# The Simpsons and its uncanny predictions: A cultural phenomenon



The long-running animated television series The Simpsons has maintained a curious reputation for uncanny predictions throughout its 35-season run. This beloved show, revered as the longest-running animated series in history, has produced several moments that have seemingly foreshadowed real-life events, prompting speculation about the show's clairvoyance among fans.

One notable instance involved the introduction of the Apple Vision headset, predicted by The Simpsons in a 2016 episode titled "Friends and Family." In this episode, characters use virtual reality headsets, a concept that materialised in reality with the launch of the Apple Vision Pro in 2023. The character Mr Burns hires the Simpson family to act as his virtual family, showcasing a technology that would later be available to the public, emphasising the growing integration of virtual reality in everyday life.

The show also foresees the crossover of genres in entertainment, exemplified by Cypress Hill's collaboration with the London Symphony Orchestra. A satirical moment from a 1996 episode, where the band mistakenly believes they have booked the prestigious orchestra, became reality when they performed together at the Royal Albert Hall in July 2024. The band expressed their excitement, with a representative stating, "It’s a dream come true, a collaboration only The Simpsons could have predicted."

Another significant prediction came in the form of Donald Trump’s political career. In a 2000 episode, "Bart to the Future," a billboard visible in the background reads "Trump 2024," a humorous foreshadowing of his eventual candidacy for president. The show's writer Dan Greaney remarked, discussing the implications of the gag, "It was a warning to America." Moreover, a fashion choice by Kamala Harris at her inauguration in January 2021 drew comparisons to an outfit worn by Lisa Simpson in the same episode, further fuelling claims of the show's prescience.

The show's track record includes several other predictions that align remarkably with subsequent real-world occurrences. The depiction of voting machine errors in the 2008 episode "Treehouse of Horror XIX" mirrored issues reported during the 2012 presidential election, where machines malfunctioned and failed to register votes correctly.

In a more ominous alignment, an episode from 1993 featured a fictional virus labelled the "Osaka Flu," which bears resemblance to the global outbreak of Covid-19 that emerged decades later. The episode showcased individuals in Springfield receiving virus-laden juicers from Japan, a plot that resonated disturbingly with the onset of the pandemic.

The Simpsons has also touched on topics like the use of artificial intelligence in the workplace. A 2012 episode titled "Them, Robot" portrayed a scenario in which Homer Simpson loses his job to robots, a reflection of the growing automation in many sectors.

Moreover, the show made prophecies related to high-profile events and personalities, including a satirical portrayal of the FIFA corruption scandal that erupted in real life and a comedic take on Lady Gaga’s Super Bowl performance that echoed her actual stunt years later.

From the predicted economic crisis in Greece to Richard Branson's thrill-seeking ventures into space, The Simpsons has seemingly encapsulated moments of cultural zeitgeist through humour and creativity. Each mentioned prediction has cultivated an ongoing dialogue about the show's influence and its ability to mirror society in both whimsical and profound ways, reinforcing its status as a cultural touchstone even decades after its inception.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://collider.com/predictions-the-simpsons-came-true/> - This article supports several of The Simpsons' predictions, including the depiction of virtual reality headsets, which were later developed into real products like the Apple Vision Pro. It also details other predictions, such as the FIFA corruption scandal and Lady Gaga's Super Bowl performance.
2. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Simpsons_future_predictions> - This Wikipedia page provides a comprehensive overview of The Simpsons' future predictions, including notable examples like Donald Trump's presidency, the FIFA corruption scandal, and the use of robots in the workplace.
3. <https://ew.com/simpsons-predictions-that-came-true-8662708> - Entertainment Weekly lists several instances where The Simpsons seemingly predicted real-life events, such as Lady Gaga's Super Bowl performance and the Cypress Hill collaboration with the London Symphony Orchestra.
4. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Td7sFfKSMew> - This YouTube video discusses various predictions made by The Simpsons, including Donald Trump's presidency, the NSA scandal, and the legalization of cannabis in Canada, highlighting the show's apparent clairvoyance.
5. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MJWUwy-zfjc> - KinoCheck's video covers a range of predictions, from Trump's presidency to the Notre Dame fire, showcasing the diversity of events that The Simpsons allegedly foresaw.
6. <https://www.noahwire.com> - This source provides the original text detailing The Simpsons' predictions, including the Apple Vision headset and Cypress Hill's collaboration with the London Symphony Orchestra, offering insights into the show's prophetic nature.
7. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-14608179/donald-trump-apple-vision-eight-simpsons.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data