

PATIENT 33

Episode 10:

"Janitor Awareness Day"

Written by

Courtney Archerd and Eve Gershon

INTRO:

Title music fades in.

CARTWRIGHT

This is Patient 33. Episode 10:  
Janitor Awareness Day.

Music fades out.

PART 1

INT. COMA WARD HALLWAY - DAY

Sirens in the distance. The foot traffic of the hallway. Patient 33's heart monitor slowly beeps. Doctor Why's footsteps approach.

WHY

Oh jeez. It's never a good sign when you're out here. What do you think's happening in there? Not like you would know. Well I guess you would know but damn it, I'm getting annoyed that you aren't telling me these things that are happening to you! Communication is so important. Especially when it comes to relationships like ours.

The door to Patient 33's room opens. Police tape gets pulled back and footsteps start to approach. The police tape gets pulled back again and another set of footsteps approach.

WHY (CONT'D)

Hey- hey excuse me, what's happened? I wasn't told yet and, well-

CSI 1

There's a dead body mister!

WHY

It's doctor. Doctor Why.

CSI 2

There's a nice ol' dead body in there doctor doctor Why.

WHY

Okay I could have assumed that. What happened? Who's the body? Did they fall out of the ceiling?

CSI 1

Oooh I love it when people fall from ceilings!

CSI 2

I do as well, brother! So much dust to analyze!

CSI 1  
Yes! So much dust! So much ceiling  
dust! And rat feces!

CSI 2  
Feces! I do love to look at feces-

WHY  
We have rats?

CSI 1  
Oooh I hope we don't have to look  
at the feces of the dead janitor  
though.

CSI 2  
Oh yes yes yes. I mean no no no.  
They looks like they smelled bad.

CSI 1  
I agree. Rats smell good. Janitors  
bad. They clean poop, sometimes.

WHY  
Wait wait slow down. Hold your  
horses, you two. A janitor? Is  
it...  
(clears throat)  
which janitor?

CSI 1  
Umm Fishing?

CSI 2  
Fishman.

WHY  
Fisher?

CSI 1  
Yes!

CSI 2  
Yes!

WHY  
Oh no.

CSI 1  
Ah so you knew them.

WHY  
How did they die?

CSI 2

OD, from what we can tell. Looks like they were stealing medicine from the hospital. Good luck with your grieving, kind sir.

The two start to walk away.

CSI 1

I hate grieving!

CSI 2

I'm sure he does too. But grieving is a natural part of the human experience.

WHY

This is bad, 33. Really bad. I- Oh god I think I...I made this happen. This is really bad.

A beat.

WHY (CONT'D)

They...well how was I supposed to know that they...well I- damn it! I'm a therapist I should have seen the signs. They asked about the trolley problem, and I told them about it but why did I have to speak in metaphors? That's so annoying when people do that but there I was, on my high horse, thinking I could pull philosophical nonsense out of my ass and now they're dead.

A beat.

WHY (CONT'D)

Except...there weren't any warning signs. They, honestly I thought they were going to kill you...or something. I don't know. But, those weren't the words of a dying person those were the words of a- I don't know. I don't- maybe I pushed them too far. Maybe I forced them to do something they was going to regret and maybe they-

The door to 33's room opens again. The police tape rustles. Crunch's footsteps approach Why.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH

Whoa there! This police tape is quite a bit of nonsense, don't ya think? Every time me or the CSIs come through it's like a whole game of hop scotch! Hiya Doctor Why!

WHY

Hi detective.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH

Whatcha up to over here?

WHY

Oh I'm just talking to Patient 33 here.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH

Do that often, do ya?

WHY

Well, not very, but I like to counsel him.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH

Mmm. That would mean you're in that room there quite a lot, wouldn't it?

WHY

I mean, I guess you could say that.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH

I am saying that.

WHY

Then...right you are.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH

Ever see anything...suspicious?

WHY

I- I feel like we've already had this conversation.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH

Be that as it may, we now have two dead bodies connected to it. If he weren't in a coma, 33 here would be at the top of my list!

WHY

List?

DETECTIVE CRUNCH  
Of suspects!

WHY  
I thought this was an...OD.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH  
And how do you know that?

WHY  
Your techs told me.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH  
(unbelieving)  
Really.

A beat.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH (CONT'D)  
Oh gosh darn it. I told them to be quiet about the scene but if you know then the whole hospital has got to know at this point. Those two troublemakers might as well get on the PA system and tell the whole hospital that some worker has died.

The intercom cracks to life.

CSI 1  
Testing. Ahem. Test-ing.

CSI 2  
Testing! One.

CSI 1  
We are testing the intercom.

CSI 2  
Ahaha. This is so much fun. We should become doctors!

CSI 1  
Or nurses! I think I would look dashing in scrubs.

CSI 2  
Ooh yes, that you would. But I want a lab coat!

CSI 1  
Lab coat man report 1: One dead janitor-

TERRIER

What are you- hey! Get away from that!

CSI 2

Away, partner.

CSI 1

Awayyyyyy.

The intercom clicks off.

WHY

So are you...looking at suspects?

DETECTIVE CRUNCH

Why would we do that?

WHY

What do you mean?

DETECTIVE CRUNCH

What do you mean? It's an overdose. Pretty clean cut case, I would say.

WHY

But I don't think they did drugs.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH

Well you never know. They were a janitor. They probably hid it with that jumpsuit of theirs.

WHY

Their name was Fisher. Blake Fisher. And how would they even get drugs?

DETECTIVE CRUNCH

That's what I'm trying to figure out, doctor. I mean...we are in a hospital.

Beat.

DETECTIVE CRUNCH (CONT'D)

Why are you so interested in this case? Not like you knew them.

WHY

No. I guess I didn't. Maybe...maybe I should have. Maybe we all should have.

END PART 1

PART 2

INT. COMA WARD HALLWAY - LATER

The hallway is filled with the buzz of conversation. Why taps on a glass to get everyone's attention.

WHY

Hello, fellow employees of Hope's Memorial's coma ward. I have gathered you all here today to discuss the elephant in the room. The dead elephant, that is--Janitor Fisher.

TERRIER

Doctor Why, some of us have work to do so if we could just get on with it--

WHY

Whose fault is it anyway? Is it Terrier's fault for treating them so poorly?

TERRIER

Hey now--

WHY

Is it Margie's fault for falling through the ceiling?

JENNIE

Why. You're being facetious--

WHY

Is it my fault...for whatever reason...not to say it is...Who's to say...I don't know? Is it my fault? Ehh I mean, I don't--but--I--

Deep breath.

WHY (CONT'D)

Right. Sorry. Um. What I'm saying here is that, as a whole, we have not treated the janitorial community as well as they should be treated, and now we find that one of our janitors is dead from a drug overdose, and you can't help but wonder...

JENNIE  
Was I too harsh?

CARTWRIGHT  
Did I lead them on?

TERRIER  
Could I have been nicer?

WHY  
Was it the trolley?

CRUNCH  
Was my interrogation too  
emotionally straining?

A beat.

TERRIER  
Crunch, what are you doing here?

CRUNCH  
I just love meetings so much I  
thought I would catch this one  
before I started on the forensics.  
I hope you don't mind.

A beat.

WHY  
Anyway. As I was saying, I believe  
that it's high time we humanize the  
ward and work as a group to hire  
and support our janitors instead of  
leaving them to be dealt with by  
HR. What do ya say?

CRUNCH  
Sounds great to me!

TERRIER  
I don't know--

JENNIE  
Actually I--

WHY  
Great! Let's get started. First  
things first, we need janitor  
liaisons who will each have their  
own job to support the overall  
branch. Terrier, you're now in  
charge of hiring the new janitor.

TERRIER

Wait a second--

WHY

Jennie, Blue, Cartwright, Drexler  
you're on communications and will  
be assisting me with emotional  
support.

CARTWRIGHT

Uh-

JENNIE

But--

CARTWRIGHT

I'm not--

WHY

And Homely! I have a special  
project for you! You're going to be  
organizing the spirit and support  
days that we will be hosting  
intermittently throughout the year!

HOMELY

Why--

WHY

I was just thinking this week we  
could do a janitor spirit week to  
start things off. We could have  
dress like a janitor day, talk like  
a janitor day, talk about your  
feelings with a janitor day!

HOMELY

Why, I don't think--

WHY

No no no, you're right. I'm  
overstepping. That's *your* area of  
expertise, Homely. You decide the  
themes. So rude of me, I'm sorry.  
Oh and--

Footsteps of the mass exodus.

WHY (CONT'D)

Where are you guys going?

TERRIER

You can't seriously think I have time to hire the new janitor, can you?

WHY

Well, you know what they say: If you don't have time to hire the janitor, then you have to have time to be the janitor yourself.

TERRIER

(angrily)

You--

WHY

Terrier? What did we talk about? When you start to feel aggressive...

TERRIER

(resigned)

Recognize it's sadness that you're really trying to suppressive.

WHY

Good.

Pager beeps.

WHY (CONT'D)

Oh shoot! I have a patient! Got to go! I can't wait to see all of your janitor outfits tomorrow!

Footsteps as Why walks away.

**END PART 2**

PART 3

INT. COMA WARD HALLWAY - LATER

CRUNCH

Thanks for sitting down with me again, Dr. Homely. I promise this won't take up too much of your time, scout's honor.

HOMELY

Not a problem, Detective Crunch. Although I do have to say, I don't understand why you're coming to me about this particular case.

CRUNCH

Oh, well. I thought you guys were...together?  
(quietly)  
You know, lovers?

HOMELY

What? Me and Fisher? No. Fisher liked to tag around me on occasion, I think they were obsessed with me or something, but I barely knew them. I don't even think I could even tell you what their last name is...was...dead now.

CRUNCH

Isn't it Fisher?

HOMELY

Oh! See? I always thought that was their first name!

CRUNCH

Oh. Haha. Well, Dr. Homely, as you know, as of right now, we think that Fisher may have overdosed from drug use. Now, overdosing means--

HOMELY

Yes. I know what it means to overdose, detective.

CRUNCH

Right. Well, overdosing is when someone takes too many drugs and then goes into some kind of medical shock or something and dies because of it.

HOMELY

Well, technically--

CRUNCH

Excuse me, I think I know what I'm talking about. Anyhoo, what happened here was that our friend Fisher here, they took waaaayyy too many drugs. Like we checked their system and boy, did they take a lot of drugs and now they are dead. So my question for you, Dr. Homely, is since you were acquainted with Fisher there, can you tell me a little bit more about them and their tendencies. It seems to me as though no one else in this hospital knew Fisher at all.

HOMELY

Well, like I said, I didn't know them that well, and I don't want to be disrespectful, but I can't say I'm surprised by the way things turned out.

CRUNCH

How do you mean?

HOMELY

Well, and again, this is just from what I picked up on, but it seemed to me that Fisher was a very paranoid person. Always thought the cops were after them or something like that, and I just assumed that they were crazy, but obviously, they were more involved in illegal activity than I realized. But I do have to say, I would look into this even more closely, if I were you because I have reason to believe that Fisher was involved in more than just ground-level drug use, if you know what I mean.

CRUNCH

No. I, in fact, do not know what you mean.

HOMELY

Well, I'll just put it this way-- over the course of the past few months, Fisher has gotten...worse. They kept...mentioning things. How they needed help with their problem and that things were spiraling out of control. I don't know. You're the detective here, so I'll leave it up to you, but I'm inclined to believe that Fisher...well I don't know. They were just one bad egg, if you ask me.

CRUNCH

Oh. Oh dear. This is all so crazy. I'm still working on my first case, and then another case comes up in the same room. Really, really crazy. And I mean, what are the odds of that? And that you were that close with both victims and...

Beat.

CRUNCH (CONT'D)

(realizing)

Oh my.

HOMELY

Oh uh, well it's not like that-

CRUNCH

You!...You must be in so much pain! That two of your dearest friends have been taken from you like they did? My sincerest condolences, Dr. Homely, and thank you for all of your insight. You're free to go. Have a nice day...if you can.

HOMELY

Ah, thank you.

**END PART 3**

PART 4

INT. HALLWAY - LATER

Two pairs of footsteps. Terrier slips on the wet floor and falls.

TERRIER

Ah! Damn it!

JENNIE

Are you okay, doctor?

TERRIER

(grunts)

Yeah. I'll be fine. My coat is stained. Who the hell left this...this fluid on the floor? Actually, I can't even see the floors, they're covered in dirt! They're all dirty!

JENNIE

It was raining today.

TERRIER

Incredible. Thank you for that information, Jennie.

JENNIE

Hey, don't blame me for watching the weather report. It's my favorite channel. You know I used to want to be a meteorologist.

TERRIER

I'm sure that's very interesting, Jennie. Where the hell is that janitor?

JENNIE

Doctor they...OD'd. Last night.

TERRIER

No I know that. But we don't have any more?

JENNIE

Not really.

TERRIER

That's weird. Maybe the stress of being understaffed made them use.

JENNIE

Jesus, Terrier. Have some empathy. Somebody died!

TERRIER

Don't you think I know that?

Beat.

TERRIER (CONT'D)

I- I only ever yelled at them. I never said, a single thank you to them. I only gave them negativity.

Terrier does a REALLY STRONG inhale like a man holding back tears.

JENNIE

Terrier. It's not your fault.

TERRIER

I know it's not my fault. Why just told me the same thing you did You know? Be more empathetic. But whenever I try to relate I just think about the never ending void that is the discontinuation of life and...the fact that anyone would choose that place.

JENNIE

Well an OD isn't the same as suicide.

TERRIER

They're dead. And now we have dirty floors, and no new hires because I've been putting that off like a procrastinating son of a bitch and-

JENNIE

Terrier, get a hold of yourself.

TERRIER

I'm- sorry. I'm sorry.

JENNIE

I...just don't think Fisher's OD was a coincidence.

TERRIER

What? What do you mean?

JENNIE

I just don't think that's the full story. No one ever saw them using. Also, haven't you noticed that the deaths have stopped? Since they died?

TERRIER

I hadn't.

JENNIE

Well, maybe there's some connection. Maybe this poor janitor wasn't just a janitor. And Margie was found in that same room? That's a lot of convenience, don't you think?

TERRIER

That's...ridiculous. I'm late for a call.

Terrier walks off and slips on something else.

TERRIER (CONT'D)

Damn it! Can you get that list of applicants onto my desk, please, Jennie?

JENNIE

No. I'm not a secretary. Good luck with your call, Terrier.

**END PART 4**

PART 5

Terrier walks down the hall. Why runs to catch up to him.

WHY

Hey, Terrier!

TERRIER

I'm busy.

WHY

Well cool. I am too. I'm just wondering if you've hired a new janitor yet?

TERRIER

I...am working on it. But I appreciate your interest in the hiring process.

WHY

That's actually what I wanted to talk to you about. Do you need help? Maybe?

TERRIER

Help?

WHY

Yeah it's just that, I know you have a lot on your plate, and I thought it would be great if I helped with the new hire, you know, make sure they're...

TERRIER

Stable? Unlike...our last one?

WHY

Fisher. Their name was Blake Fisher. And, gosh I didn't see any signs in them. You know, I talked to them before they OD'd? Like right before, actually.

TERRIER

Were they using?

WHY

I mean clearly, but I hadn't noticed, and clearly no one else did either.

TERRIER

I don't think that's entirely true.

WHY

No?

TERRIER

I always saw them hanging around Homely.

WHY

Homely? That's weird.

Terrier shuffles to the side of the hallway.

WHY (CONT'D)

Are you okay?

TERRIER

Yes. Yes I'm fine.

WHY

You know, it's okay to be not okay.

TERRIER

I'm okay.

WHY

How? I'm sure not. Two of our co-workers, our friends, have died in a short period of time. There's no reason to be okay right now.

TERRIER

I have a job to do, and I'll be damned if I let-

WHY

Emotions?

TERRIER

Distractions. Cost me my job or the lives I'm working with.

WHY

Emotions aren't distractions, doctor. We all have them. Remember what I told you the other day? In Patient 33's room? That you need to connect to yourself, and allow empathy with those you care for?

TERRIER

Yes. You don't have to remind me  
I...I know. I just need to work  
through these...things.

WHY

Okay. That's fine. I'm proud of  
you, doctor.

TERRIER

Could I...stop by your office later  
this week? Maybe we could talk?

WHY

I would love that.

Terrier grunts in approval.

WHY (CONT'D)

Umm...also. I have been looking  
through those applicant lists for  
new janitors. I found them stacked  
on your desk, I hope you don't  
mind. Uh, I thought that this guy-

Paper rustling.

WHY (CONT'D)

Would be a good candidate.

TERRIER

Oh you didn't have to-

WHY

I wanted to. I had to.

TERRIER

You...

WHY

I'm working through some...things  
too. We all are. It's the least I  
could do.

TERRIER

Well let's take a look. Kurt.  
Harvard grad. What's he doing as a  
janitor?

WHY

He said, and I quote, "wants to  
live life to its fullest. Wants to  
do the small jobs to bring  
perspective to his world."

TERRIER  
That sounds pretentious.

A beat.

TERRIER (CONT'D)  
Leave his application on my desk  
I'll...make some calls.

WHY  
Will do, doc.

Why walks away.

Homely walks up.

HOMELY  
Dr. Terrier.

TERRIER  
Homely, what do you want?

HOMELY  
I heard you talking to Why  
about...being overwhelmed?

TERRIER  
That conversation had nothing to do  
with you so if you could please  
just...leave--

HOMELY  
No no--sorry. I wasn't trying to  
um...I would like to...help you.

TERRIER  
Yeah, sure. That would just look  
great, wouldn't it. Worthless,  
incompetent Dr. Terrier needs  
saving once again.

HOMELY  
Please, it's not like that. No one  
but us has to know. You're  
overwhelmed and I've been wanting  
to go a bit more in depth with some  
of our coma cases. Maybe we could  
help each other out? I would keep  
an eye on some of your patients,  
routine monitoring, whatever you  
need.

TERRIER

Isn't that a little below you're pay grade?

HOMELY

I don't think anything is below my pay grade. I'm a doctor, I will do everything in my power to make sure the sick get healthy.

TERRIER

Hmm. I didn't realize you were such the good samaritan.

HOMELY

Yeah well, I guess you just don't know me quite as well as you think you do.

TERRIER

Guess not. Seems to be a pattern, lately.

HOMELY

So, what do you say?

TERRIER

Sure, yeah. Fine. As long as I can keep primary, you can help.

HOMELY

Great.

TERRIER

Uh, thanks. Really, I appreciate it.

HOMELY

Anytime.

Homely walks off.

**END PART 5**

PART 6

INT. COMA WARD HALLWAY - LATER

Detective Crunch runs up to Jennie.

CRUNCH

Nurse Jennie! I have a question for you.

JENNIE

What is it?

CRUNCH

A little CSI birdie told me that these drugs were in Fisher's system when they died.

Crunch hands a paper to Jennie.

JENNIE

Are you sure?

CRUNCH

Pff. Of course I'm sure, Jennie. I'm a professional. Could you please tell me what they do?

JENNIE

Propofol, Pentobarbital, thiopental, naproxen...these are used for pain and to maintain a coma state.

CRUNCH

Hmm. Those aren't the typical OD drugs I don't think.

JENNIE

Uh no. And these are also the medications many of our coma patients use to maintain their homeostasis. Actually, these are the same ones used by a lot of the patients that died.

CRUNCH

Ooh. Now that's interesting.

JENNIE

Was Fisher...killing our patients?

CRUNCH

That's classified, nurse. I'll talk  
to you later--thanks for your help!

Crunch runs off.

**END PART 6**

PART 7

INT. COMA WARD - LATER

Footsteps walk through the hallway. The door opens and closes. A phone rings.

CAPTAIN CRISSCROSS (V.O.)

(on the phone)

Crunch! You've been lolly-gagging around the hospital way too much. You figure out that case and soon, or I'm putting Detective Pepper on the case.

CRUNCH

Yes, ma'am.

CAPTAIN CRISSCROSS (V.O.)

Fantastic.

Beep. Phone hangs up. Crunch paces back and forth.

CRUNCH

Ok. Ok. You can figure this out, Crunch. You've got this. Ok. Think: Margie gets murdered. Blam. Then, Margie falls out of the ceiling. Think. Then, Margie gets cleaned away. Swoosh. Then, Fisher dies. Overdose. Clunk. Then, Fisher gets cleaned away. Swoosh. Twist! Fisher stole medication from hospital. Ouch! Patients die, apparently. Code! And now, here I am, alone in this coma ward. Trying to solve this case. Unless...there is no case at all, and everyone just died of natural causes...no, that's probably not it. Ok. Think. Think. Think. Margie disappears. All of the patients in the hospital start-- All of the patients in the hospital start dying! I've got it! Dr. Terrier! Dr. Terrier!

Marching footsteps.

TERRIER

What is it, Crunch?

CRUNCH

The patients in the hospital have been dying suddenly, right?

TERRIER

...Yes.

CRUNCH

Great! And all of these patients have been taking medication, correct?

TERRIER

I mean, yeah.

CRUNCH

Wonderful! You know who else was taking medication? Medication from the hospital?

TERRIER

Who?

CRUNCH

A Janitor Blake Fisher. That's who.

TERRIER

What--what are you getting at?

CRUNCH

I've solved the case! I've solved all the cases! I'm a genius! Promote me now! Fisher's been stealing all the medicine from your patients to quench their addiction. Margie found out. Bam! They kill her. Your patients' medicines are messed up? Bam! They die. Fisher starts to panic and feels lost and has no one to help them? Bam! They overdose. Case closed. I win. Take that Captain CrissCross. I can solve a case. Good day!

Crunch walks off. The door opens and closes.

OUTRO:

Music fades in.

CARTWRIGHT

Janitor Awareness Day was written by Courtney Archerd and Eve Gershon.

(MORE)

**CARTWRIGHT (CONT'D)**

This episode stars Justin Stirewalt, Jake Needham, Courtney Archerd, Eve Gershon, Spencer Frankeberger, Nicole Tchounga, Kira Goldberg, and Donna Levine, was directed by Kira Goldberg, with original music by Ryan Lew, Foley by Isabella Miller, Sound Design by Jake Needham, Abby Little, and Courtney Archerd, and Graphic design by Lucille Wright. Enjoying Patient 33? Leave us a rating and review so that more people can as well! Thanks for listening.

Music fades out.

**END OF EPISODE**