KIMAGURE ORANGE ROAD DISC 10, EPISODES 37 – 40

Episode 37 – Heroic Orange Legend! Madoka's Duel in the Blizzard. (12/14/87)

"Heroic Orange Legend! Madoka's Duel in the Blizzard."

The Japanese phrase used in the title, "Ninkyooden," refers to those tales in which the hero saves the weak, helpless victims while bringing down the powerful aggressors - a common theme in samurai and yakuza flicks!

"A...Ayukawa! Let me go with you!" - Kyosuke

"No... Please don't accompany me. 'Tis a duel that must be woman to woman." - Madoka

The scene is a parody of mediocre samurai flicks (eg: the ones AnimEigo doesn't release). The speech, manners, music and scenery are all too typical.

"What're you doing, loafing around?! Have you found Oryuu or what?!" - A-ko

"Oryuu" is a common ancient name for women that often turns up in samurai movies. In the script, "Oryuu" is written using the kanji for "dragon." "O-" is a typical, archaic prefix for female names.

"It's obvious you're trying to make Manami pity you!" - Hatta

"What a pitiful punk you are!" - Hatta

"You should talk! Go pet a loach or something!" - Komatsu

This sequence relies on a pun - "doojoo" means "sympathy," "pity," etc., while "dojoo" refers to a small eel-like fish (called a "loach" in English).

"We're twin bagworms." - Komatsu and Hatta

A bagworm ("minomushi") is the larva of Thyridopteryx Ephemeraeformis, a moth species that causes hefty damage to trees. During its larva stage, it forms its own 'sleeping bag' using plant materials and silk. The tubular bag grows as the larva grows.

"That Oryuu girl... I just heard she got snatched! Madoka! You're going to save her, aren't you?! Please take me with you!" - Yuusaku

Yuusaku's headband reads "Hisshou" or "Victory."

"To the construction site in Green-Ward! Floor it!" - Policeman

"Ushiko! Wherefore art thou, Ushiko?" - Umao

"Umao! And, wherefore art thou, Umao?" - Ushiko

Note here that Umao is playing a woman's role, while Ushiko's playing her male lover!

"Oryuu the 'Cup-n-Ball' Ace is a good-for-nothing now!" - A-ko

"Kendama" is the children's wooden toy seen here. It has a ball (with a hole in it) attached by a string to its wooden handle that has two 'cups' and a pointed tip at its end - the object is to place the ball on the cups or the tip. Seasoned players can do this very quickly, time after time.

It is a common motif that Sukeban girls all have their own special weapons. A-ko uses a skateboard, Madoka uses guitar picks, and in one episode, a chunky Sukeban uses bowling balls!

Episode 38 – Kyosuke Timetrips! The Third Christmas. (12/21/87)

"Say, Kurumi... there'll be big fancy cakes with gadzillions of strawberries, canapés with ikura, roasted chicken legs... and it's all 'All-U-Can-Eat!" - Komatsu "Ikura" is salmon roe, somewhat like caviar..

"Yattana, Pureibooya!" ("Oh! You've done it, Playboy!") - Komatsu

"I had so many choices that I had a tough time choosin'!" - Kazuya

The romanization of "Playboy" is "Pureibooi," and Japanese word for "boy" is "booya," so "Pureibooya" works as a pun.

Episode 39 – Hypnotizing Madoka! Kyosuke's Risky New Year. (01/04/88)

"I woke up to the sound of my stomach growling. The fact that I didn't have my First Dream of the New Year made me feel like I'd missed out on something big." - Kyosuke

Tradition has it that the content of the "hatsuyume," the dream one has before waking up on the New Year's Day, determines how the rest of the year will go.

"How about some Ozouni? Or some Otoso, perhaps? Please tell me how I may serve you, Master." - Madoka

"Ozouni" (a clear soup with mochi, or rice cake, inside) and "Otoso" (a drink consisting of Sake and Chinese herbal medicine, said to supposedly take care of illness for the rest of the year) are traditionally served during the New Year's week.

"Clearly, the Otoshidama is tempting but then, Ayukawa in a Bunny costume is not to be missed...!" - Kyosuke

On the New Year's Day, adults give Otoshidama to children - These are cash gifts sealed inside special envelopes.

"Oh, it looks so good! I'm such a sucker for Soba-noodles!" - Kyosuke

Soba-noodles are very thin buckwheat noodles which are almost always eaten by dipping them into a cup of sauce.

"This must be my first time... To be like this... To enjoy Toshikoshi Soba-noodles together with someone." - Madoka

Soba-noodles served on New Year's Eve are called "Toshikoshi" (literally "Crossing over the year"). Since soba are long, they symbolize longevity. Eating the toshikoshi soba is a traditional rite to wish longevity and good health.

"Say! Say, you, my New Year's Eve Girl! Wanna go do the Kanetsuki with me tonight?" - Komatsu

"And after the clang, let's cling!" - Hatta

"Kanetsuki" (literally "Ringing of bells") are just one of the New Year's Eve festivies that are celebrated at Buddhist shrines and temples.

The "tsuki" in "kanetsuki" comes from the verb "tsuku" which means "to hit," "to strike," etc., as in ringing the bell using a hammer. A homonym of "tsuku" means "to stick," "to unite," etc. - Hatta's implication here is that he wants to get intimate with the girl.

Hatta's line is a pun which relies on alliteration, which we tried to preserve during translation!

Episode 40 – First Dream of the New Year! Jingoro the Giant Monster Strikes Back! (01/11/88)

"T.A.P. Gun! Witness a miracle, in the voices that sing!" - Narrator

"Finally Opens Today at Toho Theaters Nationwide! Toho Advance Tickets Selling Fast!"
This type of display is exactly what Toho uses in their theatrical trailers, and the narrator is Toho's regular trailer narrator!

"First Dream of the New Year! Jingoro the Giant Monster Strikes Back!"

The title is in reference to the second Godzilla movie (released 1955). Godzilla movies were among the earliest monster-genre films produced and distributed by Toho.

While Sagisu Shiroo, a popular composer/arranger who is credited with hundreds of hit records, supervised the music to KOR, this particular episode consists of music written by Ifukube Akira, a celebrated composer of soundtracks to many Toho monster films. Viewers may immediately recognize tunes from the first Godzilla movie.

Around the time the episode aired, an 8-volume CD set called "Ifukube Akira - Complete Collection - Toho Live Action" was being released by Toshiba EMI. Mr. Ifukube has been composing for films without interruption since the 1940's!

"In the days when creatures we now call "Monsters" were just beginning to surface..." - Caption The Japanese caption is not the translated version of the onscreen English caption. Thus, our translation reads considerably different from it!

"If I could just get a snapshot of it and sell it to the tabloids... What a scoop it'll be! What a great deal!"- Hatta

"You said it! You said it!" - Komatsu

The pun here is based on the two phrases: "toku-dane" = "special news item" "toku da ne" = "Isn't that a bargain/good deal, etc."

"All right, kids! You aren't supposed to fight! It's snack time now. Today, we're having powdered

skim milk!" - Hikaru

General MacArthur visited Japan after WWII and recommended that wheat flour and milk products be added to the Japanese diet (previously, it was limited mainly to seafood and vegetables). The US began donating flour and powdered skim milk in the late 40's, mainly to schools. UNICEF began similar efforts in the 50's, subsidizing lunch programs for millions of school children nationwide.

The downside to all these humanitarian efforts is that many schools could only offer essentially the same menu for students on everyday basis - Powdered skim milk, for instance. Hence the children's reaction in this scene!

"I'm sure that the Black Fighter will protect us all. Yes, Kyosuke... I know who you really are. The fact that you risk your life in your work, for our sakes... That must be your way of showing your love for us." - Hikaru

Aside from being a "Top Gun" parody, this episode also pays homage to "Tiger Mask," an anime show about a wrestler-in-disguise, which aired between 1969 and 1971. Kyosuke and Hikaru's roles, his car, the school - these are all references to this classic!

And believe it or not, Tiger Mask (the main character) was played by none other than Mr. Tomiyama, the voice of Mr. Kasuga!

"In preparation for the battle in our homeland, we at TAP HQ shall be calling the creature 'Monster G' from now on." - Takashi

"Why not 'X,' 'Y' or 'Z?' Why 'G?" - Kyosuke

"Monster G" is an obvious reference to Godzilla.

The White Hart Pub

This is a reference to Arthur C. Clarke's Tales from the White Hart stories.

"Dr. Yamane, a biologist, has made the following comments:"

Dr. Yamane was the biologist in the first Godzilla movie.

"How could a cat pop out of the sea?! A cat from the gulf? From the gulf comes a cat...? Oh! I get it! A SEAGULF!" - Takashi

"Commander, we'll return to your tasteless jokes later..." - an officer

The original joke in Japanese is based on the words "umi" (sea, gulf, ocean, etc.) and "neko" (cat). "Umineko" refers to a sea gull. We tried to render this dialogue in such a way to preserve Takashi's "tasteless" attempt at humor!

"Just sit, relax, and leave everything to me!" - Kyosuke "Dad! I'm gonna do it!" - Kyosuke

"You weren't supposed to say that!" - Takashi

"Dad! I'm gonna do it!" is a classic line that comes from a 70's anime show - Kyojin no Hoshi. Most Japanese recognize the source, as the show (and its sequels and reruns) is immensely popular even to this day.

There is an added twist to this, since Mr. Furuya, the voice behind Kyosuke, was the voice actor who uttered this deathless line in the original series!

"Sure Death Technique: Super Dimensional Comet Pegasus Major League Attack #1!" - Kyosuke The "technique" line refers to numerous anime shows, such as Kyojin no Hoshi and Gatchaman. It's an Anime cliché for the main characters to announce (and explain!) his/her "hissatsu-waza" (sure-death technique). Also, buried in the technique name is the technique used by the character "Seiya" in "Saint Seiya," voiced by none other than Mr. Furuya.

"Oh! Shot down! A plane's been shot down! The leader of TAP GUN, the squad that creamed Yojira and Redon Captain Ayukawa Madoka has been shot down by Monster G!" - Announcer "Yojira" and "Redon" are spoofs of "Gojira" (Godzilla) and "Radon" (for obvious reasons, it's spelled Rodan in the American release), respectively.

Trivia: "Radon" (or "Rodan the Flying Monster" as it's known in US), released on December 1956, was Toho's first monster movie shot in color.

"That's right! We terminate them. And you call us 'These kinda guys?!" - Komatsu "So, okay, won't you, er, just a li'l..." - Hatta

The scene immediately following the above was cut from the final version.

Manami: Say, that man who's chatting with Master... Is it true that he's Captain Ayukawa's former lover?

Komatsu: Yup! Always count on me for such info! I'm not known as "Komatsu the Ear from Hell" for nothing! "The Black Fighter..." Nobody knows who he is exactly... All we know is that he's Japanese. He gets paid to fight the monsters... basically a professional monster-terminator... From what I hear, he's also popular with children. He was once a member of the American TAP Gun team too. Captain Ayukawa was also a member there, when she was in the States... so I'm sure that's where they met.

Kurumi & Manami (in unison): A-ha... Kurumi: I wonder, how far did they go? All (unison): ...uh-huh... WHAT?!

"Jingoro..." - Kurumi and Manami

The song comes straight from the movie, "Mothra," and the words (it is NOT Japanese!) are exactly the same, except for "Jingoro" being used in place of "Mosura" (the Japanese romanization for "Mothra").

Here are the actual words to "Mothra's Song":

Lyrics: Yuki Koji Music: Koseki Yuji

Performed by: The Peanuts (Ito Emi & Ito Yumi)

Mosura ya mosura Doungan kasakuyan Indoumu
Rusuto uiraadoa
Hanba hanbaamuyan
Randabanunradan
Tounjukanraa
Kasakuyaanmu

"I cannot believe that he is the last of the Jingoro... Ha! I've always wanted to say that line!" - Takashi

This line comes from the ending of the first Godzilla movie. Toho likes it so much that when they built their theater park, they inscribed the words on a plaque underneath the commemorative statue of Godzilla that stands at its entrance!

"I ejected, just before impact. I... consider myself quite lucky." - Madoka Careful viewers will notice a super-deformed Madoka (among other goodies!) appears for one frame at the moment her plane explodes.

Opening Theme: Kagami no Naka no Actress "Actress in a Mirror"

Lyrics & Music: Nakahara Meiko
Arrangement: Nishidaira Akira
Performed by Nakahara Meiko (Courtesy of Toshiba EMI)

Usually, I spend precious nights sitting beside you as you drive along. Your cancellation call smelled of a lie. I hung up, pretending not to notice.

My manicure, now dried, is going to waste; its color will just decorate the night.

A-HA-HA...

I'm the actress in the mirror.

Though I should say what I really feel,
hesitation whispers in my ear.

"Cause I love you..."

I'm the actress in the mirror.

The more I put on an act, the further away I get from my true self.

"You've broken my heart."

Itsumo nara anata to sideseat de kuruma o suberasu precious night. Cancel no denwa ni uso no nioi. Kizukanu furi de kitta wa.

Kawaita ato no manicure no iro. Munashiku yoru o kazaru dake.

A-HA-HA...

Kagami no naka no actress. Hakkiri ieba ii no ni tamerai ga mimi moto de sasayaku.

"Cause I love you..."

Kagami no naka no actress.

Enjiru tabi ni sugao ga
hanareteyuku.

"You've broken my heart."

A-HA-HA...

I'm the actress in the mirror.

I wish I could bring myself to cry, but I change what I say to fit my tough act.

"Cause I love you..."
I'm the actress in the mirror.
I've realized my tragic mistake,
yet I cannot return.

"You've broken my heart."

A-HA-HA...

Kagami no naka no actress. Isso naketara ii no ni tsuyogari ga serifu o kaeteyuku.

"Cause I love you..."

Kagami no naka no actress.

Tsumi no fukasa ni kizuite

modorenai wa.

"You've broken my heart."

Ending Theme: Dance in the Memories

Lyrics & Music: Nakahara Meiko
Arrangement: Nishihira Akira
Performed by Nakahara Meiko (Courtesy of Toshiba EMI)

"I just dance in the sweet memories" (Sweet memories)

At a train station on a faraway day, snowflakes dance on the platform, and you came running, out of breath.

The days we've been apart changed my memories of you to ones full of smiles, like seeing pictures of you.

"I just dance in the sweet memories" Each time we're hurt we learn... "I just dance in the sweet memories" ...what it takes to love someone.

"I just dance in the sweet memories"
(He's my one and only; you never can tell)
"I just dance in the sweet memories"
(Sweet memories)
"I just dance in the sweet memories"

"I just dance in the sweet memories" (Sweet memories)

Yuki ga odoru 'form e iki o kirashite kaketekuru. Tooi hi no station.

Aenai hibi ga shashin no yoo ni anata o hohoemi ni kaeta no.

"I just dance in the sweet memories" Kizutsuite aishikata o... "I just dance in the sweet memories" ...oboeteyuku no ne.

"I just dance in the sweet memories"
(He's my one and only; you never can tell)
"I just dance in the sweet memories"
(Sweet memories)
"I just dance in the sweet memories"