

= Rat Saw God =

" Rat Saw God " is the sixth episode of the second season of the American mystery television series Veronica Mars , and the twenty @-@ eighth episode overall . Written by Phil Klemmer and John Enbom and directed by Kevin Bray , the episode premiered on UPN on November 9 , 2005 .

The series depicts the adventures of Veronica Mars ( Kristen Bell ) as she deals with life as a high school student while moonlighting as a private detective . In this episode , Abel Koontz ( Christian Clemenson ) returns and requests Veronica 's help in finding his daughter . Meanwhile , Logan ( Jason Dohring ) is arrested for his supposed stabbing of a biker gang member , and Keith ( Enrico Colantoni ) loses the Sheriff 's election .

= = Synopsis = =

Veronica waits with Keith at an election party , where tensions are high due to the election being extremely close . Sheriff Lamb ( Michael Muhney ) is nosing ahead before a man walks up to Lamb and says that he made the anonymous call from the bridge where Felix Toombs was stabbed . Keith loses the election by a margin of 51 % to 49 % . After we learn that Woody Goodman ( Steve Guttenberg ) has been elected mayor , Dick Casablancas ( Ryan Hansen ) hits on Gia Goodman ( Krysten Ritter ) . Officers come in and arrest Logan for the murder of Felix Toombs before Veronica goes home and finds Abel Koontz , who is in the latter stages of stomach cancer . He asks her to help him find his daughter , Amelia , who has disappeared , and Veronica agrees . Veronica talks to Amelia 's old boyfriend , who has not seen her for a while ; Amelia ditched the boyfriend in Europe . Cliff McCormack ( Daran Norris ) is appointed to be Logan 's lawyer before Veronica asks Cliff to call the numbers on the phone cards that Amelia stole under an alias . Cliff tells Logan that he should get a different lawyer . Veronica finds out that Amelia called from Neptune ( Veronica 's town ) the previous week . Logan is placed in a cell with his father , Aaron ( Harry Hamlin ) , who is temporarily being held there before his trial for the murder of Lilly Kane . Logan receives bail , but Weevil and his friends are angry about this fact . Veronica breaks into Clarence Wiedman 's ( Christopher B. Duncan ) office , but he denies any knowledge of the situation .

Veronica tracks down Amelia 's cousin , Margot Schnell . On the way back to the Echolls estate , Don Lamb and Logan see that Logan 's house is burning . Veronica fakes being a distressed businesswoman in order to track the car that Amelia rented , which was in California about two days prior . Sheriff Lamb tells Keith about Veronica being taken in for questioning . Veronica tracks Amelia 's previous location , which is in a small hotel . Keith confronts Veronica and Veronica tells him about David " Curly " Moran . Veronica notices that the signal from one of Amelia 's devices is close to hers before finding Amelia dead in an ice box . Clarence Wiedman suddenly appears and says that Amelia showed up again before disappearing later . The man up front at the hotel tells Clarence and Veronica that she came in with a man , and Veronica says she knows who it is .

Keith interrogates Aaron and threatens him . Veronica and Clarence go into Amelia 's boyfriend 's room and Clarence dangles him off a window ledge , but he knows nothing . Weevil and Logan get into a fight at school , partly because of Logan 's bail and partly because Logan has just bought Weevil 's grandmother 's house and kicked her out . Veronica is contacted by Amelia 's friend , who says that the killer is actually a man named Carlos . Clarence decides to track down Carlos , despite the fact that he is a diplomat 's son . Veronica lies to Abel Koontz about Amelia 's fate to spare his feelings before his death . Keith goes inside the police station evidence room to examine the remains of the bus that mysteriously went off a cliff and finds the remains of a rat .

= = Production = =

The episode was written by John Enbom and Phil Klemmer and directed by Kevin Bray . " Rat Saw God " marks the fifth writing credit for Enbom , Klemmer 's seventh writing credit , and Bray 's first and only directing credit for the series . This was one of Klemmer 's favorite episode 's of the show that he wrote , writing that " I think that scene with Clarence and Veronica getting together is just

funny and cool . " Both writers wanted the main plot to involve Amelia DeLongpre , and Klemmer wrote the subplots . The episode also features several guest appearances ; many recurring characters from the first season reappear in the episode , including Abel Koontz ( Christian Clemenson ) , Clarence Wiedman ( Christopher B. Duncan ) , and antagonist Aaron Echolls ( Harry Hamlin ) . In addition , " Rat Saw God " features the second appearance by Gia ( Krysten Ritter ) , who had been absent since " Normal Is the Watchword " . The episode also features a cameo appearance by model Kim Stolz . Stolz was awarded the role for winning a small contest while competing on the fifth cycle of America 's Next Top Model .

" Rat Saw God " features a cameo by television director Joss Whedon . Veronica Mars has often been compared to Whedon 's series Buffy the Vampire Slayer , with some even calling it the successor to the latter . Whedon had previously praised the first season on his weblog Whedonesque , saying that Veronica Mars was the " Best . Show . Ever . " and that " [ he 'd ] never gotten more wrapped up in a show [ he ] wasn 't making , and maybe even more than those . " Whedon also gave a glowing review of the first season for Entertainment Weekly , writing that " Season 1 works as mystery , comedy , and romantic drama , often simultaneously . But what elevates it is that in a TV @-@ scape creepily obsessed with crime @-@ solving , VM actually asks why . " Upon being asked about Whedon 's praise , Jason Dohring , who plays Logan , said in an interview :

It was the buzz of the set : ' Did you hear what he said about us ? , ? Stuff like that . [ Director ] Kevin Smith also did a nice write @-@ up , and what was cool was that they really know their stuff ; , their attention to detail [ regarding ' Veronica Mars ? ] was so cool . You never know if your work will be seen , so to have it seen by someone great , someone you really respect , that ? s so cool . Though if I ? d known they were watching , I would have been a lot more nervous !

Series creator Rob Thomas contacted Whedon over the previous summer , and Whedon agreed to do a cameo . The episode 's title refers to Rats Saw God , a novel by series creator Rob Thomas . Despite being credited , Wallace ( Percy Daggs III ) , Jackie ( Tessa Thompson ) , and Cassidy " Beaver " Casablanco ( Kyle Gallner ) do not appear .

= = Reception = =

= = = Ratings = = =

In its original broadcast , " Rat Saw God " received 3 @. @ 07 million viewers , marking a decrease in 0 @. @ 51 million viewers from " Blast from the Past " .

= = = Reviews = = =

Rowan Kaiser of The A.V. Club gave a positive review , praising the intersecting storylines and the references to the previous season . " More generally , [ the plot lines ] show that Veronica Mars has created a strong enough world that it can support much higher levels . I have been , and still somewhat am , dubious about the pace at which this season is moving . But this was a great episode , even with all its density and the fact that it was essentially all setup . And it was great because it was attached to the history of the show so far . " Television Without Pity gave the episode an " A " .

Price Peterson , writing for TV.com , wrote in his episode verdict that " This episode was great , if way more grim than usual . Between Abel 's offscreen cancer death to Amelia 's icy resting place ? there was a real whiff of death in this episode . " Complex ranked Kim Stolz 's cameo on its list of " the 25 worst cameos in TV history . " BuzzFeed ranked the episode forty @-@ fifth on its list of the best Veronica Mars episodes , criticizing the Clarence Wiedman plot while writing that " we get to see some prime banter between Logan and Cliff , two of the show 's funniest characters . "