

TRANSCRIPT FOR

Sailor Moon - Episode 73: "Smart Payoff"

(In Emerald's retreat...)

Sapphire "So sorry to interrupt your pedicure, Emerald, but you better get off your fanny and get to work. You haven't made any headway capturing that either that wretched kid or the Silver Crystal, and there's still another Negative Point to be located. Prince Diamond is getting anxious."

Emerald "Ah ha ha! The next Negative Point you seek is at the Albert Einstein School for the Gifted."

(And so, still in her bathrobe, Emerald places the next Dark Power Wedge on the roof of the school.)

Emerald "Relax, Sapphire. I'm way ahead of you."

(The effect is immediate. Students throughout the building feel the Dark Power infuse them...including Melvin, who attends.)

Emerald "SHOW YOURSELF...MISTRUST!"

(Mistrust emerges from the wedge. As her name implies, she has the ability to plant doubt on anything.)

Mistrust "You can always trust me."

Emerald "Ah ha ha! As you can see, the Negative Power is increasing steadily. It'll reach its capacity by tomorrow evening. I want you to stand guard here until then."

Mistrust "Trust me."

(Next day, at Crossroads Junior High...)

Serena "AAAH!"

(Test scores are in!)

Serena "Wow, Amy, you did it again! First in our class! I wish I could borrow some of your brain cells."

Molly "Yeah, I wouldn't mind borrowing a few zillion myself."

Amy "Thanks, guys. You're really nice. Everyone has their strengths, and this happens to be mine."

(Of course, being an overachiever has its drawbacks...)

Girl #1 "I'm so jealous. I wish I had Amy's marks."

Amy "Huh?"

Girl #2 "Oh yeah, but all she does is study."

Girl #3 "So she gets good grades. Behind her back, everybody calls her 'Amy the Supernerd'."

(...with jealous classmates somewhere on the top of the list. As someone who has a love for academics, this troubles Amy.)

Molly "They're just jealous."

Serena "It's true, Amy. Everybody does call you a supernerd...but don't worry. I'll always be your friend, no matter what."

Amy "It's okay. I'm used to all the geek and nerd comments."

Serena "Yeah, I can relate there, except it's that...I'm being teased about being LAST in the class."

(Down the hall, someone is holding a little cheat sheet.)

Melvin "Hey, look what I found: cheat notes in Amy's desk!"

(That gets everyone's attention, especially Serena, Molly, and Amy (most of all).)

Serena, Amy, & Molly "Huh?!"

(The bearer of the news is even more of a surprise!)

Boy #2 "Hey, yeah! I recognize the handwriting, and this is Amy's all right."

Girl "Amy cheat?"

Melvin "And if she cheated on this one, she probably cheated on all of them! No wonder she has the highest grades!"

(The crowd is getting ugly. Serena and Molly find the news hard to believe. And Amy is simply dumbstruck.)

Crowd "Yeah?"
"Really?"
"Amy?"
"She cheated?"

Boy #2 "Now I get it! Now I get it! I always wondered why someone as smart as Amy would wanna hang out with someone like Serena, but now it makes perfect sense!"

Boy #3 "You're right! Anyone with any smarts wouldn't hang out with a marshmallow brain like Serena!"

(Now, Serena takes that personally!)

Boy #1 "Well, Serena, I think you have to admit that it does seem a bit on the weird side. You're best friends with each other, and yet she's always at the top and you're always at the bottom."

Serena "It's not weird at all. Amy works really hard, and I don't try at all."

Molly "I think you're the one who's gone weird, Melvin. You know darn well how hard Amy works."

(True. Melvin sees Amy as an intellectual challenge...well, he used to.)

Melvin "I don't believe this, Molly! You're actually siding with a cheater!"

(The boys approach, but then Lita steps in between and blocks them.)

Boy #1 "What about you, Lita?"

Lita "What about me?!"

Boy #1 "I suppose you're gonna side with your cheater friend, too!"

(And he grabs the front of her uniform. I guess he wasn't here when Lita first arrived.)

Lita "Take that!"

(It doesn't take long for Lita to throw the first and mop the floor with the other two.)

Molly "Wow! You're Miss Strong!"

Amy "But Lita, you shouldn't use violence."

Lita "Huh?"

(Cut some slack, Amy. He DID get fresh by grabbing her uniform.)

Serena "Big toad-heads deserved it, calling me marshmallow-brain."

Lita "More importantly, they called Amy a cheater when we all know it isn't true."

Amy "I don't care. I know that I'm innocent."

Serena "Hey Amy, I believe you."

(Molly nods agreement.)

Amy "Thank you, guys...but right now, I'm wishing I'd gotten perfect scores! I mean, really. Why not? They all think I cheated anyway."

Serena & Molly "Give me a break!"

(That afternoon, after having picked up Rini, as they all walk home...)

Lita "I just can't believe that lowlife slime mold Melvin could turn on you like that"

Serena "Yeah, I always thought those guys really liked you, even though you are a supernerd."

Lita "But they're nerds, too. They go to the same genius school you do."

(Rini runs up alongside.)

Rini "Hey, I'm confused. What does cheating on an exam mean?"

Serena "What?"

(Of course. She's only a tyke. She hasn't even had her first test yet.)

Rini "Some boy with humongous glasses says Amy was cheating."

(Of all the...!)

Amy "Huh?"

Serena "MELVIN! Oh, that back-stabbing bottomfeeder's gonna pay!"

Lita "I'll slash his spineless little body into fettuccini!"

Amy "Hey, calm down. It's okay. Really, it is. I'm just glad the people who count the most still believe me, but thanks for your enthusiasm."

(And she runs off. The way she takes everything so calmly never ceases to puzzle everyone else.)

Lita "I think Amy must be in shock or something."

Serena "Yeah, I feel badly for her."

(Farther down the road, Amy walks alone. She passes by several classmates.)

Boy #1 "There's the cheater!"

Girl #1 "Yeah, Little Miss Innocent! We gotta make sure she doesn't get away with it."

Girl #2 "Yeah, we should report it to the principal."

Girl #1 ♪Cheater, cheater, cheater.♪

(Amy tries to fight it off...but she finally breaks into a run and hides in an alley, hands over her ears. She didn't want to show it in front of the others, but Lita was right once again. She could stave off the nerd calls. After all, they simply proved just how smart she was. But to be called a cheater was something that struck to her very heart.)

Amy "This is...awful."

(But she remembers...)

Serena "Hey Amy, I believe you."

Amy "At least you do."

(But as she steps out of the alley, her eyes cross a bill pasted to the telephone pole. It's for the Einstein School for the Gifted. Remembering Lita's words...)

Lita "They go to the same genius school you do."

Amy "Could that be it? Everyone who's turned against me goes to Albert Einstein School?"

(She decides to investigate. She goes to the school before evening classes begin. Opening one of the rooms, Amy gasps.)

Amy "Why is it so dark in here!"

(Not realizing it, Amy inhales some of the black fumes and struggles with herself. Outside, Mistrust notices as...)

Amy "**MERCURY STAR POWER!**"

(...Amy becomes Sailor Mercury.)

Mistrust "What?! That girl's one of the wretched Sailor Scouts! I'd better hurry up and get rid of the nosy snoop!"

(Suspecting the Negamoon, Sailor Mercury proceeds inside, wondering what awaits.)

Sailor Mercury "Okay! Come on out! Where are you?! I know you're one of Emerald's drones!"

(She quickly calls for help.)

Sailor Mercury "Hurry, guys! It's a Negamoon Alert! Albert Einstein School on the double!"

(Elsewhere...)

Serena "No way! Negadweeb at the Frankenstein School? Wow!"

Luna "Come on, Serena! We'd better hurry!"

Rini "Mm hmm!"

Serena "All right!"

(And they take off.)

(Meanwhile, Mistrust figures that the best way to deal with the Sailor Scout is to spread some doubt around.)

Mistrust "**CLONES OF DOUBT!**"

(Mistrust creates multiple images of herself and sends them into the room to confound Sailor Mercury.)

Mistrust "Attack! Attack now!"

(The images lunge at Sailor Mercury.)

Mistrust "Doubt yourself!"

(Sailor Mercury tries a counterattack.)

Sailor Mercury "**MERCURY ICE STORM BLAST!**"

(The attack freezes the images...but they simply disappear.)

Mistrust "We'll try again! Attack! Destroy her!"

(Sailor Mercury sees the new images come in from the window.)

Sailor Mercury "I'll never let you destroy me!"

Mistrust "Doubt yourself!"

Sailor Mercury "**MERCURY ICE STORM BLAST!**"

(She tries again. The images simply disappear again. More images appear. She finally gets a clue.)

Sailor Mercury "Hmm...I get it. These harpies are just clones. I guess I'll have to find the real one to stop them."

Mistrust "Well, this is interesting. She's a lot tougher than I thought she was! That's okay. I'll get that precocious little twit to do my dirty work for me!"

(Inside, the images disappear.)

Sailor Mercury "They're gone! So now what's going to happen?"

Mistrust "Ha ha ha ha! Sailor Mercury, your friends will now be your enemies, and you shall destroy them!"

(Mistrust broadcasts the message through her antennae, focusing them on the Sailor Scout.)

Mistrust "Now, come here, Sailor Soldiers! Come to Mistrust!"

----- **Commercial Break** -----

(Moments later, Sailor Mars, Sailor Jupiter, Sailor Venus, and Artemis arrive.)

Artemis "Powerful evil's here!"

(Sailor Mercury turns.)

Sailor Mercury "Glad you're here. The place is swarming with Negaclones!"

Sailor Jupiter "What? I don't see anybody here."

Sailor Mercury "Sailor Jupiter, you have to believe me! The Negamoon is taking over my own school, and that's why Melvin and the others believed I was a cheater! It was the power of the Negaverse!"

Sailor Jupiter "Oh, okay, now I get it!"

Sailor Mars "Let's get these clones!"

(Outside...)

Mistrust "There's one Sailor Scout missing, but that's okay. Sailor Mercury will get rid of them sooner or later. **HALLUCINATION DOUBT!**"

(Mistrust uses her antennae to launch her mental attack. The nature of the attack catches Sailor Mercury off-guard, and she reels from the impact.)

Sailor Venus "Hey, Mercury..."

(Sailor Mercury turns around.)

Sailor Mercury "Huh? Huh?"

(Her head fuddled, she begins to see things that aren't there. It appears as though the other Sailor Scouts have turned on her.)

Sailor Mars "Hey, guys, check out Sailor Mercury. She is such a has-been. What a look! I mean, check the hair! Is this girl in for a makeover or what?"

(Sailor Mercury doesn't understand. Thinking it to be a joke...)

Sailor Mercury "Huh? What? You're just joking. Right, Mars?"

Sailor Jupiter "Joking? You're a complete fashion disaster! The Fashion Cops should hand you in!"

Sailor Mercury "Ha ha. What? You too, Lita?"

Sailor Venus "Oh, puh-lease, stop with the goody-goody routine. You were always bragging about how smart you are!"

(Mercury may lack fashion sense, but THAT was uncalled for!)

Sailor Mercury "What are you saying? You know I never brag about my grades. I'm really careful about that...but if you feel like I have, gee, I'm really sorry."

Sailor Mars "Stop pretending to be so innocent, Miss Super Egghead!"

(Now the name calling. She could stand it coming from others, but her friends? She covers her ears.)

Sailor Mercury "This can't be real. They would never rip me apart like this!"

Mistrust "Go ahead! Hate them all! They're not your friends: never have been!"

(Meanwhile, in reality, Sailor Jupiter cautiously approaches, wondering what's going on.)

Sailor Mars "Mercury, are you okay?"

(Sailor Mercury sees the others approach, but instead of concern, all she sees are evil looks on their faces.)

Sailor Mars "Go away...you hopeless geek!"

(It's at this moment that Luna, Rini, and Serena arrive at the school. The first thing they see is Mistrust and the Wedge.)

Serena "Look! It's one of Emerald's drones!"

Luna "Hurry, Serena! Stop her!"

Serena "**MOON CRYSTAL POWER!**"

(Serena summons the power of her Moon Crystal Locket and transforms into Sailor Moon, Champion of Justice. Mistrust, meanwhile, is still busy with the others.)

Mistrust "Do it now, Sailor Mercury! Destory these conniving so-called friends!"

Sailor Moon "Not today!"

Mistrust "Huh? Who are you?!"

Sailor Moon "I stand for love and justice! I am Sailor Moon!"

Mistrust "Heh. Well, don't we think we're special?"

Sailor Moon "Only a mean-hearted hag like you would turn a whole school against poor Amy. You and your evil mind games are all washed up! I'm just the one to pull the plug."

Mistrust "He he he..."

Sailor Moon "Game's over, and in the name of the Moon, you're old news!"

Mistrust "Ew, I'm shaking! **HALLUCINATION DOUBT!**"

Luna "Oh no, Sailor Moon! Watch out!"

(Now Sailor Moon experiences Mistrust's power of mental manipulation.)

Sailor Moon "Hey, what happened?"

Voices "What a joke you are, Sailor Moon!"
"A cockroach is smarter than you are!"
"You're a complete loser!"

(Sailor Moon starts crying.)

Mistrust "Ha ha ha ha..."

(Suddenly...)

Sailor Moon "OH, ALL RIGHT! Give me a break! So I'm not Albert Einstein material, and I do flake out sometimes!"

(Whoops. Wrong play, Mistrust. Sailor Moon is resistant to that kind of badmouthing. Mistrust gasps in surprise.)

Sailor Moon "I admit it, okay?! See, I really don't care. I'm way used to being badmouthed."

Mistrust "This girl's actually PROUD to be a flake?"

(What a laugh!)

Sailor Moon "Yes, I like being unique!"

Mistrust "Let's see how you like this! Fire!"

(She sends her images at Sailor Moon, who tries to duck. One of the images tries a jump kick...)

Luna "Watch out, Sailor Moon!"

Sailor Moon "AAH!"

(...but the kick is interrupted by a timely rose.)

Sailor Moon "It's Tuxedo Mask!"

Tuxedo Mask "Shame on you, Mistrust! Your lies and deceits have finally caught up with you: calling an innocent girl a cheater and turning friends against each other! Your evil games are coming to an end...right now, so come on! Hit me with the very best shot you've got!"

(He's daring her?)

Mistrust "Fine! Meet my teammates!"

(Tuxedo Mask evades a couple of image attacks, but once one catches him from behind, the others quickly follow up and knock him off the building. He hits the ground and is injured.)

Sailor Moon "Oh no! My poor Tuxedo Mask!"

Mistrust "Ha ha ha! And now, for the main event! Watch your pal Sailor Mercury put your friends on ice! **HALLUCINATION PARANOIA DOUBT!**"

(Mistrust puts her strongest effort into manipulating Sailor Mercury. Inside, Sailor Mercury reels again.)

Sailor Jupiter "Sailor Mercury!"

Sailor Venus "What's wrong with you?"

(The visions Sailor Mercury sees are now more terrible than ever.)

Sailor Jupiter "Hey, cheater, we know how smart you really are! You're just a big phony and a liar!"

Sailor Venus "You've always cheated on your exams, haven't you?"

Sailor Mars "Fess up, liar!"

(Sailor Mercury can't stand it. She covers her ears again. In reality, the others are wondering what's happening.)

Sailor Venus "Sailor Mercury..."

Mars & Jupiter "Sailor Mercury..."

Sailor Venus "Pull yourself together."

Mars & Jupiter "Are you all right?"

(But all she sees as the others approach her is...)

Venus, Mars, & Jupiter "You're a cheater! You're a fake!"

Sailor Mercury "Oh! Oh!"

Venus, Mars, & Jupiter "And a fraud! Cheater! Cheater, how could you? You're disgusting! You're terrible!"

(Sailor Mercury finally snaps. She lashes out at the others, unable to distinguish reality from hallucination. Unable to approach her, the other Sailor Scouts and Artemis use a nearby window to get outside.)

Sailor Mars "Is Amy okay?"

Sailor Venus "I don't think so."

Sailor Jupiter "I think they have control of her mind."

(Now Sailor Mercury is alone in the room, looking out at everyone, including Sailor Moon, Rini, and Tuxedo Mask. The hallucinations continue.)

Everyone "You're such a liar! You always have been! I can't stand a liar like you!"

(Sailor Mercury is still confused. Interspersed with these horrid images are images of them at happier times: with smiles on their faces and goodness in their hearts. They're her only remaining tie with reality.)

Everyone "Get lost! We don't wanna be around a cheater like you! You're not our friend anymore! You're always pretending to be the goody-goody! How could you do it, Mercury?! Get out of here, cheater!"

Mistrust "Well, Sailor Mercury, you call these mean creeps your friends?! Give them what they deserve! Destory them now!"

(Sailor Mercury climbs outside and approaches them.)

Mistrust "There's something very satisfying watching someone turn on their friends. Ha ha ha ha!"

(Sailor Mercury stands there, as if about to summon the Shine Aqua Illusion.)

Sailor Mars "Uh oh. I got a bad feeling about this."

Sailor Venus "She's gonna use her Aqua Illusion power against us!"

Artemis "Mercury! Mistust's controlling you!"

Luna "You're hallucinating! You've got to snap out of it!"

(Sailor Moon tries to approach...)

Sailor Moon "Mercury, you can't do this!"

(...but Mercury shoves her away.)

Artemis "Stop it, Mercury! We're your friends!"

Rini "Please, don't."

Sailor Moon "This can't be real. Sailor Mercury, you can't hurt us. We're your friends! Hey, Amy, I believe you!"

(Those same words she had told her back at school! She hesitates for a moment, but then she resumes her stance.)

Mistrust "Do it, Sailor Mercury! Look at them! They're pathetic!"

(Mistrust drops to the ground. From the edge of her vision, Sailor Mercury sees her.)

Mistrust "Come on, Sailor Mercury! Do what you have to do!"

(What will Sailor Mercury do?)

----- **Commercial Break** -----

Mistrust "Come on, Sailor Mercury! They're asking for it! You must punish them for what they said!"

(Suddenly, Sailor Mercury turns.)

Sailor Mercury "I don't think so! I'll punish YOU!"

Mistrust "What?!"

(Everyone gasps.)

Sailor Mercury "**SHINE AQUA ILLUSION!**"

(Mistrust had made a big mistake coming into view. The Shine Aqua Illusion hits right at Mistrust's antennae, freezing them to the point of shattering!)

Mistrust "I don't understand! Why didn't my hallucination power work?! Didn't you hate your friends?!"

Sailor Mercury "You don't understand what friendship's all about. It's way stronger than all your stupid mind tricks."

Sailor Scouts "Yeah!"

Sailor Moon "Mercury..."

Mistrust "I trusted you."

Sailor Mercury "Anytime now, Sailor Moon."

(Sailor Moon nods and summons the Moon Scepter.)

Sailor Moon "**MOON SCEPTER ACTIVATION!**"

(And Mistrust is dust! The Power Wedge shrivels and shatters. Tuxedo Mask rises.)

Tuxedo Mask "Nicely done, Sailor Scouts. Once again, now, the Negamoon's been busted! Who would have thought friendship was such a strong weapon? See ya!"

(And he leaves.)

(Later...)

Serena "Amy, you were really fighting off that Negadweeb's mind trap."

Amy "Well, I had something on my side that was stronger than anything she could throw at me."

Others "Huh?"

Amy "Our friendship and trust. I mean, really. How could I believe all you guys have turned on me?"

Serena "We'd never."

(Just then...)

Melvin "Hi, Amy. Can I study with you?"

Boy "We think you're cool! I just don't know how you manage to be top in the class year after year."

Girl "Yeah, Amy, how'd you do it? Is it just because you're so incredibly smart?"

(Well, Amy's the talk of the school again...but in a positive way, now.)

Amy "Oh no. I really don't have any secret. I just have to study really, really hard. Really, that's about it."

(I smell jealousy.)

Serena "So now she's the hero? I don't get it. Just ten minutes ago, you guys were all calling her a cheater!"

Lita "Hey hey, cool your jets! Serena, that was the Negapower talking, not them! I bet they don't even remember they said that!"

Raye "Bet that cheat sheet was pure hallucination, too."

Serena "Hmm..."

Melvin "Hey Serena, wanna come to the library and study with us?"

Serena "Hmm? AAH! What? Library, study? Look at the time!"

(And she takes off running.)

Serena "I'm getting outta here! No study for me! No thank you!"

Luna "Oh. Her worst enemy couldn't make her run that fast."

Mina "Serena..."

(What can you say? She's unique. So's Amy.)

This transcript was written by "Who Wants to Know?"

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