## I'm leaving

## Von ShindaHotaru

"I can't believe you're serious about this.

I'm not going to get up there every day. You can't expect anyone to climb that high.

You can crash at my place for a while. Really, I don't mind. There's enough space for two anyway.

You could help me around the gym until you get a job.

Stop ignoring me! You gotta help me understand because I really have massive problems with getting into your thick head!

It's a frozen up mountain top—what on Earth do you expect there to find?

No sane challenger will ever mind to climb it up just to battle you.

I won't be your emergency call and I can tell you'll be wishing to be down here by night-"

A heavy bag hits the ground and ends the unilateral dialogue. They're both quiet for a moment—was it just an accidental drop or a purposefully attempt to end the verbal assault?—there's no time flowing for the two men so the moment fades into eternity.

"It's your life but I think you're throwing it away and I'm not playing part in this suicide attempt. Mt. Shirogane is unpredictable this time of year and I wouldn't take Pikachu with me if I was you—"

"You're **not** me."

His breath collides with the words on his tongue, he can't prevent their clash and chokes on the consequences.

"I don't want you to understand. I want you to let me leave."

Those determined eyes turn towards him and his lungs feel so empty, hollow and threatened to be crushed by the weight of his demand. Didn't he let him leave? In his

perspective of the situation he isn't forbidding anyone from fulfilling their dearest wishes—how would he have time for that! To care about others this actively!

And yet, he stands here, watches that awful personality with a red cap preparing the last steps to climb the white-topped demon rising heavenwards in the distance. His mouth is dry from rambling, from his emotions and inability to comprehend the situation. What he only understands is the vacancy in his own life that is bound to fill his mind.

"I'm leaving." His words are cut-off, sharp like ice shards. The fire of rivalry is no longer burning. Nothing can melt this icy farewell.

"**Green**," he then breaks the shield, "We both know Mt. Shirogane and it's not as dangerous as you try to make us believe. Charizard is with me.

You don't have to visit me. Or anyone else. I can take care of myself.

But you're welcome to prove the opposite. Once in a while."