

The Twilight Lexicon Interviews Kimbra Hickey, hand model for the Twilight cover.

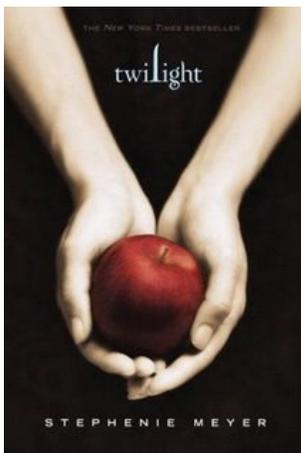


How did you get into modeling? I took a class at The Learning Annex in NYC on “How to Become a Parts Model”.

Is your main work solely in hand modeling or do you do other work as well? I work part time as a hand, foot, and leg model, working mostly for Avon catalogs. I also work part time as a NY licensed massage therapist.

How were you approached about Twilight? My agent called to send me on a hand audition for the cover of a book called “Twilight”.

Had you read the book when you went in to audition? Twilight wasn’t in bookstores yet so I hadn’t read it before the audition or the shoot. We shot the cover in Sept 2004.



Can you explain the process of being selected, and what you had to do to be chosen? The audition was at Roger Hagadone’s photo studio here in NYC. (Roger is the famed cover photographer for Twilight, Eclipse and Breaking Dawn). There were other female hand models there as well. Roger had a look at my portfolio

which is filled with pics of hands and feet. He then put me in front of the camera and snapped a few shots of my palms and also the back of my hands. When I was chosen for the job they asked if I'd be okay with trimming my nails short. I was told the story was a vampire teenage romance so my hands had to look young.

After you were selected, what was the actual photo session like for you?

The photo shoot was cool. Roger is a great photographer and easy to work with. He knew just what they were looking for to get the cover shot exactly right. He wanted my hands to look soft, sweet, and death-like all at the same time! It was also very important that the inner part of my arms formed a perfect V, for Vampire, of course! After only a couple of hours we got the winning shot, and now iconic image.

Even though you are a woman, the hands are very unspecific in their gender. Do you think the hands are Bella's hands and Edward is the "forbidden fruit" or do you think it's the other way around? This seems to be the question of the year! In my opinion, I think that because the story is being told from Bella's perspective they should be her hands. So I think they are Bella's hands and Edward is the "forbidden fruit"

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What is it like to walk into every book store in the country and see your hands virtually everywhere? It's a pretty unbelievable feeling. That feeling of excitement that will last a lifetime. Every time I walk by a bookstore I have to stop in just to make sure it's for real!

Have you read the rest of the series? If yes, which is your favorite book and why? Yes I have. My favorite book is Twilight. I love the romance and the beginning of it all. (The cover is pretty sweet too! Haha).

Have you met Stephenie Meyer? I haven't met Stephenie but I hope to one fine day.



What projects have you been involved in since Twilight? I did a shoe ad for Target. My foot was up on one of the largest billboards on 42nd St. in Times Square. New York Magazine saw it and voted me one of the reasons to love NY in 2007. I was #4, "Because Even Your Foot Can Make You Famous". That was awesome!! Thank you, NY!



Since your part in Twilight, although very memorable to the fans, leaves you with the ability to go unrecognized, how have you managed to bring your involvement to the spotlight? Spotlight. My favorite song on the Twilight soundtrack! Yes I'm used to being unrecognized in my business but the Twilight cover is so incredibly recognized all around the world that I couldn't resist outing myself at a fan party. I was at Borders Twilight pre-release movie party in Columbus Circle. I requested the manager ask during

the Q&A if the hands on the cover were male or female. Some guessed male, others said female. That's when I popped out of the audience and said hello. There's a video of it on my MySpace page. A reporter from Seattle, Cecelia Goodnow, wrote about my story. Since then I was interviewed by Kim Stolz from MTV. I was also on Jay Thomas radio show. A couple weekends ago I showed up at Twilight Chicago Convention, apple in hand, and hung out with some super cool Twilighers!

Have you had any interesting fan encounters? The fan encounters amaze me and have been nothing but great fun. People want my autograph or a picture with me. How cool! I've been asked to trace my hand or sign the inside book cover. Holding apples with fans for pics is also fantastic. I've gotten email asking if they mail me a book will I sign it and send it back! Love it.

So many fans will say that Twilight is their favorite book cover. How does that make you feel? I feel honored to be the one holding the "forbidden fruit" on their favorite book. Never in my wildest dreams would I have imagined being in this phenomenal place, the cover of Twilight! It's very special, I'll cherish it forever.

Do you have anything you'd like to say to Twilight fans before you go? As much as people seem awestruck by meeting "the hands of Twilight", they should know too that I'm in awe by the response. My hands have been blessed. Of all the different jobs I've accomplished over the years in modeling this certainly has been the most rewarding. Thank you guys for the

support and being excited for me! Awesomeness! See you around! THANK
YOU Twilight Lexicon!!!!

Thank you Kimbra for taking the time to talk with fans!