

Family Guy - Road to Reality

written by

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EXT. PRESCHOOL - DAY (ESTABLISHING)

PETER AND LOIS GRIFFIN approach the preschool as Lois pushes STEWIE along in a stroller. At the entrance, Lois waits for Peter to open the door but he just stands there.

PETER

This is freakin' bullcrap Lois. So Stewie can't keep no friends. Don't mean we gotta go through preschools like Meg goes through toilet paper.

Lois rolls her eyes and opens the door herself.

LOIS

Maybe his father shoulda taught him that pushing other kids down the stairs doesn't make ya popular.

INT. PRESCHOOL - CONT'D

Stewie glares up at his mother as they enter the school.

STEWIE

I did no such--

Before Stewie can finish, he sees DIANE SIMMONS. She's cradling a little girl in her arms and stands next to a handsome man.

Diane smiles when she sees Lois.

DIANE

Hi Lois! Gary and I were just about to enroll our little Cynthia here.

STEWIE

Diane Simmons? But Lois killed her!

LOIS

Stewie, it's not nice to interrupt. And Diane's a friend.

STEWIE

(shocked)
You can understand me?

LOIS

Of course, sweetie. Haven't I always?

STEWIE

For about as long as you've been on good terms with Diane.

Peter leans in and whispers in Lois' ear.

PETER

Was that a sarcasm? I think Stewie was makin' a sarcasm.

LOIS

Don't be ridiculous Peter, Stewie's far too young to talk.

Stewie looks like he's about to respond--until he notices Diane and her family have VANISHED!

STEWIE

Where the hell did Diane go?

Lois leans down and pats Stewie on the head.

LOIS

What's wrong Stewie? Do you want your bottle?

STEWIE

No I don't want my damn bottle, I want to know where--

LOIS

I think he wants his bottle but I'm not sure. It's times like these I wish he was old enough to talk.

Stewie looks unnerved.

EXT. THE GRIFFIN FAMILY CAR/HIGHWAY - DAY

As Peter drives along, he sips from a can of root beer that suddenly becomes a glass of wine

INT. THE GRIFFIN FAMILY CAR - BACKSEAT - CONT'D

Stewie watches in horror as the root beer transforms into wine. He glances nervously at his teddy bear RUPERT and then out the window.

EXT. QUAHOG STREET - STEWIE'S POV

Outside, Stewie sees a fire hydrant disappear then reappear. Then he sees a flock of seagulls become a stampede of elephants. Next, he sees a passing DOCTOR HARTMAN become Doctor Nick from *The Simpsons*

INT. THE GRIFFIN FAMILY CAR - BACKSEAT - CONT'D

Stewie grabs Rupert and holds him tight.

STEWIE

Do you see it too, Rupert? The very fabric of reality wears thin.

Rupert sits on Stewie's lap, silent and motionless.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

Lord, are you *still* giving me the silent treatment? How many times must I apologize for not getting us those *West Side Story* tickets? Very well. I'll find a way to settle my nerves myself...

EXT. GRIFFIN HOUSEHOLD - NIGHT

The only thing lighting the scene is intermittent flickering coming from Stewie's bedroom window.

We ZOOM IN and see Stewie using a welding torch on something.

INT. STEWIE'S BEDROOM - THE NEXT MORNING

Sunlight enters through the bedroom window as Stewie holds up his creation: a VR HEADSET.

He slips it on.

INT. GRIFFIN FAMILY LIVING ROOM - CONT'D

Wearing the headset, Stewie heads downstairs and walks up to a couch in the living room where BRIAN watches TV.

STEWIE

Brian, we've got a situation. So I made this device to monitor any sudden shifts in reality, and I--

Brian snorts derisively and continues watching TV.

BRIAN

Not now Stewie. I'm trying to take in some quality writing before I start the next draft of my novel.

STEWIE

You don't understand! We're in a life-or-death--

Stewie notices what's on the TV screen and is distracted.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

Oh, this is that ridiculous vampire show, right? Nosferatu but spelled N-O-S-4-A-2 out on the villain's license plate?

Brian's eyes widen in embarrassment.

BRIAN

That's what the title meant? Uh, I mean... this IS clever! Where's that been done before?

STEWIE

Jeepers Creepers for one.

BRIAN

The song?

STEWIE

No, the horror picture! The creature in that film drives a vehicle with a license plate reading, "B-E-A-T-N-G-U," or to put it in layman's terms, "Be Eating You." It was preposterous in that too, but at least it was original.

BRIAN

I doubt Stephen King ripped off some teen horror flick, Stewie.

STEWIE

This wasn't written by Stephen King, it was written by his son. Calls himself Joe Hill; a man evidently too embarrassed to share the same last name as the git who wrote *Cujo*.

BRIAN

Come on, that's not even close to the worst thing King's written.

STEWIE

Indeed, that would be his tweets.

BRIAN

Piss off.

STEWIE

Not until you can justify watching this tripe! It was stupid in *Jeepers Creepers* and it's stupid here. What's next? A villain driving around with his entire plan printed out on his license plate?

The visor on Stewie's headset FLASHES and--

CUT TO:

EXT. HEAVEN - DAY (CUTAWAY)

In a typical clouds-in-the-sky rendition of heaven, Stewie's dead half-brother BERTTRAM drives a cloud car with a ridiculously long vanity plate reading:

"I WILL CONTINUE REWRITING REALITY UNTIL I AM BORN IN THE PLACE OF MY ACCURSED HALF-BROTHER, STEWART GILLIGAN GRIFFIN!"

CUT TO:

INT. GRIFFIN FAMILY LIVING ROOM - CONT'D

STEWIE

Good Lord! Bertram's up in heaven, rewriting reality!

BRIAN

Hmm?

Stewie flicks off the TV and taps the headset he's wearing.

STEWIE

I made this device to monitor shifts in reality when I noticed how inconsistent things are around here. Any time there's a shift, this headset shows me it occurring.

BRIAN

But what's this about Bertram? Didn't you kill him?

STEWIE

Yes, but according to the vision I just had, he's up in heaven, somehow causing these shifts in an attempt to wipe me from existence.

BRIAN

That sounds a little too far out for me kiddo.

Stewie yanks off the headset and shoves it onto Brian's head.

STEWIE

Try it and see for yourself!

BRIAN

Stewie, things are weird around here, I'll grant you that. But I'm an atheist, I don't believe in--

STEWIE

I'm well aware of your nonbelief Brian. You believe in God about as much as he believes in himself!

There's another FLASH on the headset visor and--

CUT TO:

EXT. HEAVEN - DAY (CUTAWAY)

GOD sits in a chair, hooked up to a machine the same way hospital patients are hooked up to IV bags. The machine is low enough to the ground that a baby could operate it. Sure enough, Bertram pulls levers and pushes buttons on it while chained-up angels stare at God in frustration.

ANGEL

He's just a baby, stand up to him!

GOD

I dunno, man. What'll I do if he hits me?

CUT TO:

INT. GRIFFIN FAMILY LIVING ROOM - CONT'D

Brian's eyes remain covered by the visor but his jaw hangs open in shock.

BRIAN

Oh my God. I just saw heaven and Bertram's there! All the angels are chained up and he's plugged God into some kinda machine.

STEWIE

Bertram must have conquered heaven and now he's using that machine to siphon God's power and rewrite reality. The only question is why he hasn't erased me rather than playing Cards Against Humanity with the Space-Time Continuum.

BRIAN

Any theories on that?

STEWIE

No, I'll just have to ask Bertram himself--once I get to heaven and put a stop to him!

BRIAN

How are you gonna get to heaven?

STEWIE

(cool and confident)
Suicide, Bri.

BRIAN

You're joking.

STEWIE

I'm dead serious.

Stewie starts to dash upstairs but stops and turns around.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

But the dead serious thing was a joke. Would it kill you to toss out a courtesy laugh now and then?

Stewie turns and runs upstairs as Brian follows him.

BRIAN

Suicide's a sin! You'll go to hell!

Stewie enters the hallway and makes his way toward his room.

STEWIE

The fact a murderer like Bertram made it into heaven proves that I'll get in regardless. Babies are considered innocent after all.

Brian follows behind Stewie as he opens the door to his bedroom and steps inside.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

Once there, I can stop Bertram, then use the machine to bring myself back to life.

INT. STEWIE'S BEDROOM - CONT'D

Brian enters behind Stewie.

BRIAN

Don't do it Stewie! I saw what I saw, but I'm still not convinced--

Brian is thrown off as Stewie wheels a complicated DEVICE out of his bedroom closet. It consists of a bondage rack, computer monitor, and many robotic arms--two of which hold a plastic bag and rope! Stewie stands in front of it as he casually pulls on a gimp suit.

STEWIE

I have a safe word to turn it off, I just won't say it this time!

Vomiting, Brian runs out of the room.

INT. GRIFFIN FAMILY BATHROOM - CONT'D

Brian throws up in the toilet.

When Brian is done vomiting, he looks calm--until his eyes widen in horror.

INT. STEWIE'S BEDROOM - CONT'D

Brian bursts back into the room. He finds Stewie chained onto the bondage rack, wearing both the gimp suit and the plastic bag over his head, which is tied shut by the rope around his neck, courtesy of the robotic arms. Stewie's face is blue and his eyes are rolled back. He's DEAD.

Guilt fills Brian's face. Then Brian sees gay porn playing on the device's computer monitor. Brian looks disgusted.

BRIAN

Ew...

An ELECTRONIC VOICE emanates from the device:

ELECTRONIC VOICE
Safe word recognized. Abort
process.

The computer monitor goes dark and the electronic arms release Stewie's corpse from the device.

Brian kneels down beside Stewie. He unties the rope around Stewie's neck and removes the plastic bag from his head, along with the gimp mask.

Upon seeing Stewie's face, Brian WEEPS. But as Brian weeps, he rips off pieces of Stewie's face and eats them.

BRIAN
Why Stewie--munch, munch--WHY?

STEWIE (OS)
Look on the bright side, Bri. At
least you've got a snack for later!

Brian turns around to see Stewie's semi-transparent GHOST floating behind him. Now Stewie can see what he's eating.

STEWIE (CONT'D)
You dick! I meant you could snack
on your vomit, not me!

BRIAN
Sorry, it's kind of a dog thing.

STEWIE
All the same, I have half a mind to
tell Lois and the Fat M--

BRIAN
You also have half a face now, and
if you wanna save what's left of
it, you'll keep quiet or I'll tell
mommy and daddy about the toys you
have that they didn't pay for!

STEWIE
You wouldn't dare reveal the
breadth of my scientific endeavors!

BRIAN
Uh, I meant the pervert suit and
stuff.
(grows frustrated)
I can't believe I'm threatening
you, you're a hallucination!

STEWIE

You saw God on my headset, why can't you accept you're seeing my spirit now?

Brian points at Stewie's corpse.

BRIAN

I don't know what I saw. How could there be a God when tragedies like this happen?

STEWIE

Why don't you ask whoever wrote that blasted Footprints story?

CUT TO:

EXT. HEAVEN - BEACH - DAY (CUTAWAY)

God walks with a MAN along a single set of footprints.

MAN

So, these footprints represent my life, right?

GOD

Yup.

MAN

And you say you stuck by me through it all, the whole shebang, correct?

GOD

Uh-huh.

MAN

Then why's there only one set of footprints?

GOD

Well, uh... you see kid, these particular footprints are actually from the hard times in your life where I carried you...

MAN

Well, that would make sense, but...

The man points further up the beach where we see the footprints split off into two sets of steps. The second set of steps leads down the beach, until it arrives at a popsicle stand, with a sign reading:

"FREE POPSICLES FOR NEW ARRIVALS, COMPLIMENTS OF GOD."

God is inexplicably seated at this popsicle stand, gobbling down several popsicles at once. He calls back to the man between mouthfuls of popsicles.

GOD

Sorry brah! We still cool, brah? We cool?

Behind God at the shoreline, a NEW MAN arrives in a boat, rowed by CHARON from Greek mythology.

NEW MAN

I dunno Charon, maybe it's not my time. My wife doesn't work and we've got eight kids I was supporting paycheck-to-paycheck and--OH SWEET, ARE THOSE POPSICLES?!

CUT TO:

INT. STEWIE'S BEDROOM - CONT'D

STEWIE

What are you seeing?

BRIAN

Let's just say I don't think I'll have to wonder where God is anymore. I just saw what the Good Lord gets up to when shit hits the fan--he runs off eating popsicles!

STEWIE

Anything else? Any clues?

BRIAN

There's this seaman, he's got a steel oar in his left hand and he's wearing this dirty red-brown cloak.

STEWIE

Charon the Ferryman, of course.

BRIAN

Uh, yeah. I mean, you know, standard Biblical figure.

STEWIE

Greek Mythology actually. Bertram's making matters rather theologically inconsistent.

(MORE)

STEWIE (CONT'D)

I won't be whisked up in a white light. I'll have to find the River Styx and toss this Charon git a sixpence.

BRIAN

How'll you do that?

STEWIE

I'm not sure. They don't teach Greek Mythology in preschool, so the only Styx I know is that band Lois plays on her dated media devices. I'm a ghost now, so I can poof to any location I can think of. I believe I saw where that band lives now on a documentary Lois played on the telly. Might as well just ask them what they know.

BRIAN

Couldn't we look online?

Stewie is already fading away.

STEWIE

Just monitor the timeline and keep the family from finding out I'm dead until I've stopped Bertram and rendered myself... less dead.

BRIAN

But what am I supposed to do about your body?

Too late. Stewie's ghost has faded away.

EXT. GRIFFIN FAMILY BACKYARD - DAY

A panicked Brian drags Stewie's corpse into the backyard. With his paws, he digs up a tennis ball, then tosses it away.

Brian drops Stewie's corpse into the hole instead and uses his hind legs to rebury him.

HERBERT THE PERVERT walks by the fence. Herbert stares for a moment as Brian freezes in terror. Then Herbert smiles.

HERBERT

I won't ask no questions. Just be sure to return the favor!

Herbert walks on, whistling through the gaps in his teeth.

INT. RECORDING STUDIO - SAME TIME

The band STYX stand there, looking youthful and energetic as they prepare to play their instruments. After a while, we realize they're not getting around to playing. In fact, they're not even moving.

We PULL OUT to reveal that this is just a photo hanging on a wall. We're not in a recording studio, it's an--

INT. OLD FOLKS HOME - DAY

On a couch, elderly Styx bass player CHUCK PANOZZO sits with the equally elderly lead guitarist, JAMES YOUNG, along with the rotting corpses of the rest of the band. The photo hangs on a wall near them as James takes a moment to regard it.

JAMES

Do you remember when we were young
and cool?

CHUCK

I don't even remember what I had
for breakfast.

A spectral Stewie POOFS into the room.

STEWIE

Greetings Styx! Would you perchance
have any advice on procuring
accommodations to the River Styx?

JAMES

You trynna get to heaven?

STEWIE

Indeed I am, Mr...
(noticing James' age)
...Young.

JAMES

I don't know who keeps telling you
newly-deads this, but we're not
responsible for getting souls to
heaven anymore. Ever since we sold
our souls to the devil for chart
success, we've been barred from it.

STEWIE

You worship Satan?

JAMES

All rock bands do.

CHUCK
'Cept Judas Priest.

STEWIE
One way or another, I shan't dally
here long. Either you get me to
heaven or I'll haint you.

JAMES
You'll haint us?

CHUCK
I think he means haunt us, James.

JAMES
I'm not impressed by the hauntings
of some newly-dead kid with a fake
British accent. Come back when you
can dish out some M.R. James
shenanigans, cause *Conjuring* shit
from some baby doesn't fly with--

STEWIE
Touché. I'll grant you I am a touch
inexperienced as a ghost. Moreover,
I may not be as British as I sound.
Yet I assure you, I am every inch
the baby I strike you as.

JAMES
What do you mean by--

STEWIE
WAAAAAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHH!!!!

Stewie cries so loud, all the dead members of Styx turn to
dust! James and Chuck cover their ears.

JAMES
Alright, alright! We'll play Come
Sail Away backwards, it'll open up
a gateway to get you to the River
Styx! Just stop crying!

EXT. GRIFFIN FAMILY BACKYARD - EVENING

Brian finishes burying Stewie and looks at the sky. The sun
is going down. Brian panics.

BRIAN
The family'll be home soon. What'll
I do about Stewie being AWOL?

Brian paces the backyard--when something catches his eye. Through an open window next door, he sees BONNIE SWANSON changing the diaper of her daughter SUSIE.

INT. SWANSON RESIDENCE - A LITTLE LATER

Bonnie throws darts at a picture of her husband JOE as she drinks a can of beer. We PULL OUT to reveal there's a whole pile of them next to her and the kitchen is a mess.

Bonnie reaches for another beer, then collapses into unconsciousness on the filthy floor.

That's when Brian appears in the open window. He sneaks inside through the window, creeps past Bonnie, and walks offscreen. Bonnie mumbles for a few moments.

Brian returns holding Susie in his arms. Still holding Susie, Brian exits through the open window.

INT. GRIFFIN HOUSEHOLD - CONT'D

The front door opens and Brian enters the living room with Susie. He rushes to the kitchen table and sits her down upon it. Brian takes off the headset then leaves for a moment.

Brian returns with the typical clothing Stewie wears, a razor, and a black marker. Brian shaves Susie's head, dresses her up in Stewie's spare clothes, and then draws some lines onto her head with the marker.

Brian stares at Susie for a beat. Something's not right. Then something occurs to him. He runs away again.

We watch Susie as she sits calmly on the kitchen table until Brian reappears with a football and shoves it into her mouth!

CLOSE ON Susie, now with a head shape similar to Stewie's.

INT. OLD FOLK'S HOME - NIGHT

James and Chuck complete a terrible, old folks rendition of Come Sail Away backwards. Stewie floats above them, watching.

STEWIE

And I thought my crying was bad.

JAMES

Well, it's not like the rest of the band is doing anything to help!

With that, James kicks a pile of dust that was once the corpse of one of the band members.

Just then, a PORTAL opens up!

STEWIE

At last! Well, tut-tut and cheerio
you old gaffers.

With that, Stewie flies into the portal.

JAMES

Think we'll see that prick again?

CHUCK

Not sure. But in case he gets cold
feet, let's play the song forwards
to seal the portal back up on him.

CLOSE ON Stewie, hearing what Chuck said.

EXT. THE RIVER STYX - SAME TIME

Stewie floats along the beach leading to the River Styx,
where CHARON waits in his boat. He raises a hand to Stewie.

CHARON

You shall not pass! You shall not
collect two-hundred dollars!

STEWIE

I don't need two-hundred dollars.
Hell, I'll give you two-hundred
dollars for a ride across the
river... if you accept play money.

CHARON

You're lucky I don't charge. Or you
would be if you hadn't chosen to
get Styx to send you here instead
of figuring out the long route. I
thought I'd never have to hear
their shitty music again once they
signed up with Satan.

STEWIE

I agree their so-called "music" is
simply ghastly. But how, pray tell,
would a fellow in circumstances as
isolated as yourself find the
opportunity to form a basis of
comparison?

CHARON

I don't know what the hell you just
said, I just know Styx sucks. I'd
rather listen to David Bowie.

STEWIE

Really? Did you know Bowie released a new album recently?

CHARON

Ah, no. No, I didn't.

STEWIE

I thought not. But if there's a wi-fi connection in heaven, I could play it for you on my cellphone once you take me across the river.

CHARON

Ya know kid, I can see through you.

Stewie looks perturbed.

CHARON (CONT'D)

And that's how I know you're being honest. I can see that cellphone in your pocket.

MEDIUM ON Stewie. As he is a ghost, we can see his cellphone is in his pocket as he floats before Charon!

CHARON (CONT'D)

Thanks for being transparent with me kid. Hop on in.

Stewie floats into Charon's boat and they begin their ride.

STEWIE

Huh, I never imagined that's how it works. Ghost clothing, ghost cellphones...

(sticks hand in pocket)

Sweet, I've even got ghost condoms!

EXT. GRIFFIN HOUSEHOLD - NIGHT

Establishing shot.

INT. GRIFFIN FAMILY KITCHEN - CONT'D

The Griffin family sit around the table, having dinner. Lois, Meg and Chris eat contentedly, as Brian looks nervously to the far end of the table (which is cut off by the end of the screen), and Peter rants:

PETER

If that broad hadda bring her damn kid to the movies, she coulda at least, like, I dunno, shoved it under her seat or somethin'.

LOIS

I would have hired a babysitter.

CHRIS

You never hire a baby sitter.

LOIS

That's because not every baby is as quiet and well behaved as Stewie.

Lois gestures to the end of the table that's offscreen. Everyone turns to look. Brian sweats.

PULL OUT to reveal Susie sitting in Stewie's highchair.

CLOSE ON Chris as he narrows his eyes, examining Susie.

CHRIS

So suspiciously quiet... so suspiciously well-behaved...

The camera trucks back out as Chris whips his head back to Lois and grins widely.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

So what's for dessert mom?

There's a knock at the front door.

INT. GRIFFIN FAMILY LIVING ROOM - CONT'D

Lois opens up the door to see a distraught BONNIE wheeling JOE in front of her in his wheelchair.

LOIS

Bonnie? What's wrong?

BONNIE

Our baby Susie's gone and I'm too drunk to remember whether I killed her before I go through with the murder-suicide I have planned for Joe or if some sick weirdo kidnapped her!

JOE

Yeah, so we're just asking door-to-door if-- wait, what was that last part?

LOIS

Sorry Joe, we wouldn't have seen anything. We've been out all day.

Brian peeks around a corner and grimaces when he sees Lois talking to Bonnie and Joe.

LOIS (CONT'D)

Oh, but Brian's been here watching Stewie! Want to ask him if he's seen anything?

Joe notices Brian peeking and glares at him.

EXT. BEACH - INDETERMINATE TIME

Charon rows up to the shoreline. Stewie leaps out from the boat and onto the sand. As his feet hit the ground, he becomes solid once more.

CHARON

So how about some Bowie, or do you need the wi-fi password first?

STEWIE

HAAH! There is no new Bowie album! David Bowie has been dead for years and he's wandering the Earth a lost soul for having never accepted Jesus Christ!

Stewie runs away. Charon shakes his head in disappointment.

CHARON

Guess I'm back to Blackstar.

EXT. HEAVEN - A LITTLE LATER

Stewie arrives in an area where the sand on the ground is replaced with clouds.

Stewie continues on, and sees the pearly gates. They've been torn down and replaced with a sign reading "BERTRAM LAND."

Stewie slips past the remains of the pearly gates and sees that heaven has been trashed. Most of the angels are bound in chains and are forced to do menial labor while others are dressed like Nazi Stormtroopers and stand guard over them.

Stewie finds an empty corner of heaven. He hides behind a pile of debris and grabs a handful of the garbage that's littering the clouds. With expert precision, Stewie refashions the debris into a pair of makeshift TWEEZERS. Then he waits, listening.

Stewie hears footsteps approaching. He looks around the debris pile and sees a NAZI ANGEL doing his rounds. Just as the angel is going to pass the pile of debris hiding Stewie, Stewie kicks it over!

Like a landslide, the debris falls over the angel, partially covering his body and keeping him pinned to the clouds.

Stewie's shadow falls over the angel as he makes his way toward him holding the tweezers high.

NAZI ANGEL

Just what the hell are you--AHHH!

Stewie uses his tweezers to pluck a few feathers from one of the angel's wings, which is sticking out of the debris.

STEWIE

You might say I'm in want of an explanation regarding the current state of heaven.

NAZI ANGEL

I'm not telling you shit.
(looks away)
HEY GUYS, I'M-- AHH!

Stewie pulls out another clump of the angel's feathers.

STEWIE

If I pull out any more of these, you're not going to be able to fly anymore, so I'd suggest saving your breath to answer my questions.

NAZI ANGEL

(sighs)
So what do you want to know?

STEWIE

I'm aware Bertram's taken over, but why are you helping him and why hasn't God done anything about it?

NAZI ANGEL

We sided with Lord Bertram 'cause he actually gets things done.

(MORE)

NAZI ANGEL (CONT'D)

God's too damn lazy to even try
an' resist him.

STEWIE

That's not very charitable. Perhaps
the Lord's still exhausted from
creating the universe?

NAZI ANGEL

That was thirteen billion years
ago, so I think he's had more than
enough down time! But if ya want
Bertram's game plan, he's hooked
God up to a machine. It reverse
engineers his powers to--

STEWIE

I know about the machine. I even
know Bertram's motives: there's
someone in particular the bastard
wants a go at--don't expect
accolades for guessing who--what I
want to know why he hasn't gone and
done it yet.

NAZI ANGEL

It's new technology, so he's
working out the kinks. Right now it
won't respond to specific commands
and just acts at random.

STEWIE

That explains a lot.

Stewie picks up a fist-sized piece of debris.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

I dare say, you've been ever-so
helpful. Please accept this token
of my gratitude.

Stewie smashes the debris across the angel's face, knocking
him out. Stewie then removes the debris from the angel.

EXT. HEAVEN - A LITTLE LATER

The angel awakens propped up on a pile of debris instead of
pinned beneath it. In his arms, sits Stewie.

NAZI ANGEL

What the hell are you doing?

Stewie maneuvers himself over a little to reveal that he's got a clump of the angel's feathers between his tweezers and he's ready to pluck them.

STEWIE

Take me to Bertram under the pretense I'm your prisoner. If you refuse--

(tugs at feathers)

--I think we both know the drill.

INT. GRIFFIN HOUSEHOLD - NIGHT

The Griffins crowd around Joe, who has wheeled up to Susie.

JOE

Is it just me, or does something seem a little off about "Stewie?"

LOIS

Whatever it is, it was Peter's chromosome, not mine!

Joe pokes Susie in the belly. She coughs up the football and her head reverts back to its usual shape.

Bonnie and the Griffins GASP!

Everyone notices water flowing across the floor. They turn and see that it's coming from Brian, who is now so stressed out that he's literally sweating a river.

JOE

You know anything about this Brian?

EXT. HEAVEN - INDETERMINATE TIME

Bertram operates his machine in a cleaner area of heaven, while God remains hooked up to it. Chained angels look on in frustration.

The Nazi angel arrives with Stewie in his arms, who is doing a good job of hiding his tweezers with his body.

NAZI ANGEL

Greetings Lord Bertram, I uh, I've captured an intruder.

BERTRAM

I don't have time for--

Bertram turns to see Stewie.

STEWIE

As I live and breathe--if it isn't
Bertram, you old rascal you!

Bertram looks surprised--then angry. He forces a smile.

BERTRAM

Stewie, um... what brings you here?

STEWIE

Oh, uh, I uh, I choked on a toy I
got from McDonalds. Upon my
arrival, I heard heaven was under
new management, but I must say, I'm
both surprised and delighted to
find you running the show!

BERTRAM

That's unusual--considering you're
the one who killed me.

STEWIE

Er... yes. To be fair Bertram, that
was because you were trying to put
an end to me first. But as we've
both reached the end of our
respective lifespans, perhaps it's
time we let bygones be bygones, eh?

Bertram considers this. Then he turns to face his machine. As
he regards the machine, an evil grin forms on his face. He
turns back around to face Stewie with feigned sincerity.

BERTRAM

But of course my dear half-brother.
In retrospect, it seems a pity we
were enemies in life. Think of all
we could have accomplished had we
combined our scientific expertise
rather than trying to destroy one
another!

STEWIE

You seem to be doing alright on
your own, Bertram old sport. I
haven't a notion what that machine
is for, but it certainly looks
impressive.

BERTRAM

Yes, my machine. That's an area
where our newfound comradery shall
prove fruitful.

(MORE)

BERTRAM (CONT'D)

This device is meant to use God's power to recreate reality in any way I see fit. However, I must confess to difficulties I've faced entering specific commands. I wanted to use it to, er, return to life and rule the world, shall we say. But it just alters reality at random.

STEWIE

I think I see where you're going with this. If I help you sort out these minor technical difficulties, we'll return to life and rule the world as half-brother and... half-brother?

BERTRAM

Precisely.

STEWIE

Sounds like a capital idea!

Bertram puts his fingers together and grins.

BERTRAM

Splendi--

GOD

Hey, can I go to the bathroom?

BERTRAM

NO!

God pouts. Bertram nods at the Nazi angel.

BERTRAM (CONT'D)

Set Stewie down this instant.

The angel looks at Stewie. Stewie gives him a nod. He lets Stewie down, as Stewie makes a discreet yet threatening gesture with the tweezers before hiding them in his overalls. Covering his plucked wing, the angel shuffles off.

Stewie walks up to the machine and turns a few knobs. Then he goes into the wiring and switches a few things around.

STEWIE

You're trying to get it to respond to any command, just like that? Nothing specific?

BERTRAM

Correct.

STEWIE

That's the problem then. You're trying to get it to do everything at once... so it's literally doing everything at once. You need to program it to accomplish specific tasks rather than tell it to perform any task and expect it to only perform the ones you want.

Stewie taps on the device's keyboard.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

I rejiggered a few cords so it's no longer affecting reality in general. Now I'll program a specific command. How about something practical, like growing us living bodies again?

BERTRAM

That does seem like a gesture of good faith. Very well.

Stewie enters the command, and a pair of living bodies appear in midair, then fall down onto the clouds before Bertram and Stewie. The soulless bodies lay there drooling until Bertram and Stewie pull them on like pajamas.

BERTRAM (CONT'D)

Not bad for your opening act. But why don't we try to get the machine to affect something back on Earth? Like, say, get it to replace one object with another?

Stewie looks reluctant then forces a grin.

STEWIE

Er, what did you have in mind?

Bertram runs over to a table where a pet HAMSTER sits in a cage.

BERTRAM

How about something living?

GOD

Please don't touch Robbie.

Bertram glares at God and removes the hamster from the cage.

BERTRAM

Shut up!

GOD

Sorry.

With the hamster in his hands, Bertram walks back to Stewie.

STEWIE

Shouldn't we start off with something inanimate? We wouldn't want to hurt the poor beast.

BERTRAM

You can just build it a new body like you did for us.

STEWIE

I see. But replacing something on Earth with a hamster... how will we even know it worked?

Bertram points toward a CRYSTAL BALL.

BERTRAM

God uses that to keep an eye on things on Earth. We can use it too!

Bertram grabs the crystal ball and uses a small REMOTE CONTROL to flick to different areas on Earth, which appear in the crystal ball like TV channels.

Bertram stops when he sees ANGELINA JOLIE being photographed while on the red carpet for what looks like a movie premiere.

BERTRAM (CONT'D)

There! Swap the hamster with her face. No one'll notice.

Stewie hits a few buttons on the machine and the hamster in Bertram's hands disappears to be replaced with the face of Angelina Jolie.

In the crystal ball, the hamster appears in the place of Angelina Jolie's face. The photographers continue snapping photos like nothing happened.

BERTRAM (CONT'D)

Impressive Stewart. But... how about something a little more challenging? Instead of just objects like Angelina Jolie, why don't we try replacing someone in heaven with someone on Earth?

STEWIE

Who did you have in mind?

BERTRAM

As I'd hate to risk my dear half-brother Stewart Gilligan Griffin, with whom I've only recently been reacquainted, I myself would like to volunteer for the procedure.

STEWIE

And who do you intend to replace?

Bertram rubs his hands together.

BERTRAM

Perhaps to make it extra challenging...we could make it someone in the past?

STEWIE

(nervous laughter)
Mark Twain?

BERTRAM

Maybe you can show me how it's done, then I'll decide womb... er, I mean, whom I wish to replace.

STEWIE

I don't know if that's a good--

BERTRAM

Why not?

STEWIE

Er, why don't you tell me who you want to switch with? I'll enter it.

BERTRAM

I'd rather learn to enter it myself.

STEWIE

Just let me! You can switch with my neighbor Susie! She's another baby and lives nearby, so she's clearly the logical choice! We'd know exactly where you're going!

With a scowl on his face, Bertram walks closer to Stewie.

BERTRAM

I want to travel into the past!

Stewie pulls knobs and pushes buttons on the machine.

STEWIE

I'll enter Susie in now, and--

Bertram pushes Stewie out of the way, and starts typing in Stewie's name as the second target. But before he can erase Susie's name as the first target, Stewie shoves Bertram away. Bertram screams in rage and tackles Stewie.

BERTRAM

SO HELP ME GOD, I WILL REPLACE YOU
STEWART GILLIGAN GRIFFIN!

As Bertram tackles Stewie, God looks sulky.

GOD

Ignored until I'm needed. Typical.

As he's tackled to the ground, Stewie's head hits the machine, knocking it over and activating the last command.

INT. GRIFFIN HOUSEHOLD - NIGHT

Brian is backed into a corner, surrounded by Bonnie and the rest of the Griffin family as Joe holds Susie out to him.

BRIAN

C'mon Joe, I didn't steal your kid!
I was hanging out with Stewie all--

JOE

DOES THIS LOOK LIKE STEWIE? DOES
THIS LOOK LIKE STEWIE?

Stewie appears in Joe's hands in place of Susie!

EXT. HEAVEN - SAME TIME

Bertram wrestles with Stewie on the ground, when suddenly, Stewie's replaced with Susie.

Bertram looks confused. Then he laughs, gets up, and sets the machine back upright.

BERTRAM

No matter. I'll figure out how to
enter the commands myself.

Bertram fiddles with the machine, but as he does so, his evil grin shifts into a look of disdain. He turns away from the machine and leaps up and down, enraged.

BERTRAM (CONT'D)
NO! IT'S BROKEN! IT'S--

Bertram stops leaping up and down to stare at Angelina Jolie's face as it is replaced by the hamster, then Angelina's face again.

Bertram looks in Susie's direction and sees that every few moments, she disappears to be replaced with Stewie, then appears in Stewie's place again.

Bertram runs to the crystal ball, grabs the remote, and flicks through different scenes on Earth:

A bald Nicholas Cage grows a full head of hair.

The members of a church choir become exotic dancers.

A prisoner in an electric chair becomes a child riding down a waterslide.

INT. GRIFFIN HOUSEHOLD - SAME TIME

Stewie switches back-and-forth with Susie, but neither the Griffins or Swansons notice, as everything else is changing around them too and at a breakneck speed:

Wile E. Coyote chases the Road Runner through the living room when Wile E. is replaced by Jason Voorhees and the Road Runner is replaced with a half-naked college girl.

The living room is replaced with the surface of the moon. The Griffins and Swansons float away, gasping for air.

Next, the Griffins and Swansons drown in the ocean.

The ocean is replaced with a graveyard. We see headstones with the names of the Griffin and Swanson families on them. Then zombie versions of the Griffins and the Swansons crawl out of the graves!

Peter becomes a frog and the others become flies. Peter grabs the others with his tongue, then becomes a bomb and explodes.

Once the smoke clears, everyone has returned to normal (for now) but the scenery keeps shifting around them. Stewie continues switching places with Susie, and random celebrities and fictional characters pop in and out of existence.

EXT. HEAVEN - SAME TIME

In heaven, it's the same: reality's shifting about like a pop culture acid trip, resembling what Salvador Dali might paint if he lived today and spent all his time browsing TV Tropes.

Here, Stewie keeps switching places with Susie as well. He tries to run to the machine between switches, but Bertram keeps pushing him out of the way.

STEWIE

Let me fix the machine it'll--
 (switches to Susie;
 switches back)
 --it'll tear reality apart!

BERTRAM

Good! At least that way I'll
 finally destroy you Stewie Griffin!

As Stewie pushes past Bertram, he switches places with Susie. She doesn't resist as Bertram pins her to the ground with his body. When Stewie reappears, he looks upset that he's in this position, then switches places with Susie again.

INT. GRIFFIN HOUSEHOLD - SAME TIME

Stewie appears back in the Griffin family living room. The place has returned to normal but its inhabitants have not.

A raisin-headed version of Bonnie fries egg versions of the Griffins in a giant pan. We see their screaming faces in the yellow yokes as Joe runs laps around them, now able to walk.

Stewie shakes his head and grabs a handful of dusty old CDs as well as a disused looking CD PLAYER. He opens up the back of the CD player and fiddles with it. Then he switches places with Susie, taking the CDs and the player with him.

EXT. HEAVEN - SAME TIME

Stewie tosses one of the CDs away. As Bertram looks to see where it went, Stewie bashes the other CDs over his head. Bertram loosens his hold and Stewie pushes him off.

Holding the CD player, Stewie runs after the CD he tossed and picks it up. It's Styx's Greatest Hits. Stewie puts in the CD and plays Come Sail Away backwards and sped up.

Bertram gets up to attack Stewie again but the portal to the River Styx opens. Bertram pauses midstride to stare at it and Stewie pushes him into the portal.

Stewie crosses a few wires in the back of the CD Player, and now it plays Come Sail Away sped up and forwards, closing the portal just as he switches places with Susie again.

EXT. THE RIVER STYX - SAME TIME

The portal opens and Bertram falls right into Charon's boat.

CHARON

Lemme guess. You think I'll give ya
a ride if you play me the new Bowie
album, right?

Bertram says nothing, but instead climbs up Charon's oar.

CHARON (CONT'D)

Well kid, I've already been burned
once today so--

A look of recognition glimmers in Charon's eyes as Bertram
arrives at his eyelevel.

CHARON (CONT'D)

Wait, don't I know y--

Bertram leaps onto Charon's shoulders and snaps his neck.
Then he takes hold of Charon's oar and rows down the river.

We ZOOM OUT, seeing heaven in the distance...

EXT. HEAVEN - SAME TIME

Stewie works on repairing the machine, but is slowed down as
he keeps switching places with Susie.

The words "ABORT LAST COMMAND SEQUENCE Y/N?" appear on the
machine's monitor. Stewie hits "Y" and just as he starts
switching places with Susie, he becomes himself again!

Stewie waits a second, then looks over to where Angelina
Jolie's face was. Now it's just a hamster--and it stays a
hamster! Stewie grins and types in another command. We don't
see what's on the screen but whatever it is makes him frown.

Stewie rushes over to the crystal ball, and using the remote,
he flicks through the channels. He sees random alterations to
reality occurring.

GOD

Oh, sweet kid. Did you get
everything back to normal?

STEWIE

Not quite, Mr. God Sir. I've
aborted the specific commands I
entered into the machine, but when
I tried entering a command to get
it to cease altering reality,
well... it interprets that as a
form of altering reality in itself.

GOD

Huh. Well that's a damn shame kiddo. Hey, as it's running on my energy, why not just unplug me?

STEWIE

No, that could kill you and I wouldn't relish proving ol' Nietzsche correct. I'll have to shut it down manual--

BERTRAM (OS)

AAAAAHHHHHHH!

Stewie turns to see Bertram dashing at him, swinging Charon's oar through the air, with an army of Nazi angels following behind him! Stewie enters a command and Bertram and the Nazi angels are in chains too.

Bertram is so small that he slips out of the chains easily, grabs the oar again, and keeps coming at Stewie! There's no time to enter another command, so Stewie yanks the plugs connecting God to the machine and runs.

God closes his eyes tight, bracing himself for death. A beat. God opens his eyes. He's fine!

With Bertram at his heels, Stewie runs to the CD Player again, but before he can turn it on, Bertram smashes it to pieces with the oar.

As Stewie dodges additional oar blows from Bertram, he glances in God's direction.

STEWIE

Hey God. You're, like, God, right?

GOD

Huh? I mean, yeah...

STEWIE

(gesturing to Bertram)

Then can't you, like, stop him?

GOD

Uh. Yeah, I dunno. No? I mean, I don't like to get involved with stuff.

STEWIE

Indeed. We've noticed as much on Earth.

Stewie dodges Bertram's blows as he locks eyes with him.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

I bet that made taking over heaven rather easy, didn't it Bertram? God doesn't seem to like doing much of anything.

Bertram pauses, then swings at Stewie again.

BERTRAM

What's your point?

STEWIE

You want to kill me because I was born in your place. But who let that happen? God! He was never there for you. From choosing me over you as the Griffins' baby, to not helping you after you were finally born--all because God's too damn lazy to involve himself in human affairs!

Bertram pauses and glares at God, who just smiles and waves at him. This triggers a white hot rage in Bertram. Bertram charges at God with the oar held high! He swings--

--but as the oar makes contact with God's face it's like Bertram's stepped on a landmine. His brand-new mortal body EXPLODES!

When the smoke clears, no soul is there.

GOD

Oh yeah. That's what happens if people hit me--they just sorta wink out of existence.

STEWIE

Really? Killing him is one thing but--no Stewie, focus.

Stewie checks in the crystal ball and notices inconsistencies--but only to the degree that is normal for *Family Guy*.

Likewise, Stewie sees everything is back to normal at the Griffin house, except for glitches like Wesley Snipes eating with the Griffins at the dinner table then disappearing.

GOD

Everything all good, kiddo?

STEWIE

No, reality is still shifting.

Stewie dashes to the machine and checks it.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

Just as I feared. It seems the machine's siphoned enough of your energy to run itself, though as you're not connected to it, this occurs at a more manageable rate.

Stewie tinkers with the machine then turns to face God.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

Lord, I haven't asked for much-- just world domination and the death of my mother. But as you've granted neither, would you at least turn this machine off once I've returned to Earth? I know you're a rather passive bloke, but I've already done all the real work.

(points to a button)

I installed a power down feature, so once I've entered a command to return me home, all you need to do is push this button and reality will be stable once more.

(puts hands together)

Will you answer a child's prayer?

GOD

Yeah, sure. Why not?

STEWIE

Splendid!

Stewie enters a command and is about to hit enter, when--

GOD

Kid, I gotta ask, why d'ya wanna return home? Like you said, you did pray for world domination a lot. Not that I'm complaining, but I thought you'd wanna take over the joint like Bertram did.

STEWIE

Oh heavens, I couldn't run heaven! I know that's your dominion. I guess something good finally came out of raising a boy Catholic, mm? I mean, for the general population, that is. I'd wager that for undersexed priests, plenty of good's come of that.

(MORE)

STEWIE (CONT'D)

But yes, mm-hm, well... it's about time I run along home then, eh?

GOD

If not heaven, why not the world?

STEWIE

That's so nineties. We haven't done that *Pinky and the Brain* bit since, what, season five?

With that, Stewie laughs and presses ENTER on the machine.

Stewie disappears. God stares at the machine then shrugs.

GOD

Eh, I'm gonna grab some popsicles.

God walks off, leaving the machine running.

INT. GRIFFIN HOUSEHOLD - SAME TIME

Stewie appears at the kitchen table as the Griffin family continues eating, not noticing he just arrived.

STEWIE

Yes! Brian, we did it! We--

Stewie looks around to see Brian is nowhere to be found.

STEWIE (CONT'D)

Where's Brian?

CHRIS

The pound.

INT. CITY POUND - NIGHT

Brian is seen locked behind bars with several other dogs, including a LABRADOR.

LABRADOR

(to Brian)

I got caught chasing the mailman, what're you in for?

BRIAN

Kidnapping a minor.

CUT TO END CREDITS.

THE END