SU Prediction fanfic
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SU Prediction fanfic
by BlueKayanite

Summary

A series of illustrated fanfics, portraying theories of how SU could go in a story format, originally posted on my Tumblr (BlueKayanite). It starts immediately after the "Wanted" arc and has a lot of focus around Pink Diamond.
Investigation

Steven wants to figure out what really happened to Pink Diamond.

Can we please go back to the palanquin? I think we might find some clues there.

Steven, I'm not sure...

Let's go.

Wha?!
Steven’s not the only one who wants to find answers.

(It’s Blue Diamond!!)

(Ho boy...)

(Garnet, you had to have seen this!)

(I did see this. I also saw Steven doing his thing.)

(..Yeah. Let me talk to her.)

(But...)
Zircon's probably there as an investigator. Eyeball's there as a witness.

"I told you! I saw Rose Quartz shatter her!"

"Except it couldn't possibly have happened! Could you please tell us what you really remember?"

"Oh, so what I remember seeing with my own eyes couldn't possibly have happened! Why would I lie about what I saw?!

"Excuse me."
It's a long story. Nevermind that for now.

I want to apologize. I actually don't remember much from before the last ten years. I heard I shattered Pink, so I thought it was true, but now...

I want to know what happened. And I want to help you find out. So... can't we work together?
...Hm. You'd make a good diplomat.

Alright. I agree to a truce for the sake of this investigation.

For my friends, too?

......... Alright

What?!

Your help is appreciated. We've been somewhat... stuck.

I KNOW WHAT I SAW!!
Steven calls the others in, and they start comparing notes.

You look familiar...

Uh... you must have me confused with someone else.

You broke her with that big sword of yours!

No! The *bigger* one!

This one?

Rose had no other sword. Our smith was... taken out, and couldn't have made another.

And I *know* this one can't break anyone.
She was just riding along in this, stopped, and got out, when you broke her!

But the palanquin looks like it was backed up near the wall. That could only be done on purpose.

Judging by the direction it’s leaning, it was blasted from behind. She had to be on that ledge.

No!... wait... I remember her on the ledge...

What was she doing up there?!

But... she was in front... so why...?
Soon they have a HUGE breakthrough.

Pearl, what happens when a Gem is... broken?

You’ve seen what happens with some of our devices. Much of her energy is released. The more powerful the Gem, the bigger the explosion. AAAAAH!!

You’re right! She’s a Diamond! There should at least be impact craters from the shards!

The shards... I don't remember what happened with the shards! What’s going on?!

Yo, I found this up on the ledge.

That looks like a destabilizer!

Wait... Does this mean she was only destabilized?

It can’t be...! Then... what happened to her?!
Okay, so she wasn't broken, but she was taken out of the picture.

If I wanted someone out of the picture, but I wanted them alive, I'd put them someplace remote, or otherwise hard to get into.

And even then they'd somewhere that's hard to find. Maybe a cage disguised as something innocuous. And I'd add some extra safeguards, so they couldn't escape, and they wouldn't be released by accident.

Wait...

Guys! I think she's trapped in the moon base!

We walked right by her!!
Blue insists everyone, *everyone*, come to the moon base right away.

If she might be there, I have to know!


Really? Us?

I have you to thank for getting this far.

But if this is a trick, *I will destroy you.*

...*gulp*

But probably not without some strong warnings.
Blue’s ship probably looks like Peridot’s, but fancier.

Nephrite, set a course for Earth’s Diamond base.

Yes, my Diamond!

Pearl, show our guests to the observation room. I’ll join you later.

Yes, my Diamond.

Blue has the course set and excuses herself.
During transit, Blue's guests would have time to talk.

...I'm sorry I got us into this. I wanted answers and now, either we release Pink Diamond or Blue will probably kill us if we don't.

Well I can't say I'm glad to be in this mess, but I can understand why Blue would want us in it.

Really?!

Of course! When you really love someone, you'll do anything for them. Think of the lengths you went to to save me from the zoo! Heck, we tried to fix that old ship to get you back!

Blue Diamond was just looking for closure. Now she's got her hopes up that she might actually see Pink again. If it turns out it was all for nothing...

Can't say it's especially nice of her, but at the same time, I'm having trouble really blaming her.

...She'll be devastated. Again.

...Yeah, me too.
Once they get there, artificial gravity is dropped.

Disabling artificial gravity.

Hahahaha!

Yeah!

Woo hoo!

We’re on a Diamond ship! Control yourselves!

The humans have a bit of fun and/or trouble with the lower gravity.
Blue soon rejoins the group.

All stand at attention for the lustrous Blue Diamond.

...Huh?

Huh...

Woah.

What?

*ahem*

She comes in looking more compact.
It’s explained that Diamonds, unlike Gems, shrink in lower gravity.

Excuse me. Not to be rude, but can I ask why you’re... sized differently?

You see, our Gems adjust to gravity by adjusting their mass. Here they would automatically make themselves heavier.

But that’s because we made them that way. Diamonds... can’t do that. We adjust by changing our size, but not our mass.

It’s... one of the reasons why we normally only allow elites here.

I guess otherwise you’d have to make these stairs bigger.

1/6 height for 1/6 gravity.
When they get to the second floor, Steven points out the mystery orb.

This place still gives me the creeps...

Woah. This is exactly like what I described.

There! Is that supposed to be there?

Maybe you're right, Steven. Maybe she is in there.

No... This is supposed to be a meeting room. Nothing should be in here!

Pink!! You have to get her out!

I've got it!
I doubt the barrier around the orb will go down easily.

Okay... Maybe I don't get it.

Wha?!

They're not powerful enough...

AAUGH!

Everyone. Step aside.

*BZZT!*

*BZZT!*

*BZZT!*
I am a Diamond, and I will not be denied. Especially not for this.

LET. PINK. GO!!

An emotionally-charged Blue Diamond to be precise.
I suspect the barrier will still backlash.

*crk*  
*ZAP!*  

Ah!

The orb might be a bubble containing Pink’s unshunken Gemstone...

Pink...

I've got this!

...though I now suspect it’s a marble hiding a formed, shrunken Pink.
Either way, we’d soon get to see what Pink looks like.

Alright! Here we go!

*CRACK!*

Right around here seems like a good place to end an episode. ~_^
Seriously though, I believe she looks like a kid, with ploofy, Quartz-like hair and maybe a Quartz-ish face. 

Maybe with her Gemstone impacted toward the top, making it look like a heart.
I think Pink wouldn’t be moving at first, so there’d be some concern.

But she’s just sleeping.
Oh Pink! You were here this whole time and I never knew...

Blue! It's really you! I thought you'd never come!

I'm so sorry! I wish I'd known!

I'm so glad you're here now!

You feel... Have you grown bigger?

Uh... Maybe?

Maybe Blue would smother Pink in kisses.
I don't get it… Is she a runt?

You idiot! She’s only around 500,000* years old!

So… are you saying that she’s just a kid?

She’s a kid. Just like us…

I suspect she really is young… for a Diamond.
Feels are interrupted because it turns out Blue’s Gemstone is damaged.

*BRZT!*

It must have happened when I destroyed that barrier...

Ah!

Blue! You’re cracked!
Steven rushes in to help.

Hold on! I can fix it!

*crackle* Ah!

Pink... I’m glad I at least got to see you, one last time...

NO!! I won’t let this happen!!

But he doesn’t get a chance.
I believe Pink has healing powers.

Pink knew, but hid it from others.

Pink… You have healing powers?

Y-yeah… I can grow plants, too.

How long have you known this?

...Since Florius*.

...Oh. I see...

Woah...

*Made up name. Explanation in my next prediction post.
Pink explains that Rose’s powers weren’t by accident.

So… Rose Quartz…

I gave her those powers. I put a lot of myself into my Gems. I love them all, but I was especially close to Rose.

I know this is an organic thing… but I like to think of our Gems like our children.

Then… You’re like my grandma!

Huh?

Steven’s family tree gets even more crazy.
Hi! My name - my real name - is Steven. You see, I’m really half-human. Rose is my mom...

You mean... She did it?

She did! I have so many questions!

Um...

Excuse me...

Pink is excited to find out about Steven.

Hey! I remember you!

When I heard you were here, I had to see with my own eye. I’m glad you’re in one piece.

So you thought...

...Yeah, I wondered about that...

...How long?

About 5,100 years*...

*Estimate

...Yeah, that sounds right. ...It can’t have been easy for you either, Blue.

I’m just glad it’s finally over.
Pink probably knows who did it.

I dread knowing but... who... did this?  

White did.

...I see. That did seem like her magic...

White... Diamond?  Yes...

*shudder*

We might finally hear something about White. At least in passing.
Pink explains why she was imprisoned on the moon.

But... why?  ...Please don’t be upset.

I never wanted to colonize the Earth and wipe out humans. I stepped up to take the Earth so I could stop all that. I botched things on purpose... made my Gems to fight back...

I kept it a secret because I was afraid something like this would happen.

I wanted to tell you, but I couldn't risk it, and I didn't think you’d understand.

Basically, she’s a giant traitor to Homeworld. The biggest.
...You’re right. I probably wouldn’t have understood back then.

But now, I’ve had a chance to talk to some humans. And they’re amazing! Intelligent, understanding, compassionate...

And it’s because of them that I found you.

I... really have to thank everyone here. You solved in hours what I couldn’t for millennia. Thank you.

Besides, now she’s reunited with Pink. That’s what’s most important to her.
The zoo might be brought up.

I wonder how that one human I met is doing...

Ah... I'm gonna fess up. I really am the human you abducted. The Crystal Gems busted me out of the zoo.

...Oh. Well, I'm glad you're alright.

The zoo? It's still there?!

Yes. I've made sure it's been taken care of.

Sho's done a good job too. The zoomans I met were all happy and healthy.

I made the zoo it case I couldn't stop the colony... So some humans could still live, no matter what happened...

And if humans are here, the colony wasn't finished, either. I... I... Thank you, Blue!

I'm sorry, but can we go? Or are we gonna just stand here all day?

Amethyst!

Pink's happy the zoomans are alright. And the Earth humans, too.

Diamonds aging would probably be brought up.

So is aging another thing that makes you different from your Gems?

Yeah, we make Gems emerge fully-grown, even though we have to start small...
I remember when you were small enough to hold in my hands!

Blue...

Aw man, Steven was so cute when he was tiny! Of course, I had to make sure he didn’t swallow my keys or anything...

Dad!

Pink swallowed an important crystal once. Yellow was not happy about how we had to get it back.

OKAY! MOVING ON!

*snrk*

Greg and Blue might exchange (embarrassing) baby stories.
When they get to the lower floor, Pink might explain some things about the murals.

But yeah, I'm the newest Diamond. They even made my mural show me taking a colony just as I burst out of the ground. (They said I'd grow into the height.)

Woah! I can see it now! What about the others?

White's shows her magical prowess and authority. Yellow's... heh, Yellow's shows...

...Blue? Are you okay?
Seeing her mural, Blue realizes that her worldview has radically changed.

So many colonies... So many planets...

Each had organic life... They could have been much like humans... We could have made friends... Helped each-other...

What have we done... What have I done...

I know, Blue. I know...

And that she’s helped wipe out countless people.
I think it'd be great if Pink comforted Blue with a song Blue used to sing her. Maybe they'd sing together.

You remember that song?

How could I forget? You sang it to me every moon for 8,000 years.

Haha!

It really did help me keep going through the war, though. So thank you.

Haha!

Maybe a silly song about starting off feeling bad, but never giving up, no matter how bad things seem
Blue suggests they head back to Homeworld together.

Pink knows just showing up is a bad idea.
Pink can’t go home, but Steven has an idea.

But where will you stay? You can’t just stay here in this base...

She could stay with us!

Ugh...

She wouldn’t be alone, you’d know where she is, and I’d get to know my grandma!

Really? I’d love that! I want to get to know you, too! I’ve never had a... grandgem?

I’ve never had a Steven before!

Just call me Steven.

Hahaha!

Pink likes the idea of living with Steven.
It might take some convincing, but Blue agrees to it.

But what about the-

Don’t worry about the Cluster. It’s already bubbled.

Cluster?

...Alright then. If Pink’s alright with it, I am too.

Yay! Thank you, uh... Oh! Can I call you “Aunt Blue?”

Ah...

(Say yes!)

...Alright.

Yay! Thank you, Aunt Blue!

Oof! Ahah... Hahaha! *ahem* If you’ll excuse us, I’d like some time with Pink before I go.

Blue may also accept Steven as family.
The two Diamonds spend some time alone, and people get time to think.

Steven, are you doing okay now?

I think so… I think I was feeling what Aunt Blue did earlier, and it was… horrible.

Man… I can't even imagine all the stuff they've been going through.

I'm glad they're together again, though, even if it's just for a little while. But it would be so much better for them if they could help each other through all these hard feelings.

..."sigh"

Steven knows the scene reminds Greg (and maybe others) of Rose.

...I'm sorry you guys can't be with mom again.

Hey, don't worry about it, kiddo. Sure, I miss your mom, but I still wouldn't trade you for the world.

Same goes for us, Ste-man. We all love ya.

Yeah!

We just got you back from Homeworld. We're glad you're safe, too.

...Thanks, guys.

I'll help Grandma Pink however I can. I'm her family, too.

Steven gets some reassurance.
Blue does what she can to ensure secrecy.

Under penalty of execution, none of you are to say a word about what happened here after we board the ship.

All you will say about it is that we came to Earth, struggled to find any clues, and returned home. Understood?

Yes, my Diamond.

Yes, my Diamond.

Yes, my Diamond.

Blue would make sure the others can return to Earth.

You may take this ship and use it to return to Earth.

Woah! This is rather generous of you, your highness!

Suh-woot! Traveling in style!

It's the least I could do as thanks.

The Crystal Gems have a ship again!
Blue and Pink have a long goodbye.

This is going to be so hard...

It’s not forever… hopefully.

It least this time, I get to say goodbye...

I don’t want to say “goodbye” yet. We just barely said “hello.”

Facing the others when I get home…
I’m not sure I’m strong enough to do it.

You can hold up. Just think of me supporting you.

They go their separate ways.

Farewell! Good luck!
You’ll be fine! We’re rooting for you!
Bye! Thanks for the nice ship! And for not killing us!
Stay strong!
Bye, Aunt Blue!
Goodbye, Blue...
Goodbye... Pink...
I can't believe that happened... Garnet, are you really okay with this?

A Diamond is a powerful ally to have. We just gained two.
A new friend tells Steven about her past.

Everyone returns to Earth from the Moon Base, with Pink Diamond now accompanying them.

Hold on... Aren’t you supposed to be bigger now that we’re off the moon?

I can shapeshift, too. I’d prefer to stay around your size.

It’s easier to hold a small form than a bigger one.

And I have plenty of power to keep it up, anyway.
Pearl still has some uncertainty about this arrangement.

Steven, are you sure this is a good idea?

Come on, Pearl. She said she was trying to protect the Earth.

She'll be fine. What could go wrong?

*CRACK!*

Oops...

...Or is it supposed to do that?

Ugh...

I suspect Pink may be a bit clumsy with her power.
I also suspect she may know Lion.

*GASP!* TINY!*! Hi!! *rrrr*

Good to see you, too! Not a cub anymore, huh?

You know my mom’s lion? Er... Tiny?

Ho’s actually mine. I asked Roso to look after him and his family.

I haven’t seen any other lions. He might be the only one left.

Where is his family, anyway?

Oh... I see.

Arrangements will have to be made.

But where would we even put her?!

Why not let her just stay with Steven like with our other guests?

Hmm...

So thirsty...

I’ll bet you are, after all that crying.

That works for me!
Pearl is still hesitant to let Pink anywhere near Steven.

How do I know you won’t attack Steven in his sleep?

On my authority as a Diamond (whatever I still have), by the Stars that watch from the skies and guide our paths, I swear I will not try to harm Steven, awake or asleep.

...Fine. But I’m still keeping watch.

Pearl would probably take nothing less than an official oath, and still be suspicious.

Even assuming Steven got some sleep before the moon adventures, he’s probably tired.

Come on, Pearl. I’m sure- *yawn* I’ll be fine.

It’s okay, Steven. I can understand why she’s suspicious.

Right now, you need your sleep. I’ll talk to you later.

...Okay. Good night, Grandma. See you in the morning.
Steven ends up talking to Pink again sooner than he expected.

Grandma? Where are we?

You're asleep?

You're sleeping on your bed. I'm sleeping next to Tiny.

Yeah. I gave Rose Quartzes the power to talk to others in dreams, and I made them extra sensitive to Diamonds.

This way, I could talk to your mom in secret during the war.

That's so cool!

This seems like a good time for Pink’s backstory.

So... Why did you meet me here?

To show you what I showed your mom. I figured you, at least, should know.
It would be cool to see Homeworld from long ago...

You see, Yellow, Blue and I were supposed to emerge around the same time.

But I ended up really, really, really late.

Woah...

We think it's because my Stone's impacted

By the time I came around, my sisters had already shaped most of the Empire.

Anyway, I'll let Pink take over the exposition.

Instead, Yellow and Blue ended up raising me.

Aw! You're so cute!

They taught me everything there is to know about being a Diamond, and about the Empire.

BUE!
When we found out that I have a knack for combat, I started training Gems.

And soon after, I officially joined the Diamond Order.

I remember being so happy...

I had no idea what the Order really did...

Then I was asked to help White with a colony she was making, on a planet named Flonus*.

*Even if any of this is canon, I don’t expect details like names to be spot-on.

She said she was having some trouble with wild creatures, so I brought armies for backup. And my sisters figured it would help prepare me to take my own colony.

A lot of progress was being undone by plant growths. And there were a LOT of plants in the uncolonized parts. I’d never seen anything like them.
Then I found a couple locals.

I didn't know before that organics could talk. So I decided to disguise myself and meet them.

That one looks like Mom...

Yeah, her name was Rose. Wild Rose. She was a Florian, sort of a flower mage.

She saw right through my disguise, but let me come with her, and a young girl who'd been separated from her family.

Hello, Fellow organics...

I stayed with them. I discovered my own flower power, and my healing powers.

They told me about plants, and their plant-based magic. About Florian culture, and about organic life.
I made friends with the other Florians, and Rose even convinced them to accept me as one of their own. They called me Primrose.

*I'd do the type of flower by her palanquin, but I don't know what it's called.*

I'd never felt so welcome, even among the Diamonds. Everything the Florians believed in just felt so right for me.

Then I learned that they were the last of their species, and they were gathered for their last stand against the crystalline invaders.

Then I remembered why I came to Florius, and I suddenly felt really out-of-place.

I thought White just didn't really know about the Florians, so I promised I'd let her know about my mistake.

Before I got to explain... I realized it was no mistake. The Florians were the "wildlife" giving her trouble.

I realised she's on a mission to wipe out organics...

She wouldn't change her mind...

She'd found where everyone was gathered and... gave the order...

...I was suddenly the only surviving Florian...

...I think Rose knew that might happen. She thanked "Primrose" and apologised, before she and her new son were cut down.

I think she wanted some part of her people to survive. Wanted me to do something about what I'd learned.
I confirmed that every single colony was once inhabited by organics...

They wanted to destroy worlds. They saw nothing wrong with it.

I'd trained armies to help them do it...

I knew I couldn't convince them about what organics really are.

I tried asking Yellow and Blue about organics, and they also considered them beneath us...

And I was still expected to conquer a planet of my own someday...

I didn't want to start a civil war... even if I did, the odds of winning were slim... but I couldn't just let another planet be wiped out, not after what happened on Florius.

So I decided I'd play along. I would start a colony, but I'd make Gems that would probably like organic stuff.

I made my first Gems in memory of Wild Rose...

And when Rose - your mom - finally met me in dreams, I told her what I just told you. I taught her everything I believe, inducted her as a Floran, guided her in leading the rebellion, gave her inside information to help her succeed...
But... leading a war from both sides, meant no matter who won, I would lose.

I knew it would happen... but so many Gems and humans being destroyed... I had to pretend it didn't hurt...

I planned from the start to reveal my true motives eventually. I decided it was time to try it, starting with my trusted entourage.

Maybe I could finally make peace between the Gem worlds and an organic world...
But somehow, White found out. Next thing I knew, I was regenerating, and then with White on the moon base.

She put me in that orb...

White! No! You don't understand!

Perhaps this will teach you the pain of betrayal.

Goodbye, Pink...

...and she left me there...

I couldn't get out... couldn't contact Rose... couldn't see or hear what was going on...

I had no idea what was going on without me... whether the colony was finished... humans wiped out...

I waited... hoping someone would come get me...

But no one did... and it was so long... I tried to sleep through what I could, but it was still so long...

And I was so alone! Did anyone know I was there?! Did they just leave me? I... I-I
Steven would probably want to comfort Pink, but be at a loss.

I am so, so sorry for what you went through. I can’t imagine what it was like.

I wish I could say something to make it all better… But there’s just nothing. Nothing can take away everything you’ve been through.

And honestly… It’s all so important to you that I’m not sure anything should.

…

…But I think I know something that can still help. Meet me by the door after we wake up.

O-okay…

He still has an idea.

Next day, Steven shows Pink around Beach City. It’s the busy season.

This is my hometown. Beach City!

Woah…

It’s a place where people visit from all over the world!
He gives her a look at the result of her efforts.

People come here to have a fun time. Get some sun and surf, play some games, eat some food…

They all bring stuff from their own culture. They make friends, share ideas, make newer, better things…

Maybe things didn’t turn out how you’d like, but humans are thriving!

And it’s all possible thanks to you.

... Thank you...!

Pink deserves some fun after everything that happened.

Want to check out what Beach City has to offer?

Yes! Please!
Insert montage of the two of them having a good time.

They stop by one last place before the day is done.

I forgot how good food can be!

You've eaten before?

Once... on Florius...

Oh...

Well, this is the best donut place! Prepare yourself for a treat you won't forget!
Sadie is on her shift.

Steven! You’re back!

Hi Sadie! One Chocolate Chunk Cruller, and one Strawberry Sprinkles, please!

Forget that! Where’s Lars?!

...OH!

Sorry, Sadie... I don’t think Lars will be back for awhile.

Oh... *sigh* Two donuts, coming up...

When she sees Steven, she gets hopeful that Lars is back, too, but her hopes are in vain.

Who’s Lars?

He’s Sadie’s boyfriend. We kind of got kidnapped and brought to Homeworld... Then we met some friendly Gems, but he got hurt, and I cried, and then he turned pink and now his hair is connected to Tiny’s mane...

He’s safe, but I don’t know how we’re going to get him back.

So he let me come home, but he had to stay behind.

Is he...?
Now the donuts are a little less than exciting.

Here’s your donuts. Enjoy.

Pink makes a promise.

Hey… Your friend is on my home planet.

I’m going back there someday. And when I do, I’ll do what I can to make sure he comes home safe.

…Thanks. That’s nice of you… um…

I’m Sadie. Nice to meet you.

Nice to meet you, too.
The two head back to the temple, donuts in hand.

You were right about this donut.

I'm not going to forget about it.
Steven's new friend has some trouble adjusting.

Having been a ruler her whole life, Pink might tend to take charge or get demanding.

Not maliciously, just habitually.
Regardless, I don't think Garnet would tolerate it for long.

ENOUGH! We are not your subjects! We are free Gems! You cannot just go around issuing orders!

Wha-

Steven might try to smooth things over.

Come on, Garnet. You don't need to be so harsh. I'm sure she didn't mean it.

Have a heart! She does!

Huh?
Garnet may be divided on the issue. Literally.

This was a mistake, Sapphire!

Be patient, Ruby. She just needs time.

Having a Diamond as an ally will be an asset in the long run.

Uh oh...

But that’s just it! She’s a Diamond, Sapphire! Don’t you remember what happened at the cloud arena?!

(At any rate, I don’t think there will be much objection to seeing these two again.)

Something said may hit a sore spot for Pink.

That’s right! I’m nothing but a big, stupid Diamond who’s all-powerful, rules without question, and can’t be friends with anyone, ever!!

Huh?

...!

She then runs off, crying.
Those involved would head over to talk to her.

Grandma? You don’t like being a Diamond?

Well... that’s not it, exactly. I don’t hate being a Diamond... it feels like that’s what I should be. It’s what everyone expects a Diamond to be that I hate.

I’m supposed to be a big, powerful commander, so that’s what I was taught to do. I don’t really know how to do anything else. I don’t like being a tyrant, though.

I’ve tried making friends as much as I could without breaking rules. But they’d usually still say “I hope you are well, my Diamond,” instead of “Hey, Pink! How’re you doing?” I was still “the fun Diamond” or “the easy Diamond.”

Or sometimes... “the flawed Diamond.”

To them, I was still supposed to be a ruler... a tyrant.

Being a Diamond is part of who I am... I just wish it wasn’t the only part everyone sees. That they could see something besides a commanding tyrant.

That I could be something besides a commanding tyrant...

Steven would probably try to offer comfort.

If it helps. I see you as someone likeable, compassionate, strong, and skilled, who doesn’t eat meat and wanted the Earth to be safe.

...That does help, actually. Thanks, Steven.

I was only thinking of how you could help us. Not about your own interests...

I... I just can’t help but think of what Blue Diamond was like at the cloud arena.

It’s okay. I can understand why you’d be reminded of that. I’m sorry I yelled. And that I got commanding.

You might want to know... Blue was only that upset because she wanted to help me. She’s not usually that vengeful.

Some realizations set in. Some softer words are exchanged.
I do think Pink could easily make things up by referencing one thing.

I... actually did ask Rose to take you out Sapphire. I thought Homeworld using a Sapphire for the war would be too risky.

But Blue told me about your predictions. She said if you hadn’t fused when you did, Rose would’ve been beat, and the rebellion would’ve been over.

Sounds like we’re being friends already! I’m sure things could work out if we give it another try. The Crystal Gems are all about love, and doing things different from Homeworld!

Of course, Pink would still have to restrain herself from then on.

I can see that this will take time, so I’ll try to remind everyone to be patient. Just please try to keep from issuing orders, and ask for things instead. We’re all partners here.

Got it. I’ll do my best.

Garnet’s the leader. So you need to listen to her.

*gasp!* I’ve never been a subordinate before!

I’m actually excited about this! What should I do first?

Hop around on one foot!

Ruby!!

Nah, just kidding. You don’t have to do that.
I think Pink would follow a joke order, anyway.

Hup! Hup! 360 spin!

Haha!

Ha ha!

Ha ha!

The heart-hands could also become a thing for them.

I should have brought up the issue more gently.

I'll give you another chance. I'm not without heart.

...Hey! You're right, Steven! My Stone does look like that!!

...What's it mean, though?

It's the Earth symbol for love.

*gasp! You mean I had this the whole time and nobody told me?

That's not a flaw! That makes it better! It's like I'm openly showing that love is a part of me!

You're the love Diamond! I love you, Grandma!

Aw, I love you too, Steven!

Hm. Well a friend of love is a friend of mine.

Thanks, Garnet.
Things start going a little smoother with Pink and the CGs.

There’s trouble on the boardwalk!
I came as fast as I could!

Let’s—

...follow Garnet’s lead.

Hm. To the boardwalk!
Chapter Summary

Steven's new friend hangs out around the temple.

I think Pink would have some fun times with Amethyst.
I think they’d share a lot of interests.

Wow, Pinky! I’ve never seen anyone pitch like that!

Just call me “The Baseball Diamond.”

Man, I’ve been having a great time since you got here! We’ve got way more in common than I expected!

Well, I did give my sense of fun to the Amethysts, so we should like a lot of the same things.

Really? Woah!
Amethyst brings up the other half of what she's thinking.

And here I thought the Diamonds were all stuffy and uptight.

My sisters sure are. Blue's always gotta be pretty. Yellow rarely unburies her nose from her work, and don't get me started on Almighty Whitey. I could hardly do anything back home.

But you're a Diamond, too. Can't you do whatever you want?

Not if the other Diamonds say "no."

Pink has some pent up frustration over the subject.

They'd always tell me things like

"A Diamond doesn't demean herself by changing her form!"

"A Diamond must always act with dignity!"

"A Diamond doesn't rest her head on the table!!"

We can't do anything that makes us look weak or silly! We've gotta be perfect!
WELL WE’RE NOT!!

Pink inadvertently demonstrates her point.

SOMETHING SOMETHING...

... SORRY!!

Grr... Hmph!
The others are fine about it all.

Well we think you're great, anyway.

Yeah, you're cool by me. Especially since I thought you'd get worked up over... you know...

A sensitive topic gets brought up.

Know what?

Come on, you made the Quartzes, right? Can't you see I'm a little... different?

...Wait, are you... 8XM?

Uh... Yeah, actually.

Did you emerge after the war was over?

Uh... yeah...

Um...
Pink’s reaction is not what Amethyst expected.

*gasp!* YES! HA HA!
I can’t believe I didn’t realise it before! It’s so nice to get to know you!
And it actually worked! Ha ha ha!

Um, Grandma? What are you talking about?

Yeah, what worked?

Pink explains.

Sorry, sorry...
You see, when I was getting to the very last drops for Amethyst batch 8, I made a tiny change to the formula. Basically, I pushed your incubation time as much as possible, meaning you’d come out the very last!

You mean... this was on purpose?
Yes!

You made me like this?
Yes! Isn’t it great?

Um!
Amethyst’s reaction is not what Pink expected.

Great?! Do you have *any* idea what I’ve been through because of this?!

Wha-

Because you made me puny. I’ve put down, beat down, and humiliated! And almost broken.

Quiet, Steven!

I take back everything I’ve said about you, Pinko. You’re not cool. You’re crazy! I never want to talk to you again.

Amethyst then storms off.

Amethyst...

...Grandma, did you really make her small on purpose?

Yes. *No!* I mean... I knew she’d end up small, but that’s not the point!

So then, what *is* the point?

Well...
It would probably be hard to convince Amethyst to listen to Pink.

Amethyst!!

But you need to hear what she has to say!

I'm not talking to her!

If you're going to ask me to talk to that pink dweeb, the answer is no.

Why don't you just tell me yourself?

Because you need to hear it from her.

This is my guess on how she might be convinced.

Well if you won't talk to her, could you give her just one chance to talk to you?

All she wants is one chance. She says after that, she'll leave you alone forever, if that's what you really want.

Fine. One chance.
Hi, Amethyst.

Hi.

...I get that you’re mad, and I think I understand. I also ended up late, and I’m smaller than my sisters.

Well, for now, at least...

But they would often talk about what was supposed to happen, or how they expected certain things of me. And when I didn’t match up, it was hard not to feel like something was wrong with me.

...I wasn’t trying to make another version of me, if that’s what you’re wondering.

The thing is, you’re right, my sisters are strict. Under any of them, you’d be broken by now, maybe even if you weren’t small.

The only reason I’m still around is because I’m a Diamond. It’s so unfair! Why should I be allowed to exist, but everyone else gets broken?!

...I thought it would be great if at least one Gem didn’t have to experience that. I hoped you could have a peaceful existence.

And think about it: You’ve always been free. You’ve never known the regime that most Gems put up with. You’ve been able to make your own decisions and be your own Gem.

That’s a gift! That’s my gift to you! Freedom!
...I don't consider you malformed, and I knew Rose wouldn't, either.

I even made the "malformed" Betas knowing a lot of them would join her. Jasper was an unhappy accident...

Your looks would be a small price to pay for freedom. Uh... no pun intended.

I'm still surprised, though. I can't believe the Crystal Gems treat you poorly just because you're small...

...Well that's fine, because it wasn't the Crystal Gems. It was Jasper.

...That makes sense. *sigh*

...I'm sorry you had to go through that. Things didn't really turn out how I'd hoped.

...I don't really have anything else to say. Do you still want me to leave you alone?

...Nah. Because you know what? I have been able to do whatever I want, and it's pretty great.

And now I know being a runt means something besides being a worthless failure.

Thanks, Pinky. You're cool after all. Really, really cool.

Sorry I yelled at you. But, uh... do I have to call you "Mom" or something?

Call me whatever you want. I'd just rather you not call me your Diamond.

Heh. Well, you're my kind of Diamond, Pinky.

Aw. Thanks.
They’re friends again.

Now come here!

Hahaha!

What do you say? Want to try some football next?

Yes! Please!

The two begin to run off. Steven is thoughtful, and grateful.

Hey, Ste-man! You wanna join us?

You sure?

If you say so.

...Actually, I think I’ll sit this one out.

Yeah. You two should go have fun together.

Hey Pink! Go Long!
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