

= Sweet Seymour Skinner 's Baadasssss Song =

" Sweet Seymour Skinner 's Baadasssss Song " is the 19th episode of The Simpsons ' fifth season . The 100th episode of the series overall , it originally aired on the Fox network in the United States on April 28 , 1994 . In the episode , Superintendent Chalmers fires Principal Seymour Skinner after a disaster at the school . Bart Simpson , feeling partially responsible for Skinner 's firing , tries to help his old principal get his job back .

The episode was written by Bill Oakley and Josh Weinstein , and directed by Bob Anderson . It was selected for release in a 1999 video collection of selected episodes called The Simpsons : Greatest Hits . The episode features cultural references to films such as Alien and Full Metal Jacket . The title is a parody of the film Sweet Sweetback 's Baadasssss Song . Since airing , the episode has received mostly positive reviews from television critics . It acquired a Nielsen rating of 12 @. @ 7 , and was the highest @- @ rated show on the Fox network the week it aired .

= = Plot = =

After dismissing the idea of taking Simpson family home videos and a geode , Bart brings Santa 's Little Helper to school for show and tell . Even though his show @- @ and @- @ tell presentation is well received by the class , the dog escapes into the school air ducts to follow the food scent coming from the kitchen and is spotted by Ralph Wiggum . Groundskeeper Willie is sent after the dog and catches it , but he chooses the wrong vent to exit and the fire department is called in to rescue him . As the firemen are attempting to rescue Willie , an outraged Superintendent Chalmers appears and fires Principal Skinner , much to Bart 's shock .

Chalmers hires Ned Flanders as the new principal of Springfield Elementary School , but when Flanders is hesitant to discipline the children , they run amok , and the school becomes a mad house . Meanwhile , Bart befriends the now jobless Skinner , as they laugh about anecdotes of Flanders 's failure that Bart relates . Feeling lonely , Skinner eventually decides to re @- @ enlist in the United States Army .

Instead of rejoicing in the discipline @- @ less school , Bart feels guilty about causing Skinner 's dismissal . In an effort to get Skinner his job back , Bart attempts to expose Flanders ' poor leadership to Chalmers . Despite the state of chaos at the school , Chalmers is not concerned . However , upon hearing Flanders utter a brief mention of God over the intercom , Chalmers immediately fires Flanders for reciting a school prayer . Skinner is soon re @- @ hired as principal . Bart and Skinner share an amicable chat about their typically antagonistic relationship , then affectionately pat each other on the back . However , as they turn from each other , it is revealed Bart has taped a " Kick Me " sign on Skinner 's back , and Skinner has taped a " Teach Me " sign on Bart. The two chuckle to themselves as they walk away .

= = Production = =

" Sweet Seymour Skinner 's Baadasssss Song " was written by Bill Oakley and Josh Weinstein , and directed by Bob Anderson . Oakley and Weinstein decided to do a Skinner and Bart episode because the staff wanted to take a diversion from the relatively wacky , fast @- @ paced episodes that had comprised Season 5 so far and , according to show runner David Mirkin , " slow down parts of the show to take time for more emotional episodes like this one " . Much of Principal Skinner 's behavior in the episode is based on teachers Oakley and Weinstein had in high school who , according to Oakley , were " sad , lonely guys who lived with their mothers " . It was selected to air as the 100th episode of the show because the staff wanted that particular episode to focus on Bart.

Baby Gerald , Luigi Risotto , Assistant Superintendent Leopold , and Flanders ' parents make their first appearances on the show in this episode . Leopold and Luigi were designed by David Silverman , one of the show 's directors . Anderson thought Luigi was one of the funniest characters on the show when he first read Luigi 's lines in the script during a table read of the episode . When Anderson skimmed through the script and saw Luigi 's lines , he said he " frightened Julie Kavner

because I was laughing to myself , but trying to keep the laughter in because it was so damn funny .  
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" Sweet Seymour Skinner 's Baadasssss Song " originally aired on the Fox network in the United States on April 28 , 1994 . The episode was selected for release in a 1999 video collection of selected episodes called , The Simpsons : Greatest Hits , which also included the episodes " Simpsons Roasting on an Open Fire " , " Lisa 's First Word " , " Trash of the Titans " , and " Bart Gets an " F " " . The episode was again included in the 2003 DVD release of the Greatest Hits set , which also included all the other episodes except " Trash of the Titans " . " Sweet Seymour Skinner 's Baadasssss Song " was also included in The Simpsons season five DVD set , which was released on December 21 , 2004 .

= = Cultural references = =

The episode 's title is a reference to the 1971 Melvin Van Peebles film Sweet Sweetback 's Baadasssss Song . Skinner 's quote " We 'll always have the laundromat " is a reference to a famous quote by Humphrey Bogart in Casablanca . The beginning scene of the episode , in which Marge , Lisa , and Bart watch a home video , is a parody of the television series The Wonder Years ; the Joe Cocker version of the song " With a Little Help from My Friends " from that series is also used in the background of the opening scene . The scene in which Santa 's Little Helper runs through the school vent is a reference to a scene in the film Alien , as is Skinner 's use of a heat @-@ seeking tracer to pin down the positions of Groundskeeper Willie and Santa 's Little Helper within the ventilation system . Skinner says he was shot in the back at a United Service Organizations ( USO ) show while trying to get " Joey Heatherton to put some pants on " , a reference to American actress Joey Heatherton . Skinner 's attire and shots of him running with his troops are references to the 1987 film Full Metal Jacket . Skinner tells Apu Nahasapeemapetilon of his plan to write a novel about an amusement park with dinosaurs called Billy and the Cloneasaurus , which Apu rightfully condemns as a concept of plagiarism ; the book is a reference to the Michael Crichton novel Jurassic Park . When Martin is in a cage , he is singing the Toreador Song from the opera Carmen . In describing the relationship of Bart and Skinner , Lisa Simpson compares them to Sherlock Holmes and Professor Moriarty , the famous characters from the Sir Arthur Conan Doyle detective stories ; she also compares them to Mountain Dew and Mello Yello , which she describes as mortal enemies .

= = Reception = =

In its original American broadcast , " Sweet Seymour Skinner 's Baadasssss Song " finished 16th in the ratings for the week of April 25 ? May 1 , 1994 , with a Nielsen Rating of 12 @.@ 7 , translating to 12 million households . The episode was the highest @-@ rated show on the Fox network that week .

Since airing , the episode has received mostly positive reviews from television critics . The authors of the book I Can 't Believe It 's a Bigger and Better Updated Unofficial Simpsons Guide , Warren Martyn and Adrian Wood , wrote , " The 100th episode [ ... ] is a fine one , with Principal Skinner 's idea for a novel and the conduct of the staff at the Italian restaurant as highpoints . " DVD Movie Guide 's Colin Jacobson said the opening scene of episode reminded him of when he was in second grade and got a puppy for Christmas . Jacobson said , " I still recall the excitement when my mom brought [ the dog ] into school for the others to see , and the first segment of [ the episode ] reflects the atmosphere caused by a doggie visit . The rest of the episode gets into Skinner 's life nicely . Toss in a great Alien reference and the episode offers yet another solid show . " Jacobson also said he liked the appearance of Flanders 's " beatnik father " . Gary Mullinax of The News Journal called the episode " very funny " and named it one of his top @-@ ten favorite episodes . Patrick Bromley of DVD Verdict gave the episode a B + grade , and Bill Gibron of DVD Talk gave the episode a 4 out of 5 score . Dave Manley of DVDActive said in a review of The Simpsons : Greatest Hits that it was " certainly one of the weaker [ episodes on the DVD ] ? I can only assume the fact that it was episode

100 is what gets it onto this disc . "