Author's Note: The following is a Mary Sue fanfic intended to be humorous and parody in nature. If you feel the urge to say "My goat would never fucking say that," you are probably correct. Should there be any incorrect pronouns used here, DM me @seanseabean on Bluesky so I can correct them because I default to they/them if it's ambiguous. Please support Moonlight (the actual team) in their competitive journey!

Inspired by a crash out over getting 2400 X Power with the vanilla Blaster.

Hi there!! My name is Moonlight Blossom Delaware Rosewater Penrose Neodymium!! I'm an Inkling with long, sky or dark blue (depending on the weather) tentacles that sparkle and shimmer like the moon! My bright azure balls you call eyes also glimmer like the moon as well, but don't get lost in them! I'm everyone's type but it's just so hard to really understand so many people, y'know?

My fashion style is all over the place, but I always like going for something that a girly girl would like. Such as pretty blouses with tons of bedazzled jewels on them, a purple cardigan with all sorts of flowery patterns on it, stuff like that. But really I'm like more of a gyaru if u know what that is, it's like one of those super badass ladies who are like very themselves and stuff? I can rock their denim shorts and puffy jackets super well, but I don't have the confidence to REALLY be a gyaru, y'know? ANYWAYS, I've always admired the competitive side of the ink battles that happen here in Splatsville, they're just SO cool!! That's why I love weapons that are like, super fast! Like the .52 Gal and the Rapid Blaster Pro Deco (what a mouthful lol) But the one weapon I really love the most is the one. The only. The triedest and truest of all: the Vanilla Blaster! I even put a sticker of a vanilla flower on mine because I like being a little quirky sometimes, hehehe!

But get this! One time when I was trying to enter into the Cutie Mew Mew Beam tournament, I got stopped by one of the TOs! Somethin about a "You gotta need 2700 X Power to actually play in this one, chump." Like! How rude! How am I ever gonna be able to play competitive Splatoo–i mean ink battles now?? In my desperate time of need, just within earshot of me, I hear someone. I know that voice! I've heard it every morning when I eat breakfast and need something to watch! I look to my left, and what do I see but five familiar inkfish–one of them being an Octoling with a swirly mohawk and a red long sleeved shirt.

"Hey Moonlight." Chara said, professionally.

It looked like he was looking (and talking) to me! Moonlight Blossom Delaware Rosewater Penrose Neodymium!! But in fact, he was actually talking to the TEAM known

as Moonlight! Oh, they're so cool too, I just couldn't stop my legs from slowwwwly walking towards the ongoing conversation…

I overhear the conversation as closely as possible, "Yeah, I broke both of my ankles today. Sorry y'all, you're gonna hafta find a sub." Omega said, zidanly. It looked like the rest of Moonlight was bummed out by Omega, their super cool Carbon Roller Deco player who wears a super cool skull mask in battle, having both of his ankles broken. I was bummed out too, but there's no way that I could be the one to sub in for them! I'm just a scrub with like 2699 X Power!! How could I possibly—
My train of thought is interrupted when my sparkly tentacles catches the eyes of Basil, their super cool E-Liter and also Snipewriter and also Hydra Splatling that one time player with a custom embroidered sweater with stars on it. Eep! "That's fine, I think we already found someone we can count on." She turns to me, oh my! "You there! What's your name?"

"Oh… me…?" My legs turn to jelly as I look at all of Moonlight looking back at me, "My… my name is Moonlight, b-b-b-but you can call me Luna…!" I point to myself like that one meme of the white guy, "Are… are ya sure you w-w-w-want muh-muh-muh-me…? I'm kind of a scrub…"

Basil smiles at me in a reassuring manner, "Yeah. Your sparkly tentacles are a telltale sign of that. I'm pretty sure Nolan over here would love to know how you make your tentacles sparkle like that." gasp! A proper compliment from the Sniper Queen herself!

"Oh, come on!" Nolan, with their pink tentacle hair tied up in a dazzling set of twintails, bites back against Basil's remark, "I just haven't found the right hair salonist who'd be willing to give all of us special hair effects! But yeah, you're chillin with us, Luna!" They give me a thumbs up to show how much they trust me on the team! Oh my…!

"Yeah, I'm sure you'll fit in with us" Shadowind, as mysterious as he is to me with his crisp, teal tentacles, gives me a nonchalant smirk, "What weapon do you play, Luna?"

"…Blaster."
"Like the *Luna* Blaster?" he comments
"Nope, just the vanilla one…"

He and the rest of Moonlight (the team, not me!) huddle a bit before Shadowind responds, "Yeah we can work with that. You can tag along with us, annnnnd what're you two gonna do?" He looks at Omega and Chara, just as curious as I am.

“Oh, we’re, uh…” Omega loses his train of thought before Chara whispers something into his ear, “We’re gonna go try out as many salad bars as we can around the city. Come text us once y’all’re done with the tournament!” And with that, the two inkfish make their way to the train station, Omega in his crutches quietly going “ow” every time he has to touch the floor with his feet while he moves with crutches.

We go up to the registration booth for the Cutie Mew Mew Beam tournament, the TO who sneered at me giving me a dirty look again, “Sayyyy, dontcha know that you need an X Power of 2700 to participate in this–”

“She’s with US, mister.” Nolan glares at the TO, seemingly looking past a guise not even I noticed, oh my! “And when did this tournament have an X Power requirement anyways? Last I checked, anybody could enter.”

“A-Anybody…?!” I gulped nervously, though not as nervously as the TO who seems to have recognized who the inkfish in a white crop top really was.

“Oh! It’s Moonlight!” His eyes widened in shock, “We’ll getcha checked in and seeded as soon as we can, so sorry for the misunderstanding.” He hands the four of us what look to be slips of paper that look like train tickets. The others take them with confidence while Basil also takes mine, “Tournament starts in thirty minutes, hehehehe–have fun!” The fake grin, contrasting my real grin amidst my nervousness, definitely sells the fact that he just wanted to gatekeep me, so rude!

—----------

As we walk to the lobby, Basil notices my quivering and asks, “You seem nervous. Is this your first tournament?”

Already I can barely mumble a yes. This has to be a dream, right?! Getting to play with one of the best teams out there, and the one that shares my name!? It’s too good to really be true! I feel all mushy and anxious and weird and–

“There’s nothing wrong with being a little nervous, I get the nerves all the time.” She sits down beside me, holding both of our tickets, “But it’s being with these guys that I’ve been able to improve myself, and want to become a better player for them, too.” She looks at Nolan and Shadowind, the two of them bickering over who’s paying for the team’s drinks at the cafe, “Think of it like we’re just any other teammates you’ve played with before if you’re nervous about making us proud, or something.”

I look at the tickets, and then to Basil, “Oh… thuh-thanks, Basil…” With my woes calmed down, I point at the tickets, “What’re those for again”

“Those’re–”

“Those are what we’ll be needing to use one of the Spawn Launchers that’ll take us to our next match.” Shadowind says, handing mine and Basil’s preferred drinks. He somehow knew that I liked this kind of drink? That’s cool!, “Don’t lose it~!”

Nolan flips up their phone to check the status of the tournament, sipping their preferred beverage as they do. “Lets see here… third seed, okay… hm. Hmmm…” Their eyes squint at their phone, “Says here that Lobster’s playin’ too.”

My head perks up from my drink, “Y-You don’t mean, THE Lobster, right?!” I don’t even remember what Lobster looks like, but I know they were one of the first to reach four–no, 5000 X power!!! How am I ever going to fight against that?! I start jittering again, but Basil consoles me, letting me know that everything will be alright if we play our best. “Everything will be alright if we play our best, Luna.”

I feel a buzz from my phone, which is decorated in a bunch of rhinestone stickers and has a photocard of Marina from Off The Hook on the inside of the case, “Our match is ready?! Then… let’s go!”

We all grabbed our weapons and made our way to the entry kettle! It’s time for our first match!

—------

Splat Zones

“Maintain zone control!”
[Crableg Capital]

Okay so the goal of Splat Zones is to like, take control of the zone until the sparks go all over the place and the Judds go KNOCKOUT! Or like whoever held it the longest wins or something. Inside our little spawn launchers, we emerge like beautiful wet butterflies colored in with ink. I look… SO out of place amongst Moonlight (the team, not me!!) but they don’t seem to mind my beautiful tentacles and azure blue irises. The nerves are setting in again, oh no…!! And I can already hear the announcer’s voice…!

Ready…?

GO!

My teammates move in perfect sync with each other as I find myself… forgetting how to swim for a moment as I run towards the center of the stage, keeping an eye out for Nolan and Shadowind!

“I’m launching tent through mid, someone move with me” Shadowind is already in position while Nolan flanks, .96 Gal in hand.

“Uh–I guess that’s me???” Finally remembering that I can swim in ink, I swim through the tent shield, my sparkly tentacles hidden within the ink! I feel so sneaky right now, and to my right, I can hear Nolan calling something out to me

“Pushing bottom right with Vac” It sounded like Nolan just used their Ink Vac and started vacuuming our opponents! It looks like it’s my time! All I gotta do is pop out of the ink and–

puh-PLINK!
Splatted Mojo!
Splatted Toasterbird!
Splatted ShotPot!
Splatted Hurd-E!

WIPEOUT!!!

I stand as the tent shield disappears, shocked by what just occurred. No way. No way…! I… did THAT?! WHAT?!

“Luna! Don’t just stand there, they’re gonna come back!” Shadowind calls out to me, already repositioning to the top right of the stage, where their bridge is.

Strangely, Basil seems to notice something off about the Splat Zone itself. “I… don’t think we need to worry about that? The zone’s hissing.”

“Huh? Hissing?” I turn back to face her, curious as to what she’s hearing, “What do you mean hissing–”

…20, 19, 18, 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 987654321—
“GAME!”

Sparks fly out all of a sudden as the announcer calls the game. It’s a certified KNOCKOUT according to their rules! Nobody bothers to inspect the technology defining the Splat Zone anyways due to a tight schedule they’re running on. Oh well! It looked like that single shot I fired was also enough to cause our first match’s opponents to throw in the towel too, which makes things a lot easier for us as we continue on!

—--------

Our matches fly by so fast, each one just feels like a blur to me. One match we find ourselves in Undertow Spillway playing Tower Control with a haywire tower that zooms through the track (Basil managed to get a quad collateral here, I’m sure she’s gonna be the talk of social media for the next few days thanks to that!), the next I keep finding myself surrounded by clams in Clam Blitz on MakoMart just when the basket was supposed to close (Shadowind managed to dunk the final Power Clam to end the game, he’s so cool!), and the next match I’m suddenly riding atop Nolan’s Kraken Royale form as I get escorted to the enemy’s Rainmaker goal! It’s like all of our foes just crumble against us!

Then, it was finally time for the Grand Finals. A best of five match against players I’ve only heard of…! Our clashes against them were near effortless, and it was about time to settle the score once and for all!

Splat Zones

“Maintain zone control!”
[Hagglefish Market]

We emerge from our Spawn Launchers with grace and aura (i think that’s what they call “coolness” but like, in a cooler way (i’m like a lowkey gyaru, remember! But like i gain more confidence now thanks to my cool teammates!!!)). I stare at our opponents from the other side of the stage, smirking with a newfound confidence I built up over the course of the tournament.

“We got this in the bag, right Luna?” Shadowind looks at me, matching my confidence like an iced matcha latte!

“I believe in us like how we believe in you, Luna!” Nolan smiles sweetly, their twintails just baaarely shimmering in the light like mine!

“You’ve come a long way from when we first met you, Luna!” Basil says 4k-ingly, “Now let’s win this for Omega!”

“Yeah! Just follow my lead, everybody!” I say, already having formulated the strategy we need to take down… gasp!

Upon closer inspection of our opponents, I see…! Kyo?! And Bagel?! And also Lobster?!? And also also DOT QUEUE????? We HAVE to beat them, one of them was like, mean or something!!

We get ready to launch into our battle!

Ready…?

GO!

We all shout “FOR OMEGA!!!” as we make our way to where we all want to be positioned!

“Alright! Basil, you take the tent! Nolan, keep the sides in check! Shadowind, you’re with me through mid!” I rush towards the center of the stage, painting as I go while Shadowind covers me with his Tenta Brella canopies! Everything is going smoothly as planned, even with the Splat Zone no longer going haywire and ticking down super fast.

“I see Tri at left with 52, pressuring it.” Nolan keeps the left street in check as we continue our push without worry, though ‘without’ isn’t putting it too lightly when all of a sudden I hear Basil call out to me–someone had slipped her sight just once!

“Luna, watch out!” She shouts, hopeless to the flanking Slosher that she–ended up landing the shot on, “Wait, I got it.”

“OW, HOLY CARP!” Kyo cries out, sloshingly. His spirit flies back into the spawner really fast though I think he drank a tacticooler drink beforehand
“Let’s keep cool, everybody!” Bagel eases their team’s mind starburstingly, “Focus their Blaster, they like hiding in the tent shields!”
“了解。” says Lobster (TL: 了解。or Ryōkai means “you got it” in Japanese)
“I see their Blaster, popping wave under tent” Queue says dottingly, suddenly revealing my location to be… not underneath the tent she was standing on!

With the help of a little parkour skills, I sneak my way from the top left side of the stage to make a crazy flank! “Haha!” I laugh, confidently swimming up our opponents’ tent to get the jump on Queue, “Gotcha now-”

“Nope!” Suddenly, Queue turns around 180 noscope (get it cuz she was on liter for our last match) to try and get me! Man she’s good, it’s kind of scary!

Scary enough to let out an “Eeep!” out from me, my precious Vanilla Blaster desperately trying to block the shot that was sure to splat me point blank! But! Thanks to my long, sparkly tentacles, the sparkliness was enough to flashbang Queue and stun her for a bit!

“Ough… what was that…?” She tries to readjust to the sudden bursts of light, giving me the chance to take her down with a direct hit! BAM!

The rest of the team notices, and desperately continues their assault on the Splat Zone, neutralizing our control while I was off doing my epic parkour skills!

“Stay there, Luna!” Nolan calls out to me, “Pop your Big Bubbler! We’ll catch up!”

“Nah, I’m jumping to ya.” Shadowind proclaims, “but yeah, pop bubble!”

I can feel my long sparkly tentacles boiling with energy! Is it time?! It is! Time for me to activate my Special Weapon: the Big Bubbler!

fwish! bwomb!

The device flies into the air, creating a translucent barrier for me to stay in! Yaaaay, I’m safe! And also kind of ignorant to the fact that me and now Shadowind put Basil and Nolan in a 2v3, but they manage to retake the zone after a split second of Triple Inkstrikes retaking the zone. They’re just that good, hehehe!

Shadowind lands beside me, his tentacles also boiling with energy and hype, “They’re all gonna jump back to regroup, but I won’t let them!” His face scrunches with fieceness as his Special Weapon: Trizooka, manifests in his hands. “Now watch this.”

“Popping zooka”
Splatted Kyo!
Splatted Lobster!
Splatted Dotqueue (again!) (sorry!)

“Nice.” Basil witnesses the Trizooka collat as she swims forward to hold a new position, already setting up Ink Mines in case someone sneaks up on her again. “Someone’s behind me, I think it’s zap, help me out here”

Unfortunately, we have to double back to the zone to help out Basil, giving them another chance to push back. I can already see the glimmer of a Special Weapon ready from Kyo while Bagel keeps us distracted with their Tri Slosher.

After making sure Bagel was toasted and sent back to spawn, Nolan finally catches up to our wild chicken hunt, their twintails burn with hype and energy. “Dang, these guys usually kick our butts, it looks like our efforts are paying off!” They exclaim, “Also I got another vac ready to seal this off! You ready, Luna?” They unleash their Special Weapon: the Ink Vac, to help me get my way back in before the timer ran out!

“Oh you KNOW I’m ready!” I shout, shooting and swimming back to the enemy base while protected by Nolan, hitting direct shots all the way through! Pow! Lobster goes down! Puh-pow! Kyo goes down! POW! Queue takes another direct hit! And finally, just coming back from the spawn, I snagged one final splat on Bagel to wrap up Grand Finals with a 3-0 sweep against a pickup of a bunch of powerful ink battlers!

The sparks fly around the Zone. It was a certified KNOCKOUT! MOONLIGHT (the team, not me!!! I went by Luna so this wouldn’t be confusing!!!!!) WINS THE CUTIE MEW MEW BEAM TOURNAMENT!!!!!

By the time we exit Hagglefish Market, we’re greeted by a handful of inkfish and jellyfish congratulating us on our victory! Many of them compliment my sparkly tentacles, and some of them even propose to me on the spot! I counted like 20 inkfish and 35 jellyfish trying to woo me on the way back to Splatsville, but I can’t take ALL of them, they’re all just so precious and kind and loving, like me! Yeah, you heard me right then and here and now: I, Moonlight Blossom Delaware Rosewater Penrose Neodymium, am choosing to stay single! I may be like, 23ish or something, but there’s so much to living life than having a girlfriend or something! Like eating cheesecake, and dressing up like a gyaru but not really–okay more like really I do feel kinda like a gyaru because I slayed through the tournament thanks to Moonlight but ehhh that’s neither here nore there, hehehe!

The evening rolls around, and me, Basil, Shadowind, and Nolan are chilling our very own private locker room thanks to Nolan’s special credit card. We’re snacking away, watching a recording of all of our matches, and admiring the cute little cat girl figurines

we got as prizes for winning! I think second place got whatever the heck a Case Saying Teeter is, but I couldn't get a good look at their prizes when we left.

"Group pic time~!" Nolan smiles, bringing their phone up high so that the rest of the team can celebrate their dub today, "You get to be in the middle, Luna, because you're so cool and your tentacles are very sparkly and did I mention you smell like sakura petals and moon water? What brand of antiperspirant do you wear? It smells lovely!"

I smile with more confidence than ever, my face beaming with pride. I did it! I won my very first tournament with the team I admire so much! "Oh… thank you, Nolan! I just smell and look like this regularly, I think. Something about my genetics or something, hehe!" I look back to pick up the cat girl figure as something odd stirs in me while I hold it in my hands. She looks like she came from the moon herself, kinda like… oh, right the photo!

Nolan counts us down for the group photo, "Everybody saaaaaay, nya~!"

"Nya~!"
We all pose very cutely, while I do my signature wink and bunny ear and peace sign combo all gyaru like and stuff. The cat girl figure continues to haunt me still, but it doesn't do anything else to me by the end… up until we leave the lobby to part ways for the night.

—

We walk back into the city of Splatsville, the nightlife being not unlike a Splatfest except the whole 'Deep Cut is probably asleep right now' kinda deal. I pull out my rhinestone decorated phone to check the time. It's practically almost midnight, and the moon's reflection shows itself on the darkness of my screen. Something stirs within me again as I feel memories of another time filling my head. I guess they're mine for now…?

"Maaaan, we sure had quite the run today, yeah?" Shadowind affirms, putting his hands behind his head all chill like that, "You text Chara and Omega yet?"

"Already on it." Nolan pulls out their phone to text the two inkfish.
"Already DID it." Meanwhile, Basil pitches in, smiling at the rest of her team (and me!!).

As for me… I start glowing suspiciously. "Um… guys…"

Suddenly, I'm engulfed in a mysterious light…! My gyaru aesthetic is enveloped in a shawl of pure light as my outfit transforms from my dazzling blouse and oversized sweater to a beautiful pink kimono that flows in the wind. My sparkly tentacles grow and shimmer in the night as my transformation concludes; I have become someone unrecognizably beautiful. I float wistfully above the members of Moonlight, tears flowing down my cheeks while my tentacles continue to glimmer like stars.

"Umm… thank you all for a great day today! Basil, Nolan, Shadowind…!" I look at them as I float, the flowyness of my kimono and regal garb making me appear as if I were a lunar butterfly, "I wish you all the best of luck out there in your next tournament when Omega's back with you…!" Sad as I may be, I refuse to shed any more tears in front of the inkfishes I've gotten to know and care for within this singular day…

"What do they say again…? Uhh…"
"Jeejees……!!!!!!!!!"

My presence disappears into the moon, the soft smiles of Basil, Nolan, and Shadowind being the last thing my pearly eyes see as my final tears scatter into mist…
—
Moonlight Blossom Delaware Rosewater Penrose Neodymium disappears into the light of the moon, the three members of Moonlight looking at what once was a treasured friend they had made in a single day. Within earshot, they hear a familiar voice going 'ow' with every step, and another voice reassuring the other that they were going to be fine.

"O…kay," Omega says, being supported by one crutch and one ProChara, "So I lost one of my crutches in one of the Saizerikas in Inkopolis–don't ask how, it's kind of embarrasing–how was the tournament?" His presence alone makes the rest of Moonlight turn around, disbelief being painted all over their faces. Silence ebbs for a moment. "Umm…"

Nobody who had played with the Inkling with sparkly tentacles who suddenly transformed into a moonbound being of myth and folklore dared to speak, unable to comprehend what happened. It takes a bit but they all finally put the pieces together as Basil reports to Chara and Omega.

"…dude. I think our fourth was Princess fucking Kaguya."

"what?"

~ FIN ~