THE WORST WITCH

EPISODE TEN: "MIdred and the Msts of Time"

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Based on the books by Jill Murphy

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PANICKED BREATHING echoes down a cavernous corridor, then-

FADE IN:

INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CORRIDOR OUTSIDE MISS CACKLE'S OFFICE -DAY ONE (08.00) (M SS CACKLE N/S)

M SS CACKLE hurtles past a long line of school pictures from the distant past to the present. As she peers through each passing window, her eyes become increasingly fearful, and at the end of the corridor, she flings open the door, and-

EXT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS (M SS CACKLE N/S)

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Outside, only one thing can be seen - a thick mist has descended, rendering not only the far side of the courtyard invisible, but also everything in between. She lifts her hand slowly, holding it in front of her face, before inching it away, and... it's as if it disappears, her arm fading out in front of her. And her face fills with foreboding...

CUT TO:

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As MLDRED Hubble carries her tray across the dining room alongside MAUD Spellbody, DRUSILLA Paddock shoves her chair back into their path, oblivious to their presence and knocking MLDRED off balance. Desperately trying to keep hold of the tray, MLDRED staggers between table after table as everyone looks on, braced for disaster, but... when she finally comes to a standstill, it's still in hand, calamity narrowly averted for once. And she turns to MAUD with relief-

MLDRED

(of the tray) Thought I was going to drop this then, didn't you?

However, as she grins, she turns and... CLATTERS straight into another girl instead, their gruel SPLATTERING them both, and their trays CRASHING to the floor. And when she looks up, she sees... a porridge-covered ETHEL Hallow blinking back.

> M LDRED (CONT'D) (cheerfully) Mor-ning!

But ETHEL practically shakes with rage. Before she can turn her anger into words though, the passing ESMERELDA intervenes-

ESMERELDA

Not to worry...

She CLAPS her hands together, and... the trays leap back into place, with the bowls on top, and porridge inside once more.

M LDRED Wow, thanks Esmerelda!

As ESMERELDA smiles and continues on her way, ETHEL scowls all the more, whilst MLDRED and MAUD sit on the first year table alongside ENID and the others, and the mortified MLDRED puts her head in her hands-

> M LDRED (CONT'D) (through her teeth) I'm such an idiot.

ENI D

No, you're not...

But ETHEL mimes over the table to her - 'yes - you are'. And M LDRED looks across the room at ESMERELDA-

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M LDRED

I magi ne bei ng her. Not al ways messi ng stuff up. Or doi ng stupi d thi ngs. Just... bei ng basi cally the best witch in the Academy.

MAUD

My Grandma Mona al ways says, 'we are what we are - and that's never going to change...'

ETHEL Well that's marvellous news for some of us. (sneers, of MLDRED) But it must be terribly depressing for others...

And MLDRED frowns ruefully, until... M SS CACKLE suddenly materialises in the middle of the room, and-

M SS CACKLE Every year group is to go to their next class immediately

And, as she CLICKS her fingers, doors are heard LOCKING and windows SWINGING SHUT, and MLDRED, MAUD and the rest of the girls turn to each other in alarm, then-

CUT TO:

INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, HALLWAY - DAY ONE (08.21) 4 (BELLA N'S, CHARLOTTE N'S, DRUSI LLA, ENI D, ETHEL, FELI CI TY N'S, LUCI NDA N'S, MAUD, M LDRED, M SS BAT, M SS CACKLE, M SS DRI LL, M SS DRI LL N'S, M SS HARDBROOM, MR ROWAN-WEBB)

As everyone heads out, M SS HARDBROOM, M SS DRI LL, M SS BAT and MR ROWAN-WEBB gather round M SS CACKLE-

M SS HARDBROOM What is it, M ss Cackle?

M SS CACKLE They're back...

MR ROWAN-WEBB

What are?

M SS CACKLE (gravely)

Whilst all the teachers instantly look as shaken as her though, ETHEL just heads for one of the doors, and the unimpressed M LDRED whispers to MAUD and ENID-

M LDRED Ooh, a mist! We're done for! Careful everyone...

ETHEL I'll be two minutes, Miss Cackle. Nightstar's still out there. I'd better go and get him..

But that door is now locked too.

M SS CACKLE Too late, Ethel. exits have been sealed. (to M SS HARDBROOM) M ss Hardbroom, if you could come with me. (to M SS DRILL) M ss Drill, if you could look after the first years...

M SS DRILL Certainly M ss Cackle.

M SS BAT Come on, quick sharp!

ETHEL But what if Nightstar can't find his way back?

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ENI D You coul dn't get out even if you wanted to...

But whilst the other girls follow the teachers, MLDRED just stares at ETHEL, feeling her angst acutely, before-

M LDRED

know a way...

And, as MLDRED turns, ETHEL hesitates, then... follows.

MAUD

ENI D

(in unison) M l dr ed?

(in unison) M l dr ed?

DRUSI LLA

M LDRED We'll be back before anyone even notices we've gone!

As MAUD, ENID and DRUSILLA look horrified, MILDRED and ETHEL start to run, then-

INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, BASEMENT CORRIDOR - DAY ONE (08.25) 5 (ETHEL, M LDRED N S)

They creep past a high window, before MLDRED crouches at a ventilation grate, and starts to lever it from the wall.

ETHEL (gasps) No wonder mother told me not to hang around with girls like you!

But M LDRED tugs at it regardless, and-

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CUT TO:

EXT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, GRATE - DAY ONE (08.31) (ETHEL N/S, M LDRED N/S)

6

They clamber out the other side. And hearing a HISS in the distance, M LDRED takes the hand of the startled ETHEL, then steps forward, and... they disappear entirely.

CUT TO.

6

<u>INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CLASSROOM - DAY ONE (08.32)</u> (BELLA N/S, CHARLOTTE N/S, DRUSILLA N/S, ENID, FELICITY, GIRLS N/S, LUCINDA N/S, MAUD, M/SS DRILL)

MSS DRILL takes the register without looking up-

M SS DRILL Felicity Foxglove?

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FELICITY Here, Miss Drill.

M SS DRILL Et hel Hallow?

DRUSI LLA glances at MAUD and ENID desperately.

M SS DRILL (CONT'D)

MAUD

8

INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CORRIDOR OUTSIDE MISS CACKLE'S OFFICE -DAY ONE (08.38) (M SS CACKLE, M SS DRILL, M SS HARDBROOM)

M SS CACKLE looks at M SS HARDBROOM and M SS DRILL frantically-

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M SS CACKLE

We can't leave them out there, it's far too dangerous...

M SS DRILL If you follow them, it could make worse.

M SS CACKLE I remember what happened when the M sts I ast descended. It changed bet ween Agat ha and I it can't get much worse...

M SS HARDBROOM

Wait. Please. As long as MIdred and Ethel come back into the building at exactly the same place they left it, there really is nothing to worry about...

M SS CACKLE nods reluctantly, then turns to the pictures on the wall, and focuses on one from a long time ago - and two young witches within it, each identical to the other, then-

10 <u>EXT. / INT. CACKLE' S ACADEMY, GRATE - DAY ONE (08.40)</u> 10 (DI NNER WITCHES N/S, ETHEL, M LDRED)

M LDRED clambers onto ETHEL's shoulders to look through the high window - her hand squishing the unimpressed ETHEL's face. DINNER WITCHES are now walking back and to, carrying the remains of the breakfasts. And M LDRED's face falls-

> M LDRED Ch no - Dinner witches...

ETHEL If we're not in class soon, Miss Drill's bound to notice...

M LDRED

It's OK - if we can't go back in through the grate, we'll just have to find another way...

And MLDRED turns to an old fire escape, snaking up the side of the building, then-

CUT TO:

11 INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CORRIDOR OUTSIDE MRS CACKLE'S 11

YOUNG AGATHA (whispers) It's Cackle, you pondbat...

M LDRED No, it... ('isn't')

But, as she turns to the door, she sees that it really does say 'Mrs Alma Cackle, Headmistress'.

M LDRED (CONT'D) Mrs Alma?! What happened to M ss Ada?!

But before anyone can respond, FOOTSTEPS are heard approaching, and YOUNG ADA and YOUNG AGATHA yank MONA into the study, whilst MLDRED pulls ETHEL behind the old chest of drawers. And, as a MRS CACKLE appears who looks nothing like her surnamesake, she scans the corridor, before pausing within a few inches of MLDRED and ETHEL, then stepping away and opening the door to her room instead, and seeing... YOUNG ADA, YOUNG AGATHA and MONA "hiding" beneath her desk.

> MRS CACKLE (roars) Ada! Agatha! Spell-bodyyyyy!

And she enters, then slams the door behind her.

ETHEL (of the Twins) was Mss Cackle and Agatha?!

M LDRED (of MONA)

They look around them The pictures still go all the way back

12 <u>INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, MRS CACKLE'S OFFICE - DAY ONE</u> 12 (09.05)

YOUNG AGATHA Er, yes it does. And she's going to let run it with her...

MRS CACKLE Not if you carry on like this. If any of you three set foot in here again, you'll be excluded. Permanently. (to the Twins) And the Academy will be yours...

And none of the girls are smiling now...

M LDRED At least you've got Nightstar...

ETHEL looks at her - huh?

M LDRED (CONT'D) He must be back here too.

ETHEL

Great. So now he's more lost than ever!

M LDRED

We haven't got time to search the whole school for him on our own. We're going to need help...

ETHEL Even if we find him, we still won't know how to get home...

And MLDRED thinks for a moment, then... realises that she's sitting at the same desk Maud is in the present, and her eyes light up-

M LDRED

No - but I know someone who will...

She lifts up its lid, grabs a compass, and starts to carve something into the wood determinedly-

ETHEL (appalled) MIdred! This is no time for vandalism!

M LDRED Actually Ethel, it's the perfect time...

M LDRED (to MONA) We need your help...

MONA

Me?

M LDRED

Wouldn't matter what time I was in, I'd always trust a Spellbody...

MONA, YOUNG ADA and YOUNG AGATHA look at her - huh?

ETHEL

We know you're not meant to leave this room, but... l've lost my cat. And if we don't find him before the Mists lift, you're going to be seeing a more of us...

As MONA glances at the Twins, the camera FLASHES, then-

MONA

(to MLDRED and ETHEL) We'll help. But only if you help us too...

And, as the rest of the class looks on, MLDRED, ETHEL, MONA and the Twins sneak out again, whilst MRS DRILL takes another photograph chirpily, and the camera FLASHES once more, then-

15 <u>INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CLASSROOM - DAY ONE (09.40)</u> (BELLA N/S, CHARLOTTE N/S, DRUSILLA, ENID, FELICITY N/S, GIRLS N/S, LUCI NDA N/S, MAUD, M/SS DRILL) 15

MSS DRILL stares at the Msts with dread-

MAUD

Please tell us what's going on, Mss Drill. Are Mldred and Ethel in some sort of danger?

M SS DRILL

(bluffs) No, no. They'll be back any minute. Now please girls, get on with your work...

But, as MAUD opens her desk, her face suddenly drops-

MAUD Notheywon't -

Faded carving can be seen on the underside of her desktop-

ENID (reading) 'Help! We're stuck in the past. Send Miss Cackle! Mildred'

And, as everyone looks on aghast, DRUSILLA opens her desk and notices something scratched there too-

DRUSI LLA

(reading) 'PS. Tell Maud Spellbody her Grandma has a silly haircut. Ethel'.

MAUD, however, just turns to MISS DRILL, who charges straight out into the corridor, then-

16 <u>INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, MRS CACKLE'S OFFICE - DAY ONE</u> 16 (09.50) (ETHEL, M LDRED, MONA, MRS CACKLE N/S, YOUNG ADA, YOUNG AGATHA)

As MONA and the Twins look on from the corridor, M LDRED and ETHEL enter the study-

M LDRED Won't we get in trouble for this?

YOUNG AGATHA No more trouble than we'll get into for looking for your cat...

ETHEL

Come on, MIdred.

And, as ETHEL begins the search, MILDRED joins in too. Opening a wardrobe, she sees two boxes-

> M LDRED Your mum s kept all the trophies and certificates you've won.

But, as M LDRED slips the scroll into her pocket, YOUNG AGATHA steps in and snatches the book from ETHEL-

YOUNG AGATHA

I don't think so...

ETHEL

You promised.

YOUNG AGATHA

You don't know me very well, do you?

YOUNG AGATHA runs out, then YOUNG ADA follows. However, when MONA goes to do the same-

M LDRED Mona, wait. have to help us.

MONA

Why?

ETHEL

Don't tell her, Mildred. We can't tinker with Time, remember?

But, as MONA steps into the study, $M\ \text{LDRED}\ turns$ to her anyway-

M LDRED

Because... I'm best friends with your granddaughter!

However, as MONA stares at M LDRED in amazement, MRS CACKLE appears behind her and looks like she's about to explode...

17 <u>INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CORRIDOR OUTSIDE MISS CACKLE'S OFFIOE</u> <u>DAY ONE (09.51)</u> (M SS CACKLE, M SS DRILL N/S, M SS HARDBROOM)

M SS CACKLE stares at M SS DRILL and M SS HARDBROOM again, but M SS HARDBROOM just shakes her head dismissively-

M SS HARDBROOM Desk graffiti is hardly evidence. Anyone could have done it. The fact is, we still have no idea whether MIdred and Ethel are actually in the Past or not...

But, as M SS DRILL nods, M SS CACKLE's face suddenly changes-

M SS CACKLE

Oh yes, we do!

And M SS DRILL and M SS HARDBROOM turn and see that... there are now two new witches alongside the Young Ada and the Young Agatha on the old class photograph - MIdred and Ethel! And we close in on this picture of the past, then-

 $\frac{18}{(09.55)}$ (ETHEL N'S, M LDRED, MONA N'S, MRS CACKLE) $\frac{18}{(09.55)}$

M LDRED and ETHEL blink as MRS CACKLE eyeballs MONA-

MRS CACKLE I warned you Ms Spellbody. Gather your things immediately. (turns to the guilty M LDRED & ETHEL) And as for you... (baffled)

But MLDRED isn't even listening, she's focused on the window-

M LDRED Ethel - the M sts!

And, as ETHEL looks at them too, she sees that... they're starting to clear. And she and M LDRED glance at each other, then... turn and run, before-

19 <u>INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, ALCOVE - DAY ONE (09.56)</u> 19 (ETHEL, M LDRED, MONA N/S, MRS CACKLE N/S)

Ducking into an alcove. MRS CACKLE appears at the end of the corridor with a shamed MONA, glances along it, then heads off. And M LDRED's face falls-

M LDRED

That wasn't meant to happen...

ETHEL No, it wasn't. And if Mona really is expelled, it'll change her whole life...

M LDRED

(picking up on this) And if her life changes... so will Maud's!

ethel

(nods) It could turn her into someone else entirely...

And, as MLDRED's jaw drops, there's an almost imperceptible RUMBLE like the cards of time being reshuffled, then-

20 <u>INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CLASSROOM - DAY ONE (09.57)</u> 20 (BELLA N'S, CHARLOTTE N'S, DRUSI LLA N'S, ENI D N'S, FELI CI TY N'S, GI RLS N'S, LUCI NDA N'S, MAUD, M'SS DRI LL)

> MAUD suddenly leans back in her chair, bends her ruler and pings a rubber off the side of LUCINDA's head. This is no longer the Maud we're used to... this is MAUD the Rebel!

MAUD

(to ENID)
What're you looking at,
Frightshade?
 (clenches fist
 threateningly)
If you want a Spellbashing from The
Spellbody, you're going the right
way about it...

DRUSILLA giggles sycophantically - forget Ethel, she's MAUD's minion now - and the rattled ENID turns to MISS DRILL for support. However, she just shrugs-

M SS DRILL What d'you expect from a family like that? I gave up on them years ago...

Suddenly, this is a quite different present...

21 <u>INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CORRIDOR - DAY ONE (10.08)</u> (ETHEL, M LDRED, M SS CACKLE)

As MLDRED looks out at the Msts, her panic increasing, ETHEL checks every alcove, and calls-

ETHEL

Nightstar? (beat) I don't understand it. He always comes when I call...

M LDRED

I've really done it this time. I only wanted to help... but now I've got Grandma Mona expelled, messed up the present, and we're about to be trapped in the past for ever!

M SS CACKLE (O.S.) On dear MIdred. That doesn't seem like the best day's work...

And when they turn, they see-

M LDRED (ecstatic) M ss Cackle!

ETHEL

You came!

M LDRED

Do you know how we get out of here?!

M SS CACKLE

'If your hand be not visible in front of your face, step back into a forgotten place. To return, retrace your steps, and walk from the last mist into the next...'

M LDRED

So we need to go back outside, then come in through the grate, rather than up the fire escape?

M SS CACKLE

Yes MIdred, you do. But now I've moved in Time, I can't move us in Space, so... you really need to get a move on! ETHEL We can't go yet, we still haven't found Nightstar.

M SS CACKLE I'm sorry Ethel, but I need to get you two through that grate before the M sts disappear completely...

ETHEL's head drops.

M LDRED What about you?

M SS CACKLE Sounds like I'm going to have to persuade my mother to change her mind about Mona, before we're Iumbered with a different Maud, and... well, a different everybody!

M SS CACKLE takes out a key and starts to unlock a door.

M SS CACKLE (CONT'D) Is there anything else? Anything at all you've disrupted or disturbed?

ETHEL shakes her head. M LDRED puts her hand on her pocket and thinks for a moment, then... shakes her head too.

 $\begin{array}{c} M \; SS \;\; CACKLE \; (\; CONT' \; D) \\ Good. \;\; Now \; come \;\; on! \end{array}$

And M SS CACKLE yanks open the door, then-

22 <u>INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, POTIONS LAB - DAY ONE (10.09)</u> 22 (ETHEL N/S, M LDRED, M SS CACKLE, YOUNG ADA, YOUNG AGATHA)

As YOUNG AGATHA raids the cabinets, YOUNG ADA checks the door-

YOUNG ADA What's happened to Mona?

YOUNG AGATHA

Who cares?

YOUNG AGATHA grabs a handful of one of the ingredients-

YOUNG ADA Hey, we only need two of those...

YOUNG AGATHA I'm tripling every ingredient... in fact, I'm times-ing them by ten!

YOUNG ADA

Why?

YOUNG AGATHA We're not just going to take of Mother's power, we're going to take all of it!

YOUNG ADA (horrified) We can't do that...

YOUNG AGATHA

The Academy's going to be ours eventually... we're just speeding up the process!

YOUNG ADA We're not old enough to be the Headteachers yet!

YOUNG AGATHA Imagine it - a school without rules, where the pupils are in charge, not the staff...

YOUNG ADA

No, Agatha. I can't do that to Mother.

YOUNG AGATHA Well forget who's the eldest then -I'll run this place on my own! And YOUNG ADA looks thunderstruck, then-

23 <u>EXT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, GRATE - DAY ONE (10.25)</u> (ETHEL N'S, M LDRED, M SS CACKLE)

As the hole in the wall appears through the Mists, ETHEL starts to clamber back through, but... MILDRED doesn't move.

M SS CACKLE

M I dr ed?

And she waits till Ethel's completely disappeared, then-

M LDRED I didn't want to say anything in front of Ethel, but... there is one more thing. Something I've taken. From your mother's study...

M SS CACKLE

M LDRED Yes. But I did it for you.

M LDRED takes the scroll from her pocket-

M LDRED (CONT'D) It's your Birth Scroll. And there's something you need to know.

24 <u>INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, BASEMENT CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS</u> 24 (ETHEL N/S, M/SS HARDBROOM N/S)

As ETHEL dusts herself down, a fearsome SHADOW approaches on the wall, and she gulps, but... it belongs to M SS HARDBROOM And ETHEL realises that she really is back in the present-

ETHEL

It worked!

But, as ETHEL beams-

25 <u>EXT. MRS CACKLE' S ACADEMY, GRATE - CONTINUOUS</u> (M LDRED, M SS CACKLE)

M LDRED unfurls the scroll outside-

M LDRED

You' r e

26 <u>INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, BASEMENT CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS</u> 26 (ETHEL N'S, M LDRED N'S, M SS HARDBROOM) 26

M SS HARDBROOM floats up impatiently, looks through the window, and sees M LDRED disappearing back into the M sts too-

M SS HARDBROOM

FADE TO.

27 <u>INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CLASSROOM - DAY ONE (10.29)</u> 27 (M LDRED, MONA N/S)

Standing in front of Maud's desktop again, M LDRED is desperately scratching something else into the underside as MONA passes the door forlornly with a suitcase and broomstick-

M LDRED

Mona!

MONA stops, and looks in. And MLDRED closes the lid-

M LDRED (CONT'D) You're not going home... you're coming with me!

And M LDRED races through the door, then grabs MONA's hand and pulls her after her, and-

28 <u>INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, POTIONS LAB - DAY ONE (10.30)</u> 28 (M LDRED, M SS CACKLE, MONA, YOUNG ADA, YOUNG AGATHA)

As YOUNG ADA watches uneasily, YOUNG AGATHA places the final ingredients in her bag, then turns to leave, but... MISS CACKLE is now blocking her way.

YOUNG AGATHA

Who are you?

As MISS CACKLE glances at YOUNG ADA, MILDRED and MONA run in together, MONA still clutching her broomstick and case-

M LDRED

Don't tell her!

M SS CACKLE

M LDRED We can't mess anything else up...

M SS CACKLE I'm not. I'm fixing things. (to YOUNG AGATHA) I'll tell you who I am.. (to YOUNG ADA) I'm

And, as YOUNG ADA stares at her - huh?! - M LDRED's head sinks. M SS CACKLE, meanwhile, turns to YOUNG AGATHA-

M SS CACKLE (CONT'D) You can't handle Mother's powers, you're not ready. The potion will just explode, and you'll be sent to Wormwood's AADA) M SS CACKLE (CONT'D) It doesn't have to be that way though. Put the bag down Agatha. Let's rewrite History...

But before YOUNG AGATHA can respond, YOUNG ADA grabs the bag from her, then snatches MONA's broomstick too-

YOUNG ADA

(to M SS CACKLE) I don't want to be Head Girl. And I definitely don't want to be you! (to YOUNG AGATHA) If you're not going to take Mother's power, I aml

And, as she charges out, M LDRED turns to M SS CACKLE-

M LDRED

You haven't persuaded your sister to be good, Mss Cackle - you've just turned your younger self bad!

MONA Where's Ada gone?

YOUNG AGATHA The Junkroom No-one ever goes in there...

M SS CACKLE We'll never get to her in time.

M LDRED

Mona being expelled was bad enough, but if you're expelled too, it will change ...

And, as MSS CACKLE gulps, M LDRED starts to run, then-

CUT TO:

INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, JUNKROOM - DAY ONE (10.36) (YOUNG ADA N/S)

31	EXT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY - CONTINUOUS	31
	The Msts are thinner than ever	

CUT TO.

42

32 <u>INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CORRIDOR - DAY ONE (10.37)</u> 32 (M LDRED, M SS CACKLE, MONA N/S, MRS CACKLE, YOUNG AGATHA N/S)

As M LDRED charges down the corridor, MRS CACKLE steps out-

MRS CACKLE I will ask you one more time, girl. Who you?

But, as M LDRED struggles for an answer, M SS CACKLE, MONA and YOUNG AGATHA come panting round the corner too-

M SS CACKLE Same as me - someone from Cackle's future. Mother - it's Ada...

They stare at each other for a long moment - one taking in the person her daughter will grow into, the other a mother she now knows to have been lying to her all her life.

> MRS CACKLE (tenderly) The Mists?

M LDRED Yes. And if you don't help us, there's not going to be a school for us to return to!

And MRS CACKLE looks back at M LDRED with panic, then-

INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, JUNKROOM - DAY ONE (10.38) 33 (M LDRED, M SS CACKLE, MONA N/S, MRS CACKLE N/S, YOUNG ADA, YOUNG AGATHA)

YOUNG ADA picks up the final two ingredients-

33

YOUNG ADA Whiskers of a lion, petals of a flower, make Mother's magic mine, and give me her...

But as she's about to drop them in, MRS CACKLE, M SS CACKLE, M LDRED, MONA and YOUNG AGATHA materialise in front of her-

And she picks up the whiskers and petals and throws them in instead, then puts her hands in the air, and shouts-

YOUNG AGATHA (CONT'D)

And give me her...

However, the potion just starts to BUBBLE and RUMBLE, and...

M LDRED

... it EXPLODES, then-

34 <u>INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CLASSROOM - DAY ONE (10.39)</u> 34 (BELLA N/S, CHARLOTTE N/S, DRUSI LLA, ENI D N/S, ETHEL, FELI CI TY N/S, GI RLS N/S, LUCI NDA N/S, MAUD, M/SS DRI LL, M/SS HARDBROOM)

As M SS HARDBROOM and ETHEL enter, everyone turns to them-

M SS DRILL Where are MIdred and Mss Cackle?

M SS HARDBROOM I wish we knew...

ETHEL (sadly) And we couldn't even find Nightstar...

MAUD (of Ethel) Well well well, look what the black cat dragged in...

DRUSI LLA (hi sses) Et hel ...

As MAUD and DRUSILLA high-five each other, ETHEL looks at them in amazement, then turns to the rest of the class and realises that no-one seems remotely surprised by this at all.

> ETHEL Oh no. Mona being expelled really has changed things - and no-one even knows it...

M SS HARDBROOM (of MAUD) Don't worry, I hear we had much the same trouble with her mother.

ETHEL (gasps)

... Not even you!

And, as ETHEL reels, she turns to the window and sees that... the Mists have now almost cleared too...

INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CORRIDOR OUTSIDE JUNKROOM - DAY

<u>INT. CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CLASSROOM - DAY ONE (10.50)</u> (BELLA N'S, CHARLOTTE N'S, DRUSILLA, ENID N'S, ETHEL, FELICITY N'S, GIRLS N'S, LUCINDA N'S, MAUD, M'SS DRILL N'S, M SS HARDBROOM N'S)

There's the RUMBLE of the cards of history being reshuffled again, then - as ETHEL stares out of the window despairingly -MAUD leaps up, stands alongside her, and does the same...

MAUD

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(worried) Oh, come on MIdred - what would I ever do without you? You're the best friend I've ever had...

And, as ETHEL looks at her in amazement, DRUSILLA stands on the other side of her too-

DRUSILLA Ethel, l'm so glad you're back - l was so worried! Here. Take a seat. Take my seat. Whatever...

MAUD

I wish we knew what was going on...

ETHEL stares at them both, then at the rest of the class - every bit as unsurprised as before - then-

ETHEL

I think I do. MIdred's put things right. Now she just needs to get out of there whilst she still can!

And, as MAUD and DRUSILLA look at ETHEL in amazement now, she turns back to the window urgently, then-

37 <u>INT. MRS CACKLE'S ACADEMY, CORRIDOR - DAY ONE (10.55)</u> 37 (BERYL N/S, M LDRED, M SS CACKLE N/S) NI GHTSTAR

> M LDRED and M SS CACKLE charge along the corridor, until... M LDRED hears something and stops. It's a M AOW And she steps back, and sees... NI GHTSTAR hiding away with an almostbut-not-quite-Ethel, more timid than her granddaughter, and also with a very different hairstyle. This is BERYL Hallow.

> > M LDRED Nightstar! So why you didn't come when Ethel called. You were with her Nan!

And BERYL looks at her in confusion, then-

MILDRED (CONT'D) who knows? Maybe one day, even the very worst might become the best...

M LDRED I ooks at M SS CACKLE-

M LDRED (CONT'D) I'm so sorry for going out in the M sts. But I can make it up to you. (handing her the scroll, quietly) I'll never say a word. I know the future of the school depends on it.

ETHEL (overhearing) What does it say in there? Why didn't you come back when I did?

MAUD What's been going on?!

M SS CACKLE Oh, it's nothing to worry about girls, is it MIdred?

M LDRED No M ss Cackle, it's all in the past. Lost... in the M sts of Time.

And, as M LDRED smiles, M SS CACKLE smiles too - and they look out of the window... at a beautiful clear sunshiny day.

END OF EPI SODE

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