

((**Note:** This story is not canon to the RP. This section takes place during [chapter 55](#).)

After traveling with Frostfire, Eddo and their human friends, the night had begun. Everyone decided to stop and set up camp for now. Rhino volunteered to fetch some sticks and stones from the woods needed to make a campfire. Frostfire left to do the hunting for dinner. With the 3 humans and their hatchling friend left behind at the camp, Ryan thought to strike up a conversation with the others to get to know them some more. He asked them, "So how old are you guys?"

Henry answered, "I'm seventeen."

Yukki answered cheerfully, "I'm sweet sixteen!"

Eddo was the next to say, "And I'm two."

Ryan shared his age in return as he nodded, "I'm eighteen." He was disappointed to hear Yukki's age. He knew society did not romantic relationships between teens and adults. He and the girl were two apart, which was a close gap. But the redhead was not going to risk wooing her for he might look like a creep doing that. He continues, "So what do you all like to do? Any hobbies?"

Henry answered, "Well I like to practice my archery sometimes and read comics."

Ryan grinned with interest and said, "Cool! What comics do you read?"

The blonde answered, "I like to read superhero comics. You know, things like Radicalman, Tigerman and The Vikings of Landamot."

The redhead beamed, "Awesome! I like to read those, too!" Then they heard the rustling of tree branches nearby. Ryan knew it was Rhino taking the twigs off them. Of course, he would start with those since there were pretty much trees everywhere. He ignored the sounds and thought of one particular issue in mind that was pretty famous for him. He asked, "So did you see the newest issue where Deatharms died?" Deatharms is the name of the main antagonist in Tigerman and is the title character's arch-nemesis.

Henry frowned and said, "No, Yukki spent my money on pocky sticks. But thanks for the spoiler I suppose."

His sister justified herself, "They brought in new pocky stick flavors. I wanted to eat them."

"Oh, oops!" apologized Ryan, not knowing he had ruined the famous moment for the blonde boy.

Yukki continued, "That chocolate banana and cookies & cream were good." She looked to the redhead

and told him with a smile, "You should try them someday, you won't regret it."

Ryan replied, "Sure, I'll keep that in mind." The two flavors that the girl mentioned were quite unusual. All he's ever seen of pocky flavors were chocolate, strawberry and vanilla. Rhino returned with his collection of twigs and dropped them in the center of the camp. The ginger thanked him, "Thanks, big guy!"

The fleshcrowne said, "Don't thank me yet until I get the rocks to go along with them." Then he left and began his search for the stones.

Henry inquired, "So how did Deatharms die anyway? That guy's supposed to be practically indestructible." The comic book villain can pretty much survive anything: bullets from a gun, blades of any sharp weapons which none will sever him, a nuclear missile, poison, the most deadly diseases, drowning, extreme temperatures, any magic spells and even time itself. Sure Deatharms is immortal, but that did not mean that he was unbeatable as he could still be knocked unconscious and live to cause trouble another day. But there is one thing that would kill him.

Ryan revealed that answer, "Well Henry, Deatharms's body may be invincible, but his soul is not. Tigerman had to use that magic artifact he found in the last issue to suck Deatharms's soul out before he kills Lotus." Lotus is the name of superheroine who uses plant-based powers and would sometimes help Tigerman in his quest to fight for justice.

Henry mused, "Wow, a macguffin to attack the soul. Gee, I never thought he'd die like this."

The ginger agreed, "Me neither, but hey I'd give kudos to Steve Adams for being that creative! He really knows what he's doing for a noob." Steve Adams was one of the writers for Tigerman. The man was a new member to the team, but he was a big fan of Tigerman and has the skill to write a decent story.

"Yeah, he sure does," said the impressed blonde. "I think he'll probably become one of my favorite writers if he keeps this up."

"Well here's hoping he'll always do good." If Steve was still alive that is. For all Ryan knew, the whole comic book company could be dead and the recent Tigerman comic could very well be the last issue. If it was, then it was a very fitting end, though the ginger will be missing the series.

Eddo, who had been quietly listening to the conversation, interjected, "So when can we tell you our hobbies?" He was referring to himself and Yukki.

The boys looked from the hatchling to the girl. Ryan realized he had not given the two time to speak and share their interests, due to being so caught up in the subject of Tigerman. So he asked them, "I guess now. So who wants to go next?"

Yukki piped up, "I will!"

The ginger said, "Okay Yukki, what do you like to do?"

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Rhino trekked through the woods, still searching for the rocks. He kept his eyes out for them and hoped that he would find some soon before it gets really dark. He could use his electric breath to light his way, but that would take a large amount of energy to use. Not to mention, he cannot hold it at the top of his tongue like a fire-breathing dragon using their breath as a torch. And lastly, with so many trees around, shooting a lightning bolt would most likely start a forest fire as it could hit any tree in the way. Soon, he came to a short plateau with a stack of moss-covered boulders in front of it. The boulders were definitely rocks, but they were too big to be used in a campfire. Although he might be able to find some smaller rocks nearby. Rhino checked the place as he walked down the line of the plateau to the declining slope, but there were no stones small enough to be used. At first, he thought to look somewhere else, but then he thought, *'Well if there's no rocks, then why not make some?'* The dragon took one of the boulders into his jaw from the pile. The top boulders fell into place as one of them dropped off and rolled across the ground before getting stopped by a tree in its path. Rhino turned his head away from the plateau's stony edge before he swung his head back with enough force and threw the rock at the wall. The big rock bounced off the wall and hit the ground. Rhino went to look at both the boulder and the wall to see if any sort of damage to either of them. There was nothing significant, just a scratch on both of them.

As he picked up the boulder again, the dragon felt something beneath his foot; something he was probably looking for. He brushed away the dead brown leaves from seasons past and discovered the tips of small stones sunken in the soil. Perhaps these are the ones he's looking for. Rhino set the boulder down away from the stones and began to dig them out. His claws scrapped out bits of the soil away and piled them up to the side. The stones he freed were put aside next to the boulder. With one patch of ground cleared, the dragon brushed away the leaves off the next patch and found more stones. After clearing that patch out as well, the two dugged grounds looked like craters with smaller craters in them. Rhino looked at the pile of stones and saw that he has enough to wall the campfire. He took them all into his mouth and began to make his way back to camp.

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Ryan learned about Yukki's love for anime and manga as well as which ones were her most favorite. She even spoke fondly of her favorite bishies about how hot they were and how she would ship them with other bishies in her fanfics. The yaoi part creeped Ryan out a bit; he was not homophobic; in fact, he was cool with gays. He just did not like the idea of turning straight guys gay. The ginger kept his disgust behind his straight face and said, "Well...that's very interesting, Yukki."

Henry told him, "She's a huge otaku, the stereotypical fangirl kind."

"I can see," Ryan replied, after having observed her love for her hobby. Then he turned to Eddo and asked him, "So Eddo, what do you like to do?"

The techno hatchling answered, "I like to play outside and read & watch what my friends are seeing."

The ginger nodded and said, "Cool! You like some of what they see?"

"I sure do!" replied Eddo smiling. "I like The Savivors, Radicalman, Nekomania and Phoenix Fury X."

Ryan grinned at the mention of Eddo's last favorite. "Hey, I like Phoenix Fury X, too! It's the coolest action anime ever!"

Henry spoke up, sharing his same enthusiasm, "I like that show, too! Toshio's my favorite character in that one. He's cool, a badass and strong! He's got some killer moves like the Hurricane Fist and the Ryoku Wave."

Ryan liked the main character as well, but... "Toshio's all good and well, but I think Hiroyuki's better. He's cool-headed, more mature and more intimidating. That's somebody you don't want to pick a fight with."

The blonde said, "Can't argue with that. He's like everybody's favorite character and you can see them talking about him on forums and fan videos."

Yukki interjected with her fangirl craze, "I like to ship him with Toshio. They make a good yaoi." The ginger dropped his mouth open in shock at the thought of two manly badasses, who one would least likely to think of as gay, being a couple. Henry was shuddering with the same disturbance the other boy was feeling. Eddo looked at everyone with a confused look on his face. Yukki noticed all the reactions and asked, "What?"

Ryan held back his shock behind a fake smile and said, "Er nothing, it's just that I've never heard of that ship before. I always thought they were straight and nobody would pair them up like that." Then he quickly changed the topic before the girl could creep him out any further, "So how about we get started on setting up these tents now. The sun's gone down and we got to be ready for bed after dinner."

Henry jumped on the idea too for the sake of his sanity, "Yes, let's do that!" Just as the boys approached the suitcases, they heard a pained roar in the distance. They stopped and looked to where the sound came from. The blonde asked, "What was that?"

Eddo answered in horror, "That was Frostfire, she's in trouble!"

Ryan thought of one of the possible dangers for a dragon and assumed, "There must be hunters out

there. I'm going to look for her and put a stop to them."

Then Rhino's voice sounded behind them, "No need, Ryan. I'll go and do that." Everyone turned to see the fleshcrowne returning with the stones he collected. He dropped them in the middle of the group and continued, "You humans get to work on setting the campfire. I'll go and save Frostfire."

The ginger replied, "Okay, you be careful out there, buddy." Rhino ran past the people and went into the side of the woods where Frostfire departed into.

Everyone worried for the dragoness's life, hoping that nothing fatal would take her life. Henry asked, "Think she'll be okay out there?"

Ryan was just as unsure about the outcome as the blonde was. All he could do to calm him down a bit was say this one word, "Yeah." At least he hopes so.

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Rhino ran through the forest, rushing to get to Frostfire before something terrible happens to her. He followed her scent trail, only in the direction where her roar came from, not where she has wandered while hunting. The darkness made the trees very hard to see that he had to keep an eye out for any lines and shapes standing out from the background. There were two times when he bumped into a tree that he failed to see. But the dragon never stopped to soothe his pain; he had a life to save before it was taken. Soon, he smelled blood and followed it to where its scent will be at its strongest. Then he saw frozen figures on the ground, some the size of a full-grown human and the others were much smaller like they were critters. Among them was Frostfire who was lying on the ground and wounded by the arrows the now-frozen hunters had shot at her. Rhino worried for her well-being as he asked, "Frostfire, are you alright?"