

= The Clash of Triton =

" The Clash of Triton " , also known as " Neptune 's Party " , is the 26th episode of the sixth season and the 126th overall episode of the American animated television series SpongeBob SquarePants . It originally aired on Nickelodeon in the United States on July 5 , 2010 .

The series follows the adventures and endeavors of the title character and his various friends in the underwater city of Bikini Bottom . In this episode , King Neptune wants to celebrate his 5,000th birthday at the Krusty Krab , but he is depressed about his long @-@ disowned son , Triton . Determined to make this the king 's happiest birthday ever and save the day , SpongeBob sets out to find Triton and bring him back to the party .

The episode was written by Casey Alexander , Zeus Cervas , Aaron Springer , Steven Banks , and Paul Tibbitt , and was directed by Andrew Overtoom and Alan Smart . Alexander , Cervas , and Springer also served as storyboard directors on the episode . It features guest appearances by John O 'Hurley , Victoria Beckham , and Sebastian Bach . Upon release , the episode was watched by 5 @.@ 2 million viewers , and met positive reviews .

= = Plot summary = =

King Neptune wants to celebrate his 5,000th birthday at the Krusty Krab . SpongeBob and the crew spare no expense for the gala , rolling out the red carpet to welcome the royal family . Despite the party itself , the king 's spirits are brought down by the absence of his son , Triton , spoiling the festivities for everyone , especially his wife , Queen Amphitrite . Triton was banished to a cage on the deserted Island in the Sky , until he is ready to be a proper god , having displeased his father with his growing interests in the mortal world .

Determined to make this the king 's happiest birthday ever and save the day , SpongeBob sets out to find Triton and bring him to the party . Once found , Triton initially ignores SpongeBob , but after smelling SpongeBob 's terribly smelly breath , he tells him to undo the lock . Unable to figure it out , SpongeBob calls his best friend , Patrick , to help out . Patrick unlocks Triton 's cell , and the Prince escapes the island . No one anticipates Triton 's wrath , Triton destroys Bikini Bottom . Noticing that something is wrong at the Krusty Krab , SpongeBob and Patrick enter the building from the back , discovering the guests and staff locked in a cage . When Patrick unlocks the cell , Triton attempts to escape his father , who catches up to him . King Neptune can 't tolerate his son 's wrongdoings , but on seeing how Triton destroyed Bikini Bottom , is pleased that he 's finally using powers , becoming a worthy successor . The family leaves for home , with King Neptune crediting SpongeBob for this development ; the townsfolk of Bikini Bottom see differently , chasing him and Patrick in an angry mob .

= = Production = =

" The Clash of Triton " was written by Casey Alexander , Zeus Cervas , Aaron Springer , Steven Banks , and Paul Tibbitt , with Andrew Overtoom and Alan Smart serving as animation directors . Alexander , Cervas , and Springer also served as storyboard directors . Writer Banks said that the writing crew " liked the idea of gods and of Triton as an angry teenager dealing with his father . It all goes back to Greek tragedy . " The episode originally aired on Nickelodeon in the United States on July 5 , 2010 .

In addition to the regular cast , English singer Victoria Beckham guest starred in the episode as the wife of King Neptune , Queen Amphitrite . The writers created the role of a Queen Amphitrite especially for Beckham . The former Spice Girl accepted the role because her sons , Brooklyn , Romeo , and Cruz , love the show , were excited when their mother told them of the role , and looked forward to watching the episode with her .

Beckham recorded the voice @-@ over in late @-@ 2008 in a day , and claimed that she was " thrilled " to provide the vocal cameo . Other guests including Seinfeld actor John O 'Hurley also made a vocal cameo in the episode as King Neptune , and Skid Row heavy metal vocalist

Sebastian Bach as the voice of Triton .

Ideas for casting guest voices often come from the writers and executive producer , said Sarah Noonan , vice president of talent and casting for Nickelodeon . Steven Banks told " But the harder part was for Sebastian . I was so pleased that he really could sound like a pimple @-@ faced , snotty teenager . " Nickelodeon animation president Brown Johnson said " We 're happy to have such a talented and eclectic group of celebrities lend their voices to this SpongeBob special [...] Victoria [Beckham] , John [O 'Hurley] and Sebastian [Bach] truly brought Bikini Bottom 's royal family to life . "

On July 13 , 2010 , the episode became available on DVD titled Triton 's Revenge as Paramount Home Entertainment and Nickelodeon announced its release . The DVD features six other episodes including " Sand Castles in the Sand " , " Shell Shocked " , " Chum Bucket Supreme " , " Single Cell Anniversary " , " Tentacle @-@ Vision " , and " I Heart Dancing " , and special features such as shorts of the episode and Fanboy and Chum Chum episodes . It was also included series ' season six DVD compilation .

= = Reception = =

The premiere of " The Clash of Triton " drew 2 @.@ 8 million kids 2 @-@ 11 , 2 @.@ 0 million kids 6 @-@ 11 , 1 @.@ 5 million teens 9 @-@ 14 and 5 @.@ 2 million total viewers age 2 + for Nickelodeon . SpongeBob.com had its most trafficked week in 2010 with 1 @.@ 4 million unique visitors , 15 @.@ 1 million page views , and 5 @.@ 7 million total game sessions . Additionally , the new Nick Game of the Week based on the special generated 1 @.@ 2 million game sessions .

" The Clash of Triton " received mixed to positive reviews from critics . Steve Earhart called the episode " a hilarious special that runs perfect with the six other quirky and crazy @-@ funny episode . " Shannon Gosney of The Mommy @-@ Files said that " you 'll love this special [...] " Nancy Basile of the About.com said " it was funny enough and endearing enough to make it well worth watching . " Gord Lacey of TV Shows on DVD claimed " I enjoyed ' Clash of the Triton ' , and the bonus episode of Fanboy and Chum Chum was neat . " Ken Tucker of the Entertainment Weekly said " The values of SpongeBob remain intact . The script ? s rapid @-@ fire gags , the show 's wildly bright color palette , and the series ' resolute avoidance of heavy @-@ handed messages combine to give Stephen Hillenburg 's SpongeBob its adventurous energy . " He added " [SpongeBob] SquarePants just doesn 't seem to get old , does it ? "

Maxie Zeus of Toon Zone said " the plot isn 't even well structured , being slack and inefficient about getting from one situation to the next . " He added " the whole special is like this : plot points clumsily rolled out to ' motivate ' other plot points , which are themselves there only to motivate yet more plot points . But somehow , while they were distracted by all this wheezing machinery , they forgot to put any actual humor in . " Paul Mavis of DVD Talk said " ' The Clash of Triton ' spends way too much time on exposition , setting up the short 's premise , while skimping on what should have been a priority : the jokes . " In his review for the DVD Verdict , Roy Hrab gave the episode 's DVD a negative review and said " loud noises and frantic action fill the screen to little or no purpose . It 's all punch lines and no jokes or clever set @-@ ups . "