

= Get the Girl =

" Get the Girl " is the nineteenth episode of the eighth season of the American comedy television series The Office , and the show 's 171st episode overall . The episode originally aired on NBC in the United States on March 15 , 2012 . " Get the Girl " was written by Charlie Grandy and directed by series regular Rainn Wilson , who portrays Dwight Schrute .

The series ? presented as if it were a real documentary ? depicts the everyday lives of office employees in the Scranton , Pennsylvania , branch of the fictional Dunder Mifflin Paper Company . In the episode , Andy Bernard ( Ed Helms ) drives across the country to get Erin Hannon ( Ellie Kemper ) , who has taken up caring for an elderly woman . Meanwhile , in the Scranton branch , Nellie ( Catherine Tate ) shows up and tries to claim the manager position .

" Get the Girl " received mixed reviews by television commentators , with multiple critics criticizing Andy and Erin 's romance . According to Nielsen ratings , " Get the Girl " was viewed by an estimated 4 @.@ 88 million viewers and received a 2 @.@ 3 rating / 6 % share among adults between the ages of 18 and 49 . The episode ranked second in its timeslot and was also the highest @-@ rated NBC series of the night .

= = Plot = =

Andy Bernard ( Ed Helms ) drives all the way to Florida to try and woo back Erin Hannon ( Ellie Kemper ) , where she has been living with the elderly Irene ( Georgia Engel ) and her middle @-@ aged Grandson , Glenn ( Brad Morris ) , as a live @-@ in maid . He surprises Erin by popping out of a delivery box and singing Signed , Sealed , Delivered I 'm Yours , but she is not particularly excited to see him , and states she does not want to go back to Scranton with him . The situation is further complicated when Andy reveals to Erin that he has not yet broken up with his current girlfriend , Jessica . Andy tells Erin he loves her , but she rejects him ; Andy subsequently leaves , his feelings crushed . Irene , who had been treating Andy with disdain over the way Erin spoke of him , sees that he is a nice person and encourages Erin to go back with him . She runs up to him in his car and they share a kiss before heading back to Scranton .

Meanwhile , Nellie Bertram ( Catherine Tate ) shows up in Scranton after Robert California ( James Spader ) allows her to have a job there . She is invited to take an open desk , and she takes Andy 's manager desk , as he is currently in Florida . Jim Halpert ( John Krasinski ) says she cannot take Andy 's job , but Robert is interested in her spontaneous behavior . As acting manager , Nellie decides to give everyone performance reviews . Both Jim and Dwight Schrute ( Rainn Wilson ) refuse to let her proceed , as she is unfamiliar with the other employees . To counter this , Nellie offers Dwight a raise on the spot , and eventually , he and the other employees relent , except for Jim . When it is Jim 's turn , Jim still refuses . Everyone in the office , except for Jim and his wife , Pam Halpert ( Jenna Fischer ) , applaud her . Nellie promptly begins rearranging the office .

= = Production = =

" Get the Girl " was written by Charlie Grandy , his second eighth season writing credit after " Lotto " . The episode was directed by series regular Rainn Wilson , who portrays Dwight Schrute . This episode marked his third directing credit to the series , after the sixth season 's " The Cover @-@ Up " , the seventh season 's " Classy Christmas " . The episode marks the sixth appearance of Catherine Tate as Nellie Bertram and her fifth consecutive appearance . Initially , her character , Nellie , worked with several of the office workers on a special project for Sabre in a six @-@ episode arc . " Get the Girl " , however , brought Tate 's character to the Scranton branch where she installed herself as de facto manager .

The Season Eight DVD contains a number of deleted scenes from this episode . Notable cut scenes include Nellie offering to give Meredith , Nate , and Darryl a raise ; Robert inviting Nellie out for coffee ; and Jim , Pam and Darryl attempting to contact Andy ; the office discussing the situation with Nellie as manager , Robert refusing to put his foot down ; Andy talking to Erin about his drive to

Tallahassee ; and Andy telling the camera that he will not give up on their relationship easily .

= = Cultural references = =

While shaving along the sea shore , Andy picks up a horseshoe crab and sarcastically thanks BP , a reference to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill . Georgia Engel 's character mentions that her son is going to sue Home Depot , a popular retailer of home improvement and construction products and services . Nellie compares herself to Tinkerbell , telling the office that , in order for her to work for them , they need " to believe . "

= = Reception = =

= = = Ratings = = =

" Get the Girl " aired on March 15 , 2012 . The episode was viewed by an estimated 4 @. @ 88 million viewers and received a 2 @. @ 3 rating / 6 % share among adults between the ages of 18 and 49 . This means that it was seen by 2 @. @ 3 % of all 18- to 49 @- @ year @- @ olds , and 6 % of all 18- to 49 @- @ year @- @ olds watching television at the time of the broadcast . This marked a decrease in the ratings from the previous episode , " Last Day in Florida " . The episode finished second in its time slot , beating a rerun of the Fox supernatural series Touch and The CW teen drama series The Secret Circle . Despite this , the episode was defeated by the ABC medical drama Grey 's Anatomy which drew a 3 @. @ 0 / 6 % rating . In addition , " Get the Girl " was the highest @- @ rated NBC television episode of the night , barely beating the return of Community .

= = = Reviews = = =

The episode received a wide variety of mixed reviews from critics , ranging from largely negative to moderately positive . Matt Dougherty noted that " Get the Girl " returned The Office " to what it was before the Florida storyline , which is bad . " Furthermore , he called the episode " the worst [ ... ] of the show simply because it lacked any form of logic or emotion . " He ultimately gave the episode a 2 out of 10 rating . A review from Clique Clack called the main plot " miserably insufferable " . Other reviews were more mixed . Myles McNutt from The A.V. Club gave the episode a C + rating . A review from WHTC noted that the episode was " rather predictable , somewhat inconsequential , a bit silly and representative of perhaps a slight step back . "

Not all reviews were negative . TV Equals called the episode " pretty funny , " particularly praising the episode 's cold opening . Jeffrey Hyatt from Screen Crave awarded the episode a 7 out of 10 , noting that " There have been worse . And this is another one I will re @- @ watch later and probably like better the second time around . " IGN reviewer Cindy White gave the episode a 7 @. @ 0 out of 10 rating , signifying a " good episode . " Brett Harrison Davinger from the California Literary Review awarded the episode " faint praise " , noting that it was " slightly greater than the sum of its parts . "

Many reviews criticized the Andy @- @ Erin plot . White wrote that , " If the Andy and Erin scenes in this episode were supposed to make me root for them , I 'm afraid it didn 't quite work . " Dougherty wrote , " Was anyone else rooting for Erin to just stay down there ? I certainly was . " McNutt bluntly wrote , " I ? m not buying this relationship . " The WHTC review noted that the arc was " a total carbon copy of the Jim / Pam version that sucked us all in years ago . "

Reviews were split on the addition of Nellie Bertram to the Scranton office . McNutt criticized Nellie Bertram , noting that , despite the character 's potential , the show " places her into the series as a blind antagonist without any sense of what drives her to these actions . " Craig McQuinn from The Faster Times argued that the producers of The Office seemed to be using her only because " ' British people are ridiculous and are completely different to Americans ' " . Dan Forcella from TV Fanatics , on the other hand , praised Catherine Tate 's acting and her character , writing , " Tate 's first appearance last season was intriguing , and her stint as head honcho down in Florida was

entertaining , but in " Get the Girl " it became obvious that Nellie Bertram as branch manager could be exactly what The Office needs to stay afloat . "

Several reviews criticized the decision to film Erin in front of a green screen for one of her talking heads . White attributed the " terrible green @-@ screen effect " among other things , to Wilson 's " offbeat sense of humor and style . " McNutt proposed that the reason for the " obnoxious " effect was because the show had lost that lawn set but wanted to add an additional talking head scene .