

= Marge Gets a Job =

" Marge Gets a Job " is the seventh episode of The Simpsons ' fourth season . It originally aired on the Fox network in the United States on November 5 , 1992 . In this episode , Marge gets a job at the Springfield Nuclear Power Plant to pay for foundation repair at the Simpson house . Mr. Burns develops a crush on Marge after seeing her at work and attempts to woo her . A subplot with Bart also takes place , paralleling the fable The Boy Who Cried Wolf . It was written by Bill Oakley and Josh Weinstein and directed by Jeffrey Lynch .

= = Plot = =

Homer and Marge discover that their house is sinking . Homer tries to repair the house himself , but is unsuccessful . Homer decides to call a foundation repairman and finds out that it will cost \$ 8 @ , @ 500 for the repairs . Homer takes Marge to a party for the retirement of a Springfield Nuclear Power Plant employee . With a new position open at the power plant , Marge decides to apply for it to get the money for the foundation repair . With the help of Lisa , Marge gets the job at the power plant .

Meanwhile , at school , Bart does not want to take a test , so he fakes a stomach ache . Mrs. Krabappel asks if Bart has ever read The Boy Who Cried Wolf . From his office , Mr. Burns watches surveillance footage of his plant . When Marge appears , however , he is infatuated and attempts to win her affection . He begins to take her advice on ways to cheer everyone up around the plant by playing the music of Tom Jones over the plant 's speakers , which further depresses the employees .

Bart returns to school , but when Mrs. Krabappel suggests that he take another test , he immediately procrastinates . Grampa comes to pick him up and on the way home and references The Boy Who Cried Wolf . Again , Bart is unfazed . When he returns to school again , he is forced to take the test without any exception . Bart protests , but Mrs. Krabappel ignores him . She places him alone outside the classroom , hands him the test , and leaves .

At Krustylu Studios , the taping of Krusty the Clown 's latest show features a wildlife expert visiting , showing a hawk and a wolf , who warns that the latter is spooked by loud noises . Unfortunately for the wolf , Krusty declares " loud " being the secret word of the day . Celebration and noise ensue , causing the terrified wolf to panic and escape the studio .

The wolf runs to Springfield Elementary School , where it attacks Bart outside the classroom . He cries ' Wolf ! ' but Mrs. Krabappel ignores his pleas . Groundskeeper Willie rescues Bart by fighting the wolf , telling Bart to return to his classroom . Since he feels that he will not be believed that he was attacked by a wolf , Bart decides to say that he made it up by showing a ' little honesty ' to Mrs. Krabappel . He then passes out on the floor , where Mrs. Krabappel pokes him with a metre stick and realises that he was indeed telling the truth . Grampa takes him home , while Willie gives the wolf some alcohol and consoles him about losing .

Mr. Burns attempts to seduce Marge , who tells him that she is married . He dismisses her , so she threatens a lawsuit and enlists the help of Lionel Hutz , who is completely unsuccessful and flees from Mr. Burns 's army of real lawyers . Mr. Burns gives up after Homer defends Marge . The episode ends as Homer and Marge enjoy a private show performed by the captured Tom Jones , who secretly begs Marge to help him escape .

= = Production = =

The idea for the show came from Conan O 'Brien , who thought of Marge getting a job at the power plant and that Mr. Burns has a crush on her . The animators had trouble animating Marge with the suit and lipstick . Director Jeff Lynch said there were a few scenes where Marge " looks like a monster " . All the jargon used by Troy McClure was accurately taken from a Time ? Life foundation repair book . The original subplot for the episode was Mr. Burns telling Homer to dress up as Mister Atom and have him go to schools to talk to the children . The cast really liked Tom Jones as a guest

star . They said he was fun to work with , and was really nice , and even offered to perform a concert after he was done recording lines .

The animators had originally drawn three different versions of Bart after he was attacked by the wolf . They picked the version that looked the least scary , as they did not want Bart to look too " beaten up " . An animation error during the dream sequence with Mr. Burns also caused issues when dealing with network censors , mistaking a " lump in his bed " which was supposed to be Mr. Smithers ' knee as an erection .

= = Cultural references = =

The song performed for Mr. Burns at the retirement party is a reference to Citizen Kane . The photo of Mr. Burns meeting Elvis is very close to the photo of Richard Nixon meeting Elvis . While Mr. Burns is looking through the surveillance cameras , " The Imperial March " from the Star Wars films is played in the background .

= = Reception = =

In its original broadcast , " Marge Gets a Job " finished 25th in ratings for the week of November 2 ? 8 , 1992 , with a Nielsen rating of 13 @. @ 6 , equivalent to approximately 12 @. @ 7 million viewing households . It was the highest @-@ rated show on the Fox network that week , beating Beverly Hills , 90210 and The Simpsons episode " Itchy & Scratchy : The Movie " , which aired on Tuesday in the same week . Warren Martyn and Adrian Wood , the authors of the book I Can 't Believe It 's a Bigger and Better Updated Unofficial Simpsons Guide commented , " We like Bart 's fantasy of the radioactive Marie and Pierre Curie , and Smithers ' fantasy of his loved one flying through the window . A collection of wonderful set pieces rather than a story , which fizzles out without any real attempt at an ending . " Empire placed the " Mister Burns " dance member as the show 's fourth best film parody , " the pick of a big bunch " from the show 's many Citizen Kane parodies , coming " replete with Wellesian camera angles and subtly altered lyrics " .

= = Alternate version = =

In the original airing of this episode , Mrs. Krabappel names several different diseases Bart has faked in order to get out of taking his English test , one of which is Tourette 's syndrome . After Bart claims that he is not over it , he begins barking and snarling and mutters , " Shove it , witch ! " This scene garnered many complaints from people who thought it was tasteless of the writers to make fun of an actual condition and Joshua Smith , a boy in Renton , Washington began seeking legal action . Smith demanded that they " not repeat the episode and have Bart Simpson befriend somebody with Tourette 's on the show " and include an apology from Bart at the end . Executive producer Mike Reiss replied with an apology saying " We kind of feel like we made a mistake this time . We felt bad about this . " In a move that was unprecedented for the show , the producers agreed to remove the scene from future broadcasts . However , Smith 's other requests went unfulfilled . In the version of the episode released on the season four DVD boxset , the part with Bart demonstrating his supposed Tourette 's syndrome to Mrs. Krabappel was kept intact , but Krabappel 's line about Bart having " ... that unfortunate bout of Tourette 's syndrome " was replaced with " ... that unfortunate bout of rabies . "

Additionally , during Smithers ' dream sequence with Mr. Burns , censors demanded the cutting of several seconds of animation that showed " Mr. Burns land [ing] in a particular position on Smithers anatomy " .

Following the 2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami and the associated nuclear emergency , the episode was pulled from an Austrian network due to jokes about radiation poisoning .