

# On This Day: December 6, 2004 – Monday Night Raw: This One's For The Girls

## Monday Night Raw

Date: December 6, 2004

Location: Cricket Arena, Charlotte, North Carolina

Attendance: 4,000

Commentators: Jim Ross, Jerry Lawler

This is a show I've wanted to do for a long time but couldn't for one reason or another. I have a copy of it now though and I'm doing it for one reason: the main event. This is the only Raw that I can ever remember where the main event is a Divas match. By that, I mean it's the match that is built up and talked about for two hours leading up to it. It's not the match that happens to go on last and then there's the real final thing on the show after it. Trish vs. Lita for the Women's Title tonight is the main event of Monday Night Raw. Let's get to it.

We open in the Highlight Reel and Jericho's pretty weak shoulder length hair phase. There's a controversy over the world title between Edge and Benoit. Jericho is the GM tonight due to his team winning the Survivor Series match and thereby all of them got a night as GM. It's a big party tonight so everyone gets laid! Hawaiian lais fall from the ceiling in a cute bit. Jericho gets one of his own and asks if some of the kids are old enough to get laid.

Anyway he talks about the title match but says that there's going to be a Diva limbo contest, with music provided by Fozzy, who is on the stage. We get a clip from last week on Raw where Edge reversed the Crossface but didn't break it. He had Benoit covered but tapped out at the same time the three

went down. There were two referees but it appeared that neither would have been able to see Edge tap. Jericho says he can't solve this but maybe his guest can.

Here's Vince, holding the world title. Vince says that it was a tie which he didn't like. This brings out HHH who was champion going into the match. Vince congratulates him on being a bestselling author which wasn't what HHH expected. Vince congratulates him again on being a movie star for being in Blade III. It really is fun to hear Vince plugging stuff like he does with the movie and book here because he's really good at it. I've seen the movie and it really isn't as good as he makes it sound, but I kind of buy it anyway.

As for the title, HHH isn't champion. Bischoff gets to make that decision next week, which resulted in the return of the Elimination Chamber at New Year's Revolution. Vince officially vacates the title.

After a break, HHH freaks out while Batista and Flair try to calm him down. HHH yells at Batista who was on the verge of leaving the team and turning into the hottest thing in the company. He'd win the Rumble and the title at Mania. Batista yells back here and HHH breaks stuff.

We cut to Jericho at his party in the back when Christian comes in. He found a superhero costume in his dressing room and isn't happy with it. Jericho lists off a bunch of famous captains (Hook and Crunch) because if Christian wants one more match (I kid you not he really said that) with Shelton for the IC Title, he has to be Captain Charisma. Christian leaves and Benoit comes in and Jericho makes Batista/HHH vs. Benoit/Jericho.

We get a video on Trish vs. Lita which is one of those flashback things they do to show how we arrived here. Lita had been scared by Kane so Trish pretended he was coming. A beating ensued.

## Maven vs. Eugene

Eugene and Regal are tag champions and last week they retained over Maven and somebody else. They celebrated so Maven turned heel and beat Eugene down because so many people wanted to see Maven right? Both guys have catchy songs. The fans chant something that I can't understand. They go to the mat and Eugene dances a little.

He hooks a body scissors and rolls Maven around on the mat as I think we're in a comedy match. Maven pretends to trip and blames Regal, who gets ejected. O'Connor Roll and a northern lights suplex get two for Eugene. Maven kicks him in the knee and chokes in the corner to a count of five for the stupid DQ. Regal comes out for the save post match and Maven runs. Scratch that as he sneaks in on Regal and hits him with a title belt.

**Rating:** D-. Maven's song keeps it from failing, but why in the world is Maven a heel? Actually here's a better question: why is Maven on TV at all? The guy was just Maven and other than that there was nothing to talk about. This was weak and I don't get the point of this at all. At least it was short, which is never a good thing to say about a match.

Time for Divas Limbo. I won't complain about looking at Christy jumping everywhere but this is pretty awful. Fozzy plays the music and this is getting multiple minutes. Christy wins. Fozzy plays Don't You Wish You Were Me while the girls dance. Muhammad Hassan comes out and runs his mouth to break the song up. I like that song but it's better than the limbo nonsense. Hassan debuts next week.

## Hurricane vs. Simon Dean

Simon is Nova from ECW and had a gimmick where he was a sponsor of Raw and pitched a weight loss system. Just take a guess as to how well this goes. This is his debut match. Simon wants to have an amateur style match so Hurricane rolls him up

for two. Simon takes over with nothing significant. This is really the best match they can give us on Monday Night Raw? The King makes fun of TMNT and I hate him already. Hurricane breaks a chinlock and hits some fast paced stuff. The Shining Wizard misses and Dean rolls him up for the pin with tights.

**Rating:** F. This is the best they can do for Monday Night Raw? Seriously? Yeah that's all I've got here.

We get a video of Lita's surprise bridal shower where the heel Divas humiliated her.

Orton makes fun of Coach and talks about being a GM for a week last week.

Here's Edge who is all fired up. He's mad about the title being held up and says that's a travesty against him. He talks about how he beat Benoit last week (and DID NOT tap out!) and got to hold the world title but got screwed again. The person responsible for that is Randy Orton. He calls Orton's title reign a failure and calls him out.

Here's the Apex Viper who isn't orange and has skin on his forearms. Orton says it could have been one on one but Evolution would have gotten involved. Edge only has himself to blame. I miss this Orton. "Unlike you Edge, I've been world champion." AWESOME line there and it's nice to see Orton having some emotion. They slug it out until security breaks it up.

Video on Blade Trinity.

Intercontinental Title: Shelton Benjamin vs. Christian

Christian looks like an idiot in the Captain Charisma costume. Get it, it's funny. He looks a bit like The Flash. Shelton was AWESOME at this point so he uses all of his athleticism to take over including a head fake into a top rope clothesline. Christian takes over with his basic stuff and yells a lot. The

Canadian goes up and jumps into a punch to the ribs. A Russian legsweep and a middle rope sunset flip both get two for Benjamin. Shelton gets caught in a rollup off the middle rope and Tomko slides in a title belt. Tomko adds a big boot but it only gets two. Unprettier is countered into the Exploder and Shelton retains.

**Rating:** D+. Not a horrible match or anything but it was there for the comedy and that's all. That's fine, but they need to have something other than that after a Eugene match and a Simon Dean match. This was nothing to see at all here and I really am getting why no one ever talks about this era in the company. This show has mostly sucked so far.

Jericho comes out and makes Edge vs. Orton. He also leads Fozzy in singing the goodbye song to Christian. He's not fired that I know of but I guess it's just to humiliate him.

Here's a Smackdown Recap which saw Team JBL beating down Taker which didn't end well.

The next Lita clip is Trish interrupting her wedding to Kane in some very nice lingerie for some reason. Not complaining at all.

Snitsky comes up to Lita in the back and reminds her that he got rid of her baby and ended Kane's career.

We see HHH getting stripped of the title earlier. Flair tries to call Eric but HHH only gets his machine. He says fix this. Flair plugs Raw Magazine and HHH's book and the movie. Batista comes in and hangs the phone up. He says he's stopping HHH from making a huge mistake and wants to know what HHH is going to do.

HHH/Batista vs. Chris Benoit/Chris Jericho

Lillian calls HHH the former champion so he chases her into the crowd. HHH vs. Benoit gets us going and Benoit chops away.

Off to Jericho who beats on HHH ever more. The fans want Flair. Back to the other Chris who gets the Crossface but HHH's feet are in the ropes. For some reason Evolution doesn't tag so Jericho beats on HHH even more. Batista comes in illegally and the Canadian Chrises send him to the floor with a double dropkick as we take a break.

Back with Batista hooking a camel clutch. We see a clip from the commercial with Flair interfering to let Big Dave hit a spinebuster on Jericho. Off to the Game for some abdominal stretchery. Batista comes in but Jericho kicks his leg out to take over. Back to Benoit vs. HHH and Flair is knocked down to HUGE booing of Benoit.

Ever the nice guy, Benoit hits a baseball slide onto an old man to send him flying. Rolling Germans take care of HHH, followed by a Lionsault, a Swan Dive and then the double Liontamer/Crossface. Batista makes the save and takes over on Jericho but HHH brings in a chair to crack Benoit with for the DQ.

**Rating:** C-. The double submission probably should have ended it but this wasn't much of a tag match either way. The commercial break took up almost half of the match and it wasn't worth watching otherwise anyway. Jericho just wasn't interesting at this point and this was all about Evolution and the post match stuff.

HHH keeps going off with the chair and hits everyone in sight, including the referee and accidentally Batista.

Trish is looking great and stretching when two production guys stare at her. Can't say I blame them. Lita comes up and kisses Trish (Kiss of Death) and it's main event time.

Women's Title: Trish Stratus vs. Lita

Even in a faceguard with what looks like masking tape over her face, Trish is gorgeous. How is that possible? Lita's song is

great too. 2004 had some awesome theme music. They lockup and go to the floor quickly. Lita takes over with a leg sweep for two. Remember that she's the hometown girl. They go to the floor again and Lita tries a suicide dive and Lita lands ON HER HEAD, jacking her neck back in a landing that made my jaw drop and be stunned she isn't dead. I mean she landed on her face and her feet hit her in the back of the head. The referee immediately checks on her and the crowd goes quiet.

The match keeps going as I guess she's alive somehow. Trish takes the nose guard off and pops Lita in the face with it which isn't a DQ somehow. Lita fights out of a choke and throws on a sleeper but gets countered into a seated full nelson. Trish goes up but gets caught in a superplex to put both girls down. Back up and the Chick Kick gets two. Trish pounds away in the corner and gets powerbombed to set up the moonsault but Trish breaks it up. Rollup gets two and Trish grabs a DDT for two. Stratusfaction is broken up and there's a reverse Twist of Fate. The moonsault gives Lita her second title.

**Rating:** B. Considering that neck shot, WOW Lita was impressive here. At the end of the day, this was a solid match and they made it feel like a big moment. This was Lita's second title, but she hadn't won it in over four years so it's not like this was something that happened every day. Trish would win it back in less than a month and hold it until Wrestlemania. As in the Wrestlemania the year after she won it, giving her a reign of about 15 months.

**Overall Rating:** D. This show sucked other than the main event. I can really see why no one talked about 2004 and the years around it: this stuff SUCKED. I mean, the first three matches include the names of Maven, Simon Dean and TWO superhero characters. This was a really weak show and they couldn't save it with a solid main event, which isn't something you see that often. Bad show.

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