

Jump toSummaries (3)Synopsis (1)EditSuggest an edit or add missing contentYou have no recently viewed pages Vlies novrtt o vienumu vai pievienojies kopienai Given that its potency as a drama series is virtually second to none, it's fantastic when Vince Gilligan and the writers of Breaking Bad remind everyone just how on top of their game they can be when it comes to seriously dark comedy. Back when he was a writer on The X-Files, Gilligan often wielded his pen in a similar fashion, producing episodes that managed to keep a dry wit about the otherwise shadowy and foreboding elements that made up the series. 'Madrigal' is no exception. The second episode opens up at Madrigal Electromotive GmbH - the gigantic corporation responsible for such fine eateries as Burger Stays, Haau Chuen Wok, Palmieri Pizza, Whiskerstays and (formerly) Los Pollos Hermanos - where the audience is treated to a stone-faced Herr Schuler (Norbert Weisser) examining the finer aspects of new dipping sauces (Franch being the clear standout) before running into the bathroom to evade the polizei sniffing around Madrigal's conference room. Once there, Schuler goes down in television history for his ingenious use of a portable defibrillator as an on-the-fly suicide aid. The sequence at Madrigal serves to not only enhance the breadth of the situation Gustavo Fring (Giancarlo Esposito) and his array of Los Pollos Hermanos locations were involved in, but also to illustrate just how in the dark Walter White (Bryan Cranston) remains. With a major company like Madrigal somehow involved in (or facilitating) Fring's meth dealings, the amount of interest from the legal side of things increases exponentially. That means Walter's quest to succeed Gus in the Southwestern meth arena is likely going to run headlong into some very intrigued DEA agents. While Walt rests comfortably in the ignorance of just how much the authorities know - thanks largely to his computer-wiping stunt from the premiere - his next step is to secure his partnership with Jesse (Aaron Paul). That means assuaging Jesse's guilt over the lost ricin cigarette by searching his house with a fine-toothed comb, and then letting him find a planted, salt-filled duplicate in his Roomba's collection bin. (The original vile of ricin being hidden away in Walt's house for later use, no doubt.) As much as the pieces of Los Pollos Hermanos and the meth ring are still being sifted through by the authorities, Walt also picks through the remnants of Fring, grabbing those elements that will help transition the fallen empire into the one he plans to see rise again. And with Jesse backing him wholeheartedly (being played into an overwhelming guilt for nearly killing Walt last season), the next thing on Walt's to-do list is to recruit the reluctant Mike Ehrmantraut (Jonathan Banks) to essentially do what he does best, but for the guy who killed his former employer. Initially, Mike wants nothing to do with Walt's plan, but the aforementioned knowledge recently gleaned by the authorities puts him in a precarious position, and sees the finances he secured for his granddaughter pretty much fade away. That places Mike at the mercy of someone he seems to detest. More importantly, though, it takes him through a situation similar to Walt's, but with the advantage of a much quicker illumination. As Walt relaxes, thinking he's won, so, too, does Mike - at least in the belief that the 11 men who could compromise the entire operation were compensated sufficiently enough to ensure their silence. His only mistakes are not knowing how much the DEA knows and believing his word to be adequate in calming the nerves of Lydia (Laura Fraser) when she insists on executing those weak links. Lydia has it in her head that the world is crumbling down around her, and the only way out is through a sufficient amount of bloodshed. So she does what any nervous executive would do and lets the plan come to fruition, with the other guy hired to do the same job. After a suspicious call from Chow (James Ning), Mike heads over for what we assume will be a tte--tte about the hush money Chow was paid that's now in the possession of the DEA. The thing about Mike is he's already worked out that it's a double-cross and makes his way inside through a clever use of a stuffed animal, eliminating the guy who would be \$30k richer for getting rid of the ol' Ehrmantraut. That leads Mike back to Lydia, who - knowing she's going to die - pleads with her killer not make her body disappear, preferring instead that her daughter find a corpse than believe she has been abandoned. Mike, not really excited about either possibility, offers Lydia a stay of execution, as long as she can still procure some methylamine for Walt's upcoming shot at the title of meth king. And with that, a unenthusiastic partnership is born. One of the key things 'Madrigal' sets up is just how blindly Walt is heading into the next phase of his plan, and just how manipulative he's intent on moving forward and getting his hands on the "gold in the streets," Hank (Dean Norris) is just steps away from pulling the curtain back on Fring's world to see the man he only thinks he knows so well. And if Hank were to ever realize his boss' words ("The whole time he was someone else completely, right in front of me, right under my nose)had more to do with Walt than he'd like to know, Heisenberg may be in for a rather rude awakening. - Breaking Bad will continue on Sunday with 'Hazard Pay' @10pm on AMC. Check out a preview of the episode below: Written by series creator Vince Gilligan and directed by Michelle MacLaren, Madrigal is a housekeeping episode, mainly concerned with setting up future events and clarifying old ones. While it checks in with Walt, Skyler, Jesse, and Saul, its spotlight is on a glorified supporting player, Jonathan Bankss security guyhit man, Mike. But Id still put it on a list of Breaking Bads best episodes, because its perfect, and because it underlines the shows distinguishing characteristic: a commitment to clarity. Madrigal explains two important bits of narrative business: the stuff with the Ricin and the Lily of the Valley plant, and the fallout from the DEAs investigation of Los Pollos Hermanos. Both are central to Madrigal, which is why Ive built this recap around them. Ricin and Lily of the Valley In season four, Walt gave Jesse a cigarette containing a ricin capsule. Jesse was supposed to use the ricin to poison Gus Fring. Jesse did not go through with the act, and in fact found himself buckling under pressure from Mike and Gus, who were setting him up as a potential replacement for Walt. Walt came up with a diabolical emergency solution to get Jesse back on his side and make him mad enough to want to kill Gus: He conspired with Saul to surreptitiously steal the cigarette pack that contained the ricin and replace it with an identical pack with no ricin cigarette. Then Walt poisoned Jesses girlfriends son with a Lily of the Valley plant in his backyard. Walts gambit convinced Jesse that the boy had gotten somehow gotten hold of the ricin cigarette, then filled Jesse with murderous rage against Gus once he became convinced that Los Pollos Hermanos CEO was actually behind the poisoning. (Gus had used kids in his drug trade before, so in theory that made him a more likely candidate to poison a child than the infant-cuddling, family-idealizing Walt.) The closing shot of the season four finale, Face Off, confirms the presence of the Lily of the Valley plant in Walts backyard. In this seasons opener, Live Free or Die, Walt remembers the plant while clearing his home of incriminating material and places it in the trunk of his car for disposal. Impressively, YouTube user jcham979 identified to use the plant as poison, anticipated Walts scheme days in advance of the finales air date, and explored the whole thing in a video essay that I republished at Salon last year. It begins in the scene where Walt sits in his backyard, absentmindedly spinning a pistol on a table; when the scene ends, the pistol points at the Lily of the Valley plant in the background. The show left the exact details of the cigarette-pack replacement vague, but eagle-eyed viewers spotted the moment when it happened: the scene in End Times where Jesse goes to Sauls office. Before giving Jesse a duffel bag filled with cash, Saul has Huell frisk him. In Live Free or Die, Saul confirms what happened in his conversation with Walt: He presents Walt with the ricin capsule and jokes it was miracle that the fat-fingered henchman got the pack away from Jesse This week, Walt hides the ricin capsule behind an electrical socket plate (presumably saving it for later, in case he needs to poison someone?) then creates a replacement filed with salt and contrives to have Jesse find it while searching Jesses house for the ricin cigarette. When Jesse finds the fake ricin capsule in the roving vacuum cleaner (Walt planted it there, natch), he breaks down in tears. Hes so overcome by emotion that it never occurs to him that the capsule could have anything other than ricin in it. His catharsis likely amplifies his fear that hes ultimately just a hapless screw-up and apprentice-for-life while bonding him closer to Walt, whos been a surrogate Bad Dad to Jesse from the start. Now theyre back together doing their Pinky and the Brain thing. Its just like the Winnebago days, only with exponentially greater stakes. The DEAs investigation of Madrigal Elektromotoren parent company of Los Pollos Hermanos killing himself with heart paddles rather than face police interrogation over Madrigals involvement with Guss drug trade. By the end of the episode, weve learned that the scenario Gus put in place to ensure the loyalty of his workers (i.e., buying silence with money) is crumbling. All the Madrigal-related plot twists in this episode are about money, and the fear of losing it. That means Mike has no choice but to join Walt and Jesse as they
try to jump-start a new distribution business to sell their meth. Mikes not happy about this because, as he tells Walt in the earlier scene with Walt and Jesse in Mikes kitchen, You are trouble. Im sorry the kid here doesn't see it. A time bomb. Tick-tick-ticking. And I have no intention of being around for the boom. Mike has to join up with Walt and Jesse anyway because the DEA learned about the secret Cayman Islands bank accounts that Gus set up to buy the silence of his top employees. (The information was written on a piece of paper hidden inside a framed photograph; Walts destruction of the police evidence room last week shattered a picture frame, revealing the account info.) The feds have frozen the hush funds. For all intents and purposes, the money is no longer available to any of the people whose silence it was supposed to buy. That means Mike is financially back to square one or worse just like Walt and Skyler. Lydia (Laura Fraser), a U.S.-based to buy. Madrigal executive, tries to hire Mike to murder a list of Madrigal employees that Lydia fears will turn states witness. Theyre all freaking out for the same reason: because the DEA has frozen their hush money. Lydia seems to be under the impression that if nobody testifies about the Gus Fring/Madrigal business, theyll all walk away and get to keep their money. Mike, whos been around the proverbial block several thousand times, knows better. He seems to realize what Lydia does not: no matter what happens with the DEA, that money is unreachable now. That means Mike, Lydia, Chow and everyone else with money in the Caymans have lost, or are in danger of losing, their nest eggs. Mike personally lost \$2 million (stashed in his granddaughters name). This is catastrophic for Mike. He said no to Lydias ridiculous assassination scheme for the same reason he declined to join Walts new organization: because he mistakenly believed that hed already been provided for. At the start of the episode, Mike seems to think that if he just keeps a cool head and encourages others to do likewise, he can live off the \$2 million for the rest of his natural life while playing Hungry, Hungry Hippos with his granddaughter. He learns otherwise in the scene where Hank and his partner Steve Gomez bring him in for questioning. The scene ends with Mike strolling out of the interrogation room with his head held high, only to blanch when Hank reveals that the DEA knows about his secret account. Because Mikes back is turned, Hank and Steve dont see what we see: Mikes subordinates to carry out the hits instead. The younger man has Chow ask Mike to come out to his house to talk. Chow makes it sound as if hes considering talking to the feds, but this is really a setup for an ambush that Mike easily escapes. Why does Mike spare Lydias life near the end of Madrigal? There are two reasons: one emotional, the other practical. The emotional reason is that Mike, for all his ruthlessness, has a soft spot for his granddaughter. Lydia knowingly or unknowingly taps this. She asks that Mike not shoot her in the face and that he leave her body where her daughter could find it rather than making her disappear and encourage the kid to think her mother had abandoned her. Both these requests seemed to move the normally un-moveable Mike, and opened the door to another scenario: Lydia using her connections to provide Walts new organization with methylamine, the chemical it needs to start cooking again. Odds and endsThis feels like Jonathan Banks Emmy episode. It showcases all of his great strengths: icy menace, contemptuous wit and unexpected vulnerability. I hope he makes it all the way through to the very end of the series. I wouldnt be terribly surprised if he ended up being the last man standing. The interrogation room scene which is so subtle and hilarious that it deserves its own column fills in a lot of Mikes backstory, including his past as a police officer. Hes a ronin figure, a fixer/killer wandering from job to job. This cant be the first time hes maneuvered his way into a situation that seemed like a sure thing, only to have to leave town in a hurry and start over again. Love the Scene where Hank and Steve bid farewell to the boss whos been scapegoated for the Gus Fring fiasco. The monologue about Gus hiding in plain sight is one of the series best bits of dialogue-writing, and that final closeup of Hank is brilliant. Its as if an epiphany is lurking just beneath the surface of his conscious mind. Hes so close to a breakthrough. He was somebody else completely. Right under my nose. The coffee shop scene with Lydia and Mike is fantastic, too drily funny but with an edge of terror. Mike: You coming to me, or am I coming to you? Lydia: Face forward. Well talk like this. Mike: (Long pause) I guess Im coming to you. When you think about Walts ricin/Lily of the Valley plan for more than five seconds, it seems ludicrous. Its one of those bad-guy schemes with a hell of a lot of moving parts, any one of which could jam and destroy the entire contraption. But thats fine: this isnt the kind of show where you think about real-world plausibility, only Rube Goldberg-style chains of action and reaction, cause and effect. Within the Spy-vs.-Spy context of Breaking Bad, its brilliant and its ultimately smarter than the electromagnet scheme or the nursing-home bombing because it wrought its damage in private rather than in public.Walt always had a bit of a god complex, but the successful murder of Gus Fring seems to have made him even more arrogant. This is the second episode where Walt, supposedly a left-brained, math-and-science-and-rationality guy, has demanded that other people accept whatever he says simply because he said it. Following the electromagnet escapade in Live Free or Die, Mike wanted reassurance that they werent going to get caught, and Walt assured him they wouldnt, Because I say so. This episode has a similar moment: during the meeting between Saul, Jesse and Walt in Sauls office, Walt says they have to obtain methylamine. Jesse insists that impossible because none is available. There is, Walt tells him. Have faith.Before Walt and Jesse come over to Mikes house, Mike is watching The Caine Mutiny, wherein a U.S. Navy ships crew revolts against its increasingly petty, paranoid and unhinged skipper, Captain Queeg (Humphrey Bogart). This is a wonderful film reference because it refracts in so many different directions. Madrigal is itself about a corporate mutiny, with employees who were paid to be silent breaking their agreement when their money is frozen by the DEA. Walt, of course, led his own mutiny last season against his dictatorial boss, Gus Fring. Walt is now about to become the captain of his own meth manufacture/distribution cartel. I would not be terribly surprised if he ended up going out like Captain Queeg, succumbing to paranoia and arrogance and driving his men to turn against him. If it comes to that, Mike would be his deadliest adversary. Theres a reason why every other name on tonights hit list was valued at \$10,000, while Mikes was valued at three times that amount. Michellest adversary. MacLarens direction is a master class in moving the camera to reveal information. There are many functional yet beautiful shots in this episode. The closeup of the gunman realizing, too late, that Mike is behind him, pointing a gun at his skull; the wider shot of the gunman back, and the camera moving to reveal Mike pointing a gun at his skull; the wider shot of the gunman back, and the camera moving to reveal Mike pointing a gun at his skull; the wider shot of the gunman back, and the camera moving to reveal Mike pointing a gun at his skull; the wider shot of the gunman back are many functional yet beautiful shots in this episode. pull-back revealing the murdered Chow on the couch, his bloodied head positioned center-frame; the tracking shot revealing Mike terrorizing Lydia screen-left and her daughter and nanny in the background, screen-right. Speaking of intelligent direction, the compositions in this episode go a long way toward making Walt seem like a monster by dehumanizing him, practically turning him to a horror movie stalker-figure. The scene where he tries to wake Skyler up is played entirely in a medium wide shot that cuts off the top of Walts head. The moment is truly unnerving. Shes his captive now, a slave to his malevolence. Returning to the mutiny thing: On second thought, maybe its Skyler wholl lead a mutiny against Captain Whites ship of madness. As she once put it, Someone has to protect this family from the man who protects this family. If TVs other great drama Mad Men is literary fiction, prizing ambivalence and ambiguity and fetishizing ellipses and question marks, Breaking Bad is high-level genre fiction: a character study that borrows from whodunits, heist stories, and cat-and-mouse crime thrillers in which clever antagonists try to outwit each other. Its not big on ambiguity, either as a moral/philosophical statement or as a cover-your-assumption of the statement of excuse for writing itself into corners. No characters motivation is a mystery: everybodys trying to hold onto their money and avoid death or jail (or in the DEAs case, catch whoevers making the blue meth and wreaking Bad knowing that youll be confused at certain points either because Gilligan and company are withholding key facts until later, or because they havent quite worked out all the details themselves. At the same time, however, youre reassured that confusion is not the shows go-to mode that in time, all will be revealed and explained. Breaking Bad Recap: For the Love of Mike AMCs Breaking BadSeason 5, Episode 2: MadrigalDirected by Michelle MacLarenWritten by Vince Gilligan\* For a recap & review of the next episode, Hazard Pay click hereAt Madrigal, Peter Schuler (Norbert Weisser) tests dipping sauces. Hes almost robotic. Then he receives word police are there to see him. Los Pollos Hermanos is
being removed from the wall of Madrigals proud businesses. Schuler takes his time going back to the office, where the cops are waiting, curiously eyeing a photo of Schuler takes his time going back to the office. wall, heads for the bathroom, and shocks himself to death on the toilet. Jesse Pinkman (Aaron Paul) is still concerned over the ricin cigarette while Walter White (Bryan Cranston) tries to ensure him it probably burned up in the lab. Its constantly on Jesses mind, he cant let it go. This pushes Walt to make a new ricin cigarette. He plans to plant it in his partners home, pretend like they find it while searching the place. And the old ricin vial gets taped to the inside of an outlet at the White residence, for potential later use. They search everywhere in Pinkmans house. Walt plays along with his pal for an appropriate length of time until he decides its time to stash the cigarette and let Jesse find it. Walt convinces Jesse to check the Roomba, and theres the ricin. This leaves the latter with even more guilt, believing he lost his mind and nearly killed the former over nothing. Everything Mr. White does reflects in the further deterioration of Jesse. At home, Mike Ehrmantraut (Jonathan Banks) kicks back with a beer watching movies and resting from his wounds in Mexico. Soon he gets a visit from Jesse and Walt, who want to talk partnership and cooking again. They want Mike to help get the new meth business up and running. Theyre refused almost immediately. Hes got no love for Walt or his tactics: You are a time bomb, tick tick ticking. The DEA are visited by German colleagues of Mr. Schuler. Herr Herzog (Wolf Muser), whose family owns Madrigal, has come to speak with the agents about whats happened. The company, of course, wants to help any way they can, unaware of the illegal activities taking place under its name. Meanwhile, the DEA are out of evidence from Frings laptop, and theyre still trying to piece together who gave Salamanca the bomb to kill Gus. ASAC George Merkert (Michael Shamus Wiles) is taking the fall for everything, seeing as how the chicken man was so close to them. Its also ironic because Hanks (Dean Norris) in the same position, a criminal sitting right under his nose and he cant even see it. Tragic.In a diner, Mike sits reading a paper. Behind him sits Lydia Rodarte-Quayle (Laura Fraser), one of Madrigals people. Shes there to meet Mike, trying to be incognito. He has no time for her weird shit. She brings him a list of eleven names. These are people who could bring everyone down, herself and Mr. Ehrmantraut included. She suspects theyll all fold when the police turn up. She suggests permanent action, but he assures theyre all well compensated for these types of situations. Mike has to go speak with Hank and Steve Gomez (Steven Michael Quezada). They ask about his position at Los Pollos Hermanos doing corporate security, which he tells them involves loss prevention and employee background checks. They want to know about his concealed carry permits, his private investigating license, and his time as a cop in Philadelphia. Apparently Mike finished off his police career with a few troubles. The agents claim a witness puts him in the meth lab, so the old guy offers himself up for the cuffs, knowing theyre merely trying to break him. They do know about \$2-million in an offshore account under his granddaughters name, and theyve got the eleven-name list, too. Over with Saul Goodman (Bob Odenkirk) we find Jesse and Walt brainstorming new places to cook meth. They dont want to go too far outside town like before, neither does the chemist want another roaming lab like the Winnebago, a.k.a the Crystal Ship assesses and Walt brainstorming new places to cook meth. Pinkman dubs it. Plus, they re also looking to find methylamine. On top of it all, the lawyers trying to convince his clients not to push things. But Walts broke, and this puts him in a position where hes unwilling to stop while theres gold in the streets waiting for them. There are problems already for Mike with the list of names. He gets a call from businessman Chow (James Ning), owner of the chemical warehouse, and the man wants to talk. It isnt a legal thing, either. Hes held at gunpoint by a man with a silenced pistol. Mike goes to see Chow, but knowing something isnt right he gets the drop on his would-be assassin. This was Ms. Rodarte-Quayle thinking she could clean up the situation her own way, offering \$10,000 a name. Looks like Mikes got to start cleaning instead. Afterwards, Mike goes to Lydias home where he holds her at the end of his gun. She asks not to be shot in the face. However, he lets her know: Nobodys going to find you, Lydia. Shes headed for a disappearance. Except Mike cant bring himself to orphan a young girl, deciding hell use Lydia to get some methylamine. They come to an agreement, and later Mike phones Walt to make a deal. Its only desperation pushing meant to go to his granddaughter. And nothing good ever comes of desperation not in the drug world, anyway. This is one of my favourite episodes of the series. Seeing the total fallout from Gus and his business is compelling, as theres this huge world behind the one we know inBreaking Bad. Instead of a ton of exposition, were given a great chapter like this to unravel some of the inner workings of the massive business. Season 5s well underway! Hazard Pay is next time. Son Holy Gore Reddit and its partners use cookies and similar technologies to provide you with a better experience. By accepting all cookies, you agree to our use of cookies and site, improve the effectiveness of advertising. By rejecting non-essential cookies, Reddit may still use certain cookies to ensure the proper functionality of our platform. For more information, please see our Cookie Notice and our Privacy Policy. Cast & crewUser reviewsTriviaEpisode aired Jul 22, 2012TV-1447mWalter looks to expand his empire as he forges a new partnership. Meanwhile, Mike faces pressure from all sides, and the DEA intensifies its investigation. Walter looks to expand his empire as he forges a new partnership. Meanwhile, Mike faces pressure from all sides, and the DEA intensifies its investigation. Walter looks to expand his empire as he forges a new partnership. investigation.17User reviews21Critic reviews21 teacher makes a drastic choice to secure his family's future--turning to the drug trade with a former student. Walter and Jesse scramble to deal with the consequences of their first cook, leading to a tense and unexpected dilemma. Meanwhile, Skyler grows suspicious of Walter's strange behavior. Walter is forced to make a life-altering decision as he and Jesse deal with the fallout of their actions. Meanwhile, Skyler's suspicions continue to grow, and Hank begins to take notice of Walter's unusual behavior. Walter and Skyler attend a party at the home of his wealthy former colleagues, reigniting tensions over his past. Meanwhile, Jesse struggles to find legitimate work. As his illness worsens, Walter takes approach to the drug trade, while Jesse struggles to find legitimate work. As his illness worsens, water takes approach to the drug trade, while Jesse struggles to find legitimate work. As his illness worsens, water takes approach to the drug trade, while Jesse struggles to find legitimate work. As his illness worsens, water takes approach to the drug trade, while Jesse struggles to find legitimate work. As his illness worsens, water takes approach to the drug trade, while Jesse struggles to find legitimate work. 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As his illness worsens, water takes approach to the drug trade, while Jesse struggles to find legitimate work. As his illness worsens, water takes approach to the drug trade, while Jesse struggles to take takes approach to take takes approach to take takes approach takes approach takes approach takes approach takes approach takes appr a bold step in expanding his operation, forcing Jesse to secure crucial supplies in a risky heist. Meanwhile, Skyler's suspicions continue to grow. Suggest an edit or add missing content yiewed pages Share copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. 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Schuler asks her to stall the men, by telling them that he will see them shortly. He knows all too well that those men are with the police: Madrigal's connection to Gustavo Fring and the meth trade in the American southwest, has come to light with the death of Gus. Seeing no other alternative, Schuler takes a portable emergency defibrillator with him into a restroom, and locks himself in. Carefully taking off and folding his clothes in silence, as his secretary, and then the men from the police knock on the door demanding to talk with him, Schuler calmly applies one pad of the defibrillator to his chest while ripping the other one off and sticking the frayed cord in his mouth, as he turns on the device and commits suicide. Back in Albuquerque, Walt helps Jesse look for the ricin capsule that Jesse into thinking that Gus had poisoned Brock. Hiding the real capsule in an electric outlet in his own house, Walt slips a decoy containing table salt into a roomba that Jesse owned, then pretends to find and discard it. Afterwards, Jesse tearfully apologizes to Walt for suspecting him of using the ricin to poison Brock. Walt plans to start cooking meth with Jesse again, but Mike wants nothing to do with Walt, seeing him as a ticking time bomb and wanting to give Walt a wide berth because he "has no intention of being around for the boom."Hank and Gomez meet with Madrigal executives, and are assured that they would aid Hank in his investigation and that Schuler was a "lone anomaly". Afterwards, they go to a bar with Merkert, who has been pushed out of the DEA due to his relationship to Gus and his failure to realize his true nature. Hank tells Merkert that before the laptop was destroyed in the evidence room debacle, he saw that the laptop had powerful encryption on it, so it was unlikely they would've learned anything from it. As Hank ponders who gave Hector Salamanca the bomb that killed Gus, Gomez speculates that there may be an answer hidden in the offshore bank accounts Gus managed....Meanwhile, Mike meets with one of the Madrigal executives: Lydia Rodarte-Quayle, who was also privy to Gus's drug empire. She gives Mike a list of eleven mer in prison that Gus had been paying to keep silent about his drug business. Lydia suggests having them killed before they could implicate either of them, but Mike refuses and vouches for their integrity. After the DEA grills Duane Chow, they bring Mike in. Hank is skeptical about Mike's claim to be the head of corporate security for Los Pollos Hermanos. Before Mike can walk out, Hank mentions his granddaughter, Kaylee, by name: one of the offshore bank accounts that Hank found was made in her name, with Gus stowing money away for her for some reason. Gomez makes an offer to let some of the money go to Kaylee in exchange for his cooperation, but Mike adamantly refuses, knowing there's no way he'd be allowed to leave behind his illicit money for his granddaughter... As Walt and Jesse discuss starting their cooks up again with Saul, Mike realizes something is amiss, and sneaks into Chow's house, where he finds and disarms Chris Mara, one of his former henchman, sitting near Chow, whom he shot in the head after luring Mike out. Chris admits that Lydia was paying him \$30,000 to kill him, plus \$10,000 for each man on the list. Resigned, Mike shoots Chris.Afterwards, Mike travels to Houston and sneaks into Lydia's house. He corners Lydia in her own room and prepares to kill her. Lydia begs Mike not to shoot her in the face, so that her young daughter wouldn't be too shocked when she finds her body; but Mike dismisses her, stating that no one would ever find her. Lydia begins to panic, claiming that her daughter can't believe she abandoned her and threatening to scream unless Mike leaves her body; but Mike dismisses her, stating that no one would ever find her. Lydia begins to panic, claiming that her daughter can't believe she abandoned her and threatening to scream unless Mike leaves her body; but Mike dismisses her, stating that no one would ever find her. where she can be found. Mike prepares to shoot her, but hesitates, and ultimately asks if she can secure him methylamine...With nowhere else to turn to secure the hazard pay for his guys in prison, Mike reluctantly decides to join Walt's new cook operation. After talking with Mike over the phone, Walt climbs into bed with Skyler. As Skyler leies motionless and scared of her husband, Walt kisses and molests her as he assures her that the guilt she felt over what happened to Ted Beneke would pass, because she did what she had to for the family...This episode provides examples of: Alas, Poor Villain: Even though he didn't know Chris beyond being in a bad financial situation and being hired to for the family...This episode provides examples of: Alas, Poor Villain: Even though he didn't know Chris beyond being in a bad financial situation and being hired to for the family...This episode provides examples of: Alas, Poor Villain: Even though he didn't know Chris beyond being in a bad financial situation and being hired to for the family...This episode provides examples of: Alas, Poor Villain: Even though he didn't know Chris beyond being in a bad financial situation and being hired to for the family...This episode provides examples of: Alas, Poor Villain: Even though he didn't know Chris beyond being in a bad financial situation and being hired to for the family...This episode provides examples of: Alas, Poor Villain: Even though he didn't know Chris beyond being hired to for the family...This episode provides examples of: Alas, Poor Villain: Even though he didn't know Chris beyond being hired to for the family...This episode provides examples of: Alas, Poor Villain: Even though he didn't know Chris beyond being hired to for the family...This episode provides examples of the family...This episode provides kill him and his men, Mike still claims he and Chow were both good men that Lydia killed. And Another Thing...: While being interrogated by Hank to admit they don't have enough evidence to arrest him. So Mike gets up to leave, at which point Hank asks one last question: Hank: Oh, well, I don't suppose we could talk about the \$2 million in your granddaughter's name? [Mike stops in his tracks] Hank: Yeah. It seems that, uh, Fring had all these secret offshore accounts that he would deposit money into. Like, uh, well, an even dozen of them. And they're all in the names of certain people on his payroll. There was the, uh, the manager of the laundry, umm, a couple guys from the Pollos distribution center. Uh, there was the owner of a chemical warehouse, a bunch of others, you know. Guys that must've been getting paid off the books. Anyway, one of the names was Kaylee Ehrmantraut. Ten years old and just cute as a button. Yeah. \$2 million and change we found on deposit for her. Way more than anybody else. Now, my partner here? He took one look at that and said, "Shit, man! This fifth-grade girl is the muscle behind Fring's entire operation!" I said, "Whoa, whoa, hey, partner, slow down there. Maybe it was actually her dear old granddaddy." Impressive, no? That... [clicks his tongue] level of insight? [Mike stares at Hank and Gomez as he absorbs the realization that his funds have been seized] He's not impressed, Gomie.Gomez: Perhaps he's picturing all that money going bye-bye.Hank: Yeah, well, I mean, the government's gonna take every last dollar, unless... Well here's the thing, Mike or Michael?Mike: Mr. Ehrmantraut.Hank: Here's the thing, Mike lucky for you, you didn't touch that money. I cannot say the same for the other eleven on the list. Gomez: One of your guys is gonna roll on you, and then we'll definitely remember the handcuffs. Hank: Now, before that day comes, you can tell us what you know, you can tell us what you know, you can tell us who's still out there. And if we like your story, good things can happen. Gomez: Kaylee might be able to keep some of that money. Artistic License Medicine: It's impossible to deliberately electrocute vourself with an Automated External Defibrillator, which won't even activate unless it detects that it's
connected to someone whose heart is fibrillating. You could probably get the job done with a portable manual defibrillator, but even then, most of them have safeguards to prevent someone from accidentally electrocuting themselves. Assassin Outclassin': When Mike refuses Lydia's offer, she hires Chris set from miles away and killing him instead. Boom, Headshot!: Chow is killed by Chris this way. Call-Back: Mike spitefully tells Lydia because she can get him methlyamine, which can help him make up for Gus' hazard pay. Notably, however, he appears to arrive at this after a mental struggle concerning the fate of Lydia's daughter, and he broaches the topic with visible loathing Plan A may very well have been to kill her. Cardboard Box of Unemployment: Merkert lampshades this by saving his cardboard box will be his announcement he is leaving the DEA in light of Fring's exposure. The Determinator: Mike intends to get his men the hazard pay that was promised by Gus, and the money he wanted his granddaughter to inherit, even if it means working with his former enemy. Does This Remind You of Anything?: Merkert laments to Hank on how impossible it is fathom that someone who could be such a close family friend could be running a drug empire right under your nose. Although Hank doesn't realize it, the parallel with him and Walt is evident. Merkert: I had him out to my house. Fourth of July. We cooked out in the backyard. ... That whole night, we were laughing, telling stories, drinking wine. And he's somebody else completely. Right in front of me. Right under my nose. Even Evil Has Loved Ones: Lydia is more concerned about what would happen to her daughter after her death than her death itself. Even Evil Has Standards: Mike refuses Lydia's suggestion that they kill his guys in prison to make sure they don't rat and insists on protecting them. Mike later backs out of killing Lydia because it would mean making her daughter an orphan. I Did What I Had to Do: Chris was hired by Lydia to kill the other 10 people on Lydia's hitlist, plus Mike. He only did it to both cover their tracks, and because his hazard pay has been seized by the Feds. He is successful in killing Chow. Not so much with Mike. He's apologetic when he confesses to Mike that Lydia hired him. Chris: I'm very sorry about this, Mike. But I needed the money. Those feds, they took it all, man. Mike: I know. Jerkass Has a Point: Mike is outraged at Lydia's suggestion of killing his own men. But by the end of the episode, he realizes she's right about them eventually caving and talking to the cops, unless he can come up with enough money to keep them quiet. Killed Mid-Sentence: Chris: Listen, Mike, I [Mike shoots him four times] Mama Bear: Lydia doesn't try to beg for her own life when she thinks Mike is about to kill her. She only asks that Mike does not harm her daughter. When Mike says her daughter will never find her, Lydia protests because she doesnt want her daughter thinking she abandoned her. She threatens to scream if Mike doesnt allow her daughter to find out the truth. Morton's Fork: By the end of the episode, Mike realizes he has a choice; he will either be sold down the river to the cops by his own people, or he can go into business with the fundamentally unreliable Walter to try and make enough money to pay them off. In the end, he takes the second choice, which only forestalls his own doom. Nice Job Breaking It, Villain!, depending on your perspective; Walt, Jesse, and Mike's efforts to disable Gus' laptop are revealed to have inadvertently tipped off the authorities to Gus' offshore accounts that provided money for Mike and his men, allowing the feds to seize all of the money. To add insult to injury, Hank even notes that Gus' laptop was encrypted anyway, meaning that the entire effort was All for Nothing. Noodle Incident: When Mike is being questioned by Hank, Hank mentions that Mike's tenure as a Philadelphia police officer ended under dramatic circumstances, but neither he nor Mike want to talk about them. Hank doesn't want to talk about them. Hank doesn't want to talk about them. on Better Call Saul. Oh, Crap!: In the interrogation room, Mike does the silent facial variant as Hank explains to him that the hazard funds Gus had set up for Mike and his employees have been seized. Chris has an equally silent one when he hears Mike's voice behind him, knowing instantly that Mike has the drop on him. Perp Sweating: Mike is asked to come down to the DEA for an interview, which he agrees to without an attorney. As a former cop and hitman himself, he easily sees through their attempts to rattle him, such as calling Gomez' bluff that they have evidence to put him in the underground lab, but Hank revealing that Gus's offshore accounts have been discovered does get a subdued response from Mike. Prepare to Die: Mike asks Chris "Are you ready?" just before shooting him. Properly Paranoid: Mike refuses to work with Walter, because he considers him a ticking time bomb of problems that could result in arrests and more deaths. He starts to work with him anyway when his hand is forced by circumstance. Put on a Bus: George Merkert is pushed out of his ASAC position due to his friendship with Gus and failure to recognize that he was running a huge meth operation. He even remarks, "Somebody's gonna go under the bus." Rape Is a Special Kind of Evil: Walt practically has his way with Skyler at the end of the episode, as she is too afraid of her murderous druglord husband to try to stop him. Right Under Their Noses: Merkert straight up says this as he realizes that his friend Gus Fring was indeed running a drug empire. Shout-Out: Teeth-Clenched Teamwork: Mike ends the episode in alliance with Walt, Jesse, and Lydia, two of whom he despises and each of whom he's had near-lethal altercations with. This Is Reality: When Lydia wants Mike to kill all of the potential witnesses she identified from Gus' former operation, he tells her that she's been watching too many movies; Mike personally vetted all the people on Lydia's list, and they're all being compensated for not informing on them. Thousand-Yard Stare: Peter Schuler stares off in the distance while attending a food test with some Madrigal technicians, looking completely shattered inside. Wrong Genre Savvy: Lydia tries to hide her identity during her diner meeting with Mike back-to-back in adjoining tables, using fake names all of which just make her more conspicuous. "When we do for good reasons, then we've got nothing to worry about. And there's no better reason than family." For once, the hype is justified Its almost too obvious to say Breaking Bad is one of, if not the best TV show of all time, but its obvious for a reason. The best episodes in this showbe it explosive finales, tension-filled twists, or intricate character studiesare all worthy of legendary status. But whats brilliant is, even the episodes you may forget or consider lesser are still, in the grand scheme of things, absolutely incredible televisual feats. What Bryan Cranston did in this show, in particular, is nothing short of a miracle, and Walter White will, justifiably, go down as one of the all-time great characters. Watched on Netflix on 23/05/2025This article is about the Breaking Bad episode. For the German company, see Madrigal Electromotive GmbH. Synopsis: Walt and Jesse seek out an unlikely partner for a new business venture. The DEA follows up new leads in its investigation. Previous Next "Live Free or Die" "Hazard Pay" "Madrigal" is the second episode of the fifth season of Breaking Bad and the forty-eighth episode altogether. Summary[]Teaser[]At a test kitchen in Hannover, Germany, Peter Schuler, an executive for Madrigal Electromotive, glumly tastes a variety of dipping sauces with tater tots. His secretary informs him that policemen have arrived asking to speak with him. On his way to his office, Peter walks through the building's lobby while a large sign for Los Pollos Hermanos is removed by a work crew. He notices a group of police officers in his office, looking at a photo of him and Gus Fring. Peter then takes a nearby automatic defibrillator and locks himself in a bathroom. As police pound on the door, Peter removes his shirt and then places one of the defibrillator's contacts on his chest and the other in his mouth after stripping the wire. He then activates the defibrillator's contacts on his chest and the ricin cigarette being missing, as he is afraid an innocent bystander or a child might find and use it. After promising to help Jesse look for it, Walt fills a similar vial with salt and creates a duplicate cigarette. He stashes the real ricin cigarette which he retrieved from Saul behind a wall outlet cover in his bedroom. Walt then "helps" Jesse search his house for the cigarette and plants the fake cigarette in Jesse's Roomba for him to find."Failing" to find the cigarette, Walt pretends to notice the Roomba for the first time and asks Jesse what it is. When Jesse answers, Walt indicates that he blamed Walt for stealing it and poisoning Brock Cantillo and that he almost killed Walt for it. Walt tries to comfort Jesse, but Jesse tearfully apologizes for his actions. Walt responds that he bears no ill will and all that matters is they are now back on the same team, and that they need to focus on their future. Jesse then asks what future he is referring to. The duo pay Mike a visit and tell him they plan to start cooking again, proposing a three-way even split of the profits: Walt and Jesse will handle manufacturing while Mike uses his connections to handle distribution. Mike declines, assessing that Walt is a "time bomb" waiting to go off and that he does not wish to work with him. Walt, however, tells Mike to sleep on it and then extends his hand out for a handshake, which Mike obliges. Hank, Gomez and ASAC George Merkert meet with several Madrigal executives, some having flown in from overseas. Among them is Lydia
Rodarte-Quayle, an executive from the company's Houston office. The head of Madrigal pledges his company's full cooperation with the DEA, stating that while he believes Peter Schuler was a sole rogue agent, he would like to use the DEA's investigation to weed out any further corrupt employees. Afterward, Hank and Gomez share a drink with Merkert, who is being used as the scapegoat for the DEA's failure to notice Gus' activities, especially with Gus being a known DEA booster and friend. Hank tells Merkert that Gus' laptop was encrypted and was thus unlikely to yield much evidence, despite the evidence room debacle. Gomez mentions the Albuquerque Police's discovery of Gus's offshore bank accounts as a possible lead. Merkert then contemplate how Gus came over to his house for a family cookout and yet had no idea of his true nature. Hank looks on with a pensive look on his face as Merkert discusses people with double lives being right under their noses. Act II[] Lydia meets with Mike at a diner, handing him a list of eleven men who were on Gus' payroll; she surreptitiously suggests that Mike kill them before they can implicate Mike or herself. Mike shoots down the idea, vouching for the integrity of his men Gus ensured they were well paid to handle interrogation and not divulge anything. Meanwhile, a depressed Skyler refuses to get out of bed despite the car wash opening in 15 minutes. Walt tells her to get out of bed and to take a shower, and she wordlessly obliges. As he walks into the DEA office downtown, Mike sees Duane Chow, Gus' chemical supplier and one of the men on the list, exiting from his own interview. Chow is visibly shaken, and attempts to calm himself with a cigarette, although Mike states that he worked for Los Pollos Hermanos as head of corporate security. Hank inquires as to what the demands of the job are, and Mike responds that he is to conduct background checks on employees and oversee loss prevention in stores. Hank questions why a former cop like Mike was hired by Gus to investigate mere fry cooks and prevent loss prevention at fast food restaurants. Mike asks if he is under arrest, and Hank replies that they do not have anything yet to arrest him for. As Mike gets up to leave, Hank mentions that they found offshore banking accounts that Gus transferred money into, and that there is \$2 million in an account under the name of Kaylee Ehrmantraut, Mike's 10 year old granddaughter. Mike denies any knowledge of the accounts or the money, but as he leaves, he shows a face of anger. Act III[]Walt and Jesse visit Saul to discuss finding a new venue for a meth lab. Jesse suggests going back to an RV, stating that he misses it, although Walt shoots it down, citing that it worked as a starter lab but that they need a proper lab in-town. Saul says that finding a facility in town will be difficult, but Walt insists that if Gus could do it, they can as well. Jesse reports that he was able procure all of the precursor chemicals except for methylamine; he suggests using pseudo, like when they first began, but Walt refuses, wanting to use methylamine to retain their signature blue meth. Saul advises they pull out of the meth business since Gus is dead and they've both made enough money, although Walt retorts that with Ted Beneke having been given most of his money and due to other expenses (such as Hank's physical therapy), he doesn't have any money and due to other expenses that he cannot stop and that there is still money to be made in manufacturing and distributing meth. Mike kills Chris Meanwhile, Mike is playing with Kaylee when Chow calls, lamenting that the DEA has seized the money in his offshore account and asks Mike to come over to his house so they can discuss this in-detail and not over the phone. Chow hangs up and looks up at Chris, one of Mike's former henchmen. When Mike approaches the front door, Chris puts the muzzle of his gun to the peephole. He hears a strange sound and looks through the peephole. He hears a strange sound and looks through the peephole. drop his gun. Chris admits that Lydia was going to pay him \$30,000 to kill Mike and \$10,000 for each man on her list, starting with Chow, whose body remains on the couch; Chris had killed him before Mike asks Chris if he's ready and as Chris if he's ready and as Chris tries to respond that he needed the money, Mike shoots him multiple times killing him. Act IV[]That night, Mike travels to Houston and sneaks into Lydia's lavish house, waiting for her to come home. Lydia's daughter Kiira is being taught to count in Spanish by her nanny Delores when Lydia returns home. As Lydia makes her way into her bedroom, she is pulled in by Mike, who covers her mouth and tells her to get her nanny and daughter out of the way if she does not want them to be harmed, but warns her not to scream. He then uncovers her mouth, and Lydia tells Delores to put Kiira that she will take a bath first before coming to read her goodnight. As Lydia takes a seat, Mike points his gun to her head, and she asks him to promise her that he will not shoot her in the face, as she does not want Kiira to see her dead body that way. Mike scoffs and states that not only would Kiira not find her body, but that he would make it so that no one does. Lydia then begins to panic, causing Mike to quickly urge her to lower her voice. Delores the house for the night, unaware of the commotion. Lydia then pleads with Mike to not get rid of her body, since she wants Kiira to find her. Mike ludicrously asks why she would want her child to see her murdered body, to which Lydia explains that she does not want Kiira thinking her mother abruptly disappeared or abandoned her and would rather her daughter know that her mother was killed. Mike points the gun at Lydia's head and she pleads again, asking him to promise her and brings up her daughter once again. This affects Mike, who instead asks her if she can obtain methylamine. Stunned, Lydia looks up, confused. Mike asks her again, and she stammers as she says "maybe." Mike then allows her to live on the condition that she acquires and provides methylamine. Exiting the house, Mike enters his car and calls Walt, notifying him that he has accepted his offer. Walt, who is washing the dishes, smiles in satisfaction. Walt then makes his way to the bedroom, where he strips down to his underwear while Skyler is on her side, facing away from him. Walt then cuddles up next to Skyler and begins kissing her neck and shoulders; assuming that her quiet demeanor is that of quilt over what happened to Ted, he replies that he understands because they both did things to protect the family. He then continues to kiss her and rearranges himself, implying a sexual encounter is about to transpire, while Skyler, who does not face him, remains motionless with tears in her eyes. Official Photos[]Trivia[]This is the first appeared in. This i States or Mexico. It is also the first episode to feature characters speaking German. Most of the German-speaking actors have an English accent and are clearly not native speakers of German origin. When Walt and Jesse sit down with Mike in his kitchen, a drawing made by Kaylee, which says "Blue is Good," is seen over Walt's shoulder. Vince Gilligan came up with the concept for an older comedy script he wrote where a character achieves great fame through the invention of Franch. Vince Gilligan eventually concluded that the script would never really go any further from

there, so he saw fit to cannibalize the idea for the opening of this episode.Multiple references to other works are visible in this episode:After Walt hides the ricin vial inside an electrical outlet and replaces the table in front of it, the novel The Bastard (1974) is prominently visible on the table. The film Mike is watching on TV is The Caine Muting (1954). One of the fast food restaurants seen at the Madrigal offices is called "Burger-Matic", which is a reference to the film Home Fries (1998), written by Vince Gilligan, which also featured the burger chain. A copy of the game LittleBigPlanet 2 can be seen while the characters are looking for the ricin in Jesse's House. In real-world production history, LittleBigPlanet 2 was released in 2011; this episode takes place in 2009. Also, in the same scene, seconds before, another copy of the game is visible next to it. Jesse was known to own an Xbox 360, so him possessing LittleBigPlanet 2 indicates he also owns a PlayStation 3. In the same scene, a DVD copy of Open Season 2 can be seen as well. Technical error: Peter Schuler's method of suicide, an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) would not function as shown. The "automated" aspect requires the detection of a condition of ventricular fibrillation (V-Fib) or ventri

Season 5 episode 9 breaking bad. Breaking bad season 5 episode 4 summary. Breaking bad season 5 summary. Season 5 episode 2 breaking bad. Breaking bad season 5 episode 2 recap. Breaking bad season 5 episode 15 summary. Breaking bad season 5 episode 15 summary.