

= Hiatus ( 30 Rock ) =

" Hiatus " is the twenty @-@ first and season finale episode of NBC 's first season of 30 Rock . It was written by series creator and executive producer Tina Fey , and was directed by Don Scardino . It first aired on April 26 , 2007 in the United States . Guest stars in the episode included Katrina Bowden , Kevin Brown , Owen Burke , Grizz Chapman , Matt Dickinson , Rachel Dratch , Brittany Felton , Hannah Flynn , Sean Hayes , Emily Mortimer , Chris Parnell , Portia , Lonny Ross , Justin Smith , Elaine Stritch , Jason Sudeikis and Nikki E. Walker . Lester Holt appeared as himself in this episode .

The episode focuses on the imminent season finale of TGS with Tracy Jordan , a fictional sketch comedy series which airs live on Friday nights . Liz Lemon ( played by Tina Fey ) is frantic because Tracy Jordan ( Tracy Morgan ) is still missing and Jack Donaghy 's ( Alec Baldwin ) health threatens his marriage to Phoebe ( Emily Mortimer ) .

= = Plot = =

After going on the run from the Black Crusaders , Tracy has traveled to Needmore , Pennsylvania ( an actual town located in Belfast Township , Fulton County , Pennsylvania ) to stay with Kenneth Parcell 's ( Jack McBrayer ) cousin , Jesse Parcell ( Sean Hayes ) . Liz is stressed as the season finale of TGS with Tracy Jordan is nearing , and Tracy cannot be found . Liz and Jack force Tracy 's whereabouts from Kenneth , who they send to bring him back . Tracy realizes that he wants to go back to the city , but Jesse kidnaps him . Kenneth , accompanied by Dot @-@ Com and Grizz , manages to rescue Tracy and get him back in time for the show 's finale .

Jack is livid when his mother , Colleen Donaghy ( Elaine Stritch ) , visits him when she is in town to attend his ex @-@ wife Bianca 's ( Isabella Rossellini ) wedding to Vincent Folley . Colleen takes an immediate dislike to Jack 's fiancée , Phoebe , but takes a liking to Liz , whom she originally mistakes for Phoebe . The stress of his approaching wedding and the arrival of his mother prompt Jack to have a heart attack . While at the hospital , Colleen uses a heart monitor as a lie detector , on Jack , which leads him to revealing that he does not love Phoebe . They break off their engagement .

Liz and Floyd ( Jason Sudeikis ) are struggling to maintain a long distance relationship , since Floyd 's move to Cleveland . Liz later reveals to Jack that she and Floyd have separated .

= = 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 this episode , Dratch played Dr. Beauvoir , Liz 's doctor .

Jason Sudeikis , who played Floyd in this episode , has appeared in the main cast of Saturday Night Live , a weekly sketch comedy series which airs on NBC in the United States . Tina Fey was the head writer on Saturday Night Live from 1999 until 2006 . Various other cast members of Saturday Night Live have appeared on 30 Rock . These cast members include Rachel Dratch , Fred Armisen , Kristen Wiig , Will Forte , Chris Parnell and Molly Shannon . Tina Fey and Tracy Morgan have both been part of the main cast of Saturday Night Live . Alec Baldwin has also hosted Saturday Night Live thirteen times , the second highest amount of episodes of any host of the series .

The scenes set in the Needmore , Pennsylvania were actually filmed in Douglaston , Queens . Similarly , the scenes in Cleveland from the previous episode were filmed in Battery Park City , Manhattan .

= = Reception = =

" Hiatus " brought in an average of 4 @. @ 7 million viewers . The episode also achieved a 2 @. @ 4 / 6 in the key 18 ? 49 @- @ year @- @ old demographic . The 2 @. @ 4 refers to 2 @. @ 4 % of all people of ages 18 ? 49 years old in the U.S. , and the 6 refers to 6 % of all people of ages 18 ? 49 years old watching television at the time of the broadcast in the U.S. This episode was watched by 200 @, @ 000 people upon its original broadcast in the United Kingdom .

Robert Canning of IGN said that this episode left him feeling " a bit cheated . " He said that this was because " the storylines we 've loved for weeks all failed to come to a satisfying end . " He added that " after a string of stellar episodes , it 's not surprising 30 Rock eventually faltered . " Canning rated this episode with a " 6 @. @ 5 out of 10 . " Matt Webb Mitovich of TV Guide wrote that he " didn 't find this episode quite as manic as the previous few , but that 's probably because it had actual story to progress and threads to tie up . "

Elaine Stritch 's appearance in this episode earned her a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series . Stritch would later appear as Colleen in the episodes " Ludachristmas , " which was part of season two ; " Christmas Special " and " The Natural Order " in season three ; " The Moms " in season four ; " Christmas Attack Zone " in season five ; " Meet the Woggels ! " in season six ; and " My Whole Life Is Thunder " in the show 's seventh and final season .