

# 30 Day Pokefolk Challenge: Walking Wake

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## Content Warnings:

- N/A
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Day 1: Write about your Pokemon identity! What is it? How did you discover it?

Going to be doing this as myself--my name is Gyre. If others in my system want to do it, they'll have their own separate posts.

I'm a fictive of Walking Wake. I'm a walk-in, I consider myself to be endogenic in origin. So, my discovery is really just me being here at all. I'm just a creature that just so happened to reincarnate my way into joining this system. I don't really care to think about a reason--me being here is just a thing that happened, and I don't need to make it any more complicated by trying to figure out if there's some reason. I do believe I came from a past life and reincarnated here as mentioned, but beyond that? Don't really care.

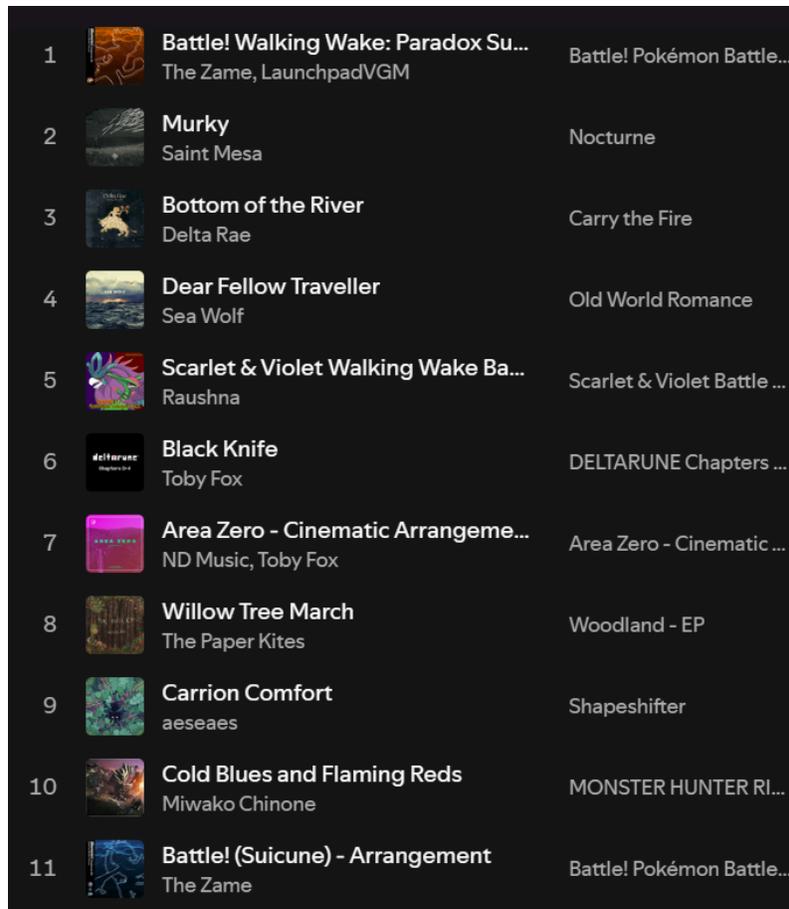


I personally look a little different to canon Walking Wake. I've got a ref sheet of myself (above) showing some of the differences. Overall, I have more flecks of orange and red in my mane and on my tails, and my legs and arms also gradient into a darker colour further away from my body. The gradient in the ref isn't as blended as it actually looks on me, this is just for ease of drawing. I also have a little stripe under my eyes, and my snout shape as well as my chin is sharper than canon.

## Day 2: Make a playlist!

I actually didn't have a playlist yet, so I [managed to scrape one together based around my identity as a Walking Wake](#). Things that make me feel kinda homey, songs with lyrical themes or overall vibes I like.

A lot of it is pokemon battle themes of either Walking Wake or suicune, you know, for the vibes of it all. But I do like those songs regardless of my connection to them.



Screenshot attached of the playlist at the time of writing for archival purposes.

## Day 3: Write about your favourite things about the Pokemon world!

Honestly, a big part of what I like about the canon pokemon world is how diverse it is. You see people and pokemon of many shapes and sizes all over the place! I especially love how cities and such don't seem to take over the whole landscape in a lot of regions, there's still plenty of wild area for pokemon to live freely without urban development expanding into it too far. I love the idea of there being plenty of room for human towns and natural habitats both to exist at the same time so close to each other.

As for my own version of it, I come from a time (or at least an area) where a lot of the natural landscapes were untouched. I'm honestly not sure if I ever saw a human or if trainers existed! But the land was wonderful. Hills and mountains with snow at the top, giant trees, pokemon everywhere, crystal clear waters, beautiful clean lakes, so many types of berries and other plants just growing there ready to eat. It wasn't perfect by any stretch of the world, but it had plenty of beauty. It's hard to find places to utterly untouched here.

I really enjoy that this side of things is still at least *represented* in a lot of Pokemon canon too. There's plenty of space for both pokemon and humans to coexist, and I greatly appreciate it.

## Day 4: Make a moodboard!

Moodboard time! I personally haven't made one of these before--it was pretty fun. I put watery stuff because of my water typing, gemstones because the shape of my horns reminds me of them, mountains and forests because I feel like that's likely my natural habitat, and pics of the sky because. Well, it's a nice purple in those ones!

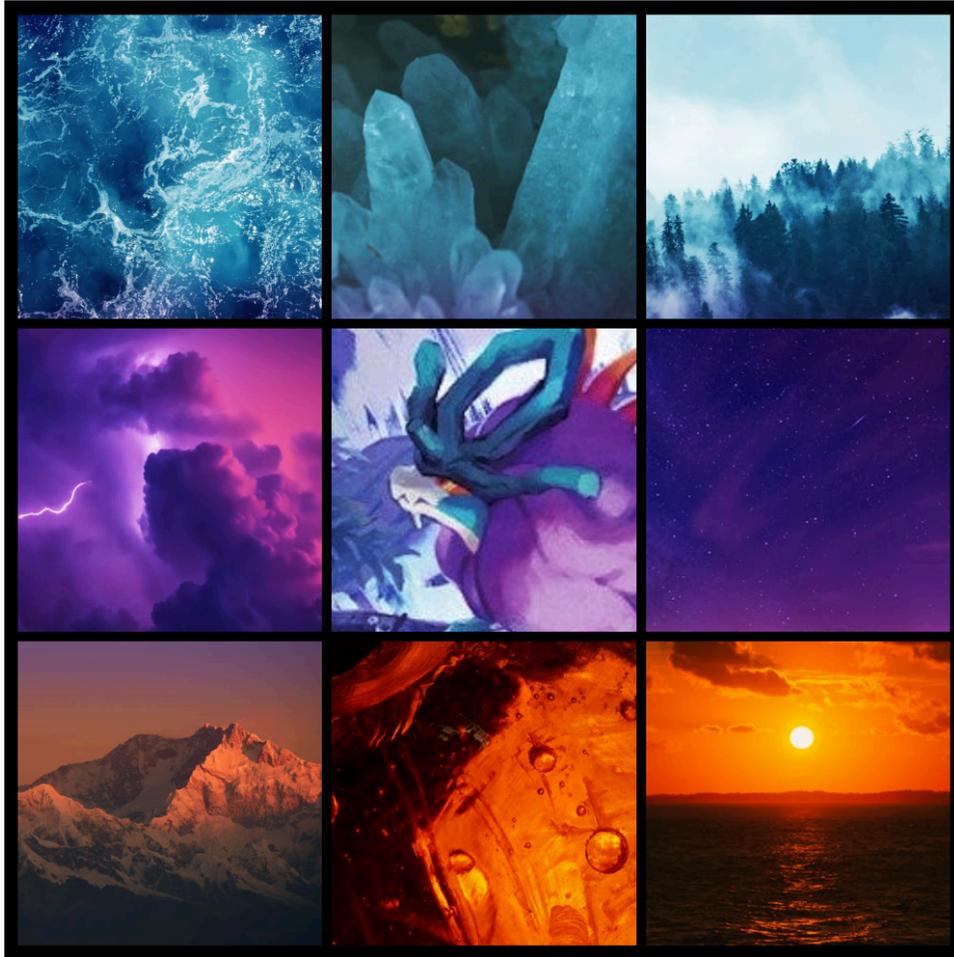


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## Day 5: What do you do to feel species/alterhuman related euphoria? Write about it!

As a water type, I love spending time in and around water! I often go to the local pool to swim when I have the chance. There's a few groups of water loving pokemon or other nonhumans in the system who want to go there for euphoria reasons, and we go to the pool every week and cycle out who gets to front that week so we all share fairly equally. I'd much rather be swimming at the lake, but it's often unsafe to do so there unfortunately, so the pool has to be enough for now. I'd love to go to the ocean one day!

I also like wearing things with fluffy collars, particularly because having fluff around my neck reminds me of my mane. My mane both kept me warm and made it hard for other pokemon to get their claws into my skin near my throat, or anything else particularly vulnerable in there. So, it feels really nice to have a big fluffy coat to feel warm and safe in! I want to get one that's at least blue or purple in colour eventually to match my own body.

On the clothing topic, I enjoy wearing pants that are more open at the bottom so they have that sort of look where it curves out wider around the ankles. It just feels nice to have the vague shape of my ankle fur around my feet. I often get dysphoric about the shape of my legs, so along with the specific pants shape, I also do tend to walk on my toes. It doesn't fix the entire issue, but it does make me feel at least a little more at home in this weird body that's far too upright for me. The toe-walking is partially involuntary but I do sometimes do it deliberately just to ease the dysphoria a bit.

I want to have more stuff to wear that clearly says "Walking Wake" too, though. Pins, charms, just merch with me on it. It'd feel like wearing my own face on my shirt, but it's one way to get orthohumans and singlets to associate you with what you are inside, without even telling them. I'd so love to be known as "the Walking Wake guy" the same way we're known as "the bird guy" by folks around us. Maybe it'd be nice to have a fursuit one day? If we ever have the excess money and I front enough to warrant such a purchase, I could see it probably being euphoric. That or it'd be right into uncanny valley territory and I'd hate it lol--maybe better to think on that much more before committing.

I'd love to get out in nature more--camping, hiking (if our legs can handle it), just stuff like that. I feel much more at home when I'm not surrounded by human society so it's definitely something I and a lot of my system want to invest more time and money into.

Day 6: If you had to be a Pokemon that isn't your current identity, which would you pick and why?

It'd probably be assumed that Walking Wake resembles Suicune very closely, so I'd obviously go with that, right? Well, it'd make sense but I honestly don't think so. Suicune is a quadruped and I really think I want something that still has my posture. It's similar in so many ways and I wouldn't *mind* being a Suicune, but it'd feel like being a watered down version of myself.

Which leads me to Tyrantrum. I like it overall, it's similar to how I looked but different colours, bulkier, and spikier. I just vibe with it a lot because of how similar we are in a lot of ways. If I could choose to be a shiny, as long as that wouldn't result in consequences that wild colour mutations often cause in this-world animals, I'd pick that too. After all, shiny Tyrantrum is blue--like me!

Day 7: Write a short poem or story about your Pokemon identity!

N/A, prompt not complete. Sorry!

Day 8: What's your favourite Pokemon card? Talk about it!

Maybe you can guess from my moodboard, but it's this one!



Walking Wake ex from Temporal Forces. It's such a beautiful card, I love how colourful and detailed the environment is. Everything is so lush... And the lighting on the actual Pokemon is so pretty... To me, this card just feels like home! I don't own it, but I'd definitely love to one day.

## Day 9: Write about any struggles that come with your identity. Dysphoria, instincts, etc!

Dysphoria-wise, I absolutely hate that my legs are so.. straight and flat. I have no claws to defend myself either. I have no thick mane around my neck to protect it. My skin is thinner and I have no horns or sharp teeth. These things all add up to make me feel small and vulnerable in this body. I don't like feeling so watered-down and incapable of defending myself, I front and I just feel overly exposed. That's even without the fact that I don't have any moves I can use here either!

I care less about being unable to, say, unleash a flamethrower or a dragon pulse. These things are ways to defend myself and take down prey, but... No one else has that here either, and I don't need to hunt anymore. I still feel weaker due to not having any moves, but I care less about these because they just don't *exist* here. But some animals have thick skin or manes or sharp claws, and that's what makes those things extra dysphoric to me. In this world, they're real and I can see them and yet here I am in a flimsy body that hardly works, with not much to protect myself.

It's a type of dysphoria for sure, but it's less about how I look and way more about how overly exposed I feel. I don't mind much that my colours are wrong, or my eyes are a different shape, or that my face is so flat. I do mind that I feel like I've been declawed and shaved and all ways to defend myself have been stripped. It's less like typical dysphoria, and more like feeling like I'm a gravely wounded animal that needs to hide away if I want to survive.

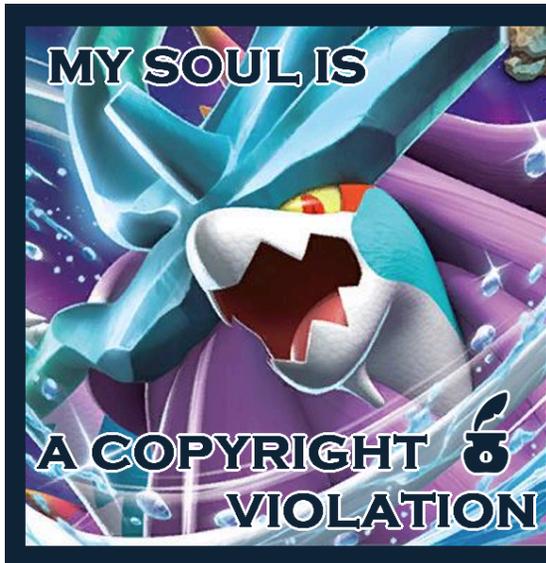
Some days are worse than others, I feel exposed when leaving my den (aka, the house), so I've generally avoided fronting if we do have to leave. This isn't great for me though, I'm not going to be happy if I'm unable to roam all the time, so I've been working on getting used to my new body and getting used to the fact that almost every human-bodied person is just as exposed here as I am. I generally like avoiding places with a lot of people for now still, but I'm working on it--I can't really avoid people forever and I don't really want to. I know the feelings are largely irrational, I just need to get it to a manageable level so that I can still participate in our life.

Instinct-wise, I don't struggle too much? I get antsy if I'm hungry because my silly lizard brain goes "you need to go hunt NOW", but I can generally handle that. I deflect with other thoughts, or getting a snack to "trick" my brain into thinking I've successfully hunted already. I'm sure it'd feel great to hunt and chase and snap my jaws at something again, but unfortunately that's not going to happen. Human jaws aren't too great to hunt with anyway.

My biggest instincts are those surrounding water, particularly that my brain screams at me to get into any water I see. I'm definitely a creature that loves to have some form of water near him at all times if possible. Rain, streams, rivers, lakes, puddles even--I feel at home in and around water. I feel a constant need in the back of my mind to go find and get into water. But... That's solved by me going to the pool pretty often! It's a strong instinct, but not one I can't manage.

Day 10: Make some icons, userboxes or edits related to your identity!

Icon time! I wanted to go at the "my soul is a copyright violation" icons we saw going around a bit ago.





Bonus shiny version of one because Serebii had the model! All images were sourced from Serebii so you can find the originals there on Walking Wake's page.

Might come back to this sometime later to add some userboxes or other silly graphics. Who knows! These were fun to make anyway!

## Day 11: If you're a Pokemon, write about what you thought of humans. If you're a human, write about what you thought of Pokemon. What were your connections to each other like?

This doesn't really apply to me too much because I don't think I ever saw a human. The human/pokemon connection that's emphasized so much in the series is something foreign to me, even if I understand it in theory since getting into this system.

My opinion now overall is that... They sure exist! Just like any other creature, really. I don't hate humans for sure, I just don't feel wholly any which way about them. I don't like being in the body of one, but that's not a fault on the whole species. I don't like a lot of things humans do, but once again, the whole species isn't at fault for the actions of a few. Since getting here I've met a lot of cool humans both insystem and out, and I've also met cool pokemon who valued their trainers very highly as well. My strongest opinion on the "humans topic" is that I wish some folks out there wouldn't be so openly hateful toward the whole species for the actions of a few or deflections of their own dysphoria. I don't vibe well with misanthropy.

On the topic of humans though... Interacting with this-world humans and other pokemon who had trainers in their memories does make me wonder what it'd have been like to have a trainer of my own. While you give up a bit of your freedom if you get caught, and there's always a chance you get stuck with a bad trainer, there's so many benefits. You get free food, ample shelter, affection, healthcare, and battles that aren't just life or death and instead are fun things to do for enrichment. It all sounds lovely, and I'm not sure if the trade-off would be entirely *worth* it to me because I did truly value my ability to roam where I pleased when I pleased, but it'd be tempting. It would definitely be tempting *at the very least*.

I think a lot of even non-pokemon animals in this system think about that same sort of thing often when comparing their home lives to feeling "captive" here. Being wild is romanticized as being truly free, you can do what you want, it's all natural and away from society--which has its merits of course! But the convenience of knowing where your next meal will come from and knowing you'll get it, being sheltered from horrible weather, and taken to places to heal you if you get sick/wounded is something that feels like something far more glamorous than being "truly" wild and free.

If I ever did get caught back home, I think I would've come to enjoy the company of my trainer and the safety their presence bought. I don't *wish* I had a trainer, I don't want to change my memories or noemata, but I do think I would have enjoyed my life in different ways if I did end up having one.

Day 12: Design gear, clothing or accessories of any kind you could wear to represent your identity!



I made 2 versions! One with the purple colour included, and one without. It was kinda hard to make the purple work with the blue on a piece of clothing, so I also made a version where the colours clash a little less. The colour purple being present matters less to me than the presence of a "mane".

I included the diamond-shaped markings that Walking Wake has, and my own limb gradient as well. I wanted the jacket to be open and flowy, I don't like the idea of wearing restricting clothes--and I *do* like the idea of the jacket kinda moving in the wind a little like my mane itself would.

The gloves are well, gloves, but with the idea of optional clawtips to add on--specifically I was thinking of those gardening glove clawtips that were going around for a while, but painting them white! It's hard to do daily stuff in claw gloves made from those--not impossible, we've done it, but I'd like the option to remove them.

## Day 13: Do you have any memories/noemata? Do you want any? Write about it!

Things I know about Walking Wake, in my own experience:

- We were omnivorous. I think I remember eating fish pokemon primarily, but I did enjoy berries and also honey! Pecha berries keep coming to mind as something I really liked.
- I lived on some sort of mountain range, with tall trees, lush forests, and snow at the tops of the highest peaks. There were a lot of little streams and rivers, I also remember a large lake but I'm not sure how often I was around it.
- Our mane was very, very thick, so it stopped a lot of claw and tooth attacks from getting to our neck. This unfortunately also meant that twigs and leaves got stuck in it a lot, so I spent a lot of time cleaning myself.
- I think we were a more solitary species? I don't remember actually ever seeing another Walking Wake, or any other paradox Pokemon.
- Undecided on if this was something that was always the case or if it just sprung up as an idea here, but I knew flamethrower. I also just bit at things a lot, which I suppose you could classify as the move bite? Not sure what other moves I knew, if any!
- We were primarily active around dawn and dusk.
- The sounds I made were a variety of growls, screeches, hisses and huffs. The threat-hiss sounded like an alligator hissing, with a bit more rumble to it.

I'd love to remember more about what pokemon were around me. I don't really remember any specific species that I'm entirely sure of. There were things that I think looked like eevee, some combee-like pokemon and something kind of like a tropius? But the details are so fuzzy and I'm sure there were many more kinds around me, I just don't remember what they were.

I don't really care to remember many specifics. Stuff about my species I'd love to know, but I'm not into the idea of getting a whole biography of my life story. I don't need to know where I was born, if I got a mate, what I did on a random tuesday, or how I died. I just want to know what the world and my species as a whole was like.

## Day 14: What's your favourite Pokemon media and why? Does it have a special connection to your identity? What do you love about it?

Pokemon Legends: Arceus. I haven't personally played it, though my system has--and I really, really vibe with the low-tech side of things and the ability to just kinda roam freely through the natural landscape. Ideally I'd love some sort of survival game where you get to *be* the pokemon running around trying to fight and live, like Path of Titans but for Pokemon, but.. We don't have that! So PL:A is the next best thing to that, in my opinion.

I don't really relate to a lot of the more modern concepts within Pokemon, or humans, or trainers, or stuff like that. I was wild, I don't think I ever saw a human, and I liked it that way. Maybe if I got a trainer at any point I'd think differently for sure, but as it stands? I was a wild animal and I like when parts of Pokemon as a series / media portray something a little closer to that. As far as I know, there was no society type of thing for Pokemon either, so nothing like the Mystery Dungeon games. We were animals at heart, maybe with a bit more average intelligence across the board and some superpowers, but that's all. And I like seeing media portray that side of us! Something that focuses a little more on the natural side of things.

## Day 15: Is there anything you dislike about the Pokemon world? Why? Write about it!

Canon? Not really! I'll elaborate on what I want *more* of in the canon pokemon world later on though.

Mine? Also not really! This world and my world have their differences, but I don't really have overarching dislikes of either.

Day 16: Make a silly, low effort drawing of your identity.

Local Walking Wake approaches you for snacks. Feed him?



## Day 17: What do you associate your Pokemon identity with, outside of Pokemon itself? Aesthetics, colours, concepts, food, something else? Write about it!

I associate Walking Wake with a few things! Some have canon reasons, some have reasons personal to myself, and some seemingly have... Very little reason at all!

- Gemstones -- Not sure why this one specifically. Maybe I was in and around areas with crystals a lot? Crystal caves and such concepts specifically feel very mecore.
- Water -- Of course, a water type pokemon relates to the water. Who'd have thought? Specifically water running through caves, streams, waterfalls, and big lakes. The ocean less-so, for some reason.
- Blue, the colour -- Purple less so, even though Walking Wake has a large purple mane.
- Dinosaurs -- Walking Wake is canonly pretty dinosaur-coded and I associate dinosaurs and a lot of extinct wildlife with that identity. I honestly relate to the concept of this-world dinosaurs more than I relate to the concept of pokemon themselves. I'm a creature from the distant past, or a place that looked like it. There's remnants, but not much else. My time is different from yours, and you can't go back.
- Hiking -- What can I say, I walked around a lot and climbed my way up plenty of hills and rugged terrain.

## Day 18: Make a stimboard!

Walking Wake stimboard, specifically gifs that feel kinda.. Homey? In colours I enjoy. We've never made a stimboard before so.. First time for everything I guess!

[Stimboard doesn't work in this document. Image credits are below, [link to the tumblr post with the board is here.](#)]

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Of course it'd all be nature themed. I've mentioned how I relate to caves, forests, and water, so I'm assuming this all checks out. I do also really, really enjoy the concept of icy seas but I'm honestly not sure if that relates to my Walking Wake identity or if I just find it aesthetic. I don't have any noemata around that sort of stuff.

## Day 19: Do you have a favourite Pokemon? Does this relate to your identity? Write about it!

If I had to pick? Vaporeon. I don't really have a particular reason as to why. Maybe it being a water type resonates with me, but I dunno! I like the little fish cat thing, very friend shaped. Maybe even a hearttype? Though that could be bleeding over from some vaporeonhearted folks in here.

Day 20: Do you own any merch or other items related to your identity? Share them!

Honestly I think all I have is a pokemon card--this one, specifically.



I'd love a plushie, though there's a chance it'd just make me have nesting instincts and maybe that wouldn't be a good thing lol.

As said previously, I'd love more merch of myself to wear to become more associated with Walking Wake. Just any type of merch, really. Pins, jewellery, shirts, bags, whatever--doesn't matter. I just want to wear stuff of my species so others will see it and think of *me*, even if they don't know I specifically as a fictive in a system exist. It'd be a little hard to get stuff together, due to both lack of merch being out there and also the fact that we don't have all that much money to spend. But hey, if I save up some stuff on the side maybe I can get my own little bundle of merch to feel a little more like I'm representing myself in the body one day?

Day 21: Do you have a favourite Pokemon trainer or human from the Pokemon world? Does this relate to your identity? Write about it!

Honestly, not really! As stated I'm disconnected from the whole concept. I guess I think Wake is funny due to the name sharing but that's about it, hah.

Day 22: Make a meme or two relating to your identity!



Needed a Walking Wake version of this reaction meme. Completely necessary.

**Day 23: If you could change anything about the Pokemon canon, what would it be? Write about how it would look and why you'd change it.**

Honestly, wouldn't change too much. I wish there was more focus on exploring pokemon themselves, than their connection to humans and battling and such stuff... But that's part of what makes the series what it is today, I wouldn't rewrite the whole thing.

Personally I feel icked by the concept of pokeballs, so maybe I'd remove those? They're an iconic symbol, but to me as a wild pokemon, they feel more like having a bear trap as the symbol for every species of bear across the board. It doesn't physically injure you, sure, but trainers are able to keep their pokemon locked up in them against their will. And seemingly, wild pokemon who get caught just... suddenly like their trainers? All of that scares me. I want bonds to be forged independantly of devices that restrict pokemon free will! Tame us, battle with us, sure--but do it without a strange ball to store us in as if we're only tools.

How they work kind of depends on the canon material you look at anyway, but I don't vibe well with the overall concept. It feels like it would be like being caged all the time except actually *worse* because you sort of just.... don't really truly exist in there.

So... The only thing I can really think of is to remove that aspect altogether and focus on the human-pokemon bond by actually organically making those connections!

**Day 24: Share 5 fun facts about your identity!**

1. Walking Wake is thought to be an ancient or alternate universe version of suicune.
2. We primarily eat fish, but we're omnivorous.
3. Our bodies are covered in fur.
4. We have a strong bite force.
5. We can run surprisingly fast.

## Day 25: What would you like to see more of in the canon Pokemon world? Write about it!

*Pleaseee* please more worldbuilding and speculative biology. I know as it stands, in-depth information about each and every pokemon species isn't the goal, but I'd so love to have more elaboration on each species. Things the pokedex only touches on, or behaviours it might not mention at all. Do some pokemon mate for life, do some not? Are there carnivores and herbivores and omnivores? Detritivores? Do certain pokemon species have customs or social things that other species lack? What are packs and other groups like? How do species interact with each other?

I feel like having all this information would help me in a way--giving insight into the current canon world and how pokemon are, act and live could by proxy give insight into my own canon and parts of it that I'm missing.

There's so much that could be explored and elaborated on within each individual species and it would be amazing to even get a little more info, even if unfortunately it's unlikely to happen.

## Day 26: Make some GIFs related to your identity!

Unfortunately, Walking Wake hasn't appeared in the anime yet and I don't have the resources to make gifs from the game. Oops! Will come back and edit this if it ever does get shown in the anime one day.

## Day 27: What do you want to see more of in the Pokemon alterhuman community? Write about it!

More longform writing in general, honestly. Go into detail about your species, your life, what memories you want to share. I want to read it, I want to learn about others out there like me. I love information about what living as a specific pokemon was like! I love sharing experiences and learning from each other.

Though it'd be nice to get more writing in general. There's plenty of Pokemon alterhumans, it'd be great if we had more of a presence in the community. I could be looking in the wrong places, but we seem disproportionately quiet. Make yourselves heard!

## Day 28: Make some web badges, post dividers or similar graphics related to your identity!

A couple Walking Wake post dividers!



Wasn't entirely sure what to do for this one so I did the first thing that came to mind. I kinda like em?

## Day 29: If you were to send a message to other Pokemon alterhumans, what would you want to say?

You're cool as hell and I will forever appreciate seeing any pokemon alterhumans around, even if we never speak to each other.

Seeing any pokefolk around the community makes me and the other pokefolk in this system feel more at home! We might not be able to walk down the street and see a patrat or a pidgy, or walk into the woods and see budew or nidoran, or see rivers and seas alongside wingull and buizel. But we can log on and see pokemon, trainers, and other folks from and related to the pokemon world. Sometimes, we do get to meet them in the offline world too! Anyone walking by you could secretly be an eevee, or a trainer, or a Walking Wake. I think that fact alone makes this world feel a little more like home. There's still parts of our world here, even aside from the games and the films people have made. We're still living in a pokemon world, just a different one.

Day 30: Free space! Share anything you'd like to about your identity!

I made an edit of the 30th anniversary image and figured here would be a good place to share. I added my colours to the official art so it matches me better!



**Pokémon: Since 1996**