

June's Flame

By Dark_Light

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Follow June's adventure in the world of Poke'mon.

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1 - Here Goes Nothing

A wave of cheers roared through the crowd as the final announcement was made. The judge's voice echoed throughout the stadium, "Dex and his Graveler are unable to battle, June and her Dragonite have won the match! June is the new Elite Four champion, and her Dragonite's name will be placed in The Hall of Fame!!! But wait, there's more! June will receive 100,000 poke' dollars, and will never have to pay for any sort of poke' food again, as long as she has this card with her!" The judge shoved his hand into a pocket, and pulled out some sort of credit card. He held it high over his head, almost as if he was the new champion, and the crowd's wild cheers became deafening. June thrust her hands over her ears and squinted her eyes until she could barely see the judge. The judge's mouth started moving, and June guessed that he was attempting to explain to the audience more about the card. Suddenly, the judge pitched the card over the audience, and towards June, but the distance was much too great. The card started spiraling down toward the crowd. Arms from the audience flung upward, trying to catch it. June personally didn't want some unknown person in the crowd stealing her free poke' food card, so her automatic reaction was to use Dragonite. "Dragonite! Use Wrap on that card, and then bring it to me!" June screamed, but she could barely hear her own voice over the cheers. Dragonite looked at her with a confused expression. He didn't hear her. Luckily, Dragonite was thinking the same way as June. Dragonite didn't use Wrap, but instead lunged at the card with the move Agility. He delicately swiped the card from mid-air and brought it to June. Many "oooohs" and "ahhhhs" rose from the audience. June rolled her eyes, and then turned to Dragonite with a pleased smile. "Good boy Dragonite," June said as she rubbed his head and popped a poke' block into his mouth. June looked down at the card. It had a reflective silver surface with lettering making up the words, 'Elite Four Award Card'. June looked back up at Dragonite, who was looking curiously at the card. "Wow", June said. "I can't believe this is happening to us, can you Dragonite?" Dragonite looked up at June and shook his head. "Jolt! Jolteon!" "Wha?" June mumbled groggily, rubbing her eyes. "Aw man, it was just another dream," she pouted. *Someday, I really will be the world's greatest poke'mon champion, like Ash,* June thought. She opened her eyes to see her sister's Jolteon starring her in the face. Jolteon's ears twitched around, and she stamped her feet impatiently. This all meant that she, and probably the rest of the Eevee evolutions were hungry. June sat up and looked around her room. Clothes were sprawled around everywhere, her stuffed Poke'mon lay all over herself and the bed, a Poke'mon calendar hung on the wall, and her alarm clock flashed the time: 6:32 AM. Wait a minute. What's the date? June quickly looked back at her calendar. July 18th!!!! Oh no. Today is the day I receive my first poke'mon! How could I forget? Now I am gonna be late! I can't believe this! For all Poke'mon trainer wanna-be's, July 18th was one of the most important day's of their life. On July 18th, trainers receive their first poke'mon. If one lives in an Indigo League region, then their choices are Bulbasaur, Squirtle, and Charmander. If one lives in a Jhoto League region, then their choices are Chikarita, Tododile, and Cindaquil. Finally, if one lives in a Hoenn League region, then their choices are Treeko, Mudkip, and Torchic. June lives in a tropical country called Haniwa. Haniwa is made up of three major islands, each one being a different league. The first island, Indigo Isle, is June's home island, and is obviously the Indigo League. Indigo Isle's neighboring island, Victoria Isle, is the Jhoto League. Last but certainly not least, is Hoenn Isle, and, of course, is the Hoenn League. June leaped out of her bed, receiving a slight shock because of the electricity Jolteon gave off, something she was used to. Dashing into her closet, June stripped off her pajamas, and hastily put on an outfit. She grabbed the bandanna she received for her birthday, and put it over her brown, knotted hair. "Oh no. I have to brush my hair," June grumbled, and reluctantly ran into the bathroom.

Tearing the bandanna off her head, June grabbed a brush and ran it through her hair. After what seemed like forever, she finally managed to straighten her hair out. She tied the bandanna back over her head, and rushed downstairs, where her mom and her two sisters pets were. June's mom had heard her thumping downstairs and greeted her. "Good morning June, would you like some breakfast? There are waffles in the freezer if you would like them." "Uhhh, no thanks, I'm not hungry. Err, never mind, I'll take a granola bar for the road," June replied unsurely. June's mom put her hands on her hips, "You weren't planning on leaving so soon were you? I'll tell you June; no one is going to be at that lab two hours early! Even if you were late, so was Ash, and look at were he's gotten with that Pikachu of his." "But mom, Ash was lucky that he was able to get a Pikachu, and all the trainers get to the lab early so that they won't be late," June moaned. "Don't you talk back to me like that! And if you are leaving now, then at least feed your sisters Poke'mon," her mom replied sternly. June looked down at Jolteon, Vaporeon, Flareon, Espeon, Umbreon, Eevee, and Pikachu. Eevee gave June googly eyes, Espeon cutely looked her with a Leer, Flareon puffed a cute little flame, Pikachu, being the shy little guy he was, concealed himself underneath Jolteon, and the other's starred June down. If only looks could kill. Finally, June gave in. "Fine." June went to the pantry, and grabbed a bag of poke' food. She poured it into all six food bowls, sprinkled some crushed poke' block onto the food, and put it away. Everyone started eating, and Pikachu snuck up to Jolteon's bowl, grabbed a chunk of poke'food, looked at June, and scurried away. June giggled at the shy little Pikachu's actions, and turned to face her mom. She could tell that her mom was bravely holding back tears. June was the youngest in the family (13 years old), and the only who was starting on a Pokemon journey. You never knew what would happen on a poke'mon journey, so it was very dangerous. "Come on Mom, please don't cry. I'll be fine, and I'll come visit you every once in a while." "I know, I know," her mom laughed through the tears, "I'm just Mom, and my job is to worry, right?" She sniffed. June laughed pitifully at her mom's sarcasm and felt her eyes start to tear. "Mom, I'll be fine, I promise," June reassured. "I promise." With that June hugged her mom, said her goodbyes, and headed towards the door. She heaved her backpack over her shoulder, and took a deep breath. Opening the door, June stopped, looked back at her teary mother and thought, *Well, here goes nothing.*

2 - June's First Flame

June's hair lashed her face as a sweat drop formed at the top of her head. She was riding her bike at top speed on a trail next to the forest that led to the Professor's lab. *Must...Get...To...Lab... Can't...Stop...Peddling!* June thought. The lab finally came into view, when suddenly...

"AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!!! " June screamed in duet with another voice. She screeched her bike to a halt, but to her and the victim's dismay, the bike didn't stop soon enough. The boy jumped to the side, but the handle hit his foot. He performed some sort of a (twisted) roll onto the grass. June on the other hand fell somewhat gracefully off her bike, landing softly on her side next to the boy. June recovered from her shock, and stared at the brown-haired boy, who appeared to be her age. "Oh my god!" she panted. "Are you okay?" "Thankfully, yes." The boy smiled. "You?" he questioned. "Me, what?" June asked stupidly. "Oh! Yea, I'm fine," she blushed. "That was a little awkward," June said while getting up and dusting off dirt from her clothes. "And I'm really sorry, I guess I lost control." "No kidding, but it's okay, I wasn't watching where I was going when I stepped out onto the road. I was thinking about how to train my Poke'mon." "You have Poke'mon?" June asked excitedly. "Yea" the boy said, "but only one. I got it yesterday," he said, holding up a Poke'ball. "Speaking of which, I need to get to the lab! I'm receiving my first Poke'mon today!" June exclaimed. "So I've got to go," she said, picking up her bike, and swinging the backpack onto her shoulder for the second time in ten minutes. "Oh yea, what's your name?" she wondered aloud. "Daniel," he answered. "What's yours?" he asked. "June," she said. "Well June, do you mind if I come to the lab with you? I need to ask the Professor a question," he asked. "Sure," June replied, "As long as you're a fast runner," she joked. "Ride slowly then," Daniel said. "I was kidding," June laughed. "You can pedal, and I'll stand on these." She pointed to the silver shocks. "Okay," Daniel agreed, "but you better hold on tight." With that, June mounted the bike after Daniel, making him lean forward so that she could reach the handles too, and even then, June had to lean to the left of Daniel so that she could reach them. With some difficulty, Daniel started pedaling. He was surprisingly fast on the bike, and the wind whipped at their faces. June started laughing when she realized how stupid they must look. Soon, it infected Daniel, and they were both laughing their selves silly. When they got to the lab, the laughing fits were pretty much gone, but both Daniel and June were red in the face, and trying to hold back their childish smiles. After they caught their breath, they walked into the lab. A fair sized room with many computers greeted them, followed by a long hallway that had numbered doors spread evenly through out it. "Oh no!" June grumbled before they entered the main hallway. "I don't remember what room the Poke'mon are in!" "Well then your lucky I'm here," Daniel said, raising an eyebrow at June. "You remember the room number!" June exclaimed excitedly. "Well, what is it?" she asked impatiently; it had been almost 20 minutes since she left. "It's room 32, and it's got a picture of the starting Poke'mon on it, so if I didn't remember the room then we would find it anyways." Rather than replying or thanking Daniel, June sprinted down the hallway. "Hmm. I wonder if she's excited?" Daniel sarcastically thought aloud, and ran off after her. June opened the door to room 32 slowly, and walked in as calmly as she could, though her legs were quivering with excitement. "Professor Willow?" she called into the seemingly empty room. When no one replied, she turned her head and asked Daniel, "Do you think she's here?" "Yes, I'm here, don't worry." A feminine voice sounded from the room, and June turned around to see Professor Willow closing a door from the side of the room behind her. She was cradling at least ten Poke'balls, and more were in her pockets. "I was just setting up for this morning. I had to get the Poke'balls from the side room," she said, smiling kindly. The professor was wearing a long jean skirt, a green shirt, and

a clean white jacket with the words 'Prof. Willow' stitched neatly onto it with black thread. Two wisps of her light brown hair framed her face, while the rest was drawn up in a long ponytail. Her beautiful figure gave her a young appearance, and she was in fact in her mid 30's. "Are you two here to receive your first Poke'mon?" Professor Willow asked. "She is, but I'm not," replied Daniel. "I got my Poke'mon yesterday; I'm just here to ask you a question." "Oh yes that's right! I remember seeing you here yesterday. Your name is... Daniel, if I remember properly," the Professor realized. "Yea, that's right," said Daniel. "So my question was what to feed Taikai. He doesn't like the food that you suggested." "Oh! I was afraid of that... Here, see if he likes this." She then ran into the side room, and came out holding a bag of food. "Thanks!" Daniel exclaimed, as he took the bag of food. He then set it down, scooped some into his hand, grabbed his Poke'ball, and released a Poke'mon with a flash of red light. An average sized Squirtle, who was apparently Taikai, appeared. A dark, mahogany colored shell was set on the Poke'mon's back, and light blue skin covered his body. Two cerulean orbs peered at June curiously, and a distinctive white marking on his forehead was what set him apart from others. The underside of his shell was a more of a light brownish gold color. Daniel then held out the food in his hand to the Squirtle. The young Poke'mon sniffed the food curiously, then grabbed a small piece with his mouth. Taikai chewed and swallowed quickly, then ate more. A smile spread across Daniel's face as he said, "Thanks Professor Willow, I think he likes it!" "How did you come up with your Squirtle's name? I really like it!" June said honestly. "Well, my mom is bilingual because her best friend taught her how to speak Japanese. My mom taught it to me, so I know how to speak it. Wait, let me restate that; my mom taught me a lot of words, but I can't say any sentences. I don't know the correct grammar for it. Anyways, in Japanese, taikai means ocean." "Cool," June replied, and then she realized that no other to-be trainers were there! "Why aren't their any other people here yet?" she asked Professor Willow. "Well, most don't come until about eight o'clock; right now its only 7:20," the professor replied with a smile. "Then again, I was about to put the Poke'mon out, so you can go ahead and choose a Poke'mon. Just hang on for one more second." Professor Willow then intentionally dropped all of the Poke'balls that were cradled in her arms, but before they hit the ground, a group of twelve Squirtles materialized. She then released all of the Poke'balls in her pockets, and two groups, one of seven Bulbasaur, and another of six Charmanders, appeared. "We don't favor Squirtles, incase you were wondering. They just have a higher population." June nodded in reply. She already knew what breed she would choose as a starting Poke'mon; Charmander. June headed over to the group of fire lizards, when a new question popped into her mind. Which Charmander would she choose? June squatted down to get eye-level with the amber-eyed Poke'mon, and they all crowded around her. She stroked them all affectionately, when one caught her eye. It was a particularly young Charmander, and it was sitting apart from the others with its eyes closed gently. Its thin layer of silky fur was a distinctively light shade of orange, which meant it was girl. Still, June thought, Even for a girl, she has a pretty light coloration. Her chest and the underside of her tail were a creamy white, like all Charmanders, and as June got up and walked silently toward her, she opened her eyes. This is what June found amazing. Her eyes were a very soothing, light shade of yellow. June then immediately picked the Charmander up and asked, "Can I have her?" "Yes of course!" Professor Willow replied. "Would you like to put her in a Poke'ball?" "No thanks, but can I still have a Poke'ball for her? You know, in case anything happens," June replied. "Sure! By the way, the government confirmed last night that all new poke'mon trainers are to be given five Poke'balls and a Poke'belt (the belt that trainers clip their poke'balls to) to start off with, so here are yours," she said, reaching her hand into the same pocket in which the Charmanders had been in and pulling out a belt with five poke'balls attached to it. The belt was white, and had small magnetic 'holders' evenly spaced around it; five of the holders had poke'balls magnetically clipped to it. June put down her new Charmander, took the Poke'belt, and looped it around her pants. As soon as she fastened it around her waist, the magnetic dots that were holding the Poke'balls zoomed around to

the left side of June's waist, making them easier to grab the Poke'balls. June, who had studied the Poke'mon world her whole life, had heard of belts that did that, but they were supposed to be very expensive. Professor Willow saw June's awe-struck face and said, "It is new technology, but it really doesn't cost that much to manufacture them, so the government is able to supply them. Here Daniel, you can have one too." The professor then handed Daniel a brown belt identical to June's. Daniel put it on, and the same thing happened. He then took Taikai's Poke'ball, clipped it to one of the circular magnets, and that magnet then zoomed to the left side of his waist to join the other Poke'balls. "Thanks!" he exclaimed, then squatted down to show his Squirtle his new belt. "Well June, what are you going to name your new Charmander?" Professor Willow asked. June looked down at her Charmander thoughtfully. The female Poke'mon then looked up at June with her gentle yellow eyes, and knew what she needed to name her. "Daniel?" she asked, "What's the Japanese word for calm?" "Taira," he replied. "Then Taira it is."