

DECEMBER 2018 - ISSUE 24

THE ROWLING LIBRARY MAGAZINE

Grindelwald
and Leta's
Costumes

Will the box
office affect
the next
films?

Is that
Minerva
McGonagall?

The Mirror,
the Boggart and
the Blood Pact

The Beasts
Index

Has Queenie
really turned to
the dark side?

My Trip to
Magical Paris
(Set Visit)

All about the Crimes

**The biggest reveal of the third act
may be the biggest reveal in the Potter History**

FANTASTIC BEASTS
THE CRIMES OF
GRINDELWALD

SPECIAL EDITION: 34 PAGES



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Issue 24 - Year 3

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Contents

AURELIUS DUMBLEDORE	6	<i>Who is this character that was shockingly revealed at the end of Fantastic Beasts: Crimes of Grindelwald?</i>
IS THAT MINERVA MCGONAGALL?	8	<i>Mcgonagall is mentioned in Crimes of Grindelwald. Is it the Minerva we know and love?</i>
GO BACK IN TIME	10	<i>Test your knowledge of J.K. Rowling and her works.</i>
THE BLOOD PACT	12	<i>A new wrinkle was introduced into the second Fantastic Beasts film. Read about its effect on the story.</i>
THE MIRROR OF ERISED AND BOGGART	13	<i>We know both of these things from the Harry Potter books, so why have they changed?</i>
HAS QUEENIE REALLY GONE TO THE OTHER SIDE?	14	<i>Queenie decided to join Grindelwald, will this be her lasting decision?</i>
MY TRIP TO MAGICAL PARIS	16	<i>Take a look behind the scenes of Crimes of Grindelwald with Eli Black.</i>
THE BEAST INDEX	20	<i>Read about all the creatures from the Fantastic Beasts films.</i>
LETA LESTRANGE	24	<i>Read about Lessie Snape's transformation to Leta Lestrange for the Crimes of Grindelwald premiere.</i>
GELLERT GRINDELWALD	28	<i>Find out how much work and dedication it took for Matías Vera to become Gellert Grindelwald.</i>
WILL THE BOX OFFICE AFFECT THE NEXT FILMS?	34	<i>The performance of the second Fantastic Beasts film was not as good as expected. Will that affect the next three?</i>

A NOTE FROM THE *Editor*

What a month! November arrived and with it... The Crimes of Grindelwald. Did you watch it? If you didn't, please don't read this special issue filled with spoilers.

After watching we were speechless. What was that ending?! The film was full of revelations, but that plot twist in the last scene was too much. This issue of The Rowling Library Magazine is 100% dedicated to the last film, full of articles, theories, analysis, and even tutorials to make your own Grindelwald and Leta costumes.

We would like to include your opinion on the next issue, so feel free to write to us at info@therowlinglibrary.com with your review of the film, and/or comments on this issue. We hope you like it and see you in 2019!



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AURELIUS DUMBLEDORE

At the end of “Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald”, Johnny Depp’s character revealed to us (and to Credence) the existence of Aurelius Dumbledore – who could be the lost brother of Albus Dumbledore.

This shocking plot twist could go against all our canon knowledge – we know Albus Dumbledore only has a brother (Aberforth) and a sister (Ariana), so another sibling could complicate things. We have a few theories on how this would fit in the established canon:

1. This could be a lie told by Grindelwald to convince Credence to go after Albus Dumbledore – after all, we know Gellert Grindelwald is seductive and manipulative. He could be lying to Credence Barone, as he did before (in the form of Percival Graves). If you watch the film again, note that Abernathy and Rosier change the Lestrangle Archives in the French Ministry and put them in the Lestrangle family mausoleum. We don’t know if they modified them – they could have hidden something important about Credence identity. Also, when Grimmson is talking to Grindelwald below the bridge, he says he killed “the woman”, as if that was the order. Why? Because probably the half-elf woman knew the truth about Credence and she could be a dangerous loose end.

2. What is part of Credence is Ariana’s Obscurus. After Ariana’s death, her Obscurus went to live in Credence’s body. That would explain why Grindelwald says “Your brother” – he is talking to the Obscurus, not to Credence. Why is he changing its name and referring to it with another name instead of Ariana? We don’t know.

3. If we ignore the “your brother” statement – one of the best theories is that Credence could be Ariana’s son. Remember three young Muggles did horrible things to Ariana (for which later Percival, Albus’ father, took revenge). Those horrible things could be rape, and that would make another theory about Credence’s identity. However, this would sound weird at least – because she was attacked by the Muggles when she was only six years old. Another theory along these lines is that Ariana could have borne a baby after moving to Godric’s Hollow, while she was in the care of her mother. From the books, we know that

It is almost impossible for Aurelius / Credence to be another sibling in the Dumbledore’s family – mainly because of his age. Percival Dumbledore was convicted to Azkaban (and died in there, as we know in Deathly Hallows), a year before Dumbledore’s first year at Hogwarts. Kendra’s funeral was just after Dumbledore left Hogwarts when he was only 17, so again

numbers don't make much sense. And again, only one brother and sister are mentioned in the books: "With a younger brother and sister to care for, and little gold left to them, there could no longer be any question of Albus accompanying me", says Elphias Doge in his Dumbledore's obituary.

However, what could shed a light on this, is that Grindelwald may not be referring to Albus Dumbledore at all when he said "Your brother tried to kill you". It was a editing trick - when we hear Grindelwald saying that, Albus Dumbledore is being young walking on Hogwarts with Newt Scamander. This could be a trick to make us think in Jude Law's character - and then associate it to him when Grindelwald says "Aurelius Dumbledore"; but he could be referring to someone else. In fact, Albus Dumble-

dore did not try to kill Credence, and there are high chances that Credence does not know who Albus Dumbledore is (yet).

So, who could be talking about Grindelwald? The first option is Yusuf Kama. He tried to kill Credence - and he is his (half) brother. If Gellert is talking about him, he would not be lying - but the question is: why? Why Grindelwald would mention him? To show him as an out-cast, as someone who is not even loved by his blood family?

But in "The Crimes of Grindelwald" we saw one character trying to kill Credence: Gunnar Grimmson. This bounty hunter, who worked for the British Ministry of Magic, also works for Grindelwald. He killed Irma Dugard to avoid Credence getting answers about his origins, and pushed him into Gellert Grindelwald's arms. He showed to be very powerful when he faced the Obscurus: he was able to cast a very powerful Shield Charm, and he Apparated away from Credence without deactivating the Shield Charm until the very last moment. Moreover, he casted Avada Kedavra easily, and he was able to move through walls, something we never saw anybody to do in the Wizarding World. He is definitely a very powerful wizard, who is aware of the motto "For the Greater Good", as he says in his scene with Grindelwald under the bridge. Could he be a Dumbledore, cousin of Albus, who knows both of them since they were teens, and chose to follow Grindelwald? He is a skilled wizard, which means he could definitely be a Dumbledore. The best part of Gunnar Grimmson being a Dumbledore working for Grindelwald - and being the brother of Credence - is that it would make perfect sense and it would not contradict canon in any way.

Anyway, we still have three movies ahead and J.K. Rowling will probably surprise us again with more plot twist, revelations and plotlines. We just need to wait.



Is That Minerva McGonagall?

A week before the film was released, Warner Bros. released the full cast list for *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald* and someone truly important to the Harry Potter world came up among these names.

According to the press release, actress Fiona Glascott had been cast as no other than Minerva McGonagall. What's relevant about this addition is how old Glascott is. The Irish actress is 35 years old, which means that she'll be portraying an adult McGonagall. And once you see the film, you can confirm this. McGonagall, the *Minerva McGonagall* we know, appears in the film. And obviously that's quite interesting because we were all excited about young Dumbledore, but something's not right there about a younger version of the Head of Gryffindor. The *Crimes of Grindelwald* takes place around the late 1920s, which means that McGonagall hasn't been born yet. How do we know about this? The *HP Lexicon* has thoroughly carried out the timeline for McGonagall with information provided by Pottermore, the Harry Potter books and comments by Rowling herself, and the math doesn't add up.

The first clue of McGonagall's age comes in *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*, when Umbridge asks her "How long have you been teaching at Hogwarts?", at which Minerva answers "Thirty-nine years this December," and since the fifth book happens between 1995 and 1996, this gives us the following fact: Minerva

McGonagall started to teach at Hogwarts in December 1956.

Pottermore also tells us that right after Hogwarts, she worked for two years in the Ministry of Magic, until she was offered the position of Transfiguration teacher (and even Albus Dumbledore, the headmaster of Hogwarts, offered the job). This means she left Hogwarts as a student in July 1954, and therefore, she started attending in 1947 when she was 11, which means she was born in 1935.

Let's analyse all the options. Could this Minerva McGonagall being a relative of the McGonagall we know with the same name? There is in fact a great-grandmother on her mother's side after whom our McGonagall was named. But it is on her mother's side, so she wouldn't have the McGonagall surname and she wouldn't be in her thirties in the 1920s. And his father was a Muggle who did not know about the Wizarding World, so there couldn't be a Hogwarts teacher on his side of the family.

It isn't also very clear, if you watch the film, that Glascott plays the Minerva McGonagall we all know and love. So a McGonagall in the *Fantastic Beasts* timeline is an addition to other canon controversies that have arisen with the film trailers, such as Nagini and Dumbledore teaching Defense Against the Arts. These are not entirely canon contradictions, but they were not well received by fans.



Her addition sounds very weird - not only because in 1929 she was only three years old, but also because she was featured also in the flashback scenes of little Leta Lestrange at Hogwarts. Which means she could be even older than Albus Dumbledore!

To end this, note that Pottermore changed her bio. Originally, it said “She grew up in the Highlands of Scotland **in the early twentieth century**, and only gradually became aware that there was something strange, both about her own abilities, and her parents’ marriage.”, but the “in the early twentieth century” was recently removed. So it seems Pottermore is definitely aware of this error and we may receive an explanation soon of the whole affair. We just expect it to be something convincing!

GO BACK IN TIME

Test your knowledge of J.K. Rowling and her works by answering the questions below.
The solutions are at the bottom of the page.

WHO SAID IT?

“I want you to take this. A way of letting me know if Snape’s giving you a hard time.”

WHAT BOOK?

“But you’re Muggles! We must have a drink! What’s that you’ve got there? Oh, you’re changing Muggle money. Molly, look!”

WHAT YEAR?

Just looking at the picture of J.K. Rowling, can you identify in what year it was taken?



Solutions: [1] Sirius Black. [2] Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets. [3] 2003 (Time Magazine).



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THE BLOOD PACT

In “Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald” we know the reason why Dumbledore cannot go against Grindelwald. Although hinted through the whole film, it is confirmed by the Hogwarts teacher to Newt Scamander in one of the last scenes: he can’t fight Grindelwald because of a blood pact they made when they were teenagers. Newt Scamander gives Grindelwald’s pendant to Dumbledore, where drops of blood (from both characters) are stored. Dumbledore says that he may be able to destroy it, implying that the blood pact isn’t something abstract but actually lays in there, and destroying the artefact would destroy the pact.

The idea is novel and it introduces a new spell in the Wizarding World, similar to the Unbreakable Vow. The problem with this Blood Pact is that it simplifies things for Dumbledore’s character. We used to believe he couldn’t move against Grindelwald because he loved him or because it would mean to face the truth about who killed Ariana (Albus’ sister) when they were young. But the reason is simpler and makes the relationship less complex. He can’t move against Grindelwald just because of that device, and destroying it would solve it. It puts Dumbledore’s fear and feelings in the background, making the pendant that main reason for their distance.

If this isn’t Dumbledore hiding his feelings and using the artifact just as a public excuse of why he can’t move against his ex-friend, it would make the character flat and dull, ignoring the feelings that he felt of Grindelwald all this years and just using a pact (that he clearly regrets) as the only reason of why he cannot attack him.

Mirror of Erised and Boggart: Changed for the Sake of the Plot

Besides Dumbledore, Hogwarts was the other thing we were waiting to see back. And with Hogwarts, two devices from the Harry Potter books came with it. In fact, we see them inside the walls of the magical castle: The Mirror of Erised and a Boggart. Both are used to show us the feelings about certain characters, but their original meaning and purpose are changed just for that.

The first one is the Mirror of Erised, which should show the deepest desire of those who look at it. However, for Dumbledore it shows a memory (happy or unhappy, we cannot know yet), but it is used in the film to depict the moment Dumbledore and Grindelwald made their blood pact. If Dumbledore's deepest desire was to change that moment, he would have seen that: himself avoiding the blood pact, but not the exact memory of that moment. The Mirror of Erised doesn't show happy memories (Harry doesn't see himself as a baby with his parents, but a grown-up version with all this family, including grandparents). If the purpose was to show the moment of the blood pact through Albus' eyes, a Pensieve would have worked better.

Something similar happens with the Boggart. The physical form that this creature takes should inspire terror in the person who is looking at it, not just remind them of a fear. Neville sees Snape, Harry sees a Dementor, Molly Weasley sees Ron's corpse. It has to give you physical fear. Newt seeing an office desk is just silly – a better form for the boggart would have been a letter offering a desk job for Newt, maybe, but not just a desktop. It doesn't make any sense (Newt hasn't a phobia for desks). Something similar happens for Leta. If her worst fear is being discovered for what she did to her brother, seeing something falling in the water won't make her scared. A smarter boggart would have been an Auror accusing her of killing her brother, or a Ministry employee with an arrest order – but just the corpse of her brother floating in deep water is useless as a fear.

So at the end, we are left with the feeling that both devices, the Mirror of Erised and the boggarts, changed their concept to be used to explain certain aspects of these characters by betraying their original meaning from the Harry Potter books. Although we understand this decision, since it is complicated to explain things or show something without a narrative voice (as J.K. Rowling is used to doing in her books), we would have preferred to leave these magical artifacts to do the work from the original series.

Has Queenie Really Gone

Given the fact that Queenie Goldstein was first introduced as a loving, empathetic character in *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, fans are still trying to find a logical explanation regarding Queenie's actions at the end of *The Crimes of Grindelwald*.

J.K. Rowling made her mark as a writer not only for the amazing story she created when writing the *Harry Potter* books but also for her amazing skills when disclosing key elements of the plot, in a very subtle way. For example, during *The Chamber of Secrets*, Ron is punished for at-

So, if we take a look at the promotional posters launched a few weeks before the premiere, the main characters are looking either to the right or to the left. Whereas Tina Goldstein, Newt Scamander, Jacob Kowalski and Albus Dumbledore have their faces oriented to the left side of the posters, Queenie and Grindelwald are looking at the opposite direction. This may have been, perhaps, the first clue regarding Queenie's choice at the end of the film.

As the film develops, we find out Queenie and Jacob are a couple again. However, Jacob seems

detached from the real world, as he is being enchanted by Queenie. It is possible to see, then, one of the first traces of Queenie's complex personality. She is no longer the sweet, charming character



tacking Malfoy after he calls Hermione a “mud-blood”. By order of Mr. Filch, Ron is forced to polish a shield over a Special Award for Services to the School more than fifty times. Later on, the reader finds out that that shield belonged to Tom Riddle, that is to say, to Voldemort. It is no wonder, then, that the producers decided to make use of the same foreshadowing elements during the film promotion.

from the first film. She seems a frustrated, ambitious woman who would do anything to marry the man she loves –whatever the consequences may be. After a big bust-up, Queenie goes to Paris to find her sister Tina, and she comes across Vinda Rosier, one of Grindelwald's followers.

After Queenie's encounter with Grindelwald, the viewer is faced with a lot of questions. Even

to the Other Side?

though Queenie's first reaction is raising her wand in order to face Grindelwald, one does not know what really happens afterwards. Therefore, there are four main theories regarding Queenie's decision to join the dark side:

A) Queenie has been jinxed by the Imperius curse: as the viewer does not know the final outcome of their conversation, Grindelwald might have jinxed her given the fact that she is an accomplished Legilimens, and he could make use of her powers.

B) Queenie is completely persuaded by Grindelwald's ideas: given the fact that the dark wizard has a powerful, convincing speech, Queenie may have really wanted to join his forces. Goldstein may have seen it as a way of controlling the muggle population and, eventually, being able to marry Jacob. Once again, if this theory is correct, Queenie's sweet personality has definitely been left in the past.

C) Queenie joins Grindelwald only to serve as a double agent: given the fact that she has the power to read minds, Queenie may have considered the possibility of joining the dark side only to report every action to her sister, or to any other agent fighting against Grindelwald's crimes. This theory may be one of the wildest...

Wouldn't Grindelwald find out, as the powerful wizard he is?

D) Queenie is at first persuaded by Grindelwald but eventually serves as a double agent: this may be the theory most fans want to believe. Queenie is genuinely being persuaded by Grindelwald in order to join his forces and follow his ideas (like in the Nazi regime in Germany). However, she will eventually notice Grindelwald's wickedness and start reporting his next moves to the "good" side. In this case, the fans will be able to draw some kind of parallelism between Queenie's actions and Severus



Snape's, in the Harry Potter series.

Will the fans be faced to the loss of one of the most charming, loving characters of this new series, or will they see Queenie's growth as a woman who can face adversities? Will she keep on supporting Grindelwald or will she realize the atrocities he may make? We can only wait, and see it for ourselves.

MY TRIP TO MAGICAL PARIS



Four, five, six... seven. Seven steps separate the first floor (Wardrobe) from the second (Makeup and Hairstyle). Seven pieces of clothing - and a couple of earrings - dress me like a Parisian witch from 1927, and seven members of the film crew follow me on my journey through the *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald* set at the Leavesden studios in Hertfordshire, England. Two cameramen with an assistant, a man who carries some cell phones and cameras for visitors to record our own content (then you have to return them and wait for them to send it back, approved), a photographer to capture each step of the way, an expert artist who carries a cosmetic first aid kit and rearranges any detail of the hairstyle or makeup of ours that gets out of control, and one of the costume department assistants who, in addition to thread, needle and scissors, wears a lint-pull roller that coincidentally had to be used a lot on my shoulders between takes. My first encounter with the magical corner of Paris that we are going to tour is somewhat cloudy, mostly as a result of the effort it took me NOT to let my tears fall. One finally escapes and at that moment I didn't know, but soon I would find that I would have to edit the makeup of my cheek in many of the photos. While I hold both hands tightly so that they stop shaking, I ask the only thing that comes to mind: "Can we stay here?" Everyone laughs, but they understand. Saying that I'm suddenly inside the magical world of J.K. Rowling does not do justice to what I was living in that place. To my left, I find the lost brother of Honeydukes, a place called R. Rammelle ENCHANT'SEE that has every variety of sweets you can imagine. Next is the business of cauldrons, with a sign that reads "Monsieur Sanfin CHAUDRONS - Ustensiles de



Cuisine - Fondé in 1485.” In the background, we can see the place they call “Sorcerer’s place”, where we find an accessory store. The magic that goes from Newt’s suitcase to the famous Philosopher’s Stone ... Of course, this powerful element is only there so that visitors to the set can see it, and then it goes back to its place, that tiny wardrobe inside Nicholas Flamel’s house. Crossing the street, I find a previous (and French) version of Quality Quidditch Items, that

shop on the Northside of Diagon Alley (London) where Harry saw the Nimbus 2000 for the first time. The most important business of the tour is the Parisian version of Ollivanders that has a huge sign with the words “Baguette Magique” (French for “Magical Wands”) on top. The day that started with makeup, hairstyle, and costumes; continues with photos, walks on the set and interviews with the people responsible for making the magic happen. It’s the Saturday



of my dreams, and we all wait for the moment when Eddie Redmayne arrives to seal this day full of magic. At about eight o'clock in the evening, we are told that the Thunderbird is in the nest, and after taking pictures with THE case, I arrive at the place where I will meet Newt. But when I see him walking towards me, I meet a Muggle Eddie who saw a huge jacket - Paris is freezing tonight- and has a very modern coffee in his hand. Halfway down, he stops and rais-

es his voice: "Oh, that's not fun. Wait, I want you to talk WITH NEWT!" Then, he takes off his jacket real quick, puts on the characteristic cap of the magizoologist and returns with his coffee. "Well, this is not very magical either, would you mind holding it while I talk to her?" He asks -as lovely and charming as you see him on the screen- to the attendees waiting for the behind-the-scenes interviews to begin. What happens from that moment on is just... WOW.



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We hope you enjoy the work that we do and continue to download the Rowling Magazine! Happy reading!

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The Beast Index

All the creatures
from the Fantastic
Beasts Films

Billywig

Native Range: Australia

MoM Classification: Handle if Competent

- Half an inch long with the colouring of a vivid sapphire blue
- Wings are attached to the top of its head, and the wings rotate extremely fast
- Long, thin stinger at the bottom of its body. Anyone stung by a Billywig will suffer giddiness, followed by levitation



Bowtruckle

Native Range: England/Germany/Scandinavia

MoM Classification: Harmless

- Hand-sized, insect-eating tree dweller with long sharp fingers
- General appearance of a flat-faced stick figure made of bark and twigs, which serves well as camouflage
- Generally live in wand wood trees and protect them



Demiguise

Native Range: Far East

MoM Classification: Dangerous

- Peaceful, herbivorous creature that can make itself invisible and tell the future which makes it very hard to catch
- Only wizards and witches trained in their capture can even see them
- Resembles an ape with large, black eyes and long, silky hair.
- Pelts can be used to make invisibility cloaks





Diricawl

Native Range: Mauritius

MoM Classification: Harmless

- Plump, fluffy-feathered and flightless bird
- Has the ability to disappear and reappear elsewhere as a means of escaping danger
- Muggles are aware of the existence of the Diricawl as a dodo. However, since Muggles are not aware of its ability to teleport at will, they believe that they have hunted the dodo to extinction.



Erumpent

Native Range: Africa

MoM Classification: Dangerous

- From afar it can be confused with a rhinoceros
- Thick hide capable of repelling most curses and charms
- The horn can pierce skin and metal
- Horn also contains a deadly fluid that causes whatever was injected with it to explode



Graphorn

Native Range: Europe

MoM Classification: Dangerous

- Large and hump-backed, with grayish-purple skin tougher than that of dragons
- Can repel most spells, and has two golden horns
- Mouth made of tentacle-like appendages, that are used to grab food



Marmite

Native Range: Unknown

MoM Classification: Unknown

- Described as a “cross between a dust mite and squid”
- Transparent, bioluminescent body and long trailing tentacles that could reach up to ten feet in young specimens, and presumably became even longer in adults

Mooncalf

Native Range: Worldwide

MoM Classification: Harmless

- Smooth, pale grey skin
- Very long neck and bulging blue eyes that sit on the top of its head
- Only comes out of burrow at full moon



Murtlap

Native Range: Britain

MoM Classification: Handle if Competent

- Marine beast resembling a rat with a growth on its back resembling a sea anemone
- Murtlap tentacles are used in Murtlap Essence which is used as a home remedy for cuts and abrasions



Niffler

Native Range: Britain

MoM Classification: Harmless

- Rodent-like creatures with a long snout similar to that of a platypus and a black fluffy coat
- Live in burrows as deep as twenty feet below ground, and produced six to eight young in a single litter
- Attracted to shiny things, which makes them wonderful for locating treasure, and have a pouch to store it in



Nundu

Native Range: East Africa

MoM Classification: Known Wizard Killer

- Large East African beast that resembles a leopard
- It moves silently, despite its large size and is considered by some to be the most dangerous creature alive
- Its breath is toxic and filled with disease so potent that it can wipe out entire villages of people





Occamy

Native Range: Far East

MoM Classification: Dangerous

- Plumed, two-legged serpentine-bodied creature with wings that reached up to fifteen feet in height
- Extremely aggressive to anyone who approaches it
- It was extremely protective of its eggs, which are made of the most pure and soft silver.



Swooping Evil

Native Range: Unknown

MoM Classification: Unknown

- Blue-and-green winged magical creature
- Cross between a snake and an extremely large butterfly
- When not flying with its spiked wings, it shrinks into a green spiny cocoon
- Feeds on peoples' brains



Thunderbird

Native Range: American Southwest

MoM Classification: Dangerous

- Head similar to an eagle, possess three pairs of powerful wings, and have feathers that shimmer with cloud-like patterns
- Known to change colours as it summons storms, its iridescent feathers shifting from various shades of gold to electrifying blue, to grey and silver, to white, and even to deep navy
- Can sense danger and creates storms as it flies

LETA LESTRANGE

I have been a Harry Potter fan since I was nine years old, yet I've never done cosplay before this. All my outfits were always themed or inspired by dark witches and wizards, periods of history and the original Potter books. I've sewn my own Slytherin robes, my own cloaks and other outfits in order to create myself a magical wardrobe.

However, when I first heard about *Fantastic Beasts*, the Crimes of Grindelwald and saw the first photos of Leta Lestrange I knew it in me I had to portray her someday. Her being a Lestrange, her history with Newt and her dark past was something I was drawn to. There weren't many photos of her at first and I was still debating if I should go with a 30s themed outfit or to cosplay her. In the end, I thought it was a perfect chance to recreate her costume.

The first issue I had was to find the fabric, it was not an easy colour or material to find. I googled other cosplays made by other fans (there weren't many of them at all) to see what they'd pick, and went to the fabric district in Buenos Aires to buy everything.

I ended up picking up a gorgeous plum elastic satin with a little bit of shine to it that seemed perfect for the job.

I had about three or four photo references that I would show the salesmen. The photos didn't show much of the dress to be honest, it was hard because the movie stills had kind of a different filter than the posters so I wasn't quite sure about the colour nor part of the garment

construction.

I went home with my fabric and the next day I went to a clothing pattern store near my house to buy the dress pattern to work with since that is something I hate doing myself and I had no time for (they take too long to make, are too complicated and always end up stressing myself out). I picked up a wrapped long sleeve top pattern and a mid skirt pattern that resembled Leta's dress. With a couple of alterations I could make it work. I then bought the thread, the zipper and everything else I needed and started on the project.

Imagine working with a large piece of fabric on the dining room floor and three cats, I can tell you it was not easy. I had no tutorial for this, so I had to look at the photos I had for a long time before doing anything I could ruin and even though I had sewn lots of things in the past, this was a very complex and complicated dress and I



was short on time. The premiere was only five days away.

I laid everything out, cut out the patterns and pinned it to my dress-form. The problem was the costume had a lot of tiny details that I of course wanted to replicate, otherwise it was not going to be the same dress. You could say

it was my Slytherin ambition that made me do this, we love a challenge. I did a sketch of every part I could see in the photos and wrote everything down. I even watched the movie trailer countless times to see if I could catch anything from it.

The dress part itself was not that hard, it's quite a simple shape but she has a cape attached to it and that was the most difficult thing to recreate because I could not figure out for the life of me how it was done. I kept looking at the #LetaLestrangleCosplay tag on Instagram but there wasn't much to see there.

After I had everything almost done and it was the day before the premiere, I screwed up the cape when I was ironing it so I had to run to buy more fabric. I wasn't happy with how that part was turning out and knowing myself, I just had to do it again.

So I took a trip to the fabric store one more time and got more fabric, came home and spent the entire day and night redoing the cape.

I finished sewing the costume on the premiere day, it was ok, I didn't love it though. It had minor construction issues since I have a very old Singer Sewing machine that doesn't allow me to do a lot of things the modern machines can do but it was too late to complain now. It was show time.

I put on my make up and dress and left for the movie theatre. All I did during the movie was search for the dress zipper. It was amazingly hidden in the pictures (or photoshopped) and I wasn't sure I had done it right. The cape was also a thing I was worried about and I can say that after watching it multiple times, I know the dress by heart now and I want to do it again from scratch (not going to though).

Overall it was such a fun project and I





loved every minute of it! It was hard and I got mad at myself many times but I wouldn't trade the experience for anything. I knew what I was getting myself into and I loved challenging my sewing skills. Getting dressed up, spending time with my friends and playing a character it's so much fun and it's the best part about a new Harry Potter movie to me, even most important than the movie itself. Nothing compares to the excitement and the anticipation of it. Sure, I could've gone in muggle clothes but where's the fun in that?

I am now thinking about my next cosplay. Won't say who is it but it is a much complicated one if I do say so myself. I promise this time, I won't start five days before the movie.

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ANIMALES
FANTASTICOS
LOS CRIMENES
GRINDELWALD
15 DE NOVIEMBRE EN CINES



GELLERT GRINDELWALD

I've been a Harry Potter fan my entire life. For the past 18 years, I've been living the craziest, most amazing adventure of all. From avant premieres to book releases, from making fun of myself on stage to going out the street fully dressed in magical robes, I've been through everything you can possibly imagine. And all thanks to the Boy-Who-Lived and the CHP Argentina. And it's because of the latter, Argentina's most important fan club, that I had the chance to be at the *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald* Avant Premiere here in Argentina. To mark the occasion, we decided with my friends to go, once again, dress up like characters of the wizarding world. After mulling over the idea for quite some time, I decided to do my first full cosplay. The character I

chose was...the one and only...Gellert Grindelwald! Want to know how that went? Come and join me.

Key Elements

First thing I did after choosing to play Grindelwald was identifying what I called key elements of the cosplay. What makes Grindelwald, Grindelwald? Does he wear something that stands out from the rest of the wizarding community? Does he have something that makes him different? Does he have style? (We know Dumbledore did.) Once I had gone over all these questions, I was able to spot three essential elements that identify him: outfit, accessories, and hair style.

Outfit

After gathering as many pictures as I could find and studying a bit about the late 20' fashion, I decided that in terms of the outfit I was going to need: a pair of black boots, black trousers, a white shirt, a vest, a dark coat with fancy buttons, and a black silk neck handkerchief. As a matter of fact, I had almost everything except for the last two items. Luckily, I remembered seeing a friend of mine with a black coat that might work for the case. I asked her about it, tried it on, and I immediately said "this is it." The only thing I needed to





Accessories

This was perhaps the most complicated part. I had the Elder wand, a pocket watch (two out of three things I understood were important to have), but I was missing one: the eye lenses. If you've paid attention to Grindelwald, one of his eyes seems to have a thin black line surrounding his white pupil, so I needed to get a special set of eye lenses. The thing is...I've never used them before in my life, and I am quite picky when it comes to my eyes but If I wanted the cosplay to be perfect, I needed to wear them. So, summoning all of my Gryffindor bravery, I bought them. I thought I

buy were the fancy buttons, which I was able to find in a shop down Laval St. We sewed them onto the coat, and that was it. As for the handkerchief, my friend also had some pieces of black and dark-blue cloths she had used before for University, so we made two handkerchiefs out of them. We compared them both, and eventually decided to go for the black one.



would be able to put them on myself, but I failed categorically. Luckily, with the help of some friends, I was able to find a way to put them on and live to continue playing my character.

Hair Style

This was the part I enjoyed the most. I have natural black hair, and Grindelwald's is almost white. I could have used a wig, it was a possibility, but I wanted the character to look as real as possible, so I decided to dye my hair. I spoke with my father's girlfriend and we set to try to do it in one session. So almost a week before the premiere, we did three bleaches and

one colour application. If you ever dyed your hair, you'll know it was a bit too much for a first time. I ended up with my head under a fan because I thought it was about to catch fire! Fortunately it didn't, but since one session wasn't enough, I ended up with my hair yellow. Like, egg yellow. And since I needed to let my hair rest for a couple of days until I could get it fixed, I had to stand with that yellow-egg hair for almost five days until I got to a friend's salon to get it fixed. With her vast experience in dying hair in all-possible colours, we managed to get to a greyish-white. The idea of leaving it that way was that, in the five days that were missing before the premiere, the grey would wash away with every shower so that the day of the premiere I could get to the perfect colour. And I think we did.

The premiere finally arrived, and we had the best time ever! I was really happy with the cos-

play itself, even though I had to go over so many things to bring it to life. I think I was able to do a solid representation of Grindelwald, and apparently, for the different comments I received during the event, other people liked it too. What do you think? I would love to read your comments. You can find me on Twitter as @immati or on Instagram as @matilion.





GRINDELWALD

#GRINDELWALD

Will the Box Office Affect the Next Films?

After four weeks since its release, we have a better idea of how *The Crimes of Grindelwald* did financially. Although the original predictions said the film was going to earn the same amount of money as “*Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*”, the truth is that the second installment is far from equal to its predecessor.

As of December 5th, *Grindelwald* earned \$137 millions in the States, while *Fantastic Beasts 1* earned \$183 in the same amount of time. However, Warner Bros bet on the international market: countries like France (where the film is set), Brazil and China were the places where Warner Bros. though to equalize the loss in the local market. And the film did very well there. In Brazil, in three weeks, it earned \$13 million (while the first movie “only earned” \$14.5 million). In France, \$24 million - surpassing the first one by \$6 million. However, China was the big let down. Although the marketing was heavy for the Asian country (Including appearances on TV, a premier with the celebrities and more) the film only grossed \$56 million after the third week - in comparison, the first film surpassed \$80 million in the same amount of time. It is almost impossible to match that in the coming weeks as even the first film only earned \$3 extra million in that same span, so if it is lucky, *Grindelwald* will hit the \$60 million mark.

But why is that? The first reason is the more natural one. Sequels almost never have the same success as the first movies. People already saw the first one and their expectations were not the same. There were a lot of other reasons as to why *Fantastic Beasts 2* is down, but in this case, people were expecting this one. The plot twist at the end of “*Where to find them*”, the introduction of a young Albus Dumbledore, and the return to Hogwarts.

Another possible reason is the backlash the film received for including Johnny Depp - even Daniel Radcliffe talked about the controversy. But the most important cause that drove away people from the theaters is the bad reviews - on Rotten Tomatoes, the film never went above 40% (right now has a score of 39%, which qualifies it as rotten). Warner Bros. knew about this - knew the film was not going to be liked by the professional journalists and casual watchers. The movie has a bad pacing, and a lot of technical errors, but the studio was sure about one thing: fans were going to love it. So to counteract this, they prepared hundreds of Fan Screenings around the United States and the United Kingdom, showed the film and asked fans to flood social networks with positive reviews. Even before the film was released, you could see positive hashtags of *Crimes of Grindelwald* due to fans who were invited to exclusive screenings weeks before the film. How-

ever, it wasn't enough to stop the bad reviews that were published later by large medias such as Slate, Variety, The Observer, the New York Times and many more.

How this can affect the franchise? The following films are not in jeopardy - although that's a worry for many fans, we can assure you that we will have the next three films. Bad reviews and a bit below the expected gross only can affect prestige and budget, which translates into locations and actors - probably affecting the latter more. Actors don't want to be associated with franchises that are heavily criticized, the most recent example is Ben Affleck with Batman.

However, let's not precipitate any assumptions. Even if Grindelwald didn't gross as much as

Where to Find Them, this doesn't mean it wasn't a commercial success. Of course, more is better (at least in this case), but the studios and everyone involved are earning money, so we will have the Wizarding World for many years to come.





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