

# LITD- CYNIC

## Cynic- Acquire a husk.

*"The husks themselves should hold the answers. We've never seen the fog hollow someone out so thoroughly like this before. Trap one, lure one, whatever you need to do - bring us what was once a living human so we can study it and its behaviours in a closed environment!"*

- Draw or write about your trainer interacting with the husks with the intent of bringing them to Cynic -

**T-232: ADRIEL**

**T-230: NIKO**

P-888: NIPPY || Refrigerate - Adds one cooking item from missions

P-889: BRISK || Refrigerate - Adds one cooking item from missions

P-694: FREDERICK || Arena Trap - Adds one crafting item from

**Word Count: 818**

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Deep within the heart of the swamp was what was left of Murkhaven, the remains of the once-thriving city was now reduced to nothing but decaying buildings surrounded by thick purple fog. The fog drifted and swirled through the streets, shrouding the town in an eerie haze. The mere sight of it made Niko feel sick to his stomach and he flinched each time the fog drifted too close to him, causing him to take a few steps back. It was one step forward, two steps forward for Niko.

The abandoned buildings stood motionless, their windows boarded up, their doors locked tight. No trace of life existed within the town, save for the husks that roamed the empty streets. They were not violent or aggressive, but there was something about them that was unsettling. This wasn't the first time that Niko had seen something affected by the fog, he'd seen pokémon many times but. This was the first time he'd seen a human. And it was the first time that he'd seen something affected by the fog be so lifeless and unaggressive.

The husks appeared every now and then as they wandered the city, shambling along as if they were searching for something they had lost. Their movements were stiff and awkward, their features long and gaunt, their expressions vacant and lifeless. They didn't know where they were or what they were doing, and their empty, vacant eyes made them even more unnerving. Once upon a time, those were living people. And now they were nothing.

His pokémon didn't seem to think that they were dangerous, Nippy and Brisk both wandered up to one, staring at the swirling purple of their skin and making concerned noises at them. Nippy even reached up to gently tug at what once was a 'shirt' on this thing but it warranted no response.

"All of you need to stop thinking like that."

A voice interrupted them, causing Niko to snap out of his swirling mind. Evidently his companion had noticed the way his thoughts were drifting. Adriel was there with them, holding a small morelull cubone was sitting in his arms and while Niko felt uneasy, Adriel looked as if he didn't have a care in the air. Neither did the pokémon with him. Frederick was the name of the pokémon, and they weren't Adriels but for the time being they were in the Doublades care.

"...How can you not be affected? These were once people, what if the same happens to us." Niko asked, his voice calm and composed, hiding away the fear he felt. "We didn't think it could change us before, but obviously..."

Niko's eyes drifted to one of the husks. It was a new one that Nippy and Brisk had gone up to, the two bergmite fusions hoping that maybe this time they'd be able to get a reaction that the husk was okay. This new one had another small pokémon following it and the three little creatures began to squeak at one another- all of them obviously in great concern for the once living person. Niko almost pitied the pokémon who had been so diligently following the husk.

"That's the key word, Niko. Once people, they aren't people anymore." As if to prove a point, Adriel set down Frederick and approached the husk. His face contorted into disgust and he was quickly pulling on some thick gloves before poking at the husk.

"It doesn't react. It doesn't care. This isn't a person, this is nothing more than a mockery of humanity now." He sneered "It's just a monster now. And it has only one purpose." Adriel reached forward to hit the creature on the back of the neck, causing it to stumble forward and fall down to the ground. Nippy and Brisk squeaked in distraught as they fell, a sound joined by the pokemon that had been following the husk. All three of them were upset by the callous action and tried to pull Adriel away from the husk, however they were small and weak. They couldn't stop him from what he was doing.

The husk didn't react much, it just laid blankly on the ground while staring up before gradually starting to get back up but Adriel didn't give it time. He had reached to grab a hold of one of the arms of the husk, putting a rope around it before standing up to drag it away. Frederick followed him calmly while the three other pokemon grew even more upset. He was taking them away, to bring them to someone who might study them.

"Adriel.." Niko called out the name of the white haired man quietly but Adriel didn't so much as look at him.

"Stop thinking of them as human, Niko." Adriel repeated. "There is nothing human left of them. They are just a *thing* that can maybe save us from the same fate."