

Episode 047-Return to the Tournament

Written by Jeff Jubinville

Copyright 2009, All Rights Reserved

(the episode begins with Lock in the advanced class doing pushups alone, Musa enters and sees him working out)

Lock: Four hundred ninety-eight...four hundred ninety-nine...five hundred. There I did it!
A new record!

Musa: What are you talking about? You've done more pushups than that before.

Lock: (getting up) I know, that was the first time I ever counted so high.

Musa: (smiling) Right. Well, at least you're serious about getting a silver aura before the tournament.

Lock: Yes I am. For the last week I've been coming in before class to train early. But this is our last day before the tournament starts, I don't think I'm gonna make it.

Musa: The day's not over yet, Lock.

(the rest of the class enters, Hanzo is once again last)

Musa: Alright everyone, as you all know tomorrow we'll be facing Drakon School in the grand martial arts tournament. Since we only have ten remaining students in the class I won't have to make any cuts, you're all on the team. This is our last day, so I won't work you too hard. Instead of sparring you'll work by yourselves. Push yourselves to get stronger, but remember you'll need your strength for tomorrow so don't go overboard.

Juzan: Finally we get an easy training day.

Musa: Oh and one more thing, here are the team patches that go on your belts. If any of you don't know how to sew or just want to be lazy, bring them to my office after class and I'll do it for you.

(she hands out the patches to everyone except Lock. When she offers one to Hanzo he doesn't take it.)

Hanzo: I don't want one.

Musa: But you have to, it's a tradition here.

Hanzo: I'm fighting in this tournament against Drakon because I have my own score to settle with him, I don't care about this school or its' traditions.

Musa: Fine Hanzo, I won't force you to take one. I'll keep this with me though and if you ever reconsider just let me know.

Hanzo: Don't hold your breath.

Musa: Alright class, let's train.

(the scene then shows everyone training very hard to a music video. The whole time Hanzo is practicing his punches and kicks, he's glaring at Lock. Lock is punching and kicking extremely fast, he keeps charging his aura, trying to break into a silver aura but cannot. Lock has many flashbacks of the incident at Drakon, and what all those students did to him. Lock looks upset but is still unable to change his aura. The scene would end after a few minutes of showing everyone working hard.)

Musa: I'll end things early today. Everyone go get some rest. Tomorrow meet me in the parking lot at seven. Class dismissed.

Lock: (punching through a pile of break-stones) Darn it! I failed! I couldn't reach a silver aura.

Musa: It's alright, Lock. You did your best. It's not the end of the world. Just expect a tough fight tomorrow.

Lock: I know. Do you think we still have a chance though? You said if I didn't have a silver aura we wouldn't win.

Musa: I may have been exaggerating a little bit to motivate you, but it will definitely be an uphill battle. If you're in a close fight against someone because you have the same aura power, Drakon will find more opportunities to use the committee against you. If you had a silver aura though, you could probably handle any of his students with ease so there would never be an opportunity for the tournament committee to get you.

Lock: Can I train the rest of the day on my own? Maybe I still have time to make it?

Musa: No, I want you to rest Lock. You're going to need every ounce of your strength tomorrow.

Lock: (depressed) Alright.

Musa: Don't get too down on yourself, Lock. Who knows, maybe tomorrow you'll become the first student in this school's history to win the tournament with a red aura?

Lock: (thinking) If my dad couldn't win the tournament with a red aura, what chance do I have?

(the scene then shows Lock, Tino, and Juzan in Lock and Tino's room)

Juzan: I don't know how we're gonna do this year. Drakon's fighters wrecked us that day at his school. *And* he didn't even have his full team fight us. *And* the whole time we were injured his students were training. *And* he has the tournament committee under his influence.

Tino: Yeah, but at least we get to fight one-on-one in the tournament. When we all got injured it was like a hundred on four.

(Breta enters carrying a plate of sandwiches)

Breta: Hey guys, dinner is served. I've got grinders for everyone, they're fresh made.

Juzan: Mmm...fresh made, sounds like French maids.

Tino: Thanks.

Lock: Thanks a lot Breta.

Juzan: Mmm...Breta as a French maid. (he pictures that)

Breta: Pervert.

(Lock and Tino laugh)

Breta: Where's your roommate, Juzan? I didn't know if he would be here or not, but I've got an extra sandwich for him.

Lock: (grabbing it) Not anymore, it's mine.

Tino: I still can't believe Hanzo opened up to you Lock and told you all those things about his past.

Lock: I think it was good that he did, I got the feeling he was keeping it bottled up inside for a while.

Breta: It makes sense, he flipped out that one time when I mentioned his parents...

(flashback)

Breta: (sarcastically) You're parents must be real proud, Hanzo.

(that remark instantly makes Hanzo furious and he grabs Breta by the throat)

Hanzo: Never...and I mean *never* mention my parents ever again!

(he throws her down as the flashback ends)

Breta: Now that I know where all that was coming from, I feel sorry for him. I even went up to him yesterday and apologized.

Tino: How'd he take it?

Breta: He said I could take my apology and shove it up my...well you get the idea. He said he didn't want my sympathy.

Juzan: I don't get him, I mean Lock you've had a wicked rough life and you're not a jerk to everyone. It's too bad that those things happened to Hanzo, but that doesn't give him the right to be a jerk all the time.

Breta: Yeah, that's true.

Lock: You know, I feel like we're having our last meal before getting the chair. Or the last supper before the crucifixion.

Juzan: What do you mean?

Lock: I'm not sure we're gonna make it out of this tournament, even Master Musa doesn't think we have a good chance at winning. Drakon's fighters are just too strong. And it's so frustrating because we've all worked so hard. And now because Drakon bought some ringers for his team we're gonna lose again, it's just not fair.

Breta: (thinking) Boy, Lock seems really down. I guess he really thinks we don't have a chance of winning this year. And he's as honest as they come, so for him to say that...we really must not have a prayer. (speaking) Don't worry too much about it, Lock.

We'll know how good Drakon's team is when the time comes. Tonight we should all just relax and not stress over it.

Lock: Yeah, I guess you're right.

Juzan: I know what we can do to lighten the mood. I'll invite the cheerleaders! Breta, go make some more sandwiches.

(Lock and Tino laugh as Breta just glares at Juzan as the scene fades out. The next day students are gathering in the parking lot.)

Juzan: You still look depressed Lock.

Lock: To tell you the truth I am a little depressed, Juzan. Everyone was counting on me to be strong enough to stand up to Drakon's fighters. But I failed them all...just like I failed everyone last year in the finals.

Tino: Don't be so hard on yourself, Lock.

Juzan: He's right, Lock. Besides, if we go down, we'll go down fighting.

Lock: (smiling) Right.

(Breta meets up with them)

Breta: Sorry I'm late guys.

Juzan: What held you up?

Breta: Nothing really, it just takes time to get ready every morning. So how do I look?

Hanzo: (walking up from behind) Like Kung-Fu Barbie.

(she glares at him as he snickers)

Lock: Never mind him, you look perfect just like you always do.

Breta: Thanks.

Tino: You know guys, we might stand a better chance this year than we think. Drakon might have a better team than he did last year but so do we. All of us have a higher aura level than we did last year and we have another fighter with a red aura on our team. If you think of it like that things don't sound so bad.

Juzan: We also have cheerleaders this year...that's the best improvement of all.

Tino: Where are all the cheerleaders? Aren't they coming as well?

Juzan: Yeah, Maxi told me they had to get to the arena before us to practice their routines so I think they've already left.

Lock: You're right about our team being better this year Tino, who knows, maybe today will be the day we finally get back at Drakon?

Tino: I sure hope so, he's so evil.

Breta: Totally, I mean anyone who walks around in a cape is evil.

Lock: Except for Action Man.

Breta: (sighing, sarcastic tone) Yes, except for Action Man.

Juzan: I could see Hanzo in a cape. Do you own a cape, Hanzo?

Hanzo: Shut up.

Lock: And vampire teeth, a cape and vampire teeth. (he picture Hanzo like that)

Hanzo: (glaring at Lock) Idiot.

(Headmaster Ozana comes over)

Headmaster Ozana: Okay everyone, today is our day of victory! Everyone hurry over to the buses! Let's show the world what great athletes we are!

Musa: Advanced class follow me.

(Headmaster Ozana starts walking over to a bus but gets winded quickly and all the other students walk by him. Lock and Breta sit together, and Tino sits with Juzan, Hanzo sits alone as the bus drives off. Eventually it stops in front of the tournament stadium, a large sign in front of the stadium reads: Drakon School vs. Ozana School, Grand Martial Arts Tournament. Inside the arena is completely filled with people, some cheering for Ozana and some cheering for Drakon. The Ozana School cheerleaders are already inside the ring cheering, Targon and Larina are standing just outside the ring.)

Targon: So anyway as it turns out it actually was a pimple.

Larina: Um Targon...we just went live.

Targon: (embarrassed) Uh! Umm...back to you Larina.

Larina: Anyway, welcome everyone to another grand martial arts tournament between Ozana School and Drakon School. This is your lovely, and still single, ring announcer Larina!

Targon: And I'm Targon, happily married but always looking for someone better. So far neither team has entered the ring, but we are expecting things to begin shortly.

Larina: The last tournament between these two teams saw tons of incredible action, and there's no telling what this year will bring.

Targon: I can see Ozana School's team emerging from one of the entrance tunnels.

(Musa leads her ten fighters out of the tunnel and into the arena. Many people cheer for them. The cheerleaders are now next to Ozana School's waiting area and go nuts for the team, especially Juzan which makes him smile. All of the Ozana fighters look very focused as Musa leads them into the ring where they line up.)

Larina: My sources tell me that Lock is still the school champion.

(that comment makes Hanzo glare over at her for a second)

Targon: According to the roster sheet Ozana's team is almost the exact same one as the previous year.

Larina: Which is the complete opposite of Drakon School. They have an almost entirely new team of fighters this year.

Targon: And here they are, Drakon School's team is now entering the arena.

(as Ozana's team watches on closely Drakon's team emerges from one of the other tunnels, Dredsor is directly behind Drakon. His team looks very confident and very powerful. Drakon leads them into the ring and they line up to the cheers of the audience. Drakon and Musa stare-down each other. Each main hero's face is shown, first Breta, then Braun, then Juzan, then Rondo, then Hanzo, then Dredsor, then Lock. Lock's face is reflecting from Dredsor's glasses as the two stare each other down.)

Drakon: (looking at Ozana's team) So, the rumors were true after all. I don't know how you all managed to heal in time for the tournament but now that I think about it, I'm glad you all made it. Yes, this is perfect, injuring you all kept you from training so I'm assuming you're all basically at the same aura levels as before. And now the entire world will be witnesses to your demise at the hands of my team. I will get to see you all fail a second time.

Lock: You'll see. We're fully recovered and we're ready for whatever you can throw at us.

Drakon: (smirking) No you're not.

Targon: Both teams are more powerful than last year, this tournament should be off the charts.

Larina: It's difficult to imagine a more exciting tournament than last year, but that being said, if any teams were to put on a better show it would be the ones standing before us.

Targon: I think both teams are ready for the rules.

(he and Larina begin to enter the ring as the scene changes to Headmaster Ozana and Ms. Hancock in the viewing areas)

Headmaster Ozana: This year we can't lose.

Ms. Hancock: I'm not too sure about that, Drakon's team is extremely stacked.

Headmaster Ozana: Our school hasn't won in eight years, we're due for a win. I remember our last grand champion, a female I believe, and a very beautiful one at that!

Ms. Hancock: That was me!

Headmaster Ozana: Oh yes, that's right. (he looks around suspiciously then whispers to her) I'll give you twenty bucks to fight on our team this year.

Ms. Hancock: Somehow I don't think the tournament committee would like that...then again, Drakon bribed most of his fighters.

Headmaster Ozana: Exactly, and two wrongs make a right. I want to make sure my team wins this year.

Drakon Senior: Your team will never win!

(Headmaster Ozana and Ms. Hancock turn around to see Drakon Senior, who looks like a smaller, much older version of Drakon walking over to them)

Drakon Senior: Harry Ozana!

Headmaster Ozana: Drakon Senior!

Ms. Hancock: Oh, come on! You've got to be kidding me!

Drakon Senior: So, it looks like we meet again, Harry...or should I say baldy! Hahahaha!

Headmaster Ozana: (gasp), (whispering to Ms. Hancock) I think he knows this is a comb over!

Drakon Senior: You're as bald as my wife!

Headmaster Ozana: You take that back! I may be old and bald now-

Ms. Hancock: Don't forget fat.

Headmaster Ozana: And fat, but I'm still stronger than you!

Drakon Senior: Boulder-crap! I'm the stronger one.

Headmaster Ozana: Hogwash! I'm in the best shape of my life, why I've got the body of a hundred and fifteen year old!

Drakon Senior: Well I've got the body of a hundred and seven year old! So there!

Headmaster Ozana: Why you! Now you've crossed the line! I'm going to ruin you like I ruined Ozana School's parents association!

(the two start slap-fighting until Ms. Hancock sighs and lifts each one up by their collar)

Ms. Hancock: Now behave you two. (she puts them down)

Headmaster Ozana: After this tournament, it'll be you and me racing in the streets! Just like old times!

Drakon Senior: You're on! I sport around town in an electric wheelchair now!

Headmaster Ozana: Well I've got a rascal four-thousand! And after our victory tonight, I'm going to party until the wee hours of eight...maybe even eight thirty!

Drakon Senior: You crazy reckless fat man.

Headmaster Ozana: I may be fat and crazy but...wait, what else did you call me?

Drakon Senior: (scratching his head) I don't remember.

Ms. Hancock: Sir, I think we should take our seats, it looks like the tournament will begin soon.

Headmaster Ozana: The what?

Drakon Senior: What's she talking about?

Headmaster Ozana: (to Drakon Senior) What?

(Ms. Hancock covers her face with her hands. Back in the ring, the bracket it being shown by Targon and Larina)

Larina: At this time we will go over the rules for the tournament. All matches will be one-on-one, fighters will be eliminated for being knocked out of the ring, being knocked down in the ring for ten seconds, or by submitting to their opponent. Also, the tournament committee will disqualify any fighter for cheap-shoting their opponent.

Juzan: (thinking) They mean for cheap-shoting a Drakon student.

Targon: Now let's take a look at the bracket.

(here's how the bracket breaks down, Oz S=Generic Ozana Student, Dr S=Generic Drakon Student)

Tino/Dredsor

Oz S/Nissa

Juzan/Dr S

Oz S/Rilos

Breta/Braun

Hanzo/Kaiden

Oz S/Saben

Oz S/Triboun

Oz S/Rondo

Lock/Dr S

Lock: (to Musa) Master Musa, I thought Ozana School's school champion fought first.

Musa: It changes back and forth every year.

Breta: (thinking) I'm fighting Braun in the first round!?!...This is too perfect!

Tino: I'm fighting Drakon's school champion right off the bat! I'm gonna get killed!

Hanzo: Like you would have won against anyone else on Drakon's team.

Breta: Don't lose faith, Tino. Upsets are possible.

Hanzo: Heh, yeah right.

Larina: Would both school champions come to the center of the ring?

(Dredsor walks forward and Lock does the same, and as he does Hanzo angrily makes a fist)

Targon: Are your teams ready to begin the tournament?

Dredsor: Yes.

Lock: Same here.

Dredsor: Be smart and quit now.

Lock: We'll never give up.

Dredsor: Don't say I didn't warn you.

(both champions return to their teams)

Larina: Everything is ready ladies and gentlemen. It's now time for the grand martial arts tournament between Drakon School and Ozana School to begin!

(end of the episode)