Family Guy

"Vote Griffin"

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TEASER

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV -- VICTORIAN SCENE A MAN and WOMAN in Victorian garb.

WOMAN Oh, Mr. Wentworth! I simply *must* tell Tom how I feel, or...

INT. LIVING ROOM PETER is asleep in front of the TV. The TV provides the only light.

WOMAN (O. S.) (cont'd) ... or I shall *perish*, perish of my own passion!

MAN (O. S.) Rose, I need only tell you this...

STEWIE scampers in and quickly surveys the situation. There is rising music from the TV.

> MAN (O. S.) (cont'd) ... you *must* follow your heart!

The TV begins playing "Masterpiece Theatre" theme as STEWIE produces a videotape and tiptoes across to the VCR.

CLOSE-UP OF THE TAPE'S SPINE as it goes in: "Teletubbies Take Manhattan" has been crossed out and "Hypnosis Tape A" has been written in a neat, precise hand.

INT. LIVING ROOM STEWIE now has a cattle prod. He jolts PETER awake with it and quickly tiptoes away. "Hypnosis Music" starts up.

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV SET -- HYPNOSIS TAPE The TV shows a spiraling shape, over which STEWIE'S HEAD appears. Shots alternate between PETER and STEWIE.

PETER What the...?

STEWIE You are falling into a deep

hypnotic trance...

PETER

I... yuh...

PETER'S eyes go wide, he sits upright, and his pupils contract to pinholes.

STEWIE Deeper... until your will is mine!

> PETER Yes, master!

STEWIE You will *obey*!

PETER

(drooling) Unghh...

STEWIE Now, repeat after me: "I will run..."

PETER

I wih ruh...

STEWIE For --

FOT -

The tape jams. The VCR spits it out.

PETER imitates the noises it makes.

The TV flashes snow, then shows a TONY ROBBINS infomercial.

TONY ROBBINS ... and remember, if you can *dream* it...

PETER If I cah dweah it...

TONY ROBBINS ... you can *do* it!

PETER I cah do...

TONY ROBBINS That's great!

EXT. GRIFFIN HOUSE -- NIGHT

PETER (O. S.) (pitiful shout) Tony Robbins! I am your mind slave!

END OF TEASER

ACT I

EXT. GRIFFIN HOUSE -- DAY

INT. DINING ROOM -- BREAKFAST A newly-tanned PETER, grinning with abnormally white teeth, sits at the table. He has a black eye. LOIS watches him, concerned.

PETER

LOIS

(sighs) I'd better get some ice.

As LOIS exits, STEWIE enters.

STEWIE reacts to Peter's appearance with wide-eyed shock.

STEWIE Something has gone horribly awry.

PETER

I'm just in tune with myself and high on life!

STEWIE

Hmm, somehow you've survived the hypnosis tape -- we'll just see how you fare against...

STEWIE produces an elaborate, evil-looking machine; jarring chords in the background.

STEWIE (cont'd) ... the Hypnosticator!

PETER Aw, Stewie, you don't need machines! Just rely on the miracle that is you!

STEWIE switches on the machine, which bathes PETER in a red light. PETER is instantly hypnotized as before.

Peter Ung.

STEWIE Now, repeat after me "I shall run for mayor of Quahog!"

PETER "I shall run f-"

The doorbell rings -- PETER shakes himself out of the trance.

PETER Hey, my Ronco products arrived!

EXT. FRONT PORCH -- DAY A DELIVERY MAN on the doorstep holds a huge purchase order. There are several 'Ronco' trucks in the background.

INT. KITCHEN PETER starts to get up.

INSERT OF STEWIE turning a knob on the machine up to its maximum ('11').

INT. KITCHEN PETER sits down, entranced.

> PETER Okay, I'll be mayor.

EXT. GRIFFIN HOUSE -- EARLY EVENING

INT. DINING ROOM THE GRIFFINS are eating dinner.

PETER

I just had an idea! I'm going to run for mayor of Quahog!

MEG looks worried.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL -- HALLWAY
MEG'S friends, including STACY, are gathered round her.

STACY

Meg, we like you and all, but since your dad started this embarrassing political thing, none of us can hang out with you any more.

GIRL #2 Sorry!

MEG'S FRIENDS all leave. MEG stands alone in the hallway. Eerie music. Brief sound of crickets. Then we hear a nasal, geeky voice.

VOICE

Meg!

It's joined by a bunch of other such voices. Over-theshoulder shot shows MEG looking down the hallway at a night-of-the-living-dead-style crowd of...

MEG

Nerds!

MEG screams and runs away. The nerds stagger forward.

VOICES Come to us! Your friends have abandoned you. &c.

A slow zoom of MEG at the end of a hallway, pulling a door with a glass window.

It finally opens and she goes inside.

INT. DARKENED CLASSROOM The only light is coming in through the hallway.

MEG locks the door, starts pulling a desk up to block it.

VOICE You're one of *us* now!

MEG

No I'm not!

A hand holding a calculator breaks through the window.

MEG screams.

INT. DINING ROOM

MEG Daddy, please don't do this. I'll die if you run for mayor.

> PETER Aw, it'll be great --

MEG Mom, make him stop!

LOIS PETER, Charles McAbee is doing a great job as mayor --

> PETER He's going down!

> > LOIS

Don't worry, Meg. This is just like when your father pretended he was a White House security guard -

INT. WHITE HOUSE -- OVAL OFFICE PETER wears a black suit and sunglasses. He talks into his wrist for no apparent reason. PETER

Contestant one, this is center square, do you read me?

As he walks, he bumps into MONICA LEWINSKY, unwittingly knocking her into the arms of BILL CLINTON.

PETER

Oops.

The other two, smiling and still close, ignore him.

INT. DINING ROOM

LOIS -- or one of the Village People --

INT. BACKSTAGE AT A CONCERT THE VILLAGE PEOPLE look suspiciously at PETER, who is wearing a suit.

> PETER Yeah, I'm the big, fat, executive man!

INT. LIVING ROOM

LOIS -- or a fireman.

EXT. HOUSE ON FIRE An above-the-waist pan past several FIREMEN spraying water on a fire, then past PETER, in uniform, who is obviously urinating on the fire. He finishes up.

> PETER Well, my work is done. You kids keep trying with those little hoses.

INT. DINING ROOM

PETER

Lois, I'm not pretending!

Patriotic music fades in.

PETER There's a time in every man's life when he has to put on a suit, be on TV, and say that he likes America. And, Lois, this is my time! Right, kids?

MEG is sulking; CHRIS is confused.

PETER

Brian! Don't you want to make a difference in how this town is run?

EXT. PUBLIC PARK -- DAY A sign reads: "All dogs must be leashed."

Pan to BRIAN, whom PETER has on a leash, talking to an ATTRACTIVE WOMAN.

BRIAN (indicating leash) Look, it's not anything kinky, it's just the *law*.

The ATTRACTIVE WOMAN chuckles and walks away.

BRIAN Or... or maybe it is! Wai -- oh, damn.

INT. DINING ROOM

BRIAN Peter's right! The city needs us!

MEG sighs theatrically.

EXT. GRIFFIN HOUSE -- DAY

We hear hammering.

INT. DINING ROOM PETER nails up a banner that says "Campaign Headquarters." He looks at it disapprovingly as BRIAN enters.

> PETER Or should it say, "The War Room?"

> > BRIAN I've got our fliers.

BRIAN holds up a flier.

BRIAN Now we just need Meg and Chris to hand them out around the neighborhood.

PETER

That's not my face! That's Andy Griffith! Oh, and I've got our campaign platform ready!

> BRIAN Lay it on me.

PETER "Plain talk and family values."

BRIAN What does *that* mean?

> PETER (ignoring him) Meg! Chris!

MEG drags herself in. CHRIS wanders in.

PETER You kids have had Social Studies, right?

> MEG (to CHRIS) Deny *everything*.

CHRIS

Yes!

PETER

Great! Daddy needs to know how to become a candidate for political office -- y'know, legally.

BRIAN Yeah, is there some form we have to fill out?

> MEG Oh, I know how!

INT. LIVING ROOM STEWIE tinkers with the Hypnosticator. LOIS picks him up. Through the rest of the scene, he struggles to get free. PETER enters.

> LOIS Have you petitioned to get on the Quahog ballot, Peter?

> > PETER What?

wnat

PETER kisses LOIS on the cheeck; STEWIE winces.

PETER I've gotta catch a plane, Lois.

> LOIS What? What's --

PETER grabs a briefcase and heads out.

PETER I'll see you tomorrow!

BRIAN enters. PETER leaves.

BRIAN Great! Now if McAbee would just get mired in some political scandal, we'll be all set! Close-up on STEWIE.

STEWIE

(ominously) It would indeed!

STEWIE begins a maniacal laugh. LOIS and BRIAN stare at him. He trails off.

STEWIE What?!

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING -- NIGHT

INT. DARKENED OFFICE INTERIOR We can see light through its front door, which has a window labeled "Committee to Re-Elect the Mayor."

We see STEWIE'S unique silhouette in the window, and hear the knob rattle.

The door opens, revealing STEWIE on a small stepladder, wearing a Fisher-Price plastic stethoscope, holding a letter opener. He enters the office, blowing puffs of white smoke as he goes.

CLOSE-UP of the bottle of baby powder he's using to make the puffs, which reveal a laser-beam trigger, which he steps over. (In his other hand, he is carrying a flashlight.)

The office walls are covered in campaign posters and pictures of McAbee.

STEWIE reaches a door labeled "Finances and Planning: Private."

STEWIE gets out a baby rattle and pulls it apart into two parts, connected with a wire -- one half resembles a key that ends in a computer chip -- the other has a small digital readout.

He inserts the 'key' into a security panel beside the door. After a couple of beeps, the door opens. INT. SECURE ROOM STEWIE creeps in, looks around (with the flashlight), crosses to a file cabinet.

CLOSE-UP ON THE DRAWERS as STEWIE examines them; they are labeled "Porno," "Alien Abductions," "The Elvis Conspiracy," and "Bribes and Embezzlement."

STEWIE opens this last, gets a file out, and looks at it. His face lights up. We hear the front door open, and two voices carrying on a conversation.

> CONSULTANT #1 (O. S.) ... and *that's* why the CIA had to take out Elvis.

CONSULTANT #2 (O. S.) What's this powder on the floor?

STEWIE, alarmed, puts on a pair of night-vision goggles and turns off the flashlight.

INT. DARKENED OFFICE -- STEWIE'S POV Everything is green monochrome. Through the cracked door, we see two political CONSULTANTS talking in the next room.

> CONSULTANT #1 I've got all the files here in the private office.

INT. DARKENED OFFICE As STEWIE watches this, his leg moves close to a laser sensor.

> CONSULTANT #2 (O. S.) Okay.

STEWIE sets off the alarm.

CONSULTANT #2 (O. S.) Whoa!

CONSULTANT #1 (O. S.) What happened?

STEWIE looks around the room.

INSERT (POV) of a match on a desk -- quick pan to a rubber band -- quick pan to a sprinkler unit on the ceiling.

Triumphant music as STEWIE lights the match and launches it from the rubber band into the sprinkler.

All the sprinklers turn on.

STEWIE hides under the desk.

The CONSULTANTS peek inside.

CONSULTANT #1 No fire here.

CONSULTANT #2 Let's get out of here, Gary.

EXT. OFFICE BUILDING A fire truck pulls up as STEWIE rappels down the side of the building and disappears.

INT. ELDERYLY COUPLE'S LIVING ROOM -- TV -- OFFICE BUILDING NED SUAREZ stands in front of the same office building the next day. Fire trucks are gathered around.

NED

The destruction to McAbee's offices is feared to be total; our hearts go out to Mr. McAbee and...

INT. ELDERLY COUPLE'S HOME -- LIVING ROOM The ELDERLY COUPLE (JOHN and MILDRED) watch the story. They seem sad.

> NED (O. S.) ... everyone on his election committee.

The doorbell rings.

INT. ELDERLY COUPLE'S HOME -- FRONT DOOR JOHN opens the front door, revealing MEG dressed in businesslike fashion, and CHRIS dressed in a tattered Spider-Man outfit. Both of them have clipboards.

MEG

Hello Ma'am. And Sir.

CHRIS Trick or treat!

MEG winces.

MEG

(reading from clipboard)
We're conducting a poll on behalf
of the campaign to elect Peter
Griffin.

MEG hands MILDRED a flier.

MILDRED Oh, my! They're electing Matlock! John, come here!

MEG We just had a few questions for you --

JOHN Oh, fire away! Anything for Matlock!

MEG

Um...

INSERT OF MEG'S CLIPBOARD, with a sheet of paper titled "Brian's Questions".

MEG Which do you value more -- public education or law enforcement?

WOMAN

Oh, the law, definitely!

INSERT OF CHRIS 'S CLIPBOARD, with a sheet of paper titled "Peter's Questions".

CHRIS Who is hotter: Brittany Spears or Sarah Michelle Gellar?

MEG rolls her eyes.

JOHN Well, the one I'm hot for is --

COP (O. S.) Freeze!

MEG and CHRIS turn around to see a COP, who has a gun drawn.

COP What are you doing here?

MEG

Um... w-w-w-

CHRIS

(cheerfully) We're conducting a political poll!

COP

Well, you've just stumbled into Rhode Island's biggest knockoff Pokemon distributors. (cocking gun) Just get out before it gets ugly.

JOHN runs off.

COP Hey, you, stop!

The COP steps inside.

MILDRED

Stop!

The COP immobilizes MILDRED by twisting her arm behind her.

MILDRED Flush the Pikachus down the can, Johnny!

JOHN (O. S.) Whaddya think I'm doing, ya minx?!

COP

Let's move!

An ENTIRE SWAT TEAM barges in past MEG and CHRIS, muttering "Excuse us, kids," and other pleasantries.

EXT. SIDEWALK -- AFTERNOON MEG and CHRIS walk down the sidewalk.

> CHRIS We didn't get any candy at *that* house, either.

> > MEG

(pleading) Let's go *home*, Chris.

INT. TEENAGER'S ROOM A TEENAGER watches MEG and CHRIS from a 2nd-story window, while talking on a cell phone.

> TEENAGER Yeah, they're on Riverside now. Total dorks. Need to be egged.

EXT. JEEP -- AFTERNOON A Jeep full of FOOTBALL PLAYERS. The DRIVER is using a cell phone.

> DRIVER We were patrolling the neighborhood for geeks, not dorks, but we can make a detour.

(hangs up) Let's go!

EXT. SIDEWALK -- AFTERNOON

CHRIS Fine, then, I will poll this town all by myself!

MEG

(headache coming on) Chris, you know what happens when you wander off on your own.

EXT. AMISH COUNTRY -- DAY CHRIS has a long beard and Amish attire. PETER is forcing him into his car.

> PETER You're coming back home from this crazy cult!

CHRIS No! I must renounce the ways of modern life! Jebediah! Helllp!

EXT. SIDEWALK -- AFTERNOON

CHRIS But we only have one answer to one question!

As he says this, the Jeep pulls up.

FOOTBALL PLAYERS Get 'em! Whoo! &c.

They pelt MEG and CHRIS with eggs.

DRIVER All right, men. Now laugh and point! They do so. Reaction shot of MEG and CHRIS. CHRIS is disgusted. MEG is glaring at CHRIS.

DRIVER

Well done!

They drive off, leaving MEG and CHRIS covered in egg.

CHRIS (beat) I wanna go home.

MEG abruptly all but drags him away by the arm.

EXT. PARKING GARAGE -- LATE AT NIGHT

NORM (O. S.) Helllooooo!

INT. PARKING GARAGE
It's badly lit and nearly empty. NORM is wandering around.

NORM Secret unnamed sooouurce?! Where aaare you?

STEWIE (O. S.) (a harsh whisper)

Shh! Just -- quiet down, you lout!

STEWIE steps out of the shadows. He is wearing a suit, and a fedora which shadows his face.

STEWIE

I trust you weren't followed.

NORM

(seeing him)
Whoa! Spooky! You're not just
some guy who's gonna beat me up
and steal my clothes, are you?
You're that... what, 'inside
 source,' right?

STEWIE produces the (slightly damp) file he stole from the office.

STEWIE

I have, here in my right hand, documented proof that Charles Chester McAbee --

NORM

(overlapping)
Oh, blah blah blah blah blah... just
 (waving away the file)
keep your paper stuff, and give me
 the short version, huh Sparky?

A quick shot of STEWIE from NORM'S POV emphasizes STEWIE'S diminutive stature.

NORM

(cont'd) Um... no offense, there.

STEWIE My name is not 'Sparky,' you gangling twerp. You may call me "Mr. X."

NORM

I see, so you and your wife, "Mrs. X" have that part of the phone book all to yourself --

STEWIE

For God's sake! It's an assumed
 name, like "Deep Throat."

NORM

Hey, it's okay. (quieter) I did some work myself as "Johnny Bone."

STEWIE

(quite irritated) Look. I have proof that McAbee is funding his entire campaign with public funds!

NORM Ho-ho, hey there, professor, that's too much pointy-headed talk for me.

> STEWIE But, if --

NORM We journalists, we like stories that involve three things hookers, drugs, and guns.

STEWIE

(waving file) But this is shocking criminal malfeasance!

NORM

Something like: "McAbee doing drugs with hookers, and then killing them with guns." When you said you had a *story*, I naturally assumed it was something like that.

A lone car comes around and passes them, for a split second illuminating STEWIE clearly and completely before he can conceal his face with his arm.

STEWIE (pointing at NORM) You saw *nothing*!

NORM checks his watch.

NORM Oh my gosh, Springer is on!

He leaves. STEWIE, left alone, fumes, throws the file on the ground, and starts jumping on it.

EXT. PARKING GARAGE -- LATE AT NIGHT

STEWIE (O. S.) Stupid, curséd, infernal, journalistic --

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV
It shows the opening credits of "Larry King Live."

INT. LIVING ROOM STEWIE runs in, fires a Batman-like gizmo -- the one that fires a sort of grappling hook attached to a rope -- at the ceiling. The end lodges in the ceiling and automatically hoists STEWIE up several feet. LOIS runs in.

> LOIS Stewart Griffin, come down from there this instant!

LARRY (on TV) ... with me now is Peter Geffen of Quay-hog, Rhode Island.

LOIS

Peter?

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV -- LARRY KING SHOW

LARRY Peter, what are you here to promote?

PETER

I'm here to... (he reads off a card) ... to formally announce my candidacy for mayor of Quahog!

LARRY

(unimpressed) And what does Peter Geffen have to offer the folks of Quay-hog?

PETER

(Still reading) We're running on a platform of plain talk and family values. You may question what that means --

LARRY

Actually my question is, how does an ordinary guy from Rhode Island get through security here at CNN Studios, and break into the set of my show?

PETER

Um...

LARRY I also want to know what you did with George Clooney.

INT. HOTEL ROOM GEORGE CLOONEY sits and reads the paper. Doorbell dingdongs. GEORGE opens the door, revealing PETER in a bellhop's outfit.

> PETER Telegram for Mr. Clooney!

> > GEORGE Ok.

GEORGE takes it, slams the door shut.

PETER (O. S.) Ow!

GEORGE (reading) "Dear George: You sucked in Batman..."

GEORGE sits.

GEORGE (cont'd) "Signed, Larry King."

GEORGE crumples the note.

GEORGE

(cont'd)
Well, if that's the way you feel,
Larry...

His voice gets tremulous and he blinks back tears.

GEORGE (cont'd) ... then maybe I'll just stay home!

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV -- LARRY KING SHOW PETER frantically flips through cards.

> PETER Ah! "Together, Quahog and me -um, I -- can build a doorway bridging us to the new millennium..."

> > LARRY Security!

Two burly GUARDS appear.

LARRY Get him out of here.

GUARD #1 We respectfully disagree, boss.

GUARD #2

Yeah.

LARRY You wanna get fired?

GUARD #1 We tink dat he strikes a responsive chord with the American people.

> GUARD #2 Yeah.

LARRY Fine. This is Larry King, beating up Peter Geffen my own damn self.

PETER Huh?

LARRY

Good night.

LARRY gets up and tries to subdue Peter. After a bit of scuffling....

PETER

Remember, Quahog, come election day, vote Griffin!

PETER gives a thumbs-up to the camera; Larry jumps him, and they both collide into the camera. The TV shows snow for a split second; then it shows a "Technical Difficulties: Please Stand By" graphic.

> JAMES EARL JONES (O. S.) CNN is in deep doo-doo.

INT. LIVING ROOM

LOIS

Oh, dear.

STEWIE Would you care to help me down from here?

EXT. GRIFFIN HOUSE -- DAY The car is out front, with a loudspeaker mounted on top. CHRIS is finishing painting the words "VOTE GRIFFIN" on the side of the car. BRIAN is waiting nearby, not drinking & therefore irritated. PETER comes out in a suit.

> PETER Brian, let's bring our message to the people!

Patriotic John Phillip Sousa music in the background during a montage of the campaign car driving through various neighborhoods:

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD #1 -- DAY

BRIAN A vote for Griffin is a vote for decency!

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD #2 -- DAY

PETER Charles McAbee is responsible for killing Elvis!

EXT. FAST-FOOD JOINT -- DAY

This time, the car is parked in the background; PETER & BRIAN are eating hamburgers outside a fast-food joint. BRIAN'S voice comes from the loudspeaker, but he's not speaking.

BRIAN

Vote for McAbee and you'll contract incurable genital herpes!

All the OTHER PATRONS grimace and leave.

EXT. INTERSECTION -- DAY

The car is stopped at a stop sign. A McAbee car pulls up; a MAN IN A SUIT and sunglasses sits inside. He turns up a volume knob until he drowns out PETER. Peter reacts with surprise. Peter turns up the volume on his tape deck.

> PETER Hah!

His announcements stop.

PETER Huh? His tape deck changing sides. Surf music starts playing.

PETER

Oh, no!

PETER jabs at the dashboard buttons to no effect. The light goes green. The McAbee car peels out.

PETER He's getting away!

> BRIAN (determined) Not for long!

BRIAN hits the gas.

The Griffin car taking a slight lead as the surf music continues. BRIAN prepares to jump out the window.

BRIAN Take the wheel!

BRIAN jumps on to the McAbee car's windshield. The MAN IN A SUIT reacts in shock.

His car swerves back and forth.

BRIAN leaps in through the passenger's-side window.

BRIAN punches the MAN IN A SUIT several times, then both stare in horror at something ahead.

We see the McAbee car heading for a cliff's edge.

BRIAN and the MAN IN A SUIT glance at each other fearfully.

They both jump from the car just before it flies over the edge.

It fals down and smashing into a conveniently placed oil tanker.

Beat.

A GIANT EXPLOSION sends Brian flying, screaming.

END OF ACT I

ACT II

EXT. ROADSIDE -- DAY The Griffin car is parked, and PETER sits by it reading *Demagoguery for Dummies*. BRIAN, disheveled and burned, lopes into frame and sits. The ROADRUNNER zips by, stops, 'beeps' at him, leaves.

> BRIAN Eh. There's gotta be an easier way.

PETER Chris can set me up with a speaking engagement!

BRIAN

Lemme quess. The D&D club?

EXT. CONVENTION HALL -- DAY A yokel (CLEL) paints a banner that says "Meeting of D. O. R. K. S." Another yokel (JED) approaches.

> JED They've got a problem with the sign, Clel.

> > CLEL

Aw, Jed!

INT. CONVENTION HALL We see a sign on a podium: "D&D and Other Really Kool Stuff." Pan out to reveal PETER behind the podium.)

PETER

And, in closing, your vote is not just allegiance to the lords and barons of Rhode Island -- it's your own personal saving throw of justice! It's your chance to defeat the monsters of corruption and apathy with the +2 enchanted broadsword of activism! We see CHRIS and BRIAN sitting to the side. CHRIS has a tear in his eye. BRIAN mouthes "What the hell?!"

PETER

And together, we'll have the agility, the wisdom, and the strength to make the great city of Quahog an infinite bag of holding of goodness and decency!

Standing ovation from THE CROWD.

BRIAN Thanks for helping me with the speech, Chris.

> CHRIS You're welcome!

BRIAN Now, what did that mean?

> CHRIS (snobbishly) Hmph!

EXT. QUAHOG STREET -- DAY The Griffinmobile drives across town.

EXT. CONVENTION HALL #2 -- DAY Sign out front reads "Peter Griffin addresses the Quahog Journalists' Association."

STEWIE exits the building -- he is carrying a fire extinguisher and a sparking, smoking Hypnosticator.

STEWIE sets down the device, squirts it with the extinguisher, and hastily leaves as Peter arrives.

INT. CONVENTION HALL #2 PETER stands at a podium, looking spooked and uneasy.

PETER

Uh... so I'm going to be mayor!

THE CROWD looks back, sitting, bold upright, pupils pinholed.

JOURNALISTS We will obey.

PETER

So, uh... (halfheartedly giving a thumbs-up) Vote for me!

> JOURNALISTS We will obey.

PETER looks down at his notes.

PETER

Jeez, if I told you all to go jump in a lake, would you do *that*?

PETER looks up, and is surprised to see he is alone in the hall; the last JOURNALISTS are filing out the door. PETER looks left, looks right, runs away.

EXT. QUAHOG STREET -- DAY The Griffinmobile drives across town.

PETER slams the brakes as the JOURANLISTS cross the street.

JOURNALISTS (chanting) Must obey Peter... must obey Peter...

The JOURNALISTS wade into a lake by the road. PETER, nervous, speeds away.

EXT. LAKE -- DAY Two reporters, ANNA and NORM, are hip-deep in the lake. Neither is now hypnotized. ANNA

Whose idea was this, anyway?

NORM Dunno, but now that we're all wet, we could --

ANNA cuts him short by slapping him.

NORM

Ow!

INT. CONVENTION HALL #3
PETER stands at another podium.

PETER ... and the spotted owl must be stopped!

PETER pauses to gauge the audience's reaction -- the audience is shocked.

PETER

I mean -- the people trying to destroy the spotted owl must be stopped! Whew. Next question?

WOMAN

What will you do about toxic runoff into our lakes and streams?

PETER

Well, obviously, if we ban toxic sludge, then where will we get our superheroes? Uh... I mean, I have no comment at this time. Gotta go.

PETER runs away.

EXT. GRIFFIN HOUSE -- DAY

PETER runs to the front door and inside.

INT. LIVING ROOM

PETER runs through the door while BRIAN watches TV.

PETER Brian, they were asking questions! Questions that got inside my head! Questions that made me crazy! What am I --

> BRIAN (pointing to the TV) Look.

> > PETER

Oh no!

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV -- POLITICAL RALLY MCABEE is on a stage with GARY COLEMAN.

MAN (O. S.) Imagine Chester McAbee like he's the adopted father of a young, black Quahog.

The VOLUME GOES DOWN (with an appropriate superimposed graphic).

INT. LIVING ROOM

PETER Oh god! They've got...

> BRIAN Gary Coleman.

PETER Houston, we have a problem.

GARY COLEMAN (On TV) All right. Where's my money, bitch?

EXT. GRIFFIN CAMPAIGN RALLY -- BACKSTAGE

A big outdoor stage with red, white, and blue decorations and festive Sousa music.

PETER arrives on the scene as BRIAN directs the last-minute arrangements.

PETER Brian! Tell me what's happening!

BRIAN Look, everything is fine --

PETER But you said there'd be a *celebrity* here for me!

BRIAN

I --

(to GRUBBY-LOOKING WORKER) you, I need the sound check *done* in three minutes.

The GRUBBY-LOOKING WORKER runs off.

PETER Tell me you got Willis --

BRIAN No, Willis is in jail, Peter.

> PETER But, *Brian* --

BRIAN

I've got somebody better. Somebody who's a hero to white middle-class Rhode Islanders.

PETER

... who?

BRIAN

I've got...

BRIAN pulls out a photo.

BRIAN Conrad Bain.

PETER Conrad Bain?

> BRIAN Yup.

PETER The dad?

BRIAN Yeah. I gotta go. (to someone offscreen)

(to someone offscreen) You! On the stage! Now!

BRIAN exits.

PETER We're saved!

ADAM (O. S.) Can you tell me where Peter Grafton is?

> PETER Who wants to know?

The next shot reveals who's talking.

ADAM Adam West. You may recognize me as TV's 'Batman.'

PETER Hey! Wait a minute! (Pointing) You're not beloved sitcom actor Conrad Bain!

> ADAM Bain won't be here.

PETER Whatchoo talkin' 'bout, Adam? EXT. GRIFFIN CAMPAIGN RALLY -- STAGE An ANNOUNCER has the mic.

The crowd holding signs with Conrad Bain's likeness, and slogans such as "We'd Be In Bain Without Conrad," "Cam-Bain for Griffin," and "It Takes Diff'rent Strokes Through Quahog."

We see THE ELDERLY COUPLE from before. JOHN holds a doll.

WOMAN Do you see Matlock?

JOHNNY Hey, kid -- wanna Mewtazar?

Through this line, we pan across the crowd...

ANNOUNCER (O. S.) Ladies and gentlemen. Quahoguians and...

The pan stops on a small enclave of D. O. R. K. S. members.

ANNOUNCER (O. S.) ... obsessed "Diff'rent Strokes" fans.

They cheer.

EXT. GRIFFIN CAMPAIGN RALLY -- BACKSTAGE PETER and ADAM are there; BRIAN enters.

BRIAN (pointing) Hey -- you're not beloved sitcom actor Conrad Bain!

PETER Last-minute switch, Brian.

ADAM Bain had an... altercation. INT. BAIN'S HOUSE CONRAD BAIN is bound and gagged in a room full of "Diff'rent Strokes" merchandise.

EXT. GRIFFIN CAMPAIGN RALLY -- BACKSTAGE

PETER

So Adam, here's the speech...

PETER takes a pile of papers from BRIAN and gives it to ADAM.

PETER ... now go up there and do us proud!

EXT. GRIFFIN CAMPAIGN RALLY -- STAGE ADAM takes the stage.

ADAM

When I played a man bringing up two adopted black children in Cleveland, I realized that the world don't move to the beat of just one drum. I knew that...

ADAM starts thumbing through the speech, tossing pages aside.

ADAM (cont'd) Blah, blah, blah...

ADAM holds up the last page.

ADAM That what Quahog needs is plain talk and family values. Quahog needs... Peter Grafton!

EXT. GRIFFIN CAMPAIGN RALLY -- BACKSTAGE PETER is not paying attention.

BRIAN all but throws him on stage.

EXT. GRIFFIN CAMPAIGN RALLY -- STAGE PETER quickly runs up to ADAM -- they join and raise hands.

ADAM

(barely moving his lips) Now, where's my money, bitch?

PETER

(the same) Adam... the mic..

INSERT OF A "Quahog Observer" front page with a story covering the rally and a B/W photograph of the scene.

WOLF (V. O.) Hmm. Feeble.

INT. DINING ROOM PETER is talking to WOLF, who is reading a newspaper, in the dining room.

PETER But... can you help me?

WOLF puts down the paper.

WOLF Yes. We can.

BRIAN enters.

BRIAN I just got the polls and -- who are you?

PETER Wolf Loomis -- he's our new advertising consultant!

> WOLF Who might you be?

BRIAN

Um... Brian Griffin. I'm Peter's dog and senior campaign manager.

WOLF Delighted to meet you.

PETER So, first off, I don't want anything negative.

An inquisitive STEWIE enters and takes a seat.

PETER 'cause I'm about building a better Quahog.

> WOLF (rolling eyes) Great.

PETER Here's what I'm thinking: "If you elect McAbee, he will kill everyone."

STEWIE Wonderful! Evil geniuses for a happier tomorrow!

BRIAN (mildly shocked) Peter, that's unethical -- it's lying! It's slander and we'll get sued --

> WOLF No. We can work with it.

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV -- MCABEE'S FACE
We see a slow zoom on McAbee's face; he is scowling.

VOICEOVER Chester McAbee *says* he'll build a bridge to the new millennium... but what will he *really* do? Well, INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV -- WATER TREATMENT PLANT B/W security footage of the plant, w/MCABEE entering carrying a barrel crudely labeled "Anthrax," which he dumps in the water. A flashing caption at the bottom of the screen reads "Dramatization."

> VOICEOVER He might dump anthrax into the local water supply, condemning us all to a painful death.

INT. ELDERLY COUPLE'S HOME -- LIVING ROOM MILDRED watches TV with a Pikachu in her lap.

VOICEOVER He might climb up a tower with a rifle and start picking off old ladies!

MILDRED Oh, my!

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV -- POLITICAL RALLY Grainy footage of a McAbee speech.

VOICEOVER He might even reveal himself to be...

MCABEE removes a mask, Scooby-Doo style -- "Dramatization" caption flashes.

VOICEOVER Adolf Hitler!

The image freezes and shrinks to a photo side by side with PETER'S.

VOICEOVER So, on November 18th, it's your choice: Griffin... or Hitler. (quickly) Paid for by the D&D and Other Really Kool Stuff society. INT. LIVING ROOM BRIAN watching the ad, wide-eyed. He pours himself a drink. TRACI enters.

> TRACI Oh, look, it's a darling little dog!

> BRIAN I'm the campaign manager -- who the hell are you?

> > TRACI (Holding out hand.) Shake?

BRIAN simply glares.

TRACI I'm Traci Resnick. I'm with the image consultants. I work with Wolf.

BRIAN rolls his eyes. PETER enters.

PETER Traci! How's it looking?

TRACI

Well, the stay-at-home wife and the darling little baby and wonderful. The daughter obviously needs to lose a few pounds and show some skin -- and she's so peevish! I told her what to do and she just left in a huff!

> PETER Well -- kids, y'know.

TRACI And the son... well, (stage whisper) he's a liability. (Normal) But I've had my man working on him. Mango?

> MANGO (O. S.) No. Is no ready!

TRACI Mango, you've had all day! Bring him out!

MANGO enters, peeved.

MANGO

Fine. Mango is the best, and this is the best Mango can do. Chrees! Come out, honey!

CHRIS enters, in heavy makeup and flamboyant clothing, with heavily-styled hair.

PETER is slackjawed in shock.

CHRIS I feel pretty!

PETER (shielding his eyes from the sight) Oh, god, no! (to TRACI) There's got to be a 'plan B.'

TRACI Plan B is, you ban him from the house and make sure he's never seen or associated with you.

PETER Great! He can stay at Brian's house!

> BRIAN What?!

PETER Aw, Brian, it'll just be for a little while. BRIAN That's what you said about Adam West.

EXT. DOGHOUSE -- DAY Sound of a glass clinking.

> ADAM (O. S.) Mmm. Cognac.

INT. LIVING ROOM

BRIAN

Uh... look, Peter, he's your only son, you can't just cast him aside! Isn't there something in the Bible about that?

PETER Brian, it's for the good of the campaign! (reverent) And so it's for the good of Quahog.

THE CONSULTANTS affect respectful looks.

BRIAN (groaning) Oh, God.

EXT. DOGHOUSE -- DAY

BRIAN (O. S.) You see the liquor cabinet by the TV?

> CHRIS (O. S.) Yes!

BRIAN (O. S.) Don't touch that. CHRIS (O. S.) Oh.

BRIAN (O. S.) And the little black book by the phone?

> CHRIS (O. S.) Uh-huh!

BRIAN (O. S.) Don't touch that.

'Clak' noise.

CHRIS (O. S.) Ooo! Billiards!

ADAM (O. S.) Care for a game?

CHRIS (O. S.) Wow! Batman!

BRIAN exits the doghouse, gloomily shaking his head.

EXT. BUILDING LEDGE -- NIGHT 'Batman'-style shot of STEWIE (in all black) on a building ledge overlooking a street.

A thin cable connects the wall beside STEWIE to the front of the 'Ford-Chrysler-Mercury Theatre.' (A smaller sign reads, "The closest thing to culture in this suburban backwater.")

STEWIE pulls a colorful mobile from a bag -- he balances the mobile on the cable, grabs a dangling object with each hand, and sails down to where a GUARD is patrolling.

EXT. FRONT OF THEATRE -- NIGHT The GUARD looks up, grinning.

GUARD

Aw... it's a cute widdow ba-

STEWIE lets go of the mobile and plants both feet on the guard's chest, slamming him to the ground.

GUARD

Oof!

STEWIE quickly looks around and darts inside the theatre.

INT. THEATRE -- HALLWAY
Two COPS stand in a hallway. As they talk, STEWIE sneaks
by behind them.

COP #1 So, what's the one place where nobody's seen Elvis.

COP #2

Quahog!

COP #1 Exactly. It's a conspiracy, I tell ya! Hey, look!

The COPS both turn to face STEWIE.

STEWIE Bah! You'll never take me alive, copper!

> COP #2 It's a cute little baby!

STEWIE I -- what?

COP #1 Aw...

STEWIE

Erm... (speaking with excruciating

precision) Where is Daddy?

COP #1 Are you lost, little guy?

> STEWIE (smiling devilishly) Goo, I say, goo.

COP #2's watch beeps.

COP #2 Whoa -- that's our five-minute break!

The COPS both turn around.

COP #1 Let's get some grub.

A 'thock' sound, then COP #1 drops to the ground.

COP #2 Tony?

Another 'thock' sound.

INSERT OF a small blowgun dart piercing COP #2's neck.

COP #2 falls down.

STEWIE tiptoes away from the two unconscious forms, passing by a sign that says "McAbee Balcony -- Secure Personnel Only."

INT. THEATRE -- CATWALK
A catwalk along the theater's inner wall overlooks the
stage -- it stores old unused props.

STEWIE opens a door, steps out on to it, and pulls out & looks through a pair of toy binoculars.

INT. THEATRE -- STEWIE'S POV A binocular shot of MCABEE sitting with VARIOUS DIGNITARIES watching the show.

ACTOR (O. S.) And if thous findest fault in such a girl, then quickly shalt thou meet thy death... (etc.)

STEWIE fires a rope into the ceiling and leaps out over the crowd, *almost* reaching McAbee's balcony.

STEWIE

Damn!

INT. THEATRE -- HALLWAY The COPS wake up.

COP #1 What happened?

COP #2 Look, Tony, it's a blowdart commonly used by the Umbujumbi tribe!

COP #1 Wait a minute... Nambian blowdart, Elvis conspiracy...

COP #2 It all adds up! That toddler's trying to assassinate McAbee!

COP #1 draws and cocks his gun.

COP #1 Let's go.

INT. THEATRE -- STAGE STEWIE swings back and forth.

He runs along the tops of some PATRON'S heads at the bottom of his swing and makes it onto MCABEE'S balcony, & releases the rope.

STEWIE Aha! Chester McAbee, prepare to meet thy doom!

STEWIE draws a knife.

The COPS burst in.

COP #1

Where is he?

The DIGNITARIES jump back in fear, knocking STEWIE off-balance.

STEWIE drops the knife and is about to fall off (noises of the crowd noticing this as the DIGNITARIES react in horror) when MCABEE grabs him.

Brief shot of MCABEE holding a scowling STEWIE as flashbulbs go off.

INSERT OF the front page of the Quahog Picayune. Its headline reads, "McAbee Saves Infant From Certain Death" with the subtitle "Hero Gains Voters."

INT. HOTEL ROOM BRIAN, clearly very hung over, stares bleakly at the newspaper. Someone bangs on the door.

> VOICE Five minutes, Mr. Griffin!

BRIAN groans.

INT. PRESS CONFERENCE

A meeting room filled with cameras and reporters, and a podium with lots of microphones, a "Griffin for Mayor" logo, and a "Brian Griffinopolous" name card.

BRIAN walks up to the podium as the REPORTERS shout questions.

BRIAN picks an attractive woman from the crowd.

BRIAN

(smiling) Yes, you?

REPORTER #1

How does Peter live with running against the American hero who saved his son's life?

BRIAN

(the smile goes)
Those photos were faked as part of
a smear campaign from the dirty
media -- unlike you people... who
are consummate professionals.
Um... next question?

REPORTER #2

Is it true that Peter Griffin once destroyed the Quahog cable TV receptor dish with his car?

BRIAN

Oh, I think we've all done some rambunctious things in our youth.

REPORTER #2 But that was last year --

BRIAN

Next question.

NORM Has Mr. Griffin ever used drugs?

INT. COLLEGE DORM ROOM
A long-haired Peter & Afro'ed Brian stare wide-eyed at an
Escher print.

PETER How does the water keep going up?

> BRIAN I don't know, man.

INT. PRESS CONFERENCE

BRIAN

Absolutely not. You, sir?

AUSSIE

Mark Hyde, Quahog Animal Planet. Has Peter Griffin ever wrestled a crocodile?

BRIAN

For the sake of his children -- um, his only child, Meg -- Peter doesn't take such excessive physical risks.

> AUSSIE Pooftah.

BRIAN

Because if there's one thing Peter Griffin is about, it's family values. Um, and plain talk. Next question?

NORM Yeah, is it true that you're getting fired from the Griffin campaign?

Short beat. BRIAN checks his watch.

BRIAN Well, that's all the time we have.

THE REPORTERS shout questions as he leaves. BRIAN looks ill.

INT. LIVING ROOM Campaign HQ is filled with drones in suits. BRIAN enters -- WOLF and TRACI are waiting for him.

TRACI

(sarcastic) Nice job at the conference, Brian.

BRIAN

Where's Peter?

WOLF You don't need to see Peter.

TRACI

Tell me, Wolf, is this the same guy that set up an endorsement from the "Diff'rent Strokes" guy?

BRIAN

Lady, you can say what you want about me, but you don't mess with Conrad *Bain*!

WOLF

Well, now, Brian, it doesn't really matter what you think.

BRIAN Will it matter when I kick your fruity ass?

> TRACI Brian, you're out.

BRIAN

I'm 'out?' Heh. Just ask that lady reporter I just --

WOLF

(shaking head; patronizing) No, Brian. That's not --

BRIAN Okay, look, it was college, I was drunk, I was confused --

> TRACI We mean out of a job.

WOLF We mean Peter's kicked you off the campaign.

BRIAN

Yeah, right.

PETER enters.

PETER

Oh, Brian? You've got to leave,
'cos you're... uh... 'getting in
 the way of the campaign.'

WOLF smiles and nods slightly.

BRIAN Fine. I'll go home. At least I'll have some peace and quiet.

EXT. DOGHOUSE -- NIGHT Loud music, line of club-types at the door.

> BRIAN (O. S.) Did I say you could have a party, Adam?!

ADAM (O. S.) Well, you didn't say I *couldn't...*

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV The TV shows a "Decision 2000" graphic. The VOICEOVER is Loud, gravelly, with gratuitous echoes; the TV switches to monster-truck stock footage.

VOICEOVER This Sunday at Quahog Public Access: McAbee has political savvy and the support of the community; Griffin has 14,000 horses! Only one will survive... Debat-o-mania!

INT. LIVING ROOM The CONSULTANTS watch the TV.

> TRACI Mr. Griffin -- our polling consultants went over the data from

(checks her clipboard) "Megan and Christopher, Inc."

> PETER What did Meg find out?

TRACI First, we're going with the *pink* tie.

PETER Huh?

TRACI They polled fifty-thousand Quahoguians, and apparently 98% of them respect pink.

PETER

But Meg and Chris didn't ask any questions about colors. How'd you get that 98 --

> TRACI Magic computers.

> > PETER

0000...

TRACI hands over a list.

TRACI Here's a list of words you *should* use...

PETER Okay.

TRACI hands over another list.

TRACI And words you *shouldn't*.

PETER I can't say 'rectal?' TRACI And make sure you appeal to deafmute Native Americans.

> PETER What, Indians?

> > TRACI

Don't --

PETER This is so *confusing* -- I wish Brian was here.

WOLF We fired him. He was dead weight.

PETER Oh, yeah. Jeez, politics moves fast.

WOLF That's why we're here, sir.

EXT. QPA STUDIOS -- NIGHT Sign out front: "Debate tonight!"

INT. QPA STUDIOS PETER and MCABEE stand at opposite podiums. A MODERATOR sits at a desk between them. An AUDIENCE watches the proceedings.

> MCABEE And I know my next term will bring comfort and prosperity to all Quahoguians, including (he reads from a card) Latinos, deaf-mute Native Americans

> > PETER (sotto voce) Damn!

MCABEE

... and, of course, the old white people that actually vote. Also -

PETER Bo-ring!

MCABEE Excuse me, he's not allowed to interrupt.

PETER

Well, McAbee, sometimes you have to bend the rules in order to *break* them.

MCABEE

What?

PETER

And that's why I'm announcing, right here, my new campaign platform: "Puppies are cute."

MCABEE Well, I too, think puppies are cute --

PETER So, you're just following me like a sheep!

MCABEE

No!

PETER You hate puppies?!

The crowd gasps.

PETER

Who should we have running this town? Peter Griffin, or the puppy-slaughterer?

MCABEE

I believe in *important* things, like family values --

PETER

"Family values" --(disgusted) and I think we all know what *that* means. It means that you like to

MODERATOR

Okay, maybe we can just skip the opening comments and go to our first question. Linda?

LINDA For Mr. Griffin: how will you balance the municipal budget?

PETER The what? Aren't these supposed to be multiple-choice, Regis?

> LINDA So do you have an answer?

PETER

Um... I think that we, as Americans, can all work *together* to balance the municip... the mun... the budget.

Beat. Cold response from Linda.

PETER

Puppies are cute!

Beat.

PETER Hey... hey, look, my tie is pink.

> MODERATOR Mr. McAbee, rebuttal?

MCABEE

(again confident) Thank you, sir.

INT. A/V ROOM -- TV The TV shows the debate.

MCABEE

(cont'd) My thoughts on fiscal reform are -

(he goes on, softly, in the background; the announcer cuts in and the camera cuts to PETER, carrying a folding chair.)

VOICEOVER #1 Uh-oh, it looks like the Griff-man has brought an unsanctioned object into the debate, and...

PETER hits McAbee with the chair.

VOICEOVER #1
 (cont'd)
... oh that's got to hurt!

VOICEOVER #2 Looks like McAbee's encyclopedic knowledge of fiscal policy is nothing against the cold, hard steel of a folding chair.

A hand reaches across the screen and turns the TV off.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL -- A/V ROOM MEG and SANDY sit across from the TV.

> MEG Oh God. I'm so dead.

STACY Yeah, Meg, I, uh... think I remembered something I have to go do... alone... far away from you. 'kay? MEG (face buried in hands.) I understand.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL -- HALLWAY MEG walks sullenly down the hall.

> SANDRA (O. S.) Megan Griffin?

> > MEG

(turns) Wha?

MEG faces a small group of perfect-looking TEENAGERS. The head of the group, SANDRA, smiles at her. One of her teeth gleams audibly.

SANDRA (bubbly) Hi, Meg!

MEG quickly looks left and right for someplace to run to.

MEG Okay, I'll have the answers to the math test by *tomorrow*.

MEG backpedals as they advance.

MEG Things have just been crazy lately -- I need more *time*!

SANDRA Oh, don't worry about that, Meg!

MEG But, I can come up with it --

SANDRA We want to talk to you about your Dad.

MEG

Oh, no.

SANDRA And his Senate thing.

MEG smiles nervously and darts away in the opposite direction.

INT. HIGH SCHOOL -- LIBRARY STACY is sitting, reading. MEG runs by in the background, then runs back to STACY.

> MEG You've gotta help me -- they're after me!

STACY Who?

MEG The Stepford students!

STACY

(cheerfully) Oh, it's about your Dad.

MEG You've gotta help me hide! I don't know --

STACY stands up, looks around.

MEG I don't know what --

STACY She's right here, guys!

> MEG Shhh!

MEG looks around, sees the TEENAGERS advancing on her.

MEG You sold me out! The TEENAGERS begin dragging MEG away.

STACY No -- you don't understand.

SANDRA produces a perfume bottle.

SANDRA Oh, we can't have all this struggling.

SANDRA spritzes MEG'S face with it; MEG passes out.

INT. FANCY STUDENT LOUNGE SANDRA and MEG sit opposite each other in comfy chairs. The room has mahogany furniture and a fireplace.

MEG

(eyes downcast)
Look, I'm sorry for my Dad. I'm
sorry he does all these stupid
things. I wish he didn't. It's
not my fault.

SANDRA Oh, you're not in trouble!

WOMAN #2 If you were in trouble, we would have locked you up in the --

SANDRA glares at WOMAN #2.

WOMAN #2 Sorry.

SANDRA No, no, Meg, we want you to be part of the clique.

MEG

You -- what?

SANDRA Actually, we want you to run the clique.

MEG But that would make me the coolest kid in school!

SANDRA Hello -- you're the mayor's daughter. So what you say, goes.

MEG

But I thought this was Krissy Henderson's job.

SANDRA

Krissy did have some issues with this new arrangement -- that reminds me, Zane, push the button again.

ZANE pushes a button. The lights dim momentarily, and a distant, bloodcurdling scream is heard.

MEG

So, what if I told -- you, yes Gwen, the one that always has fifteen boys fawning over her -what if I told you to give away fourteen of them to the rest of us?

All but one of boys leaves GWEN instantly -- she reacts with shock.

MEG

And you --(pointing at SANDRA) what if I told you to do all of my homework for a change?

SANDRA No. No, it doesn't work like that.

> MEG Gentlemen?

The DRIVER from the Jeep places a call on his cell phone.

DRIVER Principal Belfries? Yes, you just found drugs in Sandra Brown's locker. Yes, she'll be there soon. (hangs up) Time to go to the principal's office, Sandra.

> SANDRA What? No!

THE CROWD starts dragging SANDRA away.

SANDRA You'll pay for this, Griffin! You'll pay!

MEG laughs. The school bell tolls.

MEG Hel-lo! I'm not going to just walk to class!

Instantly, FOUR BOYS bring her a school desk. MEG sits in it; they start carrying it off like a sedan chair.

MEG Halt!

They stop. MEG playfully pushes the button, with the usual results.

MEG Wonderful!

INT. LIVING ROOM PETER happily watches news coverage of the debate. STEWIE walks in front of the TV.

> STEWIE So, my corpulent protégé, are you

poised for your first step to world domination?

PETER Oh, Stewie, I don't want to rule the world.

STEWIE

What? But everybody wants to rule the world!

PETER

No, I just want to make Quahog a... nicer place.

STEWIE

Ha, yes, that's what you tell the masses, but what is your real plan?

PETER

I plan to make Quahog the best city in the U. S. of A.!

STEWIE

My god, you actually *believe* this hippie-hippie nice-nice garbage? The *plan* is to raise an army and march on Providence!

PETER Isn't it past your bedtime? Where's Lois?

STEWIE

We are to rule Rhode Island with an iron *fist*, and if you can't understand *that*, then you shall say (opening his toy chest) hello to my little friend, the Hypnostica-(looking inside) The Hypnosticator! It's been *stolen*!

PETER Now that plan sounded like

something I would oppose with my life.

Beat.

STEWIE

STEWIE begins laughing. PETER exits.

STEWIE

What? You do *not* walk out during a villain's evil laugh; that is just *so* rude!

EXT. CITY STREET -- NIGHT BRIAN stumbles down the road, drunk. He pees against a lamppost.

BRIAN

Ah, last one. Peter, even if they
'lect you mayor... in a way, this
 whole town is my territory!

BRIAN laughs himself into a coughing fit. An animal control van pulls up.

VOICE You been drinkin', son?

> BRIAN Wassit to you?

VOICE Why don't you run along home?

BRIAN

I haven't got a home... just a place where *Batman* can have a party with 20 or 30 of his closest friends. VOICE Why don't you hop in the van? We can give you a nice rest.

> BRIAN Hmm, I --

NORM enters.

NORM No, no. He's with me.

BRIAN

Who're you?

NORM There's as much Scotch as you can drink if you go along with it.

BRIAN Okay, but don't try anything funny. I'm not in college any *more*, y'know.

NORM Okay, uh... 'long-lost dog. Thank God I found you!' (to the van) Later, guys.

The van drives off.

INT. BAR NORM sits across from BRIAN. NORM has a copy of Interrogation for Dummies.

NORM

(obviously reading)
'I have had many problems with my
boss or superior. I wonder if you
have had any problems with your
boss or superior, Peter Griffin.'

BRIAN Yeah... the jerk fired me. NORM

Hmm...

(flip, flip)
'My boss or superior has had
numerous run-ins with the
authorities. I wonder if you know
similar stories about your boss or
superior, Peter Griffin.'

BRIAN was the tir

Well, there was the time he stole \$200,000 in misappropriated Welfare funds, and --

NORM

Who, who, "Hey there, I'm Brian, I'm talking about two hundred million blah-dee-blah, and using big words like 'misappropriated.'"

BRIAN

I'm just saying --

NORM

Lemme explain what I'm looking for.

A MONTAGE shows NORM lecturing from various presentation slides.

* One has "hookers," "guns," and "Peter" written at three points in a triangle, each edge of which is a twoheaded arrow.

* Another has an image of Peter's head surrounded by phrases like "CIA," "Ukrainian Mafia," and "Kathie Lee Gifford." Arrows labeled with question marks point from Peter to the phrases.

After a few more oddities, the montage ends.

BRIAN

I think I can help you.

INSERT OF the front page of the "Quahog Daily News" -- the headline: "Peter Griffin Participated in Drugged Bisexual

Love Tryst with Catherine Zeta-Jones and Melanie Griffith." Hallelujah Chorus plays.

INT. LIVING ROOM The CONSULTANTS celebrate.

> TRACI The race is as good as won!

WOLF Traci, I've... always loved you.

> TRACI Oh, Wolf. I'm gay.

WOLF (veiled threat) Yes, and I'm your boss!

END OF ACT II

ACT III

EXT. DOGHOUSE -- DAY Sounds of "Wheel of Fortune" opening titles.

INT. DOGHOUSE CHRIS sits on a couch, flanked by MODELS. A few barbells, etc., sit on the floor in front of him.

> MODEL #1 Do we have to watch "Wheel of Fortune?"

MODEL #2 Yeah, when are you going to draw us?

MODEL #1 I mean, it's kind of boring.

CHRIS (sounding slightly less dorky) Yeah, it's not the same without my Dad.

INT. LIVING ROOM The WHOLE FAMILY is there (Meg doing her nails, Brian holding a martini).

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV
It shows "__VING __IV___N.")

INT. LIVING ROOM

PETER "Loving Conrad Bain!"

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV

CONTESTANT "Saving Private Ryan?" ('You won' music.)

INT. LIVING ROOM

PETER What?!

INT. DOGHOUSE CHRIS sighs. The doorbell rings.

CHRIS

Ok. Just leave your clothes on the couch and I'll set up my easel.

CHRIS exits.

MODEL #1 Wow! His Dad's the mayor!

MODEL #2 Hm! I wonder what an 'easel' is!

MODEL #1 If this is what it takes to sleep our way to the top, then we'll find out.

INT. DOGHOUSE -- FRONT DOOR CHRIS opens the front door, revealing LOIS from the knees down.

EXT. DOGHOUSE -- DAY CHRIS gets out.

LOIS Christopher!

LOIS hugs CHRIS.

LOIS It's you! I've been worried *sick* about you! CHRIS Oof. Hi Mom. Ow. Ow.

LOIS Where have you been, young man?!

CHRIS

Just --

LOIS Your father said you were staying over at a friend's, and you've been gone for two days!

> CHRIS I've been here.

> > LOIS What?

CHRIS

Dad says I should stay away from his media presence during the campaign. It's not bad, Mom --Meg's doing her own thing --

INT. HIGH SCHOOL -- CLASSROOM
MEG is being fanned with fern fronds. STACY frantically
writes on a sheet of paper at her feet. TED stands close
by.

STACY I... I've almost finished your test, Madam.

MEG Did I say you could speak?!!

STACY gasps, bursts into tears.

MEG

(to TED) And you -- keep feeding me peeled grapes! TED Of course, Madam.

EXT. DOGHOUSE -- DAY

CHRIS -- and Brian's been doing his own thing.

INT. HOTEL ROOM BRIAN wakes up, brutally hung over.

BRIAN pulls down the covers next to him and sees several pairs of feet resting on the pillow.

BRIAN looks on the floor and sees mounds of empty cans of Reddi-Whip.

The room has been ransacked, but BRIAN sees a card on the night-table.

INSERT OF THE CARD: it reads "Courtesy of QTV News" with "Thanks!" scrawled underneath.

BRIAN looks around nervously, then quickly tiptoes out of the room.

EXT. DOGHOUSE -- DAY

LOIS Where *is* Brian?

CHRIS Oh! Dad fired him!

MODEL #1 (O. S.) (shouting) Chri-is! We're wait-ing!

CHRIS Ladies, please! I'll be there in a few minutes!

LOIS storms past CHRIS into the doghouse.

LOIS

What is going on in th-oh my God!

The MODELS scream.

LOIS stomps out of the doghouse, dragging CHRIS with her.

LOIS This has got to stop.

CHRIS

Ow! Mom!

INT. DINING ROOM -- CLOSE-UP OF TABLE
We see a series of newspapers land on the tabletop. The
first is the 'tryst' headline from earlier. The second
headline: "Peter Griffin insists Megan is his Only Child."
The third headline: "It's a Loveless Marriage of
Convenience!" with a wedding picture of PETER and LOIS.

INT. DINING ROOM LOIS sits at the dining room table looking angry and hurt. The newspapers are on the table in front of her.

PETER is busy getting a suit on -- he fiddles with his cuff links.

PETER Lois? Honey? What's wrong?

LOIS You can't *do* this to us, Peter.

PETER

What? (indicating papers) That? Heh -- that's just a campaign thing, Lois!

LOIS Being mayor of Quahog is a big job, Peter -- it won't get *easier* when you get elected.

LOIS looks down at the papers, toying with a corner of one.

LOIS I think I might lose you.

PETER But... honey... they're throwing a party tonight -- all for me! For -- listen to this -- "Mayor Griffin!"

> LOIS Don't you miss us, Peter?

PETER Lois, I'm not gonna be just the guy at Toyco any more!

PETER gets up, looks in a mirror.

PETER I'm gonna be the mayor of Quahog!

PETER fixes his tie.

PETER A public figure! I'm gonna be a star!

> LOIS No you won't, Peter.

> > PETER But look...

PETER points to a little TV set up in the dining room.

PETER I'm on TV!

INT. DINING ROOM -- SMALL TV -- COMMERCIAL The TV shows debate clips set to cartoonish music.)

VOICEOVER And remember, if you want zany, madcap fun in city government, vote Griffin for Mayor. Peter Griffin He hit a guy with a chair!" INT. DINING ROOM

LOIS

Peter, before all this started, had you even heard of McAbee? They'll forget about you, Peter. Or they'll stop liking you just as quickly as they *started* liking you.

LOIS crosses to PETER, hugs him.

LOIS But we're your family, Peter, and we'll always love you. And we're more important, anyway.

PETER

Lois?

LOIS Mmm?

PETER (scared) They'll stop... they'll forget about me?

> LOIS Pe-ter...

PETER I gotta *do* something about it --Lois, where's Brian?

LOIS

(angry) You fired him!

PETER I'd better fire whoever came up with *that* idea.

The front door opens, slams shut. BRIAN rushes into the room.

BRIAN Peter -- I think I did something really bad.

PETER Brian! Thank God you're back!

LOIS Brain, don't listen to him.

BRIAN

To what?

PETER Brian!

BRIAN What?

PETER The people are gonna forget about me!

> BRIAN Forget?

PETER Or... or they'll turn on me! We gotta do something more!

LOIS Do something? You already fired your best friend, Peter! You just told our son to leave and not come back. Megan has gone god-knowswhere. What's more, Peter? Leaving me?

PETER Aw, Jeez. What am I gonna do?

LOIS Yes, Brian, what is he going to do?

Beat.

BRIAN

Concede.

PETER

Concede?

BRIAN

Give up.

PETER Heh, heh, that's great, Brian. I can't just give up.

BRIAN

But --

PETER

They'll forget about me right away if I don't even win!

BRIAN

Listen. If you get elected mayor of Quahog, Rhode Island, that's local news. Maybe. But if you're just about to get the job, and then *quit*, then it's a story. I know how these reporters think.

LOIS

Really?

BRIAN

('Oops.' Quickly moving on.) And, and if you quit, they can't turn against you -- you can't be the guy who's doing a crappy job at mayor, because you're *not* the mayor.

PETER Right. I'm just the guy who works at Toyco.

BRIAN

No. You're the guy that they wish was mayor. And every time McAbee

PETER Who?

BRIAN "Peter Griffin."

PETER

So I'll get up there tonight, in front of all those big cameras, and I'll tell them, "I won't be mayor of Quahog. I will spend time with my family."

LOIS

(giggling) Oh, God, Peter. Why not just say, "I'm a great big wuss -- please beat me silly with a crowbar."?

PETER

Hey --

BRIAN

She's right, Peter. We want "I won't be able to serve as mayor," not "My Mafia connections offered me a hundred thousand to quit."

PETER

Okay, newly-reappointed campaign director -- what have you got in mind?

BRIAN

(smiles) The biggest thing this town has ever seen!

PETER

Great! What is it!

BRIAN We'll need a script.

LOIS

Okay.

BRIAN And we'll need money.

PETER The Chinese government wired us five million this morning!

LOIS

Perfect!

BRIAN And we'll need a little bit of help... from Adam West.

> PETER Ooo! Batman!

LOIS Why do we need Adam West's help?

BRIAN Because this will get him out of my house.

MONTAGE over 'planning music' LOIS and BRIAN examine a scale model of the Convention Center. BRIAN simulates an arriving motorcade with toy cars. PETER simulates a "G. I. Joe" helicopter divebombing it. A disapproving LOIS plucks the toy from him; PETER mouths "What?"

BRIAN and PETER stand at a mock podium, both reading from scripts -- suddenly they are both encased in a giant net which lifts up around their feet and forms a bag, suspended from the ceiling. Cut to LOIS, chastising STEWIE, who is standing, arms folded, beside a large lever.

LOIS and BRIAN work on a diagram on a chalkboard, showing "Peter," "Batman," and a large approaching crowd of

"Bikers." PETER walks up, erases the word "Bikers," and writes in the word "Ninjas." Cut to LOIS and BRIAN perusing this, impressed.

INT. LIVING ROOM LOIS, BRIAN, and PETER are surrounded by paper detritus, a smoke machine, and ninja equipment. They're all somewhat disheveled.

BRIAN

(reading)
So, he says, "That was amazing!
What do you say you quit the
politics business and help me?
Together, we can fight crime!"
And you say... ?

PETER

Aw, Brian, this plan is friggin' sweet!

LOIS Peter, what do you say in the *script*?

PETER Oh, yeah; "I'm sorry, America. Batman needs me."

BRIAN Right, then we start up the thing, and...

LOIS ... and we're home free!

PETER Great! Brian, this plan is foolproof!

EXT. CONVENTION CENTER -- NIGHT, RAINSTORM A peal of thunder and flash of lightning. The lightning silhouettes STEWIE. STEWIE walks towards the camera -- he angrily cocks a rifle, and walks towards the Convention Center (which has a "welcome Peter Griffin Election Party" sign and faint festive music).

STEWIE veers off, and walks towards an adjacent, dark, ramshackle building with a large sign: "Rhode Island School Book Suppository."

EXT. BOOK DEPOSITORY -- NIGHT JED works on the sign. CLEL enters.

CLEL There's a problem with the sign, Jed.

> JED Aw, Clel!

INT. BOOK DEPOSITORY -- FRONT DOOR The front door opens, silouhetting STEWIE.

INT. BOOK DEPOSITORY -- STAIRS STEWIE climbs the stairs.

STEWIE

The cheerful, "Mr. Chips" bastard! "I want to make the world a better place!" -- like a bloody beauty queen contestant.

INT. BOOK DEPOSITORY -- ROOM WITH A VIEW STEWIE enters.

STEWIE Why does it have to end like this, you puerile buffoon?

STEWIE aims the rifle out the window.

STEWIE

Why must I destroy my creation? (Tearfully) You could have ruled as my mindless puppet.

Two POLICEMEN burst in, catching STEWIE by surprise.

POLICEMAN #1 Hold it right there!

STEWIE

Oh, hello, yes, I was just trying
 to get a nice shot -- view!

STEWIE laughs nervously, and hides the rifle behind his back.

POLICEMAN #2 Can you tell us where to find Criminal Psychology by Randall Jakes?

Short beat.

STEWIE Fifth floor. Second door on your left.

> POLICEMAN #1 (shouting) Thank you very much!

The POLICEMEN exit.

INT. CONVENTION CENTER -- RECEPTION PETER is giving a speech.

NINJAS lurk in the background, unseen by the crowd.

INT. CONVENTION CENTER -- PODIUM PETER is at the podium, but we see BRIAN in the foreground.

PETER ... and I would especially like to

thank Adam West, and -- well, this is a surprise -- Regis Philbin for making this gala event even galer.

BRIAN

(on cell phone)
No, just hold off the ninja attack
for now. Yes, you can use sense
memory to 'get in the moment.'

BRIAN hangs up.

INT. CONVENTION CENTER -- PODIUM -- STEWIE'S POV We see the same scene through STEWIE'S gunsight.

STEWIE (O. S.)

I can't get a shot! He's the biggest, fattest boor in all of Quahog and I can't get a bloody shot!

INT. BOOK DEPOSITORY -- ROOM WITH A VIEW STEWIE by the window lowers the gun momentarily.

STEWIE Very well. If Regis is in my way, I shall simply have to clear a path!

STEWIE raises the gun.

STEWIE 'Who wants to be a gunshot victim?'

INT. CONVENTION CENTER -- PODIUM -- STEWIE'S POV The gunsight zeroes in on REGIS... who is aiming a small, concealed handgun right back at STEWIE!

STEWIE screams.

INT. BOOK DEPOSITORY -- ROOM WITH A VIEW STEWIE drops the gun and swings away from the window as a bullet zips into it and causes it to shatter inward.

The gun, balanced on the windowsill, tilts and falls out the window.

STEWIE groans.

STEWIE

Why must being *evil* be so difficult all of a sudden?

INT. CONVENTION CENTER -- PODIUM

PETER

(reading)
... and I approach the position of
 mayor with some regrets, like
being removed from the people, and
 unable to use some of my other
 talents...

BRIAN

(overlapping, on cell phone) Okay, ninjas storm the center on my cue.

A throwing star whizzes past him and buries itself in the wall.

BRIAN

Wait for it... wait for it...

REGIS leaps from his chair knocking people aside, shooting an automatic weapon into the air.

INT. CONVENTION CENTER -- UNDER THE TABLE BRIAN stays low and shouting at the cell phone, which is on the floor and out of reach.

BRIAN

Okay, scratch that, hold off on pretending to attack -- um, if you

could call the cops -- hello? Hello?

Regis shoots the phone.

BRIAN Uh-oh.

REGIS addresses the crowd.

REGIS

Everyone simply look ahead, and be part of my first step to world domination -- behold: the Hypnosticator!

REGIS dramatically brandishes Stewie's toy.

INT. BOOK DEPOSITORY -- ROOM WITH A VIEW STEWIE runs back to the window.

STEWIE

(shouting) Damn you, Philbin! Damn you to the darkest abyss of hell!

STEWIE storms away.

INT. CONVENTION CENTER -- UNDER THE TABLE ADAM and PETER hide under the table.

ADAM So this is part of the script, right?

PETER Oh. Uh. Absolutely! Yeah.

Regis continues his speech and the Hypnosticator makes warming-up sounds.

ADAM That Regis Philbin is good!

PETER

Heh, heh.

ADAM So, we'll pretend to fight him and then head out --

PETER

Oh. Um...

ADAM You get his left, I'll get his right.

ADAM gets up.

INT. CONVENTION CENTER -- PODIUM REGIS twiddles a knob on the Hypnosticator.

REGIS Well, we'll just see if you resist the Hypnosticator set to *eleven*!

ADAM approaches REGIS.

PETER gets up, cowers a bit.

ADAM That's great, but you ninjas -- er, you Regis, didn't count on one thing: Adam West.

REGIS aims his gun at him. ADAM is unconcerned.

REGIS Oh, I counted on it, all right.

PETER watches, wide-eyed.

REGIS

And now...

PETER sees something: a folding chair! REGIS raises gun, aims.

REGIS

I'm counting you out!

PETER now has the chair in hand -- he whaps REGIS with it and there is a bright, full-screen "Whap!" graphic as the "Batman" TV theme starts.

ADAM punches him ("Pow!"). REGIS drops his gun. ("Clatter!") ADAM picks it up.

ADAM Ooo! Look! ("Taunt!") I've got your gun!

PETER Time to tie up this loose end. ("Pun!") Brian?

BRIAN Oh. Yeah. The rope that...

BRIAN stares at crowd, and hands over a length of rope.

BRIAN

(cont'd)
... we just happen to have brought.
 ("Restrain!" "Loop!" "Knot!")

INT. CONVENTION CENTER -- FRONT EXIT REGIS is completely hogtied, and flanked by Adam and Peter.)

BRIAN

(stilted) Um... "well it looks like our work here is finished."

ADAM

(to PETER)
That was amazing! What do you say
you quit the politics business,
and help me? Together, we can
fight crime!

PETER

I'm sorry, America! Batman needs me!

BRIAN switches on a smoke machine, which sputters, starts, and fills the podium area with smoke.

The campaign car, now fitted with Batmobile-looking fins, emerges from the smoke.

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV The TV shows footage of the scene. PETER and ADAM drive away.

INT. LIVING ROOM PETER is on the couch, surrounded by BRIAN, CHRIS, and STEWIE.

PETER (click) Look, I'm on CNN!

INT. LIVING ROOM -- CNN

LARRY And remember, we had him here first, on Larry King live.

Mysterious music plays over a slowed-down clip from the show.

LARRY (O. S.) What's he like? And *does* he have a secret identity?

Clicks back to previous station, showing the Batmobile/car driving away. STEWIE scampers into the shot, steals the Hypnosticator, and scampers away.

> ADAM (O. S.) (faint) Great. Now where's my money, bitch?

INT. LIVING ROOM -- TV -- LOCAL NEWS DESK A 'Special Report' cuts in.

TOM

We interrupt this story to report that the fearsome yeti -- that is, the legendary Abominable Snowman -- has been sighted at the Quahog Stop'n'Shop. We go live to Ned Suarez with the story.

NED

Thank you, Susan. Fiscal reform in Rhode Island has been --

JOHN

Ned, Ned -- sorry to interrupt. Has the yeti sighting caused widespread fear and panic among the populace?

NED

(incredulous beat) I'm here to cover city tax rulings! What's this 'yeti' --

JOHN Could it just be another Elvis sighting?

NED This is such **bleep**! You're just making this up, aren't you?

JOHN

The yeti sells commercial time, Ned. Tax reform sells bupkus.

NED tosses the mic and walks out of frame.

NED (O. S.) That's it. I'm out of here.

A couple of seconds of dead air.

NORM creeps into frame.

NORM Hookers. Terrorism. A deadly combination.

TV clicks off.

INT. LIVING ROOM

PETER rubs his eyes.

PETER I've had a long day.

> CHRIS 'Night, Dad.

CHRIS exits.

BRIAN I'll go mix myself a nightcap.

BRIAN exits.

MEG enters, disheveled.

PETER Meg, what happened?

MEG

(sulking bitterly)
The proles revolted.
 (sarcastically)
Oh -- thanks for conceding, Daddy.

MEG stomps out. A door slams.

STEWIE At last, witless provider, it is down to you, and me, and my friend (brandishing the machine) Mr. Hypnosticator!

LOIS enters.

LOIS

Oh, Stewie...

STEWIE

Or -- of course -- why didn't I think of it before! I shall start from scratch with the slightly *brainier* parental unit!

STEWIE powers up the machine.

STEWIE (commanding tone) You, mother, shall -- mrrg!

LOIS picks up STEWIE and manages, accidentally, to point the Hypnosticator right at him.

STEWIE is instantly entranced,

LOIS You shouldn't be playing with your toy, Stewie. It's very late, and you should be in bed!

LOIS sets STEWIE down.

STEWIE

(faintly) Yes, mother...

In the background, STEWIE primly puts the machine on the floor and stomps it into shrapnel. Meanwhile, LOIS sits beside PETER on the couch.

STEWIE I shan't play with the machine (stomp) ever (stomp) again...

STEWIE exits.

LOIS So, Peter, it's good to have you back...

PETER It's good to be back.

LOIS and PETER are about to kiss -- BRIAN enters and (mercifully) blocks the shot.

BRIAN

("Eww!") Whoa!

LOIS Oh. Hello, Brian.

PETER Well, this is a little uncomfortable.

BRIAN turns to the camera.

BRIAN For God's sake... run the credits.

END OF SHOW