


Mad Men Recap: The Truth is Out There

 trashtalktv.com/04/23/mad-men-recap-the-truth-is-out-there/312888

SnoopK8

April 23, 2014

Happy Day After Earth Day, Trashies. Hope you all saved the planet for me. We're back for another fun-filled episode of *Mad Men*. This week's edition includes casual racism, purloined posies and a whole lot of lying. Also some truth-telling. But let's not get ahead of ourselves.

In case you missed last season: Sally caught Don and Sylvia banging ~~on the bathroom floor~~. The partners forced Don to take time off after he shared his whorehouse past during a Hershey's pitch. Joan got the Avon account. Ted left Pegs in the dust to go to L.A. More recently, Don has not told Megan he doesn't have a job.

Don is sleeping alone. His alarm goes off and it's 7:30 am on a Thursday. But when he actually wakes up, the clock reads 12:34 pm. Time flies when you're sleeping off a twenty-year hangover. He sits in the living room watching *The Little Rascals* and eating Ritz crackers in his bathrobe, a bottle of whiskey on the floor next to him.



That's not what they mean by "Puttin' on the Ritz," Don

Later, he thumbs through magazines, stopping to look at the ads. He marks a half-empty bottle of whiskey. Prufrock had his coffee spoons, Draper has his whiskey bottles. A giant cockroach scuttles by.

It's much later and Don has pulled himself together. Thank goodness. I don't like frat house Don. He's got on a coat and tie so he must have a meeting or a date. The doorbell rings and it's Dawn. He practically begs her to stay for coffee, but she can't because it's 8:00. She's just here to give him his messages and update him on office goings-on. Well, that explains how he's keeping up the ruse. Tomorrow is Valentine's Day so she ordered a bouquet to be delivered to Megan. In other news, Henry Lamott (Mohawk Airlines) was in the office to meet with Lou and Diners Club got pushed back in favor of Handy Wrap.

Don offers Dawn money for her troubles, but she declines, saying it feels wrong. Geez Don, not every woman who comes to your house at night is a prostitute. Don insists that she deserves it because she is doing extra work. She finally relents, takes it and leaves. Don is alone again, all dressed up with nowhere to go. Too bad they didn't have Tinder in 1969.



Ugh. swipe left

At Miss Porter's, Sally is smoking cigarettes with her dorm-mates. Their friend Sarah's mom died and they are going to the funeral in NYC the next day. However, they plan to ditch early to go shopping in the village. Sally's friend Carol says Sarah won't be back at school till Easter and she wishes HER mom would die. Sally says she would stay at school till 1975 if she could get Betty in the ground. Where is Betty anyway?

Oh, there she is

It's night in California and Pete comes into his darkened office to get some paperwork. Bonnie the realtor is with him. He tries to explain to her how great it is that he just landed the SoCal Chevy Dealers' Association account, but she just wants to have sex on the desk. So they ARE boning. She calls him "such a big deal." How did he land someone so hot? She must be at least a little crazy.

Next day, Peggy gets into the elevator with Stan and Ginsberg.




The smirk before the storm

She dispenses with any pleasantries and tells Stan she needs him to work that night. Stan says he has plans and he'll do it Monday. Peggy says if he invites her, he can have till Tuesday to hand in the work. Stan says "now we all know you don't have plans for Valentine's Day." Peggy: Sad horns. Ginsberg says Peggy does too have plans. For February 14th, she has "masturbate gloomily" written on her calendar.

They get into the office, where there is a huge bouquet of roses on Shirley's desk and no card. Peggy assumes they are hers. Stan: "hard to believe your cat has the money." LOLLOL. So the cat is still alive. I wonder who we'll see first this season – the cat or Betty. Peggy says if the flowers are a joke, tell her now so she doesn't have to fire Stan later. He walks off saying "enjoy your flowers, boss."

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Shirley comes in and Peggy asks who sent her the flowers.



They're obviously from your boyfriend in the Niagara Falls area

But before Shirley can say anything, Peggy sends her for coffee and says she'll take care of it. She clearly thinks Ted sent them. Oh Pegs. Peggy calls Moira and tells her to tell Ted she relayed his message to the client, and there's nothing more he can do. No more pitches, the business is gone. Moira asks which client she's talking about and Peggy says Ted will know. Peggy has seriously lost her shit.

Roger comes in and announces that some lady just called him a kike. Lou: "The strangest things happen to you. By the way, Ogilvy signed Hershey's."

Sally and her friends are on the train with shopping bags. Sally realizes she lost her purse. One of the girls offers to pay her train fare, but Sally needs her address book because it has everyone she knows in it. Oh please, it's not like creepy Glenn isn't going to find you anyway. She gets off to look for it and says she will take the next train.

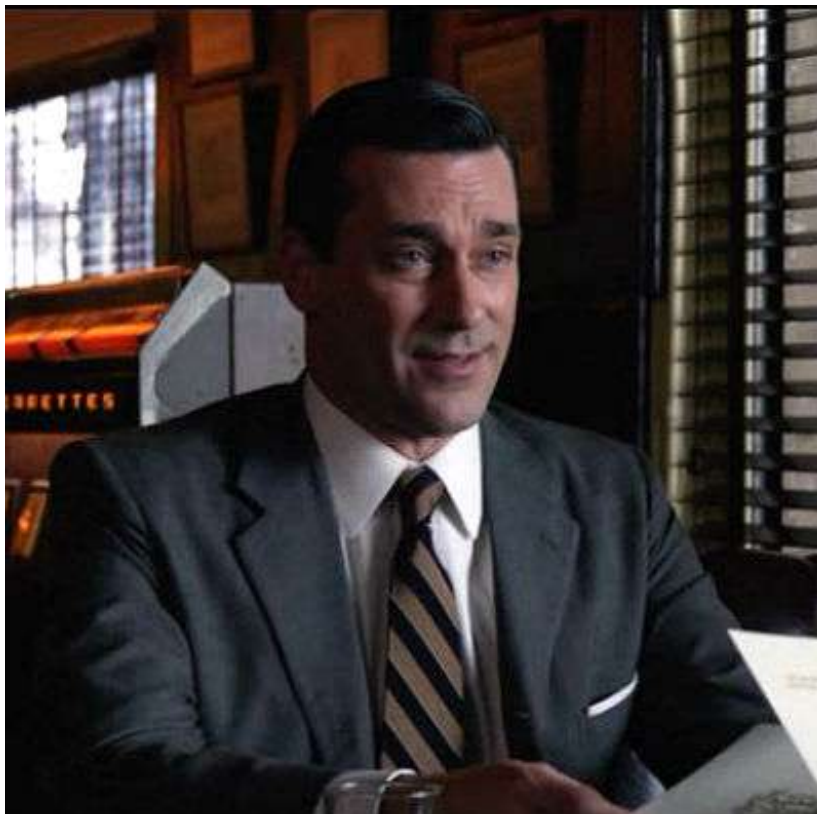
Back at SC&P, Shirley and Dawn meet up in the coffee room. Shirley is upset because the flowers were from her fiancé Charlie and she wants them back. Dawn says Shirley'd better keep her mouth shut if she wants to keep her job. Dawn notes that she is working for two

bosses, one of whom hasn't told his wife he's on leave. "Keep pretending," she says. "That's your job."



"Pretend these people aren't assholes"

Don is having lunch with some dude named Dave Wooster from Wells Rich Green. Dave was surprised that Don agreed to have lunch with him and tries to find out what he's been up to. Rumors are flying around Mad Ave that Don either left to "dabble in the L.A. office," manage his wife's career or that he freaked out in a meeting where he cried and/or punched someone. Don assures him he has a job, a contract and a non-compete clause, so he's not looking to make a change – except to change the subject by ordering another drink.



Do I look like someone who would sit alone eating crackers in a bathrobe all day?

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Jim Hobart from McCann Erickson comes up to troll Don. Jim tells Don he'd love a chance to tell him how handsome he is, then tells Dave to tell "Mary" he picked up their check. Who is Mary? After Jim leaves, Dave says he doesn't have to crap on McCann for Don, does he? Don's perfectly capable of crapping on them himself and says he almost worked there. Twice.

Uh-oh, Sally is at SC&P. She goes to Don's old office, which is now inhabited by Lou, and asks where her father is.



"Excuse me, have you seen a drunk, middle-aged adulterer?"

Lou says Don is probably at home and she should call him. Sally asks if Joan is there and Lou says that's a good idea, go bother Joan. But Joan isn't around either, because it's lunchtime. As Sally leaves, dumb Meredith tells her to have a nice day.

Peggy takes the flowers out of her office and slams them onto Shirley's desk, saying it smells like "an Italian funeral" in there. Shirley's just happy to have her flowers back.

The partners are having a coast-to-coast conference call. In CA, Pete is telling the long drawn-out story of how he snagged the Chevy dealers association, while the partners just want him to get to the point.



They're happy he got the account, but Harry Hamlin thinks Bob Benson should fly in from Detroit for the signing. Pete and Roger disagree, saying the dealers association bills as much as Chevy. Harry Hamlin says that Chevy is their entrée to GM and GM bills more than anyone on the planet.

Meanwhile, there's a problem with the phone and California can hear New York but New York can't hear California. Roger says he and Don signed Chevy in the first place, but Harry Hamlin says "Don who? You mean our collective ex-wife who still receives alimony?"

Harry Hamlin wants to poll the partners about the Chevy sitch, to which Burt says "aye!" Roger's like, "aye, what?" LOL. Burt says he agrees with Harry Hamlin. Harry Hamlin says he's caught off-guard by the fact they're having a confrontation over something that should be rudimentary. Back in CA, Ted says they never mentioned which of Peggy's accounts they lost. Heh. Pete is furious and storms out, saying to call him when they fix the damn phone.



"Hell's bells, Harry Hamlin!"

Don comes home to find Sally in his apartment. I guess that's better than coming home to find a random black lady who says she's your grandma in your apartment. Sally asks where he was and he says he left work sick. She's like "whatevs." She tells him she lost her purse and needs train fare and a note to get back to school. Don says he'll drive her. Don sits down to write the note, asking Sally what he should say. Sally says "Just tell the truth."



“What is this ‘truth’ you speak of?”

Dawn comes back from lunch and is confronted by Lou, who is furious. He tells her she should have been there when Sally showed up. Dawn immediately picks up the phone to warn Don that Sally may be on her way to his apartment. Lou is now even angrier that Dawn called Don before apologizing to him. I think we can all agree that Lou is kind of a dick.

Lou calls Joan and Dawn into his office. He says when he “generously” agreed to share Dawn with Don, it was for his correspondence and incoming phone calls, not to clean up Don’s messes. Just be glad you didn’t agree to clean up Don’s empties. You don’t know from time-consuming. Lou wants Dawn off his desk. Joan says she’ll take care of it.



Dawn yells that the reason she was out was to get his wife’s last-minute Valentine’s Day present, which she wouldn’t have had to do if Lou had listened to her in the first place. Lou yells again that Don is not his problem.

Pete takes a call from New York. It’s Roger. Pete says he appreciates Roger’s fighting for him, but Roger says he changed his mind and all the Chevy business has to go through Detroit. Pete starts to argue, but Roger hangs up on him. Hahaha.

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Pete storms into Ted's office, asking why he even bothered bringing in the account since they are taking it away from him anyway. Pete says sometimes he thinks he died and he doesn't know if he's in Heaven or hell or what.



It's like I don't even exist as a secondary character anymore

Ted: "Just cash the checks; you're gonna die one day."

Pete says Harry Hamlin probably sent Ted out to Cali because he's too moral and that prevents Harry Hamlin from being Machiavelli. Ted says that's NOT why he is out there. Pete asks why IS he out there, considering all he does is answer phones and mope around. These guys really just need to make up and form a "Married Men Formerly in Love with Peggy" support group.

Pete flounces out like Scarlett O'Hara and says they can BOTH pretend Pete is in NYC from now on.



Fiddle dee dee!



Whaaaaatever

Joan has sent Meredith to be Lou's new secretary. Hahaha. Dawn will be the new receptionist. She tries to give Meredith a few tips on dealing with Lou, but Meredith needs to get a pencil.



“Which one is Lou again?”

Sally and Don are driving. Don asks questions about where Sally might have lost her purse. Sally’s all “I don’t know; that’s why it’s lost.” That sound you hear is MY mom smacking me over Sally’s snotty attitude. Sally asks why Don is interrogating her and Don says because he knows she went to his office. Why didn’t she just tell him? Sally says it’s more embarrassing to catch him in a lie than it is for him to be lying.

Don growls that she laid in wait for him – just like her mother would do. Ooh, not the Betty card. But no worries, Sally has been steeped in the Tao of Betty for 15 years. She asks if he doesn’t know how hard it was for her to go to his apartment? After all, she could have run into THAT WOMAN. Oh snap. Don’s like, “Fuuucck. Sorry ‘bout that.”



Damn, you get caught schtupping the neighbor ONE TIME...

Sally yells at him to just stop talking and they drive on in silence.

Peggy is lying on her office couch drinking and smoking.



She really is Don's protégé

Ted Chaough is on the phone for her. Peggy tells Shirley to say that she has no intention of talking to him today. She comes out and asks Shirley to please throw the flowers away because they're cursed. She's at least a little drunk and a lot unhinged.



FLOWERS BAD!

She says she should have bought Shirley flowers out of respect, not because of some stupid holiday. Shirley finally says that the flowers were for her, not Peggy. Peggy's all "aroo?" Shirley says she didn't get a chance to tell her. Peggy yells "you have a ring on! We all know you're engaged. You didn't have to embarrass me." Oh Pegs. Get a grip. Go home, pet your cat and stay off the booze for a couple of days. Take a relaxing macramé class or something.

Dawn has replaced Meredith at reception. Cooper notices her on his way out and does a 180 to go find Joan. He's all for the national advancement of colored people, he says, as long as they don't advance to where they can be seen by people getting off the elevator. He's asking for a "rearrangement of her rearrangements."



FML

Pete comes to Bonnie's open house and tries to get her to leave so they can start their Valentine's date early. Bonnie says she'll see him at 5:15 unless she gets an offer before that. Pete is still mad about Chevy and says the system is rigged against him so he might as well enjoy himself. Bonnie tells a story about a \$108,000 house she sold that burned down while in escrow. She says there's nothing like an act of god to know when things are really against you. But, she says, that's the whole point. "Our fortunes are in other people's hands and we have to take them." Yup. Watch your back, Pete.



Look into my crazy eyes...

Sally and Don are at a diner. Sally says she's not hungry and gives Don one-word answers to his Dad-type questions. Finally, she asks if she can go call her friends. Don gives her dimes, but before she can get up, he says he didn't tell her he wasn't working because he didn't want anyone to know. He says he said the wrong thing at the wrong time to the wrong people and he was ashamed. Sally asks what he is going to do, and he says he doesn't know because it's not up to him.

She asks why he doesn't go to California to be with Megan, and Don says he thought he could fix the situation from New York. She asks if he still loves Megan and he says he does. So why he doesn't just tell her he doesn't want to move to California?




“Dude, I already told the truth once this decade, what more do you want from me?”

Sally goes off to call her friends.

Peggy goes into Joan to get Shirley off her desk. Geez, that’s a little harsh. Joan suggests that Peggy share Moira, but Peggy says Moira hates her. Joan suggests Meredith, but Peggy says Meredith has the mind of a child. At this point Joan flips out and screams that Dawn can’t be with Lou, Neither Dawn nor Shirley can be up front and Scarlett is practically married to Harry. Really? Do tell! Peggy says she doesn’t care and yells at her to FIX IT before storming out.



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Harry Hamlin walks in at that moment, and Joan's all WHAT DO YOU WANT??? He says he wanted to talk about Avon, but it can wait until Monday. She explains about the personnel issues and he says it just occurred to him that she has two jobs. She says she's not complaining, but he says maybe she should be. He says he has an empty office upstairs for an account man, not the head of personnel, and let him know what she decides.

At the diner, Sally returns from her phone call to find that Don has ordered her a patty melt. She eats while Don says he doesn't like her going to funerals. Because we know how healthily Don deals with grief. She says she only went so she could go shopping and Don says he doubts that. But then he pulls the trademark Don Draper "life goes on" card and jokes about walking out without paying. Hmm, is that a metaphor for walking out on life without paying? (Deep, right?)

Joan heads upstairs with her belongings. She runs into Roger and explains that she is taking the empty office. Does Roger have a problem with that? He says it doesn't matter what he thinks. Oh Rog. Go drop some acid and you'll be fine.

Shirley's walking out with Lou, who presumably is her new boss. Dawn brings HER stuff into Joan's old office and looks around and smiles when the phone rings. Ha, so Joan made her head of personnel. Good for you Dawn.

Roger's in the elevator when Harry Hamlin comes in. Harry Hamlin says they can finish the conference call on Monday, but Roger says he already set Pete straight. Harry Hamlin says he hates to think of Roger as an adversary. In fact, he would *really* hate that. Ok, creepshow.



What toe-tapping?

Don drops Sally off at school. He asks if he should come in and she says no. But before she closes the door, she says "Happy Valentine's Day. I love you."



And I totes forgive you for ruining my life!

Awww. Don doesn't know what to say. And we are out.

Shut up, did we actually end an episode of *Mad Men* on a slightly upbeat note? Well, there's still a lot left to this season, we'll be back to DOOM sooner or later. What did you think, Trashies? Does this mean that Don has pulled back from the precipice? And speaking of which, is Peggy going to take a diver off the GWB? WHAT is going on between Scarlett and Harry? And finally, will we ever see Betty again?

As always, thanks for reading and have a fab week

xoxo,
SnoopK8

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