

The Big Bang Theory

"One Helluva Bot"

written by
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COLD OPENING

FADE IN:

INT. LEONARD AND SHELDON'S - DAY
(KOOTHRAPPALI, LEONARD, SHELDON)

KOOTHRAPPALI FLIPS THROUGH A ROBOT MAGAZINE: "HIGHLY SPIRITED". HE WHISTLES AT EVERY PAGE. SHELDON STARE AT HIM WHILE HOLDING A LETTER.

SHELDON

Oh, my. They didn't guarantee you a spot as a crew member and you're already preparing for space travel. How interesting.

KOOTHRAPPALI STOPS FLIPPING THROUGH PAGES.

KOOTHRAPPALI

No. But I'm sure to be a participant. Look again. See my name in bold? I'm a guaranteed crew member.

SHELDON

Surely you don't think you're physically able? It requires hard training for the rigors of space.

SHELDON LOOKS AT THE LETTER AGAIN.

Miller, Johnson and Perry are also in bold. The bold is only to throw you off, to tease you.

KOOTHRAPPALI

But my name is first. They took a special interest in me.

KOOTHRAPPALI WHISTLES AT A PAGE IN THE MAGAZINE.

KOOTHRAPPALI (CONT'D)

That's why I am bringing someone along for the ride. Look at her.

KOOTHRAPPALI THE MAGAZINE IN HIS FACE, REVEALING A CENTERFOLD OF A ROBOT WITH FEMININE FEATURES: SHAPELY, LARGE EYES, FULL LIPS. WIRES INTACT.

SHELDON

More like an unspecified thing to tag along. Something with synthesized speech. And let's see, something that is battery operated or needing a wall socket to be plugged in.

KOOTHRAPPALI

You're taking the fun out of it.

KOOTHRAPPALI CONTINUES WHISTLING AT THE PHOTO.

LEONARD ENTERS.

HE CRINGES AT THE WHISTLE SOUNDS. HE AVOIDS THE ONGOING CONVERSATION AND CROSSES TOWARD THE KITCHEN.

SHELDON

Hey, Leonard! Raj found his new girlfriend!

(MORE)

SHELDON (CONT'D)

Seems she have to be built with some
clever mechanisms. Here's why.

SHELDON WAVES THE LETTER IN THE AIR. LEONARD WALKS OVER TO
HIM AND READ IT ALOUD.

LEONARD

(READING)...In retrospect, we are
gathering a crew for the planning and
testing of space travel procedures. We
will be testing possible participants
on stamina, ability, awareness and
knowledge. The current participants
are in consideration for possible crew
testers: Koothrappali, Johnson,
Miller, Perry.

KOOTHRAPPALI

And guess who's coming along with me?

KOOTHRAPPALI SHOWS LEONARD A CENTERFOLD OF THE ROBOT.

KOOTHRAPPALI (CONT'D)

Fayza. Nice name, huh?

SHELDON

(TO LEONARD) He picks out a autonomous
mechanism with very little to no
social interaction.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Fayza's going to be socially
interactive. Intelligent too. Right
Leonard?

(MORE)

KOOTHRAPPALI (CONT'D)

That can happen, and I choose you to
be the one to help me get started and
make a list of materials.

LEONARD CROSSES TO THE KITCHEN. HE IS DISTANT, STARING INTO
SPACE.

LEONARD

If we could make humans cognitive with
reasoning, navigation and planning,
then talk of open relationships would
be easy to remove from its many
programs. How much more difficult
could it be to build a robot?

KOOTHRAPPALI AND LEONARD OBSERVES HIS MOOD.

SHELDON

Let's see. This must be about Penny.
She needs to be equipped with
cognitive skills. Verbal or non-verbal
interactions, depending on her
intelligence level.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Good, Leonard. I'm glad that you
agree. I would like you to practice on
Fayza first.

LEONARD COMES TO ATTENTION SUDDENLY.

SHELDON

He's talking about assembling her
parts, of course.

Episode Title EP ###

5.

KOOTHRAPPALI FLASHES THE ROBOT CENTERFOLD IN LEONARD'S FACE
AGAIN.

AND WE:

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

ACT ONE

Fade in:

INT. CHEESECAKE FACTORY - NIGHT

(Wolowitz, Sheldon, Penny, Leonard, Koothrappali, Extras)

WOLOWITZ JOINS LEONARD, KOOTHRAPPALI AND SHELDON AT A TABLE FOR FOUR. KOOTHRAPPALI PLACES THE ROBOT MAGAZINE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TABLE. HE OPENS IT TO THE ROBOT CENTERFOLD.

WOLOWITZ

Wow. A nice looking robot.

KOOTHRAPPALI

This is between me and Leonard. We have a project that needs discussing.

LEONARD

I didn't know we had a project to discuss. Would you close that damned magazine?

KOOTHRAPPALI

Oh, right. You don't want Penny to see.

KOOTHRAPPALI WINKS HIS EYE.

LEONARD

No. We are about to order and have a meal together, not a meeting.

(MORE)

LEONARD (CONT'D)

(TO WOLOWITZ) He has a chance to be a space flight participant and want to take a companion along.

WOLOWITZ

(TO KOOTHRAPPALI) You have an opportunity to participate in space travel?

LEONARD

Just flight tests. And it's not a guarantee.

WOLOWITZ

Right. Qualifications and requirements might not win over with you. But building a robot is still a great idea regardless. Hey, I can help you make a companion for the home environment!

PENNY CROSSES OVER WITH GLASSES OF WATER FOR EACH. THE MAGAZINE REMAINS OPEN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE TABLE.

WOLOWITZ (CONT'D)

It's going to take some time, but in the end, we can all use her!

LEONARD LOWERS HIS HEAD IN SHAME.

PENNY

Oh, what a lovely specimen, but I can't hold this water forever. I have other customers.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Still can't believe it. I am going to
be a participant! My name was first on
that letter!

LEONARD AND SHELDON ROLL THEIR EYES. KOOTHRAPPALI STARE AT
THE CENTERFOLD.

KOOTHRAPPALI (CONT'D)

Lovely, huh?.

LEONARD

(TO PENNY) No comparison to you.

SHELDON

(TO PENNY) No. There is no comparison.

She has artificial intelligence and
you have... No, no comparison.

PENNY

Will someone move the idiot in wires.

LEONARD QUICKLY REMOVES THE MAGAZINE. PENNY PLACES THE
GLASSES OF WATER IN FRONT OF EACH OF THEM. SHE LOOKS AT
LEONARD. HE THROWS THE MAGAZINE AT KOOTHRAPPALI.

PENNY (CONT'D)

Carry on, guys. Sounds like the
beginnings of a great relationship.

SHE WALKS AWAY.

LEONARD

Great.

(CONT'D)

KOOTHRAPPALI

The beginnings of a great
relationship?! Fayza is mine and
already Penny have the nerve to start
match making! (TO WOLOWITZ) And then
you come along and start making dibs
on her too!

LEONARD

Nobody is making dibs on a damned
robot! Truthfully, nobody guaranteed
you a spot as a space crew
participant. Get over it!

EVERYONE IS SILENT. KOOTHRAPPALI HOLD ON TIGHTLY TO THE
MAGAZINE.

LEONARD (CONT'D)

Look at this. Penny hasn't come back
to take our order. She's angry with
me.

WOLOWITZ

All the more reason to stay at home
and give orders to a robot that will
take commands.

SHELDON

(TO PENNY) Hey, female specimen! Come
and take our order! We need to eat
now!

LEONARD

Sheldon!

PENNY

Screw you!

SHELDON AND WOLOWITZ GLANCE AT THE CENTERFOLD AND RAISE AN EYEBROW.

WOLOWITZ

Idea's sounding better and better,
right?

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. LEONARD AND SHELDON'S APARTMENT - THE NEXT DAY
(Leonard, Sheldon, Penny, Wolowitz, Koothrappali)

LEONARD IS DRAWING ROBOT PARTS ON THE GREASE BOARD WITH NO ENTHUSIASM. WOLOWITZ AND KOOTHRAPPALI ARE ON THE COUCH WATCHING HIM. KOOTHRAPPALI IS TAKING NOTES. SHELDON IS AT HIS DESK WORKING.

LEONARD

As you can see, it's simple. A vision
system for eye contact and motorized
legs and arms.

PENNY ENTERS. LEONARD DOES NOT NOTICE.

LEONARD (CONT'D)

And if you want to be a little more
daring, a nice little butt won't hurt.

HE DRAWS A BUTT.

PENNY

And if you want to be even more
daring, let's add some tits.

LEONARD QUICKLY TURNS AROUND.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Good idea, Penny.

KOOTHRAPPALI WRITES IN HIS NOTES.

LEONARD

It's not what you think.

PENNY

You're absolutely right. It's not what I think. It's what I'm seeing.

WOLOWITZ

Yeah, and we're just getting started.

KOOTHRAPPALI

You're just in time too. We could use a female input.

SHELDON

How can she add any input? She don't know how to follow commands. Remember?

PENNY

You barked orders at me!

SHELDON

Case closed.

KOOTHRAPPALI'S CELL PHONE RINGS.

SFX: KOOTHRAPPALI'S CELL PHONE RINGING

KOOTHRAPPALI

(RE: PHONE SCREEN) I think the space training center is calling me. (INTO PHONE) Speaking. I'm still waiting on a follow up letter.....

KOOTHRAPPALI'S FACE SADDENS.

KOOTHRAPPALI (CONT'D)

Oh. Uh-huh... Uh-huh...

WOLOWITZ EAGERLY RACES TO GREASE BOARD AND ERASES LEONARD'S DRAWINGS.

WOLOWITZ

Now we can focus on a domesticized robot.

LEONARD

What about a general, all-purpose mobile robot?

PENNY

Yeah. One without a butt and tits. One that could maybe vacuum for you guys.

KOOTHRAPPALI HANGS UP HIS PHONE. HE OBSERVES THE GENERAL CONVERSATION.

LEONARD

One that can navigate around the room.

SHELDON

I'd prefer you build a robot that retains a knowledge library. Watch this. (TO PENNY) There is only one American State that begins with the letter P. Which is it?

PENNY MOVES HER HEAD IN A COUNTING MOTION.

SHELDON (CONT'D)

Instantaneously, our robot would have blurted it out by now. A knowledge library it is.

PENNY

Give me a minute to name all the states. Nobody could answer that right away.

LEONARD/WOLOWITZ

Pennsylvania.

PENNY

I was almost there. I was still in the M's.

KOOTHRAPPALI

Excuse me. But I'm miserable over here.

LEONARD

Sorry. What exactly happened?

KOOTHRAPPALI

Someone else is better qualified.

SHELDON

I knew it!

KOOTHRAPPALI

They liked that I had enough knowledge, but the other guy had enhanced knowledge. The guy even had in-depth training prior to this one.

WOLOWITZ OFFERS THE GREASE BOARD MARKER TO KOOTHRAPPALI.

WOLOWITZ

It's all yours. Draw away.

KOOTHRAPPALI DRAWS AN IMAGE SIMILAR TO FAYZA.

LEONARD

But we need you to break down the
individual parts that you would rather
have Fayza operate from.

KOOTHRAPPALI

You can all take it from here. I want
to go and talk to mommy and daddy in
private. And I need them to cancel the
space vehicle for me and my lady.

HE SADLY EXITS. EVERYBODY IS SYMPATHETIC AND SILENT FOR A
MOMENT.

ALL BUT PENNY DASHES TO THE GREASE BOARD AND ERASES FAYZA,
DRAWING THEIR OWN VERSIONS OF ROBOTS.

SHELDON

Make room for my knowledge library
electromechanical device!

END OF ACT ONE