

= The Griffin Family History =

" The Griffin Family History " (also known as " Untitled Griffin Family History ") is the 27th episode of the fourth season of the animated comedy series Family Guy . It originally aired on Fox in the United States on May 14 , 2006 . The episode begins after robbers break into the Griffin family home , so the family flees to safety in their panic room . Trapped with no way out , Peter decides to pass the time by telling his family the story of the Griffin family history , narrating a chain of events that describe their equally exotic and dysfunctional ancestry .

The episode was written by John Viener and directed by Zac Moncrief . The episode featured guest performances by Lori Alan as Diane Simmons , and featured Chris Sheridan , Joey Slotnick , Danny Smith and Phil LaMarr as various characters . The episode received generally negative reviews from television critics , who dismissed it as clichéd . According to Nielsen rating , it was viewed in 8 @. @ 03 million homes in its original airing . The episode writer , John Viener , was nominated for an Annie Award for Writing in an Animated Television Production .

= = Plot = =

While attempting to make Peter brush his teeth , Lois hears a noise from downstairs and discovers burglars have entered the house . The rest of the family awakens and flee to Peter 's self @-@ built panic room and begin to monitor what the robbers are doing through hidden cameras . Due to the room not having a telephone or an inside door handle , they cannot escape , and Peter begins to tell stories about the history of the Griffin family .

The stories begin with the big bang , and then moves to the Paleolithic Age , where it is revealed that Peter 's ancestor invented the wheel . The second story sees another Moses as a member of the Griffin family during the Bronze Age leading the Israelites to freedom . The family soon discovers that Meg can fit through the vent , so they force Meg through the vent and into the kitchen . Peter uses a loud speaker to contact Meg from the panic room , therefore alerting the burglars to the fact that somebody is in the kitchen . In order to take the family 's mind off Meg being captured , Peter tells the story of Nate Griffin . Nate lived in the small village of Quahogsuana , but was captured by a white version of Cleveland Brown from South Carolina and taken to the United States . He , along with Quaggingo and Joe Mama , prank the ship captain . While sleeping , they push his bed into the ocean . Nate is caught after briefly escaping and forced to work on a plantation . He falls in love with the owner 's daughter , Lois 's relatives , and together , they bring up a secret family . After being discovered by his lover 's father , the couple and their children escape , where Nate sets up the Department of Motor Vehicles to " get back at the white man " .

After finishing the story , Peter carelessly aims a flare gun through an air vent , causing the sprinklers to come on . Meanwhile , Meg is trying to persuade the burglars to rape her but they are not interested . The rest of the family , still trapped in the panic room , are preparing to potentially drown from the sprinklers filling the room up with water . Peter tells the story of his ancestor , Willie " Black @-@ Eye " Griffin , who was a silent film star in the 1920s , but whose career later faltered due to his voice (much like Bobcat Goldthwait 's) not being cut out for talking pictures . Peter then tells his family about his great uncle , Peter Hitler , who was able to provide Adolf Hitler with success at his Munich speech , although annoying Adolf greatly . As the water from the sprinklers almost reaches its peak , Peter admits to the family that he did not care for The Godfather and a heated debate ensues , ending with Peter declaring his love for The Money Pit . At the last minute Joe rescues them , draining the water out of the room , thus saving their lives . Joe informs the family he has arrested the burglars , but they are pressing sexual harassment charges against Meg . Joe warns that they will need a lawyer to combat the charges , but the family ignores him , and Joe finally gives up and takes Meg away while the family ignores her cries for help .

= = Production = =

" The Griffin Family History " was written by John Viener and was directed by Zac Moncrief . It guest

starred Lori Alan as Diane Simmons and featured Chris Sheridan , Joey Slotnick , Danny Smith and Phil LaMarr as various characters . During the episode 's depiction of how the universe was created , God exclaims " ah , you smell that ? " after holding a lighter to his butt when performing flatus ; this segment of audio was not broadcast on the Fox version of the episode . An additional scene not shown during the televised version was when the Griffins are depicted as dinosaurs . Originally , a Michael Jackson @-@ related scene was to be included in the episode , but it was re @-@ scheduled for a later episode due to limited time on this episode . In the original draft of the episode , Brian 's speech informing Peter of the dangers in the woods during the Nate Griffin story was intended to be longer , including Brian talking about automobile ratings , though it was shortened for unknown reasons . MacFarlane praises the animation sequence showing a horse running around Lois ' bedroom , describing it as " a piece of brilliance " .

Show producers removed a sketch which would include a rape joke upon Carter 's discovery of his daughter , Lois , with her secret family on the southern plantation . Unlike past requests to cut and / or alter jokes , this was not one imposed by the broadcast standards and practices ; this was done on the writers ' own accord . The sequence showing Peter 's silent film star ancestor being stabbed in a card fight was omitted from television broadcasting to save time . Near the end of the episode , the Griffins are shown arguing over the quality of The Godfather ; this scene is drawn from an actual argument that has taken place in the Family Guy writing room over its quality . MacFarlane prefers The ' Burbs and The Money Pit , both of which were received very poorly . Adolf Hitler talking to his wife about his annoyance at Peter Hitler , was also removed from television broadcasting for timing purposes .

= = Cultural references = =

The basic premise of the episode , as well as the design of Peter 's panic room , are based on the movie Panic Room . When Peter 's Paleolithic ancestor is attempting to market the wheel , Brian tells him " You so money , you don 't even know it " , a reference to the film Swingers . The story of Nate Griffin , an ancestor of Peter , makes references to the first installment of Roots , as well as the LAPD 's low @-@ speed pursuit of O. J. Simpson following his wife 's murder and the song " Hot for Teacher " . The scene in which the slave ship captain is thrown overboard uses the song " Are You Ready For the Summer " , from the film Meatballs . The story about Peter 's ancestor who was a silent film star is a spoof of Singin ' in the Rain , as the girl in Singin ' in the Rain did not have a good voice for the talking pictures .

= = Reception = =

" Untitled Griffin Family History " finished 49th in the weekly ratings for the week of May 8 ? 14 , 2006 , with a Nielsen rating of 8 @.@ 03 . The episode received generally negative reviews from critics . In his review of the episode , Bob Sassone of TV Squad commented " All in all , a so @-@ so episode . It started rather strong but got weaker as it went along " . In his review of Family Guy , volume four , Michael Drucker of IGN stated " Untitled Griffin Family History " to be " as cliché as the tropes they 're mocking " . Despite this , John Viener , the writer of the episode was nominated for an Annie Award for Writing in an Animated Television Production .