

Reviewing the Review – Monday Night Raw: April 28, 2014

Raw this week was again about pushing the major stories as we get closer to Extreme Rules. However there was another story aside from the two main events that blew the doors off this week. There wasn't much wrestling but there was an old drunk guy that embarrassed himself yet again, meaning he'll be invited back for years. Let's get to it.

We kick things off with a bang as John Cena comes into the cage opening the ring. Cena isn't sure what to think as the fans have seemingly turned their backs on him last week when they put him in a three on one handicap match against the Wyatt Family. It was a match he couldn't win and the fans gave him no chance. Cena wanted to know why the fans supported someone who didn't have his passion and warns them that if Bray wins on Sunday, his message will soon take over the world. Then the crazy started.

The lights went out and a group of children could be heard singing He's Got The Whole World In His Hands. The lights came back on and it was indeed a choir of children all in black. Bray came out with the lantern as the children surrounded the ring and kept singing. The lights came on again and they were all wearing the masks and saying Bray had the whole Cenation in his hands. One of the kids sat on Bray's lap as he evilly laughed and the camera zoomed in on the kid's mask. Cena was completely distraught throughout the whole thing.

Where do I even begin with this? It was a genuinely disturbing sign and potentially opens the door for a lot of ideas. What does Cena do when Bray has power over the group of fans he loves the most turns on him? What does Cena do when everyone is booing him? What do you do with a man has the power to control children? I have no idea, but I'm really curious to

see where this goes. One thing is clear though: under no circumstances can Cena win at Extreme Rules. I can defend a lot of Cena's booking but there's no real way to say that's the right move.

The Usos defeated Ryback/Curtis Axel in a Tag Team Title match. The story here was that one of the Usos (by the way, no it doesn't matter which it was. They're the same guy for all intents and purposes) hurt his ankle and couldn't move as well in the second half of the match. That's fine for a story, but when you tag him in and he's just fine and can do all the things he normally does, the story doesn't mean anything. He was throwing superkicks and dives like his ankle was fine, so why even bother doing the angle at all? That's the kind of stupid thinking that drives me insane.

Adam Rose debuts next week. That should be awesome even if it's just a squash.

Heyman told Cesaro not to listen to people saying he's a liar, because he'll get Cesaro to the top. This is still in the seed planting stages but the harvest will be awesome.

Sheamus beat Titus O'Neal in a 35 second match. This is another good example of how awful Sheamus' booking has been lately. Titus attacked him and had Sheamus in trouble, but Sheamus just popped up and won with a single move. Would it really kill them to have Sheamus lost a single match or to actually show some weakness? I honestly don't get this booking at all and I haven't for months.

The Hugh Jackman/Damien Sandow/Dolph Ziggler stuff just kind of happened. Jackman is cool when he's out there and I like that they actually tied it into his previous appearance. Sandow as Magneto actually made me chuckle and that's the idea of the segment. Someone in the WrestleZone live discussion pointed out that Sandow was destined for comedy and the more I think about it, the more I completely agree. Sandow explaining

science and math to people has potential though.

Cesaro beat Swagger in a meaningless match. I did like him winning with a German suplex instead of the Neutralizer though. It's always nice to see people mix stuff up. Heyman pulling Zeb's mustache for a distraction was long overdue though.

Alberto Del Rio squashed Cody Rhodes to further the Rhodes Brothers split. Nothing to see here as usual but it was fine.

Rusev and Woods had an angle disguised as a match. The squash should work fine at Extreme Rules, just like it did for Brock against the Hardy Boys at Judgment Day back in 2002, and yes I know that was a handicap match but his partner was Heyman so we'll call it a handicap match.

3MB actually won a match against Los Matadores. The main thing here was the announcement of the Wee-LC match on Sunday's pre show. I still don't like the Horny vs. Torito feud but them playing it so over the top actually makes it much easier to sit through rather than them just playing it as a boring match that no one cares about.

Stephanie's apology to Bryan was about what you would expect it to be. I'm surprised at how natural Brie Bella being out there with Daniel feels. The fact that they're married in real life helps a lot though as I'm not waiting on them to break up at the drop of a hat for a storyline. Stephanie playing it serious is interesting but I think we all know it's another ruse.

This led directly into Brie facing Paige for the Divas Title in another angle disguised as a match. Kane interfered about two and a half minutes in and tried to kidnap Brie but Bryan made the save. I liked that he sent Brie to the back like someone logically would do, but she came back and almost got pulled under the ring anyway. Bryan getting laid out again works fine and the match on Sunday should be pretty solid. The

post break stuff with Brie screaming at Stephanie actually worked. The Bellas are still annoying but Brie seems far more like a human than her sister.

Cena gave a serious promo (odd line about Bray riding a mule aside) about Bray that made it sound like he's going to war. This is the Cena I can get behind, but again he has to lose on Sunday.

Barrett beat RVD in a very obvious ending to a better than expected match. The post match stuff sets up RVD vs. Cesaro vs. Swagger on Sunday, which almost has to go to Cesaro.

The big segment to almost end the show was Ric Flair returning to Raw to talk about how great Evolution was. The surprise was that he wound up endorsing Shield before walking out. However, the interesting part here was that Flair was clearly drunk, as is almost always the case. How in the world this is considered ok in WWE's eyes is beyond me, as anyone else that showed up like this would be fired almost immediately.

The main event was Orton vs. Reigns which didn't last long and ended with everyone running in for a DQ. Evolution looked to destroy Shield to end the show but Shield fought back and stood tall to end things in a nice surprise.

This was another Raw that would have been a classic if it was only two hours long. The middle hour just crippled it though and even a good third hour wasn't enough to make the save. It also didn't help that nothing was going to top that Wyatt segment, which is often the case around WWE anymore. I'm ready for Extreme Rules though and that's the most important thing a go home show can do.

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