

The Adventures of Sailor Meow

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Sailor Meow's adventures on Earth, as Pai. Emphasis on her friendship with Trinity(Sailor Sun), Aqua(Sailor Aquarius), Sally(Sailor Solace), Kairi(Sailor Star) and any other OC that wants to be included (just comment me).

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Chapter 1 - The First Day of School	2
Chapter 2 - Pai's Last Name	4
Chapter 3 - Mirrors and Black Fog	6
Chapter 4 - Sailor Solace to the Rescue	7
Chapter 5 - Plotting and Planning Over Midnight Snacks	9
Chapter 6 - Disguise Power	10
Chapter 7 - Sleuthing	11
Chapter 8 - In The Shed	13
Chapter 9 - The City	14

1 - The First Day of School

Pai stared nervously at the class lists. She had looked over the lists at least four times now. It was the first day of eleventh grade[second year of senior high school], as well as her first day at an Earth school, and Pai was terrified that she'd be put in a class away from Trinity, Aqua and Kairi. What if her school enrollment hadn't even been processed?

"I can't find my name!" She whispered frantically into her watch-communicator.

"Relax, it'll be there." Adam's voice echoed with static from the watch, probably because the apartment that they lived in that Adam was safely and warmly curled up in front of the fireplace of, was so far away from Pai's school.

"Pai!" Pai turned around to face the owner of the familiar voice.

"Trinnie!" Pai wrapped her arms tightly around her friend.

"What's wrong?" Trinity Tsukino asked, catching sight of Pai's anxious face. Then she smiled in understanding. "I was too scared to look too, but Aqua and Kairi are checking for us."

"It's not that-" Pai tried to explain, but was cut off by a cheerful squeel from behind her. Before she could turn to respond to the squeel, she felt a pair of arms wrap around her waist.

"Kairi!" She hugged the pair of arms back, and turned to face the shorter girl.

When Kairi had finally let go, Aqua The Squeeler moved in for her hug.

"We looked at the class lists." Kairi told Pai.

"That's right. Apparently some boys covered someone's name with white paint." Aqua continued. Pai's heart raced. She knew it had been her name. But why would anybody play a prank like that on her?

Kairi smiled. "But thankfully we're all-"

"TOGETHER!!" Aqua and Kairi shouted. Tears of relief came to Pai's eyes.

"I'm so glad! I was really, really nervous!" She admitted.

The school bell rang, and the girls hurried to their class.

Pai raced through the doorway of the classroom and planted herself in the front-middle chair.

"Look at her!" Trinity giggled affectionately. "You'd almost think she's excited to be at school!"

Aqua strolled over to where Pai was sitting.

"Don't do that." Aqua tugged at Pai's arm, pulling her up. "We'll probably have our seats assigned to us. But just in case, let's sit up the back anyway so we can pass notes and stuff."

"Oh." Pai followed Aqua to the back of the classroom.

"Sit here." Aqua pulled the chair out from the desk of the back seat next to the window, and indicated to Pai to sit down. Aqua herself sat at the second-to-last desk of the next row.

As the students slowly filled the classroom, Pai and Aqua were joined by Trinity who sat behind Aqua, and Kairi who took her seat in front of Pai, next to Aqua.

"You know, it really sucks that Sally's older. I would have liked going to school with her, too." Pai said, a little sadly.

"You know, Sally got a part-time job at that big video-games store." Trinity said thoughtfully. "I think they're still hiring, because they've just opened up. Why don't you try getting a job there?"

Pai's eyes sparkled. "Then I could work with Sally!"

"Well, probably, but I think it would depend on when your shifts are..." Kairi tried to explain, but Pai was off in a fantasy world.

Soon after the students were all seated, a tall man entered the room and stood behind the front desk. His long, blond hair was tied back with a silk ribbon, and he was wearing what looked like a nineteenth-century dress-suit made of red velvet.

"Good morning!" The man said cheerfully. "My name is Mr. Black. I'll be your teacher for both Homeroom and History. If you'd like to ask me any questions, please raise your hand."

Pai raised her hand. "Are we going to have assigned seats?"

Trinity, Aqua and Kairi simultaneously raised their hands to their foreheads and groaned with exasperation. Mr. Black stepped out from behind his desk and walked to the back of the classroom to where Pai was sitting.

"Do you like where you're sitting now?" He asked.

"Um, yes." Pai answered. Mr. Black turned to Trinity.

"Do *you* like where *you're* sitting?" He asked her.

"Yeah." She answered.

"And how about you two?" He said, gesturing to Aqua and Kairi. "Do you both like *your* seats?"

Aqua and Kairi both nodded.

"Good!" Mr. Black exclaimed loudly. "Everybody's happy!"

A boy raised his hand. "But-"

"*Everybody* is happy." Mr. Black said sternly. He strolled back up to the front of the class and took his place behind the front desk.

"Now I'm going to take the roll." Mr. Black opened a folder and took out a sheet of paper. "Aoyama, Mikoto."

"Here!" A girl with short red hair raised her hand. Mr. Black continued calling names.

"Why do you think he singled us out?" Trinity whispered to Aqua. Aqua leaned back in her chair so that she could whisper to Trinity.

"It's probably just because we're sitting near Pai. I mean, it's not as if he knows us or anything."

"Here!" Kairi raised her hand, and Trinity and Aqua realised that they'd better pay attention for when their own names were called.

"And finally," Mr. Black said when he got to the end of the roll, "No family name given, Pai."

"Here!" Pai shouted.

"Pai," Kairi whispered, "What's your last name?"

2 - Pai's Last Name

It was the middle of the night, and low-hanging clouds were blocking the moonlight. There were no stars. A small silver Spacecraft, no bigger than a large car, descended from among the clouds to land on a quiet inner-city street. The hatch opened and a girl with short black hair stepped out. She was wearing a purple silk dress that had been ripped at the waist, and a pair of bulky silver pants. She was followed by a small, brown cat.

In front of the girl was a small old-fashioned shop made of bricks. It had a tiled roof and there were white lace curtains in the window.

"Pretty!" The girl murmured. She quietly tiptoed over to the window and peered in. There were chairs and tables and a counter with plastic cakes and loaves of bread. On one of the tables close to the window was a menu made of sugar-pink card. The girl glanced down the list of foods.

"Pai...?" She whispered to herself.

"What's that?" The kitten asked, jumping up onto the windowsill next to the girl.

"Pai...Apple...Cherry..."

Pai snapped back to reality.

"Uh, Cherry!" Pai said, to her teacher. "My last name's Cherry!"

"Alright then." Mr. Black said, writing in Pai's last name with a biro.

Class continued fairly uneventfully after that. Mr. Black was slightly eccentric, but apart from that Aqua couldn't see anything strange about him. Trinity was still suspicious, and Kairi was concerned. Pai was oblivious.

Haruka was sprawled out on one of the many large couches of the mansion that she shared with her beloved Michiru, as well as Setsuna and Hotaru.

"What are you doing?" She craned her head around to look at Michiru who was sitting at the dining table, staring into her Deep Aqua Mirror.

Michiru smiled. "I'm watching the girls' first day of school." Haruka cringed. "How's Pai coping?" She asked.

"See for yourself." Michiru handed her the mirror. Haruka squinted at the mirror. She could see Pai, Trinity, Aqua and Kairi sitting in school desks, but not much else.

"It's all black and foggy."

"What?" Michiru exclaimed, taking the mirror back from Amara. "You're right. It was clear a moment ago."

"An enemy?" Haruka asked.

After class, the girls went to the cafeteria for lunch. Kairi, Aqua and Pai stared hungrily at the display, but Trinity was in deep thought over the behavior of their homeroom teacher. Despite this, she ordered her lunch and sat down with the other girls, quietly nibbling her pastry.

A low buzzing interrupted her thoughts, and Aqua reached into her pocket and pulled out her phone.

"Haruka!" She cried with delight, "How are you?"

The other three girls watched Aqua's short phone conversation, slightly confused.

"An enemy?" Aqua was saying, "No, we're fine... No, every thing's normal... Yes, I'm sure... We're fine...Thanks for checking up on us, though."

"What was that about?" Kairi asked as Aqua hung up her phone and put it back in her pocket.

"Haruka asked if there was something strange going on at our school. The Deep Aqua Mirror went all foggy, and she thought we might be in danger."

"We might be." Trinity said quietly, and Aqua turned to see Mr. Black standing behind her.

"May I see you in the detention room, you four?" He asked them. They followed him silently out of the cafeteria.

3 - Mirrors and Black Fog

The four girls stood in a line in the detention room, Pai at Trinity's right, Aqua at her left, and Kairi at Aqua's left. Mr. Black wheeled a portable white board covered by a heavy blue sheet in front of them. He took a few steps backwards and said, "Girls, do you mind taking the sheet off?" Kairi and Pai stood at either end, not really sure what to make of this, but they each took an edge of the sheet, and pulled it down to reveal that the object wasn't a white board but a mirror.

As Pai stared at it, the mirror swirled with black fog, and in an instant Pai was staring face to face with a reflection of Sailor Meow. She looked to her left, and saw that Trinity was being reflected as Sailor Sun in the mirror. She could also see Sailor Aquarius and Sailor Star.

"I thought so." Mr. Black said, sliding the door shut and locking it. Then he disappeared in a puff of red smoke.

Pai tapped the mirror, and Sailor Meow's face rippled.

"What is this?" She asked. Trinity frowned at the lingering smoke, and muttered "What the hell is he?"

Aqua strode over to the door, and turned the lock. The handle moved, but the door stayed put.

"We're locked in." Aqua announced, but she shook the door as hard as she could, just in case. It didn't help. Trinity strode over to where the last wisps of red smoke were hanging heavily in the air.

"Hmm..." She said, bending down to look closer at the smoke. "Hey, I think this is-" Trinity stopped speaking to cough loudly. "Well," she coughed again, "It smells like something's dying." She coughed loudly another three times. Kairi walked over to Trinity to pat her back. "Are you ok, Trin?" She asked. Trinity kept coughing.

"Ugh," Kairi said, and coughed herself, "You're right about the smell." She coughed again.

Aqua stayed near the door, not wanting to get closer to the smoke.

"Move away from it, you two."

Trinity and Kairi stood still.

"I-I can't m-move." Trinity said between coughs. Aqua slowly and carefully stepped toward Kairi, and took hold of her arm. She tried to pull the shorter girl away from the smoke, but Kairi stuck like a lead weight.

"Pai!" Aqua said exasperatedly, moving over to where Trinity was standing, "Why don't you help me?" She looked over at Pai, who was standing next to the window, talking on her cellular phone.

"PAI!?" Aqua shouted, then coughed. "What are you doing?" She coughed again.

"...the detention room... Okay..." Trinity heard Pai say. After she hung up and pocketed her phone, Pai tried opening the window. It stuck fast.

"I think you guys need to transform." she said. "We could blast a hole in the window."

"Pai," Aqua said nervously, looking at Trinity and coughing, "Trin and Kairi can't move."

Trinity and Kairi didn't respond. In fact, Aqua could see that their eyes were closed.

"Well, what about you?" Pai asked Aqua.

"Um, I can't move either."

4 - Sailor Solace to the Rescue

Pai stared at her frozen friends, her mind and heart both racing. She had no idea what to do, and she could see that the thick red smoke was spreading, floating lazily across the floor towards her. She only hoped that her phone call would make a difference. Aqua's head was drooping, and Pai could see that she was struggling to keep her eyes open. *Of the four of us, Pai thought, Why am I the only one who didn't get caught in the smoke? I'm the only one who can't transform.*

Although she wanted to help her friends, Pai couldn't risk getting close to the smoke. Instead, she focused her attention on the mirror. Though Trinity, Aqua and Kairi were on the other side of the room, the reflections of Sailor Sun, Sailor Aquarius and Sailor Star were still standing in a line, next to the reflection of Sailor Meow.

"Why?" She asked herself aloud.

"Why?" The reflection of Sailor Meow mimicked. Pai blinked, surprised.

Pai glanced at the girls, frozen and ankle-deep in red smoke. "Trinity? Aqua?"

"Yes?" The reflection of Sailor Sun said, tilting her head to the side.

"Yes?" Sailor Aquarius said from the mirror, leaning closer to Pai.

"Uh, you're frozen." Pai said, and her reflection echoed her.

"We know." Sailor Star's reflection sighed.

"What can I do?" Pai asked the Sailor Soldiers in the mirror.

"What *can* I do?" Sailor Meow asked her.

"I don't know..." Sailor Aquarius played with her hair thoughtfully.

Sailor Sun tapped the mirror from the inside. "You need to clear all the smoke out of the room."

"To do that I'd need to blast a hole in the window, or get the door open." Pai said, walking back over to the window.

"Stay away from the window!" Sailor Meow shouted, just as the window shattered and the room filled with shards of glass.

"Oopsie, sorry!" Sailor Solace said as she leaped through the window, followed by Isis, Athena, Kit, Destiny and-

"Adam!" Pai cried.

"So what's the deal?" Sailor Solace asked Pai, as she watched Pai transform.

"We need to blow all the smoke out of the room." Sailor Meow stood in her Storm Form. She took Athena and Destiny in her arms, and Sailor Solace picked up Isis and Kit. The two stood back to back and shouted,

"Kitten-"

"Solace-"

"Cyclone!"

The room filled with spirals of wind, and the red smoke was blown out through the broken window. As the wind died down, Sailor Meow noticed the reflections in the mirror had vanished. She and Sailor Solace transformed back into Pai and Sally. And Trinity, Aqua and Kairi were slowly beginning to move again.

"There's something strange about this mirror." Pai explained to Sally and the cats. "When we looked into it we could see our Sailor Soldier forms."

"I doubt it's school property, then." Athena mused, circling the mirror. "We should take it."

"That's right." Isis agreed, "It would be dangerous to leave it here."

"But won't someone see us?" Trinity asked.

"Trinnie!!!" Pai squealed, hugging her friend.

"Uh, Trin," Sally said, "It's almost midnight."

"No way!" Pai and Trinity ran to the window, followed by Aqua and Kairi. Sure enough, it was pitch dark outside.

"We missed half of the first day of school." Aqua giggled.

Kairi took hold of the door handle and slid the door open easily.

The five girls wheeled the mirror through the school yard to the carpark where Darian, Cerion and Damian were waiting. They put the mirror in the boot of the car, and the five girls squeezed into the back seat with their cats on their laps.

"Where are we headed?" Pai asked.

"Well, after I got off the phone to Adam, I called Bunny." Darian explained.

"She then told her mama and Aqua's mama that you girls were all staying at Pai's."

"Then I rounded up the cats and went to the school." Sally continued.

"But you can all stay at our place tonight." Cerion said, winking at Trinity.

"That's fine with me." Darian agreed. "Bunny's at my apartment setting up futons."

5 - Plotting and Planning Over Midnight Snacks

"So this is a sleepover?" Pai asked. She was sitting on a small futon in the middle of Darian's lounge room. Kairi and Sally were also sitting on futons, and Darian, Bunny, Cerion, Trinity, Damain and Aqua were sitting on the couches. The cats (including Luna) had spread themselves out on the coffee table, and were grooming themselves lazily.

"Not without midnight snacks!" Bunny cried as she lept up off the couch and ran into Darian's kitchen. "Uh, so anyway," Darian began, trying to ignore the sound of his fridge and cupboard doors opening and closing, and Bunny rustling through his supplies of food. "I don't think you four should go back to school tomorrow. At least, not as students."

"But the other kids could be in danger." Bunny said as she came back into the room and began arranging packets of potato chips, cookies and cans of iced tea around where the cats were lying.

"Hm," Trinity said thoughtfully, "It didn't seem like that teacher even noticed the other kids existed."

"Right," Aqua agreed, "He was pretty focused on us."

"But as long as he can make that red smoke stuff appear, noone's safe." Pai insisted.

"We were frozen until night-time. We don't even know what happened to the other kids at school." Kairi put in.

"Oh, I think they're fine." Sally said, "A bunch of kids in your school uniform came to the video games store where I work this afternoon."

"There were some at the arcade too." Damian added, "Though I agree something needs to be done about that teacher soon."

Bunny giggled and reached into her pocket. She pulled out her Disguise Pen, and handed it to Trinity. Luna scowled.

"What's this for?" Trinity asked.

"Oh, I get it!" Cerion exclaimed. "If you go to school the way you are now, that teacher will recognise you. But with that you could disguise yourselves as teachers or something."

"Or exchange students." Trinity suggested.

"Or guest-speakers."

"Or parents enrolling their kids into school."

"Or princesses from distant kingdoms, off on an adventure to rid the world of evil..."

Adam rolled his eyes. "No, Pai, that's too close to the truth."

"Well, I can take the day off work." Sally said, "So I'll come with you."

"Me too!" Cerion and Damian both said at the same time.

"I think I should go too." Bunny said.

"NO WAY!" Everyone shouted, all simultaneously looking at Bunny's large belly.

"That's Rini in there. If anything happens, it could change the future as we know it." Darian said firmly.

"So it's agreed. We go to school tomorrow."

6 - Disguise Power

"I'm first!" Trinity giggled excitedly as she held up the Disguise Pen. She was standing in the middle of Darian's living room, surrounded by Sally, Aqua, Kairi, Pai, Cerion and Damian.

"Disguise Power, turn me into an exchange student!" Trinity was engulfed in light, and in a few moments was wearing an orange plaid kilt skirt, knee-high socks, black buckled shoes and a short-sleeved white shirt. Her hair was blonde, and braided. She handed the Pen to Aqua and twirled so that everyone could admire her new outfit. After a good deal of oohing and ahing from the other girls, Aqua raised the Disguise Pen and said loudly, "Disguise Power, I want an outfit like Trinity's!" Another flash of light, and Aqua was wearing a similar shirt, socks and shoes, but her skirt was blue. Her long blue hair was now black, and cropped short.

Sally took the Disguise Pen and rolled her eyes. "Don't make me look stupid!" She pleaded as she thrust the Pen into the air. The light flashed again and Sally was also wearing a similar uniform with a black skirt and stockings. Her usually long blue hair was cropped short, making her feel quite exposed.

"I guess it's ok..." she mumbled, handing the disguise pen to Kairi.

"Well, I guess I need a matching uniform too." Kairi spoke into the pen as if it were a microphone. The room lit up once more, and Kairi stood posing in her matching outfit and purple skirt. Her hair was short and red and she wore small, square-shaped glasses.

Pai took the Disguise Pen and thrust it into the air with astoundingly unnecessary enthusiasm. "Make *me* look sexy, too!" She demanded, and the Disguise Pen did its thing. It had given Pai a matching uniform with a dark green skirt, and she had long lime-green hair that almost reached her knees.

"You girls look so hot!" Damain said, taking the Pen from Pai and holding it up to the light to examine it.

"I wonder how it actually works?" Cerion mused, as he reached for the Pen, "I'd like to look that hot too." Rainbow light filled the room. The five girls gasped in shock, as where Damian and Cerion had once been, stood two girls, each wearing school uniforms like the other girls, but with a different colour skirt.

"Cerion?" Trinity asked, taking a step towards the girl on the left.

"Yup." The girl answered, looking down at her new body. She had shoulder-length pink hair, and her skirt was red.

"Then you must be Damian." Aqua moaned, holding her hand to her forehead as the girl on the right with long purple hair and pink skirt nodded.

"That's right."

The seven girls looked at each other.

"How on Earth did that happen?"

Above: Sally, Cerion, Trinity, Pai, Aqua, Damian, Kairi

7 - Sleuthing

The seven of them walked to the bus stop slowly and carefully, trying hard not to be recognized. But there was no fear of that, as they passed many places full of people who they knew, and none called out to them, or greeted them by name. At the bus stop they huddled in a tight circle, for fear of being recognized by their classmates.

“Ok, the bus will be here in two minutes.” Sally whispered. “We should be able to avoid contact with anyone until then. Then we’ll all get seats right at the back so-“

“Excuse me,”

They all froze as they turned to see two girls standing at the edge of their circle, wearing the uniform of their school.

“Do any of you have the time?” The first girl asked. She was short and had long brown hair. The other girl had blonde hair with pink streaks. Kairi’s face broke into a grin.

“Kioko!” she threw her arms around the girl.

“Damn, we’ve been found out!” The brown-haired girl said as she pried the blonde girl from Kairi’s grip, and the two sped off down the street.

“She didn’t recognize me.” Kairi said sadly.

“Of course she didn’t, you’re in disguise.” Trinity reminded her.

The bus arrived and they all rushed on board, taking seats at the back.

“So what’s the plan when we get to school?” Pai asked.

“Well, unless anyone has a better plan,” Trinity began.

“No. Go on,” Sally prompted.

“Damian and Aqua, you two distract Mr. Black. Sally and Cerion, you distract the other teachers while Pai, Kairi and I sneak into the staff offices and look for incriminating evidence in Mr. Black’s desk.”

“Good plan.” Cerion nodded approvingly.

“We’ll only have twenty minutes before school starts. And remember, stay in character!”

The bus pulled up beside the school, and the seven girls disembarked and raced toward the school staff area. They reached the staff tea room, just as their Home Economics teacher Ms. Sunnysore was leaving.

“Miss?” Aqua said, putting on a very strange, possibly Swedish, accent. “We are new exchange student and looking for Mister Black.”

“Oh, I wasn’t aware we were having exchange students this week... Anyway, Mr. Black is at the other end of the school, near the sports shed on the oval. SHED. OVAL.” She said, pointing down the corridor that led to the other end of the school.

The girls waited for her to be on their way before Aqua and Damian separated from the group and headed towards the oval. The other five stood at the entrance to the staff offices, and slowly opened the door.

“There are only a few teachers in there.” Pai said, her ears twitching as she strained them using her feline hearing. She, Trinity and Kairi pressed themselves up against the back wall.

“Alright, ready.” Sally winked, as she fell backwards and hit the floor with a huge crash.

“Bloody ‘ell!” She’s fainted, she ‘as!” Cerion shouted, “Someone ‘elp!”

Teachers came hurrying out of the staff offices to see what the commotion was.

"That's all of them." Pai whispered to Trinity, and the three girls snuck behind the crowd of teachers into the staff offices. Kairi quietly shut and locked the door behind them.

"How do we know which is Mr. Black's desk?" Kairi asked.

"Look for history books and... creepy stuff." Trinity suggested.

"How about this?" Kairi asked, picking up an old, leather-bound book off a nearby desk. She read the title aloud. "*The Land of the Undead.*"

Pai and Trinity came and stood next to her. Pai opened a drawer.

"Look at all these other books! "*Creatures of the Night, Death and Resurrection, Mirrors and Their Powers...* This is really scary!"

"Look at this!" Pai said, handing Trinity a small piece of mirror, about the size of a large coin. As Trinity stared into the mirror, she could see Sailor Sun staring back at her.

"Ok guys, we've got everything we need." Trinity said into her communicator-watch, as Pai and Kairi packed the bunch of books and the mirror into their bags.

"Aqua, Damian, it's time to go!"

There was no answer.

8 - In The Shed

Cerion and Sally were still making a scene as Trinity, Pai and Kairi tiptoed out of the staff offices. Cerion winked as she noticed them, grabbing Sally's arm and hauling her to her feet.

"Look 'ere! She's all right, she is! Bloody 'ell, it's a miracle!"

"Yes, yes, I'm all right, really." She bowed to the gathered teachers. "Thank you all for your concern!" She said as she and Cerion turned and ran down the corridor, with Trinity, Kairi and Pai following close behind.

"We've heard no word from Aqua and Damian." Trinity explained as they ran.

"So we're heading to the oval?" Sally asked.

"Right."

They reached the oval and the sports sheds.

"I don't see them anywhere," Cerion said, peering through the window of one of the sheds.

"Hey guys, look here!" Damian pointed to the ground. Aqua's wrist communicator was lying in the grass next to one of the sheds, switched off.

Pai pressed her ear up to the side of the shed, "Mr. Black's in there. And Aqua and Damian too."

"Ok, I'm going in." Trinity said, pushing the door open. She gasped at what she saw.

Aqua and Damian lying on the ground, engulfed in red smoke with Mr. Black standing over them. Next to them lay the two girls from the bus stop.

"Kioko!" Kairi shouted, pushing past Trinity and running into the shed.

"More of them?" Mr. Black muttered. He threw a puff of red smoke at Kairi, but Cerion leaped towards her and pushed her out of the way. The red smoke ensnared him and he fell to the ground coughing, and in moments he was completely still. Kairi ran towards the two unconscious girls.

"Hey!" Trinity shouted at Mr. Black "What the hell are you doing? At school, no less! Sun Eternal Power!"

"You're holding students hostage?" Sally joined in, "Be prepared for the legal ramifications of your despicable actions! Solace Eternal Power!"

Trinity and Sally share a cool joint transformation

"You fell right into my trap!" Mr. Black laughed. His eyes glowed red and a gust of wind blew Pai into the shed from outside, and the shed door slammed shut behind her. She landed on the floor of the shed with a thud.

"Damn, there goes my sneak attack." she muttered. Another gust of wind blew Sailor Sun and Sailor Solace into the wall of the shed.

"Now that I've got you all in one place, I can finally get rid of you!" Mr. Black laughed evilly. As he did, a huge mirror descended from the ceiling of the shed.

"Damn you..." Sailor Sun moaned from the back wall. Mr. Black laughed again, and another gust of wind blew all the girls towards the mirror.

Pai braced herself for the impact, but rather than shattering glass, it felt more like heavy rain. She closed her eyes as the rain got heavier, it was almost like a river. She was drowning, then she was falling for what seemed like ages. Then finally she landed with a thud.

9 - The City

Chapter 9 The City

Pai opened her eyes. She had landed on her right arm, and it ached as though it was broken. She gingerly picked herself up and looked around. She seemed to be in the ruins of an ancient city, in the middle of the town square to be exact, but none of the architecture seemed at all familiar. The city was vast, and all the buildings looked mostly the same, so with no idea which way to turn, she sat back down again, opened her bag and got out one of the books she had stolen from Mr. Black's desk, *Mirrors and Their Powers*. She flipped the book open to the first marked page, and began to read aloud to herself, "In many ancient cultures mirrors were believed to be gateways to other worlds..."

Aqua woke with a cough that hurt from her lungs all the way to her stomach. She seemed to be alright, but she was lying in an ancient stone fountain, and the water smelled stale and rancid.

"Aqua!" Aqua turned to see Damian waving at her from the top of a small wooden construction, which looked like a kind of temporary stall used to shelter a horse, but it was lopsided and the wood was rotting.

"Thank god you're alright! But this thing's going to collapse any second."

Aqua slowly stood up and climbed out of the fountain. "Then get off it."

"Uh, well..." Damian looked embarrassed, "Could you help me? I think my leg's broken."

Sailor Sun and Sailor Solace talked quietly as they slowly walked between the low buildings and piles of stone. They were unhurt, but exhausted.

"I can't keep this up." Sally moaned as she stopped to take several deep breaths.

"I know it's hard, but we should keep moving."

"Why? We don't even know where-"

"Hey!" Sailor Sun yelled excitedly, cutting Sailor Solace off. "Is that Kairi?" She pointed up ahead to a lone figure in the distance. She seemed to be short and thin, with a long plait.

"I think so... Kairi! Hey, Kairi!" Sailor Solace and Sailor Sun picked their way through the rubble, heading towards the figure.

Cerion picked herself up, and looked around. She seemed to be on the roof of a large stone building. It had gargoyles and other ornamental statues, so she guessed it must be a church of some sort. Lying on the ground a few feet away from her were the two girls from the bus stop. She walked over to the blond girl, and shook her awake.

"What were you doing in that shed?" Cerion asked as her eyes fluttered open.

"None of your business!" she pushed Cerion away from her, and looked around, frowning.

"Where are we?" The brunette asked from the ground. The two girls looked at Cerion. She shrugged.

"Well, we'd best find our way back." The blond girl said, helping her friend to her feet.

"I'm not going anywhere until you tell me who you are!" Cerion insisted.

"Fine, stay here by yourself." The blond girl, made a running leap from the top of the church to the smaller building beside it, then another to the ground below. Her friend did the same. Cerion realised that she would be left alone in this enormous city, if she didn't follow the two girls, so she braced herself and began running towards the edge of the building.

Kairi stood at the top of the small hill overlooking the ruined city. She could hear faint echoes of familiar voices, drifting on the wind. Her friends must be in the city, she decided, but she was reluctant to set foot into the giant maze. If only she could make some kind of beacon, to show her friends where she was.

"Kairi!"

Kairi turned around quickly to see Pai standing before her. Kairi wrapped her arms around Pai.

"Oh! I thought I was all alone here!"

Pai smiled, "Kairi, I need those books and that mirror you took from Mr. Black's desk."

Kairi reached into her bag and handed Pai the books.

"And the mirror." Pai reminded her.

"Hold on, it's in here somewhere." Kairi rummaged through her bag.

"Hurry up!" Pai urged. "I don't have much time... Damn it!" Kairi took a step back as Pai dissolved into a smoky black shadow. In her place stood Mr. Black. "Give me that mirror!" He demanded.

Kairi slung her backpack over her shoulders and shouted, "Star Eternal Power!"

As she transformed, her backpack began to glow. It disappeared, leaving only the small mirror shard floating in the air.

"Give me that!" Mr. Black demanded, and a handful of red smoke appeared from his outstretched palm.

"No!" Kairi snatched the mirror out of the air and turned to face him.

'Take this! CELESTIAL EXPLOSION!'