# Elimination Chamber 2025 Preview

The Road To Wrestlemania continues as we have one of the biggest shows of the year. In this case it means putting six people into the Elimination Chamber for a Wrestlemania title shot. Other than that, we have something of a multi generational dream team against some villains, a major unsanctioned fight and something about a wrestler selling his soul. Let's get to it.

## <u>Tiffany Stratton/Trish Stratus vs. Nia Jax/Candice LeRae</u>

It says a lot when a legend like Stratus coming back to her hometown is the least important match of the show but that is the case this time. The big point of this match seems to be getting Stratton a win over some villains after being evil for so long. That is going to be a stretch, but having her out there with Stratus is going to be about as likely of a scenario as you're going to have.

There is a grand total of no reason to believe that Jax and LeRae are winning here so I'll take the blondes, with Stratus pinning LeRae for the win. The specifics aren't going to matter all that much, but what matters here is making Stratton look like a star. She'll do that and hopefully wrap up the feud with Jax and LeRae for good. Stratus can get the feel good moment and that's all it needs to be.

## Sami Zayn vs. Kevin Owens

There are certain matches that just work in wrestling and this is one of them. You can have these two out there in a crossword puzzle contest and it would work out well. Just let them do their thing and go nuts against each other, with Owens hurting Zayn again and leaving him needing someone else to come after him. Perhaps at Wrestlemania in the form of Randy

Orton.

As for the winner, I think I'll go with Zayn getting the win, only for Owens to lay him out again after. The winner here doesn't really matter as it's more about the two of them getting to fight each other, which is going to work well. It's the idea that works out every time and they have a rather good reason to want to fight each other, which should only make it better.

#### Women's Elimination Chamber

As usual, this is going to be a process of elimination. We can write off Roxanne Perez for not being ready enough, Morgan for having her feud with Ripley been done to death and Naomi is just not going to get a Wrestlemania title shot. That leaves us with Alexa Bliss, Bianca Belair and Bayley, which should make for an interesting set of options. It just doesn't leave us with a clear favorite.

I'll take Belair here, as she is the best of the three available options. Bliss vs. Ripley would be a big stretch due to the size issues so we can probably rule that out too. Bayley is probably the best second option as her feuding with Ripley could go in a few different directions, but Belair feels like the best bet. That is absolutely a Wrestlemania level title match that we have not seen at this level so it could be worth a look. I'll go with Belair, but it's far from a sure thing.

#### Men's Elimination Chamber

This one is a lot more tricky as it's harder to eliminate anyone off the top. Priest would be the only name who would not feel like he has much of a shot so we can probably knock it down to dive. That leaves us with a bunch of possible ways to go and that is a great sign for the match. I really could see it going in almost any of those directions and that has me very curious.

I'm actually going to eliminate Cena, as I don't think he makes the most sense here. If he didn't win the first guaranteed title shot, it doesn't quite fit to see him win the second. Paul can have a big featured match with someone he has ticked off and Rollins vs. Rhodes just doesn't feel like a Wrestlemania match this year. That leaves us with Punk and McIntyre and....I think I'll go with McIntyre, who needs the big win and also opens the door for Punk to use his favor from Paul Heyman, whatever that might be. So yeah McIntyre wins in a match that really could go in a lot of different directions.

### **Overall Thoughts**

There isn't a long card here, but between the two Chamber matches and the Rock/Cody Rhodes segment, they should be able to fill the time in well enough. As for Rock/Rhodes, there was a line on Smackdown where it sounded like Punk was asked if he would sell his soul, and given his obsession with main eventing Wrestlemania, that very well could be the fallback option for Rock. It would be a big twist, and that might be what this show needs to really get it over the hump. Otherwise, we should be in for a good show, as the big stuff is going to start soon.

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