

**Narrator:** The very night that Juliette Gordon Low arrived back in Savannah after her time in London and meeting with Sir Robert Baden-Powell, she phoned her cousin, Miss Nina Anderson Pape. Daisy was so excited about her time with Sir Robert and his sister, Miss Agnes Baden-Powell that she couldn't wait to share the news.

**Juliette Gordon Low:** Hello, Nina. It is Daisy. Come right over! I've got something for the girls of Savannah—and all America and the entire world—and we're going to start it tonight!

**Nina Pape:** Well, certainly Daisy! What has you so excited?

**Juliette Gordon Low:** Come over and I'll tell you all about it!

**Narrator:** So, Miss Pape, Daisy's close friend and the Principal of a local girls' school, hurried over, eager as always to see Daisy, and curious to know what her latest wild idea might be.

**Juliette Gordon Low:** Welcome! Please sit down and have some tea. You know, of course that I have been in London, and while there I met Sir Robert Baden-Powell. He started the Boy Scout movement, you know. Well, when he first formed the Boy Scouts, six thousand girls registered as Scouts. He didn't want girls traipsing about the country after his Boy Scouts, so he encouraged his sister, Miss Agnes to form a society of Girl Guides! It is very funny, but their first law was that they must not even SPEAK to a Boy Scout if they saw him in uniform! Now, Nina I like girls and I like the organization and the rules and the pastimes, so of course I got involved!

**Narrator:** And so Daisy did get involved. In August 1911, she wrote to her Papa.

**Juliette Gordon Low:** Papa, I am putting together a corp of Girl Guides here. The Highland Girls are so far from the world they remain ignorant in all details of nursing the sick and the way to feed and bring up delicate children.

**Narrator:** Daisy worked with a group of seven girls, some of which had to walk seven miles just to attend their meeting.

**Juliette Gordon Low:** Girls, over our next few meetings, we are going to learn knot tying, spinning wool, knitting, first aid and personal hygiene.

**Narrator:** It was a complete success both for Daisy and the girls, and when it was time for her to leave Lochs, she found another adult to take her place. Then, she came home to Savannah and she was still excited. Let's pick up the story as the friends are visiting.

**Juliette Gordon Low:** Nina, you just cannot believe how much those English girls enjoyed the opportunity for a taste of outdoor life and the many skills they learned. Nina, don't you think that the girls in your school would be interested, too?

**Nina:** Yes, I do and there is a group of girls that already meet every Saturday. It is a naturalist group and they go to the woods, to learn about trees and birds. These girls can be our first group! And even better, Page Anderson is a member!

**Narrator:** Page Anderson was the daughter of Daisy's cousin Randolph Anderson.

**Juliette Gordon Low:** "Randolph, this is Daisy; I have something simply wonderful to tell Page. Can I come over for dinner this evening?"

**Narrator:** No sooner had Daisy entered the Anderson home, she began tying knots and talking about all of the fun activities she was planning for her Girl Guides.

**Juliette Gordon Low:** The English girls are simply begging to join our group.

**Page Anderson:** Why are American girls being denied these joys?

**Narrator:** And that was just what Daisy had been waiting for!

**Juliette Gordon Low:** They most certainly will not be denied. Any girl who wants to join is welcome and always will be welcome!

**Narrator:** Page flew off to inform the other members of her naturalist group.

**Page:** If any of you would like to join the other girls in my cousin Daisy's troop of Girl Guides, please come to our first meeting this Sunday, March 12.

**Narrator:** And that is how it happened that the next Sunday evening, on March 12, 1912, Page Anderson and 17 of her friends were formally enrolled in two troops as the first Girl Guides in America. At that meeting:

**Page:** Daisy, what should the girls do?

**Juliette Gordon Low:** What do the girls WANT to do?

**Narrator:** And as they say . . . the rest is history!

*You can end the skit at this point, or for an extended version have the narrator continue.*

***Narrator: Come right over! I've got something for the girls of Savannah and all America and all the world and we're going to start it tonight!***

When these historic words were spoken 100 years ago by Juliette Gordon Low, the lives of American girls were changed forever.

Juliette firmly believed that American girls needed to live active lives outside the home, where they could contribute to society as full citizens. She knew that encouraging diversity would make Girl Scouting a richer and more embracing experience, one that would allow every girl to blossom.

Juliette Low, and every volunteer and staff person who has followed in her footsteps during the last 100 years, has held true to that vision while offering a clear and powerful message to every girl: ***You matter.***

You matter to your Girl Scout friends. You matter to your community. You matter to the nation. You matter to the world.

Today, we are poised to move into our second century. The same energy that inspired Juliette Low in 1912 continues today and will continue for decades to come. Inspired by our mission—to build girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place—we will not stop until our job is done and all girls can see a future filled with hope, opportunity and achievement." (The last excerpt is from: *girl scouts, A Celebration of 100 Trailblazing Years.*)