THE JOURNEY SO FAR

Wow, what a ride! That sure was...something. Draw or write about any part of the journey your trainer took, referencing at least ONE specific part of the choose your own adventure you experienced. You are welcome to do as many as you like, but at least one specific event is required!

T-230: NIKO

P-888: NIPPY || Refrigerate - Adds one cooking item from missions P-889: BRISK || Refrigerate - Adds one cooking item from missions P-890: BLIZZARD || Swipe - Adds one crafting item from missions

Word Count: 797

The desert storm with any kind of rain didn't seem to pose an issue anymore, that it seemed was gone but the stormy clouds above weren't showing any sign of letting up. It wasn't good, that much was for certain and Niko frowned at the sight of it. "If I asked Maz, which would they say is more ominous. Stormy clouds in a desert without rain, or one with rain." He asked idly towards the three pokemon at his feet. Nippy, Brisk, and Blizzard were all on this journey with him and their pale red eyes stared at him curiously as he spoke. Brisk and Blizzard actually were the ones who looked curious, Nippy looked as if she was judging him because the answer to her was obvious- and it quickly showed itself.

Something small hit Niko's cheek, followed by something else. One by one he was feeling small grains of sand hitting his cheek and a frown crossed his features. Rain meant he would have a hard time controlling his body temperature and keeping warm-however sand? Sand pummeling his face simply hurt but he simply beamed at this fact for he was not caught unaware. Reaching into his backpack he pulled out four sets of goggles, three of which he put on his pokemon before putting them on himself and he looked quite proud afterwards. Nippy was still not impressed. As far as the pipsail pokemon was concerned, her trainer was acting as if somehow this would save them from the incoming sandstorm but that wasn't the case- all it did was protect their eyes while the rest of them still got hit by the sand. It solved nothing as far as she was concerned but Niko felt it solved everything. For him, in his clothing- it very well might have but for the pokemon it was of minimal help.

The frosmoth fused trainer was quick to continue the journey forward with the three Bergmite's following behind. He had no intentions of turning back to return to Ethermoore, that wasn't an option that was on his radar and the only thing on his mind was to continue the journey forward through the sand. Niko wanted to make his way down to Thunderdale once and for all no matter what stood in their way! Almost. Almost nothing could stand in their way.

The only thing that could stop him was a figure.

Niko stopped walking when he noticed *someone* in the distance. Nippy, Brisk, and Blizzard had all been doing their best to keep up and squeaked as they hit his heels. They looked up at him then peered around to stare at the figure before ultimately deciding to go around. There was no way anyone sane would want to make this journey, and Niko was rather wary of someone potentially robbing him in the middle of a desert where he couldn't protect himself so he tried to go around. No matter where he went though, the figure never seemed to change. It was always the same distance away and somehow that just felt, strange. Very strange- but not as strange as when a howl sounded and the figure vanished.

He tried to ignore it, to pretend it was normal but as the storm grew worse Niko once more came across them. He bumped into him and on instinct mumbled out an apology before he froze. He bumped into someone? Looking up Niko took in the sight of the figure. They were covered in head to toe and as they spoke their voice was distorted.

"You lost buddy?"

It was hard for Niko to find a proper response. Strangers were danger, everyone knew that but numbly he managed a nod while the cloaked figure laughed. Not exactly what the Frosmoth was hoping for- but he accepted it.

"Figures, you should've taken the train! C'mon, let's get you out of this."

They walked forward confidently and while Nippy gently tugged at his pants to try and keep him from following, both Brisk and Blizzard trudged along after the man happily. They seemed so carefree that while Niko wasn't comfortable accepting the help from the stranger he too followed after. His mind raced trying to decide if they were truly a friend or if he was being walked to his doom when they seemed to come to a building of sorts. A metal... thing? Yeah, that is what Niko would describe it as because before he could figure out a proper term for it he got pushed inside.

"Take this here elevator, it'll bring you below the surface to the intake center," The man pats a rickety looking lift, and you feel trepidation fill you. It can't be worse than the storm outside though, can it? Have fun!"