Color Symbolism in the Wonderful Wizard of Oz

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Symbolism reflects the figurative meaning that extends the greater understanding of a specific thing. The novel ‘The Wonderful Wizard of the Oz” written by Lyman Frank Baum mirrors Color symbolism evidently in his book. The author is aware of his use of colors and the way they portray their meaning by distinctly reflecting upon the schemes and the manner they connect with the reader’s imagination, associating real-life meanings and emotions with them.

The writer makes it evident since the beginning of the book by referring to Kansas as a grey place where the main character Dorothy lives. The role of the color shows the significance of the journey of Dorothy through the land of OZ as she is advised to follow the yellow brick road to reach an Emerald City. The regions are marked with color schemes yellow for Winkies, red for Quadlings, blue for Munchkins and green for the destination Emerald City.

The yellow brick road symbolizes the intelligence, adventure while the color green in the emerald city represents the glow and solutions for Dorothy, red withholds mystery, power and deceitful ways of the wizard. There are many other colors shown in that signify other characters and meanings such as different colored horses show lack of dependability and pink shows innocence and feminity.

The authors naturally use the three primary colors to demonstrate the vibrancy and importance of the context they are used in, for instance, the witches wear dark colors. The colors in the novel are used as a feature to differentiate the social classes and the difference between other behaviors, characters, and species.

The colors help readers to create intellectual comparisons, between the protagonist and antagonists. Baum illustrates several colors in his work, that do not contribute to storyline of the tale, but also help the reader imagine and associate, with reality of the readers.