

The 11 Most Gag-Worthy Moments in the Herstory of RuPaul's Drag Race

The best of the Emmy-winning reality competition's wig-snatching stunts

Why y'all gaggin' so?

She bring it to you every season. *RuPaul's Drag Race* has delivered looks from angelic to demonic to a fish wearing lipstick, stunts including death drops and shablams, and such public service spots as the importance of voting and the importance of "proportion-izing" your outfits. From all 11 seasons, here are 11 times *Drag Race* left our jaws hanging lower than a Jennifer Lopez neckline.



RuPaul

11 This calls for backup

(Season 10, Episode 1)

Vanessa Vanjie Mateo would go on to redeem herself in Season 11, yet her Season 10 exit in Episode 1 will live on in the herstory books for her stunned yet gloriously bizarre farewell line, "Miss Vanjie! Miss Vanjie! Miss ...Va-a-a-anjie," delivered while cautiously backing off stage.

10 When you're good to mama

(Season 2, Episode 8)

Of all the annual makeover challenges, transforming trailblazing gay seniors into drag mothers was the one that bared the most heart (and more than heart in the case of Pandora Boxx's nudist partner, Litter Boxx). Raven best encapsulated the generational torch-passing, even going so far as

to carry her partner, Golda Lamé, who struggled to walk in heels, off the runway. Raven later explained: “I would do that for my own mom.”

9 Meh-riah

(Season 11, Episode 3)

A team of queens took on Mariah Carey in the “diva worship” challenge and, like Carey on New Year’s Eve, the results were a hot mess. All six offenders were called upon to lip-synch for their lives. Disaster ensued, including Honey Davenport crawling at the foot of the stage like she’d lost a contact lens. In the end, Honey went home and Mariah RSVP-ed “no” to ever appearing as a guest on *Drag Race*.

8 Willam’s sickening sendoff

(Season 4, Episode 8)

She was the self-centred queen bee that made your inner Regina George rejoice. And then, mysteriously, she barfed off the side of the stage and was disqualified for “breaking the rules.” No explanation required! In an interview during the reunion, Willam said she broke the rules by letting her husband visit, though later via Twitter she described additional friction with the production.

7 Lewks! Lewks! Lewks!

(Season 10, Episode 11)

Aquaria’s lewks had us gagging on her eleganza all season long, including as a spandex-clad superheroine with a whip’s worth of blond braid and a cocktail bunny with a top hat cheekily perched on top of her rabbit ears. But it was perhaps the look of her “inner saboteur” — a monstrously nipped and tucked society dowager who had skeletal hoop earrings dangling from her bone-like muzzle — that Ru declared one of her all-time favourites.

6 Bringing families together

(Season 5, Episode 7)

It turns out that Roxxy Andrews’s epic lip-synch to Willow Smith’s “Whip My Hair” against *Drag Race* superstar Alyssa Edwards was but

a prelude. After Roxxy tearfully recounted being abandoned at a bus station as a three-year-old, Mama Ru showed a rare crack in that flawless face. Through tears, she told Roxxy: “We, as gay people, we get to choose our family ... I am your family.” Triggering more abandonment trauma would have to wait until next week — no queen was eliminated.

5 Serving bull

(Season 9, Episode 9)

Valentina attempted to lip-synch against Nina Bo’nina Brown with her lips hidden beneath a veil. Though she was dressed as a matador, Ru saw bull, halting the competition. “This is a lip-synch for your life,” she said. “We need to see your lips.” Valentina insisted: “I’d like to keep it on, please.” Pressed to take it off, she revealed more than just her cherry-red lipstick: she also proved she didn’t know the words to Ariana Grande’s “Greedy.”

4 Dame funny!

(Season 6, Episode 5)

In the celebrity impersonation challenge “Snatch Game,” BenDeLaCreme’s ripped-from-the-sitting-room-of-*Downton-Abbey* take on Dame Maggie Smith had viewers spit-taking their Lady Grey tea. When asked what Chelsea Handler would flavour her vodka with, Ben as Dame Maggie replied: “I did think it would

be rather amusing if there were libations flavoured with ... citrus!”

3 Ladies, lock up your nuts

(Season 4, Episode 4)

As the butch prison guard Large Marge in this sitcom-themed acting challenge, Latrice Royale served Bea Arthur-worthy sass. Her line reading of an indignant reaction to peanuts, “Get those nuts away from *my* face,” had *Will & Grace* creator Max Mutchnick enthusing, “Honey, you could do that for half an hour.”

2 No apologies necessary

(Season 11, Episode 8)

In arguably the best lip-synch for your life ... ev-ah!, Canada’s own Brooke Lynn Hytes and Yvie Oddly served cartwheels, death drops, and handstands while performing to Demi Lovato’s “Sorry Not Sorry,” prompting Ru to reward them with a rare double “shantay, you both stay.”

1 Sasha fierce

(Season 9, Episode 14)

Sasha Velour’s lip-synch against Shea Coullée to Whitney Houston’s “So Emotional” at the season finale is the stuff that gags are made of. Vibrating with madness in a flame-red wig and wielding a single red rose, Sasha first slipped off her opera gloves to unleash a rain of rose petals before furiously shaking a full shower of petals from her wig.

RuPaul’s Drag Race

