

Day 6: A fresh start

Dear Diary,

I decided to continue. I didn't wake up feeling this good about it, but now that I have been on the road again, it feels right.

I left early this morning, because I couldn't really sleep. Told mom I was headed to Lumiose to return the pokédex. She asked if I was sure and, at the time, I had fully planned to so I nodded.

That's when Peter came in. He didn't appear outside the house, but when I got to route 2, I spotted him. I could tell it was him due to the odd way his call sounded. That and he decided to dance for me. Silly bird puffed his chest out, really proud of himself, and strut back and forth. It was the most adorable thing. I decided to pick him up, since he didn't seem to be afraid of me at all, and started to pet him.

It was at that moment that I realized he wanted me to train him. He somehow saw potential in me, just as I did him. He poked at the badge I still had pinned to my bag and looked up at me with a fierce determination. I felt really connected with him.

Since Bella and rhyhorn weren't there to scare him off, it was the perfect opportunity to see if he wanted to join me. I pulled out the ball I got as a gift for purchasing a bunch at once during the start of my journey, a pure white one with a red stripe. A premier ball, I think they called it. I didn't even have to throw it, or weaken him. He somehow knew what I was after and tapped the little activation button himself, disappearing inside.

Peter is now a part of the team. He was weak, though... Despite his pride, he needed to be trained a bit before I took him further. So I went through route 2 slowly, found a few wild pokémon and had him battle it out. He was pretty good, and got better quickly. I must have been having fun playing with him, too, because before I knew it, I was at Lumiose and Peter was about as strong as the rest of my team, aside from Bella. (Who, by the way, seems a bit miffed about him being on the team.)

I didn't want to stop. It was invigorating... so I kept going. I went to route 5, stopped by Azzy's grave and told him all about how I was going to keep going. It was cathartic.

By the time I got to Camphrier town, it was only noon, so I stopped and grabbed lunch before heading back out. I also texted Rinka. She's not upset with me or anything. In fact, she was totally understanding... apparently she had a few losses of her own before. She figured after the first few calls and texts that I just needed some time, so she waited for me to get back to her.

She said she was just out skating on route 5, so I invited her to come have lunch with me. I introduced her to Peter and the remainder of my team. She showed me her freshly evolved

linoone, as well as some new members of her team, a dodou, plusle, and venipede. Pretty good variety. I notice she tends to favor faster pokémon. Not really surprising, given her love of skating.

When we were done eating, I said goodbye to Rinka and we went our separate ways. I was curious if anyone had cleared that blocked bridge from yesterday, so I headed over that way. Nope, the snorlax was still there. And the too-generous-formerly-rich guy was still there. I asked why it wasn't cleared yet... He's too ashamed to go ask to borrow the flute. He heard about what happened to me and apologized, but no one else was willing to go ask the owner of the palace for the flute. He's supposedly some rich eccentric lunatic. I wanted to go see if I could find any evidence of Shooburt out there, anyway, so I told him I would go once more.

I got to the area where it all went down and it was lined with police tape. I guess they aren't done collecting evidence or something. I just ducked under the tape and started looking around the area I could remember Shooburt being hit. I didn't find anything except what looked like a hole dug quickly. I called out to see if maybe Shooburt dug it and tried to hide, but it was a fruitless effort. I can only hope that he got away at least.

Near the end of my search, I came across a peculiar sight... it was a sword stuck in a stone, literally like arthurian legend. When I got close, though, it surprised me by removing itself and then swinging at me! Turns out it was a honedge. I guess he was luring prey in with that charade. I wonder where he learned about it? Either way, I weakened and captured him. His name is Caliburn. How could I not name him that after that stunt?

I fought some other wild mons in the area, and Norman evolved into charmeleon. I was caught off guard because I hadn't realized he was almost there. All of my pokémon were trying to get tougher for me. It was really heartwarming. And that knowledge is really the only thing that helped me get through the next bit.

I made it to the palace and Shauna ran into me there. She heard from the broken castle guy that I was coming here to get the flute and wanted to help. When I asked the owner if we could have it, he screamed something about his missing furfrou and started yelling at everyone to go get it... Wow, I heard stories, but this dude definitely is insane. Though, the mention of furfrous made me start to shiver. My whole body got tense, my stomach turned knots and my heart throbbed in my ears. Even writing it now is making me feel a little nauseated.

Thankfully Shauna was there to help. We both went through the dude's garden and located the lost pup. After meeting the owner, though, I started to wonder if bringing it back was even a good idea. Shauna helped me wrangle it in... Basically I just blocked the exit to the garden while she chased it around. She heard about what happened, but didn't ask about it. She could tell I was feeling really anxious about it...

Either way, she got the furfrou and Mr. Crazypants thanked us both and told us we were amazing and then gave us the flute. We tried to leave, but he told us that we had to stay for the fireworks celebration... Yeah, crazy man wanted to do a whole huge party, but we politely declined that bit. He was sooo much closer to 'normal' now that he had his furfrou back.

When we were watching the fireworks, Shauna kinda came on to me. She went on about how she hopes we become really close friends, but the way she said it spoke volumes. Oh Shauna... You are cute, but you are not my type sweetie... not that I really have a type or anything.

Moving on! I went back to route 7 and gave Mr. Irresponsible the pokéflute. He woke up the Snorlax who attacked right after he was up. I had Lucky put up a barrier and then switched Peter in to deal some damage before throwing some balls at the Snorlax. It broke several before it finally accepted my party invite. Named him Hugo. Suddenly I realized I had a full party again.

I was going to continue on, but I was getting tired and it was getting late. I packed up and headed back to Lumiose. They have the power stable in one section of town now, but the rest is still in the dark. Not sure what happened to the power grid, but something really messed it up.

Time to get some shut eye, diary.

Love you mon amie,

Yvette

P.S. I completely forgot the reason Professor Sycamore wanted me to take Norman, the charmander, with me. He also gave me a stone that supposedly unlocks his full potential, but I have no idea how to use it. It's not the same as an evolution stone, I know that much... Maybe I'll figure it out along my travels.