

PRT 353- “Princesses of Hope 6: Pink Horses”

Mina

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“Watch you back guys.” I said.

“Did you hear that?” Mars asked.

“What?” Neptune asked.

“This wind storm doesn’t feel natural. You think Nemesis is causing it?” Uranus asked.

“Probably. It is making it hard to see.”

“Over there. See that shadow?” Mars asked.

“Whatever it is isn’t going to get us!” Jupiter cried as she ran towards the figure and jumped it.

“Jupiter!” Mars and I cried as we ran after her. She was sitting on top of someone and looked to be strangling whoever it was. As we got closer and the dust cleared a bit I saw who it was.

“Adam?!” I cried. He was Morphed, but I’d know that Black Ranger suit anywhere.

“Adam?” Jupiter asked as she suddenly realized who she was attacking, “Sorry dude.” She said as he let go of him.

“It’s ok. I’m fine.” Adam said.

“Um, Jupiter?” I asked.

“Yeah Venus?” she asked.

“Can you get off of my fiancé please?!”

“Oh...right...sorry.” She said as she stood up.

I helped Adam up, “Are you sure you’re ok?”

“Yeah, I’m fine, really. Thanks. Are you guys ok?” Adam asked.

“We’re fine. I take it you didn’t find Rocky.”

“No. You guys are the first people I’ve run into out here.”

I sighed, “Well, since you’re here you may as well join us. Maybe we’ll run into Rocky along the way too.”

“Venus!” Neptune called.

“Yeah?”

“Uranus and I found an opening in the base.”

“Oh, that’s our cue. Let’s get in there.”

“Let’s do it.” Adam said.

I grabbed his hand and we headed into the mountain.

“OK what now?” Mars asked as we found ourselves in the center of a maze.

“I have no idea...they could be anywhere.” I said.

“Gotta hand it to Nemesis...she knows how to pick a lair.” Jupiter said.

“Did you seriously just compliment her?” Uranus asked.

“Well, not exactly.”

“She’s holding them somewhere in here. Let’s keep going.” I said.

Andrew

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Lita had asked me to try to keep Chad busy while they looked for Serena and Michelle, but this task was becoming increasingly hard the later it got. It was one thing to go hang out for a bit then grab some dinner...but it was getting late.

“You know, I haven’t heard from Raye since this morning. I should call her.” Chad said.

“I’m sure she would have called you if she needed to talk. Lita mentioned they were going to be in the studio working on Michelle’s album. Maybe pull an all nighter. I’m sure that’s where Raye is. Probably so busy she’s completely lost track of time.” I said.

“Then we should get some food and take it to the studio. The girls probably need a break.”

“No...I mean...if they are in the zone do you really want to disturb them?”

“Andrew, it’s almost 1 AM. I’m sure they are tired.”

“No, I think we should just leave them to their creativity. Why don’t we head to Sunset or something?”

“Sunset? Are you serious? Andrew, the bars close in an hour.”
“There’s a couple of after hours clubs.”
“No, thanks dude. I’m fine.”
“Oh come on. It’ll be fun. Please? Don’t make me go alone man.”
“Since when do you like clubbing? I thought you had outgrown the party scene.”
“I have, but it’s fun to go hang with a friend every now and then. Come on.”
“Should we call Darien and Adam to see if they want to go?”
“Nah. Darien works early and I think Adam mentioned something about a big test. We should just go hang.”
“Well, ok. Are you sure everything is ok? You’re acting so strange.”
“Everything is fine. Now come on.”
“OK, I really think I should call the studio first and at least check on Raye.”
“The studio is closed...I mean...the front desk will be. No one will answer the phone.”
“She has a cell phone.”
“Which is probably turned off if they are recording.”
“Oh, I guess that’s true.”
“Come on, stop worrying about Raye. Let’s go.”
Chad looked at me like I was an alien, “Fine. I still think something is off...but fine.”
I sighed. Lita and Raye owed me so big for this.

RJ

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Amy found an opening for us and we went inside.
“This place is insane.” Hunter said.
“It’s like a maze. It feels like we’re going in circles. How are we supposed to find anything in here?” Darien asked.
“We have to. If Cindy is in here we have to find her.” Charming said.
“Should we call out for them?” Ferdinand asked.
“No. If Nemesis is around that will alert her.” Adam said.
I nodded, “He’s right. We have to try to be discreet.”
“They are in here somewhere.” Amy said.
“Yeah, but where?” Philip asked.
“I can’t track any closer than this. The cave is blocking any further tracking.”
“SNOW!” Ferdinand cried.
“Shh!” we all said in unison.
“What do we have here?” Nemesis asked as she appeared.
“Nice going.” Aladdin said.
“Where are the princesses?” Eric demanded.
“Hmm, a whole army of princes for my picking...wait a second...RJ and Hunter? What is it about that slut?! Why does she get three princes?!” Nemesis cried out.
“Three?” Hunter and I asked together.
“No matter, you’re all mine now.” Nemesis said as she blasted us.
“I don’t think so.” Darien said as he attacked her.
“Right behind you dude.” I said as I used the energy boosts from my Morpher but she dodged it.
“Crimson Blaster!” Hunter called as he fired at her.
“Chrono Blaster!” Alex called.
“For Power Rangers you are pathetic.” Nemesis said, “Nemesis Dark Blast!”
Nemesis kept blasting us back until we fell off a ledge.

When we landed, several feet down, it quickly became clear that Nemesis had tricked us. We had fallen right into a prison like structure. A lot of good we’d do the princesses now. We were trapped ourselves!

Michelle

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We were still looking for a way out when we heard some yelling in the distance. I froze in my tracks.

"That sounds like Hunter..." I said.

"Oh great." Rocky mumbled.

"And I could have sworn that other voice was Alex..." Astrid said.

"Could our princes have somehow traveled through time to save us?" Aurora asked.

Astrid nodded, "Alex as a time ship. If he figured out what Nemesis did, he might have gathered everyone to come save us." Astrid said.

"But if Nemesis found them first..." Mandy said.

"Then it won't be pretty. She's upset as it is." Serena said.

"Well we have to get to them." Belle said.

"How? We're walking in circles as it is." Jasmine said.

"Can anyone tell what direction the voices were coming from?" Rocky asked.

"No. Too much of an echo in here." I said.

"Well we have to do something." Ariel said.

"Serena, can't you use your Silver Crystal to somehow 'feel' Darien or something?" I asked.

"You think Darien is with them?" she asked.

"If I have to guess, probably."

"Hmm, well, yes. I can, but it takes a lot out of me."

"It's ok. We're here for you. I can use my Amethyst to back you up if you're worried about the energy use."

"No! Are you two insane? You can't use the Crystal or the Amethyst." Rocky said.

"We don't exactly have much of a choice." I said as I called on my Amethyst.

"NO!" Rocky said grabbing it away from me.

"Rockford Miguel DeSantos, give that back to me right now." I demanded.

"Not a chance Michelle Pauline Morris."

"It's Morris-James, thank you...and give it back!" I cried as I jumped for it. This did little good when he held his arm straight up. He was a good bit taller than I was and I could only reach the top of his wrist.

"Rock, please."

"Mich, if it involves risking your life, you won't win."

"We don't have time for this. I'll find Darien without back up." Serena said as she pulled out her Crystal and started to use it.

"Serena, no...don't." I said, but it was too late.

"Just what I was waiting for. I'll take that." Nemesis said as she showed up. She jump flipped and grabbed the Amethyst away from Rocky.

"No!" Rocky and I screamed.

"Now I'll take that Crystal too." Nemesis said, but with Serena using the Crystal, it created a force field that protected her and Nemesis bounced off it, preventing her from taking the Crystal. "No matter. I have the Amethyst now." She started to tap into the power.

"Ugh...no!" I screamed out as I fell to the ground in pain. I could feel my life force being drained.

"Michelle!" Rocky said as he knelt down next to me, "Nemesis, had over that Amethyst now!"

"I'm feeling weak too. What's happening?" Mandy asked.

"Michelle's Amethyst is the original. If it is drained we never exist." Astrid said.

"Three princesses with one swoop. Am I good or what?" Nemesis smirked.

"Or what." Rocky said as he stood up, "It's Morphin' Time! Zeo Ranger III, Blue!"

"Three Rangers and Tuxedo Mask couldn't take me. What makes you think one little lone Ranger can?" Nemesis asked.

"Because you messed with the wrong princess. You hurt Michelle and that was a very big mistake." Rocky said as he drew his Zeo Laser Pistol and fired at Nemesis.

"Oh please." Nemesis said, "Nemesis Dark Blast!"

Rocky dodged the blast, "Don't think so. Zeo Blade!" He ran at Nemesis and tackled her. They struggled for the Amethyst.

"Rocky, be careful." I forced out. The pathways in this cave were narrow and it would be easy to fall off and down to who knows where.

"Give me the Amethyst!" Rocky screamed as he pulled his Laser again and shot Nemesis in the stomach. The pain from the blast shocked her enough that Rocky grabbed the Amethyst. He ran back to me and gave it to me.

"This isn't over." Nemesis said, vanishing again.

“Power down! Are you ok?” Rocky asked as he helped me up.  
“Better now. Thank you.” I said, “Astrid, Mandy...are you two ok?”  
“I’m fine.” Astrid said.  
Mandy nodded, “Me too. But it doesn’t look like Serena is...”  
“Oh no, Serena!” I cried. She’d passed out. I ran to her, “Serena, wake up.” I said as I gently shook her.  
She opened her eyes, “What happened?”  
“You used too much power. Are you ok?”  
“Weak, but I think I’m ok.”  
“Do you know where the guys are?” I asked.  
Serena nodded and I helped her up. “This way.” She said.

Mina

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We were still trying to navigate the maze of the cave when we heard some screams.
“That kinda sounded like Michelle.” Jupiter said.
“And that sounded like Rocky...” Adam said.
“We have to hurry.” Uranus said.
“We’re trying Uranus. This place is a maze.” I snapped.
“We’re not trying hard enough!”
“Uranus, Venus...this isn’t the time. Focus.” Mars said.
“She’s right.” I said.
“Can you contact Mercury or Tuxedo Mask? Maybe the guys are having better luck.” Mars said.
I shook my head, “I just tried. The cave is blocking all communication signals.”
“So we’re on our own. We just have to keep going.” Neptune said.
“They’re in here somewhere.” Uranus said.
“Yeah, but we’re walking in circles. We don’t even know how much of the cave we’ve covered.” Jupiter said.
“This is getting us nowhere. There has to be a better way.”
“Uranus, if you know of a better way then I’m all ears, otherwise shut up and keep looking.” I said.
Uranus narrowed her eyes, “Fine.”
“If Rocky found them then I’m sure they’re fine. Rocky would never let anything happen to Mich.” Adam said.
“Hun, if he’s facing Nemesis he may not have a say in the matter.” I said.

We continued on our way, making little to no progress. Things were not going well...at all.

Hunter

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OK, so I’d managed to get trapped by Nemesis while trying to save my ex-girlfriend. ‘Way to go Bradley.’ I thought to myself.  
“Well this is just perfect.” Alex said.  
“Is everyone alright?” RJ asked.  
“Yeah, I think so.” Philip asked.  
“Except, you know, the whole being captured thing.” Darien said.  
“We have got to get out of here.” Ferdinand said.  
“Shh.” I said as I heard something, “Hear that? That sounds a little like Michelle in the distance.”  
“Do you think she got free or are we just close to where she’s being held?” RJ asked.  
“I’m not sure. Hopefully if she’s free she’ll find us.”  
“I’m not sure how. I can’t communicate with her in here. All communication signals are blocked.”  
“He’s right. I tried to reach Venus but I can’t get through.” Amy said.  
“Well being in here serves no purpose.” Adam said.  
“You all serve my purpose.” Nemesis said as she appeared. She looked a little beaten up.  
“What happened to you? Run into a problem?” I mocked.  
“I had the Amethyst in my hands and just like that it was gone!” Nemesis cried.

“You had the Amethyst?!” I cried.

“Is MJ ok?” RJ echoed.

“Relax. Your precious Princess Michelle is fine...for now. But I will get that Amethyst back. Until then I need some comfort. I also need a prince to stand by my side when I rule the Sol System. Now which one of you should I pick?” Nemesis asked.

“None of us would stand with you Nemesis.” Eric said.

“One of you has no choice. The only question is, which one?”

“You’re demented.” Alex said.

“Stuff it future boy. Now then, do I want a classic prince like sweet Ferdinand or Charming or someone that seeks adventure like Eric, Aladdin, or Adam...or I could go for my own super hero like RJ, Hunter, or Alex. So many choices. So little time. Maybe I should pick RJ or Hunter just to drive Michelle crazy...tell me...which one of you does the slut princess love more?” Nemesis said.

“Me of course.” RJ and I both said.

“I’m her husband.” RJ said.

“Do we really need to do this again?” I asked, “We’ve already been through this.”

“And yet you still don’t get it.” RJ said.

“What is it that everyone loves about that woman?!” Nemesis screamed.

“You’d never understand.” RJ said.

“You’re out of her league. You’re not even in the same ballpark as Michelle.” I said.

“You will love me! You will all love me!” Nemesis cried.

“Not in this lifetime.”

“What makes you think any of us would love someone as twisted as you?” Aladdin asked.

“You’re nothing but a snake Nemesis. None of us want you. Not a single one.” Charming said.

“You say that now, but soon...very soon, I will have my prince and you will all be begging to serve me.” Nemesis said as she vanished.

“Sick woman.” Adam said.

“Ya think?” I replied.

“It sounds like MJ and the others might have escaped.” RJ said.

I nodded, “Yeah. Now she just needs to find us.”

“But how?” Alex asked.

“Leave that to me.” I said as I went to a corner and meditated. There had to be a way I could use my ninja skills to get Michelle a message. Surely our connection wasn’t gone just because we broke up. Hopefully she hadn’t completely blocked me out.

Michelle

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After Nemesis was gone and we got Serena back on her feet we followed the direction the Crystal told Serena to go. That only got us so far. Serena was too weak to track anymore.

“So what now?” Ariel asked.

“We have to find the guys.” Aurora said.

“Is there another way?” Cinderella asked.

I sighed, “If Hunter is with them, yeah.”

“Hunter?” Rocky asked.

“Yeah. We’re both ninjas. I might be able to communicate with him...maybe even track him. That’s how he found me when I was...when James...you know.”

“Right.”

I took a deep breath and closed my eyes. I focused on Hunter...everything about him. My feelings for him, his spirit, his being. I sensed he was focused on me, which made the connection between us stronger. He was trying to call to me. He was trying to tell me where they were. I got a good hold on him then opened my eyes, “He’s this way.” I said as I led the group.

I led the group to where Hunter guided me and we managed to find the prison which held the princes.

“Charming!” Cinderella cried.
“Philip!” Aurora echoed.
“Is everyone alright?” I asked.
“Yeah, are you ok MJ?” RJ asked.
“Fine, thanks to Rock.”
“Hey guys.” Rocky waved.
“That’s what Nemesis meant by ‘three princes’...” Hunter said.
“Huh?” I asked.
“Never mind, just get us out of here.”
“Any idea how we do that? We don’t exactly have the key.” Astrid said.
“Let me give it a try.” Mandy said as she raised her hands. She tried to blow up the lock but the blast bounced off and flew back at her. She ducked. “Or not.”
“There’s a force field, just like there was on our holding cell.” Astrid said.
“Any other ideas?” Jasmine asked.
“No, but I have to ask, where is Flynn? Is he ok?” Mandy asked.
“He’s fine. We didn’t go get him. I did some research on your time and decided Flynn was needed in that battle. He’s still in your time.” Alex said.
“Oh thank god.”
“Now, how do we get them out?” Belle asked.
“You can’t, but you can join them.” Nemesis said, appearing.
“You know, that trick is getting really old.” I said.
“Let them go Nemesis.” Ariel demanded.
“Since you asked no nicely...no.” Nemesis countered.
“Enough is enough. RPM, Get in Gear!” Mandy called.
“Time for Time Force!” Astrid called.
“Ranger up or transformation?” Rocky asked me.
“Do I have a Morpher?” I asked.
Rocky reached into his pocket, “I grabbed your Zeonizers before I left town, just in case.”
“Then let’s go Ranger for old times sake. Ready?”
“Ready.”
“It’s Morphin’ Time!” I called.
“Zeo Ranger III, Blue!”
“Zeo Ranger VI, Purple!”
“Moon Spirit Power!”

“These odds don’t look good Nemesis. Want to rethink your stance?” I asked.
“Like I’m scared of a few Rangers.” Nemesis said.
“You’ve said that before.” Rocky said.
“Yeah, and as I recall that didn’t work out to well for you.” I said.
“I’m so over this. Street Staff!” Mandy called as she summoned a staff and went after Nemesis.
“Chrono Blaster!” Astrid cried as she fired at Nemesis.
“Zeo Staff!” I summoned. I went to help Mandy.
“End of the line honey.” Mandy said.
“Nemesis Dark Blast!” she cried. Mandy and I blocked the attack.
“Chrono Staff! This ends here.” Astrid said.
“Let the guys out or you die. Simple as that.” Mandy said.
“Not a chance.” Nemesis said.
“There’s a lot of us and one of you. The odds are in our favor.” I said.
“And I’m thinking you didn’t count on the mountains blocking communication either considering you haven’t called Mistress 9 yet.” Serena said.
“Which means it’s just you and us.” Astrid said.
“I’d say now is a really good time to consider giving up.” I said.
“Never.” Nemesis growled as she attacked us with a blast I’d never seen. We all flew back.
“You’re not going to win.” Ariel said as she ran towards Nemesis.

“You stupid princess.” Nemesis said as she threw Ariel to the side.

“Let them go Nemesis!” Belle cried as she, Jasmine, Aurora, and Cinderella all ran at Nemesis and tried to tackle her. Nemesis pushed them back then blasted them.

“Give it up. You can’t win. Your princes are mine for the taking, and I will have them all...in every way.” Nemesis said.

I tried looked over and saw Snow in the background. She reached for Mandy’s staff and snuck up behind Nemesis.

“Nobody touches Ferdinand, except me.” She said as she used the staff like a baseball bat and hit Nemesis, catching her off guard and sending her right into her own force field. She was forced to lower it to save herself, then, injured and embarrassed, she retreated.

We all stood up.

“Wow...just...wow.” I said.

“Way to go Snow!” Astrid said.

“Gotta admit, that was impressive.” Mandy said.

“Yeah, now the force field is down, but we still have that lock.” Belle said.

“Now that I can handle. Stand back guys.” Mandy said.

The guys all backed up and Mandy threw up her hands and blasted the lock, freeing the guys. All the princesses rushed to their respective princes and they hugged and kissed and all that stuff one would expect...all the princesses that is, except me. I didn’t have just one ‘prince’. I had three men show up for me and I loved each of them in a different way. I looked at all three of them then I ran to RJ’s arms.

“It’s ok MJ, I’m here.” He said as he held me.

“I was so scared I’d never see you again. I love you so much RJ.” I said.

“I love you too MJ.”

Hunter cleared his throat.

“Oh, and thanks Hunter. Without you I never would have found you guys.” I said as I hugged him.

“I knew we still had a connection.” Hunter said as he hugged me.

“Ninja powers Hunter...that’s all it was.” I said as I pulled away.

“Rocky, thanks for helping the girls.” RJ said.

“No problem. I’d do anything for Mich.” Rocky replied.

“Now, as sweet as this reunion is, I really think we should get out of this cave.” Mandy said.

“She’s right. We found each other but we still need to find a way out.” I said.

“Maybe we can help.” Mina said as she and the other girls walked up.

“Are you guys ok?” Amy asked, running to join the team.

“We’re fine. We heard the screaming from over here and managed to find you guys.” Raye said.

“So how do we get out of here?” Jasmine asked.

“Whoa, legendary princesses...for real...this is too cool.” Mina said.

“Can we focus here?” Amara asked.

“Right...how do we get out of here?”

“Mandy, do you think you can blast a hole and let us out?” Serena asked.

“I could, but if I start randomly blast then the whole cave could collapse in on us.” Mandy said.

“But maybe if we mark the wall every few feet then we can avoid going in circles.” Jasmine said.

“That’s a really good idea. How do we mark the wall though?” Lita asked.

“Low level lightning.” Astrid said.

I nodded, “Just enough to cause a black mark on the wall so we know where we’ve been.”

“OK, sounds like as good of plan as any. Let’s go.” Mina said.

It took awhile of going in circles and backtracking when we found a place we’d already been, but we did finally get out of the cave, several hours later.

“Oh my god, fresh air!” Serena cried.

“Freedom!” Astrid echoed.

“What now?” Aurora asked.

“Now we get out of here before Nemesis somehow drags us back in there.” I said.