

Okay. Okay! This was... an issue. A big one, definitely. No clear way out, weird stuff happening, and the possibility of real, actual danger that wasn't just a part of the game considering that he couldn't log out, and therefore was stuck with his real body unconscious for however long he was trapped here. Leo... didn't want to think about that part. Focus on what he *could* do. Objectives, goals – he needed goals. His primary goal was to get out of this dungeon and back to safety. Secondary was to hopefully find the rest of his party and get them out too, but you have to secure your own oxygen mask first, that's what they always say.

Third? Well... he needed to figure out how to use the new abilities of the class he was stuck with. So into the class menu he went, immediately reading over all of the information he could. Most of the flavor text was missing, as expected, but at least the basic mechanical info was still there for him to read over. From what he could tell, Plushomancers were some type of summoner, once he looked past all of the plushie stuff and tried to ignore the diaper he was still stuck wearing. He was supposed to conjure a minor ally that he could direct in battle, and that's where most of his abilities were centered. Great, that's workable.

Focusing on the staff floating next to him, the luxio took a deep breath before quickly chanting the arcane spell he'd read in the menu, seeing the ribbons begin to float magically as he did. As he finished, the jingle of the bell at the top of the staff rang out, a small, golden summoning circle appearing on the ground just ahead of him, a glowing orb floating out of it and morphing into the shape of a small pokemon. As the light faded, what looked like a plushie of a swablu shook itself off, before looking up at him with a happy expression. It was... kinda cute, honestly.

So the Summon Companion spell worked, that's good. Apparently he was meant to summon more creatures as he leveled up and the cap increased, and it seemed to imply that he'd be able to learn how to summon different varieties of plushies for different situations... eventually. For now, this was his starting companion, which would do most of the fighting for him, considering his only other options were a very low level spell dictated by his type, and the ability to hit people weakly with his staff.

He *did* know one other spell apparently – Summon Caretaker, but that one... didn't look like something he wanted to mess with right now. It had a long recharge, and supposedly summoned a much more powerful companion for a limited amount of time, but also came with vague drawbacks that he didn't want to mess with if he didn't have to. So he'd be working with a weak spell and a weak swablu, unless he got desperate.

Leo felt... a bit more at ease, having started to put things into action, at least. Like he'd clawed back a modicum of control. But the next step was to venture out of that doorway and into the unknown, which wasn't the most promising prospect. But sitting around in here wasn't all too promising either... so taking

a deep breath and steeling his nerves, the luxio walked forward, the swablu plushie hopping along beside him.

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The ambience of the lower level of this dungeon felt different from the upper level – at least the background music was different, that creepy music box tune from before was already starting to get grating by the time the pits opened up. It was still a music box, but it sounded more like an actual dungeon theme, despite that. It was also definitely in less disrepair, the stone smooth and much less uncomfortable against his paws. Leo moved nervously through the wide, tall halls, painfully aware that he had absolutely no idea how to identify traps, even if he'd put any points into the skill. Every step felt laced with danger... but he hadn't run into anything yet, so either he was lucky, or there weren't many traps to be found.

Trying his best to keep a mental map of this place in his head all while looking around for traps in a paranoid state of mind led the luxio to nearly stumble directly into the first enemy he found, still not entirely expecting to see any after there were none to be found on the entire way in. Clearly marked by his HUD as an enemy, the kirlia ahead of him looked to be a plushie just like the swablu hopping alongside him. It turned to look at him with an intense stare as Leo backed up, combat quickly starting as his summoned swablu hopped in front of him.

Taking a deep breath, the luxio tried to keep what he'd read about his new class's mechanics in mind as he commanded the swablu to attack, carefully thinking through the few options he had at his disposal at level 1. Thankfully, the kirlia did not seem to be the most difficult enemy, its attacks slow and clearly telegraphed for him to dodge out of the way of. It was an experience learning to manage both his own positioning and his summon's, but he chipped away at the enemy plushie's health until it was defeated, managing to get through the encounter without a scratch.

Taking a deep breath, he glanced at his experience, seeing the progress toward his second level. It would be best not to avoid fights if he could help it... he really needed some stronger abilities if he was going to get out of here unscathed. Even if he felt dread at the thought of not knowing what might happen if he lost... he shook the thought out of his head. He was fine, he could make it out of here. He just had to be smart about it...

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Taking each fight slowly and carefully, Leo made his way further and further from the pillow pile he'd woken up in. It had never been his job to do the mapping before, so making sure he remembered each of the twists and turns that he walked through wasn't easy, especially with the added stress of...

everything happening all around him. But he'd be fine, he had to be. He was more than capable of dealing with this and getting out of here. It was the rest of the team that always relied on him, after all. He just had to stay confident, and stay focused.

A loud howl broke that focus.

Leo recognized that howl – it was Aster's voice, the houndoom sorcerer in their party. Leo quickly dashed in the direction of the sound, before realizing that it might not be the best idea to make his presence known, even if it was an ally that he heard. Who knows what tricks this place had in store... he slowed back down, trying to take it stealthily.

Reaching a corner, the luxio carefully peeked around it, the sound of combat registering on his ears. He saw Aster in the large, vaulted room beyond, though the houndoom definitely looked different. A large pink bow on both of his horns and the end of his spade tail, a giant diaper around his waist that matched the one Leo had been forced into wearing, and what looked like some strange pink shoes around each of his paws – they looked very round and slippery, and he didn't seem to be having an easy time walking around in them as Leo watched the fight.

His foe was a cofagrigus, similarly plushie, though quite large in scale, its large arms all flying at Aster as he dodged around them clumsily, seemingly trying to fire off spells at the opponent, though rather than the normal explosive, fiery magic that Leo saw him use in the past, he seemed to toss out puffs of pink smoke and glitter. Leo also noticed the staircase inside of that large room, seemingly leading up to a higher floor. The path to escape.

Seeing his companion in trouble, the luxio prepared himself to rush in and help, though before he could even round the corner, that idea was struck from his mind, the cofagrigus catching his party member off guard and grabbing him around the midsection with two arms, lifting him off of the ground. Leo could see the sorcerer's health drain rapidly from the touch-applied curse, his struggles growing weaker, until he was left at no health, knocked out to respawn at... wherever his respawn point was set to now.

Though before he did, Leo saw the cofagrigus smile, its other arms pulling out what looked like a pink set of straps that, together, formed a muzzle. Surely enough, the pink muzzle was applied to the houndoom in its arms, with the glow of magic visible even from this distance. The luxio had to look closely to make out what the strange thing at the center of the muzzle was – a pink pacifier, infantile just like everything else in this place, now held in the unconscious houndoom's mouth. He watched the cofagrigus chuckle, before the sorcerer vanished, teleporting back to his respawn point.

Leo quickly ducked back around the corner, not wanting the enemy to even have a chance of turning around and noticing him. His heart beat quickly in his chest and he breathed heavily, trying to stifle the fearful breathing out of worry that he'd be noticed... It was only a few seconds later that he noticed the sound of a trickle coming from his own diaper, pressing his hind legs together in a panic as he realized that he... he was having an accident out of fear.

Banking everything on the hope that this floor boss followed the rules of the game and didn't leave its boss chamber, Leo sprinted away, not wanting to be anywhere near this room right now, not at level 1, not with starting equipment. His mind was reeling, and fear was already starting to well up inside of him, his confidence rapidly breaking down as he followed the mental map he'd put together in his head to get back to the pillow pile.

As he sprinted back into the room, the luxio threw himself onto the pile of plush pillows, breathing heavily into them. He gave himself a minute to just breathe, calming down his heart rate and his rapid thoughts. What... what happened there? Well, it confirmed that his other party members were also stuck in this dungeon, just like him. That they were also being subjected to the humiliating, babyish treatment. Though Aster looked like he'd been through a lot more... he'd been wearing a lot of things that seemed like they were impeding him in some way. With the way the cofagrigus placed that muzzle onto him, he could only guess that the enemies did that to you upon defeat, and Aster had been losing a lot of fights?

Well... all the more reason to be careful and cautious, and take it slow. Thoroughly explore the floor, look for any loot that could help him, fight enough enemies to get some experience... and eventually he'd be able to beat the boss for this floor and get out. He could beat it, right? Yeah, he could do this.

As he adjusted himself, the luxio's attention was drawn back between his hind legs, where his diaper—rather, the diaper taped around his waist—was slightly more swollen and soggy than it was before. That was definitely concerning, he wasn't the type to just randomly have accidents out of fear. ...What was this place doing to him already? He needed to get out of here, and fast. But if he wanted out, he had to take it slow and steady... not a great combination.

Leo sighed, turning around and seeing his plushie summon looking up at him with a near-thoughtless smile. If only he were as positive about this situation... Oh well. Back to it.

He'd figure out what to do about the wet diaper later.