

Day 22: Rock walls, rock pokémon, rocked it.

Dear Diary,

Today was a good day. I got up a bit early because I wanted to train Norman and it turns out he is pretty slow for a charmeleon. Either that or he didn't care to enough to give chase. He wasn't exactly slow, per se, but if I put him up against other charmeleon, I'd bet he would fall behind. He does have kinda short legs, too. Given that, I decided not to focus his efforts on speed. Instead, since he is a good bit beefier than most charmeleon, I went ahead and had him train on the croagunks and sentrets. He definitely hits hard. It didn't take me that long to get him in peak condition, either. By midday, he was visibly stronger. (Are pokémon supposed to be able to grow that fast...?) It was pretty awesome. Even Rinka was surprised he grew that fast.

After that, I spent the next couple hours fighting bugs and such with him. He should be able to take a decent hit now, I hope. I was never planning to use him at Cyllage gym anyway, since it is a rock-type gym. Luke and Cordelia were my shining gems there. Though it is odd... Luke doesn't know how to manipulate water into an attack right now. He can create a frozen aurora beam, but for some reason he is unable to use the common water gun or pulse. He does cloak himself in a watery veil to keep himself in top shape, though.

Anyway, scaling the Cyllage gym rock wall was pretty awesome. It turns out there is an elevator for those who don't want to, or physically cannot, scale the walls, but Rinka and I would have none of that. After putting on some shorts so I wasn't giving people down below a peek of my underwear, I started up the pro wall. Yeah, they had varying degrees of difficulty available and Rinka and I took the toughest route.

On the way up, there were several platforms meant for taking a break if needed. Rinka and I didn't need to stop, but there were other trainers there that challenged me to battles, so I took little breaks between walls for that.

I can't resist a challenge...

The Cyllage gym was a fun experience all around. Even without the pokémon battles, there were several people there just to have fun climbing up the rock wall. I saw an experienced climber teaching her kids to climb and it made me feel all warm and fuzzy inside. I don't know why, but whenever I see parents having a good time with their kids it makes me want to have kids of my own. Perhaps one day I will be that mom.

Anyhow, Rinka and I made it to the top and Grant was there waiting. Since there were two challengers, Grant said he would use two pokémon each against us, but didn't want us to restrict our team. Apparently he too, loves tough challenges.

Rinka went up against him first. She used her sandile and quite easily beat Grant's onix and solrock. I'm not sure why gyms make themselves use just one type of pokémon. It makes preparing for and defeating them far too easy, in my humble opinion. Rinka was given her badge and then it was my turn.

Against me, Grant used an amaura and a tyrunt, two resurrected ancient pokémon. It was cool to see the amaura, since that is what they thought my other fossil was supposed to be. I used Luke primarily against amaura, since its ice typing would put a big hurt on Cordelia, and he had no trouble at all. And with tyrunt, though I could have easily used Luke's aurora beam, I let Cordelia have some fun. She also had no trouble bringing him down, despite tyrunt's draconic half making grass not as effective against him.

Grant looked happy to lose. Or maybe it was more so happy that we won. He mentioned something about not getting enough of a challenge lately, so I imagine it was a pleasant change of pace for him. Though any trainer worth their salt would be able to prepare for this gym. Maybe there are people that didn't study pokémon and their physiology as much as me? I wanted to know everything there was to know about pokémon before I started my journey. Then again, I might be slightly obsessed with them...

Oh well, it's a healthy obsession, I'd say. Otherwise there wouldn't be pokémon professors...

Anyway, Rinka and I spent the rest of the evening on the road. We made it to Geosenge without incident and now we are in a "hotel" here. It's more like a bed and breakfast, really. The old lady owns the building and rents out the rooms on a nightly or weekly basis. I guess this is as good a tourist spot as any. I don't really find it all that exciting myself, but there were several tourists out and about.

Welp, lights just went out, time for sleep. Goodnight, Diary.

Love you mon amie,

Yvette

P.S. Some of those terribly garish team flare members were here at Geosenge, but they don't seem to be causing problems right now.