

The Tale of Schrödinger

by Ladymage Samiko

Snape notices something odd about the gift in his Christmas stocking. For the grangersnape100 'What's in the Stocking?' challenge.

Schrödinger's Arrival

Chapter 1 of 5

Snape notices something odd about the gift in his Christmas stocking. For the grangersnape100 'What's in the Stocking?' challenge.

Schrödinger's Arrival

"Hermione?"

"Hmm?"

"Why is my stocking *moving*?"

"Oh, bother. I must have forgotten the glamour."

"But why is it moving?"

"Because your Christmas gift can move, of course. Did you think I would simply charm your stocking to wiggle about?"

"I wouldn't put it past you."

"True... Though I wouldn't put it past *you*, either. Pity I didn't think of that sooner."

"Devious acts aside, should I approach my present with caution?"

"I wouldn't throw it across the room if I were you."

"How very informative."

"You *could* just try looking in it."

"Hmph. Where is the fun in *that*?"

Schrödinger's Appearance

Chapter 2 of 5

Severus watches and waits to discover what exactly is occupying his stocking... (GS100 Stocking Challenge)

Schrödinger's Appearance

He really shouldn't be having this reaction.

He'd seen the most horrific horrors people had to offer--and some of the most ghastly ghoulies as well. Hell, he'd seen Voldemort on a bad skin day; that was enough to terrify anyone into insanity.

He really shouldn't be sitting here, staring at his Christmas stocking in horrified fascination as he wondered exactly what was emerging from it. Had Hermione found some arcane plant for his research? Or had she--Founders forbid--adopted something from Hagrid's menagerie? Or maybe another Muggle monstrosity?

The movement shimmied up the stocking's length. Ears. Then a face.

"Mew."

Damnation!

Schrödinger's Approval

Chapter 3 of 5

Severus is appalled by his Christmas present. (GS100's What's in the Stocking challenge)

Schrödinger's Approval

"Hermione!" His bellow reverberated throughout the dungeons.

"What?" She appeared at the door, eyes wide, mugs of steaming cider in her hands.

"What is *that*?" Severus pointed to the small, calico ball of fur currently clawing its way up his robes.

Hermione's expression became amused. "'That' is a kitten."

"That is not a kitten," he contradicted, speaking over the loud purring emanating from his lap. "That is a perambulating ragbag."

"That's not a very nice thing to say about your Christmas present," Hermione observed. "Particularly as he seems to like you."

He glanced down. "I haven't the faintest idea why."

Schrödinger's Advocate

Chapter 4 of 5

In which Hermione explains Severus' present.

Schrödinger's Advocate

Hermione reached to pick up the kitten, but was stopped by a flat stare and irritable grumble. (From the cat, not the Snape.) Grinning, she settled next to them, peaceably stroking his shoulder. (Severus', not the cat's.)

"Crookshanks fathered a litter with another part-Kneazle," she explained. "They're all insanely intelligent and chose their own humans. I've had the hardest time keeping him away from you for the past fortnight."

"I do not desire a familiar." Severus and the cat glared at each other.

"Too late; he's already picked you." Hermione grinned impishly. "And *your wife* certainly can't fault his taste."

Schrödinger's Antecedent

Chapter 5 of 5

Severus requires a final bit of convincing...

Schrödinger's Antecedent

With impeccable timing, Crookshanks casually sauntered through the door. He glanced at Snape; if he had been human, he would have raised an eyebrow.

Snape knew what that meant; years of living had required a sort of mutual truce. After all, he had heard stories of suitors who had tried to get rid of the near-legendary kneazle. They never ended well—nor had Hermione had to lift a finger in the matter. No doubt the beast's offspring would be just as stubborn, devious, and malicious.

"Fine," he sighed. "What's its name?"

The feline father and son shared superior cat-grins.