



Just two days after watching a young, inexperienced Browns team unravel in crunch time, it was somewhat therapeutic to see a pair of 20 year-olds step up like stone cold assassins in the final minutes of a surprising 108-101 Cavalier win over the Clippers tonight at Staples Center. Even the staunchest Dion Waiters haters might find themselves a little tongue-tied after this one.

Four games into his NBA career, the kid who famously never started a game at Syracuse seems to have adjusted pretty well to his first unit status. Exhibiting an icy confidence that only occasionally tiptoed into recklessness, Dion Waiters just plain shot the lights out tonight, shooting an efficient 10-17 from the field and a bonkers 7-of-11 from three point range. All told, the rook finished with a game-high 28 points, complementing Kyrie Irving's 24 points and thoroughly outshining the far more high-profile duo on the other end of the court.

The Cavs (2-2) have now beaten the Clippers (2-2) 11 out of their last 12 meetings, but it's kind of a deceiving stat. A good chunk of those triumphs involved LeBron James walking all over the likes of Baron Davis and Cuttino Mobley. Tonight—on the road and fresh off that heartbreaking loss in Milwaukee, no less—Cleveland's youngsters were mostly getting their first ever looks at Chris Paul, Blake Griffin, and the supposedly title-contending Clips. This included Kyrie Irving, who was matching up with CP3 for the first of likely many, many times to come.

