

Merrily

Terry Moore

Terry Moore was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in the 1952 film *Come Back, Little Sheba*. She also starred in countless classic Hollywood films including *Mighty Joe Young* and *Peyton Place*.

When needing to fill the role of Betty Clurman in *Merrily*, director Robert McAtee recalled Terry Moore's magical screen presence. With many obstacles, he attempted to get her the script. After weeks had passed, Robert was starting to look for a plan B. One afternoon, he was eating at a Subway restaurant and going over some of the many pre-production issues. Out of the blue ... to his surprise and delight, he received a personal email from Ms. Moore stating how much she loved the character and absolutely wanted to be in *Merrily*.

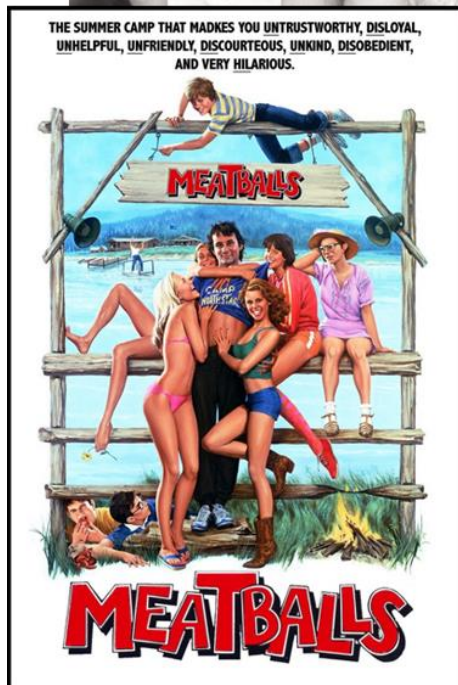
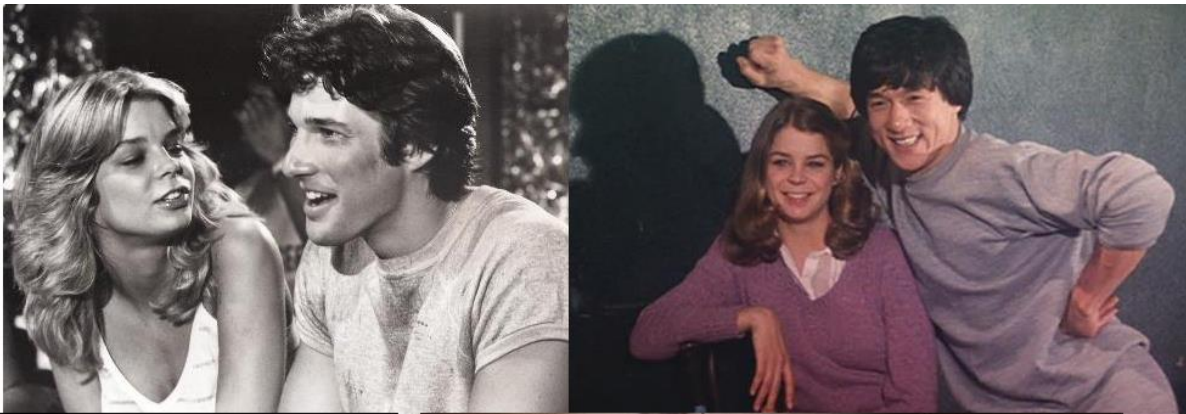


Merrily

Kristine DeBell

A darling of the 1970's, Kristine DeBell was a good luck charm for leading men. She starred alongside these A-list actors in their rookie films: Bill Murray in *Meatballs*, Richard Gere in *Blood Brothers*, and Jackie Chan in *The Big Brawl*. (His first US film)

After a successful television run on hit shows like *Night Court*, *Eight is Enough*, and *The Young and the Restless*, Ms. DeBell left Hollywood to raise her children. Over 20 years later, she returned. On one of her first sets being back in the game, she acted alongside Robert McAtee. They instantly hit it off and have remained friends. Robert wrote the role of Cynthia in *Merrily* with her in mind. Her character is a post office worker in Ohio who comes across an undelivered letter from over 40 years ago. She takes an unexpected journey to attempt to finally deliver it to its intended recipient.

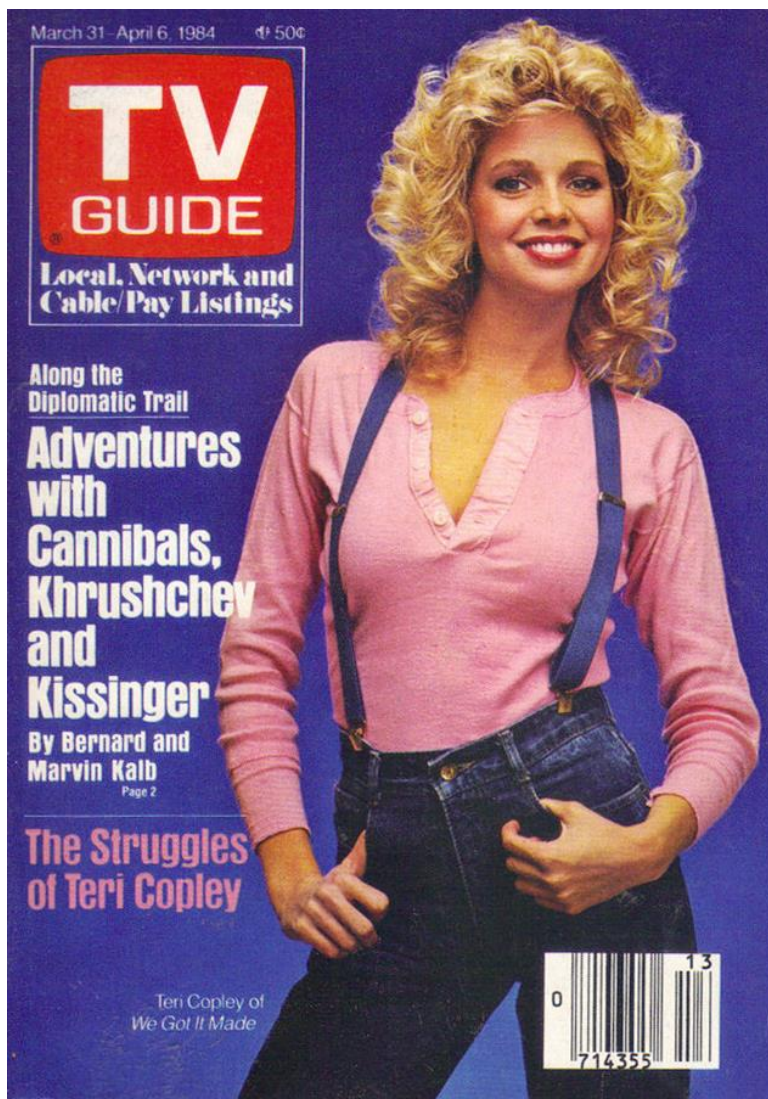


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Teri Copley

Teri Copley enriched the 1980's with her comedic talents and stunning beauty on TV and major films. She starred in the sitcom *We Got it Made* on NBC as well as the comedy-drama *I Had Three Wives* on CBS. After over a decade of Hollywood success, she chose to leave the business.

Years later she decided to dip her toes back into movies. The timing was perfect for Robert McAtee as he had just written the role of Caroline in *Merrily*. "It was such a perfect fit ... it was as if the universe had brought us together," McAtee said. "I literally about fell over when I saw her photo come in when reps had inquired about the role as I had followed her devotedly in the 80's." In *Merrily*, audiences will experience Teri in a powerful dramatic performance like they have never seen from her before.

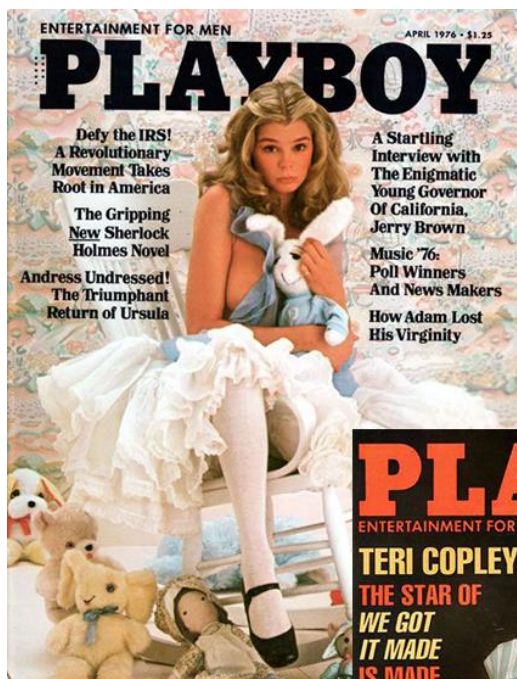


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Playboy Connection

Unbeknownst to director Robert McAtee during the casting process, there was a Playboy connection with three of the classic Hollywood actresses in *Merrily*. Kristine DeBell, Teri Copley and Teri Moore had all graced the cover of *Playboy*.

- DeBell in 1976 when she was just beginning to make a splash.
- Copley in 1990, right before she decided to leave the business.
- Moore in 1984, at the age of 55.
- Paradoxically, McAtee once played Hugh Hefner in a film.



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Filmmaker Robert McAtee had always loved ensemble casts ... and had always been fascinated by dreams and dream-like art of all kinds. So he sat down to write *Merrily* and two years later had finished a script which reflected his vision of life. Achieving his goal of tapping into the subconscious, he layered characters and stories like a painting. As he describes, "... as if Pablo Picasso and Andy Warhol had a love child."

Many independent filmmakers write scripts for a location to which they have access ... such as an uncle that has a cabin. McAtee exercised the opposite approach when writing the dream-like movie, *Merrily*. That resulted in needing to cast over 80 characters and find dozens and dozens of locations on a tiny budget. With the stance that limitations are many times the greatest source of creative solutions, Robert decided to shoot *Merrily* on his own ... taking baby steps. The script attracted an outstanding ensemble which includes an Academy Award Nominated Actress. After 2 years of writing and 3 years of production, McAtee is now reaching out for help. A crowdfunding campaign will be launched for finishing funds: www.gofundme.com/merrily (Post-Production and remaining 20% of the 115 page script)

Fun Facts

- 75% of *Merrily's* crew members are female.
- A dream-like romantic scene was shot in two days ... two and a half years apart. One of those days the actress was displaying her real-life full pregnant belly. She gave birth 48 hours later.
- Two characters each have three different actors portraying them at different ages. Several characters interact with the younger/older versions of themselves.

Merrily

Robert McAtee

Writer/Producer/Composer/Director of Merrily

Merrily's filmmaker, Robert McAtee, is also known as a singer/songwriter, movie composer, actor, and painter.

- His movie *Trail of Crumbs* won over audiences and critics alike with several film festival appearances as well as a nomination for Best Actress in a Feature. Syndicated TV and Movie columnist David Inman wrote "A story that contains heart, humor and everyday weirdness. Like a good book it'll stick with you." Movie critic Richard Propes wrote "One of those indescribable indie flicks that's unafraid to be original, out there . . . the cast is stellar." His animated short *It's Up It's Down* won the Audience Award at HollyShorts in Hollywood.
- In addition to scoring several films, McAtee has four commercially available albums: *An Afternoon in Paris in the Middle of the Night*, *Wounded Love (Original Soundtrack)*, *Impasto*, *Trail of Crumbs (Music for the Motion Picture)*
- Robert McAtee is an actor of film, television, and theater. Movie critics have raved "Top-Notch" "Very Strong" and "Stellar!" for Robert's leading roles in acclaimed feature films. On stage, he played The Visitor (Elvis Presley) in the Los Angeles production of Steve Martin's *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* as well as Clifford in Ira Levin's *Deathtrap*.
- An avid and prolific painter, Robert's work has been seen in Los Angeles art galleries.