

On This Day: October 14, 2010 – Impact Wrestling: Why THEY Did It

Impact

Date: October 14, 2010

Location: Impact Zone, Orlando, Florida

Commentators: Mike Tenay, Taz

Episode Title: THEY Have Arrived!!!

Well this is it. After four days of waiting we can finally get to the explanation from Jeff as to WHY he did what he did. This is something that is very important because you have the entire THEY angle riding on it. The importance of this show can't be overblown as we begin the next chapter in TNA's history.

The opening is likely to be about Jeff and THEY as well as set up the fairly obvious RVD vs. Jeff match, although I could see them postponing that one if need be. I'd also be interested in knowing how much actual wrestling we'll have tonight but we'll see. Let's get to it.

We of course open with the recap of the ending of Bound For Glory.

Dixie's attorney is here and as everyone thought we're told that Dixie signed the contracts but they weren't the ones she thought they were.

Hogan (still on crutches) and Bischoff are here to a MASSIVE pyro display. Of course Hogan is acting just like he did as a face. Tenay explains that Hogan and Bischoff now have the majority share of TNA....despite the fact that the attorney never said that.

Naturally Hogan gets a big face reaction with like two signs against him in the whole audience. Oh wait three fat chicks are booing. Well there's a Hogan sucks chant so there's something I suppose. Hogan wants Dixie here now. Apparently she promised him everything, much like Ted Turner did in 96. Hogan gets a text or something as he has his phone out and is messing with it.

Here we go: the explanation. It started with Abyss apparently and the Hall of Fame ring. Bischoff and Hogan knew why he randomly turned on Hogan. We bring him out and Hogan declares Abyss his son. THEY'RE HERE! Ok now that my pizzas are here we can get back. What did you think I meant by they?

None of the fans believed Abyss but they are now in control. The fans want RVD. Abyss follows them as Hogan and Bischoff's soldier now. Hogan declares that Abyss will live forever and is now immortal. I think The Immortals might be the name. Eric brings out Jarrett. Wait was there an actual explanation in there for abyss? If there was I missed it.

Yeah this was no real surprise: he wanted control of his company back. I think that was the easiest of all to understand. And here's FOURTUNE! Ok this just got good.

Flair talks to Hogan and says that Fournune runs this company, not Hogan. LOUD Fournune chant. One of them have to leave apparently. Hogan suggest him vs. Flair and it's....not on as they hug. Flair bows down to Hogan and it's a massive Hogan orgy more or less. The explanation here makes sense though as Fournune was mad at Dixie for bringing in EV. That actually makes sense. We get a reference to Flair's five former ex wives and here comes Jeff!

No face paint here either. The fans think Jeff sold out. You can barely see the ropes with so many guys in there with him. He didn't sell out but sold in. He blames the fans and doesn't care about popularity. The fans drove him to this because he

did everything with all those injuries for what?

And now it's on to RVD. He's the whole F'N reason Abyss took RVD out because RVD had to be gone for this to work. They are Immortal. Sting and Nash are watching in the back. Eric and Hogan offer them spots on the team. We go to a break 22 minutes into the show with them coming to the ring.

Security escorts Dixie...somewhere.

Nash and Sting come out and Sting is in street clothes which isn't something you see that often. Tenay is already annoying. Eric says this is about money and all that jazz. Nash whispers to Sting and says this is perfect for him because it's always been about money and him in his career. He's gotten wiser though and quotes the Bible of all things, saying gray hair is a sign of wisdom. He's passing on the money and if THEY want to run the company into the ground, they can do it without him. I'm surprised.

Sting says this isn't what he came here for and says he's here because he loves TNA. He's shouting the whole time mind you. Sting points to Hogan, Bischoff and Flair (I think) and says this is a no win situation, turning them down. Allegedly both of these guys are leaving TNA with Nash being permanent and Sting possibly being permanent. Bischoff says they can come back anytime. Hogan's music plays the segment to an end at 9:32.

We cut to the back where Sting and Nash leave but Pope isn't happy with it. They offer him a place in the car out with them but he's staying to fight the fight which they're cool with. Dixie comes up to them and says they can't leave her. Sting says what everyone thought: if she had listened this wouldn't be happening. She says he was cryptic. Dixie, he sent crows down at the NW0 to demand a title match one night. He's a weird guy.

Hogan and Bischoff come up to Dixie and she slaps the heck out

of Bischoff. She tells Hogan to look her in the eye and tell her he didn't screw her. He says we'll talk about this in HIS office as we go to another break.

In the office we have MORE talking. Bischoff smokes a cigar and Hogan flat out tells her that he screwed her out of the company. This is a big Hogan ego trip of course. Hogan and Bischoff both say this is their company. Hogan has had enough and so has Dixie. She tells her security guards to get rid of them but they work for Hogan too. Dixie's husband SURGE gets knocked out and we take ANOTHER break.

Some hot chick in a BMW shows up. And we're just not going to talk about this at all. Ok then. Ah ok it's the Jersey Short chick.

Madison comes out with a referee as I'm guessing this is going to be about Tara. She yells about how Tara has HER title. She wants a match RIGHT NOW. Here's Tara, looking GOOD. Madison says they had a deal and apparently we're getting a match...at 9:50pm.

Knockouts Title: Tara vs. Madison Rayne

And Tara lays down so Madison can pin her. I kid you not.

Madison celebrates and here's Mickie to talk some more. She wants a title shot RIGHT NOW but Madison sends Tara after her. Mickie sends her running and stares her down.

J-Woww from Jersey Shore comes in and talks to the Beautiful People. Apparently she's an honorary BP tonight.

Back from break and they're still looking for Cookie. This results in Eric Young freaking out about J-Woww. Jordan comes up and nothing of note happens.

And here's Angle for MORE talking. No music, no intro, nothing like that. He talks about how he's all banged up but wants to know why Hogan and Bischoff screwed him before he officially

retires. Angle says what we all expected him to say: he didn't win but he didn't get pinned either. Cue Jarrett's music and here he is.

Jarrett more or less calls bull on what Angle is saying. He takes a jab at Angle being an ex-husband (the real meaning being that Jarrett literally married Angle's wife and not in kayfabe). Angle says he put TNA on the map. Uh, not quite Kurt. He says Jarrett held down everyone but couldn't hold Angle down.

Kurt Angle, the man that held the tag titles, X-Division and World titles at the same time is talking about holding others down. Jarrett says taking Angle's career meant more than destroying his life. Angle goes for him and the security guards take him down and handcuff him. The beatdown is on. Uh, Joe anyone?

TAZ of all people comes out of the broadcast booth and calls off Jarrett and says that he has a censored up (censored of course) neck. Old school Taz chant takes us to another break.

70 minutes in, 6 seconds of "wrestling."

Joe talks (shocking isn't it) about Jarrett on a tape from Monday, still in Daytona. He's coming for Jarrett of course.

GOOD NIGHT IT'S A MATCH! And it's Abyss. Oh joy.

Abyss vs. Samoa Joe

Yeah they're officially called Immortal. Well ok then. Joe beats the tar out of him first and beats him into the corner. Chokeslam takes him down and Joe is in trouble. He goes to get a chair but Joe hits a suicide dive into the chair which more or less didn't hit Abyss's head at all but he stays down anyway. Sure why not? Bell to the head and we're done in two minutes. No rating. RVD comes down for the save.

Wait, why didn't Joe come down and massacre Jeff like 5

minutes ago?

Hey look RVD wants to talk. It's about Hardy which makes sense. Jeff pops up on the screen and says it was an illusion as he brought RVD as close to him as he could and then destroyed him. Well ok so he told Abyss to destroy him. Hardy says he's the Anti-Christ of wrestling. WOW.

Bischoff comes out and says if RVD wants Hardy at Turning Point he has to beat Anderson tonight, winner gets the shot.

Back from a break Tessmacher is propositioned by Bischoff for "a meeting later at his place". He snaps on her and calls her easy. Bischoff knows about Nash and Pope apparently. She's fired from the Knockouts authority job and can either wrestle or leave. Anderson comes up and declares Bischoff a douchebag and squeezes his hand really hard saying that Bischoff won't win this war.

D'Angeol Dinero vs. Fourtune

Yep it's 1 vs. 5 here. Morgan and Flair aren't in this. Total dominance here of course but it's better than more talking I suppose. AJ misses the Pele and kicks Kaz which Pope gets two off of. DWI hits him and Kaz gets the pin. Another short match so no grade.

Ad for Turning Point where Angle is named specifically as being there. Nice one guys.

Here's The Shore to get on my nerves and be booed out of the building. They point out that this is on at the same time as Jersey Shore because that's how TNA works. Cue up the Beautiful People and J-Woww. Cookie and J-Woww argue as usual and Cookie says go back to the hole you came from. You know, the same one she's from. Catfight, Shore bails. 15k for a minute long segment and an EY joke.

We recap things to kill time so we can run over into ReAction

as always.

Mr. Anderson vs. Rob Van Dam

No mic time for Anderson here as he's ticked. The bell rings at about 11pm as we just HAD to have a commercial as RVD made his entrance. Make that 11:01. Naturally to see the main event of Impact you have to watch ReAction. So would that mean the winner got the win on Impact or ReAction? Winner gets Hardy at the PPV mind you.

Basic stuff to start as Van Dam hits a moonsault off the apron to kick Anderson in the head, which might have been how he injured his head and Impact is OVER! And now REACTION has started and we didn't miss a thing and it serves no purpose but screw that who cares? If you want to see the Impact main event, don't watch Impact!

After I have a psychotic episode over the stupidity of some of the things this company does, it's still a boring match. Rolling Thunder is countered into a fireman's carry and the split legged moonsault gets two. Five Star eats knees and both guys are down. And here's Bischoff to screw us over. He tells the referee to come with him and here's Hardy, holding his ribs with a chair.

Chair to RVD. Chair to Anderson. Pillmanizer on the arm of Anderson. Anderson curses a lot and rolls to the floor. That's your ending by the way.

Rating: D+. Match was pretty weak due to the crowd knowing the ridiculous ending was coming. This match never really got off the ground or anything but it could have been worse. The guys knew the ending was coming and clearly didn't get going until the very end as they were just going through the motions. Nothing bad really, but nothing particularly good.

Overall Rating: D+. This is a VERY subjective grade to put it mildly. This show can be looked at their get out of jail free

card. It was the first show after their biggest show ever and a huge angle. The show as a stand alone show was atrocious. However, this was a show where a lot of talking was actually required.

The explanations that they gave needed to be done. I can understand that and I'm mostly ok with it. However there comes a point where you need some wrestling to get you through a show. Having the show revolve around one angle is fine and makes sense, but you really need some wrestling to go with it. As was said in the LD, even a 4 minute throw away match would have helped tremendously. One or two of those thrown in somewhere and this show goes WAY up.

As for doing what needed to be done tonight, they got a lot out of the way. Jarrett, Dixie, Hogan and Bischoff are all explained. Nash and Sting are written off TV, Pope has a new thing to do, Anderson's loyalty is pretty clear and RVD and Joe will fight on their own. Hardy was explained but to say it felt rushed is an understatement. Abyss wasn't explained at all but did we really need to hear about him? All you really get from that is the beginning of the story and we can live without that.

This show did explain some things and kind of got things going for the angle, but at the same time this is showing signs of turning into one massive soap opera much like the NWO angle. The problem with that is back then you had some amazing matches on the side to compliment the drama. You're not getting that in the first week.

That being said, it's the first week and I can understand a ton of talking here. However if this is now the status quo, there are REAL problems for this company. This was kind of a disappointment but to say it was horrible isn't fair. They got through a lot tonight, but what scares me are the weeks to come. There has to be some wrestling out there, and I'm not seeing it here so far. I'm neither thrilled nor optimistic,

but I'm also not convinced this is bad. Definitely interested in next week's offering, but I'll be less lenient on it to say the least.

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