

Canaries

“Ah, Mistress? why do we have a canary?” I asked this, secretly hoping that the answer wasn’t *So we can fuel spells with its life force, of course*. Bad attitude for a necromancer, yes.

“She’s there to see how controlled your spells are.” my teacher replied.

I nodded, hopefully wisely. “Of course. Animals can detect things Man cannot...” My teacher’s laugh interrupted.

“Absolutely backwards, my gir... boy. Animals don’t have the brains to detect most magic. You need to *really* fumble a spell to get them panicky.” She shook her head. “What **are** they teaching in the covens, these days...”

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