

FAMILY GUY

"A Hero Sits Next Door"

Written by

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ANIMATIC FINAL (GREEN) *
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**FOR EDUCATIONAL
PURPOSES ONLY**

COLD OPEN

EXT./ESTAB. GRIFFINS' HOUSE - DAY

INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM - DAY

STEWIE sits surrounded by toys. He reads from a book, then slams it shut.

STEWIE

Ah, Machiavelli, you've told me
nothing I don't already know. (PICKS
UP NEXT BOOK) Ah. "Sun Tsu's The Art
of War".

Stewie opens the book and starts reading. LOIS enters.

LOIS

Stewie, those books aren't for babies.
Lois takes the book out of Stewie's hands.

LOIS (CONT'D)

Here, watch the Teletubbies.
Lois turns on the TV and exits.

STEWIE

How dare you! That book may hold the
key to my enslaving of all mankind--
(NOTICES TV) -- Ooo, fuzzy...

ON TV SCREEN:

The TELETUBBIES watch as a CATERPILLAR crawls off a leaf onto
one of their hands. The Teletubby giggles.

TELETUBBY

Tickles!

They all giggle and coo.

INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

STEWIE

God, the more I resist, the more
intriguing they become. I can't look
away.

ON TV SCREEN:

The Teletubby opens his hand. A beautiful butterfly emerges
and turns into a rainbow. They laugh and clap.

TELETUBBIES

Again! Again!

INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

STEWIE

(TO TV) Yes, yes! Again! Again! Oh
dear God, please, once more!

PETER enters and crosses to the television.

PETER

Ah, sorry, Stewie, A&E "Biography" is
doing the life of that other guy from
"Wham!"

Peter changes the station. Stewie snaps out of his trance.

STEWIE

I'm free! Free from the spell of
those diabolical Teletubbies! (TO
PETER) Thank you. When the world is
mine, your death shall be quick and
painless.

Stewie scampers off.

END OF COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

EXT./ESTAB. HAPPY-GO-LUCKY TOY CO. - DAY

INT. HAPPY-GO-LUCKY TOY CO. - DAY

Peter is checking toys on the assembly line with other WORKERS. MR. WEED comes in, carrying a riding crop. He addresses the group.

MR. WEED

Attention, please! Tomorrow is
softball practice. We have a lot of
work to do for Saturday's game
against Pawtucket Joke & Novelty.
Let's not forget how badly they
humiliated us last year.

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Pawtucket PLAYERS sit in their dugout wearing "x-ray vision" glasses (with spiraled lenses). They point and laugh.

THEIR P.O.V.: Peter's team stands on the field wearing only their jockstraps and gloves. They all cover their crotches, except for Peter in his ratty underwear, who points at the other team wearing the glasses.

PETER

Hahaha. Look at those morons in
their stupid glasses.

INT. HAPPY-GO-LUCKY TOY CO. - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

PETER

Ah man, I hate those guys. More than
I hate spinach, traffic jams, and the
last few years of MASH.

(MORE)

PETER (CONT'D)

You know, when Alan Alda took over behind the camera and the show got all dramatic and preachy. Ah, am I right? Who's with me?! Hah?

MR. WEED

This year we will defeat those pranksters with our secret weapon: Guillermo.

Everyone looks at GUILLERMO, a strapping young man. Mr. Weed picks up a ball from the assembly line and suddenly tosses it at Guillermo. Guillermo grabs a toy bat from the line and **knocks** a line drive into another WORKER's gut, who **yelps** and doubles over.

MR. WEED (CONT'D)

Bravo! (TO OTHERS) I hired Guillermo because I believe he will be an asset to our company, on and off the field.

INT. MR. WEED'S OFFICE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

We see Mr. Weed from behind as he sits at his desk interviewing Guillermo, who wears a business suit.

MR. WEED

You have impeccable credentials.

REVERSE ANGLE reveals Mr. Weed is wearing the same X-Ray Glasses.

MR. WEED (CONT'D)

I'm sure I can find a position for you somewhere.

INT. HAPPY-GO-LUCKY TOY CO. - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

MR. WEED

Back to work, people. *

Peter stops Mr. Weed.

PETER

Hey uh, Mr. Weed. I got a great idea *

for a new line of TV action figures. *

"Facts of Life" Transformers, eh? *

(SHOWING A FIGURE) Wa-watch the *

transformation. Cute as button. *

He pushes a button and it turns into a bug. *

PETER (CONT'D)

Radioactive scorpion, eh? (PLAYING *

WITH IT) "Watch out, Mrs. Garrett,

here comes Blair!"

MR. WEED

I'll consider it.

He smacks his riding crop on his hand.

MR. WEED

Come, Guillermo. You are new, and

there is much for you to take in.

Mr. Weed and Guillermo exit. Peter turns to a worker.

PETER

He'll consider it! Aww right.

Minimum wage, here I come!

INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM - SAME

BRIAN is on the couch, clipping his nails. Peter, dressed for practice, watches TV with CHRIS and MEG.

INT. "WHEEL OF FORTUNE" (ON TV)

A CONTESTANT finishes spinning the wheel. The puzzle on the wall reads: "G O _ U C K Y O U R S E L _ _ _"

CONTESTANT

Pat, I'd like to solve the puzzle.

"Go tuck yourself in".

PAT SAJAK

You got it!

INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

CHRIS

Well, you were close, Dad.

PETER

Yeah. And I still can't believe we missed the phrase "my hairy aunt",
ehh. (THEN:) C'mon, Brian, I gotta get to softball practice.

Stewie runs in, followed by Lois.

STEWIE

Dahh, You'll never catch me, you overbearing sea cow!

(MORE)

STEWIE (CONT'D)

I will go where I please!

Lois scoops him up and places him in his playpen.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

(SARCASTIC) Oh, touche.

LOIS

Oh, it's just until we go next door
to welcome our new neighbors. Are
you coming, Peter? *

PETER

Oh no, forget it, Lois. I don't want
anything to do with neighbors. *

LOIS

Oh Peter, they might be very nice
people. *

PETER

(MOCKING) "Very nice people." Yeah,
that's what they always say. Then
you open up the septic tank, and bam!
Skeleton City.

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - LATER THAT DAY

Peter and his softball team are practicing. Brian sits in the empty stands. A WOMAN walks by and he begins panting.

WOMAN

(OFFENDED) Huh, pervert.

BRIAN

Oh, oh don't flatter yourself, honey.
I don't have any sweat glands.

ANGLE ON Mr. Weed and the team (including Peter).

MR. WEED

Okay, my "Happy Go Lucky Toy Boys."
Time for batting practice.
Guillermo, you're up. (TO THE OTHERS)
Unfortunately, Johnson isn't here to
pitch today. His wife is in labor.

PETER

Oh what, is the baby coming out of
him? Geez, I'll pitch.

Peter throws off his catcher's mask near Brian.

BRIAN

Ha, I don't know what's more
questionable, your pitching arm or
Bill Clinton's integrity.

PETER

Ah, how hard ca.... *

Peter is interrupted by an unseen studio audience's **applause**. He and Brian hold for the applause. It dies down, then:

PETER (CONT'D)

Ah, how hard can it be to pitch?

Guillermo is at the plate. Peter winds up and throws a wild pitch striking him in the knee. Guillermo **yelps** collapses in pain. *

PETER (CONT'D)

Uh, okay, take your base.

Mr. Weed rushes over.

MR. WEED

Somebody, call 911! Tell them he's allergic to penicillin and white zinfandel! (TO PETER) Idiot! *
You've destroyed our chances for Saturday's game, and my plans for Saturday night! If you don't find a ringer to replace Guillermo, you're fired!

He walks away. Peter turns to Brian.

PETER

Oh man, what am I gonna do if I get
fired? I'll have to go back to my
old job as a Calvin Klein model.

INT. WHITE BACKGROUND (BLACK AND WHITE FLASHBACK)

We PAN down a CK-style row of emaciated-looking YOUNG PEOPLE
in skimpy clothes.

FEMALE (V.O.)

I don't wanna be just like everybody
else.

MALE (V.O)

But I don't wanna be different.

LOWER FEMALE (V.O)

I just wanna be.

The last person in the line is Peter in his underpants.

PETER (V.O)

What was the name of the bad guy from
"Tron"? Aw, this is gonna drive me
nuts.

EXT./ESTAB. SWANSONS' HOUSE - DAY

EXT. SWANSONS' FRONT YARD - SAME

Lois holds Stewie as she talks to DEBBIE, the pregnant new
neighbor.

LOIS

Well, moving is never easy on a
family.

DEBBIE

We are gonna miss the go-go-go pace
of Providence, but with number two on
the way, (PATS HER BELLY) it was time
for a change.

LOIS

Oh, Quahog can be pretty exciting,
too. Last week, someone lost an eye
at Bingo.

INT. VFW HALL - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

An BINGO ANNOUNCER picks a ball out of the bingo drum and
announces.

BINGO ANNOUNCER

I-17.

He drops the ball.

BINGO ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Oh, darn it.

He leans down to get it and slams his eye on the table
corner. He grabs it in pain.

BINGO ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

Ahhhh!

EXT. SWANSONS' FRONT YARD - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

DEBBIE

Uh, I haven't played Bingo in years. .
When you're a buyer for a store like
Filene's, you have to eat, sleep, and
drink women's budget sportswear.

*

LOIS

But still, it must be so rewarding--

STEWIE

Silence! Ever since you two met,
you've done nothing but wax idiotic.

I must escape this infernal babble!

Stewie breaks free of Lois and starts running. Before he gets very far, he reaches the end of his baby leash and snaps back to Lois who picks him up. **Aahh!** *

DEBBIE

What a little explorer.

LOIS

Yes, he's so full of wonder.

STEWIE

Oh, to be the Lindbergh baby right
about now.

The garage door opens. JOE, Debbie's ruggedly handsome, athletic-looking husband, pulls out in a sports truck. He stops next to Debbie and Lois.

DEBBIE

Joe, you have to meet our new
neighbor, Lois Griffin.

JOE

It's a pleasure, Lois. Who's the
little guy?

LOIS

This is Stewie. Honey, say "Hi" to
Mr. Swanson.

STEWIE

(TO JOE) Oh, you will bow to me. *

PAN OVER to the neighbor's porch. KYLE, 17, is clean cut, and hunky. He wears a football jersey, reads a textbook, and eats an apple. Meg approaches.

MEG

Hi, I'm Meg. I live next door.

KYLE

I know. I've admired you in the garden, from afar. Will you go out with me?

MEG

I'd love to.

INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Meg sighs as she stares out the window, watching her fantasy-self talk to Kyle next door. Chris enters.

CHRIS

Ah, he's gay. *

Meg's fantasy-self vanishes with a pop, leaving Kyle reading his textbook alone.

MEG

(TO CHRIS) You wish! Get out of here, you mouth-breather!

INT. PETER'S CAR - DAY

Peter and Brian are driving down his street.

PETER

Aw, I'm as good as fired. Where the hell am I gonna find a guy as strong as Guillermo?

(MORE)

PETER (CONT'D)

One time I walked into the locker room, I swear he was bench-pressing Mr. Weed.

As he pulls up to the house, he sees Lois with Debbie and Joe.

PETER (CONT'D)

Oh, great, Lois is getting chummy with the new neighbors?

Lois waves Peter to come over.

BRIAN

Oh, I think she wants you to meet them.

PETER

Aw, she's always trying to make me be social. Cocktail parties, school functions, that time we planted trees in Jerusalem.

EXT. TREE FIELDS - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Israeli music plays as Peter and Lois plant trees. The WORKERS in the field glare at Peter.

PETER

What? Look, all I'm saying is, put an Israeli guy next to an Arab guy and I can't tell the difference.

EXT. SWANSONS' FRONT YARD - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

Peter reluctantly walks over. Brian follows. Joe calls to Peter from his truck.

JOE

You must be Peter! Joe Swanson --

PETER

Yeah, yeah, nice to meet ya, Phil. *
You know, you got a neighbor on the
other side of your house, too, so, *
you know, don't think you always have *
to bug me.

JOE

(CHUCKLES WARMLY) I'll keep that in
mind. Say, do you have a screwdriver
I can borrow?

PETER

A screwdriver?

INT. LAWYER'S OFFICE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Peter sits eagerly as a LAWYER reads from a piece of paper.

LAWYER

(READING) "And to my nephew, Peter,
I leave my three hundred piece
screwdriver collection."

EXT. SWANSONS' FRONT YARD - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

PETER

(TO JOE) No, I don't. Man, you *
neighbors are like viruses. Starts *
with a screwdriver, then before you
know it, you're using my supermarket,
my dry cleaner, even my postman!

He walks away with Brian.

PETER (CONT'D)

(RE: JOE) Geez, Can you believe that
guy? "Do you have a screwdriver I can
borrow?" What an ass.

EXT./ESTAB. GRIFFINS' HOUSE - NIGHT

INT. PETER AND LOIS' BEDROOM - SAME

We hear Lois brushing her teeth in the bathroom (o.s.).
Peter is watching TV in bed. He wears his boxers and a t-
shirt. Brian lies on the bed.

BRIAN

So, Peter, have you found a
replacement for your team?

PETER

No, and believe me, I've been looking.

EXT./ESTAB. SHADY OAKS RETIREMENT HOME - DAY (FLASHBACK)

INT. RETIREMENT HOME - SAME

Peter walks up to an OLD MAN with a baseball cap and a cane.

PETER

Hey, Dimaggio! Hey,
you used to be one of
the greats, huh?
Shee, I bet you can't
even pick up a bat
anymore. Huh? Huh?
Come on, Joe, show me
what you've got. Come
on, what are you
- chicken? Bwock, bock,
bock, bock!

DIMAGGIO

...Shut up about *
that... I swear to *
God, shut up... Stop *
it... Stop it, you *
bastard... I'm
warning you!... Shut
up! Shut up!

*
*
*
*
*
*

Dimaggio whacks Peter in the head with his cane.

INT. SUSHI BAR - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Peter sits at a table across from a JAPANESE BASEBALL PLAYER and his INTERPRETER.

INTERPRETER

Hideo-san would be honored to play
for your team, but he wishes to know
what compensation you offer.

PETER

Uh... me, me love you long time? *

INT. PETER AND LOIS' BEDROOM - NIGHT (BACK TO PRESENT)

PETER

Aw, man, if I get fired, Lois and the
kids are gonna think I'm a total
failure.

BRIAN

Well, there go the lone holdouts.
Good night!

Brian jumps off the bed and exits. Lois enters from the bathroom in her nightgown.

LOIS

Peter, I was thinking about inviting
Joe and Debbie to your cookout after
the game on Saturday.

PETER

Oh-no, Lois, the only thing I'll
serve them is a second helping of
kiss my ass. *

LOIS

Oh, c'mon, it'll be a nice way to get
to know them. And Debbie told me Joe
is a big baseball fan. He played in
college.

PETER

(SITS UP) He did?

LOIS

Yeah. I wish you'd give him a
chance. You know, before he became
a policeman he was --

She looks around. Peter's gone. As his body's indentation
in the mattress slowly rises and levels out, we CUT TO:

EXT. SWANSONS' FRONT DOOR - NIGHT

Peter stands at the door in his underwear and a T-shirt with
a screwdriver. Debbie answers it. Peter extends the
screwdriver to her.

PETER

Welcome to the neighborhood!

INT. JOE'S DEN - MOMENTS LATER

The room is full of boxes. Joe sits at the table, unpacking
cartons and putting things on his desk. Peter enters.

PETER

Hiya, Joe.

JOE

Peter?

PETER

Don't get up.

JOE

This is a surprise. I kinda thought
you didn't like me.

He takes a baseball trophy out of the box and puts it on his
desk. Peter's eyes light up.

PETER

Oh, what, because of what I said? *

Oh, no, no see, I, I have that *

disease where stuff just pops out of

my mouth. Go to hell, go to hell!

Whup, huh, see what I mean? Hehehehe. *

JOE

Oh, I'm so sorry. I thought maybe

I'd crossed the line when I asked to *

borrow a screwdriver.

He takes out a larger baseball trophy. Peter is more impressed.

PETER

Heh, are you kidding? You can borrow *

whatever you want.

JOE

Great. Say, you don't happen to have *

any picture wire, do you?

PETER

(GETTING STEAMED) Picture wire? You

son of a bitch...

Joe takes out a huge baseball trophy.

PETER (CONT'D)

(COVERING) Son of a bitch, son of a

bitch! Heh, there it goes again. *

JOE

I don't want to impose...

PETER

No problem, that's what neighbors do.

Eh, eh you know what else they do? *

They play on their neighbor's company
softball team, like this Saturday.

Aah, what do you say, neighbor? *

JOE

Sounds like fun.

PETER

Hey, so much fun it should be *

illegal. Like copyright infringement.

Peter morphs into MICKEY MOUSE.

PETER (CONT'D)

(MICKEY MOUSE VOICE) Ha ha! See ya

at the game, Joe! Ha ha! *

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - DAY

ANGLE ON THE SCOREBOARD - It lists the two teams as "HAPPY-GO-
LUCKY TOY CO." and "PAWTUCKET JOKE & NOVELTY CO."

Peter's team, in their "Toy Boys" uniforms, warms up. A
Pawtucket Joke & Novelty "MERRY PRANKSTER" approaches a TOY
BOY.

MERRY PRANKSTER

Hey, you want a piece of gum? *

TOY BOY

Oh, thanks.

He takes the gum and chews it.

MERRY PRANKSTER

Ha ha! That was joke gum. *

TOY BOY

What do you mean?

MERRY PRANKSTER

Now you're addicted to heroin!

They both laugh.

TOY BOY

(LAUGH TRAILS OFF)...I'm cold.

ANGLE ON Peter in his catcher's gear, scanning the crowd.

PETER

Aah, where the hell is Joe? Typical
neighbor. Probably at home screwing
his brains out. With my screwdriver!

He spots his family in the stands and waves. They wave back.
Mr. Weed approaches.

MR. WEED

It's nice that your family is here,
Peter. If your ringer doesn't arrive
soon, you can spend every day with
them. At home.

PETER

Oh, why h-he'll be here, Mr. Weed.
You should see this guy in action.
He can hit and he can throw. I'm,
I'm telling ya, he can do the fifty
yard dash...

Peter spots Joe wheeling up in a wheelchair. Joe waves his
mitt and smiles enthusiastically.

PETER (CONT'D)

...in a thousand years.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - CONTINUOUS

Mr. Weed glares at Peter.

MR. WEED

(ANGRY) Peter, our new secret weapon
is this very attractive paraplegic?

Peter approaches Joe.

PETER

Aw, Joe. Don't tell me you won all
those trophies for the kind of
baseball where you get a hug after
the game.

JOE

(LAUGHS) You're a hoot, Peter.

UMPIRE (O.S.)

Play ball!

JOE

Let's do it!

Joe rolls himself out to the field.

PETER

(TO MR. WEED) I swear, I didn't know.
L-look, maybe they won't hit a lot of
balls to him.

JOE (O.S.)

I got shortstop!

Mr. Weed scowls. Peter, downtrodden, heads to the plate.

EXT. BASEBALL STANDS - CONTINUOUS

Lois, Meg, Chris, Stewie, and Brian sit in the stands.

CHRIS

(CALLS OUT) Kick butt, Dad!

MEG

Yay, Daddy! (TO LOIS) Now can I go?

LOIS

No, so stop asking.

Debbie and Kyle climb up the stands. Meg perks up.

LOIS (CONT'D)

(KNOWING) Of course, if you really
want to leave...

MEG

(SOTTO) Just give me a Tic-Tac!

ANGLE ON DEBBIE AND LOIS

DEBBIE

The movers tracked grease all over my
carpet. I tried everything to get
the stain out.

LOIS

What about lemon juice?

DEBBIE

Oh, what about club soda?

STEWIE

What about shutting the hell up!

ANGLE ON MEG AND KYLE

MEG

(TO KYLE) Isn't baseball great?

He doesn't say anything.

MEG (CONT'D)

They say baseball's the national
pastime. (GETTING DESPERATE) I can't
taste salt.

Kyle puts his finger to his lips and points to the game.

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - CONTINUOUS

The field is set. Peter catches at home plate. A "Merry Prankster" bats.

PETER

Please don't hit it to Joe, please
don't hit it to Joe, please don't hit
it to Joe...

The pitch comes and the batter hits a grounder near Joe.
Joe races to the ball, catches it, then throws the man out.

PETER (CONT'D)

--Whoa! All right, Joe! Way to earn
that parkin' space!

ANGLE ON THE STANDS - Lois, Meg, Chris, and Debbie cheer loudly. Stewie is entranced. Brian pours a flask into a soda can. He looks up briefly, then resumes pouring.

LOIS\MEG\CHRIS\DEBBIE

Did you see that?! \Alright! \
Wicked! \ That's my Joe!

STEWIE

What the deuce!? Half-man, half-
machine!

(MORE)

STEWIE (CONT'D)

Why, with that technology, I could
escape these wretched harridans. Go
cyborg!

EXT. BASEBALL FIELD - LATER

ANGLE ON THE SCOREBOARD - The score is now MERRY PRANKSTERS
8, TOY BOYS 7.

There's a Boy Toy on first base. Joe rolls up to the plate
and takes a few practice swings. In the dugout, Mr. Weed
stands near Peter.

MR. WEED

Peter, your ringer is everything you
said he would be.

PETER

Eh, you can always count on me, Mr.
Weed. Hey, as long as we're both so
high on me right now, how 'bout that
toy idea I told you about?

MR. WEED

Later. We have a game to win. (RE:
JOE) It all rests on that man's
broad, rippling shoulders.

The pitch comes. Joe smacks it and it bounces down the first
baseline. The ball gets past the outfielder, who chases
after it.

PETER/MR. WEED/TOY BOYS

Go! / All right, Joe! / Keep going!

Joe tears 'round first and speeds for second. A TOY BOY on
first base runs around the bases and gets home. Joe passes
third and wheels towards home as the ball comes in.

The ball beats Joe to the plate, but he maneuvers on two wheels and avoids the tag. The rear wheel touches the plate. The crowd **cheers** and the team lifts him in his wheelchair.

JOHNSON

Let's hear it for Joe!

The Toy Boys **cheer**.

PETER

Yeah, and let's hear it for the guy
who found Joe! Yay! O..okay. Huh. *

Peter **cheers** alone. He notices everyone else is carrying Joe off the field. *

EXT. GRIFFINS' BACK YARD - LATER

Everyone celebrates. Peter stands at the grill wearing an apron which reads, "You can't beat my meat." Joe wheels over.

JOE

Peter, word has it you're the king of
post-game cookouts.

PETER

Well, thank you, Hot Wheels. You
know, I don't want to brag about my
steaks, but in India I'm satan. *

Peter removes the lid from a plate revealing several grey-colored meat patties. Everyone stops and stares at it.

MR. WEED

Peter, that meat looks a little grey.
Is it still good?

PETER

(COVERING) Yeah, it's, it's fine. It
just came from a really old cow. *

EXT. PASTURE - DAY (CUTAWAY)

An old and young cow stand next to each other.

YOUNG COW

Moo.

OLD COW

What?

YOUNG COW

Moo!

OLD COW

What?

EXT. GRIFFINS' BACK YARD - CONTINUOUS (BACK TO PRESENT)

LOIS

Peter, you can't serve this.

JOE

Hey, no problem. Debbie just
defrosted a pig this morning. Peter,
you wanna help me roast her up?

JOHNSON

Alright, you guys! Party at Joe's!

After a mass exodus, Peter is left behind again., Brian walks
over to Peter and, with a magic marker, crosses the "B" off
of Peter's apron, which now reads, "You Can't Eat My Meat."

BRIAN

See ya at Joe's.

EXT./ESTAB. SWANSONS' HOUSE - DUSK

EXT. JOE'S BACK YARD - SAME

People sit around the pool, eating and laughing. Mr. Weed feeds Guillermo (whose leg is in a cast.) Joe roasts a huge pig on a spit, surrounded by the guys.

JOE

That's finger sucking good, huh? *

It's an old policeman's recipe. I
glaze it in brown sugar and cinnamon,
with just a dash of pepper spray. *

EVERYONE *

Ooh./ Aaaah./ What a great host./
Not here Guillermo. *

JOE

Eat up, everyone. Tonight, my wife
won't be the only one enjoying a pig
in a blanket. *

Everyone laughs.

JOE (CONT'D)

Ah, they love that one down at the
precinct. *

ANGLE ON PETER AND BRIAN -- Brian has a coconut shell drink.

PETER

Aww this sucks, Brian. Joe's
stealing my thunder. *

ANGLE ON JOE:

JOE

Hey, everybody! Time to limbo!

TWO GUYS hold a limbo stick. Joe pops a wheelie and, almost horizontally, goes under. Everyone applauds.

BRIAN

Face it, he's the life of the party.

PETER

Oh, yeah? I'll show ya who's the
life of the party!

Peter jumps into the pool.

PETER (CONT'D)

Hey, hey, look! Hey, I fell in the
pool with my clothes on! How
hilarious is that? That is so Peter
Griffin, huh, guys? Huh?

No one pays attention to Peter.

EXT. JOE'S BACK YARD - A LITTLE LATER

Peter, soaking wet, stands alone in a corner, dripping. He
looks miserable as he watches Joe talk with Mr. Weed, who
notices Peter.

MR. WEED

Peter! Come here!

PETER

Oh, finally, a little recognition.

MR. WEED

Joe has the most wonderful idea.

JOE

Hey, I just suggested a line of
handi-capable toys, y'know, to show
kids the fun side of being physically
challenged.

PETER

Oh yeah, tha-oh, that's what the kids
want to play with. Yeah, Beanie Baby
in a Bubble. What about my idea?
C'mon, Tootie morphs into a stinkbug!

MR. WEED

Joe, you're exactly the kind of man
we need at our company. Peter, make
yourself useful, go get Joe a drink.

Peter walks away, muttering.

PETER

Geez, first he takes my friends, then
he takes my job... it's a good thing
I don't still have my virginity.

ANGLE ON JOE

Stewie pops up in front of Joe and points at him.

STEWIE

You! How came you by this metal
construct? I demand to know who made
you!

The partygoers fall silent. Lois rushes over.

LOIS

(EMBARRASSED) Stewie, it's not polite
to point! (TO JOE) I-I'm so sorry.

JOE

That's okay, Lois. He's just curious about the chair. About ten years ago, I was investigating a robbery at an orphanage. It was Christmas Eve and some presents had been stolen...

EXT. ORPHANAGE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Joe, in a cop uniform, climbs a ladder attached to the snow-blanketed orphanage. He gets to the roof and comes up behind a hunched figure stuffing toys into a bag. Joe draws his gun.

JOE

Reach for the sky, dirtbag.

The figure turns around and we see it's THE GRINCH.

JOE (CONT'D)

All right, Grinch. You've stolen your last Christmas.

The Grinch suddenly kicks the gun out of Joe's hand he grunts and charges Joe. They wrestle on the roof. Joe punches him several times in the face. The Grinch then kicks Joe off him and runs for the edge of the roof. Joe grabs a string of Christmas lights and twirls them overhead like a lasso. He lassoes the Grinch's legs, bringing him down hard. Several toys spill out of the bag. Joe picks up the bag and starts for the edge of the roof. *

GRINCH

You think you have won, you think all is well. But kiss my green ass, I shall see you in hell!

The Grinch rolls a skate (which fell out of the bag) towards Joe, who steps on it and sails off the roof.

JOE

Yeah?! Whoa....AAAHHHHHH!

He lands on the ground, motionless for a moment. Then he pulls himself over to where the bag landed. He groans as an ORPHAN approaches.

JOE (CONT'D)

(HIDING PAIN) Are you Timmy? (OFF HIS
NOD) Merry Christmas, Timmy.

Joe hands him a present from the bag. WE PULL BACK as Joe continues handing out presents to a group of smiling ORPHANS.

EXT. JOE'S BACK YARD - DUSK (BACK TO PRESENT)

Everyone is gathered around Joe, listening with tears in their eyes. After a beat:

STEWIE

Oh, enough! If you won't share your technological schemata with me peaceably, I shall take the information from you by force!

LOIS

(TO JOE) Well, looks like you have a fan!

Peter goes over to Lois.

PETER

C'mon, let's get out of here.

JOE

Peter, you can't leave.

PETER

Sorry, I promised the wife and kids
I'd, I'd t-t-ta-take them on a dream
vacation to Hawaii. Right now. Say
aloha, kids.

MEG

What are you talking about? We want
to hear more of Mr. Swanson's stories!

CHRIS

He's cool, Dad. He killed a guy.

JOE

Well, technically he was killed by
the state, but funny story...he did
curse my name just before the
injection.

Lois pulls Peter aside.

LOIS

Peter, what's the matter with you?

PETER

Why you guys making such a big deal
over Joe? I mean, you're not
supposed to admire wheelchair people.
You're supposed to feel sorry for
them.

(MORE)

PETER (CONT'D)

Geez, when did it become "okay" to be handicapped?

LOIS

Don't talk like that! He's a remarkable man and the rest of your family adores him.

PETER

Well fine, then why don't you all marry him! And, and if he's so remarkable, let's see him do this!

Peter stomps off in an exaggerated manner.

PETER (CONT'D)

Hey, look at me. I'm walking! Oooh, I'm a remarkable man!

EXT. GRIFFINS' PORCH - NIGHT

O.S. party noise from Joe's house can be heard. Peter sits alone in the dark, moping. Brian comes over with another coconut shell drink.

PETER

(ANNOYED) Well, look who finally came home. Geez, I thought you were gonna spend all night over at Joe's.

BRIAN

Huh, I could've. That man has got magic fingers.

(MORE)

BRIAN (CONT'D)

He, he found this one spot behind my
ear -- I, forget about it, I thought
my leg was never gonna stop.

*
*

PETER

I don't believe this. My whole family worships the ground that guy can't walk on.

BRIAN

Well, it's not too hard to see why. I mean, the guy's a hero. He makes the world a better place. *

PETER

Hey, hey, hey. I've done lots of things to help people. Remember that time I sang to the kids down at the Sunday School? *

BRIAN

Yes, and you forgot the words. *

INT. CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Peter sits with a guitar (which he doesn't necessarily play), and begins to sing to the children.

PETER

(SINGING) "Jesus loves me, this I
know...eh, uh..eeh" *

Peter slowly holds up a piece of bread with peanut butter spread on it. There's a heart drawn in the peanut butter, ala the "Skippy" commercials.

PETER (CONT'D)

..."Cause my Skippy tells me so.
Jesus loves me, he loves me a bunch,
'cause he always puts Skippy in my
lunch."

EXT. GRIFFINS' PORCH - NIGHT (BACK TO PRESENT)

BRIAN

No, no it's not the same thing. Joe
puts himself in real danger every day. *

PETER

Aw, you're right. I'll never be that
kind of hero. (LIGHTBULB) Unless I
put myself in real danger, too. For
my family's sake.

He heads out. Brian shakes his head.

BRIAN

Oh, why are the pretty ones always so
dumb? *

EXT./ESTAB. SWANSONS' HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

INT. SWANSONS' LIVING ROOM - SAME

Lois, Debbie, Chris, Meg and Kyle are on the couch watching TV. Meg's eyes are glued to Kyle.

TV ANNOUNCER

We now return to "From the Waist Up:
The Joe Swanson Story."

LOIS

Oh my, it must have been so exciting
to have Alec Baldwin play your
husband in a TV movie.

DEBBIE

Believe me, we were all holding our
breath during the Tony Danza
discussion.

Joe calls in from the kitchen.

JOE (O.S.)

Hey, everybody. Dinner's almost
ready. Hope you like your
Bouillabaisse spicy.

LOIS

Mind if I lower the volume? I-I
finally got Stewie to go down for his
nap.

INT. SWANSONS' KITCHEN - SAME

Joe is cooking in his chair. Behind him, a cupboard door
creaks open. Stewie stands poised with a spring-loaded
grappling hook gun. He fires above Joe and the hook embeds
itself in the wall above the window. Stewie grabs a handle
and jumps, using the cable as a zip line. Just as he's about
to overtake Joe, Joe moves out of the way and Stewie crashes
into the kitchen wall.

STEWIE

Ahhh!

INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Peter turns the dial of a large radio. Brian comes in.

DISPATCHER (V.O.)

"We have a gang shooting on Third and Main. Three wounded, one dead."

BRIAN

Is it me, or is rap music just getting lazier?

PETER

Nah, nah, it's my new police scanner.
This hero thing is gonna be easy,
once I find the right crime.

Peter tunes in a frequency.

DISPATCHER

"We have a domestic disturbance at..."

PETER

Boring! (TURNS KNOB)

DISPATCHER

"...report of a stabbing at--"

PETER

Blah blah blah blah blah. (TURNS KNOB).

DISPATCHER

"All units, all units! A major bank robbery is in progress at Quahog Bank & Trust.

(MORE)

DISPATCHER (CONT'D)

Suspects are armed and extremely dangerous."

PETER

Perfect! Where's Lois and the kids?

BRIAN

Ah, over at Joe's. *

PETER

Well, go fetch 'em. They're about to see a real hero in action!

MUSIC CUE: BATMAN THEME

Peter dashes to a pole (a la Batman) and jumps on it. Unfortunately, there's no hole, so he slides down to the floor with a thud.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. PETER'S CAR - LATER

Lois, Meg, Chris, and Brian ride along with Peter who speeds through traffic.

LOIS

Peter, what's the big rush? You
know, we're lucky Debbie could
babysit Stewie on such short notice.

MEG

Slow down, Dad.

CHRIS

Yeah, remember what happened the last
time you were speeding?

EXT. STREET - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Peter and Chris are in the car.

CHRIS

Dad, look out!

Peter slams on the brakes. The car **crashes** head-on into a brightly colored, polka-dotted VW Bug. A clown **crashes** through the Bug's front windshield, followed by another clown, then another, etc.

EXT. BANK - A LITTLE LATER

Peter pulls up in front of the bank.

INT. PETER'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

PETER

Alright, you guys wait right here.
Daddy's gonna make a little
withdrawal.

He and Brian get out of the car and run to a bank.

INT. BANK - CONTINUOUS

Peter and Brian burst through the doors.

PETER

Alright, everyone do as I say and no
one in this robbery gets hurt!

The CUSTOMERS scream and drop to the floor.

PETER (CONT'D)

(HESITANT) This ah, th^{is}this isn't the
Quahog Bank and Trust, is it? *

MAN ON FLOOR

(POINTING) Across the street.

PETER

(BACKING OUT) He-he, sorry, sorry. *

My mistake. Oh, oh, free checking, *

good to know, heh. Bye! *

Peter and Brian run out of the bank.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Peter and Brian run across the street. Lois and the kids
watch them from the car. Peter laughs to them, sheepishly.

PETER

Hehehehe.

INT. QUAHOG BANK AND TRUST - MOMENTS LATER

The EMPLOYEES and CUSTOMERS stand with their hands raised.
A TALL ROBBER and a SHORT ROBBER, both with ski masks, carry
bags of money and walk through the crowd.

SHORT ROBBER

Let's give Tammy a round of applause.

This was her first robbery and she

was very brave.

Everyone claps with their hands above their heads. TAMMY THE TELLER; waves, embarrassed.

TALL ROBBER

Now, before we go--

LITTLE GIRL

No, don't go.

TALL ROBBER

Aw, Princess, we have to.

Suddenly, Peter and Brian burst into the bank.

PETER

I hope you brought your striped pajamas, boys, 'cause there's a five-year sleep-over at the big house, and you're invited.

TALL ROBBER

You'll never take us alive!

The short robber shoots into the air. Everyone screams and drops to the floor. Peter and Brian duck behind a desk.

PETER

Oh, Lois and the kids should be in here to see this.

BRIAN

Yes, it's going very well.

INT. PETER'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Lois, Meg and Chris wait in the car.

MEG

Mom, what do you do when you like a boy, but he doesn't even notice you?

CHRIS

(TEASING) Meg loves Kyle!

MEG

Shut up, you big sack of dog vomit!

LOIS

Meg, you're a sweet, lovely girl.

He'll come around.

MEG

Such a "Mom" answer. *

LOIS

Well, have you tried showing off the goods? How's that for a "Mom" answer?

MEG

Creepy.

LOIS

Oh, I saw some cute dresses down the street. If nothing else, it'll make you feel better. C'mon, Chris. *

Lois, Meg and Chris get out.

INT. QUAHOG BANK AND TRUST - CONTINUOUS

Peter hides behind the desk with Brian.

BRIAN

Well, if you want to be a hero, right now might be a good time.

PETER

Geez, Brian, this isn't what I was expecting. I thought being a hero would be all fun and games.

Three stars shoot towards us (a la the transition from SUPERFRIENDS) and we CUT TO:

INT. HALL OF JUSTICE - DAY (PETER'S FANTASY)

Peter is sitting with the Superfriends. A game of strip poker is in progress. Peter is shirtless but still has tights and a cape. WONDER WOMAN sits opposite him. Her wrist cuffs and tiara are off. BATMAN, SUPERMAN, AQUA-MAN and the others watch expectantly.

PETER

Sorry, Wonder Woman. I got three Kings. Now let's see your pair.

Wonder Woman sighs, then starts to take her top off. ANGLE ON Peter, as the other superheroes slap him on the back. After a beat:

PETER (CONT'D)

(CONFUSED) Ha-ha-alright. Hey, Robin, what're you looking at me for, look at her!

We do the SUPERFRIENDS transition back to:

INT. QUAHOG BANK AND TRUST - DAY (BACK TO SCENE)

TALL ROBBER

C'mon, let's get out of here.

Through the window, we see several cop cars pull up, sirens blaring.

TALL ROBBER (CONT'D)

Oh, perfect! (TO COPS) We've got hostages in here.

PETER

Don't worry, Brian, I got a plan.

BRIAN

Oh good, I was afraid you were just gonna improvise. *

PETER

Oh. Well, actually I was gonna use the little girl as a human shield and run like hell, butta ...improvise? *

That'll be easier on my back.

INT. - QUAHOG BANK AND TRUST - MOMENTS LATER

Peter stands with the Short Robber (who still holds his gun) and Tammy the Teller. He faces the Customers like he's on stage.

PETER |

Okay, in this improv, Tammy and the Short Robber are husband and wife...

Tammy and the Short Robber giggle. Everyone laughs.

PETER (CONT'D)

...Okay, and where are we? *

CUSTOMERS

A bar! / A pet store! / Guadalajara, Mexico!

PETER

Okay, okay, I heard pet store. And *

I'm the gruff, but lovable owner.

Alright, begin! *

Peter begins "wiping down" an imaginary counter.

PETER (CONT'D)

(TO ROBBER) Hello, married couple.

(RE: GUN) I, I see you found a puppy. *

SHORT ROBBER

Uh... yeah, his name is Sparky.

Everyone "Aw"s and giggles.

PETER

Before you take Sparky home, let me

check him for worms.

Peter easily takes the gun from the Short Robber and points it at the unprepared Tall Robber.

PETER (CONT'D)

Okay, drop it!

The Tall Robber drops his gun. Everyone cheers. Peter bows grandly, then gestures to his other actors, modestly. Then:

PETER (CONT'D)

All right, you guys! Let's get out
of here.

Before everyone reaches the door, Peter spots the car and sees his family is gone. He motions for them all to stop.

PETER (CONT'D)

Whoa, whoa, hang on, hang on! Sorry, *

no one can leave.

The crowd stops and groans.

Peter sighs.

PETER (CONT'D)

Listen, the whole reason I saved you
guys, today was so I could be a hero.
See, this wheelchair guy moved in
next door and, he can do all these
great things, and, and, well...

LITTLE GIRL

(SWEETLY) Your family idolizes the
lousy cripple and not you.

PETER

That's right! How'd you know?

OLD WOMAN

Huh, we've all been there.

INT. QUAHOG BANK AND TRUST - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

PETER

Great so, you'll all wait 'til my
family can see me bust these guys? *

Everyone ad libs, "Sure", "Absolutely", "Cocky cripples", etc.

EXT. QUAHOG BANK AND TRUST - CONTINUOUS

On the way back to the car, Lois, Meg (in her new cute dress)
and Chris find the cops and media surrounding the bank.

CHRIS

Cool! The bank is getting jacked!

Lois approaches the POLICE CAPTAIN. Next to the Captain, a
SHARPSHOOTER aims his rifle.

LOIS

Officer, my husband's in there. Can
you tell me if he's okay?

POLICE CAPTAIN

Uh, what's he look like? *

SHARPSHOOTER'S SCOPE P.O.V.: Peter's in the target. He waves
the gun around, talking to bank customers.

LOIS (O.S.)

Ah, ah he-he's wearing a white
collared shirt. Kinda big with
glasses. *

SHARPSHOOTER

I got him!

LOIS

Oh, thank God.

POLICE CAPTAIN

Take him out!

LOIS

What?!

Before the Sharpshooter takes the shot, Meg walks by in her new dress. He does a double-take and accidentally misfires.

ANGLE ON a LITTLE BOY walking out of a drug store holding a little Pez dispenser. He calls to his friend.

LITTLE BOY

Hey, check it out! It's a John F.

Kennedy Pez dispenser!

The errant bullet whizzes by and takes off the top of the dispenser. The little boy looks around surprised, then takes another Pez dispenser out of his pocket.

LITTLE BOY (CONT'D)

Whoa! Oh, good thing I still have my

Robert Kennedy Pez dispenser!

INT. QUAHOG BANK AND TRUST - CONTINUOUS

Peter looks outside.

PETER

Hey, there's my family!

The Tall Robber walks up to Peter.

TALL ROBBER

I just want you to know, I rob banks because a deaf man stole my job at the phone company. So, if anyone's gonna bust me, I'm glad it's you.

The Tall Robber extends his hand. Peter shakes it. The Robber suddenly snatches the gun back with his other hand.

PETER

But, but... but I was gonna be a
hero...

*

The Robber rolls up his sleeve to reveal a prosthetic arm.

TALL ROBBER

You fully-abled's are all suckers.

Nobody's going anywhere!

INT. JOE'S DEN - MOMENTS LATER

Joe is in his wheelchair, meditating. His eyes are closed and his fingers are in the lotus position. We PAN across the trophies until we stop on Stewie, who is hiding in Joe's trophy-case, posed like a trophy. He is holding a power drill.

JOE

(CHANTING) Ohm. Ohm. Ohm.

STEWIE

Ah! The Automaton must be recharging! The perfect time to extract his cybernetic trappings.

Joe opens his eyes.

JOE

(TO HIMSELF) That's it! Earth Day, every day!

Stewie lunges as Joe wheels himself out of the room, causing Stewie to miss and fall out of frame with a thud.

STEWIE (O.S.)

Aaaaah!

INT. SWANSONS' HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Debbie is watching the TV.

DEBBIE

Joe! It's Peter! He's in trouble.

Joe wheels in.

INT. NEWSROOM (ON TV)

TOM and DIANE sit at a news desk.

TOM

A failed robbery at Quahog Bank and Trust has led to a terrifying hostage situation.

NEWSCLIP: Peter, holding the gun, looks out the bank door.

INT. SWANSONS' HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

JOE

I gotta go.

DEBBIE

I know.

He kisses her passionately, then wheels for the door.

INT. QUAHOG BANK AND TRUST - CONTINUOUS

The Robbers talk to one another.

SHORT ROBBER

Alright, if we want the cops to take
us seriously we're gonna have to
waste a hostage. But who? *

PETER

Excuse me, but shouldn't that be
"whom?" *

SHORT ROBBER

Okay, you.

The Robber points the gun at Peter.

PETER

Crap.

JOE (O.S.)

(ON BULLHORN) This is Police
Lieutenant Joe Swanson. I know we
can work this out together!

*

*

*

PETER

*

Aw, geez, not him again. Hope this
place isn't wheelchair accesible.

*

*

EXT. QUAHOG BANK AND TRUST - CONTINUOUS

*

ANGLE ON Lois as Debbie, holding Stewie, hurries to her side.
Chris takes Stewie from her and puts him on his shoulders so
he can see.

LOIS

Debbie, it's Peter!

DEBBIE

Don't worry, Joe's an excellent
negotiator. (NOTICES) Cute top.

ANGLE ON Meg and Kyle.

MEG

I can't believe my Dad is in there.
(NO RESPONSE) This'll probably scar
me for the rest of my life. (NO
RESPONSE) I got a new dress.

*

*

Still no response from Kyle. The Sharpshooter standing
nearby lowers his gun and calls to Meg.

SHARPSHOOTER

(SOTTO) Try talking about him.

He winks and smiles, then re-aims his gun at Peter in the bank. Meg turns back to Kyle.

MEG

So, ah... do you like music? *

KYLE

Oh, yeah, I played guitar in a band *
before we moved, but it interfered *
with my studies. Ah, what do you *
listen to?

MEG

Um, you first.

KYLE

I'm into Garbage, Phish, Blur. My
parents don't like me listening to
that stuff, but I do anyway

(SNAPPING) BECAUSE I'M NOT A ROBOT!

(THEN, NORMAL:) I also like Radiohead.

Meg just smiles and gives the Sharpshooter a thumbs up.

ANGLE ON Joe as he continues to negotiate through the
bullhorn.

JOE

... and even though society has
turned its back on you, I promise
you, there are people who care. And
you know what? I'm one of 'em. *

INT. QUAHOG BANK AND TRUST - CONTINUOUS

TALL ROBBER

(IN TEARS) He sure gets it.

SHORT ROBBER

(TO TALL ROBBER) Maybe he's right.

We can make a new start.

PETER

Oh, come on, guys, don't let him
sweet talk you like that.

The robbers start to leave.

PETER (CONT'D)

Wa-wa-wait. You can't leave now! I'm
supposed to be the hero here! Wait,
wait, wait, can you at least tell
everyone you won't rest until I'm
dead?

EXT. QUAHOG BANK AND TRUST - CONTINUOUS

Peter and Brian watch from inside the bank through the window as the two robbers leave the bank with their hands raised. The crowd **applauds**. The cops haul the robbers away. The rest of the hostages begin exiting the bank. Off to the side, Joe is hoisted out of his chair and into the air by his fellow cops. They ad lib, "Way to go, Joe!", "Terrific job!", etc.

ANGLE ON LOIS searching the crowd for Peter. Stewie spots the empty wheelchair.

STEWIE

Ah ha, excellent! They've detached
the human component from the machine.

Stewie runs full-speed and jumps into the chair.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

Machine, I am your new master, and I
order you to go! Engage!

The chair doesn't move.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

Blast! There must be some kind of proprietary command system. Now on the Russian MiG, it's next to the altimeter...

He examines the chair as Lois comes over and picks him up.

LOIS

There you are. I can't turn my back on you for a second.

STEWIE

Ohhh. One day I shall unlock the secret of that device, and when I do, mother, victory sh...

Lois pops a pacifier in his mouth. Stewie looks outraged, then slowly starts to suck on it, appeased... for now.

Peter and Brian emerge from the bank. The family rushes over.

LOIS

Peter, you had us so worried! What on earth were you trying to prove?

PETER

I'm sorry. I guess Joe is a great guy, and so handi-capable. I guess I was just tired of him being your hero.

LOIS

Peter, Joe's a hero, but he's not our hero. You are.

PETER

Really?

LOIS

Yeah, I mean, you're, you're always
right there on the couch for us,
making us laugh when we're upset, ah,
changing the channel when something
boring comes on, eating the last
slice of pizza so the rest of us
don't fight over it. *

MEG

Yeah, Daddy, and if you hadn't pulled
this stunt, I never would've learned
how to manipulate Kyle. *

CHRIS

And when the kids at school see this
on TV, they'll think you're a total
psycho. And I can say, "That psycho
is my Dad."

PETER

Huh. y' know, I guess bein' a hero
isn't always about savin' lives or
catching bad guys. It's also about
just bein' there for the people you
love. *

A FRANTIC OLD WOMAN runs up.

FRANTIC OLD WOMAN

Help! Someone just stole my purse!

PETER

Who cares? I don't even know you.

Peter puts his arm around Lois and the kids and they walk off.

THE END