

Episode 1 - I Choose You!

Grabbing the protruding handle out of the floor, the weight barely bearable as I used my entire strength to pull out the shining metal, equipping me to finally begin my adventure. I stood there in my matching pj set, standing on the couch with a stick in hand pointing to the sky, feeling more powerful than ever.

Racing through the forest I slash at anything in front of me, grabbing useful objects as I ran towards my next mission. Getting hit by a rock and brushing it off as nothing and continue running out into the clearing, sun blazing down and an entire world waiting to be saved by a hero.

Episode 3 - Ash Catches a Pokemon

Water bursting forward against flames making steam, blocking my eyesight until bubbles shot forward pushing the steam away and revealing an unconscious opponent. Shouting out made up commands and abilities as I started to do a victory dance and my cousin yelling, "rematch, rematch!". I threw down my strongest card when the notable theme song began playing and our eyes shifted from the table to the television. The main character on the screen with a yellow animal on his shoulder and the rightful Pokemon master that we all wanted to be.

Episode 5 - Showdown in Pewter City

Remembering all the simple combos I knew, either quick flashing kicks by Chun-Li, E. Honda's fast slapping hands, Dhalsim's long arms and legs stretching forward, or a hadouken bursting out of Ryu's palms, reenacting the well trained physical memory that did nothing to the people who called me names, sneered at my lunches, or laughed and pinned me down, where was my help now?

Episode 8 - The Path to the Pokemon League

"Only the Avatar, master of all four elements, could stop them." A hero that could get my 10 cousins of different ages to finally get along, and a movie that rallied us to protest on the white actor that was chosen to play the live action movie.

Yelling out our disdain but thinking of no one that could play such a role. Reminding me that shinobu's began as genin's, masters began as apprentices, martial artists began as white belts, and my future began as my parent's vision rather than a seeable dream.

Episode 12 - Here Comes the Squirtle Squad

Creating a warm atmosphere in the least clothing, friends and strangers surrounding me with talks of love and appreciation. Beating rhythms, crackling sounds, video game blips and Japanese words responded with cheers and welcomed faces. An unforgettable moment clouded by the white man speaking oriental behind a microphone.

A false mirror turned into a window, I stood there in my matching pj set, standing on the couch with a stick in hand pointing to the sky, feeling more powerless than ever.

Episode 17 - Island of the Giant Pokemon

Opening hip Chinese fusion bakeries, dreams of starring in the next Crazy Rich Asians, and obnoxious laughter as people mimicked Ali Wong 'Colonizing the colonizer'. Belting alongside Lea Salonga in Mulan's "Reflection" or "I'll Make a Man Out of You". Seeing tears running down friend's faces with Simu Liu speaking Konglish (Korean-English), Awkwafina speaking Mandarin with her grandma, Lucy Liu, Brenda Song, Margaret Cho, and even Jeremy Lin, causing everyone, including Asian parents on opposing teams, to yell and cheer for a single player.

Seeable dreams rippled with reflective surfaces, mirrors gave encouragement, and held out hands supported heroes, possibilities, and even Pokemon masters.

Season 2, Episode 1 - A hopeful beginning.