

Out in the Open
Series synopsis
By
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Out in the Open is a smart, emotionally layered sitcom spin-off of Brooklyn Nine-Nine, starring Stephanie Beatriz as Rosa Diaz. Rosa left behind her life as a detective to start fresh in Fairhaven, Ohio. Disillusioned by institutional justice, Rosa launches an LGBTQ advocacy center in a town where civic dysfunction and cultural resistance collide.

Her mission: build community, fight for equity, and take on the city council...one passive-aggressive ordinance at a time.

Her closest ally is Jules, a nonbinary organizer who moonlights as a drag performer and bartender at Fairhaven's only gay club. Jules brings heart, flair, and a spreadsheet for every occasion. But when the city council—led by the transparently insincere Councilman Robert—moves to ban drag performances, Jules becomes both symbol and target. Robert, a self-important blowhard in the mold of Parks and Rec's Councilman Jamm, loudly touts "traditional values" while quietly cheating on his wife and misusing city funds. Rosa and Robert clash constantly, with Rosa's fiery passion often overwhelming her ability to strategize.

Enter Patti, Rosa's girlfriend, played by Chelsea Peretti in a role that echoes—but doesn't replicate—her Brooklyn Nine-Nine character Gina Linetti.

Patti shares Gina's quick wit and outside-the-box thinking, but she's sweet-natured, empathetic, and grounded. She's Rosa's emotional counterweight: able to read a room, analyze a situation, and offer calm, incisive advice. Rosa confides in Jules that she was never fond of Gina's narcissism but always admired her intelligence: she also found her physically attractive (though that was irrelevant). Patti, perceptive and curious, occasionally senses that Rosa sees echoes of someone else in her and gently probes for details. Rosa, aware of the emotional complexity, always demurs (not wanting to stir conflict).

Meanwhile, Mayor Grace—a politically liberal leader with genuine empathy for Rosa's cause—is caught between her conscience and her ambition. With a Senate or gubernatorial run on the horizon, Grace supports Rosa's efforts but constantly hedges: playing both sides to avoid alienating swing voters. Her dynamic with Rosa is layered: part ally, part obstacle, part cautionary tale.

With a tone that blends the irreverence of Brooklyn Nine-Nine, the civic absurdity of Parks and Recreation, and the emotional depth of Schitt's Creek, Out in the Open

explores identity, power, and the messy art of advocacy in a town where everyone's agenda is just a little bit fabulous—and no one's past is ever entirely behind them

Also check out another pilot that I wrote called Rati. I wrote this a few years ago

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