Hi everyone, my name is Anna He. You can find me at Facebook.com/seattlecosplay, or @seattlecosplay on twitter. I hope you are as excited as I am to come to this year’s sew expo. I am a seasoned cosplayer in the Pacific Northwest, and today, I want to show you how I added embellishments to emulate the intricate designs of a costume.

The example I want to use is a wedding gown cosplay from the HBO Game of Thrones Series. The costume is worn by Sansa Stark in season 3 when she is set to marry a Lannister husband. The reason why I picked this costume is because the ultra-lux golden design and the highly decorated neck/waist wrap. But let’s not overlook the show’s epic actions, drama and special effect sequences that often leave fans like me, sitting on the edge of our seats, or sobbing tears of sadness when my favorite character gets eliminated.

The show’s costume designer explained that the neck wrap tells the story of Sansa’s life. In the world of Game of thrones, each family has a distinctive house sigil or emblem of sorts. Her father’s house is Stark which has a dire wolf sigil, her mother’s house is Tully, which bears a silver fish; lastly, the dominating house is house Lannister, and it’s sigil is a lion.

The plot of the show is that Sansa is the fruit with the union of the Stark and Tully. As she grows up, and with this wedding, Sansa’s faith is slowly being changed with the Lannister’s presence. All of that is captured in this costume.

Instead of doing a lot of manual hand embroidery, I used my embroidery machine to stitch out individual main patches. I purchased the embroidery deigns, but went ahead to modified and adjust in sizes, orientation, as well as minor details to fit my needs.

Now, on to the actual cosplay. The Story starts at the back waist panel. Here you see the Tully fish - which I used a lake green color to stitch out the fish and added blue crystals beads to signify water. And the silver dire wolf in metallic thread and brown on the side. I used a ton of gold braids, rope trims, more red crystals and garnet, gold beads to high light the floral design. The back waist panel has eyelets on each side which is how it gets attached to the front bands.

As we progress to the side front of the band, we see that the Lannister lions are showing up, and ultimately takes the place at center front neck drop. Intermixing with the sigils, I added a black mesh lace to high light the scrolling design, and the repeating elements of gold pacers beads, red garnets and crystals, and braid trims. Because of the extravagant gold fabric and the metallic patches, it seems like no matter how much embellishment I throw on it, it just absorbs all the glitz.

At last, we arrived at the center back, we see that the Lannister lion takes center stage in all its glory. You can see that to accentuate the lion design, I used French wire to emulate manes and highlight the blood thirst with red thread. The gold trims continue here at the back and I added over all gold beads to reflect the rich nature of the marriage.

Further down the blog, you will be able to see the side to side comparison of the original Costume and my cosplay.

If you want to read more about how I constructed the rest of the cosplay including work in progress and group photos of me with other Game of Throne cosplayers, check out my website site – seattlecosplay.com.

Thank you so much for watching today. I look forward in seeing you, in cosplay, at the Sew Expo! Bye!