



Melrose Place

PROFILE
**MELROSE
BABE**

North Vancouver's Jessica Lucas may have two TV series and the hit movie *Cloverfield* on her resumé, but nothing she's done has generated as much advance buzz as the *Melrose Place* remake, airing this fall on The CW.

Long before moving into television's most famous apartment complex, the 23-year-old got her start on two teen dramas: the CBC's *Edgemont* and the critically acclaimed, one-season wonder *Life As We Know It*. Her next big break came cloaked in secrecy. It all started with the casting call for

producer J. J. Abrams' new movie. "He wasn't telling anyone what it was about," she says. "There wasn't even any script."

After Lucas completed a few try-outs using generic conversation scenes, the auditions took a sinister turn. "The casting people

Fave TV show? "*Seinfeld*, because I'd watch the show every night with my dad. It was our ritual." **The title of a TV show based on her life?** "*Adventures of the Reluctantly Recognized*."

Lucas' grueling experience on *Cloverfield* was filled with night shoots, long takes and constant running—a one-eighty from life on *Melrose Place*. But she came close to rejecting the coveted role of schoolteacher Riley Richmond. "The CW kept calling me and calling me, and I said, 'I don't know about the project; I don't know about a remake,'" she says. "But they kept calling."

A meeting with the producers finally changed her mind about signing on with the series. "They're well aware of how campy the original was, but they want to make it gritty, sexy and more real, so that people can relate to it," explains Lucas. "Although the scandalousness will still be there, of course!"

BRIONY SMITH



Shutter Island



Michael Cera



Amelia

TOP 3 MOVIES

● In their fourth collaboration, **Martin Scorsese** and **Leonardo DiCaprio** deliver a spine-chilling psycho-thriller. *Shutter Island* is set in 1954 on a fictitious isle off the coast of Boston where a maximum-security asylum is housed. DiCaprio is a federal marshal investigating a missing female inmate. The most dangerous part of his job isn't the psychiatric patients; it's the sinister doctors who rule the place. ● **Michael Cera** turned 21 in June, but the Brampton, Ont., sweetheart still has the baby-faced charm to convey adolescent angst. In *Youth in Revolt*, which is based on the novel by C. D. Payne, Cera plays Nick Twisp, a teenager desperate to escape the din of his dysfunctional family. He ends up in a religious trailer park, where he meets the girl of his dreams (played by newcomer **Portia Doubleday**). ● It's not just the cropped hair that accounts for **Hilary Swank's** uncanny resemblance to aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart; it's the strong jaw and the piercing gaze. Mira Nair's *Amelia* traces the achievements of the pilot, who believed "there's more to life than being a passenger" and in 1937 set out to become the first woman to fly around the world. Her disappearance on that trip is as troubling today as it was 70 years ago. EGGLE PROCUTA

movies/tv

ERIC RAY DAVIDSON/CONTU; GETTY IMAGES (J. LUCAS); PATRICK ECCLES/NETHE CW (MELROSE PLACE); ANDREW COOPER/PARAMOUNT PICTURES (SHUTTER ISLAND); NEWS/STONE PAPER (M. CERA); FOX SEARCHLIGHT (AMELIA)