

= Bad Reputation (Glee) =

" Bad Reputation " is the seventeenth episode of the American television series , Glee . The episode premiered on the Fox network on May 4 , 2010 . It was directed by Elodie Keene , and written by series creator Ian Brennan . In " Bad Reputation " , cheerleading coach Sue Sylvester (Jane Lynch) is publicly ridiculed when a video of her dancing to Olivia Newton @-@ John 's " Physical " is posted on YouTube . A salacious list about members of the glee club circulates the school , leading certain members to try to earn themselves a bad reputation . Newton @-@ John guest @-@ stars as herself in the episode , and Molly Shannon makes her first appearance in a recurring role . Following their romance in the episode " Mash @-@ Up " , club members Rachel (Lea Michele) and Puck (Mark Salling) are reunited , a decision made by the producers due to the unexpected popularity of the pairing .

The episode features cover versions of five songs , all of which were released as singles , available for digital download , and two of which are included on the soundtrack album Glee : The Music , Volume 3 ? Showstoppers . " Bad Reputation " was watched by 11 @.@ 62 million American viewers and received mixed reviews from critics . Darren Franich of Entertainment Weekly and Bobby Hankinson of the Houston Chronicle both considered it a return to form following disappointing episodes . Franich also praised the episode 's cover version of " Ice Ice Baby " by Vanilla Ice , which in contrast was criticized by Raymund Flandez of The Wall Street Journal and Gerrick D. Kennedy of the Los Angeles Times , with Kennedy deeming the performance his least favorite moment of the entire series thus far .

= = Plot = =

When Kurt (Chris Colfer) steals a video of cheerleading coach Sue Sylvester (Jane Lynch) performing Olivia Newton @-@ John 's " Physical " to a Jazzercise routine , the glee club members decide to post it on YouTube as a prank . The video becomes a viral hit and Sue is mortified . In retaliation , she gives Principal Figgins (Iqbal Theba) a list she has found , called a " glist " , which ranks the students in the glee club based on a scale of sexual promiscuity . Figgins tells club director Will Schuester (Matthew Morrison) that he must either find the creator of the list , or he will be forced to disband the glee club and suspend all of its members . Will reprimands the club members , and for their weekly club assignment , he has the students find songs with bad reputations and rehabilitate them , performing Vanilla Ice 's " Ice Ice Baby " as an example .

Sue is laughed at by her co @-@ workers , who have seen the video , and is mocked by new alcoholic astronomy teacher and badminton coach Brenda Castle (Molly Shannon) . Sue is reminded by her sister , Jean (Robin Trocki) , who has Down Syndrome , that when they were hurt as children they would volunteer at an animal shelter as a reminder there was always someone less fortunate than themselves . In light of her sister 's advice , Sue decides to act as a therapist to guidance counselor Emma Pillsbury (Jayma Mays) , informing her that Will has been unfaithful to her . Emma confronts Will in the teachers ' lounge , publicly shaming him .

Kurt , Mercedes (Amber Riley) , Artie (Kevin McHale) , and Tina (Jenna Ushkowitz) are upset over not being included on the list , while Brittany (Heather Morris) is puzzled at not being listed among the top three , given that she has made out with everyone in the school : boys , girls , and the janitor . They perform a rendition of " U Can 't Touch This " in the school library to cause a disruption in the hope of earning a bad reputation , but their plan backfires when the librarian asks them to perform it at her church 's Sunday service . Next , Kurt confesses to Sue that he is the one who stole her video , expecting to be punished and also gain a more dangerous reputation . Instead , she thanks him , having recently been contacted by Olivia Newton @-@ John , who had seen Sue 's video and requested her help remaking the " Physical " video . The song 's re @-@ release gains Sue a position in the top 700 recording artists , which ends the ridicule of her colleagues . She donates her share of the profits to her sister 's residential care facility .

After apologizing to Emma and presenting her with flowers , Will sees a depressed @-@ looking Quinn (Dianna Agron) in the hallway and realizes that she is responsible for the list . He confronts

Quinn , who confesses . To prevent her from being suspended , Will lies to Figgins that no culprit has been found , but convinces him that as no new lists have been posted , the matter should be dropped .

Rachel (Lea Michele) asks Puck (Mark Salling) to assist her in the glee club assignment , creating a video for David Geddes ' " Run Joey Run " . But she secretly also recruits her ex @-@ boyfriend Finn (Cory Monteith) and her current boyfriend Jesse St. James (Jonathan Groff) , triple @-@ casting them in the role of her film boyfriend , Joey , in a bid to improve her glist rating . When Rachel plays the video in class , all three are surprised , offended and angered by her deception . Jesse breaks up with Rachel as a result , and she sings Bonnie Tyler 's " Total Eclipse of the Heart " as the club members walk out of the classroom , leaving her behind .

= = Production = =

Recurring characters who appear in the episode are glee club members Brittany (Heather Morris) , Santana Lopez (Naya Rivera) , Mike Chang (Harry Shum , Jr .) , Matt Rutherford (Dijon Talton) and Jesse St. James (Jonathan Groff) , former glee club director Sandy Ryerson (Stephen Tobolowsky) , football coach Ken Tanaka (Patrick Gallagher) and Sue 's sister Jean Sylvester (Robin Trocki) . Mary Jo Catlett appears as recently widowed teacher Mrs. Carlisle , and Molly Shannon makes her first appearance in a recurring role as new astronomy teacher and badminton coach Brenda Castle . Special guest star Olivia Newton @-@ John appears as herself , portraying the " dark side " of herself ; a " mixture of mean and diva " . She and Lynch produced an exact re @-@ creation of the original " Physical " video , filming of which took twelve hours . Series musical producer Adam Anders felt that Newton @-@ John 's appearance in the episode was organic , explaining : " The best part of Glee is introducing new music to an older generation and old music to a newer generation . There 's so much great music . We all listen to music in a vacuum , then we 're exposed to things and love it . Olivia Newton @-@ John is an example of that . It 's a perfect marriage between the songs that were chosen and the storyline . When that happens , it moves people . "

" Bad Reputation " shows the reunion of glee club members Rachel and Puck . The two first became involved in Glee 's eighth episode , " Mash @-@ Up " , but at the time , series creator Ryan Murphy did not expect the pairing to be well received by viewers . He believed that viewers would find Rachel " far too irritating " for Puck , and so was surprised by the positive fan response which emerged . Although Murphy described this response as " strange and bizarre " , explaining that he had believed fans would prefer for Rachel to be with Finn , as a result he planned to revisit their romance later in the first season . The first thirteen episodes had already been filmed by the time " Mash @-@ Up " aired , and so Murphy wrote a special episode to air after the mid @-@ season break , in which the characters could reunite in some way . Despite the popularity of the pairing ? referred to by the portmanteau " Puckleberry " in the media ? the series writers intend to retain Puck 's " bad boy " persona , and ultimately plan on pairing him with most of the female characters .

The episode features cover versions of five songs : " Ice Ice Baby " by Vanilla Ice , " U Can 't Touch This " by MC Hammer , Newton @-@ John 's " Physical " , " Run Joey Run " by David Geddes and " Total Eclipse of the Heart " by Bonnie Tyler . Each of the songs performed were released as singles , available for download . " Physical " and " Total Eclipse of the Heart " are also included on the soundtrack album Glee : The Music , Volume 3 Showstoppers .

= = Reception = =

= = = Ratings = = =

In its original broadcast , " Bad Reputation " was watched by 11 @.@ 62 million American viewers and attained a 4 @.@ 9 / 13 rating / share in the 18 @-@ 49 demographic . In the United Kingdom , the episode was watched by 1 @.@ 65 million viewers and was the most @-@ watched show of the

week on the non @-@ terrestrial channels . In Canada , " Bad Reputation " was watched by 1 @.@ 95 million viewers , making Glee the eleventh most @-@ viewed show of the week . In Australia , Glee drew its highest @-@ ever overnight audience with 1 @.@ 31 million viewers , and won its timeslot in all key demographics . Its consolidated ratings were adjusted up to 1 @.@ 41 million , making " Bad Reputation " the 13th most @-@ viewed program of the week .

= = = Critical response = = =

The episode received mixed reviews from critics . Darren Franich of Entertainment Weekly praised the episode , writing that while there had been a " self @-@ congratulatory quality " to Glee since its mid @-@ season break , " Bad Reputation " was a return to " the Glee [he] fell in tormented love with . " He graded the songs performed " C ? " through to " A ? " , commending what he deemed " by far the greatest performance of " Ice Ice Baby " ever " . The Houston Chronicle 's Bobby Hankinson also felt the episode was a return to form . He praised the decision not to " apply meaningless rules to their musical selections " , writing : " The freedom to not have to use songs by one artist let the storylines take priority , and not sticking to songs that share a common lyrical theme kept those choices from feeling too forced . " Dave Itzkoff of the New York Times recapped the episode positively , describing it as : " pack [ing] more camp into an hour 's worth of television than most kids will get all summer . " Todd VanDerWerff of The A. V. Club graded " Bad Reputation " " B + " , writing that he : " enjoyed the episode quite a bit , even as [he] found some of it rather messy . " Though VanDerWerff felt that not everything in the episode worked , he stated : " the stuff that did reminded me that what I like about the show is its all @-@ out embrace of a crazy mishmash of tones . "

Raymund Flandez of The Wall Street Journal criticized most of the musical performances in the episode , calling " Run Joey Run " the highlight of an otherwise " slow , forced show " . Flandez opined of " Ice Ice Baby " : " Will , kicking it old school , doesn 't cut it with his ' 80s @-@ flashback moves because a .) he takes himself too seriously and b .) he looks like he 's in a J.Crew mag , not part of 2 Live Crew . " Gerrick D. Kennedy of the Los Angeles Times wrote that he hated the episode , similarly calling " Run Joey Run " his favorite song , but noting that that was " not hard considering the songbook that was offered " . Kennedy deemed the " Ice Ice Baby " performance his least favourite moment of the entire series thus far . He concluded : " Each of the musical numbers felt about two minutes longer than they should have been . I love Newton @-@ John ? s walk @-@ on cameo , but I don ? t want them to fall into the habit of re @-@ creating music videos frame by frame : It was cute - once . It sounds harsh , but I could have completely done without the episode . It was almost as if they needed filler just to showcase the " Physical " video . " In December 2012 , TV Guide named their rendition one of Glee 's worst performances .