



LEXX- THE DARK ZONE

Canada/ Germany 1999

Episode: "STAN'S TRIAL"

Summary: Sci-Fi with an attitude!

The tyrants who rule the Light Universe pass their essence onto their successor upon their demise, while their still-conscious brains are kept in a vault; their chief resource is Lexx, the most-powerful mobile weapon in the universe, which can only be commanded only by the keeper of the hand-key. The previous incumbent wiped out the Brunen-G race, except for Kai, whom he kept in a state of amnesiac suspended animation, to be revived by proto-blood for short periods and used as an assassin. Into this background comes anti-hero Stanley Tweedle, an ignored non-entity clerk, who misses an appointment and is branded a criminal. In the dungeons, overweight Zev has been convicted of not fulfilling wifely duties, and is being transformed into a gorgeous, svelt love-slave. Meanwhile, captured terrorist Thodin, due for public execution, escapes with his gang's help, and causes chaos, setting into motion Tweedle's accidental theft of Lexx and new ownership of the hand-key, Zev's escape with her new body and the characteristics of a giant reptilian attack worm but before mind-wipe (which goes instead to a robot head), and Kai's release to combat the terrorists before his memory returns! Tweedle, Zev, the lovesick robot head, Kai, and the stolen tyrants' brains head off in Lexx to vaporise tyrant planets and find a place for themselves in the Dark Universe, while searching for a supply of proto-blood before Kai expires... Written by Cynan Rees {cynanrees@hotmail.com}

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This episode highlights Lexx's ability to do what other shows cant, by taking a tried and tested formula and managing to execute it in a way that it is contrastive to how it has been done before. It gave some much-needed background on Stanley and how his actions unintentionally had catastrophic effects on the universe.



(Nina Franoszek as Jihana & Make up Artist)

Season 2 Episode 2-06:"STAN'S TRIAL"

Original Airdate: Originally aired in the United States on April 21, 2000

Genre: Sci Fi TV series

Runtime: 60 min (65 episodes)

Director: Srinivas Krishna

Writers: Lex Giggeroff & Paul Donovan

Cinematography: Les Krizsan

Composer: Marty Simon

Design: Gerry Kunz, Ingolf Hetscher

Production: Salter Street Films, VOX, Sci Fi Channel

Producer: Norman Denver

Executive Producer: Paul Donovan, Wolfram Tichy

Cast:

Brian Downey as Stanley Tweedle

Xenia Seeberg as Xev

Michael McManus as Kai

Jeffrey Hirschfield as 790

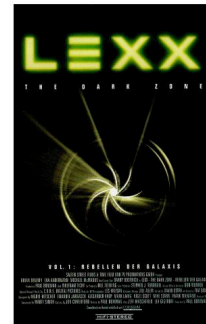
Guest Stars:

Nina Franoszek as Grand Prosecutor Jihana

Susanna Metzner as Lissha

Benjamin Sadler as Nool





The episode starts off with the all too familiar Stan seeking release and desperately looking for the Seles Pleasure transport, which he had used before when he was a Ostral B Heretic. Xev was looking extremely bored and disinterested as lets face it, there is not much to do on the Lexx.

When he finally finds its location with the Xev factor help of 790 we see one of the most unusual space stations you will ever see, shaped like a woman's body from just below the thighs to the neck in all its metal splendour. Xev says before he leaves "have fun mighty Captain of the Lexx" not knowing how wrong she could be. Cue the cool and very fitting music and Stan heads toward the Station, we don't see where he docks but I think I have a pretty good idea as the Seles Transport vessel fires its thrusters to face the Moth. The entire trial was carried out very well without using too many clips from the movies, which can all too often ruin an episode. The sets and costumes were very well designed with the courtroom having a very traditional look contrasting well with the technology they used throughout the trial.



The Grand prosecutor Jihana played by Nina Franoszek gave a disturbing but brilliant performance making her character easy to hate as any good villain should be, by corrupting the jury, dismissing Stans defendant and even going against the final verdict. In a quite horrific scene she kills one of the girls that worked there to "keep her going for a while" firmly asserting our feelings that she is evil and definitely not a normal prosecutor here for justice.

Kai was very well used with his only guide being that of his knowledge of justice, much to the frustration of Xev. He had no motivation for saving Stan, as his efforts were solely directed to making sure justice be made. Kai had lots of great lines like "I am well qualified to speak to very simple one. It was when Stan was about to be rolled away for execution and Kai says "Goodbye Stan" with no emotion, no regrets and no care for the consequences. Xev replied strongly whilst knowing her efforts were futile, but as usual she never gave up for the cause by following Kai down the corridor and trying to persuade him to save Stan. With the climax to the episode not disappointing with Jihana biting off more than she can chew by instructing security to kill Xev and Kai, which gave Kai the excuse he needed to save Stan. The final scene rounded off the episode perfectly with Kai explaining that he would have also killed Stan had he asked him to be the enforcer of justice.

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