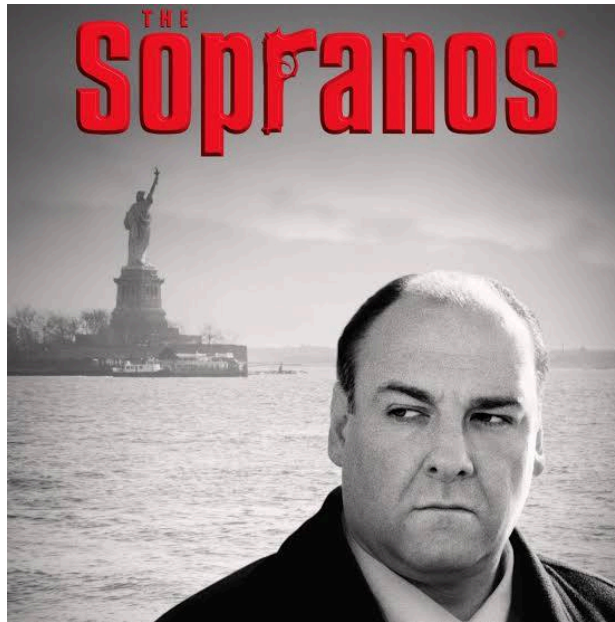


I just finished *The Sopranos* what do i do with my life now

1.23.26 - in my bed



"You ever think about what a coincidence it is that Lou Gehrig died of Lou Gehrig's Disease?"

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"Husband comes home to his wife, with a duck tucked under his arm. He says 'This is the pig I've been fucking.' The wife says 'That's not a pig, that's a duck' The husband says 'I wasn't talkin' ta you.'"

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Okay I'm writing this fresh off of finishing the show cuz I wanna get all my thoughts on it off my chest while they r fresh. First and foremost, the culture of ball breaking and joke telling on this show is fucking hilarious. I put two of my favorites from the show up top, but I would find myself dying laughing at some of the shit these dudes would say to each other just hanging out. This is exactly what made this show so special to me, I didn't realize it til it ended (more on the ending in a sec) but how the show brought me in through all the "mundane" or "routine" scenes made me so comfortable with these characters to a point I didn't even realize. Right now upon finishing the show I feel like I have had people ripped out of my life. From all the mafia dads cussing out refs at their daughters soccer games to all the meals / convos you sit with these characters to, the show does such an incredible job of just including you and almost molding you into these characters' lives. Just wanted to say that and give credit cuz while with other shows I have 100% been attached to characters and when the shows over im like "fuck," *Sopranos* does this in such a real, authentic way that isn't based in me "rooting for" or rlly identifying with a character, but just through real, authentic familiarity with the show that cannot be bought with cheap plot lines/payoffs. This leads me to the next point on my mind.

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"Two bulls are standing up on the top of a hill. The Younger bull says 'why don't we run down there and fuck one of those cows?' To which the Older bull responds, 'why don't we walk down and fuck them all?'"

You get no sentimental/emotional payoffs, predictable plots or character arcs in this show at all. It can be super frustrating at times to not even get like small consolations/storybook endings, but to me it made the show feel so real and raw and like I said, like I was actually a fly on the wall for all these characters' real lives. An example of this is that every character is extremely hard to root for. There were times in the show I was fucking riding with Tony, and even more times in the show I'd be like, "man I want Tony to grow and be a good man so bad but holy shit he is such a miserable egostical selfish unlikeable prick fuck sometimes." It's a bit unsettling at first, but not to beat a dead horse it makes the show feel so authentic to me, cuz in most cases in the real world people don't get story book endings. People are assholes who are stuck in the ways and people never get the justice/karma they deserve, it's not satisfying to watch in fact it pisses you off but that's the real world. For example I sit with Tony for fucking six seasons through therapy, thinking that there is going to be some enlightenment or breakthrough moment. In reality, Tony just gets unceremoniously dropped by his therapist and that's it. No big scene or culmination. Just Tony being told to leave the therapists office, mostly as the same man with the same problems and shortcomings he had coming in. This show felt like a big mess, but not in a way it was poorly done, but in a way that was so beautiful and encapsulating of the human experience. I don't say this cause I know wtf the experience is like to be a mafia boss, but because life is messy, all over the place and unpredictable / doesn't care about what u want. The show demonstrated this and painted a picture of this beautifully.

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"Did you hear about the Chinese Godfather? He made an offer nobody could understand"

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The ending echoes this sentiment perfectly. The show refuses to give an audience an ending (and Tony an ending) that we "deserve." Instead, the ending mimics real life. You're sitting in a diner with your family, everything is fine, next thing you know you get wacked and that's it. You don't get a monologue in your death, not even a heroic one either. You simply get whacked in the booth of a burger joint and that's it, and the audience essentially gets the same treatment. **Side bar and complete side bar but holy shit fuck Janice. What an unlikeable POS character lol, which also means she's an amazing character, but she actually is like my least favorite character on the show and so fucking annoying.** Now I won't claim I noticed this at all, I read this on reddit right after finishing the show (I rushed to the internet for info / perspective upon finishing) but the juxtaposition between how the pilot is shot and the last episode is insane. I did notice this in the last episode, but I didn't piece it together. In the last episode and the way in which it is shot, Tony is no longer the center of the universe. In the pilot, tony is narrating everything, the camera follows him around, you're getting his perspective and justification on everything. You're literally in Tony's head. In the last episode, all that shit is gone. The camera is almost doing what it wants, and Tony just happens to be there. The camera is simply observing him. There's no narrative from Tony's mind playing in the background. We as an audience went from seeing the world from Tony's eyes to Tony just being a small part of the world that exists in the frame, Tony is nobody special and hes no longer the narrator hes just another guy in the

frame, he could be anybody. Really fucking cool tbh and works with themes of the show im sure but I dont have the brainpower rn to open up that can of worms.

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“One time I went hunting. I saw a sign that said ‘Bear left’ so I went home”

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I also want to say the music in this show is amazing. Put me on to hella good music and there was always something to unpack with the placement of the songs, like a deeper meaning that held hands with the plot, which is really fucking cool. Now it's late so I'm gonna knock out, but I just wanted to give my flowers to this show while it was fresh on my mind. Shoutout every character in the show I got genuine love for u I wish they were real people but ig not really cuz at the same time they were shitty people. For my next show I'm between Mad Men, The Wire, or first season of True Detective. But alas that is a question for tmrw. Until then goodnight.

PS: I'm sure it looked like I didn't post for the 20th and 21st but actually I posted my 2026 NY resolutions on the 21st so suck ma ballz I only missed one day.