

NXT Takeover: Respect Preview

For some reason I don't think I've ever done one of these for a Takeover. These things are the NXT pay per views though so it's definitely worth looking at a little bit closer. This one does feel like it's slapped together and really not necessary, but at least you have a series of big matches that should eat up a lot of time. Let's get to it.

Let's get the smaller matches out of the way first.

I'll take Asuka over Dana Brooke. Brooke has been built up as a threat but Asuka feels like something special. I'm not saying Asuka is going to be the next top challenger, but I'll take her over Eva Marie's comedy show any day.

Apollo Crews over Tyler Breeze, though Breeze really needs a big win at some point.

As for the main event, of course Bayley wins though Sasha is likely getting a fall here or there. I'm sure the ending will have a bunch of drama, likely with Bayley locked in the Bank Statement with time running out and wondering if she'll give up or not. There's no way they're taking the belt off of her yet though. There has never been a repeat champion in NXT and I can't picture it happening now with Sasha looking like she's going after the Divas Title.

Now for the tournament, which could go more than one way. We'll start with the only easy match in the field: Jordan/Gable beat Rhyno/Corbin. They've got something special with Gable and I think they know it. There's no way they're going to put Rhyno and Corbin over them and into a final they have no chance of winning.

That brings us to the more complicated match as Finn Balor/Samoa Joe face the Mechanics. It's no secret that Balor and Joe are going to be feuding at some point in the future. However, the question becomes do they lose and argue over whose fault it was or do they win the whole thing and then fight over who was the more important member of the team? Or do they win the whole thing and then Joe gets a shot as a sign of respect? I'm not

sure if they win the whole thing or not, but I do think they advance to the finals.

So that leaves Joe/Balor vs. Gable/Jordan for the title. I think I'm going with Gable/Jordan here as they're a good choice for the next challengers to the titles and you can have Balor vs. Joe at the next Takeover. Or, they go with Gable/Jordan but a DUSTY FINISH gives it back to Joe/Balor. Seriously if they don't go with a Dusty Finish at some point, I'm going to be disappointed.

Overall this show feels....unnecessary. This feels like they're giving Full Sail a Takeover to make up for Brooklyn because they're afraid Full Sail will be offended. I have confidence in NXT to pull something off though and they're guaranteed to have some entertaining matches along the way, but I'm hoping we don't have another one of these for a good while. Like until London in late December.

Remember to follow me on Twitter @kbreviews and pick up my new book of Complete 1997 Monday Night Raw Reviews at Amazon for just \$3.99 at:

<http://www.amazon.com/dp/product/B015IN12I2>

And check out my Amazon author page with cheap wrestling books at:

<http://www.amazon.com/Thomas-Hall/e/B00E6282W6>