

POKÉMON  
REBIRTH

# BRINK

ARC ONE

PART SIX

**I've been working on cultivating more reasonable expectations of my own output, and a fact I don't want to accept, but I feel I must...**

**I really love the ideas I had for Brink. But the size of the story, combined with the lack of time I have for it, means that finishing it would be impossible. With that in mind, I've had to make the difficult decision to shelve the rest of what I had developed for Pokémon Rebirth.**

**However, I don't plan to leave you with unanswered questions. Rather, I am going to share the plan documents for what would have been the remainder of Brink. You will get an exclusive look at just how these stories were constructed, with plot notes, excerpts of dialogue and concept art to help you get an idea for what the finished work might have been.**

**If you are inspired by what you read and wish to create further illustrations, I would be honoured! Please send the art either via Twitter [NiloStudo] or my email [gemmaDOTbrightATgmailDOTcom].**

- This part begins with a short scene of N Jyseis finally discovering where his mother Harmony lives and reuniting with her, only to discover she is not as overjoyed as he expected. It turns out that N's father Nascour has recently gone missing, and though they have not lived together in some time, Harmony is very worried about him. N resolves to help his mother find Nascour, though his feelings about his father aren't particularly good at present.

*Cut to Ash sitting in a bath, still staring into the distance.*

*Pikachu is in the main room watching TV, perhaps some Gym Battle competition. He looks up as Ash enters from the bathroom.*

ASH – Pikachu...

*Pikachu sits up, mutes the TV with the remote.*

ASH – \*smiles a bit\* I'm glad you're feeling better.

PIKACHU – Pika pi-chu pika ka chu

ASH – At least one of us hasn't changed that much, huh...

*He gazes out across the room at his reflection in the mirror. Pikachu follows his gaze, then looks at him.*

PIKACHU – Pi pikachu pi pika-pi!

ASH – You don't think I've changed?

*Pikachu shakes his head. Ash chuckles.*

ASH – Thanks, buddy...

PIKACHU – Pi-ka chu?

*He tilts his head and looks over towards the television.*

ASH - ...

...would you be mad at me if I did things differently from now on? <:]

PIKACHU - \*upset/worried\* Chaa~?

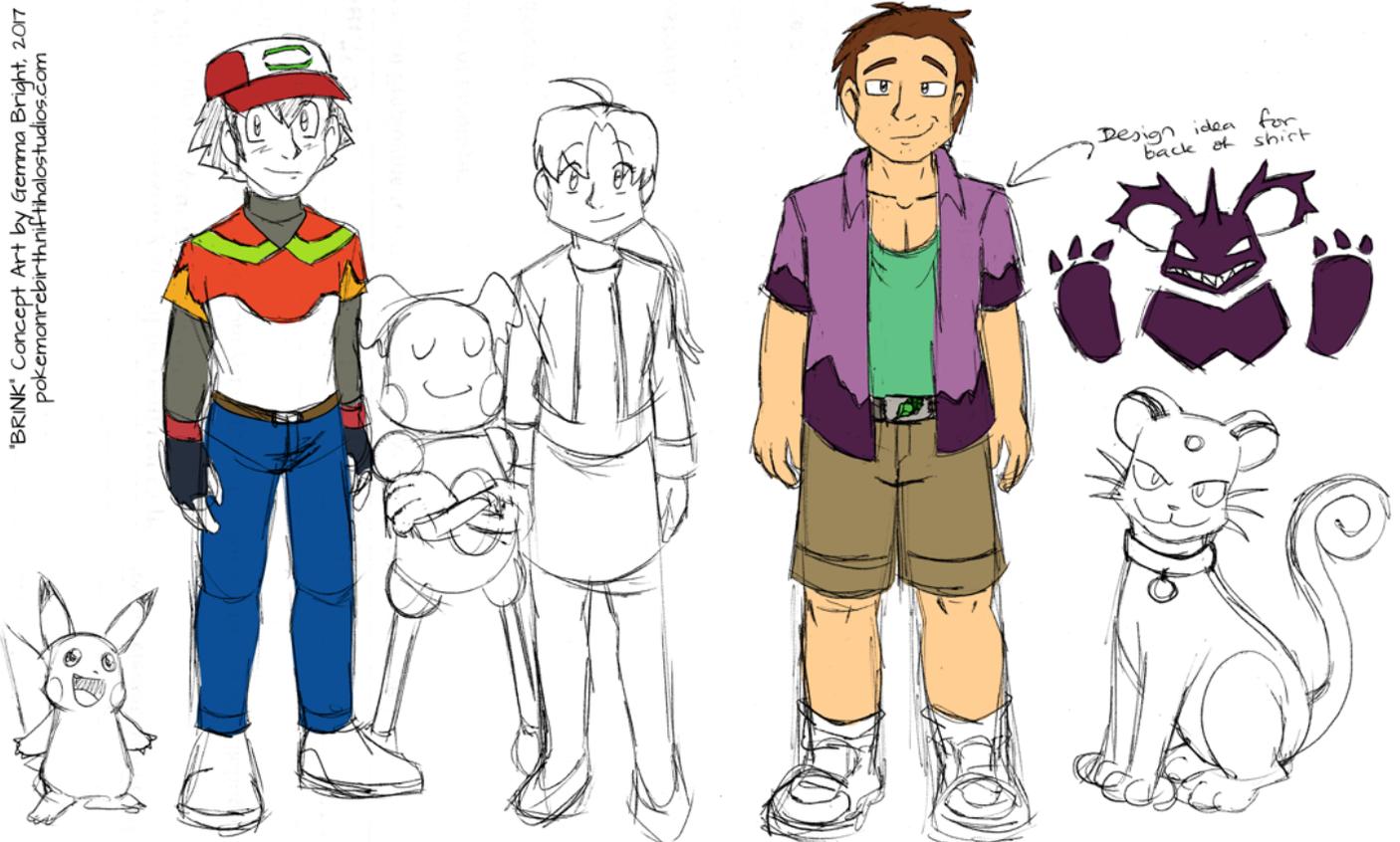
ASH – \*distantly\* I don't know how. Just...different.

- Ash has lost his desire to engage in pokemon battles, partly because of his discovery of the Pokemon Master thing, mostly because the activity reminds him of having played host to that unknown being.

ASH – Thanks for helping us, Verity. I'm not really a books and robes person, but I'm gonna do my best to make a difference out here, too. ^-^

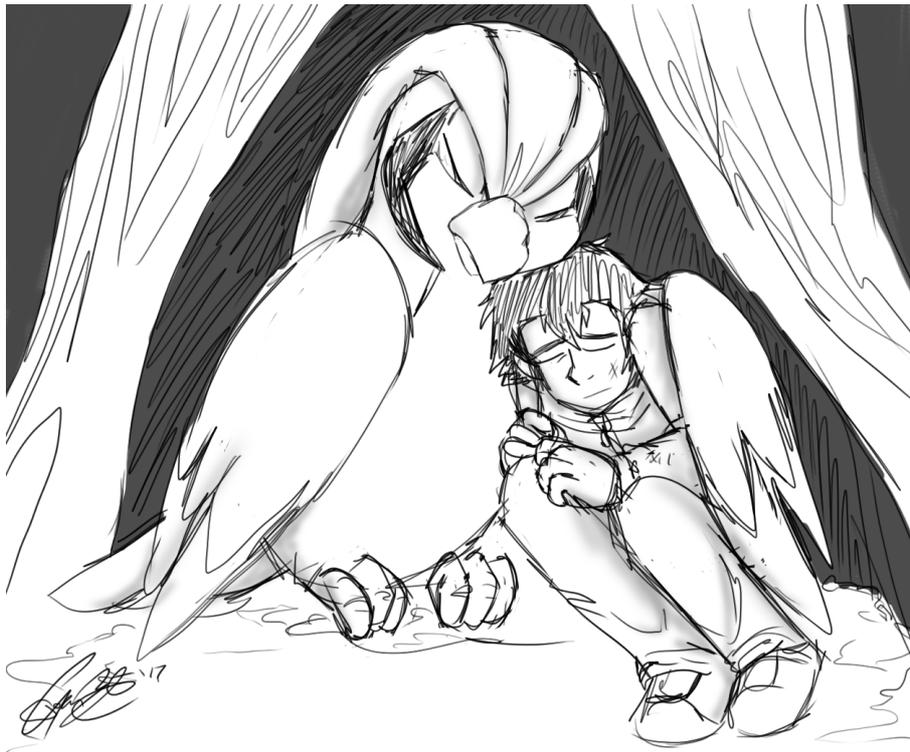
VERITY – I'm sure you will, Ash. ^-^

- Ash decides to return home to Pallet. He gets home to find his father Brant is there. Brant is a lot more distant than Ash remembers, but still doing his best to keep a reasonable disposition.
- The resulting reunion is a mixture of emotions. His mother is overjoyed because Ash had been missing, but also amazed/confused as to how Ash looks so different now. Ash feels bad that he made his mother worry by not keeping in contact. Still he is glad to see her, also frustrated because this is the first time he's seen his dad in a while.



- This bout of frustration is short-lived, though both Ash and Brant don't know how to deal with each other, resulting in some awkward social interaction.
- Seeing her husband and son having difficulties, Delia suggests they go and do hill boarding together – something Ash and Brant did a fair bit when Ash was younger. Both men are pretty rusty at it, which starts out as friendly competition and ends up in a laughing heap at the bottom of the hill.
- The familiarity of the shared event helps Ash to warm back up to Brant. Despite this, Brant keeps slipping into moments of distantness and discomfort over the next couple of days.
- Delia gets Brant alone and insists to know what is bothering him so. He manages to pluck up the nerve to speak about his past double life as 'Giovanni Mortego' - how he had been running Team Rocket for a number of years.

- Delia looks horrified, but Brant begs her to hear him out. He explains that some major life events and time looking over what he'd done had given him a refreshed perspective. Brant is heavily remorseful, he wants to try and patch things up and actually be there for Delia and Ash. He begs Delia to give him a chance to do it right.
- Before she can make her reply, Ash storms into the room, having overheard the whole conversation. Ash angrily exclaims "You think you can just walk back in here and everything be better?!". While Brant keeps control of his temper for the most part, Ash is unable to come to terms with what he's heard, and leaves.
- Ash goes and spends the night in the woods outside of Pallet, where he reunites with his pidgeot who provides some comfort.



ASH – Pidgeot... I have a favour to ask you.

PIDGEOT – Puuu-ri?

ASH – Could you help me get to Fiore? I need to see someone...

- Ash returns to Pallet Town momentarily to leave his mum a note first, so she at least knows where he went.
- Pidgeot helps Ash to get to Fiore quickly once they work out where it is. Mewtwo is surprised to see Ash but welcomes him in. After hearing his frustrations, Mewtwo sympathises with Ash since he too feels a similar way to him over what Brant did as 'Giovanni'.
- While talking to Mewtwo, Ash realises that his father could have just not told either him or his mother about his past - so perhaps something had improved. Mewtwo says that he only hopes for Ash and his mother's sake that Brant has changed significantly for the better.

MEWTWO – I was angry at what how your father treated me, and I...made a lot of foolish choices. But...you are not your father, Ash. And perhaps things didn't turn out how you thought they would. It's what you choose to do from here on, that will define who *you* are.

- Ash agrees it is up to him to choose to make his life better, and decides to try and fix what he's broken. Leaves for Pallet Town.
- Having reached the Lunari Force for Pokemon Equality agency, N's request for helping find Nascour is carried out. The Pokemon agents are able to locate recent sightings of the man. They say that field agents that have crossed paths with Nascour and his Sanguine Alliance underlings lately have got some seriously powerful and unusual energy readings from him.
- At the same time, Mewtwo is summoned to one of the repository meeting rooms.

MEWTWO – At first I thought perhaps it might have been a pokémon, but this creature was made of distortia, and pokémon made of distortia cannot take over the bodies of other beings, am I correct?

SEER HISTORIAN – Indeed. This was no pokémon, Brother Tsu.

- Here, one of the Fiorian Seers explains that by studying the behaviour and abilities described by Mewtwo (siphoned from Ash's memories and his own), that the being controlling Ash was the one known as Mendarus.
- This is paralleled by a Lunari agent telling N and Harmony that researching the Lunari archives has matched the energy readings to those of Mendarus. They theorise that Nascour is Mendarus' latest host.
- Mewtwo asks who Mendarus is.
- The Seers explain that Mendarus is a creature similar to Arceus, but incomplete. Texts in the Oorei'kimei describe it as 'an echo, born of conflict', though the Seers do not quite know what this means. All they know is that Mendarus has been intent on dominating humans and pokémon, and causing as much chaos and unrest as possible. By taking control of many human rulers over the years, Mendarus has formed civilisations and started wars that resulted in much death. In crude summary, it just 'wants to watch the world burn'.
- Back at the LFPE headquarters, N is mortified that his father has been involved with the creature who created the Lunari and made their lives so complicated.
- The Seers explain to Mewtwo that Mendarus' whereabouts had been lost after most of its power was taken from it during the seizure of the Pokemopolis empire. They figure that Mendarus will now be searching for wherever the rest of its power is being kept, so it can be made whole again. They have to make sure Mendarus doesn't reach it, whatever it takes.
- Mewtwo listens to this, feeling aggrieved. Later that day, Akiva notes Mewtwo's low mood.

AKIVA – Something is bothering you, isn't it?

MEWTWO – Yes, Akiva. I...I have regrets. That young man who was revived a few days ago, I have caused him a great deal of heartache.

AKIVA – How so?

MEWTWO – Before I better understood my place in this world, I tried hard to make one for myself. I was angry, and challenged a mew to see which of us was stronger. The human...Ash...he tried to stop us fighting and...

AKIVA – And...?

MEWTWO – He was caught between the mew's attack and mine. It blocked his Aura pathways. For those few moments, he was as good as gone.

AKIVA – \*face pales\* Oh...

MEWTWO – I just... if I had just controlled my emotions, he would not have fallen victim to Mendarus.

- Mewtwo feels this is very personal to his actions so he leaves to search for Mendarus by himself. Unfortunately for those he's been spending time with, he leaves without properly explaining why. Akiva is saddened because he would have gone with him.
- Later, members of the Guardsmen are shown tracking Nascour and trying to work out stuff about the 'mysterious shadow'.
- Small shot of N and Harmony having encountered Nascour hosting Mendarus. Mendarus' presence within him is bringing some of his pokémon DNA back to the surface. He can extend his fingers like tangrowth digits. His hair moves of its own accord.



**TO BE CONTINUED**

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