

wicked book analysis

Wicked: A Deep Dive Book Analysis – Unraveling the Wizard of Oz's Twisted Tale

Introduction:

Step into the emerald city, but not as you know it. Gregory Maguire's "Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West" isn't your grandmother's Oz story. This reimagining flips the script, offering a complex and morally ambiguous exploration of the Wicked Witch of the West, Elphaba, and her journey to becoming the villain we know from L. Frank Baum's classic. This in-depth Wicked book analysis will delve into the novel's intricate plot, character development, thematic explorations, and lasting impact, providing you with a comprehensive understanding of this literary phenomenon. We'll unravel the nuances of Maguire's storytelling, examine its feminist undercurrents, and analyze its enduring appeal. Prepare to see the Wizard of Oz in a whole new, wickedly captivating light.

I. Elphaba: A Portrait of Complexity

Maguire masterfully crafts Elphaba, not as a purely evil character, but as a misunderstood individual fighting for her beliefs against a corrupt and oppressive system. Born with emerald green skin, she's ostracized from birth, a victim of prejudice and societal intolerance. Her journey is one of self-discovery, fueled by a deep-seated sense of justice and a yearning for understanding. We witness her transformation, not into a villain driven by malice, but into a revolutionary figure fighting against an unjust regime. This complexity is central to the book's success; it challenges readers to question their own preconceived notions of good and evil. The narrative allows us to sympathize with Elphaba, even as she commits acts that are undeniably harmful, demonstrating the multifaceted nature of human morality.

II. Galinda (Glinda): The Unexpected Friend and Foe

In stark contrast to Elphaba's outsider status, Galinda, later known as Glinda the Good, embodies privilege and societal acceptance. Her relationship with Elphaba forms the emotional core of the narrative, highlighting the complexities of friendship and the influence of circumstance. Their bond, forged in shared experiences at Shiz University, navigates ambition, betrayal, and ultimately, a profound understanding (and misunderstanding) of each other's ideals. Maguire masterfully depicts their evolving relationship, showing how seemingly opposing personalities can be shaped by their environment and their own internal conflicts. The dynamic between Elphaba and Galinda is essential to the novel's power; it shows how even those with the best intentions can inadvertently contribute to injustice and how seemingly

diametrically opposed individuals can find common ground, however fragile.

III. The Wizard and the Machinery of Oppression

The Wizard himself, a cunning manipulator, represents the corrupt power structures that Elphaba fights against. He's not simply a powerful magician, but a symbol of political intrigue, self-serving ambition, and the manipulation of public perception. Maguire's portrayal of the Wizard unveils the mechanisms of oppression, highlighting how those in power maintain their control through propaganda, fear, and manipulation. The Wizard's actions are a direct reflection of the systems that marginalize Elphaba, highlighting the themes of political corruption and social injustice. His ultimate downfall is not merely a consequence of Elphaba's rebellion but a culmination of his own flawed policies and the consequences of his actions.

IV. Thematic Explorations: Feminism, Environmentalism, and Political Critique

"Wicked" transcends a simple retelling of a children's story; it's a powerful exploration of several significant themes. Feminism is central, portraying strong female characters grappling with patriarchal structures and defying societal expectations. Elphaba's journey becomes a feminist parable, demonstrating the struggle for female empowerment and the complexities of identity in a male-dominated world. Furthermore, the novel subtly touches upon environmental concerns, with Elphaba's fight for the animals and the land reflecting a larger concern for ecological balance. Finally, the narrative serves as a potent political critique, exposing the hypocrisy and corruption inherent in power structures and advocating for social justice and equality.

V. The Enduring Legacy and Impact of "Wicked"

Maguire's novel has had a profound impact on literature and popular culture, inspiring a successful Broadway musical and countless adaptations. Its enduring legacy stems from its ability to reframe a classic story, forcing readers to reconsider their assumptions and embrace complex moral dilemmas. The novel's exploration of themes like prejudice, political power, and the complexities of good and evil continues to resonate with readers of all ages. Its success underlines the desire for deeper, more nuanced narratives that challenge traditional archetypes and promote critical thinking. "Wicked" demonstrates that reimagining classic tales can lead to profound insights and enduring relevance.

VI. Detailed Outline of "Wicked"

Title: Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West

Outline:

Introduction: Introducing Elphaba and setting the stage in a twisted version of Oz.

Part 1: Shiz University: Elphaba's education, her relationship with Galinda, and early political awakening.

Part 2: The Animals and the Revolution: Elphaba's increasing activism and her growing disillusionment with the Wizard.

Part 3: The Emerald City and Beyond: Elphaba's encounter with the Wizard, her involvement in political intrigue, and the development of her persona as the Wicked Witch.

Part 4: The Consequences of Rebellion: The escalating conflict, the loss of loved ones, and Elphaba's tragic downfall.

Epilogue: Reflection on Elphaba's legacy and the enduring impact of her actions.

VII. Explanations of the Outline Points:

Each part of the outline represents a significant stage in Elphaba's journey. Part 1 introduces the main characters and establishes the setting, focusing on Elphaba's struggles with prejudice and her burgeoning friendship with Galinda. Part 2 showcases Elphaba's emerging activism and her growing understanding of the injustices in Oz, setting the stage for her rebellion. Part 3 details her interactions with the powerful figures in Oz, highlighting the corruption and hypocrisy that fuel her resistance. Part 4 charts the consequences of her actions, culminating in her tragic demise. Finally, the epilogue provides a contemplative closing, emphasizing the enduring complexities of Elphaba's character and her lasting impact on the narrative.

VIII. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Is "Wicked" a children's book? No, "Wicked" is a mature novel exploring complex themes and moral ambiguities; it is not suitable for young children.
1. How does "Wicked" differ from the original "Wizard of Oz"? "Wicked" reimagines the story from the perspective of the Wicked Witch of the West, providing a drastically different narrative and character development.
1. What are the main themes of "Wicked"? The novel explores themes of prejudice, political corruption, environmentalism, friendship, and the complexities of good and evil.

1. Is Elphaba truly evil? Maguire presents Elphaba as a morally ambiguous character, whose actions are motivated by a desire for justice and a fight against oppression.
1. What is the significance of Elphaba's green skin? Her green skin serves as a symbol of her otherness and the prejudice she faces throughout her life.
1. What is the relationship between Elphaba and Galinda? Their relationship is complex, evolving from rivalry to a complicated friendship and ultimately showcasing the impact of their different upbringings and belief systems.
1. How does "Wicked" portray the Wizard of Oz? The Wizard is depicted as a manipulative and self-serving figure who represents the corrupt political power structures of Oz.
1. What is the impact of "Wicked" on popular culture? The novel's success led to a hugely popular Broadway musical and numerous adaptations, influencing how we perceive the original "Wizard of Oz" story.
1. Is "Wicked" suitable for young adults? While appropriate for mature young adults, parental guidance is recommended due to the complex themes addressed in the book.

IX. Related Articles:

1. The Feminist Undercurrents in Gregory Maguire's "Wicked": An analysis of the novel's feminist themes and its portrayal of strong female characters.
1. A Comparative Analysis of Elphaba and Galinda: A deep dive into the

contrasting personalities and motivations of the two main characters.

1. The Political Allegory in "Wicked": An examination of the novel's political themes and its critique of power structures.
1. The Environmental Message in "Wicked": An exploration of the environmental themes woven into Maguire's narrative.
1. "Wicked" and the Power of Reimagining Classic Tales: A discussion on the novel's success in reimagining a beloved children's story.
1. The Musical Adaptation of "Wicked": A comparison of the book and the Broadway musical, analyzing their similarities and differences.
1. Wicked: A Moral Ambiguity: Discussing the grey areas of morality within the novel, focusing on the characters' choices and their consequences.
1. The Legacy of Elphaba: A Symbol of Rebellion: Exploring Elphaba's legacy as a revolutionary figure and icon of resistance.
1. Comparing and Contrasting the Wicked Witch Portrayals: Comparing Maguire's interpretation with other versions of the Wicked Witch of the West.

wicked book analysis: How We Became Wicked Alexander Yates, 2019-07-23 When an insect-borne plague begins to envelop the world, three sixteen-year-olds struggle to survive amongst the healthy "trues" and the infected "wicked" in this gripping dystopian tale from the author of The Winter Place. A plague, called Wickedness, is pulsing through the world; and in its wake, it's dividing the population into thirds: The WICKED: Already infected by the droves of Singers, the

ultraviolet mosquito-like insects who carry the plague, the Wicked roam the world freely. They don't want for much—only to maim and dismember you. But don't worry: They always ask politely first. The TRUE: The True live in contained, isolated communities. They're the lucky ones; they found safety from the Singers. And while the threat of the Wicked may not be eliminated, for the True, the threat has certainly been contained... The VEXED: The Vexed are the truly fortunate ones—they survived the sting of the Singers, leaving them immune. But they're far from safe. The Vexed hold the key to a cure, and there are those who will do anything to get it. In this brilliantly realized novel, three teens—Astrid, Hank, and Natalie—start to realize that the divisions of their world aren't as clear as they seem, and are forced to question what being wicked truly means.

wicked book analysis: Wicked Gregory Maguire, 2009-10-13 The New York Times bestseller and basis for the Tony-winning hit musical, soon to be a major motion picture starring Cynthia Erivo and Ariana Grande With millions of copies in print around the world, Gregory Maguire's *Wicked* is established not only as a commentary on our time but as a novel to revisit for years to come. *Wicked* relishes the inspired inventions of L. Frank Baum's 1900 novel, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, while playing sleight of hand with our collective memories of the 1939 MGM film starring Margaret Hamilton (and Judy Garland). In this fast-paced, fantastically real, and supremely entertaining novel, Maguire has populated the largely unknown world of Oz with the power of his own imagination. Years before Dorothy and her dog crash-land, another little girl makes her presence known in Oz. This girl, Elphaba, is born with emerald-green skin—no easy burden in a land as mean and poor as Oz, where superstition and magic are not strong enough to explain or overcome the natural disasters of flood and famine. Still, Elphaba is smart, and by the time she enters Shiz University, she becomes a member of a charmed circle of Oz's most promising young citizens. But Elphaba's Oz is no utopia. The Wizard's secret police are everywhere. Animals—those creatures with voices, souls, and minds—are threatened with exile. Young Elphaba, green and wild and misunderstood, is determined to protect the Animals—even if it means combating the mysterious Wizard, even if it means risking her single chance at romance. Ever wiser in guilt and sorrow, she can find herself grateful when the world declares her a witch. And she can even make herself glad for that young girl from Kansas. Recognized as an iconoclastic tour de force on its initial publication, the novel has inspired the blockbuster musical of the same name—one of the longest-running plays in Broadway history. Popular, indeed. But while the novel's distant cousins hail from the traditions of magical realism, mythopoeic fantasy, and sprawling nineteenth-century sagas of moral urgency, Maguire's *Wicked* is as unique as its green-skinned witch.

wicked book analysis: Mirror Mirror Gregory Maguire, 2010-09-28 The year is 1502, and seven-year-old Bianca de Nevada lives perched high above the rolling hills and valleys of Tuscany and Umbria at Montefiore, the farm of her beloved father, Don Vicente. One day a noble entourage makes its way up the winding slopes to the farm—and the world comes to Montefiore. In the presence of Cesare Borgia and his sister, the lovely and vain Lucrezia—decadent children of a wicked pope—no one can claim innocence for very long. When Borgia sends Don Vicente on a year's quest to reclaim a relic of the original Tree of Knowledge, he leaves Bianca under the care, so to speak, of Lucrezia. She plots a dire fate for the young girl in the woods below the farm, but in the dark forest there can be found salvation as well. . . . A lyrical work of stunning creative vision, *Mirror Mirror* gives fresh life to the classic story of Snow White—and has a truth and beauty all its own.

wicked book analysis: Hiddensee Gregory Maguire, 2017-10-31 The author of the beloved New York Times bestseller *Wicked* returns with an inventive novel inspired by a timeless holiday legend, intertwining the story of the famous Nutcracker with the life of the mysterious toy maker named Drosselmeier who carves him. *Hiddensee*: An island of white sandy beaches, salt marshes, steep cliffs, and pine forests north of Berlin in the Baltic Sea, an island that is an enchanting bohemian retreat and home to a large artists' colony-- a wellspring of inspiration for the Romantic imagination . . . Having brought his legions of devoted readers to Oz in *Wicked* and to Wonderland in *After Alice*, Maguire now takes us to the realms of the Brothers Grimm and E. T. A. Hoffmann-- the enchanted

Black Forest of Bavaria and the salons of Munich. Hiddensee imagines the backstory of the Nutcracker, revealing how this entrancing creature came to be carved and how he guided an ailing girl named Klara through a dreamy paradise on a Christmas Eve. At the heart of Hoffmann's mysterious tale hovers Godfather Drosselmeier-- the ominous, canny, one-eyed toy maker made immortal by Petipa and Tchaikovsky's fairy tale ballet-- who presents the once and future Nutcracker to Klara, his goddaughter. But Hiddensee is not just a retelling of a classic story. Maguire discovers in the flowering of German Romanticism ties to Hellenic mystery-cults-- a fascination with death and the afterlife-- and ponders a profound question: How can a person who is abused by life, shortchanged and challenged, nevertheless access secrets that benefit the disadvantaged and powerless? Ultimately, Hiddensee offers a message of hope. If the compromised Godfather Drosselmeier can bring an enchanted Nutcracker to a young girl in distress on a dark winter evening, perhaps everyone, however lonely or marginalized, has something precious to share.

wicked book analysis: The Opposite of Everyone Joshilyn Jackson, 2016-02-16 A fiercely independent divorce lawyer learns the power of family and connection when she receives a cryptic message from her estranged mother in this bittersweet, witty novel from the nationally bestselling author of *Someone Else's Love Story* and *Gods in Alabama*—an emotionally resonant tale about the endurance of love and the power of stories to shape and transform our lives. Born in Alabama, Paula Vauss spent the first decade of her life on the road with her free-spirited young mother, Kai, an itinerant storyteller who blended Hindu mythology with southern oral tradition to re-invent their history as they roved. But everything, including Paula's birth name Kali Jai, changed when she told a story of her own—one that landed Kai in prison and Paula in foster care. Separated, each holding secrets of her own, the intense bond they once shared was fractured. These days, Paula has reincarnated herself as a tough-as-nails divorce attorney with a successful practice in Atlanta. While she hasn't seen Kai in fifteen years, she's still making payments on that Karmic debt—until the day her last check is returned in the mail, along with a mysterious note: "I am going on a journey, Kali. I am going back to my beginning; death is not the end. You will be the end. We will meet again, and there will be new stories. You know how Karma works." Then Kai's most treasured secret literally lands on Paula's doorstep, throwing her life into chaos and transforming her from only child to older sister. Desperate to find her mother before it's too late, Paula sets off on a journey of discovery that will take her back to the past and into the deepest recesses of her heart. With the help of her ex-lover Birdwine, an intrepid and emotionally volatile private eye who still carries a torch for her, this brilliant woman, an expert at wrecking families, now has to figure out how to put one back together—her own. *The Opposite of Everyone* is a story about story itself, how the tales we tell connect us, break us, and define us, and how the endings and beginnings we choose can destroy us . . . and make us whole. Laced with sharp humor and poignant insight, it is beloved New York Times bestselling author Joshilyn Jackson at her very best.

wicked book analysis: *Out of Oz* Gregory Maguire, 2011-11-01 "Maguire's work is melodic, symphonic, and beautiful; it is dejected and biting and brave. How great that people flock to these magical novels." —Los Angeles Times Book Review Bestselling author Gregory Maguire's remarkable series, *The Wicked Years*, comes full circle with this, his fourth and final excursion across a darker, richer, more complex landscape of "the magical land of Oz." *Out of Oz* brilliantly reimagines L. Frank Baum's world over the rainbow as wracked with social unrest—placing Glinda the good witch under house arrest and having the cowardly Lion on the lam from the law as the Emerald City prepares to make war on Munchkinland. Even Dorothy makes a triumphant return in Maguire's magnificent Oz finale—tying up every loose green end of the series he began with his classic *Wicked*, the basis for the smash hit Broadway musical.

wicked book analysis: Something Wicked This Way Comes Ray Bradbury, 2008-08-11 A strange carnival brings terror to the population of a small midwestern town

wicked book analysis: Terror to the Wicked Tobey Pearl, 2021-03-16 A little-known moment in colonial history that changed the course of America's future. A riveting account of a brutal killing, an all-out manhunt, and the first murder trial in America, set against the backdrop of the Pequot War

(between the Pequot tribe and the colonists of Massachusetts Bay) that ended this two-year war and brought about a peace that allowed the colonies to become a nation. The year: 1638. The setting: Providence, near Plymouth Colony. A young Nipmuc tribesman returning home from trading beaver pelts is fatally stabbed in a robbery in the woods near Plymouth Colony by a vicious white runaway indentured servant. The tribesman, fighting for his life, is able with his final breaths to reveal the details of the attack to Providence's governor, Roger Williams. A frantic manhunt by the fledgling government ensues to capture the killer and his gang, now the most hunted men in the New World. With their capture, the two-year-old Plymouth Colony faces overnight its first trial—a murder trial—with Plymouth's governor presiding as judge and prosecutor, interviewing witnesses and defendants alike, and Myles Standish, Plymouth Colony authority, as overseer of the courtroom, his sidearm at the ready. The jury—Plymouth colonists, New England farmers ("a rude and ignorant sorte," as described by former governor William Bradford)—white, male, picked from a total population of five hundred and fifty, knows from past persecutions the horrors of a society without a jury system. Would they be tempted to protect their own—including a cold-blooded murderer who was also a Pequot War veteran—over the life of a tribesman who had fought in a war allied against them? Tobey Pearl brings to vivid life those caught up in the drama: Roger Williams, founder of Plymouth Colony, a self-taught expert in indigenous cultures and the first investigator of the murder; Myles Standish; Edward Winslow, a former governor of Plymouth Colony and the master of the indentured servant and accused murderer; John Winthrop, governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony; the men on trial for the murder; and the lone tribesman, from the last of the Woodland American Indians, whose life was brutally taken from him. Pearl writes of the witnesses who testified before the court and of the twelve colonists on the jury who went about their duties with grave purpose, influenced by a complex mixture of Puritan religious dictates, lingering medieval mores, new ideals of humanism, and an England still influenced by the last gasp of the English Renaissance. And she shows how, in the end, the twelve came to render a groundbreaking judicial decision that forever set the standard for American justice. An extraordinary work of historical piecing-together; a moment that set the precedence of our basic, fundamental right to trial by jury, ensuring civil liberties and establishing it as a safeguard against injustice.

wicked book analysis: *Son of a Witch LP* Gregory Maguire, 2009-01-06 The long-anticipated sequel to the million-copy bestselling novel *Wicked* Ten years after the publication of *Wicked*, beloved novelist Gregory Maguire returns at last to the land of Oz. There he introduces us to Liir, an adolescent boy last seen hiding in the shadows of the castle after Dorothy did in the *Witch*. Bruised, comatose, and left for dead in a gully, Liir is shattered in spirit as well as in form. But he is tended at the Cloister of Saint Glinda by the silent novice called Candle, who wills him back to life with her musical gifts. What dark force left Liir in this condition? Is he really Elphaba's son? He has her broom and her cape -- but what of her powers? Can he find his supposed half-sister, Nor, last seen in the forbidding prison, Southstairs? Can he fulfill the last wishes of a dying princess? In an Oz that, since the Wizard's departure, is under new and dangerous management, can Liir keep his head down long enough to grow up? For the countless fans who have been dazzled and entranced by Maguire's Oz, *Son of a Witch* is the rich reward they have awaited so long.

wicked book analysis: *The Visitant* Megan Chance, 2015 A crumbling palazzo in nineteenth-century Venice holds a buried secret. After she nearly ruins her family with a terrible misstep, Elena Spira is sent to Venice to escape disgrace and to atone by caring for the ailing Samuel Farber. But the crumbling and decaying Ca' Basilio palazzo, where Samuel is ensconced, holds tragic secrets, and little does Elena know how profoundly they will impact her. Soon she begins to sense that she is being watched by something. And when Samuel begins to have hallucinations that make him violent and unpredictable, she can't deny she's in mortal danger. Then impoverished nobleman Nero Basilio, Samuel's closest friend and the owner of the palazzo, arrives. Elena finds herself entangled with both men in a world where the past seeps into the present and nothing is as it seems. As Elena struggles to discover the haunting truth before it destroys her, a dark force seems to hold Samuel and the Basilio in thrall--is it madness, or something more sinister?

wicked book analysis: *House of Darakai* K.L. Kolarich, 2022-03-08 BEHIND THE MASK OF WAR AND VALOR, BETRAYAL REIGNS WHERE IT BLEEDS... Orynthia's young king grievously takes his throne in the wake of regicide. From the city's underbelly, unrest brews for the cross-caste convicted, while the haidrens hastily depart Bastiion to embark on the coronation tour for the realm's new sovereign: Dmitri Korbin Thoarne. Now the seated haidren for his House, Zaethan Kasim returns to the brutal mountains of his youth, where competition and conquest eagerly await his homecoming, unlike his dismissive father. There, Zaethan swiftly uncovers a Darakai radically changing. Committed to doing whatever it takes to protect Dmitri's regime, he fights to remain alpha zà as Wekesa—his favored rival—prepares his challenge. To ensure he is named champion, Zaethan presents another deal to the highlander witch he despises. Yet in balancing fealty to both king and countrymen, Zaethan begins to doubt Darakai's loyalties, as well as his own. Luscía Darragh Tiergan is no stranger to the brutality of the south. However, after a harrowing attack, it is the shadows lurking behind it that slashes her dreams into a waking nightmare. Plagued by whispering omens, Luscía wrestles to silence her uncontrolled Sight. And as she is stalked out of Bastiion from within the Other, she must conceal the volatile manifestations from her Boreali guard but, most especially, the Darakaian haidren Luscía's sworn to help. Hosted by the House of War, the Quadren confronts an enemy more dangerous than the last. For where treachery stirs, it is not the crown that reigns, but the bloodshed encircling it. The Series House of Darakai is the second installment in the epic fantasy series, *The Haidren Legacy*. An immersive adventure armed with dark politics, sharp objects, and bickering characters, this treacherous saga packs a legendary punch for classic and contemporary readers alike. Thrilling fans of Brandon Sanderson, George R.R. Martin, and Robin Hobb, this savage sequel is out for blood.

wicked book analysis: *Wicked* Paul R. Laird, 2011-06-24 In 2004, the original Broadway production of *Wicked* earned 10 Tony nominations, including best musical. Based on the best-selling novel by Gregory Maguire, the show continues to run on Broadway and has touring companies throughout the United States and around the world. In *Wicked: A Musical Biography*, author Paul Laird explores the creation of this popular Broadway musical through an examination of draft scripts, interviews with major figures, and the study of primary musical sources such as sketches, drafts, and completed musical scores. Laird brings together an impressive amount of detail on the creation of *Wicked*, including a look at Maguire's novel, as well as the original source material, *The Wizard of Oz*. This volume also offers a history of the show's genesis along with examinations of the draft scenarios and scripts that demonstrate the show's development. Laird also explores Stephen Schwartz's life and work, providing an analysis of the composer and lyricist's work on the show through song drafts, sketches, and musical examples. Laird also surveys the show's critical reception in New York and London, noting how many critics failed to appreciate its qualities or anticipate its great success. The unusual nature of *Wicked*'s story—dominated by two strong female leads—is also placed in the context of Broadway history. A unique look into a successful Broadway production, *Wicked: A Musical Biography* will be of interest to musicologists, theatre scholars, students, and general readers alike.

wicked book analysis: *The Road to Wicked* Kent Drummond, Susan Aronstein, Terri L. Rittenburg, 2018-07-24 *The Road to Wicked* examines the long life of the Oz myth. It is both a study in cultural sustainability—the capacity of artists, narratives, art forms, and genres to remain viable over time—and an examination of the marketing machinery and consumption patterns that make such sustainability possible. Drawing on the fields of macromarketing, consumer behavior, literary and cultural studies, and theories of adaption and remediation, the authors examine key adaptations and extensions of Baum's 1900 novel. These include the original Oz craze, the MGM film and its television afterlife, *Wicked* and its extensions, and *Oz the Great and Powerful*—Disney's recent (and highly lucrative) venture that builds on the considerable success of *Wicked*. At the end of the book, the authors offer a foundational framework for a new theory of cultural sustainability and propose a set of explanatory conditions under which any artistic experience might achieve it.

wicked book analysis: *Wicked Problems - Social Messes* Tom Ritchey, 2011-07-02 This is the

first dedicated book to be published on computer-aided General Morphological Analysis (GMA) as a non-quantified modelling method. It presents the history and theory of GMA and describes how it is used to develop interactive, non-quantified inference models. Eleven case studies are presented out of more than 100 projects carried out since 1995, illustrating how GMA has been employed for structuring complex policy and planning issues, developing scenario and strategy laboratories, and analysing organisational and stakeholder structures. Also discussed are the concepts of “wicked problems” and “social messes”, their characteristics and treatment, and problems concerning the facilitation of morphological analysis workshops.

wicked book analysis: *The Wicked and the Just* J. Anderson Coats, 2012-04-17 Cecily longs to return to her beloved Edgeley Hall, where her father was lord of the manor. But now he has completely ruined her life. He is moving them to Caernarvon, in occupied Wales, where he can get a place for almost nothing, since the king needs good strong Englishmen to keep down the vicious Welshmen. At least Cecily will get to be the lady of the house at last—if all goes well. Gwenhwyfar knows all about that house. Once she dreamed of being the lady there herself, until the English came and destroyed the lives of everyone she knows. Now Gwenhwyfar must wait hand and foot on this bratty English girl who has taken what should have been hers. While Cecily struggles to find her place amongst the snobby English landowners, Gwenhwyfar struggles just to survive. And meanwhile the Welsh are not as conquered as they seem. Outside the city walls of Caernarvon, tensions are rising ever higher—until finally they must reach the breaking point.

wicked book analysis: *The Wicked Deep* Shea Ernshaw, 2019-04-02 A New York Times bestseller. “A wickedly chilling debut.” —School Library Journal “Complex and sweetly satisfying.” —Booklist “Prepare to be bewitched.” —Paula Stokes, author of *Girl Against the Universe* “A story about the redemptive power of love.” —Amber Smith, New York Times bestselling author of *The Way I Used to Be* “Eerie and enchanting.” —Jessica Spotswood, author of *The Cahill Witch Chronicles* Hocus Pocus and Practical Magic meets the Salem Witch trials in this haunting story about three sisters on a quest for revenge—and how love may be the only thing powerful enough to stop them. Welcome to the cursed town of Sparrow... Where, two centuries ago, three sisters were sentenced to death for witchery. Stones were tied to their ankles and they were drowned in the deep waters surrounding the town. Now, for a brief time each summer, the sisters return, stealing the bodies of three weak-hearted girls so that they may seek their revenge, luring boys into the harbor and pulling them under. Like many locals, seventeen-year-old Penny Talbot has accepted the fate of the town. But this year, on the eve of the sisters’ return, a boy named Bo Carter arrives; unaware of the danger he has just stumbled into. Mistrust and lies spread quickly through the salty, rain-soaked streets. The townspeople turn against one another. Penny and Bo suspect each other of hiding secrets. And death comes swiftly to those who cannot resist the call of the sisters. But only Penny sees what others cannot. And she will be forced to choose: save Bo, or save herself.

wicked book analysis: *A Billion Wicked Thoughts* Ogi Ogas, Sai Gaddam, 2011-05-05 The book on sex in the twenty-first century “Alfred Kinsey only scratched the surface. Interviewing a mere 18,000 horny humans? Please . . . Drs. Ogas and Gaddam [offer] hot new scientific findings.”—The Washington Post Want to know what really turns your partner on? *A Billion Wicked Thoughts* offers the clearest picture ever of the differences between male and female sexuality and the teeming diversity of human desire. What makes men attracted to images and so predictable in their appetites? What makes the set up to a romantic evening so important for a woman? Why are women’s desires so hard to predict? Neuroscientists Ogi Ogas and Sai Gaddam reveal the mechanics of sexual relationships based on their extensive research into the mountains of new data on human behavior available in online entertainment and traffic around the world. Not since Alfred Kinsey in the 1950s has there been such a revolution in our knowledge of what is really going on in the bedroom. What Ogas and Gaddam learned, and now share, will deepen and enrich the way you, and your partner, think and talk about sex.

wicked book analysis: *Wicked Weeds* Pedro Cabiya, 2016 A Zombie's search for his lost humanity and the intellectual quest of the only woman who can bestow it.

wicked book analysis: *Confessions Of An Ugly Stepsister* Gregory Maguire, 2009-03-17 Is this new land a place where magics really happen? From Gregory Maguire, the acclaimed author of *Wicked*, comes his much-anticipated second novel, a brilliant and provocative retelling of the timeless Cinderella tale. In the lives of children, pumpkins can turn into coaches, mice and rats into human beings.... When we grow up, we learn that it's far more common for human beings to turn into rats.... We all have heard the story of Cinderella, the beautiful child cast out to slave among the ashes. But what of her stepsisters, the homely pair exiled into ignominy by the fame of their lovely sibling? What fate befell those untouched by beauty . . . and what curses accompanied Cinderella's exquisite looks? Extreme beauty is an affliction Set against the rich backdrop of seventeenth-century Holland, *Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister* tells the story of Iris, an unlikely heroine who finds herself swept from the lowly streets of Haarlem to a strange world of wealth, artifice, and ambition. Iris's path quickly becomes intertwined with that of Clara, the mysterious and unnaturally beautiful girl destined to become her sister. Clara was the prettiest child, but was her life the prettiest tale? While Clara retreats to the cinders of the family hearth, burning all memories of her past, Iris seeks out the shadowy secrets of her new household--and the treacherous truth of her former life. God and Satan snarling at each other like dogs.... Imps and fairy godmothers trying to undo each other's work. How we try to pin the world between opposite extremes! Far more than a mere fairy-tale, *Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister* is a novel of beauty and betrayal, illusion and understanding, reminding us that deception can be unearthed--and love unveiled--in the most unexpected of places.

wicked book analysis: *Wicked Girls* Stephanie Hemphill, 2010-06-29 From the acclaimed Printz Honor winner author Stephanie Hemphill comes this powerful fictionalized account of the Salem witch trials from the point of view of three of the real young women living in Salem in 1692. Ann Putnam Jr. is the queen bee. When her father suggests a spate of illnesses in the village is the result of witchcraft, she puts in motion a chain of events that will change Salem forever. Mercy Lewis is the beautiful servant in Ann's house who inspires adulation in some and envy in others. With her troubled past, she seizes her only chance at safety. Margaret Walcott, Ann's cousin, is desperately in love. She is torn between staying loyal to her friends and pursuing a life with her betrothed. With new accusations mounting against the men and women of the community, the girls will have to decide: Is it too late to tell the truth?

wicked book analysis: *Wicked Lovely* Melissa Marr, 2009-10-06 Fans of Sarah J. Maas and Holly Black won't be able to resist the world of Melissa Marr's #1 New York Times bestselling series, full of faerie intrigue, mortal love, and courtly betrayal. Rule #3: Don't stare at invisible faeries. Aislinn has always seen faeries. Powerful and dangerous, they walk hidden in mortal world. Aislinn fears their cruelty—especially if they learn of her Sight—and wishes she were as blind to their presence as other teens. Rule #2: Don't speak to invisible faeries. Now faeries are stalking her. One of them, Keenan, who is equal parts terrifying and alluring, is trying to talk to her, asking questions Aislinn is afraid to answer. Rule #1: Don't ever attract their attention. But it's too late. Keenan is the Summer King who has sought his queen for nine centuries. Without her, summer itself will perish. He is determined that Aislinn will become the Summer Queen at any cost—regardless of her plans or desires. Suddenly none of the rules that have kept Aislinn safe are working anymore, and everything is on the line: her freedom, her best friend Seth, her life—everything.

wicked book analysis: *Wicked Fox* Kat Cho, 2019-06-25 An addictive fantasy-romance set in modern-day Seoul. Eighteen-year-old Gu Miyoung has a secret--she's a gumiho, a nine-tailed fox who must devour the energy of men in order to survive. Because so few believe in the old tales anymore, and with so many evil men no one will miss, the modern city of Seoul is the perfect place to hide and hunt. But after feeding one full moon, Miyoung crosses paths with Jihoon, a human boy, being attacked by a goblin deep in the forest. Against her better judgment, she violates the rules of survival to rescue the boy, losing her fox bead--her gumiho soul--in the process. Jihoon knows Miyoung is more than just a beautiful girl--he saw her nine tails the night she saved his life. His grandmother used to tell him stories of the gumiho, of their power and the danger they pose to men. He's drawn to her anyway. When he finds her fox bead, he does not realize he holds her life in his

hands. With murderous forces lurking in the background, Miyoung and Jihoon develop a tenuous friendship that blossoms into something more. But when a young shaman tries to reunite Miyoung with her dead, the consequences are disastrous and reignite a generations-old feud . . . forcing Miyoung to choose between her immortal life and Jihoon's.

wicked book analysis: *Wicked* Sara Shepard, 2011 The stalker's identity has finally been revealed, but Spencer, Emily, Hanna and Aria are bound to repeat the past, and continue to be bad.

wicked book analysis: *Kingdom of the Wicked* Kerri Maniscalco, 2020-10-27 A James Patterson Presents Novel From the #1 New York Times and USA Today bestselling author of the Stalking Jack the Ripper series comes a new blockbuster series... Two sisters. One brutal murder. A quest for vengeance that will unleash Hell itself... And an intoxicating romance. Emilia and her twin sister Vittoria are streghe -- witches who live secretly among humans, avoiding notice and persecution. One night, Vittoria misses dinner service at the family's renowned Sicilian restaurant. Emilia soon finds the body of her beloved twin...desecrated beyond belief. Devastated, Emilia sets out to find her sister's killer and to seek vengeance at any cost-even if it means using dark magic that's been long forbidden. Then Emilia meets Wrath, one of the Wicked-princes of Hell she has been warned against in tales since she was a child. Wrath claims to be on Emilia's side, tasked by his master with solving the series of women's murders on the island. But when it comes to the Wicked, nothing is as it seems...

wicked book analysis: *Wicked Environmental Problems* Peter J. Balint, Ronald E. Stewart, Anand Desai, Lawrence C. Walters, 2012-06-22 Wicked problems are large-scale, long-term policy dilemmas in which multiple and compounding risks and uncertainties combine with sharply divergent public values to generate contentious political stalemates; wicked problems in the environmental arena typically emerge from entrenched conflicts over natural resource management and over the prioritization of economic and conservation goals more generally. This new book examines past experience and future directions in the management of wicked environmental problems and describes new strategies for mitigating the conflicts inherent in these seemingly intractable situations. The book: reviews the history of the concept of wicked problems examines the principles and processes that managers have applied explores the practical limitations of various approaches Most important, the book reviews current thinking on the way forward, focusing on the implementation of learning networks, in which public managers, technical experts, and public stakeholders collaborate in decision-making processes that are analytic, iterative, and deliberative. Case studies of forest management in the Sierra Nevada, restoration of the Florida Everglades, carbon trading in the European Union, and management of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area in Tanzania are used to explain concepts and demonstrate practical applications. *Wicked Environmental Problems* offers new approaches for managing environmental conflicts and shows how managers could apply these approaches within common, real-world statutory decision-making frameworks. It is essential reading for anyone concerned with managing environmental problems.

wicked book analysis: *The Wicked Bargain* Gabe Cole Novoa, 2024-01-23 El Diablo is in the details in this Latinx pirate fantasy starring a transmasculine nonbinary teen with a mission of revenge, redemption, and revolution--now in paperback! On Mar León de la Rosa's sixteenth birthday, el Diablo comes calling. Mar is a transmasculine nonbinary teen pirate hiding a magical ability to manipulate fire and ice. But their magic isn't enough to reverse a wicked bargain made by their father, and now el Diablo has come to collect his payment: the soul of Mar's father and the entire crew of their ship. When Mar is miraculously rescued by the sole remaining pirate crew in the Caribbean, el Diablo returns to give them a choice: give up their soul to save their father by the harvest moon, or never see him again. The task is impossible--Mar refuses to make a bargain, and there's no way their magic is a match for el Diablo. Then Mar finds the most unlikely allies: Bas, an infuriatingly arrogant and handsome pirate--and the captain's son; and Dami, a gender-fluid demonio whose motives are never quite clear. For the first time in their life, Mar may have the courage to use their magic. It could be their only redemption--or it could mean certain death.

wicked book analysis: *Good Girls & Wicked Witches* Amy M. Davis, 2007-02-20 An in-depth

view of the way popular female stereotypes were reflected in—and were shaped by—the portrayal of women in Disney's animated features. In *Good Girls and Wicked Witches*, Amy M. Davis re-examines the notion that Disney heroines are rewarded for passivity. Davis proceeds from the assumption that, in their representations of femininity, Disney films both reflected and helped shape the attitudes of the wider society, both at the time of their first release and subsequently. Analyzing the construction of (mainly human) female characters in the animated films of the Walt Disney Studio between 1937 and 2001, she attempts to establish the extent to which these characterizations were shaped by wider popular stereotypes. Davis argues that it is within the most constructed of all moving images of the female form—the heroine of the animated film—that the most telling aspects of Woman as the subject of Hollywood iconography and cultural ideas of American womanhood are to be found. "A fascinating compilation of essays in which [Davis] examined the way Disney has treated female characters throughout its history." —PopMatters

wicked book analysis: Creative Types Tom Bissell, 2021-12-14 From the best-selling coauthor of *The Disaster Artist* and "one of America's best and most interesting writers (Stephen King), a new collection of stories that range from laugh-out-loud funny to disturbingly dark—unflinching portraits of women and men struggling to bridge the gap between art and life. A young and ingratiating assistant to a movie star makes a blunder that puts his boss and a major studio at grave risk. A long-married couple hires an escort for a threesome in order to rejuvenate their relationship. An assistant at a prestigious literary journal reconnects with a middle school frenemy and finds that his carefully constructed world of refinement cannot protect him from his past. A Bush administration lawyer wakes up on an abandoned airplane, trapped in a nightmare of his own making. In these and other stories, Tom Bissell vividly renders the complex worlds of characters on the brink of artistic and personal crises—writers, video-game developers, actors, and other creative types who see things slightly differently from the rest of us. With its surreal, poignant, and sometimes squirm-inducing stories, *Creative Types* is a brilliant new offering from one of the most versatile and talented writers working in America today.

wicked book analysis: Desperate Measures Katee Robert, 2020-12-09 Once upon a time, I was a princess in a tower. One night, and my entire life went up in flames. All because of him. Jafar. As my world burned down around me, he offered me a choice. Walk away with nothing but my freedom... Or rise to his challenge and win my fortune back. I bargained. I lost. Now Jafar owns me, body and soul. Even as my mind rails against his rules, my body loves the punishments he deals out when I break them. But a gilded cage is still a prison, I'll do anything to obtain my freedom. Even betray the man I'm falling for. In *DESPERATE MEASURES*, you'll find: -> Enemies to lovers -> Captive Heroine -> Kinky Roleplay -> Daddy/baby girl -> Alpha hero

wicked book analysis: Evil Thing Serena Valentino, 2020-07-07 The darkly captivating seventh novel in the popular *Villains* series follows the rise and fall of the deranged and glamorous fan favorite, Cruella De Vil. If it doesn't scare you, no evil thing will...

wicked book analysis: Wicked Like a Wildfire Lana Popovic, 2017-08-15 "Lush. Delicious. Bewildering. And darkly magical. Popovic has created a world that you tumble into from the very first words and wish you could stay in forever." —Evelyn Skye, author of *The Crown's Game* "Wicked Like a Wildfire was like devouring a succulent fairy fruit—it will rob your time, settle into your dreams, and leave you starving for more." —Roshani Chokshi, New York Times bestselling author of *The Star-Touched Queen* Fans of Holly Black and Leigh Bardugo will be bewitched by Lana Popovic's debut YA fantasy novel about a bargain that binds the fates—and hearts—of twin sisters to a force larger than life. All the women in Iris and Malina's family have the unique magical ability or "gleam" to manipulate beauty. Iris sees flowers as fractals and turns her kaleidoscope visions into glasswork, while Malina interprets moods as music. But their mother has strict rules to keep their gifts a secret, even in their secluded sea-side town. Iris and Malina are not allowed to share their magic with anyone, and above all, they are forbidden from falling in love. But when their mother is mysteriously attacked, the sisters will have to unearth the truth behind the quiet lives their mother has built for them. They will discover a wicked curse that haunts their family line—but will they find that the very

magic that bonds them together is destined to tear them apart forever? *Wicked Like a Wildfire* is the first in a two-book series. Readers will be rapt with anticipation for the sequel.

wicked book analysis: *Fairest of All* Serena Valentino, Disney Book Group, 2012-02-14 Why exactly is the wicked Queen so nasty, particularly to Snow White? Perhaps it has something to do with the creepy-looking man in the magic mirror who's not just some random spooky visage...

wicked book analysis: *The Marionettes* Katie Wismer, 2021-08-24 Valerie Darkmore's entire life has been building up to this moment—her initiation into the Marionettes, the prestigious league of witches sworn to serve the vampires. As one of the last remaining blood witches, her spot is almost guaranteed. At least, so she'd thought. The academy is full of sabotage and secrets as the tasks begin, and Valerie quickly realizes she has more than her spot on the line. Her survival seems just as uncertain. The closer she gets to the final trial, the more she learns everything—and everyone—around her isn't quite what it seems. *The Marionettes* is the first in a series.

wicked book analysis: *Daughter of the Salt King* A. S. Thornton, 2021-02-02 A 2021 Foreword INDIES Award Winner in Romance and Finalist in Fantasy A 2022 Benjamin Franklin Award Runner-Up in Best New Voice: Fiction “The heat and romance of the desert, the push and the pull of Emel’s desperation, and the magic and humanity of a caustic jinni make *Daughter of the Salt King* an irresistible ride.” —Amy Harmon, New York Times bestselling author “This riveting debut novel will leave readers eagerly awaiting Thornton’s future works.” —Booklist A girl of the desert and a jinni born long ago by the sea, both enslaved to the Salt King—but with this capricious magic, only one can be set free. As a daughter of the Salt King, Emel ought to be among the most powerful women in the desert. Instead, she and her sisters have less freedom than even her father's slaves . . . for the Salt King uses his own daughters to seduce visiting noblemen into becoming powerful allies by marriage. Escape from her father’s court seems impossible, and Emel dreams of a life where she can choose her fate. When members of a secret rebellion attack, Emel stumbles upon an alluring escape route: her father’s best-kept secret—a wish-granting jinni, Saalim. But in the land of the Salt King, wishes are never what they seem. Saalim’s magic is volatile. Emel could lose everything with a wish for her freedom as the rebellion intensifies around her. She soon finds herself playing a dangerous game that pits dreams against responsibility and love against the promise of freedom. As she finds herself drawn to the jinni for more than his magic, captivated by both him and the world he shows her outside her desert village, she has to decide if freedom is worth the loss of her family, her home and Saalim, the only man she’s ever loved. For readers who enjoy epic desert fantasies and forbidden romance like *The Forbidden Wish* by Jessica Khoury, *The Wrath & the Dawn* by Renée Ahdieh, and *Empire of Sand* by Tasha Suri.

wicked book analysis: *Wicked Messenger* Mike Marqusee, 2011-01-04 Bob Dylan’s abrupt abandonment of overtly political songwriting in the mid-1960s caused an uproar among critics and fans. In *Wicked Messenger*, acclaimed cultural-political commentator Mike Marqusee advances the new thesis that Dylan did not drop politics from his songs but changed the manner of his critique to address the changing political and cultural climate and, more importantly, his own evolving aesthetic. *Wicked Messenger* is also a riveting political history of the United States in the 1960s. Tracing the development of the decade’s political and cultural dissent movements, Marqusee shows how their twists and turns were anticipated in the poetic aesthetic—anarchic, unaccountable, contradictory, punk— of Dylan's mid-sixties albums, as well as in his recent artistic ventures in *Chronicles, Vol. I* and *Masked and Anonymous*. Dylan’s anguished, self-obsessed, prickly artistic evolution, Marqusee asserts, was a deeply creative response to a deeply disturbing situation. He can no longer tell the story straight, Marqusee concludes, because any story told straight is a false one.

wicked book analysis: *The Wicked and the Damned* Josh Reynolds, David Annandale, Phil Kelly, 2019-04-02 A chilling mosaic novel by masters of their craft. On a misty cemetery world, three strangers are drawn together through mysterious circumstances. Each of them has a tale to tell of a narrow escape from death. Amid the toll of funerary bells and the creep and click of mortuary-servitors, the truth is confessed. But whose story can be trusted? Whose recollection is warped, even unto themselves? For these are strange stories of the uncanny, the irrational and the

spine-chillingly frightening, where horrors abound and the dark depths of the human psyche is unearthed. A chilling portmanteau. I could feel the hairs on the back of my neck prickling. The perfect combination of horror and Warhammer 40,000.' Paul Kane – bestselling and award-winning author of *Sherlock Holmes and the Servants of Hell and Before*

wicked book analysis: *A Lion Among Men* Gregory Maguire, 2009-10-06 Return to a darker Oz with Gregory Maguire. In *A Lion Among Men*, the third volume in Maguire's acclaimed, New York Times bestselling series *The Wicked Years*, a fuller, more complex Cowardly Lion is brought to life and gets to tell his remarkable tale. It is a story of oppression and fear in a world gone mad with war fever—of Munchkins, Wizards, and Wicked Witches—and especially of a gentle soul and determined survivor who is truly *A Lion Among Men*.

wicked book analysis: *After Alice* Gregory Maguire, 2015-10-27 From the multi-million-copy bestselling author of *Wicked* comes a magical new twist on Lewis Carroll's beloved classic, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. When Alice toppled down the rabbit-hole 150 years ago, she found a Wonderland as rife with inconsistent rules and abrasive egos as the world she left behind. But what of that world? How did 1860s Oxford react to Alice's disappearance? In *After Alice*, Gregory Maguire turns his dazzling imagination to the question of underworlds, undergrounds, underpinnings—and understandings old and new, offering an inventive spin on Carroll's enduring tale. Ada, a friend of Alice's mentioned briefly in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, is off to visit her friend, but arrives a moment too late—and tumbles down the rabbit-hole herself. Ada brings to Wonderland her own imperfect apprehension of cause and effect as she embarks on an odyssey to find Alice and see her safely home from this surreal world below the world. If Eurydice can ever be returned to the arms of Orpheus, or Lazarus can be raised from the tomb, perhaps Alice can be returned to life. Either way, everything that happens next is "After Alice."

wicked book analysis: *How the Wizard Came to Oz* Donald Abbott, 1991-11-01 Join circus stuntman Oscar Diggs as he goes up in his balloon and is blown all the way to Oz at the time when both wicked witches are still alive an??? kicking! The people of Oz mistake Oscar for a might??? wizard and, ever the showman, Oscar plays along. I??? one sidesplitting, suspenseful scene after anothe??? Oscar becomes the ruler of Oz, builds the Yellow Bric??? Road and fights off the wicked witches. Staying on jump ahead of two wicked witches is no easy feat bu??? Oscar's wit and bag of tricks help him carry the day Filled with suspense, *How the Wizard Came to O??? is sure to keep readers turning pages right to the en??? With over 30 black-and-white pictu*

wicked book analysis: *The Wicked Queen* Chantal Thomas, 1999 Chantal Thomas presents the history of the mythification of one of the most infamous queens in all history, whose execution still fascinates us today. In *The Wicked Queen*, Chantal Thomas presents the history of the mythification of one of the most infamous queens in all history, whose execution still fascinates us today. Almost as soon as Marie-Antoinette, archduchess of Austria, was brought to France as the bride of Louis XVI in 1771, she was smothered in images. In a monarchy increasingly under assault, the charm and horror of her feminine body and her political power as a foreign intruder turned Marie-Antoinette into an alien other. Marie-Antoinette's mythification, argues Thomas, must be interpreted as the misogynist demonization of women's power and authority in revolutionary France. In a series of pamphlets written from the 1770s until her death in 1793, Marie-Antoinette is portrayed as a spendthrift, a libertine, an orgiastic lesbian, and a poisoner and infant murderess. In her analyses of these pamphlets, seven of which appear here in translation for the first time, Thomas reconstructs how the mounting hallucinatory and libelous discourse culminated in the inevitable destruction of what had become the counterrevolutionary symbol par excellence. *The Wicked Queen* exposes the elaborate process by which the myth of Marie-Antoinette emerged as a crucial element in the successful staging of the French Revolution.

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