CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE?

a.k.a (my imaginary friend)

by

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(Fictional)

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A girls bedroom. Catherine'S to be exact. A young girl around 10, with a vivid imagination. She is getting ready for summer camp. Packing her suitcase which sits on top of her bed. She appears to be having an argument with her friend SARA, as to what she should and should not be allowed to bring with her to summer camp. Sara appears to be the more reasonable one of the two.

CATHERINE

I don't understand? Why can't I bring it with me?

SARA

Because it won't fit in your suitcase.

CATHERINE

And?

SARA

That's a pretty good reason.

CATHERINE

Nah ah.

SARA

Do you think your mom is going to let you bring your stuffed riding pony with you to summer camp.

CATHERINE

She doesn't have to know. We can hide her.

SARA

Really? And how exactly could \underline{WE} , do that?

CATHERINE

Garbage bag.

Sara just shakes her head in disbelief.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

A big one.

SARA

Ugh. I don't know why I stay friends with you?

CATHERINE

Because I'm the only friend you got.

CONTINUED:

SARA

Someday's, I'm not sure that's a good enough reason.

They both stare at each other for a few seconds then let out a BIG laugh.

CATHERINE

Of course it is. What are you talking about?

SARA

Catherine can we talk?

CATHERINE

Ah, we are talking.

SARA

No I mean....

Catherine cuts her off.

CATHERINE

Shhh... someone is coming.

JANET. Catherine's older sister walks in her room.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

Oh...Its just you.

JANET

(smiling)

Who were you expecting, you're imaginary friend?

CATHERINE

Haha...you're funny.

JANET

Mom says we're leaving in 5 minutes. Be ready.

CATHERINE

But we don't want to go.

JANET

Speak for yourself. I can't wait to leave this place for the summer. Beaches...horses...boys...

CATHERINE

I was.

JANET

What?

CATHERINE

Speaking for myself.

JANET

OK. I could've swore you said WE.

CATHERINE

Well... I meant ME. \underline{ME} , is \underline{WE} when you turn it upside down.

JANET

What? You're Weird.

Janet shrugs her sister off, is distracted by something sitting on her sister's chair.

CATHERINE/SARA

We're weird.

JANET

What was that?

CATHERINE/SARA

Nothing.

Janet picking up her jean jacket off her sister's chair.

JANET

So...that's where my jacket went. Did I say you could wear this?

CATHERINE

You didn't say I couldn't.

JANET

So that means you can just walk into my room and take whatever you want?

CATHERINE

Only the things that fit.

JANET

(frustrated)

Whatever...I don't have time for this right now. Be ready to go when mom calls. And don't forget your friend, because we are not coming back to pick her up.

Catherine looks at Sara shocked and confused.

CATHERINE

Forget her? How could I forget her?

CONTINUED: (3)

JANET

You always forget her. And then you cry like a little baby, and we have to come back and pick her up, then Mom and Dad both get upset. Its not fun.

Janet begins to head to the door.

Catherine looks over at Sara again, as if to ask her if she is coming.

CATHERINE

Are you coming?

Sara nods yes.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

She said she's coming.

Janet turns back.

JANET

She told you that did she?

CATHERINE

Yeah.

JANET

Whatever weirdo. Just grab your Teddy Bear and suitcase and lets go.

CATHERINE

Oh yeah! Teddy. Of course. How could I forget?

JANET

Wasn't that what we were just talking about?

CATHERINE

Yeah. Sure.

JANET

Weirdo!!!

Janet exits her sisters room.

Catherine looks over at Sara.

CATHERINE

Whew...that was a close one.

CONTINUED: (4)

SARA

You're telling me. I had to stop myself from sneezing, like twice.

SARA lets out a big sneeze.

CATHERINE

Bless you.

SARA

Thank you.

CATHERINE

I mean for real though. The minute my sister can see you, that means you aren't exactly my imaginary friend any more. Are you?

SARA doesn't say anything.

Long pause.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

Well? Are you?

SARA remains silent.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

Cat got your tongue?

Catherine chuckles.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

Get it. Cat? Catherine.

SARA

I get it. That's kinda what I wanted to talk to you about.

CATHERINE

My name. Cat. Well my mother named me after a character in one of her favorite romance novels. I think it was called...

Sara cuts her off.

SARA

No. You and me.

CATHERINE

Best'ies forever right?!

Sara just blurts it out.

SARA

I'm not coming with you to summer camp.

CATHERINE

(confused)

But you just said you were.

SARA

I know. I just said that because I didn't want to cause a scene in front of your sister.

CATHERINE

A scene. What kind of scene.

Sara looks around avoiding Catherine's eyes.

SARA

Its time Catherine.

CATHERINE

For what?

SARA

You know...Well... you just can't go on having an imaginary friend forever you know. Summer camp is about making real friends, and every summer I just get in the way.

CATHERINE

But you are my real friend. You're my only friend.

SARA

That's my point. This has to stop Catherine.

CATHERINE

No.

SARA

You need to trust people again. You can't just hide in your room forever.

CATHERINE

I'm not hiding.

SARA

Oh no. Every time a girl from school calls, you have work to do, or pretend to be sick, or you'd rather hang out with me.

CATHERINE

So?

SARA

Its not right. You need to play with real kids Catherine. Look, I'll always be their for you Cat. I just can't be there for you anymore. Its not fair to you.

CATHERINE

Look if this is about the Pony we don't have to bring her. I don't really like her anyway.

SARA

Its not about the Pony Cat. Your not listening! This is about what's best for you.

CATHERINE

What if I don't want what's best for me.

SARA

I guess that's why they call it tough love kiddo. It's been fun but...

Long pause.

SARA (CONT'D)

Good-bye Cat.

Sara turns to exit. Just before she leaves she turns back.

SARA (CONT'D)

And don't forget Teddy, you cry like a little baby when you forget her.

Catherine picks up Teddy.

CATHERINE

(tearing up)

I do not.

CONTINUED: (7)

SARA

(tearing up)

You do to.

They both look at each other, and smile. This is goodbye.

Sara exits.

Catherine is left with Teddy and her suitcase.

FADE TO BLACK: