

**Rolling Stone** **The Playlist Special**  
Your Favorite Artists Pick Their Favorite Songs  
click here to listen

SPONSORED BY  
**Music Unlimited**  
On Sony Entertainment Network

## 'Walking Dead' Recap: When the Zombies Found Jesus

Season two kicks off with an extravaganza of undead killing, and church bells

f Like 394 | Tweet 82 | Comment 27



Andrew Lincoln as Sheriff Rick Grimes in AMC's 'The Walking Dead.'

Gene Page/AMC

By **BEX SCHWARTZ**

OCTOBER 17, 2011 11:00 AM ET

*The Walking Dead* is back! And it has SO MANY ZOMBIES. I'm sorry, they're called "Walkers" in this show, but let's just be for reals and call them zombies because "walkers" is a much less terrifying word.

Season two begins as **Sheriff Rick** delivers a walkie-talkie monologue chock full of exposition to that guy **Morgan** we saw a million years ago. It's very *Meredith Grey* except instead of talking about feelings and making some extended metaphor about how surgery is just like growing up, he's telling Morgan that the CDC was a dead end and his motley crew is going to move on to Fort Bennett. What is Fort Bennett? **Wiki says** it's in South Dakota, which seems like a crazy distance to travel from Atlanta. But maybe there is a secret Fort Bennett or a closer Fort Bennett that I don't know about. Maybe **Mother Abigail** is there. I don't know.

While Rick is telling Morgan to be safe and keep his eyes open, he also mentions that the **CDC Guy** (remember the CDC guy? Truman's best friend from the *Truman Show*? He showed us that video about the zombie plague and then we found out his wife was the subject of the video) told him something important. What did CDC guy tell Sheriff Rick? That moment was so very *Lost in Translation*! And are we finally going to find out what he said? No. Rick keeps us hanging, that little bitch.

So the people who are still alive (do we have a name for this gang? Let's call them the Still Alive) set out in a motorcade and then, oh no, the road is blocked. And the RV's radiator goes kaput. There are so many cars filled with dead people! The smart people in the Still Alive start looking through the cars and trucks and scavenging clothes and water and weapons. Stupid **Lori** is like "This is a graveyard," but, as anyone who plays videogames knows, when you get to graveyard you loot the bodies. **LOOT THE BODIES**. Maybe you will find a magical sword that gives you +7 Zombie-killing.

And then **Shane** finds pay dirt when he discovers a truck filled with bottled water and he showers himself with it, exclaiming, "It's like being baptized, man!" This is not-at-all subtle foreshadowing that we are going to be dealing with religion at some point soon. It's like Chekhov's gun – if you talk about being baptized in act one, there is totally going to be some sort of Jesus thing by Act 3.

And then the zombies come! Oh no! There are *so many zombies*. Holy FUCK, there are so many zombies! Where did those zombies come from? And what will the Still Alive do? Oh, of course, they will hide under all those cars because zombies just shuffle forward and don't usually bend to look under cars. And blonde **Andrea** hides in a bathroom, which is dumb because people always die when they hide in the bathrooms. It's the zombie-kills-you-in-the-bathroom trope. She survives because **Uncle Dale** throws her a screwdriver through the sunroof and she stabs the zombie in the eye. Because she doesn't have a gun. And Uncle Dale decides that she can't have a gun because she was recently suicidal, so even though there are hordes of zombies around, let's just make sure she has a never-ending stash of screwdrivers. Smart decision! Screwdrivers are the best weapons.

The Still Alive think they are safe and they all get out from under their hidey-holes, but oh no! There are still zombies and the little girl **Sophia** shrieks and runs into the woods. Sheriff

ADVERTISEMENT

**Rolling Stone**  
**RS LIVE**

EXCLUSIVE, INTIMATE,  
UNSCRIPTED PERFORMANCES

CLICK HERE TO WATCH

PRESENTED BY

ASUS | intel

### STAY CONNECTED

Sign up to get Rolling Stone's daily newsletter.

Enter email address

SUBMIT

### MOST POPULAR

MUSIC | POLITICS | PHOTOS | VIDEOS

**Sonic Youth's Kim Gordon and Thurston Moore Announce Split**

**Exclusive Stream: R.E.M.'s Final Single, 'We All Go Back to Where We Belong'**

**Exclusive Stream: Patrick Stump Embraces Club Pop on 'Soul Punk'**

**Radiohead Reloads for Post-'King of Limbs' Blitz**

**Fred Durst Develops Sitcom for CBS**

ADVERTISEMENT

**Rolling Stone**

SIGN UP FOR OUR  
NEWSLETTERS

CLICK HERE

### PHOTOS & VIDEOS



Rick goes after her, doing a dive-roll down a hill with a loaded gun, which seems ill-advised. He hides her in a dead tree and draws the zombies away and then smashes their skulls in with a rock. Nice skull smash, Sheriff Rick!

But Sophia is missing. So the Stay Alives go off to find her. Sheriff Rick and **Daryl**-the-redneck track a hippie zombie and kill him and then decide to disembowel him to make sure he didn't eat the little girl. He didn't. Schwoo. And then blonde **Andrea** confronts Dale about how she doesn't have a gun and he says he feels safer without letting a suicidal lady who doesn't know how to shoot be the one packing heat. And she gives him this whole speech about how he took her choice away. Let's support the woman's right to choose! Give her the gun! U.S. Out of My Uterus.

They still can't find Sophia so the rest of the Still Alives go into the woods to look for her, except for Dale and **T-Dog** (the actor who plays T-Dog is named **IronE Singleton**. I hope he pronounces it "Irone" although I suspect it's "Iron-E.") The find a tent and **Sophia's mom** (does she have a name? She was the one who had that mean husband) calls for Sophia, but the only person in the tent is a dead camper wearing a pin that says "No Excuse for Domestic Violence" who killed himself. Daryl takes his gun (**LOOT THE BODIES**) and then the Still Alives hear bells. They set off in the direction of the ringing noises.

And they discover a church, although there's no steeple and no bell tower. The mystery of the bells! Inside the church are three church-going zombies. The male Still Alives dispatch the Church Zombies, all of whom appear to be dressed in 18th-century clothing. Maybe the woods outside of Atlanta are also where **The Village** takes place. This church also features a large crucifix with a statue of Jesus on it. Jesus looks a lot like a zombie. Symbolism. Sophia's mother, who does have a name (**Carol!**), prays to Jesus for Sophia's safety. It would be so awesome if Jesus opened his eyes and made a moaning noise and ate Carol, but this sadly does not happen.

The bells go off again and the gang realizes the bells are just pre-recorded and set to go off on a timer. Fancy church, with your bells on a timer! Sheriff Rick and Shane send the rest of the Still Alives to search the other side of the creek bed, and they decide to stick around in case Sophia also heard those bells. **Carl the Kid** also stays with them. And Sheriff Rick decides to have his religious moment and begs Not-A-Zombie-Jesus to give him a sign that he's doing the right thing. Give him a siiiign, and hit him, baby, one more time. (There is no excuse for domestic violence.)

Rick and Shane and the kid head back into the woods and hear a noise. Is it Sophia? Is it a zombie? No! It is a magnificent buck. Perhaps even a **Yearling**, Pa! Surely this is a sign! Thank you, Jesus, for giving us today our daily buck. Carl the Kid gets closer and closer to the animal and I am like "OMG, that animal is going to gore him with his antlers any second." But noooo, Carl keeps inching closer and closer with this beatific smile on his face, loving his Bambi-moment, until a shot rings out and takes down the buck and the kid in one fell swoop. And then the episode is over before we know if the buck and the kid turn into zombies and ride off into the sunset, although that is probably unlikely but still could be considered a sign. Thank you, Jesus, for sending the deer! And then shooting the kid! You are a confusing dude, Jesus.



To read the new issue of *Rolling Stone* online, plus the entire RS archive: [Click Here](#)

< **'Boardwalk Empire' Recap: Women on Top**

**MOVIES MAIN**

**Aaron Eckhart Cast as Dennis Wilson** >

## INSIDE ROLLING STONE



**MUSIC**  
**Smokey Robinson Remembers Marv Tarplin**



**MOVIES & TV**  
**Rob Sheffield on 'X Factor': The Bitch Is Back!**



**POLITICS**  
**Taibbi: The Next Big Bank Bailout?**



**VIDEOS**  
**RS Live: Jayhawks Reunited**

## MORE FROM ROLLING STONE

- **'Boardwalk Empire' Recap: Women on Top**
- **'Jersey Shore' Recap: The Boys Think Deena's Sexuality Is Hilarious**
- **Fading Fading Celebrating: What Happens Now For Sonic Youth?**

## FROM AROUND THE WEB

- **10 Things NOT to Say to a Person with Migraines** - HealthCentral.com
- **Kelsey Grammer Does it Again in BOSS** - Starz
- **Play On: Before They Blew Up** - The

**Random Notes: Hottest Rock Pictures**



**Video: Lady Gaga Honors the Clintons**



**Gallery: Cosplay at the 2011 New York Comic Con**

## Sponsored Links

[Buy a link here](#)

### 53 yr Old Mom Looks 30

Mom Reveals \$5 Wrinkle Treatment That Makes Botox Doctors Furious!  
[www.mylifestylesecrets.com](http://www.mylifestylesecrets.com)

### Find Top Rated Plastic Surgeons

We match you with Board Certified Plastic Surgeons in your area. Find Your Plastic...  
[www.1800mySurgeon.com](http://www.1800mySurgeon.com)

### Taylor Swift Tickets

Taylor Swift is coming to town! \$99 gets you a great seat! TRUSTED!  
[www.eSellOut.com/Taylor-Swift](http://www.eSellOut.com/Taylor-Swift)

## BEST-EVER LISTS



### MORE LISTS

- **100** GREATEST GUITARISTS
- **100** GREATEST SINGERS
- **500** GREATEST ALBUMS
- **500** GREATEST SONGS
- **100** BEST ALBUMS OF THE 2000S
- **100** GREATEST BEATLES SONGS

- **Sonic Youth's Kim Gordon and Thurston Moore Announce Split**
- **Week in Rock History: Three Members of Lynyrd Skynyrd Die in Plane Crash**

Etsy Blog

- **[New Evidence Why You Should Stop Smoking](#)** - Lifescript.com

[what's this]

## ADD A COMMENT

Login with Facebook in order to comment

 Login with Facebook

Type your comment here.

[Community Guidelines](#)

Sort by: Most Recent

## COMMENTS



**Travis Reininger** | Less than a minute ago

REPLY



I haven't had the chance to see the premiere of the second Walking Dead season yet, but this article is really bad. This is Rolling Stone? And what's with all the pointless tangents and pop culture references? Wait, let's try this again. I haven't had the chance to see the premiere of the second Walking Dead...you know, the one with SO MANY ZOMBIES!! season yet. Yet, they aren't called zombies here, they are called walkers. For reals. Like, WALKER Texas Ranger! Anywho - this article is really B-B-B-BAD, Bad to the Boneeeeeee!



**Lucas Zumsteg** | 1 hour, 58 minutes ago

REPLY



What I wanna know is, why were there dead people left in the vehicles? Anyone who as read the comics knows that as soon as you're dead, unless by a lethal blow to the dome, you soon become a zombie. But NO, not with these people who just decided to die in their cars for no aparent reason. I know that this show doesn't directly follow the comics, but does have the the main plot, and this aspect of the plot to me is one of the main points. For a writer to over look this aspect is very disappointing. Doubly disappointing knowing that this episode was written by the auther of the comic series himself, Robert Kirkman. Tisk, tisk Mr. Kirkman. I expect more from a show of this caliber. So stick to writing comics, Bob (Do you mind if I call you Bob, Mr. Kirkman?), leave the TV to the professionals.



**Michael Morris** | 4 hours, 32 minutes ago

REPLY



Wow, so steeped in irony, but really just a sophomorically satirical recap with a "I'm better than this show" tone. Zombie Jesus, man, learn to write or something.



**David Silva** | 7 hours, 11 minutes ago

REPLY



Fort Benning, you idiot. No more reviews for you.



**Chris Montes** | 10 hours, 35 minutes ago

REPLY



Did a high schooler write this?



**Dominic Belvedere** | 16 hours, 37 minutes ago

REPLY



Having grown up in Georgia I instantly knew he was talking about Fort Benning not Bennet. Horrible recap hire some writers who can actual write along with being able to watch a show and comprehend it at the same time.



**Paul Huyter** | 19 hours, 49 minutes ago

REPLY



"You are one confusing dude, Jesus." Next to you, he's clear as a bell. Another 'Rolling, Stoned' commentary... seeking, but still not finding, something intelligent to say about anything.



**Michael D Pagliaro** | Yesterday, 7:28 PM EDT

REPLY



I guess the saying is true 'Everyone's a critic'... In this case 'Everyone's is an



English teacher'  
I am taking a line from 'Airheads' (look it up) "If it's too loud, you're too old"  
If you want a best seller read one.  
LOL... OMG... 'I'm out'



**Michael D Pagliaro** | Yesterday, 7:42 PM EDT  
[\*Everyone's an English teacher] - I'm an idiot and still think the show was a dud last night, hopefully next episode is better.



**Taylor Berryman** | Yesterday, 6:43 PM EDT

REPLY



This is one of the laziest reviews I have ever read.



**Vanessa Wade** | Yesterday, 6:35 PM EDT

REPLY



This review -- if you can call it that -- is one of the most annoying and poorly written things I have ever read. I guess it is supposed to be a comedy piece? Oh well, it fails miserably by any standard.



**Scott Zaccagnini** | Yesterday, 5:58 PM EDT

REPLY



You will have to excuse me while I go on a little rant here. This comment has nothing to do with True Blood.  
I have been blocked from making comments on the Rolling Stone Facebook page and think it is absolutely ridiculous. I got no warning or anything. I have liked and disliked the page numerpus tomes to see if it will work and it does not. Does anyone else have this problem? I would like to know why I cannot post commets. I still can from here but not on Facebook.



**Emily Budd** | Yesterday, 5:18 PM EDT

REPLY



I think you may be confusing 'Fort Bennett' with 'Fort BENNING,' which is absolutely in Georgia.



**Eric Smithling** | Yesterday, 5:16 PM EDT

REPLY



I hate to be that guy, but Bex, you really need to work on your writing skills. I had to stop reading this recap because it was so poorly written. Seriously, stop with the unnecessary ALL CAPS text and the random exclamation points when they aren't needed. And last I checked "The mystery of the bells!" is not, and will never be a complete sentence. Rolling Stone, there are several journalist majors out there who could use the work. I think you should start hiring those people.



**Melanio Flaviano** | Yesterday, 5:12 PM EDT

REPLY



I hate to say, everytime I stared at that deer, I wanted it to just suddenly show its teeth and be Zombified...too much sentimentality with that scene only to end violently like the Yearling or Bambi!



**Daniel Curry** | Yesterday, 4:47 PM EDT

REPLY



This is one of the worst TV-related Rolling Stone articles I've read, including that cover story of Snooki. Just give me a straight review without your commentary that reminds me of junior high.



**Michael D Pagliaro** | Yesterday, 2:32 PM EDT

REPLY



Number 1 there were too many commercial breaks, distinctly in the last 30 minutes of the show. It was like they needed to stretch it out to fill the 1.5 hour slot.  
Number 2 the old man with binoculars should of seen that large pack of zombies coming a little sooner.  
Number 3 there was no sense of location in the woods, an aerial view would have been helpful. Lets walk over here, ZOMBIE. Lets walk over here, TENT WITH DEAD GUY. What's that a church bell, lets walk over there, MORE ZOMBIES & JESUS CHRIST. Who writes this stuff.  
Number 4, on Jesus Christ did the blood on his body seem to become more evident as the scene went on? Lastly, where the hell did that little girl go... And after all that searching it ends with the boy being shot (that was the only good scene in the whole episode).



**Dave Rice** | Yesterday, 12:53 PM EDT

REPLY



I agree with Doug. Did a 4th grader write this? For reals? OMG!



**Vic Williams** | 1 hour, 37 minutes ago  
You're doing a huge disservice to 4th graders.



**Doug Goodwin** | Yesterday, 12:27 PM EDT

REPLY



This review/recap is horribly written. Can anyone follow Schwartz's incoherent structure? What happened to Rolling Stone?



**Keith Obaza** | Yesterday, 12:27 PM EDT

REPLY



this is an insufferably bad written article. next time please stop trying to be hip and ironic and just review the friggin episode. christ



**Bret Faunce** | Yesterday, 12:01 PM EDT

REPLY



Fort Benning makes sense. Its chock full of weapons and badasses if they cant find protection there then where?



**Sean Villafranca** | Yesterday, 11:55 AM EDT

REPLY



Have you noticed that it seems like the writers have made all of the women (including the little girl) insufferably annoying? What's up with that?



**Chris Baker** | Yesterday, 11:29 AM EDT

REPLY



Fort Benning not Fort Benett - it's in rural Georgia. Was this written



**Ron Booth** | Yesterday, 5:34 PM EDT  
nice. I got confused is not a great answer for a journalist.



**Bex Schwartz** | Yesterday, 11:35 AM EDT  
Sorry! Fort Benning! I misheard and I am not very familiar with forts!



**Charissa Curry** | Yesterday, 11:16 AM EDT

REPLY



they're headed to fort benning - not bennet. benning is in georgia

#### CHANNELS

Music  
Movies  
Politics  
Artists  
Photos  
Videos

#### FOLLOW US

Facebook  
 Twitter  
 YouTube  
 RSS  
 Foursquare  
 Tumblr

#### SUBSCRIBE

Subscribe  
Give A Gift  
Back Issues  
Customer Service  
RS All Access  
Magazine Covers

#### ADDITIONAL

Advertise  
Contact  
Privacy Policy  
Terms of Use  
Sitemap

**Rolling Stone** **Us** **Men's Journal**

Wenner Media Websites: [Rolling Stone](#) | [Us Weekly](#) | [Men's Journal](#) | [Jann S. Wenner](#)

COPYRIGHT ©2011 ROLLING STONE, JANN S. WENNER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER