

= Barely Legal (Family Guy) =

" Barely Legal " is the eighth episode of season five of Family Guy . The episode originally broadcast on December 17 , 2006 . The plot sees Meg developing an obsession with Brian after he accompanies her as her date for the Junior Prom , eventually leading to her kidnapping Brian in order to engage in sex with him . Meanwhile , Peter and his friends join the Quahog Police Department to assist Joe with his work , but find being a police officer is not always about action .

The episode was written by Kirker Butler and directed by Zac Moncrief . It received mostly positive reviews from critics for its storyline and many cultural references , in addition from receiving criticism from the Parents Television Council . According to Nielsen ratings , it was viewed in 8 @.@ 48 million homes in its original airing . The episode featured guest performances by Drew Barrymore , Barclay DeVeau , Phil LaMarr , Kerrigan Mahan , Natasha Melnick , Garrett Morris , Tamera Mowry and Lisa Wilhoit . The episode won an Annie Award for " Writing in an Animated Television Production . "

= = Plot = =

Mayor Adam West deploys the entire Quahog Police Department to Cartagena , Colombia to search for Elaine Wilder (a fictional character from the film Romancing the Stone which he was watching) , leaving Joe behind (as he was not deployed due to his disability and the fact that parts of Cartagena aren 't wheelchair @-@ accessible) with the police station 's skeleton crew . Peter , Cleveland and Quagmire join the department to assist Joe .

Meanwhile , Meg threatens to commit suicide because she does not have a date for her Junior Prom . Even her backup boy turned her down by shooting his little brother and having to attend his funeral . As a last resort , Brian agrees to take her to the prom . He gets drunk there , defends Meg by insulting Connie D 'Amico about her inevitable future , and the two make out . After the dance , Meg begins to think Brian is her boyfriend , despite Brian saying he has no feelings for her and citing his already existing relationship with Jillian . Meg develops an obsession with Brian , even baking him a pie and using her hair as one of the ingredients . Stewie arrives and sits next to Brian and asks if he can have some pie . He then asks for the " Cool Hwhip " (this is the first in a series of occasions where Stewie puts emphasis on the " h " sound in a word starting with " wh ") . Brian soon works up the courage to tell Lois that he and Meg kissed . Lois gets angry at the news , and orders Brian to dump Meg .

Later on , Meg knocks Brian out , puts him in the trunk of his car and drives away . Chris tells Lois that he saw this , so Lois , Peter , Cleveland , Joe and Quagmire track them down at the Barrington Hotel . When they arrive , they see Meg has tied Brian up with packaging tape and is about to rape Brian . Lois tells Meg that she is not thinking right , although Meg insists that she has never been more sure of anything in her life . Lois struggles to explain and says Meg does not know what she needs , and then Quagmire says (in an erotic tone) " I know what she needs ... Bring her by my house around 8 : 30 tonight I 'll take care of her . " This implies that he will try to take advantage of Meg and when she arrives at Quagmire 's house , it seems even more likely ; he tells her to sit down and says " Soon it 'll all become clear " , puts on seductive music , dims the lights , strips down to a speedo and sits down beside her ; but suddenly , Quagmire (uncharacteristically) begins to have a serious heart @-@ to @-@ heart talk with Meg , telling her that her entire life is still ahead of her and she should not be in such a hurry to grow up before assuring her that she will find the right person one day . To help Meg , Quagmire gives her his copy of The Missing Piece to help give her a better perception of things , and sends her away feeling much better . He then walks into his bedroom , where two of his one @-@ night stands await with an array of sex toys , and it turns out that all of Quagmire 's seemingly erotic antics were actually in preparation for this tryst . One of the women asks Quagmire if he has the " hwhip " (with emphasis on the " h ") and Quagmire responds with disbelief .

During the credits , Tom Tucker reports that the Quahog Police have called off the search for Elaine Wilder and are heading back to Quahog .

= = Production = =

A scene shows Cleveland falling out of the bathtub and subsequently out of his house . This is the second time the show has used this gag (as indicated when Cleveland comments that " I gotta stop taking baths during Peter 's shenanigans ") , the first one being " Hell Comes to Quahog " , where Peter blew up Cleveland 's house with a tank . This gag occurred three more times in the seventh season episodes " Tales of a Third Grade Nothing " and " Family Gay " , the season eight episodes " Spies Reminiscent of Us " , " Brian 's Got a Brand New Bag " , and the Cleveland Show pilot . It took several attempts to animate it correctly . The gag of Meg 's Junior Prom date killing his brother in order to escape from their planned date was included in the first draft for the episode , as made by Kirker Butler .

A scene featuring Peter , Cleveland , Mort and Quagmire drinking coffee in the booth , waiting for one of them to act irrationally due to Joe adding a substance into their drink , was cut from the broadcast for timing purposes . A deleted scene had been made for the episode , which showed one of the characters present in the booth after Joe added a substance into their drink , turning into a lizard @-@ like creature from Jurassic Park , but the gag was never used . When Brian is explaining the situation with Meg to Lois in the uncensored version he says " this morning she made me eat the hair in her pie " Broadcast standards objected to this and it was changed for air to " hair pie " . On the DVD commentary MacFarlane remarked he thought the latter sounded more offensive . American actor and comedian Garrett Morris guest @-@ starred on the episode , portraying the headmaster of the " New York School for the Hard @-@ of @-@ Hearing " , which was once a regular Weekend Update piece on the 1970s episodes of Saturday Night Live . When Peter and everybody else discover Meg attempting to seduce Brian in the hotel , Peter uses the term " Chinaman " ; this was changed for the television broadcast to " oriental guy " , as " Chinaman " is deemed to be an offensive word .

In addition to the regular cast , actress Drew Barrymore , voice actor Barclay DeVeau , voice actor Phil LaMarr , voice actor Kerrigan Mahan , actress Natasha Melnick , comedian and actor Garrett Morris , actress Tamera Mowry and actress Lisa Wilhoit guest starred in the episode . Recurring guest voice actors Lori Alan , actress Alex Breckenridge , voice actor John G. Brennan , writer Chris Sheridan , writer Alec Sulkin and writer John Viener made minor appearances . Recurring guest voice actors Patrick Warburton and Adam West made appearances as well .

= = Cultural references = =

The movie Mayor West is watching on the television is Romancing the Stone . The music played in the background during the black people 's parade is taken almost verbatim from the film adaptation of the 1975 musical The Wiz where , in the final number of the film , they sing " Brand New Day " when it came to the absence of most of the Quahog Police Department . The two songs playing in the background at the junior prom are " Hold On to the Nights " by Richard Marx and " Why " by Annie Lennox . The music used in the background and the academy 's logo when Peter , Quagmire and Cleveland are entering the police training grounds is a reference to that used in the Police Academy . The scene where Meg plays Madame Butterfly while turning the lamp on and off and the line " I will not be ignored , Brian " is a reference to 1987 thriller Fatal Attraction . The entire scene in the hotel where Meg is discovered attempting to seduce Brian is a reference to The King of Comedy , which MacFarlane notes as one of his favorite movies . When Peter Griffin steals a giraffe from the zoo , he names the giraffe Allison Janney . Garrett Morris reprises his role as Headmaster of the New York School for the Hard of Hearing from the first season of Saturday Night Live .

= = Reception = =

In a significant decrease from the previous week , the episode was viewed in 8 @.@ 48 million homes in its original airing , according to Nielsen ratings . The episode also acquired a 3 @.@ 0

rating in the 18 ? 49 demographic , slightly being edged out by The Simpsons , while still winning over American Dad ! .

This episode was written Kirker Butler , who was nominated at the 34th Annie Awards under the category of " Writing in an Animated Television Production " , and Mila Kunis , who voices Meg , was also nominated for her work on this episode under the category of " Voice Acting in an Animated Television Production " . In his review of the episode , Dan Iverson of IGN wrote : " After a couple more episodes like the one that Family Guy had on Sunday night , we could officially and unequivocally call the show the best animated program to air on the weekend " , adding " we are completely willing to raise the once hit @-@ or @-@ miss comedy of Family Guy to the level of most consistently funny comedy on FOX Sunday nights ? and that is thanks to great stories and hilarious comedy like that of this week 's episode " Barely Legal . " In a review of Family Guy , Volume five , Nancy Basile regarded " Airport ' 07 " , " Prick Up Your Ears " , and " Barely Legal " as " gem episodes " . Brett Love of TV Squad commented : " It seemed like more of a cohesive story than we have seen in a while as the whole family was tied in to the same storyline " , later adding " I liked the story of Meg 's infatuation with Brian " , concluding with " overall , I 'd call this one a really good episode . "

However , the Parents Television Council , a media watchdog group and frequent critic , named " Barely Legal " the " Worst TV Show of the Week " ending the week of December 28 , 2006 . PTC member and writer Joey Bozell commented , " It 's becoming more and more obvious that these writers ' missions is to provide the most offensive content they can imagine and in turn proves they don 't have an ounce of respect for the families watching at home . "