

Emma Roberts on the Upside of Acting with Dogs

“Hotel for Dogs” star says dogs force actors to “always be on your toes.”

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Emma Roberts in "Hotel for Dogs"

Courtesy Jaimie Trueblood/DreamWorks “Hotel for Dogs” star Emma Roberts – daughter of actor Eric Roberts and niece to Oscar-winner Julia – says acting with dog actors has its upside.

“First of all, you have to always be on your toes doing your best because if you do a bad take and the dog does well, they’re like, ‘Oh, that’s the one we’re using,’” Roberts told Parade. “We would always joke around that the dogs were upstaging us, but we loved them as much as everybody else.”

Roberts has two pets at home, a Chihuahua named Twiggy and a cat named Stranger. “I talk to them like you talk to babies, when you’re going, ‘Oh, you’re so cute,’ and stuff like that,” she said. “I don’t really have conversations with them, but my 8-year-old sister does.”

Roberts insists that beyond the starring roles and Hollywood premieres, she’s just a regular teenager.

“I’m not a goody-goody. But I’m not like a bad kid,” she said. “I mean, I try to do my best, but everybody makes mistakes sometimes. I get in trouble. I talk back a lot. And my room is a mess. I have a chair and once you can’t see it because there’s so many clothes on it that’s when my mom gets really mad.”

“Hotel for Dogs” is now in theaters.