

50S REBOOTS

Written by

J.E. Clarke

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J.E. Clarke
Janetgoodman@yahoo.com
917-328-5253

INT. WHERE AND WHEN - WHO KNOWS?

A black background, with a classic "Star Wars" scroll:

"In the 50-60s, TV sitcoms were invented. Short for 'situational comedy', sitcoms focused on a set of characters that symbolized a generation's culture - and at the end of each episode, they often taught lessons in gentle ways.

In the 90s, the term "reboot" was born. Evolved from computer lingo, reboots take the ingredients of well-known stories, and reassemble them to reflect changing times.

Here are the 2018 re-imaginings of a few beloved sitcoms: untouched tales, waiting to be reborn."

INT. SUBURBAN HOUSEHOLD - AFTERNOON

Super: Leave it to Beaver - 1957

A delirious JUNE CLEAVER tosses in bed. Standing in shadow (black and white), WALLY and BEAVER whisper near the door.

BEAVER

I don't get it. What's wrong with Mom?

WALLY

Aw, Beav. The doc says she's got the "Big C."

BEAVER

You mean "Cold" - right?

WALLY

Not exactly. This one's a real big deal.

BEAVER

Is that why Dad's drinking again? He seems awful upset.

Wally puts on his "big brother face", and pulls Beaver aside.

WALLY

Ya gotta understand how life works. Pop shoulda spent more on medical insurance. On account o' that, Mom's gonna die.

BEAVER

Golly, no!

WALLY

And when she does, we gotta buck up. There's a ton of medical bills to pay. Dad got mad at his boss. That's why he's home. So you and I are gonna quit school, n' go to work!

INT. CUBAN DANCE HALL - NIGHT

Super: I Love Lucy - 1951

LUCY and ETHEL pout on the sidelines. RICKY RICARDO'S latin band goes to town!

Suddenly: Burly ICE AGENTS burst in the door. Armed with Kevlar vests and rifles, they rip Ricky off the stage.

RICKY

(heavy Cuban accent)

Hey! Whaddya think you're doing?
Can't you see I'm playing here?!?

ICE AGENT

Where's your green card? Shut up!

A few hits and Ricky's down for good. The thugs drag him off in cuffs. A bloody smear streaks the stage. The girls exchange breathless looks.

ETHEL

Don't just stand there, Lucy? You gonna go save Ricky from the can?

LUCY

Are you kidding? After all these years, I get my break!

Lucy bounds on stage, grabs the mike. Audience members with MAGA hats applaud.

EXT. RURAL ROAD - DAY

Super: The Andy Griffith Show - 1960

Cop sirens wail. SHERIFF ANDY TAYLOR and BARNEY FIFE fidget on the curb.

A THIRD COP beats a CIVILIAN senseless in the road. Taylor and Fife exchange nervous looks.

BARNEY

Annnnnnnnddddy! If we don't get a move on soon, we're gonna miss Aunt Bea's Sunday bake-out! Those pies she makes go fast, ya know!

This civilian beating's brutal: worse than Ricky's by far. Andy grins paternally; shrugs.

ANDY

Hold your horses, Barney. This'll all be over in one flick of a barn cat's tail.

BARNEY

(beat)

That arrest over there. You think it might be just a bit... excessive?

ANDY

Naw. That man resisted arrest, Barney. And soon we'll find a gun. No-one has to know or mind.

An off-screen BANG. Excited, Barney claps.

BARNEY

Anaaaaad we're done. The pie's a' waitin: let's go!

EXT. POW BARRACKS - DAY

Super: Hogan's Heroes - 1965

COLONEL KLINK surveys a row of US PRISONERS. COLONEL HOGAN's first in line.

KLINK

(German accent)

Sergeant Schultz tells me *someone* left a camera tripod at the murder scene. The video on the tape we found was veeeeerrrry interesting. Anyone vant to volunteer vat that means?

Hogan raises his hand. FREEZE FRAME.

Super: Will Colonel Hogan confess his crimes and betray his men? Or eschew purity tests for bi-partisan compromise? Stay tuned for our very next special episode to find out!

BEGIN MONTAGE:

- Ricky Ricardo fends off pepper spray: confined behind the fence of a no-tolerance immigration camp.
- Lucy guest-stars on a reality show. A picture of Ricky flashes on screen. "According to this dead-beat dad, he's not the father of that cheese!"
- *Leave it to Beaver* credits roll. The word "Beaver" gets scratched out: it's not "PC".
- Another civilian beating in Mayberry. Barney Fife grabs the camera. His goofy face fills the frame.

BARNEY

Nothing to see here, folks. Turn
off that gall-darned thing!

Static fills the screen. The show's over... thankfully!

FINAL FADE OUT: