# Scarlett Johansson considers legal action against OpenAI for allegedly mimicking her voice in new AI assistant



Scarlett Johansson might sue OpenAI over the voice of its new AI assistant, Sky, as it allegedly mimics her voice without consent. The incident revolves around the company’s introduction of an audio chatbot with multiple personas, one resembling Johansson's voice. Johansson claims OpenAI approached her in September 2023 to voice the AI, which she declined. OpenAI proceeded with a similar-sounding voice, leading Johansson to threaten legal action.

Legal experts suggest Johansson’s case could be strong, citing California’s right-of-publicity laws that protect against unauthorized use of one’s likeness for profit. These laws have been upheld in previous cases involving voice imitation of celebrities, such as Bette Midler and Tom Waits. OpenAI maintains it used a different actress for the voice, but public and expert opinions indicate the similarities to Johansson are too striking to dismiss easily.

OpenAI CEO Sam Altman, who has publicly admired the film “Her” starring Johansson, further compounded the issue with a social media post implying the connection. The company faces potential legal fallout that could set significant precedents in the evolving field of AI technology and intellectual property rights.