

Lucha Underground – October 24, 2018: Like He's Five Years Old



IMG Credit: Lucha Underground

Lucha Underground

Date: October 24, 2018

Location: Lucha Underground Temple, Los Angeles, California

Commentators: Vampiro, Matt Striker

It's a big night here as we have the final regular show before Lucha Underground. There's even a title on the line tonight with the Gift of the Gods Title up for grabs in a seven way elimination match. Other than that we're going to be seeing a bunch of build towards the biggest show (or shows I guess) of the year. Let's get to it.

The opening video looks at the seven names in the Gift of the Gods Title match.

Next week: Son of Havoc vs. Killshot in a mask vs. mask match and the Trios Titles match.

Gift of the Gods Title: King Cuerno vs. Big Bad Steve vs. Hernandez vs.

Aerostar vs. PJ Black vs. Jake Strong vs. Dante Fox

The title is vacant coming in and this is under elimination rules. Fox starts fast by kicking people in the face, including one to put Strong on the floor. Cuerno and Black double team Fox to slow him down before heading outside. That leaves Fox to hit a springboard imploding flip dive onto the pile for the huge crash. Back in and Hernandez rocks Fox back and forth before running him over. That's fine with Fox, who backslides Hernandez for the pin at 2:29.

Back from a break with Strong starting to clean house and everyone fights to the floor. The camera cuts back and forth between the various fights, including Strong powerbombing Fox against a wall. Steve and PJ get back in with Famous B. slipping Steve a wrench to clean house. Aerostar gets a shot as well but it's Strong coming back in to ankle lock Black for the elimination at 7:13.

Strong snaps the ankle for fun and we take another break. Back again with Strong and Steve slugging it out until Cuerno comes back in for a kick to Strong's face. Cuerno and Steve team up on Aerostar with Steve hitting a pop up cutter and Cuerno adding a dropkick. That means it's time for the two of them to slug it out with Cuerno getting the better of things, as you probably expected. Steve's vest gets opened up for the hard chops but a double clothesline puts them both down.

And now here's Drago with a forklift (and a helmet, because safety first) to raise Aerostar WAY up (as high as you would be on top of a cage at least) for the dive onto Cuerno and Steve. That's enough to eliminate Steve at 13:14 and we take another break. Back again with Strong forearming Aerostar in the back and slowly stomping Cuerno. A powerslam gets two on Cuerno and the ankle lock goes on with Aerostar making the save so more people can fight Strong. That means an ankle lock for Aerostar, who taps at 17:04. We're down to Fox, Strong and Cuerno, who knees Strong in the head as we take another break.

Back again with Cuerno watching Aerostar be taken to the back as Fox's knuckles are bleeding. They all get in with Cuerno knocking both of them to the floor for the big suicide dive on Strong. Fox goes onto the top of

the entrance and hits a big flip dive to take both guys down again. Cuerno is thrown back in and a 450 gets two with Strong making the save. The Thrill of the Hunt gives Cuerno two on Fox but he misses a running knee in the corner.

Strong is back in with the Vader Bomb, only to have Fox hit a springboard middle rope cutter for two. One of the longest Swantons I've ever seen hits Strong's raised knees and for once, it hurts the person's knees. Cuerno kicks both of them in the face and everyone is down again.

Strong wins a three way slugout but gets double dropkicked to the floor. The Fox Catcher (scoop brainbuster) gets rid of Cuerno at 28:51 and we're down to two. The fight starts on the floor with Fox hitting a dropkick off the apron. A jackknife cover gets two as the fans are behind Fox...who gets caught in the ankle lock for the eventual tap at 33:04 to make Strong champion. Fans: "THIS IS BS!"

Rating: B-. I liked the match, but it's kind of hard to argue with the fans' opinion at the end. Strong hasn't exactly been impressive in his time around here but he's been given the strongest push of anyone not named Matanza. It feels like the old TNA days with a WWE reject coming in and taking over, which isn't the right way to go in a place like this. The rest of the match was entertaining and Fox looked great, but Strong winning was about as obvious as you could get. I understand why they did it, but that's not the most interesting thing in the world.

Strong breaks his ankle for a bonus.

Johnny Mundo is on the roof when Aerostar appears. He says Johnny isn't ready for Matanza and will be just another sacrifice to the gods. Johnny says he doesn't need a partner but here's Drago with the gauntlet (Remember that?). Mundo puts it on and says he feels like a god before playing with it like he's about five years old to end the show.

Overall Rating: C+. I can go with the idea of the one match show as you don't want to overdo the builds that are already set up. That being said, the match we got wasn't all that great but the Mundo gets the gauntlet stuff was fun and the right call. I'm wanting to see Ultima Lucha, but one more video package or series of vignettes might have helped. The

season is ending just about when it needs to and that's a good sign.

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