Barrister VS Dumbledore
by elvirakitties

Summary

What if Voldemort decided to try going to the legal route to remove Dumbledore? Harry has been missing since the day that Dumbledore left outside the Dursleys' house. What if Harry is almost thirty now?

Notes

See the end of the work for notes.
Chapter 1

Voldemort looked down at the latest reports from his supporters in the Auror Department. He had been thinking about some of the legal issues that Lucius mentioned and believed he had a way to clear his name as well as show just how crazy Dumbledore was. He picked up the list of references that Lucius had provided him. It was a daring plan and one he believed would work. He just needed to have everything arranged before he started the plan. Dumbledore needed to be removed but he didn't want to turn Dumbledore into a martyr.

Voldemort had given up relying on most of the Death Eaters, they were idiots. He only had a select few he could rely on and some were just crazy. He had been back for over ten years and was getting tired of fighting Dumbledore and the Order as well as dealing with the problems his less than stellar Death Eaters created when they did raids. It was time to get rid of Dumbledore and take control and it would enable him to get rid of some of the worthless Death Eaters at the same time.

Three weeks later:

Tom Marvolo Riddle strolled into the Ministry with his barrister next to him. He looked like an older version of his fifteen-year-old self with just a bit of grey at the temples. Lucius was walking behind him and was here as his solicitor to cover any questions that might be raised regarding any of Voldemort's contracts or other legal issues as well as a Lord of the magical realm. Lucius eased their way through the security checkpoints as Lucius had set up a time for them to meet with Madam Bones and Minister Fudge. They were meeting in one of the meeting rooms by Madam Bones' office. The barrister stopped them just as they left the security area. "I expect that Dumbledore is aware of this meeting. Do not act surprised if he appears or tries to bait you into revealing anything."

"I'm aware. He likes to be very involved in everything." It was one of the reasons why Voldemort believed that this plan would work. It was time to put Dumbledore's involvement in everything to his own advantage.

"I only informed Amelia that I needed to discuss an important legal issue that would resolve some opened cases and would be bringing two people with me." Lucius hoped Dumbledore wasn't present. He really wanted to see the information released during a court case or even a special session of the Wizenagamot.

"Excellent." They continued on their way to Madam Bones' office. Lucius saw Shacklebold and Mad-Eye eyeing them as they headed to Madam Bones' office. Dumbledore was going to be made aware of their visit. The door to Madam Bones' office was opened before they even reached the receptionist sitting at the desk outside of Madam Bones' office which was next to the Auror Department.

"Eric, it's good to see you. I wasn't aware you would be joining us. Lucius, your client?" Madam Bones was walking toward them. "I arranged for some tea in one of the conference rooms."

"Hello, Amelia, a pleasure to see you again." Eric was almost as tall as Voldemort with black wavy hair and bright green eyes. He was dressed in traditional black robes but cut in the latest fashion. He looked like he exercised but wasn't bulging with muscles.

"Thank you for agreeing to meet with me." Voldemort could see the questioning glances around the Auror department. The rumor mill was going to be interesting. He saw some of his supporters were attempting to learn what was going. He did see three of his smarter Death Eaters but they had
the sense to look like they were actually working.

"My pleasure." They did polite small talk they walked to the conference room. Fudge met them as they were almost at the conference room which caused more tongues to start wagging. They entered the conference room and tea was served. "I must admit I am a bit curious as to why you wanted to meet with us."

"I believe before my client answers that, I would like to request you hear everything before you jump to conclusions." Eric placed his briefcase on the table. "I am aware that you can't guarantee anything until you have heard everything. I'm not here to present facts but to make sure my client is protected."

"I have no objections to listening to everything before making any decisions. Cornelius?" Madam Bones was now very interested in what they would be discussing.

"I will hear you out." Fudge looked at Lucius who sitting across from him. He wondered how much he could make off of this deal.

"Thank you for agreeing to this. I expect what I am going to tell you will shock you." Voldemort kept his voice even and calm. His aim was to not panic them when he told them his name. "My name is Tom Marvolo Riddle." He watched their faces. Madam Bones' face reflected she knew the name while Fudge looked lost which wasn't any different than his normal everyday face. "I contacted Eric Perrot regarding the situation that I am hoping to resolve."

"I believe this is more than just a situation." Madam Bones wasn't expecting He-Who- Shall-Not-Be-Named to just enter her department or sit down with her. She always believed he would just raid the Ministry one day and take it over when most of the employees weren't around.

"I am aware but I am wondering exactly what am I wanted for?" Voldemort was aware he was guilty of a lot of crimes but he had always made sure there was never any evidence of his involvement as well as most of his Death Eaters. Yes, a few of his Death Eaters got caught over the decades but they never saw his true face or even knew his name. They were usually the lower level of the Death Eaters.

"I will want to review anything presented as evidence even if we have to push for a court date." Eric wasn't about to let the court of popular opinion or Dumbledore's forcing the issue put one of his clients into Azkaban. He had gone up against Dumbledore many times and Dumbledore had a very bad habit of believing if anyone wasn't a Gryffindor, they might be guilty except for Slytherins. In Dumbledore's mind, all Slytherins were guilty of whatever crime they were charged with when they were arrested.

Madam Bones leaned a bit back in her chair as she mentally reviewed the open cases that were linked to Voldemort's name. They ranged from using Dark Arts to murder. Everyone knew he killed the Potters and countless others. She had reviewed all of the memories of Voldemort when she took over as head of the department, reviewed each file, report, and followed up on everything she could. Her own brother and his wife were killed by Death Eaters.

"What crimes could you have done? I never heard of you before. You called me in here for some minor charges." Fudge looked ready to explode when he got tired of waiting for Madam Bones to speak.

"Cornelius, this is more important than you realize." Madam Bones wasn't sure what exactly she could do regarding this situation. Most of the evidence they had was hearsay and based on things that Dumbledore had submitted as evidence. Dumbledore had provided a lot of background
information but that was also hearsay with no real evidence. Dumbledore had been promoting Voldemort as an evil looking snake-like man but that didn't match the man in front of her. The Ministry had wards up that would have sounded if anyone entered the DMLE area under glamour spells that were beyond just the lower level cosmetic ones so she was looking at the real Tom Marvolo Riddle AKA Lord Voldemort. "We have multiple murder chargers, arson, muggle-baiting, practicing the Dark Arts, using the three Unforgivables, and countless acts of destruction of private and public property. I will need time to review each of the charges and validate the charges."

"What is going on? Why haven't I heard of anyone with that many charges against him?"

"You have heard of him." Voldemort pulled out his wand. "I will show you if you will allow me to use my wand." At Madam Bones' nod of acceptance, Voldemort turned around and aimed his wand at the wall. The words Tom Marvolo Riddle appeared, he waved his wand and the letters began to move around until I AM LORD VOLDEMORT. Fudge jumped up out of his seat, he started stammering and pointed at Voldemort. "I will admit that I was against Dumbledore and his cutting of classes, rituals, and other aspects of our world but I am not the person that Dumbledore claims I am."

"Cornelius, do sit down. We are not in any danger." Madam Bones watched the words disappear from view.

"Amelia, he ... he..."

"Isn't going to do anything." Lucius gave a pointed look and tilted his head to the empty chair. Fudge sat back down.

"How long do you need to review the evidence and make a decision regarding my client?" Eric was used to Fudge's lack of courage and his total ignorance of anything that didn't affect him directly or his vault balance. "I am hoping we can complete this sorted business in a timely fashion."

"I will need to see pull everything before I could give you a direct answer. Perhaps by the end of the week for an estimated time frame? Your client will be free to leave here with the understanding of turning himself into Ministry when he is charged."

"I plan on doing it." Voldemort had replaced his wand up his sleeve. "Do you wish some type of guarantee?"

"I would prefer it as I would also prefer to keep you in a holding cell until such a time we can get this straightened out but I believe that Eric has already handled that aspect by drawing up an agreement for you to return if I decide to proceed further." Madam Bones was very aware of how talented Eric Perrot was in regards to the law. She was also aware that he was expensive to hire. Eric Perrot was one of the best barristers in the magical realm and not just in the United Kingdom. Eric wouldn't have walked into the Ministry without having every aspect covered.

Eric opened his briefcase. He pulled out some small scrolls. "Here is the Discovery Motion for all the charges, files, and even any transcripts of the memories as well as a time to review all the memories that have been submitted and a motion to have any charges suppressed that the Statute of Limitations has expired in the case of bias. A motion to have a cease and desist order on the filing of charges in the future without having proper evidence regarding my client."

Madam Bones was a bit surprised for a change. Normally, she would have been prepared but this day was turning into a one full of surprises. She took the small scrolls. She had warned Dumbledore and Fudge regarding their assigning blame to Voldemort for every crime. "A written Promissory Appearance based on his own recognizance?"
"I will sign one." Voldemort planned on appearing.

"Amelia, you can't, you need to arrest him, now." Fudge looked at her with fear in his eyes.

"Cornelius, we can't arrest him until such a time we have a complete and accurate list of charges." Madam Bones faced Fudge, she leaned in and lowered her voice. "We could be sued for illegally arresting him and it would cost the Ministry a lot of money." She wanted to smack the man, he was too busy just thinking about his position and his own vault. "He will appear since he is already here, willingly." She wasn't looking forward to reviewing everything. Since she had been the head of the DMLE, she had seen a lot of reports referencing Voldemort. She was going to have to find someone to assist her but they couldn't be anyone that would run to Dumbledore with the news.

Voldemort wondered how Fudge remained in office. The man was an idiot. He was aware that Lucius bribed the man while Dumbledore also used other methods to control Fudge. "Let me go and retrieve the correct form and we can complete our business." Madam Bones didn't give Fudge time to object before she was up and heading out the door.

Fudge sputtered a few times before he stood up. "I don't believe I am needed for the signing."

"Sit down Cornelius, you are needed as a witness." Lucius hoped after this legal business was finished they would be able to remove Fudge from office. If this case did go to court, Dumbledore and Fudge would not come out with their reputations intact. Madam Bones returned and they finished the paperwork. Voldemort, Eric, and Lucius exited the Ministry fifteen minutes later.

Once they were outside of the Ministry they headed to the closest apparition spot. Once they were away from the muggle area, Eric smiled. "Do not go out in public as of yet. The Aurors might still attempt to arrest you since they are now aware of what you actually look like. Also, I expect to hear from Dumbledore and I will alert you when I do."

"It went faster than I expected and certainly better." Lucius had been afraid Fudge would have demanded an arrest and they would have had to deal with it.

"I had the correct motions ready in case they did." Eric reassured them.

"I won't. I will also alert you if I see any Order members in the area of any of my homes." Voldemort hoped Dumbledore did something stupid.

"If they do, call the Aurors and have them arrested, keep detailed records, even if they don't officially trespass."

"I already set up a recording system for trespassers as well as obtaining some muggle recording devices for outside of the wards." Voldemort was aware of the Order looking around his home for him. He would love to file charges against some of the Order members.

"Excellent. I better get back to my office. I have another client coming in this afternoon."

"Thank you, Eric." Voldemort was very thankful. Many barristers wouldn't have taken this case because of Dumbledore's name.

"Pleasure, I'm going to enjoy doing this." Eric's parents were dark supporters but not Death Eaters. Many members of his extended family were supporters with a few who were Death Eaters.

Voldemort and Lucius understood why Eric was going to enjoy doing this. "Lucius, tea this afternoon?"
"Certainly, my Lord." Voldemort apparated away after saying goodbye. "Tomorrow night is the monthly family dinner, don't forget or I will have Narcissa find you."

"I won't. I don't want to have Aunt Cissy after me or Draco." They bid each other goodbye and apparated away.
Chapter 2

Eric had spent almost three weeks reviewing the information that Madam Bones had sent over to his office. It was boxes and boxes of scrolls, Auror reports, and copies of the Wizenagamot sessions regarding Voldemort. Most of the earlier charges had been dismissed due to the statute of limitations. Madam Bones had taken almost two weeks to review all the charges which allowed him to start investigating Dumbledore and his past. It was providing a lot of interesting material that would damage Dumbledore's image, especially his association with Grindelwald.

Eric had already prepared the briefs to get some of the other charges dismissed since they were based on very loose connections of Death Eaters, Slytherins, and Voldemort. His clerks were earning a lot of overtime and experience from this case. Some of the cases didn't have any evidence regarding Voldemort or even participation in the crimes. He would be filing for the dismissals on Monday. He had been a bit surprised to see Bones' family filing missing. Edgar Bones was a member of the Order of Phoenix and Death Eaters had been responsible for killing him and his family. The ones who led the raid had been caught and placed in Azkaban shortly after deaths.

Eric placed three folders on the table in front of him. "These are the only three cases where you might be able to be charged." Eric picked the first one up. "Murder doesn't have a statute of limitations. Dumbledore has accused you of murdering your relatives, magical and muggle." Eric flipped through the file. "There isn't a single piece of evidence regarding these charges beyond your family connection." Eric handed the list of evidence to Lucius. "Even the Death Eaters who have been convicted of crimes were done so after the fact and without any type of evidence beyond someone describing the same color robe they had been wearing when caught."

"He shouldn't be able to be charged for the crimes with no evidence." Lucius wasn't surprised by the fact some were convicted based on what they were wearing. "I will see about finding someone to take on their cases." Lucius read down the list of evidence. "How do memories from third parties as well as Dumbledore allow for the charges to exist when they didn't witness the murders?" Lucius handed the list to Voldemort. "None of this should be able to be used as evidence."

"If Dumbledore is going to use memories from others, he certainly has had enough time to gather memories regarding my life from others." Voldemort reviewed the list. "He even has some of the clients' memories from when I worked at Borgin and Burkes. Does he plan on using them as a way of showing I worked there?"

"The memories are key to the witch's murder, Hepzibah Smith, that her house-elf was charged with committing. Amelia already dismissed the charge for the witch's murder because of the conviction of the house-elf but Dumbledore added theft in the charges regarding her and a footnote of charging you with the murder at a later date. Theft of some of the possessions that originally belonged to two of the founders of Hogwarts and how they would be located in your possession which would be the evidence for the killing too."

Voldemort was very aware of which items Eric was referencing and arched a brow. The items were safely hidden and protected. He was even looking at one that was very well protected. "It's been how many decades since that theft, how would that show me committing the crime?"

"It wouldn't. The theft chargers surpassed the statute of limitations but he is going to attempt to get them admitted as hint strongly at your involvement. The memories are a huge problem in crafting such a lengthy list of crimes as most of the charges rely on memories regarding your life but not a single memory shows a crime being committed. At least in the memories I have had access to. I am
going to get a lot of them dismissed outright. "Eric picked up two pieces of parchment. "The list of original charges." He handed the list to Lucius. Eric wondered why Voldemort wasn't blamed for lack of jobs and everything else wrong with the magical world since Dumbledore seemed to blame him for everything else.

"The second folder?" Lucius wasn't surprised when he noticed a number of the charges had already been crossed off with the reference number to the dismissal notice and its acceptance. He was very aware of how effective and efficient Eric was. He grabbed a quill and started to make notes on some of the dates and places he recognized, things that might help their case.

"I'm not even sure how Dumbledore was able to get it processed or even accepted but it was done during the war. He had listed all of the attacks on everyone including Order members listed as attempted murder, each battle, each duel, each raid even the ones where the Aurors raided the homes and the residents fought back. All of them are listed as terrorist acts, attempted murder, attempted kidnapping, attempting to incite a riot for a few in Diagon Alley, illegal dueling, and even attempting to destroy the magical world, muggle baiting was tossed into a few of the attacks as well." Eric opened the second folder. It was four times thicker than the other two folders. "I put the events in chronological order. I had one of my assistance pull all the Prophet evening and morning edition. If you review the list, it shows a very interesting pattern regarding the charges and some were the chargers were given." Eric opened a spreadsheet. "The dates match up with about sixty percent of the charges listed. However, the missing forty percent are ones where the Order raided Death Eater's homes as being the ones without any charges, however, there are bills submitted for those forty percent for ward breakers from Gringotts as well as several members of the DoM being assigned special assignments. When I had the records pulled for those dates, there were no search warrants or any type of warrant being issued to justify the expenses or the raids. There were Auror reports for the dates since some were arrested or even killed. All of the reports have the same names on them."

"Order of Phoenix members." Voldemort could see Lucius adding details to the list Eric had given Lucius. "He got all of those he considers dark charged for doing the same thing his Order was doing. His Order raided and caused the death of Ellis Norton and his family when they raided it believing they were using dark magic."

"Yes, and I am going to use it against them." Eric smiled. "Mad-Eye, Black, Longbottom, and Potter were the ones who did most of the paperwork. I had one of my assistants pull the files on the Aurors and those who were or are in the Order of Phoenix. I already filed the paperwork for them to be charged for the same crimes."

"He is going to have to work on a counterplan of action. We better warn Severus." Voldemort hadn't spoken to Severus about this plan but now he was going to have to include him in some of the plans. He wasn't sure if he fully trusted Severus but Severus was the best one to gather information regarding Dumbledore. Since he had returned, he hadn't been following the same policies as before and he was very aware of how confusing it was for Dumbledore.

"Dumbledore will attempt to get the memories used as evidence even though they do not provide any evidence. He will be able to say they reflect your bad character but that isn't a crime to be convicted of." Lucius was very aware of how Dumbledore liked to insinuate things but never actually say anything. Dumbledore would show the memories and let others come to their conclusions as Dumbledore walked a fine line between accusation and slander without actually saying the person was guilty of something or anything.

"I have a counter for it. I am going to be using the muggle history and muggle accounts of World War II and move forward combined with his lack of concern about returning abused and neglected
back to their abusive or neglectful homes. We have a rather large list with Harry Potter heading the top of the list. Many are very aware of the lack of concern and lack of following up on the placement of Harry Potter and I am going to use it." Eric had already subpoenaed for Hogwarts, Child Protective Services, and Auror reports regarding abuse, child neglect, and children's deaths.

"The biggest hurdle will be the Potters' death." Voldemort wasn't worried about the rest of the charges. There was no evidence linking him to anything. The Potters' deaths were a bit different. While no evidence could be linked to him, many firmly believed he was responsible. It didn't matter that it was war. It didn't matter that as an Auror and Order of Phoenix member the Potters attended raids on his supporters' homes. History was always written by the victors.

"Yes, the last charge is regarding the murder of Potters. However, there is no evidence. All of it is pure hearsay and also linked to some of the other attacks during the same period. If he can get you convicted for the Potters, which he won't, he would be able to change the laws, how people can be charged, and link similar crimes to a person without any evidence." Dumbledore was playing a very dangerous game with the laws of their land. He was very aware that Dumbledore wouldn't look at the big picture overall. Dumbledore just wanted to be rid of Voldemort and have the magical world believe him to be the next Merlin. Dumbledore had been attempting for years to remove the stain of Harry Potter's disappearance and many believed death at the hands of his muggle relatives.

"No evidence, no charge." Lucius surmised. "Despite how much Dumbledore would love to have the charges remain, all of them should be dismissed."

"I had an idea regarding it. Simply getting the charges dismissed would be easy but Dumbledore would still promote the attacks and who did it. Yes, we could file a slander suit against him but he has never outright stated anything slanderous. I believe I have a better solution. One that will end the problem while at the same time sway many away from him if we present this in the forum I am thinking of."

"The court of public opinion with facts based on reports and witness statements?" Voldemort was aware that he could provide every bit of evidence but no one would believe him because of Dumbledore but someone like Eric Perrot was a different story.

"Partial. You would also be doing some interviews with neutral reporters for all the different magical newspapers. I also have engaged several different wizards and witches to write up editorials that would be released with each of Dumbledore's comments regarding the past, the crimes, and anything else. We will also release the history of muggle war when you do your interview regarding the muggle world and what it was like during the 1930s and 1940s. There are plenty of personal historically muggle accounts of what our country was like and it would make Dumbledore look worse from returning children to the muggle world."

Voldemort hadn't been happy when he first engaged Eric and he had suggested releasing his past but as Eric explained his plan, he had agreed. Eric had explained that Voldemort couldn't keep hiding behind a pure-blood mask since Dumbledore would use it against them and they needed to be ahead of the situation and give Dumbledore no ammunition to throw into the court of public opinion. It had been a hard decision to make but it was the correct one and it was his idea of go this route and he did hire the best. It didn't make sense to hire the best if he was going to ignore their advice. "I have been working on writing out my past. It would be helpful if we could have access to all the memories he has of me, the Death Eaters, and the perhaps even the people."

"I have already submitted the subpoena for those memories, the dates they were taken, who was present, and if the person is alive, a current location. We do need to speak to Sirius Black about
what happened that night. I am aware that Pettigrew is dead."

"I can see if I can arrange it." Lucius was still making notes on the lists that Eric had provided.

"I can assure you he didn't kill Pettigrew or the muggles. I am not sure what happened with Black but he is innocent." Voldemort had been a bit surprised at how easily Dumbledore would believe at a member of his Order would be a Death Eater and willingly kill his partner in the Auror department as well as his wife.

Eric pulled out his biro. "Interesting. When did Pettigrew die?" Eric made a note to pull the Black transcript.

Voldemort and Lucius exchanged a look. "It's been a few years. Nagini ate him." Voldemort admitted. At the look of horror on Eric's face, Voldemort smiled a bit. "Pettigrew was a rat animagus. He annoyed her once too many times and she finally caught him off-guard." Voldemort had saved Pettigrew from her a few too many times to count. Nagini ate him one night while he was working on a spell and didn't notice that she slithered into the Manor.

"Are you going to attempt to get Black released?" Lucius was very aware of how much Sirius Black went against his own family and supported Dumbledore.

"I was thinking of it. If I can, it would certainly make a lot of people wonder how the Headmaster of Hogwarts and Chief Warlock at the time would sentence an innocent man to Azkaban, especially one who was a Gryffindor."

Voldemort started to laugh. It would certainly make an impression on Dumbledore and his Order if they realized how innocent Black was.

End Notes

Perrot family is related to the LeStrange family. This will also be a short story.

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