

"alice's adventures in wonderland" analysis



The highly debatable topic of whether a movie supersedes its book equivalent is one that has survived years of book club meetings, classroom discussion and as of recent, social media debates (says who?). The comparison of a book to its movie is one of the greatest thoughts that approaches the forefront of a person's mind once they have invested the time into reading the literature and later dedicating time to the scrutiny of the on-screen production. More, often than not, the book is said to be the victor of the two once a successful comparison is made (T. 06) (is this correct citation?).

The rationale behind my research arrived when I began to contemplate " Which was better? " after the question became more popular when several novels began to appear on the big screen. As a result, I chose my favorite book to be suitable test subject in order to examine in grave detail what makes people think that they have to decipher which had been better, and under what circumstances is one better than the other. This allows me to bring forth the question " How does the 1865 novel of " Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" by Lewis Carroll thematically, religiously and stylistically differ from that of the 2010 movie version " Alice in Wonderland" by Tim Burton? " It is commonly perceived by many, all around the world, that if a movie is derived from a book, the odds that the movie is more enticing than the book is less likely to occur, and the book will take precedence as the more favourable of the two, in more instances than one (T. 06).

This study was even noticed among the comparison of The Percy Jackson and The Sea of Monsters film to it's movie equivalent and amongst The Hunger Game Series films and their movie equivalents. In both instances, it

was said that the movie was an excellent production and admirable attempt of replication of the book, however, " they just don't have the same inclusion as the book" or " it didn't have the same feel to it" (T. 06).

The common thread, in my opinion, as to why this occurs is because the movie seemingly fails to incorporate details that had been important to the reader's of the book; Instead, the focus is the director's interpretation, and the desired time frame to bring across all the ideas in which he deems necessary. In conducting research I decided to look no further than my favorite book as well as movie in order to bring forth an unbiased? comparison between book and movie. The world renowned novel, " Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" by the original author Lewis Carroll, 1865, and the movie, " Alice in Wonderland" by the prestigious director of children films, Tim Burton, 2010, are my chosen literature pieces that I have decided to research.

The novel does not pose to differ from the popular opinion that it is better than the movie, however, the impeccable graphic and interest-grabbing storyline does essentially act as competition between each of them (T. 06). I believe that a book simply cannot be compared to a movie because the author and the writer experience of two extensive thought patterns that are influenced by the culture that they are apart of and the era in which they live. The main purpose of this essay is to assemble the similarities and differences present in the film based on the themes, the dominant thought altering religious aspects (what do you mean by this?), and literary and visual stylistic features prominent in both. In completion of this task, the reader will be familiar with the evidences prominent within the movie and <https://assignbuster.com/alices-adventures-in-wonderland-analysis/>

novel which brings each story to life and then will be allowed to decipher which appears to be the more favoured of the two.

Introduction

Lewis Carroll born in the early 1800's as Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, who is the author of the highly accredited children's novel, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, 1865. As an author born in the Victorian era, an era marked by the reign of Queen Victoria, Carroll had been greatly impacted by this, as seen by the prominence of power that female characters have in the novel. Known for being a "logical man" who had been "constantly inventing more effective methods of completing a task", Carroll is recognized for his invention of multiple games from croquet to word games, and several rules from tennis to parliament (Brady, 98). More about Carroll? What does this have to do with his writings? Carroll never failed to relate his life to that of the paramount characters in his books, with the story of Alice being no different.

For instance, Carroll had been known for having an "obsession with eating" a characteristic of his, prominent in the works of *Alice's Adventures* (Brady, 98) When Alice eats, there is "negative connotation" associated with her consumption whereby after ingestion, she grows and towers over all that surround her to enormous and unwanted heights (Brady, 98). Simply one of the many instances that he is able to brilliantly include features his life into his production. The intricate details displayed in his writing, allows for one to not second guess the reason for his ability to be the recipient of his accolades, including the recipient of an eponymous award, the Lewis Carroll

Bookshelf Award, “ awarded to books that are similar to the works of Alice in Wonderland”.

- Why it is that I chose this specific topic
- Information about the original text and the most recent movie.
- Information about the author of the book as well as the most recent movie.
- Themes, structure, purpose, issues present in the movie and the book, both contrasting and similar.
- Speak to the day and age in which it was written and state the difference in the demeanor of the different characters and state whether the age is why the author or director portrayed them in the ways they did.
- Introduce characters, both in the book and movie of main focus and ensure to elaborate on character traits, possibly according to time period or according author.
- State why I think there is a difference in the way that characters had been portrayed.
- Give proper thesis, stating what I plan to present based on my question, and state that it is based off the first book and the last movie. ***I want this to be the last thing I do, because as I continue I am going to be finding more information about both authors. The forthright or ambiguous source of the underlying essence of any literary work, is what epitomizes excellence in any form of literature (Author unknown). A theme in any source of literature can

be referred to as the moral of the story even though a theme does not have to be a moral.

I believe themes that are prominent in novels and motion pictures act as the backbone of which a production is established. Tim Burton, the director of the outstanding film *Alice in Wonderland* along with his predecessor Lewis Carroll, the author of the highly lauded novel *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* accentuate what it means to have "something to say between the lines" (Robert Wise, n. d.). In both forms of literature the most outstanding themes throughout, aid in the intellectual development of vivid production as the story follows its series of events. In this aspect of the essay, I will be exploring in great detail the similarities and the differences present amongst the themes in the movie as well as the book. Similar themes present in both include growing up, identity, and curiosity. Themes that differ in the book and the movie help to set each form of literature apart from each other. One of the more predominant themes in both the movie and book alike is that of growing up, from childhood to adulthood.

The theme takes precedence at the forefront of each form of literature as an exaggerated metaphor whereby Alice's growth, both literally and mentally while on her adventures in wonderland, differ greatly from those that occur in the real world (same citation). This allows the reader to question the relevance of physical and mental growth acting as one of the many morals of the stories. The world as perceived by Alice acts as a frame in which many children view the adult world and the big problems and encounters that they anticipate are present.

Whenever Alice was to come across a task that proved to be difficult, like to consult with the Red Queen in the movie or becoming small to fit through the garden in the book, growth would constantly take place. It is even thought that Alice may have been able to control her growth however this is quickly proven to be false when she begins to grow once more. This unpredictability present in her growth process can be related back to the real world in the sense that we cannot predict what growing up will be like because it is out of our control. Alice is tasked with attempting to comprehend the confusion of the adult world, a world that lacked curiosity, excluding questions that had been familiar to children like " why? ".