

Fast Forward

Fearless and fiercely talented, 17-year-old Chloë Grace Moretz is an old soul who likes Cheetos and Xbox and doesn't shy away from the F word (as in "feminism"). By Brooke Hauser

There are child stars, and there are child actors. The former brings to mind an *E! True Hollywood Story* filled with pushy stage parents, drug-fueled downward spirals, and where-are-they-now pity. In other words, the opposite of a child actor: the young talent who is hailed by costars and critics as wise beyond her years. Think Jodie Foster, Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson, Dakota Fanning, and now, Chloë Grace Moretz. Best known for playing a killer named Hit-Girl in *Kick-Ass* and a 250-year-old child vampire in *Let Me In*, Moretz is as precocious and preternaturally talented as the others. But she sees a difference between being wise and—well, let her explain.

"I don't think I'm wise beyond my years.... I don't like the pressure of that," Moretz says. "I have an old soul, so I can understand things that I don't think a lot of people can at my age." Having acted professionally for more than a decade, Moretz brings to her roles a level of maturity that has won her fans among directors such as Martin Scorsese, Tim Burton, and Steven Soderbergh, who directed her in a play in New York City. And now, she's about to win over more fans much closer to her age as she stars in an adaptation of the young-adult novel *If I Stay*. She plays Mia, a gifted cellist whose life is upended by a tragedy. "She's a really strong character," the actress says. "She has known her ambitions since she was five, like me."

As polished as she is onscreen, in person Moretz is unrehearsed and scrappy. She has a sense of confidence that borders on swagger. She's not intimidated by Hollywood studio heads, and she has no problem speaking her mind in meetings. "What normally happens is you walk into a room and you are at their mercy," Moretz says, slipping into the role of a desperate wannabe starlet. "Like, 'Whatever you want. I'm free. You can book me whenever you need. I will work out. I will vomit if you want me to. I will change my hair color. I'll sleep with you. I'll do anything that needs to happen.'" Back to Moretz: "And I'm like, 'No.' I grew up with four brothers. They used to burn my dolls."





Viscose satin gown by Versace. Makeup colors: Color Design eye shadow in Mochaccino and Rouge in Love Lipcolor in Rouge Valentine by Lancôme. These pages: Hair, Garren of the Garren New York salon; makeup, Hung Vanngo; manicure, Sheril Bailey. Set designer: Stefan Beckman. Fashion editor: Paul Cavaco. Details, see Shopping Guide.

While Moretz is not your typical teenager, she's also not trying to be an adult. She craves Flamin' Hot Cheetos, plays video games, checks Instagram constantly, overuses the word "random," and calls her interviewer "dude." Moretz's blend of youth and wisdom is evident in her awareness of the hazards associated with the job. Perhaps more important, her mother-manager, Teri, is equally mindful. "I'm not allowed to go to parties. I'm not allowed to sleep out a lot, because my mom likes to know everywhere I am," Moretz says. "I have a lot of rules."

Far from resenting those rules, Moretz appreciates having a family who watches out for her, and she is cautious for her own reasons. "Trust me, since I was 11 years old, I've had people trying to push the boundaries," she says, recalling one photo shoot where she was pressured to wear a see-through dress without a bra. "My mom was like, 'She's 13. We will walk off this photo shoot.'"

Moretz claims to steer clear of the young-Hollywood scene, partly because many of the actors she knows

"like to talk about the business a lot, and it's not my thing." But the more she talks, the more apparent it becomes that she also wants to distinguish herself from a certain breed of starlet: the holier-than-thou ingenue. "It's like the new fad," says Moretz. "In 2004, it was going to clubs. It was being the biggest party girl. Now the biggest fad is being the most organic, the most natural, and people are becoming fake down-to-earth stars." She rolls her eyes. "You read these interviews, and you're like, Oh, they're so cool. Then you meet them, and you're like, OK, you're still a diva. You still are a secret partyer. You're just really difficult."


Moretz is still new enough to fame that inconsistencies about her life story have been published and not yet amended. In the past, profiles have mentioned that she was raised by her father, McCoy, who is a plastic surgeon, and her nurse-practitioner mother, but as of this day in June, the actress feels that her mother was her primary influence. She didn't spend her early childhood in Atlanta but 40 miles northwest of the city in Cartersville, Georgia, with four older brothers, "two straight and two gay," says the actress.

Although Moretz might have been

punished if she ever used a four-letter word at home, she created shock waves when, at the tender age of 11, she played the gun-toting Hit-Girl and uttered the infamous line, "OK, you c--ts, let's see what you can do now." Outraged critics were quick to blame Moretz's mother for allowing her to use the C word (and others), a reaction that still bothers the star. "She knows her daughter is a more adult kid," Moretz says. "I knew exactly what I was saying."

The actress sees a much bigger problem in filmmaking than foul language. "I'm in a business where there's so much inequality. Every role I get [offered] is either a sexualized character or it's a girl who got raped," Moretz says. "It's like, Why can't I just be a girl? Why can't I just be a teenage girl who likes her life? Oh, it's so aggravating to me."

So what does she look for? For starters, a chance to get to know herself better. "I've learned more about myself through acting than anything. It's like therapy," Moretz says. "I like to think I'm much more hard than I am, but I'm a lot more vulnerable. I always thought it took more to hurt me, and I learned that it doesn't." This particular moment of truth came when she landed the title



Silk gown by Rochas.
Makeup colors: Bombshell
Shineshadow in Copper
Fling and LipPerfection
Lipcolor in Seduce by
CoverGirl. Details, see
Shopping Guide.

role in the recent remake of *Carrie*: Director Kimberly Peirce wanted Moretz to mine painful emotions related to Moretz's own family. "She knew that I had something I wasn't showing, and she wanted the vulnerability," says Moretz. "My mom was afraid that it would mess me up. But it didn't. I was like, 'Look, I'm good.' A couple times I was like, 'No more.' *Carrie* was a project where I became a young adult."

Her mother and her brother Trevor, her co-manager and acting coach, read scripts and "powwow" about what they like or don't like about the character, she says. "I'm not going to play a character who gives up her entire life for a man. I don't want to be that girl. I don't want to be the damsel. I was never the damsel in my family." Then again, she doesn't want to lose her femininity. "There's another side to it, which is when girls are too strong, and they're manly almost. Why do we have to be superstrong, where we're like men? Why can't we just be strong women who are also feminine when they want to be?"

Thanks to *Kick-Ass*, Moretz will forever be asked about the C word, but what about a particular F word? Shortly before our interview, the actress Shailene Woodley told *Time* that she did not consider herself a feminist, because, as she put it, "I love men, and I think the idea of 'raise women to power, take the men away from the power' is never going to work out because you need balance." (Other celebrities, including Lady Gaga and Kelly Clarkson, have also rejected the label.)

"I was really offended by that article. I was really taken aback," Moretz says when asked about Woodley's comment. As for the other voices who chimed in on the topic, "I don't think they really understood what feminism is. It's a right. Feminism, to me, is standing up for everything that someone else has already done for you. Women have overcome so many boundaries," Moretz says. "My mom has overcome so much in her life. She makes me want to stand up for myself. Stand up to the studio heads who try to tell me that I can't have blonde hair; they want brown hair. Or I need bigger boobs, or I need to work out. Or I'm too skinny, so, like, 'Eat a cheeseburger.' I stand up for myself every day of my life." Does that mean she calls herself a feminist? "I grew up in a family of four boys," Moretz says. "I'm, like, a born feminist. I've been a feminist since I was four years old."

One day, Moretz hopes to get a little advice from older actresses whose careers she admires, Portman and Johansson, for instance. "I want to know what they did to get what they wanted creatively and how it was to be a kid who is now a woman in this business," she says.

For now, Moretz is entertaining the idea of studying cinematography at New York University. "You can't be a good actor if you're stupid," she says. "You have to know things, you know what I mean?" ♦



Tablet Extra: For a video interview with Moretz, download *Allure* to your tablet.

Beauty Call

Moretz's strategy: "I don't do anything crazy yet, because I'm pretty young."

What skin-care product do you love most?

"Proactiv. I used to have really bad skin."

What about makeup and hair? "Lancôme black eyeliner. And Serge Normant shampoo."

What fragrance are you obsessed with? "Byredo Gypsy Water. It's just like, Oooh."

What's your top beauty trick? "Not plucking my eyebrows has been a

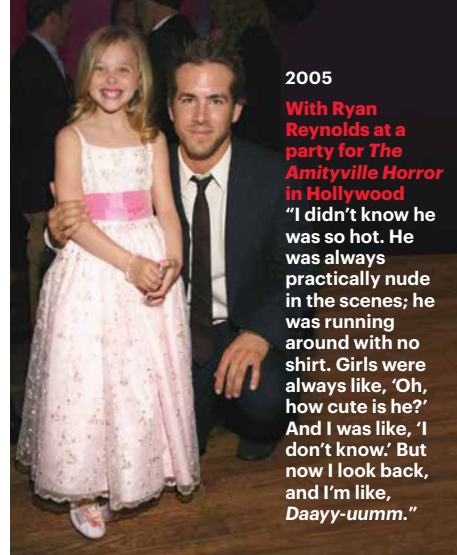
really big deal in my life. Forcing people not to touch them, because everyone tries to."

Is there any part of your routine that you wouldn't let someone witness? "I'm a picker. I'll pick pimples, which is a bad thing. I had to teach myself not to do that."

What's a typical day's diet? "I hate breakfast. I have to force myself to eat in the morning. I

like to eat at like 2. At 2, I'll have a huge salad with tons of chicken, or I'll have tacos."

And your favorite workout? "SoulCycle. Working out is like therapy to me. I have to work out at least four times a week, otherwise I'm not a happy person. It's like a self-help class. I've cried in class before. It's a really special experience."



2005
With Ryan Reynolds at a party for *The Amityville Horror* in Hollywood "I didn't know he was so hot. He was always practically nude in the scenes; he was running around with no shirt. Girls were always like, 'Oh, how cute is he?' And I was like, 'I don't know.' But now I look back, and I'm like, Daayy-uumm."



2010
With Nicolas Cage at the premiere of *Kick-Ass* in Hollywood "People say a lot of stuff about him, but I really enjoy him. He's great in the movie, too. It's one of the best roles he's done in a long time. I loved this Betsy Johnson dress. We bought it. We would try to talk to the people and get them to let me wear their clothing, and they'd be like, 'No.'"



2012
With Gulliver McGrath, Jonny Lee Miller, and Michelle Pfeiffer in *Dark Shadows* "Amazing project. Michelle Pfeiffer was so fun to work with, and it was just a really special time in my life. I felt so lucky to be on the project, just to be able to work with people I love so much, like [director] Tim Burton and Helena Bonham Carter."



2013
With Julianne Moore in *Carrie* "I love Julie. She's one of my favorite actresses. No one really gives you straight advice. It's more like what you perceive. With Julie, what she taught me without speaking is that you can have such an acclaimed career, be an amazing actress, but also you can be a normal person and have an amazing family and kids and a life that is outside of the business."



2006

At the premiere of *Charlotte's Web* in Los Angeles "Oh, my dear Lord. I literally was a baby. Hiiiiii. I look so kind. I want to give myself a little hug. I want to go see myself. Good outfit, Mom."



2008

With Jennifer Lawrence at a *Poker House* screening in Los Angeles "She held my hand here when we went up onstage. She was so sweet. I was like her little sister. We were really close. I loved her. I want to say she's the same girl I met when she was 15. I admire that."



2009

With Joseph Gordon-Levitt in *(500) Days of Summer* "He's so cute. I had the biggest crush on him. This was my first big break, before *Kick-Ass*, and everyone started to notice me. I'm a huge fan of this movie. I still look at it and I'm like, Oh, yeah, one of my favorite movies is *(500) Days of Summer*. And then I forget I was in it."



2009

At the premiere of *(500) Days of Summer* in Park City, Utah "In my defense, that is mountain-goat fur, so all they do is shave them. This is my own outfit...back before anyone would dress me. My hair looks brown there. That's my natural blonde."



2011

At the premiere of *Justin Bieber: Never Say Never* in Los Angeles

"I wish he had more of a family to guide him. It makes me sad, honestly. I hate seeing people's careers fall apart, especially when they're doing it to themselves. Because this business will eat you alive if you don't have people looking out for you."



2011

With Asa Butterfield in *Hugo* "I didn't know the gravity of who [director Martin Scorsese] was because I was so young, but I knew what I could learn from him. So I did. I tried to take in everything I could. He would tell me stories about his childhood and how he got into directing."



2011

With Blake Lively in *Hick* "I love her. She's a sweet girl. I slept over at her house several times. We would stay up all night and cook. We haven't really seen each other [lately], but she used to send me cupcakes every birthday. She's a little homemaker. We were doing the movie, and she was like, 'Guess who I'm emailing right now?' Martha Stewart. She's giving me her secret recipes."



2012

At a Halloween party in London

"I was Helena Bonham Carter [as] Bellatrix Lestrange. When I saw her, I was like, 'I am you right now,' and she was like, 'That's so cool.' Obviously I took a little bit of a liberty and did some weirder stuff, but she's like, 'I love it.' The hair is so good."



2013

With Aaron Taylor-Johnson in *Kick-Ass 2* "OK, hard scene. Really bad form in this photo, horrible form with that kick. I don't know what I was thinking. My leg should be much straighter; my back should be flatter. I was really tired that day."



2013

With Alec Baldwin in *30 Rock* "30 Rock was, like, my favorite thing to do because I was with Tina Fey and Alec Baldwin. I love [Alec]. I just saw him recently. He came to my show *The Library* in New York. People say some stuff about him, so much stuff. He's a really good guy, he's a brilliant actor, and that's all that matters to me."



2013

With Ansel Elgort at a party for her birthday and *Teen Vogue*'s tenth anniversary in New York City "I had such a good time, and Ansel came by. We don't really see each other a lot."



2013

In Paris

"This is my grandma's coat. I don't agree with fur at all, but it's my grandma. She's gone now, and it means a lot to me. I feel so different now. I think I'm a little mousy when I'm brown, because I am colored for blonde."



2014

With Keira Knightley at the *Laggies* premiere in Park City "We hadn't seen each other in, like, five months, so we were like, 'Oh, my God! Hi, how are you?' She looks so pretty."



2014

With Jamie Blackley in *Titanic* "I always do this thing on skateboards with my friends, where I'm like, 'Jack! Jack!' He's like, 'Oh, Rose, don't ever let go!' So Jamie and I did it onscreen. It's in the movie."

At the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute Gala in New York City "It was cool. Kind of crazy. I'll never have a prom, technically, because I'm homeschooled. [Events] like the Met Ball are like my prom, because you have to dress up; I get to take the pictures and look all pretty for a night."



2014



2014

With Brooklyn Beckham in *Santa Monica Allure* "Do you want to address the rumors that you're dating?" Moretz: "I mean, no. I mean, you know what I mean. I don't know. No comment...."