GeneX - Paranormal Chaos

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This is the 2010 GeneX Halloween Special.

Set in a universe based on SatAM, Sonic and Co. must battle various ghosts in Robotropolis. This is far tamer than my other Halloween Specials, with only mild violence, really.

Happy Halloween!

1 - Paranormal Chaos

GeneX - Nightmare Zone: Act IV
Paranormal Chaos

There are many dimensions in the multiverse. All of them are filled with both good and evil. The planet Mobius, nestled in the dimension of GeneX Spectre, had long been dominated by darkness. The evil Dr. Robotnik had used his sinister technology to conquer much of the planet, leaving only small groups of Freedom Fighters to oppose him. Though Robotnik usually transformed his victims into robots using a machine called the roboticizor, he often saw fit to simply have many of his enemies executed. As the death toll increased, the dead began to grow angry. Enraged spirits popped up throughout Robotnik's empire. These spirits saw no friends, and frequently directed their rage at both Robotnik's forces and the Freedom Fighters. Finally, the Freedom Fighters had had enough. A special division was formed within the Freedom Fighters, charged with the task of stopping the ghostly rampage. Dubbed the "Phantom Fighters," these heroes used a special device designed by Knothole Village's resident genius, Rotor the Walrus. This device was capable of capturing and containing ghosts! One day, while Rotor was busy tinkering in his workshop, his occasional assistant, Antoine D'Coolette, stumbled into the room, his nose buried in a copy of "The Knothole Times," the Freedom Fighter's newspaper. "The nerves of that Sonic Hedgehog... Taking from me all the credits for Robotnik's de-feets!" he muttered before tripping over some scrap metal Rotor had left on the floor. "Ooof! Oh my..." Rotor looked up from what he was doing. "What's up, Antoine?" he asked. Antoine climbed to his feet and cleared his throat, but didn't get to say anything before Sonic the Hedgehog, Miles "Tails" Prower, Bunnie Rabbot, Rainbow the Echidna, and Princess Sally all charged into the room. Sonic grabbed the newspaper from Antoine and waved it in the air, showing off the headline. "Extra, extra! Ro-butt-nik finally bit the big one! Sonic the Hedgehog frees Mobius!" he shouted. Rotor's face lit up. "Really? Robotnik's... dead?" he asked. Bunnie nodded. "Yeah! Our last mission to Robotropolis was our last! Sonic took on nasty 'ol Robotnik in a final showdown, and he got caught in an explosion!" she explained. "We're free!!" Tails and Rainbow cheered, grabbing each other's hands and jumping around in a circle. Sally looked happy as well, but retained a bit more seriousness. "We should all be celebrating, but I'm afraid it isn't quite time for that yet. Robotnik left quite a mess in his wake, and Robotropolis is still teeming with ghosts. Robotnik may be gone, but it hasn't calmed them down." she said. "So, we'll need to organize one last mission for the Phantom Fighters. Gather the PCDs and I'll prep them for the trip, Antoine." Rotor said. PCD, as the Freedom Fighters all knew, stood for Paranormal Chaos Device. They were the machines used to battle the ghosts, each one powered by a Chaos Emerald; The only thing on Mobius that could touch the ghosts was Chaos energy. Antoine shivered at the thought of yet another Phantom Fighter mission. "The-the PCs? B-b-but I see no reasons why we must be going back to Robotropolis..." he stuttered. "Don't forget that Robotropolis used to be Mobotropolis, Antie. We gotta put it back to normal!" Rainbow insisted. Sonic zipped over to Antoine and dropped the newspaper on his head. "No problemo, Ant! I'll take the PCD and lead the team into Robotropolis while you chill here and wait around for the next Power Ring... ALONE!" he said

ominously. Antoine yelped and Sally shook her head. "We've been through this, Sonic... You can't handle a PCD because YOU don't have the attention span for Rotor's PCD training program." she said. "What was that? Sorry, Sal, I stopped paying attention!" Sonic replied. Antoine scurried out of the lab in search of the PCDs, while Tails and Rainbow headed off to gather the Phantom Fighters. Before Sonic headed out the door, Rotor handed him a communicator. "You know Robotropolis better than anyone, Sonic. So even though you can't have a PCD, you'll be in charge of this operation. Use this communicator to keep in touch with me in case you get separated from the others. Their PCDs have communicators, too." he said. Sonic scratched his head. "Wait, what? Me lead? What about Sal?" he asked. "I've got more important things to do now, like getting Knothole prepped for the Mobotropolis restoration project." Sally explained. Sonic looked even more confused. "The what?" he asked. Sally shot him an amused smirk. "You didn't think the battle for Mobius would be over the second Robotnik was gone, did you? There's still a lot of work to be done!" she said.

Once the PCDs were ready, the group embarked on their journey to Robotropolis. Sonic led the way, with Tails close behind. On his back, Tails carried a PCD's power and containment unit, which was attached by cable to the weapon, which resembled a laser rifle. A communicator screen was attached to the rifle, so the Phantom Fighters could keep in touch with Knothole. There were six Phantom Fighters, one of whom was Tails. Antoine and Bunnie also carried a PCD, though the weight of the containment unit threw Antoine off balance a bit. Gemini the Fennec, the Freedom Fighters' magic expert, also carried a PCD. Lastly, Copter the Fox and Punchy the Echidna rounded out the group of ghost hunters, the two of them being lab experiments who were created to work for Robotnik, but defected to the Freedom Fighters' side in the past year. There had previously been other Phantom Fighters, and a PCD containing the seventh Chaos Emerald, but ghost hunting was a hazardous job, and these six were all that was left in the Phantom Fighter unit. Upon leaving the Great Forest, it wasn't long before the group arrived at Robotropolis. Before proceeding any further, Gemini contacted Rotor over the PCD's communicator. "We've reached Robotropolis." she informed him. "Good. Now remember, even though Robotnik is gone, Robotropolis is still dangerous. Keep your eyes peeled for ghosts AND SwatBots." Rotor cautioned. Antoine shivered fearfully. "S-swatBots? Should they not be de-activated?" he asked. Sonic tapped his foot impatiently. "Can we get movin' already?" he said impatiently. "Hold on!" Princess Sally's voice came from the communicator. "Before you start the mission, I want to remind you that ghosts are not like robots. They can be tricky. Everyone keep your wits about you... ESPECIALLY a certain hedgehog!" she said. "Hey, I'm always witty. Those ghosts don't stand a ghost of a chance!" Sonic grinned. Suddenly, a scream was heard coming from Robotropolis! "Look out! Sounds like this mission just started!" Copter said as all six PCDs were pointed in the direction of the scream. Someone came running towards the Phantom Fighters in a hurry. In the darkness, it appeared to be some sort of monster! Seeing this, Antoine freaked out and blindly started shooting his PCD's laser. "No!! Go away!! Yaaaaaah!!" he screamed. The "monster" stumbled around trying to dodge the laser, and soon fell on his "tail." Sonic ran over to Antoine and grabbed his arm, aiming his laser away from the stranger. "Get a grip, Ant!" he shouted. Once Antoine had calmed down, they could see that the visitor was a strange man in an alligator costume. He looked thoughtful as he climbed to his feet. "Now where was I? Oh, yeah. GHOOOOOSTS!! Run for my life!!" he shouted. Bunnie stepped forward and tried to talk to him. "Now, calm down, sugah... Where'd you come from, anyway?" she asked. The strange man pointed behind himself. "I'm the Great Gator. I've been lost in that dirty city for months. And there were ghosts chasing me the whole time! Now that I'm out, I'm going to look for that portal back to the Nightmare Zone! I left my milkshake in the castle there, anyway!" he said. Before he could leave, Punchy stopped him. "Hey, where'd you see those ghosts?" he asked. "Over there, that big yucky building on the left. You can't miss it. They were outside the entrance. See ya later, Punchy!" Gator said before running

towards the Great Forest. Punchy watched him leave with confusion. "How'd he know my name?" he wondered. "Sounds like you've already picked up a lead." said Rotor over the PCD, "Good luck, Phantom Fighters. Mobotropolis is countin' on ya!"

The group proceeded into Robotropolis, keeping quiet to avoid attracting too much attention. The nervous chatter of Antoine's teeth was the only real noise made as they approached the building Gator told them about. Robotropolis seemed somehow darker and dirtier since Robotnik's death, giving the city a feeling similar to that of a graveyard. Armed with only a flashlight, Sonic approached the building cautiously. There was no sign of any ghosts, and Sonic quickly lost his temper. "That costumed weirdo lied to us. There's nothing here!" he grumbled. Tails glanced behind them nervously. "M-maybe HE was a ghost..." he whimpered. "Impossible. Antoine's PCD would have caught him." Gemini assured him. Suddenly, a robotic growling was heard from inside the darkened doorway of the building! "Eeeiiiyaaaa!! A goost!" Antoine shouted, running and hiding at the back of the group. Sonic pointed his flashlight into the doorway, revealing the roboticized face of Sir Charles Hedgehog! "Uncle Chuck!" Sonic gasped. The robot snarled in reply and jumped out of the doorway. He hovered in midair, much to everyone's shock. "I didn't know Chuck could fly!" Bunnie gasped. "He can't..." Sonic pointed out. Copter and Punchy fired their PCDs at Uncle Chuck, who did a midair flip to dodge it and swooped down at the group, nearly knocking Tails over! "Don't just gawk at him! He's possessed!" Copter yelled. "We gotta zap the ghost out of him!" Punchy added. Everyone but Sonic and Antoine circled around Uncle Chuck and aimed their PCDs at him. Nearly surrounded, the possessed robot turned to Antoine, who was shaking too much to aim his PCD. Chuck let out a demonic growl and swooped after Antoine, dodging the PCD lasers and grabbing him! "Waaaaaaahh!! No, no, no!! Let me go!!" Antoine shouted. Chuck carried him into the air and started to make a break for it. "After him! Before another ghost gets to possess Antoine!" Gemini shouted. Sonic was first to chase after them. However, Chuck very soon reached an alley where a white ghost with black eyes and pointy spikes on its head was waiting! "No!! Uncle Chunk! You do not want to be doing this! I am too young and handsome to being a goost!!" Antoine wailed. Luckily, before the ghost could touch him, Sonic sped onto the scene! He smacked Uncle Chuck aside and pulled Antoine away while the Phantom Fighters arrived and started shooting! A few quick blasts from the PCDs stunned the ghost and Uncle Chuck! "Great! Now let's contain those ghosts!" Gemini shouted. She and Bunnie quickly fired a continuous beam at Uncle Chuck and the white ghost respectively, and the beam from Bunnie's PCD quickly dragged the white ghost into her PCD's containment unit. However, Uncle Chuck's possessor was resisting. Copter and Punchy fired a few blasts to keep Chuck stunned, and soon another white ghost was pulled out of him and contained in Gemini's PCD. Sonic quickly rushed to his uncle's side. "Uncle Chuck? Are you all right?" he asked. Chuck stood dazed for a moment before glancing at his nephew. "S-sonic...? Whew... Bein' possessed sure takes a lot out of you... Thanks, Phantom Fighters!" The group cheered at their first victory of the night, but it was far too early to celebrate. First, Antoine had to be snapped out of the catatonic state he was now in. Tails walked over and tapped him on the shoulder. "Ant? Are you all right?" he asked. Bunnie smacked him on the back with her robotic arm. "Snap out of it, Antoine!" she shouted. Antoine quickly composed himself and tried to hide his cowardice. "Ah! Uh, I am never feeling more fine! I aren't afeared of no gooses!" he said. Tails laughed at him. "It's ghosts, not gooses!" he corrected. Uncle Chuck quickly called everyone's attention. "All right everyone! I assume you're all here to get rid of the ghosts hanging around after Robotnik's defeat. First, we've got to clear out the factory where I got possessed. It's one of our biggest jobs, so if we get it out of the way, the rest will be a snap!" he said. Everyone agreed, and began to follow him. As they left the alley, they failed to notice that someone was watching. "Well, well... Intruders in MY city... Let's see what they're up to..." A short man with stringy hair and a long pointed nose carefully followed the group to avoid detection. "No one sneaks up on Snively... Snively sneaks up on

you!" he grinned.

Uncle Chuck led the group to one of Robotnik's many robot factories. The building was quite large, and had more smokestacks on the roof than most of the other buildings in Robotropolis. "Ugh! You take us to the nicest places, Charlie..." Bunnie groaned, holding her nose. Despite Robotnik's downfall, the factory was still spewing tons of smoke, making it one of the least pleasant places in the city. "If we can clear out all the ghosts, we can shut these factories down and put an end to this pollution. Until then, we'll have to put up with it." Chuck said. "Is it too late to ask for gas masks?" Copter asked Rotor via the communicator. "Sorry, guys. Robotropolis is so dirty, I doubt gas masks would make much difference, anyway." Rotor replied. "What? Is this gonna affect our health?!" Punchy wondered. Sonic ran over to the factory and kicked the door open. "We'll get sick if we spend any more time out here! Let's do it to it!" he shouted. The Phantom Fighters followed Sonic's lead, gazing at what the light from Sonic's flashlight revealed. Several robot assembly lines were running inside the factory, but no completed robots seemed to be present beyond the maintenance bots running the assembly lines. Incomplete SwatBots littered the floor, like dismembered bodies in a madman's torture chamber. "W-who defected the Swat-boots?" Antoine stammered. Uncle Chuck scratched his metallic head. "I guess without Robotnik to run things, the bots in charge don't know to get more parts when they run out. Robots don't really think for themselves much." he determined. "Where're all the ghosts?" Tails wondered. "Ha! They must have gotten scared when they saw ME and sneak-ed away!" Antoine said pridefully. "Yeah, that hair would scare anybody." Sonic teased. Antoine glanced at his reflection in his communicator screen and patted his head. "What are you sayings...?" he muttered. Gemini examined one of the robots working the assembly line. "Strange that Robotnik wouldn't have them better programmed..." she noted. Suddenly, the robot's head turned backward and glared at Gemini with ghostly red eyes! The other robots in the room turned around as well, revealing that they were all possessed! Before anyone could react, the ghosts flew out of the robots and began swarming around the factory! They were round, white ghosts of varying sizes. The largest and smallest ones had black eyes and creepy, stitched-closed mouths. The others had big, swirling red eyes and large mouths with rows of sharp, black teeth! "There they are! Quick, stop 'em!" Chuck shouted. However, there were too many of them! Several of the ghosts swooped down and grabbed some of the Phantom Fighters! First, Punchy was captured. "Gaaah!! Get me down from heeeeeere!!" he shouted, prompting several of the Phantom Fighters to shoot in his direction. In the distraction, Antoine was grabbed again! "Yeow!! Stop!! Let me go! I know King Fu!! You will being too sorry!" he shouted. Tails and Gemini were faring better, and managed to catch some ghosts that Sonic was distracting. "That's two down! Any other spooks care to try and catch the hedgehog?" Sonic taunted. However, the ghosts didn't fall for it twice, and instead went after Tails and Gemini! Bunnie fired her laser at the ghosts, catching one close to Tails, but Gemini got caught! The ghosts who'd captured Phantom Fighters fled the factory with their captives, leaving Sonic, Tails, Copter, Bunnie, and Uncle Chuck to deal with the rest. Uncle Chuck transformed one of his robotic fingers into a flashlight and pointed it at the ghosts. "They hate light! Keep 'em back usin' your flashlight!" he shouted. Sonic joined Chuck in pointing his light at the ghosts, causing them to flee in different directions. Bunnie, Tails and Copter managed to catch a couple more ghosts before the rest fled the factory! "That could've gone better..." Bunnie grumbled. Suddenly, the entire factory began shaking! "Look out, guys! It's not over yet!" Sonic shouted.

"BRRAAAAAAAAAAA!!" A loud roar echoed through the factory, and a massive ghost appeared above the remaining Phantom Fighters! It was similar to the other ghosts, but had proportionately smaller, bulging eyes, slender arms with clawed hands, and a huge mouth with blue lips and a rainbow colored tongue. "BRRAAAA HA HA HA! Well done! You scared off my subjects! I am King Boom Boo!" the ghost

bellowed. Sonic held back a chuckle. "Did he say King Boo Boo?" he said. King Boom Boo cackled back and hurled a blue fireball at Sonic, which he easily evaded. "Too slow!" he taunted. The king tossed another fireball at Sonic. "Steeeerike two!" Sonic teased as he dodged. King Boom Boo snarled angrily as he tried once more. "Strike three! Yer out!" Sonic pointed his flashlight at King Boom Boo's eyes, causing the giant ghost to let out a furious scream! Tails, Copter, and Bunnie fired their PCDs at the stunned spirit, but King Boom Boo suddenly dove into the ground, vanishing! Sonic kicked at the ground. "Rats! Three strikes in one second! There goes the ball game..." he groaned. "Where'd he go?" Tails wondered. "Maybe he went back where he came from?" Bunnie said hopefully. "Hmmm..." Uncle Chuck scanned the ground carefully. Soon, he noticed a round shadow sneaking up behind Sonic! "Look out, sonny!" he shouted, pushing Sonic aside just as King Boom Boo erupted from the ground! His giant maw slammed shut around Uncle Chuck, and dragged him back under the ground with him! "Whoa!! U-uncle Chuck!!" Sonic gasped. "Oh, my stars!" Bunnie said. "He's gone! Everybody, be careful!" Copter added. Sonic clenched both of his fists in anger, squeezing his flashlight so tight he might almost crush it. "That's it! No one eats my unc! Time to let there be light!" With that, Sonic began wildly running around the room, casting his flashlight on everything! The Phantom Fighters struggled to follow him as he zoomed around. "Cool, he's snapped!" Copter chuckled. "No, he's doin' somethin'..." Bunnie observed. Sonic was running around with his flashlight so fast, most of the room was being illuminated almost at once! This drew King Boom Boo out of hiding. "BRRRAAAAAA!!!! BRRRAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!" he screamed, agonized by exposure to the light. "NOW!" Tails shouted, firing his PCD at the giant ghost. Copter and Bunnie helped out, shooting several blasts to keep him stunned while Sonic ran circles around him with his flashlight! Soon, Tails's PCD dragged King Boom Boo into the nozzle of his laser like a vacuum, sealing him inside the containment unit! "Yeah! I got 'em!" Tails cheered. The others were not quite as excited. "Where's Chuck?" Bunnie wondered. Sonic ran around the factory looking for his uncle while Copter updated Rotor on the situation. "Sounds bad... Chuck might be trapped in the spirit world now..." Rotor said after hearing the story. "We'd better find the others before they end up in the spirit world, too!" Copter realized. Suddenly, a strange noise was heard overhead. It was a labored sort of breathing, which sounded like laughter. Sonic stopped what he was doing and glanced up to see an orange dragon! "Need some help?" he said, gliding down from above to greet the Phantom Fighters. A red weasel in a black suit jumped off his back once they landed. Copter growled at the dragon. "Zeke... To what do we owe the displeasure..." he asked. "Hello? Who's there?" Rotor asked over the communicator. The weasel saluted at the sound of his voice. "Phantom Fighter Infin reporting in, Rotor, sir! Sorry it's been a few months..." he said. Copter scratched his head. "Phantom Fighter...?" he asked. "Infin? Where have you been? We thought some ghosts got you, or maybe you'd been roboticized!" Tails recalled. "Careful, guys! It could be a trick!" Rotor warned. Infin wagged his finger at them. "It's no trick. I'd nearly been captured, but I managed to infiltrate Robotnik's HQ. I've been doing some spy work there. Actually, you have me to thank for his demise... I caused that explosion. With Zeke's help." he explained. "I decided to join the winning team like my dear brothers. Hey, where's number one, Copter?" Zeke said. Bunnie glanced at them suspiciously. "If you were really a Phantom Fighter, where's your PCD?" she asked. Infin shrugged. "I had to ditch it to evade capture. But with Robotnik gone, I've been able to find where he'd stashed it. But... it's well guarded. I need your help to get it back." he said. Sonic was tapping his foot impatiently, bored by all the talking. "Well, come on! Let's find it! Maybe we'll find Uncle Chuck and the others on the way!" he said. Infin and Zeke smiled and nodded. "Follow me. I'll fry any SwatBots that get in our way." Zeke said, leading the group out of the factory.

Zeke and Infin led the diminished team of Phantom Fighters to one of Robotnik's weapons depots, a building which was apparently bustling with paranormal activity. A peek inside showed that the weapons were now floating in midair, as though gravity had been turned off. "Watch your backs... Lots of angry

spirits in here." Infin cautioned. Tails was shivering as the group walked through the building, careful to avoid any sharp objects floating around in the air. "D-do we really have to go in here? What if these guns start... going off?" Tails stammered. "Be glad you'll be the smallest target." Zeke muttered. Infin led them to an elevator and pushed a button to get the doors open. As the elevator doors slid open, the group was forced to jump out of the way as what appeared to be a train shot out of the elevator shaft! It was a passenger train, and it appeared to be completely transparent! The passengers on board were all ghostly skeletons, calmly gazing out the windows, talking on cell phones, and reading newspapers like normal people. Poor Copter failed to get out of the way in time, but seemed unharmed as the train simply passed through him! Once the train passed, Copter dropped his PCD's laser and stood rigidly. "Oh, my stars! Are y'all OK?" Bunnie asked. Copter glanced back with wide eyes. "T-t-train..." he stuttered. Infin just shrugged. "Better take the stairs." he said. Everyone nodded. "Yeah, we don't wanna be caught without a ticket." Sonic joked.

The stairs were decidedly safer, with only a few minor ghosts haunting them. Tails and Bunnie handled the ghosts while Copter was recovering from his little "train ride." They soon reached the thirteenth floor, where they found a large room with dozens of strange contraptions sitting along the walls. At the back of the room were four PCDs! "All right! Mine's that one in the middle, there!" Infin pointed out. His seemed a little differently built than the other ones, but essentially the same. "Wait, weren't there only ever seven PCDs?" Bunnie pointed out. "There are... And I think I see where they got those other three!" Sonic said, pointing out three people standing near the PCDs. It was Antoine, Punchy, and Gemini! They were standing among a group of SwatBots! "Why do you suppose the SwatBots are ignoring them?" Copter asked, finally coming out of his daze. Sonic's flashlight revealed the truth: The SwatBots' and their friends' eyes all started glowing a ghostly red color! "They're all possessed! That ain't fair!" Bunnie groaned. Sonic cracked his knuckles, ready to fight. "They may be possessed, but those bots are still bots! I'll handle them!" he said, speeding ahead to attack the SwatBots. Copter nodded. "Good! Meanwhile, I'll un-possess Punchy!" he said. "I'll take Antoine!" Bunnie added. "Then leave Gemini to me!" Tails chimed in. Zeke and Infin glanced at each other and nodded. "Let's get the PCDs!" Infin said. The group sprang into action, battling their way through the possessed enemies while taking care not to hurt their friends or the PCDs. While everyone was distracted, Snively stepped into the room. He gasped as he noticed the PCDs in the room. "Oh, no! I'd better do something..." he said, quietly sneaking into the room. Meanwhile, Copter managed to capture the ghost possessing Punchy. "Ugh... I don't feel good..." he muttered. "Don't just stand there! Move it or you'll get possessed again!" Copter shouted. Punchy nodded and turned his attention to the SwatBots in the room. Meanwhile, Tails managed to catch the ghost possessing Gemini. She quickly pulled out her magic wand and cast a shield around herself. "Thank you, Tails! I'll try to recover my PCD!" she said. "Be careful, Gemini! You were scary with that ghost inside you..." Tails told her. This left Antoine still possessed. He was jumping and cartwheeling wildly, avoiding Bunnie's shots while laughing crazily. "Antoine, you're really driving me bananas!" she yelled. Antoine started hovering in the air and sticking his tongue at her, laughing goofily. Bunnie growled and extended her robotic arm into the air, grabbing him by the shirt! "Now hold still!!" she yelled, firing her PCD at him! With Antoine incapacitated, Bunnie quickly managed to capture his possessor, then dropped him on the ground with a thud! "Ooooooh.... Busting makes me feel too good...." Antoine said dizzily. Meanwhile, Sonic and Punchy were doing a good job taking apart the SwatBots, leaving the ghosts without a physical body to hide in. While Tails, Copter, and Bunnie set to work catching them, Snively reached the PCDs. He held a laser and pointed it at Infin's PCD. "Let's see you use this wretched machine now!" he snarled. "RAWR!!!" An ear-piercing roar startled Snively and caused him to shoot up, missing all the PCDs! Zeke, who had made the roar, grabbed Snively and held him up while Infin reclaimed his PCD. "Too bad Snivel... Looks like you're outta luck!" he grinned. Soon,

the coast was clear, Punchy, Gemini, and Antoine reclaimed their PCDs, and the group was cheering over the capture of Snively. Looking miserable and pathetic, Snively shouted at them. "I hate you! I hate you all!!" he whined. "We feel the same about you, Slimely." Sonic grinned. "Wait until we're through with you, twerp..." Infin grinned. Snively suddenly had a look of horror on his face. "No, no, no, no, no! Sonic, old friend! You don't understand!" he shouted hastily. Zeke grabbed him by the collar and held him up for a second, choking him. "No talking, toad!" he said. Meanwhile, Punchy was updating Rotor on their progress. "Sounds like you all did a good day's work. It's probably best for you to get Snively back to Knothole as fast as possible." Rotor suggested. Infin grabbed Sonic's communicator out of his hands. "That's a negative, Rote. There's still something that must be dealt with, and it can't wait." he said. "What kind of something?" asked Sally over the communicator. Infin shrugged. "No time to explain, princess." he told her. Sally didn't seem convinced. "Wait just a minute! I need to know..." Before Sally could finish talking, Infin turned off the communicator. "Turn 'em all off. We... we need to maintain radio silence." he said. Sonic glanced at him questioningly. "Why? What's goin' on here?" he asked. Zeke chuckled softly. "You Freedom Fighters waste so much time asking questions." he said. Infin nodded. "Just follow me, and keep that slimy pest on a short leash. We've got to get to Robotnik's HQ. There's something you all need to see." he explained. As everyone started following him, Gemini looked concerned. "How can we be prepared if we don't know where we're going? And where did those two come from, anyway?" she wondered. Sonic shrugged. "They're cool, Gems. We wouldn't have found you if not for them." he pointed out. Still, most of the group proceeded cautiously. There was no knowing what was going to happen next.

Soon, the group reached Dr. Robotnik's headquarters, a building that gave them the creeps more so than any other in Robotropolis. Infin led them deep inside, to a room none of them had seen before. It was a large shrine of some sort, filled with candles and portraits. It was a shrine to Robotnik, likely made BY Robotnik. Bunnie shuddered. "Robotnik's got to fire his decorator..." she muttered. "He probably did it himself..." Punchy pointed out. Tails looked around thoughtfully. "Hey, guys... Did anyone notice how quiet it was on the way here?" he asked. Antoine looked around nervously. "Do you think maybe the SwatBots set a trap?" he wondered. Sonic shook his head. "Get real, Ant. The SwatBots are useless without Robotnik to boss 'em around." he said. Infin set down his PCD below the huge central portrait of Robotnik. "You got a point, Sonic. Zeke..." he said, nodding at the dragon. Zeke dropped Snively on the ground and pulled out a remote, pointing it at the door and pressing a button while Snively ran for the exit. The door slammed shut, and Snively shrieked at being locked in. "You foolish Freedom Fighters! Look what you've done!" he shouted. Copter and Gemini ran to the door and pulled at it, but it wouldn't budge! "We-we're locked in!" Gemini gasped. Everyone glared at Zeke and Infin, who had began chuckling unpleasantly. "Hey, what's the big idea?" Sonic snapped. Infin motioned to his PCD. "For months, Robotnik had been suffering in ill health. All the pollution in Robotropolis was finally taking its toll on him. He realized that even a dictator as ruthless as he would not live forever..." he began. "So, what? He leave everything to you?" Punchy asked. Zeke chuckled. "No. In fact, he designed most of Robotropolis to answer only to his own voice. But we are on his payroll... Well taken care of, too." he said. "What are y'all talkin' about?" Bunnie asked. Snively stomped his feet and pointed at Infin's PCD. "You fools! You still don't get it! That weasel betrayed you, and his device will bring Robotnik BACK!" he yelled. "Say WHAT!?" Sonic yelped. Infin grinned and nodded. "Yes... Robotnik planned it all out. He bought me over in exchange for my PCD, which he modified into a special PRD, or Paranormal Recovery Device! This machine insures Robotnik's kingdom will stand forever! Once activated, the containment unit becomes a portal to the spirit world, and guess who's waiting to use it?" Before anyone could react, Infin pressed a button on the side of the PRD, activating it! Infin and Zeke stood back as light erupted from the PRD's laser. "Oh, no!!" shouted several of the Phantom Fighters as their worst

nightmare began to come true! Out of the PRD rose a hideous, ghostly shape. Soon, the group was face to face with the ghost of the evil Dr. Ivo Robotnik himself! "Ha ha ha ha.... Ha ha hahahahaha!! Surprise, surprise... Hedgehog!!" Robotnik roared. The Phantom Fighters all let out a scream while Infin and Zeke bowed before their master. "Mighty Robotnik! We have returned you from the grave, as promised!" Zeke said. "Now, bestow upon us our great reward!" Infin requested. Robotnik grinned devilishly. "But of course... You know, Freedom Fighters, I used to think robots were the ultimate soldiers. Roboticization seemed so perfect. But I've learned something. The physical world... is all too temporary. I shall roboticize no more... Spirits are far stronger. So now..." He paused and pointed his hands at Zeke and Infin. "My army will be spiritized!" Zeke and Infin gasped in horror, but it was too late. Two ghostly beams erupted from Robotnik's arms, and in mere moments, Zeke and Infin's physical bodies had turned to ghostly bodies! "Y-you promised us riches!" Infin's ghost protested. "And you'll have all the riches I acquire... When your spirits are a part of me!" Robotnik reached out and grabbed Zeke and Infin, then opened his mouth wide and inhaled the two spirits into his own ghostly body! The Phantom Fighters gasped in shocked horror at this. "That is just plain nasty..." Copter grimaced. The two souls devoured by Robotnik caused him to glow brighter, apparently making him stronger! "Now, I will crush the Freedom Fighters and feast on all their souls! Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha!!" he cackled.

Just then, more spirits began to emerge from the PRD. They appeared to be ghostly SwatBots! "Guess what, rodent? I discovered that all the robots you destroy get sent to the spirit world, as well! SwatSpirits! Attack these Freedom Fighters, but beware of their ghost-catching equipment!" Robotnik commanded. As the SwatSpirits came at them, the Phantom Fighters opened fire on them, while Sonic ran around aiming his flashlight at them. However, the light proved ineffective. During the commotion, Snively tried to sneak over to the remote for the door that Zeke had dropped, but was stopped by Robotnik! "Snively!! You treacherous little worm! I saw you trying to destroy my PRD!" the furious ghost roared. Snively was shaking violently as he tried to talk his way out of this mess. "I- well- I c-can explain, sir! I-it was a ruse, to fool the Freedom Fighters! To make Infin and Zeke seem more like allies!" he lied. Robotnik seemed unconvinced. "You were planning to take over MY city! You little worm!" he growled. While Snively pleaded for his life, the PRD was activated once again. This time, an even brighter light came from the machine, and it shook violently until it managed to eject the next escapee from the spirit world. This was no spirit, however. It was Uncle Chuck, still in his physical roboticized form! "Whoa!! I don't know if that thing was designed to transport physical beings... I feel like I'd lose my lunch if I had any..." he grumbled. Sonic, seeing his uncle had appeared, ran to check it out. "Uncle Chuck! Unc, are you all right?" he said. Chuck glanced at Robotnik and then back to Sonic. "Don't bother worrying about me, sonny! We can't let Robotnik get beyond this room! If he escapes in this form, Mobius is doomed!" he warned. "We're on it, Unc!" Sonic assured him. As Sonic turned to try to assist the Phantom Fighters, Chuck grabbed his arm. "Wait. You can't just capture him. He's too powerful. But I have a clue that might enable you to beat him!" Chuck said this a bit too loud, and Robotnik turned in his direction. "Sir Charles, you dare betray me as well? Another reason why roboticization isn't perfect. Now let's shut that mouth of yours!!" Realizing what was coming, Chuck shoved Sonic aside. In the next moment, Robotnik fired a terrible ghostly beam at Uncle Chuck, knocking him against the wall of the shrine! "Uncle Chuck!! NOOOO!!" Sonic screamed, rushing to his uncle's side. Chuck's robotic body was sparking, and he seemed weak, but he still managed to speak. "Th-the ghosts... are against Robotnik... Good luck... Soni..." With that, Chuck's eye lights went out and his lifeless body collapsed on the floor. Sonic held back his tears and glared at Robotnik in a fury. "I... I'll kill you, Robotnik!!" he screamed. "Hee hee... Too late for that, rodent!" Robotnik taunted.

Next, Robotnik turned to Snively and fired a beam at him! Within moments, Snively was spiritized as

well! "Aaaaaaah!! D-don't eat me, sir! Please!!" Snively begged. Robotnik scoffed. "You're not even worth absorbing, you twit. Besides, you'd probably taste horrible. You'll just have to do whatever I tell you for all eternity, or I'll show you a fate worse than death!" he warned. Snively nodded. "Y-yes, sir! Whatever you say!" he said. At this point, the last of the SwatSpirits had just been captured by the Phantom Fighters, but Robotnik didn't seem to mind much. "Oh, well. Who needs SwatBots when my foes are locked in? After all, that was the plan. With all of your wretched ghost catching machines demolished, nothing will be able to stop my spirit army! Snively, hold some of those Freedom Fighters still so I can spiritize them more easily!" he sneered. Snively saluted his master. "Yes, sir!" As Snively flew after the Phantom Fighters, Robotnik began shooting his ghostly beams at them, as well! The Phantom Fighters scrambled to avoid Robotnik's attacks, and tried shooting back. Snively ducked and dodged the blasts, but Robotnik didn't even bother trying to avoid them. He laughed demonically as the PCD lasers passed through his transparent body, unable to touch him! He then let loose a strange shockwave which pushed the Phantom Fighters back a little. "It... It is not working! We are doom-ed!" Antoine cried. Gemini tried firing again, only to have Robotnik laugh at her. "Why!? That's impossible!" she protested. "He must be too strong to be contained!" Copter realized. Sonic nodded. "Yeah, Uncle Chuck tried to warn us..." he said. Robotnik and Snively started attacking them again, forcing them to flee for their lives, but with the door locked, escape seemed out of the question. "My stars, what can we do now?" Bunnie wondered. "There's got to be something..." Punchy grunted. Tails glanced at Sonic. "What did Uncle Chuck say before...?" he asked. Sonic jumped away from one of Robotnik's blasts before replying. "Something about the ghosts bein' against Robotnik. But those SpookBots sure didn't seem against him..." he said. Tails flew over one of Robotnik's blasts and quickly came up with an idea. "What if we let out King Boom Boo? If he's against Robotnik, we might have a chance!" he said. Suddenly, Robotnik had had enough target practice. "This is rather boring. I'll just use my full power to spiritize you all at once!" he roared, glowing brightly as he began building up power to unleash a final attack! The room started to shake, and Sonic realized there was only one choice. "I sure hope King Boom Boo hates ol' Ro-butt-nik more than he hates us..." he said. "Quick! Press the button on the back of my PCD to release the ghosts I caught!" Tails shouted.

Sonic dashed towards Tails, hoping this one last shot would work. Snively, seeing this, tried to block his path. "It's all over, Sonic! Give up!" he sneered. "No time to chat, Snive-ly!" Sonic replied, running straight through his transparent body. "Hey! No fair!!" Snively yelled. Wasting no time, Sonic reached Tails and pressed the red button on the back of his PCD. With the machine reversed, Tails fired his laser, this time releasing all the ghosts he'd captured! A few SwatSpirits came out along with the others, but they were powerless against the other ghosts Tails released. Finally, King Boom Boo emerged, startling Robotnik into firing a beam at him, wasting his charge as it passed through King Boom Boo! "BRRRAAAAAA! You! At last, I shall have my revenge, Robotnik!" King Boom Boo shouted, grabbing Robotnik in his claws! Robotnik fought back, and the two ghosts soon seemed locked in a fairly even sumo match. "Yeah! That's it, Boo Boo!" Sonic cheered, "Now how about a little reinforcements?" The Phantom Fighters nodded, understanding. Sonic ran to each of them one by one and pressed the red button to reverse each of the PCDs, freeing all the captive ghosts! Some were busy keeping Snively and the SwatSpirits occupied, but the others joined King Boom Boo and pushed Robotnik towards the PRD! Knowing what needed to be done, Sonic ran to the PRD and found a similar red button on the back. "Hmmm... Hey, Ro-butt-nik, what do ya think would happen if I put this 'PRD' in reverse?" he asked. Robotnik glanced back and gasped. "No, no hedgehog! Don't even think about it!!!" he shrieked. Sonic quickly pressed the reverse button and strapped the PRD on his back, aiming the laser at Robotnik and firing! "Have a nice afterlife!!" he grinned. The PRD began dragging the ghosts that it had released towards it, starting with the SwatSpirits that the other ghosts had subdued! Next, one of the ghosts

brought Snively to the machine. "N-n-noooo!! Look what you've done, Julian, you twit! I hate you, you fooooooool!!!" he screamed as he was dragged into the machine. Finally, all that remained was Robotnik. "Th-this can't be happening! My plan was perfect!! RRRRRRaaaaaaaAAAAAAAaaaaaaaaahhhhhhh!!!! I... I really, REALLY, hate that hedgehooooooooooooog!!!!" With one final push, King Boom Boo and his subjects pushed Robotnik into the PRD's suction, and he was pulled back into the spirit world like dust into a vacuum! "Yeah!! We did it!!" Sonic cheered, prompting the rest of the Phantom Fighters to cheer as well! However, they quickly silenced as King Boom Boo hovered in front of Sonic. An uneasy silence followed for a few seconds, until the ghost held out his hand. "Thank you... Friend." the ghost said. Sonic shook his ghostly hand and smiled. "Right back at you, big boo!" he said, winking. King Boom Boo turned to the other Phantom Fighters and waved. "Thank you all. Farewell!" With that, the remaining ghosts flew willingly into the PRD and back into the spirit world. While most of the Phantom Fighters started trying to get the door open, Sonic and Tails examined Uncle Chuck. "We did it, Unc... Thanks to you..." Sonic said sadly. Tails looked over the robot thoughtfully. "Sonic, I don't think he's badly damaged. All we have to do is get him to Rotor and he can repair him and recharge his battery!" he realized. Just then, Punchy got frustrated and smashed open the door. "Nice job, Punch, but I was just about to say I found the remote!" Copter groaned. Sonic smiled as he carefully lifted up Uncle Chuck and joined the others at the doorway. "All right, team! Let's go home!" he said. Antoine turned his communicator back on and talked to Rotor and Sally. "Mission completed, my princess! All is wells!" he said. Sally and Rotor both let out a sigh of relief. "Great job, guys! Now, Mobius is truly free once again!" Sally said. Sonic nodded. "Yeah. You might say ol' Robotnik didn't stand... a ghost of a chance!"

The End
...BOO! MUA HA HA HA HA!!!

Happy Halloween!

2 - Paranormal Chaos 2

GeneX - Nightmare Zone: Act VII
Paranormal Chaos 2

Note: Sonic the Hedgehog and related characters are (c) SEGA and
Sonic Team. You knew that, right?
GeneX and related fanchars are (c) 2BIT (TheGreatGator), the author.
Princess Sally, Antoine, and related non-Sega characters are (c) DiC and Archie comics.

Foreword: Welcome to 2013's Halloween Special! Good on ya for locating it buried here! Maybe you won't be confused along with everyone else when the specials seem to skip to eight next year! lol Well, that's enough. Enjoy!

There are many dimensions in the multiverse. All of them are filled with both good and evil. The planet Mobius, nestled in the dimension of GeneX Spectre, had long been dominated by darkness. The evil Dr. Robotnik had used his sinister technology to conquer much of the planet, leaving only small groups of Freedom Fighters to oppose him. Ghosts began to haunt his empire, and the Freedom Fighters branched out into ghost-catching "Phantom Fighters." As the pollution of Robotnik's robot factories caught up with him, he hatched a plan to use the Phantom Fighters' own ghost catching technology to cheat death and rule the planet for eternity by re-engineering one of their Paranormal Chaos Devices, or "PCDs", into a machine that would recover his departed spirit from beyond the grave. Betrayed by one of their own team mates, the Phantom Fighters fell into a trap, but with the quick thinking of Sonic and his Uncle Chuck, they managed to beat Robotnik's ghost, reversing his machine and sending him back to the spirit world! Mobius was free! Or so they thought...

The Freedom Fighters were assembled inside Rotor the Walrus's laboratory, which had been largely dedicated to the study of paranormal activity in recent years, and as such looked quite a bit like a mad scientist's laboratory. Six of the seven PCDs were propped up on a table in the back, each fitted with one of the seven Chaos Emeralds. Princess Sally had set up a map of the surrounding areas covering Rotor's blackboard, and was briefing the group on recent developments. Sonic the Hedgehog, Miles "Tails" Prower, Antoine D'Coolette, Bunnie Rabbot, Copter the Fox, Gemini the Fennec, Punchy the Echidna and Rainbow the Echidna were assembled in the crowded room, while Uncle Chuck helped Rotor with some technical stuff elsewhere in the lab. Dulcy the Dragon, unable to fit in the room, observed through an open window. Sally cleared her throat before starting the mission briefing. "Okay, so as you all know, the reconstruction of Mobotropolis has hit a few... snags." she began. "You sure we can't just build a new Mobotropolis over Knothole?" Copter mumbled. "Don't be silly, Two. Then where would everyone flee in the event of another coup? Robotropolis?" Rainbow said. Sally shrugged. "Well, either way... We're being haunted on two fronts. First, a lot of spooky happenings have been reported around the vicinity of... Dr. Robotnik's ancestral home, Kintobor Manor." she shuddered. "The 'ol House of Ivo itself, huh? Could Ro-butt-nik be back?" Sonic growled. Sally crossed her arms, looking troubled. "That would indeed be disturbing. So much so that Knuckles left his post on the Floating Island to check it out. He hasn't been heard from since." she reported. Antoine shivered. "Oh no! Perhaps he has been captivated by goosts!" he yelped. Sally nodded. "I'm afraid you might be right, Antoine. That's why I want

you and Tails to check it out and rescue him if possible! Rotor has perfected a teleporter that will get you there quickly, and should be able to pull you back if there's trouble." she said. Tails smiled. "Cool! The ghosts won't know what hit 'em!" he said. Antoine, however, had a look of abject horror, and Sonic had a look of protest. "Hey, Sal! Are you serious!? I should be leadin' this mission! Robotnik could be there! And you're sending Antoine and TAILS!? No offense, there, little bro." the blue hedgehog said. Tails did look a tad annoyed, but Sally spoke up before an argument could begin. "We need you here, Sonic. There's a much stronger paranormal signal coming from the Dark Swamp than Kintobor Manor. The rest of the Phantom Fighters are going there to check it out, and that includes you!" she said, pointing to the Dark Swamp on the map. Gemini nodded. "Sounds like business as usual! Time to get geared up!" she said. While everyone went to grab their PCDs, Punchy stayed back. "Hey, Knuckles took my PCD! How am I going?" he wondered. "You're not." Sally told him, "But I am. I'll be leading the Dark Swamp mission. Any objections, Bunnie?" she asked. Bunnie sat back in a chair and yawned. "Anytime you wanna give me a vacation from ghoulies is fine, Sally-girl." she said. "I hope Robotnik ATE Knuckles." Punchy grumbled.

While Sonic, Sally, Copter and Gemini were gearing up for their mission to the Dark Swamp, Rotor was getting Tails and Antoine prepped for their journey to Kintobor Manor. "Here you go, Antoine. Get yourself strapped in to your PCD." Rotor instructed. Antoine shook his head, clasping his hands together as though in prayer. "Oh, no, pleeeease, Rootor! Do not be sending me to the terrible Houses of Ivo! Anythings but that!" he begged. Uncle Chuck shook his head. "It won't be so bad, Antoine. We're ready to bring you back at any time with Rotor's teleporter. Look!" he said, motioning to the machine. It looked like a large claw reaching up from the floor, holding out a laser nozzle. After handing Antoine his PCD, Rotor held up the remote to the teleporter. "It's really great. With the remote, all I'll have to do is tell the machine to retrieve you, and the satellite will pick up the signal from your PCDs and pull you all back, no sweat." he explained briefly. Tails looked amazed. "You built a satellite, too!?" he gasped. Rotor shrugged. "Well, Robotnik built it. I repurposed it. Ready to go?" he said, pointing the remote at the teleporter. Antoine started to freak out. "No, no, NO!! I am telling you, this is not a good idea!!" he shouted. "Get a grip, 'Tony! Sheesh, and they let YOU be a Phantom Fighter." Dulcy mumbled from the window. The teleporter fired at Tails, sending him on his way in a flash, and then started to target Antoine, but he was dead set against going. "Rotor, I am still begging you!! Turn off your internal machine, you kooky scientist!!" he yelped, grabbing onto the walrus and shaking him violently. "A-ant!! Get off me!! I can't get sent with you!! ANT!!" Rotor hollered, but it was too late. The teleporter beam fired, and in a flash, both Rotor and Antoine were gone! "Uh, oh... That can't be good..." Dulcy gulped, "Well, at least I didn't bust up the lab this time!" she giggled, though Uncle Chuck was looking much more worried...

Tails was startled as Antoine and Rotor emerged together a few feet away from him, Antoine's PCD plopping to the ground beside them! "Ant! Strap on your gear already! This mansion's haunted!" he shouted, "Wait... Why is Rotor here?" he wondered. Rotor rubbed his side and looked around. "I'm gonna register a complaint against you, Antoine..." he grumbled, holding up the teleporter remote, "Uh... This isn't good." he gasped. "What? It is not broked, is it?" Antoine asked, hastily strapping on his PCD. Rotor shook his head. "No, it's WAY out of range! I don't know how we're going to get back to Knothole!" he whimpered. The communicator attached to Tails's PCD laser beeped a bit, so Tails answered it. "Are you boys all right?" It was Uncle Chuck! "Um...Sorta." Tails reported. Chuck nodded. "Without the remote, I don't know how to work Rotor's machine, but I'll work on it. Otherwise, it's a long walk home! And tough, since the ghosts may not let ya leave! Careful in there, kiddos. Rotor's defenseless, so look out for him." he said. Tails nodded. "I'll do my best. Tails out!" he replied. As they all looked around the foyer of the mansion where the teleporter had deposited them, they shivered a little. It was dark, dank,

dusty and covered in cobwebs. Those cobwebs were crawling with tiny, ghostly spiders, so they knew they had their work cut out for them. "Gosh, even the bugs here are ghosts. Should we zap 'em, Rotor?" Tails wondered. Rotor shrugged, but Antoine started firing wildly all around the room. "I will not be sneaked up on by teensy bug goosts!! Take that and that and that again!!" he yelled. When he stopped, the spider ghosts seemed to have simply fled. However, they soon noticed something peek out of some tiny holes in the walls. "M-mice?" Tails mumbled. Several ghostly mice scampered across the floor, some stopping to stick their tongues out at Antoine before diving into another hole. Antoine yelped, while Rotor sighed. "We better get moving. It's only going to get tougher, so we better fill your containment tanks with the dangerous ghosts." he reasoned.

The Dark Swamp was much closer, and Sonic, Sally, Copter and Gemini didn't require a teleporter in order to get there. Still, Sonic might have preferred it, since hiking with the others put a strain on his impatient nature. "Hey, Sal, are we there yet!? It's startin' to feel swampy, but the transition's so slow walkin', I can't tell when the forest ends and the swamp begins!" he complained. "Maybe we should've brought Antoine instead. HE wouldn't be complaining about how slow we're moving!" Copter grumbled. Sally rolled her eyes and pulled out her personal computer, Nicole. "Picking up any paranormal signals yet, Nicole?" she asked. The computer lit up in response. "Scanning, Sally... There do appear to be spirits hiding in the surrounding area. Caution advised." Nicole warned. Gemini looked around cautiously. "Could the ghosts be laying a trap for us?" she wondered. Sonic glanced at the crooked, spooky trees of the swamp and rolled his eyes. "What kinda trap could they set out here? HEY! Spooks! Get your ghostly behinds out here so we can fry 'em!" he shouted. Copter scoffed. "Yeah, like that'll work." Suddenly, from out of the trees, a small ghost appeared. A ghost with cyan gloves, a greenish muzzle, and blue eyes with green whites. "Hey, live-wires! I'm Lospecter!" he waved. Gemini clutched her PCD's laser tightly. "I know you... You terrorized me and my friends in the early days of the coup!" she growled. Lospecter crossed his arms. "Hmm... Doesn't ring a bell. Guess I've been busy ever since Robotnik started all his ghost research. Thought he'd rule forever as a spirit, didn't he? Ha ha! Well, now he's gone. Guess I'll establish a nice new castle for myself to rule from. Ironlock Prison looks cozy." he chuckled. Sonic looked confused. "Any of you able to make sense outta this guy?" he asked. Sally looked at Lospecter suspiciously. "What are you saying? You're plotting... To take Robotnik's place?" she wondered. Lospecter laughed at her. "Well, I'll be getting nice and cozy at Ironlock if you need me. Go play with my losolanturns for now!" he said, flying off! Gemini tried to fire at him to prevent his escape, but a losolanturn intercepted her shot! Several more of them started to emerge, surrounding the group! They looked like ghostly pumpkins, with even ghostlier faces. Sonic pulled out his trusty flashlight to try to stun them, but they already possessed lights inside their bodies, so it didn't bother them! "Ah... Lanterns... I get it." Sonic mumbled, rushing away to avoid getting burned as they started spitting fireballs at him! Copter just started shooting at them, trying to weaken them and then pull them into his containment pack. "Their... 'shells' are tough... Try hitting them with two laser streams!" Sally suggested. Gemini shrugged. "Worth a try." She fired at the target Copter was aiming for, while Sonic helped Sally. This seemed to work, and Copter and Sally quickly managed to suck up at least one losolanturn each, but the others hurled fireballs at them quickly! "Sal, look out!" Sonic shouted, speeding over and pulling her out of the way! Copter simply twirled his tails and flew over the shot. "This isn't gonna be easy... I wonder how Tails is doing...?" he muttered.

Tails, Antoine and Rotor had found an old elevator inside the mansion. "We will be taking the stairways." Antoine said. "Agreed!" Tails added. Rotor scratched his head, but followed them without argument. He didn't see what happened last time, so he'd just have to assume they knew better. Now, their exploration of the mansion truly began. Wandering the halls, they were assaulted by some paintings hanging on the

walls, the images of Robotnik's ancestors laughing at them until Antoine zapped the paintings, revealing some small, wispy ghosts had been possessing the pictures! They were easily dispatched. They came upon a ballroom some time later, and found a crazed chandelier swinging around and trying to swat them before long! Rotor managed to grab onto it, climb up and unhook it from the ceiling, caught by Tails before he could fall. The ghost behind this trick was a familiar, spiky-eared spirit, and Antoine quickly caught him before he could escape. They even had a scare checking out a mere closet, but as Antoine freaked out and started zapping at mops and brooms, the so-called "ghost" in the closet called a time-out. "Stop!! Uncle!! I'm sorry to startle you! I have been trapped in that closet since 2010!" the man yelped. It was the same strange fellow in the gator suit that they'd met before entering Robotropolis to ultimately face Robotnik's ghost. "What're you doing here?" Tails asked. Gator sighed. "I got LOST. You guys don't think I like haunted houses, do you?" he said. Rotor shrugged. "I guess you better come with us, then." he offered. Gator shook his head. "No way. My cameo quota for this year has been met! So long, Luigi, Toad and E. Gadd!" he said before vanishing in a burst of purple smoke! "Heeey... He said he was not a goost and that he was trap-ed!" Antoine grumbled. Despite this distraction, they continued exploring the manor, fending off ghosts and escaping traps as they went. Eventually, they arrived at a spacious library. There, they finally found something suspicious. Browsing the bookshelves was the stringy haired ghost of Robotnik's former assistant, Snively! "Aha! There's our bad guy! What'd you do to Knuckles, Snively!" Tails shouted. "Ummm... P-please do not be doing it to us..." Antoine stuttered. Snively turned around and, seeing PCDs aimed his way, shrieked. "The Phantom Fighters!! Why can't you twerps leave me to rest in peace?!" he yelped, floating up and hurrying away from Tails and Antoine! "We can't let him get away! C'mon, guys!" Rotor said, charging ahead. "Swatspirits! Get them!! Keep their infernal machines AWAY from me!!" Snively yelled. At his command, ghostly SwatBots emerged, quickly surrounding Rotor! "Umm... Ooops. Hey, guys. Need an oil change?" he asked sheepishly. "Oh my! Rooter is dead beet!" Antoine cried. Tails rolled his eyes and fired at the ghosts. "Any time, Ant!" he said. Rotor had gathered some things as they were exploring the mansion, and now hastily cobbled some gizmos into an old lantern and set the device off. A huge flash of light went off, startling the ghosts and making them back away from him! "Yow... I wasn't expectin' that to be so bright..." Rotor mumbled, rubbing his eyes. The Swatspirits fled behind the bookshelves, and began hurling books like projectiles to fight back! "Oh, yeah? I don't think so!" Tails fired his PCD through the opening where some books were removed from a bookshelf, and snagged a spirit! "All right! Now you try it, Ant!" he said. Antoine appeared to be buried in a pile of books. "Swatboots! I am no longer jokings around! Come out, and fight, you cowards! Ha ha! I have frightened them away..." he laughed. Rotor sighed. "At least take that book out of your face..." he groaned.

While exploring the Dark Swamp, the rest of the Phantom Fighters observed some unusual phenomena. The swamp itself was being transformed! Strange structures and statues had seemingly sprung up from the ground, even knocking over trees in their way. They seemed to be monuments to the supernatural, the statues resembling hideous creatures that obviously weren't of the mortal world. "Whoever's been redecorating without a permit should have a room reserved for them at Ironlock..." Copter mumbled. "I think they're planning to take over the prison, so that won't do a lot of good." Sonic pointed out. Sally pointed Nicole at one of the odd structures nearby. "What's your analysis of these... shrines, or whatever they are, Nicole?" she asked. The computer beeped a bit before responding. "Ghostly energy resonates from the structures and the statues. They appear to have been erected to channel paranormal frequencies for some unknown purpose." it stated. Sonic groaned. "English, Nicole!!" he snapped. Sally scratched her head. "I confess, I don't really get it either." she sighed. Gemini nodded and pointed around with her wand. "These creepy objects the ghosts put out are siphoning spirit energy and sending it to a specified point, like power lines." she said. Everyone stared at her. "What? I'm our magic expert.

Makes sense I'd have learned a thing or two about ghosts by now, too." she pointed out. Copter looked around. "And, uh, where is it siphoning spirit energy from? It's not sucking up our souls is it?" he asked. Gemini shook her head. "Paranormal energy exists everywhere in small amounts. Anywhere something has lived or died. Lospecter must need a lot of it for something..." she explained. With these unsettling words, the group continued on their way to the prison, unable to shake the feeling they were being watched. They passed by a stream surrounded by a dense fog, and noticed that the strange structures were even jutting out of the water. It was getting colder as they walked, and as Sonic shivered, he took another look at the water and noticed something. "Hey! The ol' river's frozen!" he realized. Sally squinted through the fog and realized he was right. "This isn't right... The river never freezes in these parts." she said. Copter pointed his PCD around frantically. "Great. It's THOSE things... I've run into these kinda ghosts before. Keep your distance, do NOT let 'em breathe on you!" he growled, "We lost Spiny that way..." Suddenly, the group could see something moving in the fog. Rather, the fog ITSELF seemed to be moving in places! The fog was actually made up of several wispy ghosts, which they could now see had bulging, rainbow colored eyes and two long, jagged fangs in their mouths. The group was surrounded by these ghosts, and their long, fog-like tails made it difficult to see! "All right! Take this!" Sonic shouted, firing at one of the ghosts, only to have his shot go through the tail! "Apparently, you have to hit their heads!" Gemini shouted. "No kidding..." Sonic mumbled. One of the ghosts stopped to grin at him, and then opened its mouth to spew its breath in his direction! Sonic sped out of the way quickly as the ground where he stood was instantly turned to ice! "Whoa! Freeze-ghosts??" he gasped. "Told ya!" Copter yelled, struggling to wrangle one of the frosty-fogs into his PCD. Sonic tried shining his flashlight around, and it seemed to cut through their foggy tails a bit. "Ha! We seeeee you!" he taunted, prompting the ghosts to chase after him angrily. "Yaaaah! No! Don't breathe on me!!" he yelped, running off. "That's good, Sonic! Keep them busy!" Gemini said, leading Sally and Copter in picking off the ghosts Sonic was distracting. While the Phantom Fighters were dealing with these icy spirits, they were unaware that Lospecter was nearby, watching them. "Not bad... They might get to Ironlock on schedule after all..." he murmured, floating away.

Meanwhile, at Kintobor Manor, Tails, Antoine and Rotor were chasing after the ghost of Snively. They were chasing him up a winding stairway, firing their PCDs at spectral bats that came at them to slow them down on the way up. Finally, they arrived at a large observatory built at the top of the mansion. "Wow... Get a load of that huge telescope pointing out of the roof!" Tails said. "Tres magnifique!" Antoine remarked. "Hey... Where's Snively?" Rotor wondered. Looking around, they spotted Snively hiding atop a model solar system in the corner of the room. "You think you've cornered me! But I've got otherworldly forces ready and waiting! Don't just hide around in the shadows! Get them! Geeeet theeeeem!!" he shouted. A pair of small, round, purple spirits started to rise from the dark corners of the room. They had bloodshot eyes, big toothy mouths, and seemed to have small meteors orbiting around them. "Wha-wha-whaaaat is this now?" Antoine mumbled. Tails scratched his head. "Surely the weirdest ghosts I've ever seen." he said. Rotor backed away a bit. "I got a bad feelin' about this. Good luck, guys!" he said, heading for cover. The meteors started rotating around the ghosts faster, and the ghosts laughed as they each hurled one at Tails and Antoine! They hurried out of the way and tried to zap the ghosts, but the meteors blocked their PCDs' blasts! "Hahahahaha! Yes! That's it! Smash those pesky busybodies!" Snively cackled from his perch. Tails tried flying around to find a clear shot at the ghosts, while Antoine ran frantically to avoid the meteors. "Ah! No! Stop it! Snipley! Please to be calling away these thing-a-ma-boos!" he cried. Rotor peered out from behind the telescope and called to him. "Psst! Ant! Look, the meteors regenerate...but not too fast. It must take some energy for the ghosts to create them. If you make them waste their ammo, you'll have a clear shot!" he said. Antoine nodded and glared at the ghosts. "Hey! Goosty! Naa-haa! You can never catch the amazing Antoine!" he taunted, goading

them to hurl meteors at him faster while he evaded them. Meanwhile, Tails fired at one of the ghosts from above, zapping past the orbit of the meteors! "Gotcha! Now hold still and lemme pull ya into your new home!" he growled. While Tails was struggling with one of the ghosts, the other started to aim for him! "Sacre bleau! Watch out, Tails!" Antoine yelped, firing his PCD hurriedly to snag the other ghost! Now that the ghosts were caught in their beams, it was only a matter of time before they'd be contained, so Snively started looking for an exit. However, he quickly found Rotor in his path! "Bah! You don't scare me! You don't have a ghost-catching weapon!" he sneered. "How about me, then!?" Snively gasped as he turned to find a PCD pointed in his face, and the one holding it was none other than Knuckles the Echidna!

"I've been chasing this twerp through this mansion since I found out he was here." Knuckles explained once the other ghosts in the room were out of the way, "This place was pretty full of reinforcements for him, though, so I'd never have cornered him without backup." he explained. "Why didn't you contact us?" Rotor asked. "Communicator got busted." Knuckles grumbled. Tails glanced at Snively, keeping his PCD pointed at him. "All right, SLIME-ly, how'd you get back from the spirit world?" he interrogated him. Snively looked a bit embarrassed, but all the lasers pointed at him seemed to persuade him. "Well, I... I had unfinished business in this house, all right! Ghosts can come back if they have innocuous unfinished business." he said. "Seems to me they normally come back to make trouble!" Knuckles growled. Snively shook his head. "Robotnik was responsible for that. He shook the spirits up and made them angry. And you didn't exactly help, capturing ghosts and all. Why wouldn't we fight you? Robotnik himself had unfinished business, but his was evil, so he needed the PRD to return. That's how it is." he explained. "So, what IS your unfinished business?" Tails asked. Snively frowned. "Do I have to...? Well... I just... couldn't rest in peace without this book my dear mummy used to read to me..." he mumbled in embarrassment, holding a children's book in his hand. "Twelve little duckies...?" Antoine murmured. "Shut up!!" Snively sniveled. Knuckles scratched his head. "Wow, I feel like my time's been well and truly wasted..." he sighed. As they stood up to leave, however, Snively stopped them. "Wait! Th-there is something I should say!" he stammered. They stopped to glance at him. "I was in the spirit world for a bit...and I know that there are some evil spirits plotting something terrible. They're seeking to destroy the world! And... they might have a way out of the spirit world. Have a look through the telescope! It may have already begun!" he said, panicked. They glanced at Rotor, so he went to the telescope and started adjusting it to look around the surrounding area. "Not sure what I'm looking for..." he muttered, "Wait a second... There's a huge dark cloud!" Rotor could see a sinister cloud of black and purple, looking more like a sort of strange energy more than weather. "I think its some sort of paranormal cloud... It's hanging over the Dark Swamp!" he realized. Antoine gasped. "No! The princess and the others are there right this moment!" he said. "We gotta get over there then!" Knuckles added. "You get all that, Uncle Chuck?" Tails said over his PCD's communicator. "Lucky for you guys, I think I got Rotor's teleporter figured out! Someone hold on to Rotor, all right? This thing only locks on to PCDs!" Chuck reminded them. "If you tell anyone about my book, I'll haunt you but good!" Snively threatened as the Phantom Fighters teleported away.

The ghostly cloud was hanging directly over Ironlock Prison, and as Sonic, Sally, Copter and Gemini arrived there, they stopped to gawk at it. "Your magical genius got anything to say about THAT?" Copter asked. Gemini shrugged. "Chance of rain?" she joked. "The ghostly energies are condensing around this point." Nicole chimed in, the signal apparently being so strong that Sally didn't even have to point the computer at the cloud to pick it up. "Can anyone else say trap city?" Sonic grumbled. Sally nodded. "You're right, but we still have to go in there. We won't find out anything just standing around out here staring." she said. As the group started to go inside, Copter scratched his head. "Wait a minute!

Shouldn't one of us stand guard out here?" he asked. Gemini grabbed him by the arm. "Come on, you coward! I can use magic to warp us out if we get trapped in there!" she pointed out. "But what if you get possessed!!" Copter protested as he was dragged inside. Once they'd entered, the doors creaked shut behind them, and they started to look around. The gloomy interior of the prison had gotten a bit of a ghostly makeover, and the true nature of the structures in the swamp seemed much more clear as the Phantom Fighters entered into what resembled a mad scientist's lab. It still featured a few of those creepy statues, which appeared to actually be torch holders to light up the room. In the center of the room was a strange device holding up several electrodes. "Well, now we're trapped in some evil torture chamber in the prison. Good job, princess." Copter groaned. Sonic shined his flashlight around to get a better look at everything. "Well, no one seems to be home. Doesn't seem so bad." he said. "On the contrary! The guest of honor has arrived!" Suddenly, Lospecter flew into the center of the room between the electrodes! "Princess Sally! Good to have ya with us! I've been waiting on you." he grinned. Sally backed away a step. "Huh? What do you mean you've been waiting on... me?" she asked. Lospecter chuckled softly. "I've been gathering energy to open up a little portal here... To free all the evil ghost friends that'd help me take over Mobius! But I need one little thing to complete the portal-making ritual dealie... A royal soul! So... I gotta sacrifice you! Ha ha!" Sonic immediately started shooting at Lospecter, but he simply flipped out of the way. "Okay, I can see you need convincing. Mind the torch-monsters!" he giggled, flying up out of reach. While he did that, the creepy, monster-shaped torches in the room started to stir! The flames hovering over them revealed themselves to contain angry eyes, while the statues themselves came to life! "Clever... The flames are the ghosts, controlling physical statues that our lasers likely can't harm." Gemini said. "Now's not a good time to be impressed with 'em!" Sonic snapped. The demonic statues, which resembled little devils, were advancing on them quickly. The Phantom Fighters quickly started shooting at them to try to slow them down, but their lasers indeed had little to no effect on the statues. "I guess we'd better aim for those teeny ghosts on their heads!" Copter sighed, taking flight as a statue attempted to claw at him! Sonic ran to get some distance from the statues, while Gemini took to blasting them back with some potent magic. This, however, left Sally on her own. "Ha! I got one!" she said, having a strangely easy time on her own. While she was busy trying to pull the ghost into her containment unit, though, Lospecter was sneaking up on her! Sonic quickly noticed this, and tried to dash to her aid, but the statue-demons blocked his path! "Hey! Outta my way, rock-heads! Sal! Look out!!" Sonic shouted. However, it was too late! Laughing, Lospecter snatched her up and pulled her over to the electrode machine! "Aaaah!! Let me go, you slimy creep!" Sally yelled. struggling. "Now, now, those are such angry last words. Ah well. Night, princess! I'll think of you during my victory speech!" Lospecter sneered, letting her go as the machine turned on! Purple lightning shot forth from the electrodes, zapping Sally before she could fall! "Sal... NO!!!" Sonic shouted, while Copter and Gemini stared briefly in disbelief before resuming their fight with the statue ghosts. In a moment, Sally's spirit was separated from her body, screaming as a massive vortex began to open up in the back of the room! Sonic forced his way past the statues and caught Sally's lifeless body as it fell, only to watch her spirit get hurled into to vortex by Lospecter! "Now this portal should hold! Okay, guys! C'mon out to plaaaay!" Lospecter called, laughing triumphantly. Immediately, dozens of ghosts of all shapes and types started swarming out of the portal and hurtling through the walls of the prison, ready to terrorize Mobius! "Oh, shoot... We failed... It's a prison break!" Copter gulped. "Now what do we do...?" Gemini wondered.

Tails, Knuckles, Antoine and Rotor had made it back to Knothole Village, but they didn't have time to stay and chat with Uncle Chuck. They had to hurry to the Dark Swamp! As they made their way there, they could see the ghostly cloud hanging over the general direction of the prison. However, before they could get far, the horde of ghosts had escaped from Lospecter's portal, and rapidly spread through the swamp! "Yeeeep!! G-g-g-goooooseses!!" Antoine shrieked before falling over into Rotor's arms. "H-hey!

Snap out of it, Ant!" Rotor said, slapping him awake. Tails and Knuckles stared in shock themselves. "Where are all of those ghosts coming from??" Knuckles murmured. "Snively was right... And we were too late to stop 'em!" Tails realized. Antoine stood up, shivering. "So, what are we to be doing?" he asked. Knuckles held up his laser and smirked. "We charge in there and rescue the others!" he said, leading the way as Tails and Rotor followed him toward Ironlock. Antoine hesitated. "R-RIGHT INTO THE GOOST ARMIES!? Are you all out of your brains!?" he shouted, chasing them while continuing to attempt to talk them out of it. On their way to the prison, it didn't take long for the swarming ghosts to notice them, and soon the four of them were being surrounded by spirits of all types! Losolanturns came at Tails, trying to burn him with their fireballs, round Boom Boos tried to sneak up on Knuckles and take him off guard, other ghosts possessed the statues that were built outside and were chasing after Rotor! Other ghosts were coming to make matters worse as well, and while Tails and Knuckles were busy trying to fight them off, Antoine was shivering behind a tree, hugging his knees. Rotor ran behind the tree to get him. "Ant!! We're in trouble out here, and I don't have a PCD! I just came along for technical support! We need you, man!" he shouted. "No... I am knowing that this was a big mistake. I am no Phantoom Fighter! I am a big Freud!" Antoine cried. Rotor scratched his head. "Huh? A fraud...? But, you've caught ghosts..." he said. Antoine shook his head. "I cannot do it! I am too frighted to go on with the goost-busting!" he admitted. Rotor ducked to avoid a Boom Boo and ran behind another tree. "Ant! I'm... I'm scared, too! But you know you can't let that stop you! That's what being a Freedom Fighter's all about!" he pleaded. Antoine glanced at his PCD laser, then back at Rotor. He then shook his head and ran off screaming! "I must flee for my young and handsome life!! I quiiiiiiits!!" he yelled. Rotor gulped, looking at Tails and Knuckles as the ghosts were surrounding them. "This could be... problematic..." he whimpered.

Sonic, Copter and Gemini were backed to the wall at the prison. Lospecter was glowing red after the portal opened, and he was giggling with glee. "Thanks to that lovely surge of spirit energy, which I drained some power from with my nifty devices, I'm invincible! Go ahead, try to zap me!" he challenged. Sonic stepped forward. "Ha! You'll be sorry! Take this!" he growled, firing directly at Lospecter! Copter and Gemini quickly joined him, only to find that their lasers passed right through him! "Ha ha ha! Not even your precious chaos energy can touch me now! But I can touch YOU!" Lospecter laughed, pointing his fingers like a gun and firing bolts of energy at the Phantom Fighters! They scrambled to get out of the way, and as they dodged, one of the bolts destroyed the door! "Well, at least there's a way out now..." Copter mumbled. "Go ahead! The other ghosts will get ya eventually!" Lospecter taunted. "No! We have to figure a way to stop him! Try to zap him again!" Gemini insisted. While they exchanged blows with Lospecter for a bit, Tails, Knuckles and Rotor found their way into the prison. They had been run a bit ragged by the ghosts outside, and were forced to do quite a bit of fleeing to get to the prison, but now that they were here, Rotor went right to work assessing the situation. "So, that machine there created this portal, powered up that ghost, and summoned the swarm..." he said. "Hey... What happened to Sally!?" Knuckles gasped. "And... Sally was used as a sacrifice." Rotor concluded. "Sonic! We're here to help!" Tails shouted. Copter glanced back. "Good! Add to our laser blasts! Maybe we're weakening him!" he suggested. Gemini shook her head. "No, it's no use! We're not touching him!" she cried. Lospecter chuckled. "An astute observation. Now that I've got you all here, I think I'll wipe you all out at once and take over Mobius unopposed! Sounds kinda boring, really, but I'm sure I'll find a way to spice it up." he said, balling up his hands and creating a larger energy bolt between them, getting ready for a more serious attack! Rotor had picked up Nicole from Sally's body, and seemed to have gotten an idea. "Guys! Don't aim for the ghost! According to Nicole, the portal itself could be affected by chaos energy, too, since it was made of spirit energy!" he said. Sonic glanced at him and nodded. "All I need ta hear! Eat laser, portal!" He ran ahead and tried zapping the portal, but nothing seemed to happen. "The portal

is made of a large concentration of paranormal energies. It will take a combined concentration of chaos energy to effect it." Nicole explained. "What!?" Copter snapped. "We need more lasers. Cross your laser streams and fire them at the portal! This should reverse the portal, causing it to suck all the ghosts back up!" Rotor said. Lospecter fired his blast at Rotor, hoping to shut him up, but Gemini deflected the blast with her PCD's laser! "What do you know, your attacks are still affected by our PCDs!" she grinned. "Well, I'll never let you cross your streams!" he growled.

Sonic fired his laser at Lospecter to get his attention. "Come and get me, smoky!" he said, running around to distract the ghost while the others tried to combine their lasers. "Here I go... Laser number one!" Tails said, flying ahead to zap the portal. Copter flew up to add his laser next. Gemini came soon after. However, Lospecter hadn't exactly fallen for Sonic's trick. He stopped chasing Sonic and quickly turned to fire bolts at Knuckles, forcing him to deflect the bolts with his PCD. "No ya don't! Go back to picking on Sonic!" he growled. "Gee, thanks Knux." Sonic chuckled. The two of them quickly added their lasers to the large blast, but still nothing was happening! Lospecter laughed at them! "Boy do you guys look stupid! I guess since your princess is down for the count, you just don't got the juice to reverse the portal. Aw, too bad." he said mockingly, "Ah, well. Prepare to die!" However, as Lospecter was preparing to fire a blast at the busy Phantom Fighters, another PCD laser went through him, catching his attention! He turned to find Antoine standing in the doorway! "Hey, why didn't it work...?" Antoine mumbled, yelping and stumbling out of the way as Lospecter started shooting at him! "Ant! Why are you late!?" Sonic shouted. Rotor smiled. "I knew you'd find your courage, Antoine!" he said. Antoine stood up straight after a moment and nodded. "Yes, this is true. Also, Knotholes is crawling with goosts, too, so who will save Bunnie and Ducky and Rainbows and Punchy if I does nothing? No, and no again! Antoine D'Coolette will not be remembered as a yellow-jellied coward!" he declared. "ANTOINE!! GET OVER HERE!" everyone shouted. Rotor had equipped Sally's PCD as well. "Sorry to bother you so much, Sal, but I know you'd want Mobius saved..." he said. Lospecter tried to build up energy to zap all the Phantom Fighters at once quickly. "You won't get away with this! I'll get you all!" he chuckled. "Hey, Lospecter! Abra-ka-blastra!" Gemini said, conjuring an explosion from her wand with her free hand, distracting Lospecter long enough for Antoine and Rotor to join their lasers to the other five! With the seven emeralds powering a single laser fired at the portal, the portal began to reverse! First, it got very windy in the room. Then, all the ghosts that had been released started rapidly flying back, as if a hugely powerful vacuum had been activated! Even Lospecter himself seemed to be struggling against the suction! "No!! N-n-n-NOOOO!! Bad portal!! Stop it!!" he shouted. As the last of the ghosts released were pulled in, Lospecter finally was unable to fight the suction and went shrieking into the portal! Before the portal was finished, however, it ejected a single spirit. The portal then promptly collapsed, exploding into a purple fog! Looking around, Sonic could see the single spirit enter Sally's body. He rushed over to her and lifted her head up. "Sal! Sal, you okay?" he asked. She coughed a bit before opening her eyes. "S-sonic...? Ugh... Robotnik says hi. Don't ever let me be a sacrifice again..." she moaned. "I promise, Sal." he smiled, hugging her tight. Seeing that they'd won, and all was well, the rest of the group let out a cheer! They then began to exit the prison, finding Dulcy coming in for a crash landing with Uncle Chuck and Punchy in tow. "I'm home, ma..." Dulcy groaned. "Everything okay? Oh, hey Knuckles. Guess I owe everyone Chili Dogs..." Punchy grumbled. Uncle Chuck sighed. "When ghosts popped up in Knothole and no one came back, we feared the worst. Any reason why this ghost is still hanging around, though?" Chuck wondered, revealing Snively inside Dulcy's pouch. He jumped out and shook hands with Tails and Knuckles. "Well done, all. I'm very pleased to see this crisis averted! This calls for a story!" he said, pulling out his book from Kintobor Manor! Sonic groaned as Snively started reading a nursery rhyme in a disturbingly pleasant tone. "Please, can I zap him?" he asked. "Aw, but I always wanted to meet a friendly ghost. Even if it is Snively. This might bode well..." Sally smiled. Sonic scratched his head. "You

bump your noggin' when your spirit flew out?" he asked. Tails tugged Sonic's arm. "C'mon, Sonic! Let's get home so we can take off these heavy PCDs! And maybe play some dirt hockey for a change!" he grinned. So, the group started off for Knothole, accompanied by Snively, oddly enough. At last, the paranormal activity seemed to be defeated enough that they'd be able to commence with Mobotropolis's restoration. The Phantom Fighters had once again freed Mobius from Paranormal Chaos!

The End!
...OR WILL THERE BE A THIRD ONE??? GWAHAHAHAHA... who knows?

Happy Halloween!