

Intro (00:00):

[Intro]

Gilcy (00:18):

Hello, we're your Senshi-sational hosts Gilcy and Drucilla. Welcome to Moon Moment. The podcast where we discuss the Sailor Moon canon for what we affectionately call, you guessed it, moon moments.

Drucilla (00:32):

Moments that we feel truly exemplify what Sailor Moon stands for and represents. Today we're discussing episodes 25 through 28. And for those Moonies who haven't gotten around to their annual rewatch of the show yet, allow me to refresh your memory on the episodes that we'll be covering today. All aboard the rainbow arc train. First up, Jupiter comes thundering in. That's right. We finally meet Makoto Kino in what I think is the *ahem* strongest introduction episode we've had to date. Next up, Usagi tries to comfort Naru who is still grieving Nephrite's death, but it might cost her her role as leader of the Senshi. Surprised at the show's sudden need to crank up the tension between the scouts? We are too, especially since nothing comes of it. In the third episode, the holder of the yellow rainbow crystal, Ryo, has a crush on Ami and psychic powers, but he's bad at both. Then finally, in one of my favorite episodes this arc, Usagi and Mamoru are roped into modeling for a painter who just so happens to have another rainbow crystal, but how much potential will be wasted in this episode? Just wait and see! So four episodes, great relief from five. Yeah, so Gilcy, what were your moon moments for these episodes?

Gilcy (02:02):

Okay, so let's just say, I knew I had a crush on, on Sailor Jupiter, and it just...watching these episodes just reinforced it. So I might be a little biased, but I would say that my moon moment is a character. And I would say that it is, it is her. It is Makoto Kino.

Drucilla (02:27):

Is this the first time we've had a character as a moon moment? I don't think so. I don't think we've had, I want to say in one of the early episodes, um, we had a character, but I don't remember who it was. Oh, well, please continue.

Gilcy (02:47):

Okay. So this is completely, this is her introduction episode. She does not know that she has powers. She does not know that she is part of this really cool kickass team. She is just really cool and kickass on her own. And her intro is her saving Usagi from these three thugs, right? And most people I think would not really step in on that. Maybe they would call a police or call for backup, but stepping in themselves to actually fight these thugs with someone that they do not know, they've never met, just it's a lot. And then she keeps doing it throughout the episode. She helps, uh, what's his name? Joe. There was like a Crane Joe, something like that.

Drucilla (03:38):

Yeah, he has a, they call him Joe the Crane Machine Troll or something, which is such a strange thing. They, in the...I'm bringing up the DiC version immediately...in the DiC version, they just call him Game Machine Joe, which just rolls off the tongue a lot easier. Maybe it sounds better in Japanese.

Gilcy ([04:01](#)):

Yeah, but she helps him when he's being attacked. And then she helps Usagi, or Sailor Moon now, when she is like, she just keeps jumping in to help these people without powers. And without knowing that she's, she's powerful and as of this moment, she just knows that she's just a regular human being. She, she is, like, stronger than I'm guessing most girls her age, most, most people her age, but that still shouldn't deter someone from saying, "Oh, I am going to be the one that helps them. I'm not going to wait for backup. I'm not going to just sit there on the sideline and wish that I could help them. I'm going to do it." And I think that just really exemplifies, just putting aside your own, your own qualms and your own, thinking about your own well being, that sounds bad, but to help someone else, what do you think?

Drucilla ([05:05](#)):

I mean, you don't really have to convince me on this because this was also a moon moment for me. I think you're right in that it should be in this instance, a character is a moon moment. I forgot that we had talked about characters being moments and so I just have this down as a moon moment, but yeah, it's something we've had before, you know, normal people stepping in to help someone, usually Usagi. And Mako does this, not once, not twice, but three times.

Gilcy ([05:39](#)):

She does it THREE times this episode. You cannot pick just one moment because all three of them are just, it's going to just be me fangirling over Mako. I'm sorry viewers, or listeners. I am sorry, but I am such a fan girl.

Drucilla ([05:55](#)):

And that's another thing...I think I mentioned, in our previous episode maybe, or maybe it was the episode before that, how I'm finding this rewatch really awesome because I'm picking up on things that I didn't know before. And I mean, I'll come out and say it. I didn't realize Jupiter was this awesome. Like, I liked all the girls, but rewatching this episode, I had the image of her picking up the Youma over her head in my mind and I thought that's a moon moment. I know there's going to be one in this episode, but she does it three times. She stands up for people and I was just blown away. Like I, I knew that each girl had their own rabid fanbase and now I understand why Makoto Kino's fanbase is as rabid as they are, because she is amazing.

Gilcy ([06:52](#)):

Exactly! And the fact that she was kind of shunned, she was low-key shunned being a new transfer student at Usagi's school. And she, she, yes, she took it to heart, but she didn't, she didn't have that negativity. She didn't reflect it on others. She kind of just accepted it, which broke my heart. But I'm really glad that Usagi went to go sit next to her and eat her lunch, even though she was just basically there for the food, but Mako didn't take that to heart. And she, she easily could have become a villain. She could have become the school bully in that time. But she didn't and she still continued to stay true to who she was, to who she is.

Drucilla ([07:40](#)):

Yeah. I think that's a very good point. And something you brought up in our third episode, when we talked about Ami, how loneliness can easily turn to bitterness and it doesn't with Mako. I think based on her personality, you know, she is, she's like, "I don't know why everyone is avoiding me" but she doesn't

turn around and say, "Oh, well, they're, like, stupid and I don't want to be friends with them anyway." You know, she, she's totally open to meeting this new girl who wants to eat her mixed rice balls and who shows her, you know, an arcade. And one of my favorite moments in the episode, it's incredibly subtle, when she and Usagi are in the arcade and Rei and Ami come to meet them. She's introducing Mako and Mako stands up and Rei and Ami pull back and their eyes widen a little bit because they don't realize how tall she is and how imposing. It's one of my, it's, it's just so subtle. And it's one of my favorite moments in the episode. But yeah, I, she is, she's used to, I don't know, being hurt because we also see when Zoisite attacks her and Joe in the restaurant, she says, because Joe is just, oh my God, we can talk about him and the ultimate, just, pile of trash he is...

Gilcy (09:15):

Oh my God!

Drucilla (09:16):

But he says something like, "I, I don't really like tall girls. They're not my type anyway" or something. And she says, "Oh, well, that's what the last guy said to me." But she doesn't like, she just jumps up and she goes after them because, I don't know. I think it's kind of up in the air, why it could be. That she's just really mad at this guy or she knows Zoisite is still after him. And so her instinct is to go help him. But it's also before that, the fact that she continues to follow him, even though he is giving her major signals of just "Go away, I don't want to deal with you. I don't want to interact with you." I mean, I think it's a side of...Her personality is definitely like two sides of a coin. She has this incredibly tough protective side, but she's also very soft and squishy and I think she can get hurt very often. And the fact that she isn't filled with bitterness from being hurt very often, I think is a testament to her character. And watching this episode made me think about, this is kind of a digression, but how each girl kind of represents a part of Usagi's personality. Ah, you know, you have Rei who is very stubborn and the same with Usagi. You know, she, she can be argumentative like Rei and very stubborn like Rei and the stubbornness is also what keeps her going when she's, you know, battling the final battle. It's her stubbornness that is keeping her going, but she's also a daydreamer and a romantic. And that's part of Mako's personality. Um, same with the protection aspect of Mako's personality. Usagi is very protective of her friends, is very, is obviously such a diehard romantic, and she's, going a little bit forward, she's very excitable like Mina is, Minako, and, uh, you know, the only one that I'm having trouble fitting into that theory is Ami. I'm not really sure what part of Ami's, er part of Usagi's personality Ami is kind of similar to.

Gilcy (11:42):

I think Ami can be very introspective and Usagi definitely has her moments. There's a moment in an episode that we're discussing, the artist episode, where Usagi says, uh, she's trying to cheer the artist up and basically says, "It doesn't matter what you look like. I like you the way you are." And I think that is very introspective and very...what's the word I'm looking for? It's, it's something Ami would say. It's like an observation kind of thing.

Drucilla (12:18):

With this episode, listeners, I realize we're kind of jumping around topics in this episode. Um, but I realized that it also sort of...this whole romantic aspect of it proves what we were saying last episode, our question of, if Usagi was just Usagi, how would she have handled the Naru/Nephrite situation? I

think it's proven here. She pushes Mako to go in, like, "Oh, he wants you to go in and go, go, go." So I think, um, it was Usagi would be pushing her friends if there's a guy that they like...

Gilcy ([12:54](#)):

To pursue them.

Drucilla ([12:57](#)):

Flirt with them. Yeah, pursue. So I think that I just, I wanted to mention that because I thought it really dovetailed perfectly with what we were saying in the last episode. Yeah. This episode, it, it was just fantastic. And something that I think is awesome that occurs. It occurs in the original anime. It occurs in the manga and it also, they carried it over for Crystal is the fact that, uh, Makoto lifts the Youma above her head. Like, it is the same in all the variations.

Gilcy ([13:31](#)):

They're like, we can't it's too good.

Drucilla ([13:34](#)):

Yeah, it's just awesome. And I should say that her introduction episode is vastly different between this anime version and the original source material. It is so different. I think the original shows up her strength a lot more and her protectiveness. In the manga and in Crystal, I just think it's almost like your monster of the week format. You don't have as much time with Makoto, um, I mean, she still does save Usagi at the beginning, but she saves her from a car, like, she pushes her out of the way. So I think this, the original anime really emphasizes her strength. Which, uh, I mean, she's awesome.

Gilcy ([14:26](#)):

I love her.

Drucilla ([14:26](#)):

She's Sailor Jupiter. Yeah. Um, was there anything else in this episode we wanted to talk about before moving on?

Gilcy ([14:36](#)):

I don't think so. I think we can move on to the next episode.

Drucilla ([14:40](#)):

I did want to just, you know, applaud Usagi for when she calls out Joe when he's trying to escape the restaurant and she's just standing in front and was like, "You're just going to leave her alone? What kind of man are you?" and he's like, "I don't care." You know, she, she's just fantastic. It's like "Go Usagi." Um, and I think that's a great, a great trait of Usagi. She will push her friends, the guys that they're pursuing, you know, she, she will encourage them, but you better hope that the guys turn out to be...like, if you break their hearts, you better look out.

Gilcy ([15:20](#)):

You're gonna deal with Usagi.

Drucilla ([15:20](#)):

Cause Usagi is going to read you to filth. Yeah read you to FILTH. So I just, I really liked that moment. Usagi has some...

Gilcy ([15:28](#)):

Joe was also trash.

Drucilla ([15:31](#)):

He was, um, also just, he was kind of dumb. Like, if I was walking down the street and I has having significant chest pains, I would think I was having a heart attack and I should go to the hospital, but he doesn't, he goes to drink coffee or tea or whatever.

Gilcy ([15:49](#)):

Boy! I wanted to smack him. Multiple times in this episode.

Drucilla ([15:56](#)):

Yeah. The, the DiC dub makes him a little bit more sympathetic. Um, they just soften a lot of his language. Usagi calling him out is not so much a "calling him out because he's terrible for leaving Mako," she's just, "What's going on. Do you know who this person is?" sort of thing, but there's also, it's just like a small detail of, uh, when you're first introduced to him, they talk about how he takes all of the toys from the crane game and he...the way they describe it is "he gives them to poor kids". So whereas in the original, he's just an a-hole and, I guess, keeps them up because he's like, "I have this power and, like, why not use it?" It makes him a little bit better of a guy.

Gilcy ([16:44](#)):

It softens the blow that he gives them away to less fortunate children.

Drucilla ([16:48](#)):

Yeah, and the fact that he's sort of cheating the crane games, which are a total scam by the way anyway.

Gilcy ([16:55](#)):

I mean, I had no qualms about that part, but the whole him being rude to Makoto. Him just hoarding that like. In my brain, since I just didn't like his character anyway, and he was just a prick, I thought he was just selling them for his own money. So, you know, I just did not like him at all.

Drucilla ([17:20](#)):

Before we move on, one very small note. Another subtle thing is when the waitress, aka Zoisite or waiter, I guess I should say, comes up, Makoto starts ordering food, but then she stops in the middle of ordering cause she's ordering, like, a large curry rice and something else and she's like, "Oh actually, no, wait, just, just a tea." I read this as, and I'd like your opinion, I read this as, you know, she, she loves food, obviously. She takes great pride in her cooking. She loves to eat. She's very similar to Usagi in that fashion. And so she's ordering this food because she's hungry and wants to eat, but then realizes, "Oh, I'm with a guy I like. I shouldn't order food. I should just order tea." So I wanted to bring this up and just say, "No, Makoto. You order whatever you want."

Gilcy ([18:14](#)):

You order—girl! Whatever you want. If he likes you back, he will enjoy watching you tuck into a huge barbecue spare rib platter. [sounds of frustration] If anyone, if any man ever tells me that I cannot eat what I want, I will throw hands.

Drucilla ([18:39](#)):

Well said. I could not have said it better myself. So yeah. I just wanted to bring that up. Um, we can, we can move on, but I, uh, it just, it was another one of those super subtle things like Mako standing up, um, and Rei and Ami sort of pulling back a little bit. It was just one of those really subtle things in this episode that I don't know if we've seen in other episodes or not, but I just think they're fantastic little character details that I wished we got more of from all the characters. But anyway, um, should we move on to the other episode that sort of had the moon moment in or do you want to go through the other two episodes?

Gilcy ([19:24](#)):

So this one was my mini moon moment.

Drucilla ([19:28](#)):

Yeah. The painting episode was the one that had my mini-moon moment.

Gilcy ([19:32](#)):

So for this next episode, with Usagi trying to cheer up Naru and Luna was saying that Usagi is going to take on the role as, or take on the leadership role. When the girls are all protesting this decision, there's a part where Luna says that even though Usagi is not the most competent person, she believes that Usagi will grow into this role. And part of me thinks that maybe it's because she's trying to quell the fears of the girls. But another part of me, a lot of the episodes previously have been Luna questioning Usagi and her as a Sailor Scout. And I thought that it was commendable that Luna was defending her decision in making Usagi leader, because I feel like Luna puts down Usagi a lot and is definitely very quick to say, "Oh, like, why are you eating that?" Or "Why are you doing this? Like, shouldn't you be doing something else?" She's not the most supportive, but in this instance, when she is saying, despite Usagi's shortcomings, I think she has the traits to become a good leader. And I thought that was, I didn't think it was a full-on moon moment, because again, I thought it might also be because Luna was trying to save face in front of the girls. But I also think because she was defending her and looking into Usagi's future potential. That was something to be noted.

Drucilla ([21:15](#)):

I think, I think you're right that this should be a mini-moon moment, but the reason I didn't flag it as anything I think comes from plot issues and character issues. Because I feel, like I said in my intro, this leader plot kind of comes out of nowhere. And, it just seems like, and I mean, like, obviously the animation team was doing what they could because they didn't really have a lot to go on since they were publishing the manga at the same time the anime was being produced. But it just, the idea of a leader kind of comes out of nowhere. The way Luna says, "Whoever has the moon stick is the leader" is a little odd because it is *the moon stick*. It is not the Mars stick. It's not the Jupiter stick. It is not the stick. It has a giant moon on it. It's so obviously made for Sailor Moon. I think it comes out of nowhere and I think it also...everything that happens after this, I just wish...because Luna will bring it up a couple of times, "You're supposed to be the leader. That stick signifies you're the leader." But nothing really

changes because of it. I would have loved to have seen Luna sit down Usagi and say, "I gave you... The Moon Stick signifies the leader of the Scouts. I gave it to you because I see something in you. Yes, you're often scared and you may not perform in battle as much as I want you to, but you always get the job done and you always try to protect people and I feel like you could be, your potential is enormous and I gave this to you because I want you to fulfill that promise. But you need to recognize that we are also, like, we're dealing with enemies and we've already seen people die because of it, you know, Nephrite. And you need to start taking this seriously because you are a Sailor Scout and you have all potential and you know, you need to really focus." So thank you for coming to my Ted Talk. So once Luna gives the speech, like, seeing Usagi try to become more of a leader, and I just feel like you, you don't really see a lot of this. Uh, and I think it's just meant to manufacture discord, so to speak. But even then it never reaches a point where the Scouts are, like, infighting over the leadership or something Usagi says or the way she acts or something like that. And there was a perfect time to do it in that painting episode when Usagi just leaves in the middle of the fight to go after Tuxedo Mask and Zoisite. The other girls don't have the Moon Stick. They cannot turn the painter back into her human form so they are stuck basically trying to just dodge all of these attacks. That would have been a perfect time to say, "Why did you leave us in the middle of a battle? You're supposed to be our leader" and nothing really comes of it. So I think you're right. It does deserve to be a moon, a mini moment because, um, Luna is trying to, she's putting her faith in Usagi because she does, like you and I, have seen these moments that she, she does have these potential, you know, to do great, to be great. And, uh, I think it's commendable of Luna to do that, especially after all the crap that she gives her. But I think just, yeah, those were why I didn't kind of peg it as something in the first place. Um, you know, I would have loved for this to have been more of a thing, especially since in the manga, technically Venus is the leader.

Gilcy ([25:46](#)):

Yeah. I think she supposed, it's supposed to be a quote unquote.

Drucilla ([25:50](#)):

It, it would be interesting to have. And also having your princess be your leader is...It's good on paper, but when you're in the middle of battle, she shouldn't be, like, your front line, you know, like you should be protecting the princess. But I think it would be really fascinating to have Usagi grow into this role of being a leader and then have Venus come onto the scene and have her say, "Oh yeah, I'm the leader historically." You know, I guess once they sort of get their memories back and say, "Well, I'm the leader and that's, I should be the one calling the shots." And then having Usagi, you know, have some agency and say, "No, this is my role. You know, maybe I didn't want it in the past, but now after everything we've seen. Our memories come back, like, no, I am your princess. I am the leader of the Scouts and you will follow my orders" would be such an awesome moment because, there is sort of something like this at the end of S, at the end of season three, because Neptune and Uranus. And again, it's been a very long time since I've seen the third season so please forgive me if I'm getting details wrong, listeners. Basically, Neptune and Uranus don't want to follow her. They're, like, "What gives you the right to, to command us?" And so it becomes a three-way fight between them. Like, the other Scouts and Tuxedo Mask are off to the side watching this and eventually Usagi pulls it out and is able to defeat them both so they pledge their allegiance to her. And I would have loved that, maybe not something that dramatic in the first season, but just her saying, "No, here's my agency. I want this position. I need to have this position." So I, yeah, I'm, I'm on board with you. I think Luna deserves a mini-moon moment.

Gilcy ([27:49](#)):

Yay!

Drucilla ([27:53](#)):

Although this episode was, and it was so interesting too, the fact that Usagi might lose her role as leader because it's one of those things where we know that she's going to Chinatown to cheer up Naru. Trying to get her out of the house, but she doesn't tell the Scouts that, she just says, "Oh, we're going to Chinatown to eat a bunch of food" and they're like "You're blowing off a Senshi meeting for food?" I mean, maybe Mako would be like, "Okay, I understand" but yeah, I think it's one of those instances where, I don't know, that was interesting.

Gilcy ([28:32](#)):

It would have been nice if she elaborated a little more.

Drucilla ([28:35](#)):

Yeah. Like, "I'm sorry, you know, Naru and I are going to go get food in Chinatown. I'm trying to cheer her up." You know, that sort of thing. Though I will say, the DiC dub did have some choice lines. First off, at the very end when [Tuxedo Kamen] grabs the crystal, he grabs it and he's showing it to Zoisite like, "A-ha, I have it." As he runs off, he just says "Loser!"

Both ([29:02](#)):

[Laugh].

Drucilla ([29:07](#)):

And then, Zoisite just dips and I'm like, why don't you go after him? You could have gone after him. Was the burn that serious that Zoisite just had to dip?

Gilcy ([29:19](#)):

That sounds like such a bro thing. Like, "Loser!" "Leave!"

Drucilla ([29:25](#)):

And then Tuxedo Mask also has another line that I love at the end with the crystal. I guess he sort of recovers some of his memory. Well maybe not his memory, but with the crystal, I guess he's able to realize that he is Tuxedo Kamen.

Gilcy ([29:45](#)):

Yeah. This is the first time that we see him transform back into his civilian role.

Drucilla ([29:51](#)):

Yeah. But earlier in the episode, after he has the nightmare and he goes out on his balcony. In the DiC dub, he says, "Am I Tuxedo Mask? Oh man. That would sure explain a lot of things."

Both ([30:07](#)):

[laugh].

Drucilla ([30:07](#)):

I kept thinking back to our conversation a few episodes ago about him just blacking out and waking up in weird places and being so sore from the extreme acrobatics that he does.

Gilcy ([30:22](#)):

Like that elevator episode where he's just holding on for dear life for him and Usagi. Oh my God.

Drucilla ([30:30](#)):

I know. It's just like, I'm, I'm happy that he's not terrified that he has a brain tumor anymore. It's just like, man, that would explain a lot of things.

Gilcy ([30:44](#)):

Or he could just be thinking, cause he's in college, right? So maybe he's thinking, "Oh, maybe I'm just an alcoholic and I just black out drunk every night or in the middle of the day, like this is normal." Also, I just want to say that name, that the, the priest person becomes "Boxy," it's just so funny to me. There's like, no, it just comes out of nowhere. I feel like. And then when he introduced himself as like "Oh, I'm Boxy, like..."

Drucilla ([31:16](#)):

And they did change that in the DiC dub. And I don't know why, because Boxy is such a great name. Cause he's a boxing Youma and it just makes so much sense. So the DiC dub can't always get it right. As we well know.

Gilcy ([31:32](#)):

What did they call, what was it in the DiC dub?

Drucilla ([31:35](#)):

I don't remember. It's uh, his name in the DiC dub was apparently Bobo.

Gilcy ([31:42](#)):

Bobo?

Drucilla ([31:43](#)):

Yeah. Bobo the Vulture.

Gilcy ([31:51](#)):

[Laughs] What?

Drucilla ([31:51](#)):

Yeah.

Gilcy ([31:51](#)):

How does that make sense? At least boxing makes sense.

Drucilla ([31:55](#)):

Well, I mean the next one, his name is like Bunbo or something. Like, it doesn't, it doesn't make any sense either. Some of them fit and some of them don't and some of their, like, ability sort of fits it. Like in the painter episode, you know, she's an artist and so her Youma power is to, like, draw things. Though apparently she can only draw rocks, I guess. And uh, and though there is, I didn't, I, when I was looking into stuff for this episode, apparently there's a trope or like a stereotype or something of the boxing Catholic priest? I mean, I know if that is what this is meant to be, but it's like, it's a, I guess it's a deep cut if so because it's so specific to like, I wouldn't think Japan would know about this trope, but Japan has this very weird relationship with religion, specifically, I think Catholicism. Um, I mean, I am getting into territory for which I, like, I'm on extremely thin ice in terms of what I am talking about right now and what I know, because you see, especially in Sailor Moon, you see a lot of religious iconography throughout it.

Gilcy (33:20):

I went to Catholic school for nine years of my life and my family is very Catholic. So it was, it was just very funny to me. I've never heard of a boxing priest.

Drucilla (33:33):

I wonder if it's like an Irish cliché or, like, something, I don't know. Maybe one of our listeners can explain further.

Gilcy (33:43):

Please.

Drucilla (33:43):

Yeah, there was something else I was going to say about that. I don't remember. Oh, I thought he was kind of a bad priest. Like the advice he gives to Naru was just, "You'll find your love, like, right behind you" or something like that. I can sort of get where he's coming from, but I just thought, like, the advice he was giving Naru, like the comfort he was giving her, was not comfort and was not really good advice. To be fair, this young girl just surprises this priest in the middle of a graveyard. And just like "Someone I loved died, I didn't know how to handle it," but I feel like priests are kind of trained to deal with that sort of thing. You know, they're, they're able to react to that sort of thing pretty quickly cause they deal with emotional fallout and things like that a lot. But yeah, that's just my opinion. Though points for Usagi yet again, when she says "Naru's in trouble, I can't wait. I can't wait for the other Scouts to get here. I got to go now." Um, and then manages to pose very awesomely on top of a gravestone when she appears. Let's, if that's it, let's go ahead and move on to episode 27.

Gilcy (35:02):

Where I thought it was really cute, but creepy. Uh, I don't know. It just kind of was like, okay, well, you're giving me stalker vibes right now, Ryo. Is it Ryo or Ryo?

Drucilla (35:16):

Oh, I don't know. I thought it was Ryo, but maybe I'm wrong.

Gilcy (35:23):

I forgot to note it in my notes. How to pronounce his name.

Drucilla (35:27):

His name is Greg in the DiC dub by the way, if you just want to call Greg and piss off a lot of our listeners. Let's stick with Ryo.

Gilcy (35:37):

Like, it was cute in the way that he looked up to Ami and tried to make himself better for Ami and for himself kind of, but also creepy stalker vibes. Like Ami literally just gave him like one line of advice, of comfort and an eraser. And then all of a sudden he's carrying a picture of her around his pocket. Mmmmmmm, maybe not?

Drucilla (36:03):

I don't know. I feel like I've had crushes on people for about the same, just because they, like, never really spoken to them, but I thought they were cute and so I had a crush on them. I didn't really go around with a picture of them or a newspaper clipping of them, I will admit, but I wonder if that's also a cultural thing, like, having, in Japan, is having a photograph of someone you care about. Is that more normal? Cause I, I don't, I mean, I, it's sort of along the same lines of the whole confession trope that you see, you know, and now the, I shouldn't call it a trope because I think it's something that really does happen in Japan, confessing to the person that you really like. I wonder if it's just something like that, like having a photo of the person that you like.

Gilcy (37:00):

So, so soft. Like, I can't hate you all the way.

Drucilla (37:05):

I did not like him right off the bat because he supposedly sees the future, but I feel like his...his version of seeing the future is the self-fulfilling prophecy version. Because at the very beginning, he doesn't save Ami. Uh, if Ami had just been walking the normal speed, she would have made it past the I-beam fall, but he stopped her before she got to, and this could also just be, they didn't animate it or didn't time it well in the episode, but she would have totally made it past that before that I-beam fell. If he hadn't called Usagi back, she wouldn't have been drenched in water. And he has the, the really creepy image of Sailor Mercury getting, like, her clothes being shredded and that doesn't come to pass either. Um, so he it's, it's not quite, I kept trying to call him a Cassandra, but that's not the correct literary reference because Cassandra was doomed with no one believing her prophecies. I can't remember if there's a better word than just self-fulfilling prophecy, but basically I feel like it's when he says his visions out loud, that's when they become real. If that makes sense, like he causes them to happen by saying they will happen. Uh, so yeah, so he just, that kind of, from the very beginning of the episode, I was like, whatever with this guy. Though it is very commendable that he is able to fight off Zoisite, the hold that Zoisite has on him at the beginning. And Zoisite has to, like, put some more umph into it.

Gilcy (38:58):

I thought that was commendable. I didn't think it was enough for a mini-moon moment or a moon moment.

Drucilla (39:04):

Yeah.

Gilcy (39:05):

I kind of viewed it as more of like, of course you're going to try to fight off these foreign emotions. You literally just kind of transformed into something you don't know. I feel like it's more natural instinct.

Drucilla (39:20):

I'd argue that the reason he's able to do that and no one else can is because he knows what's going to happen. He knows who Zoisite is. He knows that he's going to get turned into a monster and so I would argue, that's why he's able to, at least for a time. Plus, Ami's encouragement, it's able to kind of ground him a bit more. And that's why he's able to fight it whereas the other rainbow crystal carriers can't.

Gilcy (39:48):

Yeah. No moon moments or mini moments, mini-moon moments for me.

Drucilla (39:52):

A couple "Yeah, Usagi being a Sailor Scout", actually a moment that happened in Mako's introduction episode with, I think Luna says something like, "That person that Mako was fighting was from the Dark Kingdom." and it Usagi says, "Oh, well that means Mako and Joe are still in danger." and she takes off after them and it's like, "Oh yeah, like, nice. You're doing your duty as a Sailor Senshi kind of thing." But also in this episode, she tells Mercury to go get Greg somewhere safe and she stares down Zoisite all by herself. I really wish there had been something here. Zoisite is "I don't have time to deal with you." And then he leaves. No, she was being, she was being a leader. She was being a Sailor Senshi, she was being strong. Don't take this away from her! At least throw her into a building or something and then you can leave.

Gilcy (40:55):

Just give me something to work with here.

Drucilla (40:56):

But no, we just, we get the, the rare, uh, panty shot on Sailor Moon. I'll cut that out.

Gilcy (41:09):

[laughs] A rare panty shot!

Drucilla (41:09):

Um, we may one day have a conversation about how non-fan service-y Sailor Moon is compared to, I mean, there are obviously moments, but we may have, we may have a discussion about that one day. We could do it as a bonus thing, but I think it's interesting.

Gilcy (41:30):

Yeah. It is really interesting. Um, and that's something that I noticed until you said it and there was like, "Oh, that's right there, there are a surprising lack of panty shots.

Drucilla (41:43):

There's so many times where the Scouts will, like, jump down off of a high thing to the ground. And it's, like, that would have been perfect for a panty shot and they don't show anything. And so I wonder if it's, it's probably a combination of a lot of these things, but like the, was there a lot of fan service in the nineties? Is that a relatively new development? Um, is it because this was, well, I guess Sailor Moon was presented for a younger audience in the U.S. than it was in Japan.

Gilcy ([42:17](#)):

Definitely.

Drucilla ([42:17](#)):

I think it was a bit older audience, but I wonder if it's because it was, cause I feel like even in a girl focused genre or, like, a girl focused show, you still have those moments. And yeah, I just, it's something interesting. I think it bears more researching before we actually dive into it. But yeah, that's something we can definitely think about in the future.

Gilcy ([42:44](#)):

But this next episode, you have a mini-moon moment.

Drucilla ([42:47](#)):

I do. Before we get into the painting episode, I just want to call out the fact that episode 27, we have our third date between Rei and Mamoru.

Gilcy ([43:00](#)):

I forgot that they were a thing. I completely blocked my mind.

Drucilla ([43:04](#)):

It's probably not their third, who knows? I don't know if it's their third day. It's the third time we see them on a date.

Gilcy ([43:09](#)):

Oh, I even wrote it down. Forgot that Rei and Mamoru were still a thing.

Drucilla ([43:14](#)):

And it's so frustrating because, like, it makes me dislike Mamoru more because at this point, he cannot think that this is anything other than a date.

Gilcy ([43:23](#)):

Exactly.

Drucilla ([43:24](#)):

We tried to argue in the doll episode, maybe he was just going to this exhibit with Rei. Maybe he thought there were other people, maybe not. But in this episode, he can't think that this is anything other than a date. First off, because Rei is, like, draped over his arm and also, I just really hate him cause he's obviously so not into this.

Gilcy (43:56):

Exactly! I'm like, why are you here on this date with Rei? Like, you clearly do not have any, any feelings for this or want it to progress any further. Like, why are you leading her on?

Drucilla (44:06):

Yeah, he's stringing her on and it just makes him more of a jerk, especially like what we've seen of Mamoru's character he is very...obviously he can make friends because he's friends with Motoki, but I think his personality, as we've seen, like when Usagi goes to Motoki, for advice or when she's talking about being a model, like he does not spare anyone's feelings. He says what he means. So why is he continuing to go out with this girl? It can't be because he's afraid he's going to hurt her feelings. Is it because...

Gilcy (44:50):

Is it because he likes the attention?

Drucilla (44:50):

I don't know, it's just like....

Gilcy (44:50):

Rubs me the wrong way. I mean, he's so straightforward. He tells it like it is and Rei is also the kind of person that would appreciate straightforwardness because she is also a very straightforward person. I don't know. I just...hm, hmmm.

Drucilla (45:07):

And see if he was more friendly towards Usagi, I could maybe see it as, he doesn't want to just break things off with Rei, even though he's not really interested, he doesn't want to just break things off with her because he doesn't want to hurt a friend of Usagi's.

Gilcy (45:24):

Right.

Drucilla (45:24):

But as we've established, they're not really friends. They're not friendly. Like there's no reason, the painting episode, which we can get in now, has those amazing moments where Usagi's like, "He's cheating on Rei. I'm going to get him for this!" you know? Like he, like she is first and foremost there to just tear him down at any time. And I just, um, I mean, it, it's reaching a point where we can't explain this away anymore. Like, we've been trying to, we can't do it anymore. And this episode that follows the painting episode is one that people, like, as fans who are shippers of Usagi and Mamoru, they love this episode. And to have this episode follow that episode is so strange. Especially since they don't really connect in this episode, you know, like they just, they sort of throw some barbs back and forth, but they don't really start to get along. I think the reason I liked this episode so much is because there's so much potential for world-building because all of the rainbow crystal carriers that we've seen so far have some sort of ability: Crane Machine Troll Joe or whatever, has telekinesis. Ryo can see the future. We don't see what Yumemi's power is. However it is, I think it's heavily implied that she is seeing, I know there's a word for it, being able to see stuff from the past because her paintings are incredibly...I mean, it could

have been the animators just having fun. But I think the way I always read this episode is, um, she can see things from the past and that's what she paints. I even took screenshots of paintings from the episodes. I'm going to upload them to the chat. The first one was this, which I absolutely, when I saw it, I thought, I was like, that's Nephrite and Naru, absolutely. I mean, obviously it's not exact. There is some artistic license, but I read it, because if you look at it, like the bow on her back is a light green or a teal color, which is what Naru's bow on her head is. Um, the woman's got dark hair, sort of. The uniform is reminiscent, I thought of the Dark Kingdom uniforms. I know the hair doesn't really match, but the idea of him dying and so he's rising up, even though she's reaching for him, I thought, like that was my interpretation of that painting. And then the second one that I pulled...I'm not sure, I don't know if they were far enough along for this to actually be a reference. There is an episode. I think we'll tackle it in two more podcast episodes because it's an episode that comes after prince and princess stuff is revealed. I think this might be a reference to one of the, like the monster of that week, but I'm not a hundred percent sure it's been a while since I saw that episode. And I want to say that that episode wasn't originally in English. So that means I would have only seen it like maybe once during an old rewatch, but then, you'll really like this one. It's a little bit harder to see, but it's in the background of this one, the upper, I mean, and I mean the painting in the upper left and I will put all of these in the show notes listeners. Don't worry. This has not become, like, a, you know, we're, we're audio friendly. Don't worry. I'll put all these so you can see, but who do you think that is in that painting in the background?

Gilcy ([49:28](#)):

I'm still waiting for it to download.

Drucilla ([49:29](#)):

[laughs] Curse you technology!

Gilcy ([49:34](#)):

I think it's because you sent me, you sent me three of them. So it did the first two fine. But now this one, it's, she's struggling. Which one are we looking at?

Drucilla ([49:45](#)):

The upper left and the one above Umino's head, it's an older episode, a Usagi solo episode.

Gilcy ([49:55](#)):

Is it from that wedding episode?

Drucilla ([49:57](#)):

I think that's from the jazz episode.

Gilcy ([50:00](#)):

[Gasps] Oh,

Drucilla ([50:02](#)):

It looks like it's raining. He has, cause doesn't he have flowers in that episode?

Gilcy (50:06):

He does.

Drucilla (50:08):

Maybe I'm wrong. Yeah. Yeah. I think that's from...

Gilcy (50:12):

Oh my gosh.

Drucilla (50:13):

The jazz pianist episode. And like I said, this could just be animators having fun, but you know, were I to rewrite to Sailor Moon, I, well, I would do a lot of different things with the rainbow carriers arc. But in this episode, I would have all of her paintings would be from scenes from the Moon Kingdom. And they, you know, whether it was people or the buildings or the view of the palace and earth, but I think it would also, I'd also want it to be images of the Sailor Scouts because they were on the Moon Kingdom and maybe that's how the Scouts end up, uh, seeing her gallery and seeing all these things. But I also, I do like the idea of her grabbing Usagi and Mamoru and saying, "You're perfect. You look exactly like you do in my dreams. Please let me paint you." And the painting that she comes up with is maybe we, the audience sees it, but the characters don't see it, but her finished painting is of Usagi as the moon princess and as Mamoru as Prince Endymion. Like, I, I, that's what I meant in my intro about being, there's so much wasted potential in this episode to go really deep diving. Again, who knows how far along the manga was in reference to the anime at this point and so that's probably why, but yeah. Um, this episode could just, I that's, I think that's why it's one of my favorite ones. I know it seems weird that the fact that there's so much wasted potential makes it a favorite episode, but there's so much awesome goodness that you could do here.

Gilcy (51:57):

There's just a lot of really cool Easter eggs that you pointed out and that it, I thought it was, like, an okay episode. I, I thought it was cool that like, this was kind of, maybe not the first time we are faced with, "Oh, maybe Tuxedo Mask is a bad guy," but they do have, like, conversation on the rooftop where they finally acknowledge, they finally realize that both of them are looking for the moon princess. And I do really, really like the enemies to lovers trope. So the whole banter with Mamoru and Usagi was pretty fun, but the Easter eggs that you pointed out just made it 10 times better. So I can see why you like it.

Drucilla (52:42):

Some of the lines too just, like, there's a line Mamoru says, while he's, while he's in, in her house, in the painter's house, I guess. He says, "Well, I don't have a lot of free time" and I'm like, "Mamoru, when have you not had free time?" It...literally in whatever episode that was when he invites himself along with Usagi and Motoki: "I ain't got another better to do!" which we have said multiple times. Usagi, I really want to call attention to Usagi's line of, um, cause Luna basically calls her simple and Usagi runs off and she says, "Girls worry about things because we're so complicated." And I'm like, "Yes, thank you. Yes. Now just put that on a shirt for me." My mini-moon moment in this episode, well potential moment, I wasn't really sure. Um, was just, Usagi helping out Yumemi's self-esteem. Saying, "You know, it's a shame, like, people should know who you are. You make such beautiful things, don't listen to everyone who says like, you have to be beautiful or whatever, you know, it just, you should let people

know who you are and like, this is the work that you create." I thought it was sort of a mini-moon moment. I, even though it feels like a decent human being thing.

Gilcy (54:05):

Yeah.

Drucilla (54:06):

I don't think a lot of us go out of our way to pump up people like that. I think it's only when we feel comfortable with someone that we would be comfortable making that sort of statement. And Usagi is Usagi and she is comfortable with saying these things to people who are near strangers to her. So maybe we should, maybe for her, it is a basic, basic, decent human thing to do. But I think, you know, if I meet someone for the first time and they're like, "Oh, well, I tried to be a singer, but they told me I wasn't good." Like, I would not say "Well, you shouldn't let them put you down. You should be a singer anyway." I don't know what that situation is. Like, I don't know are they a good singer or are they a crappy singer? You know, but here Usagi can see that she is an amazing painter. People should know who you are and the good work that you do. So I wasn't sure about this. I call it a mini-moon moment, but yeah. What do you think?

Gilcy (55:08):

I don't know. I, the reason I didn't really note it was because I was on the fence of, is this also like, is this a decent human being thing, but then I guess when you take it out of context, out of, just say, out of Usagi's character and place that into someone else, like me and you for example, I feel like it would be a lot harder to, to encourage someone that you don't really have a relationship with. So you do bring up a really good point. I wouldn't say...I agree that it wouldn't be a full-on moon moment, but I, I think it's a mini moment, a mini-moon moment because yeah, she doesn't really know Yumemi. She, I think there was a scene at the end where, uh, there were two girls that were, they were saying, "Oh, this artist has to be beautiful because the paintings are beautiful," and Yumemi was sad about it because she doesn't view herself as beautiful. But Usagi was there to be like, "You know, it doesn't matter what those girls think. I think you're beautiful and you should see that in yourself too." I think that was where I noted that and that was where I was on the fence of decent human being thing or something more. Because of your, like, explanation, what you said, I would say it is a mini-moon moment.

Drucilla (56:37):

Also, those girls are just stupid.

Gilcy (56:40):

Yeah. [laughs].

Drucilla (56:40):

Someone can, as we've been finding out, like, someone can be a great creator of something and be a terrible person.

Gilcy (56:48):

Yeah.

Drucilla (56:48):

We're currently going through having to: Do you separate the art from the artist? Can you enjoy something knowing who created it?

Gilcy (56:59):

Yeah.

Drucilla (57:00):

Not naming any names cause don't want to get into all that, but yeah, it's something we're currently struggling with as a society. But those girls are stupid. We can agree on that. Like I said, I wasn't really sure whether it was a mini-moon moment or if it was just something to note.

Gilcy (57:20):

Yeah. I would agree. Mini-moon moment. So yeah, I guess that wraps up our episode. Um, our next episodes will cover episodes 29 to 32. Check out our social media on Twitter and Instagram @moonmomentpod. Don't be so serious. We think your opinions are out of this world. Don't forget to check out our website at moonmomentpodcast.com. There you'll find show notes and transcripts of every episode. And also those paintings that Drucilla was talking about.

Drucilla (57:54):

Yep. I will definitely make sure to add those, but let us know what your moon moment musings are. We definitely would love to hear from you. Maybe you'll just get a shout out and if you want to support our podcast, please rate and review, share, subscribe, all of that good stuff. Doing all this stuff, it really helps Moon Moment stay afloat amidst the vast ocean of podcasts. I'm Drucilla.

Gilcy (58:21):

Yes, it is not the time to be spacing out.

Both (58:23):

[Laugh].

Gilcy (58:23):

We're getting into some nitty-gritty here folks. So tune in next time. Oh, okay. I'm Gilcy.

Drucilla (58:37):

I'm Drucilla.

Gilcy (58:39):

We'll see you moon!

Both (58:41):

Bye!

Outro (58:41):

[Outro music]