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Hedwig was a smarter owl than Harry gave her credit for; rather than swooping in at breakfast with the rest of the morning post, she waited up in Harry's dorm window, letter securely attached to her leg. Harry was alone when he found her — no need to make up an excuse to hide the letter from Ron and Hermione. As if they had any right to read his mail!

He unfolded the parchment, quickly scanning the goblin's neat cursive handwriting.

*Dear Mr Potter*

*The news of your scar is troubling. I will set my best team on the matter and let you know if we have any results, though this is unlike any prior cursebreaking we have come across in recent memory. It may not be something we can assist with.*

*The matter of your vault is an easier one, however. I have made arrangements with Farlig for your vault security to be upgraded — no one will be allowed access without you present beside them, unless you have given us prior, in-person permission that can be verified by magical signature. If certain people ask, we will excuse it as standard security changes.*

*I have also enclosed a list of vault transactions in the last fourteen years — if any of these are unauthorised or unwelcome, we are happy to take recompense from the offender's personal vaults. You are also within your rights to demand any items removed from your vaults are returned.*

*May your vaults be ever full,*

*Gorrak*

*Sr Inheritance Manager, Gringotts Bank*

There was a second piece of parchment folded beside the first. Harry opened it up, his heart sinking to the pit of his stomach the more he read.

It had the most recent transactions listed first; Harry's name was written next to almost every one of them. However, there were several that didn't add up — a withdrawal of 30 galleons from Molly Weasley this summer. She hadn't bought anything for Harry; why was she taking money from his vault??

The further Harry read back, the less things made sense. A handful of withdrawals from Molly Weasley over the last three years, all for more than she possibly could have spent on Harry's school supplies. Not enormous amounts, but certainly not necessary. And then he got to the withdrawals from Dumbledore.

Regular money withdrawals — far larger sums than Molly Weasley ever withdrew — as well as what looked like several Potter family heirlooms; books, jewellery, art, all sorts. The listings went right back to November 1981; mere weeks after Harry's parents had died.

Even if Dumbledore had been sending the Dursleys some sort of stipend for caring for Harry — which, he knew from their multiple complaints on the subject, he *hadn't* — that didn't