

= Hot Girl (The Office) =

" Hot Girl " is the sixth episode and season finale of the first season of the American comedy television series The Office , and the show 's 6th episode overall . The episode aired on NBC in the United States on April 26 , 2005 . The episode was written by consulting producer Mindy Kaling , marking her first writing credit for the series . The episode was directed by Amy Heckerling , her only directing credit for the series .

In this episode , Michael (Steve Carell) allows an attractive salesperson (Amy Adams) to sell her purses in the office , catching the eye of almost every male in the office . Meanwhile , Pam (Jenna Fischer) and Jim (John Krasinski) use the situation to play yet another prank on Dwight (Rainn Wilson) .

" Hot Girl " received mostly positive reviews from critics . According to Nielsen Media Research , the episode received 4 @. @ 8 million viewers and received a 2 @. @ 3 rating / 5 % share among adults between the ages of 18 and 49 . As such , " Hot Girl " is currently one of the lowest @- @ rated episodes and the second @- @ lowest @- @ rated season finale of The Office , after the eighth season finale " Free Family Portrait Studio " .

= = Plot = =

Corporate informs Michael (Steve Carell) that an incentive program has been set up where the top Dunder Mifflin sales representative will be rewarded with a prize of up to \$ 1000 . As Michael decides on choosing that prize , Katy (Amy Adams) , a pretty young purse saleswoman , comes into the office to sell her wares . When Michael sees her , he offers to let her set up shop in the conference room , which catches every male 's eye . As he shows her around the office , Michael tries to impress her while doing his best to impede the chances of any other office male . Roy mentions that he would go for her if he weren 't " dating Pam " (Jenna Fischer) , and an angry Pam corrects him that they 're engaged .

Jim (John Krasinski) convinces Dwight (Rainn Wilson) that he should approach Katy and if all else fails , he should buy a purse , which he does to Pam and Jim 's delight . When Michael hears she 'll need a ride home , he does his best to offer himself , going so far as to spend the aforementioned \$ 1000 on an espresso machine to impress her . While Pam is sitting on Jim 's desk and talking to him , Roy comes up and tries to apologize to Pam , eventually getting her out of her bad mood by tickling her ; an uncomfortable Jim leaves his desk . Later , he strikes up a conversation with Katy and in the end she decides to get a ride from Jim , leaving Michael and Dwight devastated . It is revealed that Katy and Jim are also going out for a drink , to the apparent jealousy of Pam .

= = Production = =

" Hot Girl " was the first episode written by writer and actress Mindy Kaling , who portrays Kelly Kapoor . Kaling has since become one of the most prolific writers for the series , having written 22 episodes as of September 2011 . She was later promoted to executive producer of the show for its eighth season . The episode was also the first and only one directed by Amy Heckerling .

" Hot Girl " introduced the recurring role of Katy , portrayed by Amy Adams . Katy would appear in two more episodes : " The Fire " and " Booze Cruise " . Adams remarked that she thoroughly enjoyed her work on the show . In an interview with Advocate.com , she said that The Office " was the best work experience . I loved that show and that cast so much . I don 't know if they believe me , but every time I see them I 'm like , ' Oh my gosh , I 'll do anything to come back . ' " Several years after she left the show as a recurring character , BJ Novak wanted to write her a cameo in the seventh season episode " Threat Level Midnight " , but she was unavailable for filming . " Hot Girl " was one of two first season episodes , the other being " Health Care " , that did not contain commentary by members of the cast and crew on the season DVD .

= = Reception = =

= = = Ratings = = =

In its original American broadcast on April 26 , 2005 , " Hot Girl " was viewed by an estimated 4 @. @ 8 million viewers and received a 2 @. @ 3 / 5 % rating share among adults between the ages of 18 and 49 . This means that it was seen by 2 @. @ 3 % of all 18- to 49 @- @ year @- @ olds , and 5 % of all 18- to 49 @- @ year @- @ olds watching television at the time of the broadcast . The episode , airing after Scrubs , retained only 19 % of its lead @- @ in audience . The episode , along with Scrubs , ranked fourth in its timeslot , being beaten by a rerun of the Fox medical drama House which received a 6 @. @ 3 rating in the 18 ? 49 demographic , the CBS reality show The Amazing Race which received a 5 @. @ 1 rating , and ABC , which ran a rerun of the comedy According to Jim and a new episode of the sitcom Rodney , averaging a 3 @. @ 3 rating . " Hot Girl " received the lowest rating in the show 's history until it was beaten by the season eight episode " Tallahassee " almost seven years later . After the lackluster reception of the episode , Media Life Magazine erroneously predicted that " Hot Girl " would also serve as the de facto series finale .

= = = Reviews = = =

The episode received moderately positive reviews from critics . Travis Fickett from IGN retroactively gave the episode an 8 @. @ 0 out of 10 , signifying a " great " episode . Fickett wrote that " Hot Girl " helped to establish what type of character Michael would eventually become in the subsequent seasons , noting the character 's " deep and desperate loneliness " which would eventually become a main conceit in the series . He concluded that the episode ended with a " classic Office moment " ? Michael realizing that Jim will be giving Katy a ride home ? that " captures the desperation and loneliness of [Pam , Jim , and Michael] ? and does a great job of setting the stage for the show 's terrific second season . " Miss Alli from Television Without Pity gave the episode a B but described it as " the weakest of the first season . " Alli noted that the episode was largely the " play on the same joke , " featuring Michael and Dwight " making idiots of themselves over Katy . " However , she did positively compare the American version of the show to the British version , stating , " All things considered , I think the first season is very underrated owing to unnecessary comparisons to the British version , " but concluded that the episode was " its weak moment . "

Erik Adams of The A.V. Club awarded the episode a " B + " . Adams largely praised Fischer 's performance , noting that she " helped build her character ? s arc every step of the way " in the series , and that several of her moments in " Hot Girl " helped to emphasize this point . Furthermore , he complimented the appearance of Katy , noting that it she both causes a rift between Pam and Jim , but due to " the confidence of Adams ? performance and some hidden compartments in Kaling ? s script " , she also has " legitimate agency " .