

= The Man from Jupiter =

" The Man from Jupiter " is the fourth episode of the third season of the American animated television series Archer . It originally aired on January 19 , 2012 , in the United States on FX . Sterling Archer ( H. Jon Benjamin ) is introduced to Burt Reynolds , who is involved in a relationship with his mother Malory Archer ( Jessica Walter ) . Sterling tries several attempts to end their relationship . Meanwhile , a group of Cuban hitmen set out to kill Sterling .

The episode was directed and written by series creator Adam Reed . Reynolds was announced as a guest star for the episode in October 2011 . He edited much of the episode 's script , after receiving it from Reed . " The Man from Jupiter " was well received by television commentators , who praised the episode 's cultural references , character development , and the storylines . Upon airing , it attracted 1 @. @ 309 million viewers and a 0 @. @ 7 rating in the 18 ? 49 demographic , according to Nielsen ratings . It subsequently became the eleventh highest @- @ rated cable program of the day .

= = Plot = =

Sterling Archer ( H. Jon Benjamin ) drinks at a bar and after he unsuccessfully attempts to pick up a woman for sex , a man nearby laughs at Archer 's incident . When Sterling threatens him , the man easily subdues him . Sterling suddenly realizes that the man is his idol , Burt Reynolds . After gushing to Burt about how much of a fan he is , Archer learns that ? much to his horror ? Burt is dating his mother Malory Archer ( Jessica Walter ) . A shocked Sterling passes out in the establishment , and by the next day is seen with a black eye . Sterling assumes that it was an " involuntary reaction " .

Malory informs Sterling that a group of Cuban hitmen have established a warrant against him , which makes Sterling even more irate . Burt then calls Malory and asks her out to a movie premiere that night . Later that day , however , Malory gets a letter from Reynolds , saying that he is leaving her for a younger woman and moving back " to Tinseltown " . However , Lana Kane ( Aisha Tyler ) quickly figures out that the letter was written by Sterling himself ( citing how no star actor uses the term " Tinseltown " ) . She quickly figures out that Sterling visited Burt , knocking him out with knock @- @ out gas , and taking him to his apartment . Lana , along with Cyril Figgis and Ray Gillette ( Adam Reed ) , go to try to reason with Sterling . Once there , they encounter the Cuban hit squad , who believe Gillette is the real Sterling based on the recon photo they have ( taken during the events of " Honeypot " ) and a firefight begins . Meanwhile , Sterling holds Burt hostage , promising to never let him date his mother again , but he is interrupted by the firefight between the ISIS agents and the Cubans . As they drive off , Sterling prepares to go after them , but Burt says that Sterling won 't be able to catch up to them and that he can . Sterling agrees to a bet : If Burt can 't catch up to them , he will leave for Hollywood and never call Malory again , and if he does , he can be allowed to continue dating Malory .

Sterling agrees to this , which results in a hectic car chase that frightens Sterling some , despite Burt 's expert driving that allows him to achieve many Hollywood driving stunts . During this , Burt tells Sterling that he needs to stop thinking of Malory as just his mother and rather think of her as a person with emotional ( and sexual ) needs , and that he should think about her happiness and not his . This seems to sway Sterling and at that point , Burt has been able to catch up to the ISIS agents and the Cubans and saves the ISIS agents . With that , the group drives back to a heartbroken Malory . Sterling apologizes for writing the phony letter and Burt takes Malory on their date to the movie premiere .

= = Production = =

Burt Reynolds makes a guest appearance on " The Man from Jupiter " , as the love interest of Malory Archer . His guest appearance was formally announced in October 2011 . Prior to his appearance , Reynolds was referenced in several episodes of the series . Series creator Adam

Reed opined : " I think the only person on the planet who 's a bigger fan of Burt Reynolds than me is Sterling Archer . Archer constantly tries to imitate Burt and always raves about Burt 's movies and all @-@ around awesomeness . So to have Burt recording voice @-@ overs for the show was just amazing . " After receiving the episode 's script from Reed , Reynolds made several edits ; while editing the script of the episode , Reynolds added a scene in which Sterling reveals that his career choice was largely influenced by his films . " We sent him the script beforehand and he noted the script up pretty good . But it was all to make it more self @-@ deprecating . " Reed , a fan of Reynolds , said that working with him was a great experience . " It was such a surreal experience being in the room with Burt Reynolds , my childhood hero , " he affirmed . " Just hearing him read the stuff that I wrote , it was pretty great . "

The episode title is a reference to the television series The Man from U.N.C.L.E. and the town of Jupiter , Florida , which is where Reynolds spent most of his childhood . Sterling proclaims that his career path was largely influenced by Reynolds ' film career , particularly his work in the musical film At Long Last Love ( 1975 ) and the spy cinema Operation C.I.A. ( 1965 ) . Reed stated , " Archer says [ that ] Operation C.I.A. is why [ he ] became a spy . And he 's [ Reynolds ] like , ' Really , I thought that movie sucked . ' " A sequence which features Sterling strapping Reynolds onto a handtruck reflects homage to the thriller film The Silence of the Lambs ( 1991 ) . The song " East Bound and Down " by Jerry Reed is presented in the episode , while Sterling makes several references to several American cinematic works from the 1970s . Jesse Carp of Cinema Blend wrote : " I should start by saying that this episode played particularly well for me because I ? m a huge fan of 1970s American cinema ? the good and the bad ? so all of those references that Archer soon starts throwing at Reynolds , I 'm catching and loving every second of it . " " The Man from Jupiter " contains several scenes that are reminiscent to those in the action film Gator ( 1976 ) . Carp wrote that " it isn 't long before the Reynolds ' sweet talking and charisma mesmerizes Archer and soon the pair are talking plot possibilities for the last film in the Gator trilogy . "

= = Reception = =

= = = Ratings = = =

" The Man from Jupiter " was originally broadcast on January 19 , 2012 , in the United States on FX . Upon airing , it attained 1 @.@ 309 million viewers and a 0 @.@ 7 rating in the 18 ? 49 demographic , according to Nielsen ratings . The installment became the eleventh high @-@ rated cable television program of the day , scoring higher than the documentary series The First 48 on A & E but obtaining lower ratings than the satirical television program The Daily Show on Comedy Central . " The Man from Jupiter " achieved record @-@ breaking demographic ratings ; it became the third @-@ most viewed cable telecast of all time amongst men in the 18 ? 34 demographic , as well as key men in the 18 ? 49 group . In comparison to the season two premiere , " Swiss Miss " , ratings in the 18 ? 49 demographic during the first fifteen minutes vaulted 31 % to 689 @,@ 000 viewers . Although ratings showed similar increases during the second quarterly hour , ratings in the 18 ? 49 demographic declined 21 % from the previous season premiere , translating to 220 @,@ 000 viewers . Overall , ratings amongst key adults in the 18 ? 49 group declined 4 % from " Swiss Miss " to 950 @,@ 000 .

= = = Critical response = = =

" The Man from Jupiter " was widely lauded by television commentators . In his A- review , Todd VanDerWerff of The A.V. Club felt that the episode contained many great moments and felt that it was a strong opening for the season . VanDerWerff wrote : " Archer has always been a show I enjoyed more for the fast @-@ paced dialogue and weird office plots , but every so often , the show does something pretty awesome , even on what 's probably a fairly limited budget , and it turns out an action sequence that you just won 't see on most other animated shows . FX has usually chosen

to open seasons with these big action episodes , for fairly obvious reasons , and this one has the added benefit of Burt Reynolds hanging out as another potential ratings bump . " VanDerWerff noted that the storyline between Sterling Archer and his mother Mallory Archer was the highlight of " The Man from Jupiter " ; " Archer 's so often at odds with her because he 's unable to see her as a person and not just his mother , as Reynolds expresses while roaring down the highway at dangerously high speeds . Until Archer accepts that Malory has needs ? some of them sexual ? he 's always going to be trapped in a weird , co @-@ dependent relationship with her . Archer isn 't a show that tries to shove tons and tons of deep character moments into its episodes , which makes it all the better when it does do so . The show usually nails those little moments , and this was no exception . " Creative Loafing journalist Scott Harrel asserted , " If the debut episode is any indication , you can expect another satisfying season from this intelligent , imaginative and button @-@ pushing mix of high and low humor . " Ross Bonaime of Paste issued the installment an 8 @.@ 8 out of ten rating , signifying a " commendable " rating . Bonaime affirmed that Reed adequately developed the characters , citing that " The Man from Jupiter " further established greater expectations for the series .

Carp evaluated the script as " impeccably written " , adding that " The Man from Jupiter " was a hilarious episode . Cites of adulation stemmed from the animation , which Carp described it as " likely the best you 'll see anywhere on television . " He wrote , " It 's just so unique the way they use state of the art 3D computer animation to create a retrofitted look . It takes them months to animate each episode and the hard work really pays off in the unique visuals of the show . " Writing for TV Fanatic , Eric Hochberger stated that " if this week combined with the mini @-@ series was any indication , we 're in for a damn strong season of Archer . "

Reynolds ' appearance was critically acclaimed . VanDerWerff professed that he was surprised that it was executed well , as he avouched that shows featuring guest appearances ruin the chemistry of the main cast . " Episodes with big special guest stars can often ruin the rhythm of the main gang , but I was surprised at how readily the show incorporated Reynolds into the storyline , to the point where he almost felt like an organic part of the ensemble , " avouched VanDerWerff . " The fact that he 's still dating Malory at the end of the episode implies that he might pop back in as the season proceeds , and I wouldn 't be adverse to that happening , where many special guest stars might make me roll my eyes in irritation . " He praised the chemistry between Reynolds and Benjamin , and commended Reynolds for having the will power to poke fun at himself . Carp echoed similar sentiments ; " H. Jon Benjamin alone is a voice @-@ over superstar [ ... ] but combined with Reynolds and the rest of the cast , that was some animated magic and a fantastic way to kick off the third season . " Bonaime thought that Reynolds was " fine with being self @-@ deprecating , and he gives some fantastic moments with Archer . " HitFix 's Alan Sepinwall enjoyed how Reynolds was utilized in " The Man from Jupiter " . " There are times when it can feel awkward when a show spends an episode sucking up to a very special guest star , but it worked here because so much of Archer 's personality ? and so much of the show 's approach to action ? feels inspired by all those movies Reynolds did in the ' 70s and early ' 80s when he was the biggest movie star in the world .