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PICTUREBOOKS AND NEW LINE CINEMA PRESENT AN AMERICAN GIRL PRODUCTION A PATRICIA PRODUCTIONS FILM ADAPTED FROM THE AMERICAN GIRL BOOKS BY VALERIE HERGENROTTER "KIT KITTREDGE: AN AMERICAN GIRL"
 JULIA DUNN, CHRIS O'DONNELL, GLENN BECKLEY, JANE FONDA, BOB OAKLEY, DONALD SUTHERLAND, JOAN MARCUS, JOAN MARCUS, STANLEY TOZZI, BOBBY O'BRIEN, JULIA ORLANDO, ANITA BLOCH, ANITA BLOCH, ANITA BLOCH
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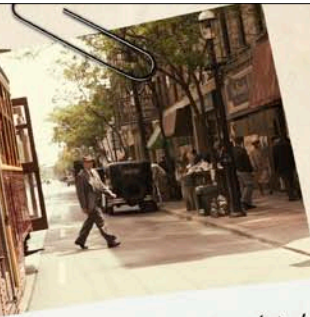
ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINEE ABIGAIL BRESLIN IS
KIT KITTREDGE
 An American Girl

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Meet Kit Kittredge. Well, actually, Margaret Mildred Kittredge, but everyone in Cincinnati, Ohio, knows her as Kit. And if they don't just yet, then they will. That's because she's going to be a reporter. A big one.

In the meantime, with the Great Depression of the 1930s going on, and her Dad losing his job, Kit pitches in with endless chores to help save her family's home. Turns out, the Great Depression wasn't so great after all, and everyday life meant finding new ways to make the best of things.



"The future is bright, beautiful and almost here... and this reporter can't wait to see it!"



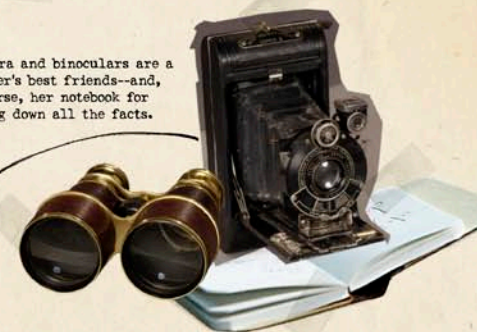
This is Kit's tree house, a very special place. It's where she writes all her stories, and her letters to her Dad. It's also where the Tree House Club and its members have their meetings (and secret pledge ceremonies, shhh).



To create Kit's hideaway, the filmmakers needed more than the perfect tree house—they needed the perfect tree! The set designers actually made the tree out of steel, welded on the branches and covered it all in plaster and canvas "bark." Then, the tree house itself was placed on top, and voila--Kit's clubhouse came to life.



A camera and binoculars are a reporter's best friends—and, of course, her notebook for writing down all the facts.



It's good to have heroes, and Kit definitely has hers. Among this illustrious group is aviator Amelia Earhart, the First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, and renowned Cincinnati Reds ballplayer Ernie "The Schnozz" Lombardi, one idol she has in common with her pal Stirling Howard.



Kit is happiest when she's writing--or make that, typing. Before there were computers, typewriters like this were standard in newsrooms everywhere.

Did you know that the first typewriter, and the ribbon to go with it, was patented in 1888?



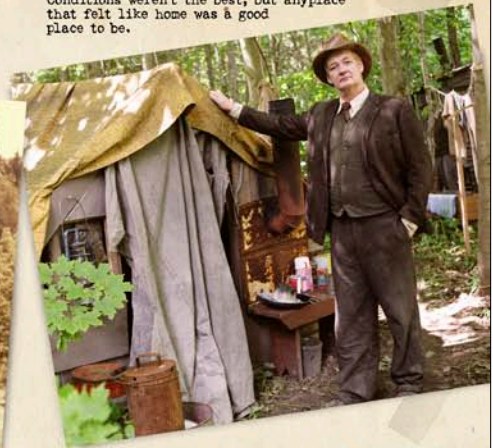
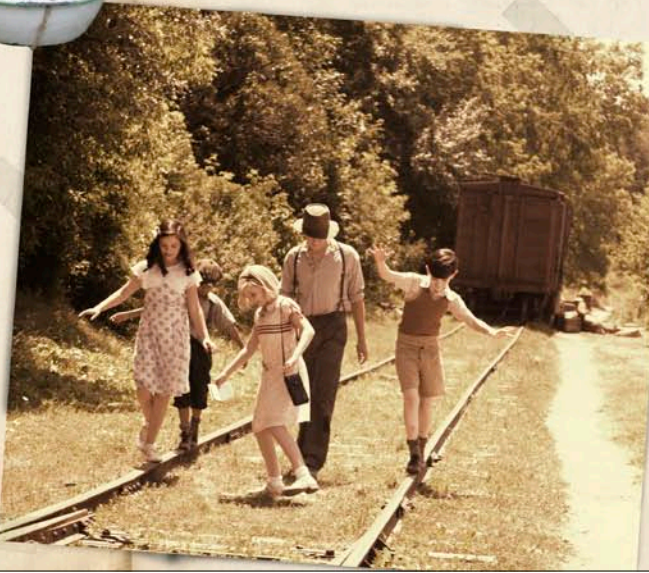
*"Gwanga, gwanga, galoolie,
kariba, kariba, kariv...!"*

During the Depression, makeshift villages sprung up around bridges and railway stations called "Hobo Jungles."

Around the campfire, experienced hobos would pass along their wisdom and knowledge to younger riders, almost like family.

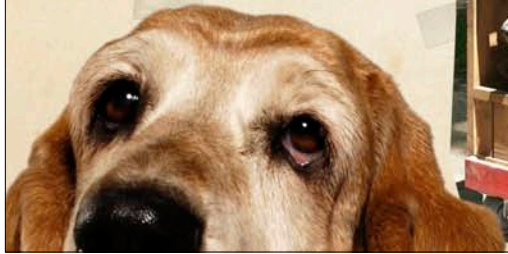
Conditions weren't the best, but anyplace that felt like home was a good place to be.

Kit's scooter, made by her new friend Will, comes in handy for getting around--with a special compartment for Grace, the Basset Hound.



Can you read Hobo? Kit's new friends, Will and Countee, teach her how to read the code of the road.

This sign means "Danger--better get out quick!"





"Mother made a dress for me out of a chicken feed sack. I wore it on the first day of school. A few of the girls thought it looked so smart--she's making some for them, too!"



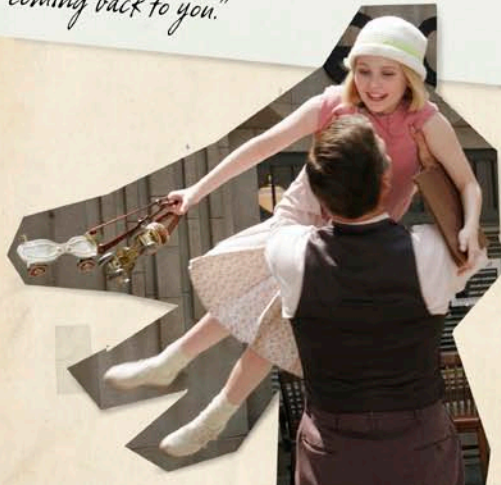
Kit's Dad is the most important person in her world, and it takes all the courage she's got when he goes away to Chicago to try and find work. But being brave isn't always easy, and that's why her Mom means so much to her. These two lean on each other to get through the hard times including having a laugh or two about Kit's stuffy Uncle Hendrick.



This sign means "Good Garbage!"



"I, Jack Kittredge, do solemnly swear that nothing in this world could keep me from coming back to you."



"Don't let it beat you," Kit's Dad tells her. And she doesn't. With her friends by her side, and her writing to keep her going, Kit pulls through. And when a big, juicy mystery lands right on her doorstep, there's no stopping her.

Abigail Breslin, who was nominated for a 2008 Academy Award, plays the clever and resourceful Kit. Being in the film helped her learn more about the Depression, especially from her grandmother. "I showed my grandma the outfit I wore and she told me it was kind of like the clothes she used to wear when she was younger."





Editor-In-Chief of the Cincinnati Register, Mr. Gibson, is notoriously hard-to-please, but that's what makes a good reporter a great one!

Miss Dooley is a dance instructor who moves into the Kittredge home. Kit thinks she is so sophisticated because she's traveled so many places, just like Kit dreams of doing one day.



Hungry?
This sign means
"a good place for a hand out."

Life with the boarders sometimes seems like one big family, though Kit misses her Dad so much. Still, Kit knows she has a lot to be grateful for, when so many people have so little.

"The house is chock-full of boarders, which keeps us pretty busy. Did Mother mention that she moved into the sewing room so we could take in one more?"

This cat sign on someone's fence means a nice lady lives here.



The boarders are a colorful crew--especially the mesmerizing magician Mr. Berk, who may have more than one trick up his sleeve.



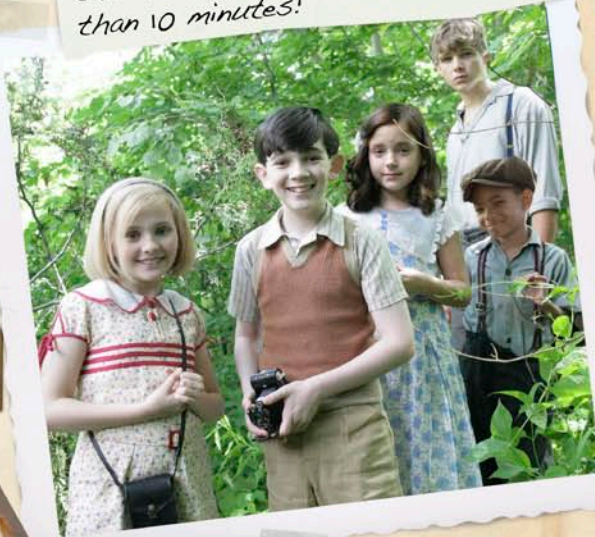
Curtis belongs to Mr. Berk's brother, but he's his own man, er, monkey!



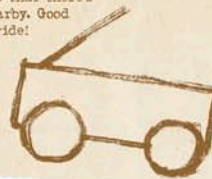
Ruthie Smithens is Kit's neighbor--and best friend. And though she sometimes looks at life like it was just one big fairytale, her heart is true, and she's generous, too.



"Mother encourages everyone to go outside when the weather's nice, so the house can stay clean for more than 10 minutes!"



This symbol means that there's a trolley stop nearby. Good place to catch a ride!



Madison Davenport, who plays Ruthie, and Zach Mills, who plays the boarder Stirling Howard, struck up a quick friendship with star Abigail Breslin, and the three hung out together throughout the production--just like in the film!

The movie marks the debut of four very talented newcomers--Jordan Rackley, 12, Erin Hilgartner, 8, Elizabeth Perez, 10, and Brieanne Jansen, 11--selected from over 2,400 American Girl fans who flocked to open auditions in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. What a lucky break!



Will and Countee are young hobos at the center of the "hobo robberies." Kit is convinced her newfound friends are innocent, but has to dig up the facts to back up her case.

Kit's friends are very important to her. It's good to have friends around--especially when there's a mystery to be solved!

