


The book thief cast liesel

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Director Brian Percival knew it was crucial to find the right actress to play Liesel Meminger, the young heroine of Markus Zusak's best-selling novel, the book of the book. But after seeing "thousands" of actresses from all over the world, Percival was stuck as he was getting ready for the movie, out on November 15. "Some were good in different ways, but none was actually Liesel," he says. "And it was the key that we found someone who didn't have to act as much as just be Liesel." When she received the tape of the audition of 12-year-old French Canadian actress Sophie NAA© Lisse, Percival knew she had found The perfect person to play the vibrant girl mounted in Nazi Germany. "He was pretty creepy, this guy. I was brought in right away," says Percival. "It was this blend of naive innocence but at the same time it is really beautiful. You feel like you can get kneeling in your groin at any point." NAA©Lisse (whose 9-year-old sister Isabelle starred in the flick horror Mamma) was on board with a cast that included Geoffrey Rush and Emily Watson. The two play German foster parents who take care of Liesel before hiding a young Jewish man (Ben SchnetrÄ©) in their working-class home. Liesel discovers the joy of reading to such an extent that he resorts to stealing books that are always scarce. "It's a great thing to ask to have someone who carries such a key role as aging. If Sophie

