

= Chuck Versus the Wedding Planner =

" Chuck Versus the Wedding Planner " is the 21st episode of the fourth season of the American action @-@ comedy television series Chuck , and the 75th overall episode of the series . The episode was written by Rafe Judkins and Lauren LeFranc and directed by Anton Cropper . It originally aired on April 18 , 2011 .

In the episode , Chuck Bartowski (Zachary Levi) and Sarah Walker (Yvonne Strahovski) get conned out of their wedding money , and there is only one man they can turn to for help ? Sarah 's conman father , Jack Burton (Gary Cole) . Meanwhile , Morgan Grimes (Joshua Gomez) and Alex McHugh (Mekenna Melvin) pressure John Casey (Adam Baldwin) to face Alex 's mother , Kathleen (Clare Carey) .

" Chuck Versus the Wedding Planner " received positive reviews from critics . According to the Nielsen ratings system , it drew 4 @.@ 219 million viewers , with a 2 @.@ 5 / 4 share among all households and 1 @.@ 3 / 4 share among those aged 18 ? 49 .

= = Plot = =

In 1988 McCall , Idaho , Sarah Walker (Alexa Blair) assists her father Jack Burton (Gary Cole) with a number of confidence tricks . Sarah begins saving her earnings in a piggy bank to go on an adventure with her father . When Sarah 's grandmother (Pamela Roylance) forces Jack to leave Sarah , Sarah sneaks into his car . Jack returns Sarah to her bed after she has fallen asleep , taking the piggy bank with him .

In modern @-@ day Burbank , California , Sarah (Yvonne Strahovski) and Chuck Bartowski (Zachary Levi) pay their wedding planner , Daphne Peralta (Lisa LoCicero) , only to learn that Daphne has " conned " them . Advised by Jack to use their government resources , Chuck pretends to " flash " on Daphne , linking her to a known terrorist and causing General Diane Beckman (Bonita Friedericy) to redirect government resources to finding Daphne . After Daphne is captured , Sarah and Chuck reveal the truth and are suspended . However , when reading the plans for the Gerlich wedding , Chuck flashes on the names of Franz (Thom Williams) , Bruno (Kevin Makely) , and Paulie Klüg (George Ketsios) , Hungarian scientists in the possession of Iranian nuclear research on a portable device called the " Zephyr " , which one of the brothers is always carrying . All three brothers will be at their sister 's wedding reception in Los Angeles . Beckman , however , does not believe him and refuses to grant them government resources .

Chuck and Sarah turn to Jack to help them continue Daphne 's con and capture the Zephyr . They manage to lead the Klügs away from the reception and incapacitate them , only to find that none of them has the Zephyr . Jack realizes that the Klügs have been performing a shell game : the government has been pursuing them for the Zephyr when none of them ever had it ; their father (Timothy V. Murphy) had it all along . Meanwhile , the bride 's father realizes he is being conned and leads Morgan Grimes (Joshua Gomez) away at gunpoint . When Chuck and Sarah confront him , Klüg uses Morgan as a human shield , but John Casey (Adam Baldwin) takes aim at his head . However , Jack manages to talk Klüg down for the sake of the bride 's happiness .

Meanwhile , Morgan and Alex McHugh (Mekenna Melvin) lead Alex 's mother Kathleen (Clare Carey) to the Buy More so that Casey can reveal he is alive , but Casey asserts that Kathleen deserves better . However , Kathleen sees Casey and has an off @-@ screen conversation with Alex about him . Kathleen find her daughter disillusioned about Casey being a government hero . A confused Kathleen follows Casey and confronts him at the reception , telling him to tell Alex the " truth " , but Casey is urged by Chuck to continue with the con . Later , however , Kathleen witnesses Casey arrest Klüg , identifying himself as a colonel and an NSA agent .

Despite Chuck and Sarah 's efforts , Jack discovers that they are getting married . Chuck invites Jack to attend , but Jack refuses to make promises he cannot keep . Instead Jack leaves Sarah her old piggy bank , to which he has only added cash , never taken , more than covering the cost of the wedding .

= = Production = =

" Chuck Versus the Wedding Planner " was directed by Anton Cropper and written by Rafe Judkins and Lauren LeFranc . It originally aired in the United States on April 18 , 2011 , on NBC as the twenty @-@ first episode of Chuck 's fourth season and the seventy @-@ fifth episode overall .

" Chuck Versus the Wedding Planner " began filming on March 7 , 2011 . Series co @-@ creator Chris Fedak revealed at the Chicago Comic & Entertainment Expo (C2E2) that Gary Cole would return as Sarah 's father Jack Burton , and Zap2it confirmed in April 2011 that Cole would appear in " Chuck Versus the Wedding Planner " , after last appearing in the second season episode " Chuck Versus the DeLorean " . Lisa LoCicero also guest starred as Daphne Peralta , the eponymous wedding planner . Mekenna Melvin reprised her recurring role of Casey 's daughter and Morgan 's girlfriend , Alex McHugh , and Clare Carey portrayed Alex 's mother Kathleen .

When Sarah travels to Miami , Florida to meet her father , aerial shots of the city are shown . The background that follows , however , has been described as " badly CGI 'd " .

= = = Continuity = = =

Jordan Bienstock of CNN noted several continuity errors in the episode . Among them is the fact that Jack is surprised that Sarah is a CIA agent , rather than running her own cons , when in fact it was made clear to him in his first appearance that she was " on the right side of the law " . Also , Kathleen refers to Casey by his real name , " Alex " , but the episode never acknowledges the fact that " Sarah Walker " is an alias .

In contrast , Alan Sepinwall and Eric Goldman noted , in their respective reviews for HitFix and IGN , allusions in " Chuck Versus the Wedding Planner " to past episodes . As in his first appearance , Jack refers to Chuck as " Schnook " and Casey as " Cop Face " . Chuck also makes his " famous " chicken pepperoni for Sarah , alluding to " Chuck Versus the Fake Name " .

= = Reception = =

According to the Nielsen ratings system , " Chuck Versus the Wedding Planner " drew 4 @.@ 219 million viewers , with a 2 @.@ 5 / 4 share among all households and 1 @.@ 3 / 4 share among those aged 18 ? 49 .

The episode received positive reviews from critics . Gary Cole 's return was highly praised , as well as the scene in which Sarah imitates the face Chuck makes when the Intersect has a " flash " . HitFix Senior Editor Alan Sepinwall wrote , " Cole 's return was as much fun as I hoped it would be - in some ways , even better than his first appearance in season two 's ' Chuck vs. the Delorean , ' where I liked Sarah and Jack 's interaction but thought the actual con job was a bit thin . ' Chuck vs. the Wedding Planner ' had its own flaw in the section where Sarah and Chuck are illegally using government resources to catch the con woman and wind up getting more government ' help ' than they bargained for ... But once Jack turned up in Burbank to help his daughter and her schnook of a fiance be heroes and get back in the good graces of General Beckman , ' Wedding Planner ' was really very strong , both as a comedy piece (loved Yvonne Strahovski 's accent as she impersonated Daphne) and another story about Sarah 's colorful but ultimately sad past . "

Ryan McGee of The A.V. Club gave the episode a B on an A + to F scale , writing that the " episode didn ? t really take advantage of Jack Burton 's return to the show . Instead , it pushed him off to the sidelines to make room for a storyline that had no earthly business in this episode . " Eric Goldman of IGN gave this episode a score of 8 @.@ 5 out of 10 , calling it " a nice break from the Volkoff drama " . Melody Simpson of Buzz Focus wrote , " This story line has the potential to bring lots of drama but the way that it has been building up to this moment . " Stephen Lackey of Mania called the episode " fun stuff just lacking in drama where drama was required . " Brittany Frederick of Starpulse wrote that the episode reminded her " of all the reasons I fell in love with this show a year ago . It 's fun , and funny without being campy , but more importantly , it 's got heart . It 's an episode that made me think , ' This is why people fight for this show season after season . ' If it helps turn out

more episodes like these , Gary Cole can drop by anytime he likes . I , for one , will be glad to see him . "