

= Furt =

" Furt " is the eighth episode of the second season of the American musical television series Glee , and the thirtieth episode overall . It was written by series creator Ryan Murphy , directed by Carol Banker , and premiered on Fox in the United States on November 23 , 2010 . The episode features a guest appearance by actress Carol Burnett as a Nazi hunter and mother of cheerleading coach Sue Sylvester (Jane Lynch) , who shows up for the first time in years , just in time to attend Sue 's wedding to herself . The long @-@ anticipated wedding of Burt Hummel (Mike O 'Malley) and Carole Hudson (Romy Rosemont) is also featured , and the bullying storyline reaches a climax that results in Kurt (Chris Colfer) transferring from McKinley High to Dalton Academy at the end of the episode .

The episode features covers of four songs ; they received generally favorable reviews . Three were featured during the Hummel ? Hudson wedding sequence , and the two songs by Bruno Mars , " Marry You " and " Just the Way You Are " , charted both on the Billboard Hot 100 and internationally . Burnett 's appearance , and her song with Lynch , were lauded by most critics , as was the central wedding of Hudson and Hummel , but Sue 's wedding to herself was widely panned . Additionally , a few reviewers , including The Atlantic 's Kevin Fallon , thought the bullying storyline had been stretched over too many episodes .

Upon its initial airing , this episode was viewed by 10 @.@ 41 million American viewers and garnered a 4 @.@ 0 / 12 Nielsen rating / share in the 18 ? 49 demographic , its lowest for the second season to that point , and down substantially from the previous episode , " The Substitute " .

= = Plot = =

Burt Hummel (Mike O 'Malley) and Carole Hudson (Romy Rosemont) tell their respective sons , New Directions glee club members Kurt (Chris Colfer) and Finn (Cory Monteith) , that they are engaged . Kurt insists that New Directions perform at the wedding and reception . Principal Sue Sylvester (Jane Lynch) announces her intention to marry herself , and glee club member Sam Evans (Chord Overstreet) tells fellow member Quinn Fabray (Dianna Agron) that he loves her and would like to marry her in the future , by offering her a promise ring .

Kurt is menaced by school bully Dave Karofsky (Max Adler) and badly shaken ; while Sue sympathizes with Kurt 's plight , she can only punish Karofsky if he physically attacks Kurt . Glee club co @-@ captain Rachel Berry (Lea Michele) convinces the glee club girls to have their football @-@ playing boyfriends defend Kurt , but her own boyfriend , Finn , refuses , concerned that it may jeopardize his position as quarterback . Artie Abrams (Kevin McHale) , Noah Puckerman (Mark Salling) and Mike Chang (Harry Shum , Jr .) do confront Karofsky , and demand that he leave Kurt alone . Karofsky retaliates , and Sam defends them by fighting with him . Quinn is impressed by Sam 's actions , and decides to accept his promise ring . Karofsky later sees Kurt and Finn practicing a wedding dance and taunts them in front of Burt . Burt is angered by this , but becomes livid when Kurt admits that Karofsky has threatened to kill him . He instigates a meeting with Sue , Karofsky 's father (Daniel Roebuck) and the two boys , at which Sue expels Karofsky .

The day of the wedding , Santana Lopez (Naya Rivera) , who wants another chance at Finn , suggests that he reveal that they had sex to boost his popularity at school . He is unwilling to do so , as he truly loves Rachel , who recently admitted to him that she lied when she claimed to have slept with her then @-@ boyfriend Jesse (Jonathan Groff) ; Finn also lied at the same time , by saying he never had sex with Santana .

At the wedding , New Directions perform " Marry You " by Bruno Mars as they , and then Burt and Carole , dance down the aisle , after which the two of them marry . During the reception , Finn uses his best man speech as an opportunity to apologize to Kurt for not defending him , and promises to do so in the future ; he announces that Finn and Kurt are now " Furt " . He and the other glee club members dedicate a performance of Mars ' " Just the Way You Are " to Kurt , and the new stepbrothers dance together . Following the wedding , Kurt and his parents learn that the school board has reversed Karofsky 's expulsion and given him a verbal warning , thus allowing him to

return to school . Sue resigns as principal in protest , and Burt and Carole use their honeymoon savings to enroll Kurt at Dalton Academy , which has a zero @-@ tolerance policy against bullying and is also the school that Kurt 's friend Blaine (Darren Criss) attends .

While the Hummel ? Hudson wedding is being arranged , Sue advances her own marriage plans . She is surprised when her mother arrives in town . Doris (Carol Burnett) , a recently retired Nazi hunter who was an absentee parent to Sue and her sister Jean (Robin Trocki) , attempts to make amends for her long absence , but is nevertheless so critical of her daughter that Sue calls her a bully and disinvites her during the wedding rehearsal . Doris leaves , and Sue and Jean comfort each other .

= = Production = =

Sue 's parents were mentioned and their occupations as Nazi hunters revealed in the season one episode " The Power of Madonna " . According to Lynch , Sue 's mother left her two daughters to pursue her career , and returns home retired after the last Nazi has been captured . On working with Burnett , Lynch said , " I 'm a little nervous , but I can 't wait to get in scenes with her ... It 's like playing tennis with a master . " The origin behind Sue 's antagonistic personality was explored in this episode ; plans at the time were for Burnett to reappear on the series in a future episode . This is Burnett 's and Lynch 's second time working together , the first being the 2009 comedy film *Post Grad* .

In an interview after BAFTA / LA 's Britannia Awards , Lynch told *People* a wedding was in the future for her character . A tracksuit wedding dress was created by personal costume designer Ali Rahimi .

Recurring characters in this episode include glee club members Mike Chang and Sam Evans , cheerleader Becky Jackson (Lauren Potter) , athlete and school bully Dave Karofsky , football coach Shannon Beiste (Dot @-@ Marie Jones) , and local news anchors Rod Remington (Bill A. Jones) and Andrea Carmichael (Earlene Davis) . In addition , Rosemont and Burnett star as Carole and Doris , the respective mothers of Finn and Sue , and Daniel Roebuck plays Karofsky 's father , Paul .

Four songs were covered on the episode and were all released as singles available for digital download . The song " Ohio " from the 1953 musical *Wonderful Town* was covered as a duet between Burnett and Lynch . In an interview with *TV Guide* , Burnett revealed that her husband suggested the possibility of her doing the song since her character was returning to Ohio after an absence ; she then brought it to Glee creator Ryan Murphy 's attention . Additionally , two Bruno Mars songs were featured ? " Just the Way You Are " and " Marry You " ? as well as Pablo Beltrán Ruiz 's " Sway " as covered by Michael Bubl   . All songs except " Ohio " are included on the album *Glee : The Music , Volume 4* .

= = Reception = =

= = Ratings and viewership = =

" Furt " was first broadcast on November 23 , 2010 , in the United States on Fox . It was watched by 10 @.@ 41 million American viewers during its initial airing ? Glee 's lowest viewership for the second season to that point ? and was the fifteenth @-@ most @-@ watched show of the week across all channels . It garnered a 4 @.@ 0 / 12 Nielsen rating / share in the 18 ? 49 demographic , which made it the highest @-@ rated show in its timeslot , and the third @-@ highest @-@ rated scripted show of the week amongst adults aged 18 ? 49 . The total viewership and ratings for this episode were down significantly from those of the previous episode , " The Substitute " , which was watched by 11 @.@ 70 million American viewers and acquired a 5 @.@ 0 / 14 rating / share in the 18 ? 49 demographic upon first airing on November 16 , 2010 .

The episode 's Canadian broadcast , also on November 23 , 2010 , attained 2 @.@ 10 million

viewers , which placed Glee ninth in the weekly program rankings . Viewership declined slightly from " The Substitute " , which was watched by 2 @. @ 29 million , but also ranked ninth . " Furt " aired in Australia on November 29 , 2010 , where it drew 1 @. @ 33 million viewers , and was the second @- @ most @- @ watched show of the night and third of the week . Here , viewership increased from " The Substitute " , which attained 1 @. @ 06 million viewers and ranked seventh for the night and nineteenth for the week . David Dale noted in The Sydney Morning Herald that Glee faced weaker competition than usual , as Network Ten was " the only commercial network showing new episodes of its top shows " . In the UK , the episode aired on February 28 , 2011 , and was watched by 2 @. @ 43 million viewers ? 2 @. @ 03 million on E4 , and 406 @, @ 000 on E4 + 1 ? which made it the most @- @ watched show on both channels and the second @- @ most @- @ watched show on cable for the week . Here again , viewership was down from the previous episode , which drew 2 @. @ 55 million viewers and was the most @- @ watched show across all cable channels .

= = = Critical reception = = =

" Furt " received a generally positive reception from critics , though there were some dissenting viewpoints . Meghan Brown of The Atlantic wrote that the episode " worked beautifully . " The A.V. Club 's Todd VanDerWerff called it a " largely terrific episode of television " , and gave it a " B + " . Lisa Respers France of CNN was reminded of " how well this show marries plot with music " , and Rolling Stone 's Erica Futterman concluded , " The focus on the show 's best characters , Kurt and Sue , kept the show balanced between heart and bite ? just the way we like our Glee " . IGN 's Robert Canning was less enthusiastic ; he called it an " unfocused jumble of an episode " and gave it a score of 7 out of 10 . The BuddyTV reviewers were split , with Jen Harper quite happy , and John Kubicek who wrote that he hated the entire episode .

Most reviews heaped praise on the guest appearance of Carol Burnett , who played Sue 's Nazi @- @ hunting absentee mother Doris . Bobby Hankinson of the Houston Chronicle said Burnett was a " well @- @ used guest star " , and he " loved every minute she was on screen . " Dave Itzkoff of the New York Times asked " who could not be charmed " by Burnett , and the Wall Street Journal 's Raymund Flandez lauded the " tour @- @ de @- @ force panache and sharp @- @ tongued deadpan by Carol Burnett " , and called her appearance the " best guest casting this season " .

The marriage of Burt Hummel and Carole Hudson received generally good marks . VanDerWerff wrote , " it 's rare that an episode of television can make a hurried wedding between two middle @- @ aged people who are rarely on the show into something so well @- @ conceived and thrillingly moving . " Amy Reiter of the Los Angeles Times noted , " Every character in that family rings emotionally true . " Entertainment Weekly 's Tim Stack was pleased with the performances of Mike O ? Malley as Burt and Romy Rosemont as Carole ; he also welcomed the episode 's increased focus on Finn , and praised Cory Monteith as a " good , natural actor " . Kevin Fallon of The Atlantic was unhappy with both weddings , and Canning said they " took up most of this episode , and unfortunately neither were entirely successful " . Several reviewers noted the " homage " of the wedding procession dance , including Hankinson , Anthony Benigno of the Daily News and Jarett Wieselman of the New York Post ; the Wall Street Journal invited readers to compare the original viral " JK Wedding Entrance Dance " YouTube video and the subsequent dancing procession from the " Niagara " episode of The Office with Glee 's version in " Furt " , while Stack made his own comparison , and said Glee 's was " just about as good " as the original , and " a blast to watch " .

Sue Sylvester 's marriage to herself was lambasted by many critics , including Vanity Fair 's Brett Berk , who said it " was about as compelling as a hair lollipop " . Patrick Burns of The Atlantic was also unimpressed , especially " because the main plot points of this episode are otherwise so effective " ; his colleague Fallon was brief and to the point : " Blergh . "

There was disagreement on the bullying storyline . Some critics , including Canning and Hankinson , praised it , while others had reservations , such as Brown , who characterized it as " heavy @- @ handed " , and Fallon , who considered it " well @- @ acted " but " far too stagnant " . The Sam and Quinn storyline was panned by VanDerWerff , who wrote " the series has wasted whatever chemistry the two had in ' Duets ' on scenes where Sam talks about how he wants to be the most

popular kid in school " , and by Kubicek , who criticized the lack of consistency in Sam 's characterization .

= = = Music and performances = = =

The musical performances and cover versions in the episode attracted generally positive reviews , though a few reviewers noted that the program had been on for twenty @-@ three minutes before the first song appeared . While Fallon said it was an " interminable wait " for the first musical number , " Ohio " , and Reiter cited the delay as flaw , James Poniewozik of Time thought it a " credit to the episode " that he had not noticed the absence of music to that point . Flandez and Futterman commented favorably on all the musical numbers , though Canning felt the songs were a " disappointing aspect of this episode " , and none were " exceptionally memorable " .

The duet of Burnett and Lynch on " Ohio " was well received . Jean Bentley of AOL TV praised it as " simply magnificent " , Zap2it 's Hanh Nguyen called it a " fantastic job " and Flandez said it was " lovely " and that " the bickering interlude was a delight . " Others tempered their praise : Berk gave it three of five stars and noted the " bland staging " , and Benigno graded it a " C " and called it " boring " , though he said " their voices work well " together ; Stack gave it a " B + " with the caveat that it was " a little too theatrical " .

The dancing wedding procession and its accompanying performance of the Bruno Mars song " Marry You " were mostly praised . Stack gave it an " A " and Berk five stars out of five , and Amanda Hensel of AOL Music called it " easily one of the best performances of the season " . Benigno gave it a " B " primarily because the cast didn 't " do anything particularly interesting with it " vocally , but called the performance " pure joy " . Flandez wrote that " two Bruno Mars songs that were brilliant in execution and touching in sentiment " , and Futterman agreed : " the Bruno Mars songs gave the show two of its best performances this season " . While Benigno and Stack also praised " Just the Way You Are " , and both gave the song an " A " , Harper thought Monteith 's vocals as Finn " aren 't the strongest " and Bentley also wished Finn had not been the soloist . Additionally , Harper criticized the failure of the show to adjust the song 's pronouns from feminine to masculine when Finn was singing to Kurt , and noted that Gwyneth Paltrow had changed pronouns while singing Cee Lo Green 's " Forget You " the week before . Hankinson was more impressed with " Just the Way You Are " , and gave it a " slight edge " over " Marry You " for the episode 's " best musical number " , " given the emotional context " .

Matthew Morrison 's performance of " Sway " received the most divergent opinions . Some reviewers mentioned how closely it resembled Michael Bublé 's version : Benigno graded it " A- " and said " Matthew Morrison sounds EXACTLY like Bublé here , which is both unbelievably impressive (Bublé 's got some pipes on him) , and takes a little bit away from the number (easy to write it off as an impression) " , Stack gave it a " B " and characterized it as " pretty simple , but Matthew Morrison does a mean Michael Bublé " , and Bentley called it " a perfectly fine cover " , though Futterman said it " can ? t beat Michael Bublé ? s take " . Among those who did not compare Morrison to Bublé , Hensel called it a " beautiful solo performance " , while Berk gave it two stars out of five and wrote " Shue sings it just like a real wedding singer " , and Nguyen said the song felt " out of place " .

= = = Chart history = = =

Only two of the four cover versions released as singles ? the two songs by Bruno Mars ? debuted on the Billboard Hot 100 , and appeared on other musical charts . On the Hot 100 , the show 's rendition of " Marry You " debuted at number thirty @-@ two ; it was number nineteen on the Canadian Hot 100 . The other song on the Hot 100 was " Just the Way You Are " at number forty , which also made number twenty @-@ four on the Canadian Hot 100 . That same week , Mars 's own single of " Marry You " also debuted on these same charts , though well below the Glee cover version , at number ninety @-@ one on the Hot 100 and number eighty @-@ nine on the Canadian Hot 100 ; his single of " Just the Way You Are " was in the top five on both charts that week .

