

Episode 2- "Admissions"

"What do you mean you have a set of Ranger powers?" I asked as Rocky pulled into the driveway. I glanced back. Thank god Harley had her headphones on and couldn't hear us.

"Let me explain." Rocky said.

I looked at him with fury, "I'm waiting."

"Can we go inside and discuss this without Harley around?" he asked.

I nodded. "Fine."

We went inside and I sent Harley to her room to play then we went to Rocky's office and closed the door. Rocky sat in his desk chair and I stood with my hands on my hips. "OK. Talk." I demanded.

Rocky sighed as he put his hand on his forehead. "I have a set of Ranger powers that I've been holding on to for awhile."

"Why? And where did you get them?" I asked.

"You aren't gonna like this." he said looking up.

"I already don't so you may as well tell me the truth." I demanded.

Rocky nodded, "Fine. Do you remember when you were fighting Sailor Nemesis and you lost control of your powers and you almost destroyed LA by accident?"

"Of course. Not my finest moment." I nodded.

"No, it wasn't. We were so desperate to stop you we turned to Hunter to come and talk you down." he said.

"I know. I was there. And he did. He helped me regain control." I said.

"Yes...and what if he hadn't been able to? The Soldiers couldn't have stopped you and you're Tommy's sister. He couldn't have brought himself to hurt you even if it meant protecting the city." Rocky said.

"But you could?" I asked.

"No. I couldn't either. And I knew that. I needed the ability to activate a team that had no connection to you that didn't have a problem doing whatever they had to do to stop you. So I contacted Billy and he helped me tap into the Morphin' Grid and access these powers...Sonic Boom he called them. I have been holding them hoping I never needed them...but if I can't let you take on SPD single handedly. You need a team and...well I had these powers to protect you, I just didn't think it would be in this way." he said.

I made a face. "You had these powers to protect me or destroy me because it sounds like the latter."

"That was always a last resort Michelle, but we also couldn't let you destroy a city." Rocky said.

"I can't believe you hid this from me." I said.

"You have been trying to leave the power behind and I hoped I'd never need these powers so you'd never know." he said.

“Not helping your case.” I said.

“In either case, the fact is I know you loathe SPD and I can’t stop you from trying to beat them to the Silver Amethyst...but I can give you a team to help. Will you accept?” he asked.

I sighed. “I want to tell you to take your powers and shove them but the fact is you’re right. I could use help. A team would be nice. Who?”

“Well, I was thinking about that...I have 5 Morphers. Obviously the Purple one is yours. Silver isn’t quite right just yet. We weren’t able to stabilize those powers yet. That leaves Red, Yellow, and Blue. I was thinking Rory, Brielle, and Finn would be good candidates for those powers.” Rocky said.

I sighed. “You’re right skill wise but I really like those kids. I like them too much to give them this burden. Once you accept powers it’s in your life forever.”

“Yes, but we need the best and those 3 are the best.” Rocky said.

I nodded. “You’re right. Ok...we offer them the powers and I stop SPD from taking in my criminal.”

“Should I tell them?” Rocky asked.

I shook my head. “Not just yet. Let me go talk to Commander Cruger and see if I can get SPD to back off. I doubt it will work but Tommy is pro-SPD and he will try to get me to let them do their thing. At least this way I can say I tried to work with them.”

Rocky nodded. “Good call. Tommy is one of their biggest supporters.”

“Because he’s an idiot sometimes. I’ll be back.” I said grabbing my keys.

Rocky stood up and came over to kiss me goodbye. I pulled away.

“Uh, no. I’m still pissed at you for hiding this from me.” I said as I turned and walked out.

I got in my Jeep and drove to New Tech City, which wasn’t super far but it was on the other side of LA.

I arrived at SPD and went in. I walked up to the front desk and signed in. I told the receptionist I was there to see Commander Cruger. A few minutes later the big blue mutt came to greet me.

“Ms. DeSantos, to what do I owe the pleasure?” he asked.

I looked at him. “We need to talk.”

“Would this be about a certain Silver Amethyst?” Cruger asked.

“Good, we’re already on the same page.” I said.

“I suspected you were here for that. Let’s go to my office.” he said leading the way. I followed him into his office and we sat down.

“This doesn’t involve SPD so let me handle this.” I said.

“I’m sorry Ms. DeSantos, this absolutely affects SPD. Belasserio and his syndicate have been on SPD’s most wanted list for years. If we have a chance to bring him in we will do just that.” Cruger said.

“When he stole from my planet this became my problem. I will handle it.” I said.

“I understand your personal stake in this, I really do. I give you my word that once Belasserio is captured we will return the Silver Amethyst directly to you. No Earthlings, aside from my team, will have contact with it.” Cruger promised.

“And I should trust SPD with the fate of my planet?” I asked.

“You don’t have a choice.” Cruger said.

“The hell you say...I absolutely have a choice.” I countered.

Cruger sighed and hit a button. “Officer Lopez to the Commander's office please.”

I crossed my arms.

A couple of minutes later a young woman walked in.

“Yes Commander?” she said saluting.

“Officer Lopez, I’d like you to meet Michelle Morris-DeSantos. Ms. DeSantos, this is Officer Charlie Lopez, she is the leader of my A-Squad and Red SPD Ranger.” Cruger introduced.

“It is truly an honor to meet you Ms. DeSantos.” Charlie said shaking my hand.

“Thank you. Cruger, what does Charlie have to do with our discussion?” I asked.

“Officer Lopez, you are aware of the situation with the Silver Amethyst, are you not?” Cruger asked.

“Yes sir. Dr. Manx has briefed my team on the situation.” Charlie said.

“Good. Can you please reassure Ms. DeSantos that you will recover the Silver Amethyst and deliver it directly back to her to return to her planet?” Cruger asked.

Charlie nodded, “Yes ma’am. Dr. Manx has explained the importance that gemstone has to Saturn and you have my word that the moment it is recovered I will personally return it to you.”

“Do you understand what could happen if it fell into the hands of an Earth scientist?” I asked.

“I do, but I can assure you I will not allow that to happen.” Charlie asked.

“As long as the battle happens to fall into SPD regulations. You can’t honestly tell me you will do whatever it takes to stop Balasserio can you?” I asked.

“We do have rules and regulations we must follow.” Charlie nodded.

“Exactly. I don’t. Power Rangers should not have regulations. That’s how you get killed.” I said.

“With all due respect those regulations keep us safe.” Charlie countered.

“Cruger, I’m going to say this one more time...back down and let me handle this.” I said.

“I can’t do that Ms. DeSantos.” he said.

"Then I guess you're my enemy too. I will have my own team and we will stop Balasserio." I said.

"I must caution you against that Ms. DeSantos. If you stand in my teams was we will be forced to battle you as well." Charlie said.

I narrowed my eyes at her, "Bring it. I have more experience as a Ranger than you could possibly dream. If you force me take out SPD I will be all too happy to do that. I have allowed this organization to continue to exist because my brother has convinced me to leave you in peace. Now this affects my people. You won't have Tommy keeping me in check anymore. If you insist on going up against me you will fall."

"I'm sorry you feel that way." Charlie said.

I looked at Cruger, "I'll see myself out Commander. Stand down or I will end you."

"I beg of you to reconsider Ms. DeSantos." Cruger said.

"This conversation is over." I said as I stormed out of his office. I left SPD and headed home. I was pissed. I was SO pissed that I didn't even care about Rocky hiding the powers from me now. I was just glad to have a way to counter SPD.

When I got home I walked in and found Rocky in the living room.

"How did it go?" he asked.

"I'm going to end SPD." I growled.

Rocky raised his eyebrows, "That well...ok. Should we offer the powers to the new team tomorrow?"

I nodded. "Abso-fucking-lutely."

"OK then. We'll do it. I got your back baby." he said.

"If I have to take down Balasserio's syndicate and SPD I will." I said.

"I know. For now, calm down baby. Sit. You need to relax because if you go into this battle this angry nothing good will come of it." Rocky said pulling me down on the sofa next to him.

I took a breath, "You're right."

"I know you hate SPD but they are going to be formidable. So will Balasserio. If you insist on fighting a two front war you have to be ready which means going in with a clear head and solid strategy." Rocky said as he rubbed my back.

I nodded. "I know.I know. You're right."

"Allow me to mentor the team, you train them. We'll be a team. I think we can do this together." Rocky said.

"You're right. We can do anything together. I would love for you to mentor the team." I agreed.

"Good." Rocky nodded.

"Don't think you're completely off the hook for hiding this from me. But that's a discussion for another day. I have bigger things to be pissed about...but we will be discussing it." I said.

"I know. For now just relax. Why don't you go help Harley take her bath and get her to bed. You find that relaxing." he said.

I nodded. "Great idea. I need time with my baby."

I went to Harley's room and went in. She was playing with her toy dirt bikes."Hey Princess, bath time."

Harley groaned, "Ugh, but I'm playing."

"And you have school tomorrow. Come on kiddo. Bathtime." I said.

"Fine." she sighed as she put her toys back in their container and put them away. She grabbed her pjs and followed me to the bathroom. I started the water for her and she got in. I gave her her bath toys.

"Did you have fun in Texas?" I asked her.

She nodded. "I like when we go to Texas. But I wanna go to Six Flags next time. San Antonio isn't that far from where we were."

I laughed, "You're right. Next time I promise we will go to Six Flags."

"OK." she nodded as she played. I let her play for awhile before I washed her hair. I let her wash her body but I watched to make sure she did a good job of washing. When she was done I helped her dry off and she put her pjs on and brushed her teeth.

We went back to her room and she got in bed. I read a story to her and then tucked her in. "Goodnight sweet Princess." I said kissing her head.

She hugged me. "Goodnight Mommy."

I turned off the light then went to my room. Rocky was already in bed. "Feel better?" he asked.

I smiled. "I do. I love being a mommy."

"I know. And you're great at it." he said.

I changed into my pjs and got in bed next to him. "Thank you."

"Get some sleep babe. We have a big day tomorrow." he said pulling me into his arms.

I settled in. "We sure do. SPD won't know what hit it." I said as I drifted off to sleep.