

SIDE #10

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SCENE Welcome Back
pgs. 67
Sally Ernie
Hannah J. Finch
Susie
Megan

START

Scene: Welcome Back

Back in the Puff common room, the Puffs all gather, still a little bit shaken.

SALLY PERKS: Everyone. We're all still alive.

HANNAH: Now. Me and Ernie here are prefects this year. Our number one rule is: "no being too sad."

ERNIE MAC: Yeah.

(They unfurl a small "no being too sad" banner.)

HANNAH: How was everyone's summer?

SUSIE BONES: My aunt and I stared at the door waiting. Waiting for the Dark Lord to arrive. To kill my aunt. *To kill me.* Death waits. *IT STALKS ME!*

(She cries. A sad moment. Leanne cries too.)

LEANNE: *I went to a water park.*

J. FINCH: I'm just happy to be here with all of you. My friends. Feelings: PUFFS: J. FINCH APPROVED!

(The Puffs all hug in one big Puff hug. Wayne enters. Adult Butter Beverage in hand. It is not his first one today. He is quite disheveled, quite butterbuzzed, and quite angry.)

WAYNE HOPKINS: HEY! STOP HUGGING. "Welcome back, everybody." PUFFS: Hiiii!

WAYNE HOPKINS: Hi—shut up! Just thought I'd offer some words of wisdom to all the new Puffs joining us. GUESS WHAT? WE SUCK. We're the Puffs. We're just here to die. There's no Chosen Puff hiding among us. And if there was. THEY'D PROBABLY JUST DIE. So...enjoy your *short*, meaningless lives.

(Wayne storms off with angst. After a moment of everyone standing confused, unsure what to do with this angst, Wayne re-enters.)

WAYNE HOPKINS: Oh! Oh. Also, apparently we don't have to wear uniforms anymore. You can just wear regular clothes. So. Enjoy it while you can.

(He storms off. More angst. The Puffs remove their cloaks, astonished that they can, and exit. Oliver and Megan hang back.)

OLIVER RIVERS: Soooo...he just probably needs some time.

MEGAN JONES: Yeah. I mean how long can one person be an angsty asshole?

END Scene: Hopkins, Potter, & Emotions

Wayne storms on through one door. Harry the other. They are both angry. They are both filled with angst. They slam doors.