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### Film Musical Assignment on the Wizard of Oz

For this assignment, I chose to do my musical on one of the greatest musicals on DVD ever: The Wizard of Oz. Just a little background information, the story of the musical follows a young girl named Dorothy who gets caught in a twister in her home in Kansas and gets transported to the world of OZ with hopes of coming back home. When we talk about music, each and every detail matters because the music is always changing in this movie. There was happy music being played when the Munchkins were dancing with Dorothy and there was mysterious music being played when the witches started to appear on screen. The music depended on the situation.

The history of the film "The Wizard of Oz" goes way back in history. Before The Wizard of Oz was created into a musical, there was a book that appeared first. On May 17th, 1900, the wizard of oz book was published. It's original name was "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" rather than the shorter movie title. It was a huge success among children's books/fairy tales and carried a great legacy in the history of books. For the making of the musical, MGM bought the rights of the novel from author L. Frank Baum. From book to a musical adaptation, the script went through numerous revisions, with many of the book details omitted for a better musical. The script was completed on October 8th, 1938. The creation of the musical was significant in the fact that it was one of the first successful movies to be featured using color.

There were several different key takeaways we could identify from the movie "The Wizard of Oz". First off there appears to be a giant yellow brick road that extends all the way from Dorothy's home to the Emerald City. Now according to the movie, the purpose of the path is to safely guide anyone who travels upon it all the way to the city. However, when I began to think deeper, I believe that there is a much bigger meaning in all of this. I think the purpose of the yellow brick road is a "journey of life" that everyone is required to travel on sometime in their life with obstacles to prevent them from completing their journey. Another takeaway I could identify were the characters symbolized more than just additional protagonists in the musical. Close to the end of the film, the entire "gang" asks the wizard of oz what they need to solve their problems. Scarecrow is looking for some brains, the Lion, is looking for the courage to be brave, the tin man is looking for a heart. From watching this scene, I could tell that the scarecrow represented the mind, the Tin Man represented heart, the lion represented spirit. These key takeaways helped me understand the movie a lot better compared to when I first watched it as a child because it helped me understand the intentions of the different aspects in the movie.

In all, I really enjoyed watching The Wizard of Oz. Musically speaking, the soundtrack is really upbeat and it's very catchy. This musical has really influenced a lot of future musicals to follow the same pattern when it comes to presentation, music choices, and story. Without this musical, the world of music would have been completely different.

### Works Cited

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