

= Arizona Robbins =

Arizona Robbins , M.D. is a fictional character on the ABC television series Grey 's Anatomy , portrayed by Jessica Capshaw . She was introduced in the show 's fifth season as an attending surgeon and the new chief of pediatric surgery . Originally contracted to appear in three episodes , Capshaw 's contract was extended to the remainder of the fifth season , with her becoming a series regular in the sixth season .

Robbins has been characterized as " quirky " and " perky " , and is well known for wearing roller skates and a Holly Hobbie pink scrub cap , designed to appeal to her younger patients . She was established as a love @-@ interest for orthopedic resident Callie Torres (Sara Ramirez) after the Torres ' storyline with Erica Hahn (Brooke Smith) was cut short due to what series creator Shonda Rhimes called " a lack of chemistry " . Shonda Rhimes was in contrast pleased with the chemistry between Robbins and Torres , citing the addition of Capshaw to the cast as an element of the season of which she was most proud . Initial media reaction to the character was positive . Matt Mitovich of TV Guide described her as a " fan favorite " , and Chris Monfette for IGN praised the addition of " fresh , new characters " , such as Robbins over the course of the season .

= = Storylines = =

Following the death of Dr. Jordan Kenley (John Sloman) , Chief Webber (James Pickens , Jr .) replaces his head of pediatric surgery with Dr. Arizona Robbins , a graduate of the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine . Robbins has a romantic interest in orthopedic 5 resident Callie Torres (Sara Ramirez) , and kisses her . The two embark on a relationship , but when Torres ' father , Carlos (Héctor Elizondo) , learns of the relationship , he threatens to cut her off financially unless she returns home with him . When Torres ' father returns to Seattle and continues to reject his daughter 's sexuality , Robbins is able to convince him to reconsider . She tells Mr. Torres that her father was able to accept her own sexuality , as she promised him she was still the " good man in a storm " he raised her to be , and that Torres is still the same person he raised . Torres is dismayed to learn that Robbins doesn 't want children , and the two come to a conclusion that they cannot continue their relationship , since they both want different things . However , after a shooter enters Seattle Grace with a vendetta for Derek Shepherd (Patrick Dempsey) , Lexie Grey (Chyler Leigh) , and Richard Webber (James Pickens , Jr .) , they are in lockdown together , and the two reconcile .

Robbins receives word that she has been given a grant to go to Malawi , and become a doctor there . In the end , Torres is shown to have accepted this as well and has decided to leave with Robbins . However , a fight at the airport results in Robbins leaving for Malawi without Torres , ending their relationship . She returns , hoping to rekindle her relationship with Torres , but is initially rejected . Eventually , Torres reveals that she is pregnant with Mark Sloan (Eric Dane) ' s baby . Robbins accepts the situation , and she and Torres restart their relationship . Torres gifts Robbins with a weekend getaway , and Robbins proposes to Torres . After proposing , the two get in a car crash leaving Torres in critical condition . A series of surgeries follows , including the delivery of her premature baby , along with emotional breakdowns of both Sloan and Robbins . Upon the awakening of Torres , she accepts her marriage proposal , and the two are married by Miranda Bailey (Chandra Wilson) . As the fifth year residents are coming close to the end of their residency , Robbins urges Alex Karev (Justin Chambers) to work under her . At the end of the eighth season , Robbins is hurt badly in a plane crash , resulting in her left leg being amputated . In the aftermath of the plane accident , in which Sloan and Lexie Grey were killed , the hospital is sued and eventually found guilty of negligence . Each victim including Shepherd , Meredith Grey (Ellen Pompeo) , Cristina Yang (Sandra Oh) , and Robbins herself must receive \$ 15 million of compensation , which leads the hospital to a near bankruptcy as the insurances refuse to pay . Those doctors and Callie buy the hospital with the help of the Harper @-@ Avery Foundation to prevent it from closing , and each become members of the new directing board . Robbins is initially cold towards Callie because she was the one who decided for an amputation . She also struggles with body image issues , but they slowly reconcile as Robbins tries to adapt to her new life . When

Dr. Lauren Boswell (Hilarie Burton) arrives at the hospital to reconstruct the face of a baby and flirts with Robbins , she is flattered that a stranger still finds her attractive despite knowing about her injury and the two have a one @-@ night stand .

After finding out that Arizona cheated on her with Lauren , Callie kicks Arizona out of their apartment . They also let out their true feelings about the accident and more is revealed about how they actually have felt . Callie initially agrees to couples therapy , but she shows up at the office only to tell Arizona that she isn 't going in . Arizona gets drunk with April for a laugh while Callie , who is at the fundraiser , tells people that Arizona died in the plane crash . Arizona is led to believe that she and Leah slept together , however all they did was dance and make grilled cheese sandwiches after watching Derek perform surgery on film . Arizona pursues a sexual relationship with Leah but cuts ties with her when Callie asks her to come back home . It is revealed that Arizona became pregnant via a sperm donor prior to sleeping with Lauren . They decided to try again for a second child , but after agreeing that Callie would carry it , Callie went to see an OB / GYN and discovered that she had developed adhesions in her uterus since Sofia 's birth , meaning she can 't carry any more children . When she told Arizona , Arizona offered to carry the baby , but Callie decided that since they 're still on unsteady footing that if something goes wrong , they won 't make it and she doesn 't want to put them in that position . They agree to postpone their plans to have another baby . However , in the season finale of Season 10 it is implied that Callie and Arizona 's dream of having other child may come by means of a surrogate . At the beginning of Season 11 , Callie and Arizona decide to have a baby by surrogate and Arizona applies for a fetal surgery fellowship with Dr. Herman . Arizona , with a heavy workload because of the fellowship , and Callie have an argument in the waiting room , and they choose to go to therapy together , resulting in a 30 @-@ day break . Arizona believes that the break strengthened their relationship and made her realize that she needs Callie - Callie on the other hand declares that the break gave her a taste of the freedom that she has been missing . Callie walks away and the two get a divorce later .

Callie wants to take Sofia and move to New York with Penny but Arizona does not want to be separated from her daughter so she hires a lawyer and they go to court for a custody battle . After a long case , Arizona wins sole custody of Sofia. but in the end she ends up sharing Sofia with Callie because she thinks that ; ' both of Sofia 's moms deserve to be happy ' .

= = Development = =

= = = Casting and creation = = =

It was first reported in December 2008 that Capshaw would be joining the cast of Grey 's Anatomy as pediatric surgeon Arizona Robbins , for a multi @-@ episode arc . Initially scheduled to appear in three episodes of the show 's fifth season , series creator Shonda Rhimes later extended Capshaw 's contract to appear in all of the season 's remaining episodes , becoming a series regular in the sixth season . Speaking of the new addition , Rhimes said :

I love Jessica Capshaw , and when I say love I mean love . She couldn 't be a more wonderful person , and I feel like the chemistry Arizona and Callie have feels like the Meredith and Derek chemistry to me . I find them delightful to watch .

This promotion saw Robbins become the only lesbian series regular on primetime TV . Robbins is described as " quirky [and] perky " by TV Guide 's Matt Mitovich , and " a clear and rational surgeon who is not ruled by her emotions " by Kris De Leon of BuddyTV . William Harper , writer of the episode " Beat Your Heart Out " in which Robbins and Torres kiss for the first time , has deemed Robbins : " genuinely , positively interested in people , in the most selfless way . " Commenting on Robbins ' confidence , Capshaw commented : " she never thinks she 's wrong and you don 't hate her for it . There 's no ego though , she just always thinks she 's right and she is . " She is portrayed as having " wacky tendencies " , including wearing roller shoes to work .

= = = Characterization = = =

The American Broadcasting Company (ABC) characterized Robbins as " confident " , " ambitious " , and " cheerful " . Shortly after her arrival in the show , Robbins became a love @-@ interest for Torres (Ramirez) . The relationship between the two is referred to by fans by the portmanteau " Calzona " . Torres ' previous girlfriend Erica Hahn (Brooke Smith) was written out of Grey 's Anatomy in 2008 , due to a lack of chemistry between the characters . Rhimes praised the chemistry between Robbins and Torres in contrast , comparing it to that between the show 's primary couple Meredith Grey (Ellen Pompeo) and Shepherd (Dempsey) , and stating : " They have that little thing that makes you want to watch them . " Rhimes named the addition of Capshaw to the cast as one of the elements of the season she was most proud of , commenting that she wished she could have found Callie a love interest that " sparkled " sooner , but was pleased with eventually having found one in Robbins .

When Robbins turned Torres down in the episode " An Honest Mistake " due to her inexperience with women , series writer Peter Nowalk offered the insight :

I totally understand why Arizona wouldn't want to date a newborn . It 's like getting a Freshman as your Physics lab partner even though you 're a Senior who not only knows the Laws of Motion but has mastered them in ways that would rock that Freshman 's world . Which is not to say the Freshman won 't grow to be really good at Physics , or that Callie won 't catch up to Arizona on the lesbian front , it 's simply that Arizona might not have the patience to wait that long .

Although the characters go on to begin a relationship , the show 's one @-@ hundredth episode " What a Difference a Day Makes " sees them experience difficulties as a result of Torres ' father rejecting her for her sexuality . Rhimes commented on their ultimate reconciliation : " I love [Callie] with Arizona . [...] I like that they make me feel hopeful about love . " Rhimes has said of their relationship in the sixth season : " I would like to see Callie happily in a long @-@ term relationship . We have so much to explore with them , because we barely know anything about [Arizona] . " Capshaw has characterized the relationship as " incredibly understanding and compassionate and sensitive " . She described the sixth season as being about : " cementing a very mature and grounded relationship and taking it forward . This is a drama , of course ; there will be conflict , but for the time being , they 're enjoying being in a relationship that seems stable . "

Asked whether Robbins and Torres might marry in the future , Capshaw replied : " There 's probably a lot more stuff that has to happen before that happens . [...] I don 't think they 're going to get married just to get married . As Arizona goes , I think she has incredible discipline and she does , as you said , have a very strict moral compass and marriage would not be something she would jump into without giving it a great amount of thought . " Discussing Robbins ' relationship with Torres ' former lover Sloan , Capshaw divulged : " Whenever there 's been a chance to play that I am intimidated by him or being standoffish , I 've always chosen to make it very playful . It 's much more Arizona 's style to find it very amusing . "

= = Reception = =

Robbins ranked seventh in a top ten list of gay characters on TV compiled by Jane Boursaw of TV Squad . Boursaw wrote : " She 's a mix of ironies - a pediatrician who glides around the hospital on wheelies , impulsively kisses Callie , then tells her she doesn 't have time to teach a newbie how to be gay . Still , she 's more interesting than the other gays on this show , which are dwindling in numbers since Erica left for parts unknown . " Commenting on Hahn 's abrupt departure from the show , Dorothy Snarker , writing for LGBT website AfterEllen.com observed of Robbins and Torres ' relationship : " I [...] can 't help but be wary of how the Grey 's writers will handle this relationship . Jessica has proven lovely and likable in her brief screen time so far . But it 's not how the romance starts , but what happens next that really matters . " AfterEllen.com also included Robbins in their poll of the Top 50 Lesbian and Bisexual Characters , ranking her at No. 3 and in their Top 50 Favorite Female TV Characters , placing her at No. 2 .

Matt Mitovich of TV Guide noted that Robbins " quickly established herself as a fan favorite " , describing her as : " a breath of fresh air in the often angsty halls of Seattle Grace . " Chris Monfette

for IGN has opinionated that the fifth season of Grey 's Anatomy was an improvement on the previous two seasons , attributing this in part to the introduction of " fresh , new characters " Robbins and Owen Hunt (Kevin McKidd) . Monfette wrote that Arizona 's ultimate contribution to the season was " introducing the element of childcare to Seattle Grace " , which in turn gave Miranda Bailey (Chandra Wilson) " a great arc " . Jennifer Godwin for E ! Online approved of Arizona 's season six promotion to a series regular , particularly as it meant the continuation of her relationship with Callie .

The Los Angeles Times 's Carina MacKenzie wrote of the sixth season episode " Invasion " : " By far the best moment in this episode was Robbins ' scene with Torres ' father , Carlos . Jessica Capshaw has an incredible ability to take even the most melodramatic of " Grey 's " speeches and deliver them with a subtlety and an honesty that makes them come off as sincere instead of overwrought . " I was named for a battleship , " she said , and in the powerful monologue that followed , she calmly and carefully explained that Torres was still the woman Carlos raised .