

= House of the Rising Sun (Lost) =

" House of the Rising Sun " is the sixth episode of the first season of the American television series Lost . It centers on Jin @-@ Soo Kwon (Daniel Dae Kim) , who brutally attacks Michael Dawson (Harold Perrineau) ; the survivors do not know why since Jin and his wife Sun @-@ Hwa Kwon (Yunjin Kim) only speak Korean . Meanwhile , Jack Shephard (Matthew Fox) proposes that the survivors move to the caves from the beach . The episode was the first to feature the backstory of Sun and Jin , and the former is shown in the episode 's flashbacks . It was directed by Michael Zinberg and written by Javier Grillo @-@ Marxuach .

After being cast , Yunjin Kim and Daniel Dae Kim were nervous that their characters ' relationship would foster negative perceptions of Korean people ; the former felt that it was an outdated depiction which would influence a society little exposed to Korean culture . The actors discussed this with the series ' producers , leading to the writing of " House of the Rising Sun " and the multifaceted depiction of their relationship . " House of the Rising Sun " first aired on October 27 , 2004 , on the American network ABC . An estimated 16 @.@ 83 million viewers watched the episode on its first broadcast , and it earned a ratings share of 6 @.@ 4 / 17 , a slight increase from the previous episode . It received mainly positive reviews , with critics focusing on the revelations surrounding Jin and Sun 's relationship .

= = Plot = =

= = = Flashbacks = = =

Sun is at a party , and is served champagne by a waiter , Jin . They soon develop a relationship , with Sun wanting to run away with Jin to America , but Jin insisting they honorably tell her father that they are seeing each other . Sun 's father approves of their relationship as long as Jin takes a job working for him . One night after they 're married , Jin returns home covered in someone else 's blood . Sun is angry that he refuses to explain the blood to her and slaps him . He tells Sun that he does whatever her father tells him to do . A few years later , Sun secretly plots to leave Jin and her father , so she will be free to go wherever she wants . However , she does not go through with her plans after he expresses a loving gesture to her , and boards Flight 815 with her husband .

= = = On the Island = = =

It is Day 7 , September 28 , 2004 , and Jack Shephard , Kate Austen (Evangeline Lilly) , Charlie Pace (Dominic Monaghan) and John Locke (Terry O 'Quinn) go to the caves to gather water and investigate . Charlie steps on a beehive , and is told not to move by Locke or else the hive will snap . Charlie slaps at a bee on his face and shifts weight , causing the hive to snap and everyone to get stung . Locke and Charlie are clearing the wreckage at the caves and Locke tells Charlie that he recognizes him from a band Charlie is in , Drive Shaft . Charlie is happy that finally someone , other than Kate , is familiar with his musical background . Later , at the caves the team discovers two bodies , according to Jack a man and a woman , whom Locke dubs " Adam and Eve " . From the deterioration of their clothes Jack estimates that they have been dead for at least 40 ? 50 years , and finds a pouch on them containing two stones : one black , one white .

Meanwhile , Sun is shocked to see Jin attack Michael on the beach for no apparent reason . James " Sawyer " Ford (Josh Holloway) and Sayid Jarrah (Naveen Andrews) manage to subdue and handcuff Jin to the wreckage . Michael says the attack was racially motivated , which he later tells his son , Walt Lloyd (Malcolm David Kelley) , is not true . Sun finds Michael alone , and in perfect , unbroken English says , " I need to talk to you . " Michael is shocked that she speaks English . Sun tells him that Jin is unaware of this , and explains that Jin angrily attacked Michael because of the watch he 's wearing , which belongs to her father . Michael says he just found it in the wreckage and it 's nothing important .

Jack and Kate return to the beach and Jack starts talking to people about moving to the caves . The castaways argue whether to stay on the beach where a rescue party could see them (and keep the signal fire burning) , or move to the caves , where there is more shelter and fresh water . The group splits into two camps accordingly : Jack , Locke , Charlie , Hugo " Hurley " Reyes (Jorge Garcia) , Jin , Sun , Ethan Rom (William Mapother) , Dr. Leslie Arzt (Daniel Roebuck) , Doug , and Sullivan (Scott Paulin) move to the caves while Kate , Sawyer , Sayid , Claire Littleton (Emilie de Ravin) , Michael Dawson (Harold Perrineau) , Walt , Vincent (Madison) , Shannon Rutherford (Maggie Grace) , Boone Carlyle (Ian Somerhalder) , Rose Nadler (L. Scott Caldwell) , Scott Jackson (Christian Bowman) , and Steve Jenkins (Dustin Watchman) remain on the beach .

At the caves , Locke tells Charlie that he knows Charlie is addicted to heroin . Locke says if Charlie gives up his drugs , the island will give him his guitar , which he misses deeply . Charlie hands over the heroin , Locke shows him where the guitar is , and Charlie is ecstatic . On the beach , Kate refuses to go with Jack to the caves . Michael menacingly approaches Jin with an axe , throws the watch at him , and shouts that the fight over the watch " is ridiculous , because time doesn 't matter on a damn island . " As Michael cuts Jin free of his handcuffs , one of the cuffs remains on his wrist , and Michael tells Jin to stay away from him and Walt . That night at the caves , Charlie plays his guitar as Jack returns with people from the beach . The episode ends with clips of the two groups , while Willie Nelson 's ' Are You Sure ' plays in the background .

= = Production = =

Both Yunjin Kim and Daniel Dae Kim were born in Korea but raised in the United States . Yunjin Kim initially auditioned for the role of Kate , but the producers liked her so much that they created an entirely new character , part of " a couple [that 's] alienated from the rest of the group because they can 't communicate . " A male Korean actor was sought out as Kim 's co @-@ star , with Dae Kim winning the part . He had moved from South Korea as a toddler and forgotten most of his Korean by the time he won the role of Jin ; while Kim helped him with the language , his accent reportedly sounded poor to native speakers .

The episode title is a reference to the song " The House of the Rising Sun " , popularized by English rock group The Animals in 1964 . It was the first episode to reveal the backstory of Sun and Jin , with the former being the focus of the episode 's flashbacks . Yunjin Kim felt the initial way in which Sun and Jin were portrayed represented an " outdated " depiction of a Korean relationship ; she and others in the Korean community worried that this would affect perceptions of Koreans , due to that race 's lack of exposure in the American media . The two actors discussed " potentially negative feedback " with the producers early in the series ' development , and Yunjin Kim 's fear led co @-@ creator J.J. Abrams to ensure her character 's story would be told .

Supervising producer Javier Grillo @-@ Marquach , who wrote " House of the Rising Sun " , found it difficult to write the Jin @-@ Sun storyline , as he did not speak Korean and had to get into a " cultural headspace " for which he had no personal reference . Showrunner Damon Lindelof commented that given the script was written in English , only during the dailies the producers noticed that almost all of the episode would be subtitled , making them fear for ABC 's reaction . Instead the network executives received it well , only being concerned about " the complex inherent racial dynamics in the story where a Korean man was attacking a black man " . From Dae Kim 's perspective , Jin crashed on the island only to find himself in a " worst @-@ case scenario " ? he is " among a bunch of strangers , he doesn 't speak any English , and he 's suspicious of people already . " Kim thought it was important to convey Sun and Jin 's first falling in love before showing their alienation from the other .

Grillo @-@ Marquach stressed the importance of the episode due to the discovery of the caves , which prompts the survivors to become " full @-@ time dwellers of the island . " Referring to the episode 's Jin @-@ Sun and Locke @-@ Charlie storylines , Grillo @-@ Marquach felt that the island was about being " forced to confront your inner demons [and] work out things " never addressed before . Charlie 's fear of bees is based on Grillo @-@ Marquach 's life experience . Despite the character 's phobia , Monaghan enjoyed working with the bees . The ones used in the

episode were male drones , which meant they lacked stingers and were docile enough to easily handle . Monaghan 's head and arms were covered in sticky honey to encourage the bees to land and stay on him during filming . To simulate Jack and Kate 's escape from the bees , the special effects team created " CG bees " and then added them in post @-@ production . Michael Zinberg directed and Sora Jung guest starred .

= = Reception = =

" House of the Rising Sun " first aired in the United States on October 27 , 2004 . An estimated 16 @. @ 83 million U.S. viewers watched the episode 's premiere , and it earned a ratings share of 6 @. @ 4 / 17 , a slight increase from the previous episode . " House of the Rising Sun " finished in thirteenth place for the week among all the major networks .

The episode has received mostly positive reviews . In her 2006 work *Finding Lost : The Unofficial Guide* , Nikki Stafford called it " an excellent episode , with a beautiful , mournful musical score . " Robert Dougherty , author of the 2008 book *Lost Episode Guide for Others : An Unofficial Anthology* , deemed the " smaller , character driven " episode a " must see " . He cited its showcase of Yunjin Kim and the revelations surrounding Jin and Sun 's relationship , though Dougherty admitted some viewers might have found these minor characters uninteresting .

In 2008 , Dan Snierson of *Entertainment Weekly* graded the episode with an A ? . He described the main Jin @-@ Sun storyline as " delicate and gripping , " and believed Sun 's eventual decision to stay with her husband was as " intriguing " as the revelation that she could speak English . Snierson also praised the episode 's humor and tension between the castaways ' " we 're @-@ gonna @-@ be @-@ rescued @-@ any @-@ minute- versus @-@ we 're @-@ gonna @-@ be @-@ here @-@ for @-@ awhile " mentalities .

Chris Carabott , writing for *IGN* in 2008 , rated " House of the Rising Sun " with an 8 out of 10 ? an indication of a " great " episode . He felt that Jin 's situation deserved sympathy and was good fodder for future storylines , and also was pleased that the language barrier was somewhat resolved so early in the series with Sun 's ability to speak English . On a list ranking all the *Lost* episodes (except the finale) , the *Los Angeles Times* ranked " House of the Rising Sun " 44 out of 110 episodes , explaining : " Cutesy title aside , this first look into the Sun and Jin marriage proved the show was willing to try all kinds of different stories to be a success . " " House of the Rising Sun " , along with " Pilot " and " The Moth " , won a PRISM Award for Charlie 's drug storyline .