

CHLOE MORETZ

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HAVING PLAYED A CHILD ASSASSIN IN MATTHEW VAUGHN'S KICK-ASS, **CHLOE MORETZ** IS FAST CARVING OUT A CAREER AS HOLLYWOOD'S HOTTEST YOUNG ACTRESS

If you don't already recognise 13-year-old Chloe Moretz, by the end of the year there's no question you will. That's because the Georgia-born teen, who made quite a splash as Joseph Gordon Levitt's precocious sister in 2009's (500) Days of Summer, has two major roles in 2010 that will no doubt keep audiences talking. First up is Hit Girl in Matthew Vaughn's Kick-Ass, where she literally demolishes an army of thugs and spouts expletives that you wouldn't expect from someone who looks so angelic. Then there is Let Me In, a remake of the Swedish vampire drama Let the Right One In. She and her father, a plastic surgeon in Los Angeles, talked to Wonderland on Oscar Sunday at over coffee and eggs.

TELL ME HOW YOU STARTED ACTING.

I started when I was about six years old. My brother Trevor got me into it. We moved from Georgia to New York because he got accepted to a performing arts high school, and he would bring his sides home and I would learn the parts opposite him. And I just got into it. And we moved to LA for my dad's plastic surgery practice, and then it worked out for the best.

SO ACTING INTERESTED YOU FROM THE GET-GO?

I could play girls that weren't like me at all. And that's a real cool thing. Like Hit Girl in Kick-Ass. I'm nothing like her. If I did or said half the stuff I do in that movie, I would be killed. I like playing different characters that stretch my acting ability. I didn't even start in the business until I was almost seven. It's

crazy! I mean, I've been doing this for almost seven and a half years.

DID YOUR BROTHERS ENCOURAGE YOUR ACTING?

One of my brothers, since he was a little, little bitty kid, always wanted to be a director or a producer and he put me in his movies. When I was four or five, he would dress me up as Snow White or Princess Leia from Star Wars. He'd put me on a raft in our pool and then he would wrap the Polaris around me like I was a sea monster and he would film me screaming and flailing in the pool.

WHAT'S IT LIKE TRAVELLING FOR WORK?

It's amazing. Kick-Ass shot in London for six months, which was a dream come true. My mum and my brother, Trevor, were there because my brother Trevor's actually my acting coach too, since I started in the business.

IS HE A GOOD ACTING COACH?

He is. I mean, without him, I wouldn't be able to do half the stuff I do.

TELL ME A LITTLE BIT ABOUT LET ME IN.

I play the girl in it, the vampire. I got to be a vampire. I mean, that's insane. You know, I had to dress up like I'm 300 years old. It's a character that's so different from me.

HOW IS SHE DIFFERENT?

Well, for one, she drinks blood.

YOU DON'T?

No, no I don't. Sadly. I'm made of blood. I'm

very outgoing and she's very – what's the word? – reserved. Introverted. She's very secretive. It's been amazing because it's stretched my acting ability. I got to play this deep and dark character. And then I get to go to Kick-Ass, which was crazy and fun.

ARE YOU EVER INTIMIDATED BY THE PEOPLE YOU WORK WITH?

Oh no, they're just people. They're just other actors and it's always nerve-racking the first day, but after that... Joseph Gordon Levitt in (500) Days of Summer became like a brother to me. We still text on the phone. He's a really cool guy.

DO YOU GO TO REGULAR SCHOOL?

I did until third grade, but right now I've been home schooling. Because I just got too busy, you know. I actually like it better because if I went to regular school I probably wouldn't be able to do acting.

DO YOU HAVE FRIENDS THAT DON'T ACT?

All my friends don't act. We go to the movies and we have sleepovers. My birthday party last year, I had this gigantic sleepover. I had this huge popcorn fight. My parents weren't too happy about it.

WHAT'S A POPCORN FIGHT LIKE?

You microwave about ten bags of popcorn, and then you shake them up, pop 'em open and then you go boom! You just grab handfuls of popcorn and throw them.

Dress by **MATTHEW WILLIAMSON**, vintage t-shirt (worn over the top) and hair bobble from **ROKIT**



T-shirt as before, black sequin corset dress (worn as skirt) by **BETSEY JOHNSON**, glasses by **PRISIM**, vintage faux fur coat Chloes's own, black sparkle socks by **DIOR**, black trainers by **CONVERSE**



WHAT DID YOU DO FOR YOUR 13TH BIRTHDAY?

I had it at Paramount studios in their private screening room, and I watched Breakfast at Tiffany's with, like, 50 of my friends. And it was all fun and games until two hours later I was on my hands and knees cleaning it all up. There was popcorn ground into the carpet, and there's a rule in my house: I mess it up, I have to clean it. But I love Audrey Hepburn; she's my idol. She helped the world. She wanted it to be a better place. That really interests me. Being an actor's really cool, but you know, I also want to help the world, to do something that's beneficial to the environment.

DO YOUR FRIENDS ASK YOU ABOUT ACTING?

There are a couple of my friends that want to act and they're trying it. One of my friends is trying to model right now. And if they ask my advice on it I give them advice.

WHAT'S YOUR ADVICE?

I don't know. If you get into it, keep going, never stop, because you know they'll break you down. You'll get one out of a million of the roles you go out for. I'll go out for 300 things and I'll get one of those. Or I'll get to the finals on every single one and then it comes down to, "You're too pretty" or "You're just not right." Something little.

WHAT'S A PART YOU REALLY WANTED BUT DIDN'T GET?

I can't say. My lips are sealed.

DO YOU GO UP AGAINST DAKOTA FANNING FOR ROLES?

I have been before. And she's a really cool girl. I love her. She's so sweet and normal like me. Whenever you're around another actor you don't really talk about the business. You just kinda talk about life. "How are you, what are you doing, what's up?" Even in our family we don't talk about acting that much. Unless we're talking about the press schedule.

IS THERE ANYBODY YOU'VE BEEN INTIMIDATED BY THAT YOU'VE MET?

No. I've always wanted to meet Lady GaGa, but I've only been star struck by Daniel Craig and Natalie Portman. If I ever met Natalie Portman, I would die.

WHY NATALIE PORTMAN?

'Cause she's such an amazing person. She's kind of like Audrey Hepburn to me. She's just an amazing actor, and the way she can go to college and work at the same time. I want to

be just like her.

SO COLLEGE IS IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Very important.

WHAT WOULD YOU STUDY?

I don't know. If acting doesn't work out I want to be a helicopter pilot. I have such a huge fear of airplanes and I feel like it'll overcome my fear. If I'm in charge of the plane, I'll feel safer, maybe.

I THINK ACTING PAYS BETTER.

Come on! I wanna be up in the air popping champagne, living the life. Sorry, I just got into my Fergie mode.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR DAD'S PLASTIC SURGERY BUSINESS?

I can't cut people's skin open. You couldn't make me. If I see blood I get kinda scared. No blood, no fat cells. The anatomy of the body's kinda amazing – the chromosomes and stuff and how something so tiny can affect your whole life. But I'm not interested in cutting somebody open and looking inside. Dad was on this brain surgery website and he's on the computer and what do I see – an open brain, with knives in it. It's terrifying.

THERE'S A LOT OF GROSS STUFF IN KICK-ASS, ISN'T THERE?

Yeah, but it's not brains! I mean, I'm cool with fake comic-book blood, but not real blood. I can't see a real-life person on the table with their head open.

I NOTICED YOU'RE WEARING A CHANEL WATCH.

Matthew Vaughn gave it to me. If you look on the inside it says "Hit Girl 2008". When he gave it to me I dropped to the ground. I was like, "Are you kidding me? You got me a Chanel watch!?! Oh my gosh!" And so, you know, I wear it and I cherish it. It's my baby. Thank you, Matthew! I love Matthew.

ARE THERE ANY DIRECTORS YOU WANT TO WORK WITH?

I really want to work with Tim Burton or Martin Scorsese. People like that.

WHAT HAVE YOU SEEN OF SCORSESE'S? THE DEPARTED?

No, I wasn't even allowed to see that. I wish. [Just after our conversation, Variety announced Moretz is to be starring in Scorsese's adaptation of Brian Selznick's The Invention of Hugo Cabret.]

DO YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON THE JONAS BROTHERS OR ZAC EFRON?

Ummm, no comment.

WOULD YOU GO SEE NICK JONAS IN CONCERT?

I'm more into more alternative music: Lady GaGa and Coldplay.

WHAT'S THE HARDEST THING ABOUT BEING AN ACTRESS FOR YOU?

There's a lot of stuff to it that's really hard, like getting to know the character. I have this journal for Let Me In as Abby, and it's supposed to be me going through the years. If you were 300 years old and a vampire, would you remember your parents? Would you remember how becoming a vampire happened? How your brothers and sisters looked? Who made you? Just thinking about the back story and shading out the character as more than just what's on the paper, and then getting into character.

DID YOU TRAIN FOR KICK-ASS?

For four months. It was crazy.

DO YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT GUNS NOW?

Yes I do. I have the 9mm I use in the movie. I can take it apart and put it back together. I can clean it. I know everything about it. It's my gun. Whatever you use, you have to respect it, whether it's a fork or a knife. I mean, a fork is a weapon. What you use in everyday life could be a weapon. It's just some are a little more dangerous than others. You have to respect it like it's a person. It's not something you play with. The knife I use in the movie – I have a fake one at home. I'll be on the computer with one hand typing and on the other hand I'll be flipping the knife. My friends get kind of freaked out, but I'm like, "It's fake!"

ANYTHING ELSE WE SHOULD TALK ABOUT?

I think that's all – all that's coming up. Go see Kick-Ass again. Take all your friends. Get a little Hit Girl cape, costume and boots. I think you would look amazing in a purple wig.

I THINK I WOULD TOO.

Wear it every day.

Kick-Ass is out now and Let Me In will be re-released later this year.



Dress by **CHANEL**, vintage black glasses by **FAMILY JEWELS**, socks, T-shirt and trainers as before

HAIR

Nelson Vercher for Redken Rita Hazan salon NY

MAKE-UP

Tracy Alfajora for JOE using Chanel cosmetics

PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSISTANCE

Rafael Rios and Joel Barhamand

FASHION ASSISTANCE

Matilda Goad and Alexandra Horton

PRODUCER

Kacy Strand at Edge Repts

LOCATION

Poly Prep Country Day School