

Middle Kingdom Wrestling – May 11, 2016: What I Asked For

Middle Kingdom Wrestling

Date: May 11, 2016

Location: CWE Gym, Dongguan, China

Commentators: Eddie Strong, Cam Ferguson

This promotion is in a kind of weird place as they haven't had much storyline stuff this season but the standalone shows have been more fun and definitely better presented than a lot of the stuff from last season. I still like what I'm seeing and the shows are still short enough to make these easy sits. Let's get to it.

Standard opening sequence.

Len Bai says something to someone named Tony Trivaldo but I could barely make any of it out. I'm not sure if I was supposed to understand this but if I was, they REALLY need to work on their audio.

Trivaldo, a French wrestling champion, is here to go after Bai for hurting Dalton Bragg's arm.

In something you don't see every day, we cut back and forth between the two as they respond to each other. Bai isn't scared and Trivaldo promises to make Bai regret this. Then Bai bites into something that looked like a piece of chicken.

Len Bai vs. Tony Trivaldo

Trivaldo is definitely the face here and does a decent enough job of playing to the crowd early on. Some armdrags take Bai down to start but he blocks the third as Strong talks about how this has been brewing for some time but thankfully Ferguson points out how weak of a line that is. A dropkick puts Bai on the floor but he comes back with a snapmare and basement dropkick for two as the announcers keep bickering.

Off to a reverse cross armbreaker but Trivaldo powers him up into a sitout powerbomb before nipping up and completely failing to get the crowd to clap with him. Well at least he's trying. Bai counters a backdrop into a DDT and fires off strikes to cut off a comeback (During which Trivaldo tried the clapping thing again and got NOTHING. This time he even looked at the crowd as if to say "come on work with me here." Again, the fact that he's trying is what matters.). A running basement dropkick in the corner before we hit the Figure Four Neck Lock on Trivaldo.

Back up and Tony uppercuts him before trying to get a chant going, only to have a few fans tell him he sucks. Bai grabs a guillotine choke so Tony throws him with a northern lights suplex. Back up and a German suplex sends Bai flying and he pulls off the turnbuckle pad for a cool visual. Apparently Eddie kicks the turnbuckle pad away, thereby screwing up the audio in the process. Well he can't do everything around here. Bai sends him head first into the exposed buckle setting up a spinning fisherman's brainbuster (minus most of the busting) to give Bai the pin.

Rating: C. I was liking the match and there's something cool about seeing people who you'll never likely see otherwise getting a chance to show off in something like this. It also helps to have two people who clearly have some ring experience as it can be kind of tiresome watching people who aren't entirely sure what they're doing. The turnbuckle thing was fine for an ending, though I really hope they don't get rid of Ferguson like they were suggesting in the annotations on Youtube, as he's pretty regularly the most entertaining thing about the show.

We recap the events that set up the six man that has been shown in the opening sequence on every episode of this season. Ash is still mad at Da Li Sam for costing him his tournament match last season by sending him into the post. Then Black Mamba cost Ash a match against Jason....and then it gets a bit confusing. There's something about a mystery partner and Andrew Tag, a champion from another promotion. One of Ash's partners seems to think he's a superhero. I think Sam and Mamba are teaming with the other champion and Ash's partner (along with the superhero) is still a mystery.

Overall Rating: C+. Yeah I know there was only one match on the show but the key thing here was the addition of the storylines. The match had a story and there was a story setting up the match next time (as confusing as it was). I know they're not the most interesting stories in the world but it's better than "here's a tournament match". I still don't know the characters well enough but even the simplest stories are a step up.

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