

Intro (00:00):
[intro music]

Drucilla (00:19):
Hello! We're your senshi-sational hosts Drucilla and Gilcy.

Gilcy (00:24):
Hello!

Drucilla (00:24):
Welcome to Moon Moment. The podcast where we discuss the Sailor Moon cannon for what we affectionately call—you guessed it—Moon Moments.

Gilcy (00:34):
Moments that we feel exemplify, what Sailor Moon stands for and represents. Now without further ado—dah dah, dah! Let's jump right in! Uh, today we're discussing episodes 10 through 14, and this is pretty hefty, there were five episodes that we had to go through [laughs] and you know, it there's a lot that happened. These episodes we're meeting Rei or the third sailor scout, Sailor Mars. There were some strange rumors going around about a bus disappearing full of passengers coming from a shrine. And of course, Usagi goes to check it out, actually, she goes to check out the love amulets. And there she meets the beautiful shrine maiden Rei Hino. After saving the bus passengers from another plot to steal their energy, Sailor Mars officially joins the team. And then we get more cute hangouts with the girls after. They decide to go to an amusement park, where they meet the park princess, who turns out to be a creepy Negaverse energy sucking doll.

Gilcy (01:39):
And then there's the romantic cruise where no one has a boyfriend, but they still go because they want to. And we see Jadeite as cruise ship captain getting hit on by Usagi. But of course the Negaverse demon Thetis is also gunning for him. Neither of them succeed in winning his heart and the girls save the day yet again.

Gilcy (02:03):
[laughs] Um, and then because Queen Beryl is super fed up with Jadeite, as she should be because he keeps failing against 14 year old girls, Jadeite issues a final fight to the Sailor Scouts. And they have to meet at an airplane strip for some reason at some ungodly hour. And here Jadeite actually came to play! So he chases the girls around with an airplane. Tuxedo Mask appears, but then, oh my god, is he dead?! What?! But with some girl power, the Sailor Scouts manage to defeat Jadeite and Tuxedo Mask emerges from the watery depths alive! Sucks for Jadeite because now he is the opposite of that and gets replaced by a golden, flowy-haired Nephrite. The stuff romance novel, dream covers are made of guys, gals, and non-binary pals. And then we get to see Nephrite try his hand in gathering more energy and he tries to take it from tennis star Rui. But alas! Sailor Moon has also gotten stronger and defeats him with Tuxedo Mask. Game. Set. Match. Love might mean something to the Sailor Scouts, but it means nothing on the tennis courts—for you tennis aficionados out there! Wink. [laugh] So without further ado, Drucilla, did you have any Moon Moments that you would like to bring up, that you found?

Drucilla (03:38):
I did. This chunk of episodes for some reason was...It was brutal to go through because the first couple of episodes, I was constantly writing stuff down. I made three different lists to try and organize my

thoughts. There were, like the first two episodes were, were the worst. And worst, you know, oh my god, I'm watching the Sailor Moon anime to look up inspiring moments. [laugh] It was the worst. But of course I made it harder on myself because if you listened to our previous episode. We discussed the fact that I'm not only watching the sub, which is what we agreed to watch. I'm also watching the DiC dub and I'm watching Crystal and reading the manga. And I decided to throw in the Viz dub because I'm a glutton for punishment. And so I'm also experiencing all of those at the same time. Because I was writing so much by watching the sub, when I watched those other versions, I was having to pay very close attention to those spots, to see if they differed or, you know, if there was different translation or how they handled it differently. And I've said it before and I will say it again. This is not a comparison podcast, but when it comes to specific Moon Moments, I think it is interesting to look at how they're portrayed across this bit of canon that we're looking at. I'm going to go a little backwards. My first Moon Moment comes from episode 14 and that is the fact that Naru is worried about her friend and very intelligently takes actions in order to resolve it. I think, it'd be really easy, maybe be, I don't know, really cheap writing for her to, for HER to get mad. And like, why are you acting like this?

Drucilla (05:40):

You know, being really aggressive, but that's not what Naru does. She's known Rui her entire life. She knows what kind of person she is. She knows what her personality is. And she watches her go down this dark path and she's not sure what the issue is. And, uh, she tries to stay close to her. And when that doesn't work, she calls over a friend for advice and, uh, Naru lays out the situation. And even Usagi says, "Well maybe she's just stressed about the upcoming tennis tournament". Naru says, "I thought that too." Naru did not immediately jump to "My friend is being controlled by the Negaverse. She's having her energy sucked out." You know, she, she tried to come up with practical reasons why she might be this way, but then analyzing the situation decided, "No, there's something else". This can't be it. You know? And obviously she's known her for her entire life. And so she's had to have known her as she's gone through other tennis tournaments. So it's like, she's never acted like this before. So, her going with Usagi to, I guess, the best word would be intervention?

Gilcy (07:06):

Ah, yes.

Drucilla (07:06):

Sort of like a, like a pseudo intervention. They show up at the place where she's training and puts herself in front of Rui and says, you know, "You need to stop. You need to talk to me." The language that she uses is just, it's not, "you're doing something wrong". It's, "I want to help you". And I think that's really important and then I think, and then I think, Usagi says, "Yeah, she's only trying to help you." It's not the greatest language because it, it's not victim blaming exactly. But you're putting the stress and onus on the person that's struggling to reach out. You know? And I think this is kind of a great moment of Naru, not just kind of blundering into things, but intelligently going about seeking help from—for her friend. And so that's why I thought this was a Moon Moment—

Gilcy (08:08):

Is the language, the same across all of the, all of the versions that you watched?

Drucilla (08:13):

So the, the Viz dub is usually pretty much exactly the same as the sub. And, um, I didn't write down the actual language, but I'm pretty sure that the DiC dub is also if not exactly the same, the same tone, like

the same version and for all the listeners out there, uh, make note this historic day. Gilcy made me bring up the DiC dub. I did NOT bring up the DiC dub on my own!

Both (08:44):
[laughter]

Drucilla (08:48):
So, and of course there is no, there is no manga equivalent to this episode. But yeah, that was my Moon Moment. I thought—.

Gilcy (08:57):
Yeah—.

Drucilla (08:57):
You know we should, we should all...I know, especially now during the pandemic, it's a lot harder to keep up with people, but you know, friends recognize when friends start acting differently.

Gilcy (09:11):
And also don't guilt trip you for going through hard times.

Drucilla (09:14):
Yes. Mhmm and family too, not just friends.

Gilcy (09:19):
Especially family. It's good to have like that boundary of, I know your family, but also you're being, being kind of mean to me. But yeah, you bring up a good point. I didn't think, see, this was one of those moments where I thought it was a mini-moment because I really liked that she was super concerned for her friend and she was going about it in a really healthy way. Especially now, since you brought up the language and how she sought help from people that were outside of her, that kind of knew Rui, but were also removed enough so that they were able to kind of have a clearer picture of what was happening. I think for me initially, I didn't say it was a Moon Moment, Moon Moment, because I think it went back to our discussion of being a decent human being.

Drucilla (10:23):
Mmm! Mhmm.

Gilcy (10:23):
So if you saw someone like a friend that was going through something, or just being mean, you would say something. But with your points that you've brought up and the fact that, you know, they've known each other for so long and she was able to pick up the nuances of the change in Rui's personality, I think Naru definitely. I think this is a Moon Moment. Um—

Drucilla (10:51):
YEAH! Score one for Drucilla!

Gilcy (10:51):
So yes, I would agree. This is a Moon Moment.

Drucilla (10:59):

I was also fully prepared to start arguing that it IS a decent human being thing to reach out to a friend who's in trouble. But I also think a lot of us are not well-prepared or knowledgeable enough to recognize what you should say and what you shouldn't say.

Gilcy (11:21):

And she— and Naru definitely went above and beyond with it. She, she didn't have to go and reach out to Usagi She didn't have to go and be like, Rui, this, this isn't a thing for you, like need to talk, like, do you, what can I do for you? And you definitely, you definitely won me over, um, with that language bit. I was going to argue that this is a decent human kind of thing, but the language bit definitely like threw me onto the other side.

Drucilla (11:57):

And it's something that, you know, I, and I can't recall the precise language, but at one point there were posters that I would see around New York City. It would have two people sitting on a stoop or something, and one person would have a speech bubble that said something like, "You should talk to me if something is going on". But then those words were like struck out and there was a different speech bubble that said, "I'm here to listen".

Gilcy (12:29):

Mhmm. Making yourself a safe space and making it comfortable for them. Um, and also trying to just alleviate the pressure of seeming, like, NEED them to talk to you. It's more, it's more along the lines of "When you're ready, I am here for you". Yeah. I like that. I like that a lot. Yeah. Go Naru for being an A-plus friend in this episode,.

Drucilla (12:55):

Yeah!

Gilcy (12:55):

Actually in most episodes, at least so far, she's been, she's been really great. Her and Ami, I think, are really great friends. Great friends to have.

Drucilla (13:08):

Yeah.

Gilcy (13:08):

That actually brings me to one of my Moon Moments with Ami if we go back to episode 10—

Drucilla (13:16):

We're going to be here a while. 'Cause let me just say, we're gonna to be here a while. Yeah. Keep going I'm sorry to interrupt.

Gilcy (13:25):

Should I, should I hold off then?

Drucilla (13:26):

Maybe we should.

Gilcy (13:28):

Okay.

Drucilla (13:28):

Let's let's go. Okay. So I had something for 14. Did you have anything for 13?

Gilcy (13:35):

I do have something for 13.

Drucilla (13:37):

Okay. Cause I, I have sort of a thing for 13 so go ahead.

Gilcy (13:42):

Because during the fight, when they are getting chased by the airplane and Jadeite as being an absolute prick to the girls and being like, "Oh, you're girls, like, do what girls do". And then the Sailor Scouts are like, "Girl power!" Like you just because we're girls doesn't mean we can't fight. And like, just because we are of this gender doesn't mean we can be underestimated. And I think that whole, that whole bit of the girl power kind of segment, I think it just, it has to be a Moon Moment because it's very— I see you! [laugh] What do you have to say?

Drucilla (14:26):

Okay. So I had this as a mini-Moon Moment with a question mark, because I feel like it just, it just comes out of nowhere. It's so in your face of girl power-ish that if Jadeite had been a misogynist jerk, the entire, his entire run, I would have been more on board with this. Cause it's yeah. The girls are standing up there and like, even him saying like, "Oh, I hate working under Queen Beryl. She's a woman. And she doesn't know what she's doing." Like, something like that. I would have been more on board with this, but the entire time Jadeite has never said anything like that and so this just comes out of nowhere. I would be more apt to consider this a, I don't think it's strong enough to be a Moon Moment on just this, but in the DiC dub, they actually cut out the female empowerment stuff and instead Jadeite says something like, "Do you think you can defeat me? Well, you can't" or something like that. And they say, no. We can. Like when we work together, we can defeat to evil like you. Like, you're not going to win. And then they do the like "All in!" With the hands and everything. So I actually, I like it better in the DiC dub BECAUSE it doesn't have that. Because it comes out of nowhere in the sub. And I mean, Sailor Moon is a huge girl power—

Gilcy (16:07):

Female empowerment. Mhmm—

Drucilla (16:09):

Yeah. But it's just, for some reason, it's just so on the nose and so in your face, whereas we haven't seen that and I don't know, maybe, maybe it should be a Moon Moment, but it shouldn't be, we shouldn't give credit to the show for it? I don't know, like this is, I would love to hear what the audience thinks, because I love that this is in there. But in terms of the placement and it's just so awkwardly shoved in because, like, Jadeite is Jadeite. But he's never been, "These Sailor Scouts will never stop me because they're just girls and girls are stupid" and so I don't want to harsh your Moon Moment buzz.

Gilcy (16:53):

See, I thought, I thought that it was sudden because this was like the first time all three of them are working together and it's kind of like Jadeite sees how powerful all three of them have become and work together and just realizing, "Oh wait, maybe I can use this." The fact that they are girls, I don't know why he didn't use their ages because they're 14, fighting against a grown man, like a grown alien man thing.

Drucilla (17:26):

And maybe if he, Jadeite himself hadn't said anything like that, if he was just like, "Oh, you Scouts or you Senshi will never stop me". And then they said, "We will because we're, we're girls and we can defeat down the patriarchy" or whatever. Maybe I would have liked that better because, um, it wouldn't have come from... I don't know. I just, maybe, I don't know.

Gilcy (17:55):

I don't know. I, you bring up good points now that I'm looking at it, it does seem very in your face. But at the time that I was watching it, I kind of liked that it was in your face because then it was more of like, "Oh, pay attention to this". But it does seem kind of just plopped in there.

Drucilla (18:14):

I wonder if it's because we're looking at it with like a 2021 perspective. We've sort of become jaded at this point. Whenever a media property has some sort of feminist message, it's always, we always look at it cynically of, are they really trying to "Yeah! Girl power!" Or are, are they just putting it in because they know it will sell? And so I wonder if we're looking at it with that cynical viewpoint, of back in the day, you probably didn't see shows, say stuff like this. Sailor Moon is like one of the first magical girl properties and to have it just flat out say "Female empowerment!" and "We can do anything a man can do!" You know, sort of thing. It was probably pretty revolutionary. I'm, I'm not super familiar with anime at the time. And in general, in America, I don't think we had that many cartoons that were female-based or had more than one token female character. So I wonder if, I wonder if that's what it is. We're looking at it like as a moment in time. Yes. That is absolutely a Moon Moment. But now it feels kind of, I don't know.

Gilcy (19:41):

Forced? Or like as a second thought.

Drucilla (19:44):

Yeah, because we have almost 30 years on the show at this point and we have had all of these female led movies and stuff. I cry every time I watch Wonder Woman. I've watched it, I think four times at this point. Three or four times. And I—

Gilcy (20:03):

Oh my gosh!

Drucilla (20:03):

Always cry at the No Man's Land scene. I—it, it just yeah. So, I mean, she's—

Gilcy (20:11):

So powerful! Like just Gal Gadot. Am I pronouncing her name right? She's just so powerful. Ugh, my God. Yes. Yes.

Drucilla (20:19):

Like before the movie came out, I, if I kind of had a rough day, I would watch the trailer and it would make me feel so much better.

Both (20:27):

[laugh]

Drucilla (20:29):

So, so yeah, maybe that's what it is. I don't know if— should we give it, I don't know. Do we want to call it a Moon moment or do we want to call it a mini-Moon Moment or an honorary Moon Moment or a 1993 Moon Moment?

Gilcy (20:43):

You bring up a really good, you do bring up a really good point about the era of when it was made. Dang. I didn't think we would run into this kind of thing.

Drucilla (20:55):

And that may also lead into, why was Sailor Moon so popular across the globe? We didn't really have female led shows or female led cartoons. And maybe that's why, or part of the reason why Sailor Moon was so beloved. It'd be interesting to see how this moment was translated across the different adaptations. Because like I said, the English dub does away with the female empowerment stuff and just says, we can work together and we can defeat you because we're a team. It emphasizes that aspect. So it'd be interesting to see how much of that, like whether the female empowerment stuff was kept in other languages or not.

Gilcy (21:39):

Yeah. I can't remember if it was kept in the Tagalog version.

Drucilla (21:44):

So yeah, if you originally watched Sailor Moon in a different language, let us know if you remember the scene. Did they keep it "girl power" or did they translate it to something else in your language?

Gilcy (21:58):

Yes! Yeah. Tweet us! Let us know on all our social medias!

Drucilla (22:02):

I was not expecting to go into all that! Um, episode 12, the cruise ship episode.

Gilcy (22:09):

I had a honorable mention, but no actual Moon Moment. My honorable mention goes out to Ami when Rei was trying to ask her to come with her, to the cruise ship and be her plus one and Ami was saying, "Oh, I don't like, I feel bad because Usagi really wants to go." But then she gets convinced to go. So I thought, "Oh wow, that's really commendable of Ami trying to sway Ray into bringing Usagi", but then she caves. So if she hadn't caved, I would have said, "Oh, okay. Steller friend. Moon Moment. Okay." But I would just say, this is like an honorable mention. She tried.

Drucilla (22:51):

No, I would say that's more of an Ami thing. Like rather than being a decent human being. I think that's just an Ami thing. I think Ami, her default is to kind of play, I don't know, mediator. I think her first thought would have been, cause I'm sure she's not super interested in it anyway. And so her first thought was, well, Usagi would probably have a better time than me. Yeah. I think it's more of a just Ami personality thing. Uh, episode 11, um, had no Moon Moments, but I did—.

Gilcy (23:25):

I had no Moon Moments.

Drucilla (23:25):

—maybe have, I want to say something in this episode that sorta calls back to what we were talking about in episode two when they meet Mamoru on the train.

Both (23:34):

[laugh]

Drucilla (23:38):

Because in episode two, if you haven't listened to it, why are you listening to episode four, if you haven't listened episode two? But we said that we didn't know if maybe Mamoru understood how much his words hurt Usagi sometimes and that he was maybe just a high school boy who enjoyed teasing this girl. But he has a line here where he says, "She sure hits where it hurts". And it made me recast that conversation we had in a different light. Do you think maybe he, like, when Usagi him on the street she's like, "Oh great. This guy, he's going to say something really mean to me". Do you think when he sees, Usagi on the street, he's like, "Ugh, that girl, she's going to say something mean to me". And so that is interesting. And maybe it just, he comes off looking worse because he's always so calm and collected versus Usagi, who's always a drama queen about what he says. So yeah. I don't know. I saw that. I saw that line and I'm like, huh, that's interesting.

Gilcy (24:46):

Yeah. I watched that and I immediately thought of what you said during episode two. I was like—

Drucilla (24:51):

It also made me think that I so want a version, this antagonistic relationship, they have only really exist in the anime. In manga and Crystal, they don't really have this kind of relationship. They have a more, I don't know, it's more sweet relationship sort of, I don't know. I don't really know how to describe it cause they like they do one and two each other often, but it, they don't have this kind of antagonism, but I—I want a version of Sailor Moon where Usagi and Mamoru are incredibly antagonistic towards each other. BUT as Sailor Moon and Tuxedo Mask—

Gilcy (25:31):

Oh YES!

Drucilla (25:31):

—they work together often. Throughout the show, Tuxedo Mask normally comes in, says a line, throws a rose, and then he outs. I would love to see more of the— them working together, like in the tennis episode, early on. And as she gets more Senshi with her, he starts taking a back seat role because she doesn't need him anymore. But have this incredibly antagonistic relationship between Usagi and Mamoru so that when they realize—

Gilcy (26:05):
Oh my god, YES!

Drucilla (26:05):
"Oh, we were in love in a past life—"

Gilcy (26:08):
"YOU'RE THE SAME PERSON?!"

Drucilla (26:08):
"—and so now we have all of these memories!" Spoiler alert. Um, I guess if you've never seen Sailor Moon. Having to deal with the fact that "I don't really like you".

Gilcy (26:22):
Oh yeah.

Drucilla (26:22):
"But we've worked together to defeat evil and also apparently we were in love in a previous life," like having to deal with these emotions and everything and the different conflicting viewpoint. THAT would be really good.

Gilcy (26:39):
Hmm. Oh man. I love that. It kind of— is that a stretch to say that it kind of reminds me of, um, Cardcaptor Sakura where the two main leads. They hate each other in the beginning. I think his name is Lee? Maybe I'm remembering that wrong, but then they, then, then they like work together. They realize that they're the same person. And then they're like, "...wait a minute. I guess I'm in love with you." Maybe I remembering that wrong. But it also kind of reminds me of Miraculous Ladybug. I don't know if you've seen that, with a love square.

Drucilla (27:14):
So I was actually going to say: First, that I have to turn in my shoujo card because I've never seen Cardcaptor Sakura—.

Gilcy (27:25):
DRUCILLA?! [tinged with so much disappointment]

Drucilla (27:25):
And my magical girl card, I guess. But I was also thinking, as you were saying that I've never seen Cardcaptor Sakura, but I've seen Miraculous Ladybug and that's what this is sounding like. So yes I have. Um, I can't remember if I've seen all of it, but I've seen most of Ladybug and that's another show that I just love the way they've handled—

Gilcy (27:49):
YES! Yes.

Drucilla (27:49):
—that love square.

Gilcy (27:53):

Me too! This isn't a Miraculous Ladybug episode, but if you like magical girls, I think the creator actually took some inspiration from Sailor Moon and there's actually an anime version of it, of the first episode, which was really cool. If you want to check that out.

Drucilla (28:10):

I might have to watch that. That sounds really cool.

Gilcy (28:12):

It's SO COOL. Like the transformation is you can definitely tell that the creators took, took inspiration from Sailor Moon and especially with like Cat Noir's transformation, you should look at it.

Drucilla (28:24):

After we do our Sailor Moon podcast, maybe we'll do a Miraculous Ladybug podcast!

Both (28:30):

[laughter]

Drucilla (28:30):

So yeah.

Gilcy (28:31):

With that being said—

Drucilla (28:33):

—So, sorry, that was a digression, but one that was very fun. But we're already pretty far into this, uh, recording and we haven't even talked about episode 10. So let's go ahead and dive in to that. Um, would you like to go first?

Gilcy (28:48):

Okay. So! My Moon Moment from this is when Rei and Usagi are trapped in that weird limbo of the Negaverse and the portal is closing and Ami has no idea what to do. And she's kind of just panicking and having a full-on anxiety of like, "Oh my God, what am I going to do?" Let me pray, not like necessarily pray for them, but like hope for their safety. And I just thought that because like her hope and like her love for them was so much that it actually like sent out a beam of light for them to like keep this portal open and for them to kind of like follow back into their world. And I thought that was really cool because there's no mention of these kinds of powers from Ami. Ami is still relatively new to being a sailor scout and she doesn't know how powerful she is. And it was kind of cool that she kind of like awakened this, this inner power, I guess, because she cared for Usagi and her new friend Rei, who she barely knows so much and that because she cared for them so much, this power kind of awoke within her and help the two get back into their world. Thus also saving the people that were kidnapped on the buses and helping them win their fight. So that would be my Moon Moment. What about you?

Drucilla (30:17):

So I think we're getting into the weeds with this, but I think that would qualify as a Moon Moment for the universe versus, like, I feel like all of our other Moon Moments, we can use it to relate to something in the wider world, like a larger concept. But that is like a very specific power thing. And I think it's a Moon Moment for the Sailor Moon universe because you do see them, cause I pictured this as you

know, in the season finale of, I think just about almost every season finale when they're fighting the big, bad. All the Scouts kind of concentrate their power to help Usagi, to boost Usagi, into defeating the bad guy. And so that's what I'm kind of picturing. This is basically what Ami is doing because she does call upon, well, I guess this might be a DiC dub thing. I can't remember, but she calls upon Mercury. Like, you know, in the name of Mercury, please. And so she's using that power to keep the portal open. So, uh, yeah, I don't know. I guess that depends on what we want to count at. Cause I feel, I can't think of a Moon Moment that we've had so far that is strictly an In Universe thing. It's, there's always been a way for us to relate to the outside, but I'm sorry to say that, no matter how much you hope and pray, sometimes things just don't work out.

Gilcy (31:55):

I kind of—

Drucilla (31:56):

You know, there really needs to be action behind it.

Gilcy (32:00):

I kind of look at it as, you know, how there are those moments where you're in trouble and you have that inhuman strength. Like those are, there are like stories of people like lifting cars by themselves, like having that like rush of adrenaline and making something impossible possible. So I kind of looked at it in that way, like kind of the, um, more fantastical version of it and that it seemed very, like, impossible for one person to keep a portal open. She does not know where they are. She does not, she has no way of getting to them, but like some like inhuman strength that surge of adrenaline kind of helped to get, keep that portal open. I guess, if we're like trying to tie it into real world happenings. Is how I looked at it.

Drucilla (32:51):

And I see what you're saying, but I don't think... Like, cause the adrenaline thing I'm pretty sure is, you know, a documented thing. I mean, that's why there are adrenaline shots, right? But I don't think that's something because everything else you can apply it to something in your life. But the needing an adrenaline boost for something, hopefully most people in their lives will not need to lift a car off of someone or to outrun a bear. Speaking of, don't try to out run bears. Like, depending on the bear, you should either climb a tree—

Gilcy (33:29):

OR PLAY DEAD!

Drucilla (33:29):

Or curl up—yeah—curl up in a ball and hope that the grizzly goes away. So I think, I don't know. I liked the idea of there being in universe and Moon Moments because again, Sailor Moon is so all over the place with the powers of what people have, like in the cruise episode, Rei using her spiritual power to win, you never really see anything like that again. So I like the idea of there being in universe moments. Because we like to see our heroes, like, get stronger and unlock new stuff. But—

Gilcy (34:07):

So is this Moon Moment? Or—

Drucilla (34:12):

I mean, [deep sigh] again, we can throw this to the audience and see what they think. I don't think it's a Moon Moment because it seems, it's too universe specific. And I mean, if anything, we should like dock Ami for being late because Usagi was supposed to meet her and they were supposed to get on the bus together! And Ami was late. But I don't think I would consider this a Moon Moment. Um, you know, maybe a Mini-Moon Moment with like, you know, a little sticker that's like "in universe", but I wouldn't consider it.

Gilcy (34:51):

What do you think audience? Uh, do you think this is a Moon Moment? Should there be a—what's the word for it? Uh, I forgot the word for it.

Drucilla (35:01):

Extra universe? Or—.

Gilcy (35:03):

Uhh. A... should it be stuck with a sticker that says "in universe", BUT Moon Moment?

Drucilla (35:11):

Oh, like a little asterisk?

Gilcy (35:11):

Yeah! With like a little asterisk. Yeah! Yeah, yeah, yeah. Should it be with a little asterisk that says "in universe" Moon Moment? Let us know!

Drucilla (35:20):

If that's the case, then it opens up a lot more potential in universe Moon Moments, which is really just an excuse for us to call out awesome moments in the anime. Um, BUT my Moon Moment for episode 10 is actually a Moon Moment for episode three of Crystal. So my Moon Moment comes from Crystal and it's a moment that exists only in Crystal. It's not in the manga, but they both very similarly to the original anime they end up in this like extra space, the Jadeite is there and there's no Youma here. It's just Jadeite. Mars, or excuse me, at this point she's Rei. Rei is on the ground and Jadeite, he's using his, I guess ice power to attack both Sailor Moon and Mercury who was there. And uh, you know, he's zapping them and ice is growing on their arms. Rei wakes up and sees Sailor Moon kind of yelling and realizes that, that's Usagi.

Drucilla (36:27):

That that's the girl she met earlier who came to the temple. She knows, she says, "Oh my gosh, you're Usagi." And Usagi of course tries to play it off and it doesn't work. Um, Sailor Moon says something about, um, "This is not something that like normal people do," you know, "I have these powers" and stuff like that. And that is a buzzword for Rei. It kind of rings a bell. Because like we saw in episode two of Crystal where it really lays on the fact that Ami is alone and this girl who,, for no reason was really nice to me and was really friendly to me. And I think we might be friends. Crystal kind of lays on the fact that Rei is sort of alone because she has these powers and she doesn't know why she was born with them. It sort of rings a bell in her mind and it's like, "Wait, you have powers too?" And at that point she gets up, grabs Jadeite and stops him, you know, kind of yanks him to try to— from using his powers. But as she's grabbing onto him, the ice starts to build up her arm and he says, "ha, you're just an ordinary human. You can't stop me." And she's like, "I'm not ordinary. I have powers." And she throws, uh, she's able to just like zap all of the ice away. And that's when her symbol appears. And that's when Luna

throws her the transformation stick and she transforms into Mars. It's a much stronger moment in Crystal than it is in the manga. But that is my Moon Moment. The fact that—.

Gilcy (38:00):
Yeah.

Drucilla (38:00):
—she recognized that, you know, she as just an ordinary person is stepping in to try and stop this guy from attacking Sailor Moon and Sailor Mercury. She, granted, she knows that this is Usagi and like, this is the girl who was kind to me and who I met earlier, but she just steps in really, without any regard for her own safety and tries to stop it. And then in classic Rei Hino fashion, when Jadeite says, "You can't stop me. You're just ordinary." She's like, "Excuse me?! No."

Gilcy (38:37):
"Say that again?!"

Drucilla (38:39):
So I, and towards the end of the episode, it comes, it circles back around to the idea of like Rei thinks like this is why I was born with powers. I was born to meet these people and to help them and to be a Sailor Senshi. Yeah. That was my Moon Moment. Someone stepping in, even when they might be out of their depth, which I know you could probably argue, that's not a smart idea, but someone stepping in when it might be out of their depth to try to help someone else. That was my Moon Moment.

Gilcy (39:09):
I think that also goes back to our conversation of, like, intent, I suppose, because Rei, wasn't helping Usagi just because that's what a decent human being would do. But it's also like you were saying, it really resonated within her and because it resonated so deeply within Rei, it was kind of like, "Oh, I see myself as this person and this person helped me. Like I also, like, I want to be that person too".

Drucilla (39:37):
At this point. I think they're, like all of the children that have been taken by the buses are there. So it's also a, you know—

Gilcy (39:46):
"What about the children?!"

Drucilla (39:47):
—Yeah. Like I have to, I have to stop this guy because he's hurting Usagi who has powers like me, but also he's the one who's kidnapped all these kids. So I need to help them so we can stop this guy. And so even though she, she's quote unquote, "just Rei Hino" as if there were such a thing! She just stands up and again, physically grabs him to try and stop him. Ice or no.

Gilcy (40:13):
And even with her powers, you just grabbing someone that's attacking someone else. I think that takes a lot of guts. Yeah. Even without the powers. I think that it kind of reminds me of that jazz musician episode where he just jumps in and tries to fight the Youma. Even though he is very powerless, poor guy. But I think that's also a kind of with Rei's as well. Yes, she has powers, but also she's, she doesn't know how powerful she is.

Drucilla (40:42):

I also have a mini-Moon Moment for this episode. Um, and it's sort of, so it's sort of split into, so again, this, I think kind of falls under, I don't know if we can count them as mini-Moon Moments because it's sort of, this is a Sailor Senshi's duty and this is what they should be doing. And so the first one is actually in Crystal, Usagi uses the pen to transform into a flight attendant. And, but she does that when she's, I think she's waiting for Ami at the bus stop, and she sees the bus go by. And it's only a brief second, but she sees Rei in the bus because instead of Rei sort of being captured by Jadite and sent to that other realm, he, I think grabs her at the temple and then puts her on the bus. And he's actually the one driving the bus because there is no Youma in at least this episode of Crystal. So for like a brief moment as this bus goes by, she sees Rei on the bus. So she's like, Rei's in trouble. I have to go! Transformation pen! Flight attendant. And she just starts booking it because the bus isn't slowing down. And then she just jumps for the bus as it's going through the little black hole dimension thing. And so this was, I had it down as a mini-moment because, because she just goes for it, there's no thinking about it. She's like, Rei's in trouble. I gotta go. But I also think it is her duty as Sailor Moon. This is not, I don't know. You could say, obviously if you see someone in a sketchy situation, you should investigate. You know, you see a girl who, you know, is passed out on a park bench at night, might want to try to wake her up and put her into a cab. So it's like, yes, this could be a mini-Moon Moment, but it's also, it is so immersed in the, she's a Sailor Senshi and she's supposed to protect people and that's what she's doing here. So I wasn't sure whether this would qualify or not.

Gilcy (42:50):

Well, I feel like at this point, Usagi is still coming into terms of being what the duties are of being like a Sailor Senshi. Because she, in the beginning of the episode, when her and Ami are trying to get on the bus, she was throwing like, a huge fit about it and being like, "Oh, I don't want to go on the bus". Like, "I'm scared". Like "I don't want to do it". And Ami was trying to convince her to be like, "Oh, like we have to go on the bus" like, "we have to do it for like research and we have to see where like these people are going." I don't think she did it out of duty per se, because she's a Sailor Scout, but I think she did it more of, "Oh, it, Rei is on the bus. I gotta help her! Looking at her earlier actions of not really taking, being a Sailor Scout super duper seriously yet. Like there are instances where she does do her due diligence as a Sailor Scout, but I think more often than not, she, at least in the earlier episode, she leans towards the easier route of avoiding it or prolonging her duties as long as she can. So I would actually say that this is a Moon Moment, not just the mini one.

Drucilla (44:04):

Hey. Yeah. Cause I didn't think about it in that way. That it's not so much it's, she's not looking at it like "It's my duty. I have to do this". But, "Oh my gosh, Rei is on that bus. The bus is bad. I need to try and help her." And she can do that with the transformation pen and because she's Sailor Moon. So yeah, I didn't even think about that. So, surprise Moon Moment I guess?

Gilcy (44:26):

Because I think, I guess, cause I think especially with the transformation pen as well, she's still coming. She mostly uses it for disguise. Right? It's what it's used for, but she doesn't have to use it. I think she uses it more out of frivolity because like she wants to look cute or like she wants to fit the theme of what is happening and the powers and stuff that come with it are kind of like, like a side thought.

Drucilla (44:56):

And this episode of the original anime, there's a new layer to it. Because in the previous episodes, yes, she's used it for disguise to sneak it to a jazz club or to go on a ship or to go into a radio station. But here

she, I think, and correct me if I'm wrong cause I, I think it's in both the dub and sub, um, but she says, Luna's trying to get her on the bus. Like literally like grabbing at her skirt and trying to pull her. And she's like, "Okay, well I'll go, but please let me have a disguise." And um, it's, it's almost like a confidence booster. As Usagi, I can't handle this, but let me be a gorgeous flight attendant and I'll be able to. And that works, like, as soon as she transforms, she jumps on the bus and is like "Stop this bus". Uh, you know, and so maybe that's more like, I dunno, I, I think she's using it as almost a shield, um, to kind of like—

Gilcy (46:02):

Kind of like, uh, Oh, sorry. I was trying to relate this to, you know, how makeup is for people. It's like that confidence booster, you know, um, there are sometimes you don't want to go out without makeup because like, Oh, you don't look as like put together, I guess as society wants you to look. There are times when, Oh, like putting on makeup just will like help boost your own confidence. And I think that's how the makeup pen is. Or the transformation pen is for Usagi in this instance.

Drucilla (46:32):

Yeah. The same thing, I mean, can be said about clothing. You find a really awesome pair of jeans or a really cute dress and you just feel great.

Gilcy (46:43):

Yeah. You just feel like you could take over the world.

Drucilla (46:46):

Yeah. Surprise Moon Moment.

Drucilla (46:48):

I did have some other mini-moments. Well, I've had them marked as mini-moments, but I, they also may fall under the "it's her duty". And this was the moment where, so in the original anime, she's in the other world, the Youma has caught Rei and Usagi is on the ground and she's crying and in the sub, uh, so Luna says "Usagi, you have to transform into Sailor Moon". Usagi says, "I'm so sick of this but I'll do it". And then Luna says, "yes, your carefree spirit and optimism your true strengths". But in the DiC dub, it's also sort of similar. Luna says, "You've got to become Sailor Moon now". And Usagi says, I guess "Serena" because I'm talking about the DiC dub and to confuse our audience who haven't seen, uh, the DiC dub, you know—

Gilcy (47:48):

Uh, sorry, the in the Filipino version, they call her "Bunny".

Drucilla (47:53):

The Mix-Tokyopop English translations of the manga call her Bunny because it's the literal translation of her name. But so she says, "All right, just one more good sob". And then she stands up and says, "Okay, I'm ready". And Luna says, "See, you can be brave when you put your mind to it". So, I am, I thought this was sort of a Mini Moon Moment, um, because it's showing that even though the phrasing is different, they both show that, you know, Usagi is sort of coming into her own. And of course, depending on the situation, you can not like a situation or something, but you just plow through it and get it done anyway. Put on your big girl panties and you just get it done. So I kind of thought this might be a mini-Moon Moment. I didn't consider it a full-on Moon Moment, because again, I thought this was a Sailor Senshi duty kind of situation. But I think it's still a Moon Moment because it shows that you don't have to love

your job. You don't have to love the people that are there. You're there for a reason, whether it's to get more experience or to have something on your resume to make some money. And there is always a moment where you have to consider how much more of this do I want to deal with, like balancing the pros and cons of the situation. But I think it shows that you can not like something and still get it done. Especially like if you've committed to something and then you've realized you're like, I don't know if I want to go through with this. You've committed. You can just grit your teeth and bear it. Although, maybe if you're having second thoughts about, you know, getting married, maybe not get married. Until you're not having second thoughts. So.

Gilcy (49:50):

I think this would be more of the mini-moment because this, I feel falls more under the question of duty because Luna is actually beside her telling her to do this. Instead of Usagi, just making a split second decision of whether or not to jump on this bus. Yeah, I, yeah, I would say this is Moon Moment, commendable. Yeah, mini-Moon Moment, sorry. Commendable that she ultimately did it, but she had to go through a lot of persuading from Luna.

Drucilla (50:24):

And when I was going back through and making sure I had quotes and things correct. I was really hoping that didn't have Luna saying, "You need a transform into Sailor Moon", but they both do. They have some variation of it. So, Oh, well, across the board mini-Moon Moment.

Gilcy (50:41):

So across the board mini-moment.

Drucilla (50:42):

Um, so that's gonna do it for this episode? I think?

Gilcy (50:47):

Yeah. But yeah, this was a pretty in-depth episode. I feel like, I mean, it was FIVE episodes. So.

Drucilla (50:55):

And, you know, sorry that it is a little bit longer than we usually like to do, but we have Rei Hino on the floor everyone. We have to give her—

Gilcy (51:06):

Her due diligence.

Drucilla (51:07):

Yes.

Gilcy (51:10):

Thank you for sticking with us.

Drucilla (51:12):

So the next episode will cover 15 through 19. So five episodes. You know, I just realized something. I was going to ask the audience a question, let's extend this podcast a little bit longer. I read the Eternal edition of the manga because it is, right now, considered to be the best English translation that we have. However, I also flip through my Mixx-Tokyopop versions just to see if there are any interesting sidebars

in it. If you listened to our first episode, I, there was an interview with Takeuchi that I made mention of. I took a picture of it, you can find it on the show notes for episode one. For the third chapter, Rei's introductory chapter, Tokyo-Mixx version. There is something called Notes from Naoko. And, um, it's talking about, um, uh Sailor Mars, some notes about Rei and Miko and stuff like that.

Drucilla (52:11):

And she says, "By the way, did you know, I wrote this chapter different for the anime TV show then for this motionless version." Which is what they described the manga as. "That's right. See if you can find the differences. You'll notice that I made a lot of things different between the two". I can find nothing that says Takeuchi worked on the anime. I mean, obviously she was a consultant. But the manga was publishing at like the exact time that the anime was being produced. And all of the stuff that I have heard over the years has been that she was giving them basically broad outlines of things she had in mind, and that's what they were going with. And, but this Notes in the book, it makes it seem like she wrote this episode of the anime, which, you know, I can't read Japanese so I can't read the credits in the show. But according to Wikipedia, she's not the writer on this episode. For anyone out there who has greater Sailor Moon knowledge, do you think this is just a weird translation mistake? Do you think she was really just saying, "Oh, the manga version is different from the anime version. See if you can spot the difference". And they just weirdly translated it. But yeah, I'd be interested if there IS something to this. Like she did give copious notes on this. I mean, obviously anime Rei is very different from manga Rei. So I don't know. And I think she's, I think she's wholly an anime creation. Like, I don't think Takeuchi was like, "you should make Rei different". So if anyone has any clues or ideas or, you know, knows of an interview where this is sort of explained. Or if you just think it's just a weird translation thing I would really like to know because all of Takeuchi's time must've been dedicated to doing the manga. I can't imagine she would've had time to also help write the script. Yeah. I'm uncovering weird like gems. I don't know if they're gems. Like weird rocks. Weird shaped rocks.

Gilcy (54:33):

Moon Mysteries? Is a new segment? Moon Mysteries?

Drucilla (54:37):

Moon Mysteries! Anyway, next episode, we'll cover Sailor Moon episodes 15 through 19. Please check out our social media on Twitter and Instagram @moonmomentpod. Let us know the answer to our Moon Mystery. And obviously a lot of this episode was, "Is this a Moon Moment? Is it a mini-Moon Moment?" Our very long discussion about the female empowerment section. You know, please let us know your thoughts. Also don't forget to check out our website at moonmomentpodcast.com. We'll have the transcripts, we'll have the show notes, we'll have links. And as I said, I'll post the photo of this Notes from Naoko to it so you can see it for yourself.

Gilcy (55:23):

Let us know what your Moon Moment Musings are. We would love to hear from you as Drucilla has stated. Let us know what your uncoverings are for our Moon Mysteries. And maybe you just might 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. Okay. I just, let me just say that I am really proud of my tennis joke that I made in this episode run through. Just like just throwing that out there. Cause I used to be a really avid, like, tennis player, but I personally find the space jokes, a very, a-moon-sing! Had to throw that one out there too.

Drucilla (56:18):

I'm Drucilla.

Gilcy (56:18):

And I'm Gilcy. We will see you moon. Bye!

Drucilla (56:24):

Bye!