

Pikachu grunted as he walked down the same narrow dirt path he had been traveling on for hours. The hot sun heavily beat down on him and the pack slung over his shoulder felt like it was being pulled towards the ground. "Bah," he grunted. "This is so unnecessary." Why did it have to be him who was being sent to a different explorers guild? What was wrong with him being in his old one? But rules were rules, and if the guild leader said go, Pikachu had to go.

His destination, a neighboring guild, was supposed to be only a few hours away. But walking on this hot path made time feel closer to half the day rather than a short hour or two. Pikachu's tired paws stomped on the warm dirt with each step, kicking up dust and pebbles along the way. Each movement felt like it might be the last one before he might have to slump over and pass out for a while.

Several more long minutes of walking brought the yellow mouse-like creature up a small hill, one of many which wound about in this area. A dense temperate forest sat to the right while, after several feet to the left, there was a cliff-edge towering over an ocean of trees sitting snugly inside a wide valley. Over the small hilltop was a sight that nearly brought tears to Pikachu's eyes, his destination.

The guild sat only a few hundred feet off in the distance, covering only a small patch of the horizon. While it was only a blur from here, the mere sight of it ahead filled Pikachu with renewed energy. The boy smirked and picked up his pace to more of a power walk than the slow steps he took before. Soon the guild began to grow until he could see the entrance and the fence bordering its boundaries.

Inside were several buildings and numerous tents. Some were shops while others were simply temporary resting places or used for trading goods. To him, most buildings were rather large because of his size. Many of the tents were smaller but there were a few big ones dotted around, most likely housing larger pokemon. It seemed that this guild was more of a small town or village which acted as a guild.

The entrance gate was an old wooden arch which connected to a fence that led to a cliff edge on the left and a mountainside on the right. A small, metal lantern hung from a loop at the top of the gate, no flame flickering inside, leaving it lifeless on the dawning afternoon. Pikachu looked up in awe as he crossed through the boundary and entered into the guild before him.

Pikachu's gaze drifted around as he took in the sights of each building. When he finally began to look lower, he paused and raised an eyebrow in confusion. It wasn't that the

guild was empty and in need of explorers like he had thought, no, in fact, there were many pokémon bustling around with their daily tasks. What puzzled the boy, even more, was the fact that each member of this guild wasn't wearing typical team gear. The members around here each wore a diaper with a special symbol on it, probably marking their team symbols. This was something that he had never seen before in his life, and to make it worse, many of them also carried around baby supplies like rattles, pacifiers, and bottles all shoved tightly into their packs.

The peculiar sights of this guild made Pikachu weary but he continued heading inwards. A wooden pole stuck deeply in the ground of the guild's center marked each of the essential areas, such as the shops. One sign nailed into the pole pointed in the direction of the guild leader, exactly where the mouse needed to go.

While the walk to the guild leader's hall was short, to Pikachu it felt like a long time. Constant stares of confusion were found aiming in his direction, mainly towards the lack of diaper around his waist. It also didn't help that the bag he carried severely lacked any major items sticking out of it as many of the bags around here had. The boy simply shrugged off the stares, he didn't have time for any of it and as far as he knew, he was the only normal one around here.

The leader's building came up rather quickly, not being more than a few minutes walk from the guild center. The building was similar to a large teepee, being open at the front with no door, round, and tall. The dirt pathway leading throughout the guild led into the building and the grass on either side also flowed in like a river. Pikachu pushed past a thin piece of cloth that hung over the front, stepping inside the grassy and spacious inside of the tent.

Towards the back sat the guild leader herself. She was a large Ninetales who had been sitting on her rear, a thick and poofy white diaper covering her butt which was providing a cushion for her seat. She had been talking to a Bidoof, who was in a diaper of his own, though this one had a Ninetales face printed right on the front. As soon as Pikachu showed his face inside the tent, Bidoof turned and smiled at him.

"Ah, you must be the new transfer we've been expecting! It's a pleasure to meet you." The Bidoof spoke as he walked towards Pikachu, a smile behind his overhanging front teeth.

Pikachu watched as the Bidoof waddled towards him, the thick diaper crinkling with each step. The design of Ninetales on the front must have meant he was the guild leader's assistant, it made the most sense.

"It's uh, nice to meet you too." Pikachu shook away his thoughts as he pulled his gaze off from the diapers. He held his paw out towards Bidoof which was met by a gentle shake.

"Yes, it's very nice to meet our newest guild member." Ninetales spoke up, interrupting the brief silence. "I'd like to get you settled as soon as possible and off on a mission by tomorrow."

Pikachu raised an eyebrow, looking a little bewildered. "That soon?"

"That soon," Ninetales replied as Bidoof moved back to his spot next to the white fox. "My daughter has been waiting for you since we heard about a transfer. She'd like to get back out exploring as soon as she can."

The boy nodded and bowed slightly. "I understand. New guild, new rules. Just have to get used to them."

Ninetales smiled and turned towards Bidoof. "Please show our newest member where he will be staying for the night. After this, you must pay for a teepee or buy a tent if you wish to sleep within the guild's territory."

Another nod in reply came from Pikachu as he turned to follow Bidoof, who had already slipped out of the tent. He ran to catch up with the crinkly boy, smiling at him.

"I've gotta ask you, Bidoof, why does everyone around here wear a diaper?"

Bidoof smiled and continued his walking pace. "You'll find out soon enough. It's not a requirement but more of a personal choice." He paused in front of a small building, a similar teepee to the guild leader's but not quite as big or round. "Most recruits start without wearing a diaper and eventually end up in one."

Bidoof entered into the tent and signaled for Pikachu to follow. Inside it was small but still spacious enough for his items and to sleep. On the opening, there was a closable flap much like the teepee he had just been inside of. He set his bag down near the back and turned to face the assistant.

“The guild leader expects you back at her tent by sunrise tomorrow. Get a good night's rest and good luck on your explorations.” Without another word, Bidoof smiled and left, leaving Pikachu alone.

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The next morning came very quickly, or so it seemed to Pikachu as he slowly sat up from his sleeping position. It felt as if he had just laid down and closed his eyes but it was already time for him to get going. The air around him was cool and there were the first shafts of sunlight jutting through the flap which didn't fully cover the front entrance. He stood up, slipped his bag onto his back, and headed out of the teepee.

The guild was quiet and empty at this early hour. The sun had barely risen above the distant mountain peaks, filling the area with a minor amount of light. Several small tents were set up near the center pole while others dotted the cliff edges and steep mountainsides that bordered the land. It was nice having the guild nestled tight against a mountain and a cliff. It also helped that it was higher up than a lot of guilds out there which made it safer.

Pikachu took in a deep breath of the morning air, the chill rushing into his lungs. The orange hues of light from the sun which made its way over the horizon gave way to a calm feeling. It was something that the mouse would have to cherish as the dungeons were quite treacherous and stressful.

The sight of the leader's teepee shook the feelings of calm and gave way to a tinge of excitement. Pikachu was curious to find out who his companion would be and secretly hoped they weren't like any of the other Pokemon in this guild. He pushed past the entrance flap and into the open interior.

Ninetales sat on her throne, a smile adorned on her otherwise blank face. A diaper was still wrapped snugly around her waist, as was the same for Bidoof who stood off to the side of her. Sitting directly to the right of Ninetales was a small Vulpix, an aura of excitement surrounding the girl. The young fox looked to be about the same age as Pikachu, close to his size too. A canvas bag sat on her back which accompanied a white diaper around her butt.

Pikachu inwardly sighed but remained bright and happy on the outside. This Vulpix must have been his companion, not exactly the Pokemon he would have hoped for. He stepped forward and approached Ninetales, tilting his head upward to face her.

“I am here, just as you asked, guild leader.” The boy spoke, attempting to hide his disappointment.

“Good. I imagine that you can guess who your partner will be?”

Pikachu nodded at Ninetales and looked towards Vulpix. “Her?”

“That is correct. This is Vulpix, my daughter. She has waited for this day to come and now it has finally arrived.”

Ninetales nudged the girl forwards, smiling down at her daughter.

“It’s a pleasure to meet you,” Vulpix said.

“Same to you, Vulpix. I’m Pikachu. I hope our adventures will be full of excitement.”

Vulpix smiled and stood up on all four paws. She took a few bounds forwards then paused to look back at her mother.

“It’s okay for me to leave now, right?”

Ninetales chuckled.

“Of course it is. Best be on your way as soon as possible.” The white fox replied.

Silence followed as Vulpix bounded out of the teepee, causing Pikachu to rush out without saying goodbye to the guild leader.

Once he got outside, Pikachu ran to catch up with his companion. He quickly made his way to her side and raised an eyebrow.

“Couldn’t you at least have waited for me before leaving?”

Vulpix blushed and frowned a bit, her gaze drifting to the ground. “I’m sorry. I just have been so excited for this and I guess I got a little ahead of myself.”

Pikachu smiled softly at Vulpix. “I was only teasing you. I get how exciting it is to explore the dungeons.”

He turned his head back to the path ahead which led towards the center of the guild. The sun had risen more at this point, just barely holding above the mountain tops off in the distance. The air felt a tad bit warmer but not a whole lot. It would take several more hours before it got to a hotter temperature.

“We should go to the quest board and grab one that seems easy enough for us two.” Pikachu began to look around for an indication as to where the board might be.

Vulpix let out a giggle and dug through the bag on her back. She pulled out a crumpled piece of paper and unfolded it. Written on the inside was a request for one of the shops, the Kecleon Bros

“This is a request I snagged earlier this morning before heading to meet you. It seems they want us to bring back some dungeon loot.”

“What do they need the loot for and who is this they?” Pikachu asked in reply.

“The Kecleon Bros requested this. They are the ones who run the general goods store, silly.” Vulpix smiled and began to walk on the path heading towards the town gate.

“But that explains nothing. What would a general store need dungeon loot for?” Pikachu sighed and watched as his companion had already gotten out of earshot.

Once again Pikachu had to run to catch up with his teammate, giving a few heavy pants once he got next to her.

“You sure like to run off on your own. Better not do that in one of the dungeons.” Pikachu bluntly said, looking down at Vulpix.

“Yeah, yeah. I know, silly.” She said with a giggle.

“Though I suppose it wouldn’t be hard to find you with such a thick and noticeable diaper on your butt.” Pikachu chuckled at his joke which got a ‘hmph’ in reply from the fox. “Still find it a little odd that everyone around here wears them. Bidoof told me I’d find out why soon enough, so I’m still waiting to see.”

Vulpix rolled her eyes and giggled. “It’s a pretty simple explanation. New traps have appeared in the dungeons around here.”

“New traps?” The boy asked, looking bewildered. He certainly never ran into any new traps during his time exploring the dungeons around his old guild.

“Yep!” Vulpix replied excitedly. “New traps. No one is quite sure as to where they came from. They just appeared one day and now everyone in our guild wants to get their paws on them. Most already have, as you could tell by the diapers.” The girl gave her rear a quick wiggle to show that she too had a run-in with the new traps.

“Wait, the traps diaper you?” Pikachu scratched the top of his head, thoughts racing through his mind.

“We call them babifying traps because when you set one-off, a diaper is poofed onto your butt. The real kicker is that the diapers are high quality and sell for a great price.”

Pikachu crossed his arms, a look of disapproval growing on him. “If they sell for so much then why is everyone wearing them?”

“Because, silly, they make great exploration gear. You gather some from the traps, save a few, and then sell the rest!” Vulpix continued to walk, not ceasing her quick pace or turning to look at her teammate. “Without needing to stop for bathroom breaks, you can adventure more. Plus, if you fall, they cushion your landing!”

“But they look ridiculous!” Pikachu retorted. “And using the bathroom doesn’t take that long.”

Vulpix let out another ‘hmp’ in reply to her companion. She turned and cast him a glaring look. “You think what you want to but this is how our guild operates and you’re stuck with us.”

As much as Pikachu hated to admit it, she was right. He had no other choice right now. If he ever wished to return to his old guild, he would have to stick it out with this one for at least a while. The guild he came from had just gotten too full and there wasn’t enough land for everyone. The leader sent a number of their explorers out to join lower population guilds to reduce the numbers in their own and help boost production of the others.

Silence followed the two explorers like a predator stalking its prey. Neither of them wanted to talk, Vulpix still annoyed from earlier and Pikachu not wanting to further irritate her. Eventually, he broke the silence as the quiet became unbearable.

“So...how come your diaper is blank while all the other teams have their logos on them?” Pikachu was genuinely curious about this fact. Also as to how the logo was put onto the diapers.

A sigh came from Vulpix as she paused and looked at the ground. “I don’t have a team, that’s why. I’ve been exploring the easier dungeons on my own. The other Pokemon are a little nervous about having the guild leader’s daughter on their team in case something happens to me.”

Pikachu frowned. “Well, I’m not afraid. And that’s no way to treat someone. As soon as we get back to the guild, let’s make our team logo!”

Vulpix’s eyes grew bigger and shone like the sun. “You mean it?!”

The boy nodded at his partner, a huge smile forming across the girl’s face. Delight overtook her as she tossed herself at Pikachu, wrapping her arms around him and giving his body a tight squeeze. “Thank you, thank you, thank you!”

“H-Heh, don’t mention it. Just don’t squeeze the life out of me before we even get back!” He chuckled and Vulpix pulled away with a blush.

“Sorry...” She said, rubbing the back of her head with an embarrassed smile. “You know, I could diaper you up now. I brought a few spares with me just in case and it would make exploring a bit easier for us.”

Vulpix watched as Pikachu’s smile turned to an annoyed frown. “No thank you. Just because we are a team doesn’t mean I’m going to start wearing diapers.”

The fox’s ears folded down as she felt a wave of regret wash over her. “Just forget I mentioned it then.”

While it seemed as if the two had been making progress, Vulpix couldn’t help but feel she just set them back to square one. She turned and started forwards once more, wanting to leave the last part of their conversation in the dust. The dungeon wouldn’t be much farther anyway so the silence that was sure to follow would be bearable.

Eventually, the dungeon had come into view as the two explorers approached it. From the outside it looked like any ordinary cave, the opening wide and dark. Vulpix was the

first to step up to it, peering inside as if she could see anything beyond the dark veil that was the entrance. A cool waft of air drifted out and covered the fox, chilling her to the bone. She shivered and turned to Pikachu who was staring up at how big the entrance was.

“This is it?” Pikachu asked, tilting his head.

“Yes. From what I have heard, this dungeon is supposed to be not so dangerous ever since these new traps appeared. It used to be one of the worst to go into.”

“Why is that?”

“Well, most of the Pokemon who were here seem to have devolved or de-leveled and become rather babyish. I assume it’s because they live near the traps and the magic soaked into them after being exposed for so long.” Vulpix smiled at her partner while speaking.

A huff came from the mouse in reply as Vulpix glanced over at him. His arms were crossed and he wore a grumpy look on his face. Was it the babyfying traps that caused him such disdain or was he still upset with her from earlier? Before she could even ponder what might be going on in Pikachu’s head, he had already disappeared behind the curtain of darkness.

Vulpix swiftly ran in behind her teammate as she didn’t want to lose him. The inside of the cave was dim and damp. Light from the outside did little to help either of them see but a sunbeam ahead showed them what to head towards. The air was bitter cold and had a disgusting damp feeling to it, so much so that Vulpix worried her diaper might absorb some of the moisture.

Pikachu continued to walk in silence, heading towards the pillar of light that struck a single rock in the center of a wide opening. The sound of dripping water was the only noise other than light breathing from the two which would occasionally break the silence. They rounded the sunlight, which broke in through a hole in the rocky ceiling above, and headed further in.

After several more minutes of mostly darkness, a glow came from up ahead. Dozens of crystals growing from the walls, floors, and cavern roof jutted out and illuminated the area. Hues of blue, purple, pink, and even red were being cast onto the rock and dirt, mingling together to create beautiful shades and colorations.

Both pokemon stared at the crystals and colors in awe, paying no mind to a swarm of Zubats that were heading towards them. The sudden loud shrieking of the creatures shook Pikachu from his trance and startled Vulpix to the point of falling onto her back. The boy's head turned towards his teammate as an audible hissing came forth and the front of her diaper turned to a darker shade.

"Did you just do what I think you did...?" Pikachu grunted, planting the palm of his paw firmly over his face.

Vulpix blushed and slowly nodded her head, there was no hiding it with her diaper on full display from the position she was in.

"W-Would you mind helping me?" The words barely came out as she looked up at Pikachu, nearly in tears.

Pikachu sighed and walked towards the girl, a blush growing over the two big, red dots on his cheeks. He stifled through her bag and pulled out one of the spare diapers she had brought 'just in case.'

"I'm sorry....," she murmured. "It was an accident."

"Look, it's okay. It...happens. You got scared and couldn't help it."

Pikachu's tone was soft, vastly different from the sharp one he had before. He began to change Vulpix by slipping her soaked diaper off as he blushed even harder.

"Does this happen often to you?" He asked with genuine curiosity.

Vulpix nodded once more. "I didn't want to tell you this before we left but...we believe there's a curse that comes with those new traps." She sighed again, not wanting to tell Pikachu this in fear of abandoning the mission but she had no choice. "I have to be honest with you. Everyone who has come in contact with a trap and activated it has lost their continence. That's the real reason everyone in the guild, including my mother, wears them. None of us knew until it was too late."

While Vulpix expected her partner to freak out, he didn't. Pikachu continued with the change, listening in to what she had to say.

“Aren’t you going to freak out and run off?” She was confused by him not reacting.

Another sigh came from Pikachu as he looked up at Vulpix.

“Done.” He said, finishing the diaper change. “And no, I’m not going to run off. I just have to be extra cautious around these traps.”

“Phew!” Vulpix let out an exasperated breath and smiled. “Shall we continue?”

Before she could attempt to get back to her feet, Pikachu held a paw out in front of her snout. She happily accepted it as she was helped up, surprised to find herself being pulled into a gentle hug from her companion.

“I’m sorry about earlier with being so silent. I just don’t know how to take all this diaper stuff in, and I guess I thought by blocking it out I would be fine. But, that’s no way to treat a teammate or a friend.”

Pikachu pulled away from the hug with a smile, looking into Vulpix’s eyes. “Watch my back for me with all those traps, okay?”

A bigger smile grew on Vulpix’s face as she nodded toward her partner. “I will, promise!”

They began their journey deeper into the dungeon once more, both looking out for each other. They fought through some enemies without encountering a single trap, much to Pikachu’s delight. The tunnels and caves led them further down into the ground where the only light came from the crystals around them. Pikachu led the charge forward the whole way, fighting through enemy after enemy without any difficulty. Things were going smoothly up until Vulpix shouted “STOP” at the boy.

His foot was stopped halfway on its journey towards the ground, he didn’t move a muscle. Below him was an orange plate with diaper symbols in each of the four corners, barely visible beneath a layer of dust and debris. Pikachu’s eyes widened as he moved his feet backward and stepped away from the trap.

“Close call, that would’ve had me if it weren’t for you, Vulpix.” He smiled and gave his partner a gentle hug before looking back towards the trap.

“Do you want me to dismantle it since I already have been struck by one? I don’t mind.” Vulpix asked.

“No, but thank you. I’d like to get some experience taking one of these apart. I learn better when doing something myself.”

Pikachu crouched down in front of the plate and inspected it carefully. He gingerly placed a paw under the leftmost corner closest to him and lifted slowly. The trap began to pull up from the ground where it lay, a magical glow coming out from underneath. The plate wasn’t heavy and felt as if it were made from a metal of some sort. He tugged some more, pulling harder as more of the corner began to come up. With his crouched position and force being applied to the spot he was lifting, his balance was unsteady. Another tug caused him to lose his footing and fall onto his soft belly right on the trap.

A puff of white smoke rose up and surrounded the mouse. His legs were pushed away from each other, something thick now in between them. The air inside the cave began to smell of baby powder despite the puff having quickly faded, revealing Pikachu on his belly with a thick diaper around his butt. If that wasn’t bad enough, a blue pacifier had also formed within his mouth and he hadn’t even taken notice. Small puffs of powder blew out from the diaper as he struggled to get up, eventually finding his balance once again.

Vulpix stared at her teammate, eyes wide with shock and fear. Pikachu groaned and looked down at himself. He poked and prodded at the thick, crinkly garment now around his waist, feeling the softness with each touch. His gaze drifted from the diaper to the item shoved in his maw as his tongue tested what it was. The pacifier dropped to the ground below as he swiftly spat it out and scrunched his nose.

Vulpix ran over and hugged her teammate, looking up at him with a sorrowful expression. “I’m sorry. I’m so sorry that happened to you.”

“It smells like a nursery in here.” The boy replied, ignoring her apologies.

“Huh?!” Vulpix’s eyes widened even more as she again expected a freak out from the mouse. “You’re not the least bit upset? You were so against putting a diaper on before!”

Pikachu brought his small, yellow paws up to his eyes, rubbed, and gave a few blinks from all the powder in the air. A blush was visible on his cheeks once again despite his face being mostly expressionless.

“I didn’t want to be in one. I failed at dismantling the trap and I made a mistake, it’s on me for that. I really would rather not be stuck in this but I don’t think I have a choice anymore.” A look of irritation grew on his face as he placed a full paw onto the front of his diaper.

Questions continued to flood into the girl’s mind as she watched Pikachu feel his newly acquired ‘armor.’ She subconsciously tilted her head and raised an eyebrow. “I thought you’d be more upset than this.”

“Oh trust me, I am. I’m screaming on the inside and shouting angrily at myself for being so careless. But letting all that out wouldn’t exactly bode well for us in this echoey dungeon.”

Vulpix smiled, then giggled. “You’re very silly, you know that?”

“Huh?” It was now Pikachu that tilted his head, the question drawing him away from feeling his diaper.

“You’re angry yet you accept what happened to you. This whole situation is just silly!”

Her charming smile and warm appearance were contagious as a smile grew on Pikachu’s face as well.

“I guess you’re right. I am silly. This diaper is silly and these traps are silly. This whole situation IS silly!” He let out a chuckle and looked around the cave that they were in. “No point in sitting around just because this happened. At least now we can dismantle the traps without worry!”

Vulpix cast a soft smile toward Pikachu, blushing. She liked how he was handling the situation and brushed against his side in reassurance, just in case. “You want to continue with the dungeon?”

“We can’t return empty-handed. What kind of explorers would we be if we didn’t get any treasure for the guild?” Pikachu smiled confidently, bending down to grab the pacifier he had dropped. “First treasure of the day, let’s keep going to get some more!” He stuffed the item into his bag as he began to walk forwards.

“You’re right. Let’s get exploring!” Vulpix smirked and followed her partner deeper into the cave, grinning the whole way.

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The rest of their exploration went by much smoother. The two were both able to dismantle several babyfying traps, getting a load of loot from them. The bags they each carried were stuffed past the brim with their goodies of diapers, pacifiers, bottles, and more. They ventured through the dungeon, eventually being led upwards and out through another exit than the one they had come through.

Bright sunlight flooded their vision and blinded them for a few seconds before their eyes could adjust. The day was nearly over as the sun was heading towards the horizon, filling the sky with a similar orange hue as the one Pikachu saw when he first arrived at the guild.

A small dirt path led them through a nearby forest and back up to the main pathway that led to the guild itself. They traveled side by side, the entrance gate but a small blur in the distance, slowly inching upon them.

Pikachu smiled and waddled with each step, no longer upset about being diapered. He planted a paw yet again on the front of his diaper, ready to feel the softness of it but a blush instead appeared on his face. Vulpix noticed this and looked over with a tilt of her head.

"Is something wrong?" She asked curiously.

Pikachu chuckled and rubbed the back of his head, turning to face Vulpix. "Well you see...um..." He stammered, struggling to find the right words. "Could I get a change? He sheepishly asked.

Vulpix grinned at first then gave him a warm smile. "Of course you can. We're friends after all."