Indigo Plateau, Kanto Region.
Rock Field.
2:00 PM.
Quarterfinals.

Leaf Green.
vs.
Blanche.

"Now. Suppose it's about time for us to go out and win this thing, hm?"

The brunette turned towards her Typhlosion, who nodded. The Volcano Pokemon would walk at her side, the pair taking the field to meet the other. Blanche.

Truth be told, Leaf didn't know a damn thing about her opponent. And she didn't care. She just wanted to make it to Misty, and finally become Champion of the Kanto Region! She knew she could do this! All she had to do to get there would be to win a bunch of 6-on-6 battles, right? Simple enough.

Her thoughts were gonna be interrupted by the ref, though.

“This battle will be a six on six! Each challenger is allowed to switch Pokemon at any time. When three Pokemon have been knocked out, we will enter a brief halftime period. When a trainer has run out of Pokemon who can fight, the battle will be over. Am I understood?”

“Got’cha!”

Leaf pulled a Pokeball from her bag, seemingly intending not to start this off with Typhlosion.

“Affirmative.”

The Team Mystic leader turned towards Leaf.

“My analysis shows that you’re a force to be reckoned with. But, can you match my technique?”

Leaf turned to the other, totally ready for this.

“Duh. Of course I’m strong. In fact, I’d say I’m an unstoppable force. And you’re a plenty movable object. Just c’mon and try me!”

Leaf took up a total stance of confidence, ready for whatever was to come. Meanwhile, the other kept

her default pose, hardly responding at all to Leaf's taunt.

A silent wind blew across the Rock Field, everything seeming to hold its breath. Waiting for the battle to start.

"Begin!"

"Jolteon!"

"Metagross."

The Lightning Pokemon emerged onto the field, meeting the Iron Leg Pokemon. All Leaf could think was 'bad matchup.' But, it's not like she couldn't use this to her advantage… the gears already turned in Leaf's brain.

"Charge it!"

"Earthquake."

As Jolteon used its incredible speed to charge right at Metagross, it would prepare to stomp the ground. Bad news, if it landed.

"Jump, Thunder Wave!"

Lucky Leaf, Jolteon got off the ground in time, firing the paralyzing wave outwards. A successful hit! And, that was all Leaf needed, as she would call back Jolteon before Blanche could even make another command.

"I thought I'd have taken you by surprise, with that one. Whatever. Typhlosion."

She nodded at her partner, who took the field as its back flames exploded to life, burning brightly!

"Resume!"

And just as soon as the battle was called back on, Typhlosion seemed to completely disappear, a heat haze completely hiding it from sight. All the while, Leaf seemed to be giving out totally random verbal gestures. She looked totally ridiculous, but Typhlosion was on its way! Something Blanche would notice, her eyes widening!

"Metagross, Earthquake!"

The Iron Leg Pokemon raised a leg, looking to stomp the ground, as Leaf, as though she were a Flame Alchemist, snapped her fingers out at Metagross, causing a point-blank Flamethrower to fire off at it!

As the smoke cleared, Metagross was crackling with electricity. Paralyzed, unable to move.

"Let's knock it on its metallic ass! Earthquake!"

Being caught on three legs was awfully unfortunate for a quadruped, Typhlosion's Earthquake knocking it right over. As it made an attempt to recover, another snap came accompanied by a Flamethrower, and…!

"Metagross is unable to battle. Typhlosion wins!"

The Volcano Pokemon dropped its visual defenses, letting out a victorious roar! Then came a whistle, Leaf calling him back to her side.

"I'm swapping, now. Crobat!"

"Gliscor, then."

So early in the battle, and Leaf's already revealed half her team! All to take care of one little threat, and leave her ace healthy for later.

"An aerial battle, huh? All righty, then. Air Slash!"

"Stone Edge."

As the Bat Pokemon and the Fang Scorpion fired off their attacks, Leaf's eyes widened! Even with Crobat's superior speed, it had to be stopped for Air Slash!

The two attacks hit their targets, Air Slash knocking Gliscor back a bit, making it flinch, while the pointed rocks drove right into Crobat, causing massive damage!

"Ow, ow! Crobat, return!"

Tch. What an awful thing to be hit by…

And the other just stood there, this stone-cold look in her eyes! Leaf just smirked, ready to knock some surprise into that face!

"Gyarados, you're up!"

The red serpentine was released onto the field, its large size working against it as the rocks of the field seemed to cause it a bit of discomfort. Whatever, though. She looked out for a sure knockout, here!

"Ice Fang!"

Gyarados' teeth glinted, freezing over as it lunged itself forwards towards the Fang Scorp, closing its maw down on it as--

"Guillotine."

Leaf looked genuinely afraid, for a moment. Fucking *Guillotine?!* That literally never worked! And yet, even she knew that there was a chance that the deck might just be stacked against her, here.

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Gyarados' maw opened wide, dropping the fainted Gliscor out onto the field.

"Yes!"

The Atrocious Pokemon was totally unaffected! Leaf pumped her fist, then blowing kisses to the crowd! So full of herself, isn't she…?

"Gliscor is unable to battle. Gyarados wins!"

"You got this, Gyarados. Carry this thing into halftime, 'kay?"

It just nodded its head, mentally preparing itself for the next threat.

"I'm quite afraid it may be quite a while, until then."

*"Just what the hell does that mean? What could **you** possibly have to delay me so badly?"*

"Magmortar."

Leaf almost wanted to laugh at that choice. Why the hell would she--?!

But, that's just it. Why would someone in the Top 8 intentionally throw themselves into a bad position, like that? Something had to be up. Whatever, though.

"Resume!"

"Go, Waterfall!"

The Atrocious Pokemon once again made a blind rush at its opponent, its body covered in rushing liquid!

"Thunderbolt."

The Blast Pokemon pointed its cannon at the charging serpent, firing off a nasty Thunderbolt! In an instant, the water beneath Gyarados disappeared, as its large body collided with Magmortar!

"Shit!"

Magmortar would simply pick up the unconscious serpent, tossing it aside. And all Leaf would have to do from here, is return it back to its ball.

"Gyarados has fainted. Magmortar wins!"

Leaf seemed to think for just a moment, before calling Crobat back to the field!

"Fly in, and Air Slash!"

“Thunderbolt, then.”

Just what Leaf wanted… Crobat got all up close to Magmortar, firing an air slash while staring right down the barrel of its cannon! A close enough Air Slash to put a bit of a cut in Magmortar, causing it to flinch from the pain.

“Now, Toxic!”

On that command, Crobat would release a nasty poison from its mouth unto Magmortar, badly poisoning it!

“Again.”

“Get outta there!”

Crobat withdrew, looking to use its speed to escape out of close range. To dodge Magmortar’s aim, better. Unfortunately for Leaf and the Bat, it’d take a Thunderbolt to the face almost instantly, knocking it down, and putting it out of commission for the rest of the battle!

“Crobat is unable to battle! Magmortar wins!”

The Blast Pokemon winced, the effects of the Toxic poison chipping away at its health. And, it was only gonna get worse. But, what was she gonna do? For all she knew, it might be packing something to decommission Typhlosion, early. Gengar? No, she would need the coverage for later… Jolteon? No, no…

This seemed crazy, but she went for--

"Heracross!"

The Single Horn Pokemon hit the field, flexing its arms as it stared down the Fire Type, without a single drop of fear in its eyes.

"Resume battle!"

"Fire Blast."

"Endure!"

Heracross took the Fire Blast head-on, being inflicted with a Burn in the process! And it really must be Leaf's lucky day, today, because that's exactly what she was hoping for!

"Now, Earthquake!"

Heracross stomped the ground in a violent, desperate manner, looking to take down the already weakened Magmortar with it. All thanks to Guts, this should totally work!

Heracross' burn settled in as Magmortar was shook by a violent Earthquake, falling to a knee!

Leaf already knew Heracross had been done in, but she was waiting for that sweet poison to settle it! Magmortar winced, the Toxic poison taking more of its health away, but… Not enough. Leaf had miscalculated. She'd fucked up.

"Heracross is unable to battle! Magmortar wins! And, as three of Leaf's Pokemon have now been eliminated, we will take a short break from all the action. The Indigo League Top 8 will return in fifteen minutes."

2:45 P.M.
Second Half.

The battle rages on, as we resume to see Leaf returning a poorly chosen Gengar vs. Blanche's Weavile, now calling instead for Typhlosion!

"Just give it a quick knockout, and you'll be outta here in no time. Now, Focus Blast!"

Weavile was charging the Volcano Pokemon, claws ready to strike at almost any moment before being hammered by the mighty Fighting-Type move, head-on! And, just for good measure, Leaf would snap her fingers, prompting a Flamethrower to the Sharp Claw Pokemon! It was a clearly decided victory for Leaf, and a misstep on the side of Blanche for not calling anything out.

"Weavile is unable to battle! Typhlosion wins!"

As promised by Leaf, Typhlosion returned to her side, saving its strength for later. Not Mega Evolving, just yet. No, she'd need that badly for later.

And now, Leaf would make a prediction. She was thinking Vaporeon, so!

The two trainers called their Pokemon out at once, being Vaporeon for Blanche, and Jolteon for Leaf! The brunette's eyes lit up with excitement, she thought she had the other all figured out by now! This was gonna be a breeze, from here on out! Especially if she could pull this off.

"Rain Dance."

Oh, perfect! Absolutely perfect! Blanche must have been an idiot, all along. Setting up rain, against an Electric Type? Absolutely redundant!

"Iron Tail, Pin Missile!"

The hairs on Jolteon's tail turned to steel, before being fired off at the other! It may have seemed pointless to do this, now, as Thunder would always hit its mark in the rain, but a little extra punch never hurt.

And, as the pins would make contact with Vaporeon itself, and the field around it, Leaf pointed up to the sky!

"Thunder!"

Dramatically pointing back down to the ground, Thunder went off from the clouds, hitting its main target of Vaporeon, while setting off the steel pins to explode, at the same time! Not as much effect in the rain, but it never hurts to pack on extra damage!

"Dig."

In all the excitement and the smoke, Leaf had failed to consider, once more, the possibility that she hadn't done in her opponent, just yet.

And now, she had to worry about what might just be coming her way. Jolteon closed its eyes, listening for it, but… The incessant rain made it unable to hear, or even feel Vaporeon digging underground!

"Clever girl..."

Leaf simply called for Jolteon to jump back, but upon its landing, it was only met with Vaporeon, who slammed into Joleton head-on for a supereffective strike!

"Discharge!"

Jolteon let loose electricity in all directions, hitting and knocking out the previously weakened Vaporeon, in the process!

Jeez, though… Jolteon relied so much on quick reflexes and its heightened senses. With all this rain, which she had previously thought to be worthless, it'd be near impossible to use Joleton properly. The only benefit would be Thunder, and… Leaf didn't know what all Blanche had left.

So, she'd swap in Gengar as Blanche called for Magmortar, who simply looked as though it was on the verge of collapse. In this rain, with that poison, and just being generally weakened, what was it honestly gonna do?

At the same time, Leaf and Blanche both called out for Thunderbolt! The powerful electrical beams collided, exploding at their center! Gengar's hitting with slightly more power, but Magmortar's somehow making it through to paralyze Gengar…

Magmortar fell to the poison, but not without making a final dent in Leaf's team, and gameplan.

"Magmortar is unable to battle! Gengar wins!"

A moment of total silence befell the stadium as Blanche closed her eyes, taking a deep breath.

"I now see for sure what kind of trainer you are, and how you battle. I have won."

"Bullshit! Send for your last, and come punch my ticket to the Semifinals!"

Leaf smiled in total confidence as Blanche sent for Electivire. The Thunderbolt Pokemon. Only Typhlosion would have a supereffective attack, but… No, she could whittle it down with Gengar and Jolteon. She had to.

"Gengar, Toxic!"

"Thunder Punch."

Gengar would launch the deadly poison at Electivire, basically putting a ticking time-bomb on the battle. And if it went Boom!, then it was Leaf's win.

But, it seemed that might not even be a concern as Gengar was decked right in the face by an uppercutting Thunder Punch, taking massive damage!

"Shadow Ball!"

Gengar readied one up on its descent downwards, only to be totally immobilized by the paralyzation!

"Again."

Electivire threw a nasty punch at Gengar once more, sending it flying into the wall, and knocking it out for good!

The ref made his usual line about how Gengar couldn't fight, and that Electivire had won, whatever.

"Tch. Just one little display of brute force isn't gonna scare me. Jolteon!"

"Resume battle!"

The two trainers called their commands, at once. Blanche, calling for an Earthquake, and Leaf, telling Jolteon to jump. Unfortunately, though, this field was

the Rock Field. The ground was mostly dried up dirt and dust, which had turned to mud over time, with the rain. Mud that would stick Jolteon to the ground just long enough for that Earthquake to hit its target, knocking out the previously weakened Eeveelution!

The rain subsided. Electivire's poisoning was getting worse by the second, but it showed no signs of it.

"Typhlosion. I think you know what time it is."

The Volcano Pokemon nodded as Leaf tossed him his Typhlosionite. The Mega Ring on Leaf's bracelet almost immediately reacted with the stone, causing Typhlosion to Mega Evolve, right out on the field!! The Pokemon let out a primal roar, preparing for battle!

"Let's finish these jokers off now, hm? Secret Technique, go!"

Typhlosion spread out its arms, appearing to vibrate. You all know the drill, by now. Its rubbing fur worked up to create a massive explosion, seemingly engulfing everything on the field up in flames, as part of its fiery path of destruction! An explosion so loud and so bright, it could be disorienting to even viewers

at home!

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The flames leftover from the explosion crackled, as the smoke cleared. The figures of the adversaries could be made out in the light haze of the smoke. Electivire down on one knee, and Typhlosion…

For some reason, it seemed unusually tired and hurt. It couldn't have possibly been from the earlier battles, could it…?

No, no. Something had to have happened during that explosion. A brawl within the smoke, maybe?

"Earthquake. Again."

"Again?! Shit!! Typhlosion, Flamethrower!"

The Volcano Pokemon opened its maw, letting loose a stream of its mighty flames, though not before the

earth-shaking stomp of the other reached it! It was all clear to Leaf, now! There had been an attack called, in all the ruckus! And now, Typhlosion was weakened! And now--

"Typhlosion is unable to battle. The winner is Blanche, Leader of Team Mystic!"

Leaf focused back on the field now, seeing that… Typhlosion had reverted back, and lay on the ground… Flames extinguished, as Electivire remained on one knee, fainting mere moments later.

"No, no… This isn't right, I…"

Tears formed in the brunette's eyes, as she withdrew her ace, running out of the stadium… How could this have happened?! Was she really being played, that whole time?! So many questions went through her mind that she just didn't have the answer to, all too confusing, all too complicated. Her mind went fuzzy, and as she returned to her room…

Leaf whited out.

End!