# Disney's KATBOT

# "SIGN OF THE KATBOT" 723A-117

FADE IN:

# EXT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - DAY

Establish. CHEESY CABLE ACCESS MUSIC PLAYS.

#### INT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - AUDIO VISUAL ROOM - DAY

A low-budget school TV set. THE WALLS ARE MADE OF THIN BALSA WOOD. WALDEN PHIBBS, a stuffy 7th grader with the probing passion of a James Lipton sits behind a desk interviewing KATBOT. He's carefully coifed in a velvet blazer and cravat. A WATER GLASS and HAND MIRROR sit on the desk. They are stuffed in a corner of the tiny room.

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#### TV CAMERA POV

1 WALDEN

(to camera)

And we're back. I'm Walden Phibbs the Third, creator/director/and five-time winner of the 'Best TV Show Created by Walden Phibbs' Award, and you're watching 'This Boy's Corner.'

KIP, the 7th grade one-man TV crew, quickly WAVES a homemade SIGN that reads 'THIS BOY'S CORNER,' in front of the lens.

2 WALDEN (CONT'D)

(dramatically pointing)
This boy being me, and this girl
being the topic of today's show...
Flat Hills' very own exchange
student-Katerina Botenski!

TV CAMERA PANS TOO FAR RIGHT, THEN TOO FAR LEFT, THEN LANDS ON KATBOT. Walden <CLAPS> wildly.

3 KATBOT (awkwardly)

Hi.

CAMERA PANS OUT. Walden abruptly stops <CLAPPING>.

4 WALDEN

I must say Ms. Botenski, it is truly an honor, nay, a privilege, to have you in my corner today. 5 KATBOT Thank you.

6 WALDEN

NO!

Walden presses a FINGER to Kat's mouth. ANGLE ON: Kat startled.

7 WALDEN (CONT'D)

Thank you.

(removing finger)
Now, before the break we were
exploring your first day of school
as a stranger in our land. Let's
paint the picture for our millions
of viewers, shall we?

8 KATBOT

You're scared.

Ok.

9 WALDEN
It's your first day of school.

10 KATBOT
Actually I was more excited than scared--

- 11 WALDEN ---trembling, trying to open your locker.
- 12 KATBOT
  The locker was quite easy. My best friend Junior showed me—
- 13 WALDEN
  "Show me the way," you cried, in your own native tongue.
- 14 KATBOT Well English is my native tongue so I wasn't--
- 15 WALDEN
  --Wasn't able to be understood by a soul yet you miraculously managed to get to your first class on time!
  UN-BEE-LIEVE-AH-BILL-E-OS-ITY!

He grabs Kat's HAND and holds it to his HEART.

16 WALDEN

If I were not in this studio right now I would climb the highest mountain and gallop with gnomes to scream that YOU, Ms. Botenski are a genius!

Walden goes nuts <CLAPPING> and <FLAILING> wildly causing the WATER GLASS to spill all over himself.

17 WALDEN Kip, wardrobe!

Kip leaves CAMERA and runs next to CLOTHING RACK full of matching VELVET BLAZERS.

DISSOLVE TO:

# INT. SMACKIN' ROBBINS 32 FLAVORS O' GUM - DAY

PAULA, ROCKY, and JUNIOR are hanging out. Junior, <CHEWING> and Rocky <CHEWING>, are deep in a bubble blowing competition. The bubbles grow to comedic size when <POP!> they simultaneously burst leaving their faces covered in gum.

18 JUNIOR (talking thru gum) Awesomelicious.

19 ROCKY (licking gum off face)
More like awesome-dee-licious.

Paula is deep in gum ritual: pull from mouth like taffy, twirl with finger till back at mouth, eat gum off finger, Repeat.

20 PAULA

I wonder how Kat's doing in her after-school interview with Phibbs. I hope she painted her nails.

21 JUNIOR
I think it's mondo coolo that she's gonna be on school TV! I hope I get a shout-out!

22 ROCKY
I hope I get a shout-in!

Rocky and Junior <LAUGH> as if it's the funniest thing they've ever heard.

23 JUNIOR <LAUGHING>
Dude you're hilarious!

24 ROCKY <LAUGHING> No, you're hilarious.

25 PAULA Actually you're both delirious. I'm getting another wad. Hmmm, maybe Fettuccine Alfredo.

WIPE TO:

#### INT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - DAY

MARCELLA CURD barrels down the hallway with a HUGE STACK OF BOOKS. She <CRASHES> into a door and CRUMPLES in a heap.

26 MARCELLA (muttering)
I shall find out who put this door here and call the government--

She collects her BOOKS and sees the door she bumped into is the audio visual room.

27 MARCELLA CONT'D I will prosecute---

MARCELLA POV: glancing into the audio visual room.

28 MARCELLA CONT'D <GASP>--what's this?

She gets out her tape recorder.

Marcella Curd, here. I appear to have stumbled upon a jackpot opportunity to expose our furry foreign fraud to the entire school on LOCAL SCHOOL TELEVISION! <MANIACAL LAUGHTER>. Then, once everyone knows she's an alien she will be EXPELLED!

Marcella pulls out a SCHOOL HANDBOOK.

# ANGLE ON HANDBOOK.

30 MARCELLA (CONT'D) (speeding)
Because according to article 27A dash 12, the following are not allowed to be students: adults, goats, or aliens.

She stashes the HANDBOOK away and goes back to her tape recorder.

31 MARCELLA (CONT'D)
Then, with Katerina out of this
Earth's corner, I will have Senor
Lebore in Curd's corner!

CUT TO: Thought bubble of Junior and Marcella, in lederhosen, skipping through a meadow. Marcella <FAKE KISSES> the air causing SPIT to fly all over the window on door.

WIPE TO:

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# INT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - AUDIO VISUAL ROOM- CONTINUOUS

Walden continues hie interview with Katbot.

32 WALDEN
Now this next question is very important Katerina. It lets us explore your true nature, your being...

He picks up the HAND MIRROR and puts it right in her face.

33 WALDEN (CONT'D) ...the essence of who you are!

> 34 MARCELLA'S MOM Marcella baby, you have one of them orthodontist appointments, so scramble in.

Marcella's shoulders slump as she scrambles in to the back seat and buckles in. The car <screeches off> and Marcella lightly taps her head against the window.

35 MARCELLA Why? Why?

36 MARCELLA'S MOM
Cuz, cuz cuz!

BACK ON KATBOT

37 KATBOT \*
You want to know the essence of who \*
I am? \*

38 WALDEN Yesssss. I am about to ask you the most personal of personal

questions!

What's your sign?

39 KATBOT

Excuse me?

40 WALDEN

Your astrological sign...who you are and what you do based on the day you were born? Everyone in the world has one.

(almost laughing)

Why, you wouldn't be human if you didn't have a sign.

Kat's eyes <POP>. This is serious.

41 KATBOT

(stalling)

Well...I...uh.....in my country, we, uh--

Walden leans in closely. The pressure's on. There's only one thing to do. Kat reaches in her POCKET and pulls out SCI-FI DEVICE.

ANGLE ON: Sci-fi device.

42 KATBOT (O.S)(CONT'D)
---have a sign that uh---

Katbot presses the button marked "FREEZE".

PAN OUT: Walden <FREEZES> like a bug-eyed Rodin the Thinker. Kip <FREEZES> holding the BOOM MIC.

She waves her hand in front of a frozen Walden and Kip just to make sure it worked, then <DASHES> out of studio.

CUT TO:

# EXT. STREET - DAY

Katbot walks FAST while talking to herself.

43 KATBOT

Birthday? Sign? Every human has one? If I don't get this right the entire school could find out I'm a robotic cat alien sent to Earth to study tween culture and then I could be expelled!

Katbot <BUMPS> into Paula who is walking down the street still deep in her gum ritual.

44 PAULA Hey, easy kiddo. How'd the interview---

45 KATBOT What's your sign?

46 PAULA

What?

47 KATBOT Your sign?

48 PAULA I'm a Gemini, which explains my dazzling charm and exceptional style.

49 KATBOT (trying to pretend)
Gemini. Yeah, I thought so.

50 PAULA What's yours?

51 KATBOT
Oh, I'm a...oh, look over there...free make-up!

Paula looks over.

52 PAULA

Where?!

Kat <DASHES> off.

DISSOLVE TO:

# INT. LEBORE HOUSE - KATBOT'S ROOM - DAY

Katbot talks on her LAPTOP with PROFESSOR MEEW.

53 PROFESSOR MEEW
Birthday? That's a scientifically
difficult question, Katbot.

54 KATBOT (pressing)
I need to know so I can figure out my sign.

55 PROFESSOR MEEW Your sign?

56 KATBOT
Yeah, my astrological sign... my true
nature, my being-(MORE)

KATBOT (CONT'D)

(mimicking Walden)

-- the essence of who I am. (back to normal voice)

All humans have one!

57 PROFESSOR MEEW Well, considering the galactic distance from the sun--

ANGLE ON Kat slumped over and bored.

58 PROFESSOR MEEW (CONT'D) -- and the fact that your final factory inspection happened in January--

ON Katbot, tongue out, head back, dying of boredom.

59 PROFESSOR MEEW (CONT'D) --I would venture to say you are a Capricorn.

Katbot perks up.

60 KATBOT Capricorn? Are you sure?

61 PROFESSOR MEEW
Yes. You see, I use a very precise calculation cross-referenced with a-

62 KATBOT Thanks!

Meew's image abruptly disappears.

63 KATBOT (CONT'D) Accessing Capricorn Data.

64 KATBOT'S BRAIN (V.O.)
Capricorns. Earth Sign. They're
practical, no-nonsense, highachievers. Capricorns are serious
about school and succeed at many
different things.

Katbot DARTS to MIRROR and <ZAPS> her sporty attire for a business suit, sensible shoes, and a BRIEFCASE.

65 KATBOT (practicing in the mirror)
Yes Walden, I am a Capricorn.

WIPE TO:

# EXT. SMACKIN' ROBBINS 32 FLAVORS O' GUM - DAY

Katbot POWER WALKS back to school as a Capricorn. She passes the gum joint, and sees Junior and Rocky standing out front <BLOWING> even bigger bubbles. She barely stops.

> 66 KATBOT

No time to chat...have high-achieving to do.

> 67 JUNIOR

(mumbling thru bubble)

But dude, check out this ...

Bubbles <POP> in their faces again.

68 JUNIOR/ROCKY

<LAUGH>

Katbot is about to leave when she sees a MOTHER, <BLOWING> a bubble and pushing a BABY BUGGY out of the gum joint.

> 69 KATBOT

(to baby buggy)

Stay in school.

MOTHER looks confused.

# INT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - AUDIO VISUAL ROOM - DAY

Katbot rushes back into the room where Walden and Kip are still FROZEN. She plops down.

> 70 KATBOT

<SIGH OF RELIEF> Okay, here goes--

She pulls out her SCI-FI DEVICE, and is about to press the 'UNFREEZE' BUTTON when <BEEP>. It's her PAGER. She reads the message:

> KATBOT 71

Urgent message: you are not a

Capricorn. Huh?

WIPE TO:

# INT. KATBOT'S ROOM -- DAY

Katbot is back at her LAPTOP.

KATBOT

What do you mean I'm not a

Capricorn?

73 PROFESSOR MEEW Well, I forgot the factory recall on your tail which delayed your assembly into August...thus making you a Leo.

74 KATBOT

A Leo?

75 PROFESSOR MEEW
Yes. You see my very precise
calculation mis-calculated the--

76 KATBOT 'Kay thanks!

Meew's image abruptly disappears again.

77 KATBOT Accessing Leo Data.

78 KATBOT'S BRAIN (V.O.)
Leo. Fire sign. They're
energetic, powerful warriors who
like to be in the limelight. Leave
it to a Leo to be very positive and
make great cheerleaders for their
friends.

Katbot goes to the MIRROR and changes from business Capricorn to playful Leo. Her hair is styled like a lion's mane.

79 KATBOT <LION ROAR followed by PLAYFUL GIGGLE>

CUT TO:

#### EXT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - DAY

JUNIOR and ROCKY, wearing HELMETS, skateboard in front of the school. Katbot walks up.

80 JUNIOR Hey, where's the cool briefcase?

81 KATBOT
Briefcase? Don't make me laugh.
Even though I love to laugh because
I'm playful!

She starts a cheer.

82 KATBOT

(CHEER)

HEY YOU SKATERS MAKE SOME NOISE, JUNIOR AND ROCKY THEY'RE MY BOYS!

She breaks out into a total <FRENZY> acting like a perm-a-grin cheerleader on steroids. Junior and Rocky hide their faces.

WIPE TO:

#### INT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - DAY

Katbot SKIPS down the hallway. STUDENTS stare.

# INT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - AUDIO VISUAL ROOM - DAY

Katbot rushes back into the room, again, where Walden and Kip are still FROZEN. She plops down.

83 KATBOT <BIGGER SIGH OF RELIEF>. Ok, all set--

She pulls out her SCI-FI DEVICE, and gets ready to press the 'UNFREEZE' BUTTON when <BEEP>. It's her PAGER again. She reads the message:

84 KATBOT So sorry. Wrong again? <IRRITATED GROAN>

CUT TO:

#### INT. LEBORE HOUSE - KATBOT'S ROOM - DAY

Katbot is back at her LAPTOP.

85 KATBOT So now you're telling me I'm a Pisces?

86 PROFESSOR MEEW
You see, I read the last two digits
of your serial number in the wrong
order--

ANGLE ON: Katbot slumped over exasperated.

87 PROFESSOR MEEW (CONT'D) -- therefore it was your whiskers on the recall list, not your tail as I previously mentioned--

Katbot EXITS O.S. letting him go on and on.

88 PROFESSOR MEEW (CONT'D) --which if I input that into my very precise calculation--hello? Hello?

WIPE TO:

# EXT. SIDEWALK - DAY

Katbot, now a Pisces, wears bohemian fashions and broods with the heart of a lonely artist.

89 KATBOT

(to self)

Goodbye my fiery Leo brethren. I am now a Pisces…a water sign. I'm a sensitive, emotional, artistic being who's a very good listener.

A squirrel crosses her path. Katbot calls after it.

90 KATBOT

I'm all ears sister. Let it out!

Paula approaches.

91 PAULA

You were not just talking to a squirrel.

92 KATBOT

Peace my dear Paula. I've opened my heart to all creatures. What ya doing?

93 PAULA

I just picked up a book for my science project.

Katbot spews a comedic amount of TEARS.

94 KATBOT

<WEEPING> A book about microorganisms...how...how beautiful!!

ANGLE ON: Paula looks confused.

CUT TO:

# INT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - AUDIO VISUAL ROOM - DAY

Walden and Kip are still FROZEN. Katbot plops down in her chair.

95 KATBOT <A HUGE SING-SONG SIGH OF RELIEF> Katbot gets out her SCI-FI DEVICE.

CUT TO:

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# INT. ADJACENT EMPTY CLASSROOM - CONTINUOUS

Marcella's spy headquarters. Her ear connects to a HUGE MICROPHONE rigged to the wall. She adjusts buttons and devices hoping to pick up a sound.

96 MARCELLA
It seems a bit quiet on the set.
What's wrong Madame Alien, cat's
got your tongue? Looks like I need
a closer look.

She opens a vent and crawls into the next room. It is a dark, dank vent - a RAT hisses at Marcella. Marcella HISSES BACK and the rodent whimpers off back down the vent.

Marcella is now in the Audio Visual room - behind the balsa wall facade of the set. She is covered in cobwebs and a lone small rat that she tosses O.S.

97 RAT Yiiii-ouph!

#### INT. AUDIO VISUAL ROOM- CONTINUOUS

Katbot is just about to press the 'UNFREEZE' BUTTON when <CRASH> Marcella crashes through the balsa wood set and lands at Katbot's feet.

98 KATBOT

<GASP!>

99 MARCELLA

<GASP!>

100 KATBOT Marcella...I, uh, oh-

101 MARCELLA Katerina...I, uh, oh-

Katbot panics. She presses the BUTTON and Marcella FREEZES in a shocked pose.

102 KATBOT <DEEP BREATH> Ok, easy does it Kat. I'll just unfreeze this moment, tell Walden I'm a Pisces, Marcella will be caught, and everything will be fine. ANGLE ON: Kat's finger on 'UNFREEZE" BUTTON when <BEEP>. It's her PAGER again. She reads the message:

103 KATBOT

Oops.

Kat places head in hands. She leaves everyone frozen and exits.

#### EXT. SIDEWALK - MOMENTS LATER

Katbot charges down the sidewalk. The same squirrel approaches her.

104 KATBOT Not now, busy.

She walks on and the squirrel looks sad.

WIPE TO:

# INT. KATBOT'S ROOM - DAY

Katbot talks to Professor Meew on her laptop.

105 PROFESSOR MEEW
To be honest I don't know what sign you are.

106 KATBOT What? I must be one of them!

107 PROFESSOR MEEW I'm afraid not.

108 KATBOT
But what about all those scientific calculations? The serial numbers?

109 PROFESSOR MEEW
Well, it appears that I must
reevaluate the data combined with
the speed of light divided by—

110 KATBOT <FRUSTRATED SOUND>

A defeated Katbot plunks her head down. It hits the keyboard and the screen <FITZES OUT>.

CUT TO:

INT. KATBOT'S ROOM - day

A depressed Katbot packs her things.

111 KATBOT

(muttering)

'What's your sign Katerina? Well, thanks for asking Walden...apparently it's expelled'...

Junior busts open the door.

112 JUNIOR What's up with you?

113 KATBOT (snapping back) What's up with you?

114 JUNIOR I asked you first.

\$115\$ KATBOT I asked you second. And two's more than one.

116 JUNIOR But one comes first.

117 KATBOT Fine then you go first.

118 JUNIOR Fine I'll go first after you go first.

119 KATBOT No you go first then I'll go first.

120 JUNIOR
Fine. I'll go first. (BEAT) What's up with you?

121 KATBOT <ANNOYED SIGH>. (BEAT) I'm getting expelled.

Katbot continues to pack her stuff while Junior unpacks the same stuff.

122 JUNIOR Say what Mister D.J.?

123 KATBOT I'm getting expelled.

124 JUNIOR Says who Mister D.J.?

125 KATBOT Says me. And stop calling me Mister D.J. 126 JUNIOR Why are you getting expelled?

127 KATBOT
Because I don't have a sign.

128 JUNIOR
You don't have a sign? Dude, you want to borrow my "no girls allowed" sign?

129 KATBOT An astrological sign.

130 JUNIOR Right. I guess robot cat aliens disguised as foreign exchange students don't have signs.

131 KATBOT
Walden Phibbs needs to know my sign
for the interview. And if I don't
have one, everyone will know I'm
not from this planet.

132 JUNIOR Why don't you tell him the truth.

133 KATBOT Oh, that I'm a robotic cat alien sent to Earth to study tween culture? Yeah, I'll do that.

134 JUNIOR
No. That you're just YOU. And that you don't qualify yourself and some junk by any certain goofy sign or planitary location 'cause you're unique and special in your own cool way.

Katbot stops packing and looks at him.

135 KATBOT Whoa. Do you want some crackers to go what that cheese?

136 JUNIOR It may be cheese, but it's sensible cheese.

He walks out.

137 KATBOT Sensible cheese?

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\$138\$ JUNIOR Ya know the kind that is low in fat

and carbs and cheese and junk...

Katbot smiles at him - she really likes Jr.

CUT TO:

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#### INT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - AUDIO VISUAL ROOM - DAY

A confident Katbot dressed just as herself sits back at Walden's desk. She presses 'UNFREEZE' on the SCI-FI DEVICE.

139 WALDEN

Uh, Ms. Botenski...where were we...ah, yes so please tell us your sign!

140 KATBOT Well, here's the thing---

Just then Marcella UNFREEZES.

141 MARCELLA
The gig's up Katerina Botenski!
Now everyone will know who you really are!

142 WALDEN

I beg your pardon Ms. Curd but this is  $\underline{my}$  corner and  $\underline{I}$  ask the questions around here.

143 MARCELLA Oh stuff it stuffy pants.

144 WALDEN Well I never!

Katbot doesn't know what to do. Marcella takes center stage.

145 MARCELLA

And you never will---Ladies and Gentle-students, I, Marcella Curd, master investigator extraordinaire, interrupt your daily program to inform you that Katerina Botenski is...is...

She looks DEAD into the camera. Her eyes FREEZE. She gets total stage fright and cannot move.

146 WALDEN
Ms. Curd? Ms. Curd?

Marcella stares straight into the camera.

147 MARCELLA Hello...lights...so many...lights...

Marcella doesn't move.

148 WALDEN

Kip!

Kip picks Marcella up and carries her off like a mannequin.

149 WALDEN (CONT'D)
Well Katerina. Finish the
sentence. Katerina Botenski is --

150 KATBOT --is...is...herself.

WALDEN gives a < DRAMATIC GASP>.

151 KATBOT (CONT'D)
Yes, Mr. Phibbs, it's true. I don't assign myself to any certain astrological sign 'cause I'm just me. Maybe some days I'm a little bit Aries and others I'm a little bit Taurus. But either way I feel like I don't need a sign...'because I'm unique and special in my own way.

152 WALDEN <BIGGER DRAMATIC GASP>

ON WALDEN covering his mouth with his hands. ON KIP covering his eyes with his hands.

153 WALDEN (CONT'D)
I have heard the voice of true
wisdom and it is flowing out of you
Ms.Botenski! You have inspired me
beyond inspiration for I will never
look at myself as a Virgo-withAquarius-risings and Scoorpio moon
ever again!!! You have changed my
life FOREVER!

Walden gestures, FALLING over backwards in his chair. We see his LEGS sticking up in the air <FLAILING> about.

154 WALDEN Kip!

FADE OUT