

Misty's stubbornness slowly fades, and she sighs. She gives up. Off a view from behind, as she and the others continue to stare out at the seemingly-endless river ahead of them.

FADE IN:

INT. ROCK TUNNEL - NIGHT

HILBERT, IRIS, HARETA and CAL go through the ROCK TUNNEL. Hilbert checks through his things. He's pissed.

HILBERT

Crap. So much has been happening that I didn't even notice my Unova Badge Case is missing. First my Pokémon, now my badges?!

IRIS

Maybe you lost it in that electric maze... you okay by the way?

HILBERT

Yeah. A little sore. Get a little jolt every now and then, but...

(smiles)

I'm used to it.

(beat)

I need those badges though.

IRIS

Don't sweat it. No one can forget Hilbert Black, Unova champion. You can get replacement badges, everyone remembers you, so don't worry...

Hilbert scratches his head, confused.

HILBERT

I guess so. I just wonder where I lost it...

EXT. FUCHSIA CITY - NIGHT

As the group rests, we see HILBERT in his tent, wide awake.

Outside his tent, we see a SHADOWY FIGURE roaming about the streets of Fuchsia City. As he comes closer to view, we see it is the MASK OF ICE. GLACEON is beside him... Then they disappear into the night just as quickly as they came.

EXT. FUCHSIA CITY SAFARI ZONE - NIGHT

IRIS sets up her tent. In the background, HILBERT, HARETA and CAL can be seen chasing after Pokémon and trying to catch them. Hilbert stops for a moment, watching Iris... curiosity piques on his face.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I was worried about Iris to be honest. Something wasn't right about the way she was acting.

Hilbert takes a break from the fun to join Iris, finally having some alone time.

HILBERT

Everything okay?

IRIS

Yeah.

HILBERT

It's just weird not seeing you with Haxorus. You were so proud of evolving it...

Iris quickly finishes up her tent.

IRIS

Look, I just wanna' go to sleep. Thanks for the concern, I'm just... tired.

HILBERT

I am too.

IRIS

Then why don't you go to sleep too?

HILBERT

It's hard for me to sleep. With my Pokémon out there, in the hands of some freak.

Iris looks at him --- swallows --- turns away.

IRIS

I'm sorry.

HILBERT

I know how it feels, to have a part of you ripped away. Sheldon's my best friend and I don't know where he or the rest of my Pokémon are.

(MORE)

HILBERT (CONT'D)

The only reason I'm carrying on is that there's some hope that maybe they're okay. If something did happen and you're hiding it from me... just know that if you ever want to spill the beans, I'm here. I'll understand and I won't judge.

Hilbert turns on his heel and Iris takes his hand.

IRIS

They're okay.

He looks back at her. She nods at him, confident. She gives him a meek smile.

IRIS (CONT'D)

Your Pokémon. We'll find them.

He smiles softly.

HILBERT

Thanks.

IRIS

You know we're supposed to be timed and out of here at a certain time, right? One hundred steps or something.

HILBERT

Screw the rules. They didn't put our Pokédexes on Nuzlocke mode, so what's gonna' stop us? Plus all the guards left. C'mon, it'll be fun.

IRIS

It's gonna' be more fun sitting here *watching* you get your ass kicked.

HILBERT

Seriously?

Iris shrugs.

IRIS

You have a penchant for it.

Off Iris's smile, we're back on CAL and HARETA as they examine the bushes.

CAL  
Catch anything yet?

HARETA  
Nope.

CAL  
Me neither.

HARETA  
I'm not giving up though!

A Pokémon emerges from the bushes. A short, stocky, quadruped with a metallic looking exterior with a singular horn on its face. It's called a RHYHORN. It rears back and charges like a rhino. The boys start to run, but it manages to catch Hareta by his backpack strap and drag him around.

Rhyhorn starts shaking Hareta around until he's released from his backpack's straps. Cal runs forward, a Poké Ball in hand, ready to attack.

CAL  
Dude, you okay?

Hareta looks up, shakes his head as if to knock his brain back in place, and sees Rhyhorn digging through his bag, eating his food!

Hareta gets on his feet, and pounces at Rhyhorn.

HARETA  
THIEF!!

He sends out his Pineco, which lands right in front of the thieving Rhyhorn, stopping it in its tracks!

HARETA (CONT'D)  
Pineco!! Use... anything other than Selfdestruct!

Pineco starts to glow. Hareta looks excited. He rushes forward to get a closer look and then --- BOOOOM!

Pineco explodes! Hareta and Pineco and Rhyhorn are all left covered in soot and unconscious.

Hareta's Pokédex chimes out ---

POKÉDEX (V.O.)  
Pineco learned 'Explosion'.

HARETA  
Oh... Congrats...

He pulls out a Poké Ball, sits up, seizes the opportunity and catches Rhyhorn!

Cal claps and walks over to Hareta, who's left in a steaming pile. He smirks at him.

CAL  
Congrats, you finally caught something...!

Hareta gives a thumbs-up and then Cal helps him on his feet.

EXT. CYCLING ROAD, GATE - DAY

HILBERT opens up his backpack and removes FOLDED UP OBJECTS from inside. Everyone looks at him oddly as he unfolds them, revealing four bikes for the each of them!

HILBERT  
The Team Rocket guys in Cerulean City were harassing the man in charge of a bicycle store, remember?

IRIS  
I remember, but... they fit in your backpack?

HILBERT  
Foldable bikes. Cool, right?

Everyone looks weirded out by it, except for Cal.

CAL  
Eh, keep the extra bike. I'll just board.

HILBERT  
But it's the *Cycling Road*. You need to ride a *bi-cycle*.

Cal walks over to a female security guard.

CAL  
I'll ask that pretty lady over there.

He winks and gets ready to talk to her...

Meanwhile, Hareta examines the bike oddly. He lifts it over his head and starts running off.

HARETA  
Okay, let's goooo!

HILBERT  
You don't carry it, Hareta! Get on  
it.

Hareta tilts his head, puts the bike on the ground laying on its side, then steps on it like a skateboard; one foot on each wheel. He balances a bit.

HARETA  
Like this? It's not moving too  
fast!

HILBERT  
NO!

HARETA  
Well then how?

Hilbert sighs, frustrated. He moves over to Hareta, ushering him off the bike. He stands it up and starts talking him through it as Iris giggles at them.

HILBERT  
You sit on it like this...

He demonstrates then gets off, Hareta has his hand under his chin, in THINKING MODE.

HARETA  
Hmmm, okay.

HILBERT  
Then you put your feet on the  
pedals...

CHYRON: "30 MINUTES LATER..."

EXT. CYCLING ROAD - DAY

The "BICYCLE THEME" continues to loop as we get an ESTABLISHING SHOT of ROUTE 17, the CYCLING ROAD, a forest path that eventually branches into a large elevated bridge, resembling a real-life highway overpass, where other trainers zoom on their bikes. Below, much wildlife is available. Many bugs such as CATERPIE, METAPOD, BUTTERFREE, WEEDLE, KAKUNA, BEEDRILL, and VENONAT are visible.

HARETA is pedaling around on the bike, a little wobbly but he's doing it.

HILBERT and IRIS are on their bikes behind him, while CAL, with a fresh black eye, rides on his skateboard.

HILBERT

...Your eye... it looks like it's swelling even more now. You sure you can see out that thing??

CAL

Yeah, I'm fine. Ya can't win everyone over, I guess.

HARETA

This is sooo fun!

They start to make their way onto the large ramp

EXT. ROUTE 16 - DAY

At the end of the Cycling Road, everyone gets off of their bikes. They fold them up and then pack them up into their backpacks, except for HARETA, who happily zooms around until he COLLIDES with something... flipping off of his bike, landing right on his face. The "BICYCLE THEME" loop ends here abruptly.

When he sits back up and looks back, he sees...

...a small, rotund sleeping Pokémon. It's called MUNCHLAX.

HARETA

How'd a boulder get here?

He pokes it. Looks up at HILBERT, IRIS and CAL on the other side of the creature.

HARETA (CONT'D)

(worried)

Wait it's a Pokémon. Do you think it's dead?!

It snores. Then Hareta looks relieved.

HARETA (CONT'D)

Guess not!

CAL

It looks kind of like a Snorlax except... a lot smaller.

A man approaches the quartet from a nearby house.

MAN

This Munchlax has been asleep here for a while. It's mother was captured by a trainer a long time ago, and now that trainer is legendary to the Kanto region. Odd, isn't it? And now all that's left of the Snorlax is its child, Munchlax, wanting to take its mother's place here. Little does it realize it's simply not big enough.

And then the man walks away.

HARETA

(yelling after him)  
Thanks mister!  
(beat)  
Wait, that was weird. *Who the heck was he?*

Everyone shrugs.

HILBERT

A Munchlax, huh? Pretty cool.  
Does it do anything though?

Hareta lets out SKITTY.

HARETA

Let's find out. Skitty, use Assist!

Skitty uses Assist, an attack that lets the small feline BORROW an attack from one of Hareta's other Pokémon and then Skitty's pink tail glows purple.

IRIS

Skitty's borrowing Croagunk's Poison Jab...

Skitty slams against Munchlax's stomach... only to bounce right off! Hareta looks stumped as his Skitty hits the ground, knocked out just from bouncing off of Munchlax! He recalls Skitty into its Poké Ball.

He checks his Pokédex...

HARETA

It says here something about music.

CUE --- "Pokémon THEME SONG INSTRUMENTAL" from the ANIME:



Hareta clears his throat. Hilbert facepalms, knowing what's coming next...

HARETA (CONT'D)

I wanna' be the very best! Like no one ever was! To catch them is my real test, to train them is my cause!

Munchlax stirs awake. Sits up, grumbles a bit. Hareta dances around like a fool, continuing to sing in the background.

Munchlax charges at him, but Hareta is completely into the song and dance...

CAL

Hareta, dude, it's awake!

Hareta's eyes snap open and he instinctively throws a Poké Ball at it... Munchlax's mouth opens and it CATCHES the ball in its mouth. Stopping in its tracks, Munchlax SWALLOWS the Poké Ball.

Everyone stands there, looking completely taken aback...

HILBERT

Wait. *Did that thing just eat the Poké Ball?*

Munchlax BELCHES. As it does this, a red light envelopes Munchlax --- from the inside out --- and then a Poké Ball lands on the ground where Munchlax once stood. It worked! The Ball shakes, shakes, shakes. Then it LOCKS in place. Hareta picks up the slob-covered ball and cheers.

HARETA

I knew that song would come in handy.

EXT. CELADON CITY - DAY

ESTABLISHING SHOT: We're in CELADON CITY now, Kanto's largest town. Vast lights and people make it an incredible sight.

We're on ground-level now. CAL skateboard's around while HILBERT, HARETA and IRIS try keeping up with him. Iris is doing a good job while the boys lag behind.

FELICIA (O.S.)  
 Step right up! Step right up!  
 Selling super-rare items here,  
 they'll help your Pokémon get  
 stronger for sure!

Hilbert recognizes that voice from anywhere.

HILBERT  
 That's that thief lady!

CAL  
 (excited)  
 With the nice butt?!

IRIS  
 (annoyed)  
 What did I tell you about your  
 brain little cousin? It's in your  
 skull not in your pants...!

CAL  
 (grumbles)  
 Sorry...

ON FELICIA, who has set up a table full of her junk items  
 outside the Pokémon Center.

FELICIA  
 This is the biggest sale ever!  
 Everything must go...!

HARETA  
 Yeah, including your face!

Hareta steps up angrily. His RHYHORN is right beside him.

HARETA (CONT'D)  
 You ripped off my friend and he  
 wants his money back!!

The drooling crowd of men around Hareta start mumbling in  
 shock and confusion.

Felicia spots Hilbert, Iris and Cal behind Hareta. She rolls  
 her eyes when she sees Hilbert.

FELICIA  
 Ugh. I hate repeat customers.

HARETA  
 Rhyhorn, use Take Down and destroy  
 her table!!

Rhyhorn lunges forward and lands on top of her table, breaking it into pieces. Felicia grits her teeth and throws a Poké Ball, letting out her SHINY UMBREON, a black fox-like Pokémon with blue rings on its head and its limbs. Her rare silver Eevee has evolved!

FELICIA

Umbreon, use Shadow Ball!

Umbreon creates a large ball of electricity within its mouth and then releases it at Rhyhorn, instead hitting the table and causing dust to collect in the air.

In the meantime, Felicia takes the opportunity to recall her Umbreon and make a run for it. Hilbert and Cal after her. Iris is way behind, but she tries catching up, leaving Hareta with the angry crowd of men.

CROWD

Why'd you scare her off?! She was hot!

And then they all surround Hareta and vanish into a ball of smoke, indicating a huge fight (the 'Big Ball of Violence' like we see in cartoons). Arms and legs, of Hareta and of the men attacking him, protrude every couple of seconds before being pulled back into the ball. Off this image...

ON FELICIA

As she's fleeing. Running as fast as her legs can carry her, she kicks back, her high heels shooting off her feet and flying toward...

...HILBERT, IRIS & CAL!

One of the heels hits Cal in the face, the other hits Iris.

Hilbert keeps in pursuit, yelling back to them:

HILBERT

I'll get her --- !

Hilbert's in hot pursuit. Felicia leaps over a railing leading toward a stream, throwing out a Poké Ball and letting out a HORSEA. Horsea is a small blue seahorse.

Landing on her Horsea's back, Felicia makes a getaway by surfing off. Hilbert prepares to send out Raichu but sees other swimmers in the water ---

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Crap, if Raichu electrocutes her, he'll zap everyone else too...!

Hilbert just chases on foot, running alongside the railings as Felicia and her Horsea make their way through the bouncing current.

TIGHT ON A Poké Ball, HURTLING IN THE AIR

As it POPS open and a MASSIVE Pokémon MATERIALIZES, right in the middle of the current. Stopping all water flow. Felicia and her Horsea crash right into its massive belly. The Pokémon, sleeping, eyes closed, lies on its back and doesn't even take notice. This is SNORLAX.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Huh?!

Surprised, Hilbert looks over the bridge hanging over the walkway Snorlax rests, to see RED!

RED

Good job Snorlax.

Felicia recalls her Horsea into its Poké Ball and she tries to make a run for it. Hilbert lets out his Raichu.

HILBERT

Don't let her get away.  
Thunderbolt!

Red's Pikachu, Pika, leaps off of Red's shoulder and prepares its own Thunderbolt.

RED

Pika, really?! Hilbert can handle  
it---

Pika and Raichu's Thunderbolts release at the same time and both end up shocking Felicia. After her zapping is finished, and she lies on the belly of Snorlax (whose fat allowed it to not get hurt!), twitching a bit in her unconsciousness.

Pika and Raichu stand on the railing of the bridge and start butting heads.

EXT. ROUTE 7 - DAY

ROUTE 7, on the outskirts of CELADON CITY, is surrounded by forest and wildlife. A RATICATE, a fat rat with tan fur and a thick worm-like tail and terrifyingly huge buck teeth, scurries away from the front of a boarded up house. HILBERT, IRIS, CAL and HARETA follow RED, who has FELICIA bound and gagged, to the front of this boarded up house. He kicks in the door.

CAL  
What is this place?

RED  
It's called the Underground Path.  
Connects Celadon City and Saffron  
City... Not many people use it.  
Perfect place for an interrogation.

Red drags the thief in. Everyone else reluctantly follows.

INT. UNDERGROUND PATH - DAY

"UNDERGROUND PATH" continues. Hareta's PACHIRISU sits upon his shoulder and its crackling electric cheeks manage enough light to guide them. RED tosses FELICIA against the dirt wall.

IRIS  
How did you find us?

RED  
I was looking through security  
footage at base... and I saw *her*.  
She was there that day.

IRIS  
What else did you see?

RED  
The Mask of Ice. His mask fell  
off, but he was lucky enough to be  
facing the wrong way.

IRIS  
No good look at him?

RED  
(disappointed)  
No.  
(beat)  
But I pulled up this girl's  
profile. Felicia Green. Extensive  
criminal record. Completely erased  
backstory. She's had connections  
with Team Magma in Hoenn, black  
market Pokémon exchanges all across  
the globe, and, of course, Team  
Rocket.

HILBERT  
Who is that Mask of Ice guy anyway?

RED

Dunno what his exact role is. But he's done some pretty major busts for Team Rocket. Doesn't seem to be a number one or a number two, maybe just a glorified grunt? He's their public image of terror, that's for sure.

Red slaps Felicia awake.

RED (CONT'D)

Hey. Yo! Wake up!

She stirs. Looks up at him. Her icy blue eyes roll.

FELICIA

Ugh. Great.

She sees Hilbert and co.

FELICIA (CONT'D)

Good to see y'all again.

HILBERT

Pleasure is all ours.

FELICIA

(sarcastic smile)

I'm sure it is.

(beat)

Something you want?

RED

Do you know who I am---?

FELICIA

You're Red of Pallet Town. Of course I know who you are.

RED

I'm with the International Police now. These kids are my liaisons.

FELICIA

(eyeing Iris)

Yeah. They sure are.

These two girls do not like each other. Iris rolls her eyes and takes a little walk around, pacing back and forth.

RED

So, you're with Team Rocket now?  
Freelance wasn't giving you good  
pay?

FELICIA

I have no allegiances. Team Magma  
was better pay, but Hoenn's  
tropical climate is awful for my  
skin.

(beat)

Team Rocket has provided me a bit  
of stability, which is nice... if  
you're into that sort of thing.  
I'll forever be freelance, they  
just seem to *like my work*, and the  
pay's decent, so of course I've  
accepted their offers.

RED

What are you doing for them now?  
Anything in particular?

FELICIA

My job is to stall them. They've  
proved themselves to be more than  
obnoxious.

HILBERT

She sure is a chatterbox.

RED

I'm going to make you a deal,  
Felicia. We could use some inside  
help.

FELICIA

Well that'd be smart of you. Rumor  
has it, Team Rocket sure has been  
enjoying their inside help.

HILBERT

(quickly, remembering)

The leak. Who is it?

It's deadly silent. Everyone waits, Hilbert the most  
eagerly. Felicia's eyes dart between everyone --- Red, Iris,  
Cal, Hareta --- then lock back onto Hilbert.

FELICIA

I don't know names. I'm freelance.  
They wouldn't trust me with that  
information.

(MORE)

FELICIA (CONT'D)  
 As stupid as their outfits are,  
 Team Rocket's anything but.

RED  
 Let's cut to the chase. You're a  
 huge fan of the legendary birds.  
 No matter what the operation,  
 you've always seem to have been  
 obsessed with catching them.

Felicia's lip twitches. He's hit a nerve.

FELICIA  
 Yeah, so?

RED  
 I'll catch them for you. And you  
 can keep them. You'll be fully  
 pardoned too, we'll ignore you and  
 let you go on with your merry  
 way... only if... we bring down  
 Team Rocket with your help.

There's a BEAT.

FELICIA  
 Deal. You want access to their  
 base?

Red nods.

FELICIA (CONT'D)  
 Anyone ever gamble before?

Cal raises a hand. Her eyes narrow at him, RECOGNIZING him  
 as the boy who patted her butt.

FELICIA (CONT'D)  
Oh. You.

He gives a giddy, lovestruck, wave. Felicia snarls at Red  
 and Hilbert.

FELICIA (CONT'D)  
 One of you untie me so I can  
 strangle this little mother---

INT. CELADON CITY GAME CORNER - DAY

CUE --- "GAME CORNER" from Pokémon DIAMOND & PEARL:

A sweeping shot of all the colors and fun going on inside the  
 casino-like game corner.



Tons of trainers play cards and slot machines, some winning money and others losing it! Others dance on the dance floor as this pumping music plays.

HILBERT walks about, puts his finger to his ear, communicating with everyone else, who move around the game corner on their own.

HILBERT  
(impressed)  
Gambling's legal for kids here?

ON FELICIA, leaning against a POOL TABLE with CAL next to her, obviously to keep her in check.

FELICIA  
This is Kanto, foreigner. The original region. We made up all the rules that your country decided to muck up... so yeah, we gamble.

ON CAL. He shoots, his TOGEPI on his shoulder. He speaks under his breath:

CAL  
Wait, you can't gamble in Unova?

ON HILBERT, who finds a seat at the SLOTS.

HILBERT  
No, there isn't a game corner like there is here.

CAL  
Oh, there's one where I'm from: Goldenrod City. It used to be my favorite place to hang out, it's so fun!

CAL takes another shot. He smirks and starts moving away from the table to grab a drink from the nearby vending machine. Red's voice speaks through Cal's earpiece...

RED (V.O.)  
You ready?

CAL  
Already sweeping this game. Just getting warmed up...

Cal pops in some money and gets a Fresh Water in return. No, seriously, that's what the label says. He takes it and starts to return to the table...

RED (V.O.)  
 Good. You need to get the guards  
 away from that poster...

Cal eyes the poster by the table, sees the GUARDS stood  
 there. Nods.

CAL  
 I remember the plan.

He makes his way back to the table, nods to his fellow pool  
 players. He reaches over and wraps his arm around Felicia's  
 waist. She winces. Not liking this. He leans in, whispers  
 in her ear:

CAL (CONT'D)  
 You need to distract them, love.  
 Play your part...

Felicia's lip twitches. She isn't liking this, but she plays  
 along. As Cal pulls away, she pecks him on the cheek. The  
 other guys look on, astonished that Cal landed THIS chick.  
 Before he pulls away, he manages a nice grab on her ass. She  
 frowns, ready to smack him, but she controls herself.

Cal smiles giddily as he whips out his ball, places it on the  
 table, and aims with the billiards cue. He manages a nice  
 hit and the ball does AMAZING curves, knocking two or three  
 balls in before rolling to a stop. Everyone looks on in  
 shock. Felicia claps slowly.

The GUARDS move toward the table, intrigued...

GUY AT TABLE  
 That was incredible.

GUARD  
 What's the big commotion?

OTHER GUY  
 It's unbelievable! The ball is  
 making amazing turns on its own...  
 this kid's got an impressive shot!

GUARD 2  
 (grunts)  
 Eh.

GUY AT TABLE  
 Go ahead, take my turn and show  
 'em!

Cal chuckles a bit, nervous now that these guards are in his  
 presence.

He sees HILBERT and HARETA sneaking out of the crowd and approaching the POSTER pressed against the wall that the guards were standing by. Hilbert presses his hand against it and the wall instantly FLIPS (much to their surprise!) --- when it turns around, its other side is identical so it looks like nothing happened!

BACK on Cal, as he prepares a shot ---

CAL

Welllll, okay. If you *insist*---

In the SHADOWS, between the masquerade masks on the dance floor, we see a dark figure pushing through. Wearing a MASK OF ICE... Pretty creepy image.

BACK on Cal, as he SMACKS the ball with the cue ---

BACK to the figure, still moving forward ---

BACK on Felicia, biting her lip and watching as the cue ball rolls about, bouncing more of the balls away.

The guards raise their eyebrows in confusion...

GUARD

How... how is that even possible?!

As the ball keeps rolling, the FACE OF IT begins to PEEL AWAY.

Cal looks on nervously. He swallows, makes eye contact with Felicia, they both see it coming:

GUARD 2

Hey!! You see that?

Guard 2 picks up Cal's cue ball. And helps peel it away. He scoffs.

GUARD 2 (CONT'D)

Yeah, this kid's unbelievable, all right. An unbelievable cheater!

He reveals the Poké Ball beneath the paper. Throws it and lets out Cal's AIPOM! Aipom stands where he is and whistles innocently, bouncing his tail along to the beat of his tune. Cal sighs.

CAL

Too late, Aipom...

Aipom frowns.

GUARD

He's substituted his billiards ball  
with a Poké Ball and had his  
Pokémon play the game! What a  
cheat...

All of the people surrounding the table get angry.  
Suddenly...

A blast of ice shoots forward, freezing the guard's hand as  
it LUNGES for Cal's throat. Everyone turns around in  
surprise, seeing the MASK OF ICE and his GLACEON stood there.  
Glacion's mouth mists with more ice, ready to fire another  
Ice Beam if need be.

In that distorted voice:

MASK OF ICE

...You weren't watching the poster.  
You fools. You've let intruders  
into the base...!

The Mask of Ice approaches, his hand going for the guards'  
throats. Cal and Felicia look on in horror, backing away  
from the table with everyone else.

As people start to realize what's going on and panic, the  
Mask of Ice sees police running toward them. Glacion turns  
her body toward them --- threatening an Ice Beam.

MASK OF ICE (CONT'D)

(re: the police)

This place is under Team Rocket  
ownership. You're in *our* turf,  
this is out of your jurisdiction.  
So if you don't want to be frozen  
where you stand, I suggest you back  
off. Team Rocket handles our own  
problems.

The police officers don't even get to open their Poké Balls.

POLICE

We were here to collect a person of  
interest in a case. Sorry. We'll  
leave you to it.

FELICIA

(worriedly)

*Person of interest...?*

CAL

(hoarsely)

Where's Red?! And Iris?

The Mask of Ice allows the police to leave, and then he drops the two incompetent grunts. Approaches Cal and Felicia.

MASK OF ICE

You two do not run. Why are you not scared like the rest?

CAL

...I'm not wearing the mask here! Who's the real scared one, huh!?

The Mask of Ice's laugh is cold, heavy, and perhaps even sad.

MASK OF ICE

Perhaps you're right. Such a worthy child. Your heart is gold, I can tell.

Off Cal's face, fearless, unclipping a Poké Ball, ready for a fight ---

INT. CELADON CITY GAME CORNER - ROCKET HIDEOUT - CONTINUOUS

HILBERT and HARETA press their backs against the wall stealthily as TEAM ROCKET GRUNTS, in full black uniform, with scarfs around their necks, charge by.

HILBERT

We need to find a way to get uniforms. We need to sneak in!

Hareta marches out into the hallway.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Wait, what're you --- ?

As a Rocket grunt makes his way past, he spots Hareta, who waves his hand at him.

HARETA

Hey mister, wanna' see something?!!

GRUNT

(warningly)

You know kid, you shouldn't be back here---!

As he gets closer to Hareta, hands outstretched, ready to grab the boy, Hilbert leaps out of the hallway and punches him right in the face. Knocks him out.

HILBERT

Help me with him...

Hilbert takes one of the grunt's arms, Hareta takes the other, and they drag him into the alley.

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
Nice thinking, Hareta.

HARETA  
Thanks! Now we just need one more.

HILBERT  
Okay, do your thing again. Rinse and repeat. We got this.

Hilbert holds up a hand for a high-five. Hareta finishes it and happily returns to his spot in the main hallway. Waves his arms in the air, beaming, as another grunt approaches.

HARETA  
Hey, mister!!!

LATER: HILBERT and HARETA both don TEAM ROCKET UNIFORMS. Despite how short Hareta is, they both blend in well and don't draw any attention to themselves.

They move through the LABORATORY PART --- through the window, Hilbert sees a large TANK containing a Pokémon. It floats in a green liquid and his eyes widen in surprise, recognizing it...

HILBERT  
(under his breath)  
That's Mewtwo...

Another person approaches Hilbert. Stands beside him and Hareta. It's a woman. Her name is SABRINA. We recognize her from the Team Rocket meeting back on the S.S. ANNE.

SABRINA  
Yes. The rumors are true. We crafted a Mewtwo from the Mew cells we recovered while tracking it down. While on an assassination mission for Giovanni in the Unova region, Mewtwo was gravely injured. Unfortunately, we do not have enough Mew cells unless we captured the legendary creature itself...

HILBERT  
And why aren't we getting on that again?

Sabrina's eyes lock with Hilbert. He freezes for a moment, in recognition.

HILBERT (V.O.)

She was on the ship. She was one of the Team Rocket admins, like Koga and Lieutenant Surge... I wondered if she recognized Hareta and I...

SABRINA

That freelance thief we hired, remember? Felicia. She stole the disk. I'm assuming she wants Mew for her own profit... That's always a problem with freelancers, yeah? Always in it for themselves. We should have taken care of her a long time ago before she got in too deep, but Lieutenant Surge was proud of her very particular skills. Well, word is, the Lieutenant won't be calling very many shots for Team Rocket from now on...

Her eyes lock onto Hilbert again, a small, wry smirk on her face. FREEZE ON IT:

HILBERT (V.O.)

*That look.* Right there. That told me she was onto us... And suddenly I found myself not completely hating this Felicia girl!

ALARMS begin to whirl. The looks on the boys faces are obvious --- their hearts have dropped. *We've been caught!*

Sabrina looks calmly at a nearby camera screen.

ON SCREEN: FELICIA and CAL in the GAME CORNER as all hell breaks loose, with the MASK OF ICE and his GLACEON facing them...

SABRINA

The thief has been spotted. She was stupid to show her face again...

Sabrina turns to Hilbert and Hareta.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

...and bring friends.

INT. CELADON CITY GAME CORNER - DAY

FELICIA stands as more GRUNTS pour out of the secret entrance, threatening Pokémon (HITMONCHAN, HITMONLEE, and GOLEM are present). CAL paces back and forth, Poké Balls ready for a fight.

Felicia removes a FLASH DRIVE out of her high heel. Waves it about.

FELICIA

Ah, ah, ah, boys. I assume this is what you want, right? You really need this flash drive if all of you big, strong men came after such a petite little thing like me...

MASK OF ICE

Hand it over. No one gets hurt.

FELICIA

(chuckling)

And if I don't hand it over? What're you gonna' do? Hurt the boy? Like I give a crap about him, Team Rocket of all people should know how detached I am to people I work with. And if you freeze me? You're just going to destroy the data on this flash drive. I don't really think any of us have many options here, because I really want that cute little Mew!

She lets out her SEADRA, the evolved form of Horsea --- bigger, more vicious and intimidating --- tossing the DRIVE into the air. Grunts leap at it, but Seadra propels itself into the air with an AQUA TAIL and catches it in its mouth, landing right next to a giggling Felicia. She's taking pride in this hostage situation she's conjured up.

The Mask of Ice grabs Cal by the hood.

MASK OF ICE

If you don't care, then you wouldn't mind --- ?

FELICIA

No. Take him. I insist.

Felicia pulls out a Badge Case. Flips it open. All of Hilbert's Unova League Badges!!



FELICIA (CONT'D)  
 You gotta' try harder if you want  
 to outsmart a trainer... with  
 eight Unova League badges.

HITMONLEE GRUNT  
 Unova League!? The land of the  
 trash bag Pokémon, puh-lease. Like  
 that's a huge accomplishment!

INT. CELADON CITY GAME CORNER - ROCKET HIDEOUT - CONTINUOUS

ON HILBERT's face --- he heard this as he tosses out his  
 GENGAR to face off against SABRINA.

HILBERT  
 Hey! She's the one who took my  
 badges!!

INT. CELADON CITY GAME CORNER - CONTINUOUS

FELICIA  
 Oh, watch and learn ---

HITMONLEE GRUNT  
 That's it! I'm sick of this!  
 Hitmonlee, use Hi Jump Kick! But  
 retrieve the data in mint  
 condition.

FELICIA  
 Good luck, hun.

The "GAME CORNER" theme starts up again as Seadra sprays a  
 SmokeScreen everywhere. Hitmonlee performs Hi Jump Kick, but  
 misses, crashing into a slot machine with its foot. Seadra  
 sprays it with Water Gun, foot stuck in the slot machine, and  
 the water conducts the electricity of the sparking machine  
 and ZAPS Hitmonlee. Hitmonlee is knocked out! The drive,  
 undamaged, still dangles out of the turtle Pokémon's mouth.

Outright chaos breaks out in the middle of the Game Corner.  
 Cal lets out his TRAPINCH.

CAL  
 Whip up a Sandstorm!

As if they needed any more chaos, a SANDSTORM is whipped up,  
 releasing from Trapinch's massive mouth.

An all-out brawl takes place, allowing GLACEON and the MASK  
 OF ICE the opportunity to whisk away into the shadows...

INT. CELADON CITY GAME CORNER - ROCKET HIDEOUT - CONTINUOUS

CUE --- "TEAM ROCKET HIDEOUT" from FIRERED & LEAFGREEN:

HILBERT has GENGAR out, HARETA has CROAGUNK.

SABRINA has ALAKAZAM (bipedal humanoid, lanky, with a moustache and carrying a large spoon in both hands) and HYPNO (bipedal humanoid, yellow skin with cat-like ears, two sleepy-looking eyes, a ruff of white fur around its neck, carries a swinging pendulum) out.

HILBERT

Gengar, use Shadow Punch on Hypno!

Gengar disappears, then reappears behind Hypno, punching Hypno in the back of the head with a fist surrounded by dark aura.

Sabrina doesn't say anything. Her Pokémon move on their own... Alakazam blasts a shocking wave of energy in Croagunk's direction.

HARETA

Huh!! She's not even talking, how--

Croagunk is thrown backward, landing at Hareta's feet. Hareta picks Croagunk up.

HARETA (CONT'D)

You okay?

Angry, Croagunk leaps out of Hareta's arms and is ready to keep fighting. The little purple frog begins to glow... and then is replaced by a larger purple frog, with hooked red claws extending from the knuckle of each of his middle fingers. This is a TOXICROAK!

HARETA (CONT'D)

Whoa! You evolved!!

He checks his Pokédex ---

HARETA (CONT'D)

Oooh, a Toxicroak!

They are both blasted by a Psychic attack from Alakazam. Toxicroak is on top of Hareta, who twitches beneath the oversized poison dart frog.

HARETA (CONT'D)

...I never knew evolution could hurt this much...

Hilbert keeps battling, his Gengar exchanges a Shadow Ball with Alakazam's Psychic. Hilbert helps Toxicroak and Hareta up on their feet. The Pokémon keep fighting, until Gengar manages a Shadow Ball that sends Alakazam FLYING through the window leading into the LAB... Gengar zips in after Alakazam, not finished with it yet, as Hypno fails to catch up to the ghost.

Sabrina leaps in through the shattered window, while Hilbert and Hareta follow.

INT. ROCKET HIDEOUT - LAB - CONTINUOUS

They make it to the next room, where MEWTWO floats about in the green liquid. HILBERT finds a sea of WARP PANELS nearby. They're so many of them.

Hareta runs toward one, Hilbert GRABS him by the chest.

HILBERT

Stop! Those teleport you to a different location. We can't get separated. Besides, we need to find Iris and the others...!

TIGHT on HYPNO, firing a PSYCHIC blast...

...BOOOOM! A wall nearby explodes. Hilbert and Hareta are sent in the other direction, crashing against the wall.

They stand and see TOXICROAK rushing around, with insane speed, slashing a POISON JAB right at Hypno. Hypno falls.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Toxicroak managed to poison Hypno!! Even despite his type disadvantages, he's kicking serious butt.

Hareta gets pumped, whooping and hollering.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Gengar, Hypnosis on Alakazam!!

Gengar tries to put Alakazam to sleep with swirly beams that escape its malevolent red eyes, but they miss! Alakazam simply tightens its own focus, closing its eyes... a pink aura surrounds its head.

HARETA

(worriedly)  
What's it doing now?!

Hilbert looks closely:

HILBERT  
 Future Sight, I think. In a few  
 turns, when we're not expecting it,  
 a psychic blast will come out of  
 nowhere and hit one of our Pokémon.  
 Question is, which one?

They exchange worried glances...

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
 Give it another try, Gengar!  
 Hypnosis!

Alakazam TELEPORT'S away as Gengar tries firing a Hypnosis  
 beam.

HARETA  
 Uuum, Toxicroak, uhhhh....

Hareta scratches his head nervously, THINKING... And then he  
 jumps up, so excited when he finally thinks of an idea.

HARETA (CONT'D)  
 Use Sucker Punch on Alakazam!

As Alakazam Teleports from one direction to another,  
 confusing Gengar, Toxicroak focuses and then FLIES forward,  
 landing a sucker punch right to Alakazam's gut. Direct hit!

Alakazam goes flying into the air.

HILBERT  
 Now Gengar, Hypnosis!

Gengar fires a Hypnosis beam again, landing a direct hit on  
 Alakazam. Alakazam falls to the floor, ASLEEP! Hilbert and  
 Hareta look at each other in amazement at their team effort  
 and HIGH-FIVE.

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
 Gengar, use Dream Eater...!

Gengar lunges at the sleeping Alakazam, opening its mouth and  
 clamping its jaws around its head. Gengar begins literally  
 chewing on Alakazam's head, absorbing Alakazam's dreams --  
 and energy --

While Hypno uses what energy it has left to rush up behind  
 Gengar for a surprise attack...!

HARETA

Toxicroak, use Sucker Punch on Hypno!

Toxicroak whips around and connects its fist with Hypno's chest, throwing it backward. Hypno keeps fighting, preparing a Psychic attack! But Hareta sees how weak it's getting. Toxicroak looks back at Hareta, waiting nervously for a command, but Hareta shakes his head.

HARETA (CONT'D)

Just wait. I've got this, trust me!

As Toxicroak anticipates Hypno rushing at him, Gengar finishes absorbing Alakazam's dreams and now the powerful Psychic-type is knocked out!

Hypno is near Toxicroak, and then, tired, it collapses. It fainted too!

HARETA (CONT'D)

(beaming)

The poison! It finally got the best of Hypno!

Toxicroak wipes its brow of sweat as the "ROCKET HIDEOUT" loop fades. Hareta rushes forward and hugs the large frog.

HARETA (CONT'D)

That was so awesome! Sorry I worried you.

No hostility here. Toxicroak wraps an arm around the boy, hugging him back.

Hilbert congratulates Gengar too. The ghost holds up an arm for a high-five, Hilbert goes in to high-five but only falls right through the ghost. Gengar snickers. Hilbert sits up.

HILBERT

(giggling)

Heh. Good one, Gengar.

Sabrina is pissed. She sends out another Pokémon. BUTTERFREE, a rounded butterfly with a dark purple body, large finely scaled white wings with black markings, and large, red compound eyes. Not very intimidating.

But it proves powerful, firing a SIGNAL BEAM from its eyes, slamming into the ground in front of the boys and their Pokémon. They are sent hurtling through the air, right above the WARP PANELS ---

They disappear in a LARGE BRIGHT LIGHT, blinding even Sabrina and Butterfree, and then the white FILLS THE SCREEN AND WE...

OPEN ON:

INT. SEAFOAM ISLANDS - CAVE - DAY

CUE --- "ICE PATH / SEAFOAM ISLANDS" from GOLD & SILVER:

HILBERT wakes... sits up with a start and a GASP. He looks around. He's inside a FROZEN CAVERN. Water surrounds him, half-frozen over.

He sees HARETA laying unconscious nearby.

HILBERT  
You okay? Hareta!

He walks over to the boy's unconscious form and starts slapping him awake.

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
Hey! Hareta--- Hareta---

Hareta then suddenly wakes up.

HARETA  
Whoa. Wha-- What happened? Where are Toxicroak and Gengar?

The boys look around and see their Pokémon, unconscious and laying next to each other at the edge of the frozen floor. They hear the noises of hooves approaching and they turn to see---

A RAPIDASH, a white unicorn with flames protruding from its back, head and making up its entire tail. An old man rides on Rapidash's back. His name is BLAINE.

Blaine sends out a Pokémon, a red and yellow duck-like creature with a fire-tipped tail called MAGMAR stands before Hareta and Hilbert, flames spewing from its beak. Hilbert and Hareta dodge the fire, and Blaine looks at them, shaking with an intense mixture of fear and ANGER.

BLAINE  
Team Rocket sends kids now? Think I'd let my guard down, did they? I thought we had an agreement...

HILBERT  
No. They didn't send us. We were trying to stop them and we...  
(MORE)

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
we stepped on some sort of tile and  
ended up here.

ERIKA (O.S.)  
Stop! Please!

Blaine and the boys turn to see ERIKA, a traditionally  
beautiful woman.

ERIKA (CONT'D)  
They're only children.

Blaine seems to be reeling down as the song fades...

LATER:

BLAINE, ERIKA, HILBERT, HARETA and their Pokémon (Blaine has  
Magmar, Rapidash, NINETAILS and PORYGON while Erika has  
VENUSAUR, VICTREEBEL, EXEGGCUTE and BELLOSSOM) gather around  
a campfire to keep themselves warm. Erika dips a wrapped up  
BLUNT into the dancing flames, lighting it up. Satisfied,  
she begins to dance with her Bellossom. She waltzes away and  
then brings a plate of food.

ERIKA (CONT'D)  
I made this myself. It's amazing,  
trust me.

Hareta jumps up excitedly. MUNCHLAX is right behind him.

HARETA  
(re: the food)  
Whoa!! Hilbert, they are good guys  
after all!

He and his Munchlax begin to shovel down food as Erika  
giggles.

HARETA (CONT'D)  
(mouth full)  
I'm going to get a lot stronger  
than that lady Sabrina, then go at  
it one more time. I won't lose  
next time!

Hilbert isn't fired up though.

ERIKA  
You look sad. Eat, it will make  
you feel so much better, like your  
friend here! See how fired up he  
is?

HILBERT

Is there a way back?

Blaine looks at Hilbert incredulously.

BLAINE

No.

HILBERT

My friends, they --- they --- they were battling and now I don't know what they've done to them... the Mask of Ice was there and Sabrina...

Erika shoves a blunt into Hilbert's mouth. She smiles as he takes it in and then puffs it out...

ERIKA

Calm down. Just relax. This is a concoction I've made with Venusaur's spores. *It will make you feel a lot better and calm down...* We will help you find your friends.

Hilbert smiles a bit, trying to shake off the effects of Venusaur's concoction... As Erika offers him more, Hilbert pushes it away... He's determined.

HILBERT

So... Team Rocket really does have a stronghold over the gym leaders in Kanto, huh?

ERIKA

Well, not all of us. Misty, Brock and I kept to our word to test the strength of trainers and represent the country we love.

BLAINE

There are good gym leaders here. I'm trying to make up for what I've done. Team Rocket hired me as one of their top scientists... you two, look like foreigners.

HILBERT

Please don't tell me you're hostile to "foreigners" too...



ERIKA

Forgive them, Kanto is a place of passionate people. They mean no harm and no foul in their judgments of you.

HILBERT

No harm? Okay. I'll believe that.

ERIKA

Not everyone here is mean and horrible. Please try to keep an open mind.

Hilbert sighs. He's holding back a lot to this woman, we can tell he wants to blow up.

HILBERT

(to Blaine)

What made you change your mind?

(beat)

Do you know anything about Project Iridescence?

BLAINE

...I created Mewtwo. Under the orders of Team Rocket, they wanted a clone... a more powerful version of Mew, because they were unable to capture the entire creature. So out of the few fragments of Mew's eyebrow I was able to retrieve, Mewtwo was born.

(beat)

After Mewtwo was raised to become an assassin and I witnessed my creation be shoved around the black market as some sort of mercenary, I backed away from Team Rocket. But Project Iridescence... I'm aware of, sadly.

HILBERT

Well, what is it?

BLAINE

The capture of all three legendary birds to combine into one massive creature using a Badge Amplifier Machine.

(MORE)

BLAINE (CONT'D)

Basically, the badges trainers receive have special properties that empower trainer's Pokémon, so this machine is a way to combine the power of all the badges and use their abilities to further amplify Pokémon abilities. It's dangerous, it's unpredictable...

HILBERT

What does Mew have to do with it?

BLAINE

They only want Mew to repair Mewtwo's body. They are foolish, underestimating the power of something as powerful as Mew...

(beat)

I want to show you something.

Blaine stands up. He, Hilbert, Hareta and Erika move toward somewhere deeper in the cavern... light leaks in from a nearby 'window' where the ice has been broken.

He keeps moving toward the 'window'.

BLAINE (CONT'D)

After abandoning Team Rocket, I collected Erika in an attempt to get Misty and Brock as well. I was going to bring them to hiding. I managed to tell Erika about the Pokémon we replaced and I gave her genuine Pokémon back to her... I didn't have time to get Misty or Brock, as when I returned home to Cinnabar Island, I found this.

Now at the 'window' of the cavern, he points outside. Hilbert and Hareta peer out and we get a...

...VIEW OVER THE SEA:

An island in the distance. Swallowed in flames. They're so bright, they illuminate the water and the rippling reflection seems to just scream the horrors the people that were there went through. Buildings are burnt to ashes and the smoke is black and engulfs the sky. It's a painfully bright and beautiful, yet horrifying, sight.

BLAINE (CONT'D)

They were aware of my betrayal and wanted me to know they were going to win.

(MORE)

BLAINE (CONT'D)

So they used Moltres to burn down Cinnabar Island. My home. Where my gym is. I can't let them know I'm still alive. They'll kill me in a heartbeat for everything I've done... so yes. You must train. You must become stronger. Because there's nothing left in my heart, no motivation for me. You two have your friends.

HILBERT

Your freedom?

BLAINE

(sadly)

No freedom for me. I let Team Rocket corrupt me. I created a killing machine. Kanto will never accept me.

HILBERT

But Mewtwo is a Pokémon. Artificial or not, all Pokémon have feelings. He's not just a killing machine.

HARETA

No Pokémon is evil. Pokémon adapt to the behavior of their masters! If someone good-hearted catches Mewtwo, I'm sure he will soften up too.

Blaine blinks for a moment, takes this in. Erika, lost in the clouds, dances about with her eyes closed shut. Bellossom and Jumpluff follow her over there, dancing along.

ERIKA

Your hearts are pure and wonderful, darlings. I commend your optimism. It's my Venusaur's wonderful spore therapy getting through to you, isn't it?

Blaine, Hilbert and Hareta just stare at her blankly...

CUE --- "CIPHER PEON BATTLE" from Pokémon COLOSSEUM:

MONTAGE.

Hilbert and Hareta have their Pokémon out and they train constantly. Trying to break a boulder, Hilbert's NIDORINO rams its horn into it.

The boulder CRACKS in half and Hilbert celebrates with the creature. Blaine gifts Hilbert with a stone that, when he presses it against Nidorino's head, the creature glows WHITE and EVOLVES... into NIDOKING!

Now with the ability to stand on its hind legs, the massive, muscular purple Nidoking is fearsome!

Standing on the exterior of the caverns, Hareta does push-ups alongside Toxicroak, Pachirisu and Munchlax.

In the water nearby, Hilbert and his Magikarp attempt swimming. Magikarp isn't doing very well so Hilbert has to drag it by its tail. They swim through a school of TENTACOOOL and TENTACRUEL, jellyfish Pokémon. Their stingers extend and start poking and prodding, ready to squeeze Hilbert and Magikarp. Hareta points and commands an attack. Pachirisu fires a Discharge attack into the water, zapping the Tentacool, Tentacruel, and even shocking Hilbert and Magikarp! When the electrocution's over with, Hilbert and Magikarp are free of the Tentacool and Tentacruel's grasp, as they swim away frightened, while Hilbert and Magikarp just float in the water unconscious, steam rising from them.

Somewhere on the other side of the island, the group is training. A MANKEY - a small monkey with a pig-like nose and angry eyes - playfully swoops down and SNATCHES Hilbert's hat right off of his head. Hilbert chases Mankey around and climbs up a small hill after it. He goes to tackle the monkey and falls on his face. RAICHU rushes up there after Mankey and fires a Thunderbolt, electrocuting the monkey. Mankey gets angry and leaps on Raichu's face, punching him repeatedly.

Raichu tumbles off the cliff, rolling back down to the bottom. Hilbert slowly reaches up to grab his hat from Mankey, only to get kicked right in the face! He falls down and lands right on his head. Sitting up dizzied, Hilbert sees Mankey stomping about on the top of the cliff angrily. It glows WHITE and evolves into a PRIMEAPE. Even ANGRIER now, Primeape leaps down and chases after Hilbert and Raichu. Raichu desperately releases a Thunderbolt, not only zapping Primeape, but shocking Hilbert too.

They continue to get chased around, until Hilbert commands Raichu to battle. Raichu uses a Brick Break attack against Primeape, but Primeape is powerful and uses a Seismic Toss to throw Raichu around and slam it to the ground. Raichu uses another Thunderbolt, paralyzing Primeape in its tracks. Hilbert pulls out a Poké Ball and throws it at Primeape. The Poké Ball shakes, shakes, shakes, shakes and then LOCKS in place. He caught it. All beat up, Hilbert picks up the Poké Ball unenthusiastically. And then he just clips it on his belt and wipes his brow. *Thank god that's over with.*

Hareta and Hilbert are using shovels to build their strength by digging a tunnel. Their Pokémon (PRIMEAPE, NIDOKING, SKITTY, and RHYHORN) are building separate tunnels on their own, racing against their human trainers, who work together. Rhyhorn uses Drill Run and completely drills its way through the ground. Skitty excitedly uses Assist to COPY its move, Drill Running through the ground as well.

On the other side: Skitty's Speed is amazing. Skitty pops up first and beats Rhyhorn. Rhyhorn surfaces and looks upset. Primeape bursts through the ground below Rhyhorn, tossing it through the air, Primeape having angrily PUNCHED its way through. Rhyhorn hits the ground on its back, and gets back up, TICKED OFF.

Hareta and Hilbert aren't making as-quick progress like their Pokémon, but they're going fast and are almost through their own tunnel.

When they finally dig their way out, they find Skitty and Primeape knocked out, with a bipedal, armored Pokémon with a drill for its nose. Its posture almost resembles a dinosaur. This is RHYDON, Rhyhorn's evolved form and it's wrestling with NIDOKING angrily. Hareta gives a fangirl scream and faints right then and there.

The "CIPHER PEON" theme ends as we see HILBERT and HARETA stood with their current teams, proudly. BLAINE and ERIKA look at them, impressed.

ERIKA (CONT'D)

It's only been a few hours and look at all this progress.

BLAINE

The Seafoam Islands are definitely the place to go for some hardcore training, that's for sure.

HILBERT

I feel confident enough. I just need a mode of transportation to get back...

BLAINE

Your Pokémon can't fly, nor can they surf.

HILBERT

Evolving Charlotte would be a solution. Charizard has wings, surely she would be able to fly us to Team Rocket?