

= Family Guy =

" Family Guy " is the second episode of the eighth season of the animated comedy series Family Guy . It originally aired on Fox in the United States on October 4 , 2009 . The episode features Irish Catholic Peter after his wife , Lois , discovers that her mother is Jewish , and begins her struggle to adapt to her newfound heritage . Meanwhile , Peter begins to embrace his wife 's new religion , but after a spiritual visit from his deceased Irish Catholic stepfather , Francis , he becomes increasingly anti @-@ semitic towards Lois and the family 's religion .

First announced at the 2009 San Diego Comic @-@ Con International , the episode was written by Mark Hentemann and directed by James Purdum . It received mixed reviews from critics for its storyline and cultural references , in addition to receiving criticism from the Parents Television Council . According to Nielsen ratings , it was viewed in 9 @.@ 66 million homes in its original airing . The episode featured guest performances by Jeff Bergman , Max Burkholder , Charles Durning , Ben Stein and Bill Woodson , along with several recurring guest voice actors for the series . " Family Guy " was released on DVD along with seven other episodes from the season on June 15 , 2010 .

= = Plot = =

While at the Drunken Clam , Peter falls in love with a cardboard cutout of Kathy Ireland . He takes her home and has an ' affair ' with her . Soon he is caught by Lois who calls him an idiot . Peter introduces Kathy to the kids as their new mom , but after finding that Chris took her into his room , he angrily confronts her and ends up ripping her in half . He tearfully buries her in the yard and begs Lois for forgiveness . Lois forgives him and they have sex and Lois is shocked when Peter discovers a lump on her breast , causing her to go to the hospital the next day to have it tested for breast cancer . The test comes back negative , but while looking through her medical records , Dr Hartman discovers that Lois ' mother is a Jewish Holocaust survivor , making Lois and her children Jewish by heritage . Barbara confirms her heritage , and Carter admits he kept it a family secret so that they could join the country club . Despite not being Jewish himself , Peter takes to it eagerly , much to Lois ' frustration . That night , Peter is visited by the ghost of his adoptive father , Francis , who warns him that he will go to Hell for not being Catholic . The next day , Peter decides to re @-@ convert the family to Catholicism and becomes prejudiced against Lois ' heritage , becoming anti @-@ Semitic .

Taking advice from her mother not to let Peter suppress her identity , like her own husband did to her , Lois decides to hold a Passover Seder , which Peter tries to ruin so he can celebrate Easter . He shows up in an Easter bunny costume while drunk . Jesus appears and points out that Catholicism and Judaism are very similar . He then tells Peter that he should treat people of different faiths as fairly as he wants to be treated . Peter and Lois apologize to each other , but are at a loss for what religion they should follow . After being asked this by Peter , Jesus answers " Six of one , they 're all complete crap . " and then Brian (offscreen) chimes in from the other side of the room , responding " Thank you ! "

= = Production and development = =

First announced at the 2009 San Diego Comic @-@ Con International in San Diego , California on July 25 , 2009 , by future showrunner Mark Hentemann , the episode was directed by supervising director James Purdum , written by Hentemann , shortly after the conclusion of the seventh production season .

" Family Guy " , along with the seven other episodes from Family Guy 's eighth season , were released on a three @-@ disc DVD set in the United States on June 15 , 2010 . The sets included brief audio commentaries by Seth MacFarlane and various crew and cast members for several episodes , a collection of deleted scenes , a special mini @-@ feature which discussed the process behind animating " Road to the Multiverse " , and mini @-@ feature entitled Family Guy Karaoke . This episode uses a story element from " Death is a Bitch " , an episode written by Ricky Blitt , in

which Lois discovers a lump on Peter 's breast , thinking it would be cancer , whereas the opposite occurred in this episode .

Actors Ben Stein and Charles Durning guest starred in the episode as Rabbi Goldberg and Francis Griffin , respectively . Rabbi Goldberg and Max Weinstein , two Jewish characters whom Lois and Peter seek advice from after discovering Lois 's heritage , made their second appearance in the series , having previously appeared in the third season episode " When You Wish Upon a Weinstein " , which was originally banned from airing on network television . However , Peter Riegert did not reprise his role of Max Weinstein . Instead , voice actor Jeff Bergman , notable for playing Fred Flintstone in the show , voices him . In addition to Stein , Durning , Bergman , and the regular cast , child actor Max Burkholder and voice actor William Woodson guest starred in the episode . Recurring guest voice actors Johnny Brennan , actor Ralph Garman , writer Mark Hentemann , writer Danny Smith , writer Alec Sulkin , and writer John Viener also made minor appearances .

= = Cultural references = =

" Family Goy " contained various cultural references . The episode opens with a parody of the opening sequence of The All @-@ New Super Friends Hour , with the central characters of Family Guy replacing The All @-@ New Super Friends Hour 's main characters , except for Meg . When Peter first sees the Kathy Ireland cutout , he starts to sing the Billy Ocean song , " Suddenly " . As Lois collects the mail Peter attempts to shoot her , topless and armed with a sniper rifle , but instead hits the mailbox which is reminiscent of a scene in Schindler 's List of Amon Göth shooting down Jews in the Kraków @-@ P?aszów concentration camp in occupied Poland . Stewie 's prayer over the candles is a real prayer that women recite before a non @-@ Sabbath festival 's start , however , the prayer turns into a reference to the 1984 adventure film Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom where Indian priest Mola Ram takes out the heart of a man during a ritual . Peter references William Shakespeare 's play Macbeth , but the cutaway gag shows a battle in a spaceship , to which Peter admits that he is not very familiar with Shakespeare 's works .

= = Reception = =

" Family Goy " was first broadcast in the United States and Canada on Fox on October 4 , 2009 . The episode was viewed by 9 @. @ 66 million people and received a 5 @. @ 4 / 8 Nielsen Rating , making " Family Goy " the ninth most @-@ watched show of the night it was broadcast .

The episode was met with mixed critical responses . Ahsan Haque of IGN praised the second half of the episode but felt that the Kathy Ireland plot was too long . In his review , he commented " It 's definitely meant for people who are open @-@ minded to this kind of humor , and can make sure they treat the subject matter purely as comedy and not any manner of social commentary or prejudice . Take away the slow start , and this episode managed to really deliver some memorable shocking comedy . " TV Guide critic Alex Rocha praised the show 's League of Justice opening sequence and the Kathy Ireland plot but reacted negatively to the second half of the episode , stating that he " dozed off " during the last fifteen minutes . TV Guide also listed the episode on the " TV hot list " of October 4 . The Toronto Star noted the episode was " worth watching " . Todd VanDerWerff of The A.V. Club gave the episode a negative review , giving it a C ? grade and concluding that , " Overall , the episode was just an excuse to drag out a bunch of tired Jewish jokes and also have Peter briefly descend into anti @-@ Semitism " . Though he mostly disliked the episode , VanDerWerff praised Stewie 's part in the episode , as well as the Shakespeare cutaway gag and a cutaway that featured Peter getting into fight with a cat . Jewish Journal critic Adam Willis commented " My hope is that the series will roast the familiar Jewish themes introduced in ? Family Goy , ? rather than continuing on the Jews @-@ as @-@ targets route . The show has regularly featured some inspiring Jewish gags ? both in good taste and bad . And while Hebrew community in @-@ jokes would be better received by Jewish viewers , the likely reality is the Holocaust humor will continue to dominate . "

Media watchdog group the Parents Television Council , a frequent critic of the show , named "

Family Guy " its " Worst TV Show of the Week " for the week ending October 9 , 2009 , criticizing what it saw as an anti @-@ Semitic plot .