

**MERA WOLFE**

**1000**  
**FINN WOLFHARD**  
**FACTS**

A young man with dark, curly hair is speaking into a microphone. He is wearing a blue denim shirt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The text 'MERA WOLFE' is overlaid at the top in yellow, and '1000 FINN WOLFHARD FACTS' is overlaid in the center in white and yellow.

**MERA WOLFE**

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**FACTS**

Mera Wolfe

# **1000 Finn Wolfhard Facts**

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## **AUTHORS NOTE**

Finn Wolfhard is a popular young actor and musician. In 2016 he rose to fame aged 13 playing Mike Wheeler in Stranger Things. Finn has many interesting things to say about acting, music and being a celebrity. With this book I hope to give some interesting information on his life and career.

## **PREFACE**

Think you know everything there is to know about about Finn Wolfhard? Well, think again. The book which follows contains all you could ever wish to know about this young superstar. Facts about Stranger Things, fashion, music, likes & dislikes, food, career, background, movies, Calpurnia, Stephen King's IT, lifestyle, quotes, famous friends and so much more all awaits in 1000 Finn Wolfhard Facts. Finn Wolfhard is definitely one of the more enigmatic cast members in Stranger Things and admits that he could happily live without fame. Hopefully this book will provide an entertaining and insightful extended profile of Finn Wolfhard with plenty of fascinating trivia and things you didn't know.

## **1000 FINN WOLFHARD FACTS**

(1) Finn Wolfhard was born in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, in 2002.

(2) Finn has a brother five years his senior.

(3) Finn is of French, German, and Jewish descent.

(4) Finn went to Catholic school.

(5) Finn's father was a screenwriter and so Finn always had an interest in acting and films. Vancouver has a thriving film and television production industry so it was perhaps almost inevitable that Finn would become an actor.

(6) Finn got his first acting gig through Craigslist.

(7) Finn said he took a summer acting class as a kid but didn't think it helped him much.

(8) Finn said he didn't like school very much because he was bullied. "Yeah, I was bullied at school. I was bullied a lot in elementary school. It's awful."

(9) Finn made his television debut as Zoran in The 100.

(10) Another of Finn's early roles was in the popular TV show Supernatural.

(11) Finn appeared in his first music video in 2012.

(12) At the time of writing, Finn has appeared in ten music videos.

(13) In 2015, Finn was cast as Richie Tozier in a film version of Stephen King's IT. Finn was cast by Cary Fukunaga - who was slated to direct IT at the time.

(14) Cary Fukunaga left the production of IT and had to be replaced by another director. This meant there was a delay and during that period Finn took part in open auditions for Stranger Things. Had there not been a change of director and delay in the production of IT then Finn would never have been cast as Mike Wheeler in Stranger Things because he simply would not have been available.

"I had actually been hired to do IT before Stranger Things," said Finn. "This was when Cary Fukunaga was going to direct and then pulled out. From there I got Stranger Things."

(15) Cary Fukunaga was replaced by Andy Muschietti as the director of IT. Finn actually had to audition again for Muschietti but it went well and for the second (and thankfully final) time he was given the part of Richie Tozier. "When it came back with Andy Muschietti directing, I got the opportunity to audition again."

(16) Finn was born on the 23rd of December. That makes him a Capricorn.

(17) Stranger Things was originally titled Montauk. Montauk is a hamlet at the east end of the Long Island peninsula and famed for its beaches. Ross and Matt Duffer, the brothers who created Stranger Things, were very inspired by Steven Spielberg's classic movie Jaws in their early plans for the show.

"Jaws was our favorite movie of all time," said Matt Duffer, "so we liked the sort of coastal setting that allowed, but for production reasons it started to look more and more unfeasible."

(18) One of the main reasons why the show was originally going to be set in Montauk is Camp Hero. Camp Hero (aka Montauk Air Force Station) is an abandoned military base in Montauk which gave rise to all manner of conspiracy theories. It was alleged in a book called The Montauk Project that Camp Hero used kidnapped children in experiments which included telekinesis and time travel. Most of the conspiracy theories involving Montauk are obviously considered to be fiction but the Duffers felt Camp Hero (with its many urban legends and alleged secrets) would be a great backdrop for a sci-fi fantasy horror show.

(19) Most of the cast in Stranger Things were hired when the show was still going to be called Montauk.

(20) Stranger Things is science fiction horror show that streams on Netflix. It is a love letter to 80s pop culture - most specifically Stephen King, Steven Spielberg, and John Carpenter. Its range of influences is vast though and takes in everything from John Hughes to Lovecraft to Clive Barker.

(21) Hundreds of boys were tested for the younger roles in Stranger Things and required to read scenes from Stand By Me and E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial in auditions.

(22) The part of Mike Wheeler was exceptionally important in season one of Stranger Things. Mike has the most lines of any character in season one and is at the heart of the story.

(23) Finn eventually won the pivotal role of Mike Wheeler despite a heavy cold which forced him to record an out of focus audition from his bed.

(24) The casting director on Stranger Things said she liked Finn because of the nervous energy he projected in his auditions. She thought this was a good fit for the character of Mike Wheeler.

(25) The Duffer Brothers said they took an instant liking to Finn because he knew a lot about eighties movies.

(26) The Duffer Brothers say that, out of the four lead boys in Stranger Things, Mike Wheeler is the most like they were at that age.

(27) Millie Bobby Brown (who was cast as Eleven in Stranger Things) had to play scenes with various boys who were in contention to play Mike Wheeler during the casting process. When she played a scene with Finn and had excellent chemistry with him the casting department knew they had found their Mike Wheeler.

(28) In the first season of Stranger Things, Eleven is a girl with telekinetic powers who escapes from a government lab where she is held captive. Mike Wheeler and his friends Dustin and Lucas are searching for their missing friend Will Byers and find Eleven hiding in the woods. Mike secretly shelters Eleven in his basement and they learn that Eleven might be able to help them find Will.

(29) The relationship between Mike Wheeler and Eleven in season one is influenced by Tomas Alfredson's 2008 Swedish film Let the Right One In.

Let the Right One In is also set in the early eighties and concerns two eleven year-old children - a boy named Oskar and a girl named Eli - who form a close bond. Oskar is bullied at school and Eli is a vampire. As with Eleven, Eli has to stay hidden and doesn't really understand the normal mundane everyday world. Like the character of Eleven, Eli also has special powers. The Rubik's cube is an important part of the bond between the characters in Let the Right One In and we also see Mike Wheeler play with a Rubik's cube in season one of Stranger Things.

The connection between Stranger Things and Let the Right One In is confirmed when the boys pretend Eleven is their cousin from Sweden in order to smuggle her into school and use Mr Clarke's ham radio.

(30) Finn's older brother Nick is a voice actor.

(31) Finn, as a name, is not short for anything. That's his real name.

(32) Despite appearing in the movie adaptation, Finn never actually read Stephen King's novel IT. This is a famously long book. "We all tried, like, we should all do it, right?" said Finn. "And got two chapters in and thought - Yeah, it's really long, and I don't know if I have time to finish this. We also thought we should get more of an organic feel to it, so we didn't copy from the book. We tried but failed. My cousin did because she wanted to read something I was going to be in. That's dedication."

(33) Finn has a strong (and deliberate you would imagine) resemblance in season one of Stranger Things to Henry Thomas in the 1984 kids spy film Cloak & Dagger. Mike Wheeler and Davey Osborne (the character played by

Henry Thomas in Cloak & Dagger) have the same hairstyle, brandish a walkie-talkie, and wear similar clothes.

(34) Finn likes to play basketball in his spare time.

(35) In season one of Stranger Things, Mike Wheeler is essentially Elliott in E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial. The Duffer Brothers had to find their own Henry Thomas.

(36) Finn has famously high cheekbones.

(37) At the time of writing, Finn is 5'11. He was obviously a lot smaller than this in the first two seasons of Stranger Things.

(38) In the pitch for Montauk (as it was called before it became Stranger Things), Mike Wheeler is described in the following way - 'Mike Wheeler is twelve. He is a cute kid, but a birthmark on his left cheek leads to much bullying and near-crippling insecurity. He has never had a first kiss, much less a girlfriend. He escapes his insecurities through reading fantasy novels, spending time with his three best friends (Lucas, Dustin, and Will), and retreating into his own vivid imagination. The Dungeon Master of his Dungeons and Dragons group, he writes sprawling adventures with fantastical monsters. When he finds himself on a real adventure, facing real monsters, he will discover a courage he didn't know he had. By the end, he will even kiss a girl.'

(39) Finn is known for his curly hair.

(40) Finn loves frogs and launched his own frog apparel company.

(41) The pitch document for Montauk included a number of elements that were later discarded for Stranger Things. In

the pitch document story notes for Montauk, Mike Wheeler ventures into the Upside Down to search for Will Byers. This never actually happened though in Stranger Things (as it became).

(42) In the pitch document, Montauk is set in the fall of 1980. The pitch proposed that the music in the show should be a synth score inspired by John Carpenter's *The Fog* and *The Thing*. It also proposed that a sequel (a second season of Montauk) would take place in 1990 when the kids are now young adults and must reunite to fight the strange forces threatening their village again. This was patently inspired by Stephen King's *IT* and another element in the pitch that never happened in the end.

It is sometimes reported that Montauk was pitched as an anthology show but the evidence seems to contradict this. The pitch book for Montauk clearly proposed one single story and one set of characters. The vague notion of setting a second season of the show in 1990 ten years later quickly became obsolete when Stranger Things began shooting and the Duffers saw how good the child actors were. The notion of having a second season of Strangers Things with the likes of Finn Wolfhard, Millie Bobby Brown, and Gaten Matarazzo replaced by older actors was unthinkable.

(43) The Duffers suffered many rejections when they tried to pitch Montauk (eventually to become Stranger Things) in the entertainment industry. The Duffers later said that what seemed to put people off was the fact that this proposed show had a gang of children as major characters. Network executives obviously didn't think this concept would work.

(44) Finn said he was more scared of Pennywise the Clown than the Demogorgon in Stranger Things.