



## EPISODE TWO - THE CHIBIUSA PROBLEM

THE 51ST CENTURY, CRYSTAL TOKYO, SEAT OF THE CRYSTAL IMPERIUM –  
TIMELINE UNKNOWN



Small Lady Neo-Queen Serenity III Tsukino "Chibi-Usa" Usagi dropped to her knees, gasping and wheezing, the air burning in her lungs as she gasped like a fish out of water, eyes wide in shock and fear as she stared into the blackened, boiling skies of the Crystal Imperium.

The raging, cloud filled skies were birthing *something* of stone, fire, and death. Something so massive that its shadow completely engulfed the capitol city of Crystal Tokyo. Confused animals were panicking as the afternoon suddenly gave way to an eclipse of night. Lights began to come on across the city, and spotlights cut into the darkness to try and discern what had appeared in the sky.

Doom itself was falling from the sky, and Chibiusa couldn't lift a finger to stop it. Her body felt like it was being torn apart from the inside. The Silver Crystal which she had fused to her very soul no longer sang to her or responded to her thoughts. It was all she could do to stay conscious as a thick choking smog of dark power overwhelmed her.

Feeling herself fading, she knew she needed help, and she needed it fast. Tapping the golden crescent moon on her forehead, she sought to reach out to her closest advisor, the former Princess of Venus, Sakura Xadium Aino. Strangely, there was no response to her telepathic call, which usually could instantly reach any of the Senshi or her retinue.

The empty silence that met Chibiusa's call was leaden and deafening and rattled the young monarch even more than the horrific sight of the encroaching darkness.

As thunder boomed across the cracking sky, reality itself seemed to crack and shatter as the darkness from the sky began to intersect with the city of Crystal Tokyo, igniting massive explosions that sent hellish explosions of fire and plasma burning through the atmosphere, which itself was now on fire.

The Earth itself was burning! In the distance she could see the ancient Mt. Fuji crack and crumble in the face of the incredible energies that lashed across the horizon.

Chibiusa's panic grew. She could *feel* that everything was falling apart, crumbling to dust. She couldn't see it with her eyes, but she could sense the lives of the millions in the capitol being snuffed out in agonizing pain.

There were mere moments left before she too would share that fate.

Chibiusa intensified her call, wondering if maybe the Time-travelling senshi was in another era. She sent out her plea across not just space, but Time as well, using almost all that remained of her energy.

"Help me!" She cried out. "Sakura-chan! Get me out of here!!!"

Nothing. Then, a response. Faint, but steady, and clear.

"Your highness!" came the reply. "Don't panic. I'm coming right now!"

For a moment Chibiusa was confused. The reply hadn't come from Sakura, but from someone else. Someone else had picked up the distress call! But only Sakura should have been able to hear it! Well, her, or--

There was a flash of blue light as someone appeared out of thin air. Well, more properly, someone's *arm*. It looked like someone reaching out behind an invisible curtain that had been cut into the air, leaving a glowing blue gash in its wake.

"There's too much dimensional turbulence!" someone yelled through the opening. "I can't complete a teleport there. Grab my hand! I'll get you out of there!"

Chibiusa felt despair overtake her. *Get out?* Leave? Abandon the people she had sworn to protect? The planet that had been her home for centuries? This was her kingdom! The Crystal Imperium that--

---that was dead.

She could feel the planet itself breaking, unable to withstand the impact of the dark terror from the skies.

There was, she realized despondently, no one left to save.

The only thing she could do was trust the voice on the other side of the dimensional veil, to hope that she could survive and carry on to find a way back from the tragedy that had befallen the Imperium.

Grabbing the hand that was reaching out to her, she cried out "Save me!"

"Cressida, save me!!"

## **THE 31ST CENTURY, CRYSTAL TOKYO, CAPITOL CITY OF THE CRYSTAL MILLENNIUM, EARTH 1337-B**

"You got it!"

Standing on a grassy plain on a hill overlooking the majestic Crystal Palace which gleamed in the bright noonday sun, Cressida Sumire Xadium-Aino thrust her hand into the space-time rift, reaching out to the 51st Century that was once her home, and to which she could never return<sup>1</sup> and grasped the hand of her mother's best friend, Serenity the Third.

With a quick pull, the six-foot-tall blonde pulled the half-her-size Chibiusa across the void that separated time, pulling her to safety in the past.

With a cry, the smaller girl landed on the soft grass, the bright blue sky blinding to her after the hellish darkness she had just been surrounded by. A soft, gentle breeze blew through her hair, making the events of the last few minutes just seem like a hellish illusion. But the pain in her body and soul told Chibiusa that it hadn't been.

Cressida, for her part, looked down at Chibiusa, wrinkling her nose in confusion as she looked down at the diminutive girl, confusion registering in her light purple eyes.

"You're... not the Serenity I know..." Cressida said, confused.

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<sup>1</sup> See "[Whatever Happened to the Suburban Senshi](#)"