# PARKS AND RECREATION: "POKÉMON NO"-SPEC SCRIPT

Written by

Jake Gorr (aka /u/HardcoreBabyface)

Based on a tweet by Martin P. Schneider

FADE IN:

COLD OPEN

INT. CAR - DAY

LESLIE drives down the streets of Pawnee with ANNE riding shotgun.

LESLIE

(to camera)

Friendship day! Anne and I try to spend a least one day a month with each other. And what's a better way to spend our day then to do our favorite thing: inspect the parks.

ANNE

(to camera)

Leslie's favorite thing, this is Leslie's favorite thing to do. But hey it's just nice to get away from everything for a day and not worry about-

LESLIE

-Anne I love you more than breathing but you need to shut up! There's something amazing happening.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - CONTINUOUS

The car pulls up. Leslie and Anne get out.

We see dozens of people of all ages walking around the park smiling and having fun.

Leslie looks around with bewildered amazement. This is the best day ever.

LESLIE

Oh sweet Madeline Albright this is incredible! Look at how many people are here. Anne I told you my free kale smoothie program would work.

Anne looks around more confused than excited.

**ZNNF** 

Yeah this is really impressive. Hey wait, everyone is on their phone.

Leslie looks closer, everyone really is walking around on their phone. Two teenagers walk by Leslie.

TEEN #1

Oh sweet a Pikachu!

Leslie looks at the camera.

LESLIE

What the f\*ck is a Pikachu?

CUT TO:

OPENING CREDITS.

CUT TO:

ACT ONE

INT. LESLIE'S OFFICE - DAY

Leslie sits at her desk talking to the camera.

LESLIE

Pokémon Go, a smart phone game based on a property from the late '90s. It's literally the biggest thing in the world right now. Bigger than Hilary Clinton, bigger than the Ghostbusters remake.

Leslie stops herself.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Okay maybe not bigger than the Ghostbusters remake. Either way this Pokémon Go thing is a terrible blight on our parks and I am the only one who can save it.

Leslie smiles confidently.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Just like Hilary Clinton with America.

CUT TO:

INT. PARKS AND REC OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

APRIL, ANDY, TOM, and DONNA are all sitting around playing Pokémon.

JERRY tries to work but is distracted by the sounds of the video game.

**JERRY** 

Hey Donna could you give me a hand with-

DONNA

-No can do Gary trying to evolve my Growlith.

**JERRY** 

Is that what everyone's doing? Oh I've been wondering what all the hub-bub has been.

MOT

You actually know about a current event?

**JERRY** 

Sure! When my daughters were kids they loved playing with their Pokeemans.

Everyone cringes.

JERRY (CONT'D)

What?

MOT

You were this close to being a little less lame Gary.

APRIL

Yeah, now you're just extra lame.

ANDY

Ha, good one babe.

Andy and April high five.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Babe, I just got to level three! Two more and I can join a team like you.

CUT TO:

TALKING HEAD - APRIL

APRIL

Andy had trouble understanding how the game works, so he leveled up a bit slower than me. When he first downloaded it he threw his phone at a squirrel. I just told him he got 300 points for it.

Pause.

APRIL (CONT'D)

It was a really good throw.

CUT TO:

INT. BEN'S OFFICE - DAY

Ben sits at his desk playing on his phone. Leslie enters.

LESTITE

Have you heard about this Pokémon Go crap?

Ben hides his phone.

BEN

Uh, what crap?

LESLIE

This game is taking over. Nobody is enjoying the parks anymore they're just walking around staring at their phones. And it's not just kids! Adults are playing too! What kind of adult plays video games?

Ben looks at the camera like he got caught.

CUT TO:

Talking head - ben

BEN

I've been playing Pokémon Go before the game came out, I was lucky enough to be one of the people selected to test the game before release and since then I literally have not been able to put it down.

MONTAGE OF BEN PLAYING THE GAME BEHIND LESLIE'S BACK.

BEN (CONT'D)

I cracked the metagame wide open. I made to max level when it was technically impossible to do so. The lead developer emailed me personally saying I was the most helpful user in the entire beta test. So, I'm kind of a big deal.

CUT TO:

INT. BEN'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Leslie paces the office.

LESLIE

There's got to be a way to get people to stop playing this game and start enjoying the wonderful parks of Pawnee the way God intended.

BEN

You can't tell people how to have fun.

LESLIE

That's what the hippies said and you know what they started doing? Shooting up drugs and trying to jump off buildings thinking they can fly while underscored with "Free Bird".

BEN

What?

LESLIE

Sorry I've been thinking about Forrest Gump lately. We should watch that tonight!

BEN

Noted. Is there anything I can say to change your mind?

Leslie raises an eyebrow.

BEN (CONT'D)

Right, I forgot who I was talking to.

Leslie exits.

LESLIE

Love you too honey!

BEN

Good luck with your futile endeavor!

Ben looks into the camera like it's judging him.

BEN (CONT'D)

What?

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

Leslie, April, Andy, and Tom walk into the park.

LESLIE

Alright everyone, if we're gonna deal with this problem we need to know the enemy. Fan out and research.

Leslie doesn't notice the fact that the others are all on their phones.

APRIL

Leslie we already play Pokémon, we know all about it.

LESLIE

Okay then, explain to me why people are playing at parks more than anywhere else?

ANDY

Well for one thing this park has two Pokéstops and a Gym.

APRIL

And there's that man-made lake which means more water types.

LESLIE

Oh it's like you're speaking in tongues, but it doesn't matter because I'm going to save the park. I got bird watching guides, plant scavenger hunts, and ads for the office Pawnee "park audio guide" podcast. Narrated by me of course.

APRIL

Wow that sounds great.

LESLIE

Yeah sarcasm it up now but you'll see. You and Andy hand out these out and Tom will sell the podcast.

Leslie turns to face Tom, he isn't there.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Tom? Tom?!

CUT TO:

TALKING HEAD - TOM

ТОМ

This is perfect! When I was younger Pokémon was the coolest thing and I was the Master. I had nearly every trading card, played all the games, watched all the movies, and for whatever reason that didn't make me cool! Everyone at school was all, "that's for little kids, you're fifteen Tom, grow up." Well now it's my time to be the cool kid. Adult. Cool adult.

CUT TO:

INT. PARK - CONTINUOUS

A group of Teens hang out the playground playing Pokémon. Tom swaggers up to them.

MOT

What's shakin' party people? Y'all trying to be the very best, like no one ever was?

TEEN #2

What?

TOM

I'm talking about Pokémon, pliayer. Check it out I got a Dragonite, and Aerodactyl, and a Blastoise. All over 2,000 CP. Can any of y'all step to that?

TEEN #3

This guy is weird.

TEEN #2

Yeah, let's go.

The Teens walk away.

TOM

No wait! Accept me as your own!

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - CONTINUOUS

April sits on a bench watching people go by while Andy climbs a tree.

APRIL

Hey Andy?

ANDY

Yeah?

APRIL

You know what would be fun?

ANDY

What?

APRIL

Taking over this park and running the Gym with an iron fist.

ANDY

Yeah that sounds fun.

Andy jumps down.

ANDY (CONT'D)

Hey I found some Pidgey candy!

APRIL

Ugh babe no, that's just dirty human candy.

ANDY

What? Even better!

Andy eats the candy.

APRTT.

Babe, focus here's the plan. Go on over to that end of the park and make sure no one from the other teams get here. I'm gonna level up a bunch and take over the Gym.

ANDY

I love it when you get diabolical.

April and Andy kiss.

APRIL

Now go my minion!

Andy sprints away.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

Leslie walks around the park attempting to hand out flyers to passing Pokémon players.

LESLIE

How would you like to find some birds? They're actually real!

The player walks by. Leslie turns to a couple.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Did you know there are over 500 plants native to Pawnee?

Shot down again.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Hey do you like museums? My podcast-wait what's that?

Leslie walks over to a table set up in the middle of the park with a sign reading, "PokéMart: free sunblock and water". Sitting at the table is Anne and Donna.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Anne! What is this?

ANNE

Giving out water and sunscreen, is what I'm doing.

LESLIE

Anne, you multi-ethnic goddess, I know you mean well but you're not helping. If anything you're enabling. If this park were full of recovering alcoholics you would be running a free vodka stand.

DONNA

That's not a bad idea, actually.

ANNE

Leslie the parks have never had this many people before. Sure it's not in the way you wanted but at least you got the results.

Anne leans in closer to stay out of earshot.

ANNE (CONT'D)

And I think this game is the best chance we have of getting Pawnee off the list of most obese cities.

Suddenly GARTH BLUNDIN stumbles up to the stand wheezing and covered in sweat.

GARTH

Excuse me Nurse Joy, my Arcanine has been injured and needs to be nursed back to health.

DONNA

We have SPF 50, you can take it or leave it.

GARTH

Excellent.

Garth grabs a tube on sunblock and begins to apply it.

LESLIE

Well Anne, I guess if you want to waste your money I'll still love you anyway.

ANNE

I didn't pay for this.

LESLIE

What?

DONNA

Ron gave us money from the Parks Department.

Leslie is about to blow a gasket.

LESLIE

Alright, that's fine. I can be okay with-

Leslie flips the table over and runs away.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

WAKE UP SHEEPLE, YOU'RE BEING CONTROLLED BY MACHINES!!!

Leslie tackles a player and tries to take their phone.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

ACT TWO

INT. RON'S OFFICE - DAY

Leslie enters.

LESLIE

Since when do you start giving out money-

RON

-When Ms. Perkins came in talking something about "nerds dying from heatstroke" and "lawsuits". You know how I detest lawyers.

Leslie looks at Ron with an inquisitive look.

RON (CONT'D)

I assume that's what you're talking about since it the first time I've opened the petty cash drawer since 1995.

Ron pulls his phone out.

RON (CONT'D)

The reason behind that is none of your business.

Ron starts playing Pokémon.

RON (CONT'D)

(waving off)

We're done here.

Leslie stands flabbergasted.

LESLIE

Ron, what the f\*ck?

RON

Shocking I know. My wife insisted on me trying this game as a way to bond with my son. I enjoy the fact that it allows me to waste government money and stalk prey at the same time.

LESLIE

Ahhhh! Fine!

Leslie exits, spins around, and reenters.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

You know that game is tracking your location at all times, right?

Leslie exits. Ron sighs, pulls out a hammer and smashes his phone on his desk.

RON

Will I ever be free?

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

Chris jogs through the park ducking and weaving through other people playing Pokémon.

He comes across Anne and Donna.

CHRIS

Anne Perkins! How are you today?

ANNE

Great! Just giving out water to all the "trainers".

DONNA

OOH baby! Three more Oddish candies for me!

ANNE

It's that new smartphone game everyone is playing. There have never been this many people at the parks.

CHRIS

It is wonderful, isn't it? I bet Leslie must be over the moon about it.

Donna scoffs.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

I'm sorry?

DONNA

Boss bitch is pissed.

CHRIS

How so?

ANNE

Leslie doesn't think this game is the "right way" to spend time at the parks.

CHRIS

I'm sorry to hear that.

ANNE

Eh, it's alright. She hasn't gotten to her, "something stupid and drastic" phase yet. So things are nice and quiet for now.

CHRIS

Alright then! Gotta go, I'm two K into my twelve K.

Chris jogs away.

DONNA

Hold up Usain Bolt!

Donna walks up to Chris.

DONNA (CONT'D)

Can you do me a favor and take my phone on your run? I got some eggs to hatch.

CHRIS

Not sure what that means but okay!

Chris takes Donna's phone and runs off.

CUT TO:

TALKING HEAD - CHRIS

CHRIS

I always enjoy helping others. It keeps the sadness away,

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

April hangs out at the jungle gym, a group of KIDS approach.

APRIL

If you're thinking of taking over this Gym you better stop thinking.

The Kids stare.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Team Valor!

The Kids run away screaming.

Andy approaches.

APRIL (CONT'D)

How's it going babe?

ANDY

Great! Just made it to level four!

A squirrel runs by. Andy pulls his phone back ready to throw.

ANDY (CONT'D)

300 points!

APRIL

Babe wait no!

CUT TO:

TALKING HEAD - TOM

TOM

Nobody around here has idea of how much of a master player I am, of course they didn't because I forgot about the most important rule of being cool: accessorize. I got a guy I found on Craiglist to 3D print a Pokedex phone case and I fished my old Ash Ketchum hat out of storage. This hat used to get me beat up in high school, now its time to shine.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

The same group of Teens from before walk around the park. Tom approaches.

MOT

Anybody wanna take over a Gym?

TEEN #2

Stranger danger!

The Teens run away screaming.

MOT

This hat does nothing!

Tom throws his hat onto the ground.

CUT TO:

INT. LESLIE'S OFFICE - DAY

MARSHALL and MARCIA LANGMAN enter.

MARSHALL

Knock knock! Hahaha!

LESLIE

Thank you so much for coming.

CUT TO:

TALKING HEAD - LESLIE

LESLIE

So it turns out that the Langmans hate this game as much if not more than me. I guess the enemy of my enemy is my friend . . . except the Langmans were my enemies before this game came out, and we're not friends. Like at all.

CUT TO:

INT. LESLIE'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

LESLIE

So as you both know this Pokémon Go game has taken over Pawnee and I dare say the world.

Marshall and Marcia gasp melodramatically.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

I know, it's terrifying. But I think if we put our heads together we can drive this plague out.

MARCIA

I like the way you think Leslie.

MARSHALL

Yeah you're just a little firecracker. Pew! Pew!

LESLIE

Yes, well I was thinking we start off with some public service announcements, hand out flyers at the parks-

MARCIA

-Way ahead of you Leslie.

Marcia reaches into her purse and pulls out a flyer.

FLYER: POKÉMON NO! REJECT THE DEVIL IN ALL IT'S FORMS!

LESLIE

Uhhhhhhhhhhhhh.

MARCTA

This has all the info the people need to know: Pokémon is a conspiracy by a group of Japanese (whispering) atheists who are bent on corrupting the youth of the world. They tried doing it in the 90's but we drove them out. (gently weeping) And now they're back.

Marshall consoles Marcia with an arms length distance.

MARSHALL

First they use colorful monsters to spread lies about evolution, next thing you know every child in the country is listening to Katy Perry, reading Harry Potter books, and sacrificing goats to Satan.

Leslie looks into the camera.

CUT TO:

TALKING HEAD - LESLIE

LESLIE

So it turns out the enemy of my enemy is not my friend, the enemy of my enemy is basically useless, and pretty xenophobic towards the Japanese.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

Chris finishes his final lap around the park arriving at Anne and Donna's stand.

CHRIS

Here you go Donna.

Chris hands Donna back her phone.

CHRIS (CONT'D)

I got a call from someone called, "Big Rico"?

DONNA

What did you say?

CHRTS

I told him you weren't available.

DONNA

Mmm-Hmm, that's been true for the last three years. Thanks Traeger.

CHRIS

My pleasure. Have a nice day.

DONNA

Before you go, could I ask one last favor? Could you take a another couple laps around the park for some of my friends?

CHRIS

Well I guess any friend of Donna's is a friend on mine.

DONNA

Great!

Donna reaches behind the table and pulls out a backpack full of phones.

DONNA (CONT'D)

If any of them start ringing just let it go to voicemail.

Chris raises a hand to ask a question but decides to let it go.

CHRIS

Great!

Chris runs off, camera pans over to a sign awkwardly taped to the side reading, "EGG HATCHING: \$5".

Donna sits back at the table going through her new catches fanning herself with a stack of five dollar bills.

ANNE

You are an awful human being.

DONNA

An awful human being who is about to put a down payment on my second Tesla! The first got too dusty.

CUT TO:

TALKING HEAD - ANNE

In the background we see Jerry walking, staring at his phone then walking directly into a lamppost as Anne talks.

ANNE

Yeah normally I wouldn't let Donna exploit Chris like that, but he's wearing those jogging shorts I got him for his birthday and umm, let's just say I bought those shorts for a reason.

Shot of Chris' butt.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

April sits at the jungle gym fidgeting around.

She quickly punches out a text message to Andy.

APRIL

Going to bathroom. Make sure nobody takes over Gym.

April power walks away.

A few minutes pass as April returns to see the jungle gym covered in kids holding smart phones.

APRIL (CONT'D)

Hey what's going on? This Gym belongs to Team Valor.

KID #1

Not anymore. This Gym is now under the control of Team Instinct.

APRIL

Instinct?! How?

KID #1

Why don't you ask the gym leader.

Kid points off screen, camera pans over to Andy awkwardly standing in one spot.

APRIL

Babe!

ANDY

Oh hey April!

APRIL

What are you doing?!

ANDY

Making sure nobody takes over the Gym like you asked.

APRIL

Then why are you on Team Instinct?!

ANDY

Well someone told me Team Instinct was for scrubs, and you know much I love that show! (singing) I'm no superman!

APRIL

Yeah Andy that's great and all but I'm not on Team Instinct! You were supposed to pick Valor!

ANDY

Huh?

APRIL

The red one!

ANDY

Riiiiiiight. The red one. The red one. The red

CUT TO:

TALKING HEAD - ANDY

ANDY

I think I might be colorblind. That would be awkward.

CUT TO:

INT. TV STUDIO - DAY

Leslie sits in a decorated set on camera next to PERD HAPLEY. We come in on the show in progress.

#### PERD

Welcome back to Perd's Herd, where we talk about everything from local politics to animal husbandry. Games: things that are played either for entertainment or for competition. They say the most dangerous game is man, and the most dangerous man of them all is here with us today to talk about the hunting game that is corrupting our youth. Leslie Knope, the person sitting next to me who I will now interview.

### LESLIE

Thank you Perd, and I think you nailed it just now. The people of Pawnee have been captivated by a fad unseen in our town since Tomagatchis' finally arrived in 2006, except this time its affecting our parks. I am here today to tell the people of Pawnee how to enjoy the parks in the best way possible.

## PERD

I will now ask a follow up question to keep the conversation going and fill time. Leslie, what would you consider to be a more appropriate way to spend time at the park?

## LESLIE

I'm glad you asked Perd.

Leslie looks into the camera, we cannot see Perd.

## LESLIE (CONT'D)

The park is so much more than a place for people to come to and stare at phone and walk around like zombies, there is so much more to do. Enjoy nature, play sports, have a barbecue, or even-

Leslie is distracted by the sounds of Pokémon Go. Camera cuts to Perd playing Pokémon Go.

Perd realized Leslie has stopped talking and looks up.

PERD

It seems that the red light has moved to a different camera and everyone can now see me.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. BEN'S OFFICE - DAY

Leslie storms in.

LESLIE

It's official, everyone in Pawnee is playing this stupid game!

BEN

(covering)

Well not everyone.

LESLIE

I don't know what to do, how can so many people like something that is clearly terrible for them?

BEN

Maybe they're on to something?

LESLIE

What?

BEN

Maybe, and this is just throwing an idea out there, you shouldn't dictate how people have fun?

LESLIE

I vaguely remember someone saying that before.

BEN

Yeah. Me. (checks watch) Five hours ago.

LESLIE

It doesn't matter, if people are just going to walk through the parks staring at their phones, what's the point of all the work I do to make the parks gorgeous and perfect?

BEN

It's not that bad.

Jerry walks past Ben's office looking at his phone. There is a bandage across his nose.

Leslie runs out, grabs Jerry, and reenters the office.

LESLIE

Gary, would you please tell Ben how you broke you nose?

**JERRY** 

It's a little embarrassing, Leslie.

LESLIE

Tell him what you did Gary.

**JERRY** 

I walked into a light post.

LESLIE

He walked into a light post! Doing what?

**JERRY** 

Playing Pokeeman.

LESLIE

PLAYING POKEE- wait that's not how you pronounce it. Ugh you're useless Gary.

**JERRY** 

Hey you got to give it a try Leslie, it's so much fun.

BEN

Right?

Leslie glares at Ben.

BEN (CONT'D)

Not that I would know.

Leslie steps towards Ben's desk.

LESLIE

Are you?

BEN

Leslie, I-

Leslie lunges toward Ben's phone placed on the desk. Ben interferes, engaging in a scrap that Leslie quickly wins.

BEN (CONT'D)

God your hands grip like pythons!

Leslie pulls up Pokémon Go on Ben's phone.

LESLIE

How could you do this to me?

BEN

To be fair, I was playing way before I knew you would hate it.

LESLIE

What is that supposed to mean?

BEN

I got to play the game early, before anyone else?

LESLIE

So what you're saying is, you started all of this?

BEN

What?

LESLIE

My own husband! That's it, I'm taking the gloves off.

Leslie reaches in her pocket and pulls out a pair of gloves. She puts them on then dramatically takes them off, throwing them on the ground.

Ben looks into the camera.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

Leslie hammers a sign into the ground.

SIGN: POKÉMON NO. POKÉMON GO BANNED IN ALL PARKS.

Leslie proudly wipes dirt off her hands.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - CONTINUOUS

JEAN-RALPHIO SAPERSTEIN and MONA-LIDA SAPERSTEIN walk up to Leslie.

**JEAN** 

Heyyyyy pantsuit. How's it hanging?

LESLIE

Thanks for coming Jean-Ralphio, Mona-Lisa.

MONA

No worries homegirl, anything for you.

**JEAN** 

And a hundred bucks.

MONA

Anything.

**JEAN** 

We'll do anything for a hundred bucks.

LESLIE

Good to know, now all you'll have to do is walk around the park and make sure people are enjoying the park in the correct way: not playing Pokémon Go. Now I had hats made up that were supposed to have "P&R" on them for Parks and Recreation but the printer made a mistake and they just have a big "R" on them.

Leslie hands Jean-Ralphio and Mona-Lisa the hats.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

They'll have to do until the real ones come in.

MONA

Imma bedazzle the shiz out of this.

**JEAN** 

Aw yeah girl, it's gonna be (R+B singing) fabulous!

Jean-Ralphio and Mona-Lisa run off.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Andy and rest of his Team Instinct group hang around the jungle gym.

Andy stands on the highest point awkwardly trying to keep balance

ANDY

Alright Gregory, you got the camera rolling?

We see a kid standing at the bottom of the jungle gym recording a video on his phone.

KID #1

I got it, go!

ANDY

This is Burt Macklin with an announcement for the Pokémon Trainers of Pawnee. The Gym at the 8th street park is now and forever under the control of Team Instinct! If you don't like it you can go f\*ck yourself!

KID #2

Dab!

KID #3

Yeah do a dab!

ANDY

I don't know what that is!

Andy struggles to keep his balance.

CUT TO:

TALKING HEAD - APRIL

April stands on the edge of the park with the jungle gym in the background.

APRIL

Am I upset? Yeah kinda. It's just that, I always thought Andy and I would go mad with power together.

(MORE)

APRIL (CONT'D)

We would perfect out evil cackle, subjugate the weak, and eventually go out in a blaze of glory and dark passion. You know, normal boring couple things.

We see Andy fall off the jungle gym.

APRIL (CONT'D)

He's fine. I've seen him fall off higher things.

CUT TO:

TALKING HEAD - TOM

We hear the sound of the original Pokémon theme song playing through a phone for a few moments when suddenly Tom jumps into frame dressed as Ash Ketchum.

MOT

Huh? Pretty dope right? See there are good things about not growing at all once you hit 14. Everything still fits. Now if you'll excuse me I have some showing off to do.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

Tom struts through the park dressed as a cartoon character thinking he looks cool. He doesn't.

Chris comes running by.

CHRIS

Whoa sorry about that little boy-Tom! I didn't recognize you.

MOT

Never seen anyone this fly before?

CHRIS

. . . Sure.

Chris runs off.

MOT

That's right!

Tom pulls out his phone.

TOM (CONT'D)

Time to finally get a dratini.

Suddenly Jean-Raplhio and Mona-Lisa jump in front of Tom in a manner they think is cool but isn't. They wear the hats Leslie gave them.

**JEAN** 

Not so fast! Pokémon isn't allowed at the parks anymore!

MONA

Yeah fork over the phone and no one gets hurt.

MOT

What?! NO! Jean-Ralphio you can't do this to me! After all that we've done together!

**JEAN** 

Sorry bro but a bro's gotta do what a bro's gotta do. (To Mona) Take it.

Mona-Lisa takes Tom's phone.

JEAN (CONT'D)

Unless of course, you can persuade us to change our mind.

MOT

Can't. I spent all my money this week on lures and incubators.

**JEAN** 

Well you know what means. Gotta work for the highest bidder.

MOT

I respect that.

Jean-Ralphio and Mona-Lisa run off.

CUT TO:

TALKING HEAD - LESLIE

We see a montage of Jean-Ralphio and Mona-Lisa walking around the park inspecting phones.

The pair start just looking at phones, then breaking phones until they realize they can just steal the phones.

LESLIE

(V.O.)

Okay yes banning Pokémon from all parks in Pawnee is a little bit drastic but sometimes you need to take it far. The people of Pawnee are just going to have to quit this game cold turkey. I expect nothing to go wrong at all.

We cut back to Leslie talking to the camera. Jean-Ralphio and Mona-Lisa appear in the background running away each with a pile of phones in their arms.

Leslie looks back at the pair then back at the camera.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Nothing at all.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

ACT THREE.

INT. TOWN HALL - DAY

We come in on a public forum in progress, people complaining loudly about the Pokémon ban.

Leslie sits bewildered by the amount of people there to protest.

LESLIE

Alright, one at a time!

GARTH

(tapping on microphone)
Hello? Is this thing on?

LESLIE

Yes it is.

GARTH

Excellent. Ms. Knope your tyrannical banning of Pokémon Go is nothing short of the actions of a tyrant.

LESLIE

You used the word, "tyrant" twice.

GARTH

If the shoe fits, wear it. Twice.

Garth awkwardly tries to remove the microphone from the stand and drop it but he gets caught up in the cable a fails at the task, choosing instead to throw it across the room.

GARTH (CONT'D)

LIFT THE BAN!

The room cheers. Leslie sighs.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

Chris, covered head to toe in sweat finally completes his run, coming to a stop by the parking lot.

In the background we see a cop car.

Chris bends over to tie his shoe when the phones he was carrying come tumbling out of his backpack.

The cops see this and approach Chris.

COP #1

Excuse me sir, are those your phones?

CHRIS

Umm, no.

COP #2

Then whose are they?

CHRIS

My friends, well actually my friend Donna's friends.

The two Cops look at each other then cuff Chris.

COP #1

You can tell us all about it at the station.

COP #2

(into walkie-talkie) We found the phone thief.

CHRIS

Officer this is just a misunderstanding. I, DONNA! DONNA?!

Chris is put in the back of the cop car and taken away. The camera pans over to reveal Jean-Ralphio and Mona-Lisa hiding behind a tree. They high five.

CUT TO:

INT. RON'S OFFICE - DAY

Leslie slouches in a chair while Ron stands on his desk lining the office with copper foil.

LESLIE

I don't know what to do, Ron.

RON

You can start by leaving.

LESLIE

Either I keep the ban and everyone hates me, or I lift the ban and let people use the parks wrong.

RON

The way I've always seen it there are no ways to use the parks wrong. Of course the city council shot down my plans to allow bow hunting at the parks so-

Ron steps down from his desk.

RON (CONT'D)

-We don't always get what I want.

LESLIE

I guess.

Ron sits at his desk and pulls out his phone.

RON

Have I actually stopped you from doing any of the things you've wanted to do in this office?

LESLIE

No.

RON

Then who are you to do the same to anyone else?

Leslie folds her arms and scowls.

LESLIE

I hate it when you're right.

Leslie looks around.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

What's with the foil?

RON

You are now sitting in a faraday cage. No signal on Earth can penetrate it. Now I can play the game in peace without any government agency tracking me.

LESLIE

You know you can't play without an internet connection, right?

Ron looks around the room, then back down at his phone.

RON

Get out.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

Andy hangs up side down from the jungle gym. April approaches.

APRIL

Hey. What happened to your team?

ANDY

They all had to be home by dinner. I'm holding down the gym.

APRIL

All night?

ANDY

A gym leader's gotta do what a gym leader's gotta do.

APRIL

Listen I came to apologize. I shouldn't have started playing so early. I don't care how long it takes to level up, I just want to do it with you. So, I deleted my account and I'm starting over. We'll be on Team Instinct together.

ANDY

Oh babe!

Andy jumps down.

ANDY (CONT'D)

That's at least the fifth nicest thing you've done for me. You know what? Screw Team Instinct, I'm starting over too.

Andy chucks his phone as far as he possibly can.

ANDY (CONT'D)

I love you.

APRIL

I love you too.

In the background Jean-Ralphio and Mona-Lisa picks up Andy's discarded phone and running off.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK - DAY

Anne sits at her stand. In the distance we see Leslie approach, rehearsing a speech to herself as she walks.

LESLIE

Anne!

Anne is startled.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Sorry, I went a little overboard with the speech prep. Anne I just have one thing to say to you: I-

Suddenly Leslie notices a stack of brochures on the table, the ones she was giving out earlier in the day.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

-Oh my God, Anne!

ANNE

I thought about what you said, and I figured if I was helping people play Pokémon I could help you promote the parks. LESLIE

Anne, you basket of kittens. That is the sweetest thing you have ever done this month.

ANNE

Does that mean you're lifting the ban?

LESTITE

Oh who cares about the ban when I have the best friend who has ever lived? Hugs!

Leslie extends her arms expecting a hug when suddenly Anne's phone goes off.

ANNE

Hello? Chris? What?! Of course I'm on my way!

Anne hangs up.

ANNE (CONT'D)

Chris has been arrested.

LESLIE

Oh my God that is so hot.

Anne glares at Leslie.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Terrible. I mean terrible. Let's go.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUOUS

Leslie and Anne enter. Chris sits on a bench in handcuffs flanked by the two officers from the park.

CHRIS

Anne! Leslie! Thanks for coming!

ANNE

What happened?

COP #1

We got reports that someone was stealing smartphones from park visitors. We found him with a backpack full of phones. ANNE

(to self)

Donna. Listen officer this is just a huge misunderstanding.

LESLIE

Officers, maybe I can help. I'm from the Parks department, since the crimes took place at a park technically this is under my jurisdiction. If you were to turn Mr. Traeger over to me I believe we can sort this out.

COP #1

Do you want to be arrested too?

Leslie shrinks away. We see Jean-Ralphio and Mona-Lisa being led in handcuffs. They are still wearing the "R" hats.

COP #3

We got 'em. Found them with over three dozen phones at the 8th street park.

TEAN

Leslie! Les please tell these goons that why were taking those phones.

MONA

Tell them we were working for you!

LESLIE

-I've never seen these people in my life.

JEAN

Well it looks like we're (R+B singing) blasting off again!

Jean-Ralphio and Mona-Lisa get lead off.

CHRIS

Was that a reference to something?

Leslie and Anne shrug.

LESLIE

(V.O.)

So in the end I guess I shouldn't tell people how to have fun.

TALKING HEAD - LESLIE

Leslie talks to the camera while sitting in her office.

LESLIE

As long as people are using the parks I'm happy.

We see a shot of Anne and Leslie removing the "Pokémon No" signs.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Of course I don't mean people should use the parks to do drugs or kill people, but video games are fine in my book.

We see Jerry nearly hit a light pole, walk around it, then immediately trip and fall.

LESLIE (CONT'D)

Besides, people are probably going to stop playing this game by the end of the month. Same thing happened with tomagatchis.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

CREDITS STINGER

EXT. PARKS AND REC OFFICE - DAY

Chris and Anne walk toward the exit while Donna is exiting.

DONNA

Chris! I am so sorry about that little mix up. You'll be glad to know that the phones have been returned and I am now the proud owner of a brand new Dragonite! I officially owe you one.

Donna walks off. We see her enter a brand new Tesla.

CHRIS

That is literally, the greatest car I've ever seen.

END.