

= Treehouse of Horror VII =

" Treehouse of Horror VII " is the first episode of The Simpsons ' eighth season . It originally aired on the Fox network in the United States on October 27 , 1996 . In this seventh annual " Treehouse of Horror " episode , Bart discovers his long @-@ lost twin , Lisa grows a colony of small beings , and Kang and Kodos impersonate Bill Clinton and Bob Dole in order to win the 1996 Presidential election . It was written by Ken Keeler , Dan Greaney , and David S. Cohen , and directed by Mike B. Anderson . Phil Hartman provided the voice of Clinton .

= = Plot = =

= = = " The Thing and I " = = =

In a parody of the horror stories The Hunchback of Notre @-@ Dame (1831) and Basket Case (1982) , Bart and Lisa begin to hear strange noises , and think there is something in the attic . Homer claims not to know what they are talking about , although he is later seen grabbing a bucket of fish heads and heading into the attic . Bart and Lisa investigate , and discover there really is a monster . Homer and Marge go into the attic , and Homer says : " Oh no , it escaped " . Marge immediately calls Dr. Hibbert , who explains that Bart had a conjoined twin brother named Hugo . The two were separated at birth , but it was discovered that Hugo was too evil to live in society , so the Simpsons did the " only humane thing to do " : they kept Hugo chained in the attic , where Homer fed him a platter of fish heads once a week . The rest of the family leaves to find Hugo , leaving Bart behind , but he soon discovers that Hugo never left the house . Hugo takes Bart up to the attic and ties Bart up , so that he can reattach himself . Suddenly , Dr. Hibbert finds them and knocks out Hugo , commenting that the evil twin is always on the left side . But then he realizes that Hugo 's scar is on the wrong side , and Bart is the evil twin . In a failed attempt to correct their wrong , Dr. Hibbert and the Simpson family sit down to a turkey dinner with Hugo , leaving Bart locked up in the attic eating fish heads .

= = = " The Genesis Tub " = = =

In a parody of The Twilight Zone episode , " The Little People " , Lisa performs a science experiment to see if cola will dissolve a tooth , and Bart shocks Lisa as part of his project to prove that nerds conduct electricity . The tooth is also shocked ; it undergoes an unusual reaction and creates a race of miniature beings . Lisa discovers this the next day and marvels at how the people in her universe evolve at a rapid rate , going through the various ages humans have gone through into modern times and eventually , a society more advanced than current humanity . Bart destroys some of the ecosystem in Lisa 's tub universe , and the people respond , sending a squadron of space ships to attack Bart , who vows revenge on the small universe as Lisa wonders what to do . Suddenly , she is shrunk and beamed down into the tub , where the citizens explain that they regard her as God , and they want her to do something about Bart , whom they regard as the Devil . She says she can help them if they can unshrink her , but they tell her they have not figured out the technology to do that . This angers Lisa , since they should have had both technologies figured out before shrinking her . At the same time , Bart grabs the tub and submits it in the science fair , and Lisa is forced to watch from within as Bart wins first prize . Realizing that she is now stuck in the small universe forever and having somehow lost her slippers , the very bitter Lisa orders her citizens to grovel and bring her some shoes , with one of the citizens adding that he will get some socks for her , too .

= = = " Citizen Kang " = = =

While out fishing , Homer is abducted by the two aliens Kang and Kodos . When they demand that

Homer point them towards Earth 's leader , Homer informs them of the then @-@ upcoming presidential election and says the winner could be either Bill Clinton or Bob Dole . Kang and Kodos kidnap both Dole and Clinton , placing them in suspended animation tubes and assuming their forms through " bio @-@ duplication " to ensure that one of them will become the next leader . Before returning Homer to Earth , the aliens soak him in rum , so nobody will believe him . As the election nears , the impostor candidates are seen to be acting strangely , holding hands in public and making bizarre declarations in unhumanlike monotone . Later on , Homer stumbles upon the badly hidden spaceship and tries to save the real Dole and Clinton , with both candidates agreeing they should join forces to defeat the aliens ; however , Homer accidentally ejects them into space , killing them . On the day before the election , Homer crashes the spaceship into the Capitol and successfully reveals the candidates ' real identities . However , despite being exposed , Kang and Kodos declare to the people that they have to choose between one of them because " it 's a two @-@ party system " , since it is too late to get new candidates . One man in the crowd announces that he will vote for a third @-@ party candidate , but Kang and Kodos mockingly encourage him to " go ahead [and] throw your vote away , " prompting a bout of displeasure from Ross Perot . As such , Kang is subsequently elected President and quickly enslaves all of humanity into building a giant ray gun to aim at an unknown planet , while Homer smugly states that at least he voted for Kodos .

= = Production = =

The episode does not feature any wraparound segments , which are normally used in Treehouse of Horror episodes . The wraparounds had been cut from the previous year 's episode , so the writers did not bother writing one for this episode . " The Thing and I " was written by Ken Keeler , " The Genesis Tub " was written by Dan Greaney and " Citizen Kang " was written by David X. Cohen . Despite the similarities , " The Thing and I " was not based on the plot of Basket Case . " The Genesis Tub " was originally pitched by Cohen and it was later referenced in the South Park episode " Simpsons Already Did It " , when they pointed out that The Simpsons had earlier gotten the idea from the 1962 Twilight Zone episode called " The Little People . " The sequence where tiny spaceships attack Bart in " The Genesis Tub " marks one of the first uses of computers in The Simpsons animation . The computer was used to build models for reference and the animators later retraced it . The 1996 Presidential election occurred a few days after the airing of this episode . According to Cohen , the " Citizen Kang " short violated every rule of The Simpsons as it locked the episode in one time and named specific candidates .

= = Cultural references = =

Homer sings " Fish Heads " , a 1980 novelty song by Barnes & Barnes , during " The Thing and I " .

Homer 's crashing the flying saucer into Capitol dome is a nod to Earth vs. the Flying Saucers (1956) .

= = Reception = =

In its original broadcast , " Treehouse of Horror VII " finished 31st in ratings for the week of October 21 ? 27 , 1996 , with a Nielsen rating of 10 @.@ 5 , equivalent to approximately 10 @.@ 2 million viewing households . It was the third highest @-@ rated show on the Fox network that week , following Millennium and The X @-@ Files .

In 2006 , IGN.com voted " Citizen Kang " as the seventh best segment of the Treehouse of Horror episodes .

A.V. Club named Kang / Bob Dole 's line , " Abortions for some , miniature American flags for others ! " , one of the best lines in the history of the show .

The ska punk band named I Voted for Kodos takes its name from Homer 's line , " Don 't blame me , I voted for Kodos " , at the end of " Citizen Kang " . In a 2000 Entertainment Weekly article , Matt

Groening ranked it as his seventh favorite in the history of the show . " We 've reached the limits of what rectal probing can teach us " is one of Matt Groening 's favorite lines .