

Yvonne Strahovski



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Yvonne Jaqueline Strzechowski^{[1][2]} (born 30 July 1982), known professionally as Yvonne Strahovski (/strəˈhɒvski/), is an Australian actress. She is best known for her roles as CIA Agent Sarah Walker in the NBC series Chuck (2007–2012), Hannah McKay in the Showtime series Dexter (2012–2013) and CIA Agent Kate Morgan in the Fox event series 24: Live Another Day (2014). She currently stars as Serena Joy Waterford in the Hulu series *The Handmaid's Tale* (2017–present).

Strahovski's other notable works include *Lego: The Adventures of Clutch* Powers (2010), Killer Elite (2011), I, Frankenstein (2014), The Astronaut Wives Club (2015), and Manhattan Night (2016). She has also voiced Miranda Lawson in the Mass Effect video game series and Batwoman in the animated film Batman: Bad Blood (2016).

Early life

Strahovski was born in Werrington Downs, Sydney, New South Wales, [3] the daughter of Piotr Strzechowski and Bożena; [4] her parents emigrated from Tomaszów Mazowiecki, Poland. Her father is an electronic engineer, and her mother is a lab technician. [5] Strahovski began acting lessons at age $12^{[6]}$ and spent her high school years attending Santa Sabina College, Strathfield. She graduated from University of Western Sydney's Theatre Nepean in 2003 and co-founded a small theater company. [7][8]

Career

Strahovski started acting during her schooling years when she played Viola in the school production of *Twelfth Night*. [9] She appeared in film and television roles in Australia, including a turn on satirical show

Yvonne Strahovski



Strahovski at the Nerd HQ 2014's Mystery Badass Women panel

Born	Yvonne Jaqueline
	Strzechowski
	30 July 1982
	Werrington Downs,
	Sydney, New South
	Wales, Australia
Occupation	Actress
Years active	2004-present

Spouse

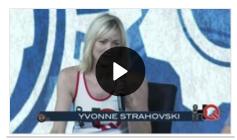
Tim Loden (m. 2017)

Double the Fist and as Freya Lewis in the Australian drama series headLand. She has also appeared in Channel Nine's Sea Patrol.



Strahovski at the 2011 <u>San Diego</u> Comic-Con International

Strahovski sent in her audition tape for the TV series *Chuck* while in the United States auditioning for roles in other shows, namely <u>NBC</u>'s 2007 series *Bionic Woman*. She was contacted by the producers of *Chuck* the next day to come in and run lines with <u>Zachary Levi</u>. The producers called her back a



Strahovski about the beginning of her acting career

week later letting her know she had been cast as <u>Sarah Walker</u>. Six months later, she moved to the United States. [11] Strahovski adopted the more <u>phonetic spelling</u> of Strahovski as her stage name in place of Strzechowski at this time, [12] at producer Josh Schwartz's behest for the sake of easier pronunciation.

Strahovski speaks fluent Polish, and employed it in a brief exchange with a colleague in the *Chuck* episode "Chuck Versus the Wookiee" and again

in the episodes "Chuck Versus the Three Words" and "Chuck Versus the Honeymooners". Although she portrays an American in the series, she briefly spoke in a "Hollywood" Australian accent in the episode "Chuck Versus the Ex".

Strahovski appears in *Mass Effect Galaxy*, *Mass Effect 2*, and *Mass Effect 3* as the voice of <u>Miranda Lawson</u>. Strahovski had her face scanned and animated so she could portray Lawson in *Mass Effect 2*.

Strahovski voices <u>Aya Brea</u> in the English version of the <u>Parasite Eve</u> spinoff, <u>The 3rd Birthday</u>, which was released on March 2011 for the <u>PlayStation Portable</u>. She also appeared in a <u>CollegeHumor</u> sketch in April 2011, parodying the music styles of Katy Perry, Ke\$ha, Lady Gaga, and Justin Bieber. [13]

Strahovski appeared in the 2011 film *Killer Elite*, alongside Jason Statham, <u>Clive Owen</u>, and <u>Robert De Niro</u>. [14] She also appeared in the 2012 comedy *The Guilt Trip*, opposite Seth Rogen and Barbra Streisand. [15]

In 2010, Strahovski received the <u>Teen Choice Award</u> for Choice Action TV Actress for *Chuck*, as well as a nomination for <u>Spike Video Game Awards</u> for Best Performance by a Human Female for <u>Mass Effect 2</u>. In 2011, Strahovski was nominated again for the <u>Teen Choice Awards</u> for Choice Action TV Actress. In 2011, Cosmopolitan Magazine (Australia) awarded Strahovski the Fun Fearless Female of the Year along with Favorite TV Actress.

In November 2011, Strahovski was cast as the female lead in *I, Frankenstein* (2014). In March 2012, she was featured in a new SoBe Life commercial. And in May 2012, Strahovski ranked #35 in Maxim Hot 100. In June 2012, Showtime announced Strahovski had joined the cast for the seventh season of *Dexter* in which she plays the role of Hannah McKay, a woman involved with an investigation following the death of her former lover, a spree killer whom she accompanied when she was a teenager. She reprised her role as Hannah McKay in the eighth season of *Dexter*.

In December 2012, she made her Broadway debut in a revival of Clifford Odets' *Golden Boy*, [19][20] for which she won a <u>Theatre World Award</u>. [21] Strahovski was honored along with <u>Liam Hemsworth</u> for their work in international roles with the 2012 Australians in Film Breakthrough Award. [22]

In 2014, Strahovski joined Fox's TV series *24: Live Another Day* cast as Kate Morgan, CIA agent. [23] Later that year, she was cast as Rene Carpenter on the ABC limited series *The Astronaut Wives Club*. [24] In 2016, she starred, along with Adrien Brody, as Caroline Crowley in the film noir *Manhattan Night*. She was featured in Maxim Hot 100 from 2009 to 2013. [25]

Personal life

Strahovski is a supporter of PETA and appeared in an ad for their "Adopt, Don't Buy" campaign. [26][27]



Strahovski at the 2013 <u>San Diego</u> Comic-Con International

Filmography

Film

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2007	Gone	Sondra	
2008	The Plex	Sarah	
2009	Persons of Interest	Lara	Short film
2009	The Canyon	Lori	
2010	I Love You Too	Alice	
2010	Matching Jack	Veronica	
2010	Lego: The Adventures of Clutch Powers	Peg Mooring	Voice
2011	Killer Elite	Anne Frazier	
2012	The Outback	Miranda	Voice
2012	The Guilt Trip	Jessica	
2014	I, Frankenstein	Terra Wade	
2015	Edge	Beth	
2016	Batman: Bad Blood	Kate Kane/Batwoman	Voice ^[29]
2016	Manhattan Night	Caroline Crowley	
2016	All I See Is You	Karen	
2017	He's Out There	Laura	Post-production
2018	The Predator	Emma McKenna	Post-production
2019	Angel of Mine	Claire	Pre-production, remake of French film of same name 2008 [30]

Television

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2004	Double the Fist	Suzie	Episode: "Fear Factory"
2005–2006	headLand	Freya Lewis	26 episodes
2007	Sea Patrol	Martina Royce	Episode: "Cometh the Hour"
2007–2012	Chuck	CIA Agent <u>Sarah</u> <u>Walker</u>	91 episodes Teen Choice Award for Choice TV Actress – Action (2010)[31] TV Guide Award for Favorite Actress TV Guide Award for Favorite Couple Who Have (Shared with Zachary Levi)

Year	Title	Role	Notes
			Nominated—Teen Choice Award for Choice TV Actress - Action (2011 & 2012)
2012–2013	<u>Dexter</u>	Hannah McKay	17 episodes Saturn Award for Best Guest Starring Role on Television
2014	Louie	Blake	Episode: "Model"
2014	24: Live Another Day	CIA Agent <u>Kate</u> <u>Morgan</u>	12 episodes
2015	The Astronaut Wives Club	Rene Carpenter ^[24]	10 episodes
2015	Edge	Beth ^[32]	Pilot
2017– present	The Handmaid's Tale	Serena Joy Waterford ^[33]	10 episodes

Video games

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2009	Mass Effect Galaxy	Miranda Lawson	Voice
2010	Mass Effect 2	Miranda Lawson	Voice and likeness
2011	The 3rd Birthday	Aya Brea	Voice English dub
2012	Mass Effect 3	Miranda Lawson	Voice and likeness

Other appearances

Year	Title	Role	Notes
2011	Three Pop Stars, One Song	Katy Perry, Lady Gaga, Ke\$ha and Justin Bieber	CollegeHumor YouTube video ^[34]
2015	Princess Rap Battle	Daenerys Targaryen	YouTube video series; 1 episode

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External links

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- Yvonne Strahovski (https://www.allmovie.com/artist/p535770) at AllMovie
- Yvonne Strahovski (https://www.tvguide.com/celebrities/-/yvonne-strahovski/290400/) at *TV Guide*
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