THE MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS

Episode #16

"Desperately Seeking Scorpira"

By

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Part 3 of 5 Part Series

With the Rangers frantically searching for the missing Jason, and still unable to get Zordon back on line, Rita creates the powerful and devious Scorpira in an attempt to finish our heroes off.

IRREGULAR CAST:

Neighborhood kids (four) with bicycle

Neighborhood Man A, watering lawn

Neighborhood Man B, walking dog

Neighborhood Woman, getting mail in curlers

Grizzled neighborhood man

Pizza-of-Pittsburgh take-out proprietor

Five or six pizza delivery men, different brands

Two kids in school hallway

SET BREAKDOWN:

Interior, and exterior door of storage closet at Youth Center

Ext. / front door, suburban house

Ext. / front yard with walk, suburban house

MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS EP#16; FIRST DRAFT (2/10/93)

PROLOGUE

FADE UP TO

1) EXT. BILLY'S GARAGE - DAY

Establishing long shot of the outside of the garage. The titles are superimposed as the camera slowly moves in.

CUT TO:

INT. BILLY'S GARAGE

Camera moves from the front of the bug, down the driver's side, to where the kids, minus Jason, are grouped around the back of the Billy Bug. Billy, in a welding mask, is working on some complicated -looking wiring on the bug's engine. Bright electrical flashes, like arc-welding, illuminate their faces, and wires run everywhere like spaghetti.

Zack
Are you sure you know what you're doing, Billy?

Billy
Affirmative. I am fusing a Barton thermo-coupler to the relay transformer, with a 1400-volt plasma solenoid.

Trini
I think he's giving it more power.

Kimberly
That's great, but how's it going to help us find Jason? He's, like, **vapor**!

Zack
Last I heard he was going to meet that new kid, Rocky. (Suspiciously) I wonder if **he's** got something to do with this.

Billy pulls a dipstick-sort-of rod out of the engine, dripping with viscous green goo. He hands it to Zack, and turns back to his work.

Zack
Eeyuck! What is **this**?!

(continued)

(1 continued)

Billy
Just the proton-miasmic fuel core rod. And by the way, don't get any of that on you. It's highly corrosive.

As Billy adds this last line; CUT TO:

A CU which reveals the green goo has already dripped all over Zack's sneakers, now reduced to smoking shreds.

Suddenly, Rocky himself saunters into the garage, acting very cocky. A quick glimpse of Kimberly shows her smiling slightly at the newcomer.

Rocky
Well, the gang's all here - almost. Ha! What, your buddy Jason still pouting about our karate match?

Zack moves menacingly towards Rocky, still holding the dripping dipstick. Billy sees him and turns from the engine.

Billy
Oh my! Caution, Zack. Excessive vibration may destabilize the neutrinos and carbonize our vicinity.

Zack, over his shoulder to Billy, agitated and advancing on Rocky:

Zack
Say what!?

Trini steps between Rocky and Zack.

Trini
He **said**; if you shake that stuff you'll blow us all to dustbunnies!

Billy takes the rod from Zack's hand and turns back to the engine.

Billy
Exactly. Now, I'm going to require complete silence to re-insert the fuel rod.

(continued)

(1 continued)

As the others fall silent and Billy hunches over the engine, Rocky inches towards the door. A CLOSE UP reveals the telltale green glint in his eyes. At the crucial moment he throws the door open and yells.

Rocky
Hey look! It's the blimp!

Billy is startled and there is a huge spark from the engine as he rears up, banging his head on the trunk lid. The others rush to him, glaring back at the smirking Rocky.

Rocky (MOCK INNOCENT)
Oh - sorry.

Kimberly
Did you get it, Billy?

Zack
Affirmative. The propulsion system is activated. The car should now energize and hover a few inches off the ground.

All turn to look at the car. For a beat nothing happens. Then suddenly the horn, radio, wipers and lights all go off at once, followed by a huge backfire, then silence - except the hiss of the car settling on four flat tires. The kids turn to glare at Rocky, who shrugs nonchalantly.

Rocky
Hey, if cars were meant to fly they'd come with stewardesses!

With a malevolent laugh he walks out.

FADE OUT

COMMERCIAL BREAK #1

ACT I

FADE IN

2) EXT/INT. BILLY'S GARAGE

A smug Rocky walks away from the garage.

CUT TO:

INT./BILLY'S GARAGE

The kids turn away from the door.

Zack
That kid's got something to do with Jason being missing, I just **know** it.

Kimberly
(Dreamily) Maybe I should go after him and find out...

Trini
No time for that. Billy, isn't there some way we can use the computer to trace Jason's wrist communicator?

CUT TO:

Computer's POV, as Billy sits at the keyboard and the others gather around.

Billy
Yes, I believe if we enter his last known coordinates and uplink data with his communicator profile, the telecom array may get a fix on his whereabouts.

CUT TO:

3) INT. REC CENTER/STORAGE CLOSET

Jason, locked inside the closet with his tied hands now in front of him, is looking anxiously around for some means of escape. Seeing nothing, he slams his shoulder against the door once, twice - three times, with no results.

Jason
Gee, it always works in the movies. They must have different doors.

(continued)

(3 continued)

Jason puts his hand against the opposite wall and leans on it.

Jason

Man, there's no way this situation could get any worse.

At that he looks at the wall, pulls his hand away and we see a closeup of a "wet paint" sign. Jason looks at his dripping, painted hand with a comic grimace.

CUT TO:

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4) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; OUTLINE CUT, SEGMENT #1 (1:06)

ESTAB. SHOT: MOON

ESTAB. SHOT: EXT. RITA'S CASTLE

EXT/INT. RITA'S CASTLE

Rita's voice starts on closeup of her castle and continues over cut to interior.

Rita

Ah, with Zordon out of commission and one Power Ranger down, that leaves four to go! (ON) It's my lucky day!

Shot of stormy sky. Rita stands at her railing, back to camera. She rants, then chants, and continues over cut to exterior scenes.

Rita

This is my chance to finish off those do-goodniks once and for all! (chanting) Spirits of darkness, (ON) thundering sky! (VO) Make me a monster, as evil as I! (@ 1:00:35:15) As strong as a stone, with scorpion's sting; and encased in a boulder, which to earth I will fling! Ha! (ENDS 1:00:45:08)

We see the boulder bounce up a ramp; it rolls to a stop.

Rita

Even now, forming within the boulder is my servant, the dread Scorpira! Look out Power Rangers! Nothing can save you now! Your doom is at hand! Ha!

Shot of stormy sky.

CUT TO:

5) INT. REC CENTER/STORAGE CLOSET

Jason begins to look for some other way to get his hands loose.

Jason
I've got to think - if Billy were here, what would **he** do?

There is an old pair of eyeglasses on a shelf, and as he holds them thoughtfully he notices a tiny shaft of sunlight coming through the ceiling. We hear Mission-Impossible-type music as he lines up the one unshattered lens and focuses the beam of light on the rope.

CUT TO:

5a) SCHOOL HALLWAY OUTSIDE THE CLOSET

Two students walking past the closet door pause, hearing muffled Mission-Impossible music from within. They look quizzically at each other, shrug and walk on.

CUT TO:

5b) INT. CLOSET

Jason has burned through the rope - his hands pop free. He whirls around and spots a paper clip on the floor, which he straightens and begins working in the doorlock.

DISSOLVE TO:

6) INT. BILLY'S GARAGE - DAY

A series of impressive graphic grids are flashing on the computer monitor as Billy tries to home in on Jason's wrist communicator.

Billy
It's working! The grid has locked onto Jason's wrist telemetry! I should be able to tune it in to get his exact coordinates.

Jason walks in behind the kids, who don't notice him.

Jason
Hi guys!

(continued)

(6 continued)

Trini, Zack, Kimberly
(MUMBLED, DISTRACTED GREETINGS)

Jason
(SARCASTIC) Gee, I'm glad you guys are so happy to see me.

Trini
(WITHOUT LOOKING AT HIM) Sshhh! We're trying to locate Jason!

Jason
But I'm right here!

Billy
There! The computer has pinpointed Jason's present position! (BECOMING INCREASINGLY PERPLEXED) But - there must be some error. The trace beam seems to be coming from - right - **here**!

As he finishes, Billy and the others turn to see Jason leaning against the Bug, rolling his eyes and mock-whistling as if to say "About time!"

All
Jason! You're back! (ETC)

Zack
Where've you been, man!?

Jason
I've been tied up and locked in a closet. Our buddy Rocky set me up, big time.

Knowing glances all around, and a danger music sting.

CUT TO:

7) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; OUTLINE CUT, SEGMENT #2 (plus new footage)

EXT./INT. BILLY'S GARAGE - DAY

The cocoon rolls ominously through the neighborhood toward Billy's garage.

INTERCUT NEW FOOTAGE of astonished neighbors; QUICK CUTS:

Four kids, (one with a bicycle, to match Japanese footage) spot the cocoon/boulder and give comic shock reax, drop the bike and run;

A man watering his lawn gapes and squirts.himself with his hose;

A lady in a hideous housedress and curlers looks, shrieks, and flings her mail in the air;

A man walking his dog stares in disbelief and, while he's distracted, gets his shoe apparently decorated by his pet;

Back to the man with the hose, who's now on his back, soaked to the skin and wrestling with it.

CUT TO:

JAPANESE FOOTAGE; OUTLINE CUT, SEGMENT #3

INT. / RITA'S CASTLE

Rita
Perfect! (LOOKING INTO THE REPULSASCOPE) Get ready, Green Ranger! Your time has almost come!

CUT TO:

EXT. / BILLY'S GARAGE

We see Rocky, still walking away from the garage, suddenly stop and hold his head in pain as he receives Rita's telepathic message. As he seems to recover, he looks up and the green glint appears in his eyes.

CUT TO:

8) ESTABLISHING SHOT - COMMAND CENTER EXTERIOR

CUT TO:

(continued)

(8 continued)

INT. COMMAND CENTER - DAY

Zordon's mouth is moving, but only white noise and static come out, and the picture occasionally flutters and breaks up. Alpha 5 is a nervous, muttering wreck, fiddling with the controls of the communicator, when suddenly the screen flashes to life and Trini's face materializes on it.

Alpha 5
(fast) Trini! Trini, ay-i-i-i'm so happy to see you! I've been trying to get in touch with you all day, you see, but with Zordon on the fritz I couldn't dial out, I kept getting some pizza place and -

Trini
(interrupting) Chill, Alpha! I'm calling to tell you Jason's back! Just so you know, ok?

Alpha 5
But there's more, Trini! The sensors have picked up some sort of large, ugly, bowling ball-kind of thing, and it's headed right -

Before he can finish, Trini, unheeding, signs off.

Trini
That's cool, Alpha - you just give us a buzz if anything important comes up, ok? Later!

Completely frazzled, Alpha holds his head in his hands and leans on the console. His elbow presses a key and with a zap, Zordon's voice suddenly emerges clearly from the static.

Zordon
"Alpha 5! Can you hear me? There's not a moment to lose! You must plug in, I repeat, **plug in the -**"

He's cut off again by a wall of static, leaving Alpha holding his head and moaning.

Alpha 5
"Plug in **what**!? Ay-i-i-i! There are so **many** plugs here!"

He reaches for the nearest one in a tangle of patch cords and tentatively sticks it into a jack. Immediately two slices of bread leap out of a toaster on the desk.

CUT TO:

9) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; OUTLINE CUT, SEGMENT #4, 5 (plus new footage)

EXT./INT BILLY'S GARAGE

The scorpion cocoon approaches, beginning to emit a loud, low rumbling noise.

INTERCUT with the kids inside the garage; they hear the rumble and look at each other, alarmed, then at Billy, sitting at the computer, for some explanation. Billy deftly types something into the keyboard and looks at the screen.

Billy
I'm picking up plasmonic interference - some weapon or creature of Rita's is approaching!

Outside, the cocoon finally rolls against the garage, jarring the whole building.

Jerked violently by the impact, the kids inside realize the danger and begin to evacuate.

Jason
Everybody out!

CUT TO:

10) INT. COMMAND CENTER

Alpha 5 is at the communicator screen, dialing a number. Camera slowly swings around from behind him until we are behind the console, looking over it at him.

Alpha 5
"I've got to warn them about Scorpira, or they'll really be up the creek without a pudding!

The click of a phone connection being made, then a voice answers.

Pizza Guy
Hello, Pizza by the Pound. Can I help you?

Alpha 5
Ay-i-i-i-i!

CUT TO:

11) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; OUTLINE CUT, SEGMENT #6, 7, 8 (plus new)

EXT./INT BILLY'S GARAGE

The cocoon bounces up onto the roof and back down, landing in the yard.

INTERCUT with the kids, also running out into the yard.

The cocoon shoots a beam of light at a nearby rooftop and Scorpia materializes.

INTERCUT with reaction shots of the kids as they stare in amazement at Rita's beautiful creation.

Scorpira
I've come to get you, Power Rangers!

Zack
First that green guy, now **her**!

The kids cast worried looks at each other.

Scorpira laughs maniacally.

FADE OUT

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN

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12) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; OUTLINE CUT, SEGMENT #9, 10, 11 (plus new)

ESTAB. SHOTS / EXT. & CU RITA'S CASTLE

VIEW OF EARTH / INT. RITA'S CASTLE

(STARTS V/O ON CASTLE CU)

Rita
This is too delicious! The Power Rangers without Zordon are no match for Scorpira and the Putty Patrol! (ON; SHE LOOKS INTO THE REPULSASCOPE) Aaahh! My brilliance amazes even me!

Squatt
Yes, I was just going to say that!

(continued)

(12 continued)

Baboo
You were not!--I was about to say that!

Rita
Goldar! Are you there? Watch as Scorpira and the Putties attack!

Goldar grunts an assent; we zoom through Repulsascope;

Rita
(OFF) Scorpira! Attack!

Scorpira
I obey!

Scorpira leaps from the roof and the battle has begun.

Seven Putties materialize and immediately run into each other and fall down. This gives the kids the opening they need.

Jason
It's morphin' time!

They morph into costume in place, then charge towards the camera.

Scorpira leaps towards the Rangers, firing a Blaster Beam.

The Rangers are knocked backwards by the blast. As they regroup:

Trini
What the heck was **that**?!

Billy
She has a disruptor beam. I recommend we avoid it.

Jason
I heard **that**. Well, she can't hit us all at once! Let's charge her!

Scorpira wields her Bomberang impressively.

(continued)

(12 continued)

Reaction from the neighbor lady with the mail, curlers in her hair:

Neighbor Lady
"Young people today! I can't believe she goes out of the house looking like that!"

CUT TO:

13) INT. / COMMAND CENTER

Alpha 5 is watching the battle on the holosphere, and frantically pushing buttons on the communicator keypad.

Alpha 5
Oh, **please** be the right number this time!

A telephone rings, connects, then a harried face in a chef's hat fills the communicator screen.

Pizza Guy
Pizza of Pittsburgh! Can I take your order?

Alpha 5
Ay-i-i-i-i!

CUT TO:

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14) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; OUTLINE CUT, SEGMENT #12

INT. RITA'S CASTLE

Goldar looks through the scope and cackles with glee;

Rita
I'm the best!

Goldar
Ha!

Squatt
I was just thinking that!

(continued)

(14 continued)

Baboo
Me too! Yes, yes!

Rita
Wait 'til you see Scorpira's powers!

CUT TO:

15) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; OUTLINE CUT, SEGMENT #13 (plus new footage)

EXT. BILLY'S GARAGE

The Rangers rush forward in formation, shot from ground level, to match Japanese shot @ 3:39:10. Tight shot on Jason as he stops short.

Jason
Oh oh, what now?!

Scorpira throws scorpions at the Rangers' feet.

Jason
Look out! Scorpion grenades!

The explosions stop them only for a second.

Kimberly
What lovely party favors.

Scorpira advances menacingly.

Scorpira
Come and get me!

Billy
Look out! Putty Patrollers! Ungh! Take that!

Kimberly
You missed me! Hee-yah!

(continued)

(15 continued)

Trini
(FAST) Wanna hold hands? (PUNCH EFFORT REAX)

Zack
Time to take a little trip, putty-brain! (KICK EFFORT) Hey!--Come back here and fiiiiight!

Jason
Four against one, huh? Well, a putty's gotta do what a putty's gotta do. (THROWING EFFORT) (ON THREE HEAD BOBS) He shoots, he scores!

CUT TO:

16) INT. COMMAND CENTER - DAY

Alpha is watching the raging battle on the Holosphere, and pacing back and forth rocking his head in his hands.

Alpha 5
Oh dear - the Rangers would seem to be in a spot of trouble and instead of warning, them I fear I've, uh - ordered someone somewhere a pizza!

CUT TO:

17) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; OUTLINE CUT SEGMENT #14

EXT. BILLY'S GARAGE

Jason
Take that, mush-mouth! (SEEING SCORPIRA) Oh, you want in too? Unnhh! Whoa! What hit me!

The others rush to Jason's side.

Trini
More important, where did she go!?

Jason
Come on! To the Command Center!

DISSOLVE TO:

18) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; OUTLINE CUT SEGMENT #15

EXT. / INT. RITA'S CASTLE

Scorpira, zapped back to Rita's castle, enjoys a hero's welcome.

Rita
(VO) Welcome, my dear Scorpira! Meet my loyal henchmen! Goldar, the merciless...

Scorpira gushes happily. Goldar chuckles.

Baboo
Ohhh / I can't stand mushy stuff!

Squatt
I'll watch!--oooh, no I won't.

Rita
I hope you two saw her down there! Now **that's** the way to terrorize earth!

Scorpira
I can't believe I'm really getting to meet you, Goldar! (LAUGHS) I have **all** of your comic books, you know! Even the first ones where your makeup's funky.

Baboo
It's an honor to have you among us, Scorpira.

Squatt
I loved the way you knocked that Jason flat! (OFF) You're Scorpirific!

Rita
(OPERATIC TUNE-UP HIGH NOTE)

Baboo
Oh, she's going to sing!

Rita
Oh, there's gonna be sparks, there's gonna be danger! There'll be smoldering goo instead of Power Rangers!

CUT TO:

19) INT. COMMAND CENTER - DAY

The kids, back in street clothes, are clustered around Alpha 5, telling him about the day's events.

Jason
...and she had some kind of charged boomerang that knocked me back into yesterday!

Alpha 5
Yes, that sounds exactly like the creature the sensors picked up rolling toward you in the cocoon.

Kids
(HOWLS OF PROTEST)

Zack
Aw man, if you knew, why didn't you tell us?!

Alpha 5
But I've been **trying** to reach you - for hours now!

CUT TO:

20) EXT./FRONT DOOR; A SUBURBAN HOUSE

A grizzled neighborhood man in his undershirt is standing in his doorway, surrounded by an arc of six or seven Pizza delivery men from all different Pizza places.

Grizzled Man
Listen, for the last time, my name isn't "Alpha 5", and I **didn't order any pizza!**

DISSOLVE TO:

21) INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY

Kimberly walks up to Rocky, who's at his locker. They both are copping pretty serious attitudes; avoiding eye contact.

Kimberly
Guess you thought you were pretty cool over at Billy's huh?

Rocky
Maybe. Couldn't handle it, huh?

(continued)

(21 continued)

Their attitudes aren't quite covering their mutual interest.

Kimberly
So, what were you doing over there anyway?

Rocky
I don't know - maybe I was seeing what...(THEIR EYES MEET) you / were doing...

CUT TO:

21a) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; RITA REEL 70; 20:39:12 to 20:47:15

Rita looks through the Repulsascope and seés Rocky getting friendly with Kimberly.

Rita
What does he think he's doing!? He's not supposed to be NICE to her!"

CUT TO:

INT. / THE HALLWAY

Kimberly
I was thinking maybe I'd go to the dance Friday night.

Rocky
Yeah? I might be there. Like, around eight-thirty?

Kimberly
Uh huh... so...

Rocky
So... I guess I'll just see you then, ok?

CUT TO:

21b) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; RITA REEL 70; 5:01:19 to 5:13:00

INT./RITA'S CASTLE

Rita
What's the matter with him!? Doesn't he know what love could do to his superpowers! Besides, everyone knows superheroes make lousy boyfriends - they're never around when you need them! Just ask Lois Lane!

CUT TO:

INT. / THE HALLWAY

Kimberly and Rocky have their "moment" suddenly shattered by the splat of a See's nougat candy hitting the locker and sliding down it, right between them. They turn and we see Bulk and Skull, who have been eavesdropping from across the hallway.

Skull
Well, if it isn't a pair of lovebirds! Have some candy for yer "date", Romeo! Ha!

Bulk
Or maybe you'd rather have a cupcake, Kimberly, seeing the guy **you're** hanging out with! Ha!

With a smile to Kimberly, Rocky turns and walks away. Kimberly, seeming not to hear the taunting, leans her head against the locker and sighs dreamily.

CUT TO:

---

22) JAPANESE FOOTAGE; OUTLINE CUT, SEGMENT #16

INT. RITA'S CASTLE

Rita is doing a little touch-up and admiring herself at the makeup mirror.

Rita
That's it! What a lovely shade of green - it brings out the evil in my eyes, don't you think?

Baboo
Indeed!

(continued)

(22 continued)

Squatt
You are more lovely than ever, Oh Rita! Malice becomes you!

Baboo
I was just going to say that!

Goldar and Scorpira enter arguing.

Goldar
Was not, was not, was not!

Scorpira
He was too!--Riddler was twice as tough as Penguin!

Baboo
They've been going at it like this all morning.

Scorpira
Was too!

Goldar
Was not!

Rita
Stop squabbling or **neither** of you will go to earth!

Squatt
And no destroying buildings or power lines!

Scorpira
Oh Rita, no fair! Anyway, he started it.

Squatt
(AGREEING) Mm **hmm**, he did, mm **hmm**, that's right.

Baboo
No, he didn't, no he didn't!

Goldar
I did not!

Scorpira
Stop making it up!

(continued)

(22 continued)

Goldar
It's my turn to terrorize the earth!

Baboo
He's right about that!

Squatt
True, if we simply alternate! But if we base the decision on effectiveness, then -

Goldar
(VERY ANGRY) **NO ONE** terrorizes like I do! (SUDDENLY MEEK) Uh, sorry.

Squatt and Baboo
(CONTINUED CHATTERING; YES' AND NO'S)

Rita
Silence, you nattering nabobs! You're all missing the point! Of **course** Goldar will go to earth first.

Goldar
I am honored, your evilossity!

Rita
You have some heavy-duty destruction to do! (VO) But what's important is the solar eclipse that starts tomorrow! Without solar power, Mega Zord will be almost completely helpless!

Goldar
At last! We will **crush** the Power Rangers! Ha!

Rita
Withered flower, glare and glower! **GO**!! Make Goldar the size of an office tower!

Goldar
(SNARLS AND ROARS AS HE WREAKS HAVOC)

FADE OUT

FADE IN

23) EPILOGUE

INT. /COMMAND CENTER

The kids and Alpha 5 are all over the console, patching wires here and there. Billy gives orders over his shoulder as he works.

Billy
Jason, plug that stabilizer line into the reactor relay's number five port.

Jason looks confused, then chooses a hole, covers his eyes, and tentatively inserts the plug. When nothing happens, he brightens.

Jason
Okay, got it!

Kimberly walks by carrying a plate piled high with bread.

Kimberly
Toast, anyone?

Billy stands and dust off his hands.

Billy
Okay, that should reboot Zordon's core memory. Power him up, Alpha.

They all look up as Zordon's face swims into focus. They cheer; the picture is clear and steady.

Jason
Alpha, turn up the audio - his mouth is moving!

Zordon's mouth has paused for a moment; Alpha pushes a fader up.

Alpha 5
Audio is up!

(continued)

(23 continued)

Suddenly Zordon's mouth begins to move again and an incomprehensible stream of what sounds like very rapid Scottish language pours forth, followed by a bang and a cloud of smoke. The snowy picture and white noise return.

All
(DISAPPOINTED GROANS)

Alpha 5
Perhaps it **was** the toaster he wanted plugged in all along.

Suddenly alarms begin to go off. Alpha activates the holosphere and it shows giant Goldar destroying buildings and wreaking havoc in the city.

Trini
Oh no! How are we supposed to fight **that**?!

The kids look at one another in grave concern.

TO BE CONTINUED...