

= I Am the Walrus (American Dad !) =

" I Am the Walrus " is the thirteenth episode of the seventh season of American Dad ! , first airing on Fox in the United States on March 27 , 2011 . It mainly centers around Stan and his son Steve , who are both competing for the dominant role of the house . Steve is the first person to finish his meal , much to Stan 's dismay . Stan becomes intimidated by his son , and he is afraid that his stance as the alpha male of the household will be dethroned . Meanwhile , Hayley and Jeff are suffering marital relationship problems , so they seek marriage counseling .

" I Am the Walrus " was directed by Tim Parsons , with Jennifer Graves serving as co @-@ director for the episode , and was written by Keith Heisler . It featured guest appearances from Jeff Fischer , as well as several recurring actors and actresses for the series . Most critics gave the episode positive reviews , with much of the praise stemming from the main storyline , and it was viewed by over 4 @. @ 9 million viewers , acquiring a 3 @. @ 0 rating in the 18 @-@ 49 demographic upon its initial airing , according to the Nielsen ratings .

= = Plot = =

The Smith family have dinner together , and Stan talks about the events that occurred on a documentary on animals that aired earlier . Shortly after the conversation , Steve is the first person to finish his meal , much to Stan 's surprise . Stan later becomes insecure about the incident , and he is afraid that his stance as the alpha male of the household will be dethroned . The next morning , when Steve is watching a movie on television , Stan abruptly pushes him off the couch and claims it as his " territory " by peeing all over it . Steve becomes furious , and he tells Francine about the situation in the kitchen . Francine tells him that Stan is intimidated by him , and that he feels that he will be dethroned of his dominance by him . Puzzled , Steve talks to Stan about the issue and openly challenges him of his position as the dominant person in the household . Though Steve manages to outdo him in everything , Stan is inspired by a walrus documentary to do the one thing his son can not do : have sex . Turning to Roger for help , Steve is suggested to go to a party to get laid . Informed by Klaus of this , Stan rushes to the party to stop his son . However , upon arriving there , Stan learns that Steve 's various attempts to have sex with a girl failed miserably as the boy is having a mental breakdown . Roger explains now there 's no threat to Steve challenging Stan , and no threat of Steve 's future son (whom shall never be born) challenging him . Stan later apologizes to him , and admits to having failed to raise him to be a man .

In concurrence with the chain of events , after continuously getting into arguments , Jeff and Hayley decide to take marriage counseling . They arrive at a class dedicated to pottery where the session is intended to start at , learning the counselor to be Principal Lewis . Hayley opts out of the session , but Jeff insists that she stay with the plan . The couple later arrive at Principal Lewis ' home , which is a pigsty , where he tells him that their first goal to accomplish is to clean his house . Confused , Hayley and Jeff refuse to do it , forcing Lewis to hold them at gunpoint to do the laborious tasks . Jeff later pulls out drugs that have the ability to paralyze , and Principal Lewis takes them and Hayley and Jeff steal his rare Mickey Mouse watch and escape . He returns to get the watch back and tells he has fixed Hayley and Jeff 's relationship . After he gets his watch back , he takes more of the " Stephen Hawking pills " and is later used by Stan to teach Steve how to shave and Roger drags him away for unknown (but quite possibly sexual) reasons .

= = Production = =

" I Am the Walrus " was directed by series regular Tim Parsons , in his second episode of the season . This would be the first episode that Parsons would direct since the season six episode " 100 A.D. " . Jennifer Graves served as the co @-@ director for the episode . It was written by series regular Keith Heisler . This would be the second time Heisler has written an episode for the season , having also written season six episode " 100 A.D. " . Seth MacFarlane , the creator and executive producer of American Dad ! , as well as its sister shows Family Guy and The Cleveland Show ,

served as the executive producer for the episode , along with series veterans Mike Barker , Rick Wiener , Matt Weitzman , Eli Dolleman , and Kenny Schwartz . Diana Retchey was the animation producer for the episode , in her tenth episode of the season . Amanda Bell served as the production manager , and this episode would be Bell 's tenth episode of the season where she served as the production manager .

Several recurring voice actors were featured in this episode . Curtis Armstrong , Daisuke Suzuki and Eddie Kaye Thomas guest starred as Steve 's friends in the episode , while Kevin Michael Richardson would return to play his part as Principal Lewis . Jeff Fischer would return to resume his role as Hayley 's husband . Armstrong , Suzuki , Thomas , and Richardson all previously reprised their roles in the season six episode " You Debt Your Life " , while Fischer previously reprised his role in the season six episode " For Whom the Sleigh Bell Tolls " .

= = Cultural references = =

The episode makes several references to pop culture referencing films , music and media . When Roger takes on a persona to help Steve lose his virginity Steve exclaims his excitement to finally being able to use his dance moves . Afterwards the scene cuts to Toshi , Berry , Steve , Snot and Roger taking turns humping an ottoman in a nod to a video , that went viral in 2009 , in which five teenagers danced similarly . The song " Pony " by Ginuwine plays during this sequence . Steve and Roger get distracted from the problem with Stan with watching Airplane ! after they quote the classic " Don 't call me Shirley " scene . They even watch Airplane II : The Sequel , which Steve says is better than the first film , but actual reception was generally negative . The title of the episode is a reference to The Beatles ' song of the same name . The sequence where Steve picks up a line of comic books and repeatedly says " Ooh ! " , is a call back to the Family Guy episodes " Peter 's Got Woods " and " Back to the Woods " , in which James Woods eats a trail of candy and says " Ooh , a piece of candy ! " repeatedly .

= = Reception = =

" I Am the Walrus " was first broadcast on March 27 , 2011 as part of the animation television night on Fox . The episode ended the line @-@ up , the first time an American Dad ! episode ended the animation television night on Fox since the season @-@ six episode " For Whom the Sleigh Bell Tolls " . It was the first new episode of American Dad ! shortly following a month @-@ long hiatus . It was preceded by The Simpsons , Bob 's Burgers , and a rerun of its sister show Family Guy . Its other relative show , The Cleveland Show , was notably absent , as it did not air on that date . It was viewed by 4 @.@ 9 million viewers upon its original airing , despite airing simultaneously with Celebrity Apprentice on NBC , Undercover Boss on CBS , and a rerun of Desperate Housewives on ABC . The total viewership of the episode was slightly higher than Bob 's Burgers , but significantly lower than Family Guy and The Simpsons . It achieved a 3 @.@ 0 rating in the 18 ? 49 demographic group , according to the Nielsen ratings , the third highest rating in the line @-@ up . The episode 's total viewership and ratings were significantly up from the previous episode , " You Debt Your Life " , which was viewed by 4 @.@ 25 million viewers upon its initial airing , and garnered a 2 @.@ 0 rating in the 18 ? 49 demographic . The episode 's ratings and total viewership were also the highest since the season six episode " For Whom the Sleigh Bell Tolls " , which was viewed by 6 @.@ 26 million viewers and acquired a 3 @.@ 1 rating in the 18 @-@ 49 demographic .

" I Am the Walrus " was met with mostly positive reviews from critics . Rowan Kaiser of The A.V. Club gave the episode a positive review . In his review for the episode , he opined : " The episode itself didn 't disappoint either , as [...] this was a quality half @-@ hour of jokes . Kaiser praised the argument between Stan and Steve , calling it a " superb sequence " . Concluding his review , Kaiser went on to write , " Despite all the absurdity , the episode even manages to successfully come around to an emotional resolution when Stan , realizing that Steve is an utter failure at attempted mating , resolves to see Steve as a son instead of potential masculine competition . Then [...] there

's a rape joke . But , it being American Dad , it 's actually a surprisingly funny rape joke . " He went on to give the episode an " A- " , scoring higher than The Simpsons episode " Love Is a Many Strangled Thing " , but scoring lower than Bob 's Burgers episode " Spaghetti Western and Meatballs " . Jason Hughes of TV Squad also reacted positively , writing , " It was good to have American Dad back in the lineup . Roger was in fine form , and I can at least appreciate that they 're trying to figure out how to make Hayley and Jeff work in the family dynamic . They never quite got there with Hayley alone , so maybe things will work better this way . " However , he was more critical on the sub @-@ plot . In his review for the episode , Hughes opined : " The B @-@ story left me wanting . The writers are still trying to figure out the new dynamic of having Hayley married and Jeff living in the house with the Smiths . The whole thing has been barely addressed , and this week we got a fairly weak exploration of them having fairly standard marital problems . "