

= Billy 's Bucket List =

" Billy 's Bucket List " is the final episode of the fifth season of the American animated television series Adventure Time . The episode was written and storyboarded by Ako Castuera and Jesse Moynihan , from a story by Kent Osborne , Pendleton Ward , Jack Pendarvis , and Adam Muto . It originally aired on Cartoon Network on March 17 , 2014 . The episode guest stars Lou Ferringo , Andy Samberg , and Mark Hamill ; Castuera herself also voiced a character .

The series follows the adventures of Finn (voiced by Jeremy Shada) , a human boy , and his best friend and adoptive brother Jake (voiced by John DiMaggio) , a dog with magical powers to change shape and grow and shrink at will . In this episode , Finn finds Billy 's (voiced by Ferrigno) bucket list and decides to complete the unfinished items , as a tribute toward the fallen hero . After completing most of the items , including giving Billy 's ex @-@ girlfriend Canyon (voiced by Castuera) one last motorcycle ride , and conquering his fear of the ocean , an apparition of Billy appears to Finn , telling him that Finn 's biological father is still alive .

The episode was the last to feature Castuera as a storyboard artist until her return to the series during the seventh season ; in the interim time , she focused on her art career . This episode also marked the last time Nate Cash was credited as supervising director ; he left to direct the animated mini @-@ series Over the Garden Wall . " Billy 's Bucket List " was met with critical acclaim , with one reviewer complimenting the episode 's cliffhanger and emotional growth . In addition , the episode was watched by 2 @.@ 335 million viewers .

= = Plot = =

During a freestyle rap battle with Rap Bear , hosted by Party Pat (voiced by Andy Samberg) , Finn is approached by Billy 's (voiced by Lou Ferrigno) ex @-@ girlfriend , Canyon (voiced by Ako Castuera) . She delivers Billy 's loincloth to Finn , and Finn and she venture back to Billy 's lair to pay their respects and move on . At his cavern , Finn defeats a group of fairies and then discovers a bucket list penned by Billy . Canyon and Finn decide to complete it as a tribute to the fallen hero . The two go on a joy ride in a desert environment , and afterwards Canyon and Finn part ways . Finn soon discovers that the list contains one more item hidden at the bottom left corner reading : " Lie on my back in the ocean . Just float . "

Finn , terrified of the ocean , decides to do this final task for Billy , but the Fear Feaster (voiced by Mark Hamill) manifests and taunts him , until he knocks himself unconscious ; during this time , he has an intense dream of swimming through the ocean and being consumed by a whale . Eventually he wakes up , and ? possibly involuntarily ? uses his grass sword to slice through and destroy the Fear Feaster , ending Finn 's ocean fear for good . The spirit of Billy manifests itself before Finn in the sky , thanking him for completing his list . Before his spirit departs , he reveals to Finn that his human father is still alive , trapped in a mysterious place known only as the " Citadel " .

= = Production = =

" Billy 's Bucket List " was written and storyboarded by Ako Castuera and Jesse Moynihan , from a story by Kent Osborne , Pendleton Ward , Jack Pendarvis , and Adam Muto . This episode was the last to feature Castuera ? who had been storyboarding on the show since the first season finale " Gut Grinder " ? until her return to the series during the seventh season . According to Moynihan , Castuera left the show " to do something different and pursue other interests " as well as to " pursue a different path from television animation . " On September 29 , 2014 , however , Kent Osborne posted an image on Instagram , confirming that Castuera and Moynihan would again be partners for the seventh season . Art direction was handled by Nick Jennings , whereas supervising direction was cohelmed by Nate Cash and Adam Muto . This episode marked the last time Nate Cash was credited as supervising director , as he later left the series to direct the animated mini @-@ series Over the Garden Wall .

Castuera herself voiced Canyon . The episode also features the return of Lou Ferringo as the hero

Billy ; Ferringo had previously appeared in the first season episode " His Hero " and the fourth season finale " The Lich " . In addition , both comedian and rapper Andy Samberg , as well as actor Mark Hamill , reprise their roles as Party Pat and the Fear Feaster , respectively . Samberg had previously voiced the character in the second season episode " Belly of the Beast " , whereas Hamill had appeared in the first season episode , " Ocean of Fear " .

The rap battle music was scored by Moynihan , who made heavy use of orchestra hits . The instrumental was later uploaded to Soundcloud and shared by the official Adventure Time production blog . In one of the episode 's background art pieces , artist Derek Ballard inserted a buried car , homemade bombs , and a hole in the side of a cliff , additions that he claims were in honor of " one of America 's greatest film treasures : Tremors " .

= = Reception = =

" Billy 's Bucket List " first aired on Cartoon Network on March 17 , 2014 . The episode was viewed by 2 @. @ 335 million viewers and scored a 0 @. @ 5 Nielsen rating in the 18- to 49 @- @ year @- @ old demographic . Nielsen ratings are audience measurement systems that determine the audience size and composition of television programming in the United States , which means that the episode was seen by 0 @. @ 5 percent of all households aged 18 to 49 years old were watching television at the time of the episode 's airing . Furthermore , the episode was the 43rd most @- @ watched cable program on the night it aired .

Oliver Sava of The A.V. Club awarded the episode an " A ? " , arguing that it was an example of the series ' continued growth : he wrote , " as Finn grows , so does this series " . Sava opined that , " the final minute of ? Billy ? s Bucket List ? drops a major plot @- @ bomb that gives the series an exciting direction for next season , and while the events leading up to the cliffhanger aren 't quite as provocative or substantial as the last few episodes , they represent all the things that make this show such a great 10 @- @ minute oasis at the beginning of the week . " Sava also noted that , " Trippy psychedelia is another major ingredient of this series , and ' Billy ? s Bucket List ' delivers a heavy serving when Finn finds himself underwater . "

Andrea Reiher of Zap2it called the episode " a great ending to Season 5 " . Darren Franich of Entertainment Weekly awarded the episode an " A " , noting that while the series " can do hilarious weirdness in its sleep , " this episode in particular " showcases its soulfulness " . He described the main plot as " oddly introspective " , and wrote that the end was " a surprise reveal ? a mythology boost that could push the show in a radical new direction . "