

= Chitty Chitty Death Bang =

" Chitty Chitty Death Bang " is the third episode of the first season of the animated comedy series Family Guy . The episode follows Peter after he tries to make amends for his son , Stewie 's , first birthday party when he loses their reservation at a popular kids ' restaurant known as Cheesie Charlie 's . Meanwhile , Meg becomes friends with an excitable girl named Jennifer , who leads her to join a death cult , in an attempt to fit in .

The episode was written by Danny Smith and directed by Dominic Polcino , both firsts in the Family Guy series . It was rated TV @-@ 14 . The episode featured guest performances by Butch Hartman , Waylon Jennings , Rachael MacFarlane and John O 'Hurley , along with several recurring voice actors for the series . Much of the episode features a cutaway style of humor that is typically used in Family Guy , many of which feature cultural references including the Incredible Hulk , The Dukes of Hazzard , Three Little Pigs , and Couplehood . The title " Chitty Chitty Death Bang " was derived from 1930s and 1940s radio programs , particularly the radio thriller anthology Suspense , which featured several elements pertaining to death and murder .

The episode has received praise from television critic Ahsan Haque for its storyline and use of cultural references .

= = Plot = =

Lois has booked Cheesie Charlie 's for Stewie 's upcoming first birthday party and sends Peter , along with Chris , to drop off the deposit check at the restaurant . However , once they arrive , they seek the opportunity to play with all the machines , causing Peter to lose his watch in a claw machine . A little boy wins his watch , which causes Peter to become angry and tries to force the watch off the child . Cheesie Charlie himself sees this and asks Peter to leave . But once Peter shows the deposit check , Cheesie Charlie immediately apologizes and exclaims how they are very excited to host Stewie 's birthday party . Peter , angered by how he was treated , states that they won 't be celebrating Stewie 's party there , which causes a crowd of people to circle around Cheesie Charlie shouting for the reservation . Peter , realizing what he has just done , immediately returns home with a poorly crafted lie in an attempt to evade Lois ' aggravation which involves him saying that they are Nazis who torture , kill and kidnap people . He pretends that he 's already planned an extravagant party at home so that Lois doesn 't have to do any work .

Meanwhile , Stewie misinterprets the meaning of his birthday and assumes that the same mysterious " Man in White " who delivered him as an infant will be returning to force Stewie back into Lois ' womb from which he escaped just one year ago . Meg cries all the way home to Peter from cheerleading practice , and has been having trouble fitting in at school . Later , she discovers a new friend named Jennifer . Meanwhile , Stewie makes it all the way to the airport looking for tickets but then is stopped by a member of staff . The man then gives Stewie some advice saying that running from your problems never solves anything . Stewie then reflects on this , deciding to finally face " The Man in White " . But before he leaves , he wishes the man luck before freezing him in carbonite . Peter tries desperately , but ultimately unsuccessfully , to put together a party in time for Stewie 's birthday . He finally reroutes a circus into the Griffins ' backyard , saving the day - that is , until he reveals to Lois that he gave Meg permission to go to a party at her friend 's house . Lois , who wanted the whole family together for Stewie 's party , is upset with Peter for letting Meg go . What Peter and Lois don 't realize is that Meg 's " party " is actually a cult meeting where all the members are about to commit group suicide .

Peter goes to retrieve Meg from her " party " , oblivious to the fact that he is sparing her life in the process . The Cult Leader chases after them while wearing his ceremonial white robe and is mistaken by Stewie as " The Man in White " . Stewie does away with him and , feeling victorious , joins the others to enjoy his party .

= = Production = =

" Chitty Chitty Death Bang " was written by Danny Smith and directed by Dominic Polcino , both their first episodes in the Family Guy series . Staff writers included voice actor Mike Henry and Andrew Gormley , while Ricky Blitt , Chris Sheridan as executive story editors , and Neil Goldman and Garrett Donovan acted as the story editors . To help Polcino direct the episode were supervising directors Peter Shin and Roy Allen Smith .

In addition to the regular cast , guest stars included actor and comedian Patrick Bristow , animator , executive producer , animation director , storyboard artist and producer Butch Hartman (who played Mr. Weed , Peter 's boss , and various other characters) , writer Gary Janetti who played the Demon and Riff) , actor John O 'Hurley (who played the Cult Leader) , and Waylon Jennings (who played himself) . Recurring cast members included Mike Henry who played Cleveland Brown and Lori Alan who played Dianne Simons . This is the first episode Seth MacFarlane 's sister , Rachael MacFarlane guest starred in the episode as the voice of Jennifer . In future episodes she would become a recurring voice actor for the series . Rachel has noted that she was asked by Seth to lend her voice for the show , but she did have to audition for the role .

As with the remaining first four episodes of the season , the title of the episode , " Chitty Chitty Death Bang " , was derived from 1930s and 1940s radio programs , particularly the radio thriller anthology " Suspense " , which featured several elements pertaining to death and murder . This convention was later dropped following the fourth episode of the season , " A Hero Sits Next Door " . due to individual episodes becoming difficult to identify and distinguish .

= = Cultural references = =

When Peter explains to Lois why he canceled the party at Cheesie Charlie 's , he said he had been kidnapped by them and that they are Nazis . He explains to Lois that he escaped by turning into the Incredible Hulk .

The place where Lois had planned Stewie 's birthday party is called Cheesie Charlie 's , which is a reference to the food chain Chuck E. Cheese 's .

When Stewie recalls how he was conceived he tells the story of which he was in a sperm ships and gets in to a fight with other sperm ships is a reference to fights in the Star Wars trilogy .

Peter loses his Dukes of Hazzard watch .

When Peter is looking for pigs for a petting zoo he takes down a house of straw and a house made of sticks , this is a reference to the fairy tale Three Little Pigs .

Peter is also struck in the head by a paintcan on a string , a reference to the film Home Alone .

Items added to the suicide cult punch mix by Jennifer include cyanide , arsenic , rat poison , and the book Couplehood by Paul Reiser .

The episode title is a reference to the 1968 musical film , Chitty Chitty Bang Bang .

= = Reception = =

A 2008 review of the episode written by Ahsan Haque of IGN was generally positive ; Haque stated that while it he did not believe " Chitty Chitty Death Bang " was an " instant classic , " it has " plenty of memorable moments " and " a nicely crafted storyline . " Haque went on to praise Peter 's attempt to " convince [Lois] that the people are Cheesie Charlie 's are Nazi devils who kidnapped him and that he only manages to escape because he was able to turn into the Incredible Hulk , " as well as Stewie 's role in the episode , calling it " extremely clever . " Haque concluded his review by rating the episode an 8 @. @ 4 / 10 . David Williams from the DVD Movie Guide , " said that " this episode saying that the episodes of the first season did a marvelous job of introducing the characters of the series to the viewers .

In his review of " Chitty Chitty Death Bang " the TV Critic called the writing in the episode wittier than in previous ones . He found the Stewie storyline very enjoyable , and also commented positively on the moral of the story . He criticized the Meg storyline as he did not find mass suicide funny ; he also commented that Peter felt a lot like Homer from The Simpsons . In his final comments he said it had some odd moments but it was a fun story .

