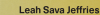


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**Rick Riordan** published *"Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief"* in 2005. The book introduces 12-year-old Percy, who discovers that the monsters and demon-eyed teachers who have plagued him his whole life aren't figments of his imagination: He's a demigod, it turns out — the child of a human woman and the water god Poseidon — and the Greek myths he grew up



Age 14

**Hometown** Detroit, Mich.

Among Jeffries' credits are a six-episode run on "Empire" and a role in the Idris Elba-led thriller "Beast."

Jeffries loved living in Vancouver while shooting "Percy Jackson and the Olympians," but struggled with Canada's lack of Target, Taco Bell and Furbys. "When you travel from country to country, at the airport they're like, 'Did you bring any food over here?' And I'm like, 'Nah.' Then I open my suitcase for a bag of chips," she says. "Thankfully, McDonald's is in Canada, because I would have cried."

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