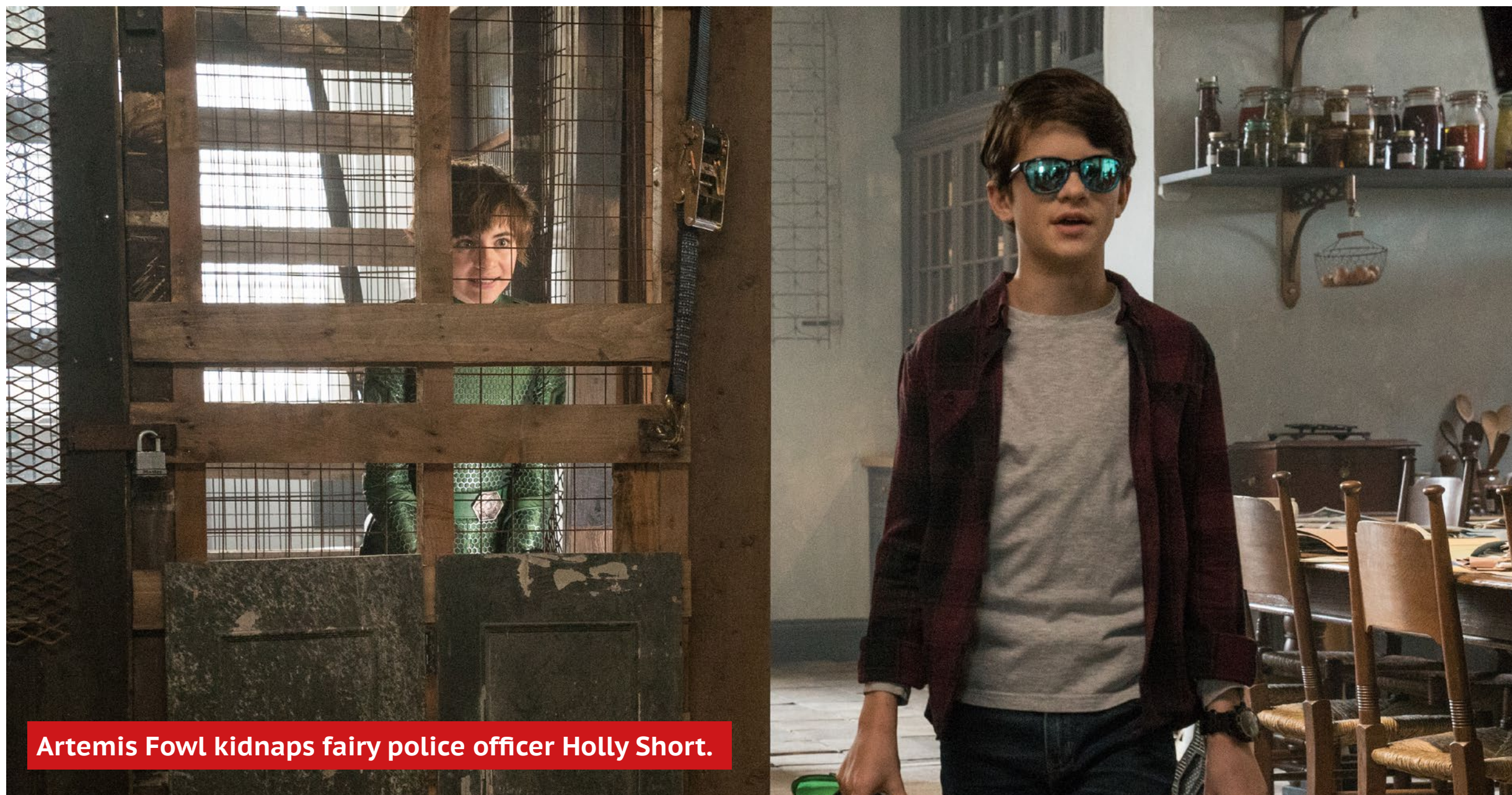


Irish Magic

A2



Artemis Fowl kidnaps fairy police officer Holly Short.

© Disney

Artemis Fowl is a mixture of Irish mythology, science fiction and a James-Bond-type action movie.



© Disney

Holly Short, left, is a member of the LEPrecon fairy police.

The title character is a 12-year-old criminal mastermind. When his father is kidnapped, Artemis discovers that the world of fairies and other supernatural creatures is real. After a war with humans a thousand years ago, the fairies went to live underground, in the Lower Elements.

Artemis's father has offended the fairies. Artemis wants to get him back and decides to kidnap a fairy: Holly Short is an 84-year-old elf. Fairies age differently and Holly looks like a human teenager. She is a member of the Lower Elements Police, called LEPrecon. The fairies have very advanced technology, and of course, they can fly.

Artemis is the principal character in eight books by Irish author Eoin Colfer. He imagined Artemis as a "12-year-old Bond villain".

Artemis and Holly are played by Irish teenagers Ferdia Shaw and Lara McDonnell. It's Ferdia's first film, whereas Lara is an experienced actress. She starred in the musical *Matilda* in London. Both actors are big fans of the Artemis Fowl books. ■

Help

offend (v) insult

look like (v) resemble

demand (v) ask with authority, strongly

Myths about fairies, or the "little people", are very common in Ireland. There are elves, trolls, giants, dwarves and fairies, like many other cultures. But there are also a specifically Irish creature: the leprechaun*. Legend says every leprechaun has a treasure: a pot of gold. If a human captures a leprechaun, the human can demand the treasure.



© Faya Francevna/Shutterstock

* 'leprə,kɔ:n

The fairies aren't like the ones in fairytales. They have very advanced technology.



There are different types of fairies in the Lower Elements, like elves (left) and dwarves.



Artemis has to look for a secret his father left in his library.