

Ninja Turtles Episode 2: Enter The Shredder

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Well, we're on episode two and the good news is I haven't lost interest in reviewing these episodes yet. The bad news is I still haven't realized that it would be a good idea to start writing the reviews before Tuesday.

In this episode a few more iconic Ninja Turtle elements are brought in. Bebop, Rocksteady, and Krang are introduced and we learn a bit more about the origins of the turtles. Oh, and if you ever wondered what Krang was like before he got his body, this is the episode to watch. Or at least one of the episodes to watch. He doesn't get his body until episode 5, so that's another two and a half body-free episodes after this one

Episode 2 opens with the turtles napping. Well, actually it opens with the turtles trying to nap. Unfortunately for them, April shows up and rudely wakes them up. The guys just spent the previous day kicking ass and saving her from evil robot ninjas, and she doesn't even have the decency to let them sleep in. Noooooo, she has to get her story. Well, the turtles hide their annoyance at being woken up well, but they quietly stick it to her impatient ass through masterful stalling. Michaelangelo starts slow by refusing to do anything until after breakfast and Leonardo increases things by pointing out that they don't eat until after their training. Maybe if she hadn't been so rude waking them up they would have been quicker to help her.

After the training and breakfast of pizza topped with breakfast cereal, April and the turtles head out to investigate the Technodrome, but when they get there they discover it has disappeared, presumably through a large Technodrome-sized tunnel. April wants to chase it down, but the turtles decide that they should go consult Splinter.

Meanwhile, Shredder back in the now mobile Technodrome ranting about the turtles kicking the crap out of his ninja-bots in the previous episode. Half way through his rant he is summoned by everyone's favorite disembodied brain. After a bit of bickering, Shredder agrees to build a body for Krang in exchange for advice in dealing with the turtles. Krang recommends that Shredder use the mutagen to create powerful mutants capable of defeating the Ninja Turtles.

I'm sure you can guess where this is going. I'll give you a hint: they aren't talking about Tokka or Rahzar.

Back in the sewers, Splinter realizes that Oroku Saki must be behind everything and decides that he should go with the turtles. The turtles protest, but Splinter counters by saying that Oroku Saki is the most cunning and dangerous man he knows. This bears repeating, simply because it is so ridiculous. Oroku Saki, AKA The Shredder is the most cunning and dangerous man he knows. There are two possibilities here. The first, which is admittedly very unlikely, is that Oroku Saki is the only person Splinter has ever met. The other possibility is that Splinter is a dirty liar. I know it's not cool to disrespect Splinter like that, but if my choices are calling Shredder competent and calling Splinter a liar, I choose the latter.

And so, April heads back to the news room, and the gang of mutant heroes go after the Technodrome. But at the city zoo trouble is brewing. Evil robotic unicycles sprout forth from the ground and drag away a rhino and warhog. Three guesses what Shredder does with these.

After a good deal of tunnel following the turtles and Splinter find their progress blocked by what appears to be a cave in. Splinter sends the turtles to the surface to find a way around while he uses his super rat powers to burrow through.

In the Technodrome, Shredder recruits Bebop and Rocksteady to take part in an experiment that promises to make the strong enough to beat the turtles. The soon to be mutants are strapped into chairs as the rhino and warhog are brought in. Shredder comments that they might have trouble getting dates and ominously opens the canister of mutagen.

Elsewhere, the turtles manage to find a manhole and crawl into the busy street above. After narrowly avoiding getting run over at least forty-two times, the turtles slip into a back alley where they notice the building where April works next to a huge pizza billboard. Anyone wanna guess which they noticed first?

Inside the Channel 6 building, April is getting bitched out for missing three days of work. Her boss, whose name I'm too lazy to look up, decides not to fire her, but to instead send her to report on the zoo robbery. Outside, the April runs into four turtles in insane disguises. With no pants. April tells them about the robbery, and they "boogaloo";

While the turtles were busy dressing like idiots, Splinter managed to find the elusive Technodrome, but is captured insanely quickly.

It's ok though. The turtles are hot on the trail. Once they get inside the Technodrome, Shredder puts the turtles through a variety of tests that prove two things: the Ninja Turtles kick ass, and Michaelangelo has insanely powerful nunchucks.

After decimating Shredder's robots, the turtles finally find Splinter, but before they can rescue him, Shredder comes in with some Foot soldiers. Shred-Head invites them to join the Foot Clan, claiming that he was in fact responsible for their mutation. It was him who dumped the mutagen into the sewer in an attempt to kill Hamato Yoshi (Splinter in human form). The turtles refuse, of course, so Shredder sickens Bebop and Rocksteady who run headlong into one another, knocking each other out. With the two idiots unconscious, the turtles kick the shit out of all the Foot Soldiers.

Back on the surface, the turtles are once again attacked by Bebop and Rocksteady, but because the two are both idiots, it takes the turtles about 10 seconds to lock the both of them in a zoo cage just in time for April to show up and realize she missed all the good parts. After they leave, a unicycle-bot shows up and rescues Bebop and Rocksteady.

Wow, that was a long summary.

This episode wasn't quite as good as the first, but still rocked. Since this episode introduces Krang, I can't with good conscience give it anything lower than an A. So I'm giving it an

A.{mos_fb_discuss:3}