

DISCOVER A PLACE THAT WILL  
NEVER LEAVE YOU,  
AND A FRIENDSHIP THAT  
WILL CHANGE YOU FOREVER.



WALT DISNEY PICTURES AND WALDEN MEDIA  
PRESENT

# BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA

THE BELOVED NOVEL COMES TO LIFE

WALT DISNEY PICTURES AND WALDEN MEDIA PRESENT A HAL LIEBERMAN COMPANY PRODUCTION A LAUREN LEVINE PRODUCTION "BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA"  
JOSH HUTCHERSON ANNASOPHIA ROBB ROBERT PATRICK AND ZOOEY DESCHANEL CASTING BY STEPHANIE CORSALINI CSA CO-PRODUCER KEVIN HALLORAN MUSIC SUPERVISOR LINDSAY FELLOWS  
MUSIC BY AARON ZIGMAN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL CHAPMAN ASC PRODUCED BY HAL LIEBERMAN LAUREN LEVINE DAVID PATERSON BASED ON THE BOOK BY KATHERINE PATERSON  
SCREENPLAY BY JEFF STOCKWELL AND DAVID PATERSON DIRECTED BY GABOR CSUPO  
WALDEN MEDIA Read the Book First HarperCollins  
Disney Pictures  
DISNEY.COM/TERABITHIA  
Produced by Walt Disney Pictures  
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# BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA

ON  BLU-RAY DISC® AND  JUNE 19

In ***Bridge to Terabithia***, rural life for eleven year-old Jess Aarons is permanently altered by his (at first) reluctant friendship with the new girl at Lark Creek Elementary School, a person unlike anyone Jess has ever met before. When Leslie announces to Jess one day, "We need a place, just for us ... a whole secret country, and you and I would be the rulers of it," together they create the fantastic kingdom of Terabithia.

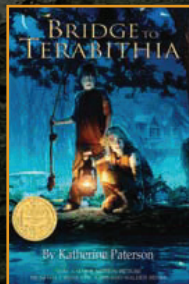
In Terabithia, Jess and Leslie magically reign as King and Queen over giants, trolls, and all manner of mythical creatures. In Terabithia, imagination and friendship spread their wings, enveloping Jess and Leslie in extraordinary adventures. And through Terabithia, Jess will learn that even tragedy can be transformed through insight and understanding – powers of the moral imagination.

***Bridge to Terabithia*** will be released on Disney Blu-ray Disc® and DVD June 19, 2007.



Read the book from

 **HarperCollins Publishers**



**Bridge to Terabithia**  
by Katherine Paterson

Paperback (digest) ISBN: 0061227285

Paperback (rack) ISBN: 0061253707

Audiobook ISBN: 0061227544

**Bridge to Terabithia**  
**The Official Movie Companion**  
by David Paterson  
ISBN: 0061215317

## HOW TO USE THIS POSTER

The activities on this poster are appropriate for students in grades 5-8. Activities correlate with national standards in English/Language Arts, Character Education and the Visual Arts.



FOR GROUP SALES INFORMATION, CALL 1-866-333-0045



# BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA

ON Disney BLU-RAY DISC® AND Disney DVD JUNE 19

A Letter from Walden Media



Among readers, the affection and respect afforded *Bridge to Terabithia*, Katherine Paterson's triumphant novel about the power of imagination, is legendary. When the book was first published in 1977, it offered readers what had not before appeared in children's literature: the simple story of a friendship between a boy and a girl, a friendship so unusual, so engaging, and so timeless that *Bridge to Terabithia* now holds a permanent, revered place in the canon of American Literature for young people. In conversations with educators about this property over the past several years, the mandate to Walden Media couldn't be clearer: the loftiness of *Bridge to Terabithia*'s flights of fancy demands a faithful film of weight and depth.

Walden Media's deep respect for Katherine Paterson's writing thus informs our film, as well as our educational program and materials. For guidance and inspiration, we have turned to Paterson's own account, which she has generously shared with us, of the way she created *Bridge to Terabithia*. She reveals the ways that her creative and literary imagination informed her writing of this beloved story. We are thus pleased to offer Katherine Paterson's example as a model - to ourselves, to you, and to your students - for our collective, creative, and literary growth.

Sincerely,  
Cary Granat and Micheal Flaherty  
Co-founders, Walden Media

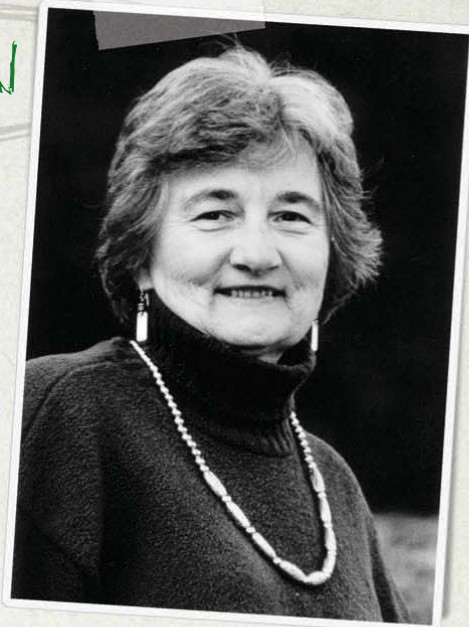
## MEET

## KATHERINE PATERSON

Katherine Paterson was born to American missionary parents in China's Jiangsu province in 1932. Her family lived there until they were forced to evacuate to the US during the Japanese invasion of World War II. Due to her parents' work, Paterson moved frequently throughout her childhood and often felt ostracized by her classmates. She found refuge in books and is still an avid reader. Paterson majored in English at King College, Bristol, Tennessee, received her M.A. from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education and her M.R.E. from New York's Union Theological Seminary. Paterson also taught in rural Virginia, Japan, and New Jersey. She married and raised a family of four children. Currently, she maintains her passion for reading and writing at her home in Barre, Vermont.

Katherine Paterson began to write seriously in 1964, but didn't publish her first novel until 1973. *Bridge to Terabithia* was born of Paterson's deep need to make sense of inexplicable tragedy when her young son David's best friend, a girl named Lisa Hill, was killed when she was struck by lightning.

Paterson spent a year writing *Bridge to Terabithia*, which was published in 1977. The novel received the Newbery Medal for outstanding contribution to children's literature in 1978. Paterson received her second Newbery Medal in 1981 for her novel *Jacob Have I Loved*. Katherine Paterson's distinguished writing career has also garnered her the 2006 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, given "for life-long work or artistry" in the field of children's literature. To learn more about this award see: [www.alma.se/page.php](http://www.alma.se/page.php)



Check out [www.walden.com](http://www.walden.com) for additional activities.

Learn more about the movie at [disney.com/Terabithia](http://disney.com/Terabithia)

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## ACTIVITY ONE

# THE GIANTS IN OUR LIVES

**W**e all know people who seem bigger than life. For Katherine Paterson it was Pansy, the seventh grade bully at her school. Explore the character Janice Avery and discover why she seems bigger than life to Jess and Leslie.

"Leslie liked to make up stories about the giants that threatened the peace of Terabithia, but they both knew that the real giant in their lives was Janice Avery."  
—*Bridge to Terabithia*, p. 61



### KATHERINE PATERSON: ON HER OWN WORDS

#### How the Character Janice Avery Came to Be

One of the criticisms [my editor] made [of the *Bridge to Terabithia* manuscript] was that in the course of the story she could see Jess changing and growing, but she couldn't see much change in Leslie. She said if it's a true friendship, both friends will change. So her idea was that I needed to find something that would show Leslie had changed by knowing Jess. She may have thrown out a few ideas to me, and I said, "No, no, no, no, no."

Suddenly, from the ancient dust of the playground at Calvin H. Wiley School, I remembered Pansy, the seventh grade bully — this huge girl — who would march around the playground and beat everyone up. I would get revenge and put her in my book. Of course, I didn't. I couldn't just take somebody out of life and put her in the book because I didn't know what made Pansy such a bully. So I created Janice Avery. She would become the character who could help Leslie change. Now I have to know why Janice Avery is a bully because she is in my book. And so I start examining Janice Avery....

### ACTIVITY

#### BEFORE READING

Make a prediction about why you think Katherine Paterson describes the character Janice Avery as "the real giant in [Jess and Leslie's] lives," and how she might "threaten their peace."

Make a prediction about how you think Leslie and Jess will deal with Janice Avery.

#### DURING READING

Now read Chapter 5, "The Giant Killers," to find out how Leslie and Jess dealt with Janice. Summarize how they handled the situation.

#### AFTER READING

How did your prediction compare with what happens in the story? Do you agree or disagree with the way Leslie and Jess handled their problem with Janice Avery? Why?

Who — or what — are the "giants" in your life? What makes them so?

National Standards: English/Language Arts:  
NCTE/IRA Standard 2: Reading for Understanding  
Duration: Two 45-minute class periods.  
Materials: Classroom set of reproductions of Activity 1; paper and pencils; individual copies of *Bridge to Terabithia* for student use.

Learn more about the movie at [disney.com/Terabithia](http://disney.com/Terabithia)

Check out [www.walden.com](http://www.walden.com) for additional activities.

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