

**THE LOOKMAN REPORT 2021**  
**Week Twelve – Queen City Meltdown**

*“We have higher aspirations than beating the Steelers.” – Bengals QB Joe (Goat Boy) Burrow when asked about sweeping the season series with the Stillers.*

**PROLOGUE**

Burrow’s response in the postgame presser was incredible. Not only did his Bengals sweep the Black 41-10 final score was not indicative of how bad the beating really was. The score was 31-3 at the half, and Stillers Fan hung in until the bitter end. Big Ben looked lost, and the Bengals pounded them into submission. It was a public execution, and Big Ben wore the noose.

The Bengals are a bona fide playoff contender, doing it with a solid running game and timely passing. The Look Man’s favorite play in that game was a dime Burrow threw to WR Tee Higgins. Higgins was triple covered in a zone, and Burrow threw it threw a keyhole.

The rest of the AFC had better take notice, because if this continues, the road to the Super Bowl might detour through the Nasty Nati.



*Burrow is a goat, but not The GOAT - - - yet.*

Without further ado, the Look Man Report 2021 for Week Twelve.

**LAGNIAPPE**

*Zebra of the Week – Heinz (57) Ward Rule*

New Orleans HC Sean Payton was a member of the NFL competition committee when the league expanded the blindside block rule in 2019. The rule, commonly known as the Heinz Ward Rule, says you cannot delect a player with a blindside block.

New Orleans TE Garrett Griffin made a clean block on Pokes DB Jayron Kearsse in the Thursday Night game. Head Zebra Brad Rogers threw a flag, and Payton faces another bad call that likely knocked him out of postseason contention.

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The Pokes have stunk up the joint the last few weeks, largely due to injuries and COVID. They faced off with the Religious Icons at the Big Easy, and won largely on the strength of this call and a torn finger tendon of QB Taysom Hill. But mainly, due to this call.

The FOX broadcast failed to bring in rules analyst Mike Pereira, but even Troy Aikman blasted the call. It changed the game and the season, but the NFL refused to explain. The Look Man can explain: the NFL hates New Orleans since Bountygate, and never misses an opportunity to screw them over.

#### **THE LOOKAHEAD**

##### *Baltimore Dumpster Ducks at Blitzburgh Stillers (+4.5)*

Mike (Omar Epps) Tomlin and B-More HC John Harbaugh are forever linked based upon being hired one year apart, and having numerous AFC Asgard battles. Sunday's game will be the 30<sup>th</sup> time the two have locked horns and Tomlin owns a 15-14 edge.

The Stillers have looked like crap in 2021, and the Dumpster Ducks have played with fire but remain unburned. Baltimore's latest trick was to throw four picks in the Browns game and emerge victorious courtesy of Cake Baker Mayfield's ridiculous performance. The Stillers are coming off a 41-10 pasting at the paws of the Bengals last week in the Nati. The Look Man witnessed the contest, and the final score was not indicative of how bad that beating really was. It was a public execution at Pall Bearer Stadium.

Indianapolis exposed the secret to beating Baltimore, and still lost. Lamar (Action) Jackson, cannot throw outside the numbers, so blitz him, and use lurk coverage underneath on TE Mark Andrews, with a spy on Action. Every team since that game has attempted to use the formula without success, but each game has gotten progressively uglier.

Look for Tomlin to go back to formula with Blitzburgh. TJ Watt has passed his first COVID-19 test, and if he passes another today, he will play on Sunday. Stillers in an upset.

##### *LA Lightning Bolts at Cincinnati Bengals (-3)*

RB Joe (Richard Milhouse) Mixon racked up 165 rushing yards on 28 carries with a pair of TDs against the Stillers, and he too home an AFC offensive player of the week trophy for his trouble. The former president had a buck twenty-three in Week 11 against the Raiders, and is averaging two tuddies per week over that period.

The Bolts have fallen on hard times since beating the Browns 47-42 in Week Five. QB Justin Herbert has been getting knocked around, throwing an average of two picks per week in the losses. The Bolts rush defense is near the bottom of the NFL. Which just goes to show you, your defense can stink when you turn the ball over left and right.

The Bengals have played their way back into the playoff picture with solid running and a stout defense. Most of their defensive players are not even household names in their own households, but they punished Big Ben, and play nasty. Perhaps as important, they pound you with the run game, winning the Time of Possession and forcing you into errors. The Look Man took issue with a few offensive play calls in the Red Zone, but they are a force to be reckoned with.

This game is being touted as Joe (Goat Boy) Burrow vs. Herbert, but it really amounts to a referendum of former Rams coaches, Brandon Staley vs. Zac Taylor. The Bolts have a better defense overall, and any

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team with a good TE always beats the Bengals. The Bolts have Jared Cook, and the Look Man believes the Bolts will get their road act together this week. Bolts.

*New England Chowds at Buffalo Bisons (-2.5) Monday Night Football*

The Chowds have again become America's Team and rookie QB Mac (the Knife) Jones is on pace for the Rookie of the Year award. But the real story is their defense, which is outperforming the talent.

The Bisons are an up and down team, and the latest bad news is the loss of all-world CB Tre'Davious White, who tore his ACL and will miss the rest of the season. That leaves some big shoes to fill for D-Coordinator Leslie Frazier, who must now find someone to match up with the opponents' No. 1 receivers.

The Bisons swept the Chowds in 2020 for the first time in decades, and this game could be a referendum. The Chowds play Crapchester twice in the next several weeks sandwiched around a bye and game at Indy. After that, the rest of the season is a cakewalk, with Miami and Washington.

Crapchester HC Sean McDermott is about to earn his money. "It is next-man-up, regardless," McDermott said. "But I think collectively as a team, we've got to take our game another level. And that giant QB of mine better stop making idiotic BW3 commercials and focus on avoiding dumb turnovers."

Well, that last bit might have been the Look Man channeling his inner McDermott, but the point is the same: if the road to the AFC Championship goes through Boston, it will be a long, cold winter in upstate New York, leaving QB Josh Allen a chance to learn more lines for his BW3 commercials. Bisons on Monday night.



"Pepsi!"

*Kansas City Baby Backs at Denver Donkeys (+8.5) Football Night in America*

The Baby Backs are quietly putting up excellent defensive numbers to right the ship. They are now a top five defense since acquiring an edge rusher and moving Chris Jones back to DT. Or as Marcus (the Big Swaggoo) Spears put it: "It's amazing how good your defense looks when you are not turning the ball over 37 times a game."

Denver has also turned itself around after shipping DE to the Rams. That action told everyone on the team that anyone was replaceable, and they have flourished as a result. Unfortunately, Teddy (Two Gloves) Bridgewater has been a game manager, and backup Drew Lock is on his way out. Denver has to find a QB in the offseason, but this game would put them squarely in the wild card hunt.

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None of that matters. KC is going to win this one handily as they head into a three-game gauntlet against Denver, Vegas and the Bolts. KC covers and wins.

**EPILOGUE**

December is upon us, and teams that can run the football increase their chances of the postseason dramatically. If your team has not yet developed a running game, you should be concerned. If they already own a good one, start saving money for the playoff tickets.

This news does not affect Cleveland, which trashed its running game to make Cake Baker Mayfield look good. Their season, which is on life support, could receive a boost during the bye week with a complex set of wins and losses.

Still, the Football Gods never like hubris, and if you have a good running game, you should not squander it. If you do, you get what you deserve: a copy of a good book to read during the playoffs.

Peace,

The Look Man