

Intro (00:00:00):

[Intro]

Drucilla (00:00:18):

Hello, we're your Senshi-sational hosts Drucilla and Gilcy! And welcome to season two of Moon Moment!

Both (00:00:25):

Yay! [clapping]

Drucilla (00:00:29):

We stuck with it.

Gilcy (00:00:30):

And so did you!

Drucilla (00:00:32):

This is the podcast where we discuss the Sailor Moon canon for what we call moon moments. And if you stuck around since season one, you know what that means.

Gilcy (00:00:43):

And if you don't remember, they are moments that we feel exemplify what Sailor Moon stands for and represents. Now, without further ado, let's jump right in. So today for our first season two episode, we are discussing episodes 47 through 50, and the Sailor Scouts are back. But wait, what, what do you mean they lost their memories and don't remember who they are? But who will save the people from getting their energy stolen from Edward's distance, six times removed galactic cousin? Oh, wait, wait, what does, what does that I see? Is it a bird? Is it a plane? Oh no. Nevermind. It's just Usagi, guys. Tripping on something again, but wait, she's turned back into Sailor Moon and she has her memories back, but the people behind the monster attack are also the two new, super hot transfer students and they're not even human. Apparently they're trying to collect energy from humans for their Makai tree, but they are no match against the sailor guardians. If only everyone remembered who they were. But I guess getting a call for an audition will jog your memory of being a bad-ass guardian. But now that everyone has their memories back, the gang is all back together and ready for battle. But a new white night has appeared. The Moonlight Knight, who strangely looks and sounds like Tuxedo Mask. But if he and Mamoru are in the same place, does that mean they aren't the same person? Things get a little nostalgic when we meet Makoto's childhood friend, but there is no blood loss between the two only because Mako shared some of hers and video games are getting more real, but the tiara is no longer working. What does this all mean?

Drucilla (00:02:35):

Join us and we'll find out.

Gilcy (00:02:38):

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Drucilla (00:02:44):

Season 2. Yay! And this is interesting because this little mini arc doesn't appear in the manga at all. It is a complete fabrication of the animation studio because they needed to buy time for Takeuchi to finish the second arc of the manga. It's really interesting seeing, seeing what they come up with. What a pure Sailor Moon anime, without any kind of manga...baggage, for lack of a better word, looks like.

Gilcy (00:03:26):

See that makes a lot of sense because I was like, what? It really feels like I'm watching the Sailor Moon spinoff of Cardcaptor Sakura with all the cardians or like Yu-Gi-Oh that was happening. I don't know. It felt...I liked it, but it also felt a little off, which I didn't realize when I was watching it the first time around. But yeah, the whole, "you're the one that knows the fortune the best in the galaxy choose a card, any card."

Drucilla (00:03:57):

We begin the second season, that's where we stand. The girls don't remember who they are. They don't remember that they used to be friends. Apparently nobody remembers that they used to be friends, only the cats remember, but of course, evil's got to evil. So I will say something that I like about this arc, the villains specifically, how in the first season, the Dark Kingdom was trying to gather energy to wake up their queen who was going to basically destroy the world. In this, An and...Ayel, Ale? I have no idea how to pronounce it.

Gilcy (00:04:37):

Ailee? A L

Drucilla (00:04:39):

AL? If someone knows how to pronounce it, let us know. Cause I just, I can't parse out their names when they're speaking in Japanese. But their plan of, "we need to still energy to feed it to our tree, which will then provide energy to us." So it's a little bit more sympathetic. Yes. They're going about it the wrong way. And we find out at the end of this arc, there is a better way for them to do this, but it makes them a bit more, like "they have to do this to live" kind of thing.

Gilcy (00:05:19):

Which I...why target humans when there are literally animals and stuff around? It could be so much less apparent if they were just not targeting prolific people. I guess. I mean, I know that sounds bad, but they could go for like, oh, I was going to say like billionaires, but jk those are prolific people.

Drucilla (00:05:44):

No, I, I wish we had a little bit more of a reason why. I don't know if it's maybe because they think humans have more energy than other creatures, but you think the, the pros and cons of it's like, yes, humans have more energy, but it's also harder to get energy from them because as they come to find out, there are these girls called sailor guardians that are there to protect humans. Whereas if they just sent out a cardian in a zoo or, you know, the, the great, I don't know, the great wilds of Japan. They could just gather up all kinds of, like, they probably have at least the equivalent of what they would take from a human much, much easier.

Gilcy (00:06:38):

I wonder if...

Drucilla (00:06:39):

Because there is a...

Gilcy (00:06:40):

Go ahead.

Drucilla (00:06:40):

I think in, I think in episode 50, the, the laser tag, virtual reality one. I think the, it's not the cardian because they can't really talk. It has to be A—...I really don't want to call him Alan, which is what they call him in the, what they call him in the English dub. But he, I think he says, "oh, don't worry. It's not gonna kill you. You're just gonna go to sleep." Which makes sense, but again, why go to all the trouble of corralling a bunch of humans when it could just, you could just go out into the woods and find a whole bunch of bunnies and take their energy and you're not killing them. It just takes their energy and they're asleep and it's fine.

Gilcy (00:07:32):

Yeah, exactly. And if we're talking about, I don't know, like, weak versus strong energy, I mean, I'm sure there are some bears or lions or something.

Drucilla (00:07:43):

Oh my gosh, how much energy does a blue whale use daily?

Gilcy (00:07:46):

Oh yeah. Why don't they just go for like blue whales or something? Like, that is a bound to have so much more energy.

Drucilla (00:07:54):

Or a giant squid.

Gilcy (00:07:54):

Yeah. Especially since Japan is an island, like, a literal island, like they could...and think of all the fish that are in the ocean and like just surrounding Japan. Japan is known for their sushi, think how much fish and stuff they harvest on the daily. They could 100% gets so much more energy. If they just mined fish.

Drucilla (00:08:21):

They just have, like, a fish cardian swimming in the ocean.

Gilcy (00:08:24):

Yeah, exactly. Or they could have their own ocean plot and they could just re-harvest fish energy and they just don't have to go out and get it.

Drucilla (00:08:35):

Yeah. Since they have the ability to kind of control people, all they have to do is find a couple of fish hatcheries and just control the people working there. And just every couple of days, go in zap the energy from all the fish.

Gilcy (00:08:50):

See I feel like, I feel like we'd be better Negaverse energy collectors if we just had the chance, you know, and plus I don't think we, yeah, we wouldn't get caught as easily. Just, you know, just throwing that out there.

Drucilla (00:09:09):

Yeah. We wouldn't leave our employees on their own, like so many of Beryl's generals did, we'd be on top of it. This, this episode has taken a turn right off the bat.

Gilcy (00:09:26):

Yeah. I had a moon moment actually for the first episode.

Drucilla (00:09:32):

Lay it on me.

Gilcy (00:09:35):

Which is very, it's very early on. But my moon moment is when Usagi gets her memories back and she immediately takes up the mantle as Sailor Moon, despite having, I think it was like two months since they lost their memories? So she has had two months of being a quote unquote ordinary girl and that is something that she desperately wanted in the last episode of the last season where she was like, I wish I could just be a normal girl then none of this could have could happen. I wouldn't have to lose anyone. And she has to give that up. And I think she even says when she goes into battle with the, with the new monster, I think she even says, "you are forcing me back to the battlefield without my consent." And the thing is she is giving up this part of her life that she craves, like, she desperately wanted. And now that she has her memories back, she could just say, "no, I don't want to be it anymore." But I mean, of course she's, she's Usagi and she takes it up. I don't know if this is, I see you, I don't know if this is duty versus that whole conversation again, but what do you, what do you think Drucilla?

Drucilla (00:10:55):

So I have a lot of thoughts about this. I did originally have a moon moment for this episode. It was not Usagi taking the mantle. It was her going to save Naru again.

Gilcy (00:11:08):

I did consider that.

Drucilla (00:11:08):

But I ultimately did not call it a moon moment because I figured Usagi's on the phone with Naru. She hears something happened on the phone. If you're on the phone with a friend and you hear a bunch of noises and they're not answering you, then you're gonna want to try to, you want to go to them and make sure everything's okay, it's a decent human, you know, your basic thing, you know, you're going to

want to make sure your friend's alright or family. So I did not make this moon moment and it also made me rethink the moon moment I had in the very first episode, because I said, she goes after Naru. I think it's a moon moment and I don't think you quite agreed with me, but I think it's different in this episode because...I mean, actually I think it's pretty much exactly the same now that I'm thinking about it more. Anyway, so that was my, what I thought of as a moon moment and then decided it was not. As to your moon moment, I think the thing that I am sort of tripping over is how, how reluctant she is to do this. If she kind of just, once she got her memories back, immediately transformed, went after the monster, saved the day and then had that moment at the end, which is beautiful, by the way, when she's looking up at the moon, it's just like "goodbye, normal girl Usagi." If it had been that, it would be 100% a moon moment because she just jumped right in with no thought to, "well, this is my life again", but she's so, she complains about it. Like once Luna gives her memories back, she complains. All during the fight she's complaining basically. However, that's just who Usagi is. So I'm also on the fence of giving it to you as a moon moment. I think, uh, because again, it's so hard to imagine Usagi doing anything else. I cannot imagine, despite all of her complaining, I cannot imagine her just getting her memories back and saying "no Luna, I'm done." Maybe calling an ambulance for Naru and her mother to make sure they're okay, but just ignoring the cardian that's outside. Although, I guess the cardian was chasing after Artemis at that point. I can't imagine her just washing her hands saying "no Luna, I'm done. I saw my friends die. I lost the guy I loved. We saved the world. I'm done. No more Sailor Moon." I just can't imagine that. So again, yeah, I guess part of it is duty, but it's also, we talked a lot about how Usagi...when push comes to shove, she gets up and goes. Despite all of her complaining.

Gilcy ([00:14:28](#)):

Yeah, I don't know because I, I was remembering our last discussion from season one how reluctant Usagi is, especially in trying to go on in battle. And I'm assuming that she gets her memories and the feelings that she had, they're fresh from that. So I was thinking that those memories, those feelings and memories of reluctance is very freshly washed on her and I am thinking of how hard it is to do something when you really, really don't want to do it, but she just jumps right in. And I am looking at this without, like, taking into consideration, like the next episode where she's all, "why don't you get the memories back of the other girls?" No. "Why don't you give the memory of Mamoru back, but you don't have to do the other girls yet. I think I'm okay. Like, fighting on my own."

Drucilla ([00:15:27](#)):

I don't think so. I think, I think it's next episode, I think Usagi has a line where she's like, "I don't want to be by myself, give the other girls her memories back", which is part of...

Gilcy ([00:15:42](#)):

Oh was it? Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Drucilla ([00:15:43](#)):

I think so. I mean, do you want to, like, pause for a second to double-check this line? Cause that was something that kind of was, sort of shocked me a little bit. Cause I know Usagi can be selfish.

Gilcy ([00:15:57](#)):

Yeah. Cause I think she does say that later on, but I think in the very, very beginning, she's like, she was just focused on Mamoru.

Drucilla (00:16:07):

So there's always that little bit before the...it's sort of like the intro, like not, or not the credits intro, which I think I like this season's intro better than last season's, but there's that little bit of Usagi saying something before the title of the episode. In that she says, "come on. It's just not fair. That I'm the only one that has to be a sailor guardian again, hurry up and bring back the other girls too." But let me see what she says in the actual episode. [Usagi]: "What? You can restore Mamoru's memory? [Luna]: Yes. We're thinking of restoring Ami and Rei's memories and have them fight again as guardians." [Usagi]: What are you talking about? I can protect the earth just fine by myself. There's no need to get the others involved in. I can handle one or two bad guys without anyone's help." And then she hits herself in the face with a ball. So I retract what I said. I am more than willing to just write off that beginning bit as just fluff, I guess. It has no real bearing, especially since in the episode she says, "don't worry about it. I can handle it." Okay. I'll give it to you as a moon moment.

Gilcy (00:16:46):

Yes!

Drucilla (00:16:46):

I'll say it's a moon moment. Cause it is, it is something that I wish was, I wish there was a longer period between Usagi getting her memories back and the girls getting their memories back. And I mean, we'll probably talk about this a little bit more in the next episode. It is a moon moment. I will agree.

Gilcy (00:16:46):

Whoo! First moon moment of the season!

Drucilla (00:16:46):

Something that Usagi has wanted pretty much since she became Sailor Moon, she got. It only took everyone dying for her to get it. And now she has to come out of retirement and looking forward, it's, it's a little sad to think that that was her one chance, everything else, like, it doesn't happen again. It's not like every season they lose their memories and they have to get them back. Every season from now on, they're Sailors Scouts 100% of the time and she will eventually go on to become Queen of Crystal Tokyo. So those two months, I suspect she looks at that two months with a lot of regret sometimes. Then again, she has the girls. So I'm sure that alleviates the pain a little bit.

Gilcy (00:18:49):

Although I feel like even if she didn't get her memories back, they would have still become friends or at least her and Ami because they kind of ran into each other when that meteor struck and also when Ami was going out and she saw Usagi outside of the classroom and was like, "are you in trouble?" Um, so I feel like those two would at least have been friends and then I think Usagi and Mako might've also been friends too. She does refer to her as like that new giant transfer student. But I think because it's Usagi, they would have also become friends. I don't know if she ever crossed paths with Rei or, I am blanking on her name...

Drucilla (00:19:38):

Minako.

Gilcy (00:19:40):

Yeah. I don't know if she'd ever crossed paths with Rei or Minako, but I feel like at least for sure Ami and Mako.

Drucilla (00:19:50):

Yeah. I think if I remember correctly, the reason she got close to Ami originally was because Luna thought she might be someone from the Dark Kingdom, but with Mako, Usagi instigated that all on her own because she saw, "Hey, that food looks good. Let me check it out." So I, yeah, I think you're right. She probably would have become friends. But, yeah, I don't know if she would have crossed paths with Minako and Rei. Though, with Artemis there...

Gilcy (00:20:28):

Oh, that's right.

Drucilla (00:20:29):

I would assume, like I don't know how much the cats wanted to interfere because he could have tried to orchestrate some sort of meeting. Whether that would have actually went anywhere, don't know, but he could have tried to get them together.

Gilcy (00:20:46):

Yeah. I mean, I could see Artemis trying to do something like, without Luna knowing, and then having them like, "oh, it's coincidence that they are, like, at the same store. It wasn't my fault Luna." Yeah, but I don't know about Rei. Rei's kind of, kind of out there. I think the only reason Usagi initially met her was because of some love tokens. That's why she went to the temple.

Drucilla (00:21:11):

Yeah, they were going to their shrine. Let's talk about the ending of that episode a little bit more. I know it's not moon moment-related. The ending of that episode is rough. It's really rough. And I'm really curious if the listeners can tell us if this sort of happens in any other movie or show or book and the whole, "I thought I was out and then they pull me back in" kind of thing. You know, someone who has lost their memories or I don't know, lost their memories maybe, but they, they they're done. They have they've defeated the evil, they have completed the task, whatever it is. And then, you know, they're going to have a wonderful, happy life, uh, on their own, but they have to go back. They have to, you know, evil is amassing or whatever. That has to be a trope. The hero that has to be called back. I'm sure that's a trope, but the way it's done here is, it's so sad and beautiful in a way, because Usagi does manage to defeat the monster on her own. And she's left there, like, we don't get that sense of yay! Usagi managed to defeat a monster on her own because it's immediately followed up with "Well, goodbye to my life." Um, and it's, it's rough. It's very sad and if we want to roll into the next episode, the fact that she doesn't want, despite, you know, wanting her friends back, she doesn't want them to regain their memories because they get to be normal girls again. And that scene that we referenced earlier plays it very lightheartedly. I wish there had been a bit more, "no, I want them to stay normal girls. I can handle this." And that's why I wish there were a few more episodes between Usagi getting her memories back and the girls getting their memories back because 1: we would've been able to see Usagi maybe be a bit more confident and it would've given us a little breather on the Moonlight Knight, I guess. And it would have really driven in the point once the girls do have to get their memories back that, because that could be the episode where her tiara stops working. I know, okay. We're, we're

jumping into the Sailor Moon fan fiction, like, "if I was writing Sailor Moon this is what I was doing," uh, very early into the season, but that would be, I think that would be a great, this is where her tiara fails and she gets captured by the monster. And so Luna has no choice, but to bring the girls back in.

Gilcy (00:24:18):

And I feel like with the tiara not working, and then with stakes higher and plus the gap of between Usagi getting her memories back, like having to fight monsters on her own and seeing the girls and seeing what had been and what could be, I think that would have the stakes much higher. And then it would be a lot more, um, not to say that we aren't invested right now, but I feel like we would have a lot more like emotional, emotional investment into it. Because at that point, if the tiara isn't working, Usagi's on the brink of collapsing or whatever, and then Luna is like, "oh my God, like, there's literally no other choice." And I feel like when the girls were back as, given their memories back, the stakes were high, but it wasn't like high, high, you know, it wasn't as satisfying as I wanted it to be.

Drucilla (00:25:20):

Do you want to hear something that's going to blow your mind?

Gilcy (00:25:23):

What's up?

Drucilla (00:25:24):

What should have happened in that episode? The girls should have got their memories back on their own. Luna shouldn't have given it to them. I think what would have been better...what would have been amazing is...because we see them fighting. We see Mako and Rei ready to throw down there. They even think, "wait, what am I talking about? I can't go in there and do anything." I think it would have been amazing if they had seen Sailor Moon try, fail, get taken by this monster, and it triggers something in them and they just get their memories back on their own. Luna doesn't have to tell them. And they just instinctively shout, you know, "Mars Power, Mercury Power" and then they transform and as they're transforming, that's how they get their memories back. And then they help save the day. Um, I think it would also, so it wouldn't have come as such a surprise, I guess, or so suddenly is if we had had a few episodes between of Usagi and the girls coming back, if we had had moments where...sort of like when they met out front of the TV station, they introduced themselves like, "oh wait, have we met before?" if they had been having moments like that. Like if Ami had said something to Usagi in the school hallway and she kind of has this like weird deja vu, like, "wait, have I said that to you before?" Or, you know, meeting, if Rei and Minako had met or were just walking past each other on the streets. I think if we'd had these little moments of, "I feel like something is on the tip of my tongue, you know, I feel like there's something I should be remembering." And then to have this moment of all of them together, seeing Sailor Moon in trouble and they're like, and they just, instinctively go to transform and they get their memories back. I think that would be much stronger. Because their need to protect Usagi as their friend, as the moon princess, as Sailor Moon is overriding whatever block that I guess the silver crystal put.

Gilcy (00:27:52):

And yeah, I just think that it would have benefited more and they even said in the show, I think Luna was just, "oh my gosh, these girls are able to take on a monster without being a sailor guardian." I think Rei is just powerful.

Drucilla (00:28:08):

I have in my notes "Rei Hino is awesome" and then I have "also Mako", out beside it [laughs] and that's, and that's the thing, like Rei has this extra ability that makes her incredibly competent as Rei Hino, not just Sailor Mars. I really like this episode despite to the insane coincidence that all of the Scouts are scouted for this TV drama for some reason and the fact that Ami, I guess, Ami comes to politely decline in person, but I still feel like Ami would have just shut down the dude who came up to her on the street, I guess, he was like, "Hey, I'm scouting for a TV drama. You should come and audition." I feel like she would've just...

Gilcy (00:29:01):

I feel like she was just like, "no, sorry."

Drucilla (00:29:03):

Shut him down right then. So yeah, besides the coincidence and the fact that I really wish the girls had kind of remembered on their own, I really liked this episode.

Gilcy (00:29:17):

Yeah, I did too. It was just really funny that also Mamoru is there working. Like, I think this is the first time that we see that Mamoru actually has a job.

Drucilla (00:29:26):

And he works at a TV station. It's not what I would expect. We always see him with books, which makes it harder to hate him.

Gilcy (00:29:36):

Yeah...

Drucilla (00:29:36):

But yeah, it's, it's so weird.

Gilcy (00:29:39):

Yeah. I always pictured Mako to be in like, I don't know, bookstore or Mamoru, sorry. Oh my God. Not Mako, Mamoru, but I always pictured Mamoru to be in a bookstore or I don't know, maybe not a cafe, but the library or something, something to do with books just because he's always...

Drucilla (00:30:00):

He's also supposedly super rich, he needs a job anyway. So what is he doing? Like an internship maybe, but I also, but again, why would you be in a t.v. station?

Gilcy (00:30:09):

Yeah, I don't see him as aspiring to be a TV director or an actor. I don't know. He doesn't strike me as a finance bro, but I just, I don't see him as any TV related thing.

Drucilla (00:30:25):

I want to say that we maybe get a confirmation on something that we talked about for the final episode. I can't say our last episode, because our last episode was the wrap up episode. Which everyone should totally go listen to because we had an amazing conversation with our guest John Maher. But we had been discussing once the girls had died, was Usagi seeing their spirits or were they hallucinations or, yeah, I guess hallucinations. It's not a kind way to put it. And the jury is still out for when she's sitting on that ice sheet. We had talked about it in regards to when she is fighting Berryl and the girls joined her, are those spirits? And I think we get confirmation that they are here because when the girls get their memories back and they're having flashes of, and one of the flashes that they see is them around Usagi fighting Berryl. And the only way they would remember that is if they were spirits, if those were the spirits of the girls. So I think that's confirmation that at least at that point they were spirits. I think makes it more likely that they're spirits prodding Usagi on that ice shelf, which I was totally against. I did not want to call that a moon moment if those were spirits. So it's looking a little bad for that moon moment. However, we still don't have final confirmation. So I guess that will still be one that's up in the air. But I think if this is confirmation that those were the spirits of the girls helping her out...

Gilcy (00:32:10):

Audience, what do you think?

Drucilla (00:32:14):

The next episode, which we get a little Mako backstory and I'm sure everyone agrees that there should have been more.

Gilcy (00:32:21):

There should have definitely been more.

Drucilla (00:32:24):

I basically wanted that Sailor V backstory episode as, like, I wanted the equivalent of that for Mako's backstory because it's, it's really so awesome that a girl who falls in love with the drop of a hat and has a boy who is an incredibly good friend to her and she never considers him to be a romantic interest. It's just someone who has always been there for her and I don't know if it's ever stated in the anime, I don't think it is, but Mako's parents died in a plane crash when she was very young, I think. I may also be blurring fan cannon. It's kind of, it's been awhile since I read the manga or watched the anime so if I'm blurring fan cannon into actual stuff, I'm sorry, sorry, everyone. Assuming that I'm correct and her parents did die when she was really young and she was kind of shunted around to family members, her having this one really good friend is, like, I want to know more about this. Did they go to the same school? They grew up together? What did they do for fun? You know, how did they, they obviously aren't going to the same school now. So how did that work? I just wanted to know more because Mako was awesome and we always want to know more about Mako.

Gilcy (00:33:59):

And plus I just want to know how, yeah. Going off of that, how they became friends even like, how did they meet? How is it that this guy is constantly there for her? I mean, Mako is always alluding to how many boys she's had a crush on and, like, how many dates and stuff like relationships she's been in. And I just want to know they're—I think they're sophomores. Are they sophomores in high school or, yeah, there, I wrote in my notes, they're going to be third year students. So they're like sophomores in high school...

Drucilla (00:34:34):

They're, I don't think they're technically in high school. I think she said second year, but I think they're in middle school because I think in the fifth season, that's when they go to a new school. And so that would be high school. So I think they're in middle school.

Gilcy (00:34:49):

Because they're 14.

Drucilla (00:34:50):

They'll be third year middle schools.

Gilcy (00:34:54):

Yeah. So then how many relationships has Mako been in and then this childhood friend has watched over her? How did that pan out? And also if there are this many romantic moments with the umbrella scene, like that's such a classic Shoyo romantic moment scene, like how does Mako not fall in love with him? I, I would like to know a lot more.

Drucilla (00:35:22):

It is...[Drucilla gearing up for the reference] It is so classic...

Gilcy (00:35:22):

So classic.

Drucilla (00:35:24):

It is why, it is why Marinette falls in love with Adrien in Miraculous Ladybug! [Ed. note: Also, it's why Helga falls for Arnold in Hey Arnold.- Drucilla].

Both (00:35:33):

[Laugh].

Drucilla (00:35:33):

I had to bring it around!

Gilcy (00:35:33):

I knew you were going to say something. Still waiting for the first mention.

Drucilla (00:35:39):

First episode, second season. So, yeah, and I did, one of my moon moments that I had originally for this episode and then decided that it was not a moon moment, was him, Shinozaki. I think it's how you pronounce his name? And I had him as a moon moment because he is a very supportive friend for Mako throughout her life. And then injures himself greatly saving her from the cardian. And ultimately I decided not to make him a moon moment because we just don't get more. Like, I don't know more about him. I don't know more about the relationship. Even at the end, the girls are, like, hiding in the

bushes when he's released from the hospital and they don't have any kind of interaction. And I just, I just needed more for it to be a moon moment. I wanted to see more of their relationship.

Gilcy (00:36:46):

I did, I did make a note of it and was like, is this a moon moment when, like, he was being attacked by the monster, but as the episode went on, I was like, this is really great, but it's not really resonating with me as much as I think a moon moment should. It just needed a little more for me to say, this person is a moon moment. I don't know if it had gone into more of that backstory that we wanted. He, at that point it, seems like he's just like a, like a bystander that Mako was giving blood to. But yeah, I just, I just need her to a little more to have it be a moon moment.

Drucilla (00:37:26):

100% agree. You needed to see more. And I want to say that this is the last we see of him. I don't think he ever reappears in the series, even poor Naru gets, like, one last scene in the season before she disappears forever.

Gilcy (00:37:44):

There's a moment when Rei is doing her chant of...it's not the "chingy, pio"...I'm totally butchering that, but she says something else. I took a screenshot of it, but she says "kili kili" and I, like, immediately started laughing because in Tagalog that means "armpit". So I was like, what is Rei saying that I don't understand that it involves armpits. So I just thought that was very funny. I needed to bring that up.

Drucilla (00:38:20):

My stuff is not as funny as that. Um, it was just some...actually one of them was really depressing. First off, the fact that An as Natsumi invites Mamoru to go to a disco that was, and he even calls it out of like "disco? In this day and age?" She's like, "oh no, I messed up." And then Mako giving blood was also a thing that I don't think hospitals would do anymore. She says that she has the O blood type. I don't think O is rare. So I don't know why the hospital wouldn't have had it on hand. So that's, that's one thing. Also, I don't think they would just allow someone in, in today's day and age with so many, so many diseases and conditions and stuff like that, I don't know if they would allow a straight blood to blood transfer like that. If someone wants to reach out to us and explain whether or not that's a real thing that you can do. Like, if my leg gets cut off and the sister comes with me to the hospital, she's like, we have the same blood type. I don't know if they would allow a blood-blood transfer like that. I think there's a lot of, they would have, there's a lot of like testing and stuff because when you give blood, it's not like it immediately goes to the hospital. It gets tested. And then finally, when Jupiter kind of has that moment of, "oh, wow, like I'm, I'm a little out of it from giving blood"and she kind of holds herself up trying to catch her breath and get her energy back. And Sailor Moon runs up to her. I loved the scene because 1: Usagi tells Mako "I know that I'm not a good scout, but I will, I'll pull double my weight this time. If you want to just sit back, like if you stay here and stay out of the fight, I will, I will be competent. You know, I will pull my weight." And I love that this is Usagi as much as she is, as much as she jokes about not being a good scout and being kind of ridiculous and being clumsy and stuff. It's interesting that she, she recognizes that she is not good at what she does, but she is saying she's going to do her best to, to be a fighter for Mako because she doesn't want her to get hurt. And I really wish we'd been able to see a little bit of that in this episode. Um, we did not, unfortunately, but it's, it may, that moment is made better by the fact that if you really think about it, this is the first fight after the ones where they get their memories back and Usagi still has to be dealing with the PTSD of seeing her friends die in battle. You

know, everything happened really quickly in previous episode when the girls got their memories back, but this is the first one after that. So she's gotta be feeling "if you're not a hundred percent Mako, you need to stay out of the fight. Cause I don't want to see anything happen to you because I've seen something happen to you." And it, it, it adds a lot more to this scene. And again, I kind of wish we had a little bit more of this throughout, because I think when Usagi gets her memories back in that first episode, the show makes a point of showing all the Scouts deaths.

Gilcy (00:42:08):

Yeah.

Drucilla (00:42:10):

So that is something that weighs heavy...that has to weigh heavy on her. I wanted to point out that moment in this episode, because it's one that you could totally write it off as Usagi seeing Mako being a little drained from giving blood and like, "don't worry, I'll be better. So you can just take a seat back" like in her normal, Usagi caring about others, you know, wanting her to just stay here, take a seat, we'll handle this, but it's so, there's so much more there if you think about the previous season and everything.

Gilcy (00:42:50):

Would we...so the more that you talk about it, the more I'm like, should this be a moon moment? Because there is all that, like, backstory of why Usagi is telling Mako to, like, sit this one out. And yes, it is, it could be the blood transfer, but there's also all of that: She's dealing with the PTSD of watching her friend die, she is trying to protect her, but yet she's trying to be someone that "I will understand your position if you want to. But I really want you to sit this one out." Could this be a moon moment?

Drucilla (00:43:30):

I wasn't on board until you said the part about, "I really want you to sit this one out, but if this is your decision, then I'll stick by you." I wasn't on board until you said that. And I think, yeah, I think it does qualify as a moon moment because I think you're right. It's, it feels very human. Usagi is worried about her friend, but she's also, she's asking for selfish reasons. She doesn't want her friend to go into battle if she can't really take care of herself because she doesn't want to see anything happen to her because she's dealing with the PTSD of having seen something happen to her. So it feels so human of you don't have to be feeling one emotion at once. Like, your decisions do not have to be grounded in just one emotion. It can be multicolored and so she's worried about her friend and, but determined to be the Sailor Moon she should be, if she needs to be so that her friend doesn't have to fight, but also being selfish because she doesn't want her friend to fight. And so, yeah, I would think it is a moon moment because she does ultimately say, "I don't want you to do this, but if you feel like you have to, then I'm right there with you." So I think it is, I think it is a moon moment. Surprise moon moment! Again, I kind of wish it affected the following fight and it really doesn't.

Gilcy (00:45:10):

Surprise moon moment!

Drucilla (00:45:11):

The girls get taken out so easy in that fight.

Gilcy (00:45:14):

I was like really mad because...okay so when Moonlight Knight appears, right? And he throws the white rose and he leaves and Usagi gets attacked. You could at least stick around a little bit just to see if the monster does stay down. Who is more incompetent: the Moonlight Knight or Tuxedo Mask?

Drucilla (00:45:41):

And see, I feel like the Moonlight Knight is a little bit more competent because he has a knife...like, he has the rose, but he also like, but I still agree. Tuxedo Kamen would also just he'd throw a rose to kind of distract the monster and then he would just leave and then Sailor Moon would use her tiara on it. I think maybe the reason the show did it this way was so that Mako could be the one to defeat the monster because she has an impetus of like, "oh," cause she just wakes up after getting knocked down and she's like, "oh, what's going on?" And she sees that Usagi in danger. And she kind of, I guess she kind of has this moment of "another one of my friends isn't going to get hurt by this monster." And that's when she does a lightning bolt at it.

Gilcy (00:46:33):

True, true, but at the same time, I'm like, come on.

Drucilla (00:46:36):

He's very inefficient, man. He's so useless.

Gilcy (00:46:42):

Not to diss anyone's fashion choices, but why is he dressed in Arabian gear? Mmmmmmmmm, I don't want to say cultural appropriation, but...insert Shrek meme.

Drucilla (00:46:59):

I never thought about his name before, the Moonlight Knight, until, like, this rewatch. I realize it's actually very appropriate because his prince form is very knight-like and knights protect princesses and that is basically what he's doing. And Moonlight, obviously, moon princess, whatever. So I never thought about how appropriate that name was. Having him in Arabian garb was a lot better than him clunking around in a knights suit of armor.

Gilcy (00:47:30):

Although that would have been really funny.

Drucilla (00:47:33):

I think they could've, they could've pulled it off.

Gilcy (00:47:36):

Yeah, or they could've done knight-esq things like, I know the generals have, like, those tassels and stuff. I don't know. Maybe he could have had a shield and sword or something, like, that that would, like, allude to the Knight. This whole Arabian garb thing...

Drucilla (00:47:53):

The white roses are nice, though.

Gilcy (00:47:55):

The white roses are nice. It kind of reminded me of in the last arc where Endymion was throwing the roses. I think it was when Rei and Usagi are trapped in the ice block and they see the white [Ed. Note: Gilcy means black-Drucilla] rose turn red or something like that. I was like, oh, is this a callback to that reference?

Drucilla (00:48:16):

I read too much into this, but what are we doing if not having a podcast that reads too much into a show that's 30 years old, the fact that it's white. The fact that he is garbed in white and he throws white roses. White symbolizes purity and when it's revealed who he is, it's like, that is the, the need to protect Sailor Moon in his purest form. And that is what the Moonlight Knight is. And so in a way I could see the colors really being...I'm sure they just picked it because it's moonlight, let's make it white! But I could, I could see a reading of the Moonlight Knight is just the pure manifestation of needing to protect Usagi, protecting Sailor Moon, protecting the moon princess. That's why he's white because white symbolizes purity. Traditionally, I should say, at least maybe in Western culture, I don't know about other cultures, but let's move on to the last episode where I have my moon moment. This episode is just one of those really fun "This is what we thought entertainment would be 30 years from now." You know what I mean? Like it's called a virtual reality center, but it's really more like laser tag, to be honest. And I think of now with the VR headsets that we have, it's so far what we imagined it would be. But anyway, um, my moon moment is actually a person in this episode. Can you guess who that person is?

Gilcy (00:49:57):

Is it the dad?

Drucilla (00:49:57):

It is Papa Tsukino. Yes.

Both (00:50:00):

[laugh].

Drucilla (00:50:00):

He has so many amazing moments in this episode. I just thought he was, he deserved a moon moment for just being a awesome person. So the first time I thought he was amazing was when Usagi realizes that her dad and little brother are there and her dad is like "Usagi. I trust you." First off, that is amazing. As much as we had fun with his overreaction in the episode where they go on vacation, his overreaction in the car, "you're dating a boy? Like, a boy gave you that? What are you talking about?" As much as we had fun with that, the fact that her dad's like, "I trust you"? Like, even though this was probably like, this would have been mortifying for a teenage girl to hear her dad say. The fact that he is not being over-protective and he is telling his child, whether girl or boy, telling his child that, you know, "I trust your choices. I trust your actions." I don't think...we always rag on Usagi for being flaky and for being kind of dumb, but I don't think she's stupid. She has good instincts and I think her parents know that and so they trust that she would never put herself in a harmful situation knowingly, except for that one time she got into a stranger's car, but it was kind of Sailor Moon business so we're going to let that one slide. Um, so I just thought this was a really powerful moment and I thought I was just gonna like call it out in

the episode and that'd be fine, but then he not only protects Shingo once, he does it twice, like he distracts the monster so that Mamoru and Shingo can try to get away. Uh, and I know this could very easily be a duty thing because he's a parent and he should be taking care of his child. Um, but I guess I was also thinking back to that vacation episode where he does the same thing, he grabs a stick and tries to protect his family. I don't know. I just felt like he should get a moon moment for trusting his child that she, she's good. She gets it, but also protecting his family when they need protecting. So I just wanted to give him the moment.

Gilcy (00:52:46):

I think it's also important to note that father Tsukino is very, he doesn't have any powers. He doesn't have any special powers that Rei does. He's literally just like your average human being with probably average human strength and going back to, yeah, he's a parent, this is your duty to protect your child. But also there are people who are parents, but do not protect their child. Um, and I think it's very important to see the way that he shows how much he cares for his children and just how much he trusts them. Like he was able to hold off the monster in order to protect Shingo and he does it multiple times. And even though he knows that he is not the strongest one and he's literally surrounded by all these bodies, he doesn't know why, they could be dead. He, he's still taking up that mantle of, "I will protect my son and I will protect my daughter and whoever this random boy is that I know Usagi will not do anything stupid with," I think is very, I think it's very notable and I do agree that he should have a moon moment.

Drucilla (00:54:13):

Yeah! Um, I will also say while I didn't consider giving Shingo a moon moment, I think he should get a shout out because one, he is still super into Sailor Moon. He has...

Gilcy (00:54:29):

YES! It's so cute!

Drucilla (00:54:30):

Despite being a boy and quote unquote, not supposed to like girl things, he is still super into Sailor Moon and has his own version of "in the name of the moon. I'll punish you." I loved the moment where he basically tells Usagi "I'm a man, so you should stay here." And then he leaves Usagi has this line. "Who do you think your big sister is?" And it's not meant to, the line isn't meant to be Usagi being self-referential, but I think it's, it's perfect. I think it's, I don't know if it's just meant to be, um, more general. Like, "I can handle myself. Who do you think I am? I'm not gonna run off after you and I'm not going into danger." Like, I don't know how they originally meant it to be taken. I do want it on a shirt. That would be great. Maybe if we ever do merch, we'll do that. It's not like she winks at the camera and smirks when she says that line.

Gilcy (00:55:33):

But yeah, I did have Shingo as potential mini-moon moment. I didn't say full on moon moment because I don't know. I think I just needed a little more, but I did think it was really notable that he kind of went to go try to save his dad and was trying to find help. And coincidentally, he found it in Usagi and Mamoru, but I don't know it, he didn't just run away screaming and was like, "oh my gosh, like, I need to save myself" because I don't know Shingo. I feel like to me, Shingo is a bit of a wild card because there are

instances. Yeah, he is one to come back and fight, but I feel like he's also someone to just hide and not really do too much. And then in this instance, he was willing to find some help and come back.

Drucilla (00:56:24):

He also doesn't do that really annoying thing where he's like, "I'm going to fight the monster on my own." He recognizes that "hmmm, I may not be able to handle this by myself." So he goes to get help and yes, he does go back because he wants to help save his dad. But he doesn't think, "oh, well I don't need any help, but I can take care of this by myself." So he makes a smart decision to get help when needed.

Gilcy (00:56:49):

But I think ultimately I didn't make this a moon moment or like, mini-moon moment because I think I just needed a little more.

Drucilla (00:56:59):

Yeah. Shingo definitely gets a shout out. He gets some love this episode, but it's, it's daddy Tsukino who gets the...maybe I shouldn't say it like that. What is his first name? Hold on. I don't know. Papa's Tsukino's name. First name is Kenji. Uh, with the exception of the kind of downer ending that this episode leaves on. I mean, first off the fact that it's put down to an equipment malfunction is very sus. Like, I don't know why they would. Why don't they just call it a monster? Everyone knows Tokyo has monsters. It's not something that's unusual.

Gilcy (00:57:38):

It's not like it hasn't been running rampant. I mean, there've been so many monsters even before this.

Drucilla (00:57:44):

And there has to have been security cameras throughout this area. Anything like an escape room or anything like that has security cameras so that you can be watched to make sure that you don't destroy stuff or that if there is some sort of medical emergency, they can see it and get to you fast. I could maybe argue that maybe An and Ail, [mangles the name again]. I refuse to call him Allen, but I'm never going to be able to pronounce his name right. Maybe they don't show up on camera, but the monsters have to be able to show up on camera. I don't know. I mean, we're, we're getting into the weeds with this one, but how would it have been an equipment malfunction? Okay. If it was an equipment malfunction, why wouldn't the laser tag arena say that it was a monster because how many lawsuits are they going to have to settle for these people? It would be much better to say it was a monster and then say, we couldn't do anything about it.

Gilcy (00:58:47):

I'm like, I don't understand how saying equipment malfunction is a more plausible, a more plausible thing. There's so much, like, damage and people that could just sue. And if they're, if they just say monster like, "oh, it's out of their hands, go, sorry. Earthquake." Like, couldn't do anything about it. Yeah.

Drucilla (00:59:07):

Uh, like it's a pre-established thing that happens in Tokyo. Anyway, yeah. So we get that downer ending with the tiara not working and Usagi doesn't know why. And she, at this point believes that Mamoru isn't the Moonlight Knight and so she's depressed about that and the fact that she just can't get his memories to come back. And I will say one thing in defense of Mamoru, and I hate that I'm defending him.

Gilcy (00:59:35):

Oh?

Drucilla (00:59:35):

He kind of acts like a jerk to both Usagi and Natsumi aka An. But I think he's kind of within the realm of, like, plausibility in how he reacts to them. Because first off, An is just this random girl who seems to have just started to stick to him, he doesn't know her at all. He just is like, "oh please, I don't know. You leave me alone. I'm just trying to like..." I'm pretty convinced that he wasn't going to this laser arcade thing. He just happened to be walking by and then An saw him, and was like, "Hey, let's go do this." So she's like, I understand his kind of, like, uh reaction to her because she's very pushy and I understand his reaction to Usagi. When she, in that second episode, when she sees him again and he says, "how do you know my name?" and he doesn't know her name. So he's, they're still, in his mind, they're still at that section of their relationship. And all of a sudden this girl who has thrown barbs at him and he's thrown barbs back is suddenly being super cozy wozy with him and it's freaking him out and he doesn't know why. So even though I don't want to give him anything, I guess I have to give him this because I understand why he's acting so...I dunno, mean is a little bit too harsh of a word, but he is...

Gilcy (01:01:04):

Jerkish?

Drucilla (01:01:05):

Maybe, but he's like, I understand why he's acting the way he's acting. It makes sense.

Gilcy (01:01:12):

Yeah. I mean, if two random girls came up to me and were like, "oh my God, we love you." I'd be like, "well, I mean, of course you do, but why?"

Drucilla (01:01:21):

And I mean, we can, I'm sure we'll at some point talk about, the uncomfortable nature of Ail...Ale [gives up in frustration]. The male alien not taking, not picking up on the hints and not taking no for an answer when it comes to Usagi. Um, so, um, we'll, I'm sure at some point we'll dive into that. Yeah. I think that's going to do it. Stick around because our next episode we'll cover episodes 51 through 54. Be sure to check out our social media on Twitter and Instagram @moonmomentpod. And don't forget to check out our website at moonmomentpodcast.com. You'll find show notes and transcripts for the episode there. And we also have a Tik Tok @moonmomentpod. So give us some love there as well.

Gilcy (01:02:16):

In with the gen Z crowd. Let us know what your moon moment musings are. We would love to hear from you and maybe you'll get a shout out. If you'd like to support the podcast, please rate, review,

share, subscribe, all that good stuff. It helps Moon Moment stay afloat amidst the vast ocean of podcasts. I'm Gilcy.

Drucilla (01:02:39):

And I'm Drucilla.

Gilcy (01:02:40):

Can't wait to MEET-eor next time. Wink.

Drucilla (01:02:46):

That was a good one.

Gilcy (01:02:48):

Thank you. Thank you. We'll see you moon!

Both (01:02:51):

Byee!

Outro (01:02:51):

[outro music]

Both (01:02:51):

[humming the outro music amidst cute laughter]

Both (01:02:52):

Bye!