

The LaRusso Chronicles
based on The Karate Kid, 1984
by Jason Charnick
jason@upstartfilmcollective.com
323.309.5678

A lone narrator enters stage left as we hear low over the speaker the opening song from The Karate Kid movie.

NARRATOR: You all remember that classic children's tale, right? A product of the best Hollywood has to offer, during much simpler times... 1984. *(pause)*

During the pause, a light shines on the stage, revealing a young Daniel LaRusso quickly running through some of the more famous scenes in the movie... first packing up.

NARRATOR: Daniel LaRusso was an eager youngster. A street-wise Jersey kid thrust into a world he never made.

We now see Daniel getting picked on by three Cobra Kai dressed in skeleton costumes.

NARRATOR: Pushed further than any one man can bear, he had only one choice... to strike back. Helping him would be a street-wise old Asian fellow who mysteriously developed a thick accent after selling his 50's themed diner in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

We now see Daniel & Mr. Miyagi go through a brief training montage.

MR. MIYAGI: Wax on! Wax off! Paint the fence!!!

Daniel huffs and puffs while obeying his master's orders.

NARRATOR: Soon the day of reckoning was upon them.

DANIEL *(to narrator, interrupting):* Hey dick! I did have a girlfriend, ya know? Help a brother get some ass! Sheesh!

NARRATOR: Ah yes, the lovely Ali... with an I. She had taken a break during her various Adventures in Babysitting to cheer her new fella on.

Ali comes out tosses a soccer ball to Daniel and, plants a quick one on him. Immediately, a group of Cobra Kai run through, knocking the two of them apart.

ALI: When are you jerks gonna grow up?

NARRATOR: Where was I? Oh yes, the day of reckoning. It was reckoning pretty hard that day, and it eventually came down to a one-on-one showdown with Johnny Lawrence in a fight to the death... or three points. Whichever came first.

Focusing back on the action, we see Daniel lining up next to Johnny waiting for the referee to start the action. A row of Cobra Kai are behind Johnny, each shouting their catchphrases.

KAI 1 (*completely fucking psychotic*): Get him a body bag!!! Yeah!!!!

KAI 2 (*Black gay guy, lisping*): I'm Lamar from Revenge of the Nerds!!! Clap your hands, everybody! Everybody clap your hands!!! Yay! Go Nerds!!!

KAI 1 (*even more psycho than before*): Kill him!!! Fuck yeah!!! Tear him apart!!! ARRRRRGGGGHHHH!!!! (*He pulls out a knife, and frantically stabs the Kai next to him*)

SENSEI: Finish him!!! Sweep the leg!!! No mercy!!!

Daniel lines up next to Johnny in full crane technique position, and cracks Johnny with the winning hit. The original music from the movie plays out over the speakers while we watch Johnny hand the trophy to Daniel. Everyone freezes while the lights go dark, focusing back on the Narrator.

NARRATOR: We all remember that historic day when the underdog finally triumphed over the bully. David over Goliath. The Devil Rays over the Red Sox. But whatever happened to Daniel LaRusso after that fateful night?

AUDIENCE MEMBER 1 (*interrupting*): He saved Mr. Miyagi's village in Okinawa! Remember that drum thingie?

AUDIENCE MEMBER 2: He defended his title against that psycho in the third one!

AUDIENCE MEMBER 1: Didn't he date Hilary Swank in the last one before she became a boy?

NARRATOR (*cutting them off*): Shut the fuck up! Do you want to ruin this for the rest of the audience? (*ignoring them*) Yes, whatever became of young Daniel LaRusso and his karate master... isms? Still in Reseda (and wouldn't you stay if you lived

there?) let's take a quick peek into Daniel's current comings and goings...

The stage light now open on an older Daniel looking in the mirror as he prepares for work. He is wearing a nerdly looking button down white shirt, clip-on tie, and slacks. Ali with an I enters...

ALI: Good luck on your interview, honey.

DANIEL: After all these years, I'm still not used to going on a new job interview.

ALI: C'mon, you'll do fine. Who knows? Maybe this will finally be the place where you can make some new friends.

DANIEL: Or new enemies.

ALI: Stop being such a sour puss. Now go out there, and paint that fence!

Ali smacks Daniel right square on the rump, and sends him on his way.

Daniel arrives at the office and introduces himself to the receptionist.

DANIEL: Hello, my name is Daniel LaRusso. I have a 10 o'clock appointment to interview for your open phone technician position.

RECEPTIONIST: Sure thing. Have a seat right over there, and I'll let Mr. Kreese know you're here.

DANIEL (*pauses momentarily*): Mr. Kreese?

RECEPTIONIST: That's right. Do you know him? He used to be a karate world champion, you know!

DANIEL: No. Uh, I dunno. Might have read about him in a magazine or something.

Daniel, sullen, makes his way over to the seating area, where he grabs a magazine as he begins to sit down.

RECEPTIONIST (*into phone*): Mr. Kreese? Yes. Your 10 o'clock is here to see you. OK, I'll send him right in. (*to Daniel as he is*

in the process of sitting): You can go right in. His office is straight down the hall.

DANIEL (*still amazed at the identity of his prospective employer*): Uh, yeah, thanks.

Daniel walks down the corridor and takes a deep breath before knocking on the door.

KREESE: Come in!

John Kreese, once an all mighty and powerful karate champion and leader of the dreaded Cobra Kai, sits at his desk, now a beaten and broken man, thanks to Daniel's past heroics, wearing a short sleeved dress shirt and clip on tie. He pours himself a drink from a bottle of Jack Daniels sitting on his desk, as Daniel enters his office.

KREESE: Mr. LaRusso! What a pleasure to see you here! Please, please have a seat!

Daniel, very apprehensive, approaches Kreese's desk and sits down.

KREESE: It's been quite some time, Mr. LaRusso.

DANIEL: Yes, uh, I suppose it has. Look, I hope there are no hard feelings from-

KREESE: Do you how long I've been waiting for this moment. For a time to come when we might meet again. I don't see your bodyguard around here to protect you.

DANIEL: We haven't spoken in quite some time. He found this other girl who needed to learn karate you see, and I-

KREESE: You know, I want you to know that I made some very important life changes after we last met, Mr. LaRusso. Got my life together, turned things around. (*takes a belt of JD*) Stopped drinking. Got this job here, as head of custodial duties at Schumway International. A step down from my previous position as head of unoriginal ideas and classic TV ripoffs over at the CW, but I digress. (*yells out of his office*) Tommy! Get your ass in here!

Tommy, the grown up version of Kai 1 from earlier, comes into the office.

TOMMY: Yes, sir. *(long pause as Kreeese stares him down)* I mean, YES, SENSEI!

KREEESE: Tommy, I want you to show our old friend Mr. LaRusso around the office and-

TOMMY *(interrupting, excited):* Get him a body bag?

KREEESE: All in due time, Mr. Callahan. All in due time.

Daniel gets up, and follows Tommy out the door apprehensively.

KREEESE: Welcome to the company, Mr. LaRusso.

Kreeese begins laughing maniacally.

The lights fade and then come back up quickly as we see Daniel and Ali in bed.

DANIEL: I just don't know if I can work with these guys, Ali.

ALI: Don't worry about it so much. I'm sure they're all grown-up, professional adults now. Besides, you need the work.

DANIEL: I guess you're right.

ALI: Now come over here and wax my floor, baby.

Daniel leans over and starts making his move. As they get hot and heavy, Tommy leans up into the bedroom window.

TOMMY: Must be take a worm for a walk week!

DANIEL: Here we go again...