

# **Comments on an Episode of The Office**

**by Phillip W. Weiss**

**“Booze Cruise,” (Episode 11, Season 2, 2006) is the episode of The Office in which Michael takes the staff for a boat ride on a nearby lake. It is a great episode. Pam is engaged to the shipping clerk Roy with whom she is NOT in love. She has been engaged to him for three years. Michael wants to demonstrate his leadership skills but is upstaged by the boat’s captain, Captain Jack, who is pushy and pompous. Jim is in love with Pam but has not acted on his feelings, although Pam suspects how Jim feels about her. Anyway, Captain Jack takes control of the party and soon most of people on the boat are partying. Michael is shunted to the side.**

**Pam leaves for some fresh air and is soon joined by Jim. They are standing at the rail away from the party. They are alone. Pam and Jim look into each others faces. Pam says something. She is waiting for Jim to make a move on her. Jim continues to stare at her. He wants to make the move but doesn’t. Pam is disappointed and tells Jim she is going back inside. Jim is left alone staring out to the lake. He fucked up. Later, Roy, now drunk, asks Pam to marry him. Pam is overjoyed; Jim is devastated. Jim’s date, Katy, asks Jim what’s the problem. Jim tells her that it’s over between them. Katy is confused, angry and offended. Meanwhile, Michael, humiliated by Captain Jack, scuttles the party by telling everyone that the boat is sinking. A panic ensues and a man jumps overboard.**

Captain Jack reappears, takes charge and in the next scene Michael is bound to the boat's railing in handcuffs. Jim comes over, totally dejected. Michael tells Jim that he did nothing wrong. The guy who jumped overboard should not have jumped overboard. Jim tells Michael about his feelings for Pam. Michael stops complaining and is genuinely surprised and in a moment of lucidity tells Jim not to give up. In this respect, Michael redeems himself. He shows real leadership. He tells Dwight, who believes he is steering the boat, that the wheel is fake, calling Dwight stupid.

Jim is a weak man. He fails to take the opportunity to act on his feelings for Pam. His feelings are strong and of a sexual nature yet he fails to act. He does not want to take the risk of coming on to another guy's girl. I would have rewrote that part of the episode. I would have had Jim tell Pam how he feels about her and kiss her and then let Pam respond. It would have galvanized their relationship and put Pam in a quandary, forcing her to decide whether to dump Roy with whom she has been engaged for years. But instead, the writers decided to keep Jim passive instead of active.

What would have made the scene even more intense if it revealed the hot-blooded side of Pam who, although outwardly very modest, wants to be loved and fucked. She has large tits that are going to waste. She has a pussy that she wants to be used but only by the right guy, and Roy is not the right guy. So, I would have had Jim take Pam to an even more isolated part of the boat, fuck her,

and then both return to the boat as if nothing happened. Roy still asks Pam to marry him and Pam says no. Roy then senses that something had occurred between Pam and Jim and soon a fight ensues, which Michael breaks up, asserting his leadership.