

Research on costume in film- Alice in Wonderland (2010)



I recall being fascinated by the costume in this film when I first saw it at a young age. The film won the academy award for best costume, the year it was released (2010)

The most interesting motif that recurs throughout the film is the same blue dress being shrunken and stretched, depending on the size of Alice. For those who are unfamiliar with the plot, Alice, while on her journey, has to eat cakes which make her grow, and drink potion, which make her smaller. This same dress becomes increasingly more bedraggled looking as the film progresses, as it has had to be adapted to her differing sizes. Ending, looking like a small gathered piece of fabric from her petticoat, (pictured below) which is worn by a smaller Alice.

The main character, strictly adhered to the colour blue throughout the entire film, bar one act, when she is pretending to be someone else. It plays a major role in which costume can play in regards to storytelling.

Additionally, there is a stark contrast to be seen between the relatively historically accurate Edwardian clothing that the characters in the 'real world' wear, with the more exaggerated clothing of 'Underland'.

