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PRESS PACKET / SPEC PILOT

# AN AMERICAN WEASLEY IN LONDON

*A Revolutionary War spy drama where Hogwarts becomes the Empire's intelligence problem.*

**by Joshua Coombs**

<b>Format</b>	One-hour serialized television drama
<b>Genre</b>	Historical fantasy, espionage drama, dark comedy
<b>Pilot</b>	"A Red Thread in the King's Coat"
<b>Time period</b>	American Revolutionary War, beginning in 1778
<b>Primary settings</b>	London, occupied New York, Setauket, Paris, Scotland, and Hogwarts

*Red hair. Black ink. Old stone. One thread running through the whole bloody century.*

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# Press Packet / Spec Pilot Information Sheet

<b>Created and written by</b>	Joshua Coombs
<b>Format</b>	One-hour serialized television drama
<b>Genre</b>	Historical fantasy, espionage drama, dark comedy, Revolutionary War intrigue
<b>Status</b>	Unofficial spec pilot / portfolio sample
<b>Pilot episode</b>	A Red Thread in the King's Coat
<b>Primary settings</b>	London, occupied New York, Setauket, Paris, Scotland, and Hogwarts
<b>Lead character</b>	Wulfric Weasley, age 33, colonial-born wizard, Cherokee through his mother, Weasley through his father, Hogwarts-educated, and tied to the Culper spy network

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## Press Logline

*A colonial-born Weasley wizard of Cherokee and British descent joins the Culper spy network during the American Revolution, stealing secrets from London and returning to Hogwarts to sabotage a Crown surveillance ledger before it exposes rebel agents, Indigenous communities, and magical dissenters across the colonies.*

## Short Pitch

An American Weasley in London reimagines the Revolutionary War through a magical espionage lens, following Wulfric Weasley, a 33-year-old colonial wizard caught between empires, kinship, and conscience. While Benjamin Franklin courts French support in Paris, Wulfric works through the Culper Ring, smuggling intelligence between London, occupied New York, and Scotland.

The series asks what happens when Hogwarts, long imagined as a sanctuary, becomes an imperial intelligence asset. In wartime, school records are not innocent. Lists become cages. Archives become weapons. A castle that once taught Wulfric magic now threatens to catalog and expose everyone he is trying to protect.

The result is a historical fantasy spy drama with red hair, black ink, coded thread, powdered wigs, illegal portkeys, and the uneasy knowledge that liberty can become another empire if no one watches the mapmakers.

## Series Overview

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Set in 1778, *An American Weasley in London* follows Wulfric Weasley as he uncovers the Albion Ledger, a secret Crown-backed magical surveillance project built from Hogwarts student records, Ministry correspondence, and captured intelligence from British-occupied New York.

Officially, the ledger exists to protect wizarding secrecy during the chaos of the Revolutionary War. In practice, it can identify and control magical dissenters, squibs, printers, midwives, Indigenous contacts, colonial families, and suspected rebel sympathizers across the Atlantic world.

Wulfric's mission begins in London, where he infiltrates a Crown magical archive disguised as a colonial tailor's agent. When the archive identifies him through his old Hogwarts records, he realizes the conspiracy is not merely political. It is personal. The school that once questioned whether he belonged may now be helping the Empire decide who can safely exist.

### Season pressure zones

- London, where aristocratic magical bureaucracy and Crown intelligence turn secrecy into control.
- New York and Long Island, where the Culper Ring moves information through taverns, docks, dead drops, laundry signals, and ordinary-looking terror.
- Paris, where Benjamin Franklin's diplomacy becomes both opportunity and danger.
- Scotland, where old Jacobite memory, squib print networks, and hidden magical routes point toward Hogwarts.
- Hogwarts, older and colder than its later legend, where the records of children have become irresistible to men who believe a list is simply a cage before assembly.

The show's central dramatic engine is not simply rebellion against Britain. Wulfric's Cherokee heritage prevents the Revolution from becoming a clean moral fable. The Crown promises order while exploiting Indigenous nations and colonial magical communities. The Revolution promises liberty while settlers continue taking Native land.

Wulfric operates inside that contradiction, refusing to let any single government own the meaning of freedom.

*What if the most dangerous thing at Hogwarts was not a monster, but a student record?*

## Pilot Episode Summary

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### "A Red Thread in the King's Coat"

In London, 1778, Wulfric Weasley infiltrates a Crown magical archive hidden inside Whitehall. Disguised as a colonial tailor's agent, he steals a dispatch concealed in the frame of a royal portrait. The security charm recognizes him through a Hogwarts registry: Wulfric Oswin Weasley, colonial admission, Hufflepuff House, admitted 1756, departed 1763. Then the portrait adds the phrase that has followed him since childhood: "maternal line irregular."

Wulfric escapes through a fireplace to the apothecary of Oona Nettlebed, a squib safehouse operator whose shop sells plague vinegar, lamp oil, suspicious ink, and treason in manageable portions. The stolen dispatch reveals the Albion Ledger, a surveillance project linking Hogwarts records to British intelligence gathered in occupied New York.

When investigator Thomas Grayling traces Wulfric's thread magic to Oona's shop, Wulfric learns that Hogwarts itself is still connected to him. The ledger is not merely tracking political dissidents. It is searching for him, pulling at his bloodline and school records as though he were unfinished property.

In Act Two, Wulfric divides the stolen intelligence into three routes: Setauket receives the names needed to protect the Culper Ring; Paris receives proof of British magical interference for Franklin; and Scotland receives Wulfric himself. His British cousin Euphemia Weasley provides access to a Loyalist dinner party where Lord Bellweather keeps an illegal Scottish cabinet, a hidden magical passage that may get Wulfric north.

The episode ends with a warning from Professor Elspeth Calder at Hogwarts, the teacher who once protected him from the school's registry system: "If the ledger has found you, do not come here alone."

# Main Character

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## Wulfric Weasley

Wulfric Weasley is a 33-year-old colonial-born wizard whose life has been shaped by translation, suspicion, and divided belonging. Cherokee through his mother and Weasley through his father, he understands that both empire and revolution can speak beautifully while drawing borders in blood.

He attended Hogwarts from 1756 to 1763, where he was sorted into Hufflepuff. That choice matters. Wulfric is not a warrior first. He is a maintenance wizard: a man who keeps impossible things from falling apart. His magic is practical, quiet, and built around thread, cloth, hidden messages, repair work, route memory, and the unnoticed labor that keeps networks alive.

Wulfric's central flaw is that he believes moral clarity is something one earns by suffering enough. This makes him brave, but also harsh, secretive, and too willing to let himself become a weapon. His arc asks whether he can refuse false choices without becoming alone inside his refusal.

<b>Age</b>	33
<b>Heritage</b>	Cherokee through his mother; Weasley through his father
<b>House</b>	Hufflepuff
<b>Spy alias</b>	Red Thread
<b>Public London identity</b>	Mr. Wulf Whitlock, colonial tailor's agent
<b>Magic</b>	Binding charms, textile concealment, cipher-work, fireplace misdirection, repair magic

# Supporting Characters

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## Oona Nettlebed

A squib apothecary in London who runs a safehouse out of a shop selling plague vinegar, lamp oil, ink, and "no treason larger than pocket-size." Dry, dangerous, and unsentimental, Oona knows where magical society hides its shame because she has spent her life being treated as one of those hidden things.

## Euphemia Weasley

Wulfric's British cousin, respectable enough to be invited everywhere and sharp enough to weaponize the invitation list. She disapproves of Wulfric's recklessness while repeatedly making his survival possible. Her family loyalty arrives disguised as social insult.

## Thomas Grayling

A young investigator assigned to hunt "Red Thread." A former Ravenclaw with a surgical mind, Grayling believes Wulfric has betrayed the institution that educated him. His danger lies not in cruelty, but in intelligence and a bad habit of admiring the people he should arrest.

## Professor Elspeth Calder

A severe Scottish Charms professor at Hogwarts who once protected Wulfric from a registry review questioning his maternal line. She may be Wulfric's best chance of surviving the school's archive system, but she may also choose to protect Hogwarts before protecting him.

**Benjamin Franklin**

In Paris, Franklin is diplomat, printer, scientist, performer, and professional mask-wearer. He knows enough about magical society to be useful and not enough to be safe. Wulfric respects his intelligence and distrusts his appetite for leverage.

**Anna Strong, Abraham Woodhull, and Robert Townsend**

The Culper network gives Wulfric's magical espionage a grounded No-Maj counterpart. Their world of invisible ink, aliases, domestic signals, coded routes, and ordinary-looking bravery mirrors Wulfric's own thread magic without needing magic at all.

# Historical-Fantasy Foundation

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The series is rooted in the real espionage pressures of the Revolutionary War, especially the Culper Ring's New York and Long Island intelligence work. It uses that historical infrastructure as the mortal skeleton under the magical skin.

The magic is not designed to replace history. It complicates it.

Wulfric's Cherokee heritage is also central to the show's moral architecture. The series avoids using Indigenous identity as exotic decoration or as a source of special mystical powers. Instead, his background shapes the political and human stakes: land, kinship, treaty language, translation, and the violence hidden under polite words like "settlement."

The Revolutionary War becomes more than a Patriot-vs-British binary. It becomes a conflict in which multiple peoples are forced to calculate survival while empires and new republics both claim destiny.

## Themes

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### Surveillance and the Violence of Records

The Albion Ledger turns student records into imperial infrastructure. The series asks when an archive becomes a weapon, when a school becomes a state asset, and what it means to be misnamed by a system that insists it is only writing things down.

### Belonging Without Obedience

Wulfric belongs to several worlds that do not comfortably belong to each other. His story rejects the idea that belonging requires submission. Loyalty, for him, is maintenance rather than obedience.

### Liberty, Land, and Contradiction

The show treats revolutionary rhetoric with both wonder and suspicion. Freedom is beautiful. Freedom can also be selectively distributed. Wulfric's perspective keeps the story from flattening the Revolution into a clean myth.

### Practical Magic

The show's magic is tactile and handmade: thread, buttons, ash, paper, wax, doors, kitchens, coats, and cabinets. It is less lightning duel and more covert infrastructure. Magic lives in the work.

### The School as Gothic Institution

Hogwarts is not treated as a warm nostalgic backdrop. In this period, it is old stone, candle smoke, strict portraits, hidden ledgers, post-Jacobite silence, and the eerie question of what a school owes the children it records.

*He is not chosen. He is recorded. Then he decides to become unreadable.*

## Tone and Visual Identity

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An American Weasley in London lives in candlelight, rain, soot, wool, ink, and powdered wigs. It should feel witty, dangerous, and tactile: a spy drama where every object might be evidence, disguise, weapon, or witness.

London is fog, bureaucracy, aristocratic rot, service corridors, locked fireplaces, and rooms where polite men discuss ruin with clean fingernails.

New York and Long Island is salt marshes, occupied taverns, coded laundry lines, dock routes, prison-ship rumors, and dead drops hidden in ordinary errands.

Paris is velvet over gunpowder, a place where diplomacy smells of perfume, paper, and electricity.

Scotland is peat smoke, old roads, squib printers, ferry routes, and memory that refuses to stay buried.

Hogwarts is ancient, watchful, and not yet softened by later legend. The castle is not evil, but it has been useful to power, which may be worse.

## Audience and Comparable Titles

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This concept is designed for audiences who enjoy historical intrigue, morally complicated fantasy, and character-driven espionage.

- *TURN: Washington's Spies* for Revolutionary War espionage and Culper Ring texture.
- *The Americans* for intimate spycraft, divided loyalties, and the moral cost of secrecy.
- *Andor* for anti-imperial bureaucracy, political awakening, and resistance built through ordinary labor.
- Prestige British period drama for class performance, social fencing, and drawing-room danger.
- Gothic school fantasy for Hogwarts as an institution with memory, beauty, and rot inside the walls.

## Why This Concept Works

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An American Weasley in London finds a fresh dramatic corridor inside a familiar magical world by shifting the timeline, geography, and moral center.

Instead of another school-year coming-of-age story, this is an adult espionage drama about records, empire, land, and survival. Instead of using Hogwarts as a place of comfort, it turns the school into a morally complicated archive. Instead of treating the American Revolution as a simple fight for liberty, it asks who gets included in that liberty, who gets listed as a problem, and who gets erased when the map is redrawn.

Wulfric Weasley gives the story its engine. He has the warmth, stubbornness, humor, and family chaos associated with the Weasley name, but his Cherokee heritage, colonial upbringing, Hogwarts education, and Culper spy work make him politically inconvenient in every room he enters.

## Promotional Copy

### Pull Quotes

*A Revolutionary War spy drama where Hogwarts becomes the Empire's intelligence problem.*

*Red hair. Black ink. Old stone. One thread running through the whole bloody century.*

*What if the most dangerous thing at Hogwarts was not a monster, but a student record?*

*A colonial Weasley spy must choose what to save, what to burn, and who gets to own the map of freedom.*

### Sample Social Copy

#### Short

A colonial Weasley spy. The Culper Ring. Franklin in Paris. Hogwarts as an imperial archive. An American Weasley in London turns Revolutionary War espionage into historical fantasy with teeth.

#### Medium

In 1778, Wulfric Weasley steals a Crown dispatch and discovers the Albion Ledger, a magical surveillance project built from Hogwarts records and wartime intelligence. To stop it, he must cross London, New York, Paris, and Scotland before the Empire turns every name into a cage.

#### Long

An American Weasley in London is an unofficial spec pilot by Joshua Coombs that reimagines the Revolutionary War through magical espionage. Wulfric Weasley, a colonial-born wizard of Cherokee and British descent, works with the Culper spy network while Benjamin Franklin courts France. But when Hogwarts records become part of a Crown surveillance system, Wulfric must return to the school that once questioned whether he belonged.

## About the Creator

Joshua Coombs is a writer and software/test automation engineer whose creative work often blends myth, systems, language, history, and speculative worldbuilding. His storytelling interests include morally complicated institutions, hidden architectures of power, darkly funny survival, and characters forced to live inside contradictions they did not create.

An American Weasley in London reflects that intersection: a spy drama about empire as a data system, magic as infrastructure, and identity as something no registry can safely contain.

## Availability

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The current spec packet includes:

- Series concept
- Character overview
- Season One spine
- Pilot structure
- Pilot script draft through Act Two

Additional materials available or in development:

- Full pilot draft
- Expanded series bible
- Character sheets
- Episode-by-episode Season One outline
- Visual mood board
- Historical research notes
- Pitch deck / lookbook

## Contact

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## Closing Description

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An American Weasley in London is a Revolutionary War spy story about a man who has been named, filed, sorted, translated, and claimed by institutions his whole life. The Crown wants his obedience. The Revolution wants his usefulness. Hogwarts wants its record back. Wulfric Weasley wants the map destroyed before anyone else is trapped inside it.

The thread is red. The ink is black. The castle remembers.

And Wulfric is done being grateful.