

"POKÉMON: BLACK & WHITE"

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Adapted to screen from the popular video games by Nintendo

NOTE: Anything written in **this font** is superimposed in a freeze-framed shot on the bottom of the screen.

BLACK.

N (V.O.)  
I don't know what it is. But just  
being around nature... gives me  
this... This rush.

FADE IN:

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

A young child sits amongst a bed of flowers. His eyes are wide and full of life, of intrigue to the world around him. He climbs on the back of a massive, red creature with massive eyebrows that are alight of flames... It's called a DARMANITAN.

The usually aggressive animal is surprisingly GENTLE with the child, leaping from its place on the ground and swinging on TREE BRANCHES and doing FLIPS in the air like an ENORMOUS MONKEY. The child giggles, holding onto the Darmanitan's red hair. It lands on its feet and the child keeps giggling...

N (V.O.)  
Ever since I was young, I had a  
connection to the world around me.  
The creatures that inhabited it.  
The creatures I saw as *equals*.

Other creatures - a small mammal with red and yellow eyes and puffy cheeks called a PATRAT, and a black and red fox called ZORUA - join the child. He pets them, smiling down at them.

FADE TO:

EXT. FOREST - DAY

Young N stands among the foliage, watching as his friend Darmanitan is DRAGGED into a red and white capsule, tears well in his eyes as a young girl picks up the capsule and grins happily. She looks at the Pokédex in her hands.

He stares at the Pokédex -- eyes watering -- he sneaks away into the foliage again, crying to himself...

N (V.O.)  
I lost so many of my dear Pokémon  
friends... Taken from me by those  
who call themselves 'Trainers' who  
aspire to catch them all and  
document them like *test subjects*.  
(MORE)

N (V.O.) (CONT'D)

These 'Trainers' supposedly grow bonds with their Pokémon, putting them through battles with each other to gain experience and grow stronger...

FADE TO:

EXT. FOREST - NIGHT

A plump, mean looking boy lets a small, cheery little bird Pokémon, called a PIDOVE, out from its Poké Ball.

N (V.O.)

...Some of these Trainers truly have the heart, while others are simply cold. If a Pokémon is not deemed strong enough, they're abused verbally and physically before being let go altogether.

The boy tosses the Ball to the forest floor and STOMPS on it. It shatters to pieces. TIGHT on the Pidove's heartbroken expression, tears forming as its trainer walks away, leaving it behind. It tries to fly after him...

...But the trainer sends out his MUNNA, a floating pink creature with a purple floral pattern on its side. It uses telepathic Psychic powers to stop the Pidove in its tracks, throwing it around uselessly against trees. It then drops it. The trainer smirks, satisfied, before recalling Munna and carrying on his merry way.

PAN down to the Pidove -- Eyes closed, beat up badly --

FADE TO:

INT. N'S CASTLE - DAY

N, now in his early twenties, with long hair and a vacant expression, dressed in royal garment, stands at the end of a long red carpet. He has women named ANTHEA and CONCORDIA - one on each side - escorting him down the carpet.

Baby blue hooded figures stand on both sides of the carpet, watching N make his way down.

N (V.O.)

I've been dreaming of a world that doesn't exist for too long. It's time for a change... it's time for a brand new world. A world of no more abuse, no more battles, no more *pain*...

N makes his way to the throne. Anthea and Concordia disperse behind the massive chair's arms, one on each side.

A massive man, burly, with a very intimidating robe that depicts a bright eye surrounded by plenty of designs imprinted on it, with a golden eyepiece over his left eye, steps forward. His name is GHETSIS. He holds out a bright red crown, encrusted with diamonds. He places it atop N's head as he takes a seat on the throne.

N (V.O.)

There is too much gray in the world. It's time for it to simply be just... black and white.

**CUT TO BLACK.**

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. HILBERT'S BEDROOM - MORNING

CUE -- "TITLE SCREEN" FROM THE Pokémon BLACK AND WHITE OST.

This place is a mess.

ITEMS thrown around the room uselessly, a COMPUTER on a desk filled with scattered figures and papers, a TELEVISION on its set with numerous GAMING SYSTEMS hooked to it, WIRES hanging loosely all over the floor... DEFINITELY a guy's room.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Yep. This is my boring room.

PAN over to show a bed -- sheets tossed around --

HILBERT (V.O.)

Oh look, and there's my boring bed. It's where I rest after a boring day.

PAN over to see a boy lying on the bed. He's tangled in the covers, in an uncomfortable position. Dressed in a bright blue hoodie, baggy black pants, red shoes and a matching cap, he obviously fell asleep unexpectedly - he looks fashionable, but definitely not comfortable for sleeping.

HILBERT (V.O.)

And there's boring 'ol me. My name is Hilbert. I don't know, feels like someone somewhere should've given me a better name. But they didn't. So I'm stuck with Hilbert.

(MORE)

HILBERT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 (sarcastic, referring to  
 how he's sleeping)  
 Good first impression innit?

The Poké Ball alarm clock next to him RINGS OUT SHRILLY, and his whole body writhes, JUMPING at the sound. He bashes the back of his head on the headboard. He gives a groan. His brown eyes snap open and we get a better look at the kid--

HILBERT, 15/16, a boyish face with shaggy long brown hair. He's got an air of adventure and mischief about him, he's got a lot of heart, though he's definitely not the sharpest tool in the shed.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
 If you're lookin' for a genius,  
 you've come to the wrong guy.  
 That'd be my friend Cheren. Me?  
 Well, I'm kinda a dork.

INT. KITCHEN - MORNING

HILBERT'S MOM is pretty and in her 40's. She looks overworked and stressed, maybe all her hard work has made her become a little airy.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
 If you're lookin' for an excitable,  
 happy, morning person, that'd be my  
 friend Bianca. I'm more of a lazy-  
 ass slob. But... I haven't seen  
 her or Cheren in months.

HILBERT enters and she smiles.

MOM  
 Good morning, honey. It's so nice  
 to see you already dressed and it  
 isn't even two p.m. yet!

FREEZE-FRAME on her excited smile as "TITLE SCREEN" comes to an ABRUPT end.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
 And it's all *this* woman's fault.  
 Believe it or not, I wasn't always  
 this angsty. Or moody. Whichever  
 term you prefer. So, let's rewind  
 back to like, let's say... five  
 months ago.

CUT TO BLACK.

**BLACK...**

CHEREN

Who wants to open it? You do the honors, Hilbert.

HILBERT

No, you, man. I insist.

FADE IN:

INT. HILBERT'S BEDROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Hilbert stands around in his bedroom, alongside his friends CHEREN and BIANCA. Both 15/16, Cheren is a guy with large spectacles hanging on his hooked nose. Bianca's a blonde, very airheaded but fun.

FREEZE-FRAME on Hilbert -- The camera swivels up and down, letting us see his clothes -- he's wearing the EXACT SAME CLOTHES he wore five months ago. WTF?

HILBERT (V.O.)

Yes, five months ago, I was wearing the same clothes. You might call it weird, but *in our world*, it's normal. We just carry around lots of cologne to keep ourselves fresh.

(beat)

Also odd is how, due to the idiocy of the interior designers, our two-story house consists of one bedroom in total, which leaves my Mom to sleep on the cushions downstairs. Eh, she was nice enough to let me have the room upstairs, so maybe I should stop complaining. Moving on...

The scene STARTS to play again.

BIANCA

It *is* your birthday, Bertie.

HILBERT

I'll open it only if you promise to stop calling me Bertie.

BIANCA

(pouty)

Fine... You got yourself a deal.

Hilbert reaches for the box on the table. He picks at the lavish green bow on it, having trouble at first, but tearing it off and then lifting the cover off with ease.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Let's just say that Professor Juniper was one hell of a gift-wraper. She was the local Pokémon Professor, and was gifting us with our first Pokémon. You see, in Unova, when you turn fourteen you get to go on your own journey... Catching more Pokémon and collecting badges from the eight powerful gym leaders throughout the region. If ya beat 'em all, ya get to challenge the Elite Four at the Pokémon League...

SHOT from INSIDE THE BOX -- all three of their heads peek around the sides, looking DOWN at the box, at US...

BACK to normal view as Hilbert picks up a card from inside the box.

HILBERT

Blah blah blah. Words. They mean nothing.

Excitedly, Hilbert tosses the card into the trash can next to his desk, and scans the Poké Balls inside. They've got labeled cards propped up against them.

From left-to-right; 'TEPIG', 'SNIVY', and 'OSHAWOTT'.

Hilbert instantly picked up the Ball to the farthest right -- OSHAWOTT.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I chose Oshawott, the Water-type.

FADE to a CLOSE-UP of SNIVY's Poké Ball as a hand reaches in and takes it --

HILBERT (V.O.)

Cheren chose Snivy, the Grass-type.

FADE to a CLOSE-UP of TEPIG's Poké Ball as a hand reaches in and snatches it up --

HILBERT (V.O.)

And Bianca took Tepig, the Fire-type... Before promptly tripping over a bump in my rug.

CRASH! The camera CUTS to a shot of Hilbert and Cheren looking down at Bianca, who's on the floor. She scrambles up quickly, hopping to her feet.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I love her to death, but Bianca has a mental age equal to her shoe size and the hand-eye coordination of a freakin' Magikarp... And trust me when I say she has *tiny* feet.

Cheren looks in the box, reaching in for something else -- picking up three electronic devices, a very peculiar look on his face.

Cheren presents the devices to Hilbert and Bianca. They each take one.

CHEREN

They're called Pokédexes. Invented by Professor Oak of the Kanto region. What else did the card say?

Hilbert shrugs.

CLOSE-UP of Hilbert's hand as he puts the Pokédex into the back pocket of his pants...

HILBERT

I dunno. You know I can't read...

HILBERT (V.O.)

We don't have school here in case you were wondering... You may say we're lucky, but teaching yourself how to read isn't fun... *That's* how bored I've been the past few months. I used to just do picture books, now I'm onto nursery rhymes. Yippee?

Cheren bends down and looks through Hilbert's garbage can, rifling through candy wrappers and crumpled-up paper, finally managing to produce the card that was in the box from the trash. Pushing his glasses up, he reads the card...

CHEREN

She wants us to travel around Unova, and use these to collect data of all the species. This is amazing...



BIANCA

Hey guys call out your Pokémon so we can battle! All this talk is boring us. My Tepig's sooo cute!

Both boys turn around and see a tiny orange and black pig with a springy tail stood on the floor in front of Bianca. Hilbert furrows his brow, concerned.

HILBERT

Oh god, an orange micro-pig? I hope it doesn't defecate all over my floor.

CHEREN

You've already done a good job of that, Hilbert, I don't see why you're so worried.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Ah, Cheren. Always the witty bastard.

Hilbert makes a mocking face at him, Cheren just laughs. They both send out their Pokémon. Hilbert's Oshawott is a blue and white two-legged otter. It gives a bow in his trainer's presence. Hilbert grins, amused.

HILBERT

I like this little guy already.

Hilbert turns around to see Cheren taking notes on a notepad (*where'd it even come from?*) of the green reptilian Pokémon Snivy, its arms on its hips, its tail curled in the opposite direction with a very stuck-up look on its face. It looks like a TOTAL DIVA.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I don't really remember much after that. Just that we had a huge battle.

Quick clips of Oshawott, Tepig, and Snivy flying in all directions, sending numerous attacks at each other, flash by.

HILBERT (V.O.)

That ended in disaster, my room looked like *another earthquake* went through it... But the worst part was that Bianca's Tepig was just as much of a klutz as she was.

BIANCA

Tep-Tep, use Ember!

HILBERT

C'mon, Sheldon, blast micro-pig  
away with Water Gun!

As Tepig's nose lights up, the pig charges at Oshawott. Oshawott blasts a spray of water at him. Tepig goes flying backwards, landing on the wall behind Hilbert. Hilbert gives a cheer, as Tepig tries to stop its nose from flaring. But he can't.

And the flames come out in one BURSTING SNEEZE, the jet of flames shooting out from Tepig's NOSE right onto the back of Hilbert's legs.

Hilbert gives a HOWL, running right into the wall on the other side of the room, bonking his head on one of the shelves on the wall.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I don't remember much of what  
happened next.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY (FLASHBACK CONT.)

HILBERT, with a wet washcloth acting as padding under him and a bandage on his forehead, sits on the couch as his MOM stands in front, giving him a long lecture. TIGHT on his face as he just stares into the camera, right at us -- His mom paces around in the background and foreground, sometimes walking in front of Hilbert, but he just keeps staring ahead.

HILBERT (V.O.)

All I really remember is what happened when I woke up. I found myself on the couch in the living room, with Mom yelling at me about how she deemed me "irresponsible" and that since I broke my Pokédex, I couldn't go on my journey because I was still "too immature". She actually thought everything was my fault, and that keeping me locked up here in this hellhole is gonna help me learn how to "grow up". She thought up so many different excuses. I mean, the fact that she thought I burnt myself and destroyed my bedroom by trying to light one of my farts on fire with Tepig was understandable... I mean, lighting your fart on fire is SO elementary, I did that kinda crazy stuff last year when I was like, fourteen.

(MORE)

HILBERT (V.O.) (CONT'D)

(beat)

But I've grown up A LOT since then,  
I'm not a stupid little kid  
anymore... My own mom's the only  
person who hasn't seemed to notice.

Hilbert gives a yawn as his mom continues blabbering on.

HILBERT (V.O.)

The fact she suggested all these  
things even AFTER Cheren and Bianca  
testified that it was an accident  
just astounded me.

(scoffs)

She truly was grasping for straws  
at that point. Goes to show how  
much a paranoid freak show my mom  
is. Not to mention how unable she  
is to acknowledge that I AM growing  
up...

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY (END FLASHBACK, PRESENT DAY)

HILBERT lies down on the couch, lounging, and flipping  
through the channels on the massive TV in their living room.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Mom told me that I needed to prove  
to her I was mature enough to leave  
home. That opportunity finally  
presented itself five months  
later...

The TV suddenly starts to flicker. Hilbert frowns.

HILBERT

...Not cool.

He hops onto his feet and tries smacking the TV.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Mom, the TV's not working!

From the kitchen, his mom shouts;

MOM (O.S.)

You're grown up, remember? You fix  
it.

Hilbert rolls his eyes as he gets on his knees to look behind  
the TV.

HILBERT  
 (grumbles to self)  
 ...Smartass.

He can see the PLUG is not in the wall -- he follows the\ CHORD and sees it leads into the VENT. Hilbert looks confused. He opens up the vent and pulls on the chord.

It won't budge. He sticks his head into the massive vent, seeing a little SPARK of yellow light flash by rather quickly. He frowns and decides to CRAWL in.

INT. VENT - CONTINUOUS

HILBERT climbs inside the shaft... Grabbing at air. It's dark in there now, the light's faded. But he GRABS something.

His eyes adjust to it and he sees -- a YELLOW AND BROWN TAIL. The crackling grows LOUDER and Hilbert sees SPARKS. He knows he just PISSED SOMETHING OFF.

HILBERT  
 ...Uh oh.

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Hilbert's legs are all we see, as the rest of his body is in the vent. Not even a moment later, BRIGHT, YELLOW ELECTRICITY starts to SHOCK Hilbert, his body surrounded by it.

His legs WRITHE and KICK, and he YELPS as he attempts to pull himself out of the vent.

His body is THROWN backwards, right out of the vent, as a YELLOW RAT WITH BRIGHT RED CHEEK POUCHES climbs out -- you KNOW WHO THIS IS.

FREEZE-FRAMED close-up of the Pokémon--

**A wild Pikachu appeared!**

Hilbert, his hair now static-y and sticking up, stands on his feet as the PIKACHU stands in front of him.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
 That cute yellow thing that just zapped me wasn't something I recognized.

Pikachu's cheeks spark -- it's ready to attack again.

HILBERT  
 Whoa, whoa, whoa, little buddy.

The sparks grow brighter -- Hilbert frowns. It blasts him with a powerful jolt of electricity, throwing him across the room, he does a FLIP in the air with a SCREAM, hits the couch and it FLIPS over. His mom rushes in.

MOM

Hilbert, what's going on -- !?

She sees him on the floor. She helps him up.

MOM (CONT'D)

Are you OK, Hilbert? Oh my God...

HILBERT

Yeah mom. I might be in shock, though.

His mom looks worried and then her face goes soft. She smirks.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Gettit? *SHOCK?*

MOM

Seriously Hilbert, are you OK?

Hilbert sits up with a nod. He unclips a Poké Ball from his belt. SHELDON's.

HILBERT

Where do you keep the rubber gloves?

MOM

I know what you're thinking, Hilbert, but no. That thing's gonna end up barbecuing you.

HILBERT

Do you want it to stop rampaging around your house or what? Besides, it already HAS barbecued me!

She hesitates.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

I'll have Sheldon fight it and I'll get the gloves while it's distracted...

MOM

It's too dangerous, I can't...

He cuts her off before she can start ranting.

HILBERT  
Nonono. MOM.

She stops INSTANTLY and Hilbert takes her by the arms, stares into her eyes...

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
Trust me.

She takes a deep breath and nods.

MOM  
They're in the cupboard under the sink.

Hilbert ignores her as he tosses out Sheldon's ball, he looks at the little Oshawott seriously.

HILBERT  
Sheldon, I need you battle that little yellow rat. I need you to BEAT. IT. DOWN.  
(beat)  
Can you do that?!

Sheldon gives a confident nod, Hilbert beams.

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
*Thank you!*

Sheldon HOPS over the couch, doing its best BADASS NINJA POSE. Pikachu looks amused and sends a BLAST of electricity at Oshawott. Oshawott LEAPS out of the way, and the jolt hits a LAMP sitting on an end table.

MOM  
Not my lamp!

HILBERT  
I'll clean this up, I promise! Just STAY DOWN!

Hilbert looks at the battle going on between the two Pokémon as they exchange attacks... Perfect time to RUN FOR IT. He shoots on his feet and RUNS -- Pikachu doesn't seem to notice as he makes his way into the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

HILBERT throws open the cupboard under the sink, tossing stuff in all directions. In the background, Pikachu releases a huge discharge of electricity that SHOCKS Oshawott and the electricity flies through the living room.

Behind the couch, Hilbert's MOM covers her head, screaming as the electricity flies all around her.

One huge bolt flies toward Hilbert. He spins around, sees it, DUCKS and it MISSES HIM! The electricity SMACKS into the cupboard, causing all the GLASS inside to EXPLODE. He covers his head and CURLS UP on the floor, bracing for it. The glass rains down. He gets up, a few cuts on his face and hands, but he's OKAY.

He continues rifling through the cupboards. He finally finds a box of PINK RUBBER GLOVES. He SNAPS on a pair, gets on his feet and CHARGES back into the living room --

INT. LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

As he rushes back in, HILBERT is nearly hit by another bolt but he LEAPS out of the way. SHELDON lands a TACKLE attack, throwing Pikachu backwards. Pikachu LANDS right at Hilbert's feet.

Before it can get back up and shock him, Hilbert SCOOPS it up in his arms. It tries to shock him, but the rubber from the gloves insulates the attack. His mom stands up, and scans the destruction of her living room-slash-bedroom.

MOM

What are you doing with it?

HILBERT

I'm gonna take it to the professor.

MOM

B-Be safe!

He nods and looks at Sheldon, who's all tuckered out on the floor, panting and laying flat on his back.

HILBERT

You did a great job, Sheldon. Stay here with mom, OK? I'll be right back.

Hilbert rushes out the front door as Pikachu continues squirming in his arms.

FADE TO:

INT. PROFESSOR JUNIPER'S LAB - DAY

TIGHT on a woman's face -- 30's, pretty, yet her beauty is shielded by a lab coat and a pair of protective goggles covering her eyes. This is PROFESSOR AUREA JUNIPER.

She's working with vials, staring down at them, her eyes filled with INTRIGUE. Suddenly, she hears the automatic sliding doors in the front of her lab open, and she sees HILBERT walking in. She looks taken aback to see him here.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER

Oh, hi, Hilbert. I wasn't expecting you here.

Juniper grins -- strutting over to greet him. She notices the PIKACHU in his arms. Her face looks surprised.

HILBERT

I wasn't expecting to be here either, actually.

Juniper pulls the goggles off of her face, slipping them inside her lab coat.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER

Is that -- That's a Pikachu!

HILBERT

I was wondering if you'd be able to tell me what it is.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER

It's from the Kanto region. VERY far from here. Where'd you find it?

HILBERT

It was in our vent, chewing on the chord for the TV. I crawled in to get it, it zapped me a couple times, I ran around and ended up finally grabbing it.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER

Pretty brave of you. Very... mature.

HILBERT

Seriously?

PROFESSOR JUNIPER

Yes. It shows you're a good thinker too since you knew that the rubber would insulate Pikachu's electric shocks.

HILBERT

Thanks... Do you think you can keep it? We don't have much room at home and...



PROFESSOR JUNIPER

Why me? You earned it yourself.  
Besides, Pikachu will be a good  
companion on your big journey  
through Unova.

Juniper winks at him, she walks over to her desk and pulls open a drawer, taking out a Pokédex. She hands it to Hilbert, who inspects it, almost in awe and wonder. There's a light burn on the back. He chuckles.

HILBERT

This is my Pokédex... It's got the  
battle stars to prove it.

Juniper laughs. She hands him six Poké Balls. He looks taken aback.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

But why? Mom hasn't given me  
permission. I just destroyed her  
house I don't think she'll let me  
go anytime soon.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER

You showed her you can catch a  
Pokémon even WITHOUT a Poké Ball.  
Just try talking to her. See what  
she thinks.

Hilbert nods -- he begins to move for the door -- looking back at her once more.

HILBERT

Thank you.

Hilbert takes one of the Poké Balls Juniper just gave him and taps the squirming Pikachu on the head with it. The Ball DRAGS Pikachu inside. It shakes violently, Pikachu is desperately trying to escape...

But the Ball locks. Hilbert completely LOSES it, happy with his latest capture.

FREEZE-FRAME as he lifts the Ball into the air, VICTORIOUS.

**All right! Pikachu was caught!**

Juniper grins proudly.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
Congratulations. But wait, before  
you leave I have something for  
you...

Juniper looks around on all the tables, she finally finds  
whatever she's looking for.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER (CONT'D)  
A-ha...

She picks up a red watch-like object and walks it over to  
Hilbert.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER (CONT'D)  
Hold out your arm.

HILBERT  
What's this?

Forceful, but with a smile.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
Hold out your arm and *I'll show*  
*you.*

Hilbert holds his arm out, pulling back the sleeve of his  
hoodie. She clips the watch around his arm and presses a  
button on it.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER (CONT'D)  
It's called a Cross-Transceiver.  
It's a device capable of video  
chatting. I'll give your Mom one  
too, so you can communicate no  
matter where you are. It might help  
push her into reconsidering.

She hands him another one.

HILBERT  
I -- I can't take this. It must  
have cost you a fortune.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
Oh, it did. But I get all these  
funds pouring in from all my  
sponsors so I can get the money  
back easily. Take it, kiddo, you'll  
need it more than I will anyway.

HILBERT  
Thank you... Thanks so much.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
 ...How is Pikachu? Rambunctious?

HILBERT  
 Yeah. He's a little... hostile.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
 May I suggest taking the gloves  
 off? If you show you're no threat  
 to him, maybe he won't be a threat  
 to you either.

He nods, slips of fthe gloves and hands them to Juniper.  
 Hilbert lets Pikachu out of its Ball, holding it up in the  
 air, at face-to-face level.

HILBERT  
 I'm Hilbert. Nice to meet 'ya...  
 We're gonna be good friends, Mmkay?

Hilbert SMILES but Pikachu's expression is less than  
 pleasant. Pikachu, PISSED, just discharges a large amount of  
 electricity, completely SHOCKING HILBERT to the point where  
 his bones FLASH by a couple times whilst it's happening,  
 almost like an X-RAY.

FREEZE-FRAME on Hilbert getting zapped.

**Pikachu used ThunderShock!**

HILBERT (V.O.)  
 That hurt. A LOT. But I didn't  
 care. Pokémon elements aren't as  
 strong as the actual elements, so  
 while I'd probably be dead or in a  
 coma if it were lightning that  
 struck me, a Pokémon attack hitting  
 you just fazes you for a few  
 seconds. Also, it could ruin your  
 clothes --

Hilbert DROPS to the ground.

FREEZE-FRAME on Hilbert's position on the ground, laying  
 right on his face, butt in the air, with SMOKE rising from  
 his body. His hoodie, hat, and black pants are filled with  
 HOLES and TEARS with black CHARRED marks from the SHOCK he  
 just received.

**It's super effective!**

HILBERT (V.O.)

-- Like so.

Juniper looks apologetic and she hands Hilbert the gloves.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER

Well, it was worth a shot right?  
But I think you still MIGHT be  
needing these.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I love the professor, I really do.  
But in that moment I really wanted  
to just get up and punch her in the  
face.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

HILBERT stands with his MOM in the LIVING ROOM as she knits his black pants back together. She finishes the last knit and hands his pants over to him. He puts them back on. The room is all cleaned up and nicely put together. He's obviously talking to her, but we don't hear his words to her, just the narration.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I went home and Mom, who's a  
fantastic tailor, fixed up my  
clothes while I cleaned up the  
place. I made it look all tidy and  
she really appreciated it. That was  
when I decided to break it to her  
that I felt like I proved to her  
that I was ready to take off.

Hilbert sees it in his mom's face -- she's devastated. But she's coming to terms with it. Accepting. Slowly but surely in every inch of her body... Even if she doesn't exactly like it.

MOM

...I just don't want to be alone.  
Ever since Hilda fell off the face  
of the planet, you're all I've got.  
I just don't wanna lose you too.

Hilbert blinks...

HILBERT (V.O.)

Ahh, now *that* made me feel like a  
total asshat. My sister Hilda left  
for her Pokémon journey a month  
before I was set to head off...

(MORE)

HILBERT (V.O.) (CONT'D)  
 We hadn't heard from her since and  
 it basically tore my mother apart.

MOM  
 But I don't... I'm so sorry,  
 Hilbert... I don't want you to  
 waste your life trapped here. I've  
 been so selfish.

She hugs him -- she starts crying. Hilbert pats her on the back... He tries not to, but he does it. He hugs her. He grows more comfortable in the embrace, letting it all settle in...

HILBERT  
 It's OK, Mom... I haven't been any  
 better. All I've thought about is  
 how awesome leaving the house would  
 be. I never really thought how  
 awesome it was being here with you.

His mom smiles - giving a scoff - as she pulls out of the hug.

MOM  
 Please. Don't. I want you to go.  
 You really proved to me today that  
 you've grown up. A lot.  
 (beat, smiles)  
 I want a progress report every  
 night, OK? Use this thingamabob to  
 call me.

She lifts up the Cross-Transceiver.

HILBERT  
 Of course.

On his smile--

EXT. NUVEMA TOWN - DAY

CUE -- "EMOTION" FROM THE POKÉMON BLACK AND WHITE OST.

ESTABLISHING SHOT of the small town. Filled with tiny houses, each with a garden in front that's well taken care of. Not many Pokémon - or people for that matter - mingle around. It's so quiet. No wonder Hilbert was always so bored.

CUT to HILBERT AND HIS MOM'S HOME -- The door opens and HILBERT exits. He has a a black and blue bag slung over his shoulders -- he stares back at the house.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Five months. It took me five months to come to this point. And... I actually almost didn't go. I almost turned back around and gave my Mom a big ol' hug and told her I wasn't ready to grow up, that I wasn't ready to leave her behind...

Hilbert's MOM slips out from the door -- stands on the porch. She smiles as she sees her son stood there. He gives a sigh. A wave to his mom... She flashes her arm -- showing off the X-TRANSCIEIVER as a reminder for him to call her. He smiles, rolling his eyes at her.

HILBERT (V.O.)

But I didn't.

Hilbert TURNS around -- TIGHT on him as he moves along the dirt path, on his way onto ROUTE 1...

HILBERT (V.O.)

I decided to follow my dreams. A future of uncertainty, but one of hope...

FADE TO BLACK...

EXT. ACCUMULA TOWN - DAY

"EMOTION" FADES as we get an ESTABLISHING SHOT of ACCUMULA TOWN. It's rather tiny, so all the buildings are scrunched together in a half-square. A park lies in the center of town, where most of the activity is at.

HILBERT tries squeezing through a crowd of people.

HILBERT (V.O.)

This was my first time leaving Nuvema Town... It was strange because Accumula actually had people walking around. I knew it was coming, I just wasn't ready to process it all. But I knew I'd get used to it. I wanted to explore... Where I decided to go next really changed my life...

HILBERT sees a gathering of folk at the park in the center. Curious, he walks over, peeking over the heads of numerous people in his way.

On a mini stage that the people surround stands the man from the opening sequence - GHETSIS.

He's very intimidating and bulky, but his aura is surprisingly warm and gentle. On either sides, baby blue-hooded guards push the crowd back.

GHETSIS

Good morning, to the people of Accumula Town. I have come here today to make a very... interesting proposition. I'm here to say... Let's free our Pokémon.

There's a lot of murmuring amongst the crowd. Ghetsis raises a hand, offering the crowd a smile.

GHETSIS (CONT'D)

Please, please, just *listen*. We have co-existed with Pokémon for centuries. I think maybe the time has come for that to end. Trainers command their Pokémon to do what *they* want. They force them to do hard work like employees, not friends. What kind of expression does your Pokémon show when they accept your commands? Have you ever given thought to what your Pokémon want? Do they want to be with you, or do they want to be in their natural habitats? Poké Balls and training are merely human inventions, not the natural way of the world.

Everyone takes a glance at their Pokémon. The crowd's murmurs grow quiet. SHOTS of different people, looking at their Pokémon in pure sorrow... Contemplating Ghetsis's words.

TIGHT on Hilbert. He's not falling for it. He looks down at SHELDON's Poké Ball as he unclips it from his belt...

GHETSIS (CONT'D)

To us humans, Pokémon are merely tools, powerful creatures with potential to be stronger. Pokémon do not exist to serve our selfish purposes! There's only one thing we can do, and that's... to release our Pokémon. Free your Pokémon. If you truly love them, you could see it. For the first time, we humans and Pokémon can truly be equal. Me and my friends are Team Plasma, a group making a difference.

(MORE)

GHETSIS (CONT'D)

We will separate Pokémon from humans, giving them special sanctuaries where they can live in peace.

HILBERT

How do we know you're telling the truth? That you're not just stealing our Pokémon for YOUR own good?

Ghetsis turns a head toward Hilbert, he smiles kindly at him.

GHETSIS

We've already set up plenty of sanctuaries and as soon as we take your Pokémon, you can know where they're going. We'll allow visitations...

The crowd begins to disperse. Hilbert can hear some of their words --

MAN

...Well that's ridiculous.

YOUNG WOMAN

If someone people really think that way, then by all means...

Hilbert smiles to himself. N steps on stage, looking just as vacant as before.

CUE -- "N'S BATTLE THEME" FROM THE Pokémon BLACK AND WHITE OST.

N

Who's the one who challenges our beliefs?

Ghetsis goes to speak, but Hilbert climbs onto the stage.

HILBERT

*Me.*

One of the Plasma grunts goes to grab for Hilbert, N raises a hand, signaling for him to step back.

N

It's OK. The kid and I just need a little chat...

N steps toward Hilbert.

HILBERT

The name's Hilbert.



N

Well, Hilbert... Let me hear your Pokémon's voice! We'll see if the harrowing acts and troubles you make your domesticated Pokémon go through even match up to the fiery spirit of a wild, *natural* creature.

HILBERT

Fine. You ready, Sheldon?

Hilbert tosses out SHELDON's Poké Ball and the little Oshawott pops out, instantly putting his game face on, leaping off Hilbert's shoulder and onto the stage. N steps back. He whistles. Nothing happens for a moment...

Seconds later, a black cat Pokémon creeps onto the stage. Stands in front of N. It purrs, rubbing on his leg. He smiles down at the PURRLOIN.

N

Fury Swipes.

HILBERT

Sheldon, Tackle!

Sheldon charges at Purrloin, who simply smacks him back with its tail. Purrloin then POUNCES on the Oshawott, CLAWING repeatedly and SLASHING at the tiny otter.

Hilbert looks HORRIFIED. CLOSE-UP of Ghetsis' face, he smiles as he watches the two battle.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Water Gun!

Sheldon the Oshawott opens his mouth as Purrloin continues to slash at him, sending a bursting fountain of water out, hitting Purrloin in the chest. The cat FLIES through the air, SMACKING into the wall behind the stage and SLIDING DOWN.

It doesn't get up -- it just stays there. No one can see it. The crowd erupts in conversation...

Hilbert looks concerned --

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Sheldon, go check on Purrloin!

Sheldon trots to the edge of the stage, peeking over --

-- ONLY FOR PURRLOIN TO LEAP BACK INTO ACTION, KNOCKING THE TINY OSHAWOTT ONTO HIS BACK.

N

Crunch.

Purrloin BITES down on Sheldon's chest, picking up the otter and shaking him around, then throwing him limply to the ground. Hilbert's Oshawott doesn't get up. He's KO'D.

Hilbert LOST -- He looks on in SHOCK as "N'S BATTLE THEME" fades here.

HILBERT

I -- That Purrloin is *insanely* strong. There's no way anything can win against that thing.

N looks up from Purrloin, at Hilbert.

N

You're right. You can't win. And the reason you can't win, is because you always shut your Pokémon in those Poké Balls.

Hilbert pulls the Pokédex out from his back pocket, as it scans and collects Purrloin's data. N's face falls.

N (CONT'D)

Is that... a Pokédex?

N suddenly charges at Hilbert, GRABBING him by the arm, bringing him close to his face. For the FIRST TIME, there's some EMOTION in his voice...

N (CONT'D)

(filled with venom)

Because of this thing... Pokémon were shut up in Poké Balls. Many, many of my friends were shut up in Poké Balls.

HILBERT

GERROFF ME--!

Hilbert SHOVES N off of him, falling on his bum. He looks up at N.

N

Pokémon get captured just for the desire to fill up the Pokédex.

(MORE)

N (CONT'D)

It's like a damn competition, and then the poor Pokémon just get locked up in the PC storage if they're not deemed "useful" or "cool" enough by the trainer. Isn't that what happens?

Hilbert doesn't know what to say. He looks over at the crowd. People are already handing over their Poké Balls to Plasma grunts, looks of sadness, but acceptance, on their faces. He mutters to himself...

HILBERT

...No...

He picks up Sheldon, cradling his unconscious Pokémon in his arms.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

(shouting to the crowd)

What are you doing?!

N

The right thing. Thank you, Hilbert... For helping me prove my point.

Ghetsis claps N on the shoulder proudly - walks him backstage. Hilbert remains on the stage, in a state of confusion.

FADE TO:

INT. POKÉMON CENTER - DAY

HILBERT is sat at one of the couches in the lounge, the hustle and bustle around him just passes by. He's trapped in his own little world, obviously deep-in-thought.

HILBERT (V.O.)

So, my first day out and about and I'm embarrassed in front of a huge crowd of people. I felt like just going home and quitting right there and then. I waited for word on Sheldon, if he was OK after the beating he received from N... And I just kept thinking that maybe he was right? No. He wasn't. I kept telling myself that, but *damn*, were they persuasive...

NURSE JOY

Hilbert?

Breaking him from his train of thought, one of the NURSE JOYS, pink hair, 20's, cute, notices Hilbert jump a bit.

HILBERT

Um, yes?

She gives a cheery smile.

NURSE JOY

Your Oshawott is all healthy and ready to go.

She walks over to a tray, and picks up SHELDON THE OSHAWOTT, handing him over to Hilbert. The two buddies hug.

HILBERT

Whattya say to no more Poké Ball?  
You can hitch a ride on my  
shoulder, in my bag, from now on.

Sheldon gives a happy cry, instantly clambering onto Hilbert's shoulder. He gives the nurse a nod and gets up, leaving the Pokémon Center.

EXT. EMPTY FIELD - DAY

HILBERT, SHELDON THE OSHAWOTT, and PIKACHU are in a large, empty, beautiful field. Hilbert and Sheldon do push-ups while Pikachu just sits there, looking glum with his arms crossed.

HILBERT (V.O.)

From that on, I vowed to treat my Pokémon with respect and dignity. Whatever training methods I'd put them through, I'd put myself through too. And it wasn't just that I needed a bit more bulk on me to impress the ladies, I seriously just wanted to see what it felt like.

FADE to them doing jumping jacks. Then FADE to them running laps around the huge field.

CLOSE-UP of Hilbert as he RUNS, he's flying around that field. Pikachu ZOOMS around the field, grinning, totally happy that he's beating Hilbert. Hilbert looks back at Sheldon, who's struggling.

HILBERT

C'mon, you can do better than that...

Hilbert trips over the root of a tree. Oshawott passes him, giving what sounds like a laugh as he does. Suddenly, a bug Pokémon with a leaf mane around its head and tiny stubby little feet with an adorable face LEAPS down from the tree above, BITING onto Oshawott's face. Hilbert's Pokédex gives an electronic ring. He checks it and it shows him the data for this bug Pokémon - it's called a SEWADDLE.

The Sewaddle suddenly DIVES out of the tree and LAND on Sheldon's face, biting into the Oshawott. Sheldon PANICS, running around wildly.

Hilbert sits back up, rubbing his pained head, to see Sheldon being attacked. He chases after Sheldon, who runs around, no set path in sight.

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
Sheldon, STOP, WAIT--!

EXT. FILM SET - DAY

A pretty girl with dark skin and a massive head of hair, who's dressed in primitive looking toga-esque wraps, stands behind a camera, next to the cameraman. This is IRIS.

Three Pokémon dance around - one of them is a tiny dragon, called AXEW. The other is a blue duck called DUCKLETT and the last one is a dancing green cactus called MARACTUS.

Suddenly, they hear shouts from the CAMERAMAN on the other side of the shot, he's looking at something behind the SET.

CAMERAMAN  
Hey, kid, we're filming a show  
here, get off the --

DIRECTOR  
Who's trespassing?

CAMERAMAN  
Him, over there!

The director and Iris walk over where the cameraman's standing to get a better look. In the distance, HILBERT chases after SHELDON, who still has SEWADDLE chewing on his face. They're running right for the set...

DIRECTOR  
Hey, kid! Make like a drum and *BEAT*  
*IT--!*

CUE -- "WILD Pokémon BATTLE" FROM Pokémon RED AND BLUE.

TIGHT on Hilbert -- he totally is blocking out the crew and their existence. Totally focused on Sheldon -- who CRASHES right into the set, TEARING through the greenscreen behind Iris's Pokémon.

IRIS

No!

DIRECTOR

Stop them!

IRIS

Ducklett, use Wing Attack!

Ducklett swoops into the skies, giving a sqwak, before diving down, wings glowing. It slams right into Sheldon, the impact of which knocks Sewaddle off of Sheldon's face. Sewaddle hopped back up. It's not down and out yet.

Hilbert rushes over to catch up to Sheldon.

HILBERT

Sheldon, you learned Razor Shell,  
so use it on Sewaddle!

Sheldon totally ignores Ducklett, who continues flying after him. He grabs the shell from his belly, detaches it, and THROWS it at Sewaddle, hitting the tiny bug in the chest.

Hilbert sees Sewaddle hit the ground, looking dazed. He pulls out a Poké Ball.

He THROWS the Ball -- TIGHT on the Ball as it SPINS through the air.

HITS Sewaddle in the head.

And DRAGS the bug inside.

The Ball SHAKES. And SHAKES. And SHAKES. And then it LOCKS with a red GLOW. Hilbert GRINS and RUNS over to the Poké Ball, picking it up with a smile.

"WILD Pokémon BATTLE" fades as Iris and the director approach Hilbert. He recalls Sheldon the Oshawott into his Poké Ball. Iris's Ducklett lands on her massive head of hair.

DIRECTOR

You just ruined our movie!

IRIS

Ugh, you're such a child!

DIRECTOR

You can't just get away with this young man. You're gonna have to pay for all the damage done to our sets!

HILBERT

(slyly, glaring at Iris)  
I'm just a kid remember? I have like, absolutely NO money.

IRIS

Then he can work it off. Personal assistant perhaps?

DIRECTOR

To you? How is that gonna help ME? It was MY equipment after all.

IRIS

Supplied by my family's company. He'll work for ME.

The director scoffs.

DIRECTOR

You want him, you can have 'em. Seems to be too much of a handful for me anyway.

IRIS

I'm guessing today's shoot is over? We'll try some other time.

The director sighs. He looks at Hilbert.

DIRECTOR

Thank you. For ruining the show. How am I gonna explain this to the bosses at HQ--?

He continues rambling on, but nothing he says can be made out as he walks off. Iris looks at Hilbert, she gives a wink and lowers her tone.

IRIS

Thanks for that.

HILBERT

Erm, is that sarcasm?

IRIS

Not at ALL. I'll explain more later when you're acting as my

(MORE)

IRIS (CONT'D)  
 (using "air quotes")  
 "personal assistant".  
 (pause)  
 But for now, let's just say I  
 wasn't exactly thrilled to be here.  
 I don't know how I could ever repay  
 you for what you did today.

He's so confused with her right now -- but that's not the  
 first thing on his mind.

HILBERT  
 So -- Am I your personal assistant  
 or what? The air quotes seriously  
 threw me for a loop.

IRIS  
 Relax. You're acting like a  
 complete child...

HILBERT  
 You said you owed me one, so what's  
 in it for me?

Iris thinks --

IRIS  
 I'll sit on it. But let's just say  
 I can be a VERY useful ally on your  
 side, especially if you're  
 considering challenging all the  
 Gym's.

Hilbert eyes her as she moves along. She grabs him by the  
 arm.

IRIS (CONT'D)  
 I don't know what you think you're  
 doing standing around. You're  
 coming with ME.

Iris drags Hilbert off-screen.

EXT. STRIATON CITY - DAY

IRIS and HILBERT enter STRIATON CITY. It's much bigger than  
 ACCUMULA, much more populated and a lot less stiff in the  
 building layout department.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

A NEON-LIT street illuminates, reflecting in the puddles  
 littering the ground. A woman with a scarf around her head  
 avoids a man who chases after her -- MR. GREEN and MARIA.



MR. GREEN  
Please -- Maria wait --

MARIA  
Mr. Green, we were never destined  
to be together --

MR. GREEN  
What are you saying, Maria?

MARIA  
We would be so much happier if we  
weren't judged by our social  
statuses -- a prim and proper woman  
like me -- cannot be with a man  
like you. It's clearly not  
accepted...

MR. GREEN  
But our Pokémon. They're in love  
despite it all.

PAN over to see two AXEW together. One with a pink bow on its  
head. They're holding each other close. The screen FREEZES...

PULL OUT:

EXT. HOTEL - DAY

IRIS and SHELDON the OSHAWOTT are sat in front of the screen  
of a laptop, which is sat on top of a picnic table, admiring  
the PAUSED film, a handkerchief wiping the tears from her  
eyes. She shares it with Sheldon, who's also crying.

IRIS  
My little Axew. His acting is  
just... *superb*.

In the background, HILBERT sits on the floor, legs  
crisscrossed, nailing down the tent poles. He rolls his eyes.

HILBERT  
(sarcastic)  
Yeah. He was fantastic.

Sheldon sneaks a click at the screen, turning the film back  
on. He plops back down, INTRIGUED by what's going on on-  
screen. Iris looks through FOLDERS upon folders filled with  
papers, her frown tightening up with every turn of a page.

IRIS  
It's just really horrible how the  
film's going down under.  
(MORE)

IRIS (CONT'D)

We're in the red again thanks to the low budget.

HILBERT

(rolls eyes)

Oh, come on, so behind the gaudy glitz and glamor of "show biz" is an unprofitable job?

IRIS

The budget's too low for us to even stay in a hotel, if you haven't noticed.

HILBERT

Not low enough to give your Pokémon a fantastic suite.

He points up -- PAN up the side of the HOTEL BUILDING -- STOPPING at a WINDOW. Iris's Pokémon -- AXEW, DUCKLETT, and MARACTUS -- are all hanging out in a PENTHOUSE HOTEL ROOM. Absolutely gorgeous in there.

BACK with them: Iris just smiles.

IRIS

It's natural for the production to pay for *my* Pokémon's room. You see, they're actors. I'm just their manager.

HILBERT

People have to camp out while Pokémon stay in a luxury hotel room?!

Iris nods. It's totally normal for her. She doesn't care. Brushing past this, she changes topic.

IRIS

Is our tent almost ready, maid?

Hilbert's eyes narrow at Iris, that seriously annoyed him.

HILBERT

I thought I wasn't really your personal assistant. Whatever happened to the air quotes? I have a name. So use it.

Iris chuckles.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Something funny?

IRIS

Your name. I just keep thinking about how it sounds like the name of someone whose parents hated him.

Hilbert frowns as he continues pitching up the tent.

HILBERT

(mutters to self)

I don't even know why I'm doing this...

IRIS

Hey! I paid for all the equipment you destroyed, removing all charges they would've pressed against you in court. So I think I deserve a little credit here.

HILBERT

You...

(beat)

Wait. You did WHAT?

IRIS

I paid for it. You heard me.

HILBERT

Why?

IRIS

Because you were my ticket OUT of there. I've always wanted to travel, but my parents have been just so...

HILBERT

...Suffocating? Smothering?

IRIS

All of the above.

HILBERT

My mom was the same way.

IRIS

I'm just tired of it. I've always wanted to explore, they know I'm athletic but it worries them. They want me to continue the business they've made but... it's... honestly not my thing.

HILBERT

Your Ducklett seemed very good in battle. I can see you having a lot of potential in that area one day.

IRIS

I had interest in doing *something* involving battling, yeah.

HILBERT

So you're using me?

IRIS

I saw you were on a journey and I took advantage of it.

(smiles)

Besides, you're kinda cute.

HILBERT (V.O.)

How could I say no to that? I mean, sure, it was abrupt and out of nowhere, but she was so beautiful. And she just called me cute.

HILBERT

I mean -- It's not like I mind.

IRIS

So you'll let me come with?

HILBERT

What about your parents?

Iris waves her hand carelessly.

IRIS

I'll write 'em a note and have Ducklett deliver it... Once I'm gone, as long as I tell them I'm off, they can't do anything about it.

FADE TO:

INT. STRIATON CITY GYM - DAY

HILBERT stands in the STRIATON GYM -- face to face with three IDENTICAL TRIPLET BROTHERS. CILAN, CRESS, and CHILI. The place has a glass roof so all of the SUN can leak in and a rocky field for the gym battles.

Cilan has tidy green hair, Cress blue hair that droops over his left eye, and Chili has spiked-up, wild red hair. They each wear aprons, as the gym acts as a mini-cafe as well.

TIGHT on Hilbert -- he's all fixed up. His clothes are back to normal and his hair is no longer static-y. SHELDON the OSHAWOTT is sat on his shoulder.

HILBERT (V.O.)

The next morning I decided to challenge the Striaton City Gym.

Cilan stepped forward to greet Hilbert. He grinned.

CILAN

Welcome to the Striaton City Gym. It is run by me, Cilan, and my brothers--

CHILI

--I am Chili. We will decide which one of us you will battle!

CRESS

It depends on the type of Pokémon you have...

Cress takes a curt bow.

CRESS (CONT'D)

The name is Cress, by the way.

CILAN

Ah, so you chose Oshawott I see.

CRESS

I guess that means I'm out.

CHILI

Me too.

Chili and Cress step back -- Cilan remains. He smiles at Hilbert and removes his apron, tossing it at Cress, who manages to catch it last-minute and fold it up.

CILAN

I guess it's me and you then.

Cilan unclips a Poké Ball from his belt. He simply opens it with a quick double-tap on the top, and a green monkey with a bushel of grass on its head pops out. It's called PANSAGE.

Hilbert scans it with his Pokédex as Sheldon hops from his shoulder and onto the battlefield.

CILAN (CONT'D)

Hmm, choosing a Pokémon with an  
intense disadvantage against mine?  
This doesn't taste right...

Hilbert frowns as Chili, acting as the referee, lifts a flag and blows a whistle. Hilbert doesn't waste a second.

HILBERT

Sheldon, use Razor Shell!

CILAN

Pansage, Bullet Seed!

Pansage opens its mouth, unleashing a barrage of seeds. Sheldon removes the shell from its chest, holding it up in the air and using it to shield its face. Hilbert grins as Sheldon then swings the shell with a massive effort, slashing Pansage across the chest.

CILAN (CONT'D)

Dig, Pansage.

Pansage burrows its way underground on the rocky battlefield. Sheldon looks around, nervous. He runs over to Hilbert, hopping in his arms. Hilbert lifts Sheldon up.

HILBERT

What are you doing?

Sheldon starts to pout. Hilbert walks onto the battlefield, setting Sheldon down, and pushing him forward. Sheldon tries to fight him, looking scared. Cilan watches, amused.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

I need your help, Sheldon. You're  
the strongest Pokémon I have. I  
trust you more than anyone else.  
You can do this.

Sheldon looks happy that Hilbert's said this. His confidence boosted, Sheldon gives a nod, standing up straight, hands on his hips. Hilbert laughs.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

All right! Now, Sheldon, use Water  
Gun to make the ground muddy. I'm  
sure it'll be easier to find  
Pansage that way, the ground will  
break wherever he's at if it's wet!

Sheldon likes this plan -- he sprays the water around the battlefield, spinning around like a sprinkler.

Suddenly, from beneath Sheldon, Pansage BURSTS through the muddy ground, spinning like a DRILL, hands above its head. The impact THROWS Sheldon through the air.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

NO!

Sheldon hits the ground, covered in mud. He looks down and out. Cilan smiles.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Sheldon, use Razor Shell! You can do it!

CILAN

Pansage finish this off with Bite.

Pansage LEAPS at Sheldon, BITING onto the top of his head. With a sqwee, Sheldon PANICS, running around the field like a maniac, just like he did when SEWADDLE did the same thing.

Hilbert does a literal facepalm, not wanting to watch anymore.

CILAN (CONT'D)

Your Oshawott doesn't want to give up. But it's not fighting. I find it amusing...

Hilbert looks up -- to finally see Sheldon SHAKING Pansage off of his head. Pansage skids to the ground.

CILAN (CONT'D)

Pansage, turn the blessing of the sun into power!

Pansage opens its arms as it stands up, DRAWING in the sunlight to its body... It begins to glimmer, a BALL OF SUNLIGHT FORMING IN-BETWEEN ITS PALMS...

Sheldon stands up weakly... He gives a whimper. He's losing. Hilbert's nervous as all hell now, gritting his teeth as he speaks;

HILBERT

Sheldon, you can do this! Use your shell to deflect it and use Fury Cutter!

Sheldon forces himself to keep standing- DETACHING his SHELL and READYING it as Pansage BLASTS a beam of SUNLIGHT AND POWER right at Sheldon --

The shell does its job well -- DEFLECTING it. But it pushes Sheldon back as it does. Sheldon does his best, BRACING -- LOCKING his tiny FEET into the MUDDY GROUND -- STANDING HIS GROUND.

An EXPLOSION OF LIGHT surrounds Sheldon. Hilbert looks HORRIFIED -- The attack HIT?! But the light fades -- and his Oshawott isn't there anymore. In its place is a light blue colored otter, taller, with pointed black ears, and a large, dark blue frilled abdomen with a place for two shells --

Both are in the Pokémon's hands, though, and it uses both to block the attack and completely deflect it, SLAMMING the sunlight right into Pansage's face. The monkey falls back as the newly-evolved SHELDON runs, SLASHING at it repeatedly.

Hilbert checks his Pokédex to see that his Sheldon evolved into a DEWOTT. He GRINS as Dewott finishing slashing, and Pansage lies there, UNCONSCIOUS. He won!

CILAN

You... You beat me. What a surprise. You are very strong...

He recalls Pansage into its Poké Ball and approaches Hilbert, presenting him with a badge. Hilbert WRAPS his newly-evolved Dewott into a HUG.

HILBERT

Thank you so much, sir! I can't believe it.

Cilan turns around, away from Hilbert -- talking as he clips the Poké Ball back on his belt and puts his apron back on.

CILAN

In the Unova region, we are still novice Gym Leaders. Which means the other Gym Leaders are much stronger than we are, so be prepared to face a much bigger challenge with the others. We still have a lot of hard work to do as well, we don't deny it. You shouldn't either, so just keep that in mind...

CHILI

Uh.... Bro...

CILAN

What!?



Cilan spins around and sees that -- HILBERT AND SHELDON HAVE ALREADY DASHED THEIR WAY OUTTA THERE, the front door swinging shut. Cilan's brothers chuckle while we get a CLOSE-UP of his frowning expression.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. HOTEL - DAY

HILBERT flaunts his badge proudly as he approaches IRIS. He does a victory dance. She just giggles.

IRIS  
 Congratulations. First badge is quite an achievement...

HILBERT  
 (all peppy)  
 Time for you to take all this stuff downwwwn and me to check your Pokémon out of the hotel. We're leaving.

Hilbert marches toward the tent, ready to pull it down when Iris SNATCHES him by the hood. He starts choking her as she drags him back toward her, turning him around and locking eyes with him. She smirks, raising an eyebrow.

IRIS  
 We are?

HILBERT  
 (gasping for breath)  
 Uhh, yeah. So... let me go... So we can... go get it.

Iris DROPS him, he falls flat on his face. He gets up, glaring at her.

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
 What's your problem?

IRIS  
 My problem is that I don't take orders from a *kid*.

HILBERT  
 Is that like your catchphrase or something?!  
 (beat)  
 Besides, I'm no kid. We're literally what, a few months apart?

IRIS

Fine, but still. You're a kid.  
Don't tell me what to do. *I'll* go  
check the Pokémon out, you pack up  
all our stuff. Got it?

HILBERT

(frowns)  
Fair enough.

IRIS

Thank you for being such an  
understanding assistant.

She giggles and turns on her heel, entering the hotel as Hilbert begins packing their things.

EXT. ON THE ROAD - DAY

HILBERT and SHELDON the OSHAWOTT are walking with IRIS, who has her AXEW lounging on her shoulder, through a grassy route.

HILBERT (V.O.)

My confidence was at its peak. I  
thought I was a superhero flying,  
looking down at everyone else as if  
they were ants --

INT. HILBERT'S TENT - NIGHT

NIGHTTIME dawns upon them. The tents are set up elsewhere now, HILBERT is in his as Sheldon sleeps, curled up nearby. Hilbert looks at a photograph. Himself, a young brunette girl, BIANCA, and CHEREN. Much happier times.

HILBERT (V.O.)

But then, that high was gone just  
as quickly as it came. My cape got  
caught in an airplane's propellers  
and I was sucked in -- chopped to  
bits, then when the engine exploded  
I was smashed into even smaller  
pieces. I just seriously took a  
nosedive into HUGE nostalgia mode  
that night. My heart ached, because  
I knew I was missing something.  
Iris was cool, but I missed my  
friends. My sister. I kept longing  
for the days when we used to be  
with each other everyday. Life on  
the road was much different.  
Exciting, but... definitely  
different.

As a single tear falls from his eyes and drips onto the picture, Hilbert is startled by a scratching at the tent's opening. IRIS'S shadow is visible. She whispers;

IRIS (O.S.)  
Hilbert?

HILBERT  
(sniffles)  
Uh. Yeah, come in.

Iris unzips the tent. She steps in, glances around. She makes note of Sheldon's sleeping form, tip-toe'ing her way in and slowly zipping it back up behind her, as to not wake him.

IRIS  
You... were crying?

Nosily, Iris notices the picture in Hilbert's hands. She takes a seat next to him. Peeks over at it as he tries, rather poorly, to hide it.

IRIS (CONT'D)  
...Friends of yours?

HILBERT  
None of your business, quite frankly.

IRIS  
No need for the 'tude, Hilby. I just wanted to break the ice. We've been traveling with each other for two days now and we still know *nothing* about each other.

HILBERT  
...Who the hell's Hilby?

IRIS  
I guess you don't like that nickname.

HILBERT  
Absolutely not.

Iris laughs.

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
(beat)  
Yeah. They're friends. The girl next to me is my older sister Hilda.

IRIS  
Hilda and Hilbert. That's... cute.

HILBERT  
You don't sound convincing.

IRIS  
I'm a horrible liar aren't I?

Hilbert nods, the two chuckle.

IRIS (CONT'D)  
Well, what happened?

HILBERT  
Hilda left home and never came back. She had an argument with my mother, it was something stupid. But they never got along really. She left for her journey six months ago, and never came back. Never called. Nothing. Even if it was over the stupid fight, I knew that was... so unlike her. To just get up and leave, never even talk to us. She would've at least called me.

IRIS  
So you think something happened.

HILBERT  
Yeah. I guess it's kind of my ulterior motive for wanting to leave. I want to kill two birds with one stone, you know? Follow my dreams, and reunite my family.

IRIS  
And your friends?

HILBERT  
It's gonna sound so stupid. They left when I SHOULD have, but shit happens you know? So I had to stay, they left. My Cross-transceiver has their numbers in it, but I'm... too nervous to call. They're probably like champions already and here I am, just got my first badge. It'd be embarrassing.

IRIS

You never know unless you give 'em a call. They could've gotten sidetracked. Maybe you should call them. And if you're so embarrassed tell a little white lie or something.

She winks at him, he nods.

HILBERT

Enough about my boring life. I'm curious to here why you're so intent on leaving your privileged life.

IRIS

The life everyone else would KILL to have, right? It's not as flattering as it looks. I'm just not fit for it. I'd rather walk in my grandfather's footsteps, not do all this. It's like tarnishing everything he stands for.

HILBERT

Your grandfather someone important?

IRIS

I guess you could say that. He's a powerful trainer and my parents think it's not ladylike for me to pursue being just like him, that I should do feminine things like make tea, dance, socialize, and look pretty. I'm not a freaking porcelain doll, you know? It's annoying. They just don't get me at all.

HILBERT

You sent that letter yet?

IRIS

Yeah. Just a half hour ago. I'm actually a little nervous for their response.

HILBERT

But it's for the best. It's your life, Iris, they can't control you forever.

IRIS

I guess we have more in common than we thought.

HILBERT

Yeah, despite totally opposite backgrounds, we're pretty much in the same boat.

IRIS

So I wrote my letter. When are you making your phone call?

HILBERT

Tomorrow morning. I promise.

Iris grins.

IRIS

Good. I'll let you get some rest then. See ya in the A.M.

Iris leaves, Hilbert zips up his tent behind her. He tucks away the picture into his bag and curls up into his sleeping bag, putting out the lantern that's giving off light.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I had an idea in my head. It was so brilliant! I knew as soon as I'd wake up in the morning, I'd call Cheren and Bianca, and then Iris would commend me for my brilliance when I told her what I said --

EXT. CAMPSITE - MORNING

CLOSE-UP of IRIS's face - she stares at the camera/at HILBERT in DISBELIEF.

IRIS

You idiot! You can't be serious?!

HILBERT (V.O.)

--Or she'd do the exact opposite.

Hilbert looks at her, taken aback.

HILBERT

But you said to lie to them.

IRIS

A little white lie. NOT tell them that you've beaten all the gyms and you'd see them in a week.

(MORE)

IRIS (CONT'D)

You're telling me we have to travel through the entire Unova region in a WEEK?! You're insane!

HILBERT (V.O.)

Yeah that was what I told them. I'd meet 'em at the Pokémon League in a week, that I'd already gotten all my badges. Looking back after she told that to me, it started dawning on me how stupid it was. I think I said this before, but I'm not exactly the sharpest tool in the shed...

HILBERT

It'd be fun! You said you wanted to travel. Here's your chance to do it and make history in the process.

IRIS

I... I mean, it's stupid. It really is. But... You may have a point there. It could be fun, maybe.

HILBERT

That was fast. Are you bipolar?

IRIS

Not at all. Just a quick thinker.

She looks deep-in-thought. Sighs.

IRIS (CONT'D)

Fine. Let's do it.

HILBERT

So what's for breakfast?

IRIS

We're not eating. We're going.

HILBERT

What?

IRIS

If you wanna make it to Nacrene City and beat Lenora by the end of the day, we've gotta leave NOW. So let's GO.

Hilbert sighs and he helps her start packing up stuff.

EXT./INT. ON THE ROAD - DAY/NIGHT - MONTAGE

CUE -- "ROAD TO VIRIDIAN CITY" FROM THE SUPER SMASH BROS. BRAWL SOUNDTRACK.

HILBERT and IRIS arrive in NACRENE CITY. ESTABLISHING SHOT of the tiny, quaint little city.

Hilbert's in a library trying to look for certain books. Iris helps him, finding the book. She opens it and the clue asks to find a book about the 'Biology of a Patrat'. Quick cuts of them finding more books. Each book has a clue in it explaining what the NEXT book they have to find is.

HILBERT (V.O.)

The Nacrene City gym is rather annoying. Find one book in the massive library, it asks you to find another. Rinse and repeat for about an hour and then you can finally present your findings to the pleasant fellow at the staircase--

Hilbert carries a huge stack of books, barely able to stand as he holds them, while Iris looks amused. A buff guard stood at the staircase counts the books mentally, then gives a gruff nod. Not even a moment later, Hilbert collapses, all the books falling over, and his legs sticking up in the air. Iris giggles.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Then it was time for the battle.

Hilbert sends out his SEWADDLE.

We get QUICK CUTS of LENORA, the dark skinned gym leader, a pretty, sassy woman in her 40's, commanding her LILLIPUP, a tiny puppy Pokémon. Sewaddle battles the puppy. They exchange blows.

Sewaddle lands the KO hit with a powerful Razor Leaf. Lenora recalls her Lillipup and sends out a tall WATCHOG, with creepy eyes that dig-into-your-soul. ECU of Hilbert's facial expression, he looks horrified. Trying to hide it, but not doing a fantastic job.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Watchog's have always scared me. I think it's those eyes. When Lenora sent hers out, I nearly crapped my pants.



Watchog lands a hit on Sewaddle, KO'ing it. Hilbert calls in Sewaddle and looks back at SHELDON, who stands at the wall with IRIS, nodding for the DEWOTT to come out and battle.

HILBERT (V.O.)

When it knocked out poor Sewaddle,  
I knew I couldn't send out Pikachu,  
it'd just zap me or take a nap.  
Sheldon was my last hope.

QUICK CUTS of Sheldon the Dewott using his DUAL RAZOR SHELL attack to slash at Watchog and knock it out. Lenora hands over the BASIC BADGE to Hilbert, he grins at it.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Another badge to my roster. Six  
badges left, and six days left to  
do it. So far so good...  
(beat)  
...Right?

Hilbert with Sheldon at his side, and Iris with AXEW in her hair, move through the beautiful PINWHEEL FOREST, filled with plenty of MONSTROUS-SIZED, but nonetheless gorgeous, TREES acting as a canopy over their heads.

HILBERT (V.O.)

We made it through Pinwheel Forest  
quicker than we anticipated...

The group travels across the massive, breathtaking SKYARROW BRIDGE, heading toward a city with an amazing skyline, filled with towering skyscrapers and the usual hustle-and-bustle noises and congestion of a busy city.

HILBERT (V.O.)

...Leading to the Skyarrow Bridge  
and Castelia City. The bridge and  
that city are just so amazing. A  
country boy like me only dreamed of  
the neon signs and business  
lifestyle that goes on in cities  
like Castelia, and it was  
everything I expected.

EXT. CASTELIA CITY - SUNSET

HILBERT, SHELDON, IRIS and AXEW arrive in CASTELIA. Hilbert is AMAZED, completely BREATHELESS, at the huge city. He just tries to take it all in, staring at the towering buildings ahead of him.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I decided to get some training in when some random bystanders asked me and Iris to a double battle.

CUE -- "WILD Pokémon BATTLE" from the Pokémon BLACK AND WHITE OST.

CUT to Hilbert and Iris stood side-by-side, across from another pair of trainers. Hilbert has his PIKACHU out, Iris her MARACTUS. Pikachu glares at Hilbert angrily, cheeks sparking, but a grass snake Pokémon called SERVINE swoops in to smack Pikachu with a VINE WHIP.

This snaps Pikachu's attention toward his opponent. Hilbert shouts a command and Pikachu unleashes a powerful electric discharge, shocking the two Pokémon - Servine, and a chubby two-legged fire-type pig called PIGNITE.

Maractus swoops in and fires spikes from its spiky green body, smacking repeatedly at Servine. Pignite charges forward and releases a blast of fire from its snout, only for Pikachu to jump forward and land a life-risking tackle onto the pig. Pignite is knocked out!

Iris commands her Maractus to rush at the Servine, it does so and starts dancing. The pink petals from Maractus's bunny ears fly off and surround Maractus like a swirling tornado, the petals sharpening and cutting and slicing at Servine as they blow a round crazily. When Maractus quits dancing, Servine drops, unconscious, and Maractus's pink petals float back up to her ears.

Iris and Hilbert high-five. Maractus leaps at Iris happily, wrapping her in a big hug. Iris yells out in pain. Hilbert and Pikachu share glances, Hilbert gives Pikachu a thumbs-up, Pikachu just turns his head. Hilbert sighs and returns Pikachu into his Poké Ball.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Sheldon and Sewaddle were getting along with me fantastically, but Pikachu? Not so much. I tried my best to do some bonding with him while we chilled in Castelia for a bit, but it never worked.

Hilbert lets Pikachu sit on his shoulder as they walk through Castelia, through a crowd of people. Pikachu just smirks and unleashes a huge burst of electricity, shocking Hilbert. Steam rises from his body and he sighs as passing people laugh. Even Iris giggles a little, he just gives her the finger and she helps him up with the roll of her eyes.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER (O.S.)  
Hilbert, it seems that everytime we  
see each other you're being  
electrocuted.

It's that instantly recognizable sly tone. Hilbert sees  
PROFESSOR JUNIPER stood a few feet away, stood next to a  
woman with long black hair who looks permanently stuck in a  
dreamy state.

HILBERT  
(grumbles)  
Good to see you too, professor.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
There's been a bit of a problem...

FENNEL  
Thieves! Thieves, I tell you.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
This is Fennel, a fellow professor  
and friend of mine. She found a way  
to revive extinct Pokémon. One of  
the ones she managed to bring back  
was an Archen.

IRIS  
I've heard about those. The bird  
that can't fly.

Juniper nods.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
Well, Team Plasma decided they  
wanted it without asking --

HILBERT  
What way did they go?

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
Don't do anything stupid, Hilbert,  
I've already contacted the Castelia  
City authorities...

HILBERT  
Which way, professor? You can't  
risk them getting away!

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
Um... I don't know. One of the  
docks. We can all separate, yeah?

Hilbert nods. SHELDON, his Dewott, leaps onto his back, arms wrapped around Hilbert's shoulders. The four of them take off through the streets, pushing through the rampant crowd of faceless faces.

EXT. LIBERTY PIER - DAY

IRIS marches along LIBERTY PIER, looking through the faces. AXEW sits on her shoulder, both search for anyone in TEAM PLASMA garb.

EXT. CRUISE DOCK - DAY

FENNEL has her MUSHARNA floating over her shoulders, a big purple curled-up psychic Pokémon with an eerie lavender smoke floating from its head.

EXT. UNITY PIER - DAY

HILBERT and SHELDON shove people around on the pier. They look at them with odd looks.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Okay, maybe we were a little direct with people. But I really wanted these Plasma bastards - pardon my French - to get their comeuppance. Who could blame me, right?

Two figures are climbing into a tiny black boat up ahead. Hilbert locks his eyes on them --

*TARGET SIGHTED.*

EXT. PRIME PIER - DAY

PROFESSOR JUNIPER hears shouts from the next pier over. She instinctively spins around --

PROFESSOR JUNIPER

(exasperated)

I told those kids to *stay behind...*

She rushes in the direction of Hilbert's shouting voice.

EXT. UNITY PIER - DAY

HILBERT stands at the edge of the pier -- the two Plasma agents desperately try to start the motor boat. In a cage nearby is the ARCHEN. A furry little bird. Scrawny and annoying, it squawks pathetically.

Hilbert looks at Sheldon -- they both nod to each other. With a running LEAP, they stick the landing --

The boat rocks as their heavy weight crashes down on it, they balance it out quickly. The Archen's cage tips and ROLLS right out of the boat.

ON THE PIER; PROFESSOR JUNIPER charges through the pier, pushing through gossiping passerby. She stands there, SCREAMS.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
HILBERT, YOU'RE INSANE!

BACK on the boat;

The two Plasma grunts look surprised as the boat starts to speed away -- they glower at Hilbert as Sheldon DIVES into the water --

GRUNT 1  
You ignorant child... You've been a thorn in our side for a while.

HILBERT  
And whattya gonna do huh? I thought Team Plasma was all about PEACE.

GRUNT 1  
The last person who tried to mess with our plans hasn't been seen in months.

Hilbert's eyes LOCK on the grunt --

GRUNT 2  
That bird was never meant to be alive. It was extinct for a reason, it doesn't BELONG here. We were gonna put it out of its misery, kid!

HILBERT  
Out of its misery?! You were gonna KILL it?!

GRUNT 2  
Re-fossilization. It's humane, kid.

IN THE WATER, Sheldon uses his twin scalchops to slash at the cage, but it starts to sink. Archen flails around, weakly chirping.

Sheldon tries to get the bird to calm down, but it won't. As Sheldon finally slashes open the lock and the door to the cage opens, Archen shimmers in a white glow.

IN THE BOAT; Hilbert and the grunts' attention is drawn to the white glow in the ocean. TIGHT on Hilbert's face as the wind picks up and he's forced to hold his hat down with his hand...

ON UNITY PIER; IRIS and FENNEL run up, joining PROFESSOR JUNIPER on the dock. They watch in shock...

BACK IN THE WATER; the cage EXPLODES in a FURY of METAL and WATER. A large, hairy, monstrous BIRD rises from the water, giving a vicious roar. Archen has evolved into a fierce ARCHEOPS. Raises into the sky, spreading its wings victoriously, water splashing around it.

BACK IN THE BOAT; Hilbert wrestles with the grunts as they try to hold him down.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I had to weigh my options... Stay here and get kidnapped by some random guys who could be child molesters for all I know... Or leap into the water and get my clothes all wet. Honestly, I couldn't choose what to do. These pants had already been threw enough hell.

Hilbert stares into the sky and sees the Archeops FLYING toward the boat, a purple FLAME glowing in its beak. It opens its beak as it swoops over the boat -- WHOOOOSH --

The flame shoots out in a streak of light, hitting the boat's motor. It explodes. The grunts and Hilbert are sent flying through the air.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I thought at that point I was going to die.

Hilbert has his eyes shut as he HURTTLES through the air -- only for him to stop falling abruptly -- his eyes FLUTTER open and he looks up --

He's being carried by the Archeops, its feet wrapped in Hilbert's hood and carrying him by it. The grunts are left in the water, yelling for help.

HILBERT (V.O.)

But, obviously I wasn't. I mean, that woulda been anticlimactic, amiright?

Archeops swoops around and FLIES into the city...

HILBERT

Whoa, whoa, whoa, big bird. You  
could set me down at the pier, not -  
-

The Archeops interrupts with a loud SQUWAK and continues  
FLYING...

EXT. CASTELIA CITY - CITYSCAPE - CONTINUOUS

ARCHEOPS carries HILBERT with it, Hilbert looks worried as he  
peeks around. Archeops CRASHES through an office building --  
dragging Hilbert in with it.

INT. CASTELIA CITY - OFFICE BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

ARCHEOPS gives a victorious squwak as it flies through the  
office, tearing through desks. People shriek and panic,  
running away in fear as poor HILBERT is dragged across the  
ground, his legs smacking around the carpet, his body hitting  
numerous things, and being just plain dazed by it all.

Archeops CRASHES through the window on the opposite side of  
the building, GLASS explodes everywhere --

EXT. CASTELIA CITY - CONTINUOUS

And it SWOOPS out -- HILBERT still held tight in its feet.  
The Archeops FLIES through the sky, Hilbert gives a SCREAM.

ON THE GROUND; IRIS throws out a Poké Ball, letting her  
DUCKLETT out. FENNEL and PROFESSOR JUNIPER follow her.

PROFESSOR JUNIPER

Where did it take him?

IRIS

I don't know, but Ducklett's gonna  
find him. Right!?

Ducklett gives a salute with its left wing and flies off.

IN THE SKY; TRACK SHOT of Ducklett as the tiny blue duck  
soars through the skies, spotting Archeops on a building...

EXT. CASTELIA CITY - ROOF - CONTINUOUS

HILBERT lies flat on his back on the roof of this building -  
the enormous prehistoric bird stood in front of him, walking  
toward him. ARCHEOPS nudges Hilbert's trembling legs with its  
massive mouth, giving a tiny little growl.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Yeah I was scared. But so what? Who wouldn't be, that enormous thing made me want to soil myself.

Archeops sniffs Hilbert -- he closes his eyes --

HILBERT

Down boy, down boy...

Archeops roars angrily. Hilbert backs up.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Girl then? You're a girl?

Archeops quiets.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

I take that as a yes then...

Hilbert starts growing more comfortable with Archeops, leaning in to pet her head softly, stroking her fur. Archeops in turn sniffs Hilbert's hat. He laughs. Ducklett flies over and lands on Hilbert's shoulder, giving an angry glance at Archeops.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

No no no, Ducklett, everything's fine, we're fine...

Hilbert takes out a Poké Ball. Holds it up. Archeops sniffs it curiously.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Do you... Do you want to relax? Take a little rest?

Archeops taps the ball with its face and is suddenly wrapped in a bright red light and DRAGGED into the Ball. It barely shakes before LOCKING in place.

EXT. CASTELIA CITY - OUTDOOR CAFE - DAY

HILBERT, IRIS, PROFESSOR JUNIPER and FENNEL sit at a nicely-decorated outdoor cafe. Iris gets out of her seat and walks up to a vendor selling 'MOO MOO MILK'. She spies the billboard poster above advertising it with a pink cow. 'Made from natural Miltank milk!'

IRIS

Miltank milk?



MOO MOO MILK VENDOR  
 Ooh yes! Miltank are native to the  
 Johto region -- it's delicious  
 stuff.

Iris considers it, before pulling out some money and handing it over. PAN over to Hilbert and the professor's at the table.

Hilbert hands the Poké Ball over to Fennel.

HILBERT  
 Archeops is yours right?

Fennel shoves the Ball away quickly, back toward Hilbert, who's taken aback.

FENNEL  
 Archen was panicking, scared when I  
 had her. She didn't belong in this  
 era but with you she relaxed. She  
 trusts you because you saved her  
 life.  
 (beat)  
 She's yours, Hilbert. Take care of  
 her, okay?

HILBERT  
 Tha--Thank you so much.

Iris joins them at the table, sipping her Moo Moo Milk.

IRIS  
 Whatever happened to those Plasma  
 punks?

PROFESSOR JUNIPER  
 The police got them out of the  
 water and they're in the local jail  
 right now.

They all carry on with a chat together but their dialogue's muted. All we hear is the narration;

HILBERT (V.O.)  
 That was a tremendous  
 accomplishment for me. I mean, a  
 Pokémon that's been dead for  
 thousands of years in my  
 possession? Talk about insane!

FADE TO:

INT. CASTELIA CITY GYM - DAY

ESTABLISHING SHOTS of the honeycomb-themed gym. The whole place even drips with honey.

HILBERT stands on the battlefield, his SEWADDLE fighting against a DWEBBLE, a tiny hermet-crab like Pokémon in a large rocky shell.

BURGH, the gym leader, stands on the other side. Dressed in flamboyant and jaunty clothes with a hardy smile. He strikes a pose and commands his Dwebble to attack.

BURGH  
Dwebble, X-Scissor!

HILBERT (V.O.)  
I immediately went to the Castelia  
Gym --

The dialogue is muted and all we hear is the narration. Hilbert commands his Sewaddle to battle -- Sewaddle leaps forward and shoots a barrage of sharpened leaves at the crab.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
-- Decided that little Sewaddle  
could use some training.

SHOTS of the two Bug-types exchanging blows. A tackle here from Sewaddle and a Slash there from Dwebble. Sewaddle performs a Bug Bite attack right on Dwebble's face, then leaps back and kicks it back with its tiny balled feet.

Dwebble flies backward, landing on its back, unconscious. Burgh retracts the shelled bug and sends out his next Pokémon, Sewaddle's final evolutionary form, LEAVANNY. A long, stick-like Pokémon with sharpened leaves as 'claws' and a friendly, welcoming face.

BURGH  
Don't be fooled by Leavanny's  
smile. She's a force to be reckoned  
with. Right?!

Leavanny strikes a pose along with Burgh. Hilbert and Sewaddle exchange looks.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
Burgh is one strange guy, let me  
tell you...

Sewaddle fights against Leavanny fiercely, Sewaddle uses String Shot to wrap Leavanny tightly in some binds as he flies at her with a Tackle attack, throwing her back.

She tries desperately to fight the binds, just as Sewaddle begins to glow. EVOLUTION. The shadow of Sewaddle is replaced by a moody-looking, wrapped-in-leaves cocooned form called SWADLOON. On Hilbert's beaming face...

HILBERT (V.O.)  
The timing couldn't have been more perfect.

CUT to Leavanny's CLAWS slashing at the String Shot, breaking free.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
...For Burgh.

Leavanny flies at Swadloon like a rocket, repeatedly slashing at the tiny cocooned bug. Swadloon lands, giving an angry look. It builds up a ball of grassy energy in its mouth and then shot it right at Leavanny, knocking the skinny bug backwards.

Swadloon FLIES forward -- repeatedly biting at the face of Leavanny. It's a surprising attack with such force that no one saw coming.

BURGH  
(in shock)  
Struggle Bug!

HILBERT (V.O.)  
Struggle Bug is an attack that lowers the target's Special Defense, making them extra-vulnerable.

Leavanny falls with a thud -- Hilbert runs forward and WRAPS Swadloon in a tight hug. Swadloon returns the favor by spraying String Shot and wrapping them even tighter together in a hug, Hilbert just laughs.

FADE TO:

EXT. RESORT DESERT - MONTAGE

HILBERT and IRIS move through the DESERT together, both wearing safety goggles and both have scarves wrapped around their faces, as sand blows in all directions.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
With my third badge, a new Pokémon, and an evolved Swadloon, I was ready to go. More confident than ever...

Hilbert, Sheldon, Pikachu, and Swadloon train in a gym. Hilbert lifts weights with Sheldon at his side, Swadloon does stretches using its Silk String, and Pikachu runs the treadmill.

HILBERT (V.O.)

We went to train at the gym.

Iris and her Axew practice Axew's Dragon Rage attack in an open field...

HILBERT (V.O.)

While Iris and Axew went and did who-knows-what...

Back in the gym, Hilbert's in a boxing ring with a tall blue creature. Called a SAWK.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I wrestled a Sawk who had recently been abandoned by its trainer and worked in this gym...

Hilbert prepares for Sawk's punch. Sawk swiftly punches and WHAM! Uppercuts Hilbert, sending him for the rafters. His head through the ceiling, all we can see are his legs hanging there--

HILBERT (V.O.)

I guess you can say he took out all his problems on me.

Sawk helps walk Hilbert, who looks dizzied with a bloody lip and a soot-covered face, out of the rink. His Pokémon don't look very happy, though. Except Pikachu. Who's giggling up a storm in his own little corner.

HILBERT (V.O.)

All my Pokémon were so concerned for me... They were pretty ticked off.

Swadloon flies forward like a rocket -- performing a TACKLE attack on Sawk.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Swadloon and Sawk fought for a while...

Swadloon fires an ENERGY BALL at Sawk, Sawk DIGS underground and hits the surface like a drill, spinning and pinning Swadloon to the rocky, grainy wall. Swadloon FIRES a barrage of sharpened leaves that slash Sawk around.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I broke up the battle and talked it out. Sawk and Swadloon made up. And then Sawk requested to join me--

Hilbert and Sawk are sat by each other. Hilbert pulls out an empty Poké Ball, gestures at Sawk with it. Sawk nods and Hilbert taps the creature in the head with the Ball. It drags Sawk inside.

HILBERT (V.O.)

So I was able to catch the thing. I thought it looked cool and was going a little capture-happy at the time.

Hilbert hops onto his ARCHEOPS's back and FLIES up through the hole, reuniting with Iris.

INT. NIMBASA CITY - NIGHT

HILBERT and IRIS arrive in NIMBASA CITY. ESTABLISHING shot of the bright lights. A large FERRIS WHEEL spins around in a clockwise motion while small sideshows and games surround it in a huge park area.

HILBERT

Oh my God. Look at all the COLORS.

FREEZE-FRAME on Hilbert's surprised expression, going googly-eyed over the lights. Iris stands in the background, rolling her eyes.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I was a country boy exposed to neon lights to the first time. This reaction was natural, trust me.

Hilbert runs through the carnival, separating from Iris. Iris frowns --

IRIS

Hilbert, wait!

She tries fighting through the crowds of people but can't find Hilbert. She moves toward the brightly-lit ferris wheel, only ending up bumping into someone who waits in line --

IRIS (CONT'D)

Oh, I'm so sorry...

He turns around. We recognize him...

N  
That's quite alright.

It's N. He smiles at her. These two haven't met yet, and Iris seems charmed. He turns around, his attention focused ahead. CLOSE-UP on his face as his lips curve into a pursed smile.

The line moves up -- CUT to Hilbert as he spins his arm and THROWS -- Knocking a whole tower of cans over with the Poké Ball-colored baseball. The vendor presents him with a prize.

VENDOR  
It's called a Heal Ball! Very rare.

Hilbert frowns at the pink Ball.

HILBERT  
I'm a dude. I'm not gonna use this.

He frowns and puts it in his bag, sulking off disappointed.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
I nearly trashed it right then and there. Pink just wasn't my style. But good thing I didn't...

CUT back to Iris and N, the line moves up to where they're the next two. The person operating the wheel looks at N.

FERRIS WHEEL OPERATOR  
You two together or separate?

Iris goes to speak but N clasps his hand over hers with a smile.

N  
Together.

Iris looks speechless, she goes to say something but is entranced by N as he turns to face her. She simply gives an uncomfortable smile as the operator ushers them into one of the gondolas.

INT. FERRIS WHEEL GONDOLA - NIGHT

Their GONDOLA is up above the city at this point. N stares down at the brightly-lit buildings and the crowds. IRIS frowns in her place on the other side of the gondola.

IRIS  
You seemed so eager to hop on this Ferris wheel with me.  
(MORE)

IRIS (CONT'D)

I thought it was like, a date or something, but you're just sitting there being all emo and silent.

N

(softly)

I love Ferris wheels... The circular motion... The mechanics... They're like collections of elegant formulas.

Iris just stares at him, in awe and perhaps even growing fear.

IRIS

Uh-huuuuh...

Her AXEW pops out of her massive head of hair and stretches out on her lap, giving a yawn. N eyes the little dragon with pure delight.

N

You've raised your Pokémon well. I can tell by just looking at it that you two have a unique bond.

(beat)

I am the newly-throned king of Team Plasma...

Iris stares at him in shock, holding her Axew close to her chest.

N (CONT'D)

I need someone to be by my side. A personal confidante per se. I have Ghetsis, but he's far too busy being our frontman, visiting different cities...

(pause)

I always... thought I could use a queen.

N presents her with an egg, he pulls it out of his bag and hands it to her.

N (CONT'D)

I see such *fire* in you. Take this as a gift. The egg contains a very rare Pokémon, one such that only someone with the resources of Team Plasma could have.

Iris looks down at the egg in her hands and back up in those grey, sleepy eyes of N's.

IRIS  
 (disgusted)  
 Never. Your people sicken me. You may think you have good intentions but your methods make you an extremist group who's a danger to everyone.

N winces at these words -- his fist shakes.

N  
 You... You can't mean that. You're far too beautiful, far too *pure* to mean that.

His eyes are alight and Iris looks slightly frightened. As the gondola comes around toward the docking point again,

IRIS  
 Like I said -- I don't want anything to do with this. Thanks for the egg, though!

Iris holds on tight to Axew, putting the egg into her bag, and HOPS out the gondola window --

IRIS (CONT'D)  
 Toodles!

As she RUNS off, we CLOSE on N's raging face.

N  
 NO!

EXT. NIMBASA CITY - CARNIVAL - CONTINUOUS

IRIS bolts through the carnival, rushing through people. She's very athletic, running super-fast through the crowds.

IRIS  
 Hilbert! Where are you, we hafta get outta -- !

*SWOOOOOOSH!*

Above her, a giant bird with a brilliant pink head plumage -- an UNFEZANT -- swoops down and KNOCKS her onto her chest. N rides on the bird's back. Iris clammers onto her feet.

N  
 Stop her in her tracks, Unfezant...  
 Use Air Slash!



Air is manipulated to look like SPINNING SAWS that Unfezant sends flying at Iris. She SCREAMS and jumps out of the way.

Panic ERUPTS and people start to scream and yell. Some send out their Pokémon to attack Unfezant, but the giant bird simply fights them off and moves like a missile through the air, following Iris.

ON HILBERT; He hears the shouting and chaos. From the skies, he sees the UNFEZANT firing attacks.

HILBERT

What the -- ?

He rushes off in that direction, swooping into hero mode.

ON IRIS; Who dodges the numerous air saws. She slips as she runs -- scrambling back on her feet and charging through the crowd.

ON HILBERT; on the other side of the gathering crowd, people push through, screaming and pushing him in the other direction.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

MOVE --

He pushes through the crowd --

ON IRIS; A kiosk nearby her is hit by the Air Slash, completely destroying it in an tiny explosion. Iris is thrown to the ground and can barely react as one of the spinning air-saws flies for her face. She SWINGS out of the way -- her arm blocking her face -- it SLICES her arm open and she SCREAMS.

ON HILBERT; as he finally makes it through the crowd and finds Iris on her back, screaming as her arm BLEEDS. Unfezant lands and N steps down -- holding his hand out to keep Unfezant still.

N

Please. I want you to reconsider.

HILBERT

Reconsider this!

N spins around and sees Hilbert, who tosses out a Poké Ball. PIKACHU lands in front of him. Gives a tiny growl and crackle of his red cheeks.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Calm down, I know it's been a while Pikachu, but can you please trust me? We're in trouble...

Pikachu's sparks brighten and he SPINS around -- turning for Unfezant and N.

N

I wish not to battle. I feel like the two of you would be great assets to Team Plasma...

HILBERT

I'd never join you.

IRIS

Me neither.

Iris holds her bleeding arm, N stares down at her, disappointment in his eyes.

N

You're quite strong, kid. But I have a future that I must change. And, for that future... I'll defeat the Champion and become unbeatable, revered and listened to by all of Unova. THEN everyone will know that Team Plasma isn't to be scoffed at. Ridiculed. Ignored.

(beat)

I'll make all Trainers free their Pokémon! If you want to be together with Pokémon, your only hope is to collect the Badges from each area and head for the Pokémon League! If your conviction is not strong enough, you will never be able to defeat me.

N hops on Unfezant's back and flies off.

FREEZE-FRAME as Hilbert watches him go.

HILBERT (V.O.)

At that moment, I realized what I had to do. Not only did I have to defeat all the gyms in the course of the remaining week, but I also had this butthole to pummel in. As if I needed to make the week any busier...

Hilbert rushes over to Iris, helping her up. He slings her arm over his shoulder, she winces and limps as they walk.

HILBERT

You okay?

IRIS  
(grumbles)  
Just peachy.

HILBERT  
What did he want?

IRIS  
He said he was the King of Team  
Plasma. And he wanted me to be his  
Queen.  
(beat)  
So I booked it.

Hilbert smiles.

HILBERT  
Because you'd much rather stick  
with me?

Iris shoots him a dark look, rolls her eyes.

IRIS  
Ew, don't even try that.  
(pause)  
You're just a stupid, smelly...  
*normal* kid. He's just flat-out  
weird and really creeped me out.  
Plus his cologne was gag-worthy.  
So, yes, I guess I would rather  
stick with you.

HILBERT  
(sarcastically)  
Well, thanks, Iris.

IRIS  
(seriously)  
Anytime, kid, anytime.

People start to swarm around them -- now that the coast is clear, everyone decides to see how Iris is doing and mutter and gossip about what could've possibly went down just then...

FADE TO:

INT. NIMBASA CITY GYM - NIGHT

TIGHT on a neon ROLLER COASTER CAR as it moves across a matching neon track. HILBERT and IRIS are inside as it runs through the entire GYM.

HILBERT (V.O.)

We had to speak to the authorities and explain what happened. Nothing could be issued on the "N" guy because he literally didn't exist...

CUT to the battlefield - Hilbert is across from ELESA, Iris in the stands. Elesa is the gym leader... a beautiful model, with electric yellow hair, and headphones hanging from her neck. A pair of EMOLGA - two tiny, adorable electric mice with small black wings - are stood on her shoulders.

Hilbert sends out his PIKACHU.

ELESA

Oh my God. That is ADORABLE!

HILBERT (V.O.)

Elesa went crazy for Electric-types... considering Pikachu wasn't native to Unova, she was fascinated by the prospect of meeting a new Electric-type Pokémon.

Elesa looks at Pikachu with happy eyes. Pikachu blushes slightly as she raves over the little electric rat.

ELESA

I saw only a few of them on my travels through Kanto. They're absolutely amazing creatures...!

Elesa's pair of Emolga looked upset -- JEALOUS --

CUT to later -- the BATTLE. Pikachu and Emolga are exchanging blows. Pikachu RUSHES forward and unleashes a powerful electric blast -- throws Emolga backward. But Emolga FLIES through the air, riding the wind and SLAMMING into Pikachu with an Aerial Ace.

HILBERT

Show that wannabe which electric rodent's the best, Pikachu! Electro Ball!

Pikachu's tail ignites with a massive spark of energy that builds up in a ball... And is released, hitting Emolga in the chest. The tiny squirrel is thrown backward, knocked out. Hilbert gets on his knees and holds out a hand, offering a high five to Pikachu.

Pikachu simply SHOCKS Hilbert, enveloping him in a bright yellow light.

Hilbert falls on his back, legs in the air and smoke rising from his body. FREEZE-FRAME on Pikachu's chuckling face.

HILBERT (V.O.)

It was foolish of me to think we had a bonding moment...

CUT to later -- Hilbert's back on his feet, he's got ARCHEOPS fighting against Elesa's ZEBSTRIKA -- a flashy zebra Pokémon.

ELESA

Flame Charme, Zebstrika!

Zebstrika's body cloaks itself in a fiery veil, CHARGING at the enormous feathered bird.

HILBERT

Archeops, use Dragonbreath!

A blueish flame charges in Archeop's mouth and is released in a flamethrower-line of flames, stopping Zebstrika in its tracks. The two fires cause an explosion -- throwing both of them back. Archeops regains its composure easily, swooping back toward Zebstrika's injured form.

HILBERT (CONT'D)

Finish this off, use AncientPower!

A rock hovers in front of Archeops out of nowhere, it spins around in the air, building up in size until flying like a massive bowling ball right toward Zebstrika. The zebra hurtles backward through the air, lands on its back, and is knocked out. *STRIKE!*

HILBERT (V.O.)

It was a tough battle, but we won.  
Got a sparkly new badge.

Elesa hands Hilbert the BOLT BADGE. He smiles broadly.

INT./EXT. MONTAGE - VARIOUS

HILBERT with SHELDON the DEWOTT at his side, and IRIS with her AXEW sat on his shoulder, walk together through a route --

HILBERT (V.O.)

It was Day 4, Badge 4 and I was on a roll.

HILBERT's SAWK battles a MINCCINO, a cute chinchilla Pokémon, in a tall, grassy area. Sawk knocks the Normal-type out with a swift Focus Punch, and Hilbert pulls out a Poké Ball, throwing it and catching the Minccino inside. Hilbert CAUGHT it!

HILBERT (V.O.)  
I managed to catch a Minccino,  
filling up my party.

ON the DRIFTVEIL DRAWBRIDGE -- a shimmering red-painted bridge over a river that crosses between NIMBASA CITY and DRIFTVEIL CITY. IRIS kneels beside a pink puffball Pokémon with gigantic blue eyes. It's adorable and looks completely sad as Iris holds the tiny puffball close.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
Iris and I stumbled upon this pink puffball thing. Due to its tendency to repeat the words 'Jiggly' and 'puff' we figured it was called a 'Jigglypuff'. But it wasn't in the Pokédex, just like my Pikachu... Weird, right?

A Poké Ball touches the JIGGLYPUFF's head and drags it inside the ball.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
Well Iris bonded enough with it to catch it. It's cute. But it kinda creeps me out. It's those gynormous eyes, I think.

Hilbert and Iris are in Driftveil City, stood in front of the Driftveil Gym.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
Sleep was hard to come by...

Hilbert commands his DEWOTT, SHELDON, in battle against the gym leader, CLAY, and his PALPITOAD.

The toad Pokémon EXTENDS its tongue at Dewott, Dewott SLASHES it away with RAZOR SHELL -- throwing Palpitoad backward.

CUT to later in the gym battle -- Sheldon the Dewott vs. EXCADRILL; an enormous mole Pokémon with steel claws.

Excadrill FLIES for Excadrill, Excadrill uses DRILL RUN -- curling into a drill-shaped form and FLYING through the air in a spinning motion -- SLAMMING into Sheldon's chest -- throwing him back and PINNING him to the wall of the gym.

Sheldon WITHDRAWS his scalchops and SLICES them in a crossed shape across Excadrill -- the Pokémon drops.

Hilbert's on the battlefield, screaming for his Dewott. His pupils are bloodshot and the skin underneath the eyes baggy.

HILBERT  
Come on, Sheldon! Use REVENGE!

HILBERT (V.O.)  
...But the pure rage and anger and  
insomnia that swirled inside me  
thanks to little sleep...

Sheldon's blue face gained a reddish glow -- SMOKE shot from his ears. He looks absolutely PISSED. He charges forward and SLAMS into Excadrill -- PICKS up the mole and THROWS it angrily.

The mole's knocked out. Hilbert and Sheldon cheer -- and exchange a high-five.

As Clay presents Hilbert with his QUAKE BADGE, Hilbert beams. FREEZE-FRAME on this.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
...Actually helped me gain victory  
in Driftveil City's gym!

AT the campfire that night, Hilbert's CURLED in a ball, not even undressed -- Iris just rolls her eyes at him. She looks at Sheldon, who just shrugs and retreats into the tent quickly.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
Sheldon was happy that night, I figured. I crashed at the campfire super-early. More room for him, I knew that's what was running through his mind. Iris, though? She was a little tougher to figure out.

Iris leans in close to Hilbert's ear with a giggle as AXEW emerges from her hair and climbs on her shoulder with a yawn.

IRIS  
Sleep tight. Don't get too many  
Bug-type bites out here, okay?

Iris actually gives him a slight kiss on the cheek. Her Axew looks at her, surprised. She smirks.

IRIS (CONT'D)  
What he doesn't know won't hurt  
him...

As they retreat into their tent, we focus on Hilbert's sleeping face --

HILBERT (V.O.)  
Yeah, it had been an easy coupla  
days for me.

The next morning, the duo -- SHELDON in between them and Iris's AXEW on her shoulder -- move through a forest-like area. They find themselves at the face of a dark cave entrance.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
Of course, it wasn't long 'till the  
shit hit the fan again...

INT. CHARGESTONE CAVE - DAY

As HILBERT, IRIS, SHELDON and AXEW advance through the cave, they look at the unique terrain. The walls sparkle with tiny blue shocks and SPIKED rocks cover the area, which crackle with similar shocks.

Iris, hypnotized by their beauty, leans in to touch one of the blueish rocks on the wall -- only to get an ELECTRIC SHOCK. When she pulls her hand away, she sighs.

IRIS  
Word of advice? Don't touch the  
pretty blue rocks.

Hilbert chuckles slightly.

IRIS (CONT'D)  
It's not funny!

HILBERT  
It was more of a 'chuckle of  
relief'. It wasn't me who got  
electrocuted this time. I'm like a  
freakin' lightningrod.

Iris smirks.

IRIS  
Point taken.

They continue, moving past a cluster of circular pod-like Pokémon with spiky green tips covering them, known as FERROSEED. A pair of KLINK, Pokémon that resemble spinning gears, float above their heads quickly, causing them to duck. Hilbert watches them disappear down the cave passageway --

HILBERT  
That was weird.



IRIS

Yeah, why were they in such a rush?

HILBERT

I meant that they are the stupidest looking things I've ever seen...  
But yeah. That too.

The electric rocks that light the narrow passageway suddenly EXPLODE violently. The place goes to PITCH BLACK in a manner of seconds. A horrible SCREAM can be heard --

HILBERT (CONT'D)

IRIS!! Go, Pikachu!

The sound of a Poké Ball opening can be heard. PIKACHU's yellow body creates some light --

HILBERT (CONT'D)

I need you to charge up all the energy you can in your tail... We gotta find Iris.

Pikachu looks ready to attack, but instead decides to listen to Hilbert and let its tail glow. Hilbert looks around --

HILBERT (CONT'D)

IRIS!! IRIS!! IRIII--

SUDDENLY, a long, EEL Pokémon EMERGES from the ceiling and its WIDE, CIRCULAR MOUTH wraps around Hilbert's body and SNATCHES him up. All we can see are Hilbert's legs as he's LIFTED into the air. His muffled screams can be heard as the EELEKTRIK starts enveloping itself in electricity and ZAPPING its prey -- in this case, Hilbert! His screams die down --

TIGHT on Sheldon the Dewott and Pikachu as they watch their trainer get carried away --

Sheldon gives an angry cry, drawing both scalchops from their place on his abdomen and leaping high into the air, SLASHING at Eelektrik -- BUT IT'S GONE. SNUCK into a tiny hole in the wall.

Sheldon seems to exchange conversation with Pikachu, Pikachu crosses his arms unwilling, Sheldon suddenly picks up the rat and LEAPS into the air -- THROWING Pikachu and LAUNCHING it into the hole Eelektrik snuck into. Pikachu fits!

ELSEWHERE IN THE CAVE--

TIGHT on Hilbert's shut eyes as they slowly FLUTTER open--

ZOOM out to show Hilbert, STUCK to a yellow web. He looks around, slowly recognizing where he's at. He tries to wriggle free, only to get another electric SHOCK.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I guess that's what I get for recognizing that I attract electricity like the north and south poles of a magnet attract each other --

(beat)

-- More electricity.

A voice speaks from nearby --

N (O.S.)

It's useless.

Hilbert's head turns to the source of the voice -- to see N stood beside the web.

N (CONT'D)

What you're stuck to is a Galvantula web. Virtually indestructible by human means -- you'd need a very powerful Pokémon to cut you down... or one with a lot of will and heart...

HILBERT

(with venom)

What do you want? To steal my Pokémon?

N

I'm offering you a warning. Join us, or be destroyed.

HILBERT

Destroyed? I always thought this was about peace and separation. Sounds more like you're planning a war.

N

If it comes to that, then so be it. No cause has never come without its casualties.

There's an air of calmness in his voice that's very chilling...

N (CONT'D)

This cave is home to two stones. The Light Stone and the Dark Stone... I've had agents here digging for months -- and they finally found them. Do you know the powers these stones can harness?

HILBERT

Nope. Don't read.

N

The origins of Zekrom and Reshiram are told in legends, as they were once a single powerful Dragon Pokémon used by twin heroes in order to create the Unova region. But the brothers each sought something different in life -- truth for the older brother and ideals for the younger -- and they began to argue, then fight, over who's side was right. The single dragon, in response, split into two Pokémon: Reshiram, who sided with the older twin, and Zekrom, who sided with the younger twin.

(beat)

The two dragons were equally matched as they battled and neither conquered the other. As a result, the brothers set aside their differences, and equally declared there was no right side, either. But the sons of the heroes resumed the fight, and Reshiram and Zekrom destroyed the region with their fire and lightning powers. They disappeared afterward, allowing the surviving people to rebuild. In case of total chaos, the two could be reunited with these stones, to bring Unova to a clean slate once again.

HILBERT

You're insane. Have you ever thought that they might turn on you like they did to the twins?!

N

I'm not foolish like them -- I believe in one, firm, idea.

(MORE)

N (CONT'D)

(beat)  
Ideals.

HILBERT

So you can hide from the truth?  
Zekrom won't let you do this.

N

If you continue to fight me, it  
will. It'll see the pure  
destruction and chaos the world's  
in. Don't you see, you're the yin  
to my yang? We're the modern-day  
twin heroes... Truth versus ideals.

Hilbert attempts to break free again -- N snaps his fingers and about ten tiny, fluffy yellow spiders about the size of a fingertip climb from the walls and toward Hilbert on the web. The JOLTIK crawl on his face, into his shirt and pants, and each discharge tiny bits of electricity that combine, powerfully SHOCKING Hilbert, covering his entire body in a yellow light. They stop and the yellow light fades away. The Joltik crawl away. Hilbert glares at N darkly.

HILBERT

This is just NOT a good day for me.  
If I ever get down from here, I'll  
kick your ass.

N doesn't react... There's a long pause, the only audible thing is Hilbert's heavy breathing. N goes to say something when there's a sudden interruption.

IRIS (O.S.)

Were you wondering where your  
Galvantula friend was?

N spins round -- IRIS is stood there, her hair a mess, AXEW stood on her shoulder. She holds a Poké Ball out, tosses it -- and a GALVANTULA -- a giant electric spider -- lands in front of N.

Three people -- dressed like NINJAS -- appear out of nowhere at N's side. The SHADOW TRIAD.

N

Meet my friends. The Shadow Triad.

The three masked, concealed, individuals stand silently by N's side.

IRIS

Galvantula, break Hilbert free...!

Galvantula HOPS onto the web... while she points at the Triad as they prepare to retaliate.

IRIS (CONT'D)  
Axew, use Dragon Rage!

Axew leaps on the ground, opens its tiny mouth -- building up a BLUE BALL OF SWIRLING ENERGY --

IRIS (CONT'D)  
BITE DOWN!

Axew looks surprised by his master's bidding, but he does it, clamping down on the building Dragon Rage.

*BOOM!*

A massive explosion of SMOKE surrounds the vicinity -- N and the Shadow Triad are unable to see a thing.

UP ABOVE; Hilbert is freed by Iris's Galvantula, who bites into the web and sets him free. As Hilbert falls, Galvantula leaps onto the ground below and catches him on its back.

Hilbert leaps off of Galvantula's back and as the smoke clears, Galvantula joins its trainer's side.

IN THE CEILING, a RAICHU -- an orange Pokémon with similar stature to Pikachu - manages to make its way through and FALL onto Hilbert's shoulder.

HILBERT  
Wh--What's this thing?

Raichu SHOCKS Hilbert a bit. Hilbert looks up at the Raichu.

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
This can't be... Pikachu? You evolved?!

Raichu gives a gruff nod and thrusts his arm in the air confidently, his tail sparking. Raichu leaps off of Hilbert's shoulder and confidently sparks at N and the Shadow Triad angrily --

The Shadow Triad surround N and suddenly whip their capes --

-- and VANISH just as Raichu unleashes a THUNDERBOLT. It strikes the ground and causes an eruption of dirt in the spot they were all standing.

IRIS  
How the...? They were JUST there!

HILBERT  
 ...They dropped something.

Hilbert walks over and picks up something lying within the dust --

-- THE DARK STONE.

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
 He told me the legend of Zekrom and Reshiram...

He turns to show Iris the Dark Stone.

HILBERT (CONT'D)  
 And said we were the "modern-day twins".  
 (pause)  
 A part of me thinks that he dropped this on purpose.

A voice interrupts.

SKYLA (O.S.)  
 Hello!

They turn around to see SKYLA -- a young red-haired girl. Brazen, fun, and full of life. A tiny puffball Pokémon with black wings and a heart-shaped nose follows her. This is a WOOBAT.

SKYLA (CONT'D)  
 I heard a ruckus, what's goin' on?

IRIS  
 Team Plasma was here.

SKYLA  
 You mean the crazy "liberate Pokémon" people?

IRIS  
 Yeah.

SKYLA  
 Oh my... You two okay?!

HILBERT  
 Just a little worn out... Sore.

SKYLA  
 (sniffs air)  
 You smell like fried chicken.

HILBERT  
 (nonchalant)  
 Oh, that's just my burning flesh.

Skyla gets hyped up now.

SKYLA  
 C'mon, Woobat, help lead us out of  
 here so we can get these two to the  
 Pokémon Center and pronto...!

Woobat gives a cry and leads them toward the exit -- the  
 three follow it.

INT. POKÉMON CENTER - DAY

HILBERT rests up on the couch in the lounge, IRIS sits in a  
 chair nearby. FREEZE-FRAME on the image of them both  
 relaxing.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
 Our rescuer said her name was  
 Skyla, Mistralton City's Flying-  
 type gym leader. On our way out,  
 we picked up Sheldon and she told  
 me that my Pikachu probably evolved  
 due to exposure from a Thunder  
 Stone, an item that apparently  
 grows in Chargestone Cave.

INT. MISTRALTON CITY GYM - DAY

HILBERT inserts himself into a cannon.

HILBERT (V.O.)  
 I was wrong. The damn gym made you  
 shoot yourself around in a cannon  
 while she stood on the other side  
 of the gym all giddy.

...It BLASTS off and Hilbert flies through the air, landing  
 on a TARGET-shaped trampoline. He bounces into the air and  
 lands on it again, slowing down and allowing him to get on  
 his feet.

He enters the next cannon and it shoots him forward -- flying  
 through the air and then --

WHAM.

Hilbert collides with the wall and slides down slowwwwwly--

SKYLA stands on her place at the podium, right next to him.  
 She claps with a giddy laugh.

SKYLA

Yay! I could watch people do that  
all day.

She giggles as Hilbert slowly gets to his feet, dazed.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I think she's psychotic -- she gets  
enjoyment from the pain of others.

LATER: Their gym battle. Skyla's WOOBAT versus Hilbert's  
RAICHU.

Woobat manages to toss about Raichu using Psychic-powers,  
knocking it out. Hilbert's jaw literally drops.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Skyla's tiny little puffball bat  
thing pretty much stomped my Raichu  
in his first battle since  
evolution. I knew I'd be getting a  
hissy fit from him later...

Hilbert recalls Raichu into his ball and sends out his  
MINCCINO. Minccino charges forward, using TAIL SLAP to slam  
her enormous tail into Woobat. The little bat goes flying  
backward, hitting the ground hard just as Hilbert shouts  
another command to Minccino, and the little chinchilla  
charges forward, using SLAM attack to pin Woobat down to the  
ground.

When Minccino gets back up, Woobat's down and out.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Minccino's first battle went off a  
lot better -- she was a natural.

Hilbert has his SAWK fight against a BRAVIARY -- a large,  
ruffled bird similar to an eagle with enormous legs.

SKYLA

Use Free Fall! Try and go for a  
one-hit knockout!

Braviary gives an intimidating squwak and DIVES for Sawk,  
picking him up with its enormous legs.

HILBERT

Sawk, use Stone Edge!!

As Sawk's lifted into the air, he prepares an attack,  
creating SPIKY ROCKS in between his cupped hands -- Braviary  
gives a HEARTY throw -- Sawk PLUMMETS toward the ground. As  
he spins through the air, he looks up at Braviary --



AND UNLEASHES THE STONE EDGE ATTACK.

The rocks FLY UP as Sawk FALLS DOWN.

The rocks SLAM into Braviary, the bird FALLS down like a rocket. Both Sawk and Braviary SLAM to the ground. When the dust clears, both of them are unconscious.

It gives a victorious roar before falling over.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Since we tied -- *and due to the fact that she thinks I'm absolutely adorable* -- Skyla gave me the badge for Sawk's valiant effort.

Skyla hands over the JET BADGE to Hilbert.

INT./EXT. MONTAGE - VARIOUS

SHOTS of HILBERT and IRIS leaving MISTRALTON.

They stand in a RAINY FOREST area, having a double battle.

HILBERT: ARCHEOPS & MINCCINO

IRIS: JIGGLYPUFF & MARACTUS

Archeops SWOOPS down from the sky and KNOCKS into Maractus. Jigglypuff JUMPS up into the air, landing on Archeops. She begins to SING and Archeops gets dozy. She dives DOWN, crashing into the ground just as Jigglypuff hops off of her back, landing on the ground.

She gives a bow, as if asking for an "encore" performance... Just as Minccino rushes forward and starts slapping Jigglypuff across the face with her tail. When the attack ends, Jigglypuff looks PISSED. She puffs up like a BALLOON and uses DOUBLES LAP, repeatedly smacking Minccino across the face with her hand.

Maractus does a PETAL DANCE around Archeops's sleeping body...

HILBERT (V.O.)

Iris and I trained a lot on our way to Icirrus City... She won a lot of the battles, but she won 'em fair and square so I didn't complain.

FADE from this battle to show Hilbert and Iris arriving at a SNOWY MOUNTAIN area called TWIST MOUNTAIN.

They move through a cave, where they're attacked by a DEINO, a tiny four-legged dragon with dark features. Iris's AXEW battles it.

Using Dragon Rage, the little Axew manages to knock out Deino and Iris captures it in a Poké Ball.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Iris beat me to it catching this cool little guy. She seemed determined to get it though... I think she had some sort of obsession with Dragon-types. Always used to talk about 'em...

FADE to Hilbert and Iris camping out inside the cave together, Hilbert looks uninterested as Iris yaps on.

FADE to the duo trudging up a snowy hill, and when they reach the top -- they see a tiny CITY overhead.

HILBERT (V.O.)

We arrived at Icirrus feeling like we were overcome by frostbite. But turns out, we were fine...

INT. ICIRRUS CITY GYM - MORNING

In the GYM, HILBERT sends out his SWADLOON. The gym leader, a gawdy looking man named BRYCEN, looks confused. His CRYOGONAL - a floating snowflake Pokémon - dives forward as Hilbert suddenly recalls Swadloon and sends out ARCHEOPS.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Swadloon needed to gain experience so she could evolve into a Leavanny, so I decided to be cheap and switch her out immediately so she could get some sort of experience from the battle without actually fighting. Cause using her against Ice types? Big no no. Pretty clever though, right?

Archeops and Cryogonal exchange blows -- Cryogonal fires an ICE BEAM that freezes up the bird. The ice blocked-Pokémon hits the ground and the ice shatters, leaving Archeops KNOCKED out. Hilbert recalls Archeops and sends out his DEWOTT, SHELDON.

QUICK Shots of the battle as Sheldon uses RAZOR SHELL to knock out Cryogonal. Brycen sends out a VANILLITE -- a floating ice cream cone. FREEZE-FRAME on Hilbert's face as he LAUGHS at the ice cream Pokémon.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Remember how I said that the Klink we saw in Chargestone Cave was the dumbest Pokémon I'd ever seen? Scratch that. This Vanillite takes the cake.

(pause)

Gettit?

(beat)

Cake? And ice cream?

(cricket noise)

Meh. Moving on...

The battle starts -- Sheldon DEFLECTS an Ice Beam from Vanillite with one of his scalchops -- it flies back and hits the ice cream cone Pokémon. Dazed, Vanillite barely has time to notice Sheldon fire a WATER GUN right at its face.

HILBERT (V.O.)

I won my seventh badge after a quick scare losing Archeops. Sheldon swepted him pretty good and when I sent out Swadloon next --

EXT. ICIRRUS CITY - MORNING

Outside the gym, Hilbert throws a Poké Ball -- and a tall LEAVANNY pops out instead of Swadloon. He does a victory dance while Iris rolls her eyes.

HILBERT (V.O.)

-- She was evolved. Gained enough experience and happiness to turn into Leavanny. I'm SUCH a genius...

A loud RUMBLE interrupts the festivities. Hilbert recalls Leavanny into her Ball, and he and Iris rush toward the noise.

On the other side of a half-frozen lake, there's the DRAGONSPIRAL TOWER. Team Plasma guards stand on either side of the entrance and a small bridge is there for safe crossing.

IRIS

It's the legend. Both dragons are rumored to have split here -- if Team Plasma's here, then --

HILBERT

(getting it)

-- N is too. And he's gonna summon Reshiram.

They cross the bridge, heading toward the

EXT. DRAGONSPIRAL TOWER - CONTINUOUS

HILBERT, IRIS, and SHELDON are greeted at the end of the small bridge by the Team Plasma GRUNTS.

HILBERT (V.O.)

Iris and I had to beat the Plasma grunts before we could gain entry --

QUICK shots of Iris's DEINO and Hilbert's DEWOTT, SHELDON, attacking the grunts' Pokémon (a TRUBBISH - trash bag Pokémon - and a SOLOSIS - floating cell Pokémon).

HILBERT (V.O.)

-- Which was easy. No wonder they're only "grunts". And with the help of dear ol' Jigglypuff, we put 'em to sleep so we could get in without them warning their fellow peeps inside.

As the grunts and their Pokémon sleep, Iris recalls her Pokémon as she, Hilbert, and Sheldon make their way inside.

INT. DRAGONSPIRAL TOWER - CONTINUOUS

As soon as HILBERT and IRIS enter -- both in HERO MODE -- their moment ends abruptly. The floor ggives way underneath them and they FALL --

INT. DRAGONSPIRAL TOWER - DUNGEON - CONTINUOUS

-- BAM!

HILBERT, and IRIS look up -- it was a long fall for both of them. AXEW pops out of Iris's hair to check and see what happened, clearly stunned by the fall. SHELDON lies flat on his back, coming to his senses.

Axew looks BOTHERED, looking around the darkness with a tough face. Hilbert pulls out a Poké Ball...

HILBERT

I'm gonna get Archeops out so we can get the heck outta--

From the darkness, an enormous RED, DINOSAUR-esque face EMERGES and CLAMPS its jaws onto the hood of Hilbert's sweater, YANKING him into the darkness. He SCREAMS and Axew JUMPS forward --

IRIS  
HILBERT!!

Axew's mouth GLOWS blue and he releases the DRAGON RAGE attack -- illuminating the room as it collides with the thing that snatched Hilbert -- Its mouth OPENS and Hilbert SKIDS across the floor.

He sits up slowly -- looks up at the DRUDDIGON that gives an ANGRY roar.

IRIS (CONT'D)  
Axew, use Outrage!

Axew's EYES EXPLODE in a BLUE FIRE. An ENORMOUS, UNEARTHLY ROAR from deep in its body -- the Druddigon CHARGES and uses DRAGON CLAW, throwing Axew through the air. In midair, Axew's body is surrounded by blue flames and SHOOTs forward like a rocket, slamming into Druddigon's chest and knocking the massive dragon backward. Axew gets up, and GLOWS in a white light -- EVOLVES into FRAXURE. Taller, and fiercer.

IRIS (CONT'D)  
Oh my god! Axew EVOLVED!

Fraxure and Druddigon exchange roars like it's some sort of contest -- like two dinosaurs ready to battle -- and they CHARGE, RAMMING into each other. Druddigon SPINS -- a DRAGON TAIL attack right to Fraxure's face. Fraxure falls RIGHT next to Hilbert, who screams and tosses out Archeops's Poké Ball.

IRIS (CONT'D)  
DON'T! NEVER interrupt a battle between Dragons. They'll rip you in half when they're done as a peace treaty!

Hilbert's eyes widen and he immediately recalls Archeops.

As Druddigon receives a DRAGON RAGE to the face, he falls with a hard thud. Iris pulls out a Poké Ball and CATCHES the Druddigon. She picks up the Ball and it disappears...

HILBERT (V.O.)  
Iris already had six Pokémon on hand at the time, so her seventh was immediately sent to her home PC for storage.

Iris smiles at her Fraxure, happy it evolved.

HILBERT

I hate to interrupt this happy moment, but we've gotta go.

He recalls Sheldon into his ball and sends out Archeops again. He ushers Iris to hop on, she recalls Fraxure and leaps onto Archeops's back behind Hilbert. She wraps her arms around his waist and Archeops FLIES toward the open area they fell in through --

INT. DRAGONSPIRAL TOWER - CONTINUOUS

ARCHEOPS flies HILBERT and IRIS up the spiraling stairwell -- way up to the top -- past numerous PLASMA grunts who look on in awe.

INT. DRAGONSPIRAL TOWER - TOP - CONTINUOUS

They land at the end of the enormous stairwell, where they see N and GHETSIS.

GHETSIS

We have company...

N rounds on them. He smirks.

N

It's too late. Reshiram is already on its way!

The sun FLARES up in the distance -- TIGHT on Hilbert's face.

GHETSIS

There's nothing you can do to stop us.

Hilbert notices something curious about Ghetsis's victorious face -- Tilts his head curiously.

HILBERT

Us? You two plan on ruling Unova as the first gay kings or what?

Ghetsis looks like he's about to snap, but N ignores him as a massive WHITE dragon swoops through the sky --

Hilbert and Iris back up -- Iris takes his hand. He looks surprised, but SQUEEZES hers tightly in response --

HILBERT (V.O.)

We were scared, and thought we were gonna die, so don't judge...

The duo back up fearfully as RESHIRAM lands on the tower, and Ghetsis climb on its back -- and the gigantic dragon takes off into the sky -- before disappearing...

IRIS

What now?

HILBERT (V.O.)

It all came down to exactly what N thought it would.

(beat)

Truth versus ideals. Black versus White.

Hilbert swallows -- it's a long pause before he finally says...

HILBERT

...We fight.

**SMASH TO BLACK.**

'TO BE CONTINUED'

HILBERT (V.O.)

...A war was about to begin.