



A Guide to the Land of Oz

*created in a partnership with the Wonderful Wizard of Oz

Words from the Wizard

Coming from Bernard Zell Productions in April 2024 is **The Wicked Wizard of Oz**, a new theater project that blends both the fantastical and dark elements of both renowned productions. Adapted, directed, and produced by Lisa Ehrlich-Menard and tech directed by Danielle Steele, **The Wicked Wizard of Oz** follows Dorothy Gale and her partners: The Scarecrow, Tin Man, and Lion as they find a way to get Dorothy out of Oz and back to Kansas. However, the group is challenged on their journey by the Wicked Witch of the West, a sorcerer longing for a way to also go back home. **The Wicked Wizard of Oz** follows the main plot of the **Wizard of Oz** while interweaving the story of **Wicked** in between as it not only reveals the tale of Elphaba Thropp but challenges the notions of good and evil set into place during the original story. Revisit the Land of Oz and follow the interconnected stories of two women posed with hardships of womanhood and the challenges of power.

-- **The Wonderful Wizard of Oz and Mister Morrible, Headmaster of Shiz University**

CONTENT RATING: This production is rated PG for thematic content, fantastical elements, and some scary images

THIS PRODUCTION IS RECOMMENDED FOR PERSONS 4 YEARS AND OLDER

WHO ARE THE CHARACTERS?

DOROTHY (Protagonist)

Dorothy lives with her aunt and uncle in rural Kansas. While in Kansas, Dorothy struggles to fit in with the people around her. After a destructive tornado hits Kansas, Dorothy and her loyal canine sidekick, Toto, are transported to the wonderful land of Oz. Now in Oz, Dorothy tries to find her way home while discovering what home truly is.

TOTO (Protagonist)

Toto is Dorothy's canine companion who follows her on her journey to see the wizard. Toto feels the need to protect Dorothy from dangers and is a jumpy little dog.

SCARECROW (Protagonist)

Scarecrow is a scarecrow made of straws that comes to life. Although his original purpose was to scare the crows away from his cornfield, he fails to do so. Now without purpose, the Scarecrow dreams to have a brain. He joins Dorothy to travel to the Wizard of Oz where he hopes to get a brain.

TIN MAN (Protagonist)

The Tin Man is true to his name, being a man made of tin. Although the Tin Man appears to have all the qualities of a man, in his eyes, he is lacking one crucial aspect: A heart. The Tin Man joins Dorothy and Scarecrow to the Wizard of Oz, where he dreams that he will find a heart.

THE COWARDLY LION (Protagonist)

The “Cowardly Lion” is a lion who has been afraid of everything his whole life. The lion yearns for courage. With courage, Lion can achieve his dream of being “King of the Forest.” While trying to defend himself, he meets Dorothy and her friends. Dorothy invites the Lion to join them in finding the Wizard of Oz. Lion joins Dorothy, Scarecrow, and Tin Man to the Wizard of Oz, where he hopes to find courage.

WICKED WITCH/ELPHABA THROPP (Anti-Heroine/Antagonist)

In the Wizard of Oz, the Wicked Witch is viewed as the main antagonist and is purely evil and a maniacal figure. But we can see the backstory through the Wicked flashbacks, and we can understand how she was not born evil, but merely the setting around her that portrayed her to be evil. While she still torments Dorothy in our show, we can understand where she is coming from and view her from a new perspective.

GLINDA/GALINDA (Protagonist)

From the perspective of the Ozians, “Glinda the Good” is an angelic face of Oz who guides a scared girl to her dreams. But, the Ozians don’t have the full story. Glinda the Good was once Galinda, a young girl ready to attend Shiz University. While at Shiz, Galinda meets a strange girl named Elphaba who opens her eyes to the hardship of Oz and shows her what life is like being different. Galinda goes through a lot of change to become the woman she is know as now, Glinda.

NIKKO (Anti-Hero)

Nikko is the Wicked Witch’s flying monkey sidekick. Changed into a monkey through unknown occurrences, he joins the Wicked Witch of the West, supporting her cause with his fellow flying monkeys.

THE WIZARD OF OZ (Antagonist)

~~A con man from Earth, The Wizard of Oz reached Oz and began to consolidate power, posing as a benevolent god. Now challenged by the Wicked Witch, The Wizard of Oz begins to take control of the magical land once and for all.~~

AUNT EM

Aunt Em is Dorothy's aunt. An old woman, she is kind and loving, as well as strict and dedicated to her work.

MISS GULCH

Miss Gulch is known by the whole town as an evil woman. Almira Gulch proclaims that she has been “terrorized” by Toto for years and is now out for revenge on Toto and Dorothy.

PROFESSOR MARVEL

A con man, Professor Marvel travels around Middle America, scamming lowly people out of their life savings.

MUNCHKINS

The Munchkins are the people of Munchkinland. For years, they were stuck under the oppression of Nessarose Thropp (The Wicked Witch of the East). After their savior, Dorothy, freed them, they were then free to rebuild Munchkinland.

MAP OF THE LAND OF OZ



A map in the old Ozian language

WHAT IS THE OZIAN LANGUAGE?

An ancient language from the times before the Age of The Great Wizard of Oz, Ozian was created by the native people of Oz, Ozians, thousands of years ago. However, the language has evolved throughout the millennia as the native and national language of the counties and regions within the Land of Oz. Our version of the Wizard of Oz was written in this very language during the Age of the Wizard. Luckily, though, historical professors have translated the Wicked Wizard of Oz into English for ease.

WHAT IS THE LAND OF OZ?

A land of prosperity that has existed since the dawn of time, the Land of Oz has become a melting pot of mythical figures big and small since the oldest flowers began to grow in the fervent soil. While prosperous, Oz has faced much turmoil in its long history, most notably, the wrath of the Wicked Witch of the West and her sister, Nessarose, the Wicked Witch of the East. This musical highlights that tale of the Wicked Witch and who she was and who she became...