"Small price to pay for success."

"Indeed." Raising a bottle of butterbeer, George said, "Here's to Weasleys' Wizard Wheezes."

"Weasleys' Wizard Wheezes." After swallowing, Fred said, "The first batch will definitely be ready for the start of term. And I've arranged for owls to come at off hours."

"Excellent. We're bloody geniuses."

"Shame that no one's recognized that yet."

"Very soon."

Fred looked at the ledger. "Hey, George, look at this."

"Wow! That's pretty good."

"Pretty good? That's phenomenal. I think that Umbridge has helped sales."

"Definitely. It's time for a new shipping arrangement with sales are up. The off-hour owls won't go unnoticed."

"I think we can pick supplies up at the gate. No one knows the castle like us."

"Very true. Thank goodness for the Room of Requirement. It's a great storeroom."

"I'm beginning to wish we hadn't given the Map to Harry. We could really use it."

"True, but we're smarter than her, so it doesn't really matter."

"I can't stand being here under that toad."

"I think this is a good time to test our new product."

"I do believe you are right. We just need a good time to do it."

"It'll make a grand exit won't it?"

"The best and I don't think we could ask for better publicity for our new shop."

"Not at all. This will be the stuff of legends. Where do you think we should unleash it?"

"Somewhere with lots of traffic. We want to make her life difficult."

"Most definitely. The opportunity will present itself when the time is right."

"Here it is, 93 Diagon Alley!"

"This is it? It's...it's..."

"Ours. Imagine the possibility. Our shop."

"We'll be spending a lot of capital to make it useable."

"But the location! We're closer to the Leaky Cauldron than Gambol and Japes."

"And we have name recognition..."

"Thanks to school. That's the spirit. We'll be a smashing success."

"When will it be ready?"

"Early April. We'd best get back before they notice we're gone. Forgive me?"

"Of course. You always had the better business mind."

"I just overheard Dung mentioning it was available and had to act before someone else bought it."

"How long before the Howler arrives?"

"I say four hours."

"It'll be sooner. The Toad'll let her know right away."

"But the owl has to find us."

"Excellent point, though we are close to home."

"We could go see her."

"And risk that temper first hand? Let her calm down a day."

"And we can get our books in order, show her this was a good idea."

"When she sees the profit, she can't stay mad at us."

"And she said we wouldn't amount to anything."

"Who needed O.W.L.s, let alone N.E.W.T.s? Look at Percy."

The two shared a laugh

"Sales are through the roof," George whispered to Fred as he checked the cash box.

"Much higher than we'd anticipated," agreed Fred.

"I think it's because of the coming storm. Everyone wants to laugh, to not forget how to have fun."

"After all, laughter is the best medicine."

"Too true." George paused. "How long do you think it will last?"

"Dunno. But as long as it does, we'll be here to lift their spirits."

"Skiving Snackboxes, back to school special, buy one, get one half off!" they shouted in unison to the large crowd of students in Weasley's Wizarding Wheezes.

Fred flourished his wand, packing the last of the inventory and inspecting the now empty shop. "What now?"

"We need a place to hide," said George, knowing they were now targets. "But we aren't giving up."

"We never do. So where do we go?"

The twins shared a look for several seconds before inspiration struck. "Great-aunt Muriel's!" they shouted in unison.

"Won't she be surprised to see us," said George, lining the boxes up before the Floo.

"It'll do her some good to have some excitement," replied Fred jovially before opening the Floo connection.

"We'll be back better than ever."