

= Wet Hot Demonic Summer =

" Wet Hot Demonic Summer " is the second season premiere of the American animated television series Ugly Americans , and the fifteenth overall episode of the series . It originally aired on Comedy Central in the United States on June 30 , 2011 . In the episode , Leonard Powers is about to retire as the Wizard of Social Services and give the job to his apprentice , Lionel , whom he abandoned fifty years prior . Meanwhile , Twayne Boneraper and Callie Maggotbone must infiltrate the compound where the wizards hold the initiation ritual , but their complicated strategy involves building a summer camp with Mark Lilly as the head counselor .

The episode was written by Daniel Powell and directed by Aaron Augenblick . Powell was inspired to write the episode after reading a critic 's review of the series ; the critic referred to Leonard as having " omnipotence " , which spurred an idea involving the character having to take responsibility . " Wet Hot Demonic Summer " parodies the Harry Potter series , particularly the character design of Lionel . The Harry Potter elements were planned nine months in advance to coincide with the release of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows ? Part 2 , which premiered two weeks after the episode aired .

" Wet Hot Demonic Summer " received generally positive reviews from television critics ; several commentators praised its cultural references and claimed that it showed similar quality to that of the series ' first season . According to Nielsen Media Research , " Wet Hot Demonic Summer " was watched by 1 @.@ 14 million viewers in its original airing and attracted less viewers than the series ' pilot episode .

= = Plot = =

Leonard Powers , the Wizard of Social Services , is about to retire and takes his apprentice to Mount Magic to complete the initiation ceremony . For a wizard to retire , they must hatch their apprentice from an egg and train them for fifty years . However , Leonard abandoned his apprentice , the Harry Potter @-@ like Lionel , in Chinatown and did not contact him until the ceremony . Later , it is revealed that to become a wizard , the apprentices must be circumcised . Meanwhile , the demons ? the wizard 's enemies ? are ready to attack Mount Magic , but a force field is keeping them out . Since Leonard still needs to sign his retirement forms , demons Twayne Boneraper and Callie Maggotbone decide to use Mark Lilly to lead them to Leonard . To get Mark to come along , they elect him as the camp leader for a summer camp ( originally a mining camp ) that they build nearby . Mark brings his students from the Department of Integration to the camp , and the devil , Aldermach , brings several demons to act like the camp 's visitors . The department 's police officer , Frank Grimes , also comes along , but runs away to live with bears as he thinks the camp is infested by vermin . Mark 's students and his roommate , the zombie Randall , begin to mine in an old silver mine . However , they get trapped inside , but Doug the koala begins to dig them out .

At Mount Magic , Lionel is upset because Leonard abandoned him , and goes outside to the balcony , where he spots Callie swimming in the lake while wearing a bikini , and he declares that " she will be mine " . Mark arrives at the lake and sees Leonard from the balcony and tells him that he forgot to sign his retirement forms . Leonard explains how to come to the secret entrance to Mark , which the demons hear . Later , Mark meets Leonard and Lionel at the entrance , where he signs his forms and is ready to retire . Moments later , when initiation ceremony begins at Mount Magic , the demons invade the compound and a battle between wizards and demons commences , while Lionel runs away to be with Callie , who , being the camp 's " sexy counselor " , has sex with him before Mark interrupts . Grimes arrives with his army of bears and soon thereafter , Doug arrives in a hole that he dug ; the hole collapses the floor and all the demons and bears are consumed by it . As the battle ends , the sun goes down and it is too late for Lionel to be circumcised and take over as the Wizard of Social Services , so Leonard continues to work and begins to raise a new egg .

= = Production = =

" Wet Hot Demonic Summer " was written by Daniel Powell and directed by Aaron Augenblick . Series creator Devin Clark said that they planned on giving it a summer theme since they knew it would air in the summer . Clark further elaborated on the decision to incorporate summer and Harry Potter themes into the episode , stating : " We went , ' alright , those are two little nuggets of ideas we can incorporate into that . ' We can 't be as relevant to pop culture as some other shows , but it just means we have a little more of a challenge of making jokes that are a little more evergreen and poking fun of the genre in a much broader spectrum . " Screenwriter Powell explained that it is difficult for the series to do " topical stuff " as it takes up to nine months to complete an episode , but they were aware of the fact that the Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows ? Part 2 would premiere shortly after the episode was set to air . " So it would seem like we were hyper @-@ topical , even though we had a good nine months advance notice " , he said . Powell said that they included famous wizards from many other sources , including The Lord of the Rings and The Wonderful Wizard of Oz . In an interview with Charles Webb of MTV , Clark elaborated : " We make it a hodgepodge of the wizard references and obviously the main one is , and the most prominent one and the one that 's most relevant to pop culture is the Harry Potter spoof that we 've thrown in there .

The episode explores Leonard 's background and that he is " essentially a deadbeat dad " . In an interview with Matt Barone of the magazine Complex , Powell revealed that he was inspired to write the episode after reading a critic 's review which referred to Leonard as " basically [ having ] omnipotence " as he is able to conjure any magic he wants , but is too lazy to take advantage of his powers . The review spurred an idea for an episode where Leonard would be responsible for dealing with a kid . Powell called the episode 's mythology " very bizarre and surreal " , but said that they tried to keep the core themes relatable , such as Leonard 's relationship with his estranged son . The same day as the episode 's original broadcast , a deleted scene from " Wet Hot Demonic Summer " was made available on the official Ugly Americans website . In the half @-@ minute clip , Grimes is shown settling into living his life as a bear .

= = Reception = =

The episode originally aired on Comedy Central in the United States on June 30 , 2011 , following the Futurama episode " Ghost in the Machines " . According to Nielsen Media Research , " Wet Hot Demonic Summer " was watched by 1 @.@ 14 million viewers , compared to the 1 @.@ 92 million who watched Futurama . The episode also acquired a 0 @.@ 5 rating among viewers between the ages of 18 and 49 . This means that 0 @.@ 5 % of all 18- to 49 @-@ year @-@ olds viewed the episode . It dropped in viewership compared to the series ' pilot episode , which attracted 2 @.@ 10 million viewers and acquired a 1 @.@ 1 rating . " Wet Demonic Summer " also marked a drop in ratings compared to the first season finale , " The Manbirds " , which received a 0 @.@ 7 rating .

" Wet Hot Demonic Summer " received generally positive reviews from critics . David Hinckley of New York Daily News rated it four out of five stars and commented that although it may not make sense to some viewers , it is " equally possible they will keep watching anyway because the jokes work so well all by themselves " . Hinckley went on to remark that " Ugly Americans packs a lot into 21 or 22 minutes . Happily , its often droll and deadpan style makes it easy to watch even if some of the references are whizzing by unappreciated " . RedEye critic Curt Wagner rated it three stars out of four and wrote that that it includes " visual pizzazz " , cultural references and " so @-@ fast @-@ you 'll @-@ miss @-@ them jokes " that it might require multiple viewings . Wagner , however , meant that this was a rather positive feature , writing : " For example , you might be laughing so hard at what just happened that you miss a fun line ... " Lastly , Wagner observed that " Ugly Americans can be gross and bizarre , but everything makes sense in the world that it has created " .

Josh Harrison of Ology deemed the episode a " good sign " that the second season will be " just as good , if not better " than the first season . He said , " The way it all works together in this episode ... is subtle and surprising but nevertheless convincing evidence that there 's method to the madness . Ugly Americans knows when to play this card ; at all other junctures , it 's got the right instinct when it shows us yet more madness . " Harrison praised the battle scene between the wizards and the

demons , calling it " one of the best single sequences in the series so far " . In contrast , The Standard @-@ Times critic Kevin McDonough was more critical regarding the episode , noting that it " tries a tad too hard " . McDonough commented : " The efforts to meld 1980s summer @-@ camp fantasy comedies with the Harry Potter movies are more odd than amusing . Then again , that pretty much sums up Ugly Americans itself . "