Disney's **KATBOT**

"Make-Over Bot" 723A-144 Nicole Dubuc

FADE IN:

EST. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - DAY

Establish.

PAULA (O.S.)

Ach! Why does this always happen to me?

EXT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - HALLWAY - DAY

KATERINA gets books out of her locker and puts them in her backpack while PAULA tugs at her locked locker.

KATERINA

Forgot your combination again?

PAULA

Ach-ach! Yes. Help, please?

Like they've done this before, Paula steps back and Katerina steps up. Her eyes shoot GREEN SCAN RAYS onto the locker.

ROBOT POV: An X-Ray view of Paula's lock, with the cams and gears moving as Katerina opens the lock.

Katerina gestures to the now open locker.

KATERINA

Mademoiselle...

Paula rummages through her locker.

PAULA

Ach-ach-ach!!! My algebra book isn't even <u>in</u> here! I must've left it in the library.

Paula stomps away, towards the stairs.

PAULA (cont'd)

I'll meet you outside.

KATERINA

(calling back)

Okay.

Katerina puts on her backpack and heads out, stopping in her tracks when she hears:

JILBO (O.S.)

Snarkenstoosh flekoblans. Rieganz Tomar!

Katerina's whole body tenses up.

ROBO BRAIN (O.S.)

Warning: detecting speech pattern of Fleanesian Attack Troops. Activating fight mode.

Katerina goes into a spasm of claws out, fight poses, each pose in a different direction. It's fast and furious.

KATERINA

Ya! Hie! Hiss! Reow! Watchout!

<Blam! Blam! Photon torpedo-type" blasts shoot out
her eyes in random directions.</pre>

<Hit! Hit! Hit!> Various explosive impacts hit around the
corridor.

WIDE ON HALLWAY: She stands in a funny Kung Fu pose, alone, having trashed the hallway, now filled with wisps of smoke.

KATERINA (cont'd)

(falsetto)

Hooooooooh!

ROBO BRAIN (V.O.)

All clear. Ending battle mode.

JILBO walks past Katerina with a canvas book bag. She has a pretty face and long hair held back with a hair band. She wears an elf hat and pointy ears.

KATERINA

Excuse me. Did you just hear someone saying something, um...not in English?

JILBO

That was me. My friend and I were talking like they do in "The Elf of Dragonsby?"

Katerina struggles to understand. Jilbo offers a hardcover, "THE ELF OF DRAGONSBY", up in Kat's face. She takes it.

JILBO (O.S.) (cont'd)

Y'know...the book?

KATERINA

"The book"...

Katerina twists around so Jilbo can't see her and thumbs quickly through the pages, scanning them.

ROBO BRAIN (V.O.)

Uploading written materials...

ON KATERINA: as the words speed into her brain. SFX: computer sounds. Then she relaxes and returns the book.

KATERINA

Yeah, sure, The Elf of Dragonsby. I...just finished reading it.

JILBO

Really? Look what I made:

ON JILBO'S FEET, she wears curl-toed elf shoes, one gold, one green.

JILBO (cont'd)

They're just like the magic slippers Hoppinjohn used to escape the Cave of Grease when he was being chased by Grotesquidorff!

ON KATERINA AND JILBO, Kat looks confused.

KATERINA

You made those? Just to be like the guy in the book?

JILBO

(defensive)

He's not "a guy," he's Hoppinjohn, the purest of the elves and the most powerful. I thought you said you read the book.

KATERINA

I did, but...I thought it was just a book. Anyway, uh, nice shoes.

From her bag, Jilbo puts on a cape. Katerina watches with total curiosity.

JILBO

It's supposed to be made out of unicorn hide, but all they had at the fabric store was pleather. Well, bye.

ON KATERINA, fairly confused in the open doorway, watching her go.

ON JANITOR JIM: walking down the hallway as a tattered ceiling tile drops right in front of him. He looks up, around at the charred hallway.

JANITOR

<SIGH> Guess I'll have to miss my salsa class again tonight.

WIPE TO:

EXT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - SCHOOLYARD - CONTINUOUS

Katerina and Paula sit on a picnic bench. Paula does her nails.

PAULA

Isn't Jilbo one of those kids who think they're goblins?

KATERINA

Elves. Like in the book, "The Elf of Dragonsby"?

PAULA

How do you even know that?

KATERINA

I read it. It's kinda good actually.

PAULA

Please don't tell me you're going to ignore everything I've taught you about being cool and start wearing pointy ears and making up words.

Jilbo and the ELF HAT CLUB walk by and sit at another picnic table. **SEE MODEL PACK:** The blond boy will be THROGAR, the girl will be GWENDOLYN, the brunette boy will be RONEGAN. They all wear capes, elf hats and pointy ears.

THROGAR

Here be Jilbo, wearing the enchanted slippers of Hoppinjohn the Pure.

JTT_BO

And I bring magical toads to eat!

Jilbo holds up a velvet pouch, and the kids <CHEER>.

THROGAR/RONEGAN/GWENDOLYN

Ta-ra-ra-rayyy!

KATERINA (O.S.)

If I wasn't from another planet, I would think they're from another planet.

On Katerina and Paula watching the Elf Hat Club. Paula digs a white box out of her bag.

PAUTA

Yeah, I can't believe some of the stuff people will do out in public!

Paula yanks off some dental floss and cleans her teeth.

PAULA (cont'd)

Ahhhhhh...Ahhhhh...Ahhhh.

Kat doesn't say anything, but turns back to the Elf kids.

KATERINA

I wonder if they're really gonna eat those toads.

PAULA

I think those are just cookies. Although, even pretending your cookie is a "toad,"——I mean——it's a good thing they're friends with each other, 'cause who else would wanna hang out with them?

KATERINA

They can't be that weird.

THE ELF KIDS eat toad cookies as Throgar grandly proclaims:

THROGAR

Now we are at one with the toad!

RONEGAN/GWENDOLYN/JILBO Ribbit! Ribbit! Ribbit!

ON PAULA AND KATERINA.

KATERINA

And I'm wrong.

PAULA

Told ya.

KATERINA

It's too bad, 'cause Jilbo would look kind of regular if she didn't wear that hat, or the pointy ears, and if she replaced the cape with a cardigan or something.

PAULA

I don't know if an elf wants to be "regular".

KATERINA

Of course she does! Who'd want to be an elf their whole life? She just needs someone to guide her in the right direction.

PAULA

Well it's not gonna be me.

KATERINA

I can do it.

PAUTA

Right! A cat who's an alien who's a robot who is <u>pretending</u> to be human who's a foreign exchange student, is going to give make-over advice?

KATERINA

You just wait.

She marches off with determination.

PAULA

I hate it when she gets all determined.

ON THE ELF KIDS: Gwendolyn holds up her "invisible amulet", Ronegan holds out a stick.

GWENDOLYN

Back, or I shall blast you with my invisible amulet!

RONEGAN

Smite at will. My stick of wood shall protect me!

Katerina comes up behind Jilbo and touches her on her arm.

KATERINA

Jilbo?

Throgar, Gwendolyn, and Ronegan recoil in disgust.

THROGAR

Mortal!

GWENDOLYN

Jilbo has been touched by the mortal!

RONEGAN

Unclean! Unclean!!

Throgar, Ronegan and Gwendolyn run off. Jilbo starts to but Katerina holds her back, then slips her arm around her arm.

KATERINA

Jilbo wait! I was wondering if you wanted to hang out sometime.

JILBO

Hang out? You and me? You're not trying to steal the secret of invisibility from me are you?

KATERINA

No. (BEAT) I just thought you might want to hang out with...other kids.

JILBO

"Other kids"?

KATERINA

Um...kids who aren't elves.

JILBO

I'm not sure if you got the memo, but "other kids" don't exactly appreciate us elves.

That's because they can't see past your elfin surface to the real you underneath.

JILBO

Yeah but, underneath my elfin surface is...more elf.

KATERINA

Not after we make a few...minor changes. Leave it to me. It'll be "magic."

Jilbo likes the sound of that...

JILBO

Okay, now it's getting interesting.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. LEBORE HOME - DAY

Katerina and Jilbo approach the front door.

JILBO

Thanks for inviting me over to your house.

EXT. LEBORE HOME - FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

With one hands on the door knob, Katerina turns to Jilbo:

KATERINA

Don't think of it as my "house", think of it as "Katerina's Maison du Transformacion!"

JILBO

Huh?

KATERINA

I mean..."The Enchanted Tree House
of Makeovers?"

JILBO

Fun!

The girls enter.

INT. LEBORE HOUSE - HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Katerina and Jilbo come up the stairs and walk down the hallway towards Katerina's room.

KATERINA

Step one: "Jilbo", is that really
your name?

JILBO

(CHUCKLE) Oh no, no. It's really
"Jilbo the True, Dancer of
K'Longarr, and Master of
Ceremonies."

Katerina stops, turns to her.

KATBOT

Is that what your Mom calls you?

JILBO

(bummed out)

No, she calls me "Jillian."

KATBOT

How about "Jill?" Could I call you Jill?

JILBO

(SIGH) If you must.

KATERINA

I must.

They enter Katerina's room.

WIPE TO:

INT. KATBOT'S ROOM - LATER

Katerina and Jilbo (in her elf outfit) sit on the bed. Katerina flips through a stack of magazines.

KATERINA

Now, see? None of these girls wear pointy hats, curly shoes or elf hats.

JILBO

Have you looked at "Teen Elf" or "Middle Earth News"?

Jilbo, most people do not dress like elves. And I'm trying to get you to look like most people.

JILBO

Because you think that will make me new friends? That's is your idea of magic?

KATERINA

If it works, it'll be more like a miracle!

JILBO

I guess it'd be sort of like the shape-shifter Aquarialus in "The Moon of Zirconia." Okay. It might be fun.

KATERINA

Good. First, you're going to have to take off your cape, hat, and shoes.

Jilbo reaches into her bag and offers Kat a PAN PIPE.

JILBO

Shall you play the pan pipe then?

KATERINA

Hah?

JILBO

For the "Removal of hat and cape" ceremony.

KATERINA

You have a ceremony for taking off your cape?

JILBO

Elves have ceremonies for everything.

KATERINA

Okay, the second step might be to try doing fewer ceremonies. They sort of make other people feel not welcome. JILBO

Not if it's a welcoming ceremony.

WIPE TO:

INT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - DAY

Paula and Junior walk down the hallway.

KATERINA (O.S.)

Paula! Junior!

Katerina runs up to them, a smile on her face. She holds a boom box in one hand and pulls them towards a closed classroom.

JUNIOR

Hey, where's the elf?

Kat starts a boom box. Dancey, music <THUMPS> out.

KATERINA

Are you ready? Junior, Paula, I would like to introduce you to....the new and improved Jill!

She throws open the door but no one is there.

KATERINA (cont'd)

Jill! It's okay, you look great come on out!

Jilbo steps out wearing more typical kid clothes, including a cute cardigan, skirt, and cute shoes. Her hair has about a million clips in it. She hugs her books to her nervously.

KATERINA (cont'd)

<APPLAUSE NOISE> Woo! Yeah! Work
it girl! WORK IT!

JUNIOR

Dude! You don't look elfley...or even remotely dudely!

JILBO

I don't know, Katerina. I feel naked without my cape. And my ears feel so...round.

Katerina touches her own ears, then tugs her by the wrist.

Mmm, you get used to it.

PAULA

I like your sweater.

JILBO

Thanks. I feel kinda weird actually.

JUNIOR

And, you do real good English speaking, for an Elf.

KATERINA

See Jill? You fit right in with us. You should congratulate yourself.

JILBO

Well, I could perform the congratulatory dance of the wood nymph. Ta-ra-ra-ray! <HUMS HAPPILY>

Jilbo skips, twirls and hums down the hallway.

JUNIOR

Guess you can lead an elf to water, but you can't make 'em not be an elf.

Paula tugs on Katerina's arm.

PAULA

I told you, Kat, it's not gonna work.

KATERINA

I've only started...when I'm done, she'll be as normal as you and-

Jilbo twirls through frame.

JILBO

Weeee! <SNORT LAUGH>

KATERINA

--me.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. THE COFFEE CHAIN - AFTER SCHOOL

A corporate-hip coffee house.

INT. THE COFFEE CHAIN - CONTINUOUS

Katerina and Jilbo stand in the entrance.

JILBO

Are we old enough to be in here?

DARCY, MARCY, STACY & BITSY are there, and other COOL KIDS.

KATERINA

Yeah. It's a coffee shop. But look around, this is where a lot of the cool regular kids hang out.

They walk up to the counter where a HANDSOME DUDE takes their order.

HANDSOME DUDE

Hey, can I get you guys somethin'?

His eyes <TWINKLE>, his smile <SPARKLES>, and he seems to have a glow that makes him extra handsome.

KATERINA/JILBO

Yeessssss!

They stare at him crush-struck.

KATERINA

(whispers to Jilbo) Order something "cool".

JILBO

So many choices...I'd better roll for it.

Jilbo takes a twenty-sided die from of her pocket and rolls it on the counter.

HANDSOME DUDE

Um...what are you...doing?

JILBO

Deciding what to order.

HANDSOME DUDE

Is that, like, one of those fantasy game dice?

JILBO

Yeah, I left my magic deciding stones in my locker.

HANDSOME DUDE

Oookayyy.

Katerina grabs the die, embarrassed.

KATERINA

<NERVOUS CHUCKLE> She's studying
fantasy role-playing games as a
"project"...for...school. Bye!

She grabs Jilbo's arm and drags her out.

WIPE TO:

EXT. FLAT HILLS MALL - LATER

Establish the main entrance.

JILBO (O.S.)

Wow, the main entrance...I've only ever come in the back way.

INT. FLAT HILLS MALL - OUTSIDE "RAGS, TAGS & BAGS" - LATER

Katerina and Jilbo approach a cool clothing store.

JILBO (CONT'D)

That's where the games store, comic book store and magic shop are.

KATERINA

Well I think this is the way you should come in from now on. See? There's Darcy Duvet.

Katerina sees DARCY, MARCY, STACY AND BITSY heading into a stylish store, "RAGS, TAGS & BAGS".

JILBO (O.S.)

The girl who's always giving speeches at assembly?

Katerina hurries after them.

KATERINA

Yeah. She's going into "Rags Tags & Bags," the most intimidating store in the whole mall. This is your chance to really be the new "Jill".

INT. FLAT HILLS MALL - "RAGS, TAGS & BAGS" - CONTINUOUS

Katerina and Jilbo watch Darcy holding two identical purple SKIRTS up to Stacy.

KATERINA

Okay: you are going over there and saying something to Darcy. And it's not gonna be about magic, or pointy shoes, or any kind of ceremony.

JILBO

What do you think I am, a troll?

DARCY holds court for the others, and talks about a skirt on display.

DARCY

Now <u>this</u> is the cutest skirt ever! Is there <u>anything</u> in this store that's cuter?

JILBO (O.S.)

This one.

GIRLS

<GASP>

All eyes turn to Jilbo, standing behind the girls, holding up an even cuter skirt on a hanger.

Darcy parts the cluster, and marches up to Jilbo. She looks her up and down, considering.

DARCY

Hmmm. Violet purple - I think you're right. Impressive display of fashion sense. Have we met?

JILBO

I don't think so. I'm Ji- Uh, just Jill.

Darcy grabs Jilbo's elbow and steers her off into the store-

DARCY

Well, "just Jill", it's too bad you don't go to our school, or I'd insist you join Fashion Club.

JILBO

I-I do go to your school.

DARCY

For real? What, do you have the power of invisibility?

JILBO

As a matter of fact--

Katerina races up and cuts her off.

KATERINA

--Jill would love to join your fashion club. She was just telling me that this morning, right Jill?

She gives Jilbo a big smile.

JILBO

Uh...yes?

KATERINA

Yes! So, off you go!

She pushes Jilbo towards Darcy.

DARCY

Well, there is a long wait list to get in but I'm going to make an exception.

Darcy leads Jilbo off.

DARCY (cont'd)

Our first order of business will be to pick out a pair of cork wedges for me.

Jilbo looks back, and Katerina gives her a big "thumbs-up".

CIRCLE WIPE TO:

EXT. LEBORE HOME - ROOFTOP - AFTERNOON

KATBOT and Paula sit on the roof while Junior leans over the railing, looking out.

KATBOT

And tonight, she's going to a <u>party</u> that's just for people in Darcy's fashion club!

PAULA

I gotta hand it to ya Kat, you really did it.

JUNIOR

You should open a makeover business.

PAULA

Yeah, your slogan could be, "take the elf out of yourself!"

KATBOT/PAULA

<LAUGH>

JUNIOR

Oops, I think the elf found her way back in.

Kat looks up.

SWISH TO:

JILBO walks past the house, wearing her elf costume!

KATBOT

<AGITATED CAT SOUND>

Katbot bounds off the roof.

EXT. LEBORE HOME - SIDEWALK - CONTINUOUS

As Jilbo approaches a tree, KATERINA comes down the trunk, and tries to act innocent. Note: Jilbo doesn't catch on.

KATERINA

Jilbo! Hiiiii!

JILBO

Oh! Hi!

KATERINA

Um, hey, I thought you were going to Darcy's tonight?

JILBO

Yeah, I'm going there right now.

KATERINA

But um, you're wearing your elf outfit.

JILBO

Duh! I wanted to look good for the party.

But I mean...

JILBO

But you mean what?

KATERINA

I thought we decided you weren't going to be an elf anymore.

JILBO

Uh...we didn't decide that. I mean, it was fun dressing up in the other stuff but I really missed my elf outfit.

KATERINA

No, no, no, no. See, you're not an elf anymore.

JILBO

What's wrong with being an elf?

KATERINA

Well it's not all that...normal.

JILBO

Right. I'm not "normal" like Junior who has pizza-eating contests with himself, or Paula who matches her socks to her nail polish. Or you, even, I mean, I've heard you "purr", okay?

KATERINA

But don't you want to be like other kids?

JILBO

No. I think you want me to be like other kids. I thought I was your friend, not your "project".
Obviously I made a huge mistake!

She storms off. Katerina looks guilty.

KATERINA

No, I think I made a huge mistake.

DISSOLVE TO:

EST. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - NEXT MORNING

Establish.

INT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - ENGLISH CLASS - DAY

KIDS (including Paula, Jilbo, Stacy, Marcy, Elf Hat club) sit at their desks.

MARCY turns around, notices something, and <GIGGLES>.

MARCY

<GIGGLE>

She pokes Stacy, who looks and <GIGGLES>.

STACY

<GIGGLE>

Other kids point and <GIGGLE>.

KIDS

<GIGGLE>

PAULA looks to see what they're laughing at and is shocked.

PAULA

No...you...didn't. I'm not seeing this. I'mnotseeingthis.

REVEAL KATERINA, dressed head to toe like an elf. She takes her seat next to Paula.

PAULA (cont'd)

What are you doing?

KATERINA

I thought if Jilbo looked like you and me, she'd fit in with everybody else. But who says that I know what's right for someone else? Instead of making her fit in with us, I'm gonna try to fit in with them. Besides, who cares what I'm wearing today?

MRS. HAMBURGER (O.S.)

Well! Katerina! You seem to have embraced our reading selection, "The Elf of Dragonsby!"

Jilbo notices Katerina for the first time and <GASPS>.

JILBO

<GASP!> Kat?

Katerina smiles at Jilbo and straightens up a little.

KATERINA

Yes, Mrs. Hamburger, I loved the book!

Jilbo smiles at her.

ON PURNELL NELLPURN AND DERWOOD DRIPLEY.

PURNELL

<CHORTLE> She even makes <u>us</u> look cool.

DERWOOD

Yes. By a factorial greater than ten, but not to exceed one-hundred-and-one. <CHORTLE>

They high-five and miss.

WIPE TO:

INT. FLAT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL - CAFETERIA - DAY

Katerina, still in her duds, walks with a tray of milk cartons and a tuna melt. Kids point and whisper as she passes them.

KIDS

<WALLA>

She walks up to the table where Paula, Rocky, and Junior are sitting.

JUNIOR

Dude, maybe you should try using the power of invisibility.

ROCKY

Kat has crossed over to the dark side.

KATERINA

Look, I'm wearing this, okay? And I don't care what you think.

Paula feels her cape.

PAULA

Oh, Kat, pleather?

KATERINA

For your information pleather is a great substitute for unicorn hide, okay?

She flips her cape over her shoulder and walks on.

WIPE TO:

AT THE ELF TABLE: Throgar, Ronegan, Gwendolyn, and Jilbo eat their lunch. Katerina walks up to the table.

KATERINA (cont'd)

Um, can I sit with you?

JILBO

Sure.

Katerina takes a seat.

THROGAR

Just so we're clear, you are not actually an elf until you walk through the fires of Pforg.

KATERINA

Did you guys all do that?

THROGAR

Uh...we just took an oath. But the rules have changed.

Katerina turns to Jilbo.

KATERINA

Jilbo, I'm sorry. I think you're very cool the way you are and I'd really like to be friends.

JILBO

Apology accepted. But is it okay if I call you something else?

KATERINA

Sure! Some people call me Kat--

JILBO

I hereby name you Katrinka.

Oh, well, that's not so bad--

JILBO

Katrinka the Innocent, Student of the Forest and Singer of Melodies.

THROGAR/RONEGAN/GWENDOLYN/JILBO

Ta ra ra ray!

JOCK KOWALSKY and JOCK SCHMIDT walk by with Darcy. They stop at Katerina's table.

JOCK KOWALSKY

Hey, I wonder if Santa knows
Katerina's gone. <CHUCKLE>

JOCK SCHMIDT

Nice one. <CHUCKLE> Maybe she'll let us rub her ears for good luck.

Katerina narrows her eyes and stands up.

JILBO

Don't let these guys bug you.

Darcy steps up to Katerina and holds her finger up.

DARCY

Wait. Katerina, you are not from our country, and thus do not understand that elvish attire is not considered conventional, and that fake pointy ears make your neck and jowls look thicker.

Darcy pivots to face Jilbo.

DARCY (cont'd)

But "just Jill". You have such promise, such innate fashion sense and you're throwing it all away. I'm afraid I must deactivate you from the fashion club.

JILBO

I don't want to be in your club and by the way, that violet skirt? It makes your ankles look really round.

Darcy's hand flies to her mouth in shock.

DARCY

<GASP!>

JOCK KOWALSKY

Nobody makes fun of Darcy's fat ankles!

DARCY

<GASP!>

JOCK SCHMIDT

Should I throw food at 'em or something?

JILBO

Elves engage!

Jilbo, Throgar, Ronegan, and Gwendolyn get up and snap to an action pose: Throgar holds his stick, Ronegan his pan pipe, and Gwendolyn mimes holding something.

RONEGAN

Elf versus mortal!

THROGAR

This is the fight we've been training for!

JOCK KOWALSKY

You guys work out?

Jock Schmidt scoops up a fistful of mashed potatoes and holds it threateningly in Jilbo's face.

Katerina steps in between the two groups.

KATERINA

Gwendolyn, put down the invisible amulet! Jock, put down the mashed potatoes!

Around the room, kids stop. Some duck. Everyone watches. REACTIONS VARY:

KATERINA (cont'd)

So what if some of us have taken their love of certain fantasy novels to a level others might think is really...very...okay, quite odd. Why can't we just let them be who they want to be? (tossed off)

(MORE)

KATERINA (cont'd)

And it really is a good book! You all should read it.

MRS. HAMBURGER walks up and announces:

MRS. HAMBURGER

I agree. And in the name of school harmony, I hereby make "The Elf of Dragonsby" mandatory reading for every student.

KIDS

Awww....

THROGAR/RONEGAN/GWENDOLYN

Concur!/Ta ra ra ray!/I win!

Paula walks up and puts her arm around Katerina's shoulder.

PAULA

Y'know, Kat, you've made me realize I was wrong about something--

KATERINA

You mean that elves are people too?

PAULA

No...that curl-toed shoes are actually pretty cool. Ta ra ra ray?

KATERINA

Ta ra ra ray!

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW