

= The Robbery =

" The Robbery " is the third episode of the first season of the NBC sitcom Seinfeld .

It aired as the third episode of the season on June 7 , 1990 . It was written by Matt Goldman , therefore making this the first Seinfeld episode not written by the show 's creators : Jerry Seinfeld and Larry David .

In the episode , Jerry leaves Elaine in charge of his apartment while he goes on tour . When he returns , he finds the apartment has been robbed after Kramer left the front door open . While Kramer promises to find the robbers , George offers him the chance to move into a much better apartment ? a move he accepts , allowing Elaine to move in Jerry 's apartment and away from her annoying roommate Tina .

= = Plot = =

Jerry goes away to perform some stand @-@ up in Minneapolis , leaving Elaine to look after his apartment . Elaine is having trouble with an annoying roommate , Tina , who is a " Waitress / Actress " hoping to get a part , and asks George if he can find her some new accommodation . She then tries to persuade Jerry to give her his current apartment , with George offering Jerry a new apartment on West 83rd Street by Central Park which he claims is great , but Jerry turns the offer down . When Jerry returns he finds the apartment has been burglarized because Kramer left the front door open by mistake . As a way of making up , Kramer promises to find the items that were stolen from Jerry .

After the robbery , Elaine still asks Jerry to give her the apartment . Jerry decides to have a look around the new apartment first . The apartment is great and Jerry takes it , allowing Elaine to move into the old apartment . Jerry is about to sign the lease to the apartment , but George tells him that if he has having second thoughts , he should not take it . This results in him thinking that George may want the new apartment for himself . The two have an argument resulting in neither of them wanting to move . They gamble for the apartment and Jerry wins . Meanwhile , Kramer claims that he thinks he knows where Jerry 's stolen objects are , and suspects an Englishman along the hallway who denies having any " stuff " on him .

Later in Monk 's Cafe , Jerry goes back on the deal and decides not to take the place because George wants it . The two continue to argue about who should own it , and decided that neither of them should take it . A waitress , Carolyn , played by Anita Wise , overhears them and George offers the place to her , which she accepts . The waitress invites them and Elaine to her housewarming , but it is clear that Jerry , George and Elaine are not enjoying themselves . They overhear two people having a conversation about someone else moving out of their apartment , to which all three ask what the apartment 's rent is .

= = Production = =

" The Robbery " was written by Matt Goldman , a firsttimer , therefore making this episode the first not to be written by Seinfeld or David and the only one not written by Seinfeld and David for the season , and directed by Tom Cherones , during the course of the first production season . The idea for the episode was inspired by Seinfeld 's own experiences of his apartment being robbed when he was a student , although rather than the door being unlocked as it was in the episode , the burglars broke through the walls . Co @-@ creator of the series Larry David was given a \$ 20 @,@ 000 bonus by Castle Rock and was promoted to executive producer for his work on the episode . During the shooting of the episode , an earthquake struck the set , but no one was hurt .

The episode is the first to mention the character of Tina , Elaine 's actress roommate , although she does not appear in this episode . It is also the first episode to feature Kramer making a sliding entrance into Jerry 's apartment , which became a trademark in all the later episodes . Carolyn the waitress , played by Anita Wise , and her husband Larry , are named after Seinfeld 's own sister and brother @-@ in @-@ law .

In the original draft of the script , the Englishman is called " Berbick . " In the same script , Elaine asks Jerry what happened between Kramer and the Englishman . Jerry replies , " Kramer stayed there three hours . They 're like best friends now . "

= = Reception = =

When " The Robbery " first aired on June 7 , 1990 , it received a Nielsen rating of 13 @. @ 6 / 24 . This means that the episode was watched by 13 @. @ 6 % of American households , and that 24 % of all televisions in use at the time were tuned into it .

Reviews of the episode are mixed . Andy Patrizio from IGN.com wrote that " The Robbery " was the best episode of the first season of Seinfeld , saying that it showed " the dynamics that would come to define the show . " However , Colin Jacobson for DVD Movie Guide said , " It lacks the great banter and play that marks the best episodes , but it doesn 't come across as a total dud . It just seems a bit uninspired in the greater scheme of things . "