

Room on the Broom comparison

By Charlotte

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Room on the Broom is a fantasy story written by Julia Donaldson and illustrated by Axel Scheffler. Its date of publication is 2001. This story is also a film directed by Max Lang and Jan Lachauer, released in 2014. Room on the Broom is a childish story about a kind witch who meets animals that find her belongings, but when the broom snaps, the witch needs her animal friends to save her from a dragon. I will be comparing the novel to the film adaptation.

In the scene where the dragon catches the witch, the book and the film both show it differently. The novel's setting is a forest, whereas the film's setting is a bright red sky. In the film version there is music, sound effects, and talking happening as well as more actions such as the broom going on fire however, in the novel's there is no music, talking, sound effects and the broom doesn't go on fire, though both the film and the novel show the witch being chased by the dragon and her animal friends saving her.

In the film the witch is described differently than the novel. For example, when she meets the bird, in the novel it shows the witch being happy, because the bird found her lost bow, but in the film, the bird tells a sad story and then the witch feels sorry for the bird and shows emotion. There is also a lot of talking in the film, but none in the novel whereas, both film and book show the same appearance for the witch. Therefore, the movie and the novel have different ways of representing the witch.

The author shows the theme 'inclusion' in a different way than the film does. In the novel the author makes everyone want to include more animals on the broom however, in the film version, the cat doesn't want anyone else on the broom, even though the witch lets all the animals on no matter what they look like or how dirty they are. Such as the dog who has fleas, or the frog who potentially lives in mud. The film and the novel both show the theme inclusion in different ways.

I prefer the film over the book. Because, in the film it has music that sets the mood, and sound effects that make it more interesting to watch. The film also has more actions to the story however, the novel doesn't have any music or sound effects. Another reason I prefer the film is because it shows emotion, like when the witch meets the bird whereas, in the book the witch doesn't show emotion towards the bird. Therefore, in my opinion I think the movie is better than the book.