

# Dueling reviewers battle over *The Simpsons* movie

## Hysterical laughter, nuclear disaster, and where is Springfield, anyway?

By Brandi Dickerson and Steven Gantzer

*Theeee Siiiiimpsons!!* As the incredibly famous Fox Network theme song started playing in the background, Steven and Brandi scrounged for seats in the Friday night theater crowd.

**Steven:** You know, Brandi, we wouldn't have had to fight for seats if it didn't take you two hours to get ready to go. And to think I could have been spending my Friday night elsewhere...

**Brandi:** Steven, the point of the movie is to review what you saw, not the girl you went with.

**Steven:** Too true, Brandi. Too true. Can't be distracted by less important things. So the movie: personally, I thought it was a great movie because they didn't try to make it too funny, since that's how movies based on TV shows tend to turn out.

**Brandi:** I didn't stop laughing the entire movie. I think I annoyed the people next to us.

**Steven:** So I noticed. They got up and moved. I was embarrassed. Anyway, I liked that it was equally comparable to an episode on TV, but way longer.

The movie started with an animated yellow GreenDay performance on Lake Springfield. When the band starts talking about the environment, the people of Springfield start throwing their trash at the barge. The point the band was trying to make was that the Lake was so polluted it was dissolving their barge

**Brandi:** I loved how they took the Simpson's family in a church setting in order to foreshadow Springfield's downfall. Grandpa's revelation kind of relates to our religious society to-

day.

**Steven:** For the most part, everyone ignored him but Marge. She was frantically trying to figure out what the creature was that old Grandpa described.

**Brandi:** Oh, you saw that part, Steven? I thought you were busy hitting on the girl sitting next to us during that time...

**Steven:** I was. Then her boyfriend came back.

**Brandi:** Anyway...

There are typical Bart-n-Homer conflicts; choking, chasing, etc. where Homer got a little carried away with daring Bart to do crazy things, such as hanging from the roof antenna and skateboarding through town naked. The poor relationship between father and son is emphasized in the movie, when Bart turns

to (of all people) Flanders as a fatherly figure, and Homer adopts "Spider-Pig," who escaped from Krusty the Clown before he was turned into a Krusty Burger.

**Steven:** "... Does whatever a spider pig does... Can he swing from a web? 'Course he can't, he's a pig..."

**Brandi:** Cut it out, we're in the middle of a review.

**Steven:** Sorry. Back on track now. As much fun as the pig song was, he was the disaster grandpa's revelation told of.

**Brandi:** Technically, it was Homer. After all the hard work Lisa and her committee put into cleaning and depolluting the Lake, he "drops" a huge canister of... uh...

**Steven:** Pig feces.

**Brandi:** Yes, *feces* into the lake.

The Lake then became twice as polluted as it was before, with mutated fish and six-eyed squirrels forming as a result. Then Russ Cargill, head of the EPA, steps in. Cargill, one of "America's most successful men" appointed to the "least successful position of government," gets a little carried away and decides, instead of doing something practical like draining the lake or enforcing new pollutant laws, to enclose the entire city of Springfield in a giant transparent dome, declaring it "the most polluted city in the world."

**Brandi:** And to think only one man is at fault here.

**Steven:** ...

**Brandi:** Put the plastic pig down and help with this review!

**Steven:** Oh, yeah. Anyway, after the town pulls the canister out of the lake, it's not hard to figure out who was responsible for polluting it. Not many people ran around Springfield with pet pigs.

**Brandi:** Sure they do, I had to go to the movie with you...

**Steven:** First off, I am offended. But that was a pretty lousy move on Homer's part. Still, it was hilarious.

Somehow, the Simpson family succeeds in escaping the angry mob, and ends up outside the supposed "impenetrable" dome, where they flee to Alaska to start over. But when Marge hears on the news that the next plan for Springfield is dropping a bomb through the top of the dome, she decides that she can't run from her problems, and leaves to help the frenzied citizens trapped inside.

**Steven:** And Marge left Homer! Just up and left him in Alaska!

**Brandi:** She had the right idea. Wife or not, Homer was trying to escape something he couldn't run from: not only his struggle to be an acceptable husband and father, but his obligation to the town as well.

**Steven:** True, Brandi, but at least he found it in himself to go on.

**Brandi:** yes, the Indian "boob-lady," as homer calls her, teaches him how to be selfless. So he finds the strength to make it back to the dome, where his wife and children are trying to rid the city of the bomb.

Homer, once the town-idiot and the reason the town was sentenced to imprisonment in the dome in the first place, came back at the end to try and save the town.

No worries, Simpsons' fans, all is well in Springfield.



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