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POKÉMON™

**Race to
Danger**

Adapted by Tracey West

Scholastic Inc.



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An Angry Challenge

“What’s over that hill?” Ash Ketchum wondered.

Ash pushed back the red cap that he wore over his dark hair and squinted into the morning sun. He and his friends had been walking along a green, hilly path for hours. But now he could see bright bursts of color in the distance.

Brock shaded his eyes. “It looks like a bunch of hot air balloons,” said the older boy. “Maybe it’s some kind of festival.”

“Cool!” said Misty. “Let’s check it out.”

Ash couldn’t help smiling at his friends. Since his tenth birthday, Ash had been on a journey to catch

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and train Pokémon. Brock and Misty had been with him since the beginning.

Their journey took them all the way to the far-off Orange Islands. Brock had left them for a while to study Pokémon breeding with an expert named Professor Ivy. Ash and Misty decided to explore the Orange Islands on their own. They had some help from a Pokémon watcher named Tracey Sketchit.

Ash had many adventures on the Orange Islands. He saw strange new Pokémon. He captured a Lapras and a Snorlax. He even earned some new badges by battling Gym Leaders on the Orange Islands.

Now their Orange Islands adventures were over. Ash was sad to say good-bye to Tracey. But it was nice to be back with Brock again. It felt like old times. And Ash knew that Brock and Misty were usually up for anything.

"I'd love to see a balloon festival," Ash told them. "We need to take a break anyway."

"Pika!" agreed Ash's Pokémon, Pikachu. The small yellow Electric-type Pokémon had a tail shaped like a lightning bolt, pointy ears, and bright, red cheeks. Ash carried his other Pokémon in red-and-white Poké Balls.

