



chapter 17:  
A terrorist  
situation

INT. THE WORLD BELT ARENA - SECURITY CONTROL ROOM -  
AFTERNOON

Terrorist #1 places a piece of tape over Runa's mouth, as  
Terrorist #3 continues talking to Aizen over the PA system.

NARRATOR

Last time on Chronic Boom, Aizen  
nearly won the World Belt  
Tournament... until Runa found  
herself kidnapped as part of a  
terrorist plot also targeting Sora!  
Can Aizen save them both AND win  
the World Belt Tournament? The plot  
thickens today on Chronic Boom!

Runa squirms in her ropes with a look of fear and terror  
across her face as she SCREAMS into the tape.

TERRORIST #3

Time's running out, Aizen. Who's it  
going to be? You're mother, or your  
aunt?

INT. THE WORLD BELT ARENA - RING

Aizen twitches a moment, then regains his composure.

AIZEN

I'll kill you for this!

TERRORIST #3 (O.S.)

Tick... Tock... You now have  
fourteen minutes, Aizen.

AIZEN

Dammit! So close! Just two more  
seconds, and I would have been able  
to DO something about this!

Aizen turns to Rynan.

AIZEN

Hey! Can't you rewind time or some  
such and stop this from happening?

RYNAN

It wouldn't work. I'm the only one  
it would affect, and I was here  
with you.

JAROD

We've put the match on hold, so if you guys want to go and save them, go at it. We can't let spectators die here; it's bad for business.

RYNAN

My, how noble...

JAROD

I didn't mean it like that!

AIZEN

There's gotta be someone we can contact, right? What about Ky or Foxtrot? What about them?

RYNAN

Foxtrot's trapped in the spectator seats, and you knocked Ky out, remember?

AIZEN

Dammit! There's gotta be someone who can help us!

JRAVIRTZ

I have an idea...

INT. THE WORLD BELT ARENA - SPECTATOR SEATS

The crowd continues to look for Sora. Some have taken to makeshift weapons. Others have taken out real weapons. Still others, have picked up pieces of debris to use as weapons.

KEN

(whispering)

I don't think they know who we are, yet. That should buy us some time to think of a plan of action...

TERRORIST #3 (O.S.)

Really, Ken Luna! Trying to stall for time? Have you forgotten that I can look up exactly where she's sitting?

Sora turns pale with fear.

HALO

(whispering)

Ken... Don't do it...

KEN

I don't know who you are, but  
you're a sick bastard! When I get  
my hands on you...

Halo facepalms and shakes his head.

TERRORIST #3 (O.S.)

There she is! Have at it!

INT. THE WORLD BELT ARENA - RING

Jravirtz shows Aizen, Rynan, and Jarod the control panel for  
the safety shields.

Aizen spins around in a hurry.

AIZEN

Dammit, Ken! Way to go, Jack-ass!

RYNAN

Hey! Focus! The sooner we break  
through this thing, the sooner we  
can save them.

Rynan spins Aizen around to face Jarod and Jravirtz.

AIZEN

Fine. What're we doing, here?

JRAVIRTZ

This is the control panel for the  
safety shields. They have the  
override command back in the  
security control room.

RYNAN

Now that we know where they are...

JAROD

Precisely. The problem is...

JRAVIRTZ

The problem is they've locked us  
out from turning them off. But...  
If we were to, say, overload the  
system...

AIZEN

Overload the system, short out the  
shields... One of us saves my mom,  
and the other goes for the security  
control room!

JRAVIRTZ  
Exactly! They've got this thing  
cranked up to max, so it shouldn't  
take too much to...

Aizen puts out an open palm, and energy starts to gather  
around it. Everybody ducks out of the way.

CUT TO:

INT. THE WORLD BELT ARENA - SPECTATOR SEATS

Ken and Halo attempt to ward off hordes of crazed spectators  
all trying to kill Sora.

The safety shields around the ring suddenly fizzle out and  
drop.

SORA  
Look! The safety shields just  
dropped!

KEN  
Kinda busy saving your ass...

HALO  
I'm sure he meant that in a loving  
way!

KEN  
Okay... Ending this now.

HALO  
End it now?

KEN  
End it now.  
ETERNAL FLAME!

Ken's Eternal Flame Wave knocks back a row of spectators,  
but twice the amount rushes in from the sides to take their  
place.

HALO  
SOUL! DAN! CHI!

Halo's Soul Dan Chi Wave has little more success than the  
Eternal Flame Wave.

KEN  
Shit! They're still coming.

JRAVIRTZ

All right, guys! You have about two minutes to get out of here before the shields go back online again. Go! Stop these guys!

AIZEN

Right!

Aizen powers up and flies out of the ring.

RYNAN

Don't have to tell me twice!

Rynan powers up and follows Aizen.

AIZEN

I'm going for Runa! You stay and protect my mom!

RYNAN

You sure? I mean... I can take them out, if you want...

AIZEN

No... These bastards are mine!

RYNAN

Okay... Have it your way!

Rynan lands next to Ken and Halo.

RYNAN

Hi, I don't believe we've met...

SORA

I don't care who you are as long as you're not trying to kill me.

RYNAN

You're in good hands, Sora.

Rynan prepares to fight, and the crowd starts to back off.

RYNAN

I don't want to have to hurt any of you, but if you attempt to hurt this young woman, you will leave me little recourse.

Aizen blasts down one of the sealed exits and teleports out of the spectator's area.

The crowd realizes an exit has been opened and starts focusing on getting to safety.

The safety shields reactivate moments after Jarod and Jravirtz barely manage to escape the ring.

JAROD  
(WILHELM SCREAM)  
That almost fried me!

JRAVIRTZ  
Well, it looks like they saved one  
of 'em.

Rynan and Halo blast open the other exits, as the crowd starts to push past each other, trying to escape.

INT. THE WORLD BELT ARENA - SECURITY CONTROL ROOM

Terrorist #3 grits his teeth, watching the security footage.

TERRORIST #3  
That does it! Call in the others!  
Nobody gets out alive! You hear me?  
Nobody!

Terrorist #2 gets on the radio.

TERRORIST #2  
Plan B, guys! You know what to do!

Terrorist #3 looks at Runa.

TERRORIST #3  
Kill her now! Her use to us has  
expired!

TERRORIST #1  
Roger that!  
Sorry, toots. Orders are orders.

Runa disappears right as Terrorist #1 pulls the trigger. The bullet takes out a control panel where her head was.

TERRORIST #1  
What the...

The cell turn around to notice Aizen and Runa standing behind them. Runa has already been untied, as she peels the tape off her mouth.

AIZEN

Aunt Runa, run to safety. I'll take it from here.

RUNA

But what about your match?

AIZEN

It's taken care of. Go now!

RUNA

What about you?

AIZEN

This is the last time I'm going to tell you to get to safety! Just go!

Runa stares at the look of rage in Aizen's eyes for a beat. She hightails it out of the Security Control Room.

RUNA (O.S.)

Sora!

AIZEN

It's over.

TERRORIST #1

Not yet! We have the guns!

Terrorists #'s 1 and 2 unload a volley of bullets at Aizen, but Aizen dodges all of them.

TERRORIST #2

Shit!

Aizen's eyes flash golden for a quick beat.

Terrorist #1 freezes in fear as Aizen impales his throat with Demonic claws.

Terrorist #2 tries to reload in a hurry, but Aizen grabs him by the face and whips him around into a control panel. A loud CRACKING NOISE is heard, as his neck snaps.

AIZEN

Your turn.

TERRORIST #3

The boss isn't going to like this one bit...

AIZEN

Who do you work for?



TERRORIST #3  
I'll die before I tell you that!

AIZEN  
You'll die either way for what  
you've done. Who do you work for?

Terrorist #3 fumbles with another detonator, but Aizen  
snatches it from his hands and crushes it in his own fist.

AIZEN  
You've made me very angry, and  
that's the last thing you want to  
do to a Demon.

Aizen grabs Terrorist #3 by the collar. Terrorist #3 yanks a  
wire from his vest.

CUT TO:

INT. THE WORLD BELT ARENA - CONCESSION STANDS

Runa runs over to Sora, reuniting with her sister.

SORA  
Runa!

RUNA  
Sora!

The two sisters embrace.

SORA  
Oh, my goodness! Are you okay?

RUNA  
Yeah, I'm fine. How are you? How is  
the...

SORA  
We're fine. Aizen's opponent helped  
saved me.

A loud explosion ROARS throughout the arena.

SORA  
Oh, no! Aizen!

RUNA  
That sounded like it came from the  
Security Control Room! That's where  
they had me tied up!

SORA  
Tell me he didn't...

Rynan flies past Sora and Runa toward the explosion.

RYNAN  
Idiot! What does he think he's  
accomplishing?

INT. THE WORLD BELT ARENA - SECURITY CONTROL ROOM

Flames engulf the room. Zanom stands back up amidst the inferno. His appearance flashes between Aizen and Ikarin, eventually settling on Ikarin.

INT. THE WORLD BELT ARENA - RING

The safety shields flicker and fade away.

JAROD  
I guess that means they did it?

JRAVIRTZ  
I guess it means I have a lot of  
work to do on the grid, now.

INT. THE WORLD BELT ARENA - CONCESSION STANDS

Ken and Halo fly catch up with Rynan.

RYNAN  
Your friend's going to kill us all  
if he doesn't calm down!

Ken and Halo look at each other.

KEN  
Uh-oh...

HALO  
You don't think he means...

KEN  
Not again...

Ikarin's aura pulsates throughout the arena. Rynan, Ken, and Halo stop dead in their tracks.

RYNAN  
What the holy Jigoku was that?

KEN  
Get everyone out of here, now.

RYNAN

What?

KEN

Now! Go! Get everyone to safety  
while he's still contained! Halo!  
Go warn the others!

HALO

Right!

Halo turns around and flies off to warn everyone.

RYNAN

Ken, is it? Level with me. What are  
we dealing with? Zanom's aura just  
darkened and I'm reading no  
inhibitions on him, whatsoever.  
What just happened?

Ken hangs his head.

RYNAN

Tell me!

NARRATOR

Uh-oh, indeed! Zanom has lost  
control of his Aizen form and  
reverted back into Ikarin! Will  
Rynan be enough to turn the tide  
and calm Ikarin back into Aizen?  
What dying tricks do the terrorists  
still have up their sleeves? And  
what will happen to the World Belt  
Tournament, now? The situation  
darkens on the next Chronic Boom!

FADE OUT