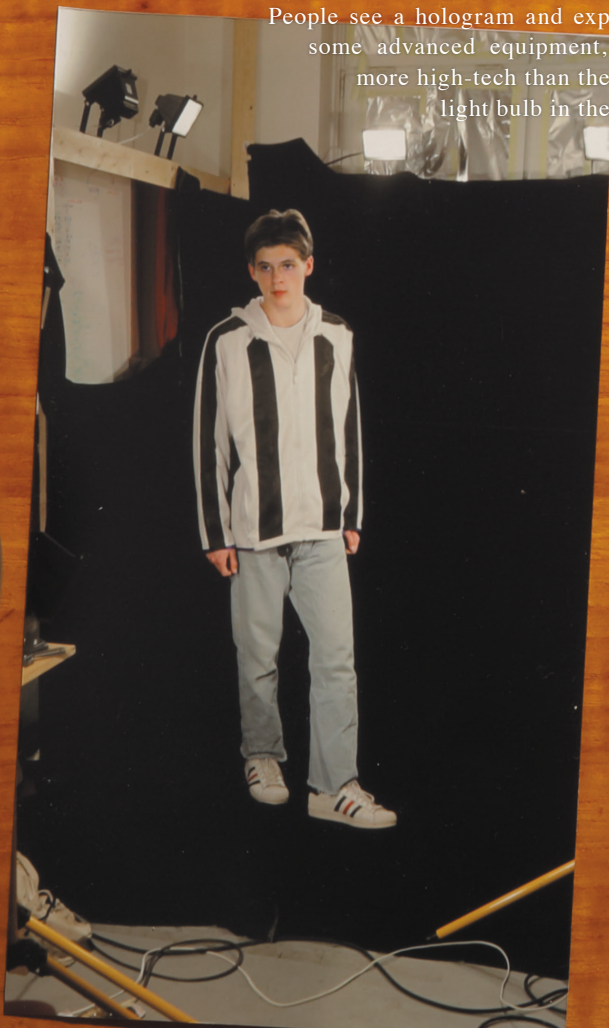


**THE MAKING OF  
THE BRANDON TEENA CHARACTER  
AND THE CREATION OF THE HOLOGRAM**

I like to take things apart, to look at them and then put them back together. Soul, Body and Look. People can change their look and still be the same person, but with a different voice, they won't be the same person. It's like a fingerprint. Wanted: American teenage boy from Nebraska with southern drawl, androgynous voice. That's how the Craigslist ad was written, followed by a tape recording of Brandon Teena's voice. Another ad was written to find someone to play his body. It was a hit! I have never had so many people come to an audition. Almost all were a certain type of androgynous looking girl, two of them identified as non-binary transgender men. I chose the one who had the most similar facial features to Brandon. Shortly before the film shoot, the actor pulled out. Although a large number of people showed interest, none of them felt quite right for the role. I asked myself, who do I know who is perceived as a teenage boy? A good friend's son came to my mind. After looking at some photos of him, I saw that it might be possible. He was immediately up for the idea. I sent him to the hairdresser with some photos of Brandon Teena. The next day he came for the film shoot. He put on the hoodie, which looked like the one Brandon had worn in several famous photos. And it was spot on, this was what I imagined Brandon would have been! Images created through a lens often tend to capture more than you can pinpoint. The actor did not actually look much like Brandon, they both wore the same hoody and hairstyle and had a teenage guy's charisma. And people say it looks like Brandon Teena. Probably you have seen a lamp reflected in a window and thought that the lamp was really there outside the window.

People see a hologram and expect it to be created with some advanced equipment, but actually it's no more high-tech than the reflection of the light bulb in the window.



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