

= Hurricane ! (American Dad !) =

" Hurricane ! " is the second episode of the eighth season of the animated comedy series American Dad ! , an episode produced for season 7 . It aired on Fox in the United States on October 2 , 2011 . The episode plot mainly revolves around the Smith family , who prepare for evacuation in response to an oncoming hurricane . Reluctant to leave his home , Stan encourages his family to ride out the storm in their house with him . The hurricane sends a flood to the city of Langley Falls , which puts the entire family in danger .

" Hurricane ! " is the final part of the Night of the Hurricane block with Family Guy and The Cleveland Show . Kevin Reilly , the president of the entertainment division of Fox Broadcasting Company , introduced the idea of a crossover to Seth MacFarlane , the creator of all three shows . The episode was first announced at the 2010 San Diego Comic @-@ Con International . The episode plot is loosely modeled to that of the disaster film The Poseidon Adventure . Originally scheduled to air on May 1 , 2011 , as the season finale for the seventh season , " Hurricane ! " was postponed due to the tornado outbreak that occurred from April 25 ? 28 . Other factors even included the March 11 , 2011 Japanese tsunami .

The episode was well received by television critics , who praised its humor and cultural references . It was viewed by 5 @.@ 72 million viewers upon its initial airing , while also receiving a 2 @.@ 6 / 6 rating in the 18 ? 49 demographic , according to Nielsen ratings . " Hurricane ! " was written by Erik Sommers , and directed by Tim Parsons . It featured the guest voices of Mike Barker , Lisa Edelstein , Jeff Fischer , Mike Henry , Matt McKenna , Kevin Michael Richardson , and Kristen Schaal .

= = Plot = =

When a hurricane arrives at Langley Falls , the Smiths prepare to evacuate their home with their neighbor Buckle in his amphibious raft . Stan , however , recommends that the family stay home during the storm , believing it is the best way for everyone to be safe . Hayley and Jeff also wish to stay to help the animals that have been left behind in the zoo . Francine disagrees with Stan 's notion , Steve and Roger supporting her , as she points out Stan 's history with making terrible decisions during crisis situations . But before the debate can be resolved , the seawall breaks and the ocean floods down the street , removing Buckle and his raft out of its path and trapping the Smiths in their home nevertheless . The neighborhood is now flooded , and the house is drifting along the floodwater 's current . In an attempt to save the family from floating into any potential dangerous areas , Stan anchors the home ; however the anchoring system also acts as a hinge and rotates the house upside @-@ down , partially submerging it underwater .

The family becomes increasingly frightened and distrustful of him , especially when his latest advice leads Hayley to be attacked by a shark . With the shark loose in the house , the family fights for survival . Stan loses hope and admits Francine 's suggestions are better than his own , until Klaus gives him an encouragement speech which inspires him to prove himself reliable in a crisis once more . Stan obtains a bear from the zoo to battle the shark , which only further aggravates the situation when the two animals work together to kill the family . Refusing to accept Francine 's pleas to just get help , Stan instead throws a javelin that hits his wife in her shoulder instead of the bear . Buckle enters the house with a tranquilizer gun and sedates the two predators before also shooting Stan , who later tells Buckle that he made the right call . Despite the whole ordeal , Stan is no longer convinced that he should stay out of a future crisis .

After the storm clears , Stan looks out to scope the damage done by the storm , only to find himself in a stand @-@ off with Cleveland Brown and Peter Griffin , whose houses have ended up on both sides of the Smiths ' house , since the same hurricane hit their respective towns earlier . When Francine comes out the front door , Stan accidentally shoots her , which Peter claims to be " classic American Dad ! " due to its unpredictability .

= = Production = =

The episode was first announced in July 2010 by series creator Seth MacFarlane at the Comic @-@ Con International in San Diego , California . Kevin Reilly , the entertainment president of the Fox Broadcasting Company , originally pitched the idea for the crossover , which was inspired by theme nights of comedy shows from the 1980s . MacFarlane described the crossover event to be an " enormous challenge " and a " substantial undertaking " ; he chose to do one central story line so that each writing staff would not have to write stories for unfamiliar characters . He was also willing to do another crossover event if this one received successful ratings .

Much of the episode plot in " Hurricane ! " was modeled after the action adventure disaster film , The Poseidon Adventure . In his interview on the plot of the final part of the crossover episode , Mike Barker , a producer for American Dad , stated that " [they] end up flooding the house and turning it upside down . " He continued : " Ultimately , the house drifts and ends up in the same neighborhood as the Griffin and Brown homes . " The actual crossing over of the event occurs at the end of this episode when Stan gets involved in a stand off with Cleveland Brown of The Cleveland Show and Peter Griffin of Family Guy .

In April 2011 , executives of the Fox Broadcasting Company officially announced that " Hurricane ! " would air on May 1 as part of the Night of the Hurricane crossover , along with The Cleveland Show episode " The Hurricane ! " and Family Guy episode " Seahorse Seashell Party " . However , on April 29 , it was announced that the crossover event would be removed from the schedule , in response to a series of tornadoes that killed nearly 300 people in the Southern United States . The crossover was subsequently replaced by repeats of " I Am the Walrus " from American Dad ! , " Brian Writes a Bestseller " from Family Guy , and " Ain 't Nothin ' But Mutton Bustin ' " from The Cleveland Show . MacFarlane later agreed with the decisions after being consulted with the executives of Fox , and a spokeswoman for the company later announced that the episode would air the succeeding season .

" Hurricane ! " was directed by Tim Parsons , in his first directing credit of the season . This episode marked the first time Parsons has directed an American Dad ! episode since the seventh season episode " I Am the Walrus " . It was written by Erik Sommers , which also served as his first writing credit for the season . Sommers ' last production credit was the sixth season episode " You Debt Your Life " . In addition to the regular cast , voice actor Mike Henry , actress Lisa Edelstein and voice actress Kristen Schaal guest starred in the episode as Cleveland Brown , Sharri Rothberg , and Roger 's One Night Stand respectively . Recurring voice actors Jeff Fischer , Mike Barker , Matt McKenna , and Kevin Michael Richardson reprised their roles of Jeff Fischer , Terry Bates , Buckle , and Principal Brian Lewis respectively . In addition to his American Dad ! roles of Stan , Roger , and Greg Corbin , MacFarlane reprised his Family Guy role of Peter Griffin , while Henry guest starred as his role of Cleveland Brown . This episode marked the first time Henry made a guest appearance on American Dad since the season four episode " Stan 's Night Out " . Edelstein and McKenna reprised their roles of Shari and Buckle , having last done so in the season seven episode " Best Little Horror House in Langley Falls " .

= = Reception = =

= = = Ratings = = =

" Hurricane ! " first aired in the United States on October 2 , 2011 as part of the animation television night on Fox . It was preceded by episodes of The Simpsons , and its sister shows The Cleveland Show and Family Guy . It was viewed by 5 @. @ 71 million viewers upon its initial airing , despite simultaneously airing with Desperate Housewives on ABC , Amazing Race on CBS , and a match between the Baltimore Ravens and the New York Jets on NBC . Total viewership for the episode was the third highest of the animation television block on Fox , having moderately higher ratings than that of The Cleveland Show but lower ratings than that of The Simpsons and Family Guy . " Hurricane ! " garnered a 2 @. @ 6 / 6 rating in the 18 ? 49 demographic , according to Nielsen

ratings . Total viewership and ratings were slightly down from the previous episode , " Hot Water " , which was watched by 5 @.@ 83 million viewers and garnered a 3 @.@ 0 / 7 rating in the 18 ? 49 demographic .

= = = Television reviews = = =

Critics generally praised the episode , with many deeming " Hurricane ! " as the best part of the crossover . Terron Moore of Ology praised the episode , giving it an 8 @.@ 5 out of ten rating . Points of acclaim went to the humor of the episode , to which Moore opined that it " was packed with a lot of funny lines , a lot of ridiculous Stan antics [...] , and a pretty funny arc involving Roger and his girlfriend " .

Rowan Kaiser of The A.V. Club was polarized with the episode . Although she stated that the episode was not bad , Kaiser stated that it " didn 't quite work " . Kaiser went on to give the episode a ' B- ' grade , scoring higher than the Family Guy episode " Seahorse Seashell Party " , but lower than The Simpsons episode " Bart Stops to Smell the Roosevelts " . Another writer felt that the interactions between Stan and Francine were inferior to previous episodes of the series and wrote , " It breaks away from Francine and Stan 's fun relationship and veers into the more conventional cartoon relationship , where the husband is a buffoon and the wife has to keep him check . "