



# **WICKED**

**May 30-June 24, 2012**

**Schuster Center**

## **ABOUT WICKED**

Winner of 35 major awards including the Grammy Award® and three Tony Awards®. *WICKED* is the untold story of the witches of Oz. Long before Dorothy drops in, two other girls meet in the land of Oz. One, born with emerald-green skin, is smart, fiery, and misunderstood. The other is beautiful, ambitious, and very popular. *WICKED* tells the story of their remarkable odyssey, how these two unlikely friends grow to become the Wicked Witch of the West and Glinda the Good.

Declared “the best musical of the decade” by *Entertainment Weekly* and “a cultural phenomenon” by *Variety*, *WICKED* is based on the novel by Gregory Maguire, has music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, and a book by Winnie Holzman. The production is directed by Joe Mantello with musical staging by Wayne Cilento.

## **SYNOPSIS**

When Dorothy famously triumphed over the Wicked Witch, we only ever heard one side of the story. Gregory Maguire’s acclaimed 1995 novel, *Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West*, re-imagined the land of Oz, creating a parallel universe to the familiar story written by L. Frank Baum and first published as *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* in 1900.

*WICKED* tells the incredible untold story of an unlikely friendship between two girls who first meet as Sorcery Students at Shiz University: the blonde and very popular Glinda and a misunderstood green girl, Elphaba.

Following an encounter with The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, their friendship reaches a crossroads and their lives take very different paths. Glinda’s unflinching desire for popularity sees her seduced by power while Elphaba’s determination to remain true to herself, and to those around her, will have unexpected and shocking consequences for her future. Their extraordinary adventures in Oz will ultimately see them fulfill their destinies as Glinda the Good and the Wicked Witch of the West.

Described as “a rich and triumphant feat of imagination and allegory,” Gregory Maguire’s brilliantly original story has been internationally acclaimed. The *Toronto Star* said: “while weaving a seductive web of fantasy and fun, Maguire also manages to score serious points about the nature of being an outsider in our society.”

The spectacular, multi award-winning stage adaptation, with music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz and book by Winnie Holzman, has become the most spellbinding and successful new musical in years. The *Evening Standard* raved: “a remarkable kaleidoscope of magical shocks, surprises and sensations, *WICKED* works like a dream.”

Source: <http://www.wickedthemusical.co.uk/synopsis.asp>

## **Act I**

The citizens of Oz rejoice in the news of the death of the Wicked Witch of the West. Glinda, the Good Witch of the North, descends in her bubble to reinforce the message that wickedness does not beget rewards, but punishment. ("No One Mourns the Wicked"). She pauses, however, to recall the circumstances of Elphaba's birth and early life, revealing that she was conceived during an affair between her mother and a mysterious stranger with a bottle of green elixir; everyone was repulsed by Elphaba for being green-skinned, including her own father. A citizen asks if it is true that Glinda was Elphaba's friend. Glinda reveals the truth in an extended flashback:

It begins when Elphaba arrives at Shiz University, where the other students take an instant disliking and strong fear of her ("Dear Old Shiz"). The only reason Elphaba is sent to Shiz: her father wants her to take care of her younger sister Nessarose (his favorite daughter). He also presents the wheelchair-bound Nessarose with a pair of jeweled Silver Shoes. Madame Morrible, a Sorceress and the Headmistress of Shiz University, makes Glinda (then called "Galinda") and Elphaba roommates, although the two girls take an immediate dislike to each other based on first impressions alone. Morrible does not think Galinda fit to study sorcery, but after noticing Elphaba's innate magical talent, she declares that Elphaba could be the right-hand to the Wonderful Wizard of Oz himself someday; Elphaba daydreams about what she and the wizard could accomplish together ("The Wizard and I").

Galinda and Elphaba sit in their new dorm room on opposite ends and write home about their unfortunate roommate assignment, sure that they will loathe each other forever; they soon begin to walk to class as the other students align themselves with the popular Galinda as she and Elphaba express their mutual hate for each other ("What is this Feeling?").

In history class, Dr. Dillamond, a Goat and Shiz University's only Animal professor, habitually mispronounces Galinda's name as "Glinda". His history class is interrupted by the sight of an anti-Animal slogan written on the back of his blackboard (Animals should be seen, not heard). After dismissing the class, he confides in Elphaba that things in Oz are not what they seem to be; something is causing the Animals of Oz to lose their powers of speech ("Something Bad"). Elphaba believes that the Wizard needs to be informed, convinced that the Ruler of Oz will put a stop to whatever's going on.

Fiyero, a "scandalacious" handsome Winkie prince, arrives at Shiz and immediately impresses his own brand of cavalier, carefree living on the students ("Dancing Through Life"). Glinda gravitates towards him instantaneously, and fittingly so because Fiyero is similarly shallow and does not like to "think too hard." A Munchkin named Boq tries to ask Galinda to the ball, but Galinda gets rid of the unwanted suitor by asking him to do a good deed and invite Nessarose instead. Later, Galinda discovers her grandmother's pointed black hat in her dressing room, and gives it to Elphaba as a mock "present."

During the ball, Madame Morrible shows up and presents Galinda with a training wand from Elphaba, who is grateful for Galinda's "kindness" towards her and Nessarose. Boq convinces Nessarose that he did not ask her to the dance out of pity, but rather because he considers her to be "so beautiful." He, however, does not realize the full extent of Nessarose's affection towards him.

Elphaba arrives at the ballroom wearing the pointed black hat, only to be ridiculed. Defiant, she proceeds to dance alone and without musical accompaniment. Feeling guilty, Galinda joins Elphaba on the dance floor, marking the start of a new friendship between the two. After the dance, Galinda and Elphaba talk in their room, and decide to share secrets. Elphaba confesses that her father hates her because Nessarose's crippled condition and her mother's death are her fault; her mother was given milk roses by her father to prevent her next baby from being green. Nessarose's legs were permanently damaged, and her mother died giving birth to her. Galinda reveals that she intends to marry Fiyero, unaware that he is already intrigued by Elphaba. Galinda decides to give her new best friend a makeover and to make her popular like herself ("Popular").

The next day, Ozian officials take Doctor Dillamond away. The new history teacher arrives with a caged lion cub (who will turn out to be the Cowardly Lion) as the subject of an in-class experiment, revealing that Animals that are kept in cages will never learn how to speak. Outraged, Elphaba unknowingly casts an immobilizing fainting spell on the entire class except for Fiyero and herself. Taking the chance Elphaba and Fiyero steal the cub and set it free. The two realize that they may have feelings for each other, but Fiyero leaves, embarrassed. Elphaba takes refuge from the rain under a bridge and states that it would be impossible for someone like Fiyero to love someone like her ("I'm Not That Girl").

Madame Morrible finds her, and clears the skies exposing her weather magic. She announces that Elphaba has been granted an audience with the Wizard ("The Wizard and I (reprise)"). At the train station, Galinda and Fiyero see Elphaba off to the Emerald City. In an attempt to impress Fiyero, Galinda announces that she will change her name to "Glinda" in honor of Doctor Dillamond's persistent mispronunciation. Fiyero seems not to notice, focusing his attention instead on Elphaba, who, feeling bad for Glinda, invites her along to see the Wizard.

After a day of sightseeing in the Emerald City ("One Short Day"), Elphaba and Glinda meet the Wizard. Eschewing the special effects that he employs for the benefit of most visitors, he invites Elphaba to join him ("A Sentimental Man"). He tells Elphaba that Madame Morrible has told him all about her particularly strong abilities in sorcery, and reiterates that this is why he has invited her; simultaneously, out of the shadows, Madame Morrible herself suddenly appears, explaining that she had followed Elphaba to ensure that she was well-received, and that she now works alongside the Wizard as Press Secretary of the Land of Oz. Elphaba is very surprised to see Madame Morrible but does not express offence at having been followed, and congratulates her on her 'promotion'. It very quickly becomes apparent that Madame Morrible and the Wizard, far

from being strangers as viewers had earlier been left to assume, in fact have a close personal friendship, and are in league together in a peculiarly unsettling way, the cause of which is not yet revealed.

As a test of her abilities, which the Wizard assures Elphaba he is already confident in, he asks that Elphaba give his monkey servant, Chistery, the ability to fly using the Grimmerie, an ancient book of spells. Elphaba demonstrates an innate understanding of the lost language, and successfully gives Chistery wings. It is then that the mood of this scene turns decidedly darker, for the Wizard, in prompting her to cast this spell, had not merely done so to give his single monkey servant wings. Showing her how powerful she really is, the Wizard excitedly reveals an enormous cage full of winged monkeys, and remarks that they will make good spies to report any subversive Animal activity. Madame Morrible is just as excited and exuberant, remarking that she had known that Elphaba could do this all along. But Elphaba is horrified. She recognizes that it is in fact Madame Morrible and the Wizard who are behind the political and social oppression of the Animals, and not the work of extremists, as had been claimed by various people at Shiz University before. It is also implicitly recognized that Madame Morrible, while publicly expressing what appeared to be deep regret over the firings and exiles of various Animal faculty members at Shiz, had actually been the source of those very firings and exclusions the whole time. All of these connections gather rapidly in Elphaba's consciousness within a matter of a few seconds — and as they do, and her angry accusations towards both Morrible and the Wizard gather force, these two Oz Government officials cease to hope that Elphaba will join them, and decide to regard her as an enemy subversive. Elphaba is more incredulous than angry at this point, hurt she has been used and that the Wizard has no power of his own, meaning that she cannot believe in him as a great man the way she had been doing all those years at school. Elphaba and Glinda both run away from the situation as fast as they can, the Grimmerie still in Elphaba's hands, pursued by the palace guards.

Elphaba and Glinda run into the tallest tower, where they hear Madame Morrible declaring to all of Oz that Elphaba is a "Wicked Witch" and is to be distrusted. Glinda tries to reason with Elphaba to say she's sorry, and go back, but Elphaba decides that she's done with obeying people and being used, and ultimately decides to rise to the stars. Elphaba enchants a broomstick to fly, and tries to convince Glinda to join her in her cause, but Glinda cannot resist the call of popularity, and refuses. After saying goodbye and wishing each other luck, they depart from one another. At that point, the Guards break down the tower door, rush in and grab Glinda, assuming she is in league as a 'subversive'. But Elphaba, wielding the broomstick menacingly at the guards and screaming that Glinda had nothing to do with it, and tells them defiantly it's herself they want. She screams in anger and determination, and knocks them back forcefully with an invisible repellent energy blast, and then flies high above the Emerald City staring at them with boldness and fearlessness. Ozians look up in terror as she defiantly sings down at The Wizard and Morrible, and then at a crowd of angry Oz citizens, about how she plans to fight the Wizard with all of her power ("Defying Gravity"). Act I ends with Elphaba raising her broom in a revolutionary-style salute, after which the stage goes black.

## Act II

Some time has passed. Madame Morrible's smear campaign bestows upon Elphaba the title "The Wicked Witch of the West". There is a rumor that mere water could melt the "impure" Elphaba. Glinda is now the Wizard's Press Secretary, while Fiyero is the Captain of the Guard at the Emerald City. Morrible's official government position isn't stated, but it is clear that she is still influential in the press, very close to the Wizard and holds a higher degree of authority than Glinda does. Morrible holds a press conference to announce Glinda's surprise engagement to Fiyero. Glinda realizes that Fiyero's love is waning, but puts on a brave and exuberant face for the benefit of Oz's people, who love her dearly ("Thank Goodness").

Meanwhile, Elphaba arrives at her old home, the Governor's residence in Munchkinland, seeking refuge; she learns that her father "died of shame" after she defied the Wizard and went renegade. Nessarose is the Governor now and is not impressed with Elphaba's efforts to rescue animals — her reasoning being that Elphaba never thought to use her magic powers to 'rescue' Nessarose herself from her wheelchair. This accusation prompts feelings of guilt in Elphaba who suddenly gets the idea to enchant Nessarose's jeweled Silver Shoes, turning them into the Ruby Slippers and enabling her to walk. Boq is summoned and he explains that Nessarose is "as wicked as" Elphaba for having stripped the Munchkins of their rights in order to make him stay with her. Now that she is no longer disabled, Nessarose believes that Boq will stay with her of his own accord, but he insists that he should finally be free to pursue Glinda instead, going so far as to brandish a knife to prevent Nessarose from stopping him. Hurt and furious, Nessarose casts a spell from the Grimmerie, intending to make Boq lose his heart to her, but the spell instead causes his heart to literally shrink. Elphaba attempts to save his life with another spell, since no spell already cast can be reversed; while she does this, Nessarose reflects on how being "alone and loveless" has led to her wicked actions of oppressing the Munchkin population; she fears that she deserves no one but the "girl in the mirror", as punishment ("The Wicked Witch of the East"). Elphaba leaves Nessarose for good, saying that there is nothing more she could ever do to help her and that no matter what more she would do it would never be enough anyway. After she is gone, Boq wakes up and it turns out that Elphaba has turned Boq into a Tin Man who can live without a heart. Nessarose lays the entire blame on her sister in desperation, while Boq runs away in horror.

Elphaba returns to the Wizard's palace in order to free the rest of the winged monkeys. The Wizard attempts to coax her into joining forces with him by agreeing to set them free; the two almost start to bond as he explains how he came to Oz from America and was hailed as a wonderful wizard ("Wonderful"). Upon discovering a now-speechless Doctor Dillamond among the monkeys, Elphaba realizes the Wizard will never change and rejects his offer. While trying to escape, she bumps into Fiyero, who pledges his true love for her and runs away with her. Glinda sees this and is crushed ("I'm Not That Girl (reprise)"). In an attempt to get back at Elphaba, Glinda tells Madame Morrible and the Wizard that Elphaba could be lured by making it seem like Nessarose is in danger,

and Madame Morrible takes this suggestion to its most extreme level by creating a cyclone that will not just endanger, but actually kill Nessarose.

In a dark forest, Fiyero and Elphaba express their love, but are interrupted when Elphaba senses that her sister is in danger after receiving a vision of a flying house approaching Nessarose ("As Long As You're Mine"). She flies off to help, but is too late, arriving after Dorothy Gale's house has crushed Nessarose to death. Elphaba is furious with Glinda, who had arrived on the scene earlier and presented Dorothy with Nessarose's shoes, which were all that was left of her. Glinda and Elphaba break into a catfight, but the Emerald City guards arrive to capture the Witch of the West. However, Fiyero intervenes and allows Elphaba to escape before surrendering himself. The guards take him to a nearby cornfield to be tortured until he tells them of Elphaba's whereabouts. At Elphaba's castle Kiamo Ko in the West, Elphaba tries to cast a spell to save Fiyero, but thinking that she has failed, she decides to finally accept her reputation as "wicked", seeing as how all her "good" deeds have backfired. ("No Good Deed"). Meanwhile, the Citizens of Oz cheer on Dorothy and the witch-hunters. The Cowardly Lion whom Elphaba freed at Shiz is also present. Boq, now the Tin Man, tells the citizens that because Elphaba fought the lion's fight for him, he never learned to fend for himself and thus became a coward; again, Elphaba's good deed is lost amongst the crowd. Boq vows to prove he is heartless by helping Dorothy kill Elphaba, as per the Wizard's request. Seeing this, Glinda realizes that the Wizard and Madame Morrible planned Nessarose's death, just as they are now orchestrating Elphaba's demise ("March of the Witch Hunters").

Glinda travels to Elphaba's castle to persuade her to release Dorothy, but Elphaba refuses. After realizing that fighting was no longer an option, Elphaba decides that she has finished her race, and wishes Glinda to make the right choices that she would have made. Elphaba makes Glinda promise not to clear her name, but allow her to die and go down in Oz's history as the wicked witch Oz has deemed her to be rather than see them turning on Glinda. They both apologize for what they have done to each other, and ultimately admit that because they knew each other they are who they are now ("For Good").

Elphaba appears to melt after Dorothy throws a bucket of water on her, and Glinda weeps for her best friend while clutching the black pointed hat she gave her all those years ago. It is revealed that Elphaba's real father is none other than the Wizard himself, after Glinda discovers the mysterious green elixir in his chamber. Madame Morrible surmises that Elphaba had special powers because she was a child of both Oz and the outside world. Glinda tells the Wizard to leave Oz in his balloon or else be exposed to the public as a humbug. The Wizard obeys, crestfallen that he vilified and destroyed his own daughter. Now in a position of power, due to her enormous popularity, Glinda proceeds to send Madame Morrible to the Oz Prison, The Southstairs.

Meanwhile, Fiyero has been turned into the Scarecrow after Elphaba cast her spell to prevent his torture and death at the hands of the Ozian guards in the Munchkin

cornfield. It is revealed that Elphaba has not actually died, but merely descended into a trap door when Dorothy threw the water on her. Fiyero tells Elphaba that if the two of them want peace, they must leave Oz forever. Elphaba wishes she could tell Glinda that she's alive, but Fiyero thinks it's better if no one knows.

Glinda addresses the citizens of Oz, returning to the opening scene of the musical. She proclaims that she will reform the government and thus truly live up to her title as "Glinda the Good". While Elphaba and Fiyero leave Oz, Glinda continues her bittersweet celebration with the citizens of Oz. They look toward the skies one last time, and think of each other saying how they changed each other's lives for the better while Oz celebrates ("Finale").

## **SONG LIST**

### **Act I**

- "No One Mourns the Wicked" – Glinda, Father, Mother, Midwife, Citizens of Oz
- "Dear Old Shiz" – Students, Galinda
- "The Wizard and I" – Morrible, Elphaba
- "What Is This Feeling?" – Galinda, Elphaba, Students
- "Something Bad" – Doctor Dillamond, Elphaba
- "Dancing Through Life" – Fiyero, Galinda, Boq, Nessarose, Elphaba, Students
- "Popular" – Galinda
- "I'm Not That Girl" – Elphaba
- "The Wizard and I (reprise)" – Morrible, Elphaba
- "One Short Day" – Glinda, Elphaba, Denizens of the Emerald City
- "A Sentimental Man" – The Wizard
- "Defying Gravity" – Glinda, Elphaba, Guards, Citizens of Oz

### **Act II**

- "Thank Goodness" – Glinda, Morrible, Citizens of Oz
- "The Wicked Witch of the East" – Nessarose, Elphaba, Boq
- "Wonderful" – The Wizard, Elphaba
- "I'm Not That Girl" (reprise) – Glinda
- "As Long As You're Mine" – Elphaba, Fiyero
- "No Good Deed" – Elphaba
- "March of the Witch Hunters" – Tin Man, Citizens of Oz
- "For Good" – Elphaba, Glinda
- "Finale" – Glinda, Elphaba, Citizens of Oz

## **AWARDS**

### **2004 Tony Awards®**

- Best Actress in a Musical- Kristin Chenoweth (Nominated)
- **Best Actress in a Musical- Idina Menzel (Won)**
- Best Book of a Musical- Winnie Holzman (Nominated)
- Best Choreography- Wayne Cilento (Nominated)
- **Best Costume Design- Susan Hilferty (Won)**

- Best Lighting Design- Kenneth Posner (Nominated)
- Best Musical (Nominated)
- Best Orchestrations- William David Brohn (Nominated)
- Best Original Score- Stephen Schwartz (Nominated)
- **Best Scenic Design- Eugene Lee (Won)**

#### **2004 Drama Desk Awards**

- Outstanding Actress in a Musical- Kristin Chenoweth (Nominated)
- Outstanding Actress in a Musical- Idina Menzel (Nominated)
- **Outstanding Book of a Musical- Winnie Holzman (Won)**
- **Outstanding Costume Design- Susan Hilferty (Won)**
- **Outstanding Director of a Musical- Joe Mantello (Won)**
- Outstanding Lighting Design- Kenneth Posner (Nominated)
- **Outstanding Lyrics- Stephen Schwartz (Won)**
- Outstanding Music (Nominated)
- **Outstanding Musical (Won)**
- Outstanding Orchestrations- William David Brohn (Nominated)
- **Outstanding Set Design- Eugene Lee (Won)**

Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wicked\\_musical](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wicked_musical)

#### **AUDIENCE INFORMATION**

Recommended age for children is 6 and up.