

BROOKLYN NINE-NINE

Episode 801: Us/Them

Spec Written by

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Spec Script

INT. HOSPITAL- NIGHT

SEVERAL OFFICERS are cordoning off the hallway so no one can get in or out; the HOSPITAL STAFF are annoyed but work around it, there is an ominous tension in the air. Camera lights and police lights flash from any windows portraying a ruckus outside.

OFFICER MALDACK stares at his hands as he sits in the waiting area.

OFFICER (O.S.)
Hey, this area's off limits!

Maldack looks up and sees an Officer putting his hand in a halting manner before plainclothes TERRY JEFFORDS. Maldack remembers.

MALDACK
(calls out)
Hey, it's alright...
(quieter)
...He's one of us.

Terry walks toward Maldack. Maldack stares at the ground as Terry walks up, unreadable. Terry stands, also unreadable.

MALDACK (cont'd)
You know... I was thinking about you, yesterday. I was pissed that I had that complaint in my file...
(looks up)
...You wanna sit down?

Terry looks at the seat for a beat, then sits.

MALDACK (cont'd)
See, I got an accommodation for my community outreach in that neighborhood where... where we met. And I was just thinking, damn, I'd look like a pretty good guy on paper if I just didn't have that one damn complaint... Anyway...

TERRY
(beat)
...The kid?

A beat passes.

MALDACK
...I keep looking at my hands.
(MORE)

MALDACK (cont'd)
(shows hands)
They're not shaking, you know, I
thought they would...

Terry sighs, waiting.

MALDACK (cont'd)
You know, I wish you would have been
there... I wish it was you, I wish I
could have seen what you would have
done. You know the crap goes down and
there is seconds, seconds, to act...
Everything after that is all perfect
20/20 hindsight! We can all have a
debate about...
(exhausted/beat)
...Yeah, he's going to make it.

Terry stands up, satisfied with that. He starts walking
away, Maldack looks at the seat and sees his badge.

MALDACK (cont'd)
(calls out)
Hey, you forgot your badge.

-Brooklyn Nine-Nine Opening Credits – Graphic only; No
Sound –

EXT. STREETS- NIGHT

Streets are packed with protesters walking down the street;
PERALTA, morose, walks against them toward BOYLE who has
shimmied six feet up a lamp post and is gazing down the
street.

PERALTA
Charles? Anything?

Peralta gets to Boyle, looks up.

BOYLE
Scanning.
(changes direction)
Scanning.
(changes direction)
Scan...

PERALTA
(interrupts)
I'm sorry. Does saying scanning help
you see farther?

BOYLE
(frustrated)
Uh, I don't know, Jake. Why don't you ask the Terminator?

PERALTA
Uh, I did, and he told me he didn't actually say scanning, it was part of his cybernetic-eye program.

BOYLE
Well, when you were talking to him, did he mention whether or not he saw Terry?

PERALTA
No, he was too busy looking for John Connor.

BOYLE
Well he found him, Jake! Thanks for bringing that back up!
(returns to looking down the street)
Scanning.

Peralta steps away and is jostled by protesters walking by.

PERALTA
Sorry.

Peralta walks to side of building to get out of the way. He takes out phone and dials number.

SANTIAGO (V.O.)
Is everything okay?

PERALTA
Yeah... Just wanted to hear your voice. Everything okay there?

SANTIAGO (V.O.)
Well...

INT. 99TH PRECINCT: FIRST FLOOR- NIGHT

POLICE OFFICERS move about the room in a flurry; there is a tension on their faces.

SANTIAGO is dressed in riot gear; several OFFICERS are trying to pull HITCHCOCK and SCULLY, also dressed in riot gear, out of the doorway they're stuck in (Hitchcock and Scully are side-by-side; their backs are to Santiago, they are facing out the door).

SANTIAGO
 ...Hitchcock and Scully got stuck in
 the doorframe again.

PERALTA (V.O.)
 Well, they do always hold hands when
 wearing riot gear... It's like they
 think it's the last time they'll be...

Santiago gives him a beat to finish before speaking.

SANTIAGO
 Did you find Terry?

PERALTA (V.O.)
 No, but don't worry, Charles is in
 Terminator mode.

SANTIAGO
 (confused)
 ...What?

EXT. STREETS- NIGHT

PERALTA feels foolish.

PERALTA
 Nothing. Never mind. We'll find him.
 Be safe... Bye.

Peralta hangs up and watches the protesters walk by, he makes sure his badge lanyard is still tucked out of sight.

EXT. CITY HALL- NIGHT

City Hall is closed and locked up; there are barricades surrounding the area. OFFICERS in riot gear and SWAT MEMBERS are forming a line and getting prepared for the protesters which can be heard.

CAPTAIN HOLT is dressed in his uniform, arms crossed looking out to the protesters.

DIAZ walks up dressed in black leather get up that resembles Riot Gear. She stands beside Holt and waits.

HOLT
(doesn't look at her)
I can feel you seething.

DIAZ
It shouldn't be us.

HOLT
I don't want this discussion again.

DIAZ
Cause you know I'm right?

HOLT
It's bad enough that three of my
Detectives are missing and the rest
are stuck behind the human barricade
that are my Detectives.

DIAZ
Yeah, cause even they know we
shouldn't be here. You think Scully
and Hitchcock are stuck in that
doorframe on accident?

Holt eyes Diaz skeptically.

HOLT
Yes.

DIAZ
Fair enough. But it's still true, it
shouldn't be us...

HOLT
Rosa...

DIAZ
(interrupts)
...One of us incited this. And if we
stand out here, after we caused this,
aren't we just instigating it more...
Aren't we just really saying it's Us
against Them... There's got to be
another way, cause it shouldn't be
us...

HOLT
If you believe that, then why are you
dressed in riot gear?

DIAZ
 I stand with my Captain...
 (looks at outfit)
 ...And it isn't riot gear, these are my
 clothes.

Holt turns away from the blunder and looks back to the crowd.

HOLT
 I understand what you're saying...
 (beat)
 ...But we can also stand out here with
 them. I like to think that we can be
 the change that they are looking for,
 we can still protect them by standing
 in this line.

DIAZ
 If you believe that, then where is
 Terry?

Diaz joins Holt in watching the protesters in silence.

EXT. STREETS- NIGHT

Protesters march down streets. TERRY is seated on bench, arms crossed; thoughts festering and getting the better of him until the sound of broken glass snaps him back. TWO LOOTERS have broken a storefront window.

Terry stays seated.

PROTESTER1 (O.S.)
 Hey! Stop That!

LOOTER1 (O.S.)
 Shut up!

PROTESTER2 (O.S.)
 That's somebodies' livelihood!

LOOTER2 (O.S.)
 Call the cops then!

Terry gets up and starts walking away. He stops as BOYLE is ten feet away watching him. Boyle waits a beat before he walks toward the storefront past Terry.

PROTESTER1 (O.S.)
 That's not why we're out here!

LOOTER1 (O.S.)
This is why we're out here.

PERALTA (O.S.)
Alright, everybody calm down...

Boyle walks up to Peralta.

LOOTER1
Why? Who are you tough guy?

BOYLE
NYPD! Now move along!

Protesters starts shouting and gathering around Boyle and Peralta as the Looters disperse. Peralta and Boyle are shouted at as they stand before the storefront. Terry stands in the crowd out of sight but present.

INT. 99TH PRECINCT: FIRST FLOOR- NIGHT

HITCHCOCK and SCULLY are stuck side-by-side in the doorframe.

SCULLY
You think they would have made this doorframe wider after the last time?

HITCHCOCK
I know, right?

SANTIAGO is standing behind them as OFFICER walks up with 'Jaws of Life'; she looks at it as Officer activates it, showcasing its power. For the briefest of moments, Santiago ponders it before shaking the thought away.

SANTIAGO
...It'll make too much of a mess.

Officer wanders away unhappy. Santiago tries pushing against them.

SANTIAGO (cont'd)
(angry/pushing)
I hope you guys are happy! The City's in trouble! People are angry! Captain Holt is out there all alone waiting for us!
(biggest push)
And I need to pump before I explode!

Scully immediately looks to Hitchcock

SCULLY

(frantic)
Jake's not here.

HITCHCOCK

On it... Title of your sex tape!

SANTIAGO

Ugh! You guys are the worst kind of
fire hazard!

Santiago steps back and her phone starts ringing; she
answers.

SANTIAGO (cont'd)

(realizes it too late)
Go for Santia...go...

HOLT (V.O.)

Where are you Santiago?

SANTIAGO

Captain. I'm sorry, sir... Scully and
Hitchcock, are still stuck.

HOLT (V.O.)

I see...
(beat)
...So basically, the situation is this,
I have thousands of justifiably angry
protesters advancing upon city hall
and the only thing that is stopping
my officers from getting here is...

SANTIAGO

...Hitchcock and Scully.

EXT. CITY HALL- NIGHT

HOLT clicks end on his phone and begins rubbing his temple
in frustration; DIAZ is in background. COMMISSIONER JOHN
KELLY storms up.

KELLY

Captain Holt! Where is the Nine-Nine!

Holt turns to Kelly.

HOLT

There's been an... unforeseeable
obstacle at the precinct. They'll be
here shortly.

KELLY
Where's Jeffords?

HOLT
Lieutenant Jeffords, sir?

KELLY
Yes.

HOLT
He's... back at the precinct.

KELLY
We need to speak with him. You instruct him not to talk to the press.

HOLT
What is this in relation too?

KELLY
We need to calm this thing down, it's already out of hand. Jeffords filed a complaint that might escalate things further...

Kelly looks Holt over.

KELLY (cont'd)
I know we don't always see eye-to-eye, but this situation is a tragedy. People are angry and we don't need to make things worse by adding fuel to the fire...

HOLT
(interrupts)
Fuel? Fuel to the... I'm sorry, Commissioner. That complaint was a fire extinguisher... and the Officer it was made against was kindling... You tell me which one of those was adding to the fire?

Kelly looks Holt over.

KELLY
Maybe you should go get back to your precinct... Make sure the Nine-Nine can get here to stand with us.

HOLT
Maybe, I should...

Holt turns and walks away from Kelly, Diaz follows.

INT. 99TH PRECINCT: FIRST FLOOR- NIGHT

SCULLY and HITCHCOCK look concerned. PERALTA, holding icepack over eye, and BOYLE walk up.

SCULLY
Jake, what happened?

HITCHCOCK
Did you get attacked?

PERALTA
Yes... by Charles.

EXT. STREET- NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Screaming and taunting PROTESTERS surround BOYLE and PERALTA.

BOYLE
We're in trouble, Jake.

PERALTA
(calm)
We're okay, they're just...

BOYLE
Let's do Speed.

PERALTA
(confused)
What?

BOYLE
(whispers)
...I got this Jake.

Boyle turns and seems to join the crowd; Boyle then punches Peralta.

INT. 99TH PRECINCT: FIRST FLOOR- NIGHT

BOYLE
(outraged)
I was doing Speed!

PERALTA
 Stop saying that... And by the way,
 Keanu shot Jeff Daniels during a
 hostage situation... I wasn't a
 hostage...

BOYLE
 It worked.

PERALTA
 Yeah, cause you scared everybody
 afterwards when you were screaming
 about doing Speed!

SCULLY
 Did you find Terry?

Boyle goes quiet at this.

PERALTA
 No... We were hoping he might have
 shown up?

HITCHCOCK
 Nope. Nobody has been in or out.

PERALTA
 Oh yeah... You guys are still stuck,
 huh?

Scully and Hitchcock nods "yes".

PERALTA (cont'd)
 (calls out)
 Amy!

SANTIAGO (O.S.)
 Jake?

PERALTA
 Yeah.

SANTIAGO walks up and sees Jake through Scully and
 Hitchcock. She sees his eye.

SANTIAGO
 What happened!

BOYLE (O.S.)
 I WAS DOING SPEED!

SANTIAGO
 What?

PERALTA

Nothing... We lost reception, any news?

SANTIAGO

No... But the Captain's pissed! And we're stuck behind these lummoxes!

SCULLY

What's a lummox?

PERALTA

It's a word that people said back in the Twenty's... What about Terry?

SANTIAGO

Nothing...

PERALTA

Alright... We're going to head back out...

SANTIAGO

How is it out there?

PERALTA

Sad... just really sad. I see the community I'm supposed to protect but I feel like an impostor while I'm with them...

HITCHCOCK

Like being a dual citizen?

PERALTA

Yeah... What? No... maybe, Hitchcock stop adding to the conversation...

HITCHCOCK

Fine, but you sound like an idiot.

PERALTA

You're stuck in a doorframe.

SCULLY

Hey! Sticks and stones, Jake.

PERALTA

I was talking to Hitchcock.

SCULLY

When you insult one, you insult t'other.

Peralta looks at the two of them and the doorframe.

PERALTA
(detecting)
I guess...

Santiago sees Peralta thinking.

SANTIAGO
What?

PERALTA
I got an idea, could you go up to the
breakroom and get the butter.

SANTIAGO
No! Internal Affairs said we weren't
allowed to grease up Hitchcock
anymore.

HITCHCOCK
Score!

PERALTA
It's something else... trust me.

Santiago turns and leaves. Peralta steps close to Hitchcock
and Scully.

PERALTA (cont'd)
You guys are leaning forward...

SCULLY
Yeah, it's tiring being stuck... Oh...

Scully leans and steps back, freeing Hitchcock from the door
frame.

HITCHCOCK
Don't tell Amy! ...Until after the
butter.

INT. 99TH PRECINCT: SQUAD ROOM- NIGHT

SANTIAGO opens the fridge door and pulls out the butter. She
looks at it with remorse.

SANTIAGO
(to butter)
...I'm so sorry...

Santiago turns and walks to the elevator just as the doors open; PERALTA, BOYLE, SCULLY and HITCHCOCK exit. Scully and Hitchcock rush toward the restrooms.

HITCHCOCK
Make a Hole!

SCULLY
Gotta go!

Santiago watches them go and then looks to Peralta; Boyle walks on to his desk and sits down.

SANTIAGO
How did you?

PERALTA
So interesting fact, Sharks can't swim backward...

SANTIAGO
(gets it)
Oh my god... So we could have been out there this whole time, if they'd just put it in reverse. We gotta get out there. Holt is going to kill me.

PERALTA
I'm sure he'll understand..

The elevator doors open, revealing HOLT and DIAZ. Holt steps out and looks about the room.

HOLT
(aggravated)
What is the meaning of this, Santiago?

SANTIAGO
Sorry, sir. We just got them unstuck.

HOLT
Then why are you up here...
(sees butter/instant outraged)
Is that butter! No! How many times do I have to tell you Hitchcock is not to be oiled up!

PERALTA
(stepping in)
Sir, maybe...

HOLT

Don't step in for her! You and Boyle are in enough trouble! You two have been missing since...

Diaz steps forward as Holt realizes what is happening and trails off.

DIAZ

Alright everybody cool it, we don't have time for this... John Kelly's got the Nine-Nine in his sights again. Go get geared up and get out there... We'll deal with this later.

Everybody but Holt and Boyle start moving.

HOLT

No...

DIAZ

What?

HOLT

We are not going to deal with this later. That's the same line that gets thrown around every time there is a problem... It's like we don't even try to find solutions anymore. Time is always the excuse for why we put it off, and time is always the reason, for why we must deal with it again. Everything going on out there now, is because we didn't deal with the issue then...

TERRY (O.S.)

That's not true...

TERRY is standing just outside the elevator; he is holding LOOTER1 and 2 by the shoulders to keep them in line.

TERRY

...We tried to deal with the issue then. We can do right everyday, we can be the role models that can inspire the next generation, and we can treat people with dignity and respect, we can do all this... and still get nowhere... And still get to today...

...I've dedicated my life to a badge that I can no longer wear.

(MORE)

TERRY (cont'd)
I see no changes can be made to
protect my community. So, I have to
find another way to protect them.

HOLT
Lieutenant...

TERRY
Sir... It's just Terry, now...

PERALTA
Whoa, what are we talking about here?
Come on, Terry...

DIAZ
Jake. This is happening...

PERALTA
Then why aren't you trying to
convince him to stay?

DIAZ
Cause I was there when he got the
alert...

INT. 99TH PRECINCT: SQUAD ROOM- DAY (FLASHBACK)

TERRY is seated at desk, a ding from the computer and he
reads it; his reaction is felt so strongly that DIAZ glances
over and sees him.

DIAZ
Hey? What's up?

Terry can't speak, he waves off her question and gets up. He
leaves with a remorseful expression just as PERALTA walks
by.

PERALTA
Hey Terry...
(sees expression)
...Oh no. Did they cancel yogurt?

Terry continues walking without response; Diaz has crossed
over to read his computer screen. Peralta walks to Diaz.

PERALTA (cont'd)
(uncomfortable)
...What's up with Terry?

Diaz points to the screen for Peralta as she then looks toward Terry's exit. Peralta rereads it and then looks to Diaz.

PERALTA (cont'd)
Was that the guy that...?

Diaz nods. BOYLE wanders in.

PERALTA (cont'd)
Damn... I'll go after him.

BOYLE
(excited)
Shotgun!

PERALTA
(scolds)
Charles...
(softens)
...Just the wrong energy right now.

INT. 99TH PRECINCT: SQUAD ROOM- NIGHT

SANTIAGO
Terry, not everyone is on the wrong side here. But if all the people that want to change the system leave...

TERRY
(at peace)
Amy... I'm gone.

A beat, Holt looks to his office, then to Terry.

HOLT
I am, too.

PERALTA
Hold on! I think everyone is just reacting to the moment... We need to just...

HOLT
...Take some time? Jake, I've walked in Terry's shoes... Matter of fact, they were my shoes first. I thought I was walking to a destination of change, of progress. For as far as I thought I have been moving, I think I'm just on the wrong path.

PERALTA

But...

DIAZ

We'll always be here for you, Jake.
Amy.

SANTIAGO

Why are you saying it like that?

DIAZ

I already turned in my badge...

Boyle stands up.

BOYLE

I'm in.

PERALTA

What is happening!

BOYLE

When two of the smartest people you
know make sense, you don't go against
it. And if a body-confused Terry is
already there, well then, you know...

TERRY

Thanks, Charles.

BOYLE

Don't thank me yet, Me and you will
have words about earlier...

TERRY

What? You mean these guys... that I
brought in...

Looter1 takes the opportunity.

LOOTER1

So, if you guys are all quitting? We
can go right?

TERRY

No. Cause there's still some good
guys staying, right?

SANTIAGO

(weakly)
...Right.

Santiago looks to Peralta.

PERALTA

Right.

Peralta and Santiago step forward and takes Looter1 and 2. Terry steps back and presses the elevator button. Boyle and Diaz walk to him as Holt turns to Peralta and Santiago.

HOLT

Peralta... Jake, Amy. I hope we meet again at the answer...

PERALTA

(panic)
Wait. Are you moving away, too!

SANTIAGO

(reassures)
Symbolically, Jake.

Peralta calms down as Holt joins the others in the elevator. The door closes, Peralta and Santiago don't move. Scully and Hitchcock reenter the squad room, they look to each other and then hold each other's hand.

SCULLY

...Okay, we're ready.

-Alternative Ending- [Parks and Rec Crossover]

INT. LIBRARY: CONFERENCE ROOM- DAY

Conference room attached to public library. A series of chairs are set up in rows reminiscent of the daily briefs the Detectives are used to. DIAZ, BOYLE, and TERRY are all seated with HOLT standing in the foreground, he is on the phone. The mood of the room is hopeful but silent.

HOLT

(into phone)
Yes, Conference Room A. Thank you...

Holt hangs up phone and turns to the three; he looks for his podium but it isn't there, he looks to the three.

HOLT (cont'd)

I would like to thank you all for joining me today... I know this is an uncertain time and what seems like drastic measures but I believe that we are doing the right thing...

Diaz raises her hand.

DIAZ
What are we doing, sir?

HOLT
I've invited a consultant to speak
with us today...
(beat)
...I do not regret my time with the
NYPD. I believe in what we do, excuse
me, did. But I believe that there are
systemic failures that will not be
addressed or changed from within... It
is my thought that we need to create
the venue for which we can address,
and then change, those systemic
failures...

TERRY
...What kind of venue?

HOLT
Yes. I am recommending we create a
Non-Profit Police Force.

Boyle hesitantly raises his hand.

BOYLE
...How much does it pay?

HOLT
Pay? It is possible we will go into
debt...
(reads room)
...This won't be easy and there is no
guarantee for success. We all have
responsibilities, families, homes,
and we must honor them... But the
sacrifices we make in this venture
will also be for them, and those that
come after... Cause we cannot afford to
have things stay the way they are...

The room takes a beat to come to terms.

TERRY
So who is the consultant?

LESLIE (O.S.)
What perfect timing for an entrance...

LESLIE KNOPE enters, overloaded with gear for presentations under her arms and in her hands.

LESLIE

...So, who is ready for the long passionate love slugfest that is bureaucracy.

-End

Episode Note-

Basically the mood of this episode is, "Nobody wants to be at work today".

Next Season Notes -

Terry, Holt, Diaz and Boyle form a Non-Profit that parallels the Police Department but operates in a more progressive way. (Named the Brooklyn Nine-Nine?)

They are no longer Police Officers but ambassadors for alternative options for policing as a way to advocate for reform in reality.

Guest stars from the previous seasons are able to come back as the alternative angle (i.e. Eva Longoria as a Defense Attorney) to help give a new conversation starter.

Santiago, Peralta, Scully and Hitchcock stay with the Nine-Nine but gradually begin to drift toward their friends and help out. (Santiago is promoted to Captain for remaining, and for the politics)

New Officers and Detectives can be brought in to either display change in the system or how the system fights change. A dramatic option of bringing in Officers from other agencies (i.e. ICE, Border Patrol, etc.) and showcasing how they change the methods toward their own is a powerful tool but not so much a comedic one.