

Chapter 3 (cont.)

"Sacred Sword!" Terrakion yelled. Several ethereal energy blades formed around him and pointed themselves at Team Adamant.

"Uh... I'm no expert but I'm pretty sure that's *not* how that attack works." Zekrom grunted. Terrakion stomps the ground and the blades fly forward, forcing Team Adamant to scatter.

"Chyaaaa, take this!" Ho-Oh shouts from the sky. A sudden burst of intense winds cause the swords to shatter on impact.

"Nice job, Ho-Oh. My turn!" Dialga called. "Flash Cannon!"

"I'll back you up with Moonblast." Xerneas offered. Dialga sent the concentrated beam of metal at the hulking Terrakion. Xerneas sent off her Moonblast. Both attacks hit against a forcefield and fizzled out.

"Crud, he must've protected himself." Groudon scowled. "Eat some Precipice Blades!" He roared. Slabs of stone immediately speared out of the ground only to be met by a sudden onslaught of jagged rocks.

The giant rocks easily overpowered Groudon and sent him staggering backward. "Let's try this again... SACRED SWORD!"

Much larger swords popped up this time and rushed Team Adamant. A wave of psychic energy ground them into dust before they could harm anyone. "...*Fool. Such tricks are useless against my power.*" Mewtwo boasted. His eyes glowed with psychic energy and he unleashed his power Psystrike attack.

Terrakion stumbled back in pain. "Great! Now for the finish." Zekrom whooped. His tail crackled with electricity and he rushed the stunned Terrakion. As he wound up for a Dragon Claw a Stone Edge erupted in front of him and blasted him skyward.

Meanwhile, Keldeo met his comrade's Sacred Sword with blades of his own. But the powered-up Cobalion's attack prevailed and Keldeo was sent sputtering. Mew quickly flew over to help him up.

Cobalion redirected its attention and deflected an Oblivion Wing from Yveltal. "...Freaking figures." Yveltal scowled. Palkia and Lugia combined Dragon Pulse and Aeroblast, generating a torrent of wind and ethereal energy. But Cobalion retaliated with a Hyper Beam that broke apart their attack and sent the two legendaries sparwling.

Cobalion gave a sudden roar of pain and sank down to his knees as a flaming meteor struck him in the back. He looked overhead to see Reshiram buzzing around. "Part steel-type, eh? What's say we turn up the heat?" She opened her maw and showered Cobalion in blue fire.

Cobalion struck back by sending Sacred Swords into the sky. Reshiram hollered and sped away, the ethereal swords giving chase. "Gah! Helpmehelpmehelpme!" She called out.

"Uh... I don't think that's a jelly doughnut." Moltres groaned. The members of Team Griseous looked on in confusion as Giratina tried to nom the head of a (clearly pissed) Virizion.

"Are you sure? There's some pink... maybe I can suck the jelly out of it!" Giratina pondered.

"NO!" Moltres, Suicune, and Zygarde protested simultaneously. Virizion wrestled herself free of Giratina's grip.

"I'll make you pay for this! Sacred Sword!" She screamed. The blades of energy passed harmlessly through Giratina. "I SAID SACRED SWORD!" She shouted. Another onslaught of swords passed right through Giratina.

"Silly doughnut, I'm intangerine! Which is soooooo much better than inorange." Giratina chirped, wiggling about happily.

"Does he mean intangible?" Moltres pondered.

"Now I'm really hungry." Zygarde grumbled.

"Grrrrr... stand still you stupid rat!" Virizion hissed, leaping repeatedly at the floating dragon.

"I take it she's not exactly the brightest evolution stone in the mountain?" Moltres quipped.

Giratina suddenly stopped flying about and looked down at Virizion. "What did you just say?"

"You heard me! You're being a stupid little coward." Virizion whined, stomping her feet about.

"What a drama queen." Suicune huffed, drawing wild-eyed looks from Moltres and Rayquaza.

A terrifying screech echoed around the area and Virizion gasped as shadowy tendrils shot out of the ground and grabbed her legs. "What the-?"

“STUPID? *STUPID?!*” Giratina’s voice deepened and distorted as his red eyes blazed with dark energy. “***NOBODY CALLS ME STUPID! I WILL MAKE YOU SUFFER A THOUSAND LIFETIMES OF MISERY AND TORMENT FOR YOUR SLIGHT UPON ME, WORM!***”

Giratina charged forward and swallowed up Virizion into his ethereal body. He dragged her down into the shadows and the tendrils instantly vanished, leaving the rest of Team Griseous standing there dumbstruck.

“W-What just happened?” Suicune gasped.

“I think I’m beginning to sssssssee why Lord Arceussssss never let Giratina out.” Zygarde mumbled.

Moments later, a shadowy portal appeared on the ground. Virizion popped out, followed shortly by Giratina. Virizion stood on trembling legs, her eyes wide, red, and puffy. “What in Arceus’s name did you do to her?” Moltres gasped as he flew to her side.

“I showed her an extra special magic trick!” Giratina chirped, his childish voice restored. “Wasn’t it super splendorificous?”

Virizion nodded slowly. She blinked a few times and then slowly shrunk back to normal size. “Unggghhh... w-what happened?” She groaned.

“We were kind of hoping you could answer that.” Zygarde admitted.

“I... I was sharing a meal with my fellow Swords.” Virizion explained. “Suddenly this mask-wearing phantom showed up with a little Pokémon by his side. At least, I *think* it was a Pokémon. And he pulled out these crystal plates...”

“Oh! Those sound like daddy’s dinner plates.” Giratina cheered. “They’re super duper special! But I’ve never seen his dinner forks or dinner knives.”

“Someone has the Original One’s plates?” Rayquaza whispered. “This does not bode well.”

“Wait a minute. The other Swords... I can sense them nearby!” Virizion gasped. “Come on, follow me!” She dashed off down a nearby embankment.

“Oh boy! We’re playing follow the leader.” Giratina whooped, following after all.

“When this is over, I’m taking the longest spa day in the history of spa days.” Suicune glowered, stomping off after the ghost.

Night 3 begins...