

"POKÉMON: IRIDESCENCE"

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Adapted to screen from the popular video games by Nintendo

NOTE: Anything written in **this font** is superimposed in a freeze-framed shot on the bottom of the screen.

CUE --- "VICTORY ROAD" from Pokémon RUBY & SAPPHIRE:

OPEN on A LARGE CAVE with a rickety sign hanging from its entrance reads 'VICTORY ROAD'. The camera does a PAN over Victory Road, and a few miles away, sparkling like a diamond in the rough of the maze of caves and the like, is a gigantic building with old, beautiful architectural styles. A large Poké Ball LOGO sits emblazoned on the front. A small VILLAGE of shops, homes, etc. lie on the outskirts of this massive building, surrounded by large mountains and endless forests. It's a gorgeous sight...

We SWOOP toward this town, stopping at a large, massive sign that we FOCUS in on:

"WELCOME TO THE INDIGO PLATEAU

Capital of the Pokémon LEAGUE"

EXT. INDIGO PLATEAU - DAY

We're in the small town of the Indigo Plateau, outside of the massive Pokémon League building. FOLLOW a car as the "Victory Road" theme fades...

MR. SILPH (V.O.)

...you can tell these people that I built my company from the ground-up.

INT. MR. SILPH'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

MR. SILPH is an elderly man with a kind face. But the phone conversation he's having right now, on his POKEGEAR, is incredibly stern.

MR. SILPH

I don't care who they think they are, they are not taking my company away from me like this. All for the Badge Amplifier Machine? It's too dangerous. In the wrong hands, the B.A.M. can act as a thermonuclear weapon. The results would be catastrophic if he were to get his hands on it...

INT. POKÉMON LEAGUE CAPITAL - CONTINUOUS

A young brunette walks down a corridor of the luxurious Pokémon LEAGUE BUILDING.

She's eye-catchingly pretty in her black dress. Her name is FELICIA. She's on her own POKEGEAR. A JIGGLYPUFF, a small, pink creature with enormous green eyes, sits on her hair. A JYNX, a disturbing looking creature with purple skin, large eyes, large lips, and a red body resembling a dress, sways alongside her.

FELICIA

(into phone)

I understand that, Mr. Silph. So we agree then. In exchange for the legendary birds, I sell the disassembled machine to the highest bidders? The parts could be worth fortunes. If you just deactivate the machine and sell it safely across the black market, we can share the profits and feel safer...

As a guard rounds a nearby corner, Felicia's Jigglypuff PUFFS UP and starts to float away. Felicia grabs onto Jigglypuff's tiny foot and FLOATS WITH THE JIGGLYPUFF, like a balloon, carrying her over onto a large pillar. Jigglypuff deflates and they land on the pillar. They watch from over the corner. The guard runs into Jynx, who uses a LOVELY KISS attack to knock him unconscious.

FELICIA (CONT'D)

(into phone, whispering)

Are you still there, Mr. Silph?

MR. SILPH (V.O.)

I'm just not liking this. I've gotten in too deep, I... I used to be a legitimate businessman! I'm not a bad person, I can't... I can't continue this conversation.

Felicia looks down. An icy blue fox called GLACEON struts down the corridor. A CLOAKED FIGURE whom we only see from behind walks alongside the Glaceon. Felicia gets the chills.

FELICIA

It's too late for that, Mr. Silph... Someone is keeping tabs on you. You need to leave the city.

MR. SILPH (V.O.)

I have the Pokémon League conference to attend! The B.A.M.  
(MORE)

MR. SILPH (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 is ready for my presentation,  
 delivered and everything directly  
 to Champion Lance... on stage, I'm  
 going to destroy it.

FELICIA  
 Mr. Silph! Stop the car right now,  
 they're here...!

INT. MR. SILPH'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

MR. SILPH gets freaked out. He HITS the brakes. Ominous music -- the "GIRATINA BATTLE!" theme from Pokémon PLATINUM -- starts here.

Underneath his hood, SPARKS begin to fly. We get a view of what's underneath the hood. Two Pokémon resembling Poké Balls with MEAN EYES -- but they're VOLTORBS. Electric BOMBS!

Mr. Silph gives a scream, throwing open his car door just as...

**BOOOOM!**

EXT. INDIGO PLATEAU - CONTINUOUS

The car explodes. Mr. Silph didn't make it out on time. The flaming fireball that was once a car flips backwards.

INT. POKÉMON LEAGUE CAPITAL - CONTINUOUS

The "Giratina Battle!" Music continues as FELICIA and JIGGLYPUFF float down from the pillar, but she realizes she is too late. The explosion is heard from even in here. Jynx rejoins her side and she recalls the Pokémon into their balls, letting out her two shiny Pokémon, a fox with blue lights on its head and limbs called UMBREON and a blue squishy blob called DITTO.

Alarms sound and they rush down the corridor. Umbreon takes out guards with a crunch attack, biting onto them as Felicia pushes forward. Ditto transforms into a MACHOP, taking out guards with karate chops, before transforming into its evolved form MACHOKE, then again into its bigger evolved form, MACHAMP, taking down a whole crowd of guards with the swing of all four of its massive arms.

INT. POKÉMON LEAGUE CAPITAL - AUDITORIUM - CONTINUOUS

Inside the AUDITORIUM, a group of people dressed in black clothes with the letter 'R' emblazoned on the front do battle with members of the Elite Four from all around the globe. Felicia rushes toward the stage with her Ditto and Umbreon by her side, dodging FLAMETHROWERS from a large orange dog called ARCANINE that duels with a coin-throwing bipedal cat called MEOWTH.

Felicia sees the cloaked figure and his Glaceon on stage. They are handling a device resembling some sort of nuclear core. Felicia's eyes widen.

FELICIA

Drop that, scum. I'm supposed to be stealing that, and I didn't have to murder anybody to do it.

The figure turns, revealing a PALE BLUE MASK covering its face. Resembling cracked ice. Spooky as hell. This is the MASK OF ICE. He speaks in a horrifying, distorted, deep voice, by use of a voice changer.

MASK OF ICE

This is no longer your assignment. Your loyalty is... questionable, at best. We have a new assignment if you're willing to handle it.

Glaceon fires an Ice Beam. Felicia dodges.

MASK OF ICE (CONT'D)

The Badge Amplifier Machine is not for your profit. We have other uses for it, so please be kind and stay out of the way.

The Mask of Ice and Glaceon flee. Felicia and her Pokémon take chase.

EXT. INDIGO PLATEAU - CONTINUOUS

FELICIA steps outside. Escaping on the back of a flock of DODRIO, a three headed bird, THE MASK OF ICE and the other 'R' henchman fly away.

As guards surround Felicia with their guard dog GROWLITHES, she sends out JIGGLYPUFF and flees by floating away with the puffball.

**FADE TO BLACK.**

LOUDSPEAKER VOICE (V.O.)  
 Attention, passengers. We will be  
 arriving in Vermilion City shortly.  
 Please gather up all your  
 belongings and any Pokémon, and  
 prepare to disembark. Thank you.

FADE IN:

EXT. S.S. ANNE - DECK - DAY

TIGHT on HILBERT --- taking in a deep breath --- still  
 wearing the same clothes as usual mind you, but expect  
 anything less?

A quadrupedal Pokémon resembling a sea lion that is primarily  
 dark blue in coloration with cream colored, sharpened shells  
 acting as armor and swords decorating its body stands proudly  
 beside his trainer, ready for more adventures. He's  
 Hilbert's starter, SHELDON the SAMUROTT.

FREEZE-FRAME on HILBERT:

HILBERT (V.O.)  
 Um. Hey. I'm usually *fantastic*  
 with introductions but--- it's been  
 a while. I'm Hilbert. I saved the  
 Unova region two years ago. Yeah.  
 It's sort of a big deal... Unova's  
 inhabited by creatures known as  
 Pokémon... Pokémon are very  
 strange creatures. Some have fiery  
 or icy breath, some drop bolts of  
 lightning, some control plants, and  
 a few even shit out rainbows.  
 Interesting, right? Some people  
 treat them like your average fire-  
 breathing pets, some treat them  
 like BFF's, but most just like to  
 battle. You know, Pokémon elements  
 don't have long lasting effects on  
 their targets, so Pokémon don't  
 hurt themselves when they fight.  
 It's just that they pass out if  
 they get hit too much. Kids were  
 the best at this, for some unknown  
 reason. Tiny, cute Pokémon are the  
 easiest to befriend. Now, lots of  
 kids risk their necks and go out to  
 tame Pokémon, like me. Why?  
 Because it's fun.

(MORE)

HILBERT (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Sure, you might get electrocuted, or set on fire, or frozen in a block of ice, or chased by insane villains -- daily routines for me -- but it's worth it. Also, you can get out of doing your History worksheets all the time in middle school. Just say that your Charmander fried your homework. Two, there's instant popularity points. If you had, say a level 60 Samurott like I do, you're the coolest kid on the block. Like I am. Having a strong Pokémon with you is like having a parent or guardian with you. You can go pretty much wherever you want without your parents breathing down your neck. Mareep equals free Wi-Fi and cotton to sew up clothes. Machoke equals badass bodyguard. Fearow equals free ride and so on...

THE INSTRUMENTAL to the infamous "Pokémon THEME SONG" plays as an unfamiliar voice SINGS the lyrics:

HARETA (O.S.)

I wanna' be the very best.

(DRAMATIC PAUSE)

DOO DOO DOOOO. Like no one ever  
waaaasss--

Hilbert whips around annoyed, to see the singing kid is ---

--- HARETA, who's now probably 13. This kid's eyes are alight with excitement. He wears a white t-shirt with a black vest over it. A red scarf is wrapped around his neck loosely, letting it blow in the wind behind him. Hareta wears baggy blue cargo jeans with red and black running shoes. A red beret sloppily clings on to his messy tangle of hair. A little blue and white flying squirrel, called PACHIRISU, bobs around dancing along in one of his blue cargo pockets on the side of his jeans, while a pink cat with squinty eyes and a slender tail with a bulky pink section, terminated by three pin-like shapes, dances and meow's along on his shoulder. This is a SKITTY.

Hareta continues his singing while Hilbert looks on annoyed.

HARETA (CONT'D)

--DO DO DO DOOO. To catch them is my real test. To train them is my caaaaause.

HILBERT

Hey, you're interrupting my inner monologue here!!

HARETA

I will travel across the land.  
Searchiing far and wiiide. Each  
Pokémon to understand the power  
that's insiiiide.

People pass by, glaring as Hareta breaks out into song.

HARETA (CONT'D)

Pokémon! Gotta' catch 'em all.  
It's youu and meeeee.

(does some air guitar)

I KNOW IT'S MY DESTINYYY!

(voice gets low)

Pokémon.

(back to loud)

Ohhhhhh you're my best friend in a  
WORLD WE MUST DEFEEEEEND.

(back to low)

Pokémon, gotta catch 'em aaall...

(back to loud)

A HEART SO TRUUUUE. OUR COURAGE  
WILL PULL US THROUGH.

YOU TEACH ME AND I'LL TEACH YOU.

POOOOOOKEMOON! GOTTA CATCH 'EM

ALL, GOTTA CATCH 'EM ALLLLL.

Po-ke-mon!

Hilbert does a slow clap that turns sarcastically vigorous.

HARETA (CONT'D)

(giddy)

I'm flattered, I mean it's really  
awesome of you stranger, but dude,  
you should save the applause for  
when the song's *actually* over---!

Hareta takes in a breath to start singing again, but a dark blue frog with a very serious expression on his face pops out of the other side cargo pants pocket. He looks like he's just been woken. This frog's palm glows with a glowing purple secretion. With a powerful swing of its palm, the frog JABS Hareta in the hip. He collapses in a heap on the ground. This grouchy frog is a CROAGUNK. Satisfied, Croagunk leaps back inside Hareta's pocket and presumably goes back to sleep.

HILBERT

Ew. What the heck was that, kid?  
That smell is...



PAUSE on Hilbert's pause for breath ---

HILBERT (V.O.)

I was trying to think of another word for bad, after all this time of traveling and training, I had to learn some new words right?!

UNPAUSE:

HILBERT

...*bad*.

PAUSE AGAIN.

HILBERT (V.O.)

(pathetic 'urban' accent)

NAHHHHH! Pokémon training ain't give me no time for gramma' school, sucka'!

(cue: KRICKETUNE CHOIR\*)

...Alright, alright, I get it, that was wack. GO ON...

*\*Kricketune are CRICKET Pokémon that make noises just like a real-life cricket...*

Hareta sits up, blushing as he sees what's being implicated.

HARETA

It wasn't me. Honest. It was my Croagunk's Poison Jab. Doesn't have the most pleasant smell. That's his way of saying hello!

HILBERT

Wash him down, Sheldon.

Sheldon sprays Hareta with a huge jet of water from its mouth. The sopping wet Hareta stands up, shakes his hair like a wet dog. The crowd laughs at him, but Hareta doesn't see the humor, he's actually appreciative. He beams at Hilbert with a thumbs' up. His jubilant reaction devastates the mean crowd, who were hoping to see the kid cry or something.

HARETA

Thanks strange boy-man!!

HILBERT

The proper term is teenager...

(beat)

Anyway, the song's over kid, now can you just sit here and...

(MORE)

HILBERT (CONT'D)

and shuddup? Please? That song makes me sad. Builds up my dreams to only set me up for disappointment. I mean, there's almost 700 known Pokémon in the world for Arceus's sake! I'm gonna tell Roxie and her band if I ever meet her that they pissed all over my dreams making that song. It's impossible to catch 'em all. Even for a Champion like myself...

HARETA

(shrugs)

But I love the song. It's so inspiring!

He hangs back his head and YAWNS obnoxiously. Puts his arms behind his head, doing a sort of walking lounge. Skitty snuggles up against one of his arms lovingly.

And then a THOUGHT BUBBLE appears over Hareta's head with an EXCLAMATION MARK inside the bubble, and the boy's eyes SNAP OPEN.

HARETA (CONT'D)

Hey, did you say you're the Champion!? Ooooh, we should battle! That would be so awesome!

FREEZE on Hareta's happy expression:

HILBERT (V.O.)

It was as if an exclamation point just poofed up over Hareta's head this head and he just screamed out that we gotta' battle. He has this endless enthusiasm about everything. Which annoys me to no end.

CUE -- "BATTLE BINGO BATTLE" from Pokémon XD: GALE OF DARKNESS.

A BLAST of BLUE ELECTRICITY meets a blast of INTENSE WATER -- The water of course, conducts the electricity and we follow the shocking currents through the water until the electricity reaches the mouth of -- SHELDON THE SAMUROTT!

And behind SAMUROTT stands: His trainer, HILBERT.

Sheldon the SAMUROTT is zapped by the electricity, but shakes it off fast. A crowd of people watch as a battle carries on between Hilbert and his opponent --

PACHIRISU in front of HARETA, looking worn out. Hareta looks down at his left leg --

HARETA  
Cheer her on, Skitty!

From one of the side pockets on Hareta's jeans pops out SKITTY. Skitty does a little cheer, bobbing her head around giddily.

HARETA (CONT'D)  
You too, Croagunk!

CROAGUNK pops out of the other pocket on Hareta's jeans, gives a yawn, and retreats back inside to sleep.

HARETA (CONT'D)  
Oh come on, crabby pants...!

Croagunk's palm pops out of his pocket and glow purple --- WAVING it about WARNINGLY (another POISON JAB attack) --- and Hareta gives a nervous chuckle.

HARETA (CONT'D)  
Great job, Croagunk!!

The palm retreats back inside the pocket and a satisfied Croagunk presumably falls back to sleep.

CONTINUING:

HILBERT  
Sheldon, show this punk your Ice Beam!

Sheldon's breath goes cold and a large beam of ice shoots from his large mouth. The SAMUROTTE freezes the ground in front of Pachirisu, who avoids the attack with a lightning-quick hop into the air. The showy Pachirisu gives a wink and pose as she slaps her tail against a light pole, bouncing forward, right for Sheldon...

HARETA  
Pachirisu, use Super Fang!

Pachirisu spins around, swooping through the air elegantly, ready to dive in for an attack with its glowing pair of teeth that seem to grow sharper and sharper---

Sheldon the Samurott instantly whips his attention to the tiny squirrel and his Ice Beam FREEZES Pachirisu in a block of ice. Hareta gives an exaggerated sigh and rushes over to Pachirisu, giving heavy breaths to try and thaw it out ---

Hilbert sighs.

HILBERT

You give in yet? This battle is really starting to bore me.

Hareta leaps up, annoyed.

HARETA

Hey! That's not nice. I've got another Pokémon--

HILBERT

(shrugs)

It's true, you're such a noob.

Hareta's eyes widen -- nothing's gonna break this kid's spirit. And that annoys the hell out of Hilbert.

HARETA

You know that was my first battle, right?

HILBERT

Well, I got my ass kicked on my first battle too, so -- just keep it up kid.

Hareta shrugs. Grinning.

HARETA

Thanks, mister!

A JANITOR approaches, frowning. Two buckets and two mops. He tosses them near the kids.

JANITOR

Y'all made this mess, y'all cleanin' it up. Get to work.

Hareta frowns frumpily while Hareta puts his arms in the air excitedly.

HARETA

Yay! Sounds fun!

LATER:

The "BATTLE BINGO BATTLE" song is over and the deck is empty except for Hilbert and Hareta, who are mopping up the mess left by their battle.

HARETA (CONT'D)  
I think I've done more cleaning  
than you!

HILBERT  
No way.

HARETA  
Yes way.

HILBERT  
Nope.

HARETA  
Yes.

HILBERT  
Okay, you wanna be that way, kid--?

Hilbert starts furiously moving the mop along the floor.  
Hareta joins him, laughing. Hilbert, growing more irate,  
starts to scrub more.

Then he tosses the mop aside.

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
You're starting to piss me off. I  
need to get a bite to eat.

HARETA  
I'm hungry too. Wanna race?!

HILBERT  
No.

HARETA  
You scared?

HILBERT  
No.

HARETA  
Then race.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
This kid really knew how to push my  
buttons --

CUE: "WALUIGI PINBALL" from MARIO KART DS, SUPER SMASH BROS.  
BRAWL REMIX as Hilbert TAKES off along the side of the deck,  
tossing his mop aside limply.

But he doesn't listen. Hareta follows. And this kid's FAST.  
FOLLOW Hareta as he races behind Hilbert.

The duo push through crowds and reach the SWIMMING POOL area. A woman is bent over in front of a lawn chair looking through the stuff in her bag. Hilbert leaps over the woman. She stands up, surprised --

And Hareta, who was in the middle of a jump, lands his foot right into the woman's face. She falls into the pool and Hareta lands on his feet. As he keeps running, he shouts back:

HARETA  
SORRY, LADY!!

CUT between them racing, and STOP the music as:

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

A GUARD enters the room, THE MASK OF ICE following stoically, adjusting his mask. He must have just put it on. A man sits in the shadows. Not even visible in the light at all -- just his lap and the massive cat that lies in it. This is a creature known as PERSIAN.

GIOVANNI  
I assume you've left the Champion  
frozen in his tracks, yes?

A deep scoff comes from the Mask's distorted voice.

MASK OF ICE  
I find your word choice...  
amusing.

CLOSE SHOT - GIOVANNI'S LAP

He pets the Persian. It gives a soft purr.

GIOVANNI  
Remember that my generosity was not  
extended on you...

ANGLE ON THE MASK OVER GIOVANNI

GIOVANNI (CONT'D)  
...Just purely for amusement.

The distorted voice is emotionless, but we can sense some form of SARCASM, or BITTERNESS, in the way it's said:

MASK OF ICE  
How could I forget?

GIOVANNI

Sit down.

The Mask obeys, joining Giovanni at the table. The door opens and three more faces slip in: KOGA (dressed in traditional Japanese garb with an aged face), SABRINA (long dark hair, a sexy figure, dreamy, beautiful eyes) and LIEUTENANT SURGE (dressed like a military man, tough face and gravely voice).

They all take seats at the table. They're very specific, as if knowing their place.

GIOVANNI (CONT'D)

Welcome. Everyone listen while we hear what Lieutenant Surge has devised for us.

CLOSE UP - SABRINA

SABRINA

I hope the good Lieutenant's effort as Director of Planning will continue to be as successful as his chess.

CLOSE UP - LT. SURGE

LT. SURGE

They will be.

(to Giovanni)

According to your instructions, I have taken over the Power Plant. We will continue our search for the legendary bird, Zapdos.

GIOVANNI

Sabrina?

CLOSE UP - SABRINA

SABRINA

Moltres is already in my possession, sir.

KOGA

(before he's even called on -- knowingly)  
And Articuno in mine.

GIOVANNI

Lieutenant, you are behind. I promote you, and you are *behind*...

CLOSE UP - LT. SURGE

His face reads calmness, but there's a subtle shakiness in his voice--

LT. SURGE

I assure you, sir. Zapdos will be captured by the end of the week.

GIOVANNI

For your sake, I hope so.

(beat)

In your attempt to take over the Power Plant, there were casualties. Was the mayor of Cerulean City one of those?

LT. SURGE

Yes.

GIOVANNI

The gym leader, Misty?

LT. SURGE

No. The people of Cerulean are unaware of what went down, as you know the Power Plant is very isolated from the rest of the town. So the mayor made his visit and we quickly dispatched him --

CLOSE SHOT - GIOVANNI'S PERSIAN

Giovanni handles the cat... It rubs its face against his hand lovingly.

INT. S.S. ANNE - HALLWAYS - SAME TIME

"WALUIGI PINBALL" continues as HILBERT and HARETA race through the interior of the ship. It's a constantly-changing lead.

They make a quick turn-- Hilbert sticks his foot out. Hareta trips over it. Hareta suddenly TUMBLES right down a FLIGHT of STAIRS. Hilbert watches, taken by surprise, as Hareta rolls and rolls until finally stopping at a pair of large conference room doors with a sickening THUD.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - SAME TIME

BAM!! "WALUIGI PINBALL" ends ABRUPTLY.



The guards and every member at the table - except GIOVANNI - stand erect. Everyone grips a Poké Ball, ready to attack whoever interrupted their meeting with that obnoxious banging against the door.

GIOVANNI  
Open the door.

The guards don't hesitate. They rip the door open and --

HARETA rolls in. He has cheery smile as he straightens his beret. KOGA steps forward and Hareta takes note of his traditional Japanese clothing.

HARETA  
(giddy)  
Nice dress, mister!

Offended, Koga prepares throw a Poké Ball --

KOGA  
He must be a spy...!

GIOVANNI  
Koga, sit. He's just a child who happened to stumble in on us.  
(to Lt. Surge)  
Tie him up, we'll deal with him later...

Before Hareta can say another word, Lt. Surge stands and suddenly BACKHANDS Hareta across the face--

INT. S.S. ANNE - OUTSIDE THE CONFERENCE ROOM - SAME TIME

HILBERT stands outside the conference room doors, listening to all of this--

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - SAME TIME

GIOVANNI  
Now with that minor setback out of the way, I assume your role in the plan is complete, Sabrina?

SABRINA  
Yes.

KOGA  
I feel so out of the loop here, sorry...

LT. SURGE

Well you weren't at the last meeting.

GIOVANNI

He was catching Articuno for me. At least he's actually accomplished his part of the plan, Lieutenant.

Lt. Surge winces a bit--

GIOVANNI (CONT'D)

My scientists have succeeded in creating impossibly accurate robot duplicates of various Pokémon... life-size models as opposed to the ones we left on that island by Olivine City. Sabrina's already replaced the Elite Four and government agents' Pokémon. She just needs to finish up the rest of the gym leaders, and then this country will be under our control.

KOGA

Who has already been replaced?

SABRINA

Brock and Misty's Pokémon. Once the operation's finished, the robots will brainwash them just like we've done to the government...

Sabrina suddenly looks to the door. She's suspicious -- she knows there's someone WATCHING...

She reaches her arm out and the door FLIES open. HILBERT, who was leaning against it, tumbles in and lands on his face. With a groan, he sits up and faces everyone awkwardly--

HILBERT

Um, hi?

KOGA

Whoever hired you and your friend needs to find people who have better experience in espionage.

The guards move for Hilbert, restraining him as he tries to fight them off.

GIOVANNI

Lietenant... Escort him to his friend.

The Mask of Ice looks at Giovanni.

GIOVANNI (CONT'D)

If you want to get front row seats then have at it... Though I think it'd be truly *poetic* if you did him in.

The Mask just stares blankly back at Giovanni, before the figure rises and follows Lt. Surge and the guards into the next room.

INT. STORAGE - DAY

HILBERT is thrown on the floor by the guards, right next to HARETA, who is tied up and his mouth duct taped. Crates and other cargo surrounds them. It's brightly lit in here. LT. SURGE approaches slowly. He shoo's away the guards and stalks over to the boys, who are stirring into consciousness now. The MASK OF ICE enters and watches...

LT. SURGE

Who sent you?

HILBERT

Sent us? Honestly, you think we're *spies*?! We were just on our way to the cafeteria and I tried to trip him but we both fell and hit the door. I swear, it's the truth...

The Mask throws out a Poké Ball and lets out a CLOYSTER, which has a large shell covered in spikes; six of which are long and conical, resembling turrets, which is used to protect its soft insides from foes. Cloyster has an inner, gray-colored layer inside its purple shell. Its "head and face resemble a black pearl, and there is a jutting, horn-like white spike above its "head".

CLOSE ON --

THE MASK OF ICE'S GLOVED HANDS. THEY'RE SHAKING. WE DON'T NO WHY. BUT NO MATTER THE CASE, WE NOTICE IT --

MASK OF ICE

Cloyster, use Ice Beam.

Cloyster fires an Ice Beam -- Hareta lifts his leg, giving a surprised expression as an ice block is formed right where his foot was just at.

HARETA

Whoa!

Another Ice Beam fires, this time for Hilbert. Hilbert dodges it -- reaches for a Poké Ball. The guards restrain Hilbert. One kicks Hareta in the back, knocking him over. He groans in pain on the ground.

The Mask approaches Hilbert --

POV THROUGH THE MASK

As the figure stares at Hilbert, who's kicking and struggling under the guards's restraints--

MASK OF ICE

Give me his Pokémon.

HILBERT

What?! NO!

END POV as the guards look through his jacket, his bag -- He bites one of the guard's hands and he backhands Hilbert across the face. He slumps over weakly.

MASK OF ICE

His belt.

A guard lifts up his jacket and shirt, revealing the Poké Balls clipped to Hilbert's belt -- all seven of them. They're removed from his belt and handed over to the Mask of Ice.

MASK OF ICE (CONT'D)

You can do the honors. Make sure they survive, Giovanni has plans for them.

As the Mask of Ice slips Hilbert's Poké Balls into his jacket, Lt. Surge steps forward and throws three Poké Balls into the air, releasing three Poké Ball-looking Pokémon. They each resemble Poké Balls. One of the three is larger, with eyebrows and a mouth, while the other two have just angry eyes and are much smaller. The smaller pair are VOLTORB and the bigger, more expressive one, is ELECTRODE.

Lt. Surge unties Hareta and rips off his duct tape while he and Hilbert look around at the sparking trio of Pokémon that surround them.