

## *Constructing a Pedigree: The Noble and Most Ancient House of Black*

Even in families of the “purest” of blood, one will find individuals without highly prized traits. The Black Family was no exception. The tapestry that hung at the Black Family home detailed the generations of purebloods though those with undesirable traits were removed from the pedigree. Provided below is a narrative that details some of the Black Family members and, based on this information, you will construct a pedigree and identify those with magical ability as individuals were in the Weasley pedigree provided. Though you may want to use quill and ink, a muggle pencil may be more appropriate as mistakes are often made but are easily erased... much like Sirius was by his mother on the tapestry!

*And the story begins...*

*Phineas Nigellus Black, former headmaster of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, married Ursula Flint, a pureblood witch, some time after he completed his schooling. They had five children. The first was Sirius II, born in 1877, followed by Phineas, Jr. Arcturus I was then born in 1884, followed by his sister Belyna in 1886, and finally their youngest brother Cygnus I in 1889. All were recognized for their magical ability though son Phineas, Jr. was disowned by the family for supporting muggle rights. All but Phineas, Jr. married and had children. The eldest son Sirius II married Hesper Gamp, a pureblood witch, who had three children. The first was Arcturus II in 1901 who was recognized with the Order of Merlin though possibly only because of his political connections. The next was his sister Lycoris who was followed by her younger brother Regulus I, neither of whom married nor had children.*

*Arcturus I, brother of Sirius II, married a witch named Lysandra Yaxley and they had three children. Their sister Belyna had two sons and a daughter and youngest brother Cygnus I married a witch named Violetta Bulstrode and they had four children. Arcturus I had three daughters: Callidora, Cedrella, and Charis, in that order. Though all witches, Cedrella was disowned for marrying Septimus Weasley who the family considered a “blood traitor.” Her older sister married Harfang Longbottom and younger sister Charis married Caspar Crouch. Though Belyna’s three children are not on record, Cygnus I’s children consisted of eldest son Pollux, then daughter Cassiopeia, son Marius, and lastly daughter Dorea. All were born with magical ability except for Marius who was born a squib and disowned later because of this condition.*

*Arcturus II, son of Sirius II, married witch Melania MacMillan and they had two children, older sister Lucretia and younger son Orion. Pollux, son of Cygnus I, married a witch named Irma Crabbe and they had three children. The only other child of Cygnus I that had children was youngest Dorea who married Charlus Potter and had a son. Orion married Walburga, a pureblood witch and oldest daughter of Pollux and Irma. Walburga also had two younger brothers, Alphard followed by Cygnus II. Orion and Walburga had two sons, Sirius Black, godfather to Harry Potter, and his younger brother Regulus II.*

*Walburga’s younger brother Cygnus II married pureblood witch Druella Rosier. They had three daughters, all witches. The first was Bellatrix followed by Andromeda and then Narcissa. Bellatrix married Rodolphus LeStrange but they had no children together. Andromeda married muggle Ted Tonks, for which she was disowned, and they had a witch daughter named Nymphadora. Lastly, Narcissa married pureblood Lucius Malfoy and they had one son, Draco. Though many claimed to be pureblood throughout this family tree, it is unclear if they truly were. It is clear, however, that the trait for magical ability was passed on through the generations.*

*On a separate piece of parchment...*

Now that you have read through the Black Family history, construct a pedigree on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to include individuals’ names above the symbols, appropriately shaded symbols to represent the magical ability gene, and genotypes below each symbol that represent their phenotype as described. If it is not explicitly stated, you can assume each individual possesses magical ability in their phenotype. Otherwise, they would have probably been disowned!