

# The Ronin Years: Mas Oyama's Young Lion - Unleashing the Spirit of Martial Arts



When it comes to legends in the world of martial arts, few names can measure up to the indomitable spirit of Mas Oyama. Known as the founder of Kyokushin Karate, his legacy is firmly etched in the annals of combat sports history.

However, it is during his Ronin Years that Mas Oyama truly showcased the heart of a young lion.

## **The Early Days: Forging the Warrior Within**

Born in 1923 in what is now South Korea, Oyama's fascination with martial arts began at a young age. After moving to Japan and witnessing the power and

grace of karate, he dedicated his life to mastering this form of combat. His journey led him to become a student of Gichin Funakoshi, the founder of Shotokan Karate, and this proved to be a crucial stepping stone towards Oyama's own greatness.



## The Ronin Years: Mas Oyama's Young Lion

by Norm Schriever (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.9 out of 5

Language : English  
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Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
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Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 183 pages  
Lending : Enabled



Oyama's Ronin Years can be traced back to the 1940s, a time when Japan was embroiled in World War II. Despite his commitment to the martial arts, he found himself drafted into the military, serving as a soldier in Manchuria. This turbulent period tested his resilience and resourcefulness, planting the seeds for the lion-hearted warrior he would become.

### The Essence of a Ronin: Embracing Solitude and Mastery

The term "ronin" refers to a masterless samurai, one whose steadfast dedication to martial arts propels him to navigate uncharted waters with unwavering strength. After the war, Oyama faced a period of uncertainty as he struggled to find direction and purpose amidst the chaos that had ravaged Japan.

During this time, Oyama embarked on a solitary journey, wandering the mountains and challenging himself to extreme physical and mental tests. This period of self-imposed exile allowed Oyama to delve deeper into the core of martial arts, unlocking realms of power and discipline that few could comprehend.



### **An Unstoppable Force: The Birth of Kyokushin Karate**

Emerging from the crucible of his Ronin Years, Oyama refined and perfected the techniques he had learned, paving the way for the birth of Kyokushin Karate.

Rejecting the traditional boundaries of karate by introducing full-contact fighting, Oyama redefined what it meant to be a martial artist.

His methods were grueling and unrelenting, pushing his students to the brink of their capabilities. Up until his passing in 1994, Oyama's influence continued to grow, with thousands of dojos and disciples spread across the globe, all carrying the fiery spirit of the young lion within them.

## Keeping the Flame Alive: The Legacy of the Young Lion

Today, Mas Oyama's Ronin Years stand as a testament to the power of perseverance, self-discovery, and unwavering dedication. His unyielding spirit has inspired countless martial artists and ignited a fierce passion for Kyokushin Karate in the hearts of many.

The legacy of the young lion lives on through the practitioners who continue to embrace the philosophy and training methods of Mas Oyama. Kyokushin Karate has evolved and grown, its principles resonating with individuals seeking strength, discipline, and the embodiment of martial arts as a way of life.

## Unleash Your Inner Lion: Embrace the Spirit of Mas Oyama

In a world that sometimes feels devoid of true warriors, we can look to Mas Oyama's Ronin Years as a shining example of what it means to walk the path of martial arts. Whether you are a beginner or an experienced practitioner, the spirit of the young lion can be awakened within you.

Embrace solitude, challenge your limits, and embrace the power of Kyokushin Karate. By channeling the essence of Mas Oyama, you can tap into the strength that lies dormant within you, transforming yourself into a force to be reckoned with.

Let the legacy of the young lion guide you on your journey, and together, let us unleash the spirit of martial arts within ourselves and the world.



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After graduating from The Young Lions program, Judd Reid set his heart on traveling the world, teaching what he learned during his 1,000 days of training in Japan.

As a personal student of Sosai Mas Oyama, Judd knew it was his duty to carry on his teacher's legacy and share his wisdom.

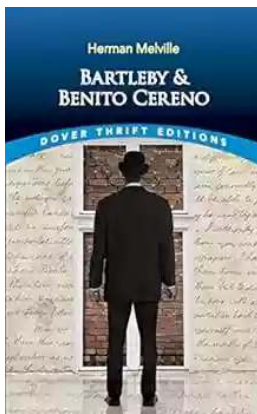
From Sweden to Thailand, Australia to the United States, and many countries in between, Judd explores the world like a Ronin of old, or a Samurai without a master. He bounces at a Tokyo nightclub, trains Thai SWAT forces, and later becomes heavyweight champion as well as completing the legendary 100-man kumite.

Through it all, his best friend Anton Cavka was there to share in the adventures and document it all, putting together an award-winning film, the 100-Man Fight.

But Judd's world is turned upside down by an unexpected tragedy.

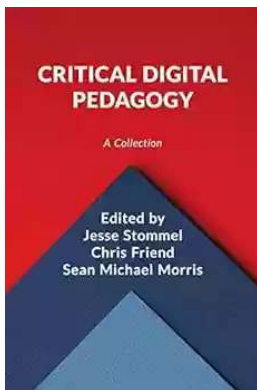
Picking up the pieces, Judd finally finds peace and happiness, honoring Sosai Oyama's life's work while finally opening his own Kyokushin Karate dojo back home in Melbourne, Australia.

If you liked Judd Reid's first book, *The Young Lions*, *The Ronin Years* is a must-read!



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