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BEAUTY

Dark Fairy Tales – How to Get the Look

We can't promise that you'll find your own Prince Charming, but with a few simple steps you can make the leap from a plain old Bella Swan into a dazzling Snow White

review by Emily Hirschmann

With the dark fairytale filling our cinema screens there has been an ushering in of the urge for one and all to find some gothic chic. So, with the release of *Breaking Dawn Part 2* upon us, a multitude of Snow White, *Sleeping Beauty* and *Grimm* movie adaptations to choose from and the party season near at hand, we've pulled together some of our favourite cosmetics to help you form your very own fabulously fanciful ethereal dark fairytale look.

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Skin Doctors Instant Face Lift (30ml/£30.60) –

Although, as the name suggests, Instant Face Lift is designed to firm the skin and smooth out wrinkles (which it does fantastically well, using Soy proteins, Moroccan fruits and naturally occurring micro-organism biopolymers), in this instance I am recommending it as one of the best make-up primers around. Why?

Well, because while all the goodly ingredients are working to lift and tone, they create a flawless canvas to work on, plumping out fine lines that can create obvious creases and leaving skin feeling hydrated and looking soft and glowy. It takes five minutes for the 'canvas' to be ready to be painted on, so it's not a product to be rushed, but if you have time to pamper and preen it feels rather glorious to sit back and enjoy the fresh fragrance while this clever little cream does its work.

To buy online visit www.skindoctors.co.uk



Guerlain Parure de Lumière Light Diffusing Foundation (30ml/£38.50) – New for autumn 2012,

Parure de Lumière is the latest addition to Guerlain's extensive beauty stable. Free from silicones and alcohol, it's a lightly textured product that delivers medium coverage and an incredibly natural look... To steal a tag line from Barocca, it gives you 'you, but on a really good day'.

Skin acquires a dewy radiance that in these days of late nights, junk food and computer-gazing, mine rarely attains alone: pores look smoothed without being clogged and your general complexion gains a brilliancy without the appearance of artifice. And because Parure de Lumière has a moisturising base, it is long-wearing, keeping your skin looking good and feeling even better. Application is straight forward – it can either be smoothed onto the skin with your fingers, or dabbed and brushed, according to your preference.

For more information and a list of stockists visit: www.guerlain.com



YoungBlood Mineral Cosmetics Lunar Dust (8g/£24.00) – With immaculate foundation in place, it's

time to move on to adornment. The glimmery, shimmery look is something that has never really gone out of fashion in the festive season, but as most people will be aware, it is Stephanie Meyer who has been responsible for the recent serious resurgence. However, *Twilight* or otherwise, YoungBlood's Lunar Dust will add a touch of sparkle to any look.

The light-reflecting mineral powder, which is pleasingly free from Parabens, Petroleum, Mineral Oils and Talc, is available in three tones – Twilight, Dusk and Sunset – and leaves the skin looking luminous. A little goes a long way, so beware of overdoing it on application, but just a small sprinkling and you will light up a room.

To buy online visit: ybskin.co.uk



Green People Eco Eye Trio – Smokey Grey (12ml/£18.40) – It is tempting, when aiming for a

sultry fairytale sizzle, to break out the kohl and make your eyes as dark as possible, but there are times when a smoky effect can have more of an impact.

Made from a wonderful organic, noncomedogenic compound, which is free from Parabens, Petrochemicals, Phthalates and synthetic colourants and fragrances, the Eco Eye Trio moves from deepest stormy grey to a shimmering delicate white, allowing you to create a dramatic single-tinted look, or a subtler misty blend. Built on a base of hydrating Jojoba, the natural pigment glides on to the skin, creating a seamless look in seconds.

To buy online visit www.greenpeople.co.uk



Lush Emotional Brilliance Eye Liner – Success (5g/£14.50) – Although dark and brooding eyes

seem to be the in thing when it comes to bagging your very own Prince Charming, a silvery shimmer can lift panda-eyes to a whole new level of gorgeousness. Lush are fairly new to the realm of make-up, but as with all their products the Emotional Brilliance range is built upon a foundation of natural ingredients, in this case Rose Petal infusion, Almond and Jojoba oils, which help to protect the delicate skin around the eye.

Unlike many liquid eyeliners, Emotional Brilliance does not instantly set, allowing you to blend your colours for a more subtle effect, which may not work if you're aiming for the fairytale wow, but does make it more flexible for other occasions.

To buy online or find your nearest store visit www.lush.co.uk



Origins GinZing™ Brightening Mascara (14ml/£17.00) – When luscious lashes are the order of the

day, the only place I turn to of late is Origins. Made from an entirely natural formula, Origins' GinZing lengthens, lifts and thickens eyelashes to prodigious proportions, and yet somehow manages to retain an artless appearance.

A combination of 'advanced bristle technology' and an Energizing Treatment Complex built upon a base of nourishing Ginseng and Caffeine, work together to give you the most flutterable lashes without stiffening, flaking or smudging, maintaining definition well into the even longest of nights. As an added bonus, GinZing contains an Eye-Brightening Pearl Complex, which helps eyes appear whiter and brighter, enhancing that youthful, fairytale effect. In my opinion, you can't beat it.

To buy online, or find your nearest outlet visit www.origins.com



Clarins Long-Wearing Moisturizing Lipstick Joli Rouge – 716 Clarins Red (3.5g/£17.00) – While the

little details are always important when trying to perfect a look, what can really make or break you is the lipstick. And, as all budding Snow Whites will know, nothing makes quite so strong a statement as ruby red lips. The Clarins Red Joli Rouge is an absolute classic in its field. Intensely moisturising, yet light on the lips, this creamy formula glides on to the skin, depositing pigment smoothly and evenly, creating an instantly show-stopping effect.

Somewhat surprisingly for a lipstick that sits so lightly, it also very much lives up to the 'long-lasting' part of its name, coping admirably with a three-course meal. Although not a colour that many people could pull off every day, Clarins Red will really make you stand out from the crowd.

To buy online or find your nearest retailer visit www.clarins.co.uk



Obsessive Compulsive Cosmetics Lip Tar – Tarred (10ml/£9.95) – If the scarlet harlot look isn't

quite for you, OCC's Tarred Lip Tar is a seriously dark black cherry shade, impactful when worn alone, but also offering a kingdom of opportunities to vamp-up your colour of choice. Initial application can be a little awkward as the product is presented in a nozzle tube and the consistency is surprisingly loose, meaning that it has a tendency to feather if over-applied.

However, once you've honed your technique, the pigmentation is powerful, drying quickly to create creamy hydrating coverage and an instant 'wow'. Made from natural ingredients, including hemp oil, peppermint oil and vitamin E, OCC Lip Tar is vegan-friendly and cruelty free as well as being free from Parabens. Not unlike Cinderella however, Tarred does alter with time, morphing to an alarming cerise if not reapplied after a few hours, but I rather like this changeable nature, which offers a wealth of looks in one tube.

To buy online visit www.cocktailcosmetics.co.uk



Front Cover Dark Arts Nail Kit (£25.00) – Although

tremendous talons are the remit of the wicked stepmother, not everyone wants to be Snow White, and no look can be considered truly complete without fabulous fingers. From Oil Slick black polish and nail art stickers, to glue, glitter and jewels that put the cute into cuticle, the Dark Arts collection comprises everything you could possibly need to stir your creative juices.

The instructions are easy to follow and adapt to your own needs, making the kit great fun, as well as practical (if practical can be applied to such girly goings on) to use. My personal favourite look is probably the simplest to achieve – Pure Polka – but with plenty of play time, the possibilities are endless.

If you've not the time or inclination, to mess about with the full kit, Front Cover also produce three striking Nail Wraps (£5.00) in gold, claret and black & silver, providing a quick-fix and a foxy finish.

Front Cover kits are available from www.frontcovercosmetics.com, QVC in the UK and Sephora stores worldwide. Front Cover Nail Wraps are available exclusively from www.frontcovercosmetics.com

