

Gilcy:

Hello, and welcome to Moon Moment. The newest sailor moon podcast on the interwebs. We are your Senshi-sensational hosts. I am Gilcy, and this is Drucilla.

Drucilla:

Hello internet. So this show was created to discuss moon moments in Sailor Moon. What is a moon moment, you may ask? Well, they are moments that we feel exemplify what Sailor Moon stands for and represents. To go into a little bit more detail, of which we spent countless hours debating this, and by countless hours

Gilcy:

A little too long.

Drucilla:

Yeah, like 30 minutes. Um, you know, a moon moment has to represent a theme of the show. One that is applicable to us, the real world, people outside of an anime, despite how much, I think a lot of us wish we could live in an anime. Um, preferably maybe Food Wars that might be the best.

Gilcy:

Food Wars. You know, I would hate to be in Attack on Titan.

Drucilla:

Oh yeah, don't want to do, nuh-uh.

Gilcy:

I am not, I can't. Although I would love to be like, flying around on those zip line things.

Drucilla:

So a moment should, you know, relate somehow to teamwork, friendship, empathy towards others. You know, showing compassion or courage in any given situation, um, it's also possible for a character to be a moon moment. So that'll be interesting to see how that shakes out as we go through this first season of Sailor Moon. Um, and we also,

Gilcy:

Which we hope you stick with us.

Drucilla:

Yes. Please stick with us. We promise it will be shorter than you think, but in a good way, not in a, "we're going to stop after nine episodes" kind of way. But yeah, even, just a moment on the show, you know, Sailor Moon obviously represents beauty, in a lot of different ways I could argue, and so beautiful moments within the show can also be a moon moment. So that's kind of what we're thinking. You know, it may change as we go along, we may incorporate other things. We may create a more solid idea of what a moon moment is. But right now that is our moon moment. This is the Moon Moment podcast. Gilcy, I'm so excited that we're recording. I almost smashed my fist on my desk in excitement and then

realized that was going to be horrible. So you're welcome audio listeners that I did not do that. Yes. Before we start to discuss the first episode of the original Sailor Moon anime and the moon moments found within, we want to tell you a little bit about ourselves. Gilcy?

Gilcy:

So, you know, we're not just strangers on the internet who are ridiculously charming and witty. Of course, that's why you're here with us.

Drucilla:

Of course, where else are they going to find that on the internet?

Gilcy:

Exactly! So I am Gilcy. It's nice to meet you. Um, I am from Chicago, uh, me and Drucilla met actually in New York. Um, I am Filipino and watching this first episode made me realize I have never seen the entirety of the first episode in English. So that was, that was really interesting. Um, uh, but yeah, I started watching anime and loving anime when I was younger. Um, I particularly love Shojo, I'm a sucker for Rom-coms and just anything that's parody. Um, you've probably heard of Nozaki or if you've heard of, um, Umaru-chan, I loved them. Uh, but yeah, I, it's great to meet you all. And I look forward to building my harem with all of you.

Drucilla:

Uh, as for me...basically what Gilcy said, except I'm not Filipino. I have been a fan of Sailor Moon since I was tiny Drucilla. If you go to our website and look at the About Us page, you will find me, I think I'm nine years old, dressed up as Sailor Moon for Halloween. Shout out to my mom for being just a whiz with all kinds of costuming stuff. But, you know, Sailor Moon led, like many people, Sailor Moon led into my love of anime. She was my gateway drug. And...if Sailor Moon was a drug she'd be very Pop Rocky, I feel like if there was a drug that was like Pop Rocks, that's what Sailor Moon would be, very, like, fizzy.

Gilcy:

Ahh, yes.

Drucilla:

Um, so I was a fan of anime in high school, college, kind of fell off after I moved to New York to go to school.

Drucilla:

But you know, I've slowly over the last few years got back into it. Shojo is still probably my favorite, although recently there's been a lot of shows that are starting to edge out my love of Shojo.

Gilcy:

Oh no, really?

Drucilla:

Yeah, like Love is War, which isn't technically considered Shojo. Um, and also a lot of Josei, which is not technically Shojo, but it is Shojo and I love it because...

Gilcy:

In that kind of realm.

Drucilla:

Yes, so yeah, that's pretty much me, um, go anime that treats female characters amazingly. Um, interestingly,

Gilcy:

We stan.

Drucilla:

Yes. Interestingly...so I'm a nerd and I have the Tokyo Pop English translations of Sailor Moon. In the first chapter, there is a exclusive interview that Takeuchi did with Mixx who published the Tokyo Pop/Mixx version. Um, and they asked her, you know, what's the difference between, they call it the motionless Sailor Moon and the anime Sailor Moon. And she says, well, the anime was developed with a male gaze because most of the staff was male. Whereas she wrote and illustrated Sailor Moon, like, as a female for females.

Drucilla:

Hey guys future Drucilla here, to say that I made a booboo. When I talked about the interview Takeuchi gave I quoted her as saying the anime was developed with a male gaze, but she actually said male perspective. Because male gaze is such a loaded term. I didn't want to leave it as is in the podcast and just put a correction in the show notes. There's a link to the interview in the show notes, if you want to check it out for yourself, but for now, I'll let you get back to the show.

Drucilla:

So it might be interesting to think about that, as we go through the Grand Dame of Shojo, Sailor Moon, um, to think about it in that context. But...enough horsing around. You want to get started with this episode? Yay! I'm so excited!

Gilcy:

Yes, let us start.

Drucilla:

Quick note though, about this podcast: we will not be going episode by episode. This first podcast episode will cover the first episode of Sailor Moon. However, from the second podcast episode onward, we're going to be consolidating episodes. We have divided them into chunks that make sense. We will roughly be doing about five episodes per podcast episode. So if you're worried about having a super long podcast that you have to listen to, don't worry, we'll be done in 12 episodes. And then we'll move onto the second season, because we are, we are examining the original Sailor Moon anime for these moon moments to try to understand why Sailor Moon is just so, I don't know if pervasive is the right word, but you know, if you show someone on the street of a certain age, a picture of Sailor Moon, they're going to know who she is. Maybe they've never seen an episode in their life, but they're going to know who Sailor Moon is. So why is Sailor Moon so ubiquitous. I mean, you said that this was the first time that you had seen the episode in English you know, Sailor moon all over the world and all these

different languages, you know, what is it that binds everyone together in their love of Sailor Moon? I don't know if we'll figure that out, but it'll be fun to talk about the show. So let's do that.

Gilcy:

Yeah, come with us on this journey.

Drucilla:

So episode one, Usagi, uh, Crybaby Usagi's Transformation or A Moon Star is Born for the DIC dub fans out there. Uh, we get to meet Usagi who is a little lazy and a little bit of a crybaby and late for school often and really likes food. Uh, as Gilcy says, #relatable. Uh, you know, she is late for school when we meet her, but on the way she saves a cat, from a bunch of kids who should be in school. I don't know why if Usagi's late for school, I don't know what these kids are doing, but saves a cat. I'm sure that won't come back to change her life in any significant way whatsoever.

Gilcy:

Of course, not.

Drucilla:

She makes it to school. We meet her friend Naru and fellow classmate Umino. We discover that Usagi has not done well on a test. And so to cheer her up as good friends do, Naru takes her to her mother's jewelry store, where they're having a huge sale.

Gilcy:

Wow. Wish I had a friend that had a jewelry store that could just give me, jewelry.

Drucilla:

Especially for some of the discounts that her mom gives.

Gilcy:

Exactly.

Drucilla:

But of course it's not really her mom. As we've seen, there is an evil queen named Beryl who has sent her henchman Jadeite, to gather energy for nefarious purposes and Molly's, excuse me, I will also fall into the DIC dub names often. So apologies to listeners if you hate the DIC dub with a passion, it's going to happen. I'm sorry.

Gilcy:

Same it's yes, we apologize in advance.

Drucilla:

So this monster, this Youma has changed places with Naru's mother and is gathering the energy of all these women in the store who are going crazy for these amazing good prices. Well, on the way home from school Usagi tries to get her mind off of what awaits her at home. She plays a Sailor V video game

and she meets a guy who calls her bun head or meatball head, which I always thought meatball head, I mean I understand the bun reference, the odango reference, but I always thought meatball head was better. I'm going to get raked over the coals for this, just because her, like, her balls are meatballs and then she's got spaghetti hair that comes down. I just thought meatball was, not that it fit better, but I just liked the spaghetti and meatballs.

Gilcy:

They both make me hungry so...

Drucilla:

All right, let's move on from that then. Meets a dude rockin some lilac pants, who is just disgusted at the fact that she has a 30 on her test. Her mother is also not happy, but that night Usagi's decided to take a nap before bed, I guess, and the cat that she saves comes back and introduces herself as Luna and explains to Usagi that she is Sailor Moon. It is her destiny to save the world, basically, to stop the evil that has arrived in Tokyo. And Usagi doesn't really believe, even after she transforms into Sailor Moon, but she's not really given much time to think about it because she then learns that her friend has been...not kidnapped, Naru is in trouble. So she springs into action. She arrives at the jewelry store, finds out that she's not dreaming. All of this is real, but manages to save the day with a little bit of help from a mysterious man in a tuxedo, who happens to be wearing a mask. I wonder what his name is.

Gilcy:

Wonder who could that be.

Drucilla:

Uh, and that's the end of the first episode. Very brief overview. Uh, so yeah, it's moon moment time.

Gilcy:

Woo. Let's get into our moon moments of the week. Um, do you want to start, or do you want me to,

Drucilla:

Why don't you start because I have two and you have one and I'm pretty sure that one of ours, I'm sure we have matching ones. Go ahead.

Gilcy:

Yeah. Yeah. So I would say my moon moment is very early on the episode when Usagi is running towards school, she's late, she's panicking and she sees this cat being bullied by this group of boys, which, I watched the original Sailor Moon and I also ended up watching the Crystal version and in the Crystal version, she just trips over, uh, over this cat. Um, but what I thought was commendable was that, she's late, she is obviously panicking, she's always late, but she takes a moment out of her time to help this defenseless cat, who, depending on which version you watched is either getting like, rough housed, bullied by this group of children or being, like, stepped on and she doesn't have to do this. Usagi does not have to stop. It does not have to check up on this cat. Um, even goes so far as to, like looking to see, "Oh, you have bandages on your forehead. Are you okay? Like, let me, let me examine you, let me make sure that you're okay before I move on, on my way to school." Um, and there's no, there's no, um, nothing that she gets out of it, she, she just does this out of like the, like her own concern and like just

the goodness of her heart. Um, and for me, I think that is, that exemplifies the moon moment of just making sure that like, you know, humans aren't sucky. And I think that's something that especially needs to be said now. Um, but, yeah, the, just like the compassion that Usagi had for this stray cat, um, while she was in a moment of distress for her own self. So that is my moon moment.

Drucilla:

Yeah! That's one of mine too. The fact that, um, you know, she realizes what's going on. She doesn't just say, well, I'm late. I don't know those kids are doing, I have to hurry. She realizes what's going on. She tells them to scram. And then goes to make sure that the cat is all right. I don't know if I would peel the bandages off. I always found like, cause if she was injured, if Luna wasn't injured, then you wouldn't want to peel the band-aids off. Though, I understand...

Gilcy:

I think it was more of like, it was unusual that she had these bandages on, because people sometimes just stick things on animals and she was just worried that, "Oh, maybe it's just, you know, some malicious person just like, kind of stuck it on there and she, Luna, the cat wasn't able to get it out." We don't know her name is Luna yet.

Drucilla:

Yes, I guess. Yeah, you're right. Um, and so, yeah, I, and I do think it's interesting that, I think it's a more powerful moment in the original anime than in Crystal because.

Gilcy:

Yeah, I think so to.

Drucilla:

She's stepping in and, like, they're little kids. They're going to run off because she's an older kid, but the fact that in the manga and Crystal, she basically just steps on Luna, um, as she's running, you know, good for her for not leaving, but I, I,

Gilcy:

Hit and run?

Drucilla:

Yeah. Hit and run. Um, but yeah, it's interesting that they changed that. I wonder if it was to build a more powerful moment there.

Gilcy:

Yeah, I think so. I think it also made it, they put it there to make it a little more, um, like climactic, I guess, because it's at least for like, I think normal everyday, if you see someone that's kind of in trouble, it's hard to stop and like involve yourself in that thing. Um, especially like, "Oh, you don't know this person. Like what if this person is, I don't know, um, doing something bad or you don't know." So sometimes it's just hard to be that person to step in and be like, "Look, this isn't right. Um, you should leave now." So I think that definitely helped in the original animation of it, um, kind of up the...Usagi's, like, caring-ness characteristic.

Drucilla:

No, I think that's wonderfully put. You know, you, you know, saying something is what you have to do. You can't just be silent and hope that someone else will take of it, or, "Oh, well, you know, I'm not going to say anything about this horrible, racist guy belittling this woman, because he's probably going to get off at the next stop and it'll be fine." You know, that being said, there's also an argument for: people are crazy. And you never know when you saying, "Hey, why don't you shut up and sit down", they pull a knife. So I think there is, there's a balance there. I think that should not deter someone, if someone is in true danger from standing up and saying "this isn't right, you need to leave,"

Gilcy:

And plus Usagi took it upon herself to, like, she didn't look around to wait to see if anyone else would save this cat. Like, she was just like, "No, um, you guys suck, leave this cat alone", which is also very commendable. What's your second moon moment?

Drucilla:

My second moon moment is her choosing to save Naru because the line that she says, so at this point, she's transformed in her room and she's kind of freaking out about the whole thing. You got a talking cat. I just changed clothes without moving. There were all these pretty lights and music. It took at least 30 seconds to a minute for my transformation. Um, and she gets the alert on her, I heard someone call them shields once on her buns, uh, the red things.

Gilcy:

Like the ruby...

Drucilla:

Yeah. She gets the, like she hears Naru saying, "Help me, someone please, I need help." And, uh, she says, and I'm 95% sure I have quoted this exactly, "I don't know what's going on, but Naru seems to be in trouble." And what I love about this is that, with the exception of one, every single version of Sailor Moon has this line.

Gilcy:

Oh, that's cool.

Drucilla:

All three English translations, Crystal, the original sub, the only one that doesn't have it is the DIC dub. Uh, but they all say, "Look, I don't know what's going on. I'm still a little freaked out about all this stuff, but I know my friend's in trouble. I have to go." And that's my second moon moment. Um, for those of you that are curious, in the DIC dub, she says, "But what can I do to help? You keep forgetting I'm just a kid." Which is totally different.

Gilcy:

Yeah, that's really different.

Drucilla:

And then there's, I think, you know, they just kind of, I think they just look at each other. I can't remember if Luna says something, but I think in the DIC dub, they just look at each other and there's kind of a nod and then the next thing you know, they're at the jewelry store. And I have no idea why they would have changed that line because saying that, like, "I'm not sure of the circumstances. All I know is that my friend is in trouble and I need to go help her" is so much more powerful than just saying, "What am I supposed to do?" You know? So I'd be really interested to know why

Gilcy:

If anyone has any theories, let us know.

Drucilla:

There are a lot of things in the DIC dub that could fall into that category of, "I don't know why they changed this. I'd really like to know," but yeah, I just thought that would be interesting to bring that up because every single version with that exception has the, "I don't know what's going on, but my friend is in trouble. You know, gotta go". To be fair, you could call it a bit foolhardy. I mean, she also kind of thinks she's still dreaming because she gets to the, when she starts fighting in the jewelry store, she hurts herself, and is like, "Oh my God, that actually hurts. Uh, this isn't a dream."

Gilcy:

So that was, that was one of the reasons why I didn't say that was a mood moment for me.

Drucilla:

Because she doesn't think it's a real thing?

Gilcy:

Exactly. So, um, whenever, at least, whenever I'm in dreams, I think of myself as like, I'm invincible, almost. And so it's like, "Oh, I could jump off this cliff. Why not? I'm just, I'm going to be alive anyway." So I kind of look at it as, yes, it's very commendable that she really wants, that the first thought in her brain is, yes, I need to help my friend. I'm going to go do it. I don't care. But it's, she also still thinks that she is in a dream. And so it's kind of like, she has that kind of like, uh, invincibility and that she won't get hurt if she does anything to help her friend, which doesn't deter, uh, her wanting to help her friend at all. It's more like, "Oh, this is convenient for me. So I'm going to do it."

Drucilla:

No, I think you make a good point and I can see definitely where you're coming from. So I guess now the question is, how much does intent play into a moon moment? And, if someone intends to do something, but the outcome is radically different, is it still a moon moment? And like in this case, she didn't have all of the facts. So it's like, is this an informed consent version of a moon moment? Because she was just going to help her friend and she didn't realize what was going on. Um, versus, um, you know, obviously...

Gilcy:

Like I know the risks and I'm still willing to take those risks in order to help you.

Drucilla:

Yeah. Like pretty much any other episode, like the first episode is the only one where she doesn't realize that this is real and that there are bad guys and you could have people breaking bottles and try to attack you, which is not in the DIC dub. They cut it out. It's only in the original version. I only bring it up because the watch party that I watched this episode with had this collective "Whoa" moment when one of the jewelry store, customers broke that bottle and came after Usagi with it.

Gilcy:

Hardcore.

Drucilla:

Yeah. So this is fascinating, our very first episode, and we have a disagreement for a moon moment, which I guess means that it's all up to the listeners. You know, let us know who you think is correct. Do you think Gilcy is correct that this shouldn't be a moon moment because Usagi was not fully aware of what was going on or am I right and that it's more of the feelings and intent behind it rather than the facts, I guess. The facts don't matter here!

Gilcy:

Or are we both of us completely wrong and there's just something else that we're missing? Would love to know.

Drucilla:

Is there another moment in the episode that you think should be a moon moment that we just completely missed.

Gilcy:

You can respond to this by tweeting to us. I think this is a good time to plug our little social media handles. Um, um, we are @moonmomentpod on Twitter and also on Instagram. Um, and you can also find us on our website at

Drucilla:

[Moonmomentpodcast.com](http://Moonmomentpodcast.com)

Gilcy:

And a possible Tik Tok account.

Drucilla:

Yeah!

Gilcy:

So look forward to all of that coming your way.

Drucilla:

And also on our website you will find a transcript of this entire episode along with show notes for anything that we mentioned, which wasn't too many things this episode, but in the future, who knows.

Gilcy:

As if you couldn't get enough of us.

Drucilla:

So, um, I think that's gonna do it for this week. Next episode of the podcast, we will be covering episodes two through seven of the original anime. So if you want to follow along, binge-watch the episodes and you know, you can join us.

Gilcy:

We know you do binge watch episodes of anime because come on, who are we kidding here?

Drucilla:

Yeah. Our society is a binge watching society.

Gilcy:

So you might as well do it with us. Uh, so I guess let us know your moon moment musings and if you have any, uh, we would love to hear from you. Um, and maybe you might just get a shout out. If you'd like to support the podcast, please rate, review, share, subscribe, all that good stuff. Um, it helps us and Moon Moment stay afloat, amidst the vast ocean of podcasts. I'm Gilcy.

Drucilla:

and I'm Drucilla

Gilcy:

Thank you for joining us for our first ever podcast and moon-mentous occasion! As you can tell, I love, I love puns. So just look forward to more of those in the future. Bye!

Drucilla:

Bye!