

*chapter 11*

# Enough for Forever





**“I get to kiss Edward Cullen.”**

– Kristen on why it’s great  
to play Bella Swan

With actors cast and a crew assembled, the production of *Twilight* sped ahead, with principal photography beginning in March 2008 for a scheduled 45 days. Hardwicke and her team faced a challenging shoot on a tight timeline — could they best the fickle and fierce Oregon weather, create believable special effects for the vampires’ speed and sparkle, and capture the intense and emotional journey of Edward and Bella’s romance?



Ashley, Kellan, Nikki, Jackson, and Taylor at a stop on the *Twilight* Hot Topic tour.

While filming *Twilight*, Rob tried to keep himself isolated, not talking unnecessarily so his performance as Edward would have the awkwardness of someone not used to conversing. The actor frequented the legendary Powell's Books in Portland, which he calls the most amazing bookshop, and read a lot, in particular Martin Amis and Virgil's *Doomed Love*. The latter he passed on to Kristen Stewart for "inspiration" (and jokes that she

didn't even read it). On working with Kristen, Pattinson said, "We definitely had a strange dynamic. Like, I mean, at the beginning I was intimidated by her but at the same time was like, 'You're younger than me you can't intimidate me,' [laughs] so you're just fighting against yourself the whole time, which I guess kind of worked for it." Describing Kristen as someone with a "fierceness," Robert says, "there's an anger behind her quietness," which

unsettled the actor when they first were getting to know one another. As filming progressed, the two fell into a close working relationship. “Literally every single scene is really intense and it became like a bubble, separate from the cast and separate from other people and stuff, which I guess was the whole point in the movie,” says Rob.

Kristen had known Rob was the man to play Edward as soon as he auditioned. “He’s very responsive — he sees and he listens — and that’s very important, that you’re not acting in a scene by yourself,” said Kristen of her co-star. Interviewed by MTV while on the set of *Twilight*, Kristen revealed that she and Rob prepared for their roles by pouring over the script at her living-room table during pre-production. She also suggested that 1972’s racy NC17-rated *Last Tango in Paris* was the movie that the two “bonded” over, prompting Pattinson to joke that they were basing Bella and Edward’s relationship on the film’s twisted dynamic. From these first interviews and over the course of the press tour that hyped *Twilight*’s release, it became apparent to fans that the actors portraying Edward and Bella weren’t going to spout the same canned, boring answers over and over again. Their playfulness, irreverence, and delight in absurd

responses make Kristen-and-Rob interviews more fun to watch than most actors’.

But that goofiness didn’t indicate a lack of seriousness about their characters. Kristen knew that even though Rob was getting a lot of fan attention, it was through her character that audience members enter the world of *Twilight*. “I sort of play the eyes of the story, you experience everything through Bella, and I play a pretty logical girl, she’s pretty normal, she’s very intense. A lot of love stories start out like the girl is searching for something, she needs to be fulfilled and something’s missing. [But Bella is] very okay with her situation, and she gets swept into something that is entirely, um, fantastical and larger than her.” Kristen was pleased that she would be once again portraying a strong, complicated character, and also enjoyed the now-rare approach Hardwicke and her team took to filming: they tried to do as much of the special effects in-camera, rather than rely on green screens and CGI. Partly due to their small budget but also an artistic choice, Hardwicke, who’s known for a *cinéma-vérité* style, argued, “If you just do it for real, if you can, it’s gonna look better.” That meant Kristen spent days in a harness attached to Rob as they filmed the “spider monkey” scenes, with stunt performers

Replicating the actual Forks, WA, signs; serving berry cobbler at the diner, an item plucked from an actual Forks menu . . . just a couple of the many tiny details that made the fantastical world of *Twilight* realistic. Another was Charlie’s beer of choice. Named after Mount Rainier, Rainier beer (a.k.a. “Vitamin R”) was originally made in a Seattle brewery and is popular in the Pacific Northwest.



standing in to film the stunning helicopter shot that circles the pair perched in a tree high above the ground.

Another ongoing challenge for the *Twilight* crew was the weather in Portland. “We had to

jump around; every five minutes the weather changed,” said Kristen of the elements’ control over the production. Normally a nice sunny day is a good thing for filming outside, but for *Twilight* a sunny day meant the crew had to

