

Ethan Murphy may have been booked like a star with matches against notable Asylum Society Wrestling talent like himself but he didn't feel like a star anymore. Not really. He lost track of hadn't won a major match in months. Either by taking a direct loss or by being seen as the outsider in a triple threat match. While his championship paranoia of being rendered irrelevant turned out to be just that. Paranoia. What was happening to him right now was very real. A losing streak.

Losing streaks were dreaded in wrestling because they affected how you were viewed by the fans. The people who paid to see you and took time out of their days to watch you wrestle. Not to mention that the more matches you lost the less important you looked to management. Which puts you further behind the line for title shots. Not good for wrestlers like Ethan who at once held championship titles with pride.

Don't get me wrong. Ethan would try to find peace with family and friends who would do their best to take his mind off of things. And of course he had a girlfriend at home who loved him dearly to let him know there was more to his life than just wrestling but even that was cold comfort to him because at the end of the day, when all was said and done Ethan Murphy was still a wrestler. No he was more than that. He was an AWS Lunatic! He was just an AWS Lunatic on a losing streak. So the way he saw it Ethan had two options. Either get sad...or get even

Which is why for the upcoming AWS Monday Night Ward show in the Crow's nest in Las Vegas he chose to get even. This spelt out bad news for TJ Alexander. Ethan didn't have any personal issues for "The Game Changer." In all honesty TJ was even one of Ethan's favorite wrestlers to watch. But recently he has become a pain in his ass. Getting in his way of attacking Drake Nygma and getting championship glory. Drake Nygma wasn't off the hook by any means but TJ Alexander was his focus after what went down at Day Zero

So his promo started off with a recap of Ethan's Day Zero match against Drake and TJ. Particularly the finish of the match. Him giving TJ that fateful pop-up powerbomb only to eat a Nightmare Drop by Drake which led to a pinfall victory by Drake as well. But then Ethan's voice was heard in the background once the clip stopped.

Ethan Murphy: Believe it or not I don't blame Drake Nygma for my Elite Championship loss. I blame TJ. I had to react since he was dumb enough to let himself get caught off guard by Drake. The time I spent attacking him was time I could've spent focusing on Drake. I blame YOU for my loss TJ. Not him at Day Zero.

Then Ethan appeared in what looked like a Las Vegas alleyway. A quiet area from all of the bright lights and flash of the strip. Not far from The Crows Nest venue that AWS Ward would be in but unique for Ethan Murphy. The same Ethan Murphy who was staring intently at the camera in his street clothes, getting down to business by being as direct as possible. Talking about TJ Alexander and blaming him for why he lost the Elite Championship

Ethan Murphy: For the first time in a long time I'm going into a wrestling match not just starving to win because believe me I AM. But I'm not angry. Oh no I'm beyond angry at this situation because I'm not the Elite Champion right now. I'm FURIOUS. Why? Because I'm furious because despite me doing everything right in our triple threat match at Day Zero. Despite taking and giving more pain than **anybody** in that match I lost because I had to fight on two fronts!

Ethan was usually level-headed in his promos for the most part at least. Intense and passionate because he loved being a professional wrestler but never at the risk of losing his cool but weeks upon weeks of losing had taken its toll on him. To the point where when he was talking about his defeat at Day Zero his teeth were visibly gritted, his face had an enraged scowl, and he was yelling more and he hadn't too long started talking either. All while deflecting blame from himself which was a rarity for the "Red Rocket."

Ethan Murphy: And I expected better from you TJ Alexander. "The Game Changer." I remember when AWS first signed you. They rolled out the red carpet for you, management saw you as someone they could push as a superstar Lunatic *quickly* and the fans loved you. They took to you faster than they took to me and DEFINITELY faster than they took to Drake. Hell I heard more "TJ" chants than I heard chants for me and Drake in our Day Zero match. And how did you repay your fans? Taking your eyes off the ball and letting a man who is one of the biggest opportunists in this damn company push you into me. You're supposed to be smarter than that. More aware than that. Now I don't see you as championship material. I see you as an overrated joke who I can beat to get my career back on damn track at Ward!

And then came the insults! Straight disrespect from Ethan to TJ over what happened at Day Zero combined with Ethan's need to win at Ward. He was making his mission quite clear on that front. But interestingly Ethan was lobbing insults at a wrestler who didn't do anything **WRONG**. TJ was caught off guard by Drake, true enough but to deflect blame like that. Especially since Ethan ate a Nightmare Drop seconds later which led to Drake pinning them both wasn't like Ethan, who usually bared whatever losses he had onto himself but not this time. He was blaming other people for a triple threat loss of all things! That wasn't unlike the purehearted Ethan the AWS fans had come to know and love.

Ethan Murphy: Which is why I love that we're in a one on one match at Ward TJ. Because not only do I get a chance to redeem myself and kick your ass to take out my anger on you and expose you as one of the most overrated wrestlers in the entire Asylum Wrestling Society! One on one, my motivation and fury against yours. And Drake Nygma I hope you stay Elite Champion just long enough for me to take it off of you because god knows you have nothing to worry about if TJ's coming after you. Ward is coming up soon. Bring your best TJ because you know I will...

And those were the last words that Ethan said before walking out of the alley. Camera watching him.