

SYNOPSIS: WICKED

WICKED begins with the death of the WICKED Witch of the West. Through flashback, we learn from Glinda* that the two witches, Glinda and the WICKED Witch of the West, whose real name is Elphaba, are old University friends who disliked each other intensely when they first met. Glinda is beautiful, spoiled and popular while Elphaba is inconveniently green-skinned.

Elphaba is never afraid to stand up for what she believes to be right and demonstrates strong values. On a visit to Oz, she and Glinda discover that the Wizard is corrupt. Despite this revelation, Glinda is tempted by the Wizard's invitation to join his administration, but Elphaba refuses and vows to fight the Wizard's injustice.

Concerned that Elphaba might use her natural talent for sorcery against him, the Wizard uses propaganda to turn the people of Oz against her, denouncing her as the 'WICKED Witch of the West'. A hunt begins and Elphaba is forced into hiding.

Glinda is left battling with her conscience, realising that Elphaba has had the strength to stand by what is right. When the people of Oz hear that a 'female child' has killed the WICKED Witch, Glinda announces that all is now well but secretly she mourns her lost friend and vows to do 'good'.

* NB Galinda becomes "Glinda" in the first act of WICKED due to Doctor Dillamond's inability to pronounce "Galinda". You will see references to both throughout these materials.



Photo by Juho Sim