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Celebrating Mad Men: Your Unofficial Guide To What Makes The Show And Its Characters Tick



Synopsis

It's no exaggeration to say that *Mad Men* helped change television. The show not only established AMC as a bona fide network with some of the best programs on television, it proved to viewers that television could be as complex, nuanced and literary as any novel. With this remarkable show as its focal point, "Celebrating *Mad Men*" attempts to poke into the dark corners of Don Draper's mind, peels back the layers of what makes characters like Peggy Olson and Pete Campbell tick, explores why we were so drawn to people like Roger Sterling and Joan Harris, and relives some of the show's greatest moments. Because *Mad Men* may be gone, but the conversation about it certainly isn't.

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Customer Reviews

A sedate yet compelling and stylish series comes to an end but the discussion begins, led by San Juan, who last led the group with "Breaking down *Breaking Bad*" last year. The book contains intriguing insights, maybe some surprises and some comments from the actors themselves. Recommended.

I missed the fanfare the first time *Mad Men* aired but binge watched it a few times on Netflix. The stories of these people require repeated examination. I enjoyed reading the author's take on what was happening on the show. I liked how the chapters were arranged; Season One, then an in depth look at one character, then Season Two, then another character's chapter, etc. I agreed with a lot of the author's viewpoints and didn't totally disagree with much in the book. If you've missed some of the details (and that would be easy to do) this book will assist you, you'll notice finer nuances in a repeat viewing. I chose to believe Don got back on an even keel and he was responsible for one of the most well known commercials ever made. Maybe Peggy assisted as well.

An excellent read, and an excellent overview of this fabulous show. Mr. San Juan is a talented author (his book on *Breaking Bad* is also excellent), and if you're a fan of this show, this book is worth both your money, and your time.

Celebrating Mad Men is a succinct and informative study of the seven year season hit television series. The series explored in depth the lives of ad men working on Madison Avenue in the 1960s. The quality of the writing, acting and plot development make this series one of the best ever presented on American television! The book by Eric San Juan explores:

- a. The complicated career of Don Draper who is really a man named Dick Whitman. He is a womanizer, drinker and schemer who is the center of the series.
- b. Peggy Olson-She works her way up from secretary to a position of power in the firm. A young woman with a modern attitude.
- c. Joan-The sexy secretary who knows how to play easy to please with the boss but ends up rich and secure due to her skills at work.
- d. Roger Olsen-The spoiled and hedonistic co-owner of the firm. A cad but fun to watch.
- e. Peter Campbell-The scion of a New York family of wealth and prestige he grows in maturity during the seven years of the series.
- f. Betty Draper-The second wife of Don who is a stern and spoiled woman.

The book also explores race in the 1960s, the role of women in the time period covered and explores each of the seven seasons. This book is a fun and interesting volume which was better written and more entertaining than I thought it was going to be!

Although I didn't agree with the author on every aspect of the show he was definitely passionate about the subject matter. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book.

You really have to have followed the whole series pretty closely. Lots of detail. Some interpretations were helpful in sorting out confusing sequences, -especially the seeming lost details between

seasons.

Insightful perspective on the story and the characters' motivations. Recommended to anyone who likes to dive a bit deeper below what is first observed.

Great book!!

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