Why are the Miami Heat still considered an option for LeBron James?

As everyone knows, LeBron James is the greatest basketball player of this era, and considered one of the greatest of all time. Yet as he is approaching his 16th season, he still hasn’t found a franchise to stick with to help him accomplish his goals.

For a top caliber player like LeBron James, he has a lot of power no matter where he ends up. He has an influence on who he plays with and who is coaching him. In Cleveland, he was partially responsible for the firing of David Blatt. Just last season, he had a part in the trading of half of the Cavaliers roster: Isiah Thomas, Dwyane Wade, Jae Crawford and many more.

There are certain things that LeBron is looking for with his new team. He needs quality players and additional all-stars to defeat the Golden State Warriors in the NBA Finals. He needs a quality coach who can put himself and his teammates in positions to win. James wants a good relationship with the General Manager of this new franchise so that he can converse about who he really wants to play with. Most importantly, he wants a good lifestyle for his family. His son is about to enter high school, and since most NBA players are rarely home, he wants them to be in a place where they are happy.

According to Stephen A. Smith, LeBron is considering these seven teams (in no particular order): Cleveland Cavaliers, Philadelphia 76ers, Boston Celtics, Houston Rockets, Los Angeles Lakers, Golden State Warriors, and the Miami Heat. Some of those teams can be easily knocked out. Kyrie Irving left the Cavaliers because he no longer wants to be LeBron’s sidekick, therefore James would not be welcomed in Boston. He cannot defeat the Warriors in Cleveland, which is why he is considering to leave. If James joins the Warriors, everyone would know that would ruin James’ legacy forever. In regard to Houston, he stated that he doesn’t like the city as a whole. So that leaves, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, and Miami.

But why would LeBron join a team who can’t even make it out of the first round of the playoffs? Well when he joined Miami in 2010, just the previous season, the Heat lost in the first round of the playoffs. So this would just be just déjà vu to the king. Dwyane Wade is practically his best friend, and their families mingle well together. Even though LeBron and Pat Riley aren’t on speaking terms, they are still fixing their relationship. Erik Spoelstra may not be the coach of the century, but he does have a good relationship with LeBron James. And newsflash…LeBron already won his first two rings in Miami.

In Ian Thomsen’s novel, ”The Soul of Basketball: The Epic Showdown between LeBron, Kobe, Doc and Dirk that Saved the NBA”, Thomsen included Pat Riley’s description of his relationship with LeBron James. The two have not spoken since their 2014 breakup, but Riley respects LeBron’s decision to go back to Cleveland. He knows that Cleveland is his home, and winning a championship in Cleveland is a memory that LeBron will cherish forever. Riley also respects LeBron’s competitive nature to win. James has questioned Riley if he ever had an itch to coach again. He believed that if James stayed in Miami, then he could have won maybe 5 or 6 rings. LeBron James never tried to get Erik Spoelstra fired, but he did want him replaced with Riley. He never really bought into Spoelstra’s system until his second season in Miami. James may not have Riley as a coach in Miami, but he still has someone with great coaching experience in his corner.

Even though there are rumors of LeBron James Jr, aka Bronny, going to Sierra Canyon in California to join forces with Gary Payton’s son and Kenyon Martin’s sons, he still does have a good relationship with Zaire Wade, Dwyane Wade’s son. Zaire Wade is currently playing at American Heritage High School in Fort Lauderdale, where Bronny can add on his talents to take that school to the next level. LeBron already sold his old house in Miami for 13.4 million, but finding another house in Miami would not be hard for the type of money that he makes. Dwyane Wade and LeBron James have spent many years together as teammates in Miami and in Cleveland, therefore the world should not be surprised if the King decides to take his talents back to South Beach once again.