

Ninjago: Neon Warfare
Episode Twelve: "Damnatio Memoriae"

By
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Based on
LEGO Ninjago

EXT. ROOF - NIGHT

We follow the green-tinted snow. It glistens from the city lights as it travels and swirls through the air.

ZANE (V.O.)
There is an ancient tale of two
Princes destined to co-rule a Kingdom.

Snowflakes fall onto Zane's hand. The snowflakes reflect the neon blue of Zane's eyes.

ON ZANE

Zane examines the snow that gathers in his hand. He attempts to command the snow by moving his hand, but the snow remains unmoved, and he frowns. Zane tries again, he fails.

ZANE
Why won't you respond to me...

We hear the creaking of ice off-screen. Zane attempts to move the snow again. He fails. Zane grows frustrated, and his eye twitches.

ZANE (V.O.)
When the two Princes were of age, one
killed the other to be the sole ruler.

Zane raises his other hand and points it at the tinted snow in his hand. Zane attempts to move the snow, but his thoughts seem to interrupt him.

LLOYD (V.O.)
(Echoed) You are the one with the
problem I am trying to save everyone
else from.

Zane fails. Zane closes his eyes shut and THROWS the snow into the air. A large icicle RISES into the ground and cuts through the snowflakes.

ZANE
(frustrated) Damn it, listen to me!

Zane puts his hand over his mouth after realizing he's just screamed. Zane looks down noticing a thin sheet of ice surrounding him, spiraling into the shape of a large snowflake.

ZANE (V.O.)

After becoming King, he started
destroying every piece of art and
architecture in the brother's name.

Zane takes a deep breath and the ice begins to melt.

EXT. CITY STREET - NIGHT

ON YOUTUBE

We see a video of Aristos' speech. The video PAUSES.

ON PHONE

We see a finger pressing the pause button of the YouTube
video.

KEON (O.S)

Damn! Don't touch my phone!

ON KEON

We see a KEON, a teenage boy with curly hair and brown skin,
next to a shorter girl, IRYS, with silver eyes and brown
skin. Irys looks older, an adult but still a teenager. Irys
is holding a small hand, a toddler walks next to her. Keon
pulls his phone away from Irys.

IRYS

You've been watching it non-stop!

KEON

Yeah because somethin' ain't right.

IRYS

What? You think it's fake?

KEON

Duh!

IRYS

It's not fake, Keon.

KEON

It has to be.

Keon googles the image of the FROZEN LAKE.

KEON

The Titanium Ninja would never do

something like this.

IRYS

Do you not see the snow?? We are in
the dead of summer.

A NOTIFICATION buzzes on Keon's phone. It is a breaking news alert.

ON KEON'S PHONE

We see the Hexagon on FIRE. An image of Zane holding a strange gun is shown on screen.

ON KEON

The two frown as Irys SNATCHES Keon's phone.

IRYS

Why is the Neon Stallion on the
Emperor's back?

KEON

He's a ninja...And since when do you
care about heroes?

IRYS

I don't, but when Aspheera lit my
school on fire he saved my friends.

Irys appears to be angry, she hands Keon his phone.

IRYS

I hope Spade locks the Emperor up. He
belongs in a prison cell.

KEON

Really? After everything he's done for
Ninjago?

IRYS

You should be more worried about what
he is doing to Ninjago, rather than
what he did in the past.

Keon frowns.

IRYS

People change, and not always for the
better.

A man with a PITCHFORK runs and BUMPS into Keon as he passes by them.

KEON

Yo?! Watch it!

The two frown as a commotion is heard. Irys picks up the toddler. Keon and Irys exchange concerned looks. Reluctantly, the two turn the corner and see a RIOT taking place around ZANE'S STATUE.

Yelling. Screaming. Flames. Torches lit ablaze light the area. Posters RISE in the air. The crowd grows in numbers. A string is wrapped around the statue. TENSION and ANIMOSITY fill the air as people chant against the Emperor.

KEON

What the hell is happening?

Keon motions to the riot but is pulled back by Irys.

IRYS

Stop.

Keon pulls away from her, he is clearly upset.

ON CROWD

The Crowd PUSHES on Zane's statue. The strings are pulled. Zane's statue COLLAPSES. A loud thud is heard throughout the city area.

ON KEON

Keon steps back and turns to Irys in fear.

KEON

Irys?

IRYS

(Concerned) We are taking the back way.

EXT. ROOF - NIGHT

Specks of snow blow past. A deep inhale is heard. Ice CREAKS across the ground. Deep breath out. The ice MELTS.

This process repeats.

ON ZANE

We see Zane. His hood and mask cover his face. Zane's eyes are CLOSED. Zane's breath and the CREAKING of ice are heard.

Zane OPENS his eyes. We see something in the reflection of his pupils. It looks like something we have seen before, but it is too faint to tell.

ZANE'S INTERFACE MONTAGE:

We are greeted with a memory of Zane and PIXAL dancing on the ice lake. The memory is interrupted...Now we witness Zane STABBING Lloyd in the hand. Zane's breath shudders. Zane BLINKS it away.

We are once again greeted with a dance on ice, snow glistening in the sun. Pixal smiles. The memory is interrupted...we witness Lloyd TOWERING over Zane and the lake. Glowing green eyes filled with a deathly mix of anger and pain. Green energy fills the night sky, taking aim for one man. He SHOTS. Zane's breath shudders. Zane BLINKS it away.

VEX fills Zane's screen. Zane's eyes widen at the sight of the General. He pauses, watching the memories of Vex play.

ON ZANE

We see Zane, with a hand over his heart. We begin to hear faint noises. Zane's brows furrow. Zane blinks and turns toward the direction of the noise. He is curious. He tilts his head.

Zane slowly makes his way to the edge of the building. The commotion grows and GROWS. As Zane approaches the edge, Zane GASPS, and GRIPS at his heart.

ON ZANE'S INTERFACE

Zane's Statue stands before us. It is SURROUNDED by a mob.

Yelling. Screaming. Flames. Torches lit ablaze light the area. Posters RISE in the air. The crowd grows in numbers. A string is wrapped around the statue. TENSION and ANIMOSITY fill the air as people chant against the Emperor.

PROTESTORS

No snow! No Zane! No Emperor!

PROTESTOR 1 (OVER MIC)

If the Emperor wants to freeze our realm! We will burn his memory to
(MORE)

PROTESTOR 1 (OVER MIC) (CONT'D)
damnation!

Zane PULLS at his heart. His breath becomes SHORT and QUICK.

PROTESTOR 1 (OVER MIC)
And send him with it!

Zane steps back.

ICE EMPEROR (O.S)
We should send each and every one of
them to damnation!

Zane WHIPS around to see the ICE EMPEROR. Zane GASPS. Zane PULLS his mask off and COUGHS up ICE. Zane falls to his knees.

YOUNG ZANE (O.S)
Those people are scared!

YOUNG ZANE steps next to Zane. We continue to hear Zane COUGH and hear the impact of ice HITTING the concrete roof.

ICE EMPEROR
As they should be. We are powerful and
ought to be respected! Yet the people
disgrace us! Curse our name!

YOUNG ZANE
Because we hurt people!

ICE EMPEROR
We did what we had to.

YOUNG ZANE
It's not what we ought to do! We
protect!

ICE EMPEROR
Why?!

Young Zane is unable to answer. The Ice Emperor GRABS Zane by his hair and PULLS him up. The Ice Emperor SHOVES Zane against the concrete edge, forcing Zane to watch the mob.

We see ICE over Zane's mouth and mixed with blue blood. Zane coughs.

ICE EMPEROR
We ought to put them in their place!
(MORE)

ICE EMPEROR (CONT'D)
Give this city a demonstration!

YOUNG ZANE
That's wrong! The people are innocent!

The Crowd PUSHES on Zane's statue. The strings are pulled. Zane's statue COLLAPSES. A loud thud is heard throughout the city area.

ICE EMPEROR
There is nothing innocent about this!

YOUNG ZANE
It's our fault! We failed them! We are supposed to be a protector and instead, we're a-

ICE EMPEROR Ruler.	YOUNG ZANE Murderer.
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Zane turns and GRIPS at the edge as ice leaves his mouth, followed by a GASP for air. He puts his hand on his throat.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Irys and Keon walk down the alleyway. Keon is livid.

KEON
They just- just- took it down! His statue!

Irys remains silent. Keon looks at her.

KEON
Do you not care?

Irys looks away.

KEON
He saved the city, Irys!

IRYS
And now the Emperor is terrorizing it!
He has blood on his hands!

EXT. ROOF - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Zane is hunched over. His arm rests on the edge of the building. Zane's head lays on his arm. His coughing has slowed. The Ice Emperor and Young Zane stand on either side

of him.

ICE EMPEROR

Do you hear that?

Two voices can be heard. Zane slowly lifts his head to look down in the alleyway. He sees Irys, Keon, and the toddler down below.

Zane notices movement in the other direction. He turns and squints his eyes. He can't see anything. Zane steps away from the ledge.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Irys points back from where they came from.

IRYS

The person on that statue just burned down the biggest military facility in Ninjago! ...Is that someone who deserves a statue?

Keon is silent.

IRYS

Those people back there were insane. But maybe they had the right idea.

EXT. ROOF - NIGHT - CONTINUOUS

Zane stands on the roof. The Emperor and Young Zane stand next to him.

ICE EMPEROR

That girl doesn't understand what she's talking about.

Young Zane looks down at the girl in the alleyway.

YOUNG ZANE

Maybe she's scared too?

ICE EMPEROR

She should fear us.

We hear a SCREAM. Zane runs back to the ledge. Zane's eyes widen.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

Irys is BACKED into a wall. Her hand is over Keon and her other is on the toddler's head. The toddler is holding onto Irys.

A figure STANDS before them with a machine in hand.

IRYS
Leave us alone!

EXT. ROOF - NIGHT

Zane is uncertain.

YOUNG ZANE
They need our help!

ICE EMPEROR
Why would we help them? I suggest we
leave them to their own devices.

Zane walks away from the ledge again.

YOUNG ZANE
They can't protect themselves!

Zane turns to the Ice Emperor and Young Zane.

ICE EMPEROR
Remember what the Green Ninja said.

Zane pauses.

EXT. ALLEYWAY - NIGHT

The figure TURNS ON the machine. The end begins to spin and pick up speed.

FIGURE
The Emperor was spotted in this area.
Have you seen him?

Keon opens his mouth to speak and Irys Puts her hands over his mouth to stop him.

IRYS
We don't know where the Emperor is.

The Figure pauses, then ADVANCES on them. Irys PUSHES Keon out of the way. The figure GRABS the toddler away from Irys.

Irys yells as the toddler begins to cry.

IRYS

(On the verge of tears) Dewei! Please
give me my brother!

FIGURE

Tell me where the Emperor is!

IRYS

I don't know!!

ZANE (O.S)

Let go of the child!

The figure turns around. Zane FLIPS down from wall to wall and lands on the ground. He slowly rises. We see Zane's silhouette deep down into the alleyway. Nothing but bright blue neon is seen.

ON KEON

Keon is laying on the ground. He sits up to look at Zane in the alleyway. Keon looks over and reaches for his phone.

ON ZANE

Zane looks up at the figure. Zane gasps.

ZANE

O- Officer?

FIGURE

Please-

The camera reveals the appearance of the figure. It is the officer that interrogated Zane.

AGENT DANNIE

Call me Agent.

Keon presses "record" on his phone.

Ice SPIRALS from the soles of Zane's feet. Irys attempts to GRAB Dewei from Agent Dannie. Agent Dannie POINTS her weapon at Irys' head. Zane takes a step forward.

ZANE

Leave them alone!

Agent Dannie points the machine at Zane. Zane is unfazed.

AGENT DANNIE

And why does the all-powerful Emperor himself care about what I do to these children?

ZANE

You were about to hurt them!

AGENT DANNIE

No..really. What's your game, Emperor?

ZANE

I have no ulterior motive.

AGENT DANNIE

No ulterior motive?! Then what's all this?

Agent Dannie swings her weapon around, gesturing to the snow. Zane looks away.

ZANE

I...am unsure.

AGENT DANNIE

...Then melt it!

ZANE

I can't.

AGENT DANNIE

Once again your story doesn't make sense. I thought you would have learned from last time.

Zane frowns.

AGENT DANNIE

And why are you even here? Was killing the mayor not enough?

ZANE

I did no such thing!

AGENT DANNIE

Was hurting the Green Ninja not enough?!

Zane goes pale.

ZANE

H- How did you know about that?

Zane takes a step. Agent Dannie FIRES the machine at Zane. Zane SWERVES to the left as a blur of red passes by and HITS the concrete floor. RED ICE creeps along the ground. Zane widens his eyes at this sight and looks back at Agent Dannie who is beginning to approach him.

ZANE

How!?-

Zane attempts to scan the machine, Agent Dannie FIRES at Zane again. Zane loses his train of thought and moves again. This process repeats and Zane grows frustrated.

AGENT DANNIE

Everyone knows what you did to him,
Emperor!

ZANE

Stop calling me that!

Zane THROWS a blast of ICE at Agent Dannie. Agent Dannie shifts so Dewei will take the hit.

IRYS

Don't hurt him!

Zane reaches out and MELTS the hurdling ice. Water sprays on Agent Dannie and Dewei.

AGENT DANNIE

Why not? Is that not who you are?

Zane can't answer.

AGENT DANNIE

Who are you, then?

Zane takes a deep breath in and exhales. Snowflakes leave his mouth as the ice in the surrounding area melts.

ZANE

I wish I knew.

Agent Dannie FIRES at Zane. Zane CATCHES the ball of ice. The ball of ice turns BLUE and MELTS. Agent Dannie takes a step back and FIRES again. The ice SWERVES and HITS the wall. Zane is approaching. The weapon is NOT working. Dewei KICKS Agent Dannie. Agent Dannie looks at the child and THROWS Dewei onto

the concrete. Dewei SCREAMS. Dewei cries and reaches out for IRYS.

ON IRYS

We see Irys glued to the wall staring at her brother. Her breath is heavy. We can tell she want's nothing more then to go after him, but something is preventing her from moving. Tears stream down her face.

IRYS
(mouthing) It's going to be okay
Dewei...I'm sorry.

ON ZANE

Zane RUSHES to Dewei. Agent Dannie points the machine at Dewei. Zane STOPS.

AGENT DANNIE
Step closer and I will freeze his head
off!

Zane pauses. The Ice Emperor and Young Zane stand next to him. Zane's right hand closes. Zane slowly raises his hands.

ZANE
It is me you want, correct?

Agent Dannie nods.

ZANE
If I turn myself in, will you let them
go?

AGENT DANNIE
Of course.

ICE EMPEROR
What are we doing? Do not turn
ourselves in!

Zane takes a step.

YOUNG ZANE
If it will save them, then it is what
we must do!

Zane takes another step. Agent Dannie begins to lighten up.

YOUNG ZANE
We were built to protect at
all costs!

ICE EMPEROR
We should send ice down
their throats!

Ice creeps onto Zane's fingers, he struggles to melt it away.
Snow leaves Zane's mouth as he exhales.

YOUNG ZANE
Remember what Pixal said!

ICE EMPEROR
Remember what the Green
Ninja said!

Ice SPIRALS from the soles of Zane's feet. Agent Dannie holds
the gun up to Dewei and FIRES.

IRYS
No!

KEON
Dewei!

ICE HURDLES TOWARD DEWEI FROM BOTH DIRECTIONS! The snow
begins to fall more rapidly.

Zane PANICS and REACHES his hand out. The blue ice SWERVES
around Dewei. Blue and red ice CLASH. A wall of ice about
Dewei's size stands before the toddler. Zane RACES and GRABS
Dewei. Dewei cries and clings onto Zane's overlay. Agent
Dannie FIRES at Zane again. Zane turns away and the ice HITS
his back.

Agent Dannie presses a button on the machine. Gears shift.
Agent Dannie FIRES a constant stream of ice toward Zane. Zane
walks up the wall and FLIPS just missing the ice. The stream
of ice heads towards Zane and Dewei. Zane holds a hand out.
Blue and red ice CLASH and FIGHT for dominance over the
other. Snow falls onto the ice, Zane loses control. Zane's
ice becomes RED and HURDLES toward Zane. Zane moves out of
the way as the Ice HITS the ground and creeps along the
concrete. Red Ice CREEPS onto Zane's foot, leaving him stuck.
Agent Dannie approaches him and the two engage in quick close
combat. Zane blocks Agent Dannie's attacks with one hand and
holds Dewei in the other.

Zane is struggling.

ICE EMPEROR
Drop the child! He is a hindrance!

Zane's grip on Dewei falters but quickly recovers.

YOUNG ZANE
We will not stop now he is hurting
because of us!

AGENT DANNIE

No one wants you here Emperor!

Agent Dannie freezes Zane's arm.

ZANE

The only reason I am here is because
of my friends!

AGENT DANNIE

Well, It seems to me that you are the
reason your friends are suffering!

Zane pauses. Agent Dannie HITS Zane in the head with the machine. Zane whips back and his head HITS the wall. Zane's cloak glitches. Zane's head swings. He is losing consciousness as Agent Dannie continues to hit him.

YOUNG ZANE

(frustrated) Wake up! Ninja
never quit!

ZANE

(sleepily) ...Ninja never
quit.

ICE EMPEROR

We will not be ninja much longer.

AGENT DANNIE

You're no ninja!

YOUNG ZANE

That doesn't matter!

ZANE

(sleepily) ...Doesn't
matter.

ICE EMPEROR

We should drop the child or we'll die!

YOUNG ZANE

If that's the price we have
pay then so be it!

ZANE

(sleepily) We'll die if
that's the price we have to
pay...

Keon stands with his phone.

KEON

He's going to pass out we need to help
him!

Keon motions to Zane and Agent Dannie FIRES red ice in Keon's direction. Zane turns and sees red ice hurdling toward Keon. The sight of Keon in trouble helps Zane to regain his consciousness.

ON IRYS

Irys manages to reach him from the wall and pulls him away.

ON ZANE

Zane's eyes turn WHITE. Zane turns and BLOCKS a hit from Agent Dannie. Zane SHIFTS his weight and TURNS his foot with FORCE. Zane KICKS the machine away from Agent Dannie. The ice on Zane's other foot BREAKS and Zane SPINS in the air. WHITE sparks fly as Zane spins into his spinjitzu. Agent Dannie gets caught in the white tornado. The tornado FADES and Zane PINS Agent Dannie to the wall with a hand on her neck.

Zane squeezes. Agent Dannie struggles for air.

ICE EMPEROR

Yes. Kill her.

Zane squeezes more.

YOUNG ZANE

Stop! We were not built to murder people!

Zane feels pressure on his heart. Zane looks down to see Dewei's hand on his heart. He looks over at the toddler, his eyes fade to their usual blue. Zane lets up just enough for Agent Dannie to breathe. Zane turns to Irys.

ZANE

Irys! Take the child and seek somewhere safe!

Irys hesitates.

ZANE

I cannot hold them off much longer!

Irys RUNS and takes Dewei away. Irys grabs Keon, who is still recording, and RUNS down the alleyway.

ON AGENT DANNIE

Agent Dannie is being held by the throat. A light on her earbud turns on.

ARISTOS (OVER DEVICE)

Say it.

The light turns off.

AGENT DANNIE
Repeat it again for me.

Zane slowly turns to Agent Dannie. We see the Ice Emperor and Young Zane in the background.

ZANE
What.

AGENT DANNIE
I said repeat-

Zane chokes her. Zane's eyes turn white.

ZANE
No. I will not.

ICE EMPEROR
No. I will not.

Spectacles of ice form on Zane's hand and travel on Agent Dannie's neck.

ZANE
In fact, you have been
nothing but a nuisance to
me.

ICE EMPEROR
In fact, you have been
nothing but a nuisance to
me.

The machine on the ground starts to spin.

ICE EMPEROR
I think it would be better
to remove you from the
equation.

ZANE
I think it would be better
to remove you from the
equation.

The machine BURSTS and RED ICE FLIES out of the machine and creeps onto Agent Dannie. BLUE ICE and RED ICE MIX and form a mound of ice trapping Agent Dannie.

YOUNG ZANE
Stop!

Agent Dannie whimpers in fear as the ice reaches her chin.

YOUNG ZANE
Look at what we are doing!

Zane turns to Young Zane and looks back at Agent Dannie.

QUICK FLASHBACK MONTAGE:

We QUICKLY see Lloyd in a mound of ice in the Never Realm...We see HUNDREDS of frozen humans and animals in the never realm...We see drops of blood mix on the frozen lake

turning the ice RED...

ON ZANE

Zane's eyes return to normal. He quickly lets go of her and steps back frightened at what he's done. Zane melts the ice and Agent Dannie falls to the ground.

ZANE

(upset) I- I'm so sorry.

Zane steps toward the whimpering and shivering Agent. Agent Dannie puts her hand up.

AGENT DANNIE

(fearful crying) No! don't touch me!

CLOSE UP:

We see Zane from Agent Dannie's perspective. He towers over her.

AGENT DANNIE (O.S)

You're nothing but a monster!

Zane's breath is heavy, he shakes his head and backs away.

LLOYD (O.S)

Zane?

Zane looks up at the roof where Lloyd's voice came from.

ZANE

I'm sorry.

Zane RUNS off-screen leaving Agent Dannie alone. She shivers on the concrete. We hear a car drive up off-screen. We hear walking. We see a person by Agent Dannie. Agent Dannie looks up.

We see ARISTOS. Spade Agents walk up and pick up Agent Dannie. We can see the frostbite on her body. We hear Agent Dannie whimper in pain.

ARISTOS

Put her in the car.

AGENT DANNIE

(In Pain) W- where are we going?

ARISTOS
To the Monastery.

EXT. ROOF - NIGHT

We see Lloyd and Jorge on the roof of a building. They appear to be looking for Zane. Lloyd looks worried.

JORGE
Zane!! Zane where are ya man?

LLOYD
Zane?!

There is silence. Lloyd is visibly frustrated. Lloyd shakes his head.

ZANE (O.S)
Hello?

Lloyd is startled. He turns around to see Zane right behind him. Zane tilts his head. Lloyd opens his mouth to say something and is interrupted.

JORGE
ZANE!

Jorge runs up to Zane with a smile.

ZANE
Hello Jorge. How are you?

JORGE
Oh, I'm feeling a lot better!

ZANE
(nods) Good to kn-

Jorge JUMPS above Zane and holds out a hand.

JORGE
Up top!

Zane tilts his head and Jorge starts to float down.

JORGE
C'mon, don't leave me hanging!

Zane raises a hand and gives Jorge a high-five. The force of the high-five sends Jorge floating away.

JORGE

Whaa-

Jorge floats off-screen. We see Lloyd and Zane watch Jorge from the direction he flew away from.

LLOYD

(quietly) I don't trust him, Zane.

Zane turns to Lloyd.

LLOYD

(quietly) He told us that he worked with Cyrus Borg, and he lied.

Zane raises his eyebrows. Lloyd shakes his head.

ZANE

...Perhaps there is a reason he lied.

LLOYD

(shrugs) He said he was scared.

Zane grips his belt.

ZANE

We ought to give him another chance.

Lloyd frowns and turns to Zane, surprised at his response.

LLOYD

Wh- Oh. Of course, you'd say that right now.

The Ice Emperor steps from behind Zane, staring at Lloyd, who doesn't notice his presence.

ICE EMPEROR

How dare him.

Zane frowns. An ICICLE forms on Zane's boot. Lloyd looks down and steps away frightened. Lloyd holds his hand.

LLOYD

Melt it.

Zane stares at him.

LLOYD

Melt the ice, Zane!

Zane looks away and melts the ice.

JORGE (O.S)
Hey, you guys comin'?

ZANE (V.O.)
With the dead Prince's name in the
hands of a brother who despised him-

Lloyd points in Jorge's direction, signaling Zane to go ahead of him.

ZANE (V.O.)
His identity was eventually lost to
history-

Zane walks away. Lloyd frowns as he watches Zane walk away. He turns back at the Hexagon and sees the smoke still rising from the top of the building. He turns back to Zane.

ON ZANE

Zane's eyes turn WHITE as he walks.

ZANE (V.O.)
And sent to damnation.

OVER BLACK:

ICE EMPEROR (V.O.)
Damnatio Memoriae.

FADE OUT.