

Another rumble ran through the ground of Spear Pillar, followed by a large *crash*, the sound reverberating all the way up to the Hall of Origin. A ripple of time expanded soon after, washing over the ground below as pillars suddenly aged and de-aged in chaotic fashion. A sphere of darkness slowly grew at the edge of the platform, everything inside of it visibly warping and distorting, before the sphere and everything inside vanished all at once, leaving a carved-out hole on the edge of Spear Pillar.

Arceus sat, attempting to keep himself calm and collected, but the fight between his children was starting to really agitate him. He could handle the occasional spat – those three were always territorial and competitive, after all. It seemed to simply be a part of their nature to end up in conflicts with each other over petty things. But they'd only grown more and more combative recently, the three of them nearly constantly fighting.

After a disastrous moment where Palkia crashed directly into the center of a village, only to charge up a spatial rend right there, Arceus had to officially put the three of them in time-out, all three of them told to stay in their own dimensions and outside of the mortal world. He'd had to reverse time on the village to fix it, though all of the pokemon living there were still left with the memory of the god of space crash landing on their homes. And even with all three of them out of the mortal world, they were still using the dimensional pathways between their own worlds to fight each other, not letting up.

Their fighting had grown so intense that it was once more having a direct effect on the mortal world, from the distortions of time and space that were bleeding into this world. Arceus had tried to calm them down and resolve the dispute, but it seemed that the three of them weren't even fighting over any particular reason that he could solve. Another crash reverberated from below as yet another pillar toppled over and shattered on the ground, and with another calming exhale, he decided that he had to do *something* about this.

He could always just... start over with all three of them. Revert time on them until they were back in the eggs he'd originally made at the start of creation. He'd considered it plenty of times... just about any time his children had gotten themselves into too much trouble. But without any substantial change, they'd all just reach this same point again, always finding some reason to bicker and fight. He didn't think that the entire *world* was beyond helping, the pokemon down below had created lives that were just fine, and while there were certainly issues, they weren't ones that required his direct interference.

No, he needed to do something to actually adjust their behavior, and clearly just putting them in time-out wasn't exactly enough. Sure, he could go through with putting them back in their eggs and then attempting to raise them all over again to turn out more like he wanted... but the world wasn't exactly in its infancy, and reducing the guardians of the laws of nature to actual babies would require him to put in a lot more work to keep everything under control, all while juggling three children...

But what if they didn't have to be fully turned back into children?

The thought was strange but it caught his attention... maybe it had merit. Raise the three of them again properly, but this time not entirely from scratch. He just needed to teach them to get along, and to reduce those violent tendencies a bit. The gears were turning in his head at this point, starting to put together ideas. He'd need to strip them of their powers so that they couldn't just leave, and have a way of keeping them from using those powers for some time... And as for a place to keep them, he could always just adjust Spear Pillar to work for that purpose. Enough safety devices to keep them from just leaving as they please, and it would work fine. It's not like many mortals made the trek all the way up here anyways, and even if they did, perhaps the gods could use a little embarrassment in front of the mortals that they supposedly ruled over.

Yes, this might just work. Wrangling three babies would be a lot of work still, but with a thousand arms to work with, Arceus wasn't too worried about the prospect of keeping them under control. He stood up from where he was laying, stepping down the glowing staircase from the Hall of Origin. He walked across Spear Pillar, the place in worse disrepair than it even normally was. He let out a sigh, before getting to work. This place would need a lot of sprucing up if it was going to make for a good daycare for three rambunctious gods.

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It didn't take long to get the place looking much more appropriate for its three future inhabitants, with a comfortable floor for crawling, plenty of enriching activities for little ones (even of their size), and a redesign to ensure that they wouldn't be tumbling down the side of the mountain, even if they decided they wanted to as a way out.

As for making sure they didn't try to use their abilities to get out, he'd constructed a plan. Calling upon Uxie, Mesprit, and Azelf, they'd each given him a material that he used to fashion into the Red Chain, something he knew from past experience could be used to shackle them from using their powers temporarily. Of course, mortals in the past had used it carelessly and harmed them, but he knew how to make use of his own failsafe safely. Carefully using a length of chain for each of them, he fashioned three collars, each one sized to fit each of the pokemon, which he could keep on them at all times until he decided they were ready to return to their roles. The rest of the chain went into the creation of the special garments they'd each be wearing during their stay – a large set of diapers for each of them, designed after their own patterns, with a mark of his rings at the front, to make it clear who was in charge.

With his work nearly complete, yet another ripple of time and space energy began to flow through Spear Pillar, before it was instantly and effortlessly rebuffed by Arceus's power. He stomped once on the ground and let out a roar, something that could be felt even in the other dimensions where his children resided, making one thing very clear to all of them at that moment.

Dad was upset.