

Special Lesson

Wicked

Are you familiar with The Wizard of Oz? It is a story of a young girl named Dorothy who tries to return home after being taken to the magical Land of Oz by a tornado. She makes many friends along the way and defeats the Wicked Witch of the West in the end by throwing water on her. But who is this witch? How did she become wicked? Let's find out what happened BEFORE The Wizard of Oz.

Scene 1

Narrator: Elphaba was unique from birth. She was born green. She hates the first days of school because they are filled with many stares and questions. Her first day in university is no different.

Student 1: (worried) Hey, Elphaba. Are you feeling sick?

Elphaba: (annoyed) No, I feel fine. Thanks for asking.

Student 2: (curious) Have you always been green?

Elphaba: (upset) Yes. I've been green since I was born.

Student 3: (staring) Is everyone in your family green, too?

Elphaba: (angry) No. I'm the only one!

Scene 2

Narrator: To make matters worse, there is a mistake with Elphaba's room assignment. The principal asks for volunteers to be Elphaba's roommate, but no one steps forward. So the principal assigns Elphaba to room with Glinda. Being as different as night and day, they take an immediate dislike to each other.

Glinda: There's been some confusion over rooming here at school.

Elphaba: You can say that again.

Glinda: Maybe we can ask the principal if we can change roommates.

Elphaba: Why don't you call her then?

Glinda: (taking a step back) Not me. If I call her, she's going to think that I'm not a nice person for wanting a new roommate.

Elphaba: (in disbelief) Why would she think you were nice if you roomed with me?

Glinda: Because you're diff ... diff

Elphaba: Different?

Glinda: (ashamed) No! I was about to say, uh ... uh ... difficult. You're difficult to get along with.

Elphaba: Oh, well. Whether we like it or not, it looks like we're stuck with each other.

Scene 3

Narrator: Fortunately, Elphaba and Glinda patch things up and become best friends. Meanwhile, the principal tells Elphaba that the great Wizard of Oz has requested to see her because of her talent in magic.

Elphaba: (filled with anticipation) This is a dream come true! The Wizard is so wise that he will look beyond my green appearance. He will see me for who I am and take me under his wing. Once people see that I am with the Wizard, everyone will love me. And who knows? He might just say, "Elphaba, a girl who is so good and kind inside, I will give you a beautiful appearance to match!"

Glinda: Congratulations, Elphie! Can I go with you to the Emerald City to see the Wizard? Oh, please take me with you.

Elphaba: Well, I suppose it is a long trip. I could use the company.

Glinda: Yippee! Here we come, Emerald City!

Scene 4

Narrator: Elphaba and Glinda travel to the Emerald City and finally meet the Wizard. They are surprised to be greeted by an ordinary-looking man.

Wizard: I've been expecting you.

Elphaba: Thank you for inviting us.

Glinda: (whispering to Elphaba) I'd always imagined the Wizard to look more powerful.

Wizard: First things first, you must prove yourself.

(handing Elphaba a magic book) Cast this spell to make my monkey fly.

Elphaba: I'll try my best.

(She reads the magic spell, and a pair of wings grows on the monkey's back.)

Wizard: I knew you could do it! (with an evil look)

Heh heh! Now I can use my monkeys to spy on the people of Oz.

Elphaba: (shocked) That's the most evil plan I've ever heard! Reverse the spell immediately!

Wizard: I wish I could, but there is nothing I can do. The spell cannot be reversed.

Glinda: But you're the great Wizard. You can do anything.

Wizard: Actually, I have no magical powers. That's why I need you, Elphaba.

Elphaba: (disappointed) You have been lying all this time? I don't believe this.

Glinda: We trusted you. The people of Oz trust you!

Wizard: I don't have time for this. Join me, Elphaba.
(reaching out his hand) I will give you everything you want and more. Are you with me or not,
Elphaba?

Elphaba: (shaking her head) No, this is wrong. I will never join you!

Wizard: Then I will tell everyone that you are a wicked monster.

Elphaba: I don't care. Come on, Glinda!

(They run out of the room.)

Wizard: You'll pay for this, you Wicked Witch!

Scene 5

Glinda: (anxious) Are you sure you made the right choice?

Elphaba: (determined) I am. All my life, I've been afraid of how others viewed me. I was even hoping the Wizard would change who I am. From now on, I won't let my fear, or anything, stand in the way of making the right decisions. I'm fine just the way I am. I believe in myself, my abilities, and my endless possibilities.

(Elphaba begins to rise in the air. Filled with determination, she sings a song before she flies off to the west.)

Defying Gravity

Something has changed within me

Something is not the same

I'm through with playing by the rules

Of someone else's game

Too late for second-guessing

Too late to go back to sleep

It's time to trust my instincts

Close my eyes and leap

It's time to try defying gravity

I think I'll try defying gravity

Kiss me goodbye, I'm defying gravity

And you won't bring me down

I'm through accepting limits

'Cause someone says they're so

Some things I cannot change

But till I try, I'll never know

Too long I've been afraid of

Losing love, I guess I've lost

Well, if that's love,

It comes at much too high a cost

I'd sooner buy defying gravity

Kiss me goodbye, I'm defying gravity

I think I'll try defying gravity

And you won't bring me down

So if you care to find me

Look to the western sky

As someone told me lately

"Everyone deserves the chance to fly"

And if I'm flying solo,

At least I'm flying free

To those who ground me,

Take a message back from me

Tell them how I am defying gravity

I'm flying high, defying gravity

And soon I'll match them in renown

And nobody in all of Oz

No wizard that there is or was

Is ever gonna bring me down