

Abe Simpson II

Abraham Jebediah "Abe" Simpson II, commonly known as **Grampa Simpson** or simply **Grampa**, is a major recurring character in *The Simpsons* and a supporting character in *The Simpsons Movie*. He is the oldest patriarch of the **Simpson family**, ex-husband of **Mona Simpson**, father of **Homer Simpson**, **Herbert Powell** and **Abbey**, father-in-law of **Marge Simpson** and paternal grandfather of **Bart**, **Lisa** and **Maggie Simpson**. He is also the ex-boyfriend of **Jacqueline Bouvier**, his daughter-in-law's mother (which would have made Marge and Homer step siblings).

Abe was a World War II veteran who was later sent to the **Springfield Retirement Castle** by **Homer**. He is known for his long, rambling, and often inaccurate stories.

Biography

Family Life

Almost all of Grampa's biographical info is supplied by him. Many of his stories seem to be wildly inaccurate, often physically or historically impossible, and occasionally inconsistent, even with each other, suggesting that Abe is senile though it's often implied that he is aware of the inconsistency. As such, all info provided by Grampa is often to be taken with a grain of salt.

He is a member of the **Stonecutters**, **Masons**, and **Communists**, as well as being president of the **Gay & Lesbian Alliance** for some reason.

Childhood

Abraham Simpson was born and raised in the "**Old Country**", which has been hinted to be the **United Kingdom** or **Ireland**, to his father, **Orville Simpson** and his mother, **Yuma Hickman**, before immigrating as a young child to the **United States** and briefly living inside the Statue of Liberty. **Eliza Simpson**, an indirect relative of his, apparently helped a slave (his great-great-grandfather, **Virgil Simpson**, to be exact) escape to **Canada**: another possible location of the "Old Country".

Life in The Army

Abraham Jebediah "Abe" Simpson II



In the 1936 Berlin Olympics, Abe was participating in the javelin event. His throw narrowly missed **Hitler**, who was watching in the stands. Unfortunately, it missed and hit the man who was about to assassinate him. At a later date, Grampa claimed that he and Hitler laughed about it.^[1]

Abe's recollections of his **World War II** experiences are sometimes implausible. Abe was not initially keen to fight in **Europe**. After the United States declared war, he supposedly tried to avoid service by dressing in drag and playing for a women's baseball team in 1942, which kept him from serving for a year before he was eventually discovered during a game. Later on, he and his unit served in **The Battle of the Bulge**, where he nearly succeeded in assassinating Hitler (though **Charles Montgomery Burns** thwarted it at the last moment). In the closing days of the war in Europe, they then invade an abandoned castle owned by the Nazis and flushed the Nazis out, though Mr. Burns tried to remove some of the paintings. Although he opposed the decision, and was morally against the idea, he ended up deciding to let Mr. Burns do it, though only so he might have a nest-egg after retirement. After "liberating" a stash of priceless art from the Nazis, Abe's unit (the **Flying Hellfish**) formed a tontine, and buried the art in a trunk at sea. Decades later, Mr. Burns tried to murder Abe in order to get the art, prompting Abe to violate the ton tine. When Abe and **Bart** retrieve the art from **Burns** after a spectacular confrontation, the State Department arrives to give the art to their "rightful" owner, **Baron von Herzenberger**, a snooty young German aristocrat (this part implies that this did happen).

According to "**The Regina Monologues**", Abraham fathered an illegitimate daughter named **Abbey** in the United Kingdom on the day before he joined the D-Day operations in **Normandy**. She was seen again later in the same episode at the airport, ending further credence to the idea that he served in Europe. Moreover, he once showed Bart and **Lisa** an album with photos of Germans killed by his platoon. He was also awarded the Iron Cross for accidentally directing U.S. jeeps into Nazi minefields.

Another piece of information to support this idea is in "**In the Name of the Grandfather**", when he came to **O'Flannigan's** pub in **Ireland** a long time ago in his WWII sergeant uniform. Abe once disguised himself as a cabaret singer to ride out the war after he got separated from his platoon and made sexual motions towards Hitler, but when he leaned in down, one of the fruits in his bra fell onto the stage and Hitler was disgusted. Although Bart when questioned if the story was true, Abe confessed that while most of it was and that he had in fact worn a dress in the 1940's, whether or not the incident with Hitler occurred is debatable.

Life in the Navy

Abraham also claims to have served in the Navy during World War II. He served as a pilot on an aircraft carrier with his brother, **Cyrus**, and Mr. Burns in "**Simpsons Christmas Stories**". He also served on a destroyer called the USS World War One during World War II in "**Thursdays with Abie**". The USS World War One was sunk by a heat seeking torpedo that they fired the other day. After the ship was sunk, Abe and his fellow sailors rode on the back of sharks to avoid being eaten by them and had them swim in formation to spell a rescue message. It is also implied that they also tamed and befriended the sharks in question.

Abraham also says that he served on PT Boat 109 where he heard **John F. Kennedy** speaking in German ("Ich bin ein Berliner"). Abe claims that he is a Nazi and he and the fellow sailors tackle Kennedy. Abe once got stranded on a deserted island with Burns after a plane he was piloting crash landed after being shot down by Japanese planes. During his time stranded on the island, Mr. Burns accidentally shot down **Santa Claus** thinking he was Japanese, so Burns and Abe helped Santa fix his sled and he left, saying that he would return

to take him home. However, it never happened, and Abe held a grudge against Santa until he apologized to Abe.

He boasts of having been a watchman at Pearl Harbor (falling asleep on duty), and claims that President **Grover Cleveland** spanked him on two nonconsecutive occasions.

Life in the Air Force and Marine Corps

In "**Looking for Mr. Goodbart**", Abraham asks Principal Skinner if he is capable of punishing a Marine Corps veteran.

In "**Havana Wild Weekend**", Marge mentions that Abraham is a veteran of every branch of the military. This is consistent with a conversation he had with Bart and Lisa in "**Let's Go Fly a Coot**":

Abraham Simpson II also served in the United States Coast Guard if he is to be believed he mentions it when talking to Lisa on the phone in "**The Secret War of Lisa Simpson**".

After World War II

In 1947, he met future **Itchy** creator and bum **Chester Lampwick**, and he offered him a plate of corn muffins under the condition that Lampwick paint his chicken coop. However, he never did, resulting in Abe carrying a grudge against him. Lampwick later revealed that this was because the corn muffins were "lousy."

During the 1950's, Abraham was a professional wrestler known as Glamorous Godfrey.

Fatherhood

Abe had a sexual relationship with a woman named **Edwina**, which resulted in the pregnancy with his illegitimate daughter **Abbey** before he was shipped out during World War II. Several years after the war, he went to the carnival, and encountered a prostitute named **Gaby**, thus resulting in the he procreation of his illegitimate son, **Herb Powell**.

He then married **Mona**, and after having a bit of his tonic with her, they made love and created Homer. Shortly after Homer's birth, Mona also made Abe swear not to tell Homer that he has a half brother. He continued to use the **Simpson Farm** until the bank foreclosed the farm in 1963, due to the cows producing sour milk, theorizing that something must have spooked them good (unknown to Abe, the reason why the cows were spooked was because Homer had traumatized them by running around and yelling at them). When Homer aspired to become President of the United States (more specifically President Kennedy), Abe had beat Homer down for thinking that he even had a chance of becoming President. After moving from the farm, they settled in an apartment and watched the third Super Bowl, which indirectly made him responsible for his wife becoming a hippie. He was then dragged to **Woodstock**, and after scolding Homer for emulating the Hippie lifestyle, attempted to send him off to the Vietnam War. After Mona was forced to run away from home after destroying **Mr. Burns'** Germ Warfare Lab, he lied to Homer by claiming that Mona died when he was at the movies.

It was Abe's mediocre fathering that caused Homer to turn out the way he is today. It was even stated that if he had been a better father, Homer would have been a better one too.

Abe was once arguing with Mona which she stormed out, which caused him to be a single father, suffering to pay the bills, and then resorting to alcoholism and completely ignoring Homer. Abe was a terrible father to Homer, but they both have shared their own moments of father/son relationship.

Homer was employed at Abe's **laser-tag business** while trying to pay for Marge's tuition fees. Homer presumably quit after he'd found fame with his Grunge band **Sadgasm**. In the music video for Sadgasm's song "**Margerine**", Abe is seen wearing a diaper.

Rise to Fame

During the family's visit to **Wet 'N' Wacky World**, when the rest of the family watches **Slimu**, Grampa stays on a shark bench and recalls how he once rode a shark. Then, newspaper columnist **Marshall Goldman** turns up, and is interested in his stories. Soon, the entire popularity of **Springfield** is reading them. Despite being offered a chance for **Mitch Albom** to write about him, Grampa sticks with Marshall, who is constantly with him writing what he says. Homer comes to visit his father, but Abe rejects him. While Homer is submitting a column to the shopper about Mr. Burns (who Homer uses as an adoptive father to get back at Abe), he sneaks into Marshall's office, and finds out that Marshall is planning to kill Abe at precisely 3pm on the Tinseltown Starliner, and even has the article and award application ready.

Meanwhile, at the **Springfield Union Station**, Abe is aboard the train with Marshall, and despite Homer's many attempts to warn him, Abe has no idea what is happening due to his hearing problems. Later, when Abe is sleeping, Marshall is just about to suffocate him when Homer jumps aboard and stops him, not expecting Marshall to pull out a knife, and then retrieve a gun from the pillow. They both wrestle for control of the gun when Abe gets up and hits Marshall on the head with a bottle, but had no effect. When putting his hands up to surrender, he grabs the train's emergency brake lever, which sends Marshall flying back and causes him to be crushed by luggage. Both Homer and Grampa then embrace, and the family is back together. In the end, Abe decides to let Homer tell the story of how he saved Homer's life (his first ramble) and Homer ends up talking about **Godzilla** and the **Rolling Stones**. In one episode, Abe won the senior Olympics.^[2]

Life today

Due to his apparent senility, Abe is often ignored by Homer and other cast members, and is alternatively content with this, resentful of this, or completely unaware of his being ignored. Abe is very friendly with **Jasper** and the **Old Jewish Man**, like **Hans Moleman**. Abe often appears in recurring gags as well, such as the **couch gags**. He is also very unlucky and forgetful at times sometimes forgetting where he lives or where his son lives.

Abe had many affairs with lots of women, such as **Beatrice Simmons** in "**Old Money**", where she died and left Abe an inheritance of \$106,000. He had also married **Selma** in "**Rome-Old and Julie-Eh**". Abe has also had many relatives who he has mentioned in his stories several times. Abe has also acted as a good father to Homer at times and has also acted as a good grandfather to Bart, **Lisa** and **Maggie**. However, he does not like cheekiness from Homer, Bart or Lisa; he also demands to be treated right and he reckons that he is just as important as the others. He also had dated **Jacqueline Bouvier**, Marge's mother, in "**Lady Bouvier's Lover**".

Occupations

For forty-five years, Abe was a security guard. Within his elderly years, he was a **Sprawl-Mart** greeter in Eddystone Pa, a cartoon writer, and a traveling salesman of an aphrodisiac.

Personality

Grampa Simpson is old, grizzled, periodically incontinent and quite senile to the extent of calling someone a fish tank. He lives in the **Springfield Retirement Castle**, which is a sad, lonely place filled with demented, crippled and depressed old people (a sign near the entrance says "Thank you for not discussing the outside world"). Abe also informs **Lisa** that residents are not allowed to read newspapers because "they angry up the blood". His closest friend appears to be **Jasper Beardsley**, a fellow Retirement Castle resident.

He is also shown to be something of a crackpot, as evident by the following letter from "Bart the General":

Dear Advertisers, I am disgusted with the way old people are depicted on television. We are not all vibrant, fun-loving sex maniacs! Many of us are bitter, resentful individuals who remember the good old days when entertainment was bland and inoffensive. The following is a list of words I never want to hear on television again. Number one: "Bra". Number two: "Horny". Number three: "Family jewels".

He spends a good deal of his time writing letters of complaints. He once wrote to the President, complaining that there were too many states, and requesting that they get rid of three of them (simultaneously insisting that he was "not a crackpot"). He also wrote to "the sickos at *Modern Bride Magazine*" about his disgust at not seeing "one wrinkled face" or "a single toothless grin" in the publication. He also owns a 49-star American flag because of an undefined hatred of **Missouri**.

He also is soundly rooted in his antiquated ways: "The metric system is the tool of the devil! My car gets 40 rods to the hogshead and that's the way I likes it!" Like many of his fellow retirement home residents, Abe is a devoted follower of *Matlock*. He even supports tearing down the Simpson household to complete construction of the proposed "Matlock Expressway". He seems to believe Matlock is a real person, suggesting they call him in to solve real-life crimes: "I say we call Matlock. He'll find the culprit. It's probably that evil **Gavin MacLeod** or **George Lindsey**." During a *Matlock* public appearance, Abe and Jasper swiped Matlock's pills which were needed to prevent him from having a spastic heart failure. Once when reflecting on his life, he lamented it as terribly boring and full of unruly teenagers, but then decided it was alright because he "*did have two shows with Andy Griffith.*"

He also had a habit of telling long stories about his past, though a lot of the time they didn't really happen. Presumably his senility caused him to think he really did have these experiences; alternatively he could have simply been lying about them. However, at least a few of his stories were true to an extent: namely the ones about the **Flying Hellfish** and **Simpson Gene**.

In flashbacks he was strict and commanding as a result of his military background and somewhat condescending towards his son Homer which resulted in him having self-esteem issues and other insecurities. However, he displayed knowledge of social pressure when he described his experiences of trying to be "*with it*" to Homer and **Barney Gumble**. He also seemed to have had a difficult relationship with his first ex-wife and

Homer's mother Mona due to their opposing sociopolitical and parenting views, since Homer had long believed his mother dead and Abe was always an open detractor of people like hippies.