

= Big Man on Hippocampus =

" Big Man on Hippocampus " is the tenth episode of the eighth season of the Fox animated comedy Family Guy . It originally aired on Fox in the United States on January 3 , 2010 . The episode features Peter after he suddenly begins suffering from amnesia , and can no longer remember anything about his life , including his own family and friends . His wife , Lois , then attempts to reintroduce Peter to his surroundings , but he soon discovers partying , and having sex with other women is much more entertaining . Frustrated , Lois decides to leave her husband , causing her neighbor , Quagmire , to attempt to win her over .

The episode was written by Brian Scully and directed by Dominic Bianchi . It received generally negative reviews from critics , for its " promising start , " as well as its many cultural references . According to the Nielsen ratings , it was viewed in 8 @. @ 1 million homes in its original airing . The episode featured guest performances by Dwayne Johnson , Adrienne Palicki , and Rick Pasqualone , along with several recurring guest voice actors for the series . " Big Man on Hippocampus " was released on DVD along with ten other episodes from the season on December 13 , 2011 .

= = Plot = =

The episode opens with the Griffin family watching television . A commercial for local auditions of the syndicated game show Family Feud is shown , prompting them to try out the next day . The Griffins are chosen for the show and reach the final round . During a fight with Richard Dawson about welching on the prize money , Peter hits his head . This causes him to forget everything about his life , including his family and friends . Lois tries to jog his memory by reintroducing him to his old self , including his children and his sex life . Unfortunately , this causes Peter to believe that he 's free to have sexual relations with others in his newfound " bachelorhood . " Lois had earlier told him that it is inappropriate to have sex with his children - in response , Meg attempts an incest joke (" Well , I wish you would 've told him that BEFORE he lost his memory ! ") . Most of the family lambaste her for this and Chris kicks her out of the room . Deeply angered , Lois decides to move out , taking the kids . When Quagmire finds out , he jumps on the opportunity to pursue a relationship with Lois .

When Brian returns home to warn Peter about the consequences of this development , Peter reveals that he had regained his memory after Ernie the Giant Chicken hit him on the head with " an odd number of objects " earlier that day . Alerted by Brian 's warnings , Peter rushes to reclaim Lois , just as Quagmire 's plans had been delayed by guilt @-@ induced impotence when Lois confessed that she " trusts " him . Peter then professes his love for her , and desire to be with her for the rest of his life , causing Lois to love him again . The two walk home , happy in their reunion , leaving Quagmire as he frustratedly attempts increasingly drastic measures to " resuscitate " his genitalia using : a penis pump , intravenous therapy , and a crash cart with a defibrillator in his closet .

= = Production and development = =

This episode was written by Brian Scully , older brother of long @-@ time Simpsons writer and producer Mike Scully . This was his second Family Guy episode , the first being " I Dream of Jesus " from the seventh season . Series regular Dominic Bianchi directed the episode , before the conclusion of the eighth production season .

" Big Man on Hippocampus " , along with the eleven other episodes from Family Guy 's eighth season , was released on a three @-@ disc DVD set in the United States on December 13 , 2011 . The sets include brief audio commentaries by various crew and cast members for several episodes , a collection of deleted scenes and animatics , a special mini @-@ feature which discussed the process behind animating " And Then There Were Fewer " , a mini @-@ feature entitled " The Comical Adventures of Family Guy ? Brian & Stewie : The Lost Phone Call " , and footage of the Family Guy panel at the 2010 San Diego Comic @-@ Con International .

In addition to the regular cast , actor Dwayne Johnson made a brief live @-@ action appearance in

the episode , appearing as himself , along with two action figures of Peter and Lois , which he proceeds to bang on top of each other in order to illustrate a censored sex scene . Commenting on his appearance in the episode , Johnson stated that he was a " big fan " of Family Guy , having quickly befriended show creator Seth MacFarlane after he had in a minor role in Johnson 's 2010 film Tooth Fairy . While filming the movie , Johnson had reached out to MacFarlane , saying that he would love to " return the favor " by appearing on Family Guy , which eventually led to his role in this episode . Actress Adrienne Palicki and voice actor Rick Pasqualone also guest starred in the episode . Recurring guest voice actors Alexandra Breckenridge , writer Steve Callaghan , voice actor Ralph Garman , writer Mark Hentemann , writer Danny Smith , writer Alec Sulkin and writer John Viener also made minor appearances . Actors Patrick Warburton and Adam West made a few appearances as well .

= = Cultural references = =

The episode contains numerous in @-@ jokes and references to other events . As the episode opens , the family sees an announcement about auditions for the game show Family Feud . Deciding to try out , the family is quickly chosen , along with the family of show writer Steve Callaghan . The segment features a re @-@ creation of the game show 's original 1976 set and rules , including host Richard Dawson 's practice of kissing the female contestants . As an answer to one of the questions , Peter supplies " the flute that Captain Picard played , first in his imagination , and then in real life , in the episode " The Inner Light " from Star Trek : The Next Generation . " Then , during the Fast Money round , when Lois was asked to name a favorite holiday , Stewie answered 9 / 11 .

When Peter is introduced to Meg , he exclaims " D 'oh ! " , to which Lois replies " No , Peter , that 's not your catchphrase " , an allusion to Homer Simpson in The Simpsons . In a further attempt to restore Peter 's memory , Lois decides to show Peter footage of their honeymoon , which is reminiscent of the Corona commercials with its scene of a bottle of beer placed between the couple , as they are both sitting on a beach . Going on to teach Peter how to drive , Lois gives him a copy of the video game Grand Theft Auto . As a result , he kills a prostitute with a baseball bat , steals her money then steals a car , in a parody of the actions the player is allowed to perform in the game itself . Peter also rediscovers " Surfin ' Bird " by The Trashmen and sings to it while dancing , annoying the family . The Griffins had been previously tormented by it in the seventh season episode " I Dream of Jesus " , which the writer of the episode , Brian Scully , also wrote . At the end of the first act , when Brian says " Oh No " , (in place of the commercial interlude from Night Rider) a series of white on black text is shown , in a parody of the Cartoon Network block Adult Swim . The Adult Swim broadcast also features the Animation Domination graphics package used by Fox , but replaces Fox with Adult Swim .

Paul Hogan from " Crocodile " Dundee makes an appearance when Lois is teaching Peter how to use silverware . She says " this is a knife " saying his machete is a knife , referencing a famous scene from the film .

Returning home from a night out , Peter brings home Tiffani Thiessen from Saved by the Bell , naively thinking he is allowed to have sex with her . The reference is made clear when Peter asks her if she bought a necklace using her money from the show . Tiffani also tells Peter he need not worry about her conceiving , as she is " already pregnant . " In real life , Thiessen was expecting her first child at the time . After Lois decides to leave Peter , she is shown shopping for groceries at the Quahog Market . Quagmire sneakily approaches her from behind , saying his " giggity " catchphrase to the shark motif composed by John Williams for the 1975 film Jaws .

The title is a pun on the common phrase Big Man on Campus , but with campus changed to hippocampus , a reference to Peter 's amnesia in the episode .

= = Reception = =

The episode was viewed in 8 @.@ 1 million homes , and received a Nielsen rating of 3 @.@ 9 / 9

in the 18 ? 49 demographic . In addition , it was also the second most viewed and second highest rated show on Fox 's Animation Domination lineup , losing slightly to The Simpsons , but continued its lead over both The Cleveland Show and American Dad ! in total viewership and ratings .

Reviews of the episode were negative , citing the storyline as " safe , " without any offensive jokes for the sake of being offensive . " Ahsan Haque of IGN praised the " cohesive story " as " [succeeding] on its simplicity , " but criticized the series for continuing to broadcast in the 4 : 3 format , as opposed to widescreen like MacFarlane 's other two shows . Todd VanDerWerff of The A.V. Club reviewed the episode more negatively , however , criticizing the writers for using " storylines as a thin spine to hang jokes on , " giving the episode a D rating . Jason Hughes of TV Squad commended the live @-@ action sequence featuring Johnson , as well as the utilization of Meg 's personality to create an awkward situation with the family . Despite the somewhat negative criticism , the episode still ended up on the most downloaded episodes list on iTunes 2010 Rewind .

Australian channel 7mate received criticism for airing the episode on 12 August 2014 , 14 hours after the suicide of Robin Williams , who features in a cutaway implying that he is overrated . A spokesperson for the channel subsequently stated " it was a coincidence " .