

Game of Thrones Recap: The Day of The Dead



Season 5 | Episode 8 | “Hardhome”

Game of Thrones season 5 just may be the death of me! I think all hardcore *GoT* fans feel the same way. It is the first time in the series four and a half seasons that we legit have no clue what is coming because of all the shakes translating the book to television!

Sorry all you diehard Robb Stark fans but “**Hardhome**” was like my “**Red Wedding!**” I was literally speechless for the last 20-minutes of this episode! Watching Jon Snow fight a bunch of White Walkers was my definition of a living hell...

My Name is Lanna

Arya Stark is ready to take on her first mission for the Many-Faced God. Acting as an oyster vendor named Lanna, Arya is set to watch the actions of the Thin Man – an insurer who cheats his clients out of money. Jaqen hands Arya a vial of poison and says it is a “gift” for the Thin Man. Though Arya seems a wee bit excited for her new mission, the other female waif does not think Arya is ready, in which Jaqen replies; “it is all the same to the Many-Faced God.”



I am really starting to miss the Adventures of Arya and The Hound.

Confess

Cersei Lannister has been stripped of all her fancy clothing and such and now sits isolated and dirty in a jail cell. Septa Unella visits Cersei telling the Queen Mother to confess but Cersei refuses and can only talk about how she is going to have Unella killed once she gets out of jail.



Unella then spills the water all over the floor leaving Cersei to have to slurp it up.

Qyburn visits Cersei and informs her that the High Sparrow has a large case against her. Cersei asks if anyone has heard from Jaime and the answer is no. In addition, Qyburn shares that Cersei's Uncle Kevan is now acting as the Hand of The King and will not see his niece. Though the most heartbreaking thing Cersei learns is that Tommen has locked himself in his chambers and won't see or speak to anyone. Qyburn reminds Cersei that she could simply confess her sins but she will not bow down before the High Sparrow.

"I'm Going to Break the Wheel."

Tyion Lannister and Jorah Mormont stand before Queen Daenerys waiting for her to pass judgment on them. It does not take long for Tyion to work his charm and of course his wit on Dany. Tyion enters full on

job interview mode and presents himself as a great man who was a wonderful Hand of The King and has great knowledge of the lands and houses of Westeros. Dany gives Tyrion his first test when she asks him to advise her on what to do with Jorah. Tyrion lets the Queen know that Jorah is devoted to her and loves her but Jorah did not trust her with the truth and thus he can not be trusted to stand by her side. Though she should not kill him, “a ruler who kills those devoted to her is not a ruler who inspires devotion,” is what Tyrion tells Dany. Dany banishes Jorah again from the city. Jorah – who’s greyscale is spreading – returns to slaver Yezzan and trades in his freedom to fight in front of Dany in the Great Pit. Lord Friendzone just won’t give up!

Part two of Tyrion’s job interview continues in a more private setting. Tyrion and Dany bond over the fact that they are two terrible children born to terrible fathers. The two then chat about Varys. Though Varys has been spying on Dany for Robert since she was a child, Tyrion assures her that Varys is most likely the reason she is still alive. Dany finally informs Tyrion that she will not kill him and that she will take him on as an advisor. Dany then shares her plan to not only take back the Iron Throne but to put an end to the wheel of Westerosian monarchs.





Not All is Lost in Winterfell

Roose and Ramsay Bolton chat about Stannis' pending attack on Winterfell. Roose wants to wait it out since its most likely Stannis' troops will mutiny but Ramsay thinks the Boltons should strike first. Ramsay let's his father know that all he needs is about 20 good men to take out Stannis.

Sansa confronts Reek aka Theon about why he told Ramsay about her escape plans.



Reek lets Sansa know that he was trying to protect her because Ramsay doesn't like when people run, Theon tried to escape and now there is no more Theon. Theon admits that he deserves to be Reek – yep, totally agrees and so does Sansa! Sansa then starts yelling at Reek, which leads to Reek admitting that he DID NOT kill Bran and Rickon, it was just two farm boys. Sansa – for the first time in a long time – realizes she is NOT the only Stark out there.

The Army of the Dead is Coming...

Jon Snow, Tormund, and Edd with a small group of members of the Night's Watch arrive at Hardhome. The

party is met by Rattleshirt who calls Tormund a traitor for siding with a crow then Tormund beats him to death...good start.

Jon Snow and Tormund meet with the wildling elders and plead their case. Even after sharing his story and showing the group the dragonglass, Jon is having a hard time convincing the group. Things only get worse when Jon admits he was the one who killed Mance, though Tormund quickly steps in and tells the group that Jon's arrow was a sign of mercy. Tormund also lets the group know that he believes in Jon's leadership and thinks this plan is the only way the free folk will survive the Army of the Dead. Jon and Tormund are able to convince some of the free folk to join them, but they are still leaving a lot of people behind.

Jon and company start moving the wildlings to the Night's Watch ships when the weather begins to change and everything gets colder....hello, Army of the Dead! Hardhome is under full White Walker attack and it is painful to watch people! For the last 20+ minutes of the show you are watching the wildlings and Jon Snow try to fight off/escape the Army of the Dead and there are a least five if not more times you think it is the end for Jon!

Though there are two important things we learn from the attack, more like the massacre of Hardhome:

- Valyrian steel aka Longclaw kills a White Walker (Mmmm..there are like only three Valyrian steel swords in Westeros, one is currently in Dorne with Jaime).
- Like, nothing else matters! The White Walkers will be the death of everyone!



The Night King watches his army massacre the wildlings and members of the Night's Watch and keeps a special eye on Jon Snow. Jon Snow, Tormund, Edd, and giant Wun Wun were able to escape. Though as their boat drifts away from the shore, the Night King appears on the docks and locks eye contact with Jon. A state of rest falls over Hardhome and with a simple lift of his arms; the Night King awakens the fallen wildlings, whom now stand with bright blue eyes. It would seem that the Night King has assembled a very large army.



***Game of Thrones* airs Sundays at 9pm on HBO!**

Until next week...Valar Morghulis.