

PRT 400- "The Fall of Mistress 9"

"The scary thing is I have the potential to be that powerful as well if my powers ever got out of control." I said as I finished making my sandwich.

"Let's hope that never happens." Darien replied.

"You about ready to go? We need to meet the others at Mina's." I said as I took a bite of my PB&J.

"I have been ready. I was waiting on you."

"Oh, ok. Then let's go." I said as I grabbed the keys.

"Serena...wait...one second."

"What is it?" I asked.

"Come here."

I nodded and walked over to him. "What is it?" I asked.

"I just want you to know...in case anything happens during the battle with Mia...I know I get frustrated with you sometimes and don't show it like I should but...I love you so much Serena. I want to make sure you know that."

"Oh Darien, of course I know that...and I love you too...more than anything. But don't worry. We'll stop Mia...it will all be fine." I replied as I kissed Darien, "Now, let's go."

We arrived at Mina's. Everyone else was already there, including the Outers.

"About time you got here." Raye said.

"I came as fast as I could." I said.

"You have no concept of punctuality."

"Yeah, well..."

"Don't start you two." Darien said.

"Yeah, sorry." I mumbled.

Raye rolled her eyes.

"Can we get down to business here?" Amara asked.

"She's right. We need a plan to take down Mia and we have to do it now." Mina said.

"What about Kaya? We've been holding the cat hostage for weeks. Maybe we can finally get some use out of her?"

"I don't see how..."

"We could use Kaya as bait again. Worked last time." Michele said.

"Mia would smell the trap this time." Lita said.

"Yeah, but would she care? She wants Kaya back so bad she would take the bait anyway." Trista said.

"Good point." Raye agreed.

"And what do we do when we find her?" Amy asked.

"Well, she's a Sailor Solider and obviously Serena has the power to take away a Sailor Solider's power...she did it to me. Why not just strip Mia of her powers?" Mina asked.

"Because it would kill me." I said.

"You did it to me and you're fine."

"Yeah, because you're good and part of the team. Mia would resist and it would drain me. The only way that would work is with the combined power of the Crystal and the Amethyst...and probably back up from your Sailor Crystals as well."

"Well, except for the Amethyst, we have all that." Raye said.

"Yeah, but the Amethyst is key and we don't even know what side Michelle is on right now." Darien said.

"Hunter fixed her." Lita said.

"He stopped her...but is she really fixed?"

"That's a good question." I agreed.

Mia

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After the battle with Michelle, in which she nearly killed us, Hotaru and I fled to an abandoned warehouse and hid out.

"The purple lightning and explosions have finally stopped. Do you think they stopped Saturn?" Hotaru asked.

"Maybe...I hope so...I was actually scared in that last battle." I said.

"Yeah, she looked a little scary. I still don't think the others are a threat, but Saturn is as long as she's out of control."  
"Agreed."

"So you want me to go out and investigate. Maybe I can find out what happened so we can plan our next attack?"

I nodded, "Good idea. I can't go out in civilian form, but you can."

"Ok."

"And while you're at it, see if I'm still wanted by the cops. I really rather not hide forever."

Hotaru nodded, "OK, I'm going out. I'll be in touch."

Hotaru left and I sat back on an empty crate and sighed. Somewhere along the way my plans got very messed up and I wasn't really sure how to fix it. I knew that I had to get rid of the others sooner, rather than later. If I didn't then I wouldn't stand a chance.

"Your hiding leaves something to be desired." A male voice said from a dark corner of the warehouse.

"Who's there?" I asked as I jumped. It startled me.

"Who do you think?" the man asked as he stepped forward. It was Diamond.

"What do *you* want?" I asked.

"To give you one more chance."

"A chance? For what?"

"To save yourself. I'm from the future Mia, I know how this story ends...but we both also know the future is not set in stone."

"I think I'll take my chances. It's not like I have anything to lose. They took Kaya...my civilian identity is trashes, my career is destroyed. I have nothing to lose."

"Sure you do."

"What?"

"Your life."

"And you care about my life, why?"

"Sailor Moon once saved me and I would like to pay it forward to someone else. I see good in you Mia...oddly enough...you don't have to do this."

"Give me a break. You don't care about me, you just want to save your friends."

"Fine. Have it your way...but you're about to be in this alone."

"What?"

"I'm from the future, like I said, I know how this story ends."

"What do you know?"

"You'll find out soon enough."

Serena

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I decided that if we had a prayer of finishing Mia off, we had to have Saturn back. I broke from the group, explaining I just needed some air, then I went to Michelle's and knocked on the door. Rocky answered.

"Serena, hi." He said.

"Hey, is Michelle here?" I asked.

"Um, yes, but I'm not sure she's up for visitors."

"Please, it's important."

"Ok, come in. She's in the bedroom with Hunter. He's managed to keep her relaxed so far." Rocky said bitterly.

"I'm sorry Rocky. I know that has to hurt."

"It's what's best for Michelle." Rocky said, more to convince himself, I think, than anything.

I went to the bedroom and knocked.

"Come in." Michelle said.

I went in the room. Michelle was in bed next to Hunter. He was holding her protectively.

"Hi." I said softly.

"Serena, hi." She replied. She sounded weak, but after using that much power it wasn't surprising.

“Are you ok?”

She nodded, “Yeah. I’m much better. I’m really sorry about...everything. I just lost control and...”

“It’s ok. It’s over now...but Mia is still out there and we need your help to stop her.”

“I don’t think that’s a good idea. Michelle is far too weak to battle anyone right now.” Hunter said.

Michelle laughed gently, “Sweetie, I can speak for myself.”

“I’m sorry, I’m just worried about you. You’re still so fragile.”

“Are you two back together?” I asked.

Michelle shook her head, “No. We’re not...but I need him right now and he’s nice enough to be by my side.”

I nodded in understanding.

“As for Mia, I’ll be glad to do what I can. What did you have in mind?”

“Well, Mina had a good idea. Mia is a Sailor Solider which means you and I have the power to take away her powers...except for her resistance. With the combined power of the Amethyst, Crystal and back up from the other Sailor Crystals, we may have a shot of stripping her of her powers.” I explained.

“No way, that’s far too dangerous.” Hunter said.

“If it’s the only way...then we have to.” Michelle said.

“No way. You’re weak from all the power you used already. You can’t use the Amethyst...even with back up. I’m not losing you.”

“It’ll be ok. I’ll be fine. I need to do this, really. It’s ok.” Michelle said as she stood up and reached for her jeans, “Let me get some real clothes on and I’ll go with you to talk to the others.”

“Michelle, please don’t.” Hunter begged.

“I’m sorry Hunter, this is something I need to do.”

After Michelle got dressed we headed out. We were driving towards Mina’s when we saw Hotaru walking on the sidewalk. I pulled over.

“Hotaru...” I said as I got out and ran to her. Michelle got out of the car and joined me.

“Michelle and Serena? I guess the Sailor War is over?” Hotaru asked.

“We’d like it to be but you’re still with Mia. Please, join us.” I said.

“I’m where I belong.” Hotaru said.

“No, you’re not. You’re supposed to be Sailor Saturn, not me.” Michelle said.

“You can have it, thanks.”

“You don’t mean that.” I said.

“Yeah, Serena, I do.”

“Hotaru...”

“Back off Serena.”

“Hotaru, listen...”

“No, you listen. I will attack you so don’t think I won’t.”

“Oh we know you will.” Michelle said.

“Then back off.”

“Not a chance.”

“Fine, have it your way.” Hotaru reached up and summoned her Mistress 9 form. She held out her other hand, releasing energy and throwing us backwards.

“OK, not what I had in mind.” I said as I pulled myself up.

“Time to transform.” Michelle said.

I nodded, “Moon Spirit Power!”

“Saturn Spirit Power!”

“Bring it on.” Hotaru said.

“It’s so brought. Saturn Lightning Rings Electrify!”

“Nice try...but epic fail.” Hotaru laughed as she attacked again.

“Think we could use some back up here.”

“Agreed...” I said as I pulled out my communicator and called for back up.

“Now what?”

“We hold her off until the others get here.” I said. Thankfully the wait wasn’t long. The others showed up, including Tuxedo Mask, pretty quickly.

“Ok, that’s about enough Hotaru!” Uranus cried as she grabbed Hotaru from behind and held her.

“Let me go!” Hotaru screamed.

“Not this time sweetie. We’d had enough. You’re coming home. There’s been enough death and destruction.” Neptune said.

“Agreed. Sailor Moon, Sailor Saturn, combine your powers.” Pluto said.

“I’m too weak.” Saturn said.

“Not your Amethyst, your inner strength. You can do it. Hotaru is Sataurian too. Use that connection.”

Saturn nodded, “Ok. Let’s try it Sailor Moon.”

I nodded as I summoned my healing wand, “Go for it Sailor Saturn.”

Saturn closed her eyes and focused. As she did her tiara disappeared and the Saturn Planetary symbol on her forehead started to glow purple. Uranus forced Hotaru to look toward Saturn and sure enough the energy from Sailor Saturn’s symbol started to radiate to Hotaru’s.

“I think that’s my cue. Moon Healing Activation!” I cried as I used the wand.

“No!” Hotaru cried as the energies combined. It was really, really difficult because Mistress 9 was really, really powerful...but we finally purged the evil from Hotaru and her own planetary symbol started to glow purple again. She passed out and Uranus carefully brought her to the ground.

“Are you ok Saturn?” I asked as Saturn opened her eyes and her tiara re-appeared

Saturn nodded, “I think so. Is Hotaru?”

“Let’s find out.”

We ran to Hotaru’s side. Uranus was holding her.

“Is she?” I asked.

“Hotaru? Sweetie? Are you ok?” Neptune asked as she carefully brushed Hotaru’s hair with her hand.

Hotaru opened her eyes, “Mom? Dad? Oh god...what did I...I’m so sorry.”

“Oh sweetheart, it wasn’t your fault. The important thing is that you’re ok.” Neptune said.

“And you’re finally coming home, where you belong.” Uranus echoed.

“Thank you guys...thank you Sailor Saturn.” Hotaru smiled.

Saturn smiled back, “You’re welcome.”

“Well that’s one more threat down.” Jupiter said.

I nodded, “Now that just leaves Mia.”

“Now that we have Sailor Saturn on our side again she doesn’t stand a chance.” Venus said.

Mia

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Diamond had used his power to create a portal that allowed me to watch the battle between Hotaru and the others.

“No!” I cried, “No! This can’t be!”

“What did I tell you...alone Mia...alone.” Diamond said.

“They’ll pay for that!”

“How? You’re flying solo now. No Kaya...no Black Lady...no Dark Lady...no Mistress 9...no team...just little old Mia.”

“Go to hell.”

“No thanks...but that’s exactly where you’re headed if you don’t stop this.”

“I’m not stopping.”

“Then you’ll end up dead.”

“I’m willing to take that chance.”