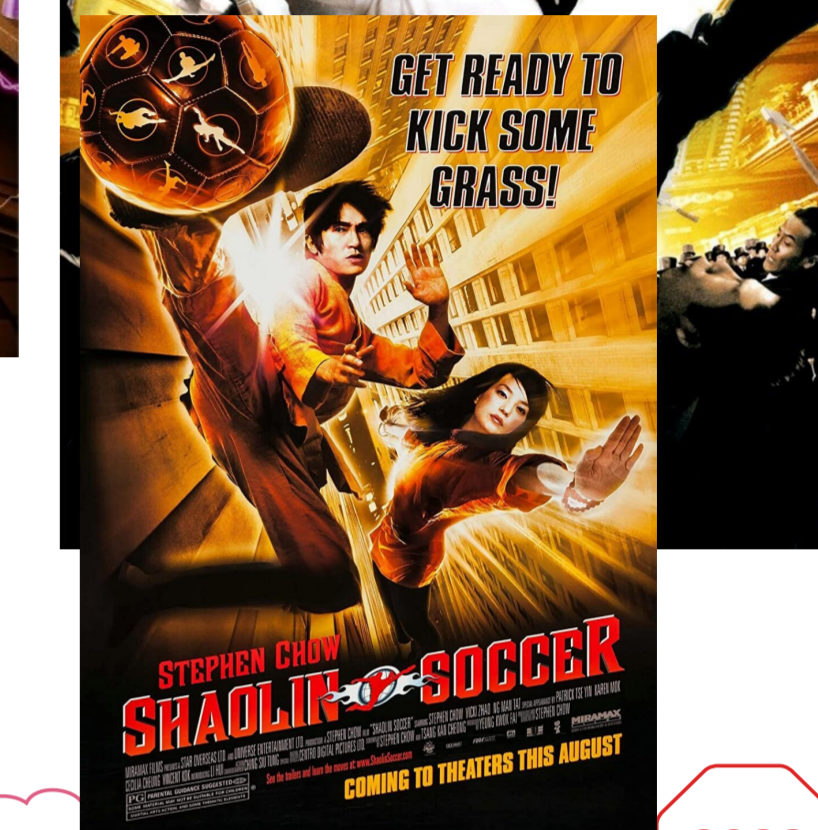


**Key Colors**  
 Red: Barbie Movies  
 Pink: Monster High Movies  
 Green: Hayao Miyazaki Movies  
 Blue: Coraline  
 Orange: Steven Chow Films



2005

2010

2015

2019

2022

Coraline scared me as a child. I went to watch it in the movies when it came out. I would have nightmares about it for years. I was scared yet intrigued by the movie. This was the first movie that I actually took years thinking about. I paid attention to the soundtrack and how the story was played out. One of the only movies where I would search for videos about theories and what I can learn not to do. Even when it causes me to do all of this, I still take what I learned. I would overanalyze everything and break down even the smallest segments. Or sometimes I would like to change the narrative or stories in my head. When I got back to reading and watching series or movies I realize I do that a lot. At first, I thought it was ADHD that made me see things the way I do. But now I know where it came from. This is the only Tim Burton movie I have ever rewatched multiple times. I did not realize the skills I learned and adapted from watching Coraline until now. This has become one of my favorite movies and I am proud to say that I am no longer scared of it anymore.

Barbie was my childhood. Growing up, I never had cable so I could not enjoy shows or movies like my friends. Instead, I had many DVDs. Most of them were princess movies and best of all Barbie. Probably because I had to live with three older sisters. But the movies I watch also taught me lessons. I still believe these movies teach me more than school sometimes. They taught me about friendship and so much more. It was an influence. To step up and be confident in myself and be the best person I can be. That is why I love helping people so much. It became my passion to do so. The best movies were from 2001 to the beginning of 2013. These movies had an original plot that is so entertaining. I can see the influence it had on young women and others. To this day Barbie is trying to uplift young minds in new ways as time goes on. With Hayao Miyazaki's films, these two types of movies growing up were a powerhouse to experience. That is why I think about the stuff I do and imagine. These movies of the past were mine. And I am forever grateful to experience the time with Barbie as these movies came out.



Growing up with his movies. It was the spark of my imagination. Specifically, his movies in Studio Ghibli help me understand being myself and how to tackle life as I continue to grow. Each of his movies teaches about real-world situations. Whether that is growing up early or coming of age, each scene I can remember just connects with my soul. It also helps me associate the emotions I have. Until recently, I never understood my emotions. I always thought there was something wrong with me and that I had to hide it. But now thanks to rewatching the movies, I feel like myself, and I am comfortable expressing myself. But now his movies are coming to an end. Yeah, his son may have made stories also, but it is not the same. With Miyazaki, he draws and illustrates everything. But he is getting older and he is making one last film. It is taking longer too because of everything that happened and his age. This last movie is for his grandson. A gift before passing away. I am not ready to cry when his last film comes out. But with this, I can thank Hayao Miyazaki for helping me become who I am today and continuing as I grow older.



Monster High was my late middle school era. So I was not too young but not too old to be in high school or an adult. In eighth grade, that is when my life started changing. That is when the depression and anxiety started to really kick in. And I was scared to tell anyone, so I kept it to myself and it kept growing. The only thing I knew that calmed me down was the Monster High movies. I did not understand why at the time, I just knew it made me feel normal. But now I come to realize that they were tackling real-life problems. It was normal to have these issues and be different. To not be scared and let it out. The movies helped people understand that there are different disabilities and that it is normal. And in the movies, they demonstrated how to work with the monster that had real-life disabilities. For example, Ghoulia is a character that was a zombie. And from being a zombie, she could only groan and make noises instead of talking. To make her feel like she belongs, the main character and her group learned zombie language to talk to her. This was one of the realizations that Monster High was an ally for those that were different. They were accepting from the start. And in doing so made me comfortable with who I am and how I look. I appreciate and love myself thanks to this series.



Steven Chow's films are hilarious. Especially the ones where he is the main character. The two movies that really stuck with me for so long are *Kung Fu Hustle* and *Shaolin Soccer*. It made me understand that weirdness is not all that bad or crazy. It was okay to laugh at things that are ridiculous. And that happened to be the part where I sealed away my thoughts up until high school. I was already a shy person. And I never wanted to say anything out of pocket. But with his movies and the help of Ms. Martin, I felt comfortable saying things others may not. This helped me open up to the friends I have now. They are accepting and understand where I come from when I say things that are unexpected. And the best part is that it was part of my character that I hid away and can finally share freely and bravely. Steven Chow often uses Buddha in his movies. And I am Buddhist so maybe that is why I feel a deeper connection with his films. Also growing up, I never found anyone who was really Buddhist. But, I come to realize it is okay that I may see things differently than others. I thank Steven Chow for his boldness and for not showing fear when he made his movies. Gave me the inspiration I needed.