

The Twilight Lexicon interview with Rachelle Lefevre cast as Victoria in the film adaptation of Twilight by Stephenie Meyer. Interview conducted by Cocoa.

We would like to thank Rachelle for taking a moment to answer a few of the questions that have been on the fans minds.

Lexicon - Why did you decide to become an actor?

Rachelle - I was at home one night watching "Annie" when I was really little and when she appeared at the top of the steps at Daddy Warbucks' house I announced, "Heeere's Annie" Johnny Carson style and I knew one day that had to be me up there.

Lexicon - Do you prefer stage, television, or film? Why?

Rachelle - As a kid, every week I wanted to be something different, a lawyer, teacher, marine biologist, police officer, anything really. One day I realized I didn't want to do any of those things, I wanted to be on TV, which is of course where I was seeing people pretend to do all of these things, so TV has a special place in my heart. That being said, the moments growing up where I was most affected were always in film and I love the idea of having only two hours to tell a story that might really resonate with someone. I learned on stage and I'm dying to get back there, I believe it's where you find yourself as an actor.

Lexicon - Who are your favorite actors? Which inspire you?

Rachelle - My three Kates: Cate Blanchett, Kate Hepburn and Kate Winslet, of course Meryl Streep, Laura Linney. These are women who are just so grounded, so sure of themselves, even when the character is unsure, they're not. I really strive to be that present, that solid. They tell the truth and that's the bravest thing to do.

Lexicon - What would you consider to be your dream role?

Rachelle - I do have a dream role, which is to play Boudica but I don't think I would ever be satisfied, like, I played that role I can relax now, things are never what you expect. I'm just starting out really so right now I think every role is a dream role!

Lexicon - What is the funniest thing to ever happen to you on set?

Rachelle - The funniest thing that ever happened to me that was work related was not on set it was on the way to an audition. I was wearing a wrap skirt and I was crossing the street to get to the casting office and I was at a major intersection. Suddenly I felt something tugging at my ankles and it was my skirt! I

was standing next to a freeway off ramp in my undies! Horrifying but I laugh really hard now when I think about it.

Lexicon - The Twilight fandom loves music, Do you have any favorite songs or bands? What is playing on your iPod right now?

Rachelle - For me letting someone go through my ipod is a very intimate act! You're so exposed, all your bad taste and guilty pleasures on display. Nikki just introduced me to Laura Marling who I am obsessed with and Kristen got David Bowie back in my rotation. I love Joni Mitchell and Tracy Chapman but I also rock out to Patti Griffin and the Dixie Chicks. Okay, I like to workout to Britney Spears. There I said it.

Lexicon - Do you have any book recommendations for us? Other favorite vampire novels?

Rachelle - Dracula is the Vampire book to rule them all I think. Books I love include "She's Come Undone" by Wally Lamb, "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime" by Marc Haddon and "Slaughterhouse Five" by Kurt Vonnegut. I can also read the romantic poets for hours as well as Dorothy Parker and anything by Oscar Wilde.

Lexicon - What made you want to audition for the role of Victoria ?

Rachelle - Catherine Hardwicke was directing. It was about Vampires. It was a chance to play total menace.

Lexicon - Can you tell us a little about your audition process?

Rachelle - It's a bit like trying to catch the light. I know that sounds really "artsy" but it's true. I do the work – learn the lines, read the script, form as much of a full character as I have time for – and then I just kind of, go. Sometimes there's magic in the room and sometimes I need ice cream after.

Lexicon - Can you tell us what it's like working with Catherine Hardwicke? (We have heard so much about her, but no real stories.)

Rachelle - The further you test the boundaries the more excited she gets. She wants to see you really go on the ride. There was a lot of stunts and CGI in my stuff so it can be technical but she's right there with you. I remember I did this scene where I was taunting someone and I looked over to her at the end of the take and she was making the face I was making, like she was feeling menacing with me. I loved that.

Lexicon - Did all the baseball training leave you with a craving to join a league? Was this your first physical role?

Rachelle - I've always been really athletic so I loved it. The stunts got me the most excited, I did as much of my own stuff as they would allow. I played an exotic dancer (a very tame version) on a TV show last year and they sent me for pole dancing classes. That was just about the hardest, most athletic thing I've ever done and I horseback ride, took kickboxing and scuba dive! The upper body strength required was insane.

Lexicon - What's it like playing a vampire? How do you prepare for a role like that?

Rachelle - I approached Victoria as a woman first, then as a vampire. Who is she? What made her this way? What was her past life like as a mortal? I had a lot of fun going down that road. For the vampire stuff specifically I mined the books and then because Stephenie describes her as feline I watched a lot of lion attacks on YouTube.

Lexicon - How would you describe Victoria 's character?

Rachelle - Menacing, unforgiving, vengeful, betrayed, animal, wounded, fierce.

Lexicon - There isn't much known about Victoria 's back story, did you create one of your own?

Rachelle - I sure did.

Lexicon - What was your favorite scene to film to shoot? Any fun stories you would like to share?

Rachelle - I don't have a favorite scene but there was this one scene where Nikki and I started really getting in each other's faces (as Victoria and Rosalie) but the scene wasn't really about us and Catherine finally had to say, "Okay ladies, rein it in." If we do more movies I hope her and I have a good fight scene!

Lexicon - What elements of your own life do you draw upon to play Victoria? Is she anything like you (aside from the hair)?

Rachelle - Victoria is like all of the parts we all have but don't like to admit or pretend aren't there. She's what we might all look like if we followed those nastier impulses.

Lexicon - How would you describe James and Victoria's relationship?

Rachelle - Hot. Very hot.

Lexicon - With the damp and cold weather how did you keep you warm with all the outdoor shooting?

Rachelle - We didn't. We froze! I think I had about twelve hot chocolates in three days.

Lexicon - Are you surprised by the hype surrounding this film? Have you had any Twilight Fan encounters yet?

Rachelle - Actually, I go to this restaurant all the time and one of the girls was like, "Are you playing Victoria in Twilight?" She was so excited and I was shocked! I'm so glad people are excited because I too loved the books.

Lexicon - Do you visit any online fan sites?

Rachelle - I have a girlfriend who sends me EVERYTHING. I read some of it but I basically try and not think about it too much. It can be too much pressure otherwise, and it clouds my head.

Lexicon - Since you're a fan of the books, who would you choose, Edward or Jacob?

Rachelle - Edward. What can I say? I have a thing for vampires.

Lexicon - How is the movie stacking up to how you envisioned it while reading? What is it like seeing your vision of the book come to life, first hand?

Rachelle - It's incredible. I really think it's all in the casting and I think everyone is phenomenal and so dedicated. Kristen and Rob are just beautiful together.

Lexicon - Did you have the opportunity to meet Stephenie Meyer? If so, can you tell us about that meeting?

Rachelle - I wasn't on set when she came to visit but I look forward to meeting her soon.

Lexicon - Do you have anything on the horizon we can look forward to seeing you in?

Rachelle - I have a film coming out in May called "Fugitive Pieces" and I'm currently filming an arc on "Boston Legal." I just wrapped a mini-series, a political thriller called "The Summit" that will air later this year in the USA, Britain and Canada. And I am off to NY to work on a pilot that stars one of my favorite actresses Geena Davis.

Lexicon - Our male Twilight users want to know...are you single?

Rachelle - Ha! No, I'm not single. Not married, but definitely not available!

Lexicon - Personal Message to the fans:

Rachelle - Thank you so much for your support. Please know we are doing everything possible to get it right and to take good care of this story, which you, and we, love so much!

Once again we would like to thank Rachelle and also her management for allowing us to get to know you a little better. We look forward to your portrayal of Victoria this December and wish you the best of luck in your new endeavors.

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