

Aero-Burst
By holodrom

A thunderous footstep shook the earth and rattled the windows of every building in the secluded town. The looming shadow of a huge Lugia darkened the streets, and he stepped right up to the edge of the town, letting the curve of his low-hanging cerulean stomach bump the tops of houses to make the roofs sag. "Alright losers, it's that time of the month again! Pay up if you wanna keep your little town from being flattened." His voice carried across the entire town, startling the Pokemon that called this place home. "And make it quick, or I'll lose my patience!" He stomped the ground, shaking it with the rumble of a small earthquake.

Pokemon scrambled to gather their tributes. Food, valuables, anything they could scrape together to keep their poor little houses in one piece. The streets filled with throngs of people who anxiously approached the huge Lugia to make their offerings. "Yeah yeah, that's it. And you better have enough!"

A voice cut through the worried murmur of the crowd. "This isn't a very respectable way for a legendary Pokemon to act." An individual floated up to single himself out. He was a rather short hybrid Pokemon, sporting the long tail, short legs, and wide hips of a Mewtwo, but from the chest up he had the face and wings of a Latios. His body was covered in swatches of black and white fur, with part of a bright red symbol sticking out from under a blue hoodie. He gave the Lugia an annoyed look, red eyes glaring out from under a raised hood.

"Eh? I don't know you. You visiting this backwater? Picked a hell of a time. Gimme everything you've got too, guests aren't excluded from the tax!" The Lugia demanded as he stood up straighter to look bigger, glaring down at the floating little hybrid.

"Well, I'm Anthony, and as a fellow Legendary, I think you should reconsider the way you're behaving. You're gonna give the rest of us a bad reputation." His long tail curled upwards and he pulled his hands out of his hoodie.

"That so? Well you're nothing, punk. If you're not gonna pay up, then I'll pulverize you." Lugia opened his mouth and inhaled a huge volume of air in an instant. His stomach ballooned, crushing the homes it was already balanced on top of. The sudden vacuum of wind pulled Anthony closer, and he only had a moment to catch the glint in Lugia's mouth as the gust reversed flow.

The Aeroblast fired at Anthony, ripping through the air with the force of a hurricane and the the roar of a jet engine. The Mewtios crossed his arms over his chest and projected a psychic shield in front of him large enough to protect not only himself, but also the town below. He angled the shield up as the attack struck, and the massive pressure blast glanced off the shining barrier and blasted into the sky, blowing a hole through the clouds as it left the atmosphere.

Anthony scoffed as he let the barrier down. His hood had been blown off by the wind, but he was otherwise unscathed, and the town below had experienced a spring breeze at the worst. "Alright alright, you're powerful, I won't deny that," he admitted, causing the Lugia to give him a domineering sneer. "But if you really wanna fight, I'll win. Easily. In fact, I'll win without attacking you!"

"What are you- grrrr...!" Lugia went from confident to fuming at Anthony's mocking challenge. "Fine, if you don't attack I'll beat you that much easier!"

The two immediately engaged in combat. Anthony swung around behind Lugia, pulling his attention and attacks away from the town. He floated backwards into the wilderness, dodging and teleporting away from all manner of wind blasts and water jets that ripped up the landscape. Anthony grimaced at the wanton destruction and started to rise higher and higher into the air. Lugia pursued, blasting into the sky with a single pump of his mighty wings. At this height, the Lugia's attacks lost potency by the time they reached the ground, leaving Anthony free to dodge in whatever direction he liked.

"Heh, you can't dodge forever! I know how much energy it takes to move like that, and even a half-Mewtwo can't keep that up longer than I can keep batting the air at you!" Lugia boasted as he clapped his wings together, sending a boom of pressure at Anthony.

He protected himself with a psychic bubble and reached into the pocket of his hoodie to retrieve a small balloon. He dispelled his bubble barrier and held the balloon out towards Lugia to give them a good look at it. "See this? It's all I need to beat you~" Anthony taunted as he pulled on the balloon, stretching it between his hands to warm up the rubber.

Kra-BOOM!

Anthony was too focused on the balloon in his hands to react to the Aeroblast. His body took the entire attack, and the immense pressure knocked him out of the sky and sent him hurtling to the ground. He barely had a chance to bubble himself in psychic energy, breaking the fall as he cratered the earth below him. The energy bubble shattered, and Anthony was flung to the edge of the crater like a doll, still clinging to the balloon in a balled fist. "Urgh..." He grit his teeth and flipped himself upright with his psychic powers as Lugia descended and landed on the ground with surprising grace for someone that had been ripping the area apart just moments ago.

"That looked like it hurt~ Give up?" Lugia stepped up to the edge of the crater and grabbed Anthony in one hand, picking him up and squeezing.

"I'll admit, that was good. But this is exactly what I wanted." The Mewtios teleported out of Lugia's grasp, took in a deep breath, and huffed into the balloon, blowing it up.

"You're ridiculous. I'm gonna crush you-eh?" His big wing-hands pressed to his stomach instinctively as he felt an odd sensation building inside. He could feel his cerulean-blue belly stretching and pushing out against his hands, expanding in tandem with Anthony's balloon. He took a few hesitant steps away before locking his gaze on Anthony with a snarl. "Now what are you playing at?!"

"Just a little game involving psychic-linked voodoo!" Anthony explained between breaths, smirking up at his swelling target.

"Feh! Little tricks like this won't be enough! Now stop mocking me!" Lugia enraged and resumed his flurry of attacks, striking with greater frequency and ferocity than before. Blasts of wind and streams of water targeted Anthony, but the Mewtios dodged around the blasts and teleported away from any particularly tricky attacks. All the while, he kept puffing into that balloon, and Lugia grew rounder and puffier with each breath.

Lugia's gut swelled out and pressed against the ground, filling the space between his short legs. He took to a low flight to circumvent the mobility issue, leaving him bobbing in the air as his stomach continued to fill. His whole body was growing bigger as the pressure increased, rounding out his pear-shaped form. His neck pulsed larger with each of Anthony's breaths, causing it to push up against his face and leak air into his cheeks, rounding them out and cutting

off his peripheral vision. His body was forced wider, spreading his stubby, bloated legs apart until his stomach was blown up well past the point of his claws ever touching the ground again. His precise and graceful flight slowed into the drifting maneuvers of an airship.

Lugia's strikes slowed, growing clumsy as he started to stumble around the battlefield with a swollen gut pressing out in all directions and rounding his lengthy body into a more uniform sphere. "S-stop... moving!" His legs and wings started to thicken, puffing up and squeaking with each increasingly difficult pump of his wings. His attacks became less accurate as he had to fight the stiffening bloat of his neck to try and get a good angle on the dodgy Mewtios.

"And make it easy for you? No way!" Anthony taunted and teleported behind his adversary. The blue fins along Lugia's back were popping out into taut orbs, and his long neck was looking much shorter as his body swallowed itself to try and contain the air pressure. Anthony bounced down on the back of the balloon that was struggling to keep in flight, and the bounce was enough to send it to the ground. Lugia bounced a few times, blimped limbs flailing as it tried and failed to right itself. Their struggles made their body creak, and the hiss of air grew louder as it echoed in their hollow form.

"Ngghhh!" Lugia rolled until he was stopped by his tail, which bloated out into another sphere to try and contain the increasing volume of air inside of him. His cheeks puffed up further and pushed back against the swell of his neck that had joined into a continuous curve with the rest of his body. His wings were stuck out to his sides, a pair of useless orbs, leaving hardly a single part of him uninflated.

Anthony landed near their head so they could see the Mewtios and the huge balloon they were holding. It was a grand four feet in diameter, making it double the size of the tiny Pokemon holding it. A deep *bwoommm* rattled through it as Anthony gave the taut surface a flick. "So big guy, I'll give you a chance to give up and turn yourself in. What do-?"

The roar of an Aeroblast drowned out Anthony's query. He teleported out of the way just a split second before it hit, cutting it so close that his tail was whipping out behind him from the wind. The force of the attack caused the blimped Lugia to bounce backwards along the ground like a toy ball.

They rolled to an awkward stop, and Anthony snorted. "That's a 'no' then. Well don't worry, I've got a last trick for you in that case." He touched a paw to the dizzy Lugia's forehead and then curled his long tail around to touch the top of his own head. With a psychic thought, he opened up his jacket, showing off the red symbol on his stomach before putting the nozzle of the balloon into his mouth and letting the air blow back into him.

His body rapidly stretched out as he guzzled air from the balloon that was bigger than he was. The hazard symbol and simple red skull on his stomach stretched out along the expanding curve of his dark-colored belly. His body quickly grew round and wide. His cheeks puffed from taking in so much air so quickly, and his neck swelled up around his puffy face, making it hard to look around. A blush flushed to his puffed cheeks as his body creaked from the expansion. Air pushed into his big tail, making it rigid and thick with pressure, and he groaned as even his wings took on some of the air and puffed into cartoonish, blimped appendages.

The balloon was shrinking slowly, filling Anthony up more than it appeared that it should. This was no problem for the Mewtios, but a big problem for the Lugia who was growing bigger by the second, his body creaking louder and growing tighter. He strained to keep in one piece,

but his body was struggling to get any bigger. His skin itched, stretched dangerously taut. Air surged into his tail, neck, and cheeks, pumping them to the limits of their size. His back fins nearly went translucent, and his wings were blimped to the fingers, with each digit pumped to useless, straining girths. He was hardly even growing anymore, stretched to his limits and forced to endure the feeling of his internal pressure rising despite the chorus of roaring complaints from his skin.

Lugia's body let out a final, straining *gggrrRRRNNN*- as his eyes darted around wildly in his head. His trembling skin could take no more, and the troublesome Legendary Pokemon blasted into scraps, sending out a shockwave of wind that blasted his pieces across the landscape. Anthony was thrown away by the blast, bouncing away before he caught himself with his powers. His head spun from the concussive force of the explosion, but he steadied himself and scoffed as he surveyed the scene. "Dang, such a big guy and that's all you could handle? Bummer," he said as he brandished his balloon, which was still half full.

Although disappointed, he was still victorious, and a few of the townspeople hurried out to the blasted field to give their thanks and offer him some treasures, which he politely turned down. He shook a grateful few hands and the Pokemon returned to their lives, leaving Anthony alone in the field littered with Lugia scraps.

He looked around and snapped his fingers, using his powers to gather up the Lugia scraps that were making a mess of the place. "Heh~ You know, I was looking for a Lugia for the longest time so I could finally add one to my available forms!" he said to the coalescing mass of shreds as if it could hear him. "It sure was convenient you were such a jerk, I don't have to feel bad about blasting you to bits!"

Once he'd collected everything he could see, he brought them in close and used Transform to merge with the scraps. His wings and arms combined into wide wing-hands, his tail lengthened, and fins sprouted on both sides of his spine. His Mew DNA easily combined with the stretched bits of Lugia, morphing the Mewtios into a full fledged Lugia that retained his original colors and markings.

He was also just as inflated as before, which was a small annoyance for one reason in particular. "Dang, that Lugia was way bigger than this, I'm still my usual height!" he complained. "Ugh, the blast probably scattered the rest of him too far... Dang." He looked around to see if there were any obvious bits that he missed, but nothing stood out against the battle-scarred landscape. Anthony decided that he didn't feel like tracking down the rest of the Lugia balloon, and shrugged off the disappointment. "Ah well, it'd be a shame to let all this air go to waste just because I'm still short..." He bounced the balloon in his hand, feeling the springy tension of the rubbery surface against his knuckles. "Hopefully Lugia-me has more stretch than the big guy did!" He stuck the nozzle of the balloon into his mouth and let the rest of the air from the balloon flow into him.

His new Lugia form tingled from the expansion as he broke it in. His body stretched, growing rounder and rounder with little resistance. His tail stretched easily, growing so large it competed with the rest of his body for being the biggest part of him. He tried to give his new, longer tail a waggle, but it was already so puffed that it had no motion remaining, and barely trembled as he tried to move the muscles.

His broad back stretched into a wide platform, and his back fins expanded with pops like bubble wrap. His wings were beyond useless, bloated up so much they were hardly more than

bulging domes stuck to the sides of his larger body. His neck was gone, replaced with a shallow curve that was topped with a pair of huge cheeks that squeezed Andrew's new Lugia face tightly between them. Soon his entire body was a near sphere, effectively helpless and even bigger (proportionally) than the former Lugia managed to get.

He finished off all the air in the balloon and used his telekinesis to stick it back into his jacket pocket, as he was now so full he couldn't even wiggle his fingers, let alone bend his wing-arms. A flash of concentration was all it took to get himself floating into the sky, no helium required, and he let the breeze drift him about among the clouds to relax and recharge after such a protracted battle. He expanded a mite more as he rose into the sky and the ambient air pressure decreased, but it was nothing his body couldn't handle, even in a new form.

Anthony drifted along the tops of the clouds, rolling across them like a tumbleweed over sand dunes. He planned to stay like this the rest of the day to give his new form a good stretch and acclimate to the feeling of it. Now that he could be a Lugia at any time, he planned to enjoy the form to the fullest.