

WIND & RAIN - EPISODE 10

FAR ISLAND BEACH (DAWN)

It is late into blue hour, and the sun is beginning to show its face over the horizon. The hue of the sky lightens from a murky twilight to bright daylight blue.

CRUISE sleeps upon the beach on a blanket, his Espeon, EDGAR laying beside him.

Around the campsite, amongst the remains of the bonfire and the previous night's dinner, sleep more of CRUISE's Pokémon, a Drifblim named LAKEHURST, and well as his Flaaffy and Quilava, BLACKPOOL and FREEWAY, who are sleeping comfortably beside each other.

EDGAR,

Opens his eyes and lifts his head from the sand. Though calm and collected, his eyes reflect unease and unhappiness.

EDGAR stands, and assesses his surroundings.

EDGAR gives an investigative sniff of the spot beside CRUSIE where BOUNCE had been laying, and then walks over to the basket STILLWELL had been sleeping in and sniffs that as well.

The Espeon lifts his head from the basket and scans the area around him, both with his eyes, and by lifting his nose to the air and testing it for their scent.

BLACKPOOL AND FREEWAY SLEEPING -

EDGAR nudges BLACKPOOL with his paw.

BLACKPOOL lazily shoos him away.

BLACKPOOL
(drowsily)

No.

Too... early...

EDGAR
Sorry. I'm not trying to wake you up for the morning. I was only wondering if you know where Bounce and Stillwell went.

BLACKPOOL
(drowsily)
What? They're gone?

EDGAR
They weren't here when I woke up a moment

ago.

The Flaaffy rustles himself to alertness, rises to his feet, and looks around.

BLACKPOOL

That's weird. I have no idea. Maybe they went out for a walk.

EDGAR

Bounce was keeping watch when I fell asleep last night. She wouldn't have left camp without passing the duty on to someone else.

The unease spreads to BLACKPOOL, who ponders this for the briefest moment.

BLACKPOOL

Good point. Maybe Freeway knows.

Hey, Freeway! Wake up!

The Quilava grumbles in her sleep.

BLACKPOOL

Alright, in that case -

BLACKPOOL hoists FREEWAY upright and jolts her with electricity.

Wide eyed and with her fur poofed out, FREEWAY awakens, snarling in BLACKPOOL's face.

FREEWAY

Hey! What gives?

BLACKPOOL

We gotta ask you something.

FREEWAY

Hey, whoever smelt it-

FREEWAY notices the sober expressions on BLACKPOOL and EDGAR's faces.

FREEWAY (CONT'D)

Oh. What happened? Did I miss something?

EDGAR

Do you know where Bounce and Stillwell went?

FREEWAY

She took Stillwell out into the woods for a pee or something.

EDGAR

How long ago?

FREEWAY

I don't know. It was still night or something, so a few hours ago I think.

Why? They aren't back yet?

BLACKPOOL

No. They're still gone.

EDGAR

And I don't mean to alarm either of you, but just had a dream that Bounce and Stillwell were fighting for their lives, and losing.

FREEWAY and BLACKPOOL are visibly horrified.

BLACKPOOL

Like, a psychic dream?

EDGAR

I believe so. They may need our help.

BLACKPOOL

Where are they now?

EDGAR

In my dream they were in the forest.

FREEWAY

Well duh, that's awful specific. Can't you tell where in the forest they're at with your powers or something?

EDGAR

Sometimes I see things that normal light won't reveal, or sense things things my five senses cant detect, but I don't magically know everything.

In the dream they were calling out for us, thinking about us, praying for us to come help them, that's why I think I had the vision.

That is if the vision's even real, but I think there's something to it. There's lots of danger in the forest at night and I wouldn't have advised a Deerling and a Wooper to go in by themselves -

FREEWAY

Enough jabber, the sun's coming up, let's go look for them.

BLACKPOOL

What about Aunt Lakehurst?

LAKEHURST

(off screen)

I'm awake.

LAKEHURST -

The old Drifblim rises from the ground and shakes the sand from her streamers.

LAKEHURST

I think the problem will be letting Cruise know as efficiently as possible.

FREEWAY

Let him sleep, we don't have time to play charades with him, and I hate to say it, but he'd slow us down.

Let's just go in and find them -

BLACKPOOL

And leave our injured master asleep and alone on the beach?

LAKEHURST

We need to bring him.

BLACKPOOL

I'll wake him up then,

BLACKPOOL takes a step toward CRUISE, but EDGAR steps before him.

EDGAR

Please, don't wake Amos yet. I'll try to tell him, in my way.

FREEWAY

You can do that?

EDGAR

I can speak telepathically to other Pokémon, but seldom is that necessary or appropriate.

I can also speak telepathically with humans, but it's much more difficult and takes a great amount of energy and concentration.

It took me years to develop this with my departed sister and I just barely achieved this with Amos by accident last night.

FREEWAY

Then how are you gonna tell him -

EDGAR

I can't speak to him easily, but we can share glimpses of thoughts or memories.

This was how I bonded with him before the rest of you came to the island.

And it's much easier to do while Amos is asleep.

The other Pokémon watch as EDGAR approaches CRUISE.

EDGAR sits upon his haunches beside his sleeping human and closes his eyes in concentration.

In the light of the rising sun the Espeon's gem glows faintly, and his erect tail sways gently in the air.

POV - CRUISE

CRUISE's eyes slowly open. He sees EDGAR and the three other Pokémon all looking anxiously at him.

END POV

CRUISE

So I guess that wasn't just a dream then, huh?

CRUISE sits up upon the blanket.

CRUISE

Alright everyone, let's go find Stillwell and Bounce.

CRUISE's Pokémon all gesture in agreement.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST (MORNING)

CRUISE, walking as fast as he can manage with his cane is amongst his Pokémon through the forest, all of them looking around for any sign of their missing friends.

EDGAR leads them with his nose to the ground, trying to gather the other's scent.

CRUISE

Wow, walking through the woods sucks without a trail to follow, huh?

FREEWAY

Tell me about it, all these rocks are murder.

BLACKPOOL

At least you have four legs and can't trip. All these vines are gonna make me fall flat on my face.

LAKEHURST

Please concentrate on finding Stillwell and Bounce.

BLACKPOOL

Sorry, Aunt Lakehurst.

FREEWAY

Hey, Edgar, where are you leading us, anyway?

EDGAR

I'm trying to follow Bounce and Stillwell's scent, but it's hard to detect.

BLACKPOOL

Which is weird being as they only came through here hours ago.

EDGAR

Exactly.

FREEWAY

(shouting)

Hey! Bounce! Stillwell!

Yoo hoo! Where are you?

EDGAR cringes.

EDGAR

Shh! Freeway!

FREEWAY

What? We're looking for them, aren't we?

EDGAR

You'll scare them away.

BLACKPOOL

Who? Stillwell and Bounce?

EDGAR

No, the forest Pokémon. The small ones.

FREEWAY

Why would we care about scaring them away?

EDGAR

We can ask for their help -

N

(off screen)

And they also make a good meal, if nothing else.

If you don't scare them away being loud like you.

CRUISE and the Pokémon turn their attention skyward.

A NOCTOWL sits perched upon the bough of a nearby tree.

CRUISE is enchanted.

CRUISE

Wow, a Noctowl!

FREEWAY

Hey! Who asked you, bird?

The Noctowl grunts.

NOCTOWL

Charming.

Dear Edgar, is this impertinent creature an associate of yours?

EDGAR

Yes. Sorry, Madame Noctowl.

EDGAR performs a bow-like gesture toward NOCTOWL.

Seeing this, CRUISE bows as best as he is able, as does BLACKPOOL, who smacks FREEWAY on the back, cueing her to reluctantly bow as well.

EDGAR (CONT'D)

Excuse her. She's in a fiery mood today.

FREEWAY, BLACKPOOL, and CRUISE stand by bemused as EDGAR and NOCTOWL converse.

NOCTOWL

Well she wouldn't be the first Fire-type to be fresh with me since the sun last set.

EDGAR

Rude to you? But every Pokémon in the forest respects you Madame Noctowl.

NOCTOWL

Not that rambunctious splinter group of Houndoom that broke off from the main pack last season.

EDGAR

Oh. Them. Yes, they even tried to make trouble in the town a while back -

NOCTOWL

They are a disgrace and an embarrassment. They hunt dishonestly, and are lazy, rude, and careless.

They are also cruel to their prey and scare off the prey of other predators.

Just last night one of them made me miss a Rattata I was hunting because he was making some sort of foolish game out of stalking a Deerling and a Wooper.

EDGAR, FREEWAY, BLACKPOOL, and LAKEHURST are stunned, and burst into a cacophony of horrorstruck voices.

CRUISE sees this and shares their concern, in spite of not knowing what had been said.

EDGAR

Madame Noctowl, that Deerling and Wooper are the brother and sister of this human, who is now my brother.

NOCTOWL

What about your sister? That lovely young girl -

EDGAR

She died saving me.

NOCTOWL

Regrettable.

EDGAR

I had a vision that the Deerling and Wooper we're looking for were in grave danger. We need to find them at once!

NOCTOWL

I warned that Houndoom not to hunt those two, that they obviously belonged to a human, but he just insulted me.

BLACKPOOL

Which way did they go?

NOCTOWL gestures with her wing, pointing deeper into the forest.

NOCTOWL

That way. I did not follow them. If I had known they were friends of yours, Edgar, I would have intervened.

NOCTOWL shuts her eyes.

NOCTOWL (CONT'D)

Now, allow me my rest. The sun is high now.

EDGAR

Yes. Thank you Madame Noctowl.

EDGAR looks to his fellow Pokémon, and to CRUISE.

EDGAR (CONT'D)

Let's go, everyone!

The Pokémon sprint into the indicated direction, with CRUISE actually running (albeit with a severe limp) for the first time since arriving on the island.

CRUISE

(thinking)

God, what I'd give to understand what they were saying.

CRUISE AND HIS POKÉMON,

Run through the forest.

CRUISE is obviously in pain and severely exhausted, but continues to just barely keep pace with the others for a good distance into the forest until -

CRUISE'S FEET -

CRUISE trips over a rock and spills forward, howling with pain before he even hits the ground, the impact striking the breath out of him.

CRUISE

Aah! Darn it!

Now I gone and did it!

The Pokémon skid into reverse and are at their master's aid in a heartbeat, brushing the dust from him and helping him however they can.

CRUISE sits up pulls back his trouser leg. His ankle is sprained and visibly bruised. The Pokémon join CRUISE in taking a closer look.

BLACKPOOL

Stress fracture for sure. Haven't heard him make that noise since he took a tumble hopping off of Sophie during the playoffs last year.

FREEWAY

You've got to be freaking kidding me.

LAKEHURST flutters down behind CRUISE and snuggles him with her streamers.

EDGAR gently licks the already swollen ankle.

CRUISE

No guys!

Go ahead and find them!

Find Stillwell and Bounce, I can tell they're in danger, just leave me here, I'll be alright!

FREEWAY climbs onto CRUISE's lap and nuzzles his chin.

FREEWAY

I'm sorry, master. This is all my fault.

BLACKPOOL

What? Freeway how is this your fault?

CRUISE pets FREEWAY.

CRUISE

Hey, thanks, but it's okay. Go ahead and help the others find them, okay?

FREEWAY

This is all my fault. Oh my God.

Oh my God.

CRUISE

Freeway, are you okay?

LAKEHURST

Freeway, you're becoming ill. Remove yourself from Amos' lap.

FREEWAY crawls away from CRUISE, her head drooping and her eyes dilated.

FREEWAY

I killed them. What if they got eaten because I fell asleep -

BLACKPOOL

No Freeway, stop blaming yourself.

FREEWAY

I was supposed to be the lookout -

BLACKPOOL puts an arm around FREEWAY's back as she stands on all fours, breathing deeply.

BLACKPOOL

Even if you fell asleep on the beach that

*doesn't mean you would have been able to
hear them this deep in the -*

FREEWAY's flame quills ignite with peculiar intensity,
forcing BLACKPOOL to jump backward.

CRUISE is horrified as he watches his Pokémon in obvious
distress.

CRUISE

Freeway!

Forgetting his numerous injuries, he tries to get up, but the
pain instantly reminds him, and he collapses, forced to sit
by helplessly.

EDGAR cautiously approaches FREEWAY. Her belly visibly
convulses and she retches miserably as she tries to keep
herself from collapsing.

EDGAR

Freeway? Can I help -

FREEWAY

Don't touch me!

The Quilava's quills instantly extinguish as she vomits
burning fuel upon the ground between her forepaws.

She stands there, dazed and sickened as the fire nuzzles her
face and those around her look on with intense worry.

Just as quickly as she hurled it out, Freeway laps up the
burning liquid and re-ingests it, in the panicked, desperate
manner of a creature drowning creature gasping for oxygen.

As she gobbles down the spilled fire, her flame quills re-
ignite with less severe intensity.

An awkward moment passes as FREEWAY stands unsteadily on all
fours, vividly aware of everyone watching her.

FREEWAY stands erect and steps away from the spot where she
vomited.

FREEWAY

What are you all staring at? Let's go
save those two.

BLACKPOOL grasps FREEWAY's forepaws.

BLACKPOOL

You're sure you're alright?

FREEWAY

I'm fine.

BLACKPOOL

You just vomited flaming gasoline.
I know you're a fire type, but I'm pretty
sure that's not normal.

Rejecting BLACKPOOL's embrace, FREEWAY returns to all fours
and walks around him.

FREEWAY

It's called losing your fire. It happens
to us sometimes, alright?

I got all excited, so my fire got stoked
up until I couldn't keep him inside
anymore, so that happened. Okay?

[NOTE] QUILAVA, like many Fire-types, possess an internal
organ which contains a flame which constantly burns within
them. Many Fire-types regard this pilot light as their soul,
and refer to it as though it were a separate entity from
themselves.

FREEWAY composes herself, striking a fierce pose and waving
her paw in the direction the party had been heading in.

FREEWAY (CONT'D)

Now let's keep looking!

CRUISE drags himself over to a tree and lays against it,
trying to massage some relief into his injured leg.

CRUISE

Freeway looks raring to go now. You all
should go ahead. I'll wait here.

Don't worry. I trust you guys.

STILLWELL

No way we're leaving Cruise here alone
after all that's happened.

He's even worse than he was before.

EDGAR

I shouldn't have let him run like that. I
should have been beside him supporting
his weight.

FREEWAY snorts a puff of smoke.

FREEWAY

I know, but we we can't just wait here
either.

LAKEHURST

I will stay with him. The rest of you
hurry ahead.

The Drifblim flutters over to CRUISE and settles in the brush

beside him, her streamers resting lovingly in her Trainer's lap.

CRUISE pats her side.

CRUISE
Why thank you, Lakehurst.

Now go the rest of you, find your brother and sister.

EDGAR lifts his nose to the air.

EDGAR
Madam Noctowl was right, their scent is still very faint, but it's leading in this direction.

BLACKPOOL
Lead the way, Edgar!

Let's go!

FREEWAY
Right!

CRUISE AND LAKEHURST,

sit, leaning against the tree, watching as EDGAR, BLACKPOOL, and FREEWAY sprint into the forest together, vanishing into the wilderness.

CRUISE holds one of LAKEHURST's streamers in his hand, fondling it.

CRUISE
I love you guys so freaking much.

CRUISE kisses DRIFBLIM on her side.

CUT TO:

EXT. DEEPER INTO THE FOREST (MORNING)

THE CAMERA FOLLOWS AS,

EDGAR, BLACKPOOL, and FREEWAY surge deeper into the woods with conviction, and deeply focused.

FREEWAY suddenly falters, her sprint winding down into a trot, and then a sluggish crawl as she wheezes deeply, the flames on her back and head flaring up wildly again.

EDGAR and BLACKPOOL rejoin her, each of them panting themselves, though not as severely as the Quilava.

BLACKPOOL
(panting)

I needed a break anyway.

EDGAR

(panting)

And the scent is becoming thinner, they might have changed direction.

A Houndoom was stalking them after all, the dark energy masks scents when they're hunting or sneaking, I think that's what's confusing me.

BLACKPOOL

And besides, if we keep running at top speed we'll wear ourselves out if we have to fight -

FREEWAY

Hold on. Holy shit, its happening again, oh no, oh no -

FREEWAY's belly contracts repeatedly as the Quilava, heaving uncontrollably, vomits out her pilot light again.

Embarrassed and miserable, FREEWAY quickly re-ingests the fire until it is safe within her again, and under control.

BLACKPOOL rushes up to FREEWAY and puts an arm around her shoulder.

BLACKPOOL

Hey, Freeway, this is the second time this happened. Are you sure you're okay?

FREEWAY puts a paw around BLACKPOOL's shoulder, leaning on him as she stands upright, obviously weary.

FREEWAY

I'm fine, I just got heated thinking about what I'd do to that Houndoom if it turns out it killed Bounce or Stillwell.

BLACKPOOL

Well I'm still worried. This isn't like you. This never happened before and -

FREEWAY

Yes it has. Nearly every other day. For a good while before we got separated from Cruise.

I just kept it to myself. Its kinda personal you know.

BLACKPOOL's jaw drops.

BLACKPOOL

What?

BLACKPOOL hugs FREEWAY.

BLACKPOOL (CONT'D)

Oh my gosh Freeway, I had no idea. You've been sick all this time?

I'm so clueless, I -

FREEWAY shoves BLACKPOOL away.

BLACKPOOL

Yeah, whatever. We'll talk about it later, right now we gotta -

EDGAR's head turns toward something unseen deep in the woods, tilting his ears back to listen carefully.

BLACKPOOL and FREEWAY look as well, their own ears twitching.

The sound of two unseen bickering Pokémon becomes audible.

EDGAR

Someone is having an argument.

As she stands erect, FREEWAY fold her forelimbs crossly.

FREEWAY

And being obnoxiously loud with it, too.

CUT TO:

Not far from EDGAR and the others, a self-satisfied CHESPIN scampers across the forest floor, holding a large leaf-woven satchel stuffed with berries and seeds.

Fluttering after CHESPIN is a LEDYBA.

LEDYBA

Don't you hop away when I'm talking to you! You've pulled some rotten tricks before, but this time you've gone too far!

CHESPIN stops and turns to LEDYBA.

CHESPIN

Why?

CHESPIN gulps down one of the berries whole.

CHESPIN (CONT'D)

You jealous?

CAMERA FOLLOWS AS,

CHESPIN hops off again, with LEDYBA continuing the chase.

LEDYBA

No I'm not jealous! I'm ashamed of you!
Those poor creatures died because of you!

CHESPIN

Pah! They would have been eaten anyway.
Not my fault they weren't clever like me!

LEDYBA

Clever? More like treacherous!

CHESPIN

Hey now, it's not treachery, I was just
helping my friends out!

LEDYBA

Chespin, I don't care how many berries
those wicked beasts paid you in, those
Houndoom are not your friends!

CHESPIN

You're such a killjoy, shut up and mind
your own busine-

CHESPIN crashes into FREEWAY, the berries fall, littering the
ground around the feet of CRUISE's Pokémon.

LEDYBA flutters cautiously nearby.

LEDYBA

Uh oh...

CHESPIN picks himself up and dusts himself off.

CHESPIN

Hey, watch where you're -

CHESPIN looks up, actually seeing three Pokémon standing abut
him.

EDGAR and BLACKPOOL eye him quizzically, and FREEWAY stands
before him with her arms folded and her quills ignited
aggressively.

CHESPIN (CONT'D)

Yikes! Oh crap! Sorry!

Umm... please don't eat me Quilava and
Espeon! I've got... rabies!

Yeah, that's it! Rabies!

EDGAR

We don't eat forest Pokémon. We live with
a human.

CHESPIN

Phew, that's a relief.

CHESPIN scoops up all the berries he can carry in his arms.

CHESPIN (CONT'D)

In that case I'll just take my berries
and -

FREEWAY smacks the berries from CHESPIN's grasp. He yelps and freezes, gazing wide eyed at the angry Pokémon standing at twice his height before him.

FREEWAY

Not so fast, clumsy. Your friend here
just said something about you being
friends with some Houndoom.

LEDYBA

See! I told you they'd get you into
trouble.

CHESPIN

Shh! Shut up, Ledyba!

BLACKPOOL steps up beside FREEWAY, also obviously pissed.

BLACKPOOL

Ah ha! So you do know something!

CHESPIN

Hey, hey now...

CHESPIN takes a step back from the two intimidating Pokémon,

CHESPIN (CONT'D)

No need to get aggressive! I don't even
know you guys -

FREEWAY tackles CHESPIN to the ground, pinning him beneath her forepaws, snarling ferociously in his face.

FREEWAY

Tell me about these "friends" of yours or
today'll be the last day of your life!

CHESPIN

But you said you don't eat -

BLACKPOOL

We don't have eat you to to kill you.

EDGAR approaches, the three Pokémon boxing CHESPIN in completely.

LEDYBA, still in flight, paces in the air nearby, mewling with worry, his pleading unnoticed by the other Pokémon

LEDYBA

(repeatedly and un-noticed)
Please don't hurt my friend!

EDGAR

And if you don't tell us, I will be forced to enter your mind and discover what you're keeping from us, and you won't like that.

CHESPIN

Fine! What do you want then?

FREEWAY

Why the hell would a bunch of Houndoom give you berries?

CHESPIN

Because we're friends, okay? Is that a freaking crime or something?

FREEWAY snorts in CHESPIN's face, a shower of sparks and embers singeing his face as she flashes her fangs at him.

CHESPIN

Okay! Okay!

I helped them out and they paid me in berries! So what?

FREEWAY

What kind of help would wild Houndoom need from a runty little Chespin?

EDGAR

Especially given that Houndoom kill and eat Pokémon much larger and stronger than you.

BLACKPOOL

And wild Houndoom don't even eat berries, so what's the deal?

CHESPIN

Umm...

FREEWAY

Answer!

EDGAR closes his eyes in a moment of concentration.

EDGAR

He won't answer. He's too afraid of what the Houndoom would do to him.

FREEWAY

Then you should be really afraid of me!

FREEWAY tears out a tuft of CHESPIN's fur and spits it in his face.

CHESPIN squeals pathetically and shuts his eyes as FREEWAY

clamps her jaws around CHESPIN's neck.

CHESPIN

I'm not talking, so be decent and make it quick!

LEDYBA

Stop! Please!

LEDYBA, shivering and with tearful eyes flutters down within striking range of the three Pokémon interrogating CHESPIN, who all turn their attention to him, including FREEWAY, with her jaws locked around CHESPIN's neck.

LEDYBA

I know what he didn't isn't right, but please don't kill my friend like this.

EDGAR

Tell us about your friend's involvement with the Houndoom that made you cross at him.

LEDYBA

He...

CHESPIN shakes his head, silently begging LEDYBA to keep quiet.

BLACKPOOL

Ignore him. Tell us, now.

LEDYBA

The Houndoom dug this big trap in the forest so they can catch Pokémon without hunting them down, and they pay Chespin berries every time he leads other Pokémon into their trap. It's terrible!

I knew he played some kind of trick to get those berries, but when he told me about how he helped them trap that poor Wooper and his friend last night -

BLACKPOOL

What?

EDGAR

Oh no...

FREEWAY's eyes widen, her feral ferocity dissolves around her as the Quilava's jaws loosen from around CHESPIN's throat, the chestnut Pokémon gasping for air.

FREEWAY

Dear Arceus, not again, not now...

Not again...

Disoriented, the Quilava stumbles off of CHESPIN as she struggles to keep steady upon her legs.

BLACKPOOL
Freeway! Not again!

The Flaaffy leaps to FREEWAY's assistance, putting an arm around her.

FREEWAY shoves BLACKPOOL away.

FREEWAY
Don't touch me!

FREEWAY's mouth waters profusely and she begins to heave painfully, puffs of fire and soot escaping her mouth and nostrils, but her pilot light remains contained as her quills bust skyward from her back and head as billowing pillars of wildfire.

LEDYBA backs away, extremely frightened, but doesn't flee.

CHESPIN
Oh crap!

CHESPIN runs.

BLACKPOOL
No you don't!

The Ampharos launches a Thunder Wave at the CHESPIN. He tumbles over his own huge feet, twitching and momentarily paralyzed on the forest floor.

FREEWAY
(groaning)
I can't hold it back this time.
I can't, I can't,
This is it...
Oh God...

FREEWAY's fire explodes, the dwarfing the Quilava as she writhes and convulses, roaring, and clawing at herself as though to escape her own body.

EDGAR, BLACKPOOL, and LEDYBA duck, narrowly dodging the flames.

The area is showered by black, papery cinders.

LEDYBA
Mr. Espeon, Mr. Flaaffy, I'm scared.

May I leave please?

EDGAR

No. But it would be wise us all step back.

EDGAR swiftly follows his own advice, BLACKPOOL and LEDYBA back away from FREEWAY too, as CHESPIN, lays trapped in helpless horror.

The Espeon and Flaaffy look on, wanting to help their friend, but unable to do anything useful.

BLACKPOOL

Edgar, look at her.

Do you think she's...

EDGAR

She is. I can sense it.

The Quilava braces herself on all fours as though a gale is trying to sweep her away. Her body shines with white-hot incandescent brilliance as her body rapidly transforms.

FREEWAY grows to twice her size, her frame elongating and her limbs bulking up to enable her bigger, heavier form to move as swiftly as ever.

The process takes place fluidly and rapidly, yet for FREEWAY is as grueling and arduous as the vomiting she suffered earlier.

The raging flames erupting from FREEWAY's lower back and spewing from her mouth extinguish themselves, and the spots from which they issued disappear.

A new row of fire vents erupt along her back between her shoulders, the flames crackling with vigor, fierce, but restrained.

CLOSE UP -

FREEWAY the Typhlosion opens her bright red eyes. They stream with tears.

CAMERA DRAWS BACK,

She drops down onto all fours, panting in supreme exhaustion.

BLACKPOOL

Wow.

Freeway...

BLACKPOOL his face full of awe and worry, cautiously approaches FREEWAY.

FREEWAY

You!

FREEWAY snatches CHESPIN up with one paw and thrashes him against a tree.

FREEWAY (CONT'D)

Look what you did to me!

CHESPIN, no longer under the effects of the Thunder Wave, is now paralyzed by mortal dread, and closes his eyes, shuddering dreadfully.

FREEWAY

Look at me!

POV -

CHESPIN opens his eyes. FREEWAY's eyes burn with beastly rage.

END POV

FREEWAY

You sold out out my family you little dirthole!

Now you're gonna die!

CHESPIN

(wheezing)

Help me!

BLACKPOOL grabs FREEWAY's free arm and tugs at it with all his weight, the Typhlosion ignoring him and glaring menacingly at CHESPIN, her nose right in the little Grass-type Pokémon's face.

BLACKPOOL

Come on! You're wasting time! Save it for the Houndoom when we find them!

FREEWAY, still crushing CHESPIN against the tree, looks to BLACKPOOL.

FREEWAY

Blackpool, he led our brother and sister into a deathtrap!

EDGAR

Freeway, as bleak as things seem and as upset as we all are, you must control yourself.

If spending time tormenting this Chespin causes us to miss our chance to save Bounce and Stillwell, could you accept that outcome?

LEDYBA

Umm... Excuse me please?

FREEWAY, EDGAR, and BLACKPOOL watch the fluttering ladybug.

FREEWAY

What, bug?

LEDYBA

I... I don't approve what Chespin did either.

I don't know if it will help, but I can bring you to the trap the Houndoom set up.

But I don't think you'll like what you'll find there.

BLACKPOOL

Whatever, just take us there. Let's go, Freeway.

EDGAR

Yes, let's follow him.

LEDYBA flutters slowly ahead. EDGAR and BLACKPOOL follow, beckoning FREEWAY to come along.

FREEWAY places her snout right beside CHESPIN's ear and snorts sparks onto him as she holds him firmly against the tree.

FREEWAY

(whispering)

I'll still kill you.

You know, I always wanted to eat another Pokémon.

My Aunt Sophie killed a Furret like that once. She swallowed him whole.

She told me it feels incredible.

The Typhlosion clamps her teeth around CHESPIN's long, floppy ear, and dropping to all fours drags him along the ground with no regard for his welfare, following EDGAR and BLACKPOOL's brisk pace as they follow LEDYBA to the trap.

CUT TO:

EXT. APPROACHING THE TRAP

THE CAMERA FOLLOWS AS,

LEDYBA fluttering up in front leads EDGAR, BLACKPOOL, and FREEWAY (still brutally dragging CHESPIN along) deeper into

the forest, all of them throughly unhappy.

LEDYBA

The trap is nearby now.

It's a huge hole they dug that's hard to climb from in time once they attack, but they only come out at night, anyway.

EDGAR stops and lifts his nose to the air.

EDGAR

Yes. I smell Bounce and Blackpool clearly now. They came right through here recently.

I smell the scent of blood as well.

EDGAR sits on his haunches, closes his eyes and tits his ears back.

EDGAR (CONT'D)

Many creatures died nearby as well. I hear their voices echoing through here, crying out for help.

BLACKPOOL

You don't hear their voices do you? Stillwell and Bounce?

EDGAR

I can't say I do, but they're so many spirits here talking over each other I'm uncertain.

I can't say if they are alive or not.

I don't like this.

Ledyba.

LEDYBA

(shivering)

Yes, Mr. Espeon.

EDGAR

I can smell that my friends are very nearby now, we no longer need you to lead us to them.

LEDYBA

I can leave?

EDGAR

Yes, you may.

LEDYBA

Thank you...

LEDYBA begins to flutter away, pensively glancing back at CHESPIN, who hangs limp still from FREEWAY's jaws, looking back at him.

The bug stops and turns towards the other Pokémon, hovering in the air, tears flowing freely from his eyes.

LEDYBA
Mr. Espeon. May I...

EDGAR
Yes. You may.

LEDYBA
Goodbye, Chespin.

I'm sorry.
(sobbing)
I'm sorry.

Goodbye!

LEDYBA flies away at top speed, crying and sobbing loudly as he darts between the trees, out of sight and out of his friend's life forever.

CHESPIN silently waves goodbye as his friend swiftly retreats.

FREEWAY's fangs clamp tighter around CHESPIN's ear, and he shrieks in pain and self pity as the Typhlosion speaks, her voice muffled.

FREEWAY
Alright. Let's get this over with.

BLACKPOOL
Yeah.

EDGAR
Follow me.

Alive or not, they're just ahead.

The party trudges unhappily through the woods, sublime in their worry, and unhappiness.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST - THE TRAP (MORNING)

(what lies at the bottom of the
ditch is kept out of the frame
throughout)

LOOKING UP FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE TRAP -

Looking up the steep embankment, trees can be seen beyond the

edge of the hole, and beyond them the blue sky above.

PROFILE SHOT -

EDGAR, BLACKPOOL, and FREEWAY approach the edge of the ditch.

All three Pokémon's faces are transfixed in trepidation, dismay, and astonishment.

FREEWAY's jaw falls open as she gazes into the hole. CHESPIN tumbles to the ground, locked in place by fear, trembling as his punctured ear bleeds profusely.

The Typhlosion rises upon her hind legs, agape as she gazes into the abyss.

FREEWAY

No...

BLACKPOOL

Oh my -

Is that them?

It can't be...

CHESPIN'S FACE -

EDGAR

(telepathically to CHESPIN)

Run. Now.

CHESPIN scrambles to his feet and bounds into the forest, completely un-noticed.

EDGAR

It is. We found them.

FREEWAY

Oh my God! Look at them!

BLACKPOOL embraces FREEWAY as best he can.

EDGAR

Freeway, you must keep calm.

Whatever happened, it's over now.

FREEWAY'S TEARFUL EYES -

FREEWAY

No! It can't be!

The Typhlosion dives over the edge toward her unseen brother and sister at the bottom.

CUT TO:

ABOVE THE TREETOPS, AT A DISTANCE -

FREEWAY
Stillwell! Bounce!

No!

END OF EPISODE 10 - "BURNING FREEWAY"

NEXT TIME:

Stormclouds gather in East Unova.

A fateful betrayal.

ARE YOU PREPARED?