

It was tradition in Pallet Town to watch the first sunrise of the New Year. They say it helps to bring in new beginnings for people. There were even rumors that legendary Pokemon may make an appearance on the first sunrise. The sleepy little Kantonian Town was abuzz with excitement as they waited on the rocky beach for the first rays of sun to appear.

The kids had more energy than the adults naturally, probably because their New Year's countdown started earlier last evening allowing them to sleep and wake up in time. For the adults...most of them stayed up until midnight and decided to stay up until the sunrise.

Cami and Blue were two such adults. Cami chuckled as she watched Blue try his damndest to stay up. He was an early Delibird so he usually went to bed way earlier. Staying up to midnight was not a thing for him usually. And pulling an all nighter? Forget it. Cami however was a true Noctowl, she lived her for night time clinical rotations and had no problem staying up until the wee hours of the morning.

In past New Year celebrations Blue would promptly fall asleep fifteen minutes after the clock hit midnight and the champagne had flowed through the air. Not that he didn't care about his hometown traditions, it just wasn't something he wanted to stay up for most times. Yet this year, not only had he insisted he stay up to watch the sunrise...but he insisted they fly to Kanto instead of staying in Alola. Cami didn't mind the sudden trip, but his insistence had piqued her curiosity.

"Here Blue have some coffee" Cami said as she offered a warm steaming cup to him that she got from one of the stalls set up for the New Year's celebrations. Blue grumbled as he gratefully took the cup from her hands and began to drink the fragrant black liquid. His freckled cheeks lit up with a warm blush as the coffee kept him from shivering constantly. The caffeine definitely seemed to perk him up a bit, but with his yawns, Cami knew it was only a temporary fix. Her man needed some sleep.

"When this is over, I'm going to bed and we're cuddling alright?" he said in between gulps. Cami put her hand to her mouth as she gave a demure chuckle watching her boyfriend. He was so adorable when sleepy. But then again, to the Unovan, Blue was always adorable. And his outfit for the New Year, a brown sweater over a white collared shirt, khaki pants and brown shoes looked especially nice. Not that he didn't like nice on the regular, he was actually more of the fashion than she was.

"Of course Blue," she said. Luckily she didn't have class or clinic for a few days after, so there was plenty of time for the medical student to rest up after a night of celebrations. Although she was enjoying her clinical rotations, this break was needed. Good food, spending time with loved ones (both her family and Blue's), and wearing something other than scrubs. Don't get her wrong! Scrubs are comfy and easy to wear. But it was nice to be wearing something more fashionable like her current outfit of a black cardigan over a lavender camisole with a black waist belt, light blue skinny jeans and black knee high heeled boots. She may not have the same passion for fashion as her boyfriend, but she wouldn't turn down an opportunity to wear a

nice outfit...

Although it was probably not the best outfit to be walking around a beach, Blue's older sister Daisy had insisted she wear "something cute", and she regretted not asking for more details. And the day before, the famed coordinator had dragged Cami to get her nails done for a little "girl bonding time". Cami had to admit, the french mani she got was very nice. Simple and classic, just like she liked it.

As the two set down on a rocky outcropping near the ocean watching the chilly Kantonian ocean lap against the shore of the normally quiet town, Cami began to get lost in her thoughts.

It was crazy how getting lost in a building at Lumiose City University all those years ago would eventually lead Cami to meeting Blue as they worked together on Sycamore's Mega Evolution research. Although neither of them were bit by the research bug, they still left with a good appreciation for the process and more importantly a powerful friendship that would transform into something more. That meeting Blue would lead her to revisiting a dream of being champion...and succeeding. And she knew for Blue, their meeting helped him reaffirm his desire to not follow in his Gramp's footsteps entirely, leading him to search for a role beyond being a gym leader.

Once she finally got into medical school it was by chance (or maybe Arceus' will) that the two would meet up again right when Blue got the offer to head the battle tree. It was then they got to reconnect and fall in love while navigating new lives in Alola together.

And now Cami can't imagine a life without her spiky haired boyfriend. They had seen each other at their highest highs and lowest lows. Confided in each other their hopes, dreams, fears, and regrets. And they stuck together through it all.

The medical student noticed that Blue was more fidgety than normal as he kept reaching into his left pocket, as if checking to make sure something was there. If she had to admit, despite being tired, he also seemed nervous? Lance had pulled him aside at some point during the night to talk to him and Red and Leaf kept sending him silent looks that she didn't quite understand. And it seemed whenever Cami was about to ask, either Agatha or Daisy seem to pop up to distract her with something. Bill had three Rotom phones floating around him, to which he was talking to the people on the other end of those phones in a conspiratorial manner, constantly looking back at Cami to see if she was in hearing range. And Todd seemed to be practically stalking the couple, fiddling with his camera constantly.

It was all very odd but at some point Cami had come to the conclusion that Kantonians were just weird as fuck and just decided to roll with their shenanigans

"10 minutes until the sunrise, people!" called out Blaine as he tapped his cane against some rocks. The children squealed in excitement as the adults sighed in relief...just a few more minutes and then they went back home (or inn, since there were a lot of people from out of town

Cami, noticed) and slept.

It was at Blaine's announcement that Blue's warm brown eyes locked onto Cami's amber ones. Arceus! He was so handsome! The freckles on his Alola tanned skin, his gorgeous slightly lop-sided smile. He had even gained a fair bit of muscle that accentuated his lean athletic frame.

"Hey Cami, let's go somewhere a little quieter...to watch the sunrise" he said with that unabashed confidence that got her attention all those years ago when they first met.

"Oh? Okay..." Cami said just a tad confused. She wasn't opposed to moving, but she had thought the rocky outcropping was just fine. Blue offered his hand to help her down as he led her away further down the beach where there weren't people milling about.

The two trainers peered out over the Ocean as they could see the night sky begin to turn colors from an inky indigo to hues of oranges and pinks. The sun would be rising soon.

"It's beautiful out here" Cami said in awe as she looked on. In the distance she could see some faint smoke rising from what would be Cinnabar Island. It had long been ravaged by an eruption over a decade prior and the volcano was still showing no signs of going dormant.

Blue cleared his throat and Cami looked up to her boyfriend as he continued to stare out over the ocean. With a big breath, he began to speak

"Years ago I boldly claimed that I was the most powerful trainer in the world...only to lose soon after" he started. Cami gave him a sympathetic smile. Even though it had been a long time since that fateful day, she knew how much that moment impacted her boyfriend

"Sometimes you need to lose in order to gain perspective." he said before turning to face his girlfriend "But you Cami, I don't ever want to lose you."

"Oh Blue" she said softly as his hands cupped her cheek, his thumb stroking her warm, soft brown skin. She leaned into the warmth of his palm as the air that morning was quite chilly.

She never wanted to lose him either.

"I'm so glad Arceus blessed us with the chance for our lives to cross paths. That we got to know each as colleagues, as rivals, as friends, as lovers" he continued and Cami could feel her cheeks heat up in a blush

"You're an amazingly smart, beautiful and kind woman that I'm lucky to have been in the presence of"

Oh he's really laying it on thick...quite the charmer as always, she thought

“And I want to spend the rest of my life with you” he said with a surety in his voice she never heard.

Cami’s eyes widened as she looked at her boyfriend. He looked so resolute.

Oh, he’s serious

Blue’s hand left her cheek to clasp her left hand

Oh...

“I want us to have children together, to grow old together” he said as he got down on one knee. Cami’s mouth dropped open.

Oh my Arceus...is it? Is he-

“I love you Cami so, so very much” he continued as he reached into his left pocket pulling out a blue velvet ring box and expertly opening it with one hand to reveal a platinum ring with two brilliant sapphires flanking one glistening diamond.

He is...

“Will you do me the honor of making me the happiest man in the world? Will you marry me?”

snap

Tears of happiness began to fall from Cami’s eyes as she couldn’t speak. She could only nod enthusiastically “YES” as she tried to gain her composure. After what seemed like an eternity (but was only a few seconds) she responded

“YES, YES OF COURSE BLUE” she shouted as Blue gave her triumphant grin as he slipped the ring onto her left ring finger. He then stood up as Cami practically leapt into his arms to give him a happily tearful kiss. The two locked lips as the sun finally made its appearance

snap* *snap

Cheers erupted from all over the beach, a few for the first sunrise of the year...but mostly for the newly engaged couple. The shutter of a camera could be heard rapidly taking shots of the moments

“HELL YEAH LET’S GO BLUE” Leaf screamed as Red gave a hearty whistle and Little miss CopyCat eagerly gave a similar shout and whistle

“ATTA boy!” Blaine called out

“Oh Blue, mom and dad would be s-so SO proud” Daisy said with joyful tears in her eyes as Bill hovered close giving Blue and Cami a big thumbs up. Professor Oak even gave a silent nod of approval.

“That was a marvelous shot, these pics are going to be gorgeous” called out Todd Snapp as he continued snapping pictures of the couple.

“Congratulations to you both” Lance said with a wide grin. Silver said nothing but gave a nod of approval.

“Well done” Agatha said simply, her eyes crinkling with pride.

And the cheers weren’t coming just from the people on the beach...but the Rotom Phones floating around Bill.

“Let’s FUCKING GO!! Congrats you two” screamed Sina and Dexio from one Rotom Phone. Sycamore was in the background clapping.

“LET’S GO LITTLE SIS!” cried out her oldest sister and brother as her four nieces cheered on from the second.

“I’m so, so happy for you darling” said Cami’s mom with a tearful grin while her dad whooped and hollered from the third

Just as things didn’t seem as if they could get anymore touching, a bright light shone above the couple as if the heavens above were cheering on the successful proposal. A large, black and red Pokemon darted through the light, weaving in between the clouds.

“Look over the ocean” Daisy said as the newly engaged couple turned to see. In the foam of the waves, there were three ghostly apparitions waving to the couple.

“Mom, Dad” Blue managed to choke out as he recognized two of the figures.

“Sis” Cami whispered, as she recognized the third

Just as soon as the apparitions of their departed loved ones appeared, they vanished into the waves. The ethereal light that was shining upon the newly engaged couple slowly vanished along with the large flying Pokemon.

“I’m glad they approve of us even beyond the grave” Cami said to Blue as she leaned in to kiss him once more, silently thanking Yveltal for the blessing bestowed upon their engagement

There was part of Cami which had wondered if she'd ever find love. To find someone that would love her as she is, and find someone she could love as their true authentic selves. Above all doubts...she found her person.

It wasn't just the first day of the new year. It was the first day of her new life with Blue.



(Art by GhostBlobbu On Twitter)