

= The Aftermath (30 Rock) =

" The Aftermath " is the second episode of the first season of the American situation comedy 30 Rock , which first aired on October 17 , 2006 on CTV in Canada . It aired on October 18 , 2006 on the NBC network in the United States , its country of origin , and October 18 , 2007 in the United Kingdom . The episode was written by Tina Fey and was directed by Adam Bernstein . Guest stars in this episode include Katrina Bowden , Tom Broecker , Teddy Coluca , Rachel Dratch , Adrienne Frost , Maulik Pancholy , Keith Powell , Lonny Ross , Kevin Scanlon and Sorab Wadia .

The episode focuses on the reaction of the crew to the casting of Tracy Jordan (Tracy Morgan) , and the subsequent changes made to The Girlie Show . This becomes evident when Jack Donaghy (Alec Baldwin) changes the title of the show to TGS with Tracy Jordan , much to Jenna Maroney 's (Jane Krakowski) dismay . Liz Lemon (Tina Fey) struggles to keep the cast and crew happy , so together with Tracy , she throws a party on a yacht .

= = Plot = =

Liz becomes furious when Jack decides that Tracy should be the number one priority on The Girlie Show . Jenna fears that Tracy will begin to overshadow her , but Tracy is quite pleased with his new job on the show . Liz and Jenna become more aggravated when Jack decides to change the name of The Girlie Show to TGS with Tracy Jordan , without consulting either of them . Jack has Tracy and Jenna appear in a promotion for the show , in which Tracy angers Jenna by forgetting her name and by not letting her speak . After the promotion , Liz tries to re @-@ assure Jenna by telling her that nobody on the show likes Tracy and that the only reason that he is on the show is because of Jack . Liz finds out that Jenna 's microphone was still on , and everyone in the studio heard her say terrible things about Jack and Tracy .

Liz attempts to make amends by talking to Tracy during a rehearsal , during which she makes negative remarks about Jenna and the other members of her staff . Liz is notified by Kenneth Parcell (Jack McBrayer) that her chat with Tracy was aired over the studio 's monitors , which meant that everyone heard and saw her making the comments . Liz 's staff show their displeasure by throwing food and other objects at her . Liz and Tracy discuss an idea to get everyone together to try and smooth things over , and Tracy decides to invite Liz and the staff to a party aboard a yacht . Tracy gets along well with everyone at the party , including Jenna , and things appear to be going very well . Liz soon discovers that the yacht does not belong to Tracy , and the yacht 's real owner shows up with the NYPD . The following day Liz learns that Jack paid the newspapers to keep Tracy out of the press but left a photo of Jenna passing out on the yacht in their pages , which Jenna sees as exciting and flattering .

= = Production = =

Rachel Dratch , longtime comedy partner and fellow Saturday Night Live alumna of Fey , was originally cast to portray Jenna . Dratch played the role in the show 's original pilot , but in August 2006 , Jane Krakowski was announced as Dratch 's replacement . Executive producer Lorne Michaels announced that while Dratch would not be playing a series regular , she would appear in various episodes in a different role . In the previous episode , Dratch played Greta Johansen , the The Girlie Show 's cat wrangler , while in this episode , she played Maria the maid , who was found by Liz in a closet on the yacht .

= = Reception = =

According to the Nielsen ratings system , " The Aftermath " was viewed by 5 @.@ 71 million viewers upon its original broadcast in the United States . It also achieved a 2 @.@ 3 / 7 in the key 18 ? 49 demographic , meaning that it was watched by 2 @.@ 4 % of all 18- to 49 @-@ year @-@ olds in the U.S. , and 5 % of all 18- to 49 @-@ year @-@ olds watching television at the time of the

broadcast . This was 2 @. @ 42 million viewers less than the pilot . In the United Kingdom , the episode attracted 500 @, @ 000 viewers and a 4 % share of the viewing audience at the time of the broadcast , which was deemed " disappointing " by Media Guardian . This was 200 @, @ 000 viewers down from the pilot , which attracted 700 @, @ 000 viewers and a 6 % share of the viewing audience at the time of the broadcast .

Robert Canning of IGN felt that the episode was more cohesive than the pilot , but still suffered from " two generic main characters and predictable storytelling " . He praised characters Liz and Jack , saying they " continued to provide laughs " , but said Jenna and Tracy " only continued to frustrate " . Canning called Baldwin the best part of 30 Rock , and found that the series had " laid essential groundwork for a successful situation comedy " . Robert Abele of LA Weekly felt that the characters of Morgan and Krakowski were undeveloped , describing them as " self @-@ obsessed , newly thrown @-@ together co @-@ leads " .

Tim Goodman of the San Francisco Chronicle felt that " The Aftermath " was only " minorly more funny " than the pilot . He praised Baldwin and Morgan , but said that the rest of the episode was " weak " . Goodman felt that Fey could " fix " 30 Rock by showing more of Baldwin , and less of Krakowski . Phil Horst of The Pitt News praised the individual scenes between Fey and either Baldwin or Morgan , but criticized Fey for not writing an effective scene in which she did not appear . Horst saw Jenna 's screentime as a waste of time , and thought that Krakowski did not " have the comedic skills to keep up with the rest of the cast " . He went on to say that Dratch would have taken the character in " a completely different direction " , giving 30 Rock the variety it lacked .