

## *Your mood translated into colour*

No Regrets investigates the truth behind the magic lipstick.

BY SHIRLEY FEHR RODRIGUEZ

How many times have people looked at me like I have gone crazy when I apply my “green magic” lipstick? Well, people’s reactions are hilarious. They don’t see any green colour in my lips, all they see is that my lips have either gone a bit more pink or more red.

It is called Hare lipstick and it comes from Morocco. This magic lipstick has been known since 1980 when, at the time it was called the “mood lipstick” because it was marketed as it changed colour depending on your mood.

Nowadays, it is recognised as Henna lipstick or Magic lipstick. The mystery behind the change of colour comes from the main ingredient “Red 27”. This substance reacts to moisture and acidity, and makes its colour unique to each person. Red 27 is the responsible for causing the colour changing when it comes into contact with moisture and reacts to the pH balance and temperature of the lips.

Shenna Lee, 26, who works at the ‘Just Essentials’ store in Ipswich said: “We used to sell these lipsticks until last month when we stopped. I personally love it and I think the colour its very quirky on each person.

“The problem with the marketing is that people don’t really know what that green lipstick does so they tend to go for the basics and common brands. Once they know about it, they go crazy around the city to buy it but unfortunately in Ipswich we were the only ones who sold them.”

The lipstick has been the solution for many, included myself, who didn’t really find “the colour” for our lips. The colour varies between pink and red so it can work like a good base to then mix with something lighter.

The final look on the lips is never a clear full pink or red, it usual looks more pink in the inside and darker on the outside of the lips.

Katie Moore, 17, an usual customer at the ‘Just Essentials’ store, said: “I have no idea how the lipstick is green and then on my lips there is no sign of any green colour at all, it actually becomes the most amazing pinkish and reddish colour.

“When my friend brought it from Morocco the first time, as soon as it ran out, I went to London in purpose to find it but I ended up ordering it on Ebay. I have recently read on an article on Facebook that it has an ingredient, called Red 27, which ‘is not good’ for your skin.”

Regarding Katie’s statement, it is believed that the lipstick is not that amazing as seems, dermatology studies have shown that the Red 27 substance has been banned from the modern day cosmetics because they explained that artificial dye products like Reds have carcinogenic properties, which have been tested in rats.

## “Dramatic prices for special makeup”

by Shirley Fehr Rodriguez

Many are the children and young artists in the city of Ipswich, from Ed Sheeran to the little talented performers. Special makeup made for TV series, movies, shows, etc. are categorised as way more expensive than common makeup.

The normal price for special effects makeup ranges between £10 and £50. Drama school students and also primary kids cannot afford these prices at all. They struggle to get their makeup done for their plays and shows. Ipswich, known as an artistic city, counts with several ‘low cost’ stores which provide skin and hair products imported from Asia and Africa.

The store ‘Just Essentials’ has become “the one” for those studying drama and for mothers who need to buy body painting or colourful makeup for their kids’ adventures.

Farrah Sutherland, 18, a Scottish dancer from Edinburgh currently in Ipswich said: “I’m here for a few months working on different dance performances at Dance East to go into advance lyrical dance back in Edinburgh and I can say that it took me ages to find affordable makeup for my rehearsals.

“After a month and a half, I have finally found two stores which sell very cheap products. They are called Just Essentials and Fly Girls who offer a big variety of products as such as “Snazaroo” painting and wax.”

Unless you are a professional makeup artist, there is no need to spend a lot of money on makeup. As everything else, the more expensive the better quality but in this case, ‘Snazaroo’ special effects makeup lasts for more than 24 hours.

Amy Scott, 21, a sales assistant at ‘Just Essentials’ store said: “I am a dancer at Dance East too, but I work here part-time. Working in this store has helped me to realise that there is no need to spend lots of money on high branded makeup. For non day-by-day makeup, I don’t spend more than a few pounds.

“As a dancer, when I have to perform and need specific makeup I always ask Shenna who works here with me and knows about all types of makeups, textures, brands, everything. I set £10 as my budget and never go over it.”

Beauty and hair products like ‘Snazaroo’ offer the same result as any other expensive equivalent. Body art can be sometimes a spoilt world, especially young artists who are not aware of all the affordable options that are out there. Products like the ones above cannot be found in big retailers, they are only found in small shops which sell products from foreign countries.

Sometimes the best things are hard to find, and most of the times they are cheaper than what we think. If it is possible to find these treasures in a small city like Ipswich, it is possible to find them anywhere else.

<b>Basic</b>	<b>List of</b>	<b>Special Effects</b>	<b>Makeup</b>
<b>Mask Cover</b>	Wax	Flesh	Blood
<b>Rigid Collodion/Scars</b>	Powder	Crepe Hair	Bald Cap
<b>Latex Liquid</b>	Neon	Bruise	Adhesive Remover