

The Chronicles of Oz:
The Wonderful Wizard Of Oz

A six-part audio drama by Aron Toman

A Crossover Adventures Production
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EPISODE SIX

72 PREVIOUSLY:

Catch up on all the events of the previous five episodes.

OPENING CREDITS

73 INT. THRONE ROOM

The Scarecrow, Tin Woodman and Lion stress about the growing noise of an angry crowd outside. Dorothy rushes down the stairs.

OMBY AMBY

(distorted)

Great Oz? The people are coming, we need you!

TIN WOODMAN

The Wizard?

DOROTHY

Gone. Little bastard did a runner in a balloon. He'll be sailing way across the skies and away from responsibility as we speak.

TIN WOODMAN

Great.

LION

That explains why the crowd outside sounds worse than it did before.

DOROTHY

Crowd?

TIN WOODMAN

They must have seen his balloon take off. Now they've all got questions.

LION

Questions they're going to ask us.

DOROTHY

Questions we can't really answer. I mean how do you tell people 'oh, oops, sorry, your great ruler isn't as wonderful as you thought. He's really a big phoney and rather than

(MORE)

DOROTHY (cont'd)
tell you all himself he's decided
to run away and let these nobodies
pass it on instead. Nobodies who,
by the way, just killed two other
significant people of government in
your country and it's gonna look
darn suspicious that the Wizard
disappeared just as you showed up'.

TIN WOODMAN
You've put a lot of thought into
this.

DOROTHY
It's a long staircase.

SCARECROW
I think we should tell them.

DOROTHY
What?

SCARECROW
The people have to know eventually.
Let's make it now rather than
later.

TIN WOODMAN
Scarecrow, I don't know if you've
realised, but they're going to
blame us.

LION
They'll think we melted him or
dropped a house on him.

DOROTHY
They'll want a scapegoat. They're
going to be scared, too much change
at once isn't good.

SCARECROW
Then we'll have to reassure them.
Isn't that exactly why I got this
brain in the first place? To use it
for things like this?

DOROTHY
But it's just stuffing!

SCARECROW
So's the rest of me. I'm going out
there.

DOROTHY
Scarecrow, wait -

SCARECROW
And you're coming with me Dorothy.

DOROTHY
I am?

SCARECROW
I'll need your help. Tin Woodman,
open the door. I'm going to address
the people.

TIN WOODMAN
Umm, ok. Was nice knowing you.

He opens the doors. Faramant, Jelias Jamb and Omby Amby stand there.

OMBY AMBY
Where's the Wizard?

JELIAS JAMB
We saw the balloon, has he really -
was that him?

FARAMANT
He was a fake, wasn't he! I knew
it!

SCARECROW
See, Dorothy! They already know!
This will be easy!

OMBY AMBY
Where is he? I have to see the
Wizard!

DOROTHY
The Wizard of Oz has gone. Flown
away. Looks like you're stuck with
us now.

OMBY AMBY
This is your fault Faramant!

FARAMANT
I didn't make the Wizard run away!

OMBY AMBY
Yes you did! Yes you did!

SCARECROW

Quiet! It doesn't matter whose fault it is. The fact is, he's gone. Gone forever, and someone needs to tell everyone.

JELIA JAMB

Who? Who's going to tell them?

74 EXT. EMERALD CITY SQUARE

The natives are very restless. The Scarecrow and Dorothy emerge at the steps of the palace and the Scarecrow begins a speech.

SCARECROW

People of the Emerald City. You probably don't know who I am, so perhaps I should introduce myself. My name is the Scarecrow, and I understand you have a few questions. I hope I can answer them.

I am afraid I have some grave news. The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, the ruler of the City of Emeralds for so long, has abandoned you. He was in that balloon you all saw float away from the palace a few moments ago. He ... he asked me to pass on his gratitude to you for being such good subjects for all these years and he hoped that you would all find ... peace? Umm, love? Other happy things?

The crowd are getting restless - they don't like this news.

SCARECROW

Now, now I ask you please do not panic! Yes, the Wizard is gone, but this is a great opportunity for the Emerald City to flourish under your own leadership! You don't need a Wizard to protect you. To be honest, he wasn't really protecting you anyway. The truth is, as I believe most of you have heard by now, the Wizard was a humbug. He was a fake. He had no real power or ability and has engaged the people

(MORE)

SCARECROW (cont'd)
of Oz in a massive deception for
over twenty years.

The crowd gets nasty.

DOROTHY
Scarecrow, I think you need to
change tactics.

SCARECROW
But listen to this! The Wizard was
irrelevant! You don't need a
Wonderful Wizard to give you what
you need. What he offered, you had
in yourselves all along. You were
the ones keeping the wicked witches
away from your city - not the
Wizard. The Wizard couldn't stop a
butterfly if he tried. You did it
yourselves, and you can keep on
doing it!

I would like to introduce you to
the girl standing beside me. Her
name is Dorothy Gale, and she's
both my first and my best friend in
the world. She has shown me that so
many things I thought were
impossible are indeed possible.
She's just an ordinary girl with no
extraordinary powers of any kind,
yet in the short time she's been in
Oz she has freed both the Munchkins
and the Winkies from their wicked
enslavement. People of the Emerald
City, I put it to you - has she not
freed you from your own
enslavement? You are free now to
select your own ruler. Not a
mysterious unseen Wizard who wasn't
doing anything for you anyway, but
someone who will be good for Oz!

The Emerald Citizens cheer.

DOROTHY (V.O.)
I have never been more amazed at
the Scarecrow than I was at that
moment.

So despite yet another radical
change in leadership for another
region of Oz, calm returned to the
Emerald City. Though the future was
(MORE)

DOROTHY (V.O.) (cont'd)
 still uncertain, the Scarecrow had
 reassured them. Order had been
 restored.

75 INT. EMERALD CITY OFFICE

Omby Amby, Faramant and Jelias Jamb sit, despondent.

JELIAS JAMB
 It was a good speech.

FARAMANT
 Very eloquent.

JELIAS JAMB
 That Scarecrow has a natural talent
 for leadership. Just saying.

FARAMANT
 Was more inspiring in five minutes
 than the Wizard has been in twenty
 years.

OMBY AMBY
 Stop it. Both of you.

Silence.

JELIAS JAMB
 We need to talk about what happens
 next.

OMBY AMBY
 Who knows.

FARAMANT
 The Wizard's gone, Omby. Forever.

OMBY AMBY
 Why haven't we locked you up yet?

FARAMANT
 Because I was right.

JELIAS JAMB
 And because we're going to need his
 help to get through this.

OMBY AMBY
 (chuckling)
 Get through this? Idiots. There's
 no getting through this.

JELIA JAMB

Omby...

OMBY AMBY

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. Turns out he's not wonderful. He's not a wizard. Ha, he's probably not even called Oz!

FARAMANT

Well, according to -

OMBY AMBY

And now he's flown away and we're all supposed to, what? Rule ourselves? Have an election? Do you know how long it's been since Oz had an election? Before the Wizard there was the royal family. And unless you're suggesting we go search for long lost Ozma...

JELIA JAMB

We can figure this out, Omby.

OMBY AMBY

(upset)

How? Seriously, how? How can you get anyone to lead us after... I trusted him. We all trusted him. He was Great and Terrible and he protected us and he's... How could we miss it? And how can I even think about picking up these pieces? I just can't do it.

JELIA JAMB

You can. We can. You're not on your own, Omby. You have me. You have Faramant. We're the Guardians of the Throne, the Gates and the People. Nowhere in that job description does it say anything about a Wizard. We'll protect the Emerald City. We'll lead it. Together.

OMBY AMBY

Thank you, Jelias.

JELIA JAMB

And first thing I think we should do is talk to that Scarecrow. The

(MORE)

JELIA JAMB (cont'd)
people seem to love him right now.
We need to capitalise on that...

76 INT. CORRIDOR, EMERALD CITY

DOROTHY (V.O.)
Everyone was happy again. Except
for me. For me, the reality had set
in. I wasn't going to get home.
Ever. I'd taken to sitting alone
with Toto in the throne room -
nobody else was using it. I spoke
to nobody but Toto and shut myself
away. Again. Which began to worry
my friends.

The Lion and the Tin Woodman approach the Throne Room door.

LION
She's still in there?

TIN WOODMAN
Yep. Poor girl, can you imagine how
she must be feeling?

LION
Her last hope for getting home and
it was a phoney. She'd feel
terrible.

TIN WOODMAN
More than terrible I'd say.

LION
But at least she doesn't feel
guilty.

TIN WOODMAN
Hmm?

LION
It's just that, when I heard the
Wizard had flown away without
getting Dorothy back home, I almost
felt happy. It's wrong, I know, but
I didn't want Dorothy to leave. I
think ... I'd miss her.

TIN WOODMAN
I didn't think you two got on?

LION

We don't. But if she left and I hadn't ... I dunno, made things right... well perhaps now we'll have a chance to be better friends?

TIN WOODMAN

She's not happy here though.

LION

Why can't she be? From what she's said about Kansas, it's bleak, colourless, boring and not-fun. Why wouldn't Oz be a better place to live?

TIN WOODMAN

Yeah, with all the wicked witches, Kalidahs, fake wizards and deadly poppy fields, I can't imagine why she wants to leave.

LION

I guess...

SCARECROW

(approaching)

And why are you two loitering around my throne room?

TIN WOODMAN

What do you mean your throne room? Who died and made you Wizard?

SCARECROW

Nobody, yet. But I've been off talking. And listening. Do you know how many people think I should take over as the ruler of the Emerald City? The people out there really like me!

TIN WOODMAN

Yes, well, I'm glad you're topping the polls, your Royal Ozness, but instead of talking to the people perhaps you should talk to your friends? Dorothy's upset.

LION

She's locked herself in the throne room.

SCARECROW

Good! I want to talk to her. I just had a brilliant idea. Open the doors, please.

TIN WOODMAN

(sarcastic)

Oh, at once your Majesty...

FADE OUT

77 INT. THRONE ROOM

The Scarecrow, Tin Woodman and Lion enter to speak with Dorothy.

SCARECROW

Yoo-hoo, Dorothy!

DOROTHY

(melancholy)

Oh what do you want?

SCARECROW

I've got something to tell you.

TIN WOODMAN

Yeah, probably to tell you to get off his shiny throne.

DOROTHY

What?

SCARECROW

Ignore them. I've got an idea.

DOROTHY

(weary)

Uh oh.

SCARECROW

Shut up. I know how to get you back to Kansas! Call the Winged Monkeys!

LION

Not them again...

DOROTHY

Scarecrow, even before the Wizard gave you those brains you've come up with some stupid thoughts, but that one has to be the most insane,

(MORE)

DOROTHY (cont'd)
ridiculous, stupid, moronic of them
all.

(a beat)
It just might work. Where's that
hat...

TIN WOODMAN
Scarecrow, are you serious?

SCARECROW
Totally. The Winged Monkeys can
carry her across the Deadly Desert
back to her home. It's a great
idea, right?

LION
I still don't trust those
monkeys...

TIN WOODMAN
Neither do I.

SCARECROW
They brought us to the Emerald City
without problems didn't they?

TIN WOODMAN
Yeah, and the time before that they
killed us!

DOROTHY
Found it!
(reciting magic words)
Ep-pe, pep-pe, kak-ke!
Hil-lo, hol-lo, hel-lo!
Ziz-sy, zuz-zy, zik!

Crash of thunder and the Winged Monkeys appear as before.

WINGED MONKEY
You have summoned us for the third
and final time. What do you
command?

DOROTHY
I want you to take me home to
Kansas please.

WINGED MONKEY
This we cannot do.

DOROTHY
Excuse me, I just gave you a
command -

WINGED MONKEY

We cannot take you beyond the boundaries of Oz. That is our law.

DOROTHY

Please, can't you try? This is the last chance I -

WINGED MONKEY

It is forbidden! Do not ask us this again. You still have one final command of the Winged Monkeys. We bid you farewell.

And they disappear

DOROTHY

Wait a minute, that's not fair! Come back! Get back here! Nobody disappears on me and gets away with it. I'll summon them back - Ep-pe, pep-pe -

TIN WOODMAN

Maybe think about what you're doing before you summon them back to yell at them and they decide not to give you your final wish after all.

DOROTHY

But he ... oh fine.

SCARECROW

Well that was disappointing. I was certain that one would work. Maybe this brain's faulty - I wonder if I've got a guarantee...

TIN WOODMAN

Good luck trying to claim that one.

DOROTHY

Well now what? That was my last chance. Let's face it, I'm stuck in Oz forever. I'll never see Kansas again.

LION

Would that be so bad?

DOROTHY

What?

TIN WOODMAN

What he means is, Oz isn't such a bad place to be stuck in. You might not have your Aunt and Uncle, but you'd have us!

DOROTHY

Look, I know you're trying to help, but this isn't my home. It's not where I grew up, it's not where my family is. Oz is colourful and beautiful, when it's not dangerous and scary, but it's not home.

Faramant knocks on the door.

FARAMANT

Ahem, excuse me. I couldn't help overhearing...

DOROTHY

Who's there?

FARAMANT

It's just me. I don't know if you remember, my name's Faramant. I'm the Guardian of the Gates.

DOROTHY

What do you want?

FARAMANT

Well, it's about your situation. Have you thought about asking Glinda for help?

DOROTHY

Glinda?

FARAMANT

The Witch of the South.

TIN WOODMAN

Now there's an idea.

SCARECROW

Of course! Why didn't I think of that?

TIN WOODMAN

Because you're an idiot.

DOROTHY

I don't know, I've had enough of meeting supposedly powerful beings who can't help me.

FARAMANT

There's nothing supposed about Glinda's powers.

DOROTHY

I've heard that before.

FARAMANT

She rules over the Quadlings in the South in a castle that backs on to the Deadly Desert. She might know a way to cross it.

DOROTHY

She's a good witch then?

FARAMANT

I've never heard anyone say a bad thing about her.

DOROTHY

That's what they said about the Wizard until a few days ago.

LION

It's worth looking into, surely?

TIN WOODMAN

Worst case scenario she doesn't know, and you're no worse off than you are now.

DOROTHY

That sounds familiar. Well, I guess it couldn't hurt. I'll go and see if this Glinda can help me.

TIN WOODMAN

That's the spirit. I'll get my oil can filled up, Lion if you could get some provisions for the trip.

SCARECROW

I'll see what food we can get from the Palace kitchens.

TIN WOODMAN

The day's still young, if we leave now we might even get there before nightfall.

DOROTHY

Wait - you're all coming?

LION

Of course we are.

SCARECROW

Couldn't let you go alone. Wouldn't be right.

DOROTHY

But ... you don't have to do that. You've all got lives to get back to, now you've got what you wanted.

TIN WOODMAN

You haven't got what you wanted yet. That was the deal - we all go to the Wizard and get our hearts' desires. You haven't gone home, so we're not done yet.

LION

And you saved us all from the Wicked Witch. We owe it to you.

SCARECROW

And we're you're friends. How can we abandon you?

DOROTHY

Oh ... oh you guys.... Right, well, let's get started then. We're actually doing this, another journey through Oz...

The four of them exit, leaving Faramant alone.

FARAMANT

Are you still there?

GLINDA

I'm here.

FARAMANT

So you heard. I told them what you asked me to.

GLINDA
You did very well.

FARAMANT
And you were right about what you said I'd hear at the throne room door. And I told everyone like you said to. But I have to ask -

GLINDA
Why I didn't appear to Dorothy myself and help her? Because she still has much to learn.

FARAMANT
Like what?

GLINDA
They don't know it yet, but those four individuals will be the greatest team Oz has ever encountered in its long history. But first they have to know it. And one last journey through the wilds of Oz will show them how well they work together.

FARAMANT
What if they don't make it?

GLINDA
Oh, Faramant. After what you've seen of Dorothy and her friends thus far, do you doubt anything could stop them getting where they want to go?

78 EXT. QUADLING FOREST - AFTERNOON

Dorothy, the Scarecrow, the Tin Woodman and the Lion stroll through the undergrowth.

DOROTHY
Oh look, another forest. How novel.

LION
We are heading south, right?

SCARECROW
Yep. This is a completely different dark and scary forest in the wilderness of Oz.

DOROTHY

I'm telling you, if we come across a yellow brick road and my old farmhouse because we've gone in the wrong direction, I'll not be happy.

TIN WOODMAN

At least if that happens we know how to get back to where we started. Been there, done that.

DOROTHY

Another three day walk back. Oh joy.

LION

I wouldn't mind. I like being out of the city. Concrete walls and floors aren't really what a wild Lion like myself can - aghhh!

SCARECROW

What?

LION

Something touched me!

TIN WOODMAN

It's a branch.

LION

No it wasn't, something scraped across my back!

TIN WOODMAN

Yes. A branch.

SCARECROW

What happened to all that courage you were supposed to have?

LION

I sobered up.

TREE

(deep, threatening,
distorted voice)

Keep Away!

DOROTHY

Did you just hear what I just heard?

SCARECROW

I think we imagined it.

TIN WOODMAN

Yeah, we imagined it. In one of those weird, collective imaginations where all four of us imagine the same thing at once.

DOROTHY

All five of us. Toto heard it too.

LION

Ok, I vote we all go back to the Emerald City.

SCARECROW

Don't be a scaredy-cat, this place is perfectly safe. See, I'll walk in front and show you all that -
ahhhhh!

DOROTHY (V.O.)

In one swift motion, the branch of a nearby tree curved inwards, grabbed the Scarecrow in its twig-like fingers and flung him back across the forest.

TREE

Keep away! Visitors are not welcome!

DOROTHY

What, Glinda doesn't like having visitors?

TIN WOODMAN

We're not near Glinda's place yet, this is something different. Scarecrow are you all right?

SCARECROW

I'm fine. What a rude tree!
(to the trees)
Yeah, you heard me! Rude!

DOROTHY

Yeah, go on, antagonize the killer trees, that's smart. So what do we do now, go around?

TIN WOODMAN

That will take too long. Nevermind,
this is why Lurline invented
axes...

SCARECROW

Careful Tin Woodman, they're
strong.

TREE

Keep away!

TIN WOODMAN

I don't think so.

He starts chopping away. The trees howl in anger and pain.

TIN WOODMAN

Ok, get through the gap. Quickly!

LION

You first.

DOROTHY

Oh you wimps, out of my way...

They scramble through the branches. A branch lashes at the
Scarecrow.

SCARECROW

Help, it's got me, it's got me
again! Help! Help!

TIN WOODMAN

Just a second, I'll get you free -

The branch snaps with a comic 'twaaang'. The Scarecrow
screams as he's flung very far away.

TIN WOODMAN

Did anyone see where he went?

DOROTHY

Up into the air.

LION

And over that giant china wall!

Pause

DOROTHY

Why is there a great wall of china
in the middle of the forest?

FADE OUT

79 EXT. CHINA COUNTRY

The Scarecrow continues his scream as he flies over the wall and comes to land. There's the tinkle of fine china breaking.

SCARECROW

Oww. I think I broke something.

(pause)

I broke this thing. This ... little building. I broke a building! Cool!

A little China Vicar runs out of the church, hopping mad. He speaks with a tinny little china voice.

CHINA VICAR

Oi! Oi you! You big oaf! Look what you've done to my church you big, giant, church-wrecking person!

SCARECROW

Oh, aren't you cute! A tiny little vicar made out of china!

CHINA VICAR

You've broken the roof right off it! It'll take ages to fix that!

SCARECROW

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to break it. It's just that the fighting trees threw me and I - hang on...

DOROTHY (V.O.)

As the Scarecrow looked around him, he could see that the town he had landed in was made of china. Dainty china, like you have in fine tea sets. Every building, every tree, every person -

CHINA VICAR

Oi! Pay attention to me when I am yelling at you!

SCARECROW

Sorry. I didn't mean to break your church, I really didn't. It can't be that hard to fix, let me look at it, a drop of glue should...

Another tinkle, a moo and a cry of pain.

CHINA MILKMAID

My leg! You scared the cow and the
cow broke my leg!

SCARECROW

Oh, I'm sorry! I didn't mean to -

CHINA VICAR

What, like you didn't mean to break
my church?

The china people gather together and get angry.

SCARECROW

Well it's not my fault you're all
so fragile. I'm just a poor
Scarecrow you know, just trying not
to hurt anyone. You don't have to
... form a mob... or anything...

He backs up and we hear another tinkle.

SCARECROW

Gulp. That was a poor little china
puppy...

CHINA VICAR

Get him!

The china people rush him.

SCARECROW

Whoah! This is just a
misunderstanding! You're all so
breakable! Dorothy! Tin Woodman!
Help!!!

He runs away and the china people give chase.

80 EXT. CHINA WALL - CONTINUOUS

DOROTHY (V.O.)

While the Scarecrow was running for
his life from the angry little
china people, the rest of us had
managed to find a way to scale the
wall. Peering over the edge, even
we couldn't quite believe what we
were seeing.

TIN WOODMAN

I think that has to be a record.
Quickest ever pissing off people
after arriving in a town.

DOROTHY

Tell that to the Wicked Witch of
the East.

LION

We're going to have to go down
there and save him, aren't we?

DOROTHY

What?

LION

Look over there.

DOROTHY

Oh great...

TIN WOODMAN

They're not trying to build a
bonfire, surely? They're going to
burn him at the stake!

DOROTHY

Good luck burning china.

81 EXT. CHINA COUNTRY - CONTINUOUS

Close up on the Scarecrow. The mob are preparing to burn
him.

SCARECROW

Really, I don't think it's a good
idea to sacrifice me or whatever
you're doing.

CHINA PRINCESS

For the inexcusable crimes of
damaging a holy building, maiming
an innocent milkmaid and the murder
of one of the Queen's prize-winning
corgis, we find the prisoner
guilty, and his sentence of
execution by fire will be carried
out immediately!

SCARECROW

Fire! No, no, please, you're making
a big mistake! I didn't mean to
(MORE)

SCARECROW (cont'd)
 break your little town, it could
 happen to anyone! No, put out that
 fire please, if there's one thing
 in the world scarier than a Wicked
 Witch it's a lighted match. Please,
 straw is so easily burnt! Stop!
 Please! Help me someone!

The Lion roars magnificently in the distance. The china
 people panic.

DOROTHY
 (from afar)
 We're coming Scarecrow!

SCARECROW
 Dorothy! Lion, Tin Woodman!
 Quickly, untie me!

They race up to the Scarecrow and untie him.

CHINA PRINCESS
 Stop them! They must not get away!
 They must face the justice of the
 Dainty China Country!

TIN WOODMAN
 This way, we'll climb out the other
 side!

DOROTHY
 Run Scarecrow!

SCARECROW
 I'm coming!

DOROTHY
 Quickly, climb the wall! I'll help
 you!

CHINA PRINCESS
 They're getting away! Stop them!

SCARECROW
 Bye-bye china people!!!

TIN WOODMAN
 Oh just get over the wall already!

CHINA PRINCESS
 Stop them! Stop them! Stop them!!!!

82 EXT. FOREST

The four push their way through trees and undergrowth.

DOROTHY (V.O.)

Of all our adventures in Oz that was, well, unique.

Anyway, we were back in the forest, pushing past more trees, starting to feel nostalgic for the days where we actually had a road to follow. It may have had huge chasms and went under rivers in places, but at least it was brick. The paths through Quadling Country were dirt at best, and only if you were lucky. And as the sun disappeared behind the trees and it got darker and darker, well, it wasn't long before we stopped making progress and began tripping over things.

Crash of tin on dirt.

TIN WOODMAN

Dorothy, if I fall over this dog one more time...

DOROTHY

Here boy, come here, let me carry you for a while. Just ignore the big bad Tin Woodman...

SCARECROW

How long does this forest go on do you think?

LION

No idea. I thought we'd be through it by now.

TIN WOODMAN

We're probably going round in circles. Not hard for us to do in this light.

DOROTHY

Perhaps it's time we set up camp?

LION

I'm not sure this place is very safe.

DOROTHY

Well it's either that or keep
stumbling through the undergrowth
all night.

SCARECROW

I don't like the sound of either
choice to be honest.

TIN WOODMAN

Me neither.

DOROTHY

Well I'm open to suggestions.

LION

How about we -

He's cut off by lots scary hysterical laughter in the
distance. Like every scary clown you have ever heard of.

DOROTHY

How can someone laughing sound so
scary?

SCARECROW

Perhaps we should investigate?

LION

Perhaps we shouldn't?

DOROTHY

(hesitant)

Well, you never know. It may be
friendly laughter and we're so
freaked out by this forest that
we're just -

More laughter, followed by screaming.

DOROTHY

Yeah, ok, that wasn't funny
laughing.

TIN WOODMAN

We have to help them.

SCARECROW

Absolutely.

They rush to the source of the screams.

83 EXT. FOREST CLEARING

Lots of various animals gathered together in one place. The hysterical laughing continues from afar.

DOROTHY (V.O.)

We raced through the forest towards the screams, and before long we came upon a clearing. There were dozens of animals of all kinds - tigers, elephants, bears, wolves, and many more too numerous to name. It was like walking into the Topeka Zoo, if they'd taken down the walls and opened the cages.

The place was in chaos. So many animals were were wounded with their fellow beasts attending to them. The others were just scared. They all needed help.

Nearest to me was a small tiger with a torn arm. I was no vet, but I knew some first aid and hoped that counted for something.

DOROTHY

Easy, easy, I just want to help. Let me look at your paw... My name's Dorothy.

TIN WOODMAN

What happened here?

TIGER

Hammer Heads. They're on the move again, spreading deeper and deeper into the forest.

TIN WOODMAN

Hammer Heads? Fantastic.

DOROTHY

You know them?

TIN WOODMAN

Heard stories. Creatures with no arms, stumpy legs but big heads that crush people, right?

TIGER

Yeah. They usually stay on the plains to the south, but recently
(MORE)

TIGER (cont'd)
they've been on the move. Today
they attacked the forest. We all
had to escape.

SCARECROW
That's how you got injured? The
Hammer Heads hurt you?

TIGER
We're the lucky ones. There's so
many that didn't get out of their
path. But we'll be fine now. Now
that you're here, your Majesty.

SCARECROW
Huh? I'm not -

TIGER
I meant -
(he howls in pain)

DOROTHY
Sorry, I'm being gentle as I can.
You need a bandage...

LION
You can't be talking about me,
surely?

TIGER
You're a lion, aren't you? The King
of Beasts.

LION
Only technically.

TIGER
Then we are saved. You can defeat
the Hammer Heads for us.

TIN WOODMAN
That's ridiculous, you can't just
say he's a king because he's a
lion. That's like saying Dorothy's
queen because she's a girl.

LION
Animal royalty works differently,
Tin Woodman, you wouldn't
understand.

TIGER
You have to defeat them before they
kill us all.

LION

Ok.

SCARECROW

What?

TIN WOODMAN

Ok? Did he say ok?

DOROTHY

Lion, what are you saying?

LION

I'll help you. I'm a lion, King of Beasts. It's my duty.

DOROTHY

But you can't - you can see what these Hammer Heads are doing to the animals. It'll be suicide.

LION

The Wizard gave me courage, remember. I think it's time I used it. Tell me how to find these monsters.

Hysterical laughter, very nearby.

DOROTHY

I think they've found you...

TIGER

Oh no, they've found us. They've found us!

Crash! Trees collapse as the Hammer Heads burst their way into the clearing. Their laughter is piercing.

DOROTHY (V.O.)

And there they were. The Hammer Heads in all their glory. Up close they were quite short and stumpy, with no arms to speak of. But they had big heads with flat tops that sprang up on very long necks causing damage wherever they landed. They burst through the trees dropping limbs and debris onto the wounded animals. And that laugh, that screeching, horrible laugh they made as they did it. I think I will never forget it.

TIN WOODMAN

We have to get everyone away from here!

SCARECROW

Too late, they've got us surrounded!

TIN WOODMAN

Oh crap.

The Lion roars at them.

SCARECROW

You're not still going to fight them are you?

LION

I have to. Look after everyone!

The Lion bounds away.

TIN WOODMAN

Lion, come back, it's impossible!

SCARECROW

You'll be squished! And you're not made of straw, you won't bounce back!

(quieter)

There goes one brave cowardly lion.

TIN WOODMAN

There'll be one very flat cowardly lion before long. Look out! Here comes another one!

Blaam! The Hammer Head's head hits the ground with the force of an explosion. Various animals squeal and cry as the monsters keep laughing.

TIN WOODMAN

That's it, I'm getting in on this. Let's see how you like the feel of this axe!

The Tin Woodman jumps into the fray, swinging his axe at them.

DOROTHY

They're going to destroy everyone! All these wounded animals who can't protect themselves! We have to do something!

SCARECROW

I agree, but what? These Hammer
Heads are too powerful.

DOROTHY

I know. But we can't just -

SCARECROW

Dorothy, look out!

She shrieks and jumps out of the way as another Hammer Head
punches the trees near her, dropping heavy branches.

DOROTHY

That was close.

SCARECROW

We're never going to win this.
There's too many of them! And
they're too big!

DOROTHY

They're 'too' a lot of things. But
try telling the Lion that.

SCARECROW

Look out, here comes another head!

Blaam! They dive aside again.

DOROTHY

They're going to kill everyone
here, us included! This is insane!

SCARECROW

More insane than going up against a
Wicked Witch?

DOROTHY

At least we had a chance with her
once she'd abandoned the ... oh
God, that's it! The Golden Cap!

SCARECROW

Summoning the Winged Monkeys again,
are you sure?

DOROTHY

What have we got to lose? Give me a
second to put it on -

SCARECROW

The Lion won't let you fight them on his behalf. He won't let them rescue him either.

DOROTHY

I know. That's not what I'll ask them.

(rapidfire)

Ep-pe, pep-pe, kak-ke!
Hil-lo, hol-lo, hel-lo!
Ziz-zy, zuz-zy, zik!

Thunder cracks and the Winged Monkeys arrive.

WINGED MONKEY

You have called us for the third and final time. What is your comm-

Blaaam!

DOROTHY

How many monkeys do you have under your command?

WINGED MONKEY

We have many in a legion. Do you wish the Winged Monkeys to do battle?

DOROTHY

No, I want you to rescue these animals! Most of them are wounded, and the Hammer Heads have us surrounded. If they stay here they'll die.

WINGED MONKEY

This we can do. However -

DOROTHY

Yes?

WINGED MONKEY

Rescuing the wounded will fulfil your final command. We will not be permitted to rescue you as well.

DOROTHY

I know. I thought as much. But we can look after ourselves, these animals can't. Will you do it?

SCARECROW

Please!

WINGED MONKEY

This is your command. The Winged Monkeys will obey.

DOROTHY (V.O.)

They went to work. While the Lion and the Tin Woodman continued to keep the attention of most the Hammer Heads, the Winged Monkeys swooped in between their thrusting necks to the wounded animals scattered about the clearing. Quickly and smoothly they picked them up and whisked them into the sky. Within minutes the clearing was empty, with the exception of the five of us and the dozen or so Hammer Heads bearing down upon us. I made my way across to the Lion, who was getting weary from his battle.

LION

(out of breath)

Dorothy! What happened to the animals?

DOROTHY

The Winged Monkeys. I asked them to help.

LION

I can't leave, I have to -

DOROTHY

Relax. That was my last wish. They can't help us, we're stuck.

LION

Oh. You should have left with them.

DOROTHY

Not a chance. I'm going to help you.

LION

Why?

DOROTHY

Because that's what friends do, you dolt!

LION

Even if it means your certain death? Cause I have to say, these Hammer Heads are tougher than they look!

Blaam, a tree falls nearby.

DOROTHY

You're not kidding. But hey, I'm still here. Still helping you out where I can. Even if it means they...

The Tin Woodman crashes to the ground.

LION

Tin Woodman!

TIN WOODMAN

They're ... they're too strong. We can't defeat them Lion. They're going to crush us.

LION

We have to keep fighting, Tin Woodman.

SCARECROW

(from afar)

Hey! Hey, wait for me! They're after me!

DOROTHY

Scarecrow, over here! Quickly!

The Scarecrow rushes up.

SCARECROW

All the animals are gone. It's just us left.

Blaam!

DOROTHY

Not for much longer.

LION

I told you all to get away while you can. I'll hold them off.

DOROTHY

Not a chance.

TIN WOODMAN
Ain't going to happen.

SCARECROW
If we're going to get smooshed,
we'll all be smooshed together.

Toto barks.

SCARECROW
Toto too.

LION
You're all crazy. You know that
right? Insane.

DOROTHY
Better insane than on your own,
right?

TIN WOODMAN
Look out everyone. They're coming
in for their next attack!

They all scream and yell and roar as they take their final stand against the Hammer Heads, while they laugh and smash the world around them. The damage sounds immense and very, very final.

Then just as all seems lost, the five of them disappear in a flash of magic.

84 INT. GLINDA'S PALACE

A very serene atmosphere in contrast to the previous scene. A peaceful fountain bubbles in the distance and a wind-chime tinkles in the breeze.

Dorothy and her friends appear in a blast of magic and pause momentarily.

DOROTHY
That was weird.

LION
Are we dead?

TIN WOODMAN
If we are, then it was a lot less
painful than the last time.

SCARECROW

And I didn't think heaven was so
... royal-like.

LION

What happened to the Hammer Heads?

DOROTHY

I guess they're still in the
forest.

LION

Right. What happened to the forest?

DOROTHY

I think it turned into a palace?

Glinda steps out from a nearby doorway.

GLINDA

You are in the Palace of Glinda at
the southernmost edge of the
Quadling Country.

SCARECROW

(jumping)
Yeaough!

GLINDA

(laughing)
There's no need to be afraid,
Scarecrow. You are quite welcome
here. You would not have been
rescued from the brink of death if
you were not.

TIN WOODMAN

You know who he is?

GLINDA

I know you all. The Scarecrow, the
Tin Woodman, the Lion. And Dorothy
Gale with her dog Toto. Welcome to
my palace. My name is Glinda.

DOROTHY

The Witch of the South?

GLINDA

Some people call me that. I prefer
Sorceress, personally, it has a
touch more elegance.

DOROTHY

Then you're the person I've been looking for!

GLINDA

Yes I know. I have been following your adventures for some time now, and I must say I am so glad to meet you all in person at long last. I finally have the chance to offer you my congratulations and my gratitude.

DOROTHY

Huh?

GLINDA

What you have done for Oz has been nothing short of amazing. The evil empires have been toppled, the board swept clean. Oz owes you a debt, Dorothy.

DOROTHY

I don't understand...

GLINDA

Were you not responsible for the destruction of the two Wicked Witches and the removal of the humbug Wizard from the Emerald City?

DOROTHY

Well, yes, but not on purpose!

GLINDA

That's the beauty of what you've done, your lack of ill intention. Had you deliberately travelled through Oz overthrowing our rulers then I would have been less inclined to allow you entry to my palace. You may not have planned to improve the lives of the Ozian people, but that's exactly what you've achieved. The Munchkins, the Winkies and the Emerald Citizens can now move forward with new, better rulers who will work with their people and not try to control them. On behalf of Oz, I thank you.

DOROTHY

Umm, you're welcome?

TIN WOODMAN

Just a minute, you said you've been watching us, right?

GLINDA

Through every step on the Yellow Brick Road, past every poppy and every emerald -

TIN WOODMAN

Then you must have seen the stuff we've been through, Kalidahs and Winged Monkeys and crazy china people... why did you wait until now to rescue us?

SCARECROW

We sure could have used your help back in Winkieland when the Winged Monkeys were ripping us apart.

LION

Or when we were trapped on a raft in the Munchkin River.

GLINDA

Those trials were completely within your ability to resolve, I had no need to interfere. Besides, it was important that I not be seen to be involved in your journey. Of course, I helped where I could - you may recall a convenient bucket of water was left for you. But it was only after you chose to sacrifice yourselves in the place of those weaker than you that I felt it was time I could act directly. It is clear to me now - it is the destiny of all four of you to lead Oz into a great and golden future!

SCARECROW

Really?

DOROTHY

Look, your highness -

GLINDA

Call me Glinda, please -

DOROTHY

Glinda - this is all flattering, but I don't really want to lead Oz anywhere. All I've wanted right from the start is to go home to my Aunt Em and Uncle Henry. I didn't want to kill witches and chase out wizards, all that just happened. If it's good for Oz, that's fantastic, I'm happy for you - but I still just want to go home.

GLINDA

That is a shame.

DOROTHY

I'm sorry.

GLINDA

I foresee a great future for you here. A princess of the realm of Oz, bringing joy and laughter to every Ozian, helping its rulers maintain peace and happiness.

SCARECROW

Wow!

TIN WOODMAN

Can't really turn that down now, can you Dorothy?

DOROTHY

Watch me. It does sound wonderful, Glinda, but my mind is made up. I have to go home. If you can help me, then please let me know but if you can't then say so I'll waste no more of your time -

GLINDA

Of course, I would be very happy to show you how to get home, Dorothy. But first I require something from you.

DOROTHY

Here we go again...

GLINDA

I ask only for the Golden Cap that commands the Winged Monkeys.

DOROTHY

Oh. Oh, is that all? Yes, fine, absolutely, take it. It's useless to me now anyway, I've used up its three wishes.

GLINDA

Indeed. However I think I shall need the Winged Monkeys exactly three times. As I said before, I foresee great futures for all of you in Oz. Scarecrow, whether you realise it or not, you have one of the sharpest, brightest and wisest brains in Oz. My first command of the Winged Monkeys after Dorothy has returned home will be to return you to the Emerald City. Once there you will fill the void left by the Wizard of Oz and rule the Emerald City as their king.

SCARECROW

What? Me, King of the Emerald City!?!

TIN WOODMAN

Oh don't act like this is a surprise!

GLINDA

The Emerald Citizens already respect you for your wisdom and knowledge. With my support they will happily accept you as their sovereign. I'm certain you are up to the challenge.

SCARECROW

I don't know ... I haven't had much experience ruling.

GLINDA

Few rulers have. But I feel you will be a wonderful ruler.

SCARECROW

Am I really wonderful?

GLINDA

You are unusual.
(MORE)

GLINDA (cont'd)
 (she moves to the next in
 line)

Tin Woodman, I would like for the Winged Monkeys to return you to Winkieland and ensure the Winkies do not succumb to the same fate as the Munchkins. The Winkies are no doubt still grateful for their freedom, but after so long under the Wicked Witch of the West's thrall, they need someone to guide them and show them how to think for themselves once more. In the wild and desolate wastelands of the west, I can think of nobody more likely to thrive than a man made of metal.

TIN WOODMAN
 I ... I never thought that -

GLINDA
 Now, as for the Lion -

LION
 Don't tell me - you want me to take over Munchkinland? They are the only ones left without a ruler.

GLINDA
 Munchkinland is no longer safe for any of us. Various factions are still fighting for power as we speak, and it will be some time before their revolution is over. No, Lion, I thought it best if my final command to the Winged Monkeys was to take you to the animals you recently rescued from the Hammer Heads. As you know, their numbers have been decimated and those that remain are injured. They need someone with the courage to protect them and ensure they are safe.

LION
 That's what I would have asked you for. Thank you.

GLINDA
 And upon their final return, I will then give the Golden Cap to the Winged Monkeys themselves, so that
 (MORE)

GLINDA (cont'd)
they will be free once more. I
think they have repaid their debt.

DOROTHY
That's wonderful. It's great, it
really is, but this doesn't tell me
how I'm supposed to get home.

GLINDA
Dorothy, you have had the power to
go home all the time. Had you known
you would have been able to return
the very morning you first arrived
in Oz.

DOROTHY
What?

GLINDA
The Silver Slippers you wear on
your feet contain the answer.

DOROTHY
So... you want me to start walking?

GLINDA
You're aware that they contain a
great power, but few know the true
extent of their magic. The Witch of
the West knew, that's why she
wanted them. The Wizard feared them
so much he fled. They have many
wonderful powers, including the
ability to carry you to any place
in the world in only three steps,
and each step would be made in the
wink of an eye. All you have to do
is click your heels together three
times and command the shoes to
carry you wherever you want to go.

DOROTHY
You're kidding?

GLINDA
Absolutely not.

DOROTHY
I've had the power to go home all
this time? Why didn't you tell me
sooner?

GLINDA

Because if you had left as soon as you arrived, Oz would have been the worse for it.

SCARECROW

I'd be still on my pole.

TIN WOODMAN

I'd still be rusted solid in the forest.

LION

I'd have been a coward forever.

DOROTHY

That's ... true I guess. So when can I go home?

GLINDA

Any time you wish. Unless you would like to reconsider staying?

DOROTHY

No, no we'd had better leave as soon as possible. The sooner Aunt Em and Uncle Henry know I'm alive the better.

SCARECROW

(distressed)

Right now? Really? But it's so quick!

DOROTHY

Yes, right away cause - oh. Look, it's not that I want to leave you behind, it's just that -

TIN WOODMAN

It's all right Dorothy.

LION

We understand, they need you.

DOROTHY

I'll ... I'll miss you, you know. Really.

TIN WOODMAN

(emotional)

Hah, liar.

DOROTHY

Oh don't you start crying, you'll set me off. Give me a hug.

(she hugs him)

Lion, you be brave too ok.

LION

Dorothy ... I accept your apology. You know, from back at the Witch's castle, I'm sorry I was so -

DOROTHY

Oh Lion, now I am going to cry.

(she hugs him too)

Scarecrow, I -

SCARECROW

(crying)

I don't want you to go!

DOROTHY

Oh Scarecrow -

SCARECROW

You were my first friend in the world, and now I have to rule this Emerald City and I don't know how to do it and I need your help I can't do this on my own -

DOROTHY

You have help, you have the Tin Woodman and the Lion and Glinda, they'll all help you. You'll be fine.

SCARECROW

But I'll ... I'll miss you.

DOROTHY

I know. Who wouldn't? And I'll miss you too. All of you. I can't tell you how much.

(she sniffs and pulls herself together)

All right. I'm ready now. So I just...

GLINDA

Tap your heels together three times and tell the shoes where you want to go.

DOROTHY

Right. Goodbye everyone! Don't forget me!

She taps the heels together three times, and they echo with a magical clink on each tap. A magic builds from them.

DOROTHY

Take me home to Aunt Em!

A blast of magic and Dorothy is whisked away.

SCARECROW

So that's it then. Dorothy's gone.

TIN WOODMAN

It's all over.

LION

At last.

GLINDA

Dorothy will return one day. I am sure of this. It's far from being all over, my friends. This is only the beginning of something marvellous...

85 EXT. KANSAS

The remains of the old farmhouse, some time after the twister. Aunt Em and Uncle Henry are working through the wreckage.

UNCLE HENRY

Marvellous. Fricken marvellous. Hardly anything left.

AUNT EM

(upset)
Henry...

UNCLE HENRY

House is gone. Probably in bits all over the county. Half the barn caved in. The stock's been lost.

AUNT EM

I know.

UNCLE HENRY

The bank was barely going to help us before, they'll do nothing at all now.

AUNT EM

Henry.

UNCLE HENRY

I mean there's insurance I guess but who knows when they'll pay out -

AUNT EM

(in tears)

Henry stop!

UNCLE HENRY

Em?

AUNT EM

She's not coming back, is she?

UNCLE HENRY

Oh Em...

AUNT EM

If she was, we'd have found her by now. She'd have wandered along going 'tra-la-la-la, here I am, I'm not ... not...'

UNCLE HENRY

Don't do this to yourself.

AUNT EM

(very upset)

She's gone and you're going on and on about barns and stock and banks and -

UNCLE HENRY

(holding her as she breaks down)

Em, Em! Of course she's coming back. You've got to have hope. She'll find us. And when she does, we'll rebuild our house, and everything will be wonderful. You'll see.

AUNT EM

Wonderful? How can anything be wonderful again?

In the distance, Toto barks. Almost unnoticed to begin with, but then Em stops sobbing.

AUNT EM
Can you hear that?

UNCLE HENRY
It's just a dog, Em.

AUNT EM
No, no it's not, it's Toto.

UNCLE HENRY
Em, come on...

AUNT EM
It's Toto I tell you, it's -

DOROTHY
(from afar)
Aunt Em! Uncle Henry! Aunt Em!

UNCLE HENRY
I don't believe it...

Dorothy and Toto rush to Aunt Em and Uncle Henry, laughing all the way, as the final voice over begins.

DOROTHY (V.O.)
The shoes were gone. They fell off during the journey back, lost in the desert. But I didn't care. I was bare foot on the dusty dirt of Butterfield Road, but I didn't care. I was home. And there was my family.

Sometimes your world changes in the space of a minute. A second. A moment. Everything you knew blown away on a gust of wind. And it's in those moments you learn to really appreciate the world as it was. The world you've left behind.

You can't always get that world back. And if you do, it's forever changed. Or you are. For better, for worse, who knows? I didn't know it then, and at that moment I didn't care. But even though I was back home, in Kansas... nothing was ever going to be the same again.

DOROTHY

Aunt Em, I'm so glad to be home
again!

DOROTHY (V.O.)

But I guess that's what happens,
when you find yourself in Oz.

CLOSING CREDITS