

Episode 026-Rondo's Ploy

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(the episode begins with both Lock and Rondo in stances as everyone watches on, smoke is still coming out of the hole in the ceiling)

Larina: After taking a barrage of energy blasts, Rondo summoned a massive blast of his own which resulted in a gaping hole in the stadium ceiling. Now both fighters are back where they started, staring each other down in the center of the ring.

Targon: This arena might not last through another round like the last one.

Larina: Good thing this place is insured.

(as Lock and Rondo are in stances, Breta and Tino continue to cheer Lock on)

Breta: Come on, Lock. You can do it, you're the best!

Tino: We're all behind you Lock!

(Lock seems to get some encouragement from that and he attacks Rondo, at first they trade blows but Lock soon gains the upper-hand, striking Rondo many times)

Juzan: Lock's doing great out there! He might actually win this match! Look out Ms. Hancock because Lock could soon take your place as Ozana School's last world champion.

(Ms. Hancock glares at him)

Juzan: I mean...you're way better than Lock is, he could never replace you.

Ms. Hancock: That's better.

Headmaster Ozana: It would be great to have another world champion at our school.

Musa: Lock's not doing this for our school, it's far more personal...

(in the ring Lock continues to hold a steady advantage over Rondo as they continue to fight at a fast pace)

Musa: Lock's doing this to prove to us all that he's living up to his father's name. Lock idolizes his father, and even though Aldar can't watch him fight, Lock believes that if he follows his father's footsteps and becomes the world champion it will mean he deserves to be called his father's son. And most importantly...Lock believes that if he truly proves himself...his father will return to acknowledge him.

(back in the ring Lock ducks Rondo's charged punch and kicks Rondo into one of the corner posts, Lock then warps in front of him and punches him repeatedly. Lock is hitting him so hard the corner post Rondo's against begins to crack slightly.)

Tino: Keep it up Lock!

Breta: You've almost got him!

(Lock throws Rondo back down to the ring floor and flies after him)

Rondo: (thinking) I've got to stop him!

(Rondo fires an energy blast at Lock, who stops flying to block it, while he's doing that, Rondo charges his aura and slams his palms into the ground, resulting in a shockwave of spirit energy that quickly moves around Lock in a circle)

Juzan: Oh no! Look out Lock!

Rondo: Imprisonment technique!

(the ring of spirit energy turns into a dome and Rondo is smirking)

Rondo: Trapped like a bug...now you're mine, Lock!

(Rondo's smirk quickly turns into shock however, as the dome is empty and Lock is gone)

Lock: Missed me.

(a shocked Rondo turns to see Lock on his side)

Rondo: Impossible! No one is that fast!

Lock: Now *you're* mine, Rondo!

Lock: (punching him hard) That was for the first student you injured! (hits him again) And that was for Tino! (kicks him flying into the air) That one's for Breta! (he warps behind him and does a flip kick that sends Rondo hard to the ring floor) That's for Juzan! (Lock warps in front of Rondo and grabs him by the collar) And this one's for me! (he gives Rondo a charged punch that sends him flying across the ring, landing hard. Drakon and his team watch on in disbelief while Ozana's team is cheering Lock on)

Juzan: Yeah! That's the way!

Musa: He's come back strong and is in firm control right now.

Larina: And Rondo goes down hard. Is this the end of the match and the tournament?
One...two...three.

Drakon: No! You can't lose to him Rondo!

Larina: Four...five...six.

(Rondo wearily gets up, spitting out some blood as he gets to his feet)

Targon: Rondo has made it to his feet by the count of six. Quite a feat considering the beating he just took.

Larina: It will be a huge upset if Lock brings Ozana School to a championship.

Ms. Hancock: That's the first time this entire match he was knocked down for more than a few seconds.

Juzan: Yeah, Lock's in total control now.

(Rondo is furious and flies upwards)

Rondo: You fool! Do you really think you can beat me!? I'll win even if I have to turn this entire arena into a scrap heap!

(Rondo charges his aura then prepares a massive blast)

Lock: What do you think you're doing? That's too big! (thinking) Even if I deflect it I might endanger the rest of the people here!

Breta: Tino, we've got to move! We'll be too close to the ring when that blast hits!

Tino: Let's get out of here!

(the two quickly move away from the ring)

Rondo: See you in hell!

(he fires his blast down at Lock as everyone covers up)

Lock: There's only one way to deflect this without endangering anyone else here.

(he charges a large blast of his own and fires it at Rondo's blast. The two hit dead on and the entire building shakes under the force of the power struggle.)

Juzan: That's too much spirit energy, the loser of this struggle will never survive.

(Rondo's blast begins to win over Lock's, the ring floor begins to crumble under his feet)

Musa: No, Rondo is winning.

Rondo: Haha, I can feel you giving in!

(he puts more force into the blast as Lock struggles)

Lock: (thinking) If I don't stop his energy blast, people here might be hurt or worse.

(Lock summons more strength after thinking about that and now his blast begins to overpower Rondo's blast)

Rondo: No! This can't be happening!

(with a final push Lock's blast completely overtakes Rondo's. It sends him flying through the hole in the ceiling)

Drakon: NO!

Breta: He did it!

Tino: Thank God.

Musa: Phew! That was a close one.

Ms. Hancock: If Lock hadn't stopped that blast, he would have lost the match.

Larina: Rondo has been blasted from this arena, I wonder if that was the end of the match?

Targon: Lock doesn't seem to be celebrating though...maybe that wasn't enough to finish off Rondo.

(in the ring Lock looks serious, like he's scanning the ring for something, all of a sudden there's a flash coming at him from behind)

Lock: Gotcha.

(Lock grabs the reappearing Rondo's punch and the two lock arms)

Lock: I knew that didn't hit you. You're far too fast, you just wanted me to believe it did.

Rondo: Well then try this!

(as the two are locked in arms, Rondo's eyes begin to glow, and he shoots energy beams from his eyes, Lock barley ducks in time as the blast cuts through the top of his uniform in the shoulder, he kicks Rondo into the air and then follows, the two trade blows at an extremely fast pace)

Tino: Keep it up Lock, you're doing great!

Breta: Yeah, stay on the attack!

(Lock hits Rondo back with a kick to the stomach and follows with a spinning backhand that sends Rondo down to the ring floor and he lands with a crash, Lock also lands)

Drakon: This is impossible. Where does Lock summon this kind of strength from? His spirit energy has increased every match!

Juzan: Lock's dominating, it looks like he's going to win.

Musa: Ever since Breta and Tino arrived to lend their support, the match has swung to Lock's favor. Never underestimate the power of friendship, Lock's care for his friends is driving his spirit energy to new heights.

Juzan: Hey! I've been cheering him on the whole time too you know! Maybe *my* cheers are what's giving him inspiration!

Musa: Um, calm down Juzan.

Juzan: Fine then, I'll just go back to searching for hot girls in the stands.

Headmaster Ozana: That's what I'm doing!

(everyone glares at him and Ms. Hancock shakes her head and sighs yet again)

Targon: Once again Rondo is down. One...two...three...four...five...six...seven.

(Rondo gets up)

Rondo: Somehow you've survived everything I've thrown at you. But there's no way you'll make it through this. (he begins to focus spirit energy into his fist)

Drakon: Yes, he's finally doing it. I almost thought he forgot about the Serpent's Fist.

Braun: Now Lock's done for, nothing can stand up to this.

(Rondo continues to put spirit energy into his fist and grins when he finishes, although he still has an orange aura, his fist has a red aura)

Lock: What the?

Musa: So, the Serpent's Fist reappears in the world tournament.

Juzan: Serpent's Fist? What's that?

Musa: It's Drakon's own personal attack, named after their school's symbol. Once mastered, it forces a higher aura level of strength into the bearer's fist. So now Rondo's right hand will punch with the strength equal to a charged red aura fighter's fist.

Juzan: Crap.

Tino: Uh oh, I don't like the looks of this.

Breta: Yeah, you said it.

Lock: How is that possible? His fist alone changed into a higher aura level.

Rondo: (grinning) Now let's see what you've really got.

(he attacks Lock, trying to punch him with his fist, but Lock ducks and dodges the hits)

Breta: There you go, keep moving!

Rondo: (annoyed) Ahh! Stay still!

(Rondo grabs one of Lock's arms to hold him and tries to punch him with the Serpent's Fist again but Lock ducks the hit and kicks Rondo back)

Lock: You can have all the strength in the world, but if you can't touch me it won't get you anywhere.

Rondo: Just wait! I'll get you eventually, you can't dodge forever.

Breta: Don't listen to him Lock, he can't hit you!

Tino: Yeah, you've got this match!

Rondo: (turning to Breta and Tino) Hey, shut up! Unless you want a piece of me again...just keep your damn mouths shut!

Lock: Hey, leave them out of this. This is between you and me.

Rondo: Ha, fine, once I'm finished with you, they're next.

Lock: That won't happen, you'll never get around me. I can tell you only like to pick fights with people weaker than you, but no more. I'm the one who will stop you from ever hurting people again.

Rondo: Heh, so you think your loyalty gives you strength? Well I think I just found your weakness.

(Rondo begins to laugh and rises into the air, laughing even harder he releases the Serpent's Fist and creates a large energy blast)

Juzan: Hmm, what's he up to?

Lock: (thinking) What's he doing. He tried this before and it didn't work.

Larina: Although it seems Lock has the upper hand in this fight, Rondo is now laughing at the top of his lungs. What in the world could he be up to?

Tino: Has he gone crazy or something?

Breta: I wish that were the case...but I think he's planning something. I've got a bad feeling about this.

Rondo: (still laughing) I'll prove your loyalty to your friends is nothing more than your own deathblow! Hahahaha.

(Rondo turns and instead of firing the blast at Lock, he shoots it at Breta and Tino, everyone is shocked)

Lock: Oh no!

(Lock flies at full speed towards the blast as Breta and Tino panic in fear. Rondo just smiles and charges his Serpent's Fist again. Lock makes it just in the nick of time and catches the blast with both hands, he struggles but forces it upwards through the hole in the ceiling. But Rondo was waiting for Lock to drop his guard and warps next to him.)

Juzan: Lock, look out!

Rondo: Serpent's Fist!

(Rondo punches Lock in the side with the Serpent's Fist, the blow is so strong it breaks a few of Lock's ribs and sends him flying across the ring, Lock is crying in pain holding his side, Rondo just smirks and releases the Serpent's Fist)

Rondo: I told you Lock, all that helping your friends did was leave you defenseless.

Drakon: Yes! I knew Rondo would think up a way to hit him with the Serpent's Fist.

Breta: No! Lock!

Juzan: What a cheap shot!

Larina: After saving his teammates from Rondo's oncoming blast, Lock has been hit with the Serpent's Fist and looks to be in a great deal of pain.

Targon: That punch is a devastating move, few opponents ever survive the force and it seems like Lock is the latest victim. I think this might be the end of Ozana School's chances in this tournament.

(Rondo lands and walks over to Lock who's still on the ground in pain, he picks Lock up and holds him up face-to-face)

Rondo: That was quite a little stand you made for a while. Some of those punches actually hurt, so now it's payback time.

(he punches Lock hard in his broken ribs)

Musa: This is terrible, every rib on Lock's side must be shattered right now. I can't imagine the amount of pain he's feeling.

Juzan: No, you can't lose now Lock, you've come so far.

Drakon: Haha, Lock can't even fight back.

(Rondo hits Lock a bunch of times in the ribs)

Rondo: You're so weak, it's pathetic.

(he goes to punch Lock again, but Lock warps behind him and tries to punch him, but Rondo blocks the hit and kicks him in the face, sending him flying across the ring)

Juzan: This doesn't look good. Lock's in serious trouble.

Larina: Lock is down. One...two...three...four...five...six.

(Lock wearily gets back up, keeping one arm on his injured ribs)

Lock: (thinking) Darn it, I won't give in. I can't lose this match. Everyone's counting on me. But I'm not sure how much I can do with these injuries, he definitely broke a few ribs with that hit, it hurts when I breathe.

(Lock gets into a stance, but one arm is tucked away to protect his ribs, Rondo flies at him, Lock tries to defend himself but can't guard against Rondo's hits while guarding his ribs, Rondo breaks his defense easily and hits him many times. Lock is pummeled many times and Rondo finishes with a charged fist that hits Lock directly in the ribs and sends him flying across the ring again.)

Rondo: This is just getting too easy.

Breta: No, hang in there Lock.

(Lock is on the ground and Rondo approaches him again, standing over him, Rondo kicks Lock's arm off covering his ribs and fires a continual energy blast on Lock's ribs for a while as he screams in pain)

Juzan: Master Musa, does Lock still have a chance to win?

Musa: Honestly...I don't think so.

Juzan: Lock...

(Rondo stands over Lock and steps on his ribs, the episode ends with Lock screaming in pain as Rondo steps on his broken ribs, Rondo seems to be in complete control and has Lock at his mercy)