

= Emily (The X @-@ Files) =

" Emily " is the seventh episode of the fifth season of American science fiction television series The X @-@ Files . It was written by Vince Gilligan , John Shiban and Frank Spotnitz and directed by Kim Manners . The episode explores the series ' overarching mythology . The episode premiered in the United States on December 14 , 1997 on the Fox network , earning a Nielsen household rating of 12 @. @ 4 and being watched by 20 @. @ 94 million people in its initial broadcast . It received mixed reviews from television critics .

The show centers on FBI Special Agents Fox Mulder (David Duchovny) and Dana Scully (Gillian Anderson) who work on cases linked to the paranormal , called X @-@ Files . Mulder is a believer in the paranormal , while the skeptical Scully has been assigned to debunk his work . In this episode , Scully fights to protect her daughter ? s life , while Mulder discovers her true origins . It is eventually discovered that Emily was created during Scully 's abduction . Emily suffers from a tumorous infection and subsequently dies .

" Emily " is the second of a two @-@ part story that began with episode six , " Christmas Carol " . The young actress who originally played Emily was terrified of the hospital setting in the episode 's sequel " Emily " , and as a result the producers had to recast the role and reshoot all footage featuring her including her scene featured in this episode . Filming for the episode was also disrupted when angry demonstrators protested at one of the show 's filming sites .

= = Plot = =

In a dream @-@ like sequence , Dana Scully (Gillian Anderson) walks through a desert and picks up a gold cross necklace on the ground .

Continuing from the previous episode , agent Fox Mulder (David Duchovny) arrives at the hospital in San Diego where Scully introduces him to Emily . Mulder tells Scully that he had Melvin Frohike look into Emily 's case : her surrogate mother is a woman named Anna Fugazzi (slang for fake) , and there are no true records of how Emily came into the world . Mulder , along with Scully 's family , attend a meeting regarding Emily 's adoption at the San Diego Hall of Justice . Mulder tells the Judge that Emily was conceived from Scully 's ova , which was taken from her during her abduction , which the Judge does not believe . Later , Scully receives a call from the County Children 's Center that cuts off abruptly . She and Mulder head there , where they find Emily safe , but coming down with a fever . They find a greenish cyst on the back of Emily 's neck . Later , when a nurse pierces the cyst with a needle , green liquid comes out , causing her to become gravely ill , yet Emily appears unaffected . Mulder believes that Emily has the same body chemistry that they have seen before with alien @-@ human hybrids .

Dr. Calderon , Emily 's doctor who works for a company called Prangen , refuses to transfer Emily 's medical records to the County Children 's Center , prompting Mulder to rough him up . Later , Mulder follows Calderon after he leaves his office . Scully has imaging tests conducted on Emily . Calderon goes to see the Dark Suited Men , one of whom kills him by stabbing him in the neck with an alien stiletto ; both men then morph into Calderon . Mulder follows as one of them leaves . The results of Emily 's tests show her to be suffering from a tumorous infection . The other Calderon arrives at the hospital and injects Emily with an unknown green substance ; he escapes by morphing into someone else . Scully believes that he is continuing the treatments , and the Sims were murdered because they were trying to stop him . Mulder follows the first Calderon clone into a building , where he meets Anna Fugazzi , an elderly woman in a nursing home .

The doctor tells Scully that Emily is getting worse . A woman from the adoption agency arrives and wants to stop Scully from making decisions for Emily . Mulder connects the names of the women in the nursing home to recent births and finds that Dr. Calderon was treating them . Emily reacts badly to being placed in a hyperbaric oxygen chamber . Mulder finds medical records with Scully 's name on them at the nursing home , along with a live fetus in a refrigerated chamber . Mulder finds Calderon entering soon after , and Detective Kresge arrives as well . Mulder and Kresge confront Calderon , who attacks Kresge . Despite Mulder 's warning Kresge shoots Calderon , whose wounds

cause him to spew green blood which incapacitates Kresge . Mulder quickly leaves the building to avoid being affected by the blood . Calderon morphs into Kresge , and deceives Mulder and escapes . Mulder returns to the hospital , where Emily has gone into a coma . Days later Emily has died . Mulder visits Scully at the funeral chapel , telling her that Kresge is recovering and all evidence at the nursing home and Prangen is gone . The only evidence left is Emily 's body , but the agents instead find sand bags in her coffin along with Scully 's cross necklace , which she had previously given to Emily .

= = Production = =

The young actress who originally played Emily was terrified of the hospital setting in this episode , and as a result the producers had to recast the role and reshoot all footage featuring her in the previous episode " Christmas Carol " . Director Kim Manners recalls , " I called Bob Goodwin and said , ' We 're dead in the water here , pal . This little actress is not cooperating at all ' . We recast that role and started up again the next day . " The show 's casters replaced her with Lauren Diwold , who had previously appeared on an episode of Millennium . Due to the show 's shooting schedule , the producers were unable to use Gillian Anderson to reshoot the previous episode 's scenes , resulting in Anderson 's double being used instead , with the footage pieced together in the editing room .

The building used for the nursing home in this episode was picketed by anti @-@ redevelopment protesters due to the building being converted into a condominium complex . As a result , the producers kept a low profile by removing all X @-@ Files insignia from their clothing . A number of protestors still arrived , forcing the police to get involved .

= = Reception = =

" Emily " premiered on the Fox network on December 14 , 1997 . This episode earned a Nielsen rating of 12 @.@ 4 , with a 19 share , meaning that roughly 12 @.@ 4 percent of all television @-@ equipped households , and 19 percent of households watching television , were tuned in to the episode . It was viewed by 20 @.@ 94 million viewers .

The episode received mixed reviews from television critics ; many were more critical of the episode than " Christmas Carol " . Todd VanDerWerff from The A.V. Club gave the episode a B and wrote that he did not " totally buy ? Emily ? [?] even though I like large portions of " the episode . VanDerWerff wrote positively of " most of the Scully scenes " , noting that Anderson " found some of the raw sense of hope and loss " that the shots required . However , he was critical of the episode 's plot , arguing that it only " goes through the motions " and " is about everybody getting really worked up over a little girl we ? ve just met . " He concluded that " two @-@ parter is strongest when it grabs hold of this notion . But it ? s at its weakest when it turns into just another episode of The X @-@ Files . " John Keegan from Critical Myth gave the episode a 7 out of 10 , and wrote " Overall , this episode was not as strong as the previous installment , largely due to the shift from in @-@ depth character exploration to a rehashing of earlier elements of the mythology . Emily is a good plot device in terms of personalizing the conspiracy ? s depredations just a bit more , but at times , it seems like the writers are victimizing Scully a bit more than necessary . Unlike the later mythology episodes , however , this one manages to avoid any unnecessary new elements . "

Other reviews were decidedly more mixed to negative . Robert Shearman and Lars Pearson , in their book Wanting to Believe : A Critical Guide to The X @-@ Files , Millennium & The Lone Gunmen , rated the episode three stars out of five . The two wrote that " Mulder catches up with the store and immediately this all becomes a little more formulaic . " The two praised the episode 's teaser , referring to it as " deathless prose " , but were more critical of the plot , arguing that the episode " feels too soon to see yet more sequences of people standing around emoting as they watch the dying in the hospital " , a reference to the show 's earlier arc involving Scully 's cancer . Shearman and Pearson , however , did compliment the performance of both Diwold and Anderson , and called the finale scene " wonderful " . Paula Vitaris from Cinefantastique , on the other hand ,

gave the episode a negative review and awarded it one star out of four . She heavily criticized the episode 's characterization , noting that the episode 's opening sequence was " ludicrous " and its revelations were " out of the blue " . Vitaris reasoned that , because Scully had spent time with her mother , remembered fondly her sister , and reconnected her faith in God in " Redux II " , " this development just doesn 't track . " Vitaris also criticized Mulder 's antics , calling him a " thug " for beating up " an unarmed man and kicking him while he 's down . "