

= Evanna Lynch =

Evanna Patricia Lynch ( born 16 August 1991 ) is an Irish actress and model . She rose to prominence for her portrayal of Luna Lovegood in the Harry Potter film series , appearing in four films and their tie @-@ in video games . She has made fashion accessories and recorded an audiobook of Foster by Claire Keegan . She has also appeared in photo shoots for various magazines , and modelled for Katrin Thomas and Ciaran Sweeney .

= = Early life = =

Lynch was born in Termonfeckin , County Louth , Ireland , the daughter of Marguerite and Donal Lynch . She has two older sisters , Emily and Mairead , and one younger brother , Patrick . As a child , Lynch read the Harry Potter series and became a fan , sending letters to the author , J. K. Rowling . She attended Cartown National School in Termonfeckin until June 2004 , and then moved to Our Lady 's College in Drogheda , where her father was the deputy principal . In 2008 , Lynch studied speculative fiction and drama at the Centre for the Talented Youth of Ireland , a summer school for gifted teens , in Glasnevin . While on the Harry Potter set , she was tutored for at least three hours a day . From September 2010 , Lynch attended the Institute of Education to repeat her Leaving Certificate .

Lynch has mentioned having a Catholic upbringing but no longer practices .

= = Career = =

= = = Harry Potter = = =

Lynch credits her being cast in the Harry Potter films to the obsession she had with the Harry Potter book series . At age 11 , during the release of the fifth book in 2003 , she was hospitalized and her family consulted with the book 's publisher and the hospital and Lynch was allowed to leave for an hour and collect a signed copy of the book . While some have stated that her prior relationship with J. K. Rowling ( a strictly epistolary relationship ) was the reason behind the casting decision , this theory has been debunked by both Lynch and Rowling , confirming that Rowling was unaware of Lynch being cast in the role of Luna Lovegood until the producers mentioned Lynch 's name . Lynch got the role by reading about the casting call on one of the many Harry Potter fan sites and going to the open audition . In 2006 , Lynch auditioned at a casting call in London for the role of Luna Lovegood in Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix , the fifth film in the series adapted from the books . After auditioning against 15 @,@ 000 other girls , and a subsequent screen test with lead actor Daniel Radcliffe , she was cast at the age of 14 . Producers were impressed with her affinity for the character ; David Heyman said " The others could play Luna ; Evanna Lynch is Luna . " Although uninvolved in the casting process , Rowling believed that Lynch was perfect for the role . She had never acted professionally before the Harry Potter series , her experience limited to school plays . Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix was Lynch 's debut screen performance in 2007 . The film was a box office hit , taking US \$ 938 million worldwide , and garnered generally favourable reviews . Critics praised the performances of the supporting cast , often singling out Lynch for particular acclaim ; A. O. Scott of The New York Times called her performance " spellbinding " , and Jane Watkins of Country Life said she " [ brought ] an appealing sweetness to her character that 's not so developed in the book " . She reprised her role as Luna in the film 's tie @-@ in video game .

Two years later , Lynch again starred as Luna in Harry Potter and the Half @-@ Blood Prince , the sixth installment in the series . The film was critically and financially successful . Wesley Morris of The Boston Globe wrote that Lynch as Luna " combats the movie 's occasional sluggishness with a hilarious sluggishness of her own " , and Michael Dwyer of The Irish Times called her the best Irish actress of 2009 for her work on the film . Her performance earned her Screen Award and Young Artist Award nominations , and she reprised her role in the film 's tie @-@ in video game .

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows ? Part 1 , the first of two films adapted from the seventh and final Harry Potter book , was released in 2010 . The film was a success at the box office and drew generally favourable reviews from critics . James Verniere of The Boston Herald commented that Luna " is still delightfully lunar , " while Simon Miraudo of Quickflix criticised the film commenting that " the delightful Evanna Lynch is brutally underutilised as the loopy Luna Lovegood " . She reprised her role in the film 's tie @-@ in video game .

Lynch again appeared as Luna in the eighth and final installment in the series , Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows ? Part 2 . The film opened to critical acclaim and went on to become the fifth highest @-@ grossing film of all time , grossing US \$ 1 @. @ 328 billion in box @-@ office receipts worldwide . Moira Macdonald of The Seattle Times wrote that Lynch " continues to be all @-@ that @-@ and @-@ a @-@ radish @-@ earring as the ever @-@ wafting Luna Lovegood , " and Roger Moore of The Orlando Sentinel named her as " maybe " one of his " favorite players in the finale . " She again reprised her role in the film 's tie @-@ in video game . In August 2012 at Leakycon in Chicago she joined the cast of StarKid to play Luna Lovegood in a script reading of the third Harry Potter parody musical , A Very Potter Senior Year ( the other two being A Very Potter Musical and A Very Potter Sequel . )

The author of the Harry Potter series , J.K. Rowling , gave a speech during the world premiere of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2 on 7 July 2011 in London , England . She stated that there were seven major cast members in the series , whom she referred to as The Big Seven , and she named Lynch as one of the seven members , along with Daniel Radcliffe , Rupert Grint , Emma Watson , Tom Felton , Matthew Lewis , and Bonnie Wright . Rowling has said that , of all the actors in the film series , Lynch has had the most influence on how her character was subsequently written . In 2012 , she told Charlie Rose that when composing the final books , " I saw her . [ She ] got in my head . I even heard her voice when I was writing Luna . "

= = = Further career = = =

Lynch went on to guest star as Princess Alehna ( daughter of Taryn , played by Orla Brady ) in the first season finale of the Sky1 television series Sinbad .

She was also scheduled to play Fiona Carrick @-@ Smith in the 2013 indie crime drama film Monster Butler . The film was to have been based on the life of British serial killer and thief Archibald Hall . The film was cancelled due to problems with funding . Lynch also starred in indie teen comedy G.B.F. , which screened at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York in April 2013 and at the Frameline Film Festival in San Francisco on 30 June 2013 .

In May 2013 , it was announced that Lynch was to star in the British stage tour production called Houdini which performed at various theatres in the United Kingdom from 9 September 2013 to 12 October 2013 . Lynch played the role of Bess Houdini , the wife and assistant of the famous magician Harry Houdini .

In December 2013 , it was announced that Lynch would play Theresa Bornstein in the independent crime thriller Dynamite : A Cautionary Tale . Filming for the production took place in New York City and was set to be filmed for eighteen days .

In September 2014 , it was announced that Lynch would star in her first lead role as the titular character in the Irish @-@ produced film My Name Is Emily , written and directed by a man battling amyotrophic lateral sclerosis . Filming began in Ireland that month and the film was released in 2015 .

= = Other work = =

Lynch has used the fame that she has achieved from her role in the films as a way to promote healthy self @-@ esteem and body image in young girls because of her previous experiences with the disorder anorexia nervosa . From the age of 11 Lynch was in and out of rehabilitation clinics for two years . She soon found a connection with the character of Luna Lovegood from the Harry Potter book series and was inspired by the character 's embracing of her own oddities . Lynch wrote an

essay entitled ? Why the Body Bind is My Nightmare ? in which she describes her emotional struggle with her appearance and how she managed to overcome this through the use of allusions that pertain to the Harry Potter series .

Lynch has made and helped design a number of fashion accessories for the Harry Potter films . She has modelled for Katrin Thomas and Ciaran Sweeney , and in 2012 appeared on the cover of the Fall issue of Runway magazine . She has also recorded an abridged audiobook version of Claire Keegan 's short story Foster . Her charity work includes participation with the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland , in which she launched their MS Readathon fundraiser in 2010 . Lynch is also a member of the Board of Advisors for the non @-@ profit organisation , the Harry Potter Alliance ( HPA ) . With the HPA , she has supported same @-@ sex marriage in Maine , taken part in a webcast fundraiser , written an article about body image and contributed to a fundraising book . In 2015 Lynch became vegan .

= = Personal life = =

Lynch is dating her Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix co @-@ star Robbie Jarvis .

= = Filmography = =

= = = Film = = =

= = = Television = = =

= = = Video games = = =

= = Stage = =

= = Awards and nominations = =