

Monday Night Raw – August 25, 2025: That's A Great Line. I Think.

Monday Night Raw

Date: August 25, 2025

Location: BP Pulse Live, Birmingham, England

Commentators: Michael Cole, Corey Graves

We're in England as the company is getting ready for Sunday's Clash In Paris, meaning this is a rare afternoon show in the United States. The big appeal of this week is Roman Reigns starting the show after challenging Bronson Reed last week. If nothing else, he might want to get his shoes back so let's get to it.

[Here are last week's results if you need a recap.](#)

We open with a recap of last week's extreme rules match between Jey Uso and Bron Breaker, which included a huge brawl and a bunch of interference.

Here is Roman Reigns to get things going, with the fans being VERY impressed and giving him a variety of cheers, including IF YOU LOVE ROMAN STAND UP. After an ACKNOWLEDGE ME, Reigns says that he has big plans for this year and next year, but he has to be realistic. It might feel like old times with the fans being so loud for him, but it isn't the same anymore. He isn't the same anymore. Fans: "YES YOU ARE!" Reigns says Cody Rhodes predicted it a year or so ago, which has the fans booing. Reigns: "Interesting."

The Vision (the fans boo, which Reigns understands) is trying to take everything from him, which earns a F*** SETH ROLLINS chant (which Reigns takes a second to understand). He doesn't have a Bloodline, which means a YEET chant. Reigns is

extremely proud of Jey Uso, who has earned everything he has, including his title shot in Paris. Reigns' time will come...and here is Paul Heyman to interrupt, along with Bronson Reed.

Heyman introduces Reed and talks about how he became Reigns' Wise Man five years ago this week. The fans do their singing Roman Reigns chant, which Heyman turns into a Bronson Reed version. Heyman says Reed is going to beat some respect into Reigns, who doesn't seem to agree. Reed talks about how Reigns may be college educated, but he needs a history lesson. Reigns' tribe is civilized but Reed's isn't. Reigns paid for his tattoos while Reed earned his. Reed is the Samoan that Reigns' family warned him about. Reigns: "This guy's Samoan???"

That means Reed belongs to him, so he can have one more chance to return the shoes, apologize for wasting our time, and acknowledge him. That won't happen, so Reigns is ready to fight. Security and agents come in and Reed gets in a splash but can't take more shoes. Reigns gets back up and they brawl to the back as we take a break. Heck of an opening segment here, with the crowd being way into the whole thing and boosting it up.

Judgment Day is looking for Dominik Mysterio (ignore him being in the background of the start of the shot), who is talking to El Grande Americano. Mysterio says he'll catch up with them later and things seem ok enough.

Dragon Lee vs. JD McDonagh

Finn Balor is here with McDonagh. Lee takes over to start so Balor gets up on the apron, which is enough for an ejection before he can do anything. Well that sounds like an overly aggressive referee. That's enough for Lee to go up, only to get dropkicked out of the air as we take a break.

We come back with Lee fighting up after a superplex (during the break) and hitting a REALLY scary sit out powerbomb

(McDonagh landed on his head and Graves popped up to his feet on commentary) for two. The top rope (actually from the post this time) tree of woe double stomp connects but here is Dominik Mysterio. Cue AJ Styles to jump Mysterio and Operation Dragon finishes McDonagh at 8:45.

Rating: C+. That powerbomb was terrifying for a second and thankfully McDonagh's massive head is ok. Other than that, the Judgment Day's issues continue, which has been the case for a good while now. I'm curious to see where that goes, while on the other hand, Lee is not exactly interesting whatsoever as he's just kind of there most weeks.

LA Knight likes the idea of working with CM Punk to take out Seth Rollins, but it's all about Punk getting the title back. It's feast or famine and the rations are limited. Only Knight is going to be well fed and tonight, he's facing Bron Breaker, who will be knocked back to factory settings (that's a great line...I think).

Rusev is ready to hurt Sheamus in Paris.

Judgment Day isn't happy with Dominik Mysterio, so he tells Finn Balor to deal with AJ Styles tonight. Raquel Rodriguez tells Roxanne Perez to get ready for later.

Penta vs. Kofi Kingston

Grayson Waller is peddling a petition to ban the Canadian Destroyer as Penta hammers away to start. Kingston catches him the corner and hits the middle rope splash to the standing Penta's back for two. The middle of the ropes Vader bomb is broken up and Kingston heads outside as we take a break.

We come back with Penta in trouble and Kingston dropping him for two, leaving Xavier Woods annoyed at ringside. Penta misses a running enziguri in the corner but settles for a flat foot suplex to bring him down. The Penta Driver gets two so Penta flip dives onto the New Day. Back in and Woods offers a

distraction, allowing Kingston to hit Trouble In Paradise for the pin at 10:15.

Rating: C+. I have no idea what to make of New Day at this point. They've been doing the in mourning thing for a long time now but there isn't much of anything for them to do. If they aren't going to go after the titles and there is no one for them to feud with otherwise, what are they supposed to do next? It's entertaining stuff, but the Big E. split feels like it was a lifetime ago at this point.

Video on Iyo Sky's issues with Rhea Ripley and the Kabuki Warriors.

Sky thanks Ripley for helping her last week but explains that the Warriors aren't happy with her. She thinks the two of them should keep their distance. Ripley understands and says it's ok. Sky appreciates the understanding and they hug, with the Warriors in the background, not looking happy.

Video on Naomi's pregnancy announcement.

Stephanie Vaquer is told she is the #1 contender but the title match can't happen in Paris as the title is technically vacant. She'll still get the title match and Adam Pearce has an opponent in mind, but he needs a week to set everything up. Vaquer isn't happy but she understands.

Here is Becky Lynch for a chat. The fans don't like her, but she talks about how important this place was to her career. Her WWE tryout was right here in Birmingham...and it was a dump then and it's a dump now. Speaking of dumps, Nikki Bella thinks she can just call her out like she's some loser like Birmingham soccer teams. She's not some dog who responds to a whistle.

Cue Bella to interrupt, saying Lynch might not be a dog but she's acting like a little b****. Lynch says she isn't going to listen to Broken Neck Barbie, but Bella says she paved the

way for people like her. Bella brings up that Lynch was Charlotte's sidekick and that seems to touch a nerve, as she says a lot of people say she's the greatest of all time. Bella calls Lynch out for disrespecting the people, sending Lynch into a rant about how the British have been oppressing the Irish for hundreds of years.

Lynch doesn't like Bella insulting her or suggesting that she has no testicles but agrees to give her the title shot. It's going to be in Paris though, because Lynch isn't wrestling in a city like Birmingham. Bella says that no matter how great Lynch is, the Bella name will always be more famous. As I try to digest how dumb that statement is, a brawl is teased with Lynch bailing out to the floor. The feud is fine, but this was a good illustration of why Bella shouldn't be talking for long stretches. It felt like a heel promo from the heroine and that's a weird way to go.

CM Punk talks about LA Knight calling him hungry. He's beyond hungry because he's obsessed with getting his title back. If he has to cripple all of them and use their blood to paint his masterpiece, so be it.

Sheamus talks about Rusev being the superstar comeback no one was asking for because Rusev has lost his passion. Things started to change though, because Rusev has been acting like his old self. Now we're getting the old Rusev and that's what Sheamus wants, but Sheamus is the one who brought it out.

Roxanne Perez vs. Rhea Ripley

Raquel Rodriguez is here too. Perez rolls away to start but Ripley hammers away in the corner. That's enough for Perez to roll outside, where she rams Ripley into the apron a few times. Back in and Ripley picks her up, with Perez bailing right back to the floor. This time Perez goes after the knee to take over and chop blocks Ripley back inside. A DDT on the knee and a Lionsault get two on Ripley and we take a break.

We came back with Rodriguez breaking up a Razor's Edge, allowing Perez to snap off a super hurricanrana. A cartwheel knee to the back of the head but Ripley is fine enough to hit the Razor's Edge. Ripley's big boot gets two but Perez goes back to the knee. Pop Rox is countered and Ripley headbutts her into Riptide for the pin at 10:40.

Rating: B. It's weird to say it but Ripley needed the win. She's been in a weird place for a long time now, as she's one of the biggest stars around but there is only so much she can do these days. Ripley was already Women's Champion for over a year so getting the belt back only means so much. They need to find something for her to accomplish, but at least she got a win here.

Post match Perez and Rodriguez go after Ripley, with Iyo Sky running in for the save. Ripley approves.

Seth Rollins wants to see Bronson Reed crush Roman Reigns in Paris. As for tonight, Bron Breaker is making sure LA Knight doesn't make it to Paris. This is everything the Vision has dreamed of and so much more.

Iyo Sky checks on Rhea Ripley's knee and says she owed her for last week. Ripley is appreciative and leaves, with the Kabuki Warriors coming in to yell at Sky. Kairi Sane tries to calm Asuka down and Sky pleads her case but Asuka doesn't want to hear it. Asuka leaves and Sky asks Sane to trust her, but Sane says she's sorry and leaves.

AJ Styles vs. Finn Balor

Balor starts fast by kicking him out to the floor before losing a chop off in the corner. The Phenomenal Forearm is broken up and Styles crashes out to the floor and we take a break. We come back with Styles in trouble but hitting a swinging backbreaker to get a breather. The Pele Kick drops Balor and the sliding forearm connects. The backbreaker onto the knee connects but Balor is back up with a Sling Blade.

Balor misses the Coup de Grace though and the Styles Clash finishes for Styles at 8:05.

Rating: B-. These two work well together as they've done this so many times over the years. The good thing is that Styles gets some momentum before what is likely going to be another Intercontinental Title shot. The Judgment Day's issues continue and that is likely going to come to a head sooner than later.

Jey Uso isn't sure who he should trust going into Clash In Paris but Roman Reigns doesn't get why he's so unsure after all these years. Reigns says Uso has helped enough people over the years so it's time for him to smash everyone for himself. That's just Reigns' perspective though, and Uso has to go do what he thinks is right.

Bayley still has the voices in her head and now she's getting annoyed at them. The voice says "we are successful because we believe in ourselves." Then another voice complains about how the first voice is an idiot and insecure. The real Bayley tells them to both stop and gets annoyed.

Lyra Valkyria talks to Adam Pearce, saying she's worried about Bayley. Valkyria wants someone to check in on her and Pearce says he'll handle it. Judgment Day comes in, with Dominik Mysterio wanting Pearce to deal with AJ Styles. Pearce begrudgingly agrees and gives Styles an Intercontinental Title match with Mysterio next week. Finn Balor is rather pleased and Mysterio calls Pearce "Charles Xavier."

Clash In Paris rundown.

Roman Reigns jumps the Vision in the back and Superman Punches Bronson Reed. Security quickly breaks it up. LA Knight runs in to jump Bron Breaker and they brawl into the arena

LA Knight vs. Bron Breaker

We're joined in progress with Breaker in trouble in the corner as Knight stomps away. Breaker fights up and hits the rather fast running clothesline. That's enough for Breaker to finally get his shirt off and he snaps off a suplex, only to get punched in the face. Knight hits a clothesline into a Russian legsweep, followed by another clothesline to the floor. Knight's dropkick through the ropes connects but Breaker sends him into the announcers' table.

We take a break and come back with Knight fighting out of a chinlock but missing his jumping neckbreaker out of the corner. The super Frankensteiner gets two but the spear is cut off with a kick to the face. Breaker tries what looks to be a fireman's carry but they slip a bit (Graves sounds really nervous about what that could mean), with Knight landing on his feet for a reverse DDT. Knight's superplex sets up a top rope elbow but here is Seth Rollins for a distraction. The Super Spear gives Breaker the pin at 13:40.

Rating: B-. As usual with anything involving the Vision, this was about waiting for the interference. Knight is pretty much a full fledged main eventer these days and that's nice to see, but this was another loss when he needed to get a win. Yeah he beat Rollins at Saturday Night's Main Event, but it's ok to give him another win.

Post match the beatdown is on, with Jey Uso coming in for the save. The Vision beats Uso down but CM Punk comes in for the real save. That's enough for the Vision to bail, with Rollins having to hold Breaker back. Punk, Knight and Uso get in a fight (Rollins: "They're doing it for us.") with Uso standing tall to end the show.

Overall Rating: B-. I liked the overall nature of the show, which was all about getting everything ready for Paris, though there were pieces I didn't care for as much. Between Knight losing again, Bella's promo and whatever New Day is doing, there were some significant rough parts to the show. At the

same time, the fans were more than enough to carry things up a notch, as they always are when the fans are overseas. Good show here, but it needed some tweaks.

Results

Dragon Lee b. JD McDonagh – Operation Dragon

Kofi Kingston b. Penta – Trouble In Paradise

Rhea Ripley b. Roxanne Perez – Riptide

AJ Styles b. Finn Balor – Styles Clash

Bron Breaker b. LA Knight – Super Spear

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