



VEGETA INSANE

20TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL

THE RISE AND FALL OF ONE OF THE
WEB'S GREATEST DRAGON BALL Z WEBSITES

BY RYAN "CASTOR TROY" MOLINA

Vegeta Insane: 20th Anniversary Special
The Rise and Fall of one of the web's greatest Dragon Ball Z
Websites

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Dedicated to all my fans, friends, and everyone who has supported me on this journey for over 20 years.

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Prologue

Hi everyone, my name is Ryan Molina and under the name “Castor Troy”, I ran two of the most popular Dragon Ball Z websites “*Vegeta Insane*” and “*Ginga GIRI GIRI*” from 1999-2002. My sites were mostly well known for being a shrine to Vegeta with my own added humor. I also provided multimedia like movie clips, Anime Music Videos (AMV), and much more in a time where Dragon Ball Z resources on the internet were few and far between. The series had just barely started gaining traction in America in 1998 and I was there to witness the big explosive Dragon Ball boom as it was happening all over the United States. My sites earned over millions of views and I’ve worked with many of the voice actors and FUNimation themselves in promoting their events, signings, and reviewing products my crew and I were sent. I’ve also participated in many Anime Music Video contests all over the world, won many awards, spoke on panels, and became a semi internet celebrity in my time doing the websites.

Sadly, the dot-com bubble burst that happened in March of 2000 really devastated the economic scope of hosting a Dragon Ball Z site during the early 2000’s. With Dragon Ball Z still surging in popularity and web site providers no longer able to provide adequate services to host our content, me and many other webmasters had to throw in the towel due to bandwidth issues, lack of motivation, and a slew of other personal things. Even after shutting down my sites, I still remained an avid fan of the series and continued to follow it when the Dragon Boxes were released in Japan and when Dragon Ball Kai and Dragon Ball Super were coming out. Also, I kept up with the theatrical releases of Battle of Gods, Resurrection F, Broly, and every Dragon Ball related event that has happened to this day.

When people think about internet celebrities, they think about

people living the high life with tons of people praising them every single day telling them they can do no wrong. I'm here to tell you that's so incredibly far from the actual truth and behind all the massive amounts of praise, fan worship, and fun times, there were always not so pleasant behind the scenes and internal drama that plagued DBZ webmasters like myself and many others.

This book is about my time as a DBZ webmaster and content creator, along with the personal turmoil and how the effects of internet fame changed me at a young age in both the best, and especially the worst ways. Since you're reading this book right now, I assure you everything turned out ok. I do wish to present this book as an encouraging story to follow your dreams, but also to serve as a cautionary tale of the effects of internet fame and the effect it can have on people.

While there were a ton of events that went on in my 20+ years as a content creator, several names and events had to be left out for moral and legal reasons. If I included EVERYTHING, this book would be longer than all of the Lord of the Rings, Game of Thrones, and all the Dragon Ball manga books combined. I assure you that everything I talk about here in this book are from the horse's mouth (mine) and from nobody else's.

Without further ado, it's time to delve into the depths of my insanity.

Also, updated Vegeta humor.

It's time to go...

Vegeta Insane.

1. The Blurst of Times

Fall 1998.

I had just started my senior year of high school and was about to turn 17 in October. I was ready to graduate for the class of 1999, just barely missing the year 2000 since I was an October 1981 baby. My friends were excited for the upcoming Sega Dreamcast release in Japan, along with games like Xenogears, Parasite Eve, and The Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time. This was truly a time to be excited as I was ending the teenage years of my life and was about to enter the adult world. I know any kid my age at the time would be scared and excited for prospects of the future, but myself?

I was depressed.

Not exactly the way you would have expected me to begin this story, but I do feel my state of mind at the time is an important thing to mention. This is the first time I've ever mentioned this story since I was afraid of talking about it for over 20 years, but I feel enough time has passed where I am finally comfortable talking about it. I would have liked to say that my story of getting into Dragon Ball Z was as normal as **"I saw it on Cartoon Network and got hooked"** which was true in a sense. However, the circumstances leading to my DBZ fandom were much more dramatic and complicated than that. I want to tell you how one single show positively affected my life forever in ways I could never think of. Especially when you hit that major turning point in your life when you need to grow from a teen into an adult. People at the age of 17 go through quite a bit of motions with relationships, personal issues, and especially planning for the future. Some people are motivated or forced by their parents to start getting serious about their lives at this point in time and have different ways of motivation to push them

forward. Out of everything, I can proudly say that it was Dragon Ball Z that pushed my life forward when I was dealing with a complete spiral of emotions.

I just had one of the worst breakups in the summer of 1998 with the girl I was dating. While my friends were excited about all of the new PlayStation and Nintendo 64 games, I couldn't bring myself to be happy with them. When you're depressed after a break up, not only are you depressed, you WANT to be depressed because being happy doesn't feel right. Not only was I dealing with my breakup, my parents were pressuring me to start applying for colleges and get my grades up. I was never academically smart, so my grades weren't exactly up to snuff to apply towards any of the prestigious colleges like all my 4.0 GPA, A+, and AP friends were applying for. In fact, out of all my friends, I was the absolute dunce of the group and was always told: ***"If you stopped playing so many video games, your grades would go up."***

I had hit rock bottom to the point where I felt like giving up on myself and was ready to embrace a life of mediocrity and loneliness. However, there was nobody else that was going to help me other than myself.

Dragon Ball Z was always something I had a passing familiarity with. My first exposure to DBZ was through Electronic Gaming Monthly magazine's previews of the Super Butoden games (where they named Cell, "Sell") around 1993 or so. I remember when I went to the Philippines in the summer of 1996, I saw posters for **"The Greatest Rivals"**, a combination of DBZ movies 5 (Cooler's Revenge) and 6 (Return of Cooler) put together as a single movie that was playing in the theaters there. The only thing I thought at the time was **"Hey, it's Chrono Trigger with gold hair!"**. I wouldn't exactly see **"The Greatest Rivals"** until years later when a friend copied his tape of it for me.

I did catch a few episodes of DBZ when it was on syndication during its run from '96-'97 and '97-'98 completely censored by Saban and dubbed by Ocean Studios in Canada. The first episode I recall watching was "***Tien goes all out***" seeing Gohan being scared while Krillin and Piccolo were fighting Nappa. Down the line, I also recall seeing some of the Oozaru Vegeta vs. Goku fight, the fake Namek filler, and when Vegeta got angry that Gohan stole his Dragon Ball on Planet Namek. I didn't exactly watch it every week, but I caught it when I was flipping channels. Being a massive Sailor Moon fan at the time, I thought I would get into DBZ like I did with Sailor Moon. I went to the internet to look up information and saw a pic of Super Saiyan Vegeta, completely buffed at Full-Grade Super Saiyan power ready to fight Cell. I was confused that the small Vegeta with armor I saw on TV would become this big bulky dude with golden hair. For some reason during DBZ's original pre-Cartoon Network syndication, I just really couldn't get into DBZ the way I got into Sailor Moon.

During one of my depressing couch watchings of Cartoon Network after school in 1998, I had just finished watching a DiC dub episode of Sailor Moon for the umpteenth time and realized that DBZ was finally airing around 5:00 PM. Not wanting to get out of my lazy funk, I decided to watch it and heard Moltar's "***Get ready for a power trip***" intro for the very first time. The episode that aired was "***Gohan's Metamorphosis***" which was right after the fight with Raditz as I apparently missed the first four episodes during the first time run of the series on Cartoon Network. I sat through the entire episode and unlike before, I decided to watch the next one, then the one after, and then another.

After one week of watching, I had finally started the trip down the Dragon Ball Z Rabbit Hole.

2. Going down the DBZ Rabbit Hole

Throughout the years, I was trying to pinpoint the ***exact*** moment and reason why I started becoming a fan of DBZ. The show had already finished its syndication run on KCAL (Channel 9) in my area in Southern California from 96'-98'. While I caught a few episodes here and there, I just couldn't get into it. I believed it was part of my depressive post breakup state that made me lie on the couch watching more TV and sticking to DBZ instead of playing video games. Since DBZ was on five days a week instead of once a week, it was easier to see the next episode. Also, the hype building up to the fight with the Saiyans, Nappa and Vegeta gave me something to really look forward to. Since DBZ was on at prime time at 5PM after school and before dinner, I didn't have to wake up at ungodly hours on Saturday mornings around 7-8AM when I wanted to sleep in. Because of the 5pm time slot, I would be able to get 2 hours of homework in after school before DBZ started.

As the days went by, I made it a pact to watch EVERY episode of DBZ when it aired at 5PM, never missing a single one. Talk about DBZ at school was reaching an all time high since I remember being at a football game with my friends and one of them said ***"Are you guys watching Dragon Ball Z on Cartoon Network?! It's getting GOOOOOD!!!"***. He proceeded to make a Kamehameha motion with his hands and we were geeking out on who was going to win the fight with the Saiyans.

There was also a Chinese bookstore and supermarket within walking distance from my high school where they sold various DBZ stickers, bags, and merchandise, along with Chinese editions of the manga. The bookstore only had a small select amount of volumes and I purchased two of them since they had characters I recognized. I got volumes 23 (Goku and Freeza) and 27 (SSJ Goku, Piccolo, and 4th form Freeza). I remember reading volume 23 which was mostly the Namek arc and seeing the UN-CUT version of Vegeta killing Zarbon where he literally

blasted a hole in his belly. HOLY SHIT! Reading volume 27 was trippy since it started off during the middle of the Goku vs. Freeza fight, so I was confused on what happened to the rest of the Ginyu Force. I was intrigued to see a battered up Goku fighting a totally different looking Freeza than what I saw on Cartoon Network. This volume also had the Super Saiyan transformation, so now I knew that “Golden haired Chrono Trigger guy” I talked about in the Philippines years before was actually Goku himself. The manga was completely in Chinese, so I couldn’t read ANY of it, but seeing the pictures was cool. Eventually over time, I went back and purchased the entire Freeza arc in Chinese when DBZ Season 3 was coming out on VHS tapes in 1999. I ended up buying as much DBZ merchandise from the Chinese bookstore that I could, even putting DBZ stickers on my TI-85 Calculator.

Like any fandom I was deeply interested in, I always spent countless hours researching it on the web. Sadly, since the original FUNimation Dragon Ball Z site only had vague descriptions of the first 53 dubbed episodes, Cyboars, Chuck E. Cheese, and The Morris Brothers, I had to seek my information elsewhere. DBZ sites on the web back in the day were of dubious quality such as *“gohons DBZ page”*, *“Gogu and Vegete’s page”*, *“Tenshinham vs Kig Kuy”* and many other weird and uncreative names. Eventually, I found the “Top Tier” sites like *“Dragon Ball Z Uncensored”*, *“SREDBZ”*, *“Dragon Ball Blast”*, *“Benny Lee’s DB-Z-GT”*, *“The Ultimate DBZ Info Page”*, *“Temple O’ Trunks”*, *“Daimao’s Home Page”*, the infamous *“VegettoEX’s Home Page”*, and many more. During this time, I always heard the fabled *“Suuschinchuu”* was the true mecca of DBZ sites, but it was shut down right as DBZ started on Cartoon Network. You can find it at the Internet Archive nearly intact as a reminder of what DBZ sites on the web used to be.

Now with something to look forward to after school, the pain from my breakup was still there, but it didn’t feel as strong as it

did before. I was far too obsessed and engrossed in everything and anything DBZ to even think about the breakup anymore. I started playing video games on a regular basis again, finally finishing Metal Gear Solid, Parasite Eve, and I even finished Zelda: Ocarina of Time within two weeks. After my breakup, I refused to even care about video games because I was depressed all the time. Upon getting obsessed with DBZ, I was excited to play them again. I also started hanging out with my friends more and was able to borrow bootlegs of *“Dragon Ball Z: Ultimate Battle 22”*, *“Dragon Ball Z: Legends”*, and *“Dragon Ball: Final Bout”* for the PlayStation.

The first Dragon Ball import game I played was *“Dragon Ball Final Bout”* (not the US release of *“Dragon Ball GT: Final Bout”*.) and my friend warned me that it wasn’t very fun. Being a new Dragon Ball fan, I didn’t want to believe it. Watching the intro with *“The Biggest Fight”* playing (The part when Cell turns his head is one of the most badass moments in any Dragon Ball video game.) was one of the most surreal things I ever experienced. Here I was, a dub only watcher who had only seen censored and dubbed episodes in english, was experiencing some characters I was familiar with like Goku, Vegeta, and Piccolo. I had absolutely no clue on who the green or pink guys were, especially the guy with purple hair that had a sword, a little girl, Freeza looked different than what I had seen on Cartoon Network, and why did Goku become a kid again?! I actually thought Gohan in the intro was Yamcha who healed his scars!

Sadly, my friend was right and I actually **TRIED** to convince myself the game was good. I tried to say it was the Tekken of Dragon Ball games, but yeah, the game stunk. Ultimate Battle 22 fared a little better and I still didn’t recognize most of the characters from the intro, but the gameplay was only a tad better than Final Bout’s. Of course, DBZ Legends was the best game of the PlayStation lot since I was finally able to understand the first part of it. I had only seen the show on Cartoon Network at the time, so I understood the Saiyan and Namek arcs. But, it was

cool to see the rest of the arcs in order from the Androids to Buu arcs. The gameplay was fast and furious unlike the slow turtle paced fighting of Ultimate Battle 22 and Final Bout. Out of the three PlayStation games, DBZ Legends was the true winner. After getting a dose of the PlayStation DBZ games, I went out and downloaded roms of all the Famicom and Super Famicom games. Sadly in 1998, fan made english patches for these games wouldn't come out for years. I was stuck playing games like the Super Butoden series in Japanese and my friend told me that Dabura was a re-incarnated Zarbon. I was easily impressionable at the time, so I kinda believed him. Heh.

November of 1998 was the first turning point for us fans watching on Cartoon Network. If you looked at websites going over DBZ episode guides, then you would know that 53 episodes (cut from the first 67 Japanese episodes) were all that got dubbed during the original syndication of the show before Cartoon Network. I was actually hoping that DBZ being on Cartoon Network would mean that FUNimation and Saban had dubbed more episodes during the move to Cartoon Network. After seeing Goku battle Burter and Jheese, the optimist in me thought that we were going to see the continuation of that battle the next day. I rushed home from school the next day and did my daily routine of watching DBZ only to see....

Raditz's Spaceship.

We eventually got the cut up Tree of Might (DBZ Movie 3) episodes, but throughout 1998-1999, we would have to be subjected to starting over with Raditz after Goku fighting Burter and Jheese several times in a row. Around this time, I was already an avid fan of the series and an even bigger fan of the websites I was browsing on a daily basis about the series. Since there was no new DBZ on Cartoon Network for a while, my only solace would be to go to other DBZ websites and find out what happens with the story from where we were stuck at. After being

an active viewer of the current DBZ web community for only a few months, and since I knew HTML...

I wanted in.

3. The Dark Prince Rises

I've been using the internet since my freshman year in high school in 1996 starting with Compuserve and my parents switching to AOL later that year. I went by many names, but took "**Castor Troy**" in 1997 after watching the movie "**Face/Off**" since Nicolas Cage is my favorite actor for his absolutely bat-shit crazy performances. I never took a DBZ persona type name for some reason and just decided to go in as Castor Troy. If I did, maybe it would have been some variation of Vegeta like Vegeta1337SaiyanPrince or something like that. Yeah, I'm kinda glad I stuck with Castor Troy. Around 1998, all I had was a Pentium 1, 133MHZ, 3 GB of hard drive space, and a 33k modem. Not exactly the best equipment to work with as the Pentium 2 was out and the hype over the upcoming Pentium 3 was huge. Nevertheless, I learned to use what I had and still was able to make content.

During my Sailor Moon fandom, I taught myself HTML in order to join their web community, which sadly didn't work out (and I'll never talk about my awful attempt at a Sailor Moon site ever again.. lol). I knew how to write webpages, put images and hyperlinks, and learned tables which removed my technical barrier to entry. In my opinion, the free webpage editors with AOL, Geocities, Tripod, Angelfire, etc always sucked. In early 1998, I built a Final Fantasy 7 fansite called "**Neo Midgar**" on tripod which actually still exists (just search "**Neo Midgar Tripod**"), although I don't have access to my tripod account anymore.

Since the majority of DBZ websites were mostly about information, I wanted to take a different angle that nobody was doing before. Was this the plan for the great Vegeta Insane I was about to unleash upon the world? Well, after contemplating it for a few days and getting to work busting out all the raw HTML I knew, I had finally unveiled my masterpiece. The website that

was truly going to change the entire scope of the DBZ web community forever.....

Piccolo's Boot Camp.

Hold your applause.

I thought of the name "Piccolo's Boot Camp" when in the dub after Piccolo takes Gohan away from everyone for training, he says something like "*Wake up you little tenderfoot, boot camp's about to begin.*" before dropping Gohan in the water. I can't remember much about the site other than I took a whole bunch of animated gifs from the DBZ Super Butoden games created by **JKwok44** (who I've literally only talked to once on IRC, but I considered him the pioneer of DBZ animated gifs) and used them as decoration all over the site. I literally drew the kanji for "Ma" 魔 (Demon) in Microsoft Paint (very badly) as something people can print out and put on their shirts. Yes, I printed one out of myself, but never used it on a shirt and the entire site was Piccolo talking like a drill instructor to join him in the fight against the Saiyans. I don't think anyone really visited the site other than a friend I knew from a Final Fantasy messageboard I posted at. He wrote in my guestbook (remember those?) saying "SIR! YES, SIR!". Sometimes I wonder what things would be like if I stuck with Piccolo's Boot Camp.

Sadly, I lost interest in maintaining the site and in December of 1998, I attempted a site on Geocities called "*The DBZ Sound Studio*" which was a collection of sounds I recorded from the dub with a cheap \$20 microphone. Since my TV was close to my computer, it made things easier for recording. I think I only recorded about five sounds before I decided it was too much work and needed something new...

As 1998 was ending, I really wanted to create something unique that the Dragon Ball Z web had never seen before, but I just couldn't think of anything. Chris Psaros of DBZ Uncensored had

his funny wit, VegettoEX was a multimedia power house, and I just couldn't find the right angle to make my legit entrance to the DBZ web community after two failed site attempts.

I remember really loving the character of Vegeta especially during the Namek arc and how badass he was portrayed by Brian Drummond. Since Vegeta was probably a much more popular character than Piccolo from what I saw on the web, that got the light bulb in my head going. 1998 ended and on New Years day in 1999, I quickly started coming up with ideas and implementing them on a new Geocities account. I had borrowed my friend's expensive digital camera at the time, so I took as many original DBZ pictures from merchandise that I owned as I could since borrowing (or stealing) other pictures was a big no-no. On January 5th, 1999, I had finally completed the site that would change my life forever at it's URL located at:

<http://www.geocities.com/TelevisionCity/Network/7192/>

VeGeTa InSaNe was born!

Yes, I spelled it that way until VegettoEX would tell me months later that it was pain in the ass to type. Haha.

The site consisted of a simple blue and white layout with the sections on the left blue side of the page and the actual written content on the right white side of the page. I had various sections like "Vegeta Images", "Vegeta Lines", etc, but what I felt was unique about the site was my brand of Vegeta Humor such as "Vegeta vs." "Vegeta Top Tens", "Vegeta Fu", and "How to be Vegeta". I made the top banner in Microsoft Word and used a picture of Vegeta I took from DBZ Legends on the PlayStation as the header of the left part of the page. Along with a "Vegetto-O's" mock cereal box I made in my trial of Paint Shop Pro. So, did I automatically gain a ton of views and praise right away which led me to riches beyond wildest dreams?

Not exactly.

I remember seeing the traffic counter within my internal Geocities site builder and for the first couple of weeks, I was only getting around 5 views a day. Mostly by me visiting each of the pages over and over again. If you thought it's tough getting recognized on social media, YouTube, etc, with SEO now, it wasn't exactly too different back then. I was initially feeling discouraged thinking Vegeta Insane was going to end up a failure like Piccolo's Boot Camp and The DBZ Sound Studio, so I needed to find a way to get my site out there to the masses because I didn't know anything about site promotion (and still don't to this day).

Browsing my favorite DBZ websites, I noticed that many of them stated they had open link submissions to be put on their links pages. Back in the day, getting a link from a big site was probably one of the biggest honors you could get. However, I wasn't exactly mass mailing and spamming every site in existence. I decided if I could get linked on ONE of the big sites, then I could start getting linked on them all. I decided my first attempt was going to be VegettoEX's Home Page.

In my initial link submission, I wrote it like a cover letter to a resume, mostly emphasizing that I did Vegeta Humor and that I took my own ***ORIGINAL*** pictures with a digital camera. Yes, I had to emphasize on the original pictures. Back in the day, VegettoEX would only update once a month, but when he did make an update, it was HUGE and I always looked forward to the updates every month. January finally passed and February finally began. I checked VegettoEX's Home Page for the latest update and quickly went to the links section. Back then, the top DBZ webmasters would get a ton of link submissions every month and since everyone and their mother was trying to get in on the DBZ web craze from Cartoon Network, the competition was fierce. Not exactly too different than all of the Dragon Ball YouTube channels nowadays, but equally as fierce in my

opinion. So, I scrolled down the links section, feeling a bit discouraged not seeing my site at first, but then... I finally saw it... all of my weeks of waiting... I finally saw my link on VegettoEX's links page....

... all the way at the bottom. The very bottom.

It was me and some other site I don't remember and while being at the bottom of a webpage isn't exactly the best for visibility, I didn't care. I was absolutely FLOORED to see **“VeGeTa InSaNe”** at the bottom of my favorite DBZ website. It felt like my existence was acknowledged at last by someone I looked up to (and still do) and that the content I made actually did make someone laugh. After that day, my measly five views a day went up to 50, then 100+ just from that link alone. This was the thing that eventually snowballed my entire career to this day.

4. Eye of the Saiyan

Like the montage at the beginning of “**Rocky 3**”, I was riding a huge wave of success after success. The confidence that I got from being linked on VegettoEX’s site allowed me to finally contact the other DBZ webmasters like Ramza of Dragon Ball Blast, SREDBZ, Meri from Temple O’ Trunks, Chris Psaros of DBZ Uncensored, etc. Seeing my links added on their pages was like finally being accepted in that big famous social club for elite people only. Chris Psaros even picked out my site as his “**Pick of the Week**” on the DBZ Uncensored links page which completely made my jaw drop. I quickly started seeing my 100+ views a day become 500+ and even 1000+. When The Matrix was premiering in theatres, I was already getting 40-100+ emails per day on my AOL account. It became so overwhelming that I had to finally change my email to a hotmail account which I still use to this day (**vegetainsane@hotmail.com**). My breakup from the previous summer was now a faded memory in the back of my head as I was dedicated to working on content for my site more than ever. It was a feeling that I had never truly felt before as I had something positive to look forward to every time I came home. Knowing that I was being adored by like minded fans and being acknowledged for my creativity when I couldn’t get any of that attention in real life was such a good feeling. It was nice waking up every day feeling like a rock star and I felt like I was becoming a quasi internet celebrity at a young age.

I was only a senior in high school!

I sent in Vegeta Insane to get a review from one of the more prominent, but older DBZ webmasters, Dr. Gero. While he gave me a mostly positive review, he did mention that the light blue color scheme of my page did hurt his eyes a bit, so I changed it to a darker color scheme which I felt worked out better. As the years would go by, I would learn more about not only creating actual content, but improving my web design skills to adjust to other people’s needs and browser preferences. Before we had

Google Chrome taking up all of your CPU, the only browsers we had were Netscape Navigator, Internet Explorer, and the AOL browser. I used all three because according to my statcounter stats, usage of the three main browsers was evenly mixed, although I preferred Netscape Navigator the most. Of course, this led to a massive amount of problems when tables on Netscape would look good, but not work on Internet Explorer, and so on. We still have browser competition today like Chrome, Firefox, Safari, etc, which are far more stable (except Chrome eating up your CPU). Webmasters back in the day had to make sure their sites were compatible with ALL the browsers or risk alienating huge chunks of their audience.

Creating web pages back in the day wasn't as simple as the one click install wordpress layouts we have now. Most built in website editors in Geocities, AOL, angelfire, etc were beyond awful and couldn't even do a simple thing like keeping all your text sizes consistent. After messing with Microsoft Publisher, Dreamweaver, and many other programs, I always settled for raw HTML written in notepad. Even before I got into DBZ, I would spend hours upon hours teaching myself HTML through htmlgoodies.com and many other resources. In all honesty, if you learned tables, you could literally make any webpage design you wanted. Eventually I would go on to learn SSI (Server Side Includes) and PHP to make my webpage design process a lot easier many years before the advent and ease of wordpress templates.

The majority of my content when I first started the site was based on user submissions like fan fiction, stories for "Vegeta Vs.", song parodies, and personal Vegeta related editorials. One of my favorite fan fiction stories that somebody sent me was Vegeta and Bulma appearing on the Jerry Springer show. Vegeta found out that Bulma was cheating with Goku and there was a fight between Chi Chi and Bulma. The fan fiction story ended with Goku and Vegeta blowing up the entire Jerry Springer set along with Jerry himself. In the personal Vegeta editorials, I

would get stories about how kids would get into fights and blow away their opponents with the Gallick Gun.... yeah.. lol.

One of the biggest undertakings for the site I did at the beginning was creating the *“Attack of the Saiya-Jin”* RPG game using OHRPGCE (Official Hamster Republic Role Playing Game Creation Engine). I knew nothing about programming, visual basic, etc. The entire OHRPGCE program was complicated at first, but I was able to get the hang of it. I created pixel versions Vegeta and Nappa in their built in editor, made 4 large maps, ripped off Final Fantasy music midis to use as the actual music in the game, and completed it within 4 months. The game was received quite well although I think it’s complete junk by today’s standards. I always thought of doing a sequel to the game, but didn’t want to dedicate the time to it. The game is still downloadable on the current Ginga GIRI GIRI Kai site updated for current computers.

5. /me slaps VegettoEX with a large trout

With a few months under my belt as a DBZ webmaster, Vegeta Insane was growing like an infected fungus in the DBZ web community, consuming everything in its path. But, one of the things I really wanted was to actually converse and chat with my fellow DBZ webmasters. Keep in mind that this was far before the advent of social media, so services like twitter, facebook, instagram, YouTube, and even *gasp*, myspace didn't exist yet. All we had to contact each other were webrings (which pretty much died in 1998 when I started), guestbooks, and email. Sure, it was great corresponding with people via email, AOL Instant Messenger (Remember that?), ICQ (Remember that too?), and yahoo messenger (still around I think?), but I heard there was a special closed elite club where all the DBZ webmasters hung out and I was pretty determined to find it. In all honesty, it wasn't too difficult as the directions to the #db IRC chat were on VegettoEX's Home Page and there was even an entire webpage dedicated to the members of the #db IRC chat, so I downloaded IRC and finally took the plunge...

When I entered #db for the first time, I saw many familiar faces like SREDBZ, Daimao (Steve Simmons who does the subtitles for FUNimation's Dragon Ball products), TheDuck (one of the people responsible for getting bilingual DBZ on DVD in the first place), Ramza from Dragon Ball Blast, the fabled Wuken from Suuschinchuu, and VegettoEX himself. I was actually kind of floored that some of the people in the chat recognized me from my site since I still felt like a newbie at the time. Chatting with everyone felt like I was speaking to an elite inner circle of DBZ webmaster celebrities that I knew I didn't belong in, but was welcomed to speak to anyways.

I quickly befriended Ramza, firey (Orange Star High School), DeathBallZ (an awesome, but really short lived site dedicated to the DBZ villains), and SkitzZero (DBZ: The Third Season). It was fun chatting about DBZ, website ideas, and even real life

stuff with a group of like minded people. Back in 1999, social media didn't exist at the level it does now, so it really felt like a tight knit group. We eventually branched off to another channel called #ssppp (Super Saiyan Power Pride Page) since some of us felt excluded by the regulars in #db. As the months went by, the tensions between us and the regulars from #db would get pretty heated to the point where they would issue the ban hammers on us hot headed newbie DBZ webmasters.

We eventually fought our oppressors in the #ssppp chat claiming how badly they treated us and I still remember that summer night in 1999 vividly as we debated until the early hours of the morning. The #db regulars were confident we were going to get k-lined (a permanent ban from an IRC server). Luckily, we stood our ground and nothing of the sort happened, but we did fracture off into other channels like #spiritworld and #neonoasis and occasionally trolled the #db chat with different nicknames and proxies out of spite.

6. It's a bird, it's a plane, No! It's Goku!

As 1999 went by, me and most fans were getting tired of the constant repeats of Goku having to fight Raditz again after his battle with Burter and Jheese. A friend of mine lent me the rest of the Chinese Dragon Ball manga that I didn't have from the Androids-Cell arc to the Buu arc so I could see what happens afterwards. I remember absolutely going insane over the Goku vs. Majin Vegeta battle on IRC and VegettoEX offered me fansubs of those episodes which would be my first exposure to Japanese DBZ at the time. I had never sent out a money order before, but thanks to VegettoEX's instructions, I was able to do so at my local post office which was within walking distance from my house. I remember waiting about two weeks and I got a nice package from VegettoEX that had three VHS tapes with DBZ episodes 228-239 on them which was the start of the Majin Vegeta fight all the way to his sacrifice against Majin Buu. The only exposure I had to the Shunsuke Kikuchi score at the time was the airings of the first two Dragon Ball Z movies, Dead Zone and the World's Strongest. The version of Tree of Might that Cartoon Network was airing was the censored Ocean Dub with the Shuki Levy music that was split into three episodes. I remember absolutely loving the Kikuchi score from the first two movies and wondered why the series didn't use that music. Oh wait, the original Japanese version did use the Kikuchi music! I know I did a major skip in the series at the time, but I had already read every summary of the series that I could thanks to Benny Lee's DB-Z-GT on Geocities and my friend's Chinese manga volumes. I remember watching We Gotta Power for the first time and getting blown away on how awesome it sounded, so I went to VegettoEX's site and downloaded every mp3 I could, which started my obsession with Japanese music in general. I ended up marathoning all three tapes which were subtitled by the group "***Games and James***" and ended up wanting more. I asked a few more people on IRC if they had fansubs to sell and my second pair of tapes were episodes 54-61. These episodes had the UNCUT version of Zarbon's death and

the introduction to the Ginyu Force in Japanese, subtitled by the Nippon Golden Network. For some reason, I didn't exactly go after episodes 68+ that took place after the Cartoon Network airings since my measly allowance I got from my parents was limited at the time. Once I was able to secure a job after my high school graduation and my first year of college, I was able to nab the entire Nappa and Vegeta fight (21-35), Movie 12, and the Bardock and Trunks Specials.

A friend of mine lent me his soundtrack copy of **DBZ Hit 7: The Journey of the 7 Balls** (the actual Columbia release, not a bootleg) where I got to hear "**CHA-LA-HEAD-CHA-LA**", "**Tobikkiri no Saikyō tai Saikyō (Movie 5 Ending Theme)**", "**Detekoi Tobikkiri Zenkai Power**", and my favorite song on the set "**Power of Smile**". It struck a chord with me instantly as the artwork on the CD was mostly the Freeza arc characters. When I listen to "**Power of Smile**", I'm instantly transported back to 1999, playing this CD in my portable CD player and reading through the CD insert book, excited for DBZ Season 3 to come.

Of course, during this time, most of us fans who signed up for the FUNimation newsletter got this in our emails...

Date: Tue, 02 Feb 1999 19:30:32 -0600

Subject: New DBZ Episodes!

You asked for it...

You demanded it...

And now you got it!

New Dragon Ball Z episodes are currently being made by FUNimation Productions. The episodes will be available this summer on video and are planned to air on Cartoon Network this fall. The series will encompass all of Goku's awesome battle with the powerful Frieza. Keep checking the FUNimation website (www.funimation.net) for all the latest details.

Now this was the news we were all waiting for! As far back in February of 1999, us DBZ fans got this email from FUNimation themselves saying that they were going to continue with the rest of the series. It was exciting knowing that we wouldn't have to keep repeating Raditz after the battle with Burter and Jheese. It took until early May of 1999 to release the actual VHS tapes of ***“Captain Ginyu: Assault”*** and ***“Captain Ginyu: Double Cross”*** with the new Season 3 episodes not airing on Cartoon Network until September.

With new episodes finally on the horizon, we had so much to look forward to... or did we?

7. Kamehame Dump

When May of 1999 rolled around, I was too busy thinking about The Matrix and was excited for Star Wars Episode 1: The Phantom Menace. Since I was still young, I didn't have a credit card to actually buy the new DBZ Season 3 VHS tapes "*Captain Ginyu: Assault*" and "*Captain Ginyu: Double Cross*". I recall going to VegettoEX's site when he announced that he got the tapes and oh boy..... we were in for a surprise.

Words simply couldn't explain what we were comprehending over 20 years ago when the DBZ Season 3 tapes were in circulation other than a big "*WTF?!?*".

Early reviews of DBZ Season 3 were pretty much everyone saying that the apocalypse had begun and that DBZ was pretty much dead. I remember downloading the sounds from VegettoEX's site and hearing the infamous "Kamehameha Dump" which made it's rounds across the internet as a viral sensation at the time. I also remember hearing Beetlejuice sounding Captain Ginyu, Chris Sabat's terrible Brian Drummond imitation, and all of the fun, punched up one liners. I recall most fans saying that the Bruce Faulconer score sounded like it was from a video game and another fan saying it sounded like bad porno music mixed in with DBZ.

Hearing the sounds wasn't actually as bad as watching the episodes themselves. I couldn't exactly obtain the tapes until they hit my local Suncoast in the summer of 1999 after my high school graduation. I actually picked up the "Captain Ginyu: Double Cross" tape first and watched it with a couple of my friends. It didn't exactly help that the first episode on it, "*Goku is Ginyu and Ginyu is Goku*" was animated by the WORST DBZ animator, Yukio Ebisawa, a.k.a the "*Triangle Guy*" combined with the awful delivery of the voice actors in that episode. The episode started with a montage of dead Nameks

which was kind of a precursor to what was coming. The DBZ Season 3 tapes were so bad that it caused Greg Werner of the Ultimate DBZ Info Page to throw the tapes in the basement to never be watched again after he heard “another dimension” thrown into the dialogue. I actually recall the voice acting and presentation of “Captain Ginyu: Assault” to be a tad more watchable for some reason since it didn’t start with an awful Yukio Ebisawa episode, but the corny dialogue and delivery was still as funny as “Captain Ginyu: Double Cross”. I had saved my measly summer allowance and was able to afford the next two VHS tapes “*Frieza: The Summoning*” and “*Frieza: Transformation*” and literally balked hearing the new voices for Piccolo, Yamcha, and Tenshinhan. However, my friends and I couldn’t stop laughing at Chris Sabat doing Piccolo’s lines after fusing with Nail. “**YES YES YES YES! I CAN WIN! I FEEL GREAT! I CAN DO THIS!**”. This is a classic line we still imitate to this day.

Near the end of Summer of 1999, the “*Frieza: Revealed*” and “*Frieza: Death of a Prince*” VHS tapes were released right before Season 3 was going to air on Cartoon Network. For several weeks, my Suncoast never had them and I wanted the tapes so bad that I even called FUNimation themselves to ask if they were coming to my local Suncoast. I was answered by a woman with a heavy Texas accent saying that they shipped the tapes based on demand and she didn’t have a way to track them. Luckily, SkitzZero was able to send me copies of the tapes just in time before DBZ Season 3 aired on Cartoon Network in the fall of 1999.

8. "GO TO HELL WHILE I SIT HERE AND FEAST ON BULMA'S PUSSY!"

Well guys, this is the part of the book where I mention that even though I received tons of praise as a DBZ webmaster, one of the risks you take with being a semi-famous internet celebrity is that you tend to attract ALL sorts of people from the good and especially the bad ones.

For every 10-15 positive emails I would get, I would either get someone telling me my site was terrible and calling me every name in the book for no reason at all, other than I just existed. Here are some examples of the funny emails I would get on a daily basis:

"DIE YOU SON OF A BITCH IM THE REAL VEGETA AND IM GONNA KICK UR ASS SO GO TO HELL WHILE I SIT HERE AND FEAST ON BULMA'S PUSSY!!!!!! DIE CASTOR TROY AND STOP WORSHIPING ME BITCH!!!!!!"

FUCK YOU !"

He claims to be Vegeta and will kick my ass while feasting on Bulma's pussy. Ok.

"IM A 8TH GRADER AND I CHOSE TO CHALLENGE A NINTH GRADER TO PROVE MY POWER LEVEL WAS HIGHER. I POWERED UP AND NAILED HIM IN THE MOUTH HE FELL AND I FINISHED HIM OFF WITH GALIGAN. HE WAS NEVER SEEN AGAIN"

The Galick Gun is truly the weapon of the underdog.

***"THERES THIS BITCH At our school called [Excluded]
A.K.A.Kakarrot .I WANT VEGETA -FU LESSONS***

p.s Just put the subject as DBZ

From [Excluded] "

I had way too many people asking me for Vegeta-Fu lessons. I sure as hell wasn't going to give them if they were going to do this to other people.

"you've got some fucked up people in your vegeta-fu section."

No kidding.

***"HELLO CAN YOU BE SO KIND AS TO TELL ME HOW
TO MAKE A MUSIC VIDEO!!! I HAVE ALREADY E-
MAILED YOU 15 TIMES ALREADY!!! ALL OF THEM
WERE SENT AFTER JANUARY 2000!!! ARE YOU ALIVE
OR ARE YOU DEAD!!! PLEASE RESPOND!!!"***

I played dead the entire time.

"seendme a pic of bolmas's boobie's"

You don't know how often I would get some variation of this.

"Dear Castor Troy

Can you send me a naked bulma pic.Thanks"

No, they're mine!

*"you wouldn't happen to know where i can get nude pics of
Bulma, would ya? Thanks a lot [Excluded]"*

I sure as hell ain't giving them out!

***"I ASKED YOU FOR NEW MOVIES IN EGLISH. AND SO
FAR THEY HAVE BEEN IN JAPANES. MAKE THEM IN
ENGLISH.***

NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

VEGETA"

Every visitor to my site that called themselves "Vegeta" would always be quite demanding.

*"HI i love u your so cool.If u where her i loved to go out with
u.*

see ya love [Excluded]."

I would get the occasional date request. Too bad I never followed up with any of them.

"before-i-say-it-my-space-bar-is-broken-so-bare-with-me-is-it-actually-really-phiscly-possible-to-levitate-or-shoot-ki-blasts-suchas-big-bangattack-plz-

reply _____ [Excluded] _____

_____ "

Someone obviously needed a new keyboard.

"DO YOU have DBZ PICTURE"

All over the place.

"Got some info on a DBZ movie. Bare in mind it is a live action Hollywood production . . .

Cast:

Son Goku- Alec Baldwin

Vegeta- Bruce Willis

Piccolo- Mark Hammil

Tenshinhan- Wesely Snipes

Son Gohan- Seth Green (voiced by Saffron Henderson)

JoJo (a combo of Puar and Kuririn)- Eddy (the dog from Fraiser)

Bulma- Catherine Manhiem (that Practice chick)

Kaio-sama- Jim Carrey

I'll have more info available as my imagination gets further and further away from me . . . Snooch!"

Would have ended up a better movie than Dragon Ball Evolution.

***"HEY FAGET IM GONNA STEAL YOUR MENU BAR AND THEIR IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT AND DAMM YOU HAVE A HARD TIME FIND MY SITE BITCH!!!!
HAHAHAHA!!!
THANKS MAN!!!
FAGET!!!!!"***

I did find his site and it was nothing special. :)

"you stupid fucking peace of shit, why did you put that fuckin anti leech crap up, now there is like no point to go to your site, you fucking rat peace of shit.....fuck you dumb cock.....im gonna kill you"

Gotta love the occasional death threat. This wouldn't even get past twitter now.

"Dear Castor

i know that your the main man in the site so i was wondering if you would put a wallpaper section up or if ya got any dbz wallpaper e-mail them to me please

SSJGoten"

I loved how people would ask me for a section I already had.

"Caster Troy-

My friend [Excluded] tells me you're a girl. It makes me think about your screen name. Why would you name yourself caster troy if you were a girl?

On another note..... Vegeta Rules!!!!!!

-[Excluded] “

“r u a girl? cuz u sound real hott, my email is [Excluded]”

"my name is alex, u seem really hott, my email address is [Excluded]

p.s. I look foward to hearing from you, bye babe"

"hello a/sl age state location how are you i like you music videos i hope your a girl ^_^ and if your not then -_-"

You wouldn't believe how many emails I got asking if I was a girl. I also feel sad for disappointing the person from that last email. Boo hoo!

"goku fights friesa"

He sure does!

"I've got a message on AIM from someguy saying that he is from FUNimation and is asking random dbz questions, if u get all 10 right you get a trip to Japan and some other stuff, I know it's fake so i just say, What the hell? Why Not?, and some of the questions were just funny, I got all but the last question right whitch was "How long is Goku's Dick?" I was realy upset 2 (NOT!), so i was just wondering if u wanted a copy for your site."

You gotta read this one to believe it.

"hey castor troy. i used 2 be [Excluded]... if u got any wierd emails from me, like my penis having a name, it was bs. somehow my goddamn friend found my password and started fucking around iwth all my shit"

This dude was lying the whole time.

"I need to contact the people on planetnamek.com who make the power level charts. i have a couple of corrections to make. If I can't contact them in any way and you would be able to here are my corrections:

USSJ Trunks: 150,000, 000

Androids 17+18: 40,000

SSJ Gohan: 115,000,000
SSJ2 gohan: 300,000,000
Super perfect cell: 200,000''

Super Perfect Cell must have been really weak!

*"I honestly think that your site is not worth seeing because of two major reasons: One, the media center where you can watch movie clips is screwed up! I can't see the clip playing, only some s**t blank screen! The second point is that you only have two toys! Where do you get your imports from? Taiwan? Honestly, if you really think you are cool and that everybody loves your site, then I just became Barbra Streisand! Bbye, ol' pal!"*

I guess you became Barbara Streisand!

"IM GOING TO KEEP GOING WITH MY SITE NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY!!!! HAHAHA!!

Fuck you, to tell you the truth I think my site is way better than yours, I don't give a damn about the music videos you have, anybody can make music videos, so fuck you, I take back any kind emails I have ever sent to you, oh and I posted some stuff on my page about you, and its not nice.(front page) Im sorry you didn't like my page, even though you said you didn't like it you didn't have to sign my guestbook, cusing me out. Fuck you im going to keep going with my page!!!! your obviously scared my page might grow to become better than yours, every dbz site deserves to be linked. They are for DBZ Fans to see.

From, [Excluded]"

Spoiler: His page never grew bigger than mine. Or at all.

"Man! what the fuck is your problem,i mean,i am just trying to ask you nicely,now i know what the real owner of my most favorite site is like,he is a fucking no good "professional want to be " bitch!!,you hear me,you don't give a care to your fans,WELL! you won't be where you are if it wasn't for the fans,you asshole,go to hell and stay there motherfucker,oh and since your stupid ass ain't going to answer me bout the layout,i'm just going to do it bitch!"

This guy asked if he could take my entire layout for his site and I just kinda ignored him for a while..

*"YOUR SITE SUCKS!!!!hahahaha*Man if i had your site i would commit suicide*that peice of crap!*That site is a disgrace to all vegeta sites.Lets all Castorate troy!*laughs*oh im sorry did i just say all of that*.....yap sure did haha it sucks"*

LOL Castrate Troy! Most original insult yet! (not.)

"What is your e-mail address?"

Last, but not least, the GREATEST email I have ever received!

Honestly, I could post pages upon pages of these that I've saved over the years, but I don't want to flood this book with them. Having a **"Mailbag"** section on a DBZ site back in the day was

the norm where we wanted to showcase all of the idiots that mailed us. I used to show the entire email address and the name of the sender along with the email itself. However, I would get complaints the people I showcased in the mailbag saying they were getting attacked by other people. I even had some trolls literally beg me to take their emails off my page which I gladly complied to since I didn't want anyone getting seriously hurt from any of this.

I soon realized that I had my own army of fans at my disposal that would deal with any troll or idiot that I showcased on my mailbag. However, this set a dangerous precedent encouraging this type of mob mentality behavior that was dangerous for my ego. Keep in mind that this was YEARS before the advent of social media like twitter, Facebook, YouTube, etc and I feel that it's gotten worse throughout the years. The good thing is that I can look over these emails 20 years later and have a good laugh. I always wonder what's become of the people who've sent these emails two decades later.

9. No dad, I didn't find a job yet. Oh hey, AMVs are cool!

In June of 1999, I had finally graduated high school with not-so-great grades, but good enough to pass and get my diploma. It was finally nice to end the four years I spent there and head out into the real world. As a new high school graduate who's only job experience was mending books at the library for minimum wage, my options were limited for finding a job. My parents tried to encourage me to start looking for web design work since I spent the majority of my time working on my website. Sadly, all of my resumes that I sent via online application sites like monster.com (which was new at the time) would end up in the void of nothing like most resumes do. I tried applying for bookshops, an art shop, Blockbuster Video (remember that?), Toys R Us Night Shift from Midnight to 7AM, Kaybee Toy Stores, Domino's Pizza (which I actually got through two rounds of interviewing but my car wasn't up to their standards), and more to no avail. Hell, I even tried applying for a movie theater and was told to come back two days later for an interview. When I came back for my interview, they told me their hired two people and told me to leave! Unbelievable!

I saved up a little nest egg of my allowance, plus the money I got from my high school graduation to get a cheap video capture card at a computer show. I was able to use this cheap capture card to capture clips from my site. I used my parent's old 1988 JVC camcorder that hooked up to my capture card to record footage and sadly found out that it couldn't playback EP recorded tapes which most of my DBZ Season 1 and 2 recordings were on. I did have a small amount of SP recorded tapes, so I ended up capturing clips from the "Frieza: The Summoning" and "Frieza: Transformed" tapes being the first site on the internet to have clips from those tapes. I captured my various fansub tapes of the Majin Vegeta vs. Goku fight which increased my traffic big time, but didn't exactly help in finding me an actual job. Since I was running my site off Geocities with no ads, I definitely didn't make any money from my site either.

One day, firey messaged me saying that he took the clips I made from my VHS tapes and turned them into an Anime Music Video (AMV) set to an AFI song. AMVs were something I downloaded a few months after opening my site from DannyPoo's DBZ Warriors and Meri's Temple O' Trunks. I remember the first AMVs I ever downloaded was DannyPoo's DBZ Dragula and Meri's DBZ Men in Black videos which blew me away, but I didn't have a capture card at the time to get footage from my VHS tapes. Nor did I know any editing software. After seeing firey's AFI video set to my DBZ clips, I had remembered a friend of mine burned me a CD with tons of programs he got from mailing lists. This was far before KaZaa, Limewire, and torrents ever existed and one of the programs was a bootleg of Adobe Premiere 3.0 LE. I had absolutely NO idea how to use it, but I realized that my capture card software can record both footage from my VHS tapes and from my computer CD player at the same time. I created short "Music Insert Videos" which weren't full AMVs, but short clips of DBZ scenes set to music I would play in CD player. I made a small amount of them and they seemed to go over well with my fans. Since I couldn't figure out how to use Adobe Premiere for the life of me, I slowly gave up and wouldn't get back into them until I finally experimented with Adobe Premiere again later in the year and finally got the hang of it.

Summer of 1999 was me working on my site, playing Street Fighter Alpha 3 on the PlayStation, playing a bootlegged Japanese Final Fantasy VIII that I borrowed from a friend (and finished!), and telling my parents the disappointing news that I didn't get a job yet. Since my grades weren't good enough to get into a good college, my parents made me enroll at a local community college. Luckily, within a few weeks of attending college, I was able to find a decent paying part time job at the college bookstore. With that money, I was able to afford the US release of Final Fantasy VIII and some DBZ VHS tapes from the Ocean dub that I wanted. I also wanted to get the US Sega Dreamcast which released on 9/9/99 and went with my friend to

several Toys R Us stores to get his. I wasn't able to afford my own Dreamcast at the time, and when I finally had the money, they were sold out everywhere.

Dragon Ball Z Season 3 was tearing up the ratings on Cartoon Network while I was in college, despite many of us thinking it was the end after the Captain Ginyu tapes were released. I remember browsing my site at the school library and this girl asked if I was looking at a Pokémon site. I also drew a picture of Vegeta on the bathroom wall as a joke and came back the next day to see someone write "POKÉMON" next to it. After school, I would occasionally go to a Gateway Computers store to see how my site looked on their powerful Pentium 2 computers at the time and would spend so long in the store that the clerk asked me to leave. I remember viewing DeathballZ's site as the clerk kicked me out and joking with DeathballZ on IRC that his site got me kicked out of the Gateway Computer store. He jokingly replied "Next, my site will get you kicked out of college, lol!". No wonder Gateway Computers ran out of business.

10. Time to go into the real world, son.

October 18, 1999

This was the day that Goku finally turned Super Saiyan in english on Cartoon Network. I was REALLY tempted to capture the transformation for my site because I knew it would get me a lot of hits. However, SkitzZero had already captured it in really good quality with his higher end Dazzle Capture Card. Shortly after my 18th birthday on October 24, my dad sat down with me and said it was finally time for me to move out and become a man in the real world.

After work and on the weekends, my dad and I would scour craigslist postings and visit various homes where I was going to rent a room. My measly wages from my part time job at the college bookstore weren't enough for an apartment in 1999, so my dad suggested that I rent a room like he had to back in the 70's when he moved to America from the Philippines. Every single time my dad and I would look at a room to rent, he would shamelessly tell the homeowner ***"I'm teaching my son how to become a man!"*** which made both my dad and the homeowner crack up to no end. I honestly wasn't the pickiest person when it came to liking the rooms I was seeing, but my dad was insistent I find a ***good*** one since he would tell me not to settle for less. By the end of October, I finally settled on a place which was 5 minutes away from my college and 10 minutes away from my parents. So, without further ado, I had finally made the move into the outside world... kind of.

The room I rented was only big enough for a twin sized bed, a small desk, and a small shelf for my TV and video games. It was nice and cozy for a first time rental, but not roomy like my old room at my parent's house. Sadly, I couldn't bring ALL my video game consoles, so I only brought over my PlayStation while my NES, SNES, Genesis, and N64 were at my parent's house. The house I was staying at had cable, but not a

programmable VCR to my dismay. I made sure that I would set the programmable VCR at my parent's house to record DBZ on Cartoon Network until the Freeza arc was over. I owned all of the current VHS tapes from "Captain Ginyu: Assault" to "Frieza: Death of a Prince" and recorded everything else after that off Cartoon Network. I only had to program my parent's VCR for a few more episodes until the year 2000 when the Android/Cell arc started since I would buy the Garlic Jr., Trunks, and Android tapes later on..

The house I was staying at was run by a nice couple who also roomed their grown up son and two other roommates who I got along with. They were definitely not into DBZ, video games, or anything nerdy like I was, so I never watched DBZ in their living room. Inside my room, I usually had to play video games with the sound down and use my computer with headphones so I wouldn't disturb everyone in the house. This was also my first exposure to using broadband which was DSL at the time and was way faster than my parent's 33k modem. I was able to view the web and download Quake 3 mods at a whopping 1.5 MB per second which was blazing fast back in the day.

In November of 1999, I was getting used to settling down in my newly rented room and the first run of DBZ Season 3 ended on Cartoon Network. I finally got serious again about making AMVs with Adobe Premiere and made "***One More Chance***" which was DBZ set to "***Makenai ai ga Kitto Aru (Unbeatable love I surely have)***" by Yukie Nakama which was the opening to Rockman X4 (Mega Man) for the PlayStation. I remember being totally excited that I was finally able to cut and change clips in Adobe Premiere and seeing DBZ scenes cut to music was incredibly mind blowing at the time. I showed everyone in IRC my video and while it got a lukewarm response, the biggest opinion I wanted was from firey, who's AFI videos set to the clips I made that inspired me to start AMVs in the first place.

He said it was crap.

Feeling devastated that I got an honest, but brutal opinion from one of my closest friends, I almost felt like giving up AMVs after making my first serious one. However, I took his opinion in stride and continued to make more since they were so incredibly fun to do until I finally earned a “not bad” from him.

Nowadays, people make their AMVs from Blu Rays or digital fansub rips, but the earliest AMVs back in the 1980’s were made with 2 VCRs. In 1999, I had already skipped that generation and started digital with a capture card and VHS tapes as the digital boom of AMVs was beginning. My process was that I would start a project file in Adobe Premiere, put the music (converted to WAV) on the timeline, then capture the footage with my capture software while I was editing, and place the clips into timeline synced to the beats and verses I wanted. I admit this was a crude way of doing things since it’s a million times easier to have all the footage captured first and then it would be more feasible to edit. I was only working with a Pentium 1 and a 3 GB hard drive at the time, so I had to improvise. I had to record all of my footage at 160 x 120 resolution at 30 frames per second in an uncompressed codec, then export the final AMV and convert it to MPG1 with Xing Mpeg Encoder (the program which was used to find the loophole that allowed DVD ripping).

Making AMVs was so much fun that I would get the entire editing, capture, and exporting all done within the span of 2-3 hours and I made AMVs on a near daily basis. My fans were beginning to dig the AMVs so much that they literally became the most popular things on my site more than the old Vegeta comedy I started off with. I remember being hesitant to make non-Vegeta related AMVs since I had a “Vegeta” site at the time. However, I decided to break the norm and did AMVs to any and every piece of footage I had.

While everyone else was making AMVs to the latest Rock or Heavy Metal band at the time, I decided to stick to J-Pop in order to stand out. I had grown obsessed with J-Pop since I played

Rockman X4 a year before in 1998, then discovering the DBZ songs by Kageyama Hironobu and many others. I went on a massive J-Pop downloading spree and discovered a ton of Slayers songs by Megumi Hayashibara. I based my earliest AMVs to 90% of her discography. I actually enjoyed using Japanese music because I could easily ignore the lyrics and try to create my own flow and rhythm rather than basing the footage matching the lyrics. Although, it would be funny to actually read the translations of the lyrics and realize in my **“Genki Dama of Hope”** AMV, the lyrics are talking about falling in love when Goku drops the Genki Dama on Freeza. Or in my **“Battle Spectacle”** AMV, where Megumi Hayashibara is singing as Lina Inverse from Slayers about throwing fireballs and it’s set to Goku and Freeza fighting. However, there was the rare occasion when the lyrics would *actually* fit like my **“Soul of Darkness”** AMV which was a Vegeta tribute set to Megumi Hayashibara’s **“Run all the way”** from Slayers Return. My favorite compliment to get was *“I associate these songs more with DBZ than with Slayers because of your AMVs!”*. Around this time, the most popular AMVs on my site were **“Piccolo’s Might”**, **“Genki-Dama of Hope”**, **“Spirit of the Saiya-Jin”**, and a few others.

My AMV philosophy was not to just set action scenes to crazy rock or metal music. I wanted to tell a story and convey the mood based on synchronization of both the music and the footage. From editing like this, I learned how to flow both music and footage together to tell a cohesive story from beginning to end in a way that I was hoping to emotionally resonate with the viewers. Of course, not all my AMVs were story based, but I carried on this philosophy as I eventually started entering AMV contests a few years later.

11. 3: Pokemon, 2: Britney Spears, 1: Dragon Ball Z

As 1999 was coming to a close, MrE from the infamous Planet Namek website came into IRC and started asking if any of us needed web hosting in exchange for putting his banner ad on our sites. Since I was already eating up a ton of bandwidth on my Geocities site, I eventually made the move to a free website provider called stormloader which was short lived as I killed the bandwidth on that site pretty quickly. I actually recall my first encounter with MrE and Planet Namek was getting into an argument with him whether his screencaps were original and he told me they were, which I had a hard time believing. Because I was having bandwidth issues with free website providers, I decided to take MrE up on his offer to be hosted on Planet Namek.

I recall New Years Eve in 1999 hanging at my parent's place and having a discussion what's going to happen to all the clocks when we finally hit the year 2000. Were we going to have the dates be set to 1/1/00 or be hit by the Y2K bug? Luckily it was the former. The year 2000 was a magical time when we had finally hit a new millenium and DBZ was beating Britney Spears and Pokemon in the search engines.

Sadly, since my job at the college bookstore was seasonal, I was not able able to get the job back when the year 2000 started. This was done by my college in order to let some newer students get job experience, so people were always rotating every semester. I was lucky that this policy changed a few years later, but I had to find a job *fast* or else I wouldn't be able to afford the upcoming Garlic Jr. tapes that FUNimation had just announced!.. and pay my rent as well..

I lived off my meager, but dwindling savings until March of 2000 to survive. I ***really*** wanted to get some fansub tapes too, but I had to choose between eating or getting fansubs. Obviously, I had to choose the former. All of my job

applications ended up in a black hole until my parents convinced me to apply for a web design job I found on my school's job postings. This was for an unknown internet provider company that wasn't one of the main ones like AOL, CompuServe, etc. but served in a more local capacity. I was expecting to not even get a reply back until one day, I got a call from the recruiter of the internet provider company and he said he was impressed with my Vegeta Insane site. We talked about how I used raw HTML and designed the site with tables which really impressed him, so he wanted to interview me the following Monday.

I didn't exactly have formal interview experience because when I got my job mending books in the library in high school and working in the bookstore when I started college, I went in and asked if they were hiring, expecting to get a date to interview later. However, both times to my surprise, I was pretty much told to come into the back, fill out some paperwork, and got hired on the spot. You can say I was lucky to avoid the interview process for those jobs. For the web design job, this was going to be a full on job interview, so my dad was able to help me rehearse which really helped me out in the next day. I kept telling myself: ***“Be confident like Vegeta!”***

The day I went in for the job interview was going to be an intense one. Not only was I interviewing to get a job that would pay me way more than any of my previous ones, Cartoon Network was re-broadcasting DBZ Movies 1-3 on that same day. I didn't have them recorded on SP tapes and really wanted them for footage. Before I left for the interview, I completely forgot to stop by my parent's place so I could set the VCR to record them. I had to go to the job interview, then rush home in traffic to make sure I got to my parent's place to record DBZ Movies 1-3... Oh yeah, and also tell them how the job interview went.

The job interview went amazingly well and I got hired right on the spot, ready to start in a week. Not only was I able to get the job, I made it to my parent's place in time to record DBZ Movies

1-3 in time and was able to tell them the good news (and I also felt relieved I could pay my own rent and buy more DBZ stuff). Whew!

The web design job for the internet provider was a fun one which made me design client websites for all types of businesses like construction websites, educational websites, shipping websites, and much more. I remember the day before I started the job, I drove down to Little Tokyo in Los Angeles and rented the raw VHS tapes of DBZ Movies 6, 11, and 13 from a Japanese video shop. One funny thing was when I was browsing the DBZ movie laserdiscs at a bookstore close to the video shop, some scary Russian dudes were talking to the cashier in perfectly fluent Japanese in an aggressive tone like they were enforcers or something. I dunno if these guys were looking for stuff to buy or were offering “protection”, but they definitely looked shady. Luckily, I was able to stay out of their way, but years later, the bookstore closed completely. I also placed orders for fansubs of the other DBZ movies thanks to getting my new job. I also picked up the Slayers Return CD which provided the Megumi Hayashibara songs, **“Just be Conscious”** and **“Run all the way”** which I used in my AMVs. Thanks to the increased money I was getting which was way more than my previous job in the college bookstore, I was able to afford the DBZ Garlic Jr. VHS tapes, the Trunks VHS tapes, and fansubs of the various DBZ movies. During this time, I also was able to drive down to Mitsuwa Marketplace down in Torrance, CA which had both a Mandarake and Kinokinuya bookstore where I picked up the first 7 Dragon Ball Daizenshuu books. I was also finally able to obtain a Sega Dreamcast that was finally available in stores along with Resident Evil: Code Veronica and the import of Marvel vs. Capcom 2. I was lucky to have a local game shop that modded Dreamcasts so I could play my import games.

I was only 18 years old and living the good life, or so I thought. However, thanks to the ad revenue that MrE was earning from Planet Namek and that I had his ads on my website, MrE was

earning a full time living just off Planet Namek alone. He made the right choice and decided to spend his earnings on his college tuition since we didn't know if DBZ was going to be popular forever.

12. The Internet at the Brink! The Super Awesome Website!

Like I mentioned before, the year 2000 was a magical time for DBZ fans. Not only because it beat Britney Spears and Pokemon in the search engines, but there was also a Burger King promo where you could get DBZ toys with kids meals. As an 18 year old, I sure as hell wasn't afraid to get kids meals at Burger King and I remember only being able to get Goku and Vegeta at time. I tried many times to ask the Burger King employees if I could get any of the other figures, but the Burger Kings I would frequent wouldn't have any of the other figures in stock to my dismay.

After a year and a half of working on Vegeta Insane, I realized that my range of topics to cover was limited if I was only going to stick to Vegeta. Since my AMVs were getting the most traction on the site and the majority of them weren't dedicated to Vegeta, I had decided that I wanted to expand my horizons. I couldn't think of any good names for a new DBZ site where I covered everything, but I remembered the Japanese title for DBZ Movie 9: *“Ginga GIRI GIRI, Bucchigiri no Tsuyoi Yatsu”* (*The Galaxy at the Brink, The Super Incredible Guy*) and liked *“Ginga GIRI GIRI”* so much that I decided that would be the name of the new site! In May of 2000, I had finally made the expansion from Vegeta Insane to Ginga GIRI GIRI and put Vegeta Insane as a side shrine within Ginga GIRI GIRI.

The reaction to the site change was mostly positive, but I had a few detractors as well. I had to remind them that Vegeta Insane wasn't going away, but was still going to be part of the site. Of course, I would get the standard insults like *“Ginga Girly Girly”* and *“Ginga Girl Girl”* which actually made me laugh more than anything. One thing I was warned about is when people transform their sites from a DBZ site to an all anime site, their traffic suffers because the site isn't focused on one thing anymore. I actually started a beta for a site called *“Anime after Dragon Ball”* which would focus on other titles like Slayers,

Flame of Recca, Rurouni Kenshin, and more since I was also getting fansub tapes of those series along with DBZ. Sadly this site never got off the ground since I was too focused on the DBZ side of things.

Contrary to what I was told, my traffic doubled when I opened Ginga GIRI GIRI and even quadrupled as the weeks went by since it was much easier for me to cover all of DBZ rather than Vegeta alone. While work on Vegeta Insane began to slow down to a crawl, it didn't affect Ginga GIRI GIRI as a whole since the majority of my fans were coming for the AMVs anyways.

13. “No, that was Brian Drummond.”

When I was browsing through SkitzZero’s DBZ Third Season website, I came across a whole bunch of sound files of a guy named Jon Allen (who eventually went to voice the Pink Hat Guy in DBZ, Nigrissi in Dragon Ball Super, and a ton of other shows) who literally did near exact impressions of the DBZ voice actors saying funny lines that weren’t exactly in the show. Jon private messaged me on IRC and we started chatting on how on point his voice impersonations were and how he wanted to go “*Anime Expo*”.

I had never been to a convention before and I back in the day, I wouldn’t have the courage to be in a public setting nor have the money to actually go to one. As a young working student, I finally had the money to go to cons after some convincing from Jon, I made the decision to go to Anime Expo. He also told me there were AMV contests where people get to compete and show their videos on the big screen. My ego at the time thought I would be capable of competing with the big boys at the time like *Maboroshi Studio*, *Brad DeMoss*, and *Kevin Caldwell*. I didn’t exactly have a video out on my capture card to output to VHS, so the AMV contest at Anime Expo 2000 was a no go for me. Probably for the best too since my measly 160 x 120 fansub resolution AMVs would *NOT* have stood a chance against Brad DeMoss’ “*Evangelion Episode 1*” and Kevin Caldwell’s “*Believe*”.

Anime Expo 2000 was held at the Disneyland Hotel right outside the park. Since this was my first convention, my dad insisted that he come with me just to be safe. We arrived around 11AM in the morning to the 2 hour registration line which would be a staple for all future Anime Expos. My dad was pretty much ready to leave until we got lucky that the line moved quickly enough for us to get our badges. Going to a convention like Anime Expo was something out of this world because I had never been in a place with so many like minded people such as anime fans and

cosplayers. I recall a cosplayer dressed as Eva Unit 01 playing the actual Evangelion soundtrack on a boombox while he was walking. I don't recall seeing too much DBZ cosplay since DBZ cosplay materials were much harder to obtain back then, but as the years have gone by, DBZ cosplay is pretty much everywhere.

I remember being completely blown away by the sheer magnitude of the dealer's room since it was like a treasure trove of anime items waiting to absolutely cripple my wallet. My dad and I first made our way to the FUNimation booth where we saw Chris Sabat and Eric Vale signing autographs. I remember one kid asked Chris if he also played Zechs on Gundam Wing, but Chris politely replied "***Nah, that's Brian Drummond.***" I introduced myself to both Chris and Eric and Chris said he was a fan of my site and Eric loved that my badge said "Castor Troy" since he loved the movie Face/Off. At this moment, I also met the at-then CEO of FUNimation, Gen Fukunaga and joined in a conversation about if "***Spirit vs. Spirit***" was going to be included in the english dub of Gohan vs. Cell. All Gen said to us was "It'll be on the DVDs" which he wasn't exactly wrong about. I ended up buying the "***Androids: Invasion***" and "***Androids: Dr. Gero***" VHS tapes about a week before they were released in stores and used them for clips and AMVs for my site. After my trek at the FUNimation booth, I picked up the Lost Universe soundtrack and finally met up with Jon Allen to hang out.

After having so much fun at Anime Expo 2000 which was my first convention, I decided on the spot that I would definitely attend Anime Expo 2001 and start going to more conventions. Maybe even try to enter the Anime Expo 2001 AMV contest to prove my worth on the big screen!

14. The original Adpocalypse

July 2000.

After having one of the best times of my life at Anime Expo 2000 and still running my successful site, you would think that I was at the top of the world, right? Well, things came falling down big time as the dot-com bubble burst (Which was the web advertising crash where ad rates dropped really bad due to overspending and oversaturation of the growing website market of the late 90's.) that happened in March had finally affected my web design job and I was laid off, leaving me jobless once again. To make matters worse, my parents got a letter from my college saying I was failing school and needed to see a counselor. I never used my actual address to have my mail sent to and used my parent's instead. My dad told me that I shouldn't really expect to keep renting a room once I earned enough money to get an actual apartment which is why I used my parent's address for my mail rather than the house I was staying at. Working far more on my site and AMVs had really made me neglect my grades. Also, being away from my parents for nearly a year made me careless about all of it, thinking they would never notice. Not only was I out of a job, I had to confront my parents over my bad grades. On the night that my parents told me to have dinner at their place to discuss my grades, I ditched and went to see *Gone in 60 Seconds* with Nicolas Cage instead.

The next day, I got an angry phone call from my parents telling me to come over and explain why I didn't arrive the night before. Having to face the music, I went over to their place and discussed my bad grades. I tried to convince my parents that maybe I should drop out of school and just find another job, but they weren't having it. My parents decided to help with my tuition just as long as I kept my grades up, get a less demanding part time job, and still lived on my own. I actually didn't talk about my website and said my bad grades were due to me working. Since I didn't have a job anymore, I could start

focusing more on school and they agreed that I should find a job that didn't demand as much of my time. The web design job was 6-7 hours part time 5 days a week which really ate up my study time and I could certainly live on less pay. That meant I couldn't exactly blow my disposable income on DBZ stuff as much.

Luckily, I had saved a decent nest egg from my previous job along with the small amount I got from unemployment, so I was able to live off it and still pay my rent for a few weeks. While I was looking for another job and going to school, I finally bought my first DVD player from Circuit City and the newly released FUNimation "Captain Ginyu: Assault" and "Captain Ginyu: Double Cross" DVDs, along with the DBZ Movie 3: Tree of Might Pioneer DVD. When I tried to capture clips from the Captain Ginyu DVDs, they had macrovision protection that made them look terrible and fuzzy, but luckily, the DBZ Movie 3 Pioneer DVD didn't have the macrovision problems like the FUNimation Captain Ginyu discs had.

I was jobless for about 2 months leading into the fall of 2000, living off the last of my savings as my parents were gracious enough to pay for my tuition. I was able to purchase the "*Androids: Assassins*" and "*Androids: Invincible*" VHS tapes as my bank account finally hit the single digits after paying rent. I absolutely had no hope of ever landing another job with all my resumes at the school job placement center hitting the dark void of nothingness. Feeling defeated, I was pretty much ready to face the music and finally move back in with my parents about a year after I had moved out. However, my parents were able to hook me up with a friend's company who needed graphic design work, so I was able to get a night shift job as a graphic designer from 6PM-Midnight. This schedule was absolutely perfect as I would go to school in the day, then go to work at night. Coming home from work was a breeze since there were NO cars on the freeway at midnight and I got to sleep in until 10AM since my classes weren't till noon. I was also fortunate my boss at the graphic design company was a big fan of video games and

Gundam Wing. This was awesome as we were able to bond over those and it kept us awake during the night shifts. After 2 months of despair, I had finally landed another decent paying job in the wake of the dot-com bubble crash.

15. Enter 007

As my operation on Ginga GIRI GIRI was growing bigger, I was definitely in need of more help as it was getting harder to work on the site due to my night shifts. I had become an Op (operator who can ban anyone in the server) on the Planet Namek IRC server and I was approached by 007-Sama of mikesdbz.com. He had just closed his site, but made an offer to me to add all his existing content to my site and help me with updating, so I immediately agreed. 007-Sama was the type of guy who always worked hard, came up with new ideas, and complimented my own ideas. We quickly became best friends to the point where we were talking on the phone every so often with him in Florida and me in California. He even had my back when a certain person I didn't want to ever speak to again came back into my life and stood up for me. He was the Krillin to my Goku and the best co-webmaster a guy could ever ask for.

Fall of 2000 was when FUNimation was airing the Android-Cell saga on Cartoon Network for a whopping 77 episodes. I honestly thought they would at least cut it in half, but I'm surprised we got everything from Trunks' arrival to Gohan defeating Cell. Cartoon Network would also air episodes around midnight for anyone who missed the evening episodes which was a blessing. Even though I made it a pact to set the VCR at my parent's place to record, there was a time my parents actually watched another channel and ended up recording a golf tournament over one of the Cell vs. Trunks episodes. Luckily thanks to the extra midnight showings, I was able to nab the episode I missed.

Around this time, MrE suggested that we all join the DBZ Top 50 in order to combat the massive amount of full episode sites that were sprouting around. I personally didn't care to join it, but at the insistence of MrE, I did anyways to prove a point to the full episode sites. For some reason I would always rank at 24-37 while lagging behind some other full episode sites. Furious, 007-Sama and I contacted FUNimation's legal department and they

thanked us for letting them know about the sites and sent 007-Sama some DBZ party favors in appreciation. 007-Sama would handle most of the communication with FUNimation to give me time to work on the site. This began my long on and off relationship with FUNimation that still lasts to this day.

Christmas of 2000 was around the corner and life was good for me. I had a good job, stable hosting on Planet Namek, and help from 007-Sama to maintain the site. I remember editing a total of six new AMVs to debut for Christmas which were four new ones and two remastered ones thanks to the Android-Cell Saga episodes airing on Cartoon Network. After some of the struggles I went through at the start of the new millenium, I was hoping to enter 2001 even better and stronger than ever... or so I thought.

16. “Can you host this site?” *crickets*

As 2001 approached us, I had just gotten a message from MrE saying that I had literally ran him \$3000+ worth of bandwidth for all my Christmas AMVs. I may have had a decent job, but I sure as hell couldn't pay him \$3000. Luckily, he was gracious enough to pay the bandwidth bill, but had no choice but to let me go from my Planet Namek hosting. To make matters worse, my boss at the graphic design company was having financial issues and going through a nasty divorce which led me to become jobless once again in early 2001. Luckily, I was able to get back my old job at the college bookstore which would become my part-time job up until the end of 2003. Since Ginga GIRI GIRI was without a host, I tried to contact everyone I knew if we could get hosting. I recall contacting my friend who knew a host who had full episode downloads. As much as I despised full episode sites, I was desperate to find ANY type of hosting. I was sure since this site was hosting full episodes, it would have enough bandwidth to around. When my friend told the website host that we needed hosting.... we never heard from him again.

Things weren't getting any better around the DBZ web as many sites had to close up shop due to the dot-com bubble crash that happened a year prior. MrE was frustrated that his advertisers would stop speaking to him at the worst times and even had to open an amazon donations link to keep the Planet Namek server alive. VegettoEX, who had just reopened his site as “Daizenshuu EX” in 2000 also had to close up shop for a bit until he came back in 2003. There were even joke petitions that opened up saying that Ginga GIRI GIRI needs to stop killing web servers, which I jokingly signed. We were able to get hosting from our friend SegaSaga on cvgn.net and it was pretty reliable for a while. 007-Sama and I were able to recruit some new staff members like our IRC friends Dark-Zero, Bravo, Lucky, and Rekka to help with site updates, along with some small contributions from our friends Dyne and Wiznut. Were we

finally going to be ok again? Or were we headed for another server meltdown?

Since I had a great time at Anime Expo 2000 at the Disneyland Hotel, I knew for sure that I absolutely had to attend Anime Expo 2001 in Long Beach. I was reunited with Jon Allen who had just went to FUNimation in Texas and recorded his lines for the “**Pink Hat Guy**” in the Buu arc episode “**King of the Demons**”. Jon had been talking with Chris Sabat and FUNimation for a long time while also working for Daizenshuu EX. Chris was gracious enough to let Jon spend time at his house and was able to record for DBZ which was beyond awesome.

I had taken Jon’s advice to re-enter the Anime Expo 2001 AMV contest and I had recently purchased a Pinnacle Studio DC10 capture and output card that let me output my AMVs to VHS. I had decided to remake one of my favorite Vegeta tributes “Soul of Darkness” to see if it would be worthy enough to compete on the big screen, but I made so many rookie mistakes like using bad fansub quality footage and Cartoon Network logo footage. Sadly, I didn’t make the contest, but I did get invited to the “**Gathering of Talent**” where I got to mingle with all of the AMV creators, but I felt like an insignificant scrub. I did have a good time talking with the head AMV Coordinator about what the judges thought of Japanese music being used in videos and he said that they loved it because as long as the video flows well and can resonate with the crowd, any song could work. Over the years, I received a lot of criticism that I was stagnant in my AMV creation and all I did were DBZ/J-pop videos.

The Anime Expo 2001 AMV contest was held at the Long Beach Terrace Theater which was one of the biggest theaters I’ve ever been to in my life. I was blown away by seeing all the AMVs on the big screen there like the Lost in Space videos, One Day More, Memories Dance, Right Now, Soul of an Angel, and the infamous Trigun/Bebop Crossover: “**Tainted Donuts**”. The best of show winner was Tainted Donuts and I loved it not only

because it was a crossover between Trigun and Cowboy Bebop that looked amazing due to all the digital effects editing done to make it look like Vash and Spike were REALLY fighting each other. But, the fact that it used a Japanese song “*Shiroi Yami no Naka*” by Shakkazombie. Seeing a Japanese music AMV win the *Best of Show* at the biggest convention in North America really made me say “**HAH!**” at my detractors and I absolutely VOWED to get into the contest the next year and maybe possibly win.

The rest of Anime Expo 2001 was hanging out with Jon and I finally got to meet MrE along with a fan of my site, Hunter001. Luckily MrE didn’t ask for the \$3000 I cost him a few months back because obviously there was no way I could pay it, lol. We all had fun hearing Jon’s stories about his time at FUNimation and all the funny stuff that he did while he was there. At the FUNimation booth, we finally met Sonny Strait, the voice of Krillin who had asked Jon to hold onto a box of donuts he had obtained from a fan. One of the funniest things that Jon suggested was he was gonna hold onto Sonny’s donuts for about a month until San Diego Comic Con and then give the box back to him. However, Jon didn’t want rotting donuts and ants all over his house, so the idea was discarded, along with the donuts that we didn’t eat.

Shortly after Anime Expo 2001, we ended up exceeding our bandwidth on cvgn.net just like the way we did with Planet Namek. This time we were able to get back online in the fall after being down for all of summer. SegaSaga told 007-Sama and I to reduce the bandwidth usage or else we would end up hostless again. 007-Sama decided in the fall of 2001 to finally get our own dedicated server that he would pay about \$300 a month for and we made the move to what was going to be final Ginga GIRI GIRI url at 3g.lucastadium.com. 007-Sama chose the Luca Stadium url since he loved playing Final Fantasy X.

17. The end of an era

I checked my statcounter one day and saw that “*Android 18 hentai*” was one of the most popular search terms that led people to the site. I had a good laugh, but I was more happy that we were entering 2002 with our own server instead of being hosted by others for the past 2 years. However, we had only been on our dedicated server for maybe 2 months going into 2002 when I came home from school and noticed the site was down. 007-Sama messaged me saying that our site once again had exceeded bandwidth **ON OUR OWN DEDICATED SERVER WITH A \$300 A MONTH BILL**. Just like before, our web host told us to lower the bandwidth or else we’d have to find another server somewhere else.

It was over.

007-Sama and I finally came to the conclusion that we didn’t want to do this anymore. All of the constant server moves, bandwidth issues, and our waning interest in DBZ itself were the major contributing factors. For some reason, I didn’t feel as sad as I thought I would because I was personally moving more into the AMV community after completing “*Dragon Bebop Z*” which was a crossover between Cowboy Bebop and Dragon Ball Z set to “*Tough Boy*” by Tom Cat (The Fist of the North Star 2 opening theme). Dragon Bebop Z was inspired by “*Tainted Donuts*” which I saw at Anime Expo 2001 and wanted to pay tribute to it.

The Dragon Ball Z web community was never the same after the dot-com bubble crash of 2000. Shortly after we made the decision to finally shut down Ginga GIRI GIRI and Vegeta Insane for good, Planet Namek finally closed it’s doors. VegettoEX went on an hiatus until 2003, and the entire DBZ web community was a mere shadow of it’s former self. DBZ on Cartoon Network had just hit the Buu saga and there was no signs of web traffic slowing down which was a complete burden

for DBZ sites. The ad revenue model had collapsed thanks to the dot-com bubble crash and advertisers were few and far between. This was several years before Ad-Blockers would even come out.

It was still sad to throw in the towel as three years of my life were finally coming to a close. There was a part of me that thought I would outlast everyone and become the dominant DBZ webmaster for all eternity, but sadly, that never came to be. We had to wait until June of 2002 to finally get hosting from our friend XZ over at dbzsc.com to post our goodbye message. After we posted it, I got a ton of emails and messages thanking me for all the work I did for the past three years and how sad it was that the site closed. I didn't feel super sad months before when 007-Sama and I made the initial decision to close, but MAN, I finally felt the sadness reading over all the message and emails I was getting. Someone even made an AMV dedicated to me with Chad Kroger's "**Hero**" from the Sam Raimi Spider-Man movie which made me tear up a bit. After the closure, 007-Sama, the current 3G staff of Bravo, Lucky, Rekka, Dark-Zero, and even Jon Allen who joined our site at the tail end all said our parting words and split ways.

You may have taken away my site and hosting, but there's one thing a content creator always keeps... **HIS PRIDE!!!!!!**

18. “Trash belongs in the trash bin, was it?”

“Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.”

Experiencing fame and also learning the value of hard work can be a wonderful thing for someone at a young age. If nurtured correctly, they can use that to develop valuable relationships and opportunities for the future. While I continued to work hard on my website and relished in the praise of my fans, there was a dark side to all of it that I want to talk about. It’s not the easiest thing to deal with and I feel it’s important for all up and coming content creators to know what the dark side of fame is and how it can affect you.

Just like Vegeta’s ego when he achieves a victory to satisfy his pride, my ego began to grow to monstrous proportions as a 17 year old kid who made a silly site with Vegeta jokes that were mildly funny at best. For some reason, they still resonated with people enough to earn me an audience. I began to walk around school thinking I was the hot shit that had a DBZ website when everyone else was working part time jobs, focusing on their schoolwork, and getting ready for college. Whenever I got a C on my chemistry tests, I would think to myself ***“Eh, I got a DBZ website where people praise me for my existence, so who cares about something as puny and meaningless as school. Ha Ha Ha.”*** Instead of researching and applying for colleges like my parents were asking me to, I would look up the latest summary from Benny Lee’s Dragon Ball-Z-GT, the latest news from VegettoEX’s site, or read translated manga from the Daily Dragon Ball Chapters. I would go into IRC and grace everyone with my “omnipotent” presence when I needed to escape the mundaneness of the real world.

I started becoming quicker to anger, more defensive, and just plain arrogant all around. When people visiting my site saw this fun and joyful webmaster on their monitors, they didn’t realize

behind all the Vegeta jokes was a monster who only cared about siphoning the praise of DBZ fans to fuel his ever growing already gigantic ego. If there was a scouter that would measure my arrogance level, it would probably explode. Whenever someone opposed me in IRC or in email, my first thought would be ***“How DARE they say that shit to someone of MY caliber!”*** and would proceed to ban them from chatting, humiliate them in my mailbag, or just delete the email and toss it in the trash.

To make matters worse for my ego, sometime around 2000 or so, Planet Namek ran a poll on what their favorite DBZ site was and while I was up against some pretty fierce competition, I came out on top.



Planet Namek Poll: Circa Early 2000

Being voted on by the large crowd who visited Planet Namek made me feel like I won something like an Academy Award of the DBZ web community. Only within one year of my debut, I had been voted number one on Planet Namek, the biggest DBZ fan site at the time. I wondered what was going to be next, a book deal? A movie deal? Akira Toriyama was going to write me into the series where I voice myself and defeat Goku? Maybe Shueisha was going to email me and arrange a dinner with Toriyama himself? FUNimation was going to make me a producer on the show? Oh man! The possibilities were endless!

Another bad effect of fame was that I was already a sensitive person, and I took any insult or negative comment directed at me very personally. There's a saying that goes, you can get 10 comments of praise and 1 bad comment, but you're mostly going to focus on that one bad comment. I know it's human nature to instinctively respond more to the bad comments than the good ones because we're sensitive creatures. I used to be so obsessed being concerned about what people thought of me that I would type my name into a search engine to see what comes up. Or go to a place like the Planet Namek forums to find out what people were saying. I remember in 2001 after seeing "**Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back**", I found a thread on the Planet Namek forums talking bad things about me. To phrase that movie, **I was gonna make them eat my shit, then shit out that shit, then make them eat that shit made of my shit that I made them eat.** In fact, I even imagined myself getting plane tickets just like how Jay and Silent Bob did at the end of that movie and fly over to just kick my troll's asses.

When you're at the top, you're also afraid to lose your spot at the top. Even though I was getting tons of emails and views on my site, I would go absolutely nuts when people were talking about other sites and not my own. "*Hey, did you visit that other Vegeta site that's not Vegeta Insane? I think it has potential to grow big!*". It made no sense why I was absolutely jealous of other up and coming sites when I already had a pretty good following of my own. Was I that trapped in my own ego, in a bubble not connected to the outside world? Was I truly out of touch with reality to the point where I let my e-fame consume me?

To be truthful, behind all the Vegeta jokes, Anime Music Videos, and countless praise..

I was a loser.

I had just barely graduated high school with slightly above a 2.0 GPA, making me un-eligible to attend any of the prestigious

colleges my classmates were attending. I had to settle for a local community college where my grades weren't any better because I was focusing on my website. I started talking to an attractive girl I met in college, but never followed up on dating her because I wanted to make an AMV with Piccolo vs. Android 17 set to Megumi Hayashibara's Give a Reason Giga Remix. Whenever I would visit my parents, I would tell them I was doing "ok" in school when I really wasn't. Instead of studying or trying to get my grades up, I was too busy updating my website, playing video games, and avoiding actual human contact altogether. I dreaded having small talk not because I didn't want to hear the lives of other people. In fact, I absolutely love hearing about the lives of other people, but never really liked talking about myself. How was I going to explain to normal people that I just work on my DBZ website all day? I wasn't earning any money from it, nor was I pursuing a career in web design anymore after losing my web design job. Sure, entertaining people was great, but I was really doing it more for my own self satisfaction and ego rather than doing it for more important things that could benefit my future.

The mighty "Castor Troy", a persona that showed knowledge and authority in the DBZ web community was nothing more than a slacker with failing grades and a hermit away from the outside world. Looking back on the way I conducted myself in the past, I felt regretful for the people who had to put up with my nonsense. I remember wanting so hard to push everything aside and start anew from the bottom because I felt so ashamed of my old arrogant self back then. While content creators get to make stuff that makes other people happy and fulfill their own creative desires, we live our lives full of insecurities and self doubt. No matter how many views and praise I would get, there would always be that side of myself telling me I was no good. Even after winning AMV contests where I entertained thousands of people live and got trophies on stage, a few days later, the negative part of my brain would say: ***"Sure you won those trophies and entertained all those people, but you're still a***

piece of worthless shit in the real world where all of this amounts to nothing.” Sadly, I would give in and believe all of this drivel my head continues to spout. It’s still a personal problem that I continue to deal with to this day. Especially when I’m on the verge of success, my insecurities take over and bring me back down to the ground. I used to think it was a way to humble and balance myself, but it’s a very dangerous and toxic way of thinking. I feel if I could conquer these negative feelings, I could do anything and I’ve been doing my best over the years to power on through them. All the talk of famous celebrities and online personas having depression and anxiety is all true because no matter how much fame and fortune you have, you’re human and will always have insecurities, fear, and self doubt. I wanted to be honest about the feelings and thoughts that go into my head as a content creator and my struggles with them. I know a lot of other content creators like myself go through these feelings all the time as well.

A fair warning to content creators: When you start becoming bigger in the public eye, more eyes will be laid upon you, both the good and especially the bad. It’s always best to avoid any type of drama, but as a public figure, the drama will always start coming to you and you need to be able to deal with it in the most professional way possible. I confess I wasn’t always the most level headed when it came to dealing with the drama, haters, and trolls. Most trolls attack you with nothing to lose, but as a content creator with a reputation, you have *everything* to lose. A troll with nothing to lose is dangerous because they don’t have any credibility or a reputation on the line like content creators do. One small outburst could make you look like the bad guy and your reputation could go out the door in a second. Imagine building up your brand for years, only to have it all taken away because you got angry with some troll and said some horrible things you shouldn’t have said. I’m sure there’s a ton of IRC and AIM logs of me out there acting like a total jackass which I regret. I’m not saying to back down to trolls and haters, but make sure you realize the consequences that may occur if you end up

losing your temper when one of these trolls and haters says something nasty about you. As human beings, we're sensitive and the minute we get antagonized, we immediately jump into defense mode. Sometimes a 10 year old kid with insecurities is gonna try to ruin your day. Try not to fall for the bait and recognize when someone is trying to bait you into responding. The only things trolls want are attention and if you give it to them, they win. Nowadays, social media allows you to gauge a troll's influence and follower count. Don't get baited the way I did back in the past. It just isn't worth it.

Over the years, I've learned to re-embrace my past self again, but I wanted to be truthful about how ashamed I felt about it. Don't worry about me though, since I was able to write this book and everything is gonna be funny and positive from here on in.

19. Spirit-Gun!

After my Dragon Bebop Z AMV made the convention circuit in 2002 and won several awards, I found work on a Yu Yu Hakusho site called spiritdetective.com run by my friend TheQuestion. I have to admit it was much nicer working for someone else than trying to be the head webmaster. I was in charge of saga summaries, movie clips, AMVs, and more all relating to Yu Yu Hakusho. I remember watching Yu Yu Hakusho on Cartoon Network when it first aired and immediately got hooked on it. I even declared it my favorite anime at the time because I related so much to Yusuke Urameshi, the main character who was a good-for nothing hot-head with a heart of gold.

I would also be in charge of general correspondence with FUNimation as they were starting to push out Yu Yu Hakusho as their next big thing. DBZ was coming to an end in 2003 and Dragon Ball GT was on the horizon. I was contacted by their head of marketing to write up reviews of the upcoming Yu Yu Hakusho dvds that they would send me and TheQuestion. Not only did FUNimation send me every Yu Yu Hakusho DVD as they were coming out, they sent me Kiddy Grade, Fruits Basket, Tenchi Muyo GXP, Blue Gender, the rest of Dragon Ball Z, Lupin the 3rd, and many other of the series they had acquired.

I still continued to watch DBZ on Cartoon Network and on the International Channel as my parent's cable provider had finally gotten the International Channel and both channels were airing the Buu saga episodes at nearly the same time. I remember going to my parent's house after picking up my youngest sister from school, dropping her off, then watching Cartoon Network with her to see the final episodes of DBZ air on Cartoon Network in 2003. I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw Goku flying away with Uub right on Cartoon Network. Four years prior in 1999, I was unsure we would ever get past the fight with Goku vs. Jheese and Burter. Even though FUNimation was sending me

Dragon Ball GT DVDs, I didn't exactly watch them all since I really couldn't stand DBGT and the fact that they started out of order with episode 17. At the time of writing this book in 2019, I still haven't seen all of DBGT, but maybe I plan to fix that someday.

As 2003 was progressing, a fan of my work named dbz_doomrider approached me with a proposition to make a collaborative DBZ AMV. This video was to show the AMV community that DBZ AMVs weren't all Linkin Park and pointless fighting scenes because of DBZ's bad reputation in the AMV community. This one project would eventually become "**Project Doomrider**". I was initially hesitant to join because I didn't know much about this dbz_doomrider guy, but decided to join anyways for a chance to show the good side of DBZ AMVs. Progress on the project was relatively slow until VegettoEX decided to come on board and manage things which really helped it out. I remember we originally had a much darker and shorter song in mind until we settled on "**Sandstorm**" by Darude. I initially took the Android saga track and finished it within a weekend. Having to edit something as fast and intense as Sandstorm proved to be a challenge, so I approached it with the following philosophy: "**It's not a matter of syncing every beat, but making it look synced.**". In late 2004, nearly a year after I finished my track, I had just learned that my friends Beowulf and Wonka from HypeOdermic studios had just dropped out of the project leaving the early Namek arc track unfinished. I volunteered to take the track and was actually hesitant to use the pioneer DVDs of the Namek Arc because that's all we had in 2004. One of the funny thing about finishing the Namek arc Doomrider track was I edited it on my laptop at my parent's house while I was visiting them. My dad called me and my sisters out to the dining room to lecture us about something while my video of the Namek arc was playing in the living room over and over again. So, imagine my dad lecturing us while you heard an endless 30 second loop of a small Sandstorm segment as background music. Not exactly the most

fitting tune, but I still found it hilarious.

When I went to Anime Weekend Atlanta 2004, I finally met VegettoEX and Meri in person after so many years and watching the nearly completed Project Doomrider on the big screen at their panel was like a dream come true. VegettoEX finally released the entire Project Doomrider video in early 2005 to a thunderous applause that people still remember to this day and I'm really happy I got to collaborate on such an amazing project.

My stint with spiritdetective.com would last until 2005 because Yu Yu Hakusho was approaching its end and TheQuestion was moving onto other things. After leaving spiritdetective.com, I focused far more on my AMV work, going to conventions, and won more than two dozen awards with "***Resident Evil 4 - Die Another Day***", "***Naruto Ball Z: A Battle of Epic Proportions***", "***Go The Distance***", and my final AMV "***Naruto Ball Z Shippuden: Heroes Come Back***". I finally retired from AMVs in 2012 in order to focus on gaming videos on "***Battle Geek Plus***", a YouTube channel I started with my friends Josie, Heather, Frank, and Bill. During this time, I had also graduated college, worked in the film industry as a video editor, and began shifting my focus onto YouTube videos.

20. “You ever think of coming back?”

Sometime in 2010, I was chatting with SkitzZero about the good ol’ days of the DBZ web. Ever since we left, the DBZ web community was pretty much reduced down to a more village like presence with sites like Daizenshuu EX and Kanzentai being the top dogs. More people were going to YouTube and reddit to get their Dragon Ball fix rather than visiting a huge community of websites. SkitzZero asked me if I ever thought of coming back to the DBZ web, but my response was *“I have, but I’d be coming back for the wrong reasons.”*

I already felt like I had given everything I had back from 1999-2002 and it was time for the next generation to take charge. I initially thought that coming back would feel like a cheap cash-in to regain my former fame. What else could I contribute to a community I had been out of for several years and know nothing about anymore? I was still keeping up with Dragon Ball after the 2008 Jump Anime Tour Special came out (**Yo! Son Goku and his friends return!**), DBZ Kai, and even the dreaded *Dragon Ball Evolution* (which I texted to VegettoEX: “BEST MOVIE EVER”). I made a few appearances on the Daizenshuu EX podcast with my first appearance talking about what I’ve been up to since Ginga GIRI GIRI and Vegeta Insane shut down. I was pretty content just staying on the sidelines and focusing more on AMVs.

However, nearly every month since the site shut down and for years afterwards, people would still email me asking where all my old AMVs were since I never changed my vegetainsane@hotmail.com address (which still works today!). I had started uploading my old AMVs to my YouTube channel until TOEI Animation shut it down. The demand for all my old work was still there even years after I was gone.

The light bulb in my head turned on as I realized that ever since the end of the dot-com bubble crash, website hosting was far

more affordable than ever before. Since the DBZ web community had been reduced quite drastically, I wouldn't have to worry about bandwidth problems. Now that I was a working adult with a bit of money, I would be able to host a new site all on my own without having to answer to a host who was actually paying the bills instead of myself. I decided to register 3gkai.com and rename my site "*Ginga GIRI GIRI Kai*" since DBZ Kai was the new hotness as the time. My goal for the site was to mostly be an archive of my work so people would have an easier time finding it rather than trying to search YouTube channels reuploading my videos.

I launched 3G Kai in July of 2010 with all of my old videos embedded via google drive links and all my post Ginga GIRI GIRI/Vegeta Insane AMVs like Dragon Bebop Z, Naruto Ball Z: A Battle of Epic Proportions, Resident Evil 4 - Die Another Day, and more. I also started a new video series called "*The Best of Big Green*" with some help from Hujio of Kanzentai (now on Kanzenshuu) and our pal Corey which was dedicated to the hilarity of the AB Groupe UK dub with classic lines such as "*Let that Child Alone!*" and the hilarious quality of the voice acting. The revival of 3G Kai was met with an overwhelmingly good response and luckily it didn't eat up a lot of bandwidth since more people went to Daizenshuu EX, Kanzentai, reddit, and YouTube for Dragon Ball stuff.

A year later in 2011, I decided to host DBZ Uncensored and personally asked Chris Psaros for an interview which he graciously accepted. I honestly haven't talked to Chris since 2000 during an email exchange, so it was nice to catch up with one of my idols from the past. One of the biggest requests from my fans was the remastering of all my old AMVs with DVD quality footage. I was initially hesitant to remaster my videos because I didn't want be accused of "George Lucas-ing" them by adding in more unnecessary effects and other things that plagued the original Star Wars Trilogy re-releases. I had acquired both the US and Japanese Dragon Boxes in order to make the

“**Castor Box**” which was a remastering of my first 45 AMVs and 5 additional never before seen ones that I scrapped over the years. From 2010-2011, I was working on the 50 remastered AMVs for the Castor Box and **Naruto Ball Z Shippuden: Heroes Come Back** at the same time. I worked on one Castor Box video per week until I got them all done in early 2011 and also finished Naruto Ball Z Shippuden in summer of 2011. I launched the Castor Box in summer of 2011 and had a sneak preview of Naruto Ball Z Shippuden: Heroes Come Back at the Anime Expo 2011 Iron Chef to a great response. Sadly, this is when I had decided to retire from AMVs to pursue my gaming videos on Battle Geek Plus. I held onto Naruto Ball Z Shippuden: Heroes Come Back until Sakura Con 2012 where it won the prestigious Best of Show award and I announced my AMV retirement shortly afterwards.

Even though I had declared my AMV retirement after Sakura Con 2012, I still sent Naruto Ball Z Shippuden: Heroes Come Back to as many conventions as I could to get as many awards as possible to go out of the AMV scene in style. I almost didn't get into the Anime Expo 2012 AMV contest due to some internal corruption on the judges part. However, a good friend of mine who was running the AMV contest fought to have the voting re-done which I'm grateful for and proved that he wanted to stand up against the internal corruption of Anime Expo. While I had already declared my AMV retirement months before after Sakura Con, I would have been content regardless, but there was still a huge part of me that wanted to finally win at my home con. The Anime Expo 2012 AMV contest showing of Naruto Ball Z Shippuden: Heroes Come Back was met with an overwhelmingly good response in a large crowd of 6000+ people. Sadly, there were these two assholes sitting right behind me bashing on every video. After mine showed, they said “**Man, I'd give that video zero stars if I could.**”. It was quite tempting to elbow their faces from behind or I could have turned around and told them I made the video and they would have been cowardly apologetic like the losers they were. They continued to bash every other video,

especially a Mr. Satan tribute video saying “**That was the WORST video in the contest br far!**”. Luckily, I kept my cool and didn’t say anything because two days later, I was awarded the **Best Action, Audience Choice**, and the prestigious **Best of Show** award, an award that I have been gunning for 11 years since I saw my first AMV contest at Anime Expo 2001. My victory was more than enough sweet revenge not only for me, but for my friend running the AMV contest who dealt with the corrupt judges, and for every video the two losers sitting behind me insulted. If I only I could have seen the reaction on their smug faces the three times I went up on stage to receive my awards and made my victory speeches.

As they say, living well is the best revenge.

21. The Dark Prince Returns

After my retirement from AMVs in 2012, I continued working on Battle Geek Plus, producing gaming videos with my friends Josie, Heather, Frank, and Bill. Throughout the years, we ended up working with several gaming companies like PDP (Performance Digital Products), Nintendo, Capcom, Bethesda, and more. During this time, I got invited to the Battle of Gods, Resurrection F, and Broly premieres thanks to our friends Justin Rojas and Geekdom101. I hadn't been in contact with FUNimation for several years at this point, but it was nice to reconnect after so long.

In 2018, I realized it had been 20 years since I saw DBZ on Cartoon Network which changed my life forever. While Ginga GIRI GIRI Kai had been up for nearly a decade at this point, what about the one site that started it all? Vegeta Insane.

I was jokingly thinking of doing the 20th anniversary of "Piccolo's Boot Camp" and "The DBZ Sound Studio" which nobody would actually get. However, the thoughts of bringing back Vegeta Insane did cross my mind for the 20th anniversary of its inception. However, the same thoughts when I was contemplating bringing back Ginga GIRI GIRI as Ginga GIRI GIRI Kai went through my mind saying: Was it only going to be a comeback to regain my former glory? What purpose does a DBZ comedy character shrine serve in this day and age? Is the content even relevant anymore? Will anybody even care?

The thing that convinced me to bring it back was reading through some old document files of "**Vegeta Vs.**" I still had from 1999-2001. I remember very vividly when I wrote "Vegeta vs. Bill Clinton", "Vegeta vs. Hansen", etc... wow. When you mention Bill Clinton and Hansen, that REALLY shows how old those stories were. I ended up reading the submissions that people have sent to me over the years and cracked up at "Vegeta vs. Sailor Moon", "Vegeta vs. The Teletubbies", and a lot more

gems. I initially thought this stuff from 1999-2001 wasn't going to be funny or relevant anymore. However, after having trouble containing my laughter at both work and home while reading them, I was convinced to bring Vegeta Insane back just to share silly 20+ year old stories about Vegeta fighting real and fictional characters.

Even though Vegeta Insane did have a lot of sections, I didn't bring back any of the far outdated multimedia sections since anyone can easily look for Vegeta images on google and clips on YouTube. I decided to bring back the silly and juvenile humor sections mostly unaltered, but spruced their screencaps up a bit. I even went to buy Vegeta Insane's own domain "vegetainsane.com" for convenience.

On January 5th, 2019, I relaunched Vegeta Insane 20 years after I launched it on Geocities to a tremendous response. While much smaller than it was back in 1999-2002, the new Vegeta Insane site had all the essentials such as my old AMVs and the old Vegeta humor like Vegeta Vs, Vegeta-Fu, How to Be Vegeta, and the Vegeta Top 10's. Have I ever thought of making updates to these sections to reflect the events up to 2019? Well.... let's talk about a certain convention first!

22. Kamehacon 2019

Around late 2017, Geekdom101 messaged me saying that there was this new Dragon Ball only related convention called **“Kamehacon”** which was coming up in Texas and he was going to be the host there. Geekdom101 asked me if I was interested in running a panel, but I was hesitant for several reasons. In early 2017, I had just gotten a surge of traffic on my Battle Geek Plus YouTube channel from a popular Nintendo vs. Sega retrospective that me and my friends did. That massive surge of traffic inspired me to work harder on my **“Awesome Video Game Memories”** game review show, so I began to pump it out on weekly basis. Around the fall of 2017, even though my channel was getting the most traffic it had ever gotten in years, I began to feel the extreme burnout of making weekly videos. Sadly, the boost from the Nintendo vs. Sega video was only temporary since within a month later, my traffic began to plummet week after week because fads on YouTube only last a short time. I was trying so hard to take advantage of the surge in traffic I got and within six or so months later, I was telling myself **“I wish I could take a vacation from all this.”** which was something that I would never say. Ever since 2011, I was pumping out videos for Battle Geek Plus on a weekly basis, never missing a week and never thought to take a break because I loved doing it so much. It truly felt like 1999 again working on Vegeta Insane where I was motivated after I got my initial surge of traffic from being linked on VegettoEX’s site. As the weeks in 2017 were flying by after the Nintendo vs. Sega video, I was getting massively discouraged from the constant drops in traffic. I realized that people were only subscribing to us from the Nintendo vs. Sega video and not even checking out any of our other stuff. I had no idea why I was feeling discouraged since even when Battle Geek Plus had less than 1000 subscribers, I was still motivated. In early 2018, I had finally told myself that I was sick of doing all of this for no return whatsoever. For the first time since 2011 when Battle Geek Plus started, I had finally lost faith in my own show.

In early 2018, I had to give Geekdom101 an answer on whether I was going to attend Kamehacon 2018 or not and I had to sadly decline. My state of mind wasn't exactly in the best place and shortly afterwards, a huge incident regarding a website I was part of happened which made me doubt my own brand even further. I decided to go on a hiatus from making videos and began to write my first book "**A Winner is You! The Most Hilarious Video Game Quotes with Snarky Commentary**". My Battle Geek Plus comrades Josie and Heather went to Kamehacon 2018 and I had made the decision not to, which I regret.

I recall the weekend of Kamehacon 2018 to be one of the most positive weekends on all social media for some reason. Not only was I seeing all of my friends having the time of their lives, but twitter was actually positive for once on all sides and not just the Dragon Ball community. I was happy seeing all of my friend's pictures and was kicking myself incredibly hard in my own ass for missing out. When Josie and Heather got back from Kamehacon, I interviewed Josie on our "**Waxing Pixels**" talk show about her experience there. She said it was one of the best convention experiences of her life and was full of positive vibes all around. Josie also ran a Dragon Ball and Martial Arts panel which I heard went over really well. After talking with Josie, I made a vow to make it to Kamehacon 2019. It took me until September of 2018 to finally get my mindset motivated again and got back into the groove of making videos. I had just finished writing "A Winner is You!", started putting up Battle Geek Plus shows like Awesome Video Game Memories on Amazon Prime, and purchased the vegetainsane.com domain. I was extremely lucky to get my plane tickets to Texas for a cheap price before Thanksgiving of 2018, so that meant I was pretty much locked in. By the time Geekdom101 asked me if I was interested in coming to Kamehacon 2019, I was finally happy to say I was coming for sure.

In preparation for Kamehacon 2019, I was going to be running my **“Play the Dragon: History of Dragon Ball Video Games”** panel. I had also been spending the last half of 2018 writing the Play the Dragon book version which I was lucky to complete in March of 2019, a month before Kamehacon. I listed it on Amazon early so I could get a copy of the book to give away to a lucky winner at my panel. After doing several practice runs of my panel, I was finally ready to head out to Kamehacon!

After a rocky flight from LAX to DFW, me, Josie, and Heather got into Dallas too late to meet up with our friends, so we met up with our pal Miguel at the hotel and just had Whataburger. Kamehacon 2019 was taking place in the Irving Convention Center which was a nice and smaller venue than most conventions I’ve been to. Thanks to Geekdom101, I was invited as a guest and got privileges to attend panels early and even had access to the guest green room where I ended up having lunch with Scott McNeil (Piccolo in the Ocean Dub of DBZ), Sonny Strait (Krillin), and Chris Rager (Mr. Satan).

I’ve been recognized at conventions for years thanks to my sites and the AMV stuff, but MAN, I had never felt so much like a rockstar at Kamehacon. I was constantly being stopped by people who recognized me from YouTube, Amazon Prime, and from social media. I was walking to a hotel to hang out with my friends and one person shouted **“CASTOR TROY AMV!!!”** and I couldn’t even see who it was! Sadly, I never found this person, but if you’re reading this book, please message me!!

Geekdom101 was right, Kamehacon was full of the **HARDCORE** fans that remember **EVERYTHING**. Kamehacon was filled with so many awesome panels and moments like me talking with both Scott McNeil and Kirby Morrow at a hotel bar over their years of voice acting. I told Scott McNeil that even though I love his Piccolo, his Wrath-Amon voice from **“Conan the Adventurer”** was still my favorite one of his performances.

After seeing my fellow DBZ YouTuber friends host their panels,

the big day came when I was finally going to host my **“Play the Dragon: History of Dragon Ball Video Games”** panel. I was initially nervous about it at first since I have done panels in the past with a moderator or fellow panelists to bounce off of, but this was going to be my first solo effort. I was watching Alejandro Saab’s (Shallot in DB Legends) panel which was taking place in the same room before mine and while he was doing a great job with his panel, I was getting anxiety over mine. Once he finished, it was finally my turn.

As soon as I got up to the table at the front of the room and setup my laptop to show my panel slides, all of my anxiety went away and the panel off without a hitch. I had so much fun presenting all of the classic Dragon Ball games and interacting with everyone who came. I was even asked if I was going to do a 2nd part of **“Play the Dragon: History of Dragon Ball Video Games”** covering the PS2 era and more, but that would all depend on if Kamehacon would re-invite me in the future. I was able to give away a book version of Play the Dragon to a lucky person who actually spent time in both the Ultimate Battle 22 and Final Bout Build Up modes since I found his story so funny. I was honestly only expecting 2 people to show up to my panel, but I was able to get 20+ in the small panel room I got. Thanks to everyone who came!

My pal Jamie (FutureGohanSSJ2) ran a Cartoon Network retrospective panel right after mine, but couldn’t get most of his videos to load on the convention center’s terrible WiFi. However, we all made the most of it and still had a good time and I’m glad Jamie’s panel went off pretty well despite the technical setbacks. After our panels were over, I was feeling incredibly victorious and happy that my panel went so well until..... my stomach began to ache REALLY bad.

Before my panel, I had decided to eat chicken tenders from the dealer’s room which kinda tasted not-so-cooked, but I needed something to eat anyways. After all the respective panels

(Alejandro Saab's, mine, and Jamie's), it felt like Gogeta and Broly were fighting inside my stomach for real. I immediately headed back to my hotel and took some meds to feel better. Once I felt better, I attended Geekdom101's birthday at Gen's Korean BBQ with over 70+ people in attendance including many DBZ YouTubers and many voice actors. I know Geekdom101 was pretty stressed out dealing with all of the Kamehacon hosting, but having over 70+ people come to his birthday party was the icing on the cake and a huge thanks for all his hard work.

We all continued to party late into the night until it was time for us to leave Kamehacon and go back to our normal lives for a while. I had one of the absolute BEST times of my life there and it was seriously a trip I needed more than anything because the love I felt for myself and for the Dragon Ball franchise there was absolutely amazing. Kamehacon was a true example of how one series can bring so many people together in one place and making them feel like they belong with their peers. Kamehacon 2019 was truly both a personal and professional accomplishment for me.

Now it's time for updated Vegeta humor!

23. Vegeta vs. (2019 Edition)

Vegeta vs. Donald Trump

As Vegeta and Goku were training out on the horizon, Donald Trump made a statement on TV that he was going to be building a space wall so he can keep out threats from outer space who may take over the earth. He also said he was going to oversee the development of the wall personally.

During their intense training session, Vegeta and Goku were interrupted by Trump's workers.

Trump Worker: "Sirs, this area is off limits and we are starting construction of the space wall immediately. We need to ask you both to leave."

Vegeta: "Silence! Can't you see that Kakarrot and I are in the middle of training?! You can build your wall when we're done!"

Goku: "Hey Vegeta, it's ok if we train somewhere else."

Vegeta: "SHUT UP KAKARROT, YOU'RE NOT GETTING OUT OF THIS ONE!"

The worker pulled out a document and showed it to Vegeta and Goku.

Trump Worker: "We have legal authority to construct in this area and will remove you by force if we have to."

Vegeta blasts away the document as the worker looks in shock.

Vegeta: "Authority REVOKED."

The worker brings out President Trump from his limo and they both go to the scene.

Trump: “What is this and who are you two? I’m the President of the United States and I’m building a wall to keep space threats out!”

Vegeta: “Why? We can easily deal with any space threats that come this way. We defeated Freeza, Cell, Majin Buu, Zamasu, Goku Black, and Broly.”

Trump looks blankly at Vegeta. Obviously not knowing anything he’s talking about.

Goku: “Oh hey, aren’t you the President who teamed up with the Russians? My wife talks about it all the time!”

Trump: “THAT’S FAKE NEWS! GET OFF THIS PROPERTY NOW!”

Vegeta: “I’m going to blast you!”

Goku immediately stops Vegeta by grabbing his hand.

Vegeta: “LET GO OF ME, KAKARROT!”

Goku: “But he’s the President! You just can’t blast the President! He has high authority on this planet!”

Vegeta: “I’m the Prince of all Saiyans, so I have much higher authority than him! You’re such a moron, Kakarrot!”

Goku: “Yeah, but Planet Vegeta doesn’t exist anymore, so you have no more authority.”

Vegeta looks embarrassed.

Vegeta: “Then what do we do, Kakarrot?!”

Goku: “I have an idea!”

Goku takes out his special button and calls Zeno-Sama, the Omni-King. Zeno arrives in a split second right where everyone is.

Zeno: “Hi Goku! You wanna play?”

Goku: “Hey Zen-chan! Can you tell President Trump to build his space wall somewhere else since you have higher authority than him?”

Trump looks in shock.

Trump: “Wait just a minute! Did you just summon an alien here?! THAT’S A FEDERAL CRIME!”

Zeno looks blankly at Trump.

Zeno: “I don’t like you. You’re annoying.”

Trump: “HAVE THESE MEN ARRESTED AND CALL THE SPACE FORCE TO TAKE THIS ALIEN CAPTIVE!”

Zeno raises his finger and erases Trump and his men.

Zeno: “He’s stupid, so I’m leaving now.”

Zeno sama leaves.

Goku: “Did we just erase the President?”

Vegeta: “We’ll just say it was fake news.”

Vegeta and Goku powered up to Super Saiyan Blue and continued their training.

Vegeta vs. Alex Jones

During one of his training sessions inside a Capsule Corp Spaceship, Vegeta was watching TV and he stumbled upon a live recording of “Info Wars” which was right outside Capsule Corp.

Vegeta: “Who is this moron outside my house?”

Bulma walked outside to talk to Alex Jones and his camera crew.

Bulma: “Who are you? You’re trespassing on private property.”

Alex Jones: “I’m Alex Jones from Info Wars and I heard there’s a conspiracy that Capsule Corp is housing aliens from outer space! I’m here to get to truth of the matter!”

Bulma: “Mr. Jones, none of that is true and I’m asking you to leave right now.”

Alex Jones points at the Capsule Corp spaceship that Vegeta is training in.

Alex Jones: “Yeah, but what’s that?!”

Bulma: “Um, it’s a spaceship.”

Alex Jones: “So you ARE housing aliens!”

Bulma: “No! Just because we manufacture spaceships doesn’t mean we house aliens!”

Alex Jones: “Then why have a spaceship?!”

Vegeta, angry at all the noise outside opens the door and walks towards Bulma and Alex Jones.

Vegeta: “Keep the noise down! I’m trying to train!”

Alex Jones: “Sir, who are you and what are you doing in that spaceship?”

Vegeta: “I’m Vegeta, Prince of all Saiyans and her husband.”

Alex Jones: “Oh really! Are you aware your wife and company may be housing aliens?”

Vegeta: “Of course, I come from the Planet Vegeta.”

Alex Jones: “You what?!”

Vegeta: “I’m a Saiyan from the Planet Vegeta. I came here to earth after Planet Namek blew up.”

Alex Jones: “WHOAH!!! WHAT?!!!”

Vegeta: “Now leave. I’m training to beat Kakarrot.”

Alex Jones immediately motions to his camera crew.

Alex Jones: “We have one live in the flesh, folks! A real bonafide alien from the Planet Vegetable! I didn’t realize aliens look so much like us, but the hair is a dead giveaway!!!”

The camera crew gets close to Vegeta.

Vegeta: “GET THOSE THINGS OUT OF MY FACE!!!”

Alex Jones: “Mr. Vegetable, I want to ask you some questions about your home planet, what you eat, and your anatomy!!!”

Vegeta continues to furiously walk away as Alex Jones puts his hand on Bulma’s shoulder.

Alex Jones: “Or I can ask your wife!”

Bulma angrily backs out of Alex Jones's grip.

Bulma: "DON'T YOU DARE TOUCH ME!!!"

Vegeta turned around and gasped, looking at his distraught wife.

Vegeta: "You touched MY BULMA!!!!"

Vegeta immediately powered into Super Saiyan form and uppercuted Alex Jones 500 feet into the air. As Alex Jones was screaming and descending to the ground, Vegeta fired a blast that blew away Alex Jones and his film crew.

Bulma: "Vegeta! You just blew up Alex Jones!!"

Vegeta: "Whatever, you can wish him back with the Dragon Balls."

Vegeta goes back into the spaceship to train.

Bulma: "Nah."

Vegeta vs. Live Streaming

As Vegeta was walking down the halls of Capsule Corp after a long training session, he saw his son Trunks glued to the computer.

Vegeta: "Trunks, stop playing on the computer and focus on your training. You're slacking in these times of peace and I want you to become stronger than Kakarrot's son."

Trunks: "Sorry dad, but I'm playing Call of Duty on Twitch and I'm the squad leader."

Vegeta: "Leader, huh?"

Vegeta watched in awe as Trunks was commanding his friends in team deathmatch, giving stern and direct orders.

Vegeta: “That’s my boy! You’re a true Saiyan leader!”

Trunks: “Thanks Dad! Do you wanna try?”

Vegeta: “As the Prince of all Saiyans, I’ll show them who their true leader is!”

Over the past couple of days, Trunks showed Vegeta how to play Call of Duty on Twitch and Vegeta picked it up right away. Over the next few weeks, Call of Duty became Vegeta’s obsession after training. However, there was one day that Vegeta and his team got into a heated match with the voice chat on as his opponent’s team kept killing Vegeta and his teammates.

Opponent: “Haha, suck it noob!”

Vegeta: “HOW DARE YOU KILL THE PRINCE OF ALL SAIYANS! I SWEAR I’LL FIND YOU AND KILL YOU! IF I HAD THE POWER TO LOCATE YOUR WORTHLESS POWER LEVEL, I’D BE FLYING THERE AND BLOW YOU UP RIGHT NOW!”

Suddenly, Vegeta got logged out of Twitch and when he tried to log back in, he got a “Banned for violating the Terms of Service” message.

Vegeta: “Banned?! How did I get banned?! UNFORGIVABLE!”

In an intense rage, Vegeta flew from Capsule Corp all the way to Twitch’s main headquarters. He blew open the door as he made his way to the snooty receptionist.

Receptionist: “May I help you sir?”

Vegeta: “My account got banned and I order you to restore it RIGHT NOW!”

Receptionist: “What’s your account name?”

Vegeta: “SaiyanPrincethe4th”

Receptionist: “It appears that you’ve been banned for violating the Terms of Service.”

Vegeta: “How did I violate the Terms of Service?!”

Receptionist: “You made a death threat to another player which is against our Terms of Service. Therefore, your account is permanently banned and we cannot restore it. Any circumvention of this ban using proxies or making another account with your current IP address are also prohibited.”

Vegeta: “RESTORE MY ACCOUNT RIGHT NOW OR I’LL BLAST YOU INTO A MILLION PIECES!”

Receptionist: *smirking* “Oh please, honey. You don’t know how often I get that. Have a nice day.”

The Receptionist went back to checking her smartphone as Vegeta stormed off outside and flew into the air.

Vegeta: “Gallick-Gun!!!”

Vegeta fired a Gallick Gun and blew up all of Twitch’s main headquarters. When he got back to Capsule Corp, Trunks was at his computer in a panic.

Vegeta: “What’s wrong, son?”

Trunks: “I can’t log into my twitch account anymore and I saw on the news that some kind of explosion destroyed their

headquarters.”

Vegeta, doing his best not to smirk with pride, gave Trunks a serious and stoic face.

Vegeta: “Go back to your training, son. Video games are bad for you.”

Vegeta vs. Social Media

Trunks was laughing as he was checking his smartphone while walking down the halls of Capsule Corp. Vegeta appeared behind him after a training session.

Vegeta: “What are you laughing at?”

Trunks: “Goten posted a pretty funny picture on twitter.”

The picture was a Kai falling off a bike.

Vegeta: “Twit... er?”

Trunks: “Ask mom for a smartphone so you can join us on social media.”

Vegeta: “Social-what?!”

Trunks: “It’s how Goten and I keep in touch when we’re not hanging out.”

Vegeta: “You use SO-CIAL MEE-DEE-AH to communicate?”

Trunks: “Yeah.”

Vegeta: “Then why don’t you just fly over and hang out with him? You both are slacking on your training.”

Trunks: “Sometimes Goten is busy at school or helping his dad farming stuff.”

Vegeta: “That’s the problem with you kids today. You never train and depend on machines like a SMART-PHONE to communicate. Back in my day, we had scouters and had to communicate when we were clearing planets for Freeza……”

Vegeta continued to blather as Trunks walked away, still checking his smartphone.

Vegeta: “WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!”

Trunks: “Get with the times, dad.”

Vegeta marched into Bulma’s lab with an angry look on his face.

Bulma: “Are you ok, honey?”

Vegeta: “GIVE ME A SMARTPHONE, NOW!”

Bulma: “Why?”

Vegeta: “I need to learn this SOCIAL MEE-DEE-AH because Trunks is using it!”

Bulma: “Um, you really don’t wanna go on social media, dear.”

Vegeta: “I’m the Prince of all Saiyans! I’ve destroyed armies and civilizations that opposed me in space! SOCIAL MEE-DEE-AH is NOTHING compared to me!”

Bulma: “It’s your funeral.”

Bulma tossed Vegeta a Capsule Corp branded smartphone, but as Vegeta turned it on and began pressing on it, he broke it by piercing a hole with his finger.

Vegeta: “This thing is a piece of junk!”

Bulma: “You’re pressing on it too hard! You saiyans don’t know your own strength! Here, I’m going to give you the upgraded model with a cover.”

Bulma gave Vegeta an upgraded Capsule Corp smartphone and he was able to create his own social media accounts on twitter, facebook, instagram, and more. He followed all of the Z-warriors on their social media accounts and began looking at their pictures.

Vegeta began checking twitter and instagram and saw the following:

Yamcha and Puar hanging out.

Vegeta: “Hah, Yamcha’s still a loser.”

Android 18 and Krillin shopping with Marron.

Vegeta: “That weakling’s a pretty good father, but should stick to drinking his milk.”

Goten and Trunks showing off the new video game they just bought.

Vegeta: “Those slackers need to get back into training.”

Bulma building a new invention.

Vegeta: “That’s my girl.”

Goku training on Whis’s planet.

Vegeta angrily replied to Goku’s instagram and twitter posts: “HOW DARE YOU TRAIN AT WHIS’S WITHOUT ME

KAKARROT! I'M GOING TO KILL YOU!!!”

Vegeta crushed his smartphone with his bare hands and then made a hard realization.

Vegeta: “Bulma was right. I HATE SOCIAL MEE-DEE-AH!”

Vegeta vs. YouTube

One day, Vegeta saw Trunks and Goten talking in front of a camera in one of the rooms at Capsule Corp.

Vegeta: “What are you kids doing?”

Trunks: “We’re making a YouTube video!”

Vegeta: “A you-what?!”

Goten: “A YouTube video! We’re doing a toy review so we can tell people what we thought of this toy!”

Vegeta: “Hogwash, you should be training!”

Trunks: “You should make videos of your training sessions. I hear training videos get a lot of views.”

Vegeta: “Really now? I can teach more people how to beat Kakarrot!”

Vegeta took a camera from the Capsule Corp lab and brought it with him to the gravity chamber. After he took off his shirt, he turned on the camera to record.

Vegeta: “Listen punks, I am Vegeta, Prince of the Saiyans and broadcasting here from Capsule Corp to show you how to train so you can beat Kakarrot!”

Vegeta recorded himself training by demonstrating flips and

pushups in 800G and firing ki blasts at drones. A few hours after he uploaded his first training video, he got the following comments.

“Cool abs, bro.”

“Funky hair dude.”

“ur hotttttt and sexxxxxxy”

“now i can beat brandon up!”

“please give me ur number cuz i want a PRIVATE training session with u!”

“how did u do the special effects when you blast stuff?”

Reading over the comments on YouTube, Vegeta felt a sense of pride that he never felt before. He continued to publish more YouTube training videos in his “HOW TO BEAT KAKARROT” series and was receiving a slew of positive comments until he read these...

“LOL UR HAIR LOOKS LIKE A VEGETABLE”

“Your form is wrong, your posture is all wrong, and your stance is all wrong. Training in 800G gravity doesn’t exist and as a certified fitness trainer, I have to say all your training methods are wrong. Also, your hair looks wrong.”

“look at the ugly sprout head.”

“vegeta prince of all virgins”

“the blasting effects look so fake i can make them better on my commodore 64”

“stupid dumb vegetable hair weirdo probably shoves kakarrots up his ass”

“KAKARROT IS BETTER THAN U”

Enraged by all the trolls, negative comments, and especially that last comment, Vegeta made some rant videos about how inferior all the trolls were and how better his training methods are because he’s the prince of all Saiyans. After his rant videos got over a million views, he went to check his monetization status and it was a yellow dollar sign. He also noticed that a few of his rant videos were missing and he checked his email saying that his entire channel was demonetized and has one community guidelines strike. Vegeta blasted away the computer he was on and Bulma came rushing in a hurry.

Bulma: “Vegeta! Why did you blast that computer?!”

Vegeta: “My YouTube channel just got demonetized and I have a community guidelines strike! YouTube won’t escape my wrath!!!”

Bulma: “But you don’t need monetization, we already make enough money!”

Vegeta: “You don’t understand Bulma. It was never about the money, but being monetized meant that my videos were encouraging people to beat the Kakarrots in their lives. They also deleted my rant video against the trolls!”

Bulma: “Vegeta, it’s just YouTube.”

Vegeta: “They may have taken away my videos and monetization, but there’s always one thing a Saiyan always keeps.... HIS PRIDE!!!!!!”

Vegeta powered up into Super Saiyan as he yelled that.

Bulma: “Don’t tell me you’re going to fly to YouTube and blow them up.”

Vegeta: “That’s EXACTLY what I’m going to do!”

Bulma: “Well, your videos were probably reported by all those trolls posting comments on them. YouTube can’t police everything, you know.”

Vegeta: ”You know, you may be right Bulma.”

Vegeta went into Trunks’ room.

Vegeta: “Trunks! How do I find these YouTube trolls who leave bad comments on my videos?!”

Trunks: “I dunno. The internet makes everyone anonymous.”

Vegeta: “We’ll see about that!”

Vegeta tunes his ki to sense out the ki belonging to the trolls.

Vegeta: “Got them! They have disgustingly and pathetically recognizable power levels!”

Vegeta flew off as he broke through the roof of Trunks’ room.

Trunks: “Guess I’ll crash at Goten’s.”

Vegeta arrived at the house of the first troll and knocked down the door. He marched into the basement and confronted the overweight and out of shape individual.

Vegeta: “Are you THE_BADASS_KAKARROT217?!”

Overweight Troll: “Yeah, so what?”

Vegeta: “YOU CALLED MY HAIR STUPID!”

Overweight Troll: “Whatcha gonna do about it noob monkey?”

Vegeta blasted the troll away and then flew to the next troll location. He started blowing away all the trolls he was sensing all over the world over the course of several weeks.

When Vegeta got back into Capsule Corp after his troll destruction rampage, he checked his email and it said that YouTube remonetized his channel and restored the deleted videos. Throughout the news, there were reports that there had been far less trolls on YouTube and advertisers began to give more money to the creators, creating a golden advertising rush similar to the early days of YouTube.

Vegeta went back into the gravity room and turned on the camera to record his next video for the “HOW TO BEAT KAKARROT” series.

Vegeta vs. Hollywood

While eating the large breakfast that Bulma had prepared for him, Vegeta was flipping through channels and came across “Dragon Ball Evolution”.

Vegeta: “That movie was terrible, but I like how they made Kakarrot look so stupid. HAHAHA.”

Trunks came into the kitchen.

Trunks: “Hey dad, did you hear they’re making a sequel to that movie?”

Vegeta: “Just as long as they cast a good actor as me and I defeat Kakarrot in the movie, I’m ok with it.”

Trunks: “They’re casting Rob Pattinson as you, dad.”

Vegeta spit out his eggs and steak.

Vegeta: “WHAT?! THAT WIMPY TWILIGHT KID?!”

Trunks: “Yeah, he’s a wimp.”

Vegeta flew off in a rage and broke through the kitchen ceiling, leaving half of his food behind. He arrived in Hollywood and went to go look for the production company making the Dragon Ball Evolution sequel. When he arrived, he saw Rob Pattinson come out of a meeting with the executives.

Vegeta: “Are you Rob Pattinson?”

Rob: “Yeah.”

Vegeta: “Are you playing Vegeta in the movie?”

Rob: “Yeah, we start filming tomorrow.”

Vegeta blew away Rob Pattinson with a Big Bang Attack and after the smoke cleared, security and the executives ran outside.

Executive: “What happened? It sounded like an explosion out here!”

Vegeta: “Mr. Pattinson will no longer be doing the movie. He’s taking an extended vacation.”

Executive: “Oh, is that a fact? Well, listen buddy, we need Vegeta in the movie, and YOU look like you can play the part. We start shooting tomorrow, so are you in?”

Vegeta: “But, I’m not an actor! I’m the Prince of all Saiyans!”

Executive: “PERFECT! I love how you delivered that line! Rob said he wasn’t an actor too, but we know he loves to kid.”

Vegeta: “But, but, but, but..”

Executive: “Mandy, take this gentleman for costume fitting and give him level A access to the catering tables.”

Since Vegeta didn’t finish his breakfast, he agreed to go for costume fitting and ate at the catering tables. Over the next few weeks, Vegeta filmed his parts for the movie and then months later, the movie finally premiered. Vegeta, Bulma, and Trunks were driven in a limo to the premiere of **“Dragon Ball Evolution Z”**. Everyone walked out of the theater once the movie was over.

Bulma: “Well, that was terrible.”

Trunks: “Sorry dad, I would have preferred Rob Pattinson to play you instead of you playing yourself.”

Vegeta: “But I gave it my all! I am the Prince of all Saiyans!”

Outside the theater, a snooty fanboy walked in front of Vegeta.

Fanboy: “They didn’t give you a good enough script to begin with. Plus, your hair looks ridiculous.”

Vegeta: “WHAT WAS THAT?!”

Reporters began to crowd around the angry Vegeta as he was about to grab the insulting fanboy. Bulma pulled him away as Trunks looked in fear.

Bulma: “VEGETA, WE’RE GOING HOME NOW!”

Vegeta: “NO! THIS MOVIE RUINED MY PRIDEFUL IMAGE! THE PRODUCERS MUST PAY! THE WORST PART IS KAKARROT STILL WINS AT THE END!”

As Vegeta was powering up a blast to blow up the entire theater, he was approached by a mysterious man.

Mysterious Man: “Hey, I loved your performance in the movie. I’d like to cast you in my upcoming movie where the villain wins.”

Vegeta powered down his blast.

Vegeta: “Will I defeat Kakarrot?”

Mysterious Man: “Uh, yeah, of course! I got a script ready! Wanna read it?”

The Mysterious Man hands Vegeta the script and Vegeta begins to skim through it, smiling in prideful joy.

Vegeta: “Bulma, I’m going to star in this movie and beat Kakarrot in box office as well as in real life!”

Bulma: “Just as long as you don’t blow up all of Hollywood, dear.”

Vegeta looked at the cover of the script and at the bottom, it said: “Written by Quentin Tarantino”.

Vegeta vs. Conventions

At the nagging of Bulma, Vegeta was forced to go to an anime convention with Trunks and Goten while pushing his newborn daughter Bra on a stroller. As they all made their way to the dealers room, Vegeta was shocked to see how many people were dressed as him as he was only wearing his civilian clothes.

Vegeta: “Why are so many people dressed up as me and Kakarrot?! There’s even women dressed up as me!”

Trunks: “Dad, people like to cosplay as characters they like. You

just happen to be one of them.”

Vegeta: “I didn’t approve of this imitation of my image! And I certainly don’t approve of people dressing up like that clown Kakarrot!”

Goten took some selfies with some cosplayers that looked like him.

Vegeta: “Why does Kakarrot’s other son take pictures with people who look like him?”

Trunks: “It’s just part of the cosplay culture, dad.”

Vegeta: “There’s even a fat guy dressed up as me! He needs to go back and do training!”

Suddenly Bra began to cry and Vegeta picked her up.

Vegeta: “There, there, calm down!”

A Goku cosplayer and his girlfriend dressed as Bulma passed by Vegeta.

Goku Cosplayer: “Your Vegeta costume sucks man. No wonder your daughter’s crying. LOL.”

Vegeta: “What did you say, you Kakarrot wannabe?! And my Bulma would never date trash like you!”

Bulma Cosplayer: “lawl, shut up you crabby old man who can’t even cosplay Vegeta right.”

Vegeta: “WHAT WAS THAT?! HOW DARE YOU IMITATE MY BULMA!”

The couple walked away laughing as Vegeta was trying to hold

back his rage and comforting his crying daughter.

Vegeta: “The nerve of these costumed buffoons! Imitating me, my wife, and ESPECIALLY KAKARROT!”

As Bra calmed down, a convention staff member approached Vegeta.

Staff Member: “Oh hey, there you are, the masquerade is gonna start soon!”

Vegeta: “The masqa-what?!”

Bra began to smile looking at the staff member.

Vegeta: “What are you smiling about?”

Staff Member: “Follow me. Also, love the civilian Vegeta with a kid look. It should go well with the crowd and your daughter is adorable.”

Vegeta: “Why thank you. You’re more behaved than these terrible Kakarrot imitators. You helped calm my daughter down, so I’ll play in this mas-ker-ade.”

Vegeta went backstage as the masquerade began and saw all of the acts while holding Bra. The masquerade was on it’s last two acts and the people before Vegeta were the Goku and Bulma couple who insulted him earlier. Vegeta looked angrily at them from backstage as they went to the front stage to do their act.

Vegeta: “I’ll totally surpass you Kakarrot!”

Vegeta walked on stage with Bra in his arms to the crowd going “awwww!!!”.

MC: “And here we have civilian Vegeta with his adorable

daughter! Folks, this is the most unique take on the art of Vegeta cosplay yet!”

Vegeta look surprised as the crowd was cheering him and Bra on. Bra began to smile in joy from the crowd.

MC: “Now the winner of the masquerade contest... it was a difficult decision by the judges to choose between the Goku x Bulma or civilian Vegeta.....”

Vegeta: “This is it! I’ll finally beat you, Kakarrot!”

MC: “The winner is.... civilian Vegeta!”

Vegeta walked up on stage with Bra to get his prizes and trophy.

MC: “Do you have any words to say to your adoring audience?”

Vegeta: “Yes, I do... I’d love to thank my newborn daughter Bra and IN YOUR FACE KAKARROT! I BEAT YOU AT LAST! I AM THE PRINCE OF ALL SAIYANS ONCE AGAIN!”

The crowd cheered as both the Goku and Bulma cosplayers looked defeated. Trunks and Goten were in the crowd cheering as well.

Goten: “Your dad’s the coolest, Trunks! He won the masquerade!”

Trunks: “That’s my pop!”

Vegeta vs. a Job

One day after Vegeta finished his training in one of the Capsule Corp 800G gravity rooms, Bulma walked up to him with an angry look.

Bulma: “Vegeta! You need to be a good example to your son and newborn daughter, so you need to get a job!”

Vegeta: “Why can’t I work here? I can use my Saiyan strength to lift up objects at the manufacturing plant”.

Bulma: “No dear, it would be a conflict of interest and I have no idea what you can even do for our company. Just write out a resume and send it out to places.”

Disgruntled at Bulma, Vegeta begrudgingly made his way to the computer to type out his resume which came out like this:

Vegeta the 4th
Capsule Corp
WST 3338926 K

Objective: To defeat Kakarrot.

Job Experience

Age 762-Present: Prince of all Saiyans at Capsule Corp

- Trains in 800G gravity along with son, Trunks
- Disciplines Capsule Corp staff for maximum efficiency
- Helped saved the world from Cell and Majin Buu
- Helped saved the world from Goku Black and Zamasu
- Helped saved the universe at the Tournament of Power.

Defeated Toppo and stood up to Jiren

- Helped saved the world from Broly

Age 737-762: Soldier in the Freeza Force

- Destroyed entire civilizations, armies, and civilians
- Cleaned out entire planets for sale and trade
- Destroyed several low level planets
- Eliminated former caretaker and partner, Nappa
- Destroyed the entire Ginyu Force and former commanding officers Zarbon and Dodoria

- Destroyed an entire Namekian Village
- Tested out several generations of Battle Scouters
- Accounted for among the top 10 highest battle powers in the Freeza Force

Skills and abilities

- Prince of all Saiyans
- Can go Super Saiyan 1, 2, God, Blue, and Blue Evolution
- Resisted Babidi's control
- Can fuse with Kakarrot to become Vegetto or Gogeta
- Can lift heavy objects up to 2000 tons and more
- Can provide own transportation by flying
- Can provide power source and demolition with Big Bang Attack and Final Flash
- Can eat raw animals and cook them with chi blasts
- Can fly in several different spacecrafts and survive in high gravity up to 800x
- Will not hesitate to destroy anyone and anything for the business

References

- Kakarrot (Mt. Paozu)
- Cabba (Planet Salada, Universe 6)
- Freeza (Freeza Planet #79)

Vegeta thought with a resume like this, he would get hired on the spot since he saved the world several times and served in the Freeza army. Sadly, Vegeta's resume was sent into the black void of online submissions and would strike out on the job interview circuit as well. Most employers weren't too keen on hiring a guy who committed genocide on several hundred planets and without Planet Vegeta, there was no real documentation that Vegeta was the prince.

Interviewer: "I'm sorry Mr. Vegeta, but with all these felonies like destroying planets and entire civilizations, I don't think you're a good fit for this company."

Vegeta: “But I’m the prince of all Saiyans and without me, this planet wouldn’t exist if Cell and Majin Buu were still alive! It’s because of ME that we’re even able to have this interview in the first place, you ingrate!”

Interviewer: “Security, please show Mr. Vegeta the door.”

Frustrated, Vegeta was in a panic that he wasn’t going to have a job and would be a bad example to Trunks and his newborn daughter, Bra. Suddenly, Vegeta got a call for an interview from Tablet Enterprises, a direct rival of Capsule Corp.

During his interview, The President of Tablet Enterprises was impressed with Vegeta’s resume, especially the parts where Vegeta committed planetary genocide because Vegeta could use those skills to get rid of their competitors. Also, the President was impressed with Vegeta’s objective to “Defeat Kakarrot” since it gave Vegeta the competitive edge he needed in the business world.

The President of Tablet Enterprises said he was so impressed with Vegeta that he was willing to step down from the company to retire and give Vegeta the role of President and CEO. Vegeta immediately accepted and was told that he could start his position the following Monday.

Vegeta got home to tell Bulma the good news.

Bulma: “So how did your interview go?”

Vegeta: “I got the job!”

Bulma: “That’s great!.... What company was it again?”

Vegeta: “I’m going to be the President and CEO of Tablet Enterprises!”

Bulma: “WHAT?!”

Vegeta: “I thought you told me to get a job!”

Bulma: “But they’re our rival company!!!!”

Vegeta: “So?”

Bulma: “If you do too good of a job, you can run us out of business!”

Vegeta: “Good. Trunks and Bra can learn that competition is a good thing to get on top!”

Bulma: “But, but, but!!!”

Vegeta: “I’m going to train to beat Kakarrot now. I start on Monday.”

Vegeta walked away with a smile on face as Bulma stared at him completely flabbergasted.

Vegeta vs. Akira Toriyama (again)

After asking Goku to teleport him to another certain dimension, Vegeta flew off to Japan once again to confront his almighty creator, Akira Toriyama.

Vegeta: “I know you’ve been more involved in the series in recent years, but now I have come to challenge you once again!”

Toriyama: “Oh really? You know how this is going to end, right Vegeta?”

Toriyama took out his eraser and started trying to erase Vegeta. However, Vegeta skillfully dodged every stroke.

Toriyama: “Impossible! I created you!”

Vegeta: “Is that all? Now I can overthrow you and finally take my place as the TRUE protagonist of the series where I will finally triumph over Kakarrot!”

Toriyama: “Oh ho ho ho ho ho. I may have slacked off after the original serialization was over, but ever since that terrible Dragon Ball Evolution movie and Battle of Gods, I have once again achieved my highest battle power!”

Vegeta: “Hah! You’re bluffing!”

Toriyama: “I just don’t draw, you know…”

Toriyama takes out a laptop and begins to type very fast.

Vegeta: “I’ll give you 10 seconds to write your last words and be sure to drop it off at Shueisha.”

Vegeta suddenly gets into a dance pose. Toriyama’s screen shows: “Vegeta Dances.”

Vegeta: “WHAT THE?!”

Toriyama: “I rewrote Battle of Gods, all of Resurrection F, all of Broly, and several ideas for Dragon Ball Super. Do you think I was just playing video games after I ended the original manga? I’ve once again taken control of my own series! Sure, Dragon Ball GT was an abomination, but I’ve written masterpieces like Neko Majin and Jaco the Galactic Patrolman. My WRITING skill has transcended even what the TOEI anime staff has ever dreamed of.”

Vegeta: “You’re mad!”

Toriyama: “Now DANCE my puppet!!!! Remember, I wrote this part in Battle of Gods!!!”

Vegeta starts dancing silly all around to his embarrassment.

Toriyama: “Let’s not stop there!!!”

Toriyama grins as he begins to type more.

Vegeta: “I love Kakarrot and he’s my best friend!.....
WHAT?! I WOULD NEVER SAY THAT!”

Toriyama: “I have the power to make you say whatever I want! I created you after all!”

Vegeta: “I’ll get you for this!!!”

Vegeta begins dancing even more to Toriyama’s amusement.

Toriyama: “I’ll never get tired of this! Dance Vegeta, DANCE!”

Vegeta: “NOOOOOOOO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!”

Vegeta continues dancing as Toriyama laughs maniacally while typing out more silly things for Vegeta to do.

24. Vegeta Top Tens (2019 Edition)

Top 10 Reasons why you shouldn't date Vegeta's daughter

1. Her father is overprotective of her.
2. You're not as strong as her father.
3. Her father expects her home a certain time.
4. If you take away her virginity, her father will put it right back.
5. You most likely can't afford the meals that Capsule Corp can.
6. Your car is piece of junk compared to her's.
7. You'll never be as rich as her, ever.
8. Her friends are probably cooler than yours.
9. She's stronger than you by default because she's half Saiyan.
10. Her father is Vegeta.

Top 10 Reasons why you SHOULD date Vegeta's daughter

1. Her father can beat up anyone who tries to fight you.
2. She has more money than you, so she will buy all the meals and gifts.
3. Her father will truly make a man out of you.
4. She hangs out with strong people like her father, Goten, Trunks, and Pan.
5. She's probably smart like her mother.
6. She's super strong like her father, so she can easily lift the couch if you drop money under there.
7. Impressing her father is impossible, but a lifetime achievement if you can pull it off.
8. Her father will train you to beat Kakarrot.
9. Her father will take you hunting to be a real man and blast away the prey for you.
10. Her father is Vegeta.

Top 10 Reasons why Vegeta beat you up

1. You made fun of his hair.

2. You looked the other way while training with him.
3. You knocked up his daughter.
4. You insulted his daughter.
5. You looked at his daughter.
6. You said you're a Goku fan.
7. You eat carrots.
8. You made fun of his height.
9. You told him to eat his vegetables, so he thinks you're a cannibal.
10. You hurt his Bulma.

Top 10 Reasons Vegeta stole your girl

1. He's a prince and chicks dig royalty.
2. He can fly and you can't.
3. His hair.
4. His pride.
5. His vow to beat Kakarrot which makes him competitively sexy.
6. His dashing Saiyan looks.
7. He can dye his hair and eyes several different colors without actual dye.
8. He can destroy any girl's exes.
9. He lifts, bro.
10. If there's a new Planet Vegeta, he would make your girl the queen.

Top 10 Vegeta Anime Fusions

1. Vegeta and Sasuke (Naruto) - Vegesuke
2. Vegeta and Raoh (Fist of the North Star) - Raohgeta
3. Vegeta and Vicious (Cowboy Bebop) - Vegecious
4. Vegeta and Shishio (Rurouni Kenshin) - Vegeshio
5. Vegeta and Hiei (Yu Yu Hakusho) - Vegehiei or Hieigeta
6. Vegeta and Light Yagami (Death Note) - Vight Yageta
7. Vegeta and Kurei (Flame of Recca) - Kureigeta or Vegerei
8. Vegeta and Zechs Marquise (Gundam Wing) - Vechs

Marqgeta

9. Vegeta and Dr. Masharito (Dr. Slump) - Dr. Vegerito
10. Vegeta and Saitama (One Punch Man) - Vegeitama

Top 10 Vegeta Comic and Cartoon Fusions

1. Vegeta and The Shredder (TMNT) - The Vegedder
2. Vegeta and The Joker (Batman) - The Voker
3. Vegeta and Venom (Spider-Man) - Vegetom
4. Vegeta and Lex Luthor (Superman) - Vex Vuthorgeta
5. Vegeta and The Flash - The Vlash
6. Vegeta and Zuko (Avatar) - Vuko
7. Vegeta and Nick Fury (The Avengers) - Vick Furgetay
8. Vegeta and Iron Man - Iron Saiyan
9. Vegeta and Captain America - Captain Vegetamerica
10. Vegeta and Thanos (The Avengers) - Vhanos

Top 10 Rejected Vegeta Video Game Adaptations

1. Vegeta Kart
2. Blast the Kakarrot
3. Super Saiyan Fighter 2 Turbo
4. Horizon: Vegeta Dawn
5. Super Vegeta Bros. starring Vegeta and Tarble
6. Call of Duty: Planet Vegeta Edition
7. Battlefield Vegeta
8. Vegetale
9. PUBV - Players Unknown Vegetagrounds
10. Vegetanite

Top 10 Reasons why Vegeta should be President (2019 Edition)

1. He would wish away the national debt with the Dragon Balls.
2. He's too prideful to collude with anyone or any country.
3. He values his family and would never throw them under the bus.

4. He would incorporate training into school curriculums so kids can train to beat Kakarrot.
5. He can fly and doesn't need the Secret Service to protect him.
6. He would scare world leaders into peace.
7. He can end all wars by himself.
8. He would train the strongest military in the universe.
9. He won't let you touch his Bulma, nor ever cheat on her.
10. He'll blow up the wall.

Top 10 Rejected Vegeta TV Shows

1. Saiyan Nine Nine
2. The Saiyan Bachelor
3. Saiyan Idol
4. Teenage Mutant Ninja Saiyans
5. Agents of Vegeta
6. Goku and Vegeta's Rescue Rangers
7. Game of Saiyan Thrones
8. Vegetar: The Last Saiyanbender
9. Vegeta's Modern Life
10. The Walking Saiyans

Top 10 Rejected Vegeta Movies

1. V for Vegeta
2. Vegeta-Man: Into the Vegetaverse
3. The Avengetas
4. Vegeta Begins, The Dark Prince, and The Dark Prince Rises
5. Vegeta v. Kakarrot: Dawn of the Saiyans
6. 2 Vegeta 2 Furious
7. Star Wars Episode 8: The Last Saiyan
8. The Gravity Room (oh, hai Markarrot!)
9. The Vegetrix
10. Dragon Ball Evolution 2

Epilogue

In the 2nd grade, I used to be this obnoxious kid that told unfunny jokes just to get an audience. After our school plays, I would take the microphone, do a silly standup routine in front of the audience of parents to my all teacher's dismay and would be escorted off the stage. I was eventually told to shut up because I wasn't funny and that Calvin and Hobbes were funnier than me (they are!). Since my silly antics got me in trouble, I regressed into a shy and non-social kid that would never mutter a word, would be alone all the time, and didn't have many friends.

I resorted to playing video games and drawing comics when I wasn't around people. The only times I would perform in front of people would be during mandatory presentations where I would usually wow the entire class in comparison to my classmates. Unlike my stand up antics at the school plays, I would at least perform when given the permission to. In fact, I'm one of the rare people who loves public speaking because it's the only moment where I have everyone's attention. When that's all over, I would regress back to my shy and non-social self.

I did have a small group of friends, but I was usually the quiet one in the group and barely made any of the jokes. Most of my time away from my friends would be spending time alone playing video games, not studying for my exams, and getting average grades. Like I mentioned near the start of this book, I was considered the dunce of the group and was told I would go nowhere in life.

I grew up in a time where being nerdy was looked down upon and finding people with similar interests to mine was near impossible. When I opened *Vegeta Insane* and started getting popular, I didn't just realize there were thousands of people who were like minded individuals, but millions. All brought together by one show: *Dragon Ball Z*.

Suddenly, my antics were being laughed at again as a semi-online celebrity. Where most of my 2nd grade classmates told me I wasn't funny, I suddenly had millions of people start telling me I was funny. I began to wonder where all of these people have been all my life. I realized due to the internet that I was able to reach a much larger crowd than ever before that I couldn't reach in real life.

That obnoxious kid who told bad jokes never went away. He was just dormant for a while, ready to come back whenever the time was right.

Because of the success from Vegeta Insane, I made some of the best lifelong friends I've ever had, learned web design, image editing, video editing, marketing, and many more valuable skills I still use to this day. I was able to get jobs in web design and the film industry, win awards for my video work, travel the world, speak on panels, and work with various companies like FUNimation and much more.

However, there was a time I felt completely ashamed of my work on Vegeta Insane and Ginga GIRI GIRI and wanted to push it aside as part of my past that I wanted to forget. Looking back on things, there were many times I was arrogant, egotistical, condescending. I felt that I was "above" others only because I ran a DBZ website that had no real significance in the real world. Over the years, I didn't like the person I had become. While I couldn't exactly get rid of my entire past, I tried not to mention it to others. When I started my current webshow "Battle Geek Plus" in 2011 with my friends Josie, Heather, Frank, and Bill, I dropped my entire "Castor Troy" persona and just wanted to be known as Ryan to start a clean slate. The beginning of my final AMV, "Naruto Ball Z: Shippuden" says "A Video by Ryan Molina" rather than "A Video by Castor Troy" as a way of me moving onto other things.

No matter how much I would try to hide it, people like Josie,

Geekdom101, and eventually others in the DBZ web community would still constantly champion and remind me of my success as “Castor Troy”. Even when I initially closed Vegeta Insane and Ginga GIRI GIRI in 2002, I would get emails weekly from people who loved the sites. While the emails have died down over the years, I still get an occasional email or someone on twitter saying they still remember my site and videos from their childhood which still means the world to me.

Over the years, I’ve gotten countless emails saying my sites and videos have brought joy, inspired others to work in web design and film, and most importantly, helping them get through tough times. I used to think my sites were insignificant after I had to shut them down. In recent years, I’ve learned to re-embrace the fact that I was a 17 year old kid who was able to entertain millions of people with silly Vegeta jokes. The main reason why I brought Ginga GIRI GIRI back as Ginga GIRI GIRI Kai in 2010 was to provide an archive of my AMVs and other videos. I didn’t feel the need to resurrect Vegeta Insane back then as I thought juvenile Vegeta jokes weren’t relevant in a YouTube and reddit world.

Maybe there was a part of me that wanted to reclaim my old glory since I was still getting emails and tweets to this day from people who enjoyed my work. However, my gut feeling was telling me “Why? What purpose does a Vegeta comedy website have in this YouTube and reddit age?”. As 2019 was approaching, I realized that it had been 20 years since I started this journey and I knew I had to do something special to celebrate. I opened up the old wordpad doc of the silly Vegeta vs. stories I had on my hard drive for years and laughed my ass off reading it, which convinced me to restore the site.

Nowadays, there are YouTubers who get so much traffic that my millions of views on Vegeta Insane and Ginga GIRI GIRI back in 1999-2002 look like an absolute joke, but that’s ok. I’m happy that there’s a new generation of dedicated Dragon Ball fans

making excellent content that we could never cover back in the day due to the technology and bandwidth limitations. Also, all we had was Dragon Ball-Z-GT back in the day, but now it's Dragon Ball-Z-GT-Kai-Super-Heroes and will probably get much longer than that. I don't consider myself a fully active participant in the community since I mostly cover video games on "Battle Geek Plus". However, I still do the occasional Dragon Ball game review and write the occasional Dragon Ball book (like this one!) since I still love the series so much. Also, since websites don't get as many views as they used to like back in the day, I've been able to host Ginga GIRI GIRI Kai and Vegeta Insane with little to no bandwidth problems which is a massive relief.

Even though I never stopped working on content after I initially shut down the sites in 2002, it was nice that I took a hiatus from the Dragon Ball community so I could pursue other things. I learned how to finally let go of the "status" I had as a "famed DBZ webmaster" and while I was making headway in the AMV community, it was never as large as the DBZ web community. However, it was nice just looking at things from the sidelines as the newer generation of content creators were taking charge. My time away was a humbling experience and made me realize that I don't really want the extreme amount of fame I had back then. When I started Battle Geek Plus in 2011, I wanted to start once again from the bottom after being at such a high point for so long. Nowadays, people in the DBZ community have no idea who I am since I mostly do video game content which is oversaturated, but I enjoy it regardless since gaming has always been my first love over Dragon Ball. I could easily start doing Dragon Ball videos on YouTube and regain my former glory, but I felt like I had already made all the content I wanted in 1999-2002 and through AMVs. Even though I consider myself on the sidelines now, I'm always willing to lend a helping hand to other content creators as I've appeared various times on the Kanzenshuu podcasts and Geekdom101's shows to lend out my knowledge and experiences through their content.

It's also very trippy to meet and talk to fans who were fans of my site when they were young and are now grown up 20 years later. People who were kids back in 1999 and are now married and have kids of their own which really makes me feel old, but also makes me happy they grew up to be good people. It still warms my heart to this day when fans say my site and videos helped them get through hard times and that's what truly made everything I did worth it. The current top content creators I've worked with like Geekdom101 and Team Four Star were fans of my site back in the day and have grown into powerhouses of their own. I take no credit for their success, but I'm glad I was able to provide some entertainment in their younger days and now I'm a fan of them which makes things come full circle. I've been a part of many communities, but the Dragon Ball Community has been the one to always have my back the most, even to this day.

Back then, the only thing we had was Dragon Ball-Z-GT and that was it. All of it was already done in Japan back in 1997. The fans in the USA were the ones with newer material to look forward to, but eventually by the late 2000's, we pretty much got all of Dragon Ball-Z-GT in some form or another. However, we were surprised in 2008 when we got the Jump Anime Tour Special: Yo! Son Goku and his friends Return. Then, Dragon Ball Kai, Battle of Gods, Resurrection F, Dragon Ball Super, Broly, and it seems to have no end in sight. Back in the day, we were mostly content with DB-Z-GT as it existed, but now it's truly the golden age for ALL Dragon Ball fandom with new movies, series, video games, and merchandise ever since Dragon Ball's huge resurgence in Japan starting with the Kanzenbans in 2002.

Even though my focus isn't 100% Dragon Ball anymore, I still got to guest star several times on the Kanzenshuu podcast, Geekdom101's Icons of the Dragon Ball Community, Team Four Star's "Mustache" video, and many more. I also got invited to the premieres of Battle of Gods, Resurrection F, Broly, and

even got to run my own History of Dragon Ball Video Games panel at Kamehacon! I even appeared on the extras on both the Japanese and USA “**Dragon Ball Z: Resurrection F**” Blu-Rays!

I used to think I wasted my 20’s away by focusing on the sites and AMVs instead of school since it took me twice as long to graduate. Over the years, I’ve talked to so many people on the internet and in person on how they wish they could start a creative venture, but don’t have the time. Now I feel the opposite and am glad I was able to spend my 20’s working on the sites, making AMVs, and going to conventions. Eventually, I was able to graduate college and get a job in the film industry for a while before the recession hit us over a decade ago. Working on my sites and AMVs gave me a goal and purpose in life to entertain people and use my creative abilities to their fullest. I wouldn’t even be doing any of this, let alone writing this book if it weren’t for the sites and AMVs, so I’m eternally grateful for that.

Sometimes, I wonder what would have happened if I didn’t watch DBZ on Cartoon Network on that fateful day in 1998, lying on the couch during my post breakup depression. How different would my life had turned out? I’m sure I would have gotten out of that funk, but I wonder what path my life would have taken if I didn’t get into DBZ. Or maybe I would have sunk further into my depression which is something I never want to think about. One thing for sure, and this is something I can say with the most honest and truthful sincerity:

Dragon Ball Z saved my life.

Without Dragon Ball Z, I wouldn’t have had all of the friends, skills, and opportunities that I have now. I was literally Vegeta right after he was beaten by Goku, Zarbon, the Ginyu Force, and many other opponents. Just like Vegeta, I rose from the ashes when I had hit my lowest point in my life during a time I had to think about graduating high school, getting a job, going to

college, and becoming an adult in general. Every single success I've had in my life from fall of 1998-onwards I owe to Akira Toriyama's creation. It wasn't the nagging of my parents, video games, or getting another girl on the rebound that got me out of my depressive funk, it was Dragon Ball Z.

At the time of writing this book, I work a good job in the IT industry, and I have a decent following on social media and on my "Battle Geek Plus" YouTube and Amazon Prime channels. I have a ton of wonderful friends from not just Dragon Ball Z, but all the geeky fandoms that I've indulged in over the years. I'm always pursuing newer ventures like film, video, and writing. I may not be the big powerhouse I was before, but that's ok. I enjoy living a much less stress filled and modest life than the one I had as a young "e-celeb". I've had many successes over the years, but I still consider my greatest one of all to be Vegeta Insane which gained me the first true audience that enjoyed my silly jokes and has served as the template for everything I do.

For upcoming content creators who want to get into video, film, writing, or so on, my advice is always stay true to yourself and motivation may come from the least likely of places. In my case, Dragon Ball Z was my motivation. Always be persistent like Vegeta and never stop pursuing your goal. It's a very long and difficult road, but since you're as tenacious as a Saiyan, you will be able to handle both the best and the worst parts of your journey. Sometimes life can take away your opportunities and income, but there's one thing a Saiyan always keeps.... HIS PRIDE!!!!

There have been some people who thought I was some sort of comedic genius or a prodigy, but I'm definitely not one of those by any stretch of the imagination. I started off as a struggling C-student who just had a terrible breakup, couldn't even get or keep a job, and was told that I wouldn't amount to anything. Well, kinda funny how things work out if you have the determination to make things happen and not listening to the

naysayers. My story is a good example of how the average joe with a computer and silly ideas can succeed. Remember, Vegeta says you can't measure a Saiyan by mere numbers alone...

I thank you for reading my journey and I hope your own journey will be a good one. The journey is far from over for me, so let's all go on the next one together.

With this, I bid you all a farewell and one final message:



My name's Ryan, but to all you people in the Dragon Ball Community... Call me Castor Troy.

FIN

List of Anime Music Videos and Awards

This is a complete list of all of the Anime Music Videos I've done over the years. All of these videos are available to watch on vegetainsane.com and 3gkai.com. My first 46 videos from 1999-2001 were remastered with the Dragon Box footage in 2011 and can be watched on castorbox.3gkai.com. Any “**Video Game Project**” tracks like the “*NES Project*”, “*Retro Video Game Project*”, “*Video Game Project 3*”, “*Video Game Project 4*”, and “*Video Game Project 5*” were all part of the “**Video Game AMV Projects**” I helped run from 2003-2009 and can all be seen in full at vg-projects.com.

1999

1. One more chance (Dragon Ball Z, Makenai ai ga kitto aru [Unbeatable love I surely have] by Yukie Nakama)
2. DBZ/EVA opening (Dragon Ball Z, Cruel Angel Thesis by Yohko Takahashi)
3. The Extreme Battle (Dragon Ball Z, The Extreme by Nobou Uematsu)
4. Spirit of the Saiya-jin (Dragon Ball Z, Tamashii no Rufuran [Soul Refrain] by Yohko Takahashi)
5. Saiya-Jin Insane (Dragon Ball Z, Get Along by Megumi Hayashibara)
6. Ginyu Style (Dragon Ball Z, Mystic Eyes by Hiroki Wada)
7. Piccolo's Might (Dragon Ball Z, Give a Reason by Megumi Hayashibara)
8. Genki Dama of Hope (Dragon Ball Z, Going History by Megumi Hayashibara)

9. Lonely Saiya-Jin Soldier (Dragon Ball Z, Lonely Space Soldier by Megumi Hayashibara)
10. Ruthless Fight (Dragon Ball Z, Sleepless Night by Megumi Hayashibara)
11. Painful Training (Dragon Ball Z, Tamashii no Rufuran Aqua Groove Remix by Megumi Hayashibara)
12. Nappa's Fury (Dragon Ball Z, The Landing by Nobuo Uematsu)
13. Deadly Transformation (Dragon Ball Z, A Premonition by Nobuo Uematsu)
14. Saiya-Jin Infinity (Dragon Ball Z, Infinity by Megumi Hayashibara)
15. Successful Mission (Dragon Ball Z, Successful Mission by Megumi Hayashibara)
16. Vegeta's Daybreak (Dragon Ball Z, Daybreak Impression by Megumi Hayashibara)
17. Battle Spectacle (Dragon Ball Z, Sleepless Night Remix by Megumi Hayashibara)

2000

18. Gohan's Explosion (Dragon Ball Z, Just be Conscious by Megumi Hayashibara)
19. Chikyuu Marugoto (Dragon Ball Z, Marugoto by Kageyama Hironobu and AMMY)
20. Soul of Darkness (Dragon Ball Z, Run all the Way by Megumi Hayashibara)

21. Exit/Running (Dragon Ball Z, Exit/Running by Megumi Hayashibara)
22. Eyes of Fire (Dragon Ball Z, Reflection by Megumi Hayashibara)
23. Soul of Darkness, Son of light (Dragon Ball Z, Run all the Way Fireball Groove Remix by Megumi Hayashibara)
24. Showdown (Dragon Ball Z, Dawn of the Children by Kuko)
25. Shooting Star (Dragon Ball Z, Shooting Star by Hattan Amika)
26. Gundam DBZ (Dragon Ball Z, Gundam Wing End Theme by Unknown)
27. Revenge (Dragon Ball Z, Dreams by Romantic Mode)
28. Don't lose your heart (Dragon Ball Z, Kujikenaikera by Megumi Hayashibara and Masumi Okui)
29. Don't be Discouraged (Dragon Ball Z, Don't be Discouraged Heartbeat Remix by Megumi Hayashibara)
30. JC III - Just Communication 3 (Dragon Ball Z, Just Communication Groove Your Soul remix by Two mix)
31. DBZ Muyo! (Dragon Ball Z, Tenchi Universe Opening by Sonia)
32. Burning Fight (Dragon Ball Z, Burning Fight by Kageyama Hironobu)
33. The faces of Good and Evil (Dragon Ball Z, Lively Motion by Megumi Hayashibara)

34. Love will leave you crying (Dragon Ball Z, Tenchi Universe English Opening by Sonia)
35. Call to destiny (Dragon Ball Z, I'm Believer by Kotono Shibuya)
36. Hearts of Fury (Dragon Ball Z, Reflection Last Summer Mix by Megumi Hayashibara)
37. Kuririn (Dragon Ball Z, Hohoemi no Bakudan Kurama Remix by Megumi Ogata)
38. Beyond the Super Saiya-Jin (Dragon Ball Z, Trauma by Ayumi Hamasaki)
39. Hero (Dragon Ball Z, Kimi ga HERO by Kageyama Hironobu)
40. The Perfect Warrior (Dragon Ball Z, Parasite Eve 2 Intro theme by Naoshi Mizuta)
41. Piccolo's Might Android Saga Giga Remix (Dragon Ball Z, Give a Reason Giga Remix by Megumi Hayashibara)

2001

42. DBZ/MMX5 Opening (Dragon Ball Z, Mega Man X5 Opening Theme by Capcom Sound Team)
43. Fight the Future (Dragon Ball Z, One More Time by Kotono Shibuya)
44. Cowboy Bebop Toonami Trailer (Cowboy Bebop, 2nd Coming by Toonami)
45. Unreleased Compilation

- A: 3G VHS Intro (Dragon Ball Z, We Gotta Power Instrumental by Shunsuke Kikuchi)
- B: The Android Profiles (Dragon Ball Z, Various Mega Man X4 Songs by Capcom Sound Team)
- C: Perfume No. 18 (Dragon Ball Z, Perfume No. 18 by Kuko and Yasumi)
- D: Just Communication IV (Just Communication Type 2 by Two-Mix)
- E: Life After Death (Truth Ballad Mix by Two Mix)

46. The Unknown Darkness (Dragon Ball Z, And Then by Ayumi Hamasaki)

2002

47. Dragon Bebop Z (Dragon Ball Z and Cowboy Bebop, Tough Boys by TOM*CAT)

48. Adult Swim Variation Intro (Various, Adult Swim Intro by Cartoon Network)

49. Flying off in a Blaze of Glory (Grand Theft Auto 3, Flight by Yasunori Mitsuda)

2003

50. The Haunted Ship (Yu Yu Hakusho and Memories, Carnival Babel by Takada Band)

51. Okubo (Yu Yu Hakusho, Trunks Theme by Bruce Faulconer)

52. NES Project 2003 - Yusuke Man vs. Jin Man (Yu Yu Hakusho, Airman Windshear by AE)

53. Akon 14 Iron Chef - Margaritaville (FLCL, Margaritaville by Jimmy Buffett)

54. NES Project 2003 - Battle Rocks (DBZ and Digi Charat, Battle Rocks by AmIEvil)

2004

55. Retro Video Game Project 2004 - Terra in Black (Cowboy Bebop, Terra in Black by Ailsean)

56. Kyle Hebert, The Big Bald Beast to the Extreme (Various, Def Beat by Junkie XL)

57. Retro Video Game Project 2004 - Devil's Mask (Rurouni Kenshin TV, Ninja Gaiden Devil's Mask by SFLaValle)

2005

58. Video Game Project 3 - 8 bit Eighties (Azumanga Daioh, Super Mario Bros Super Show, Adventures of Super Mario Bros 3, 8 bit Eighties by Injury)

59. This Video Kicks Ass (Various, Points of Authority by Linkin Park)

60. Video Game Project 3 - 2 Rookie Cops vs. The Undead (Hellsing and Resident Evil 2, Ada's Groove by ABG)

61. Resident Evil 4 - Die Another Day (Resident Evil 4, Die Another Day by Madonna)

62. A Ninja's Redemption (TMNT 2k3, Numb by Linkin Park)

63. Video Game Project 3 - Against the Rest (Dead Leaves to Against the Rest by BrainCells)

64. Video Game Project 3 - Intro (Various to Final Fantasia by chadseiter)

65. Naruto Ball Z - A Battle of Epic Proportions (Dragon Ball Z and Naruto, Bomb a head! Returns! by m.c.AT feat DA PUMP)

2006

66. Sakura's Love is a Battlefield (Naruto, Love is a Battlefield by Pat Benatar)

67. The Warriors (Akira, The Warriors Trailer and Soundtrack by Barry De Vorzon)

68. Old School Cartoon Project - TMNT (Naruto, TMNT Red Sky Op by Dennis C. Brown and Chuck Lorre)

2007

69. Video Game Project 4 - Phoenix Wright: Anime Attorney (Various to Examination ~ Moderate by Magical Trick Society)

70. Video Game Project 4 - Doom: Iron Cathedral (SiN to Iron Cathedral by Prophecy)

71. Video Game Project 4 - Castlevania Symphony of the Night Parody (Yu Yu Hakusho to Various SotN songs by Michiru Yamane)

72. Video Game Project 4 - Double Dragon 2: Mean Streak on Main Street (Rush Hour 1 and 2 to Mean Streak on Main Street by Protricity)

2008

73. Go the Distance (Hajime no Ippo, Gonna fly now John X Remix by Bill Conti)

2009

74. Reunion (Dragon Ball Z to Plenty of Grit by Megumi Hayashibara)
75. Video Game Project 5 - Trauma Center: Under the Anime 2 (Various to Various Trauma Center 2 Songs by Manabu Namiki)
76. Video Game Project 5 - Snatcher (Cowboy Bebop to Twilight in Neo Kobe City by Konami Kukeiha Club)
77. Video Game Project 5 - Saiyan of the Colossus (Dragon Ball Z to Various Shadow of the Colossus songs by Kow Ootani)

2010

78. Dragonball Evolution: The AMV Based on the Movie (Dragonball and Dragonball Evolution to Rule by Ayumi Hamasaki)
79. Resident Evil 5 - Reloaded (Resident Evil 5 to Various Matrix Songs by Don Davis, Rob Dugan, and Juno Reactor)

2012

80. Naruto Ball Z Shippuden - Heroes Come Back (Naruto Shippuden and Dragon Ball Z to The Biggest Fight by Kageyama Hironobu)

AMV Iron Chefs

Similar to the “Iron Chef” show, these were live contests where competitors had to make a video within 2 hours with a variety of sources... including a **“secret source”**.

Anime Expo 2011: Sacchrine Kombat (Various, Mortal Kombat Theme by The Utah Saints)

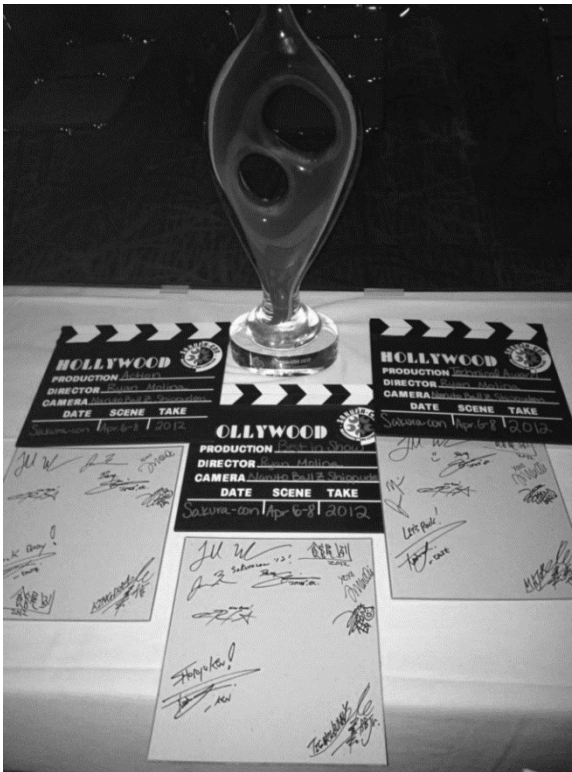
Sakura-Con 2012: Iron Editor vs. Pwulf (Various to Halloween

by Aqua)

Anime Expo 2013: End it All (Various to In The End by Linkin' Park)

AMV Award List

This is a list of all of the AMV awards, nominations, and special events my videos have participated in and won throughout the years. The thrill of seeing your work on the big screen is a feeling like no other and you guys have been able to grant me this privilege for many years. Thanks to everyone who's cheered upon my videos online and at conventions.



My Sakura Con 2012 Awards for “Naruto Ball Z Shippuden:

Heroes Come Back”.

Dragon Bebop Z (2002)

Megacon 2002

– Best Comedy

Anime Central 2002

– Best Comedy

Sakura Con 2002

– Best Other

A-kon 13

– Best Overall and Fan favorite

moobies.net contest

– Best Comedy/Fun

amv.org 2003 VCA

– Nominee for best fun video

Resident Evil 4 – Die Another Day (2005)

Anime Expo 2005

– Best AMTV

Animethon 2005

– Best Action

Naruto Ball Z: A Battle of Epic Proportions (2005)

AWA 11 2005

– Premiered as my panel exclusive video

AMV.org 2006 Viewer’s Choice Awards

Nominated for:

- Best Action
- Best Comedy
- Best Fun
- Best use of visual effects
- Most original video

Akon 17: Experts Music Video Contest

- Honorable Mention (Action)

Anime Expo 2006

- Best Action
- Fan Favorite
- Finalist for Best of Show

Otakon 2006

- Best Action

A Ninja's Redemption (2005)

AWA 11 2005 Pro Contest

- Now THIS is a Story Award from VegettoEX
- Hardass Splinter Award from Wonka

This Video Kick Ass (2005)

AWA 11 2005 Masters Contest

- Originality Award from Carlos Corral (Mindwarp Entertainment)

Video Game Project 4: Phoenix Wright – Anime Attorney (2007)

Anime Expo 2011

- Best AMTV

Go the Distance (2008)

Anime Central 2008

– Best of Show

Anime Expo 2008

– Shown in Nokia Theater for AMV Contest Pre-Show (Now Microsoft Theater)

Animethon 15

– Best Upbeat/Fun

AWA 14 2008 Expo Contest

– Best Tribute

Resident Evil 5 Reloaded (2009)

Avcon 2010 AMV Competition

– Best Action

2010 Manifest AMV Competition

– Best Action

Nan Desu Kan 2010

– Best Video Game Video

Dragon Ball Evolution: The AMV Based on the Movie (2009)

Anime LA 2011

– Best Action

Anime Expo 2011 AMV Chef: Sacchrine Kombat

– AMV Chef Winner

Sakura-Con 2012: Iron Editor vs. Pwolf

– Iron Chef Winner

Naruto Ball Z: Shippuden – Heroes Come Back (2012)

Anime LA 2013
– First Place: Best Action Produced

Anime Evolution 2012
– Audience Best Overall

Anime Vegas 2012
– Best Action

Anime USA 2012
– 2nd Place Action

Youmacon 2012
– Shonen Jumping the Shark Award

Another Anime Con 2012
– Theme Winner

Nan Desu Kan 2012
– Best of Show Judge's Choice

Anime Expo 2012
– Best Action
– Creator's Choice
– Best of Show

Otafest 2012
– Honorable Mention Epic Crossover

Sakura-Con 2012
– Best Action
– Best Technical
– Best of Show



Sakura Con 2012 Iron Editor Award

Special Thanks

There are a ton of people to thank here my journey, so I apologize if I can't remember everyone!

My family and friends

For being supportive and encouraging me to use the skills I learned from Vegeta Insane and Ginga GIRI GIRI to get jobs in web design and film. Also, for not giving up on me when I felt like giving up on myself.

The AMV Community

For being not only great friends, but also as competitors who inspired me to do better and work harder on my videos. I will always cherish the competitions, conventions, parties, and most of all, the friendships I've made over the years. I entered a time when Dragon Ball Z was considered taboo among AMV editors, but I'm glad me and many others fought that taboo and gave Dragon Ball the glory it deserved at AMV contests.

Everyone on Twitter and Social Media

For all the retweets, likes, conversations, friendships, and overall shitposting. There are way too many of you to list, but I always look forward to conversing with you guys every day and checking out how things in your lives are.

Everyone on IRC

There are way too many of you to mention, but thanks for all the fun chats and trout slapping. Also for the fun debates, trolling our betters, tetrinet matches, fansub trading, exchanging of ideas, and our "after-dark" chats. Also, I'm pretty sure my friend who jumped a pretty high profile government IRC server is still at large. Hehe.

SkitzZero (DBZ: The Third Season), DeathBallZ, firey (Orange Star High School), Ramza (Dragon Ball Blast)

For being the first pair of DBZ webmasters I conversed with

regularly as I was just starting out. I'm surprised I'm still at least talking to 3 out of 4 of you today!

Chris Psaros (DBZ Uncensored), SREDBZ, DannyPoo (DBZ Warriors), FlaaB (Home for Infinite Losers), Greg Werner (The Ultimate DBZ Info Page), Benny Lee (Benny Lee's Dragon Ball-Z-GT), Meri (Temple O'Trunks), NeoGohan, Steve Harmon (The Vault), JKwok44, Eric Phan (Daily Dragon Ball Chapters), XZ (DBZSC), Carlos and Mason's DBZ (CMDBZ), Dr. Gero, Wuken (Suuschinchuu), Dave (dbz.superpope.com), Ozzie Arcane, Beejeta-San (Dragon Ball of Japan), SegaSaga, VegettoTOD and Pojo (Pojo's DBZ), TheQuestion (spiritdetective.com), Mandrew, Cleo, Steve Simmons (Daimao), Team Four Star, Derek Padula (The Dao of Dragon Ball), and many more

For being inspirations when I was starting out, our emails, chats, AIM and ICQ sessions, fansub trading, web hosting talks, and much more. To the newer people on this list, for being good fans, friends, and teaching this old dog some new tricks.

Geekdom101

For being one of the best current authorities on Dragon Ball today and for always being truthful to the fans. Also, for having me multiple times on your show and podcasts, inviting and having me host a panel at Kamehacon, and for being a great friend in general. I've seen many, many, many people come and go in the Dragon Ball community for over 20 years. However, your success proves that persistence, hard work, quality content, and respecting the fanbase will always pay off in the long run. Always looking forward to working with you and seeing you grow.

Games and James, Ctenosaur Video, Nippon Golden Network, Pearl, Anime Labs, S. Baldrick, E. Monsoon, and more

For the somewhat decently DBZ subbed translations before the DVDs came out and for the laughs with *"Get the fuck off my*

planet” and “You blew up my house, fuck you!”.

MrE, SkullMac, Kaio, Julian, and the rest of the Planet Namek Staff

For being good hosts and friends who provided me space and bandwidth when my site had already outgrown my measly Geocities account. I still plan on paying back MrE for the \$3000+ in bandwidth I cost in him in 2000, so buying this book will help me pay him back!

Rekka, Lucky, Dark-Zero, Bravo, Jon Allen, Dyne, and Wiznut

For being the absolute best staff and contributors a guy could ever work with and for putting up with my tyrannical rule, lol. Make sure to catch Jon as The Pink Hat Guy in Dragon Ball Z and as Nigrissi in Dragon Ball Super. Also, Rekka is a fekka with a small pekka and YOU SIR, ARE A PENIS. :)

007-Sama

For being the Krillin to my Goku as my second in command when I was expanding Vegeta Insane and Ginga GIRI GIRI. Also, for all the awesome content, ideas, and for being one of the best co-webmasters and one of the best friends a guy could ever have. You’ve always had my back during both the best and worst times of running the site. I know we haven’t talked in a while, but I hope you and your family are doing well. If you’re reading this book, hit me up!

FUNimation, Brian Drummond, Chris Sabat, Justin Cook, Eric Vale, Kyle Hebert, Gen Fukunaga, and more

For bringing DBZ here into the United States and for your excellent performances on the show. I know me and many others were highly critical when you first started, but you grew and improved as the years went by. Now I consider you guys the definitive english voice of the show. Also for being just cool and down to Earth people in general.

Masako Nozawa, Ryo Horikawa, Toshio Furukawa, Toru Furuya, Ryusei Naoko, and many more

For your excellent performances in the original Japanese Dragon Ball for over 30 years. I still remember hearing how amazing your voices were from my first fansubs in 1999 all the way until now. It's amazing how many of you are STILL voicing the characters in everything from the series, movies, and video games.

Josie, Heather, Frank, and Bill

For working with me on Battle Geek Plus for seven years and being my closest friends and second family. Also, for reminding me of where I came from in a time when I wanted to move on and forget my past with Vegeta Insane/Ginga GIRI GIRI. I apologize for trying to hide my past when you guys were always championing my past successes. Without you guys, I would not have re-embraced my past self and my love of Dragon Ball. Even though you guys have parted ways with me on Battle Geek Plus, I always value our friendship, hanging out, and helping with you guys with your own projects whenever I can. Thanks for always being there for me during the best and worst times.

Akira Toriyama, Bird Studio, Shueisha, Toei Animation, Saban, Ocean Studios, Pioneer, and Cartoon Network

For creating and putting together the manga and show that literally saved my life and gave me a purpose back in 1998. I don't know where I would be if I didn't decide to watch the show on that fateful day. Thank you.

Julian (again), Heath, Herms, and the rest of the Kanzenshuu Staff

For maintaining my favorite (and still the BEST) Dragon Ball related site which I have constantly been visiting for over 20 years and will continue to visit for years to come.

VegettoEX

The person I owe the biggest thanks of all. Thank you for taking

a chance with my site during your link submission period and actually linking it on your links page. That one link snowballed into every great moment and success that I have experienced for the past 20+ years and I will always be eternally grateful. It's been great working with you on your podcast, AMV's, and especially Project Doomrider. Also, for being a damn good friend and awesome dude to hang with at conventions. May your DBZ Movie 1 collection keep growing and expanding always. If you ever decide to run a Project Doomrider 2, I will un-retire from AMVs temporarily to help you out!

All my trolls and haters

While I still deal with forms them on Battle Geek Plus today, I wanna thank my past trolls for lighting the fire under my belly to do better, for the intense debates, and even several for making peace with me and becoming friends. It's been a long time and now that we're all older and hopefully a bit wiser, I hope to have drinks with you at conventions as we let bygones be bygones.

All my fans

To the most important people of the bunch who've always been my first priority. Thank you so much for all of the emails, chats, stories, gifts, compliments, meet ups at conventions, and so much more I can't even begin to fathom. My number one goal was always YOUR entertainment and it was always your words of encouragement that helped me get through even the worst of days and changed me as person for the better. I'm still blown away that so many of you STILL remember Vegeta Insane and Ginga GIRI GIRI even after 20+ years. I'm happy that I made a positive impact in your lives and you guys have even made a much bigger impact on mine. It's YOU guys who are the ones who keep me going and I hope to continue entertaining both my old and newer fans with my weird and wacky ideas. Without you guys, I wouldn't be here today and I owe you all everything.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Picture Gallery



Me at Anime Expo 2002, a few months after closing down Vegeta Insane and Ginga GIRI GIRI.



Fusion-HA! At Anime Expo 2012



Lord Beerus and I at Anime Expo 2013.



Me powering up at the FUNimation booth at Anime Expo 2013



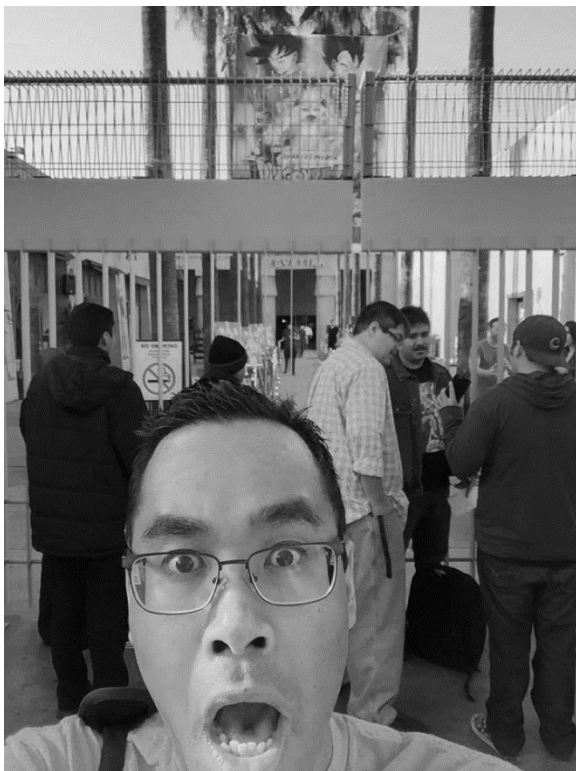
Me and Batman at the JAM Project Concert at the Hollywood Musician's Institute in September 2013. We got to sing CHA-LA-HEAD-CHA-LA together!



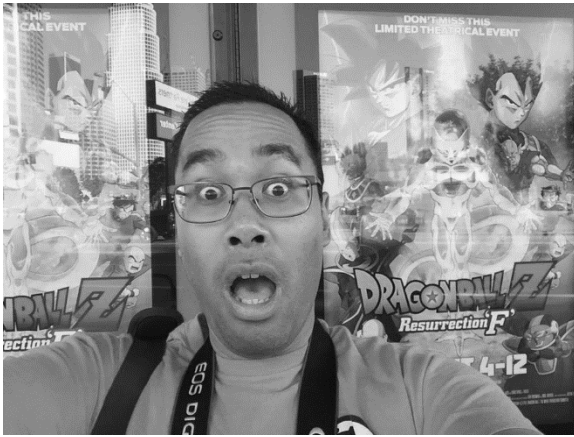
Me with Super Saiyan God hair before the "Dragon Ball Z: Battle of Gods" Los Angeles Premiere at Anime Expo 2014.



“Dragon Ball Z: Resurrection F” Hollywood Premiere at the Grauman’s Egyptian Theatre in April 2015.



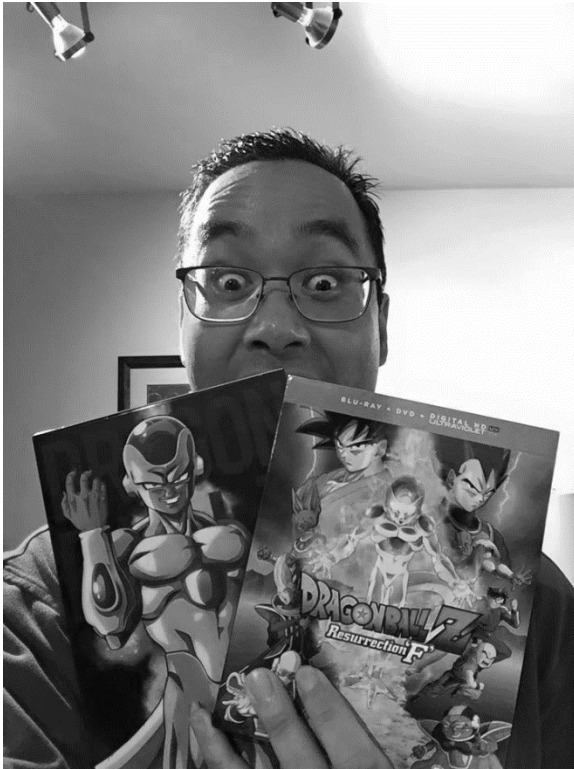
Me attending the “Dragon Ball Z: Resurrection F” Hollywood Premiere in April 2015.



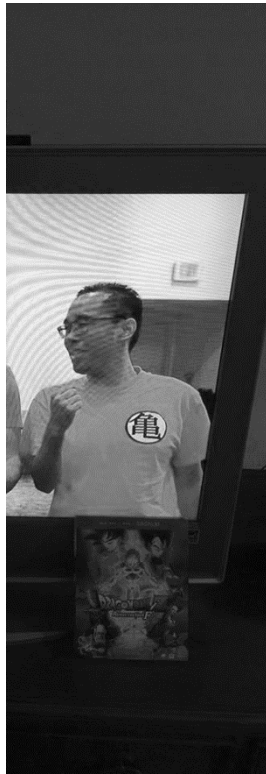
Me attending the “Dragon Ball Z: Resurrection F” Red Carpet Premiere at Anime Expo 2015.



My appearance in the Team Four Star “Mustache” video.



Me with both the Japanese and USA Dragon Ball Z:
Resurrection F Blu-Rays.



My appearance on the Dragon Ball Z: Resurrection F USA Blu Ray Extras.



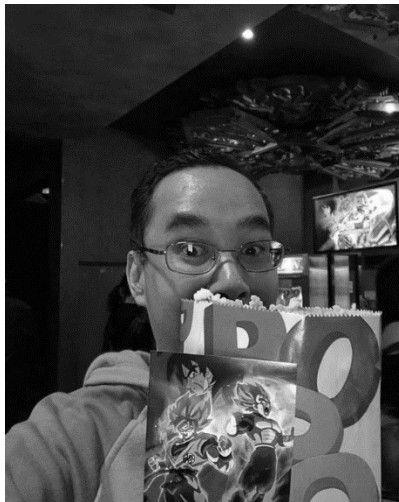
Me in front of the Dragon Ball FighterZ booth at E3 2017.



Me powering up outside Anime Expo 2017



Me at the “Dragon Ball Super: Broly” premiere at the Grauman’s Chinese Theater in December 2018. I’m telling you, the movie’s good!



Free popcorn, thanks Broly!



Me at Kamehacon 2019



My “Play the Dragon: History of Dragon Ball Video Games”
Panel at Kamehacon 2019.



Blasting off in my Saiyan Space Pod!



Totally not shameless!



Playing “Dragon Ball Z: Kakarot” at E3 2019.

About the Author

Ryan “Castor Troy” Molina was the webmaster of Vegeta Insane/Ginga GIRI GIRI from 1999-2002 and currently runs “**Battle Geek Plus**”, a film production, book publishing, and now a t-shirt manufacturing company that focuses on video game and geek culture (including Dragon Ball). Ryan brought back Ginga GIRI GIRI as **Ginga GIRI GIRI Kai** in 2010 and **Vegeta Insane** back in 2019 to serve as archives of the past sites. Now free of external hosts and bandwidth problems.

Ryan still loves Dragon Ball with a passion and continues to keep track of every new piece of news that’s been coming out since the resurgence in 2002. You can follow him on twitter @**ThatRyanMolina** and his company twitter @**BattleGeekPlus** where he posts about Dragon Ball, Popcorn, and kicking trolls in the ass.

Make sure to visit **Vegeta Insane** and **Ginga GIRI GIRI Kai** for old school Dragon Ball Comedy, ALL of Ryan’s award winning Anime Music Videos, parodies, and much more!

vegetainsane.com and 3gkai.com

Make sure to subscribe to the **Battle Geek Plus YouTube Channel** for Dragon Ball Game Reviews, skits, event coverage from the Dragon Ball Movie Premieres, and much more!

youtube.com/battlegeekplus

Watch Ryan play Dragon Ball Games and more on the **Battle Geek Plus Twitch Channel**! If you have Amazon Prime, you can subscribe and get awesome perks like emotes, badges, and more!

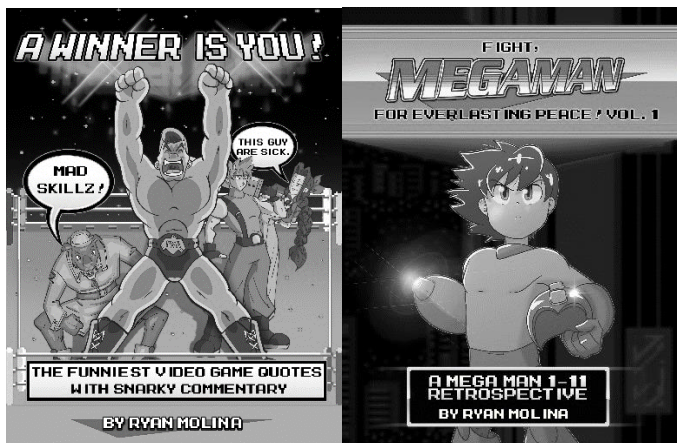
twitch.tv/battlegeekplus

Check out Ryan's instagram for cool behind the scenes photos, Dragon Ball pics, and so much more!

[instagram.com/battlegeekplus](https://www.instagram.com/battlegeekplus)



Enjoy this book? Make sure to check out **“Play the Dragon: History of Dragon Ball Video Games Vol. 1”**. which covers the first saga of Dragon Ball Video Games! Available at Amazon and other retailers!



Also make sure to check out Ryan’s other books such as “A Winner is You” and “Fight, Mega Man! For Everlasting Peace!”.

All books are available on Amazon!

[amazon.com/author/ryanmolina](https://www.amazon.com/author/ryanmolina)

Make sure to check out Ryan’s Patreon for early video access, book access, and more! Every dollar will help him bring you better videos and books!

[patreon.com/ryanmolina](https://www.patreon.com/ryanmolina)

Check out the main Battle Geek Plus website for a complete listing of videos, books, and merchandise!

[battlegeekplus.com](https://www.battlegeekplus.com)

THERE'S A LITTLE VEGETA IN ALL OF US...

IN THE YEAR 1999, DRAGON BALL Z WAS TEARING UP THE RATINGS ON CARTOON NETWORK AND DESTROYING POKEMON AND BRITNEY SPEARS IN THE SEARCH ENGINES. ASIDE FROM THE MASSIVE GROWING POPULARITY OF THE SERIES, THERE WAS ALSO THE RISE OF DRAGON BALL Z WEBSITES FROM THE MOST DEDICATED OF FANS. THIS IS THE STORY OF "VEGETA INSANE", ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR DRAGON BALL Z WEBSITES THAT EVENTUALLY SPAWNED "GINGA GIRI GIRI" AND MUCH MORE. AND LOST IT ALL, ALONG WITH THE SUCCESS AND TURMOIL THAT CAME WITH ALL OF IT. SEE HOW DIFFERENT THE DRAGON BALL Z WEB COMMUNITY WAS FAR BEFORE THE ADVENT OF SOCIAL MEDIA AS WE TRAVEL BACK IN TIME TO AN ERA WHERE DRAGON BALL Z INFORMATION WAS FAR AND HARD TO FIND. THIS IS A TRUE STORY OF INSANITY. THIS IS VEGETA INSANE.



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