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## **Family Plays**

L. Frank Baum's

# THE WIZARD OF OZ

Musical/Non-Musical by R. Eugene Jackson  
Music by David Ellis



# THE WIZARD OF OZ

**Musical/Non-musical. Book by R. Eugene Jackson. Music by David Ellis. From L. Frank Baum's classic.** *Cast: small to large group of actors, flexible.* This musical or non-musical dramatization has all the lovable Oz characters and scenes as L. Frank Baum created them: Dorothy, Aunt Em and the house in Kansas; the tornado; the land of the Munchkins; the Tin Woodman, the Scarecrow and the cowardly Lion; the Wicked Witch of the West and the beautiful Witch of the North; and, of course, the Wizard of Oz himself—in an enchanting dramatization as only R. Eugene Jackson can do it. Premiered at the Pixie Playhouse in Mobile, Alabama, the play is easy to stage with cleverly designed set units and scene changes to capture the full magic delight of the original stories. One of the problems of any staging of *The Wizard of Oz* is the frequent change of scene. However, Jackson, a skilled author of children's plays, has solved the problem with simple set pieces which may be rolled or flown into position while the action continues on the apron or elsewhere in the auditorium. It is possible for much of the scenery (e.g., trees and cornstalks) to be played by actors, who can run on and off the stage rapidly. Toto is a delightful role for a small child, 4 to 6 years old, as he doesn't have lines to memorize. A toy dog may be also be used if a child is unavailable. This version of *The Wizard of Oz* is a two-act play. *Production notes are available in the play script for further suggestions. Set: fantasy cutouts to be moved quickly. Costumes: "typical Oz" clothing pieces and outfits. Approximate run time 70 to 90 minutes. Code: WF9.*

## Family Plays

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The Wizard of Oz

# The Wizard of Oz

A Two-Act Play

by

R. EUGENE JACKSON

Based on L. Frank Baum's "*The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*"

A 'Stage Magic' Play

**Family Plays**

311 Washington St., Woodstock, IL 60098

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## CAST

Dorothy  
Aunt Em  
Toto (may be played by a small child, a real dog,  
or a stuffed toy dog)  
Uncle Henry  
The Good Witch of the North  
Unchkin Munchkin  
Bunchkin Munchkin  
Punchy Munchkin  
Other Munchkins (as desired)  
Lunchkin Munchkin  
Dunchkin Munchkin  
Scarecrow  
Tin Woodman  
Holly  
Lion  
Guardian of the Gates  
The Wizard of Oz  
The Wicked Witch of the West  
Dinkie Winkie  
Inkie Winkie  
Binkie Winkie  
Boo Winkie  
The Good Witch of the South  
Other Winkies (as desired)

The cast may be reduced by doubling, or enlarged by adding Munchkins and Winkies.

## SYNOPSIS

### *ACT I*

*Scene 1:* The Kansas Plains—today, or yesterday, or any time  
*Scene 2:* The Cyclone  
*Scene 3:* The Land of the Munchkins  
*Scene 4:* The Edge of a Cornfield  
*Scene 5:* A Clearing in the Forest  
*Scene 6:* Outside the Gates of the Emerald City  
*Scene 7:* The Throne Room of the Wizard of Oz

### *ACT II*

*Scene 1:* Outside the Gates of the Emerald City  
*Scene 2:* Outside the Castle of the Wicked Witch of the West  
*Scene 3:* The Throne Room of the Wizard of Oz  
*Scene 4:* A Big Wind  
*Scene 5:* The Kansas Plains

The play is designed so that there will be no break in the action for scene changes.

This dramatization of THE WIZARD OF OZ premiered at the Pixie Playhouse, Mobile, Alabama, opening on November 12, 1976, under the direction of Marty Bruner. The cast was as follows:

Dorothy . . . . .	Katy Hill
Aunt Em . . . . .	Lydia Temonia
Toto . . . . .	Kelly Abraham
Uncle Henry . . . . .	Herman Daly Jr.
The Good Witch of the North . . . . .	Reynolds Hafner
Unchkin Munchkin . . . . .	Kelsey Green
Bunchkin Munchkin . . . . .	Lisa Foy
Punchy Munchkin . . . . .	Marcus Pierce
Lunchkin Munchkin . . . . .	John Cimins
Dunchkin Munchkin . . . . .	Jack Fowler
Scarecrow . . . . .	Kayleigh Ludlow
Tin Woodman . . . . .	Keith Lambert
Holly . . . . .	Tammy May
Lion . . . . .	Danny Mollise
Guardian of the Gates . . . . .	Scottie Stewart
The Wizard of Oz . . . . .	Kevin Swanger
The Wicked Witch of the West . . . . .	Sally Ellen Pearsal
Dinkie Winkie . . . . .	Kelly Wilson
Inkie Winkie . . . . .	Lorri Moons
Binkie Winkie . . . . .	Mike Kleinschrodt
Boo Winkie . . . . .	Tim Germany
The Good Witch of the South . . . . .	Kathie Conlon
Winkies . . . . .	Barkley Kercher, Marie Smith, Melissa Garrett, Mike Kleinschrodt, Robyn Newman, David Higenes, Pam Griffin, Jessica Larson, Alex Hafner, Laura Woods, Kelly Wilson, Anne Marie Beatty
Munchkins . . . . .	Ellen Sauer, Amy Ludlow, Michol McLaurin, Suzanne Higgins, Lee Moons, Trenie Nelson, Jeremy Sauer, Jeffrey Sauer, Stacy Sullivan, Jane Shelton, Susan Pearsall, Steven Welborne, Laura Allen, Beppie McClure, Steve Morgan

**NOTES**

This dramatization of L. Frank Baum's famous story adheres as closely to the original as the limitations of a stage will allow. One of the problems of any staging of THE WIZARD OF OZ is the frequent change of scene. However, Eugene Jackson, a skilled author of children's plays, has solved the problem with simple set pieces which may be rolled or flown into position while the action continues on the apron or elsewhere in the auditorium. It is possible for much of the scenery (e.g., trees and cornstalks) to be played by actors, who can run on and off the stage rapidly. See production notes on page 68 for further suggestions. Toto is a delightful role for a small child, 4 to 6 years old. He has no lines to memorize. A toy dog may be used if a child is unavailable.



# The Wizard of Oz

## ACT ONE, SCENE ONE: THE KANSAS PLAINS

*[A small white house with orange and brown shutters and trim sits in the middle of the stage. As the curtain rises, it is noon. AUNT EM, wearing a plain white and orange house dress, is setting a gaily decorated table in the middle of the yard.]*

AUNT. *[Calling pleasantly toward the house]* Dorothy, child, it's all set. I believe we are about ready.

DOROTHY. *[Hurrying from the house with TOTO. The role of Toto may be played by a small person or by a toy dog. DOROTHY wears a blue and white checkered dress. She is carrying a set of brightly colored napkins.]* Are you sure, Aunt Em? I want everything to be perfect – absolutely perfect.

AUNT. See for yourself, child. It's our best china and silverware, shined so they sparkle like the sun.

DOROTHY. You sit right there, Toto, and don't you move. *[She places the napkins on the table.]* Oh, Aunt Em, everything is just right. You really know how to decorate a table.

AUNT. Well, I declare, I sure oughta. I've been doing it for more years than I care to count. And besides, this is a special occasion.

DOROTHY. Oh, I know – a very special occasion. *[To Toto]* How do you like it, Toto? Aunt Em and I arranged

all this just for us. Oh, I know you like it, because you and I like the same things. But there's one more thing – a surprise. *[To Em]* Where's Uncle Henry, Aunt Em? Shouldn't he be here by now?

AUNT. Never can tell, child. He works hard in the fields, and sometimes he loses track of time. The sun is straight up, though.

DOROTHY. I hope he remembers.

AUNT. Oh, I'm sure he will, Dorothy. It's not likely he'd forget something so important. After all, child, you've been like a daughter to us since you came to Kansas. You've made our lives more, well, more important.

DOROTHY. *[Kisses her]* Thank you, Aunt Em. I only hope Toto and I haven't been a burden to you.

AUNT. A burden? Perish the thought, child. Before you came, we were two unhappy old people, drifting through the days with no purpose, and aging quickly under the drudgery of farm life. Now we have a reason to live. You – and cute little Toto – have brought real happiness and joy into our lives. I hope nothing ever happens to separate us.

DOROTHY. It won't. What could possibly happen?

AUNT. Nothing, nothing at all.

DOROTHY. *[Holds up a piece of food]* Here, Toto, sit up. Sit up. Good dog. *[TOTO eats the food.]*

AUNT. *[Looking off Left]* Well, I declare. There's your Uncle Henry now – not more'n a few minutes late.

DOROTHY. Wonderful. Now, Aunt Em, don't tell him about the surprise. And hold Toto while I run inside and get it. Mind Aunt Em, Toto. *[She runs into the house.]*

UNCLE. *[He enters from Left wiping his brow with a handkerchief. He wears coveralls with an orange and white shirt and a straw hat.]* Whew! Em, the days are gettin' hotter all the time, and I can't take the heat like I did in the old days. *[Sees the set table]* Well, Dorothy told me to be home exactly at noon, and I guess this is the reason, huh? What is it – a surprise?

AUNT. I can't tell you, Henry.

UNCLE. Why not?

AUNT. It's a surprise.

UNCLE. Oh.

AUNT. Did you wash your hands?

UNCLE. Sure did.

AUNT. Well, then, sit down and get ready to dig in. [*They both sit with TOTO at Em's side.*] You sit right there, Toto. I think you'll want to see this.

DOROTHY. [*Appears at the door with a cake decorated with one tall and one short candle*] Ta-ta! Here it is!

DOROTHY/AUNT. [*To the tune of "Happy Birthday"*] Happy anniversary to you.

UNCLE. [*Spoken*] Whose anniversary is it?

DOROTHY/AUNT. Happy anniversary to you.

UNCLE. It's not my anniversary.

DOROTHY/AUNT. Happy anniversary dear . . .

UNCLE. One and a half candles?

DOROTHY/AUNT. Dorothy and Toto.

UNCLE. You mean they're married.

DOROTHY/AUNT. Happy anniversary to us/them.

AUNT. And we hope you have many more.

UNCLE. How can a girl and a dog have an anniversary? And why does the cake have one and a half candles?

AUNT. Oh, Henry, surely you know.

DOROTHY. [*Picks up Toto and pets him*] That's how long Toto and I have lived here, Uncle Henry – one and a half years. We're celebrating.

UNCLE. Oh, y-e-s, I remember. [*He hugs her and pets Toto.*] And we do hope you have many, many more anniversaries with us. Now, I want to see you two blow out the candles.

DOROTHY. [*Laughing*] Oh, Uncle Henry! [*They blow them out.*] There, how's that?

AUNT. [*Cuts the cake. HENRY holds his plate up.*] I believe the honored guests get the first pieces, Henry, so you

just hold your horses. *[She puts a piece on a plate and hands it to Dorothy.]*

DOROTHY. This is Toto's piece. He can eat in the house. *[She takes him into the house.]*

HENRY. How about slipping me a piece before she gets back, Em.

AUNT. All right, Henry. *[She cuts it and starts to put it on his plate, but he half stands in near shock and looks off Down Right. She sees his face.]* What is it, dear? Henry, what . . . ?

UNCLE. *[Calmly but firmly]* Put away the cake, Em. *[DOROTHY returns to the table. EM looks off Down Right.]*

AUNT. Yes, Henry. Right away. *[She gathers as many things from the table as she can and heads for the house.]*

DOROTHY. What's the matter, Aunt Em? Is something wrong?

AUNT. It's the sky, Dorothy. Look.

DOROTHY. It's getting darker.

UNCLE. And the wind's pickin' up. *[The whistling of wind is heard from a wind machine or a tape recording.]*

DOROTHY. *[As EM enters the house to put things away]* What does it mean?

UNCLE. Cyclone!

DOROTHY. What's a cyclone?

UNCLE. A big wind, honey. You call it a tornado in your part of the country. It can destroy everything in its path – or carry a house and a barn for miles.

AUNT. *[Comes from the house]* There's no time to lose. Dorothy, you help me get the table into the barn. It's faster. *[They move it off Right]* Henry, you get the stools. *[They return as HENRY goes off with the stools.]* I hope that's everything. Now, Dorothy, child, we have a cyclone cellar in the barn. It's a hole in the ground where we can stay until it blowsover. *[She starts off Right but returns when DOROTHY does not move.]* What is it, child? Are you all right?

DOROTHY. Yes, Aunt Em. Only, I think I'm afraid.

AUNT. We're all afraid, child. *[She embraces her.]*

*[As the wind picks up and the sky darkens, a backstage fan, suitably shielded from careless hands, may be turned on to produce real wind on stage. The set must be secured to resist the breeze.]*

UNCLE. *[Appears from Right, greatly agitated]* Em, Dorothy, hurry – it's getting closer! It's coming straight for us! Come on, hurry!

AUNT. *[Pulling Dorothy Right]* Come on, child. We must be quick. *[They all exit Right.]*

DOROTHY. *[As the wind and sounds reach a peak, and the sky is its darkest, and lightning flits about, she reappears.]* Toto! I left Toto in the house! I've got to save him! I've got to!

AUNT. *[Appearing behind her]* Henry, we've got to save Dorothy! The cyclone is here!

UNCLE. *[Rushing on]* Too late, too late! Hurry! Into the cellar! *[He pulls her off Right as she continues to scream for Dorothy. But DOROTHY has disappeared into the house.]*

## ACT ONE, SCENE TWO: THE CYCLONE

*[As the wind continues to blow, the house shakes, moving up and down, left and right. The lights black out except for occasional lightning. During the blackout and DOROTHY's lines, the set is changed for the next scene.]*

DOROTHY. *[Heard in the darkness above the wind and lightning]* Hang on, Toto! I've got you, I've got you! It's too late to get out! The cyclone is on top of us! It is! It's here! Toto, look out! Under the bed, quick! Hurry! Now, stay there! Maybe we'll be safe! Maybe! *[Pause]* Toto, I think we're being raised off the ground! I think the house is flying! It is! It's flying! We're flying! We're high off the ground! Oh, Toto, I've never been so afraid! The cyclone has us in its grip! What will it do with us? No, no, Toto, come

back here! Be a good dog. Stay with me under the bed. At least, when we go, we'll go together! What's going to happen to us, Toto? What is the cyclone going to do with us? We're at its mercy! Help us, somebody! Help us! Help! Help! Help! *[The final call dies out in the wind. The lightning stops; the stage is black. The wind stops. There is silence.]*

## BLACKOUT

### ACT ONE, SCENE THREE: THE LAND OF THE MUNCHKINS

*[The lights fade up on Munchkin Land. The house is still in the center of the stage, but one of its shutters is hanging by a single hinge, a forest of blue-green trees surrounds it, and a pair of legs with silver shoes is visible under the edge of it. There is a moment of silence. Then three faces appear from behind a tree with UNCHKIN on the bottom, BUNCHKIN in the middle, and PUNCHY on top. They are dressed in various shades of blue. Unchkin and Bunchkin have blue beards; Punchy is clean shaven. Each wears a wide-brimmed hat with high pointed tops. Little bells hang from the brims.]*

UNCHKIN. What is it, Bunchkin?

BUNCHKIN. I don't know, Unchkin. What is it, Punchy?

PUNCHY. *[As if punch-drunk]* Uh, why ask me, Bunchkin? I don't know. Why don't you ask Unchkin?

BUNCHKIN. Good idea. What is it, Unchkin?

UNCHKIN. I think it's a house, Bunchkin.

BUNCHKIN. Thanks, Unchkin. Unchkin thinks it's a house, Punchy.

PUNCHY. Uh, why tell me, Bunchkin? I don't care. Why don't you tell Unchkin?

BUNCHKIN. Good idea. It's a house, Unchkin.

UNCHKIN. *[Jumping up and yelling at them]* I know it's a house! I told you it's a house! Now, will you two stop playing around!

PUNCHY. *[Takes a boxing stance against Unchkin and throws some punches at the air]* Uh, you better watch who you're talking to, Unchkin. I'm no push-over. *[UNCHKIN sticks out his leg and PUNCHY falls over it to the ground.]*

UNCHKIN. How about a trip-over?

PUNCHY. That, uh, wasn't nice.

UNCHKIN. Now get up here!

BUNCHKIN. Now get up here! *[They pull him to his feet and place him at the foot of their three-man line.]*

UNCHKIN. We know it's a house. The question is: what is it doing here?

BUNCHKIN. I don't know, Unchkin. What is it doing here, Punchy?

PUNCHY. Uh, I don't know. Ask Unchkin.

BUNCHKIN. Good idea. Unchkin, what is it . . . ?

UNCHKIN. *[Slaps them both]* Will you stop that! This is serious. Come on. Let's investigate. *[He steps toward the house.]*

BUNCHKIN. *[To Punchy]* Come on. Let's investigate. *[He steps toward the house.]*

PUNCHY. *[To no one]* Come on. Let's investigate. *[He steps toward the house, looking backward. UNCHKIN and BUNCHKIN have stopped at the corner of the house. PUNCHY runs into them.]*

UNCHKIN. Ahhh! Look out! Run! *[He runs back to their original place. BUNCHKIN screams and follows. PUNCHY falls to the ground.]*

PUNCHY. Who did that? Let me at 'em! *[UNCHKIN and BUNCHKIN see him, run to him, pick up his feet, and pull him to the original place.]* Huh? Who's got me? Let go! Let go! *[They drag him to his feet.]* Oh, Unchkin, Bunchkin, I'm glad it's you. Somebody just grabbed me and pulled me across the ground.

UNCHKIN. Will you be quiet! Now, come on. *[They tip-toe to the corner of the house and stop.]*

BUNCHKIN. I don't hear anything. Do you? *[There is a*

*loud yawn from inside the house. UNCHKIN and BUNCHKIN run back to their original position, leaving PUNCHY spinning in place.]*

PUNCHY. Huh? What happened? *[The other two run back to him and drag him with them.]*

UNCHKIN. What do you suppose that was, Bunchkin?

BUNCHKIN. I don't know, Unchkin. What do you suppose that was, Punchy?

PUNCHY. Uh, why ask me? I don't know. Why don't you ask Unchkin?

BUNCHKIN. Unchkin, what do you suppose that . . . ?

UNCHKIN. *[Slaps them both]* You two never give up, do you? It was a yawn. Someone was waking up.

BUNCHKIN. I wonder who it was?

UNCHKIN. We'll just wait and see. You did send an urgent message to the Good Witch of the North to come here immediately, didn't you?

BUNCHKIN. By carrier pigeon. She should be here by now.

PUNCHY. I'll punch him out! Let me at 'em.

DOROTHY. *[Comes to the open doorway, looks out, and yawns. TOTO follows.]* I wonder how long we were in the air, Toto? It was kind of a bumpy landing, but at least we are not hurt. I wonder where we are?

UNCHKIN. Look.

BUNCHKIN. Look.

PUNCHY. Where? I'll punch him out! *[They tip-toe to the side of the house with BUNCHKIN pulling PUNCHY. They peep around the side of the house at Dorothy with PUNCHY on top, BUNCHKIN in the middle, and UNCHKIN on the bottom.]*

DOROTHY. *[Screams]* Ohhh! *[The MUNCHKINS scream and fall all over each other. She sees how frightened they are of her.]* Oh, wait! Wait! I won't harm you. *[They pause.]* I won't harm you – I promise. *[They rise, pulling PUNCHY up with them. Suddenly there is a puff of smoke from Stage*



*Left. DOROTHY screams again. The MUNCHKINS do likewise, again falling over each other. The GOOD WITCH OF THE NORTH, dressed in solid white, appears from the smoke.]*

UNCHKIN. It's the Good Witch of the North. Hooray!

BUNCHKIN. We're saved!

PUNCHY. Where is he? I'll punch 'em out.

DOROTHY. *[To her]* You're a witch?

NORTH. Yes, my dear. And you must be from the house that fell out of the sky.

DOROTHY. Yes. My name is Dorothy, and this is Toto. We're from Kansas.

NORTH. Kansas? Where is Kansas?

DOROTHY. You've never heard of it? It's one of the states of the United States of America. *[Other MUNCHKINS begin to enter to see Dorothy.]*

NORTH. And this is the Land of the Munchkins.

DOROTHY. Munchkins? What are Munchkins?

NORTH. Well, my dear, they are standing all around you.

UNCHKIN. I'm Unchkin Munchkin.

BUNCHKIN. I'm Bunchkin Munchkin.

PUNCHY. And I'm Punchy. *[He boxes the thin air.]* Wanna box? *[He throws a punch so hard he lands on the ground, eyes a few inches from the silver shoes.]*

DOROTHY. Oh, no. I only want to go home.

PUNCHY. Hey, whose feet are these? *[He raises one of the legs and points to the silver shoe.]*

NORTH. *[As everyone crowds in to look]* Oh, my, goodness! My dear, that's the Wicked Witch of the East! You've killed her!

DOROTHY. I? Killed her? Oh, no! My house must have fallen on her. I didn't do it! Honest!

UNCHKIN. Did you hear that? The Wicked Witch of the East is dead!

BUNCHKIN. Did you hear that? The Wicked Witch of the East is dead!

PUNCHY. I punched her out!

UNCHKIN. *[Slapping him]* You did not! It was Dorothy! *[They jump to their knees and bow to her.]* Oh, great and wonderful sorceress, we welcome you.

MUNCHKINS. *[Shouting happily]* Oh, great and wonderful sorceress, we welcome you!

UNCHKIN. You have freed us from the chains of the Wicked Witch of the East.

MUNCHKINS. You have freed us from the chains of the Wicked Witch of the East.

UNCHKIN. You are a queen, a sorceress, a good witch, a great and fearful person.

MUNCHKINS. You are a queen, a sorceress, a good witch, a great and fearful person.

UNCHKIN. All hail!

MUNCHKINS. All hail!

UNCHKIN. Your dress is blue, the color of the Munchkins; and white, the color of a sorceress. All hail!

MUNCHKINS. All hail!

DOROTHY. But, but . . . .

UNCHKIN. Hip, hip . . .

MUNCHKINS. Hooray!

UNCHKIN. Hip, hip . . .

MUNCHKINS. Hooray!

UNCHKIN. Hip, hip . . .

MUNCHKINS. HOORAY! *[They clap and cheer. In spite of her protests, they raise her upon their shoulders and march her around, screaming, laughing, exclaiming, "The Wicked Witch of the East is dead!" Finally, they put her down, and fall down in front of her.]*

DOROTHY. No, no, you've got this all wrong. I didn't do anything. It was my house.

NORTH. It's the same thing, my dear. The Munchkins are grateful for what you — and your house — did. They have been slaves to the Wicked Witch for a generation. Now they are free. They want to show their appreciation.

DOROTHY. I'm very glad they are happy, but, you see, I'm not. I'm lost. I was carried here by a cyclone, and now I want to go home. If you're a witch, then you can help me.

NORTH. I'm afraid I can't, my dear.

DOROTHY. But why not? Don't you have magical powers, like the witches I read about in my storybooks?

NORTH. I have some, Dorothy, but not enough. You see, the Wicked Witch of the East, whom you have killed, and the Wicked Witch of the West, who is still very much alive, managed to gain the upper hand many years ago. They stole the best magic, and they exiled my dear sister to the far South, and me to the far North. I have very little magic left.

DOROTHY. Then how am I to get home?

UNCHKIN. [*To himself*] How is she to get home?

BUNCHKIN. I don't know, Unchkin. How is she to get home, Punchy?

PUNCHY. Uh, why ask me? I don't know. Why don't you ask Unchkin?

BUNCHKIN. A good idea. Unchkin, how is she to get . . . ?

UNCHKIN. [*Slaps both of them*] Stop it! Stop it! I don't know how she can get home. [*To Dorothy*] I wish we could help, but we don't even know where Kansas is.

NORTH. True. And if you wandered in the wrong direction in the forest, you could be attacked and killed by strange, vicious animals.

DOROTHY. What do you suggest? I can't stay here forever.

NORTH. Well, my dear, if you travel north, you will run into a great desert.

UNCHKIN. Southward lies a greater desert.

BUNCHKIN. Westward lies the greatest desert.

PUNCHY. I would go to Oz.

DOROTHY. Oz? What is Oz?

PUNCHY. And when I got there, I'd punch him out.

NORTH. That's it!

PUNCHY. Punch him out?