

= Terrance and Phillip in Not Without My Anus =

" Terrance and Phillip in Not Without My Anus " is the second season premiere of the animated television series South Park . The 14th overall episode of the series , it originally aired on Comedy Central in the United States on April 1 , 1998 . The episode follows the two title characters , a duo of Canadians who attempt to save their country from the dictator Saddam Hussein while performing repetitive toilet humour . Unbeknown to them , the plan was partially set up by their rival , Scott , a critic who is often displeased by their random jokes of flatulence . The script was written by series co @-@ creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone , along with writer Trisha Nixon . The episode is one of the favorites of Parker and Stone .

The episode was an April Fools ' Day prank on South Park fans , who were waiting to learn the identity of Cartman 's father after the cliffhanger ending of the first season finale , " Cartman 's Mom Is a Dirty Slut " . The prank angered viewers , and resulted in 2 @,@ 000 angry e @-@ mail complaints to Comedy Central within a week of the original broadcast . The broadcast date of the subsequent episode , " Cartman 's Mom Is Still a Dirty Slut " , was moved up in response to the complaints . " Terrance and Phillip in Not Without My Anus " received generally mixed reviews , with some commentators criticizing Parker and Stone for " duping " their viewers , and others praising them for taking the risk . The creators cited this episode as their favorite and response to it has become warmer since .

= = Plot = =

The episode begins with an announcement that viewers have waited for weeks for the answer to the mystery " Who Is Cartman 's Father " , but then points out that the answer will not be revealed in this episode ; instead , there is a presentation of Not Without My Anus starring Terrance and Phillip . A caption wishes the viewers a happy April Fools ' Day . The drama itself opens in a courtroom in Canada , with Terrance on trial for the murder of a local doctor ; Phillip is his lawyer while Terrance and Phillip 's sworn nemesis , Scott , who has had a long hatred of the duo 's toilet humour , is acting as the prosecutor . Scott uses a group of seemingly airtight exhibits such as a hammer , a piece of Terrance 's shirt , and an incriminating haiku to prove Terrance 's guilt , while Terrance 's defense consists of nothing but a long string of fart jokes . Ultimately , the jury returns a verdict of not guilty . Angered , Scott promises vengeance . He is ultimately approached by Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein , proposing a deal : Saddam would assist in getting Terrance and Phillip out of Canada , in exchange for Scott assisting Saddam and his Iraqi associates into Canada . Scott is apprehensive about trusting Saddam , but agrees to the deal . The pair then conspires to kidnap Sally , daughter to Terrance and Celine Dion , and hold her hostage , as bait to lure Terrance and Phillip to Tehran ; Saddam 's soldiers would then murder Terrance and Phillip on arrival .

Terrance and Phillip become aware of the kidnapping when they receive a letter , but they immediately locate Sally , unguarded , upon arrival in Tehran . Indifferently , the duo return Sally to her home , where Saddam has now taken control . Terrance 's ex @-@ wife , Celine Dion , is now dating , and has become pregnant by , a friend of the duo named Ugly Bob , who rather looks very much like them . While the couple discuss their relationship , Saddam interrupts and takes them hostage , with Celine having planned to sing at a Canadian football game . Scott has also become worried about the presence of the Iraqi soldiers in Canada , but becomes infuriated when he finds that Terrance and Phillip have returned to Canada safely . He confronts Saddam about the double @-@ cross , but Saddam 's armed guards scare him into backing away . It is revealed that Saddam is trying to take over Canada as the first step in a plan for world domination . Terrance and Phillip arrive at the game . Instead of following a plan set up by Scott to commit suicide by using a bomb they come up with a new plan and put on gas masks . With brute force everyone farts a huge gas cloud which kills Saddam and his soldiers . Scott arrives , and is annoyed to find not only that Terrance and Phillip are still alive , but " that after all [ his ] criticism , it was farting that saved Canada " . Terrance , Phillip , Celine , and everyone else ( excluding Scott ) celebrate their freedom with a rendition of " O Canada " . During the credits , an announcement is made that the solution to

who Cartman 's father is would be answered " in a few weeks . "

= = Production = =

" Terrance and Philip in Not Without My Anus " was written by Trisha Nixon and South Park co @-@ creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone , and directed by Parker . It was the second season premiere and first episode centered completely around Terrance and Phillip , fictional cartoon characters within the South Park show . The title and general storyline of the episode parody those of the 1987 book and 1991 film Not Without My Daughter , starring Sally Field .

The episode , which first aired April 1 , 1998 , was an April Fools ' Day prank by Parker and Stone on South Park fans , who were anxiously waiting to learn the identity of Cartman 's father after the cliffhanger ending of " Cartman 's Mom Is a Dirty Slut " , the first season finale . Instead , Parker and Stone presented an episode entirely focused on a Terrance and Phillip cartoon , with nothing in the story about Cartman 's father . Upset fans wrote more than 2 @, @ 000 angry e @-@ mail complaints to Comedy Central within a week of the episode 's original broadcast , and media outlets said some fans harbored a grudge against the show more than five years after the episode was broadcast . Matt Stone said to Entertainment Weekly in response to the angry fan response , " If you get that pissed off because you don 't know who a little construction paper kid 's father is , then there 's really something wrong with you . " Allan Johnson of the Chicago Tribune said Comedy Central was " punking out " with the decision .

Several reviewers noted a significant amount of crude and vulgar humor in " Terrance and Philip in Not Without My Anus " , even by South Park standards ; The Sydney Morning Herald noted the episode contained 29 separate fart jokes in the span of 22 minutes . Global Television Network in Canada reported no complaints about the episode in the weeks after its release .

= = Reception = =

Reviewers were mixed on Parker and Stone 's elaborate April Fools ' Day prank . Diane Werts of Newsday said of the episode , " Fans rioted . Some jumped ship and never came back . The lesson : Pay off our expectations , or you 'll be sorry . " Jim Minge of the Omaha World @-@ Herald said South Park fans were " duped " by the episode . Philip Martin of the Arkansas Democrat @-@ Gazette , who said in May 1998 the South Park phenomenon was " dead " , described the April Fools ' prank as " lamentable " and part of the reason for the show 's apparent decline . Others , however , praised Parker and Stone for making the move at the risk of upsetting fans . Tim Clodfelter of the Winston @-@ Salem Journal said , " It was a funny , clever move ( that ) quickly separated the fans who truly " got " ( Parker and Stone 's ) humor from those who were just watching for the dirty jokes . " Jon Casimir of The Sydney Morning Herald said , " It is gratifying , in an entertainment world dominated by market research and common denominators , to see a program that obviously doesn 't care if you like it or not . " However , he said the characterization of Terrance and Phillip was too thin to be particularly funny , and added that the novelty of the prank is lost in repeats in later years .

Jakob Von Bayer said the episode continued a long history of South Park Canada @-@ bashing : " South Park has gotten a lot of comic mileage out of Canada over the years . ... This episode portrays a country full of Bob and Doug McKenzies ; Toronto is but a highway town en route to Buffalo . " " Terrance and Philip in Not Without My Anus " was among the episodes featured in a 2006 list by the Winnipeg Free Press of the ten most memorable South Park episodes . The Toronto Sun listed the episode as one of the most memorable television moments of 1998 , and the single most memorable moment from the month of April . The prank played by the airing of this episode was revisited a number of times in subsequent episodes . The episode " Cartoon Wars Part II " revisits it by appearing to begin with a similar spoof , though the episode then cuts to the actual plot . The fifth season episode , " Terrance and Phillip : Behind the Blow " , also references the controversy over the airing of this episode , as does the thirteenth season episode , " Eat , Pray , Queef " .

= = = Media release = = =

" Terrance and Phillip in Not Without My Anus " was released on VHS on June 15 , 1999 , as a stand @-@ alone episode . It was also released on DVD , along with the rest of its season , in June 2003 .