

What's A Little Imperio Between Adversaries?

by klschmidt

Severus acts out-of-character, but why? Based purely on a requested definition of "OOC" on Potter Place's Yahoo group, mentioning Severus with blond hair would be out-of-character (ya think?).

Standard disclaimer applies - characters belong to JKR and we're just playing with them for awhile.

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Chapter 1 of 4

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Dazed, Severus Snape left the salon, hearing a few shocked gasps from passers-by at Diagon Alley. Behind him, a snickering voice muttered "Finite Incantatum," followed by running footfalls. Severus turned to see the back of the runner's red head as he turned the corner.

Snarling at Ronald Weasley's exit, he walked back to the Leaky Cauldron. Passing Flourish & Blotts, he gazed at their window display when his shocked face saw his reflection in the window -- HIS face surrounded by Malfoy-pale hair.

"That young man will breathe his last breath today!" he muttered as he turned to seek his nemesis.

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Revenge is...

What does Snape do to Ron in retaliation for his blond locks?

Part 2: Revenge is....

Knowing his only hope of revenge would be something the red-headed twit wouldn't expect, Severus returned to the dungeons at Hogwarts. He would find his nemesis later, but now he needed to brew his retaliation. Everything he needed was in the laboratory cabinet -- daisy roots, skinned shrivelfig, sliced caterpillar, rat spleen, and leech juice.

Smirking as he entered Weasleys' Wizard Wheezes, he pointed his wand at the sole occupant behind the counter and muttered, "Stupefy!" He enjoyed the horrified expression on Ronald's face as he hit the floor.

Opening the younger man's mouth, he poured the vial's contents down his throat and watched as the Shrinking Potion took effect. "I suppose when you turn 11 again, you'll still be sorted into Gryffindor," he said as he left the shop.

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A/N: The ingredients for the Shrinking Potion are from the HP Lexicon.

## Hermione's Reaction

Hermione demands an explanation from Snape.

"Excuse me, Professor Flitwick," the Charms apprentice said to her master. "An urgent matter has come up that I must deal with."

"Do you need any assistance, Hermione?" Flitwick asked.

"Thank you, no. I believe I can handle this myself," she replied as she stormed out of his office. Slamming open the door of the Potions classroom, she said in an angry voice, "Just what is it you have done to my boyfriend?"

She stilled in shock upon seeing the results of Ron's Imperio Curse. The blond head of the Potions master turned toward her. "Merely gave him a second opportunity to mature," Severus replied.

## Interlude and Epilogue

The conclusion of the feud between Severus and Ron. Molly makes a decision, and so do Severus and Hermione. And who is that red-haired child boarding the Hogwarts Express?

Interlude

Molly and her family decided it was best for Baby Ron to be raised by Harry and Ginny, who had already started their family. Molly still loved children but now enjoyed them as grandchildren. She liked giving them back at the end of a visit.

Hermione became Charms professor when Flitwick retired. Severus' black hair grew back. Hermione and Severus developed a close relationship over the next year and married. Their twins, Rose and Hugo, were born the following year. The Snapes lived at Hogwarts during the school year and at Spinners End all other times.

Epilogue: Eleven Years Later...

Not wanting Rose and Hugo to miss the Hogwarts Express experience, Hermione and Severus watched their children board the train from Platform 9 ¾ at Kings Cross. They would meet them back at Hogwarts for the Sorting Ceremony. Also boarding the train were Harry and Ginny's children (both having already been sorted into Gryffindor) James Sirius and a very red headed Albus Severus.

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A/N: Huge thanks to Southern_Witch_69 for her help with this, and also to my friend BearsEverywhere (aka Pat) for reading it over.

And also thanks to JKR for creating her wonderful universe and letting us play therein.