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American Girl: Ultimate Visual Guide



Synopsis

American Girl® Ultimate Visual Guide will be a treasured addition to every American Girl fan's bookshelf. With gorgeous images of every BeForever™ and Girl of the Year™ doll, an expanded section on the TrulyMe™ dolls, a detailed timeline of the company, and tons of exclusive behind-the-scenes information, this book takes readers on a wonderful journey from the start of The Pleasant Company all the way through to present day. Did you know American Girl creator Pleasant T. Rowland first described her idea for a line of dolls on a postcard to her friend, Valerie Tripp? Or that the first American Girl pet, Coconut the white Westie, was introduced in 2000? Find out all about your favorite characters and their lives, historical eras, outfits, pets, accessories, and more with the American Girl Ultimate Visual Guide. © 2016 American Girl. All rights reserved. American Girl and associated trademarks are owned by and used under license from American Girl.

Book Information

Series: American Girl

Hardcover: 200 pages

Publisher: DK Children (September 6, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1465444963

ISBN-13: 978-1465444967

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 0.7 x 12.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (24 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #5,665 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #68 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Girls & Women](#) #1696 in [Books > Reference](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

I admit, I was so looking forward to this book's release so when it was available for review, I snatched it up and am so glad I did. First, this is a big, beautiful book, and so beautifully laid out and organized. It covers a lot of information - the history of how American Girl started, a timeline of events and releases, how they design the dolls and Girl of the Year dolls... just a ton of information. Then it dives into the BeForever line (the historical dolls). It covers every one of the dolls even the

ones that have been retired. The photos are truly stunning. I have a few of the historical dolls and it has a good blend of the clothing and playlets of the Beforever branding and pre-Beforever. (for example, Kit Kittredge on one page is in her Beforever outfit, and on another page featuring Ruthie, she's in her original cardigan and skirt outfit). While it doesn't contain every outfit or accessory, it does a good job of representing the doll and her era. Next up is the Girl of the Year. It includes beautiful pictures of each GOTY. This is wonderful if you are like me and love to see the accessories, clothing and 'big' items of the dolls. There's also a little bio of each doll. I have a few of the GOTY and many of them I don't have much accessories or clothes for, so it is so fun to go back in time and see what I missed and what was part of the collection. The GOTY goes all the way to Lea Clark, GOTY 2016. Next is the Truly Me line. This is the line I am least familiar with, but saw many photos of outfits I've seen very recently in pages of the catalog or in the store. It explains the Truly Me concept as giving "every girl a chance to find a best friend who is just right for her.

When I was a child, I was absolutely obsessed with American Girl. I would read and re-read the books, so much so that the cover and the first chapter or so of "Meet Molly" had started to fall apart. I would also put on the plays of my favorite characters (Felicity, Molly, and Samantha) and would pore over the catalogs and magazines. My nostalgia and love of the American Girl products spurred me to buy my first doll, Felicity, in 2010. After that I was hooked and I now own over a dozen different American Girl dolls. I am now a proud collector of American Girl (and I am not embarrassed to admit that and you might be surprised to know how many adult American Girl doll collectors there actually are). The book is divided into different sections: -The History of American Girl. This tells all about how Pleasant Company/American Girl was started. It includes sketches from Pleasant Rowland on how she thought the dolls might be shipped to sketches on what outfits might look like. It includes a timeline of important happenings in the 30 of the company's existence. I liked this section a lot as some of the pictures and facts were ones that I wasn't aware of. -The Beforever section. Beforever is the name of American Girl's historical dolls and stories. This section includes every girl that they have released, so that includes dolls that are currently archived (Felicity, Elizabeth, Caroline, Kirsten, Cecile, Marie-Grace, Ruthie, Molly, Emily, and Ivy). Each main Beforever doll gets four pages that gives some facts about the girl's story and showcases a small selection of outfits with the dolls posing. Each doll that is classified as a Best Friend gets two pages.

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