

What's going on? Where are the others?

In a flash, Hagrid was gone, dashing through the deep, dense forest towards the alarming red sparks. Immediately Harry and Hermione felt alone. Isolated. Desolate.

"We must look for the injured unicorn Harry, if we don't find it in time, it could die." Hermione whispered anxiously.

They set off into the heart of the forest, walking hesitantly for nearly half an hour, deeper and deeper into the unknown. Enveloped by darkness; nothing but the moon glaring at them through the clearing. Shivers ran down their spines with each step they took. In the distance, they could see gigantic, deep bite marks and engrained claw marks as though a creature has been thrashing around. What is going on? Harry thought to himself. He knew something wasn't right. Tall towering trees whispered as they swayed and the wind whistled calmly. A rustling noise caught their attention. With each step they took, it got louder.

Louder. Louder. Harry let out a scream as a searing pain pierced through his head like an arrow. Out of shadows, a terrifying, hooded figure violently leapt on top of Harry pinning him to the ground.

"Help, help us," Hermione screamed at the top of her lungs as her body shook in terror...

Moments later, the sounds of hooves filled the area. Crash! Galloping, something charged at the figure knocking him off Harry.

With an almighty roar, the hooded silhouette disappeared into the black hole that was the Forbidden Forest. Everyone stood as still as a statue. Frozen to the spot. Frozen in disbelief at what had just happened. Out of the shadows, a white-blond haired centaur with a palomino body and astonishing eyes as blue as sapphires revealed itself. He carefully pulled Harry to his feet and introduced himself.

"I am Ronan, nice to meet you, you must be the Potter boy. Mars is bright tonight."

Seconds later, Hagrid was back with Neville and Malfoy, a confused look upon their faces. Immediately, Hermione explained what has happened. It took a while for Harry to calm down and digest what had just happened.

"Phew, what would I have done if you come and save me Ronan?" asked Harry puzzlingly.

"What was that terrifying creature?" Hermione asked as she still shook in fear.

"Whatever it was, it is evil. Killing such an innocent, beautiful animal and drinking its blood," answered Ronan in disgust, "unicorn blood gives eternal life but it is also a cursed life..."

Harry's forehead throbbed in pain as he rubbed his scar.

"It couldn't be....."

"No, of course not. He wouldn't be so naive as to come to Hogwarts with Dumbledore around." interrupted Hagrid angrily.

"Do you mean Vold..."

"Don't say his name!" shouted Hermione aggressively.

"But what if it is? Am I safe? Why would he come back?"

Why now?" Harry said in a terrified whisper.

Unblinkingly, they all stared at each other – terror stricken by the possibility.