

= Arthur Chu =

Arthur Chu (born January 30 , 1984) is an American columnist and former game show contestant . He is known for the unusual style of play he adopted during his 11 @-@ game winning streak on the syndicated US game show Jeopardy ! . When the shows aired , Chu attracted criticism from many for jumping from category to category rather than selecting clues in sequential order , a strategy known as the " Forrest Bounce " , after former champion Chuck Forrest .

Chu prepared extensively before his Jeopardy ! appearance by reviewing tapes , study guides , game theory and Jeopardy ! strategy . He made his debut on the January 28 , 2014 , winning \$ 37 @, @ 000 in his first game . After winning 11 games , he lost his 12th game (which aired on March 12 , 2014) to Diana Peloquin . Chu is the fourth highest @-@ earning Jeopardy ! champion in non @-@ tournament gameplay , with a grand total of \$ 298 @, @ 200 . Chu also won an additional \$ 100 @, @ 000 for taking second place in the 2014 Tournament of Champions .

Since appearing on Jeopardy ! , Chu has used his fame to speak out publicly on issues that are important to him . He has become a columnist and Internet commentator , and currently writes for The Daily Beast and Salon on various issues , including racism and sexism in nerd culture .

= = Early life and family = =

Chu was born in Albany , New York on January 30 , 1984 . His parents are of Taiwanese heritage , later immigrating to the United States . He moved several times growing up , due to his father 's job in the chemical industry . During his childhood , Chu lived in Cranston , Rhode Island , spent a year in Boise , Idaho , then lived in Cerritos , California as a teenager .

As a child , Chu participated in the National Geographic Bee , and while attending Swarthmore College , he was a member of the college 's quiz @-@ bowl team . He received a B.A. in History at his graduation in 2008 . Chu and his wife , fellow Swarthmore College graduate Eliza Blair (whom he married in 2012) , reside in Broadview Heights , Ohio . Chu has worked as a voiceover artist , for example , on the webcomic Erfworld , and as an insurance compliance analyst . He is also a contributor to The Daily Beast .

= = Jeopardy ! appearances = =

= = = Preparation = = =

Chu spent a great deal of time preparing in the month before his first appearance on Jeopardy ! He studied tapes of former Jeopardy ! contestants and created study guides based on the advice of Roger Craig . He also read about game theory and Jeopardy ! strategy online . As a student at Swarthmore College , he also played quiz bowl , in which he has said he was an aggressive player despite having limited knowledge .

= = = Debut and championship = = =

Chu made his debut as a contestant on the January 28 , 2014 , episode of Jeopardy ! , winning \$ 37 @, @ 000 in his first game . On the January 29 episode , Chu made a Final Jeopardy ! wager that caused him to tie fellow contestant Carolyn Collins . Chu claimed that he made the decision to wager for a tie not out of kindness but because of the advice of 2003 College champion Keith Williams , who claims that game theory favors wagering for a tie over the more common practice of wagering to win by a dollar . Chu defeated Collins on the January 30 episode .

After a three @-@ week airtime break , he became eligible for the Tournament of Champions on February 24 when he won for the fifth time ; his total winnings were \$ 123 @, @ 600 . On February 26 , he became the ninth biggest all @-@ time Jeopardy ! winner , with a total of \$ 180 @, @ 000 . The next day , he jumped to third , with a total of \$ 238 @, @ 200 .

Chu won his eleventh and final game on March 11 , bringing his total to \$ 297 @, @ 200 . His streak ended on March 12 when he was defeated by Diana Pelouin . He ended up in third place after losing his entire score in Final Jeopardy ! His third @-@ place earnings of \$ 1 @, @ 000 brought his ultimate winnings to \$ 298 @, @ 200 , putting him at third place on the list of all @-@ time highest @-@ earning Jeopardy ! champions , behind Ken Jennings and David Madden . He also held the third @-@ longest winning streak in the series ' history . Later in 2014 , he was surpassed by Julia Collins , who won \$ 429 @, @ 100 during 20 days of play , pushing Chu back to fourth place . During his run on the series , Chu engaged with viewers through Twitter and the Jeopardy @-@ themed website JBoard .

After his initial appearance on the show , Chu competed in the 2014 Jeopardy ! Tournament of Champions , where he finished second to Ben Ingram , an IT consultant from South Carolina . Chu won \$ 100 @, @ 000 for his second @-@ place finish , bringing his overall winnings to \$ 398 @, @ 200 .

= = Response to game play style = =

Throughout Chu 's 11 @-@ game streak , his aggressive style of play attracted criticism among fans of the series , some of whom considered his conduct to be unsportsmanlike and against the spirit of Jeopardy ! His strategy earned him the nickname the " Jeopardy ! Villain " , a nickname Chu fully embraced . One of the most common complaints about his playing style was that he jumped from category to category , a strategy known as the " Forrest Bounce " , after former champion Chuck Forrest . The Forrest Bounce is a common strategy , however , employed by several successful past champions , including Ken Jennings and Brad Rutter , who , like Chu , used it to increase their odds of finding Daily Doubles first . Inspired by Watson , a computer that was programmed to play Jeopardy ! , Chu picked high @-@ value clues first , because they are more likely to be Daily Doubles . In his second game , Chu wagered \$ 5 on a Daily Double and responded " I don 't know " immediately after the clue was given .

Chu also held the buzzer close to the microphone , resulting in audible clicks when signaling , and upon correctly answering a question , rushed quickly to the next clue . This gamesmanship , the resulting criticism and his engagement with critics on Twitter during airings of his shows led some to declare his run akin to a " Moneyball " moment , and Chu himself " ruthless " and " idol @-@ killingly pragmatic " .

In response , both Trebek and Jennings have defended Chu as a " good player " who makes the game " more exciting " .

= = After Jeopardy ! = =

After his appearance on Jeopardy ! , Chu contacted publicists and PR firms to ask for suggestions on how to monetize the recognition from his Jeopardy ! run . However , he found the proposals unappealing , and did not follow suggestions that he use the ' successful game theorist ' image . Instead , he started writing a column for The Daily Beast , and later for Salon . Chu has written on various aspects of nerd culture and on being Asian American . He is a vocal critic of racism and online bullying , and is known for his opposition to the Gamergate movement .